



# The Good News Letter

## Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

SEEKING • CONNECTING • SERVING

### Church Organizes Event for Local Immigrants

On April 30th, our congregation gathered with the local Latino immigrant community to celebrate National Children’s Day. About 90 people attended the event which began with lunch in Fellowship Hall and then the children had a time of crafts and games. Meanwhile, we had a program for adults that included a counselor on how to talk with kids about immigration issues, lawyers to answer any questions, and Notary Publics to notarize documents.

Greg Nemece said it well. “I witnessed small and large acts of kindness, going in every direction...kid to adult, adult to kid, kid to kid, citizen to immigrant, immigrant to citizen. It was a hopeful day!”

Susana Corona spoke in church to express her thanks on behalf of the organizers. “I want to thank you all for making this event possible. Thanks to those who printed flyers, organized the event, set up tables, decorated, planned activities and crafts, made phone calls, invited people, prepared meals, provided transportation, collected prizes. Thanks also to those who came.”

Susana went on to say, “When everyone was leaving, they were surely hopeful and thankful. They felt welcomed and loved. I don’t know what’s to come for them, but I know they will never feel alone again. For that, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.”



**Church Barbecue** 

**Fire Department Parade**



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**Friday**  
**June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Come at 6:45pm (around back)**

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**Bring a dish to share**  
Drinks, hamburgers, hotdogs provided  
Sign up in the Foyer



### Preserve Our Property Kick-Off

Be sure to join us in worship on June 11th as we kick-off our **Preserve Our Property Campaign!** Our contributions over the next four years will launch building improvements designed to strengthen the integrity and longevity of the four buildings entrusted to our care. Projects that will improve life: safety and quality, and reduce our environmental footprint are included as well.

(cont’d on pg. 3)

## Pastor Debbie on Celebrating Confirmation

Dear Friends in Christ,

Pentecost is coming! The birthday of the church, the coming of the Holy Spirit, and here in Pleasantville – the day on which we celebrate Confirmation. I always enjoy the confirmation experience - it's awesome to hear from young people about their faith and their sense of what it means to answer the baptismal questions for themselves. What's more, it's such a great opportunity to clarify what it means to me to follow Jesus today.

When's the last time you spent some time thinking about what difference it makes in your life that you follow Jesus? What is there about Jesus that you think changes how you see the world, and how you act in the world?

As the rhythm of summer approaches, I hope you are looking forward to a time of slowing down, and making space to breathe in the Spirit of God. The confirmands read the gospel of Luke, looking for what surprised them as they read about Jesus, and how what they learned might have something to do with their lives today. Maybe Luke's a good place for all of us to go – to remember who Jesus really was and is for us.

In Christ's Love,

*Pastor Debbie*

*P.S. Everyone's invited!  
Dylan Bronkema's  
Graduation Open House  
at the Manse, 44 Ashland Ave.  
Sunday, June 18th  
12:30-2pm  
Hope to see you there!*

### Preserve our Property

*(cont'd from pg. 1)*

To achieve our goals we need 100% participation from all the members and friends of Pleasantville Presbyterian Church. Big thanks to all of you in advance for being involved. We value your commitment and financial support of the tools of our ministry. Big thanks also to members of the committee: Steve Berg, Kathy Brown, Peter Eschweiler, Janet Gortsema, Charlie Titterton, Christine Alvis and ex officio: Kat Nemec and Pastor Debbie.

### Children and Youth Ministries Update!

Maria's internship officially ends in June. The good news is that she will continue to work with us as our Part-time Children and Youth Ministries Director. She will be able to go on ASP and work with EVBS this summer, as well as in the office part-time, and plans to add an additional day to her schedule this fall.

We're thankful for Maria's continued ministry with us!



## Save the Dates

<b>BBQ &amp; Parade</b>	June 2
<b>Jazz Vespers</b>	June 3
<b>ASP Skill Building</b>	June 3
<b>Pentecost Sunday</b>	June 4
<b>Confirmation</b>	June 4
<b>Teacher Appreciation</b>	June 4
<b>Preserve Our Property Kickoff</b>	June 11
<b>Youth Group BBQ</b>	June 11
<b>Graduate Recognition</b>	June 18
<b>Choir Appreciation</b>	June 18
<b>Transitions Group</b>	June 22
<b>ASP Commissioning</b>	June 25

### Great Beginnings

#### Pre-School Celebrations

It has been a wonderful year! We joyfully celebrate our children's achievements and as the year draws to a close we have planned two very special culminating recognition events. On Thursday, June 8th our 3's will put on a short program and receive their certificates.

On Friday June 9th, our 4's will participate in a graduation ceremony complete with sharing some songs and receiving their "diplomas". Both programs will include a reception in Fellowship Hall.

#### Maria is Looking for Housing

I'm looking for a room to move into at the end of June. If you know someone who is looking for a respectful, mature and easy going roommate/ or house sitter, please let me know. Please contact me at (540) 746-1611.

*Maria*

# Church News

## Needed - Clothes for the Midnight Run



The Midnight Run is a ministry to those who are currently homeless in NYC.

The organization is asking for clothing donations such as:

- **Pants** - jeans, khakis, casual pants, sweatpants.
- **Tops** - polo shirts, T-shirts, hoodies.
- **Shoes** - sneakers, casual shoes.
- **Other** - belts, baseball caps, back packs, duffel bags, sleeping bags.

Please put your donations in the big white box in the downstairs hallway. If you are interested in going on a future "Run", please talk with Dave Smutzler.

## Pentecost PCUSA Special Offering

*June 4th*

The word Pentecost is taken from the Greek term "pentekoste," meaning "fiftieth." It was the fiftieth day after Easter Sunday when Jesus Christ ascended to heaven and the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles.

Your gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering will be retained by us to help make an impact in the lives of young people within our own community. The remaining 60% is used to support ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency like Young Adult Volunteers. Thank you, as always, for your generous support.



## Rummage Sale Results

Once again we were able to provide a week of fun and fellowship as our church members and Rummage Friends of varied faith backgrounds donated, sorted, organized, priced, and sold a mountain of useful items that will be loved and cared for by their happy new owners.

We are pleased to announce that our efforts raised **\$14,000** which will be used to support mission projects both in our church and in the wider world. Thanks to the many people who helped!

## Choir Sunday Features Gospel Music

On June 18th, we will celebrate Choir Sunday and hear some great music from our Chancel Choir. The theme of the program will be gospel music. A drum set and electric bass will accompany us, along with our fearless pianist, Evan Closser. Don't miss this ecstatic celebration of God's saving grace. If you would like to participate, contact Dave Macdonald.

## CSA Still Available

When you become a member of a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), you're purchasing a "share" of vegetables from a regional farmer. Shareholders will start receiving their veggies the beginning of June. Harry Lewis will contact those who have enrolled with the date and details of the first distribution. We can still add members to the group. Talk with Harry Lewis if you're interested.

## Pleasantville's Ecumenical Vacation Bible School

### Hero Central

Discover Your Strength in God

August 7-11, 2017 ☀ 9am – Noon

Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

For children entering Kindergarten - 8th grade  
Nursery & Pre-K available for children of volunteers

The most fun  
you'll have  
all year!

Volunteers welcome!



Registration forms  
available in the  
church office or  
online at  
[www.pvillevbs.org](http://www.pvillevbs.org)

# Sunday School & Christian Ed News

## People of Many Ages Tell Stories



On Sunday, May 7th, the Youth Group sponsored an evening of intergenerational storytelling. This originated with Maria Murerwa because she has a passion for learning about other people, and is excited to get to know church members. The idea is

loosely based on the NPR program; Story Corps. We were thrilled to have many more people than we expected!

We shared dinner and fellowship; then broke into small groups with prompt questions to begin the conversations. You would be surprised to know that we ranged in age from 9 to 84 and we had to be told to STOP talking because we were out of time. Everyone went away feeling connected to at least one new person and yearning to do it again. Come join us next time....

## Honoring our Graduates



On Sunday June 18th, we will honor our graduating high school seniors. Congratulations to all those who are graduating this year from high school and college on reaching this milestone.

Arianna Altman	WCC & Home School
Dylan Bronkema	Pleasantville High School
Manuel Corona	Westlake High School
Jason Flores	White Plains High School
Emily Giuseffi	Valhalla High School
Dean Perkins	Westlake High School
Julia Ware	Pleasantville High School

## College Scholarships Application Deadline

*June 30th*

High school seniors, now that you have figured out which college you'll be attending, think about submitting a church Scholarship Application to help offset the costs. Scholarship information and applications may be found on the church website under "Missions and Programs", and they must be turned in by the end of June.

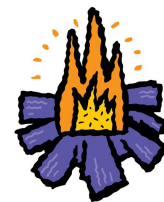
**Please consider giving to the Scholarship Fund.**

## Women's Bible Fellowships

The Tuesday morning group will take a break for the summer. Come join us in September! The Wednesday evening group will continue through the summer.

## Navigating Transitions

All are welcome to our monthly discussions on navigating life transitions. This month's meeting will be Thursday, June 22nd, 7:30-9pm in the Campbell Room. The group is an open forum to share our experiences and provide support, encouragement, and inspiration to each other. For more information, please speak with Linda Berg or Jane Wong.



## Summer Camp Opportunities

Are you looking for your child or grandchild to do something different this summer? Something that will nourish their faith? We are fortunate that our denomination has accredited camps around the country, with two close by. Both **Holmes** Presbyterian Camp & Conference Center in Holmes, NY and Camp **Johnsonburg** in Johnsonburg, NJ offer half-week, full-week or multi-week camping experiences where kids can unplug, connect to nature, learn about our faith, and have fun!

Explore their websites at [www.holmescamp.org](http://www.holmescamp.org) and [www.campjburg.org](http://www.campjburg.org) to learn more, or feel free to ask Michelle Torosian at coffee hour. Financial assistance for camp is also available! Ask Pastor Debbie for more information about that.



# YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Faith, fun, fellowship and friends, with a bit of mission mixed in.

## Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup>

### **Fireman's Parade BBQ — 6:45 pm**

Join us on the church lawn for front-row seating and fabulous food at the Fireman's Parade. All are welcome – bring family and friends and a dish to share!

## Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup>

### **Jazz Vespers — 5:00 pm**

Join us for a unique worship experience with jazz music. All are welcome – bring a friend!

## Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup>

### **Outside Games - MS Graffiti Night - HS**

Dinner will be provided.

Middle School — 5:00 - 7:00 pm  
High School — 6:00 - 8:00 pm

## Sunday June 11<sup>th</sup>

### **End of the Year Youth Group BBQ**

Join us for our end of the year barbecue on the front lawn!

All ages — 5:00 - 7:00 pm

## Sunday June 18<sup>th</sup>

**Graduate Recognition Sunday**  
Celebrate our graduates with us!

All are welcome - 10 am

## Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup>

**ASP Commissioning Sunday**  
All are welcome - 10 am



*What IS that?! Enjoying Intergenerational Storytelling Night*

## Celebrating Community!

June brings such a mix of events and emotions – welcoming home our college friends, finishing out the school year, concerts, exams, prom, graduation, the list goes on...and it all goes by so quickly! As Maria reminded us in her children's sermon the day after the Pancake Breakfast, we experience the community of our friends, church, and Pleasantville, are grateful for it, and celebrate it with events and traditions like barbecues, parades, and Graffiti Night. Join us!

## June 11<sup>th</sup> End of Year BBQ

All Middle School and High School youth are invited to join us for an end of the year barbecue on the front lawn on Sunday June 11<sup>th</sup>. The fun starts at 5 pm and includes food and games.

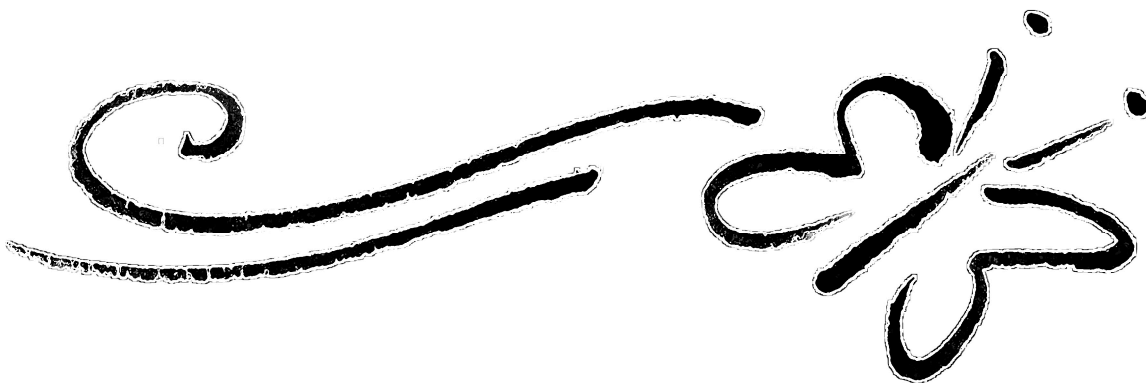
A special invitation goes out to next year's 5<sup>th</sup> graders! Join us for the fun to see what youth group is all about! Parents are welcome also. Bring a drink or dessert to share – see you there!

## Summer Plans

Can't you just feel the summer coming! As we move through the end of June, stay in touch and let us know your plans for the summer. We'd love to get together for food, fun, and fellowship and mission over the summer. Share your summer event suggestions - and ideas for next year! - with Maria, Jane, Jo Anne, or Linda or e-mail us at [youth@pvillepresby.org](mailto:youth@pvillepresby.org). Love and blessings!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6pm Spanish Lessons - Campbell Rm	2 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	3 5pm Jazz Vespers
4 <i>Confirmation Day</i> Teacher Appreciation Sunday 8:45am Chancel Choir Practice 10am Intergenerational Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11:15am Mission Meeting 1:30pm ASP Business Meeting- off-site 5pm Jr. High Youth Group 6pm Sr. High Youth Group	5	6 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp	7	8 10am GBPS Moving Up Ceremony 6pm Spanish Lessons - Campbell Rm	9 9:30am GBPS Graduation Ceremony 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	10
11 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11am POP Congregational Mtg. 5pm Youth Group BBQ 6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	12	13 10am Hearts & Hands	14 7:30pm Session Mtg.	15 6pm Spanish Lessons - Campbell Rm	16 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	17
18 <i>Father's Day</i> <i>Graduation Recognition</i> <i>Choir Appreciation</i> 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery	19	20 10am Hearts & Hands	21	22 6pm Spanish Lessons - Campbell Rm 7:30pm Transitions Grp.	23 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	24
25 <i>ASP Commissioning</i> 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11:15am Deacon's Meeting	26	27 10am Hearts & Hands	28	29	30	
		9:30am - GBPS Mini-Camp				
				6pm Spanish Lessons - Campbell Rm		



## Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

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www.PvillePresby.org

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### Pleasantville Appalachia Service Project (ASP) Mission Update

An enthusiastic crew of 57 youth and adult volunteers are preparing for this summer's ASP home repair mission trip. For the first time ever (since Pleasantville started volunteering with ASP in 1999), ASP is sending us to **Kentucky!** To get ready for the mission trip, volunteers have been getting to know each other, raising funds, practicing skill-building, and teaming together to host the Pleasantville Day Pancake Breakfast, which was a high-energy community service event and fundraiser held on May 20th.



An important part of getting ready for the mission trip is to learn and practice construction skills, which will be put to the test this July during an intense week of making homes warmer, safer and drier for needy people in and around Louisa, Kentucky. To practice our construction skills, the volunteers have been building picnic tables, which Bill Brown designed. Building these tables requires teamwork, measuring,

cutting, using power tools, and practicing safety techniques. Judging by the great turnout and teamwork at our skill-building events, we expect to be ready for whatever home repair projects ASP assigns to the volunteers in Kentucky this July!



If you would like to support this mission, please make a donation payable to the Pleasantville Presbyterian Church, and make sure to put "ASP" on the memo line. Everyone who donates before the mid-July mission trip will receive a postcard of thanks, hand-signed by all the volunteers and postmarked from Kentucky! We're grateful for your support, which makes this mission possible.

**ASP**  
Appalachia  
SERVICE PROJECT <sup>SM</sup>