



# The Good News Letter

## Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

SEEKING • CONNECTING • SERVING

### Children's Day Fiesta was Fun for All!

When we started planning this event, which took place on May 5th, we were thinking about the best ways to get not only a good turn out, but also to have meaningful activities for the children. I believe it is fair to say that the efforts of the whole team paid off. Attendance was great - over a hundred people!!

However, our success was not just about numbers, but more about the communicating, the sharing and the fun; happy faces of children and adults, having fun together as one real community. We had a lot of new faces and with that, the opportunity to exchange information and share stories of present conditions, events from the past and hopes for the future.

It is important to mention the participation of the volunteers who added energy to the day. The group that performed Mexican folk dances also deserve our sincere thanks for bringing that special treat. As in past years we had great arts and crafts, as well as face painting, all provided by our own talented Kat and Greg Nemec. Special thanks to our tireless leaders Kim and Harry Lewis for organizing and covering every detail of this activity.

Thank you to all that in any way helped to make this event possible; it is your time and generosity that speaks about the commitment you have to always support each other!!



## Pastor Debbie on Love on the Journey

**12** "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **13** No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. **14** You are my friends if you do what I command you. **15** I do not call you servants[d] any longer, because the servant[e] does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. **16** You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. **17** I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

John 15-12-17

Dear Friends,

As this school year comes to an end and we are mindful of celebrating both endings and beginnings, I'm thankful for all the experiences we've had together in loving one another. What an amazing journey of opening our eyes to ways God is calling us to meet people where they are!

May we grow more and more to be the people Christ is calling us to be in this world so in need of compassion, justice and empathy.

*Pastor Debbie*

*"Empathy has no script. There is no right way or wrong way to do it. It's simply listening, holding space, withholding judgment, emotionally connecting, and communicating that incredibly healing message of "you're not alone."*



## Save the Dates

<b>ASP Skillbuilding</b>	June 1
<b>Evening Bible Study</b>	June 5
<b>Community Dinner</b>	June 6
<b>Men's Breakfast/Trip</b>	June 8
<b>Confirmation</b>	June 9
<b>Community Dinner</b>	June 13
<b>Graduation Sunday</b>	June 16
<b>Community Dinner</b>	June 20
<b>Choir Sunday</b>	June 23
<b>ASP Commissioning</b>	June 23
<b>Evening Bible Study</b>	June 26
<b>Community Dinner</b>	June 27

*"This is the day the  
Lord has made; let us  
rejoice and be glad"*

## POP Update

With your support of the Preserve Our Property campaign, our properties have benefited from some love. You will recall that the very first expense pursued by the POP committee, back in 2015, was to obtain a professional prioritization of all the needs across our "five" properties: (1) the Church, (2) the Christian Education wing, (3) the Carriage House, (4) the Manse, and (5) the church Grounds. The great news is that our highest priority projects will all have been addressed by the end of 2019. Where necessary, we hired a contractor to complete the projects, and where possible, we leveraged volunteer labor.

Of course, there are important projects we still hope to tackle, most notably, correcting our drainage issues and then repaving our parking lot. There are other valuable and meaningful projects still to be accomplished. Please don't hesitate to talk to Christine Alvis, or a property committee member, if you would like to help in any way or if you have questions going forward.

*Thank you for your continued support.*

# Church News

## Men's Breakfast... and ROAD TRIP!

Our next Men's Breakfast will be on **Saturday, June 8th** in the Social Hall at **7:30 am**. Gary Dieckman will be speaking about the USS Slater. He presented to us a few months ago about the Battle of the Atlantic in World War II. This presentation will focus on the restoration of the USS Slater, a destroyer escort which is docked and on display as a historical museum in Albany. Gary is on the Board of Directors and is deeply involved in the restoration efforts.

Following the talk, for those interested we will form a car pool to drive up to Albany and tour the Slater! Following the general tour, Gary hopes to lead a personal below deck tour for us.

We will depart the church at 9 am and return between 4-5 pm. Admission to the Slater is \$9. The tour will require climbing open stairways and walking through tight spaces and may be strenuous for some.

If you are willing to drive let us know. The breakfast and trip is open to men, their spouses, and any other fans of Gary's!

You must sign up in advance. Please let Mark Zarick know by June 5th what part of the day you will be attending: email to [men@pvillepresby.org](mailto:men@pvillepresby.org).



## Congratulations Graduates

On Sunday, June 16th, we will honor our graduating high school seniors. Congratulations to all those who are graduating this year from high school, programs and college on reaching this milestone.

Graham Allardyce	Williston Northampton School
Sam Alvis	Byram Hills High School
Madison Kelly	Pleasantville High School
Jack Roye	Pleasantville High School



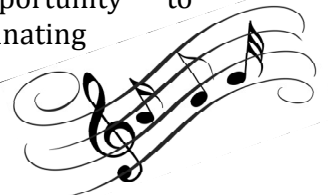
Julia Bedus	University of New Hampshire
Kathryn Berg	Endicott College
Cali Bronkema	American University
Daisy Flores	Lehman College
Oscar Marchi	SUNY Oswego
Audrey Tocco	University of New Hampshire
Jackson Wong	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

## June 23

### Choir Appreciation Sunday!

This year's theme is Shape Note Singing, a style of church music that was common during the 19th century in Appalachia and the American South.

Don't miss this opportunity to experience this fascinating music and to honor the Chancel Choir for all of their hard work!



# Church News

## 2019 Rummage Sale Report

The year of chairs (48 donated) and of challenges. As each challenge was met and overcome, we gained assurance that the Lord wanted us to hold this sale. We were thankful to have the opportunity to participate in this mission.

It was a fulfilling week as 89 volunteers worked together to create a wonderful atmosphere for our customers, many of whom say our sale is one of the best in the area. Sustainability, outreach, caring - it was all there. In place of a party, one shopper celebrated her birthday by buying items and shipping them overseas to benefit people in need. A young helping volunteer excitedly told his mom that he helped an older lady carry her purchases to her car and it was awesome! These are some of the hidden blessings of rummage.



The mix of good fun, good fellowship, hard work, and good stuff was rewarded with a successful return of \$14,700 which will enable us to support additional Christian missions. Many thanks to all who participated to make this possible.

Looking ahead to 2020 - the Rummage Sale mission will be held on May 1st and May 2nd with pre-sale preparation from April 26th - 30th. Please contact Ruth Fischer if you can do Publicity for the sale. We have a very detailed outline of what needs to be done. It primarily requires making some phone calls, ordering some ads, and entering the information on some web sites. Also, we would like to reduce trashing usable leftovers. Do you know of a charity looking for some specific items who would come at the end of the sale? Please forward the information to Ruth Fischer.

## Loaves and Fishes Update

Our sister church, The Assembly of God, has decided to take their church in a different direction and are no longer in need of supplemental food. We did not want to terminate the program, and so the Loaves and Fishes program has shifted its mission to hosting a Thursday night community dinner. This dinner has been successful in providing sustenance to body, mind and spirit for about twenty-five people each week since December. We are taking a hiatus in July but look for an announcement about when we will begin hosting dinners again.



### SAVE THE DATE!

#### Vacation Bible School!

August 12th-16th

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church,  
with a concert the evening of  
Thursday, August 15th.

The theme this year is  
*"Miraculous Mission."*

Classes are for children entering  
kindergarten through 8th grade.

Adult and high school volunteers  
needed to teach, lead games, and  
help with snack preparation, etc.,  
and childcare is provided for  
young children of volunteers.

For registration or more  
information, go  
to [www.pvillevbs.org](http://www.pvillevbs.org).

### Get Connected!

**Digital Connections Weekly** -  
get a weekly update including the  
latest sermon.

**YouTube** - subscribe to our  
YouTube channel - lots to see!

**Facebook** - join our FB page for  
up to the minute happenings.

**Newsletter** - do you get our  
church newsletter by paper or  
digitally?

Go to [PvillePresby.org](http://PvillePresby.org), then to the  
Digital Connections link.

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## **Pleasantville ASP is Busy!**

**51 volunteers** are preparing for this summer's Appalachia Service Project (ASP) mission trip. The volunteers will travel to Craigsville, West Virginia in July to repair and rebuild homes.

To practice our skills before the mission trip, the volunteer team repainted the upstairs hallway of the church's Christian Education wing in May. If you visit the church, take a look for yourself! You might be surprised at the professional looking paint job our teenage volunteers did. Special thanks go to Kathy Brown and Gary Dieckman for the planning and preparations they contributed to this project.

On Pleasantville Day, May 18th, the ASP volunteers also served up a Pancake Breakfast to over 100 adults and children as a fundraiser for the ASP mission.

In June: The volunteers are building their construction and teamwork skills by doing additional repair projects at the church. We hope to see you at the church service on **Sunday, June 23rd**, when the volunteers will be "commissioned" to participate on the ASP mission trip experience.

There is still time to contribute to the ASP mission! We are grateful for all contributions, as they make this mission experience possible. Please write a check to the Pleasantville Presbyterian Church and put "ASP" in the memo section, or go to the church's secure site at: <http://www.pvillepresby.org/about/egiving/> and make your donation next to "Pleasantville ASP". All contributors become "shareholders" in this mission and will receive a postcard of thanks, signed by our volunteers, from West Virginia. Shareholders will also be invited to the ASP Shareholders Dinner next January, where the volunteer team will express their thanks for your support.

### **Pleasantville ASP 2019 Volunteer Team**

**Team Leaders:** Bill Brown, Kathy Brown, Feb Cabrasawan, Lana Cabrasawan, Gary Dieckman, Judy Dieckman, Jo Anne Gullotta, Rich Gullotta, Patrick Kelly, Kim Lewis, Neil Marchi, Margo Mueller, Jeannine Tocco, Rich Tocco, Pono Wong, Gail Zarick, Mark Zarick.