



The Good News Letter

Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

SEEKING • CONNECTING • SERVING

Our Colorful Children's Sunday

On Sunday, February 5th our Sunday School classes led an energetic Children's Sunday worship service teaching us to "Bring Out the God-Colors in the World". Their years learning from Bryan (master teacher and entertainer) were highlighted in their one-act plays, science experiments, and banter with the congregation.

Beautiful music was performed by kids of all ages, a lovely peace offering of original art was given to the congregation, and inspirational prayers and thoughts filled the morning service.

Some highlights of the morning...

- We should give more than we take for ourselves.
- We should help the less fortunate by giving food to people who need its goodness.
- We should remember to put ourselves in other people's shoes.
- We should share, see, and feel our true colors.



Special thanks to the Sunday School teachers, music directors, and behind the scenes adults who made the beauty happen.



The gift of sharing the God-Colors continued downstairs where members of our church family made over 50 custom Valentine's Day cards for church members near and far.

Pastor Debbie Celebrates 10 Years of Pleasantville Ministry

Join us for a special celebration after worship on Sunday, April 2nd. We will be commemorating Pastor Debbie's 10th anniversary at Pleasantville Presbyterian Church with a potluck lunch.

Bring a dish to share as we honor and thank her for the past 10 years and share our excitement about how she will pastor and lead us in the years to come. Cathy Fellows will be collecting reflections of your special memories and words of sentiment for Debbie to take home and enjoy. You can give them to Cathy that day or put them in her mailbox in the church office or email to [Cathy Fellows](mailto:Cathy.Fellows@pleasantville.org).

Lenten Worship & Soup Suppers

Supper - 6:30pm
Worship - 7:15pm

Come share soup, bread, fellowship and worship with people from other Pleasantville churches.

- | | |
|----------|----------------------|
| March 1* | Emanuel Lutheran |
| March 8 | Presbyterian |
| March 15 | St. John's Episcopal |
| March 22 | Presbyterian |
| March 29 | United Methodist |
| April 5 | Holy Innocents |

*Ash Wednesday

Pastor Debbie on Intentional Lent

Dear Friends in Christ,

As the Lenten season comes this week – it's time to be intentional about our faith journey. How are we growing in our faith? Will we make or renew a commitment to study, devotion, worship, service? Through these pages you will find a variety of invitations to be intentional about keeping lent. I hope you will find at least one that calls out to where you are feeling called to feed your faith.

Ann Weems puts it this way in her book *Kneeling in Jerusalem*:

A Listening
Going through Lent
is a listening.
When we listen to the word,
we hear where
we are so blatantly unliving.
If we listen to the word,
and hallow it into our lives,
we hear how we can so
Abundantly live again.

May we be open to hearing God's word to us, and find our way to living abundant life.

In Christ's Peace,

Pastor Debbie



Save the Dates

Ash Wednesday	March 1
Jazz Vespers	March 4
Confirmation Class	March 7
Lenten Gathering	March 8
Rummage Meeting	March 8
Lenten Gathering	March 15
Lenten Gathering	March 22
Transitions Group	March 23
ASP Meeting	March 26
Lenten Gathering	March 29
Leaders' Retreat	April 1
Pot Luck Lunch for Pastor Debbie	April 2

Can You be a Driver?



We have people in the congregation that occasionally need a ride to the doctor. We'd like to know if you are available during the day to help out with this important project.

If you are able and interested in being part of our "driving team", please contact Jane Wong at missionco@pvillepresby.org.

How Digital Technology is like a Simple Machine

by Bryan Bardin

Historically, students of physics have learned the great power that comes from mechanical advantage. It's the very definition of working smarter, not harder. And Renaissance physicists outlined 6 simple machines that would use leverage to multiply the force applied in order to do work.

These six simple machines -- the lever, the wheel and axle, the pulley, the inclined plane, the wedge, and the screw -- form the basis of all tools that human beings use today. If you look deeply enough, you will find examples of levers or screws everywhere, allowing human beings to do remarkable things.

After all, at its core, a tool is simply something that helps us achieve our goals. A tool, on it's own, can't solve problems; it can't make things happen; it can't change the world. But a human being wielding a tool -- the possibilities are endless.

Since last summer, the Digital Action Team has been working to implement technologies that will help our church better reach out to people both inside and outside our walls. *(cont'd on back pg.)*

Church News

Women's Brunch

Saturday, March 25th
9:30 - 11:30am

Welcome Spring!!

*Come for the delicious
food and wonderful
fellowship*

Gear up for Climbing at *The Cliffs!*

An all-ages event!

Join us on Sunday, March 26th as we enjoy a climbing party at The Cliffs in Valhalla from 3-5pm. Cheer on your family and friends as they test their limits! Reservations needed - \$30 per person. Sign-up on the board at church, or speak with Jo Anne Gullotta for more details.

Calling all Prospective Bell Ringers

Have you thought it might be fun to learn how to ring hand bells? Or have you rung in the past and thought it would be nice to ring again? Tuesday, March 28th the bell choir is inviting you to give hand bells a try.

The bell choir is open to anyone high school age or older who can read basic music and likes to have fun! If you decide to join the choir, it is a short commitment. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays from 7:30-9pm. We plan to ring in May then will take a summer break. For more information, talk with Cathy Fellows.

Church Action Team Forming

On Sunday, January 29th after worship, a group of about 25 women and men gathered in the Campbell Room to hear about the experiences of several people from our congregation who went to marches on January 21st. Although the marches they went to were in various places, the stories they returned with were very similar. They talked about the feelings of frustration and concern in the crowds, but also an overriding sense of solidarity and empowerment.

The take-away from the meeting was for the group to share information on how to take action. If you would like to receive the information we've collected thus far, and be added to the email list, please contact Barb Loizeaux.

Rummage...Mission, Fellowship, Recycling

WHY have the sale?

Mission - church in the community.

Surplus and Need. How to match up the needed items with the people who need them? One answer is our annual Rummage Sale which will be held on April 28th and 29th this year. Our sale provides many people in our area with needed household items and clothing.

Mission - church at home.

The proceeds from the sale are a major supporter of needed property upgrades and financial support for Christian youth programs and local mission outreach programs.

WHEN is the sale?

Sale dates are April 28th and 29th, but work begins on Saturday morning, April 22nd. The Planning Meeting is on Wednesday, March 8th at 1pm. Come and find out how this sale happens.

WHO makes the sale possible?

Hopefully YOU! Over 100 workers are needed to have a successful sale! Both part time and full time workers are welcome, so come and bring a friend!

WHAT would I do?

- There are many varied opportunities available:
- Pre-Rummage Saturday morning set-up.
- Rummage set-up after church on Sunday.
- Help at lunchtime or coordinate food.
- Enjoy tinkering? Help test and prep the small appliances and electronics.
- Or help in any of the rooms that take your fancy.

Start Collecting Your Rummage Stuff Now!

In the meantime, as you look over your contributions, please choose items that still have a useful life. Our sorting staff will especially appreciate the more presorting and labeling you do at home before

Church News

Lenten Study

11:30-12:30pm Campbell Room

Join us Sundays after worship for our Lenten study.

Who is This Man?
The Unpredictable Impact of the Inescapable Jesus
by John Ortberg

This video-based series explores the profound impact Jesus made on human history and on our understanding of the obligations of one human to one another. Jesus and Christianity came to make an inescapable influence on our world and we as Christians can make an inescapable influence too.

March 5th
March 12th
March 19th
March 26th
April 9th

Come find out more about who this man is.

Women's Bible Fellowship

"The Power of a Whisper"
by Bill Hybels

Come join in the new study on Tuesdays, 10-11:30am in the Campbell Room. Here's a synopsis of what we'll be studying...

"Imagine what your life might become if you were willing to say, "'God, I'm listening.'" If you were hearing God's voice and obeying God's promptings. This powerful book from pastor Bill Hybels provides inspiration and vision for what can happen when you intentionally listen for the Holy Spirit's promptings and respond decisively to what you hear. ...Hybels offers practical wisdom on how to better listen for God's whispers of direction, challenge, and counsel – and how to summon the courage to follow God's voice."

All women are welcome!



Navigating Transitions

Interested in joining a monthly discussion on navigating life transitions? The group is an open forum to share experiences of transitions and provide support, encouragement, and inspiration to each other.

This month's meeting will be Thursday, March 23rd 7:30-9pm in the Campbell Room. For more information, please speak with Linda Berg or Jane Wong.

Church Youth in Local High School Plays

Our church is very involved in the local high school plays. We have many youth and also many adults who work on these wonderful productions.

Byram Hills High School will present "Les Miserables" on March 9, 10, 11. Sam Alvis is part of the cast. To buy tickets go to [Les Mis tickets](#).

Westlake High School will present "The Little Mermaid" March 24, 25, 26, 31, April 1. Manny Corona is part of the crew. To buy tickets go to [westlakeplayers.com](#).

Pleasantville High School will present "The Drowsy Chaperone" on March 10, 11, 12, 17, 18. Participating as cast members from our congregation and Youth Group are: Logan Brokema, Jack Cooper, Jack Geier, Michelle Gullotta, Madison Kelly, Kyle Largey, Kamelle Ruano, Sidney Shulman Katherine Stargiotti, Carter Ann Tanis and Ben Trombetta. To buy tickets go to [phsplay.org](#).

Films On Purpose

"Before the Flood"

A climate change film by National Geographic with Leonardo DiCaprio

Saturday, March 11th

Emanuel Lutheran Church
Reception 7pm • Film 7:30pm

filmsonpurpose.org

Pleasantville EVBS

Ecumenical Vacation Bible School

August 7 - 11, 2017
9am-12pm

Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

For ages K-8th grade
Adult and high school volunteers
needed!



YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

Saturday Mar 4th

Jazz Vespers — 5:00 pm

Come experience the presence of God at this jazz music service. All are welcome – invite a friend!

Sunday Mar 5th

Make Your Own Pizza

Come and create your pizza masterpiece – then eat it! Fun and games also - see you there!

Middle School — 5:00 - 7:00 pm

High School — 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Sunday Mar 12th

Matinee at Pleasantville HS

Meet at church at 1:30 pm bring \$12 and extra for intermission snacks

All — 1:30 pm until show is over

Sunday Mar 19th

Soup Making for Lent Supper

We are making soup for the Wednesday night Soup Supper. And dinner, of course!

Middle School — 5:00 - 7:00 pm

High School — 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Sunday Mar 26th

Climbing at The Cliffs in Valhalla

Meet at the church at 2:15 pm Bring \$30 to cover costs. Snacks will be provided.

All — 2:15 - 5:30 pm



Worship “Take-Over” and Super Bowl fun!

February 5th was a full and fabulous day at P’ville Presby! The day started with Children’s Sunday – a whole worship service created and led by our kids. The sanctuary was filled with balloons, colorful outfits, music, readings, and skits illustrating our theme *Bringing out the God-Colors in the World*. Our youth collected over \$300 for the Souper Bowl of Caring. Special thanks to our Super Bowl hosts, the Corona family!

The Drowsy Chaperone Matinee at PHS

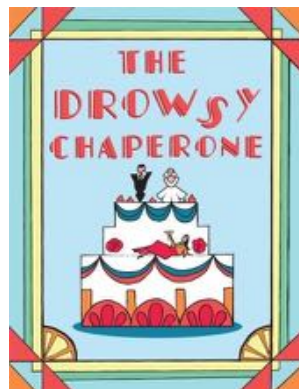
Many of our youth – and adults – are involved and working hard to make this show happen. Let’s show our support and enjoy attending the matinee together.

Sunday March 12th Showtime 2 pm

Meet at church at 1:30, bring cash

Students \$12 Adults \$15

To reserve your ticket, speak with Jo Anne or e-mail youth@pvillepresby.org



Gear up for Climbing at The Cliffs!

An all-ages event! Join us on Sunday March 26th as we enjoy a climbing party at The Cliffs in Valhalla from 3 – 5 pm. Cheer on your family and friends as they test their limits! Reservations needed - \$30 per person. Sign-up on the board at church or speak with Maria.



march

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 6:30pm Lenten Soup Supper/Worship Emanuel Lutheran	2 6pm Spanish Lessons - Campbell Rm	3 English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	4 5pm Jazz Vespers
5 <i>1st Sunday in Lent</i> 8:45am Chancel Choir Practice 10am Intergenerational Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11:15am Mission Meeting 11:30am Lenten Study 5:00pm Middle School Youth Grp. - Make your own pizza 6:00pm High School Youth Grp. - Make your own pizza	6	7 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp 7pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm Session Meeting 7:30pm Bell Choir	8 1pm Rummage Planning Mtg. 6:30pm Lenten Soup Supper /Worship FH/Sanctuary	9 6pm Spanish Lessons - Campbell Rm	10 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	11
12 <i>2nd Sunday in Lent</i> 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11:30am Lenten Study 1:30pm Youth - offsite Pleasantville High School Play 6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	13	14 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp 7pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm Bell Choir	15 6:30pm Lenten Soup Supper /Worship St. John's	16 6pm Spanish Lessons - Campbell Rm	17 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	18
19 <i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i> 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11:30am Lenten Study 5:00pm Middle School Youth Grp. Make soup for lent supper 6:00pm High School Youth Grp. Make soup for lent supper	20	21 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp 7pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm Bell Choir	22 6:30pm Lenten Soup Supper /Worship FH/Sanctuary	23 6pm Spanish Lessons - Campbell Rm 7:30pm Transitions Group	24 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	25 9:30am PW Brunch
26 <i>4th Sunday in Lent</i> 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11:15am Deacon's Mtg. 11:30am Lenten Study 1:30pm ASP Business meeting 2:15 Youth Group - off-site at "The Cliffs"	27	28 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp 7pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm Bell Choir	29 6:30pm Lenten Soup Supper /Worship United Methodist	30 9am GBPS puppet Show 6pm Spanish Lessons - Campbell Rm	31 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	

Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

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How Digital Technology is like a Simple Machine

(cont'd from pg. 3)

We have implemented better infrastructure and screens in the sanctuary. We have an active Facebook and YouTube presence. We rebuilt our church's website. And, most recently, we have created Digital Connections Weekly, which is a weekly email full of digital experiences of worship, fellowship and faith.

We are excited to see these tools used to further the mission of the church. And it's already happening -- we are already reaching people in new ways.

The emails are being read by worshipers and people who weren't able to be in worship -- whether they are regular attenders who just missed a Sunday or people who can't attend Sunday services for a number of reasons. Our Facebook posts are being liked and shared by people from the church, as well as friends of friends. The sermons online are being viewed and heard across the country and across the world -- on 4 different continents each week!

We are excited about seeing how our Digital Connections Ministry continues to grow and thrive. I, personally, am especially excited about our church piloting digitally native programs and content in the coming year.

But most of all, we are excited to see how **you** use these tools to further the mission and ministry to which God is calling you.

We hope that you will comment and share our Facebook posts. We hope that you will forward our Digital Connections emails to a friend who needs a little more Light in their life. We hope that you will use these tools we have built in your mission or ministry focus.

And if you want to help direct the future of the Digital Connections ministry of the church, talk with Pastor Debbie or David Fourie.

To sign up to receive the weekly Digital Connections, click here www.pvillepresby.org/digitalconnections

Bryan Bardin is the Trouble Maker Emeritus at Pleasantville Presbyterian Church and working with the Digital Connections team to help the Pleasantville Church Family spread across the internet. If you need a trouble-free solution to a technology problem, you can find Bryan at troublemaker.technology.



Check out our redesigned website!
www.pvillepresby.org