



The Good News Letter

Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

SEEKING • CONNECTING • SERVING

Easter Worship & Fun

April 1st - Celebrating the Good News that Christ has risen, Christ has risen indeed!



Zero Waste Lunch a Big Success!



On April 8th our congregation hosted a pot luck lunch after worship. We invited Michelle Sterling, a volunteer from Scarsdale for Zero Waste, to introduce the Zero Waste concept to us. The goal at any event generating trash (what event doesn't?) is to have almost nothing in the trash can. We did it! All of the food waste, napkins and even the special cold drink cups made from corn were compostable. Everything else was either recycled or reused, as in washed and put away. The compostable material was taken by Michelle to a drop center in her town, but efforts are underway in Pleasantville to create a drop center right here. Thanks to Michelle for sharing her expertise with us about the important environmental impact we can have. We will be caring for creation as we do.

Big thanks to Ruth Fischer for her inspirational presentation about all the "R" words that comprise Rummage. Thanks "R"uth! And we want to thank everybody who brought a dish to share, the kitchen angels who set up and cleaned up, and all the helpers who put Fellowship Hall back together afterwards. If you are interested in helping make all our events Zero Waste, please see Christine Alvis for more information.

Men's Breakfast

May 12th

7:30am

Campbell Room

Come for a delicious breakfast, great fellowship & program!

All are welcome. Invite a friend!

Pleasantville Presbyterian's Appalachia Service Project

Community Pancake Breakfast



Saturday, May 19th

Pleasantville Day

7am ~ 11:30am

Fire Department Parade & Church BBQ

Friday, June 1st - 6:45pm

It is that time of the year again to gather on the church lawn and watch the Fire Department Parade! The parade begins at 7pm and we'll gather together before Bedford Road is closed.



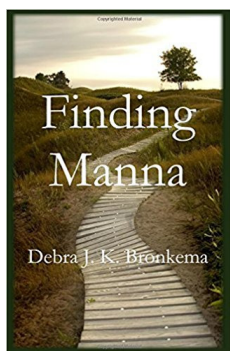
Be sure to put this on your calendar. Look for the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

Pastor Debbie on Becoming a Published Novelist!

Dear Friends in Christ,

About seven years ago now, I graduated from my Doctoral program with a final project called Exploring Creative Writing as a Spiritual Practice. It was a great experience, and I wasn't really feeling done with it, so I continued teaching and leading retreats on the topic, and I also began a new practice of my own – writing 250 words every day – following the story wherever it took me, trusting that the written word has always been a place where I've met the Holy Spirit.

So – all these **years** and lots of edits later – those words have turned into a novel, entitled "Finding Manna." And – I'm excited to tell you that a publisher decided to publish it! I share this with you – because I'm excited about it – and because it's one of those times in my life when going step by step everyday – trusting the process – brought me to a new place on my spiritual journey.



Someone wise (I can't remember who) once said, "A year from now you'll be a year older – whether or not you decide to try something new. So, try it -whatever it is that's calling out to you – and see where the journey leads you." May we all be open to the spirit calling us to the next steps on our spiritual journey.

In Christ's Peace,

Pastor Debbie



Saturday, May 5th

5pm

Join us for soothing, contemporary music and a time to pause from your busy life.

All are welcome



Save the Dates

<i>Evening Rhythms</i>	May 5
<i>Men's Breakfast</i>	May 12
<i>Scholarship Deadline</i>	May 15
<i>ASP Pancake Breakfast</i>	May 19
<i>Cooking Class</i>	May 20
<i>Fire Dept Parade & Church BBQ</i>	June 1
<i>Evening Rhythms</i>	June 2
<i>Midnight Run</i>	June 2
<i>Photography Exhibit</i>	June 9
<i>Photography Exhibit</i>	June 10
<i>Photography Exhibit</i>	June 16
<i>Photography Exhibit</i>	June 17

Are You Graduating?



Our graduates will be honored on June 9th. While we know the names of our church's high school graduates, we do not want to overlook graduates of other schools or programs.

If you or someone you know is graduating this spring, please contact the church office at 769-0458 or info@pvillepresby.org and let Jo Anna know who we should recognize. For college graduates we like to know the college and major.

Become an Investor in ASP

Appalachia Service Project
**\$10 a share with
great dividends**

This is one of the major fundraising events of our church-wide Appalachia Service Project. If one of the ASP'ers asks you to buy stock in the project, please consider it. The trip changes the lives of the participants, and makes a big difference in the lives of those they serve in Appalachia. It looks like we'll have a record number of participants this summer.



Church News



The Rummage Sale... A Successful Mission

Our Rummage Sale mission, one of our most visible faces to the community, gave us an opportunity to demonstrate our church's values of loving, caring, acceptance, and friendliness.

Thanks to the work of the Boy Scouts, our English class, our church members, and rummage friends who physically set up the rooms; offered prayer support; sorted, organized, priced, wrapped, and sold merchandise; and returned the building to its pre-rummage state; we were able to keep usable stuff out of landfills and get it to people who could use it.

Rummage week is over but our successful mission continues as the \$ 12,500 raised will be used to support additional church and world mission projects. Thanks to everyone who made this possible.

Collecting Soap Now!

Thank you again for your generous support of the Loaves and Fishes program. We have had an overwhelming response to our request for laundry detergent in February, toothpaste and toothbrushes in March and shampoo and conditioner for the month of April. We are collecting soap and body wash this month. *Please note; one item per person is plenty!*

Cooking Class

May 20th

**Want to Learn How
to Cook Better?**

Do you get lost in your own kitchen? Are you tired of take-out; going broke from eating out? Are you going off to college and can't boil an egg? If you are interested in learning basic cooking skills we have a solution!

We are hosting a cooking class on May 20th. We will meet in the church kitchen at 2pm and create a meal which we will share after. If you need your knives sharpened please bring them with you. If you are interested, please contact Harry Lewis or Jane Wong to sign up for the class.



Midnight Run

*Ministry to people who are
currently homeless in NYC*

Saturday, June 2nd

*Interested in learning more or
going on the Run?*

Talk with Dave Smutzler



Pleasantville Ecumenical Vacation Bible School

August 6-10

9am-12pm

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Adult & Teen Volunteers
Needed!

Go to PvilleVBS.org

If you would like to help with the EVBS planning committee, or have questions, talk with Nicole Browand.

Scholarship Fund Needs Donors and Recipients

Our church Scholarship Fund has two important needs. The first is always an ongoing need for donations to increase our ability to give out scholarships to students who apply for them. The second is applications from students who need financial assistance to pay their college tuition.

Please send your donations to the Pleasantville Presbyterian Church Scholarship Fund. Scholarship applications--which can be found on the church website under "Transformational Mission"--are due May 15th. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Mosenthal.

Thanks!

Church News

Women's Brunch Features an Inspiring Talk by Christine Alvis



On Saturday morning, Susana Corona (skillfully assisted by Alma) hosted a delicious and soul-satisfying Presbyterian women's brunch that featured Christine Alvis presenting on her inspiring spiritual journey. We had 40 women and girls, spanning at least 80 years in age, who tried their best but didn't quite manage to finish the abundance of delicious food, which included many different kinds of quiches, salads, breads, and desserts.

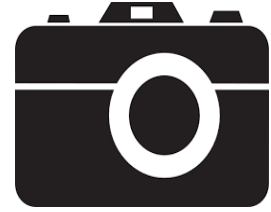
After a lovely half hour of gastronomy and fellowship -- during which my end of the table was treated to a fascinating account of Daisy's college trip to Cuba -- we made ourselves comfortable to hear the featured presentation.

Christine's story was gripping and beautiful, weaving together inspiration and love from the multiple religious traditions that make up her identity: Judaism and Catholicism from childhood, Zen Buddhism from college, nuns from Nursing school, and finally a Presbyterian husband (and belated discovery of her mother's unlikely early confirmation as Presbyterian too!). Christine shared her moving personal history of many griefs and losses -- though balanced by inspiring instances of human connection and of triumph over suffering -- and we also learned about her professional life spent in the borderlands between life and death, caring for her fellow humans in extreme need, first in a pioneering neo-natal intensive care unit and then, at the other end of the life cycle, in a nursing home.

In Pleasantville, grateful for a growing family, a spiritually supportive and loving community, and three wonderful pastors, Christine has involved herself in countless aspects of this church's work, nearly always, as she pointed out, because someone came to her with a request. In conclusion, she encouraged us all to reach out and invite people to participate, and also to keep an open mind ourselves when invited by someone else.

By chance, I had brought a visiting friend from Sweden with me as a guest; she works as a deacon in the Lutheran church in a mid-sized northern town, and she told me she was moved to tears many times by Christine's account, and she hopes to organize a similar kind of event in her own church when she gets home. I'm sure it will go well although she will need a bit of luck to overcome the handicap of not having Christine Alvis to do the presentation and Susana Corona to organize the occasion! All in all, it was a wonderful morning of warmth and nourishment for body and soul.

by Maude Meisel



Contribute a Photograph

Elliott Erwitt said; "Photography... has little to do with the things you see and everything to do with the way you see them."

Our church is hosting a free photography exhibit for two weekends in June and we invite you to participate. The title of the exhibit is; "**Radical Beauty in Everyday Life.**" We are living in a time of constant distraction and want to challenge you to slow down, notice what is around you and capture it in a photo to submit to the show. This is not a contest and it is open to adults and high school students who are amateur photographers.

Photos should be brought or mailed to the Pleasantville Presbyterian Church with a signed submission agreement between May 7 and May 18. Complete details and the submission form are available at our website, www.pvillepresby.org.

The exhibit will take place at our church on June 9th and 10th and June 16th and 17th from noon until 4pm.



YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

Saturday May 5th

Evening Rhythms — 5:00 pm

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

Sunday May 6th

Cinco de Mayo (ok I know it's not really the 5th)

Come find out what Cinco de Mayo is about and enjoy making chalupas (and finding out what they are)

5:00 - 7:00 pm

Sunday May 13th

Mother's Day

No PYC — spend time with Mom!

Saturday May 19th

P'ville Day Pancake Breakfast

Come eat and support our ASP volunteers. Bring your family!

All welcome - 7 am to 11:30 am

Sunday May 20th

Picnic and Games

Let's get some frisbees and head over to Rockwood Hall (in case of rain we will picnic at the church)

5:00 - 7:00 pm

Sunday May 27th

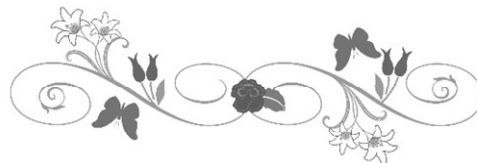
Memorial Day Weekend

No PYC — Enjoy the holiday!





Make sure to come to the ASP Pancake breakfast on Saturday, May 19th to support this mission. Bring a friend.

The Youth Group went out this past weekend taking pictures for the photography exhibit "Radical Beauty in Everyday Life". We can't to see what wonderful pictures we have.



MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp	2 7:30pm Evening Women's Bible Fellowship	3 6pm Spanish Class - Campbell Rm	4 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	5 5pm Evening Rhythms
6 8:45am Chancel Choir Practice 10am Intergenerational Worship Childcare in the Nursery 5pm Youth Grp. - Cinco de Mayo 6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7	8 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp	9 7:30pm Session Mtg.	10 6pm Spanish Class - Campbell Rm	11 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	12 7:30am Men's Breakfast
13  8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery	14	15 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp	16 7:30pm Evening Women's Bible Fellowship	17 6pm Spanish Class - Campbell Rm	18 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm. 6pm Set-up for ASP Pancake Bkfst	19 7am ASP Pancake Breakfast
20 Pentecost 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 2pm Cooking Class 5pm Youth Grp. - Picnic & Games	21	22 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp	23 7:30pm Evening Women's Bible Fellowship	24 6pm Spanish Class - Campbell Rm.	25 6pm English Class - Campbell Rm.	26
27 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11:15am Deacon's Meeting	28 	29 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp	30 7:30pm Evening Women's Bible Fellowship	31 6pm Spanish Class - Campbell Rm		



Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

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Pictures of the Season



Rummage...Easter...Women's Brunch

