



# The Good News Letter

## Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

SEEKING • CONNECTING • SERVING

### Intergenerational Apple & Pumpkin Picking

A great time was had by all who came out to celebrate fall with apple and pumpkin picking at Wilkens Farm in Yorktown. You are never too young or too old to enjoy picking apples.



### Stewardship 2018—Save the Dates!

- |        |                          |
|--------|--------------------------|
| Nov 4  | Stewardship Kickoff      |
| Nov 4  | Leaders' Dinner          |
| Nov 11 | Stewardship "Stew" Lunch |
| Nov 18 | Stewardship Sunday       |

### Celebrate Thanksgiving at Church

Thursday, November 22nd, 5pm

**What?** A delicious Thanksgiving meal and great fellowship.

**Who?** For those who have family far away or who want to spend a special evening with their church family.

**How?** Pot luck—sign up in the foyer or call the church office.

**Food?** Please bring a side dish or dessert for 8-10. Write down on the foyer poster what you plan to bring, please.

**Questions?**



Ask Marleni Ruano, Jane Wong or Pastor Debbie

**RSVP** by November 20th. (by either signing up on sheet in foyer or by calling the church office.)



### Stewardship "Stew" Lunch

Sunday, November 11th

Come enjoy delicious homemade stews and wonderful fellowship right after worship. We will live out our theme, "Building a Community of Stewards" as together we enjoy the bounty we create. If you would like to contribute a stew, bread or dessert, talk with Christine Alvis.

## Pastor Debbie on

Dear Friends in Christ,

Lately – I’ve been having some unexpected opportunities. Many conversations have come about with people in Pleasantville and beyond, because of interest and curiosity about my book, *Finding Manna*. People want to know how it came to be. Some have talked about their sense that the world needs more of this kind of story. I’m grateful that some new opportunities for conversations about faith have opened in really meaningful ways. On October 20<sup>th</sup>, I was invited to First Presbyterian Church of Strasburg, PA to discuss creative writing as a spiritual practice and share about the book, including the themes of discernment and meeting people where they are. I also had the chance to lead the community in worship.

Whenever I travel, I am so thankful for the people I meet and the places I go, and the amazing work I see people joining the Spirit to accomplish. I’m also incredibly thankful for the chance to recognize what a blessing it is for me to serve this congregation. You are always supportive of how God is working in my life and open to how the Spirit is moving among us. **We are truly a church who loves to say “Yes” to joining in whatever God is doing in the world.**

As I see how the idea of Pleasantville Presbyterian Church Associates has already started to bear fruit – I’m very excited for the next part of our journey together!

In Christ’s Love,

*Pastor Debbie*



## Save the Dates

<b>Stewardship Kickoff</b>	Nov 4
<b>Leader Dinner</b>	Nov 4
<b>Stewardship Lunch</b>	Nov 11
<b>Stewardship Sunday</b>	Nov 18
<b>Thanksgiving Dinner</b>	Nov 22

### Upcoming Events

<b>Advent Fair/Pageant</b>	Dec 2
<b>Hearts &amp; Hands Boutique</b>	Dec 9

## Remember E-giving!

It’s easy to set up.

Just go to our website from your computer or your smartphone: [www.pvillepresby.org](http://www.pvillepresby.org) and click on Contribute. Follow the directions to create or update your new pledge.

You can download the App to your smartphone from the App Store or Google Play. Simply search for “GivePlusChurch”. Once you download the app, it will prompt you to enter the name of our church and then follow the directions. Simple, secure and easy! Questions? See Christine Alvis.

### Don't Want to Use a Computer?

Visit the church office to obtain an authorization form with which you can write in your donation amount and frequency and bank information. Sign it and give it to Jo Anna Tivnan. To make a change to a recurring donation just submit an updated form.



## Thanksgiving Offering

We welcome your donations to our Thanksgiving Offering. If you have giving envelopes, you will find a special one in your box for this donation. You do not need a special envelope, however; simply write “Thanksgiving Offering” in the memo section of your check conventionally or electronically. The monies collected are contributed to the Food Pantry to help out at Thanksgiving time. Thank you for opening your heart for those who will appreciate the gift of nutrition.

## Peace and Global Witness Offering 2018

Thank you to all who gave so generously to the Peace and Global Witness Offering last month. We raised \$660.00 and 25% will be retained by our congregation in connection with the global witness of Christ’s peace. What a gift it is to those who have been hurt, in both their spirit and their community, to find a lasting peace, resolution of conflict and reconciliation. Thank you for helping to create a world of peace through your gifts.

# Church News

## Hearts & Hands Boutique

*Sunday, December 9th  
After worship Fellowship Hall*

*Come buy handcrafted gifts!*



## Men's Breakfast

Please join us for our next breakfast on Saturday, November 3rd. Breakfast begins at 7:30am with a discussion to follow. We're going to move the discussion in a lighter direction. Gene Fisher will lead a discussion about "Baseball". Did you know about his passion for the game? Gene has been intimately following the sport and its lore for a long time. He will bring some memorabilia to share. Bring yours too... it should be a fun discussion. Feel free to wear favorite team's hat...



Hearts & Hands has 81 pillows to send to the cancer outpatient section of Westchester Medical Center. The Pillow Project, overseen by Trudy Zoeller, was completed by many hands. Some sewed pillows, some stuffed them, and some closed them with hand stitching. The champions of hand stitching are Marleni Ruano and her daughter Ashley. Working together they finished 30 pillows, an impressive contribution to the project.

The pillows will be delivered soon to the hospital, where therapy patients may, we hope, find them soothing to the pains that often come with treatment.

## Men's Bible Study

Our new Men's Bible Study is off to a great start. We are enjoying Ephesians 1, a really important book in the New Testament. Please join the fun any Tuesday, from 7:30 - 8:30pm in the Campbell Room.

## Appalachia Service Project Information Meeting



**Monday, November 12th at  
7:30pm.**

## Giving Envelopes?

If you wish to use giving envelopes for 2018, please let Jo Anna know and they will be ordered for you. You can stop by the office, call her at (914)769-0458, or send an email: [jativnan@pvillepresby.org](mailto:jativnan@pvillepresby.org).

## Christmas for Appalachia



It's not too late to sponsor an Appalachian family for the holidays and to be their Secret Santa.

Here's how the project works:

We give you details about a specific family, and you shop for and send the gifts by Thanksgiving.

This year, our partner nonprofit organization in Kentucky says the need for sponsorship is greatest for big families (five and six children). So how about adopting a family together with another friend or two, your book club or other group?

For questions or for more details about the project, contact Kim Kleman Lewis at [kdkleman@gmail.com](mailto:kdkleman@gmail.com).

Thanks for considering taking part in what has become a cherished church tradition!

# Church News



## Thanksgiving Food Drive

*Sharing God's Bounty, Spreading Hope*

Every year our congregation generously donates food to the Children's Village, a residential school in Dobbs Ferry for at-risk boys ages 6 to 20. At Thanksgiving the boys go home to visit their families or foster families. Our donations help to fill 200 baskets of food so that each of the boys can take home the gift of food for Thanksgiving. Any overflow goes to the Pleasantville Interfaith Food Pantry. The need is great, and our gifts make a huge difference!

Special grocery bags are available in the sanctuary and fellowship hall. Attached to each one is a shopping list of suggested canned and packaged food. Please pick up a bag and keep it in your car as a reminder to buy some non-perishable foods for those in need.

Have your children select some of their favorite foods to donate. This is a mission project for all ages!



Please fill your bag and return to church by  
**Sunday, November 11th.**

## Word play: reading and interpreting Scripture in today's world

Dates: Nov. 4, Nov. 11 & Nov. 25

Location: Library

Time: Sundays at 11:30am

In this class, we will be looking at the authority of Holy Scripture in the church today. We'll do this by looking back at what some of the foremost – and not so foremost – 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> century theologians have said about the Word of God in the contemporary world. My hope is that as we delve into the questions asked by these thinkers in their particular time and place, we may be inspired by a similar curiosity.

Email [hannah@pvillepresby.org](mailto:hannah@pvillepresby.org) if you are interested.



## Celebration Service for Shane Watson

The Monroe Congregational Church in Monroe, CT is planning to recognize and celebrate Shane Watson's release from prison in their service of worship on **Sunday, November 11, 2018 @ 10 AM**. A reception will be held following the worship service. All are invited to attend.

As early as 2006, Pleasantville Presbyterian became involved in efforts to seek exoneration for Shane through the leadership of Will Duchon, who was our organist at the time. Will is now Music Director of the Monroe Church and has led that congregation in continuing support for Shane. After spending 25 years in the NY State prison system, all the while maintaining his innocence and holding on to his strong faith, Shane was released on parole on October 9, 2018, and was joyfully reunited with his extended family. He now joins his wife Paula and their children Diane and Zion at their home in Kingston NY.

If you would like to attend the November 11 service and celebration and join a carpool, please contact Doris Kersten. More details are available at <http://opusthirty.blogspot.com/>.

Will asks for an RSVP from those planning to attend.

Email: [will@theopus30mission.org](mailto:will@theopus30mission.org)

Phone: 203-260-1182

# Youth Group News

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

**Youth Group** is held at the church on Sunday nights from 5-7pm for kids in grades 5-12. Dinner is always provided by the members and friends of the youth council. Kids meet in the youth room or the fellowship hall and can be picked up in either place as well!



**Intergenerational  
apple picking!**


**Our philosophy...** At PPC, youth group is a place of rest from the chaos of school and schedules. It is a space where youth can gather together to “just be” with each other in a safe, loving and fun environment. Our group is inclusive, welcoming, and open to ALL, no matter whether you are a part of our church or not! (So please invite your friends!) On a regular basis, we play group games and hang out. We also hold various events and outings throughout the year, so keep an eye on your emails!



**Outdoor movie night  
at the Browands'!**

Questions? Email [youth@pvillepresby.org](mailto:youth@pvillepresby.org)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6pm Spanish Class - Campbell Rm	2 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	3 7:30am Men's Bkfst
4 <i>Stewardship Kickoff</i> 8:45am Chancel Choir Practice 10am Intergenerational Worship Childcare in the Nursery 11:30am Adult Ed. 5pm Youth Group 7:30pm Leader's Dinner	5	6 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp 7:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Men's Bible Fellowship	7 7:30pm Evening Women's Bible Fellowship	8 6pm Spanish Class - Campbell Rm	9 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	10 5pm Stewardship Lunch Set-up
11 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11am Stewardship Lunch 12pm Adult Ed. 5pm Youth Group 6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	12	13 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp 7:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Men's Bible Fellowship	14 7:30pm Session Mtg.	15 6pm Spanish Class - Campbell Rm	16 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	17
18 <i>Stewardship Sunday</i> 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 5pm Youth Grp	19	20 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp 7:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Men's Bible Fellowship	21 7:30pm Evening Women's Bible Fellowship	22 <b>Thanksgiving</b>  5pm Thanksgiving Feast	23 6pm English Class - Campbell Rm.	24
25 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11:15am Deacon's Meeting 11:30am Adult Ed. 5pm Youth Grp	26	27 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp 7:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Men's Bible Fellowship	28 7:30pm Evening Women's Bible Fellowship	29 6pm Spanish Class - Campbell Rm.	30 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm.	

## Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

400 Bedford Road  
Pleasantville, New York 10570

914-769-0458  
Info@PvillePresby.org  
www.PvillePresby.org

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 7038  
White Plains, NY

Return Service  
Requested

## Looking Ahead

### A Couple of Stewardship Thoughts

- Think of your giving like a honeycomb – which just overflows with its own sweetness. That is how God gives to us, and it is how we should give in turn. – Anonymous
- When we surrender every area of our lives, including our finances, to God, then we are free to trust Him to meet our needs.
- But if we would rather hold tightly to those things that we possess, then we find ourselves in bondage to those very things. - Larry Burkett (Christian Financial advisor)

### Donate a Christmas Poinsettia

Please complete and mail to the church office if you wish to donate a poinsettia for the sanctuary. Deadline for orders is December 2nd.

Please reserve \_\_\_ poinsettias for me. Attached is \$22 for each plant order.

\_\_\_ In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ To the Glory of God

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Please pick up your poinsettia after the Christmas services are over.



### Christmas Pageant

December 2nd

We will be sharing the story of Jesus' birth during worship on December 2nd. **Everyone** is invited to help us tell the tale of Jesus' birth by playing the roles of shepherds, animals, angels, and of course, Mary, David and baby Jesus.

If you are interested in helping with the Christmas Pageant, talk to Nicole Browand.

