

Rye Presbyterian Church • October 2025 • Vol. 261



Contents

Community

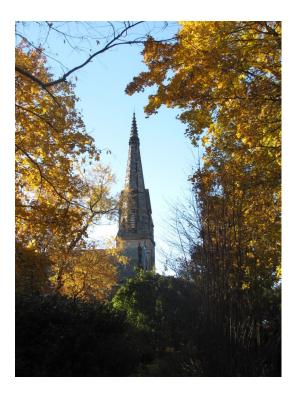


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Stephen Ministry You Have a Friend!

We all experience tough times but getting through those times can be difficult. Turning to a friend can help. Maybe, however, you don't want to burden that person with your problems. Instead, you can turn to a Stephen Minister as your friend. Stephen Ministers are trained to listen and provide an avenue for you to work through your feelings of grief or pain or loneliness or abandonment or hopelessness or loss or betraval or sadness or discouragement. To learn how you can receive care, contact one of our co-pastors, Dan Love or Cari Pattison (both at 914-967-0842), or e-mail Becky Ruegger at rhuegger@aol.com.

In Memoriam

Kent F. Warner September 17

Lois Jackman Howland Mother of Jim Howland August 23

Barbara B. Blinn Mother of Debbie Zingg August 25

The Rev. Donald W. Poole, Jr. August 30

Dr. William E. Thompson Father of BJ Thompson August 30

The Opening Word

Blessings of the autumn season to you! I love this time of year with its vibrant leaf color, delicious maple and pumpkin flavors, and the coziness of warm sweaters.

Fall also brings me to think about transitions and take stock of where I'm investing my time and treasure.

In the September lectionary (the 3-year cycle of Sunday scriptures used in many denominations' worship services), we've been exploring Luke 16 and the parables relating to resources of money and care. Jesus calls us to examine our priorities and reconsider our relationship to "mammon" (earthly wealth and goods).

October used to be the start of stewardship season – a time of making our financial pledges to the church. And now this targeted time of giving begins in January. But many of us find these fall months an apt time to think about year-end giving, as well as looking ahead to 2026.

When it comes to church giving, do we see it as just an annual pitch for money – to keep an institution afloat? Or is it an exciting adventure – a call to prayerfully stretch ourselves and practice fearless generosity and sacrificial giving?

A church member said recently, "We receive regular invitations from God, and if we don't respond, those invitations will come again!"

What if stewardship is less of an obligation, and more of an invitation? An opportunity to partner with God and one another in the ongoing mission of good news that is Rye Presbyterian Church, as we live out Christ's love?

It can be a scary thing to surrender our giving to God and pray, "Lord, what are you calling me to pledge?" We may find ourselves negotiating with the Holy Spirit: "I don't know if I can do that..."

But what I know for sure is that every time I've pushed past my resistance and given the amount I sensed God nudging me to give, somehow I've always found a way to fulfill it. And I find it rewarding to be a part of something bigger than myself—that we as a church are building together.

I love our congregation's commitment to tithe at least 10% of the overall budget to mission and outreach: prioritizing those experiencing food insecurity, those who are incarcerated or coming out of prison, and the mental and emotional well-being of local youth in Rye and Port Chester.

It also makes me feel good about my giving to know that this building is such a source of good news to people in the community: from 12-step groups to thrift store, nursery school to youth group, Sunday school to Sunday worship, Stephen ministry to choir music, weddings to funerals to baptisms- hundreds of people each year experience care, connection, and inspiration within these walls.

There are so many ways to give. And in various seasons of life, our commitments and capacities change. But each season brings its own call to share the love and peace of Christ. As you read this, I wonder what invitation God's extending to you?

In faith,

Cari

PCUSA Special Offering

Peace & Global Witness Offering

"Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbringing."

Romans 14:19

On World Communion Sunday, we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. Whenever the church gathers for worship, we are assured of Christ's peace. We celebrate that we are connected, we are loved and we are not alone. We worship together and are fed from Scripture and at Christ's table of peace. The pursuit of peace in the name of Christ is part of an active, engaged faith — a witness to what it means for us to be the Church, together.

Each year we receive the Peace & Global Witness Offering on World Communion Sunday, which this year is on October 5. This is why we give generously to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. We give because we know that every level of society is in need of Christ's peace.

We retain 25% of the offering from our congregation, to support local concerns that are important in our community – this year to the Open Door Medical Center. Another 25% is used by the Hudson Presbytery to support the peacemaking efforts with our neighboring congregations. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to join the peacemaking efforts of church partners all over the globe. We join these monetary gifts with our prayers for peace and our work for justice.

You are invited to visit the Peace & Global Witness website (pcusa.org/peace-global) to learn how your support of this Offering helps peacemaking efforts both in the U.S. and around the world. As a community of faith, we want to deepen our commitment to peacemaking so that it becomes a visible and profound witness to our community.

This is one of the four special Presbyterian Church (USA) offerings that we receive each year. May the God of Peace open the generosity in our hearts to join with Christians all over the country on World Communion Sunday, October 5, in response to the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

RPC Peace & Global Witness Offering PayPal Link



Outreach

Join RPC

Feeding Westchester Breakfast Bag Event

Sunday, October 5, after worship, Front Lawn

All are welcome to join us as we partner with Mission & Outreach and Feeding Westchester to help hungry children in our community!

Immediately following 10:00 a.m. worship on October 5, we will gather out on the front lawn. Again this year, the bags will be expanded from purely breakfast items to provide a broader range of meal options for more ages, and will include a tuna pouch, applesauce, and other snacks. Our bags will be shared with partners such as Saint Peter's Day Care Center (Yonkers), Port Chester Head Start, Mount Kisco Boys & Girls Club, and more!

We could also use donated Fresh Direct bags to help pack up the finished breakfast bags at the end of the event. You can either drop these off at the church beforehand or bring them with you that morning.

For further information, or if you want to help with the event, please contact Ashley Ginnings at ashleytginnings@gmail.com.



New Member Welcome Discussions

Sundays, October 19 & 26, after worship, Library

Whether you have been coming to Rye Presbyterian for a long time or are new to the church, maybe now is the time for you to take a further step into the life, community, and mission of RPC.

All those who are interested in exploring what it means to be a member of RPC are invited to take part in the upcoming New Member discussion sessions. We will meet on Sundays, October 19 and 26, immediately following worship, in the church library. Childcare will be available as needed.

In these classes, we will explore what it means to be a Presbyterian in general, and what it means to actively live out our faith together as a part of this particular church. In addition to the Sunday classes, for those choosing to join the church, there will be a meeting with the leadership of the church on Sunday evening, November 9 at 7:00. This is a time to meet the officers of the church and for the church elders to welcome the group to official church membership. Public welcome and recognition of the new members will take place during worship on Sunday, November 16.

Anyone wishing to find out more about joining the church should contact Peggy Berretta in the church office – pberretta@ryepc.com or 914-967-0842 x10.

Announcements

Chapel Yoga

Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00 a.m., in the Chapel

Cari Pattison is a certified yoga instructor (RYT 200), and is offering a Level 1 Vinyasa flow class on Wednesday mornings. Weaving a bit of scripture into the basic class structure, the class gives us an opportunity to stretch and strengthen our bodies, breathe into a posture of prayer, and deepen our relationship with God.

Bring a mat if you have one; mats are also available to borrow, along with other props. All are welcome!

To RSVP, or to learn more, email Pastor Cari at cpattison@ryepc.com. Those with limited mobility are also encouraged to reach out - to help gauge interest in a potential chair yoga class.

Pastor Cari completed her teacher training at Yoga Haven in Tuckahoe in 2010 and has taught at the Andrus Center in Tuckahoe, Stone Wave in Poughkeepsie, and Euphoria Yoga in Woodstock. She believes yoga is for every body, regardless of age, size, injuries, or flexibility, and can be joyfully integrated into our spiritual practice of Christian faith.

Walk & Talk Tuesdays

Tuesdays, 9:00-10:00 a.m., meeting in front of the Sanctuary Doors

We continue in the spirit of our Summer Session Walking Groups with Walk & Talk Tuesdays. Each walk opens with a scripture verse and simple sharing question, and we end in prayer. All are welcome, including dogs and strollers! To RSVP, or to learn more, email Cari at cpattison@ryepc.com.

Thrift Shop

Thursdays, from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

For more information on donations, please check the church website. You can also email the shop at RyeThrift10580@gmail.com.

Roots of Faith Interfaith Bible Study

Community Synagogue of Rye 200 Forest Avenue, Rye, NY 10580

Meeting on the following Thursdays from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. in 2025: 10/16, 10/30, 11/6, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18

This class will be given by Rabbi Gropper & The Rev. Matt Stone of Christ's Church Rye. This year's focus is "Finding Justice and Faith in the Words of the Minor Prophets".

Open Door Care Network

Wednesday, October 8, 6:00 p.m. at RPC

Join RPC Mission & Outreach, in conjunction with Open Door Care Network, for an engaging panel discussion to raise awareness about the mental health concerns of youth, and to highlight resources for low-income youth and their families in our neighboring communities. The panel will focus on the increasing demand for mental/behavioral health care and barriers to access faced by many community members; the ways in which Open Door and other community resources are identifying and responding to escalating mental health needs in our community; and how shared connections provide the safety net in our communities.



Spotlight Series

SHARED COMMUNITIES: Addressing Youth Mental Health Needs in Rye and the Sound Shore Communities

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025

6:00 PM

Hosted by

Rye Presbyterian Church Mission and Outreach 882 Boston Post Road Rye, NY 10580

RSVP

Tara Scarduzio,
Development Manager at
tscarduzio@odfmc.org or
scan the QR code below.



Panel

Kim O'Connor, LCSW-R
Psychotherapist
Member, RPC Mission and Outreach

Becky Ruegger, RN, MSN RPC Stephen Ministry and

Karen Fink, LCSW

Community Avocate

Executive V.P. of Clinical Services Family Services of Westchester

Karen Mandel, LMSW

Sr. Director, Behavioral & Community Health Open Door Care Network

The Rev. Dr. Tim Ives

Psychoanalyst and Scarborough Presbyterian Church Minister

Moderator

Lindsay Farrell
President & CEO
Open Door Care Network

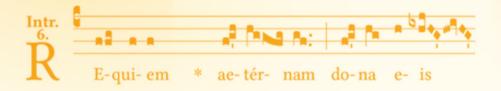
REQUIEM

BY MAURICE DURUFLÉ

Sunday, November 2, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Offered by the Chancel Choir and soloists in worship on All Souls Day to commemorate all who have died.

Jason Charneski, conductor Larry Allen, organ



Rye Presbyterian Church, 882 Boston Post Rd., Rye NY, www.ryepc.com

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP

CRAWFORD CHAPEL * FALL 2025

RPC's Crawford Chapel is adjacent to the Sanctuary

OCTOBER 5, AT 6:30 P.M.

Evening Prayer, with a professional choral quartet



NOVEMBER 16, AT 6:30 P.M.

A Service of Contemplative Prayer



DECEMBER 21, AT 7:00 P.M.

Hope and Healing on the Longest Night of the Year

These monthly services, each approximately 40 minutes in duration, provide an opportunity to worship at the close of the day.

The intimacy of the chapel, coupled with its warm acoustics and decorative flexibility, enables clarity and resonance in the sung and spoken word.





The Requiem by Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

Musical Enrichment for Our Annual Remembrance of Those Departed In Worship on November 2

Our annual remembrance of those who have left this temporal life and now rejoice eternally in God's presence will be the focus of worship on November 2 – All Souls Day. Significant portions of the service will be offered by the Chancel Choir via the words of the Requiem Mass, as set musically in 1947 by Maurice Duruflé, the long-time organist of the Church of St. Etienne-du-Mont in Paris. Duruflé's music here is based on Gregorian melodies -- to which portions of the Requiem were set many hundreds of years ago - coupled to harmonies that are infused with impressionism and mysticism. The result is a work that evokes tremendous spiritual comfort and hope.

Sunday Evening Worship Services

The opportunity to worship at times other than Sunday morning came to be meaningful for me while on my sabbatical leave in the summer of 2024. Sunday and daily Evensong in cathedrals in England, with its emphasis on scripture and attendant choral music (sung Psalms and Canticles) caused my heart and my mind to consider God's continuing presence and mighty works in a different light (literally, as the daylight toward and into evening is different than that of the usual hour of worship in the morning).

With the encouragement and affirmation of the Worship & Music Committee, the Co-Pastors and I hope your hearts will burn as did the disciples' hearts while they were on the road to Emmaus the evening of that first Easter (see Luke 24:13-32.) That evening became a time of worship, teaching, and reflection.

Thus, we have developed a plan for a c. 40-minute service, once per month, in the chapel, on a Sunday evening. The first will be on October 5, at 6:30 p.m., as we gather for Evening Prayer as outlined in the possibilities presented in the opening pages of *Glory to God*, the hymnal in use here. A quartet of professional singers from the Chancel Choir will help to lead and inspire us, and Rev. Love will offer a homily.

The service on November 16 will feature a return to the Contemplative format used at different times these past many years. Worship the evening of December 21 – the longest night of the year – will be in a format designed to bring light and hope to all who are in need following losses in their lives.

Book & Bible Studies

Men's Sunday Evening Bible Study

Sundays, October 5 and 19, at 8:00 p.m., in the Library or via Zoom

All are welcome to join in as we continue our Sunday evening reading and discussion of the book of Genesis. It is a great opportunity to meet others and wrestle with these ancient texts and their meaning for us today. If you'd like to be on the email reminder list, let Dan Love know at documents.com.

Monday Morning Bible Discussion

Mondays, October 20 and 27, at 9:00 p.m., via Zoom

This month, the Monday morning Bible Discussion group continues its reading of the Gospel according to Matthew. We just began our reading in this book last month, so feel free to jump in as we explore the systematic way that Matthew tells the story of Jesus. We meet almost every Monday morning from 9-10 a.m. on Zoom, but you are welcome to come when you can for great conversation, community, and learning! If you'd like to be on the email reminder list, let Dan Love know at dlove@ryepc.com.

Moms' Bible Study

Sundays, 8:45-9:45 a.m., in the Conference Room

Moms' Bible Study returns! This group is for moms with young children who are looking for support, encouragement, and fellowship with other moms. If you'd like to be on the email list, or to learn more, please contact Madison Walsh at madisonlichliterwalsh@gmail.com.

Women's Bible Study

Saturdays, October 11 and 25, 10:00 a.m., Library

Women's Bible Study returns on October 11. Please join us! For more information, please contact Cynthia Wells at <u>cynthialwells@gmail.com</u>.

Gospel Challenge

We encourage you to walk with Jesus this fall by reading one chapter of the Gospels each day. Email cpattison@ryepc.com if you're participating with us in the readings and would like to be part of a weekly email unpacking the scripture with Pastor Cari.

Oct 5	Mark 15-16
OCI 3	
	and Luke 1-5
Oct 12	Luke 6-12
Oct 19	Luke 13-19
Oct 26	Luke 20-24
	and John 1-2
Nov 2	John 3-9
Nov 9	John 10-16
Nov 16	John 17-21

RPC Women's Discipleship Group

Tuesdays, 1:00-2:25 p.m., in the Library

RPC Women's Discipleship Group will continue our study of *Mostly What God Does; Reflections on Seeking and Finding His Love Everywhere,* by Savannah Guthrie, starting with *Part 4: Grace.*

All are welcome! Please let either Courtney Bennett (<u>courtneybennett910@gmail.com</u>) or Alicia Baldwin (<u>alicia.baldwin@verizon.net</u>) know if they can add you to the email communication list.

Youth Programs

Confirmation 2026

The journey to Confirmation Sunday, June 7, 2026, is underway! That may seem like a long time from now, but we have much ground to cover. Together, we will soon begin exploring the core questions of the faith: What is God like? What is the Bible all about? Adam and Eve... what do they have to do with me? How can this world be both so beautiful and such a mess all at the same time?

After a brief orientation to the year ahead, the entire class met late last month to begin the year and get to know each other a little better – an important exercise when the class of 19 young people come from 8 different high schools! We will jump into the theological deep end this month with classes on Sundays, October 5 and 19 at 5 p.m. in the Westminster Room.

Please keep this year's class in your prayers throughout the coming months!

ryepc.com/ministries/confirmation/

Upcoming October Meetings

Sunday, October 5, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m., in the Westminster Room

Sunday, October 19, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m., in the Westminster Room



Volunteer Opportunity: Furniture Sharehouse

Saturday October 18 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

As Westchester's only furniture bank, Furniture Sharehouse collects your gently used, unwanted furniture and give it a second life by distributing it for free to economically disadvantaged families and individuals across Westchester County. They keep thousands of pounds of furniture out of the waste stream while furnishing hundreds of homes each year for the people who need it the most.

To learn more, please visit: Furniture Sharehouse Website

We'll meet at the Rye Presbyterian Church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. and drive over together.

Wear close-toed shoes,
 Dress for the weather
 (no air conditioning or heating inside)
 Bring a water bottle

RSVP below!

<u>Volunteer Signup - Furniture Sharehouse</u>



Youth Programs

Middle School Connection High School Youth Group

All 6th-8th graders are welcome at RPC's Middle School Connection!

We meet twice a month, typically every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m., in our Youth Rooms. We spend our time catching up, playing games, and deepening our spiritual lives. We hope your youth can join us as we are reminded again and again that we are not alone. We are connected in so many ways to one another and our loving God!

If you have any questions, or if you'd like to sign up for the parent email list, please contact Anne A. Halloin at ahalloin@ryepc.com.

Upcoming October Meetings

Wednesday, October 15, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m., in the Youth Rooms

Wednesday, October 29, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m., in the Youth Rooms

All 9th-12th graders are welcome at RPC's High School Youth Group!

We gather at least twice a month to build community and faith through fellowship, prayer, discussions, and service! Meetings are held on Sundays from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in our Youth Rooms.

If you have any questions, or if you'd like to sign up for the parent email list, please contact Anne A. Halloin at ahalloin@ryepc.com.

Donuts and Devotions

Sunday, October 5, 9:15 a.m., in the Youth Room

Following worship, join us upstairs for a discussion of faith, starting with this week's sermon. Come hungry!

Upcoming October Meeting

Sunday, October 26, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., in the Youth Room



Children's Programs

Sunday School

For Children 4 Years Old — 5th Grade

This October, we will be continuing through the Hebrew Bible (or Old Testament) to learn about stories where God made and kept promises. We will learn about some of our ancestors of faith: from the families of Noah, to Jacob, to Joseph, to Abraham, and finally, to us! While it is easy to tell children to trust in God, it's helpful for them to learn why we put our trust in God. This month we'll explore stories about people who trusted God's promise to keep them safe, to be with them, and to bring joy: just like God does for us.

We're still accepting registration for Sunday School! Please visit the registration page on our website, or scan the QR Code.



ryepc.com/ministries/sunday-school-registration/

Childcare

For Children 3 Months Old — 3 Years Old

Our team of dedicated staff and volunteers is available to care for children 3 months to 3 years old while parents attend worship services. Childcare can be found on the first floor of the Education Wing. If you have any questions, please reach out to Anne A. Halloin at ahalloin@ryepc.com.

ryepc.com/ministries/children/



Landscape with Rainbow by Robert S. Duncanson

Worship and Giving



Call for Sunday Helpers

We welcome those who would like to assist in worship on Sunday mornings by joining the team of people who read scripture, usher, or serve communion. If you are interested in doing so on an occasional basis, please contact our chair of the Worship and Music Committee, Carl Friedrich: carlrfriedrich@gmail.com.

Sunday Chancel Flowers

Each week flowers adorn our sanctuary and provide an uplifting reminder of the goodness of God and the beauty of God's creation. Please consider honoring the memory of a loved one or recognizing a special occasion for a \$100 donation. The flowers are a blessing to all attending the service, in the sanctuary as well as online. We will acknowledge your donation in the church bulletin. To make arrangements, please visit our website: ryepc.com/worship/flowers

Giving at RPC



Online donation options are available on our giving page, at ryepc.com/give/ and through the QR Code. If you have any questions, please contact Maida Robinson at mrobinson@ryepc.com.

Your generosity makes all that you see here in Grace Notes possible!

Sunday Worship

Join us each week for Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m. Instructions for online worship via Zoom or YouTube are on the church website: ryepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc

Previous sermons, bulletins, and livestreams can be found online on our sermons page: ryepc.com/worship/sermons/

Email Updates

RPC Weekly Updates – Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Worship Reminders – Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. Contact mcrawley@ryepc.com to subscribe.

Children & Youth Ministries Monthly Newsletter Contact ahalloin@ryepc.com to subscribe.

Website Updates

RPC Website – Latest News ryepc.com/about-rpc/latest-news/

RPC Website – Ongoing Events ryepc.com/about-rpc/ongoing-events/

Social Media

RPC Facebook – Rye Presbyterian Church RPC Instagram – @ryepres10580 RPC Youth Instagram – @ryepcyouth

Caring Connections

Stephen Ministry's Caring Connections

Fall 2025 Friendly Visitor and Stephen Minister Training

Caring Connections, a Stephen Ministry-based training course, has been helping RPC members become better listeners and caregivers since 2004. Beginning last month, a new training course is underway with a wonderful group of committed participants.

Under the coordinating work of Stephen Leader, Debbie Zingg, classes are led by our clergy and the rest of the RPC Stephen Leader team. After completing the course, class participants may serve as Friendly Visitors. For those wishing to go further, Caring Connections is foundational for becoming a Stephen Minister, with training and continuing education continuing through January 2026, followed by monthly Supervision Meetings.

Please keep the class in your prayers as they work to deepen the caring nature of the RPC community!

Caring Connections Schedule

RPC Westminster Room

10/7	7:00 p.m 9:30 p.m.
10/14	7:00 p.m 9:30 p.m.
10/21	6:30 p.m 9:30 p.m.
10/25	9:00 a.m 11:30 a.m.
10/28	7:00 p.m 9:30 p.m.
11/4	7:00 p.m 9:30 p.m.
11/11	7:00 p.m 9:30 p.m.
11/18	7:00 p.m 9:30 p.m.
11/22	8:30 a.m 3:00 p.m.





Rye Presbyterian Nursery School



Greetings to the Rye Presbyterian Church Community

from Kristin Bassett Kumar

We joyfully kicked off the 2025-2026 school year with our annual Parent Social, held under a tent on the Great Lawn. Blessed with a warm September evening, the gathering was a wonderful opportunity for new families to meet and connect with returning RPNS families.

This year's theme, Summer Sunset, was the perfect way to wrap up a bright and beautiful summer while looking ahead to another exciting school year at RPNS. Guests enjoyed delicious food from the Boxcar Cantina food truck and a variety of refreshing, summer-themed beverages.

During the event, families purchased RPNS beach balls and car magnets, with all proceeds benefiting our Outdoor Renovation Project. This exciting project includes installing a turf field near the bike track, fully repaving the bike track, enhancing our woodworking shed, and beautifying our children's garden areas.

We are deeply grateful to all the families who attended and generously supported this event. Your contributions make it possible to bring these renovations to life for the joy and growth of our children.

Celebrating Jason's Charneski's Ten Years of Service at RPC







The Annual Fall Picnic























Church Staff

The Rev. Daniel Love Co-Pastor

The Rev. Cari Pattison Co-Pastor

Anne A. Halloin Director of Children and Youth Ministries

<u>Jason Charneski</u> Director of Music and Organist

Maida Robinson Chief Administrative Officer

Peggy Berretta Administrative Assistant

Max Crawley Administrative Assistant for Communications

Aileen Lynch Office Assistant

Juan Velasquez Head Sexton/Building Manager

Alonso Osorio Sunday Sexton

Haniel Neves Knock Intern in Sacred Music

Rye Presbyterian Church

882 Boston Post Road, Rye, New York 10580

914.967.0842 / www.ryepc.com

We are a Stephen Ministry church that offers one on one caring ministry to those in need. If you need assistance from your pastors, deacons, or a Stephen Minister, please call at (914) 967-0842.

If you are experiencing an acute crisis, you can call or text 988 and you'll connect with a mental health professional through the National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.