



GRACE NOTES

Rye Presbyterian Church • April 2026 • Vol. 267





Thank you for making our Fellowship Festival such a special event! Enjoy more photos on pages 14 and 15.

Introduction Stephen Ministry

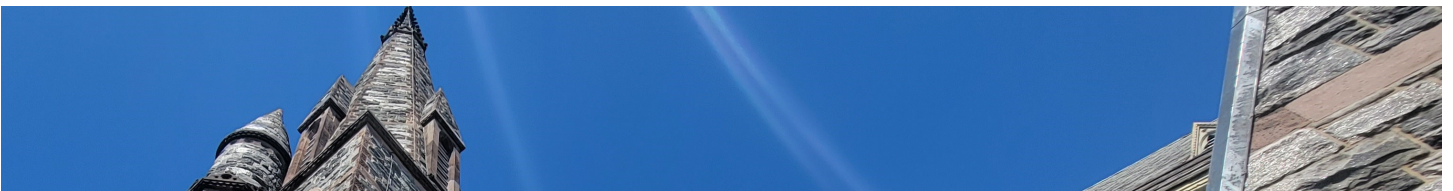
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As part of her Lenten devotional series author Kate Bowler writes: "May you resist any pressure to turn pain into progress. May your questions and doubt and uncertainty be met with kindness, not advice."

Honoring the process, not the results, is at the heart of the Stephen Ministry's mission. If you or someone you care about could benefit from confidential weekly visits with a skilled, compassionate, Christian companion, contact our Referrals Coordinator Mary Versfelt at mdversfelt@gmail.com, or reach out to pastors Dan or Cari at any time. They are all available to answer any questions you may have regarding the healing work of the Stephen Ministry!



The Opening Word

At the New Members' dessert reception in March, one of the attendees said she's noticed a growing interest in God going around. Though people don't bring up "church" in casual company. Over dinner with non-church friends, she said her family's been worshipping at RPC and had decided to join. Her friend said, "Really? You go to *church*? And... which church, exactly?"

Jesus invites us in the gospel of Matthew to be salt and light in the world. We season the world with salt and shine our light when we ask, "*Who's not here yet? Who do I know that might be looking for God, or wishing for a community like this?*"

Episcopal Archbishop William Temple says, "The church is the only organization on earth that exists not for its own members, but for those who are outside it." We get to share our "*saltiness*" with those around us in any number of spoken and unspoken ways, keeping an outward-focused eye toward those outside the church. But what happens if we run out of salt?

Hyponatremia is the medical name for salt deficiency in our bodies. Common on the Appalachian Trail with backpackers when it's hot out, it happens when you're sweating a lot and don't have enough sodium to go with the amount of water you're consuming. It all makes me wonder: what might *spiritual hyponatremia* look like? Is it where we get achy and dizzy with our own small pursuits, light-headed with annoyance at the people around us, and sweaty with self-pity? Before we know it, our souls get depleted.

Is spiritual "salt-deficiency" where I lose myself in acquiring goods and seeking my own comfort, focused only on my own schedule and household? Is it what happens when I shrink my circle of compassion to what's right in front of me, ignoring the needs of my neighbors, and those who are hurting, hungry, hiding, or afraid?

Rye Church, there is so much evidence of how you are already living as salt and light right now:

All but one of the Coming Home dinners are spoken for (April 16, anyone?) – 18 weeks of meals that individuals and groups have pledged to prepare for formerly incarcerated persons seeking a fresh start. And on a recent Sunday you packed 8,600 meals for Rise Against Hunger!

We recently commissioned 9 Stephen Ministers – those trained and ready to walk alongside the rest of us when we need prayer and a listening ear, as well as a number of new Elders, Deacons, and Trustees. Plus we have a group of 9 people already mobilized as a Search Committee to find our next Director of Children & Youth Ministries.

We have a good crew of high schoolers and adult advisors signed up to go on this summer's student mission trip for Appalachian Service Project, and ten new families just joined our church as new members and friends!



This is not a church lacking in good works, and yet, we live in a world that is ever in need of a fresh dash of salt and a new beam of light. As we head into Holy Week: who do you know that might have a covert curiosity about God? Someone not yet connected to a church home?

Why not invite them to one of our three Easter services: 6:30 on the beach at sunrise, 9:00 a.m. here with the flowering of the cross, and 11:00 a.m. with communion and the fresh fragrance of lilies. At the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services, a brass quartet will add splendor to the celebration of the Resurrection.. Finally, at 2:00 p.m., we're back for a kids' candy-free Easter Egg Hunt! As always, everything we offer is open to everyone. So let's go be salt and light, and welcome others to experience God's love with us.

Cari

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY

Music for Choir

March 29, 10:00 a.m., beginning in the Assembly Room

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Music for Choir

April 2, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

GOOD FRIDAY

Midday Worship

Music for Solo Voice and Violin

April 3, 12:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Family Service

April 3, 3:00 p.m., beginning in the Westminster Room

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunrise Service

April 5, 6:30 a.m., Rye Town Beach

Family Service: Flowering of the Cross

Music for Brass Quartet

April 5, 9:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Worship, with Communion

Music for Choir and Brass Quartet

April 5, 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

*During 11:00 a.m. Easter Worship,
Childcare will be available for children aged three months old to four years old.
Childcare can be found on the first floor of the Education Wing.*

Upcoming Events

Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 5, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., Grape Arbor
Our rain date is on the following Sunday, April 12

Join us for a fun-filled Easter Egg Hunt! Bring your family and friends for an afternoon of joy and excitement as we search for colorful, candy-free eggs hidden around the church grounds. We'll also have additional crafts and outdoor games to celebrate the joy of the Easter season. There will be plenty of healthy snacks and treats to enjoy!

We encourage you to sign up beforehand so that we have an idea of how many adults and children to expect. Regardless, whether or not you sign up, all are welcome to the celebration!

[Easter Egg Hunt Sign-Up](#)



Dinner at Noon

Saturday, April 25, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Carver Center
400 Westchester Ave, Port Chester, NY 10573

Calling volunteers for Dinner at Noon! Dinner at Noon is a community meal offered on Saturdays at the Carver Center in Port Chester to those in need. The next Dinner at Noon provided by RPC is scheduled for Saturday, April 25. We are looking for volunteers to contribute food items (such as juice or a dessert), set tables, plate food, serve meals to guests, and clean up. Please help us make this a special meal for our neighbors! Contact Madison Walsh at madisonlchliterwalsh@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering. Families with children ages 8 and up are welcome to volunteer together; having children help serve the meal is a rewarding experience for all!



Church & Justice Sunday

Sunday, April 12, at 10:00 a.m., in the Sanctuary

Guest Preacher: Deborah Pretlow, MPS

On Sunday, April 12, we will celebrate our annual Church & Justice Service, with worship led by those who have been formerly incarcerated in New York's prison system and gone on to lead lives devoted to improving society in various and profound ways.

Parenting Young Adults

Join us on April 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Westminster Room for a time of discussion, sharing, and support.

Guest Speaker: Rev. Andrea Raynor

What happens when the small child, who once needed you for everything, suddenly doesn't need you so much — at least not in the same way? Just when you think the most challenging parts of parenting are behind you, a young adult emerges from the chrysalis that once was your baby. Who is this person! No longer a child and not fully adult, their needs (and ours) have changed. How do we navigate, understand, and parent through the years that seem to offer few resources — spiritually, emotionally, and practically?

Rev. Andrea Raynor (Andie) will be our facilitator. Andie is the mother of two grown children (now in their thirties — phew!) Although most known for her work as a hospice chaplain and writer, she recently started a new chapter herself. She is currently working as a Campus Minister at Manhattan University in the Bronx, supporting and guiding young adults on their spiritual journeys.

Organized by the Fellowship and Formation Committee



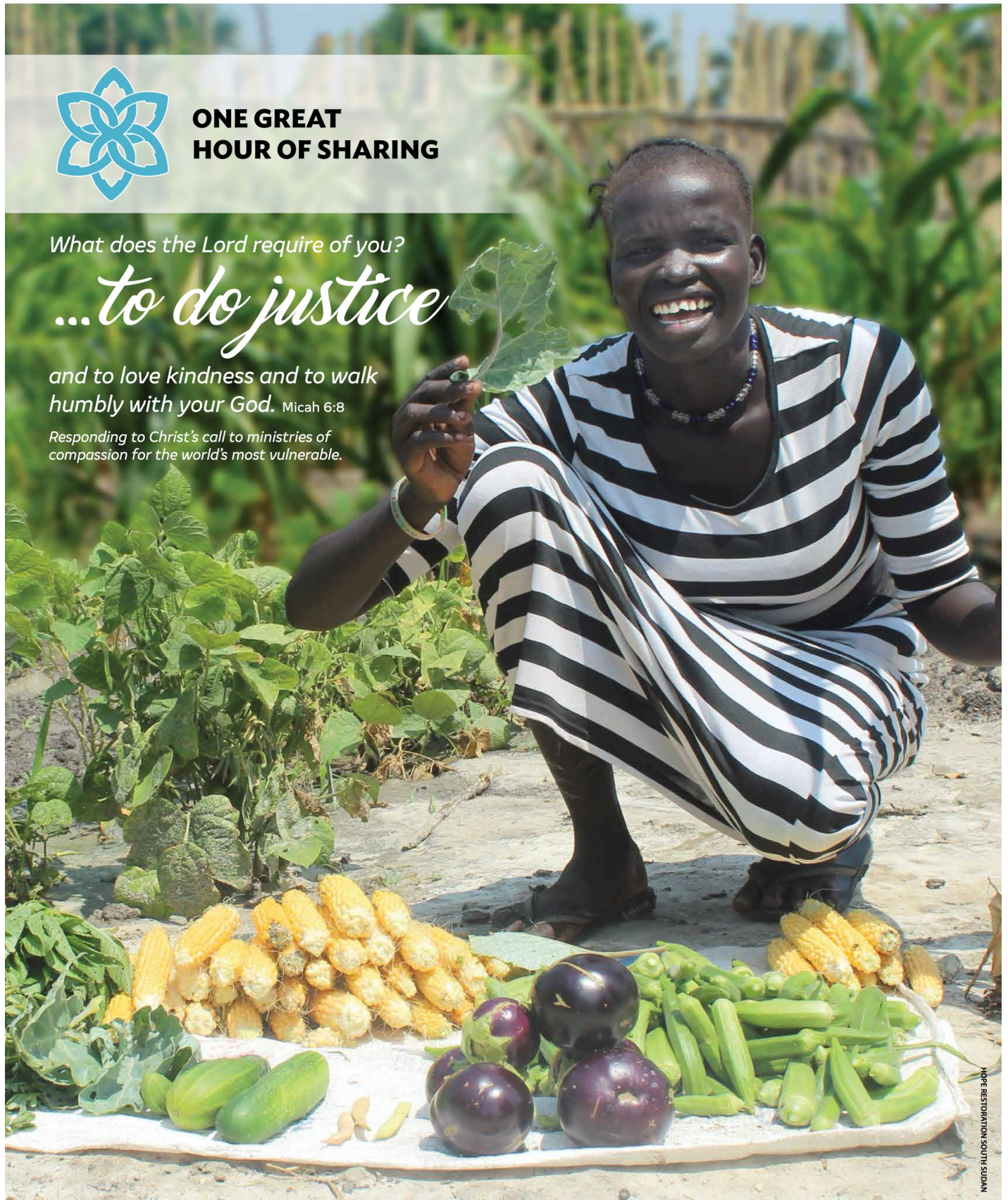
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

What does the Lord require of you?

...to do justice

and to love kindness and to walk
humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

Responding to Christ's call to ministries of
compassion for the world's most vulnerable.



HOPE RESTORATION SOUTH SUDAN

PD05 12138236-101



Text **OGHS** to **91999** to support these vital ministries, or visit pcusa.org/oghs.



SPRING SING... AND MORE 2026

for Children in Kindergarten
through Grade 5



Wednesdays, April 8 through May 20
4:15 – 4:45 p.m., in the Westminster Room
(snack available at 4:00)



Children are invited to join Mr. C. to grow in faith through song and story. There also will be occasional explorations of different musical instruments, having the children hear, see, and learn about them from those who play them.

So that he might be able to prepare appropriately, please let Mr. C. know if your child plans to attend:

jcharneski@ryepc.com.



Book & Bible Studies



Old Books, Catherine M. Wood

Men's Sunday Evening Bible Study

Sunday, April 19, at 8:00 p.m. in the Library and via Zoom

All are welcome to this ongoing conversation as we dive deeper into the Gospel according to Matthew. Please contact Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com to be on the email reminder list.

Monday Morning Bible Discussion

Mondays, April 20 and 27, at 9:00 a.m., via Zoom.

With the Sermon on the Mount fresh in our minds, we move on this month in Matthew's gospel into stories of Jesus' miracles. What to make of them!? All are invited to join this faithful Monday morning community as we read and learn together! Contact Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com for more information and to join the email reminder list.

RPC Women's Discipleship Group

Tuesdays, from 1:00-2:30 p.m., in the Library

Please join the Women's Discipleship for our study of *Mere Christianity* by C. S. Lewis on Tuesdays from 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the Rye Presbyterian Church library. Everyone is welcome!

You may reach out to either Alicia Baldwin at alicia.baldwin@verizon.net or Courtney Bennett at courtneybennett910@gmail.com with any questions or to be added to our email list.

Moms' Bible Study

Sundays, April 12, 19, and 26, 8:45-9:45 a.m., Conference Room

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

Ongoing Events

Chapel Yoga

Wednesdays, from 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 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. We encourage you to come five minutes early for setup. All are welcome, including beginners! To RSVP, or to learn more, email cpattison@ryepc.com.

Lenten Book Study



*We concluded our study of Practicing the Way:
Be with Jesus, Become like him, Do as he did,
by John Mark Comer, earlier this March.*

Thank you to everyone who participated!

Coming Home 2026

Dinner is open to church members by RSVP
Thursdays, at 7:00 p.m., in the Westminster Room

Coming Home is an expression of our long-standing Prison Ministry at Rye Presbyterian Church. We seek to empower those who are returning to the community following incarceration.

Congregants serve as dinner cooks and hosts, volunteer as mentors, and join in our weekly Thursday night dinners in the Westminster Room – making a real difference in the lives of formerly incarcerated persons. Coming Home will conclude with graduation on Sunday, June 7.

For more information, please contact Douglas Carey at poningoeearthcare@gmail.com, or Pastor Cari at cpattison@ryepc.com.

Thrift Shop

Thursdays, from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.,
in the Assembly Room

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

Thrift Evening Sale

Saturday, April 25

For more information about these events and more, please visit the Ongoing Events page on our website at ryepc.com/about-rpc/ongoing-events/.

RPC Children & Youth

Middle School Connection

Wednesdays, April 8 & 22, 5:30 p.m., Youth Rooms
Dinner's included!

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

We spend our time catching up, playing games, and deepening our spiritual lives. We hope your youth can join us as we are reminded that we are not alone. We are connected in so many ways to one another and to our loving God!

High School Youth Group

Sundays, April 19 & 26, 6:00 p.m., Youth Rooms

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

We gather at least twice each 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 the Youth Rooms.

Confirmation 2026

Sundays, April 19 & 26, 5:00 p.m., Westminster Room

This month, the class will be working on their final versions of their statements of faith – personal essays in which they are working to put words to their thoughts about God, their relationship with God, and how their faith informs their lives. Once that is completed, each confirmand will speak with a church elder about their year of study and their readiness to confirm their baptismal faith in June.

The Peter Bishop High School Senior Scholarship

Since 1968, Rye Presbyterian Church has awarded grants to graduating high school seniors who are going on to college studies.

The number of grants and the amounts awarded each year vary, but it is a one-time award given to students demonstrating academic promise and financial need, with priority consideration given to those seniors who have been active in the life of Rye Presbyterian Church.

If you are a Rye High School senior, application for this scholarship is done through the guidance office at RHS. If you are not a student at Rye High School, but wish to apply for the scholarship, please contact Rev. Love at dlove@ryepc.com for more information.

Childcare

For Children 3 Months Old — 3 Years Old

Our team of dedicated staff and volunteers is available to care for young children while parents attend worship. Childcare can be found on the first floor of the Education Wing.

ryepc.com/ministries/children/

Sunday School

For Children Age 4 — 5th Grade

Sunday School is held Sunday mornings during worship. To register your child, please visit the registration page on our website.

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

Upcoming Youth Events

Empty Bowls Pottery Session **Middle School Connection**

Sunday, April 12, from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., at the Clay Art Center
40 Beech Street, Port Chester, NY 10573

Middle schoolers are invited to the Clay Art Center in Port Chester to make clay pots for the upcoming Empty Bowls fundraiser. Come and use your artistic skills for a great cause!

Bread of Life Volunteer Session **High School Youth Group**

Sunday, April 12, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., at Giving Tree Global
65 Orchard Avenue, Rye, NY 10580

High schoolers are invited to come and volunteer at Giving Tree Global's Bread of Life food pantry. RSVP with Anne A. Halloin at ahalloin@ryepc.com so that you can sign a waiver before we arrive!

Youth Summer Service Trip **Bingo Fundraiser**

Sunday, April 26, from 11:15 – 12:15 p.m., in the Assembly Room

Following worship, we will be hosting our annual Bingo Fundraiser to help pay for this year's Youth Summer Service Trip. The suggested donation is \$5 per Bingo Card.

This year, RPC is partnering with the Appalachia Service Project for our Youth Summer Service Trip. To learn more about ASP, visit asphome.org.



2026 Stewardship Update



As of March 26, we have received 274 pledges for \$1,395,000 – our highest pledge total ever! Of those 274, 35 were new pledges, and 122 households increased their pledge!

We are 99% of the way to our goal - only \$17,000 to go!
Help put RPC over the top by making your pledge today!

Thank you for your commitment to be a part of this new chapter in the community, mission, and ministry of Rye Presbyterian Church!

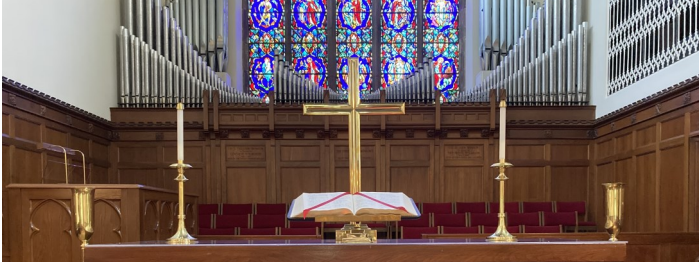
If you haven't yet made your pledge,
you can do so at ryepc.com/stewardship-2026/.

Your Stewardship Committee:

Sarah Barringer, Young Kim, Dan Love, Cari Pattison, Scot Stevens,
Chris Winston, Avery Woods, and Grace Yoon Kilroy



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: carlfriedrich@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 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 mrcrawley@ryepc.com to subscribe.

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

Website Updates

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

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

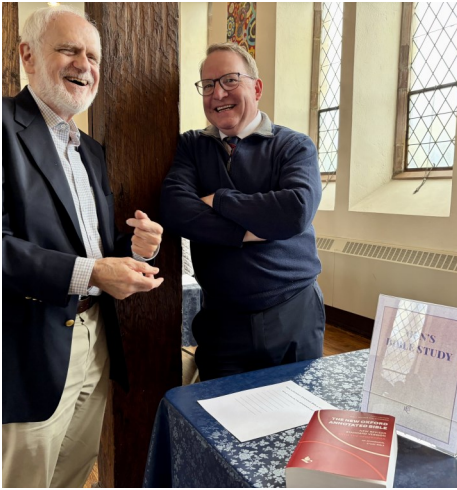
Social Media

RPC Facebook – [Rye Presbyterian Church](https://www.facebook.com/RyePresbyterianChurch)
RPC Instagram – [@ryepres10580](https://www.instagram.com/ryepres10580)

Fellowship Festival



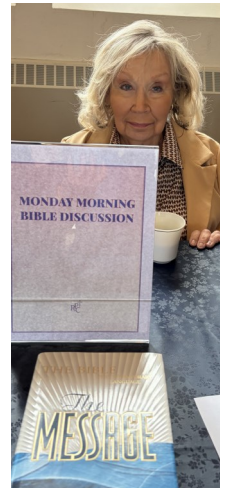
Fellowship Festival



Men's Bible Study



Monday Morning Bible Discussion



Earthcare Team & Coming Home



Women's Discipleship Group



Show Up and Make!



Chapel Yoga



Women's Discipleship Group

MSC Bonfire



HSYG at Coming Home



Volunteering with Food2GrowOn



Rye Presbyterian Nursery School

Greetings to the Rye Presbyterian Church Community
from Kristin Bassett Kumar

RPNS hosted our annual Special Visitor Day and Scholastic Book Fair!

It was wonderful welcoming many grandparent visitors! Our special guests enjoyed listening to the children sing a song before decorating book-marks and sharing a yummy snack of mini muffins and fruit together. The children loved exploring the Book Fair with their special visitors!

All the proceeds from the Book Fair go toward our scholarship fund. We thank everyone who participated in this event! We are so grateful for all the support!





GRACE NOTES

Church Staff

The Rev. Daniel Love	Co-Pastor
The Rev. Cari Pattison	Co-Pastor
Anne A. Halloin	Director of Children and Youth Ministries
Jason Charneski	Director of Music and Organist
Maida Robinson	Chief Administrative Officer
Peggy Berretta	Administrative Assistant
Max Crawley	Administrative Assistant for Communications
Aileen Lynch	Office Assistant
Junior Morales	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.