

RPC GRACE NOTES

Rye Presbyterian Church • October 2026 • Vol. 272



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Community

RPC Interim Staff

Rye Presbyterian Nursery School's Co-Directors Margaret Sculti and Kristin Kumar have stepped up as our new Interim Directors for Children's Ministries while our Search Committee continues their work. Additionally, Eric Birk has joined the staff as Interim Assistant Organist for the 2026-2027 program year.



Kristin Kumar

Interim Director of Children's Ministries



Margaret Sculti

Interim Director of Children's Ministries



Eric Birk

Interim Assistant Organist



by Paige Carlisle

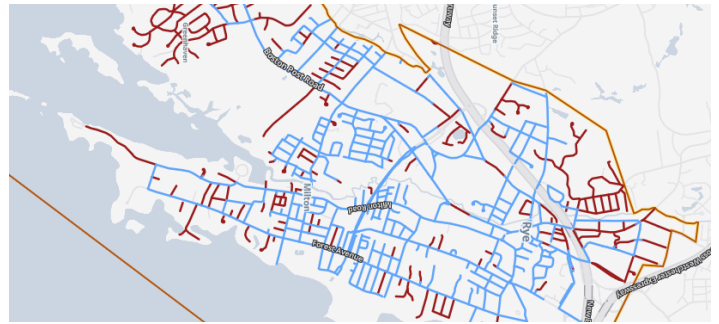
The Opening Word

While the pace of my exercise has slowed over the years, I still remain committed to getting out on a regular basis either to bike, or more frequently, to walk the streets of the area. Since a bike trip together several years ago, my daughter Audrey and I are now both users of the app called Strava, which tracks where you go, how fast you go, and the elevation changes you navigate. This summer, Audrey pointed me in the direction of another app, linked to Strava, called Street Ferret. Based on the data from Strava, Street Ferret tracks and shows you the percentage of the streets you have journeyed in your exercise. Interesting, I thought. I was curious, and so I tried it. It is far more than just interesting. To be honest, I've become a little obsessed with it.

When I first connected to Street Ferret it revealed to me that I had walked about 40% of the streets in Rye. I had my regular routes – often to the Sound and back, and I tended to stick to them. On a map it shows you which streets you have walked and which streets you have never walked. It made me realize that there are a surprising number of areas to which I've never been in a city where I've lived for nearly three decades. Who knew how many dead-end streets there are tucked in all kinds of corners of Rye, and how many unexplored neighborhoods remain out there. As you can see from the map, I'm nearly at 70% now.

For me, October feels like a unique month in the year. Summer is summer, with people going in so many different directions. September is crazy. In November we begin to feel the gravitational pull of the holidays coming our way. Through the winter, people either tend to hunker down or begin to explore other parts of the world to ski or get a warm break elsewhere. Spring arrives with Lent and Holy Week, and after Easter we move into the chaos of the end of the school year. Suddenly, it's summer again.

But October sits before us a little quietly.
A brief pause in the action.



So what will we do with this month before us? While the days are getting shorter and the hours in which I can continue to walk and explore are diminished, I'm still working on all those streets. Greenhaven is daunting, even in the full light of summer! But maybe in the slightly quieter month ahead of us, we can all explore a few different things in our lives, the life of our faith, and the world of church.

I invite you to take a look through this issue of Grace Notes. Some of the offerings you'll find there have been there for many years, and some are new. But take a walk through the neighborhood. There are Bible studies, fellowship groups, and opportunities for families to gather such as our annual Pumpkin Carving and the Feeding Westchester event. There are new member orientation classes this month for those who are ready to explore that path and that next step.

Take a look, and I invite you to step onto some streets you've seen but never walked down, and streets you never even knew were there - streets that will deepen your faith, our sense of community, our commitment to one another, and our collective commitment to serve those in need.

I hope to see you there. And if you see some out-of-place guy walking through your neighborhood, feel free to say hello! Yours in exploring the journey of life and faith,

Community Outreach

PC(USA): World Communion Offering

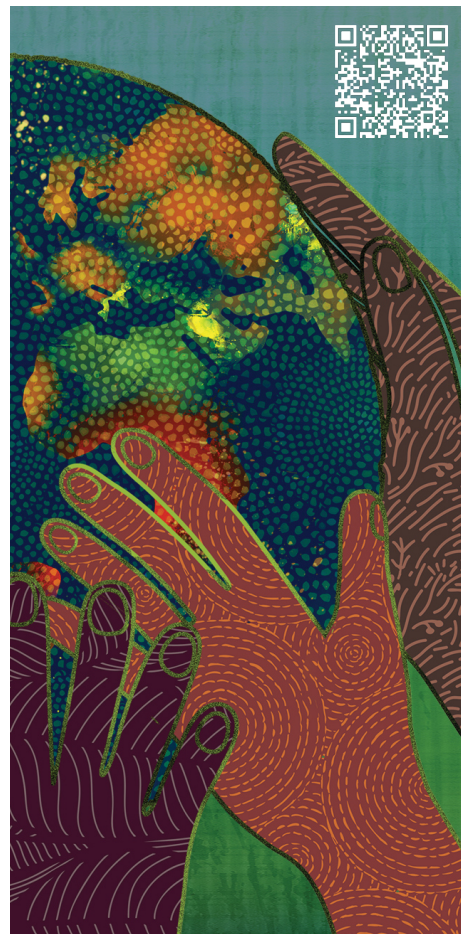
***What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice,
...to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.***

– Micah 6:8

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is inviting congregations to participate in World Communion Sunday through the World Communion Offering. **On October 4**, Christians around the globe gather around Christ's table to celebrate our unity. We Presbyterians will join together through the Offering to cultivate reconciliation and support PC(USA) ministries that embody Christ's love and justice in the world alongside our partners.

The World Communion Offering supports ministries focused on racial justice, gender justice, peacemaking, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith relations. Through our gifts, we participate in God's work of reconciliation around the corner and around the globe. In our divided and hurting world, this Offering reminds us that Christ's table is open to all people and that we are called to build communities shaped by compassion, justice, peace and hope, something our world desperately needs right now. Learn about the World Communion Offering and its impact through the mission and ministry of the Church at pcusa.org/wco.

Special envelopes are available in the pews. Donations can be given throughout the event's duration, up through Sunday, October 4.



Feeding Westchester: *Balanced Bites*

Sunday, October 4, following worship, on the Front Lawn.

Sponsored by RPC's Christian Education Committee.

Join us as we partner with Mission & Outreach and Feeding Westchester to help the hungry in our community! Our *Balanced Bites* event will begin immediately following worship, where we will gather out on the front lawn to pack bags with meal options for a variety of ages. These may include a tuna pouch, applesauce, graham crackers 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 Fresh Direct bags to help pack up the finished bags. You can drop these off at the church beforehand, or bring them with you that morning. For further information, or if you would like to help with the event, please contact Julie Kizer at juliannemcinerney@gmail.com.



Children & Youth Ministries

Childcare

Sundays (4 Years Old and Younger)
Before Worship in the Education Wing



Our team of dedicated staff and volunteers is available to care for young children while parents attend worship. Childcare is available every Sunday morning on the first floor of the Education Wing. Children may be dropped off prior to the beginning of the worship service. To register your child for Childcare, and to learn more, please visit ryepc.com/childcare-registration/.

Even if your children have already been attending childcare, we ask that all who plan to participate during the year be registered so that we have the necessary safety information. If you have any questions, please email Kristin and Margaret at directors@ryepc.com.

Sunday School

Sundays (Pre-K through 5th Grade)
During Worship in the Education Wing



Sunday School is held on Sunday mornings during the worship hour. Children begin the morning in worship with their families. Following the Children's Message, children are dismissed to their Sunday School classrooms. To register your child for Sunday School, and to learn more, please visit ryepc.com/sunday-school-registration/.

We ask that all children who plan to participate in Sunday School register, regardless of how frequently they expect to attend. Having up-to-date information for each child is important for attendance, safety, and communication. If you have any questions, contact Kristin and Margaret at directors@ryepc.com.

Confirmation 2027

Sundays, October 4 and 18, at 5:00 p.m.,
in the Westminster Room

The journey to Confirmation Sunday, June 6, 2027, is underway! June may seem far away, but we have much ground to cover! Together, this year's crew of enthusiastic 9th graders will soon begin exploring the core questions of the faith: What is the Bible all about? Who is God? Adam and Eve and that snake... what do they have to do with me? How can the 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. We will jump into the theological deep waters with this month's classes. Please keep this year's class in your prayers throughout the journey ahead!

High School Youth Group

High School Youth Dinner
Sunday, October 18, at 6:00 p.m.

High School Youth Group meets roughly twice per month, mixing dinner and time together with service in our local community. If you have questions, please contact either Rev. Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com, or Rev. Cari Pattison at cpattison@ryepc.com.

Middle School Connection

Middle School Connection Meetings
Wednesdays, October 7 and 21,
5:30 – 6:30 p.m., in the RPC Youth Rooms

Middle School Connection typically meets the first and third Wednesday of each month. We start with dinner followed by 45 minutes of games, learning, and fun. All 6-8 graders are welcome, as well as parent volunteers! If you have questions, please contact either Rev. Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com, or Rev. Cari Pattison at cpattison@ryepc.com.

Upcoming Events

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 4, 3:00-3:30 p.m., Great Lawn

We welcome your loving pets, your nostalgic photos, and your beloved stuffed animals! All are welcome to join for our annual Blessing of the Animals celebration. A special offering will benefit our local Pet Rescue: visit ny-petrescue.org.

New Member

Welcome Discussions

Sundays, October 18 and 25, following Worship

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

All those interested in exploring what it means to be a member of RPC are invited to participate in the upcoming New Member discussion sessions. We will meet in the church library on Sundays, October 18 and 25, immediately following worship. 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 8, 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 15.

Those wishing to learn more about joining the church should contact Peggy Berretta in the church office at pberretta@ryepc.com or 914-967-0842 ext. 10.

Caring Ministry Sunday

Sunday Worship, October 25

"My Stephen Minister's weekly visits became an anchor in my life — something I could rely on when everything else was so uncertain. She was a steady reminder of God's presence, helping me know that I was never alone."

As we welcome autumn and all of the changes it brings, we invite you to join Stephen Ministry on Sunday, October 25 for Caring Ministry Sunday. During worship, you will have the opportunity to hear more about our church's many Caring Ministries. Afterwards, Stephen Ministers will be available to answer any questions you might have about becoming a Stephen Minister or Care Receiver.

If you have questions before then, please don't hesitate to contact our Referrals Coordinator, Mary Versfelt, at mdversfelt@gmail.com, or reach out to Pastor Dan or Pastor Cari at any time.

Annual Pumpkin Carving

Sunday, October 25, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Assembly Room

Celebrate the fall season with an afternoon of pumpkin carving and decorating! All the supplies will be provided for children and families to create their own festive pumpkin. Dinner will be served. If you have any questions, please contact Margaret and Kristin at directors@ryepc.com.

Senior Social Club

Sunday, October 25, following worship, in the Library

Our first meeting of the Senior Social Club will kick off with a meet and greet, and light refreshments will be provided. We hope you'll join us! If you'd like to learn more, please contact Penny Kovacic at kovacicpenny@gmail.com.

Ongoing Events

Chair Yoga

October 13 through November 10.
Tuesdays, from 10:00-11:00 a.m., in the Chapel

Looking for a way to feel better in body and mind while accessing more ease and grace in your life? The ancient practice of yoga has been proven to help calm the nervous system, prevent injury, improve breathing, and promote physical and mental well-being. Did you know it can also be a beautiful method of prayer?

Join Co-Pastor and certified yoga instructor Cari Pattison (RYT 200) and friends from the RPC Senior Social Club for a new chair yoga class on Tuesday mornings. We'll work through a meditative stretching and breathing practice: weaving together scripture, prayer, music, slow movements, and aromatherapy.

All are welcome, whether RPC members or not, to this respite of calm and relaxation for seniors and others who prefer a gentler practice. It's also ideal for those of any age experiencing mobility limitations or injury recovery. Chairs, props, and water will be included. Just wear comfortable clothes you can move in!

The suggested donation for those not already giving to RPC is \$10 per class. Giving can be done through our website at ryepc.com/give/. Kindly RSVP to Cari at cpattison@ryepc.com.

Thrift Shop

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

For more information on donations, drop-off times, and shopping procedures, please visit ryepc.com/ministries/thrift-shop/, scan the QR Code, or email RyeThrift10580@gmail.com.

Chapel Yoga

Wednesdays, 10:00 – 11:15 a.m. in the Chapel
No meeting on October 7. Resuming October 14.

Rev. Cari is a certified yoga instructor (RYT200), offering a Level 1 Vinyasa flow class on Wednesday mornings. Weaving scripture into the yoga practice 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. Mats are available to borrow, along with other props. We encourage you to come five minutes early for setup. All are welcome, including beginners! To RSVP, email Cari at cpattison@ryepc.com.

Christmas Pageant

We welcome all children to participate in this year's Christmas Pageant! Please save the dates below. Further details will be shared soon.

Auditions

Thursday, October 22, at 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 29, at 4:00 p.m.

Rehearsal

Thursday, November 5, at 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 12, at 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 19, at 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 3, at 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 10, at 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 17, at 4:00 p.m.

Dress Rehearsal

Saturday, December 19, at 10:00 a.m.

Pageant

Sunday, December 20, at 4:00 p.m.

ROOTS OF FAITH

Bold Women of the Bible

Come join our local Rye clergy for an interfaith exploration of Tamar, Ruth, Esther, Mary, mother of Jesus, and Mary Magdalene.

Together we offer a shared scripture study that's open to all.

We begin on Thursday, October 15, from 9:15 – 10:15 a.m., in the Rye Presbyterian Church Library. We will continue meeting each Thursday, through December 17, at the same time and place. Kindly RSVP to **cpattison@ryepc.com**, through which a Zoom option is available upon request. Coffee and light refreshments provided!



Rabbi Daniel Gropper
Community Synagogue of Rye



The Rev. Dan Love
Rye Presbyterian Church



The Rev. Cari Pattison
Rye Presbyterian Church



The Rev. Matt Stone
Christ's Church Rye



The Rev. Tommy Watson
Christ's Church Rye



Book & Bible Studies

Young Moms' Bible Study

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

This group is for moms with young children who are looking for support, encouragement, and fellowship with other moms. We meet together in the Upstairs Conference Room, and we conclude just before worship. Childcare is available! If you'd like to be on the email list and learn more, please contact Madison Walsh at madisonlichliterwalsh@gmail.com.

Men's Sunday Evening Bible Study

Sundays, October 4 and 18, at 8:00 p.m., in the Church Library

All are welcome to join in as we continue our Sunday evening reading and discussion of Matthew's gospel. We meet in the church library, with a Zoom option if needed. It is a great opportunity to meet others and hear how this amazing text still speaks to us today. If you'd like to be on the email reminder list, let Dan Love know at dlove@ryepc.com.

Monday Morning Bible Discussion

Mondays, October 5, 19, and 26, at 9:00 a.m., on Zoom

This month, the Monday morning Bible Discussion group continues its reading of the Gospel according to Matthew. While we've been with Matthew for over a year, all are welcome to jump in at any time 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.

Women's Discipleship Group

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

Please join us on Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the church library as we continue our new study, *Walking in the Spirit's Power*, by Gary Hamrick. Everyone is welcome! If you have any questions, contact alicia.baldwin@verizon.net or courtneybennett10@gmail.com.

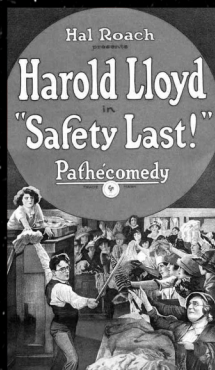
SILENT MOVIE NIGHT

Rye Presbyterian Church

presents Jason Roberts, Organist,

improvising an accompaniment to *Safety Last*,
a silent film from 1923, starring Harold Lloyd.

Popcorn will be provided for a truly cinematic
evening that's fun for the whole family!



on Friday, October 2, 2026
7:00 p.m. *in the* Crawford Chapel

882 Boston Post Road, Rye, NY 10580

RESTORED HARPSICHORD INAUGURAL CONCERT



Sunday, October 18, at 3:00 P.M.

In the Crawford Chapel at Rye Presbyterian Church

The Queens College Baroque Ensemble, Masayuki Maki, director,
offers a program of music by German composers,
including the *Harpsichord Concerto* by C. P. E. Bach,
with Hsiu-Tzu Ryan, soloist.

Rye
Presbyterian
Church

Music Notes

by Jason Charneski

Silent Movie Night

Friday, October 2, at 7:00 p.m., in the Chapel

Organist Jason Roberts to improvise an accompaniment to *Safety Last*

Let's go the movies – the movies of the 1920s, prior to a modern soundtrack being a part of the picture! This is the era when organists would improvise the musical accompaniment. And, we have the opportunity to hear a master of this art, which has had a renewed interest in recent years, work his wonders! Join us in Crawford Chapel on Friday, October 2, at 7:00 p.m., for a presentation of *Safety Last*, a 1923 comedic silent film starring Harold Lloyd, given an improvised musical score by organist Jason Roberts. The movie runs approximately 73 minutes.

This is a fun-for-the-whole-family event. Popcorn will be provided in order to replicate a true movie-going experience. Children (adults, too!) will be welcome to sit on the floor and gaze at the screen in wonder and hear and feel the music being created – in the moment (feel free to bring a pillow to sit on).

Restored Harpsichord Inaugural Concert

Sunday, October 18, at 3:00 p.m., in the Chapel

The church's Hubbard & Broekmann harpsichord, built in 1986 and given in 1991 by the estate of Peter B. Knock, will return in October following three months' work of restoration and renewal. This harpsichord serves well as a solo instrument and as a partner to choral, orchestral, and chamber music from the Baroque and Classical periods.

On Sunday, October 18, at 3:00 p.m., the Queens College Baroque Ensemble, based at the Aaron Copland School of Music and conducted by Masayuki Maki (the restorer of the harpsichord) will offer a concert, in the chapel, to inaugurate the rejuvenated harpsichord. The program will feature music by German composers who lived and worked in the mid- to late-eighteenth century -- a time of rapid musical, intellectual, political, and societal change. The major work, to be performed by soloist Hsiu-Tzu Ryan (a graduate of Queens College and, more recently, the Paris Conservatory) and the ensemble will be the *Harpsichord Concerto* by Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach (1714-1788). Ms. Ryan's and the ensemble's concert here is part of a tour that includes a performance at the Early Music America Summit in Seattle.

Worship and Giving



Join the Worship Team

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 ryepc.com/worship/chancel-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 directors@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/

RPC Website – Calendar
ryepc.com/about-rpc/calendar/

Social Media

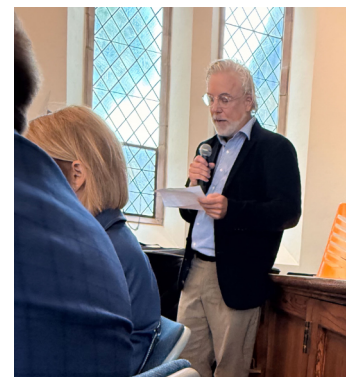
RPC Facebook – [Rye Presbyterian Church](https://www.facebook.com/RyePresbyterianChurch)

RPC Instagram – [@ryepres10580](https://www.instagram.com/ryepres10580)

RPC Fall Worship and Picnic



RPC Fall Worship and Picnic



RPC Fall Worship and Picnic



Rye Presbyterian Nursery School



Greetings to the RPC Community

from Kristin Bassett Kumar

If you are interested in joining Rye Presbyterian Nursery School for the 2027-2028 school year, registration will be held online on Monday, October 5. All current students, new siblings of returning families, and church members should register at this time to guarantee their placement. **All church members are part of our In-House registration.** If you are a new family please email Co-Director, Kristin Kumar, at kkumar@rpnskids.org to set up a tour. Rye Presbyterian Nursery School offers morning and afternoon programs for one, two, three, four, and five year olds. Our morning and afternoon sessions have the same goals and activities at each of their respective age levels. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

The Reverend Daniel Love
Co-Pastor
dlove@ryepc.com

The Reverend Cari Pattison
Co-Pastor
cpattison@ryepc.com

Kristin Kumar
Interim Director for Children's Ministries
directors@ryepc.com

Margaret Sculti
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Aileen Lynch
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Junior Morales
Head Sexton/Building Manager
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Eric Birk
Interim Assistant Organist

Alonso Osorio
Sunday Sexton

Norma Segovia
Evening Sexton
