

# Grace Notes

Summer 2023 • Vol. 237

## **Summer 2023 Preaching Series**

Summer is here! For many that means vacations, travel, or time shared at a favorite family gathering place. When you are in Rye, we encourage you to gather with your church family for worship each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. As you know, there is no Sunday School this summer, so in order to engage with our children (and adults) more fully, your pastors are offering a summer sermon series based on the stained glass windows in our sanctuary. During this series, "Windows of the Word," we'll look at one window each week and explore its historical, biblical, and theological significance. We hope that you will join us! To the right is a listing of the windows and which Sunday we'll be looking at them.

For more information about the windows, go to our website, <a href="www.ryepc.com">www.ryepc.com</a>, > About RPC > Our History > RPC Stained Glass. See you in worship!

July 2	West Nave	(halcony)
July Z	west mave	(balcony)

July 9 Phillip & Dorcas

July 16 Zacharias & Elizabeth

July 23 Presentation of Jesus

July 30 Paul & Timothy

Aug. 6 Mary

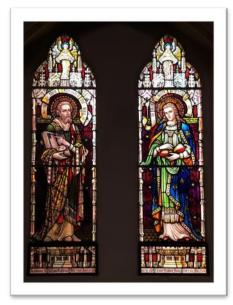
Aug. 13 Narthex Angels

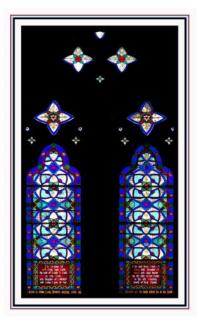
Aug. 20 Aquila & Prisca

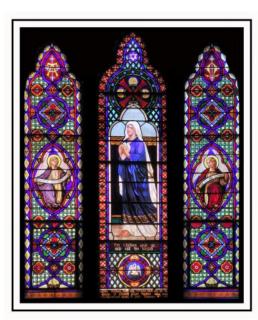
Aug. 27 Good Shepherd

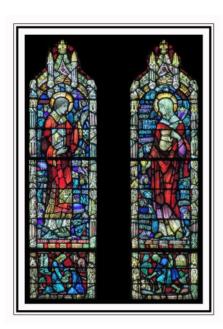












## **Coming Home**

#### **Coming Home Celebrates Graduation**

On Sunday afternoon, June 4, almost 50 people gathered in the Assembly Room to celebrate with the six graduates of our 2023 Coming Home program. The six who completed this 18-week life skills program are: **Raphael Ceara, Robert Fallins, Tameka Johnson, Alpacino Stinson, Ronald Watson,** and **Greg Westfall**. It was also a joy to present the first Owen Nee Spirit of Community Award which went to Tameka Johnson.

A special word of thanks to our dedicated mentors: Margaret Blum, Jeff Holtman, Mike Rooney, Scot Stevens, and David Versfelt.

Thank you also to this year's leadership team: Kevin Bunch, Program Coordinator; Joann Jaen-Collins, Social Worker; Aurel Smith, Peer Facilitator; and Linda Otness, Margaret & Jonathan Blum, Meal Coordinators.

A deep word of appreciation from all of our participants to the many people who, under Linda Otness and Jonathan and Margaret Blum's direction, helped to prepare, cook, and serve great



dinners week after week. And a word of thanks to the many congregants who attended the dinners and helped to enrich the table fellowship each week. We averaged 18-22 people at dinner each Thursday evening as we relaunched our Coming Home program following a three-year pause due to Covid. Thank you to all who participated!

## **Youth Mission Trip**

Due to weather conditions, our youth and adults were not able to travel to New Orleans as planned as their flight was canceled. Alternative plans were made and the youth and adult sponsors travelled to Johnsonburg Camp and Retreat Center in New Jersey, which is a Presbyterian Church (USA) camp. The photos below are of them working and playing.







### **Confirmation Class of 2023**



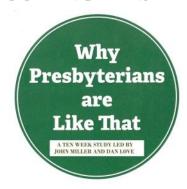
At the conclusion of nine months of study and conversation, service and mentoring, this year's Confirmation class was welcomed by the Session into the adult membership of the church on May 24. The elders had met individually with members of the class and together were glad to hear from them about their faith journeys and their intentions to continue seeking God and God's direction in their lives. On Sunday, June 4, the class and their families enjoyed a breakfast in the Assembly Room generously hosted by Mandy Chesley, Hollis O'Rorke and other parents and members of the Class of 2022. Following breakfast, with class members each having a role in the worship service, the class made their public professions of faith and confirmed the promises made at their baptisms to continue the journey of faith. What a joy to celebrate and welcome this talented and dedicated group of young people!

Please welcome the newest members of Rye Presbyterian Church:

Emma Beatty, child of Karen and Graham Beatty
Wyatt Belleville, child of Melissa and Bill Belleville
Trevor Dolan, child of Amy and Lon Dolan
Katelyn Haines, child of Mary Ann and Craig Haines
Calvin Holler, child of Nicole and David Holler
Harry Holtman, child of Gloria and Jeff Holtman
Mia Charlotte Howson, child of Molly and Judson Howson
Michael Ladyzhensky, child of Elena Sonnova and Ken Rathje
Olivia Lee, child of Erika and Michael Lee
Sarah Lukes, child of Elizabeth and David Lukes
Claire Pohlman, child of Dorothy and Jeffrey Pohlman
Henry Oliver Smith, child of Sarah and Oliver Smith
Jack Stevens, child of Jennifer and Scot Stevens
Frank Zingg, child of Deborah and Martin Zingg

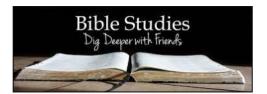
## **Bible Studies**

#### **COMING THIS FALL!**



#### September 19 - November 28

A series of ten stand-alone, conversational Bible studies based on distinctly Presbyterian themes. We'll explore how we can respond to God's grace in the real circumstances of our real life together in the real world. Themes: The Bible; Grace; Our Response; Using Our Brains; Right Now; Justice; Sin; Presbyterian; Hope; Living Humbly.



## Women's Discipleship Group

On summer break!

Please e-mail questions to: Alicia Baldwin (alicia.baldwin@verizon.net)

or

Courtney Bennett (Courtneybennett910@gmail.com)

## Men's Bible Study

#### Sunday, July 16 & August 6 8:00 p.m., in the Library with Zoom option

Over the summer, the men of Sunday evening will slow down the pace, but continue their discussion and fellowship as we enjoy our discussion of Paul's letters. We will meet on Sundays, July 16 and August 6 at 8:00 p.m. in the church library with a Zoom option. If you'd like to be on the email reminder list for this gathering, please contact Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com.

## Monday Morning Bible Discussion

We'll be taking a pause for the summer but we'll be back to wrap up our reading of the Gospel according to Luke in September!

## Women's Bible Study

On summer break. Will reconvene in October. For further information contact Cynthia De Santis (cynthialwells@gmail.com)

## **Christian Education**



For the summer, we are taking a break from Sunday School so we all can come back refreshed for the beginning of the program year in September. During that time, know that your children's presence in worship is both welcomed and a blessing to us all!

Here are some ideas to help make the most out of worship as a family:

- There are coloring pages and illustrated children's bulletins with coloring pencils in the narthex!
- Explain what is happening during worship and what is coming next. Let children cross things off in the bulletin as they happen. Whispering is okay!
- When it's time to stand, allow children to kneel on the pews if they would like.
- Allow children to participate in the offering by putting in your envelope or putting in their own gift in the offering plates as they are passed. A picture drawn for God is appropriate!
- Most importantly, relax and be at peace. We know that God made children to be full of energy and excitement!

If you ever feel the need to step out at some point during worship, the church library has children's books, coloring pages, and toys. The livestream is also playing on the TV in there, so you can continue participating in worship during that time.

Childcare for ages 3 months through 3-years-old will continue to be offered throughout the summer. The location for childcare may move throughout the summer as the education wing is cleaned, so please keep an eye out for our weekly updates.

We are also pausing our **weekly Christian Ed newsletter** until August. If you would like to receive our newsletter, please contact **Rev. JP** (<u>imarshall@ryepc.com</u>).

Sunday School 2023-24 registration is up! Registration for infants to 8th grade attending our 2023-2024 Sunday School program is now up on our website (<a href="https://ryepc.com/ministries/children/">https://ryepc.com/ministries/children/</a>). Please register by Friday, September 8, to help effectively plan for the kickoff of Sunday School in the fall.

#### **Sunday School Leaders**

Here at Rye Presbyterian Church we seek to guide and nurture our children on their journey of faith, engaging their natural sense of wonder and curiosity to help them know and understand God's love.

We invite you to join in on that journey of wonder and curiosity as a Sunday School leader! It is a wonderful way to connect and engage with the children of our community. Lesson plans are prepared ahead of time, and all materials are provided for you. You are invited to lead based on your own schedule, either on a regular basis, seasonally, or as a substitute. Trainings and mid-year check-ins are offered, and you will be supported by the Sunday School Supervisor and the Associate Pastor all year long.

Please think about it, pray about it, and let Rev. JP (jmarshall@ryepc.com) know if you are interested.

#### Middle School Connection

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

#### Sundays, July 9 & 23; August 6 & 20, 12:00-2:00 p.m.; Jay Heritage Gardens

Join us this summer as we help plant, maintain, and harvest organic garden beds at Jay Heritage Center. Please bring a water bottle and work gloves, if you have any. Please let Rev. JP (jmarshall@ryepc.com) know if you plan on joining us.

Let **Rev. JP** (<u>imarshall@ryepc.com</u>) if know if you'd like to be on the **parent email list**. All updates about Connection gatherings will be put on the website each month.

#### **Updates through Remind!**

Text @rpccon to 81010 or sign up at: https://www.remind.com/join/rpccon

high school youth group

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

#### Sundays, July 9 & 23; August 6 & 20, 12:00-2:00 p.m.; Jay Heritage Gardens

Join us this summer as we help plant, maintain, and harvest organic garden beds at Jay Heritage Center. Please bring a water bottle and work gloves, if you have any. Please let Rev. JP (<u>imarshall@ryepc.com</u>) know if you plan on joining us.

We are on Instagram
Username: ryepresyouth
Updates through Remind!
Text @ryepre to 81010 or sign up at:
https://www.remind.com/join/ryepre

#### **Music Notes**



#### by Jason Charneski

#### RPC to Be the Site for Two Major AGO Convention Events: July 3 and July 6

The 2023 Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regional Convention of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), to be held in Westchester County and environs, will have two major events here at RPC. The first is the opening worship service, to be held Monday, July 3, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Rev. Love will deliver the homily. Organists Janet Yieh (Church of the Heavenly Rest, NYC) and Dina Foster-Osbourne (who had a 30-plus year tenure at Abyssinian Baptist Church, NYC) will accompany singers from the New Choral Society and Charis Chamber Voices, under the direction of John King.

The second is the closing concert, to be given on Thursday, July 6, beginning at 7:30 p.m. The program will be a tour-de-force for orchestra and organ performed by organist David Enlow (Church of the Resurrection, NYC) and the Modus Operandi Orchestra, conducted by Justin Bischof. Highlights of the concert will be the *Toccata Festiva* by Samuel Barber and the *Organ Concerto No. 2 in G Minor* by Joseph Rheinberger. The orchestra alone will offer the *Symphony No. 7* by Beethoven. This closing concert is offered to RPC members without admission charge – simply arrive and tell the persons at the box office that you are an RPC member.

For more information about the entire convention, including other events open to the public, please visit <a href="https://www.westchester2023.org">www.westchester2023.org</a>.

#### Children's and Youth Music Programs to Begin in the Fall

Attention Parents of and Children and Youth in Grades 1 through 8: I hope getting this information to you now will help you and your family plan your activities for the 2023-2024 Program/School Year.

Children's Music (Grades 1-5) will meet Thursdays, beginning September 14, immediately following dismissal from school, until 4:15 p.m. The plan is to have children arrive to have a light, healthful snack before we begin our music-making session at 3:30 p.m. Having this group meet on Thursdays will allow for a smooth transition into rehearsals (after Thanksgiving) for the Christmas Pageant (which will be given the afternoon of Sunday, December 17).

Youth Music (grades 6-8) will meet from 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. on the Wednesdays when Connection (the Middle School youth group, led by Rev. Marshall) meets. The first session will be held on October 4.

N.B.: Both groups will not meet the week of Thanksgiving and during the weeks when Rye City Schools are in recess.

Please let me know (jcharneski@ryepc.com) if you'd like to sign-up or if you have any questions.

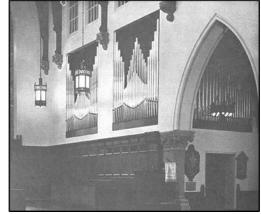
#### High Schoolers and Adults Invited to Sing in the Chancel Choir

All high school students (grade 9 and higher) and adults are invited to join the Chancel Choir. Plan now, as it will resume its ministry on Sunday, September 17. The usual schedule is a Sundays-only commitment: warm-up at 9:15, sing in the 10:00 service, then rehearsal from 11:15-12:30. Rehearsals closer to Christmas and Easter run until 12:45 or 1:00. Cantata Sunday this year will be December 10, with the rehearsal with the orchestra Saturday morning, December 9. Please let me know (jcharneski@ryepc.com) if you're interested, even if for a shorter span of time.

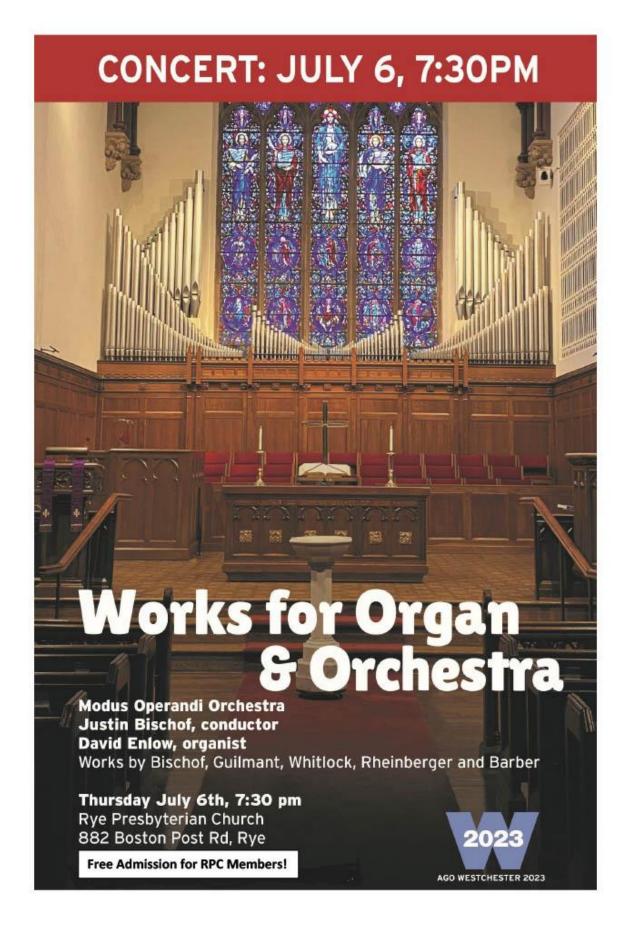
REPRINTED FROM THE JUNE ISSUE – Including missing prose and photo Then, a New Organ in 1966 Replaced the 1908 Organ (Continuing a series: See May, June, and September 2022 issues of Grace Notes)

Why a new organ in 1966? I've not been able to find an answer; but, my educated guess is that two factors were involved: First, the 1908 organ – given its age and use – likely was due for a major mechanical overall (releathering, console operating systems, etc.); Second, the 1908 organ's resources were limited relative to rendering well the music of the Baroque period that had come into fashion as a result of what was known as the "Organ Reform" movement of the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.

Angell Pipe Organs, Inc., of Port Chester, was engaged to build a new, significantly larger organ. It included many of the higher-pitched and "color" stops that were not part of the 1908 organ. This organ was given by the William Jennings and the George Hite families as a memorial to Eunice Mallory Hite. The photo shows the façade pipes of this instrument, including those at the head of the south aisle (there still is a plaque on the wall there, underneath the hymnboard, indicating those pipes having been given in memory of Richard Norton Beaty). The console was located approximately where it is now, though turned 90 degrees so that the organist faced the lectern.



#### **Music Notes**



## Thrift Shop

## RPC Thrift Shop Grant Recipients Receive \$63,000 at the Annual Grant Luncheon!

The Women's Association Thrift Shop's annual grant luncheon was again a great success. The celebration included Thrift Shop volunteers, representatives from grant recipient organizations, Joan Kellogg Award winners Debbie Segal, Denise LeVan and Peggy Berretta, and Pastors John Miller and Dan Love.

This year the Thrift Shop donated \$63,000 to 10 local non-profit organizations that assist women, children, and families. We were happy finally to re-open in the downstairs spaces, and shoppers returned in droves.

The luncheon is an opportunity to recognize the hard work of the many Thrift Shop volunteers. The volunteers also get a chance to meet the grant recipients, so they can learn firsthand the impact and importance of the work they do.

Grant recipients value the opportunity to network with organizations who are working in the community in different areas from them. Furniture Sharehouse representatives may talk to leaders of the Community Resource Center that serves immigrant families; or someone from the Carver Center social services organization gets to know someone from the Sharing Shelf, a clothing distribution group.

The Women's Association thanks the Thrift Shop Volunteers, led by Chair Suzanne Davies; church and community members who donate wonderful merchandise; shoppers whose purchases fund the grants; and the church staff and preschool staff who cheerfully iron out the logistics. We also thank the grant recipients, whose efforts are vital to supporting our local community.

Questions or comments – WA Co-Presidents Kathryn Stack <u>kahtrs@yahoo.com</u>, Terry Ann Weil, <u>weilhome@aol.com</u>, or Thrift Shop Chair Suzanne Davies, <u>suzannebd1@aol.com</u>.











The Thrift Shop is closed July and August. Will reopen on September 14th. Summer donation hours are 10:00 a.m. to Noon on Wednesdays, and by appointment at RyeThrift10580@gmail.com.

## **Baby Bundle Results**

## Open Door Medical Baby Bundle Results

Thank you to all who contributed to our Baby Bundle drive for Open Door Medical. Below are the number of items donated and two photos. The picture frames were made by our youth.





	CHURCH	AMAZON	TOTAL
Sleep Sack/		_	
Gown	11	8	19
BLANKETS	4/5 Knitted		4/5 Knitted
Sleep & play	21	20	41
Onesie	5	20	25
Outfits	5	10	15
Hats	3 knitted		3 knitted
Thermometers	5	9	14
Bibs	5	6	11
Burpcloth	6		6
Washcloth	26		26
Socks	1	16	1
Mitts	6		6
Towels		22 towel sets	22 towel sets
Toys	6	7	13
Books		14	14
	17 packages/4 cas-		
Diapers	es	9 cases	11 cases/17 packages
Wipes	12	8 cases	8 cases/12 packages
Baby products	5	43	48
			6 wellness/3 baby carri-
Other	1/2 Wellness kits	5 wellness/3 baby carriers	ers
		4 layettes (19 piece)	4 layettes (19 piece)
	3 Pack & Plays		3 Pack & Plays

## Weekends in July & August, Worship, Giving

## Weekends July & August

#### July 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30

9:30 a.m. Summer Choir Warm-up / Chapel 10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary \*Holy Communion on July 2 Men's Bible Study on July 16, 8:00 pm, Library

#### August 6, 13, 20, and 27

9:30 a.m. Summer Choir Warm-up / Chapel (Aug. 6 only) 10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary \*Holy Communion on August 6 Men's Bible Study on August 6, 8:00 pm, Library

During July and August, following 10:00 a.m. worship, please join us for coffee hour on the front lawn outside the Sanctuary.

(Westminster Room in event of rain.)

## Worship in the Sanctuary In Person

As conditions and guidance change, please <u>click here</u> for updated Covid protocols.

## **Sunday Services also** Online via Live Stream!

**Bulletin** and instructions on joining via Zoom or YouTube are on the church website:

rvepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc/

### DIAL IN TO **SUNDAY WORSHIP!**

To attend worship by using your phone, call 1-646-558-8656 then enter this Meeting ID: 560 770 303



Online donation options are available on the RPC Website Giving page.

To access, go to ryepc.com/give or scan the QR Code to the right with your cell phone.



if you have any questions or need assistance.





#### ARE YOU WILLING TO SERVE ON SUNDAY?

We welcome those who would like to help out on Sunday mornings by joining the crew of people who read scripture, usher, or serve communion. If you are interested in doing so on an occasional basis, please reach out to one of the pastors or Gary Gibson (ggibson@med.cornell.edu), chair of the Worship and Music Committee.

#### In Memoriam

Charles Henry Stevens, Jr., May 28, father of Scott Stevens Alice T. Beringer, June 5 Greta Stovall, June 8,

mother of Diane Mandracchhia





Madison Bella Duckworth on June 13, daughter of Lindsey & Drew Duckworth, and granddaughter of Meg and Demie Duckworth.

## July & August Meetings

## Church office is closed on Tuesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day

#### **Bible Studies**

**Men's Bible Study:** Sundays, July 16 & August 6, 8:00 p.m.. church library with a Zoom option. Over the summer, the men of Sunday evening will slow down the pace, but continue their discussion and fellowship as we enjoy our discussion of Paul's letters.

**Monday Morning Bible Discussion:** On pause for the summer—back to wrap up reading of the Gospel according to Luke in September.

**Women's Bible Study:** On summer break. Will reconvene in October. For further information contact Cynthia De Santis(cynthialwells@gmail.com)

#### Youth

#### **Middle School Connection:**

- Jay Heritage Gardens, Sundays, July 9 & 23 and August 6 & 20, 12:00 p.m. **High School Youth Group:** 

- Jay Heritage Center, Sundays, July 9 & 23 and August 6 & 20, 12:00 p.m.

#### **Other Church Meetings**

Stephen Leaders: Tuesdays, July 25 & August 22, 11:00 a.m., Conference Room Stephen Ministry Supervision: Tuesdays, July 11 & August 8, 7:00 p.m., Westminster Room & Conference Room Stewardship Meeting, July 18, 7:00 p.m.
Women's Association Monthly Meeting, Friday, July 7, 9:30 a.m, Library

#### SUMMER HOURS CHANGE

From Monday, July 3, through Friday, September 2 the church office will be open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Fridays.



June All-Church Picnic organizers: Amanda Kearney, Katherine Olsen, and Cally Bruce with CeCe

The Rev. Daniel Love, Co-Pastor
The Rev. Dr. John Miller, Co-Pastor
The Rev. Jean-Paul Marshall, Associate Pastor
Jason Charneski, Director of Music and Organist
Maida Robinson, Chief Administrative Officer
Peggy Berretta, Administrative Assistant
Denise LeVan, Pastoral Assistant
Juan Velasquez, Head Sexton/Building Manager
Alonso Osorio, Sunday Sexton

#### Rye Presbyterian Church

882 Boston Post Road, Rye, New York 10580 / Tel: 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.