

The Parish Visitor

First Reformed Church of Fishkill
1153 Main St., Fishkill, NY 12524
845-896-9836

office@fishkillreformed.org
www.fishkillreformed.org

December, 2016

Dear Friends,

As we enter the season of Advent and make plans for the Christmas holy day season, local and world events that happened only a few weeks ago easily slip out of our conversations and prayers; and the media moves on to more current and local news.

I had to do a bit of digging to find out what is happening in Haiti – less than two months after Hurricane Matthew hit the island. I was encouraged to learn that the Vassar Haiti Project held its annual event, selling original Haitian artwork, with proceeds going to the artists in Haiti (who lost most everything in the Hurricane) and to specific educational programs.

I had to do a bit more digging to learn that the RCA is continuing to work with the Christian Reformed Church and our international disaster response partner, World Vision, to be the hands and feet of Jesus in Haiti. Thousands of people who were still rebuilding from the earthquake six years ago, are now set back many more years. Gifts to RCA Global Mission provided for immediate needs: clean water, shelter, and the establishment of child-safe zones. World Vision distributed blankets, tarps, flashlights, water purification tablets, and more.

But that was October, and now in December, with the sights and sounds of Christmas filling our senses, the longer term needs of permanent shelter, schooling, medicine, water systems, and food continue. The music and the tinsel does not make them disappear.

I ask you to do a bit more 'digging' with me, as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ and remember, with our special Christmas offering, those in Haiti who often have no place to lay their head or bread to share. In doing so, all of our Christmases will be filled with the Light and Hope of the World. The World so loved by God.


Merry Christmas to you and your loved ones,

Pastor Glavin



OUR CHURCH TODAY

DECEMBER CALENDAR

1	Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	15	“Parish Visitor” articles due Choir Rehearsal 7 pm
4	Advent II Worship 10 am Chime Choir 11:30 am Fishkill Clergy Advent Service* 2 pm Fishkill Village Holiday Activities 2:30 pm Girl Scout Troop 10524 - 5 pm Venture Crew 65 - 7 pm	18	Advent IV Worship 10 am Sunday School 10:15 am Church Family Pageant* 11:30am Girl Scout Troop 10524 - 5 pm Venture Crew 65 - 7 pm
		20	Boy Scout Troop #65 Committee 7
6	Worship and Music 11 am	22	Choir Rehearsal 7pm
8	Consistory articles due Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	24	Christmas Eve Worship Family Candlelight service* 6 pm Candlelight Communion service* 9pm
		25	Christmas Day Worship 10 am Coffee Hour 11 am <i>Merry Christmas!</i> 
11	Advent II Worship 10 am Sunday School 10:15 am Chime Choir 11:30 am Caroling* 2:30 pm	26	Church Office closed
13	Consistory 7:15 pm	31	New Year’s Eve – church office closed
14	Remembrance gift wrapping* 12:30 pm		
<i>* indicates article within newsletter</i>			

Please submit articles for the January “Parish Visitor” to the Church Office email address office@fishkillreformed.org by December 16. Thank you.

Church Calendar – Before scheduling a meeting or event at First Reformed Church, please contact Pat in the Church Office to check availability on the church calendar.


Sunday Bulletin Announcements – Please submit your information to the church office no later than the preceding Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the next Sunday bulletin.

Prayer Chain - To be added to the church prayer chain or to request prayers for yourself or someone else, please contact Liz Alexander at mrsvquest@aol.com

Worship service broadcasts - 7:00 pm, Sunday evenings on Cablevision Channel 21.

Church website includes the Church newsletters, worship service links, church history and Facebook: www.fishkillreformed.org.

All Treasurer-related Emails should be sent to (Roy Carruthers at): frctreasurer@optimum.net

 **Sanctuary Flowers** - to place flowers in the sanctuary, please sign up on the 2017 flower chart on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall or call the church office. The cost is \$40 a Sunday, payable to “Women of the Reformed Church,” at the time they are placed. Thank you for enhancing our worship with your gift.



OUR CHURCH..... *Yesterday*

Pages from the Past

In the year 1854, the pastor Rev. Frances Kip, who served 1836-1870, asked for a six-month leave of absence because of poor health. The leave was granted, and consistory noted, "Whereas the absence of a pastor affords opportunity for repairing the church it is "resolved that the pastor's salary be continued the same as when with us."

While repairs were being made, Sunday services were held at the Fishkill Methodist Church. At year's end, a thank you was tendered to trustees of the Methodist Church "for the free use of their church while this church was being remodeled". Rev. Kip's years as pastor: 1836-1870.

andToday

Consistory Notes – November, 2016

- Elder Mary Ann Fellin led devotions, reading from Joyce Rupp's book, May I Have This Dance? She began with a poem about faithfulness, a gentle reminder that God is always with us, even when God seems distant. Listing things she is grateful for, the author challenges the reader to name those things we are grateful for and to offer our thanksgiving to our God who blesses us. Mary Ann closed with prayer.
- Food Pantry served 238 households in October.
- Congregational meeting will be held immediately after worship on December 11, for consistory elections.
- Consistory size will be reduced in 2017 from 6 to 5 elders, and 6 to 5 deacons.
- CCS has met all inspection requirements for fire alarm, kitchen hood, furnace, fire inspector and mid-point inspection from NYS for the Before/After School program.
- Three new teachers are now trained to lead our "Children in Worship" Sunday School program: Jim Butcher, Dana Cramer and Pia Price.
- A gas line has been hooked up to the DuBois House and a new boiler will be installed.
- The De Kerk Winkel raised \$3,101.
- Treasurer reports that as of October 31st, Year to Date Revenues at \$188,597 and Year to Date Expenses at \$210,331.

If you need temporary transportation, a meal delivered, a visit or a phone call, please contact a deacon:

Heather Hansen, Fishkill
Joan Gorba, Poughkeepsie
John Houston, Hopewell Jct.

Sally LeDioyt, Fishkill
Stan Saya, Wappingers Falls
Faith Schwenker, Fishkill

If you would like to receive home communion or a pastoral care visit, please contact an elder:

Dana Cramer, Poughkeepsie
MaryAnn Fellin, Fishkill
Phyllis Lake, Beacon

Jan Melichar-Utter, Stormville
Ray Van Voorhis, LaGrange
Jay Wright, Fishkill



COFFEE HOUR



Everyone is invited to join our coffee hour following Sunday worship. This time is made possible by rotating the responsibility throughout the congregation, while each week Laura Dachenhausen and Dorrie Hansen set up the coffee pots.

Below is the list of monthly coffee hour hosts. The first name on the list is responsible for calling the others and coordinating what each brings, including milk and juice. The hosts divide up the tasks, which includes set up, refills and cleanup of kitchen, tables, serving dishes, and coffee pots. All tables and countertops need to be wiped down with the water/bleach solution, and used dishtowels taken home, washed and returned the following week.

Since we all have different abilities and limitations, let's not hesitate to offer a helping hand, even when it's not "my turn" by bussing our own table. This will help keep coffee hour running smoothly.

Karen Twohig schedules coffee hour, so contact her regarding having your name added or if you have any concerns about your ability to do Coffee Hour due to health or other large issues.

If you are not able to do the coffee hour on your scheduled date, please find a replacement, then let the lead host and church office know the name of your replacement.

Anyone planning to bring food to coffee hour for a special occasion should notify the host of that date.
Thank you!

Hosts and Hostesses for December and January

December

January

4 Schmidt, Gillert, Saya	1 Leftover Cookie Fest - Twohig, Utter
11 Michaelis, Faulkner	8 Lanni, Rudberg, Schallenberg
18 Sanders, Porter, Suggitt	15 Wright, Schwenker, Lake
25 Christmas Day – Cake thanks to C. Kayson (with assistance from those in attendance, please)	22 Doerr, D. Hansen, Skinner
	29 Hughes, Alexander, Fellin

From the Worship Committee: Readers & Greeters for December, 2016

December 4 - Greeters - Lexy Doerr and Dorrie Hansen

Reader - Lexy Doerr

December 11- Greeters - BJ & Rich Lanni

Reader - Rich Lanni

December 18 -Greeters - Catherine Buscemi & Larry Sansone

Reader - Catherine Buscemi-Sansone

Dec. 24, 5pm – Greeters - Al Gillert and Jim Butler

Reader - Jim Butcher

9pm - Greeters - Al Gillert and Susan Lake

Reader - Susan Lake

December 25 - Greeters -Karen Simmons and Dana Cramer

Reader - Melissa Siegel

BULLETIN BOARD



Music and Worship

Christmas Caroling - We will be caroling to our home bound members **Sunday, December 11th**. We will meet at the DuBois House at **2:30**. Upon our return we will join in a light supper. You don't have to be a great singer- we will supply you with bells if you prefer. Mostly we want to share the holiday spirit with those who cannot get out. The best gift we can give is the smiles that we share with others. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall entry.



From Christian Education

Our annual Church Family Christmas Pageant will be held December 18th, immediately following Coffee Hour. There is a part for everyone. Experience the story of Jesus' birth with scripture, readings and song. Please come and participate and be part of a *Reason for the Season!*

No Sunday School Christmas Day, Dec. 25th or New Year's Day, Jan. 1. We will resume on January 8th.

The Women of the Church

Christmas bags for our homebound friends will be assembled Wednesday, December 14, at 1 PM in the DuBois House parlor. Suggested donated items include cookies, brownies, candy, fruit, packages of crackers, and sugar-free items. If you are unable to help with the assembly/wrapping at that time, you may leave your items in the kitchen before 1 PM.

Time to sign up for Poinsettias. The list is in the entry to the Education Building. They are \$8.50 The deadline to order Poinsettias is December 4th. If you are not able to get to Church, you may call the church office at (845) 896-9836- Monday- Friday 9AM- 3PM to place your order.



Annual Drive for Dutchess County SPCA



Our annual drive for the animal shelter will be Sunday, November 29th through Sunday, January 3rd. Please save your old blankets, comforters and large bath towels. Donations of pet food will be given to the Food Pantry for clients with pets. Contact Jim Butcher with questions at 845 214-3172. Thank you for your continued support.

Shelter Meal - On December 30th, we will once again be making a meal for our shelter friends.

We're asking you to make a beef stew.
The recipe and pan will be provided for you.
For dessert Christmas cookies would be nice-
Yummy cookies made with lots of sugar and spice.
So just like last time, we ask you to please
Have your dish to DuBois House the 29th by 3.
Now if that won't work because the 29th is too soon,
Bring it Friday to Nellie (Food Pantry) by noon.
We know Santa has elves, but we're lucky to have you
To help make this meal - such a nice thing to do!
And you'll hear us exclaim as we drive out of sight,
"Thanks to everyone for helping and to all a good night!"



Epiphany Sunday

The 12 days of Christmas conclude on Epiphany, a day when the church recognizes the Wise Men meeting the one called the King of the World, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Epiphany preacher on January 8th will be Rev. Greg Town, Minister for Renewal and Revitalization in the RCA Regional Synod of New York. In the afternoon, folks from the area RCA churches will be invited for an informal presentation by Greg and light refreshments. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend and learn what great things are happening in the RCA!

Members in Hospitals/Care Facilities

Helen Deneu, Quaker Hill Manor, 419 N. Quaker Lane, Hyde Park, NY 12538

Ruth Gallo, Wingate in Fishkill, #223, Rte. 52, Fishkill, NY 12524

Carol Lombardi, Elant in Fishkill, 22 Robert Kasin Way, Beacon, NY 12508

Ruth Stumpp, 79 Flint Rd. Apt. I-231, Millbrook, NY 12545

Members at Home

Laura (Dell) Buck, 12 York St. Beacon, NY 12508

Jean and George Corwin, 306 Woodmont Rd., Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

Mary Magee, P.O. Box 223, Glenham, NY 12527k

Olga Rygiel, 126 Ivy Hill Rd., Fishkill, NY 12524

Ruth and Sigmund Wisst, 23 Sidney Lane, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Members Out of the Area

John & Shirley Kacur; 9 Tamarack La., Lyon Mountain, NY 12592

Maisie Minot; 994 Old Tusculum Rd., Springfield, GA 31329; maisie-minot@gmail.com

Walt Saunders; Daisy House, 50 Cottage Grove Circle, North Chile, NY 14514

Please remember with your prayers and notes those who are not able to worship with us every Sunday.

For additions or corrections, please contact the Church office.



COMMUNITY ADVENT EVENTS

The 41st Piggy Bank Bazaar - Saturday, December 3, 2016, from 9 am to Noon at Hew Hackensack Reformed Church, 1580 Route 376, Wappingers Falls. Children are guided by Girl Scouts and Youth members throughout the various shopping areas for gifts (none over \$3) for every member of the family, including pets. Parents/grandparents can wait in the Fellowship Hall, where the Youth group will be selling goodies. Many gifts are handmade items lovingly crafted throughout the year. Complimentary wrapping available. Allow about 1 hour. Adults can shop between 12:00 t& 12:30.

Fishkill Clergy Advent Service – Sunday, December 4th, 2 pm at the Church of the Nazarene. Followed by: **Fishkill Village Holiday Festivities and Tree Lighting** – Village Hall at 2 pm.

German Christmas Service – Our Savior Lutheran Church, 5 pm.

Fishkill Community Christmas Day Dinner

The Church of the Nazarene, 953 Main Street, Fishkill, invites those who do not have other plans to join us on Christmas day, from 2 to 4pm for Christmas dinner. Delivery to those who are homebound is available. To learn more, make reservations, or volunteer to help, please contact the church at 845 896-8203.

Counting Our Blessings

From Sally LeDioyt and the property committee:

Thank you to all who helped on Clean-up Day, and to our great group of Troop #65 scouts who raked. We are looking great for the coming winter, thanks to all of you. Your hard work is greatly appreciated.

From Stewardship:

Thank you to Chairperson Jean Winkler and her amazing team of volunteers who made the DeKerk Winkel a resounding success - we raised an \$3101! We couldn't have done it without each and every one of you.

To the committee who prepared the "Family-style" Thanksgiving dinner on Thanksgiving Sunday. We greatly appreciate all your hard work, and the food was delicious! We are indeed thankful for you!

To Willa Skinner, who each month combed through consistory notes from centuries past. We have all loved reading your most interesting "Pages From the Past." Thank you!



FIRST REFORMED CHURCH IN MISSION



Fishkill Food Pantry

1153 Main St., Fishkill, NY 12524

Phone 845 896-4546 Hours: M – F, 9 – 12

The Fishkill Food Pantry has just completed one of the most industrious projects we've ever undertaken: supplying over 300 Thanksgiving meals to our established clients (approximately 1000 people). This is in addition to their regular monthly allotment of food. In past years, donors would bring us turkeys around Thanksgiving time. Then one of our volunteers came up with the idea of providing the "fixings" for a complete Thanksgiving dinner, and so began our burden of love. We wanted to - for our clients who already have to quite often choose between paying utilities and putting daily meals on their tables - remove the anxieties of how to "pull off" a Thanksgiving meal.

The end result was truly a community effort, with donations and help from Ulster Savings, Rhinebeck Bank, Putnam County Savings, Orange Bank, Acura, Verplanck Garden Club, East Fishkill Rotary, USPS, Fishkill Police Cadets, WalMart, Shoprite, Adams, Tops, numerous food drives and many generous donations from our neighbors. As you can imagine, just the logistics of storing 300 + turkeys, pies, etc. was mind boggling. After months of planning and preparation, we accomplished this "Project Turkey" in 2 days with the help of dozens of volunteers who stepped up to help. It was an exhausting but wonderful experience to see everyone come

together to help their neighbors.

Recently, we were privileged to attend the dedication of the new Peace Pole installed at the Historic Brinckerhoff House on Palen Road. It was hosted by the East Fishkill Rotary, a long-time supporter of The Fishkill Food Pantry.

After a touching ceremony about peace in the world and in our everyday lives, we became instant bell ringers for a day. Expertly guided by Doug from The Peace Bell Foundation, 11 inept volunteer bell ringers were able to ring out a recognizable song. We suddenly realized we were playing "Let There Be Peace on Earth," providing a very moving and appropriate way to end the ceremony and go forward into the holiday season.

As we go into the season of peace on earth and goodwill to all, we wish you



Happy Holidays with Peace and Goodwill now and throughout the New Year.



BSA Troop 65 & Venture Crew 65



VENTURING

Troop 65 and the Venture Crew have been wrapping up the annual Popcorn Fund Raiser this month.. We have had a very successful campaign and exceeded last year's sales totals. Popcorn sales provide much of the troops funding for the year and also benefit the Hudson Valley Boy Scout Council.



On Saturday October 29th in commemoration of Veterans Day, the troop completed a Flags for Veterans service project. We visited the homes of two veterans and installed American flags. Another flag was donated to a third veteran, who wasn't quite ready to install it. The flags and mounting hardware were donated to the troop by local businesses. A photo from the event is attached. The feedback from the veterans was so positive that we have already received requests from three more veterans. We will be scheduling installations at their homes in the coming months.

Also in October, Troop 65 celebrated its first Court of Honor. Nine scouts received rank advancements and 77 Merit Badges were awarded to 22 scouts. Most of these merit badges were earned at summer camp. Also the Historic Trails Patch was awarded to 13 scouts and 3 adult leaders. This is a special BSA patch, awarded to scouts that complete a service project at a national park and camp for at least one night. The scouts that received this award worked with the Cray Fish Corps at Valley Forge during the year end trip last spring.

In November the Troop sent several leaders and two scouts to University of Scouting, an annual event that provides training for adults and scouts from across the NY and NJ area. The troop also completed a 2 mile evening hike in Highland at Franny Reese Park, the leaf raking and clean-up service project on the Church grounds, and camping in lean-to's on the Ward Pound Ridge Reservation. A few Cub Scouts from a local Pack joined the troop on this camp out.

The troop has another camp out scheduled in December, where they will be doing archery at Nooteming in Pleasant Valley, as well as an ice skating event at Bear Mountain State Park.

From all of us at Boy Scout Troop 65 and Venture Crew 65, we wish you a wonderful holiday season. Thank you again for all your support.

If you would like more information regarding scouting opportunities, activities, or service projects, please refer to our websites at www.troop65fishkill.scoutlander.com or www.crew65fishkill.scoutlander.com or by contacting Frank Giusto, Scoutmaster & Venture Crew Adviser, at (845) 453-5706.

Chartered Organization: First Reformed Church, 1153 Main Street Fishkill, New York 12524

Meetings: Mondays 7:00-8:30 PM during the school year: Brinckerhoff Elementary School

Children's Community Services News



It has been a very busy month and it looks like the busyness will be increasing over the next month as well! We celebrated Halloween with lots of treats, parties and crafting. November arrived and, due to all of the days off and half days, we are looking at Thanksgiving and celebrating all we are thankful for. There have been turkeys of many forms decorating our classrooms, and corn stalks and pilgrims are appearing all around. The preschool classes will celebrate together by sharing the muffins and butter that they have made. Our preschool and After School programs all are trying to stay in shape with the help of one of our dads. Ken Stabler is a personal trainer who came in and did exercises with them all! They really loved it, and he even included life lessons of how working together accomplishes goals.

With the beginning of the Advent season, we are looking forward to many opportunities for fun and for teaching the spirit of giving with an outreach to the community. With our spirit week we will have pajama day and hope to collect new pajamas to send to a local shelter for families who are not presently as lucky as we are.

There will of course be lots of decorating and art projects. We are also planning on a morning with another parent who will come in and play the piano for our "sing-along," which will include lots of holiday songs.

We wish everyone a blessed holiday season!
Heather Hansen, Director of CCS

Contact school at 845 896-9876. Visit us on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/childrenscommunityservices.org/index>

Our First Reformed Church-Sponsored RCA Missionaries

Jeremy and Susan Beebout, Niger, Africa

To learn more, visit www.RCA/Missions/Missionaryinformation & enter Beebout, or view the Missions bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

Annville Institute/Grace Covenant Ministries (Formerly known as Jackson County Ministries)

Please view their December newsletter posted on the Missions bulletin board in Fellowship Hall, or visit their website: <http://www.annvilleinstitute.com>. or **Facebook:** [Jackson County Ministries](#)

*As we celebrate the birth of Jesus,
we wish you a blessed Christmas full of joy and peace.*

