

The Parish Visitor

The First Reformed Church of Fishkill

1153 Main St., Fishkill, NY 12524

August, 2017



Dear Friends,

July 18th was the 200th anniversary of author Jane Austen's death. Even those who haven't read Austen's work can answer the crossword puzzle clues and Jeopardy questions about her novel titles and characters: Pride and Prejudice, Emma, Sense and Sensibility...

Fewer people know about the prayers Austen wrote. As a preacher's kid, she knew the ins and outs of church life – its blessings and its hypocrisies. Written in the language style and theological understanding of the day, for corporate evening prayers, they always end with the Lord's Prayer. Here's one I recently read:

“Almighty God! Look down with mercy on thy servants here assembled and accept the petitions now offered up unto thee. Pardon oh God! the offences of the past day. We are conscious of many frailties; we remember with shame and contrition, many evil thoughts and neglected duties; and we have perhaps sinned against thee and against our fellow-creatures in many instances of which we have no remembrance. Pardon oh God! whatever thou has seen amiss in us, and give us a stronger desire of resisting every evil inclination and weakening every habit of sin. Thou knowest the infirmity of our nature, and the temptations which surround us. Be thou merciful, oh heavenly Father! to creatures so formed and situated. We bless thee for every comfort of our past and present existence, for our health of body and of mind and for every other source of happiness which thou hast bountifully bestowed on us and with which we close this day, imploring their continuance from thy fatherly goodness, with a more grateful sense of them, than they have hitherto excited. May the comforts of every day, be thankfully felt by us, may they prompt a willing obedience of thy commandments and a benevolent spirit toward every fellow-creature.

Have mercy oh gracious Father! upon all that are now suffering from whatsoever cause, that are in any circumstance of danger or distress. Give them patience under every affliction, strengthen, comfort and relieve them.

To thy goodness we commend ourselves this night beseeching thy protection of us through its darkness and dangers. We are helpless and dependent; graciously preserve us. For all whom we love and value, for every friend and connection, we equally pray; however divided and far asunder, we know that we are alike before thee, and under thine eye. May we be equally united in thy faith and fear, in fervent devotion towards thee, and in thy merciful protection this night. Pardon oh Lord! the imperfections of these our prayers, and accept them through the mediation of our blessed Saviour, in whose holy words, we further address thee, Our Father....”

With prayers ascending,

Pastor Glavin

2017 RCA General Synod Review

General Synod 2017, with a focus on Unity within the RCA, was skillfully lead by President, Rev. Dr. Dan Gillett. Daily worship offered powerful, inspired preaching and creativity in music.

General Secretary, Tom De Vries, reminded delegates that we are bound together as a covenantal community before God and with one another to minister to the total life of all people and to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ. Tom requested classes and regional synods to engage in discussing unity and the future of the RCA. Synod celebrated Tom's tenure as General Secretary and wished him well in his new ministry with Willow Creek. Rev. Don Poest is the acting interim General Secretary and a search committee for a new General Secretary is being formed.

Dr. Richard Mouw addressed Synod on the topic, "Can Reformed Christians Be Civil - with Each Other?" Urging us to see people as friends of Jesus and works of art, he prompted us to have conversations with people who interpret scripture differently as together we seek God's truth.

Director of Global Missions Doug Leonard reminded us that when we are obedient to God's Holy Spirit, the church flourishes. He challenges us to use Global Mission to bring the church together.

Delegates set the 2018 Partnership-in-Mission (PIM) share at \$6,700 in 2018.

A summary of the work of the plenary sessions:

- Approval of commissioned pastors becoming voting members of consistory, classis, regional synod, and General Synod (R17-21). These changes, which are amendments to the *Book of Church Order*, go next to the classis for a vote.

- Affirmed that the Heidelberg Catechism in Q&A 108 & 109 "categorically states that God condemns all "unchastity," which includes same-sex activity" (R 17-61). The HC is one of the RCA four Standards of Unity. It is not a policy statement, but the recommendation says, "Faithful adherence to the RCA's Standards, therefore, entails the affirmation that marriage is between one man & one woman."

Dr. Rev Gregg Mast's retirement, after 41 years of service to the RCA and 11 years as president of New Brunswick Theological Seminary was celebrated. New president is Dr. Micah McCreary.

- RCA congregations are urged to reach-out to refugees in crisis (R 17-19 & R 17-20).

- Commission on Church Order was directed to investigate amending the Book of Church Order (BCO) to provide for the discipline of a classis, including discipline initiated by another classis (R17-51).

- To increase the number of RCA young people spending a year in mission service.

- Elder James Nakakihara, from Rancho Community Church in Temecula, California, was elected as vice president of General Synod.

- 2018 per-member assessment at \$53.75. These funds support the work of the synod, denominational ministries, theological education, and the Board of Benefits Services assistance program. The increase includes General Secretary Search committee costs.

Additional information is available at RCA.org

Respectfully,

Jan Melichar-Utter, Elder delegate from the Classis of Mid-Hudson

OUR CHURCH TODAY



AUGUST CALENDAR

3	Consistory reports due	17	“Parish Visitor” Articles Due
6	Worship/Communion 10 am		
8	Consistory 7:15 pm	20	Worship 10 am Summertime Stories 10:15 am
13	Worship 10 am Summertime Stories 10:15 am New Members Class 11:30 am	21	Solar Eclipse* 1:23 pm – 4:00 pm Maximum: 2:44 pm
		22	Blood Drive* 3 – 7:30 pm
15	Troop #65 Committee 7:00 pm	27	Worship 10 am Summertime Stories 10:15 am
<i>* Indicates article within</i>			

Please submit articles for the September “Parish Visitor” to the Church Office email address office@fishkillreformed.org by August 17th. 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 Sunday bulletin.

Prayer Chain - To be added to the church prayer chain or to submit prayer requests 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.

Direct deposit of your church offerings is available. If interested contact church Treasurer Roy Carruthers.

Directory Edits

Printed Directory: Change: Butcher, James -162 North St., Kingston, NY 12401

Addition: Bobb, Evelyn & Richard – 95 Barrett Pond Rd., Cold Spring 10516
Mitchell, Julia – 413 Moore Rd., Neptune, NJ 07753
Ouart, David & Margaret – 26 Broad St., Fishkill, NY 12603

Pictorial Directory: Correction: Resling, Bill –House # should be: **19** Pritchard Ct.



Sunday 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 include 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 "our turn," by busing our own tables. This will help keep coffee hour running smoothly.

Karen Twohigschedules coffee hour, so contact her regarding having your name added or any concerns you may have about your ability to serve at Coffee Hour due to health or other large issues.

If you are unable to serve 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!

Coffee Hour Hosts and Hostesses

August

September

6 Ice Cream Social- VanVoorhis , Saya, Carruthers	3 Lanni , Hughes, Schallenberg
13 D. Hansen , Doerr, Raptopoulos	10 Price , Siegel, Serra
20 Utter , Lane, Chao	17 Sanders , Lake, Vazquez
27 Porter , Resling, Alexander	24 Kayson , Skorewicz, Schmidt

From the Worship Committee: Readers & Greeters for August, 2017

August 6	Greeters – Diane & Gordon Flayter Reader – Gordon Flayter
August 13	Greeters – Dana Cramer & Jan Lane Reader – Jan Lane
August 20	Greeters – Joan & Ray VanVoorhis Reader – Ray VanVoorhis
August 27	Greeters – Rick Roberts & Barbara Harty Reader – Barbara Harty



Sanctuary Flowers - to place flowers in the sanctuary, please sign up on the flower chart on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board 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.

Musical Talents – Please contact Music Director Connie Lacey if you would like to sing or play an instrument during a Sunday worship in August.





Consistory Information

Notes from the July 11, 2017 Consistory Meeting

- Pastor Gloria led devotions with the reading of Heidelberg Catechism Q&A #1: “What is your only comfort, in life and in death? That I belong – body and soul – not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ...” Scripture readings included Rom. 14:8, I Cor. 6:19-20, I Cor. 3:23, I Peter 1:18-19, and Matt. 10:29-31. Published in 1563 as a teaching tool for the church, the HC is one of the standards of faith for the Reformed Church in America. Pastor closed with prayer.
- Treasurer reported June revenues at \$17,190 and expenses at \$18,459.
- An induction loop, to assist those with hearing impairments, will be installed in the sanctuary. The cost is covered by designated gifts and the memorial fund.
- New members’ class has 7 in attendance.
- De Kerk Winkle Sale is October 7th, led by co-chairs Jean and Ed Winkler.
- Two new staff people have been approved for Children’s Community Services.
- Education Building flooring will be installed, at a cost not to exceed \$40,000.
- Blood drive is scheduled for August 22.
- In June, the Food Pantry served 212 households, which included 168 children.
- The next Consistory meeting is August 8th.

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

MaryAnn Fellin, Fishkill
Phyllis Lake, Beacon

Ray Van Voorhis, LaGrange
Jay Wright, Fishkill

Ruth Porter, Fishkill

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

Joan Gorba, Poughkeepsie
John Houston, Hopewell Jct.

Stan Saya, Wappingers Falls
Faith Schwenker, Fishkill

Jim Butcher, Fishkill



FEED THE
HUNGRY

From the Deacons:

First Reformed Church August Food Drive for the Food Pantry

As the rest of us scramble to take end of summer vacations, monetary and food donations slow down at the Pantry. This makes for the typically understocked shelves each August. When school is out, the children of many families who can barely make ends meet, no longer receive subsidized school lunches. To make matters worse, these families often have the added financial burden of childcare costs during the summer months. In order to help the Pantry help our hungry neighbors, *we will hold an August food drive*. Please pick up your list of needed items from the tables in the narthex of Fellowship Hall. Bags are also available in which you may return your groceries Sundays in August. Look for collection areas in the narthex and Fellowship Hall entry.

Lists containing current needs are available on the Sanctuary table and Fellowship Hall bulletin boards.



Blood Drive -Tues. August 22nd, 3 – 7:30 pm, Fellowship Hall - in honor of our first responders who keep our community safe! Let’s come together as a church and a community to honor their heroic actions. Donate a pint of blood and be a *local* hero.

To minimize your wait, sign up in Fellowship Hall, online at www.nybc.org or call 1-800-933-2566.

Walk-ins are welcome. Speak with Jim Butcher if you have questions.

Donors should eat/drink before donating, be in good health and have positive ID or donor card. Call 1-800-688-0900 w/medical eligibility questions. Criteria has changed, please make the call!

Please help us during this current BLOOD EMERGENCY.

Friends Unable to Join Us Every Sunday

Members in Hospitals/Care Facilities

- Helen Deneu, Wingate at Dutchess, 3 Summit Ct., Fishkill, NY 12524
- Ruth Gallo, Wingate at Dutchess, Rm 204 A, 3 Summit Ct., 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

- Jean and George Corwin, 306 Woodmont Rd., Hopewell Junction, NY 12533
- Shirley Davis and Marisa DeGregoriis, P.O. Box 282, Poughquag, NY 12570
- Mary Magee, P.O. Box 223, Glenham, NY 12527
- Hugh J. Maurer, P.O. Box 335, Fishkill 12524
- Olga Rygiel, 126 Ivy Hill Rd., Fishkill, NY 12524
- Carol Surico, 34 Aspen Ct., Fishkill, NY 12524
- Ruth and Sigmund Wisst, 23 Sidney Lane, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

Please remember with your prayers and notes, these friends who cannot get out to join us

For additions or corrections, please contact the Church office



Counting Our Blessings

Thanks to John & Toni Houston, who faithfully” orchestrate” the ringing of the steeple bell each Fourth of July. All who participate feel a real connection to our church’s and nation’s history. .

Our hard-working Property committee oversees all the maintenance and repair projects of our physical properties. The new Education building floors and stairways are beginning to look great! Thanks for all the planning, coordination and dedication needed to see this huge project through to fruition.

And speaking of planning, coordination and dedication – that’s what it takes to feed our congregation and visiting friends at different church gatherings, luncheons and fundraising events. Thanks to our team of hard workers and talented cooks who help make each fund-raising event, memorial luncheon and church dinner a much-appreciated success.

Congratulations to Willa Skinner, who is retiring as Town of Fishkill historian after 50 years of service! We feel so blessed that you will continue serving our church as historian.



The Bulletin Board

Worship and Music

The Wednesday Bible Study will begin September 6, at 10am in the DuBois House parlor. We will study Max Lucado's "Life Lessons: 1st Corinthians" (books available the first week). Just as we often do the wrong thing, the Corinthian Christians were no different. With patience and hope, Paul confronted them and showed them how to lead a pure life - just as he does us in Corinthians 1. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall or speak with MaryAnn Fellin with questions.

Choir 2017- 2018 Starts Soon- Current choir members and others interested in becoming members are invited to attend the first rehearsal of the fall season, Thursday, September 7. Join us for refreshments at 6:30 pm, followed by rehearsal at 7 pm, in the DuBois House Parlor. Regular rehearsals will continue Thursdays, 7 pm. Choir will sing in church on Sunday, September 10. Call Connie Lacey or the church office with questions or if you are interested in joining the choir.

Christian Education

Sunday School begins September 10th. **We need of 1 more teacher for one Sunday a month, grades 2-5.** Please contact Jan Utter if you are willing to serve God in this meaningful way.

Our world has changed drastically, but the Word of God endures forever!



Fishkill Reformed Church's 13TH Annual Golf Tournament

Monday, September 11, McCann Memorial Golf Course, 155 Wilbur Blvd. in Poughkeepsie, NY.
Registration begins at 9:00 am.

A donation of \$125 includes golf, a cart, goody bag gifts, breakfast, lunch and dinner (at Christo's), prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place team finish, longest drive and closest to pin contests, a hole-in-one prize; plus a raffle during dinner with great prizes. Funds raised are used towards the cost of capital improvements needed to maintain our church's special historic site. Entry brochures are available in the church office and the Education building entrance. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Speak to Ray VanVoorhis with questions or to donate signs, prizes or contributions.

From the Women of the Church

The Women of the Church are collecting 60 6-packs of socks and any extra greeting cards you wish to donate for the Women at Hedgewood. You may leave them in the can in the church or the one under the Consistory mail boxes.

2017 Women's Sankofa Journey, Sept. 28, 5 pm – Sept. 30, 6 pm, beginning and ending at New Brunswick Theological Seminary. Honor how the Spirit moved through RCA women in the past, by visiting Elmendorf Ref. Church, Marble Collegiate Church and historic Richmond Town, a village dating back to when New York was called New Amsterdam. Experience how the Spirit is moving now, with visits to RCA mission partner Project Hospitality; Global Grace Café, where chefs from countries like Syria and Uganda will prepare delicious cuisine for us; Japanese American United Church for a homemade meal, tea ceremony, origami making and an overview of the Christian mission in Japan; and hear from RCA women leaders about how they serve God's people. Explore where the Spirit is calling us next, by sharing our own stories, passions, callings, and ending in worship and prayer. Learn about opportunities offered at NBTS and meet with women faculty and staff.

Registration cost (double occupancy): \$235 covers comfortable accommodations, coach bus transport, and healthy meals for most of the journey. To register, go the RCA website or etesta@rca.org.



De Kerk Winkel will be held earlier this year: **October 7th**.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH IN MISSION

Children's Community Services News



Happy summer to ALL! What an exciting and crazy time it is currently in the Education Building. We are in the throes of new flooring and it will be WONDERFUL when you can all get to see the finished product. We are currently in an upside down environment. From one day to the next there is always a surprise!

We are anticipating a new and exciting year. We look forward to seeing some old friends and meeting new ones. The preschool welcomes a new aide in the four year old room (she's a parent of two students) and a new bookkeeper (also a parent, past, present and future). We are still looking for someone to assist in the After School Program, so please share this with anyone you might think would be interested. Have them call CCS.

CCS will be looking for donations on Sunday's during the month of September. If you would like to help us out please refer to the list available in the Ed. Building. Thank you all in advance for helping.

Until next time, enjoy the summer!
Heather Hansen, CCS Director

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



Fishkill Food Pantry

1153 Main St., Fishkill, NY 12524 Phone 845 896-4546 Hours: M – F, 9 – 12

The summer is now past the halfway point and we are continuing to be able to accommodate our clients with the help of our many generous neighbors. We put out a call on Facebook in early June and experienced the power of social media. To our amazement, the post had 7,421 views! Soon after the Facebook post, people started responding with food drives and donations which helped carry us through July. Fortunately we received gift cards from ShopRite just as the "Can Can" sale was starting, so we were able restock our shelves.

One of the issues we face is, while we constantly buy and receive food, it also constantly goes out, so we have to continually work very hard at keeping a consistent level of inventory. According to Regional Food Bank requirements, foods purchased from them must be distributed it within 3 months (stockpiling is prohibited), making it even more difficult to keep a steady flow.

Some of the organizations that held early summer food drives for us were Fishkill Rotary, St. Mary's confirmation students, Fishkill Woods Women's Club, ASML, Christine Owen & neighbors, and Girl Scouts. Those drives and individual donations have added up to help get us through the summer, thus far. It's been truly an example of "Neighbor Helping Neighbor."

Speaking of food drives, we are looking forward to this church's annual food drive for The Fishkill Food Pantry this August. We will host an Open House on Sunday, August 27th, following the Worship service.

If you know of any families with children who could use the free summer lunch programs which will run through August, please spread the word. These programs not only provide a nutritious lunch, but education, arts & crafts, games and visits by various community groups such as police & firefighters. Locally there are programs in Beacon & Wappingers. For more information call Dutchess Outreach 845 454-3792.



Christine, Jake, Luke, Serena



St. Mary's confirmation students



Fishkill Rotary - Dan & Vicki

Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FishkillFoodPantry>



BSA Troop 65 & Venture Crew

At publication time, the troop was attending summer camp at Baiting Hollow Boy Scout Camp in Calverton, NY, where they had opportunities to complete early rank requirements and earn a variety of merit badges. Look for more scouting news in the September “Parish Visitor” newsletter.

If you would like information regarding scouting opportunities, activities, or service projects, please refer to our websites at www.troop65fishkill.scoutlander.com or www.crew65fishkill.scoutlander.com or contact 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

Our First Reformed Church-Sponsored RCA Missionaries

Grace Covenant Ministries (Formerly known as Jackson County Ministries)

- Season-ending camp showcase on Aug. 12. T-Ball and Coach-Pitch program scheduled for the fall. Volunteer work groups have helped to get the ball field ready.
- Beth’s Blessing has been given a larger facility (off campus) to expand their program. May use two remodeled on campus buildings for a “Phase Two” program P able to help more women who are fighting addictions.
- Great progress made on our two major building improvement projects (Hacker Gym Addition and Lincoln Hall). The clock on Lincoln Hall is now working for the first time in over 40 years!
- Once Hacker Gym project completed this fall, conversion of old restroom area into a community fitness center begins. Please pray that funding can be found to complete the work on Lincoln Hall.
- We are looking for volunteers to help with these projects along with reroofing of Worthington Hall.
- Pray that as we go into the next three months (historically the slowest months for income), that we will be able to meet our obligations. It is our desire to be wise stewards with the blessings we receive.

See complete July letter posted on Missions Bulletin Board in fellowship Hall.

For over a century, Grace Covenant Ministries/Jackson Co. Ministries has been bringing new life to the Appalachian area, which suffers from some of the deepest poverty in the U.S.

Jeremy and Susan Beebout - Niger, Africa

The Beebout’s July letter (posted on the Missions bulletin board) tells us that the walls, roof and floor have been completed on the nursing school. The second floor will soon be finished. The hope is to have the first group of students in October. The next project is the future clinic site in Dogon Douchi where the construction of the security wall is currently in progress. Three walls are currently up.

Read about all the current and upcoming projects and the Beebout’s summer activities in the newsletter.



Medical and agricultural development needs are extreme in Niger, one of the poorest countries in the world. Niger has only a rudimentary health system, so disease is widespread, and the country is always teetering on the edge of famine. Jeremy and Susan Beebout work with the Evangelical Church of the Republic of Niger (EERN) to build ministry programs, enabling Nigerien Christians to share Christ's love with the people of Niger by addressing their health and agricultural needs.

Jeremy, an agronomist, works with agricultural development efforts. Dr. Susan Beebout helps develop the church's health ministries. To learn more, visit www.RCA/Missions/Missionaryinformation & enter Beebout, or view the Missions bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.