

The Parish Visitor First Reformed Church of Fishkill September, 2021

Monthly consistory meetings begin with a devotional given by one of the members. As Summer winds down and activities begin to resume, this most meaningful devotion given by Deacon Linda Baron speaks to us all:

When I first came to worship at FRC a heavy red curtain provided the backdrop behind the pulpit in the sanctuary. It looked out of place to me in this simple old church. Then one Sunday, things seemed brighter and more cheerful. The curtain had been pulled back to reveal the stained glass window portraying Martha, Mary and Jesus. I was pleasantly surprised at the sunlight and changed atmosphere inside the church. I wondered why the window had ever been hidden. But gazing at the faces of the two sisters, I began to feel uneasy – Martha looked dark and resentful while Mary peacefully listened to Jesus speak. The scenario reminded me too much of some of my own family gatherings, with me busily assuming the role of chief cook and bottle washer "Martha" as my sister sat relaxed – happily chatting with the relatives – unaware of my less cheerful state of mind and my "Martha" face. I looked at the stained glass reminder and wished the curtain would be closed again.

Once at home I read from Luke 10: 38-41. Hardworking hostess Martha had actually complained to Jesus about her sister. But rather than recognizing her efforts to serve him, he had chided her for not having her priorities in order! That must have hurt – didn't someone have to do the chores and be responsible? Dinner wouldn't make itself!

I wonder what Martha actually did after hearing Jesus' words. Did she put down the cooking utensils and join Mary, or did she turn hastily away, embarrassed and resentful, to focus on what she thought was more important at the moment?

Jesus' message was clear: the only thing needed was spending time in communion with him, while listening to His words. It should have been an easy choice for Martha, who expressed her belief that her guest truly was the Son of God. Listening to his counsel should have been a no-brainer if she truly believed. But still... what about the dinner?

We've all been in Martha's situation, faced with to-do lists, jobs, our family's needs, and myriad responsibilities. God wants us to live a life of service to others, but to remember that with all our worries and troubles over so many things big and small, we need to *first* spend time in his presence. His words and his peace will let us serve others with his loving spirit.

Looking at the stained glass window now, I find that I'm looking at the faces of Mary and Jesus more. When I gaze at Martha I can't help feeling sorry for her, hoping that she chose to put down the water jug and sit next to her sister, peacefully at the feet of their Lord. And I remind myself to do the same.

Closing prayer: Dear Lord, Thank you for opening curtains to help us understand what you expect from us and for guiding us towards becoming closer to you. Help us remember to put down the pots and pans, tools and iPads that help us in our daily lives so that we can spend some time with you first. Surrounded by all the noise of the world, please let us hear your voice and come quietly to sit and listen to your word. Your help is what we truly need to make our days worthwhile. Amen



5	Worship*/Communion 10 am Remote Coffee Hour*	18	12 Noon To
6	Labor Day Church office closed	19	4 pm Worship* 10 am Remote Coffee Hour* 11 am
7	Consistory Reports dueWorship and Music 11 amFinance Comm.4 pmEducation Comm.7 pm	20	Golf Outing* 9 am
12	Worship* 10 am Remote Coffee Hour* 11 am	22	First day of Fall
14	Consistory 7 pm	26	Worship* 10 am Coffee Hour* 11 am Remote Sunday School 11:15 am – 12:30 pm
16	"Parish Visitor" articles due		
*Asterisks indicate information within			

October "Parish Visitor" articles and information are due **Thursday, September 16.** Please email your information to: <u>office@fishkillreformed.org</u>. Thank you.

You can reach Pastor Amy via email: <u>nylandal@gmail.com</u> or Office Manager Pat: <u>office@fishkillreformed.org</u>.

<u>Church Calendar</u> – When scheduling a church meeting or event, please contact the *Church Office* at 845-896-9836 or <u>office@fishkillreformed.org</u> so that it can be listed on the church calendar.

<u>**Prayer Chain**</u> – To be added to the church prayer chain contact list or to request prayers for yourself or someone else, please contact Toni Houston at <u>prayerchain@fishkillreformed.org</u>.

<u>Worship service remote broadcasts</u> can be seen on our website <u>www.fishkillreformed.org</u>. (live streamed at 10 am, Sundays), our Facebook page and on Cablevision Channel 21 at 5:00 pm, Sundays (*recordings are broadcast a week later*) or on Comcast Channel 5 in Eastern Dutchess Co./Putnam Co., Wednesday – 7pm; Sunday – 5 pm.

<u>**To attend**</u> *in-person* **Sunday 10 am service**, please contact the church office to sign up. *See "Consistory" page for Covid measures.*.

<u>*Coffee Hour via Zoom</u>, Sundays at 11 am. Enter link below; enter meeting ID and password. <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88145294330?pwd=T3FqQ2NDbFgzeHkvTUI0L2ZnNDVjZz09</u> Meeting ID: 881 4529 4330 Passcode: 960282

<u>Our Church website</u> includes our newsletters, worship service links, church history and Facebook page. Go to: <u>www.fishkillreformed.org</u>.

Parish Visitor receipt method can be changed by notifying the church office.

<u>Remote Giving</u> – offerings can be mailed to the church office: 1153 Main St., Fishkill, NY 12524, or dropped through the DuBois House doors' mail slots. You may also use PayPal. See "Finance 101" to learn how.



Kim Albra led devotions based on Galatians 6, John 8:31. Rather than be independent, doing things our way, we must depend on God to help us make good decisions, by putting our lives in God's hands and asking, "Lord, what will you have me do?"

- Zoe Rissen will build/maintain a Little Free Library on CCS grounds for her Girls Scout Silver Award.
- Pia Price will serve as Communion Elder to facilitate finding and organizing supplies for Communion Sundays.
- The new website will be up by the end of August.
- As about 22 people now attend Sunday services, and due to the rising Covid infection rates and high contagion rates of the Delta variant and low local vaccination rate, consistory wishes to maintain requirements for full vaccination and mask wearing for the next month and re-evaluate at the September meeting.
- Our Annual Meeting will be held outdoors in early October (date TBD) to nominate new consistory members, go over the budget and give committee reports. The nomination process can begin by mail. An outdoor service will precede the Annual meeting.
- A new Tuesday morning Bible study will start in October and a book study tied in with Scripture will be held on Wednesday evenings. We will open our Zoom book studies for other classis members (3 slots per study).
- Treasurer's August report: Total YTD revenue: \$147,645; Total YTD expenses: \$184,256
- "Free Community Fun Day" will be advertised to the public by the Communications Committee.
- Due to the spread of the Delta variant, we will continue virtual Sunday school until the situation improves.
- Southern Dutchess Coalition for the Homeless will distribute more food bags to the library, police department and Pastor Amy to be given out as needed. A commercial building is being sought that can provide showers, laundry facilities and an address for the homeless, which is essential for job applications and communication with social agencies. Phyllis Lake has contacted HV Housing for help.

Support from Elders and Deacons

If you are in need of pastoral care, please contact an elder:

Evelyn Bobb, Wapp. Falls Phyllis Pia Price, Poughkeepsie Bill Re Larry Sansone, Beacon

Phyllis Lake, Beacon Bill Resling, Fishkill

Larry Sansone, Beacon

If you need a meal, medication delivered, or a phone call, please contact a deacon:

Kim Albra, Beacon Linda Baron, Wapp. Falls Victor Chao, Hopewell Jct. Brenda Smith-Cliffe, Wapp. Falls Manny Valdivia, Wapp. Falls

"Friends of Seniors" are available to help those with various needs when one of our deacons is not available. Call: 845-485-1277 to schedule a ride.

In-Person Worship

Your consistory has met and discussed Covid restrictions with regard to worship services. Due to the spread of the Delta variant and increasing cases and hospitalizations of Covid patients, as well as fewer than 30 people per week requesting to be in the sanctuary, we have decided to keep the current restrictions in place for the next month. At our Sept. meeting we will reevaluate the circumstances and information we have and make a decision for the following month.

Our current plan is:

- Maximum of 30 people in worship at one time
- Participants must wear a mask covering their mouth and nose throughout the service
- Participants must contact the office to sign up to attend the service so we will know how many and who will attend for contact tracing purposes.



No cash, no checks, no problem! There are multiple options for paying your pledge, or making another donation. 1) Consider signing up for automatic withdrawal. Once per month, our treasurer initiates a transaction that collects funds directly from individual accounts. The person giving in this manner just has to make sure there is cash available in the account. 2) Consider the gift of appreciated stock (stock that is worth more today than it was when you purchased it). You realize no "gain" from

the sale of the stock, so you are not taxed on it, while you may be able to deduct the entire value of the gift from your Income Taxes. 3) Give from your IRA, 401K, or charitable trust. As with the donation of stock, you will not be taxed for this, and you may qualify for a tax deduction.

Processing your offering online with PayPal:

Go to the church website, scroll down to and click on yellow "Donate" button (beneath "Children's Message) or enter into your browser: <u>https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=BJ7UVXZRSCWVL</u> and follow directions.

Church Family Members Unable to Join Us

At Assisted Living and Care Facilities

Helen Deneu, Wingate at Dutchess, 3 Summit Ct., Fishkill, NY 12524 Murray Suggitt, 2500 Ridgewood Road, Apt. 223, Wall Township, NJ 07719, <u>rmsuggitt@aol.com</u>

At Home

George Corwin, 306 Woodmont Rd., Hopewell Junction, NY 12533 Dana Cramer, 66 Washington Street 10 C, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 Al, Linda & Heather Gillert, 902F The Commons Way, Fishkill, NY 12524 Connie Lacey, 49 Lake Rd., Fishkill, NY 12524 Karen Simmons, 17 Taylor Lane, Apt D, Fishkill, NY 12524 Willa Skinner, 30 Charlotte Road, Fishkill, NY 12524 Jean Teske, 21 Patricia Ave., Fishkill, NY 12524 Ruth Wisst, 23 Sidney Lane, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590 Barbara VanVoorhis, 1344 Route 52, Fishkill, NY 12524

Out of the Area

Dave and Liz Alexander 100 Woodland Pond Circle #427, New Paltz, NY 12561 Dan and Louise Byers, 1 Lyman St. Apt #422, Westborough, MA 01581 Gina Serra, 132 Hasbrouck A Rd., Hurleyville, NY 12747 Sheila Suggitt, 700 Ocean Ave, Unit 501, Spring Lake, NJ 07762, <u>sheilagsuggitt@aol.com</u>

A card, cheerful note or a phone call can provide a ray of sunshine to a church family friend! If you need a call, or know of someone else who does, please contact an elder listed above or the church office.

Are You Ok? Program – Town of Fishkill Police Dept. uses a computerized telephone system to contact our residents every day or as often as they feel meets their needs. Residents who require a little extra sense of security can register to be on our call list. Each day at prearranged times, our system will call the resident's home to check on their welfare. If after two attempts to contact the resident by telephone there is no response, an officer will be personally assigned to check their welfare. Go to: https://fishkillpd.org/community-outreach/ to download the short application form.



September

1 – Roy Carruthers 14 – Carol McGann 4 - Stephen Falcone 9 – Barbara VanVoorhis (Y) 13 – John Houston 24 – Barbara Harty & Noah Postolan



Counting Our Blessings



Liz and Dave Alexander are pleased to announce the marriage of their son, Robert Alexander (Bobby) to Cindy Laughlin on Saturday, July 31, 2021 in Phoenix, AZ. Cindy is originally from Vancouver, Washington. Both have lived in the Phoenix area for many years. The ceremony was held at the home of close friends and was officiated by another friend. This is the first marriage for both. This came as a very pleasant surprise to Liz and Dave. They have known Cindy for several years and welcome her to their family with much love.



Free Community Fun Day at First Reformed Church!

Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021 (Rain or shine) 12:00 noon- 4:00 pm



Games, prizes, activities, Bounce House for the kids! Hot dogs, Hamburgers, Cotton candy, Popcorn, Sno-cones! CCS registration, raffles, and more!! Bring your family and friends- All are welcome!

Fun Day Help needed: an hour of your time between 12 and 4 pm, to help make our Community Fun Day a success. All stations will be *outside in the fresh air*, where it is safe to gather. Tables will be set up with representatives from CCS, Sunday school, Fishkill Food Pantry, and Southern Dutchess Coalition for the Homeless. This *FREE* outreach to our community allows us to share with others what a warm, welcoming church we are, as we enjoy precious fellowship.

With all the goodies we are serving up, you can understand why we need an hour of your time to make this event work for both us and the community. Together we can make Fun Day a huge success. *PLEASE* call Jean Winkler at 845 896-4506 or email her at jcwink@verizon.net. & let her know which hour you can help. so she can make the schedule. Thank you

🔯 Fishkill Reformed Church's 15TH Annual Golf Tournament

Monday, September 20, McCann Memorial Golf Course. 155 Wilbur Blvd. in Poughkeepsie, (845)471-3917; Registration - 9:00 am/Shotgun Start - 10 am: Buffet Dinner and Awards - 3 pm

Call Ray VanVoorhis or email him at <u>rvanvoorhis@lmvarchitects.com</u>, with questions or to donate signs, prizes or contributions. Contact the church office for a registration form.

From the Education Committee

Look for these activities at the Free Community Fun Day:

- button making,
- mural creation,
- story time & free gift to take home

(all sponsored by the Education Committee)

Sunday School for ages 3 through high school will be on Zoom this fall. The first Sunday is September 26, 11:30-12:15. A Zoom link will be included in the weekly bulletin, and classes will 'break out' from there. Sunday School will not meet on Communion Sundays, the first Sunday of the month. Families with Sunday School age children will receive an email with more information in mid-September. The Children and Worship program is looking for donation of Legos and someone to make 6 simple wooden figures of Jesus. If you can assist or have questions about Sunday School, please contact Karen MacLeod.

<u>The 45th Dutchess Interfaith CROP Walk</u> is Sunday October 17. The type walking we do will be determined in Oct.. The 2020 walk raised over \$56,000, the 13th highest amount in the country. Our Fishkill Food Pantry received a grant for nearly \$1400. Walkers and sponsors are encouraged to get involved. Please contact John Twohig to learn how to be a part of this most meaningful event.



<u>Memorial Flowers</u> – We look forward to restarting our memorial flower ministry as part of our regular worship service. A big thank you to Bonnie Chao for arranging the beautiful seasonal artificial flowers. Starting in January 2022, the Flower Committee will be doing monthly fresh memorial flowers. People can sign up to remember loved ones or celebrate milestones happening each month. The memorials will be listed in the bulletin on the second Sunday of the month starting in January, when the fresh seasonal flowers will be displayed in our worship service. These flowers will then be distributed at the discretion of the elders as they visit those in need or home bound members.

The cost per memorial will be \$20.00. You can sign up by using the Flower Donation Form below and mailing your donation to the church office, or by using our church website.

FLOWER DONATION FORM

I, ______ wish to donate flowers in the month of ______ I have enclosed my check for \$20, with "Flower Donation in the Memo" and would like the following to appear in the bulletin ______

Mail to: First Reformed Church of Fishkill ATTN: Flower Committee 1153 Main Street Fishkill, NY 12524

Consistory Nominations for 2022

For hundreds of years God has faithfully called out members of this congregation to serve on the consistory. We prayerfully ask you to consider who in our midst God is calling to serve on the 2021 consistory. In December 2 elder and 2 deacon positions will need to be filled. Elders Bill Resling and Phyllis Lake; and Deacons Kim Albra and Manny Valdivia will be retiring from 3 year terms.

Elders, along with the minister are entrusted with the supervision of the church. They care for the spiritual well-being of its members through counseling, visitation, and administration of the sacraments.

Deacons are followers of Christ's example as members of spiritual commitment, whose ministry is of service, mercy, and outreach. They are compassionate towards others as they oversea the missions contributions of the church.

To put forth a name to the nominating committee, please first speak with the person, and then complete the form below. Submit your form to the church office to "the attention of Nominations" no later than September 30th. After reviewing all names the committee will present a slate to Consistory for approval, publish the names in the bulletin, and hold elections in October. The slip below should be sent to the church address: 1153 Main St., Fishkill, NY 12524 *to the attention of "Stewardship."*

Please submit to a member of the nominating committee: Pastor Amy, VP Bill Resling, Elder Chair Phyllis Lake, Deacon Chair Manny Valdivia, or Clerk Linda Baron.

Deadline for submitting names is September 30th

For the Office of Elder, I recommend to the Nominations Committee the following person:

Name
Gifts & Talents
For the Office of Deacon, I recommend to the Nominations Committee the following person:
Name
Gifts & Talents
Submitted by

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH'S MISSIONS

<u>Jeremy and Susan Beebout</u> - Jeremy is an agronomist working with agricultural development efforts and Susan is a doctor developing the church's health ministries in Niger, Africa, one of the poorest countries in the world.

Josh Bode, Pastor of the Protestant Church in Oman (PCO), founded by the RCA and charged with the stewardship of all Protestant Christianity in the country, comprising more than 50 Protestant congregations. Josh has been called to be the RCA shepherd to this diverse and international body of believers in Muscat, Oman, as they seek to build bridges and love their Muslim neighbors.

<u>RENEW San Diego</u> (our sponsored church plant) is an inner city church that ministers to the community, including those living on the streets. To learn more, visit their website <u>www.renewsandiego.org</u>. Sunday services with Rev. Matt Nault can be seen/heard by scrolling down to "Sunday Church Gatherings." Select service to watch live. Podcasts are also available.

<u>Grace Covenant Ministries</u> is committed to holistic community development and healing in the Kentucky Appalachians, an area suffering some of the deepest poverty in the U.S. *See latest newsletter on next page*.

Dear Prayer Warriors,

"Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be." These words from the hymn, "Great is Thy Faithfulness", provide us hope and comfort as the seasons change. Our summer camp sessions have ended, and the pool is closed for the year. The Academy on campus has welcomed students back to school. Our fall baseball season is off to a great start. The number of campers was up significantly over previous years for which we are thankful. Yes, God is faithful!

Our happiness is tinged with concern as Covid is reappearing in our community. Thankfully, at the present time, deaths due to the virus have been few in our area. The local public school has delayed the starting date for classes. The area Veterans Health Fair (scheduled for September), hosted by our Veterans Outreach program, has been canceled for the second year in a row. Scheduling into the future is complicated by the ever-changing guidelines being published. Your prayers are coveted as our staff strives to be faithful to God's calling. We are reminded of the fact that none of us knows what tomorrow will bring. But we do know who holds our future.

Your faithful support is helping us to make a difference in our community. Please pray that our ears and hearts will be open to the opportunities to share the love of our Savior to those we have been called to serve here in Appalachia. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us. May we continue to rejoice in knowledge of God's faithfulness.

Jacob "Jake" Moss, Director of Development

Southern Dutchess Coalition for the Homeless



On August 7th, six of us from various Southern Dutchess churches met and filled 79 bags for the homeless in the Fishkill area. Fourteen of the bags were taken to the library in Fishkill, where those in need can pick them up. Twenty-five bags were delivered to the Town of Fishkill Police Department for the police to disburse to the homeless they come in contact with. The rest are being kept on reserve to be supplied to the library and police department as needed. Just prior to that, 22 bags were given to the library and Police department for distribution.

Additionally, two people at Trinity Episcopal have put together personal care bags for distribution. This was an ecumenical effort in which Jan Hombert and Roseanne Desjardins from Trinity Episcopal, Rose Quirk from Beacon Presbyterian, Sue Doyle from St. Mary's, and FRC's Bill Resling and Phyllis Lake participated. Included in each food bag were a box of ham salad with crackers,

box of tuna salad with crackers, peanut butter single, jelly single, package of cheese filled crackers and peanut butter filled crackers, pretzels, raisins, breakfast biscuits, single cookie package, Ritz crackers, a mask, hand sanitizer, paper napkins and two spoons. It is enough to keep from being hungry for two, maybe three days. Due to the growth of our program, we need more helping hands. Please contact Phyllis Lake to volunteer.

SDCH continues its mission of helping our homeless neighbors by collecting and distributing:

Food donations

tuna and chicken in foil packets (not cans) packets of cheese or peanut butter filled crackers packets of plain crackers, graham crackers small bags of chips breakfast bars (that are not hard to chew) individual packets of peanut butter, Nutella, jelly.

Personal Care Items

small packets of hand wipes and sanitizer small soaps dental floss travel-size deodorant and shampoo 8 oz. bottles of water Gallon ziplock bags

If you wish to drop off food items, please contact the church office at 845 896-9836 to be sure someone will be there to receive your donations. Thank you!



<u>Fishkill Food Pantry</u>

1153 Main St., Fishkill, NY 12524 Phone 845 896-4546 Hours: 9 – 12 - M, T and Th, F; Wednesdays 3-5pm

Caring exists among all generations.

On a warm summer day, 2 little girls with a very thoughtful and creative mother made a cardboard food truck and offered passersby water and snacks. With the donations they received they purchased 16 bags of groceries that they delivered to the Fishkill Food Pantry. We thank them for their act of kindness.





New Generator the Pantry: we are overjoyed that our new Generac generator has been installed! We hope we will never again need to worry about food spoilage due to a loss of electric power. With 4 refrigerators and 6 freezers operating full-time loss of power could be disastrous.

T. Webber Plumbing and Heating sent a small army of their best technicians to do the installation. They worked diligently to complete the job, racing to get the electrical connections done in a 4-hour window (to avoid any food spoilage). We can now rest easier knowing that one persistent concern has been taken care of. Thanks to our staff (who did the planning) and to T. Webber, we now have emergency power!



St. Mary's Summer Food Drive volunteers collected 526 bags of food and \$2,667 in monetary donations. We are truly blessed to have very generous parishioners. Our shelves are well stocked to meet the constant need of our food insecure clients. Thank you so much for helping nourish our neighbors. To teens Dylan, Michael, Sean, Colin, Leonora, Kyla, Maya, Nina, Lauren, Nicole, Riley, Olivia, Michael, Chris, Michaela, and Matthew; and adults Nancy Winter, Diane Sedore, Savi Dorawala, Peter Schaeffer, Nancy Metz; to volunteers at the food pantry who sorted, and stocked shelves: Nancy Winter, Ron Cafarelli, Terri Rudinsky, Rich and BJ Lanni, Nellie Briggs, Peter Schaeffer, Deb McLiverty, Sally LeDioyt, Carolyn Sorensen, Savi Dorawala, and Kristen Cullen;



and to Terrence Owens for lending the food pantry his trailer, which is used in the lower parking lot:

> Thank you, All!!!







Children's Community Services

September is right around the corner and we are busy getting everything ready for the new school year. We have a new teacher's aide joining us this year and are looking forward to working with her. There are many children returning and quite a few new children enrolled this year! As usual, there is always room for "one more!"

The Before/After School Program will open on Sept. 9th. We currently have 14 children enrolled. The enrollment numbers are low and some of our past families are still waiting to see what WCSD opening will look like. We have faith that it will be back to an almost normal day! Our DeKinder Program will begin on Sept. 15th with a total of 25 children and counting!

Covid-19 is still here and all of our cleaning protocols, mask requirements and daily health checks will remain the same for staff, students and anyone entering the building during school hours.

Stay safe, happy and healthy!

Barbara VanVoorhis, Director



CCS September Wish List

Elmer's Glue (preferably *not* School glue) Elmer's Glue Sticks Tacky Glue Tissues White paper plates, thin Gallon size Ziploc baggies Corn starch Apple juice Dry erase markers Crayola magic markers - thin and thick Crayola crayons Copy machine paper Small paper cups (*not* bathroom size) Spray bottles bleach Playdough makings: flour, salt, cream of tartar, & food coloring