

# Grace Notes

VOLUME 71

RYE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • 882 BOSTON POST ROAD • RYE • NY • 10580

APRIL 2007

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER DAY

### Communion Breakfast

**April 4:** (Wednesday) 8:30 a.m., Westminster Room

### Maundy Thursday Tenebrae and Holy Communion

**April 5:** 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

### Good Friday Services

**April 6:** 12:00 noon and Children's Service, 3:00 p.m., Crawford Chapel

### Easter Day

**April 8:** 6:00 a.m., IMPACT Sunrise Service, Oakland Beach

8:00 a.m., Holy Communion, Crawford Chapel

9:00 a.m., Family Worship Service and Flowering of the Cross, Sanctuary

11:00 a.m., Festival Choral Communion Service

### Service of Installation of The Reverend Dr.

**Nancy Ann De Vries**

**Sunday, April 15, 3:00 p.m.**

*I beg you to lead a life worthy of the  
calling*

*To which you have been called.*

*With all humility and gentleness,  
with patience*

*Bearing with one another in love,*

*Making every effort to maintain the  
unity of the Spirit*

*In the bond of peace.*

*There is one body and one Spirit,*

*Just as you were called*

*To the one hope that belongs to your  
call,*

*One Lord, one faith, one baptism,*

*One God and Father of us all.*

*And grace was given to each of us*

*For building up the body of*

*Christ...in love.*

The powerful and poetic language of Ephesians 4:1-16 sets the context for the service of installation on April 15, at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. I love this passage! There is no more evocative image of the simultaneous plurality and oneness of the church than this beautiful passage on our shared faith and friendship in Jesus Christ. The service will be built around this theme, and it will be the text for the sermon of the Rev. Dr. Martin E. Marty, Fairfax M. Cone Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus at the University of Chicago. How fortunate we are that Dr. Marty has agreed to come. The "charge to the congregation" will be given by the Rev. Richard M. Martin; Dick Martin, Dan Love and Pastor Nominating Chair Doug Shanks will represent our congregation in the service. Also participating are elders and clergy from Larchmont, Poughkeepsie and Middletown. This service

of installation is carried out by the Presbytery of Hudson River. It promises to be a warm, wonderful, and exciting service! The choir and children's choir are singing and the service will include a children's sermon. Child care will be available. The Congregational Life Committee will host a reception afterwards in the Assembly Room. Persons will join us from every parish I have served as an ordained pastor, and I am pleased and delighted that you will meet one another! With all my heart, I hope that you will join us for this service! I am so very grateful to you for the warm, embracing welcome you have extended to me as your new pastor, and I look forward with excitement to the ministry we will share in the years to come.

With joy,

*The Rev. Dr. Nancy A. De Vries*

## Christian Education, Mission and Fellowship

### Christian Education

#### One Great Hour of Sharing for Children

"Who is My Neighbor?" is the theme for this year. Our young people will be discussing this topic throughout the season of Lent and exploring the many answers through film, books and outreach projects.

Children at RPC will join in the worldwide effort as they fill their brightly colored fish boxes with loose change. All are encouraged to bring in their boxes on Easter Sunday.

Proceeds will go toward Presbyterian Disaster Relief and the Fisher House Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides airfare, travel assistance and housing to military families during the care of wounded military personnel. Please encourage your children to fill up their boxes!!

#### Middle School Connection

MSC meets on **Wednesday, April 18**, at 5:30 p.m. in the Westminster Room. No meeting during Holy Week.

#### Confirmation

What makes church church? Stained glass? The cross up front? Hymns? People? Bread and juice? That was the topic of conversation as a part of the confirmation ski trip. As is our tradition, on Saturday evening after a great day on the slopes, we transformed Becky and Pete Ruegger's Vermont living room into space where we worshipped and celebrated communion. A heartfelt thanks once again goes to the Rueggers for their wonderful hospitality, to Gabby Mc-Cree for organizing food, and to Nancy Jenkins-Kennedy for her willingness to endure foggy bus travel to help chaperone the 16 members of the class.

This year's trip had the largest portion of the class ever to go, and I trust was an enriching time for all.

Our next regular meeting this month will be at **8:45 a.m. on Sunday, April 15**. Do note the time change! With Confirmation Sunday approaching fast (May 14), we'll meet again at our regular time, 11:00 a.m., on **Sunday, April 29**. First drafts of the statements of faith were due on March 18. Final versions of the statements will be due on **April 15**, in preparation for your individual meetings with the church elders between then and Sunday, May 6, when the class will meet with the entire Session to be approved for membership. Keep up the good work – we're almost there!

### IMPACT

#### Habitat Spring Trip

*Stars Fell on Alabama* as 15 Rye High School students celebrated the 10th year of IMPACT, an ecumenical youth group started by the Reverend Dick Murdoch in 1996. Students, led by Judy Weeks-Padgett, Craig Dreves, Mike Petruolo and Steve Padgett, gave wholeheartedly of themselves during their winter break to build a house

from ground to rafters in Theodore, Alabama, for their annual service work trip with Habitat for Humanity. The students were touched by how very fortunate we are after visiting Gulf Shores, Alabama, and Gulfport, Mississippi, still devastated from the hurricanes of 2005. What will matter? "What will matter is every act of integrity, compassion, courage and sacrifice that, enriched, empowered or encouraged others to emulate your example. Choose to live a life that matters." These students do that every day.

#### Easter Sunrise Service

The Easter Sunrise Service will begin at 6:00 a.m. at Oakland Beach and there will be coffee, juice, and donuts after the service under the pavilion.

#### A Good Friday Service for Children

All RPC families are welcome to join in this interactive and journeying service as together we trace the story of Jesus' last hours. This special service will begin in the Crawford Chapel at **3:00 p.m. on April 6**.



The enthusiastic Habitat for Humanity IMPACT students

# Sundays in April

## The Bulletin Board

### April 1—Palm Sunday

**8:30** Holy Communion,  
Crawford Chapel  
**10:00** Morning Worship, Sanctuary.  
Reverend Love preaching.  
**10:00** Church School. Children attend  
worship through the children's message.  
**5:00** IMPACT, Youth Room.  
**8:00** Men's Bible Study, Library.

### April 8—Easter Day

**6:00** IMPACT Sunrise Service,  
Oakland Beach.  
**8:00** Holy Communion,  
Crawford Chapel.  
**9:00** Family Worship Service, Sanctuary.  
**11:00** Festival Choral Communion  
Service, Sanctuary,  
Dr. De Vries preaching.

### April 15—Easter II

**8:30** Holy Communion,  
Crawford Chapel.  
**8:45** Confirmation Class,  
Westminster Room.  
**10:00** Morning Worship, Sanctuary.  
Dr. De Vries preaching.  
**10:00** Church School. Children attend  
worship through the children's message.  
**11:00** New Member Class, Library.  
**3:00** Dr. De Vries' Installation and  
Reception, Sanctuary, Assembly Room.  
**5:00** IMPACT.

### April 22—Easter III

**8:30** Holy Communion,  
Crawford Chapel.  
**10:00** Morning Worship, Sanctuary.  
Reverend Love preaching.  
**10:00** Church School. Children attend  
worship through the children's message.  
**11:15** New Member Class,  
Westminster Room.  
**5:00** IMPACT, Youth Room.  
**6:00** New Member Dinner,  
Westminster Room, Library.  
**8:00** Men's Bible Study, Library.

### April 29—Easter IV

**8:30** Holy Communion,  
Crawford Chapel.  
**10:00** Morning Worship, Sanctuary.  
Dr. De Vries preaching.  
**10:00** Church School. Children attend  
worship through the children's message.  
**11:00** Confirmation Class,  
Westminster Room.  
**4:00** Robert Moncrief Organ Recital and  
Reception, Sanctuary and Library.  
**8:00** Men's Bible Study, Library.

**Please join us for coffee in the Assembly  
Room after ten o'clock worship.**

### Bible Study

Men's Bible Study  
**Sundays, April 1, 22 and 29**  
8:00 p.m., library.  
  
Wednesday Morning Bible Study  
**April 11 and 25**  
9:15 a.m., library.  
  
Women's Bible Study  
**Saturdays, April 14 and 28**  
9:15 a.m., library

### Easter Music and Flowers

If you would like to help  
defray the cost of Easter  
music and flowers, in honor of  
or in memory of a loved one,  
please call Trudi at 967-0842  
with your donation.

## SING TO THE LORD A NEW SONG!

### Contemporary Christian Music with Dave Pettigrew and his band

**Friday, April 13**  
**7:00 p.m**  
**Assembly Room**

**Young and old  
are invited!**  
**Bring a friend!**  
**Free Admission!**  
**Refreshments!**

Check out Dave's website,  
[www.davepettigrew.net](http://www.davepettigrew.net),  
or visit him at  
[www.myspace.com/davepettigrew](http://www.myspace.com/davepettigrew)

**See you there!**



Join the RPC Women's Association for

### A Ladies' Night Out

**Monday, April 23, 7:00 — 9:00 p.m.**

**Nonie Reich's home**  
**70 Westerleigh Road in Purchase**

Refreshments will be provided. There is no charge.

Please sign up at the Reception Desk.

We are looking forward to seeing you for some fun and fellowship!

New members are especially welcome!

# April Schedule of Meetings, Events and Programs

## BOARD MEETINGS

**Deacons:** Wednesday, April 18, 7:30 p.m., Library.

**Session:** Wednesday, April 25, 7:30 p.m., Westminster Room.

**Trustees:** Wednesday, April 18, 7:30 p.m., Conference Room.

## WORSHIP AND STUDY

**Worship:** Sundays, April 9, 23 and 30, 8:30 a.m., Holy Communion, Crawford Chapel; 10:00 a.m., Morning Worship, Sanctuary.

Communion Breakfast, Wednesday, April 4, 8:30 a.m., Westminster Room.

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae and Holy Communion, April 5, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary.

Good Friday Service, April 6, 12:00 noon, Chapel and Special Children's Service, 3:00 p.m., Chapel.

Easter Day, April 8: 6:00 a.m., IMPACT Sunrise Service, Rye Town Beach; 8:00 a.m., Holy Communion, Crawford Chapel;

9:00 a.m., Family Worship Service and Flowering of the Cross, Sanctuary; 11:00 a.m., Festival Choral Communion Service.

**Church School:** Sundays, April 1, 15, 22 and 29, 10:00 a.m., regular classes, children attend worship through the children's message.  
No classes, April 8.

**Confirmation:** Sundays, April 15, 8:45 a.m. and April 29, 11:00 a.m., Westminster Room.

**Men's Bible Study:** Sundays, April 1, 22, and 29, 8:00 p.m., Library.

**Rye Women's Interfaith Council:** Wednesday, April 18 and Friday, April 13, 9:00 a.m., Library.

**The Reverend Dr. Nancy De Vries' Installation and Reception:** Sunday, April 15, 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary and Assembly Room.

**Wednesday Morning Bible Study:** April 11 and 25, 9:15 a.m., Library.

**Women's Saturday Morning Bible Study:** April 14 and 28, 9:15 a.m., Library.

## YOUTH

**Connection:** Wednesdays, April 18, 5:30 p.m., Westminster Room.

**Cub Scouts:** Den Leaders, Wednesday, April 4, 7:30 p.m., Youth Room.

**Girl Scout Leaders:** Wednesday, April 11, 1:00 p.m., Library.

**IMPACT:** Sundays, April 15 and 22, 5:00 p.m., Youth Room; Easter Sunrise Service, Rye Town Beach, Sunday, April 8, 6:00 a.m. (est.);

## MUSIC

**Chancel Choir Rehearsal:** Sundays, 9:15 and 11:15 a.m., Choir Room; Thursdays (April 5, 6:45 p.m.), 7:45 p.m., Choir Room.

**Children's Choir Rehearsal:** Tuesdays, 3:45 p.m., Chapel.

**Handbell Rehearsal:** Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary Balcony.

**Robert Moncrief Organ Recital and Reception:** Sunday, April 29, 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary and Library.

## OTHER CHURCH MEETINGS, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

**Christian Education Committee:** Wednesday, April 11, 7:30 p.m., Conference Room.

**Meditation Series:** Thursdays, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary; April 5, Youth Room.

**Mission and Outreach Committee:** Wednesday, April 11, 7:30 p.m., Westminster Room.

**New Member Class:** Sundays, April 15, 11:15 a.m., Library and April 22, 11:15 a.m., Westminster Room;

New Member Dinner, April 22, 6:00 p.m., Westminster Room and Library.

**Sandwichmakers:** Thursday, April 19, 11:00 a.m., Westminster Room and Kitchen.

**Stephen Ministry:**

Leaders: Tuesdays, April 10 and 24, 9:15 a.m., Library; Continuing Ed: Tuesdays, April 3 and 17, 7:00 p.m., Westminster Room.

**Thrift Shop:** Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Youth Room.

**Women's Association:** Board Meeting, Monday, April 16, 9:15 a.m., Library.

**Worship and Music Committee:** Wednesday, April 4, 7:00 p.m., Library.

## OUTREACH AND SUPPORT GROUPS

**AA Group:** Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Westminster Room.

**AA Rye Harrison Group:** Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Assembly Room.

**Homeless Overnight:** Saturday, April 21, Assembly Room.

**Mr. Westchester/AlAnon Group:** Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Library.

**Rye Association for the Handicapped:** Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m., Youth Room.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, APRIL 9.**

**PHONE: 914 967-0842**

**Email: [RPC@ryepc.com](mailto:RPC@ryepc.com)**

**FAX: 914 967-0267**

**Web Site: [www.ryepc.com](http://www.ryepc.com)**

## Sabbatical for Reverend Love

It is with much gratitude that I write to you about my plans for a sabbatical! Last month, the church session, trustees and the Hudson River Presbytery approved a time of “clergy renewal” — a time from May 15 until after Labor Day to be away from the normal press of day-to-day duties and responsibilities that are the norm for active pastoral service. Consistent with Presbyterian policies, it is to be a unique time of refreshment, renewal and professional development. As I said in my Annual Report, it is to be a time “to both recharge the batteries, and to regain a fresh sense of vision for ministry and life in the church. It will be a time of study, a time to sit in the pews of other churches, a time to deepen spiritually, and a time to reconnect with the passions that brought me to parish ministry. In doing so, I foresee reentering the life of RPC this September, refreshed and invigorated and ready to team with Nan and the leadership of this church in working to live out the next chapter of God’s vision for this church.”

I will be away from Rye for part, but not all of that time. My plans at this point include attending the “Festival of Homiletics” in Nashville, a clergy leadership institute in London, classes at Yale Divinity School, and a conference on church music and worship leadership featuring John Bell of the Iona Community. On the quieter side, there will be plenty of reading during time up north in the Adirondacks, a venture to St. Andrews in Scotland, and a family trip to Texas that includes time (while the children are in camp) for an extended quiet retreat.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**MISSION & OUTREACH**

**TEX-MEX DINNER  
and AUCTION**

**SATURDAY, MAY 5**

## One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing this year asks the question, “Who is my neighbor?” The answer to that question can be found all over the world and here at home. As in the past, RPC will again join Presbyterian churches worldwide during this Lenten season and assist persons facing famine, homelessness, health emergencies, and natural disasters.

### Fisher House Foundation Identified as Recipient

M&O has also identified the treatment of our nation’s military personnel and their families as a topic of great urgency. Sadly, we are starting to hear about the thousands of American military who have been seriously wounded and how their lives and those of their families have been tragically impacted. This year we are directing 50% of our appeal to the Fisher House Foundation ([www.fisherhouse.org](http://www.fisherhouse.org)), a non-profit organization that provides airfare, travel assistance, and housing close to hospitals to military families during the care and recovery of service personnel wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Please include your whole family in supporting this Lenten appeal. Share your good fortune as generously as possible, to assist our neighbors far and near, who are so much in need of our help. You will find One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes in the pew.

### Women’s Association International Lunch

Mmmangia on Monday! Far away, yet close to home. Join Rye Presbyterian women and their friends at Rye’s own Cafe Livorno for April’s International Lunch on **Monday, April 16**, at 12:30. Everyone loves Italian food — you can eat well, see old friends, and make new ones. There will only be one or two more lunches before summer so don’t miss out. RSVP via email to Cindy Kuster, [CKuster@aol.com](mailto:CKuster@aol.com).

Note: the restaurant IS open on Mondays! Cafe Livorno, located next to the Bank of New York, is at 92 Purchase Street, 967-1909.



### Former RPC Organist, Robert Moncrief, Returns for Anniversary Recital Sunday, April 29, 4:00 p.m.

The third and final program in our series of recitals celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of our Casavant Frères pipe organ will be held at four o’clock on **Sunday afternoon, April 29**. The recitalist will be Robert Moncrief who was organist and music director at Rye Presbyterian Church from 1976 to 1994 and supervised the installation of our magnificent instrument. Mr. Moncrief left RPC to go to Grosse Pointe Memorial Church in Michigan, and he is currently minister of music at Fairmont Presbyterian Church in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Mr. Moncrief’s program will include music by Max Reger, Louis Vierne, J. S. Bach, César Franck, and William Albright. A reception in the library will follow Mr. Moncrief’s recital.

Many people have responded very generously to our Patron Appeal for the two previous recitals. We are very grateful for their contributions and encourage others to become patrons by making a donation of \$100 or more. Checks may be sent to Emily Irving in the business office with the notation “Organ Anniversary Series.” The names of all patrons will be included in the April 29 program. The program is open to everyone, however, and there will be no charge for admission.



### ARE YOU READY?

Stephen Ministry has been in operation at RPC for over three years. Most of you know about our program, and we often hear comments like, "We're so lucky to have you;" "What a wonderful program;" and "One day I might want to do this also."

Well, we need you now. We are about to start another 50-hour training program in September, and we are looking for committed and compassionate members of our congregation — both men and women — who will help us to expand this ministry. It is a big commitment, but the rewards are even greater. Being a Stephen Minister is not only helpful to others, but it can be one of the most fulfilling and joyful experiences that you have ever had. To be sure, it will challenge you, sometimes it might take you out of your

comfort zone, but it will definitely help you along on your personal journey with God, no matter where you are on that journey. You don't need any religious training or thorough biblical knowledge to walk with someone in need. Many of our care receivers have said that having a Stephen Minister made all the difference to them.

So if you think you have the ability to be a non-judgmental, confidential, and supportive minister to a person in pain, please consider this ministry. This might just be your time to follow the call, as the prophet Isaiah wrote: "I heard the voice of God saying, 'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?'" Then I answered, 'Here I am! Send me.'"

### New Member Orientation

All those who are interested in becoming a member of RPC are invited to take part in the new member orientation classes. Classes are **Sundays, April 15 and 22**, immediately following worship in the library. Childcare will be available. In class, we will explore what

it means to be a Presbyterian in general, and what it means to be a member of this particular church. In addition, on the evening of April 22 at 6:00 p.m., there will a dinner for the new members. This is a time to share a meal with officers of the church and other members of the new member class. Following the dinner, the session will meet to approve the new class for church membership. Welcome and recognition of the new members will take place during worship on **Sunday, April 29**. If you are interested in exploring membership here at RPC, please call the church office at 967-0842.

### Thank you, Ernie!

After a member of the audience collapsed during the organ concert last October, it was readily apparent that the church was ill equipped to handle such an emergency. Thanks to a generous gift by RPC member Ernest Richards, M.D., we now have emergency CPR apparatus. The kit and instructions are located in the reception area.

April 2007 Newsletter  
Dated material  
Address correction requested

