

Grace Notes

VOLUME 83

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

JUNE 2008



Confirmation 2008

Since the Sunday in September that they were commissioned for their year of study, the young adults in the confirmation class have worked hard on their way to confirmation. As the elders who met with them attested, they were very thoughtful in considering the nature of the confirmation commitment. The process culminated in the writing of their personal statements of faith, and individual meetings with elders. On May 4, the church celebrated as we welcomed these articulate and thoughtful new members into the life, worship and mission of the church.

J. P. Barrett, son of Valerie and John Barrett
Max Bonsall, son of Julia and Richard Bonsall
Katie Bouton, daughter of Mary and Ed Bouton
Emily Carriero, daughter of Sue and Mark Carriero
Rachel Chin, daughter of Judy and Richard Chin
Mason Curtis, son of Petie and Mike Curtis
Ryan Davidson, son of Susan and Scott Davidson
Annie Davies, daughter of Suzanne and Charley Davies
Alessandra Doria, daughter of Charlotte and Thomas Doria
Brooke Galliard, daughter of Clement and Debra Galliard
Jeffrey Higbee, son of Nancy Cresap Higbee
Brenton Howland, son of Dinah and Jim Howland
Richard Korzelius, son of Cynthia and Rick Korzelius

Sarah Little, daughter of Sue and Jeff Little
Nick Lovinger, son of Linda and Dan Lovinger
Steph McKean, daughter of Elizabeth and Douglas McKean
Sarah Niss, daughter of Barbara and Michael Niss
Brian Pickup, son of Leslie and Scott Pickup
Julie Rohde, daughter of Darla and Greg Rohde
Sarah Sachse, daughter of Jini and Peter Sachse
Libby Smith, daughter of Nancy and Turner Smith
Derek Totten, son of Susan and Willie Totten
Casey Walsh, daughter of Judy and John Walsh
Cathryn Woodruff, daughter of Lee and Bob Woodruff
Emery Zuk, daughter of Yvonne and Peter Zuk

Congratulations to the Confirmation Class of 2008

June 1

Sunday of the Good Shepherd

with music, readings and sermon focusing on Psalm 23

Christian Education, Mission and Fellowship

Christian Ed: Teacher Appeal and Summer Schedule

As the school year draws to a close, we give thanks for a church school that is filled with vibrant, curious and enthusiastic children, and for a group of talented and dedicated teachers who come each week to guide our children.

Being a church school teacher is a special ministry. Those who have taught know that not only do you share the Good News with others, but you deepen your own faith along the way. If you are interested in exploring this ministry, please call Susie McNiff in the Christian Education office at 967-0842, extension 17.

RPC Summer Sundays

Before you head for the beach on Sunday mornings, don't forget to take time to worship with us. Children ages 4 through 12 are invited to come to the Youth Room after the children's message. We will share in the lesson and explore its meaning through art, games and fellowship. If you don't feel that you can commit to teaching this year, this is a perfect opportunity to teach on a more limited basis.

Mission & Outreach

Those of you who attended the M&O Mexican Fiesta BBQ and Auction on May 10 have expressed that this was some fun party, as well as a very successful fellowship evening and community outreach fundraiser. Mariachi Lite Mexican folk music by a talented trio flavored the wine sampling hour, which was accented by Cherizo casedillas, fresh oysters on the half shell and scallop ceviche (rave reviews). The main feast, provided by Kelly's Post Road Market, followed with BBQ'd chili/cumin-rubbed filet mignon, chilipepper-hot spareribs and honey/-basil shrimp on a stick. Not a lick was left as seconds were clearly in demand. During dinner courageous volunteers entertained the rest of us with line dancing with a Latino twist. Then came the live auction, which generated nearly \$13,000 from sports tix, vacation time-shares, golf outings and fine wine. Sunday noon closed a very special item selection in the silent auction. The final net surpassed M&O's goal of \$20,000. Our appreciation and thanks go to all who supported this annual fundraising event. Proceeds will be directed to worthy causes in and around our community.

A Scholarship Appeal for Ward Summer Institute

For years now, sufficient funding from a variety of sources has allowed the Ward Summer Institute to provide at-risk children needed educational assistance in a camp-like setting at RPC. Normally, RPC's Mission & Outreach, the Womens' Association, and a few parishioners have generously funded about 1/3 of the total Ward budget. Student tuition of \$260 per child for the four weeks, a humble cost by most standards, provided about 1/3. And corporate and community funding in the past have provided the rest. But this year, a stressed economy makes things quite a bit different. Corporate and community funding has all but vanished and costs have risen dramatically. This spring, a number of camper families, where both parents work very hard, or have in fact lost steady employment for various reasons, have asked for partial scholarship assistance. Therefore, this appeal. Your personal donation of \$100 (or more if you can) will greatly help these hopeful young children to enjoy the Ward camp experience this summer. Please make checks out to RPC (directed to Ward Scholarships). These children both need and deserve our help. Thanks for your help.

Men's Bible Study

Love 'em or hate 'em, Paul had quite a few words to say to the fledgling churches of Asia Minor and Greece. Over the summer, the men's bible study will continue to look at Paul's pastoral letter to the church at Corinth. Part archaeology (what issues was he addressing?), part interpretation (what would he be saying to us?!), it is well worth the time put in reading and discussing. During the summer, we will meet at 8:00 p.m. in the library on **Sundays, June 8 and 22, July 13 and 27, and August 10.**



Ann Kliman and Don Dennis enjoying the feast at M&O's Mexican Fiesta BarBQ and Auction

Sundays in June



The Bulletin Board



June 1

8:30 Holy Communion,
Crawford Chapel.

10:00 Communion worship, Sanctuary.
Dr. De Vries preaching.

10:00 Church School.

Children attend worship through the
children's message.

June 8

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.

11:00 Annual Church Picnic,
Grape Arbor.

8:00 Men's Bible Study, Library.

June 15

8:00 Holy Communion,
Crawford Chapel.

10:00 Morning Worship, Sanctuary.

10:00 Summer Church School begins.
Children attend worship through the
Children's message.

June 22 —

8:30 Holy Communion,
Crawford Chapel.

10:00 Morning Worship, Sanctuary.

10:00 Summer Church School.

8:00 Men's Bible Study, Library.

June 29 —

8:30 Holy Communion,
Crawford Chapel.

10:00 Morning Worship, Sanctuary.

10:00 Summer Church School.

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

Save the date!

SUMMER BEACH PARTY

Wednesday, July 16, 7:00 p.m.
Rye Town Beach

Bring the children for an evening
of fun, fellowship and fireworks at
the beach, hosted by the Congre-
gational Life Committee.

Please join us for

The Women's Association Annual Garden Party and Grant Awards Luncheon

Monday, June 2 11:30 a.m — 2:00 p.m. Grape Arbor

Come and get to know many wonderful community organiza-
tions; then join us as we hand out the 2008 grants!

Sign up at the reception desk,
or RSVP to bptown@mindspring.com

This is a time to celebrate the work of many! All are welcome!

Connection Year-end Picnic

Wednesday, June 4, 5:30 p.m.

Reverend Love's home, 900 Boston Post Road

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Throughout the summer the Wednesday Bible study will continue to follow the
life and times, and the rise and fall, of King David, all the while asking – how
does his story relate to our story. We meet on Wednesdays at 9:15 a.m. in the
library. Our summer dates are **June 11 and 25, July 9 and 23, and August 6**. All
are welcome to join in this ongoing study and conversation.

Coming in September!

RPNS 50th Anniversary SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Alums, current and past families,
staff and Board members are all invited.
More later about our celebrating this milestone.

Take note — new instructions for stock donations to RPC!

Gifts of stock should now be transferred to:
Janney Montgomery Scott, LLC
DTC # 0374

for further credit to Rye Presbyterian Church, Account # 8926-9870

If you have questions, you may contact Geoff Beringer at Janney Montgomery
Scott at 1-888-567-6574. Please remember to send the details of your stock
transfer to Emily Irving in the Business Office at 967-0842, x12 or email her at
eirving@ryepc.com so your gift can be properly credited.

June Schedule of Meetings, Events and Programs

BOARD MEETINGS

Deacons: Wednesday, June 18, 6:30 p.m., at the Kiarsis home.

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

Trustees: Wednesday, June 18, 7:30 p.m., Youth Room.

WORSHIP AND STUDY

Worship: Sundays, 8:30 a.m., Holy Communion, Crawford Chapel; 10:00 a.m., Morning Worship, Sanctuary through June 29; Chapel in July and August.

Church School: Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

June 1 and 8 — Children attend worship through the children's message.

June 15 — Summer Sunday School begins. Children go to Youth Rooms after Children's message.

Men's Bible Study: Sundays, June 8 and 22, July 13 and 27, August 10, 8:00 p.m., Library.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: June 11 and 25, July 9 and 23, August 6, 9:15 a.m., Library.

Women's Bible Study: Saturdays, June 14 and 28, 9:30 a.m., Library.

YOUTH

Boy Scouts: Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Assembly Room.

Connection: Year-end Picnic, Wednesday, June 4, 5:30 p.m., Reverend Love's home.

Cub Scout Den Leaders: Wednesday, June 4, 7:30 p.m., Youth Room.

Girl Scout Leaders: Wednesday, June 4, 1:00 p.m., Library.

OTHER CHURCH MEETINGS, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Christian Education Committee: Wednesday, June 11, 7:30 p.m., Location TBA.

End-of-Year Picnic: Sunday, June 8, 11:00 a.m., Grape Arbor.

Mission and Outreach Committee: Wednesday, June 4, 7:30 p.m., Library.

Parenting Workshop: Monday, June 2, 7:30 p.m., Library.

Sandwichmakers: Thursday, June 19, 11:00 a.m., Kitchen and Assembly Room.

Stephen Ministry:

Continuing Ed and Supervision, Tuesdays, June 3 and 17, 6:30 p.m., Westminster Room and Library.

Thrift Shop: Final Day for summer - Thursday, June 12, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Downstairs.

Women's Association: Annual Garden Party and Grant Awards Luncheon,

Monday, June 2, 11:30 a.m. — 2:00 p.m., Westminster Room and Grape Arbor.

Rain Location: Assembly Room.

Women's Association Board Meeting: Monday, June 9, 9:15 a.m., Library.

Worship and Music Committee: Tuesday, June 3, 7:00 p.m., at the Gundy home.

OUTREACH, SUPPORT GROUPS AND OTHER EVENTS

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

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

Homeless Overnight: Saturday, June 21, 5:00 p.m., Assembly Room.

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

June 2, Westminster Room; June 9, 16, 23 and 30, Library.

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

Ward Institute begins July 3, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Nursery School.

PLEASE NOTE: The church office will be closed on Friday, July 4, Independence Day.

PHONE: 914 967-0842
Email: RPC@ryepc.com

FAX: 914 967-0267
Web Site: www.ryepc.com

Ward Summer Camp Expects 100 Children

Now in its 15th year, the Juanita Ward Summer Institute literacy program again hopes to welcome 100 children grades 1-5 into its upcoming July session in RPC's Education Wing. This unique literacy program, in which disadvantaged children strive to improve their reading, writing and English skills, has evolved into a significant RPC outreach effort and community asset.

Last year, in addition to the six certified elementary teachers that Ward employs, 50 Rye High School students volunteered as teaching aides to help these early childhood school children one on one, and in small groups, to improve their literacy skills in English. Educators clearly acknowledge these first years as a critical time in a child's education. Simply put, without mastering sufficient English literacy skills early on, these children can expect a diminished educational experience and face a slim chance of entering the American mainstream.

The great majority of Ward campers are from Hispanic families in Port Chester, many of whom are ill-equipped to provide the necessary help to children learning to read and write. The Ward camp fills this void, giving these children that personal nurturing and encouragement needed for them to get up to speed in English literacy.

Ward at RCDS

On a new front this past school year, thanks to the vision of Headmaster Scott Nelson, Rye Country Day School entered into a meaningful tutorial and enrichment program partnering with the Ward Institute. RCDS's elementary school teachers, aided by numerous volunteer upper-school students, have created a thriving Saturday morning Ward literacy program for children grades 1-5, and where parents also participate in an English language program at the same time. The RCDS Ward spring session grew to include over 50 children, in addition to 25 parents, all of them most eager to master their new language — English.



Ward students and teachers at last year's summer session

IMPACT : A Recap of Community Service Activities

This was quite a busy year for IMPACT. The following is a brief recap of the Community Service activities that the group took part in.

We kicked off our community service with a group participating in the Crop Walk which brought awareness to the kids about the food pantries in our local area. Then we hosted a Children's Halloween Party at Don Bosco/Holy Rosary, complete with pumpkin decorating, costumes, and even limbo! The kids unloaded a truckload of toiletries and filled 300 bags with these items to be distributed by Helping Hands for the Homeless.

Our Thanksgiving food drive to benefit the Carver Center food pantry was a huge success with the kids collecting non-perishable items at our three local grocery stores. In all, there were over seven carts filled!

The Christmas season found our IMPACT kids collecting and wrapping 200 presents for the residents of Seneca House, transitional housing for families trying to recover from homelessness, incarceration or from intervention of social work agencies. We then loaded up several "sleighs" and delivered them to the children and families of Seneca House, by way of none other than Santa himself. Our "IMPACT elves" were moved beyond

words, even some to tears, by the joy they brought to the residents there.

For Valentines day the IMPACT group made valentines and candy bags to "spread a little love" to the students at Blythedale Children's Hospital school.

In March, the kids conducted a book drive to benefit the new media room at Don Bosco. 160 books were donated and now line the shelves of the library corner!

The Easter Sunrise Service was the high point of the year. IMPACT members chose the readings, music, and a special commentary for the service with guidance from Mr. Gurney Willams, a good friend of IMPACT. While the service may not have been community service to benefit a specific group, it demonstrated the true meaning of "community." Over 90 "congregants" were in attendance to celebrate Easter Day.

April brought Renewal and IMPACT members prepared a meal for the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, a group of men who do charitable works at many locations in the Bronx and Manhattan. They rely solely on donations and our group prepared and delivered a wonderful meal to these incredible people.

Looking forward to next year, we are planning a Midnight Run and local Habitat for Humanity projects, possibly even the current one on Dearborn Avenue right here in Rye.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



As the school year ends, many activities are winding down. Things begin to move at a more leisurely pace. And it's nice to take a break from the busyness that holds many of us in its grip.

But the Stephen Ministry team would like you to know that we will be "open for business." Worries, grief and loneliness don't disappear with the arrival of summer, and the lack of diversion can make problems even harder to bear. So while you are enjoying the beautiful sunshine, please remember our ministers in your thoughts and prayers. And if you know of someone who is going through a personal crisis and could use someone to talk to, please tell them about this program.

For more information or a confidential conversation, please call the Reverend Dr. Nancy De Vries or Reverend Dan Love at 967-0842, or Stephen Leader Tav Rogers at 921-1809.

RPNS News

The school year ends in several weeks. Beach days, picnics and graduation. Rainbow Ceremonies are in the final planning stages. The entire staff was recently honored at the annual Teacher Appreciation Luncheon and thanks to the Board, parent support, and organization skills of Lisa Johnson, a wonderful time was had by all!

We celebrated 273 cumulative years of service at RPNS for all of the 23 teachers plus administrators and staff members. We acknowledged the Director, Cheryl Flood, who has led our school for the past 25 years, as well as three staff members, Pat Walther, Kathy Henk, and Mary Canneto, who have served our parents and children for the past 20 years. We are grateful for the continuity, dedication, and quality of our staff at RPNS.

Our last day of school is June 15. Our best to the RPC community for a summer of relaxation, warm adventures and family time. See you in the fall to celebrate the 50th anniversary of RPNS on Saturday, September 6!

Summer Volunteer Opportunities Abound at God's Green Market

Planting season has already begun at God's Green Market, the non-profit Goshen, New York, farm operated by interfaith volunteers. RPC's Mission and Outreach Committee has provided seed money (literally) again this year. Beautiful fresh produce harvested this summer will go to a bustling green market held at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Port Chester, and made available FREE through coupons to needy families.

Serious volunteer help is needed to plant, weed, and harvest the crops as they come in. RCP parishioner groups or families (children 5 and up) who would like to experience a truly educational day in the country working on this farm, please call Scott Cannell 428-7282 for times and directions.

PS: A fascinating slide show of farm photos taken this spring by Michael Ghitelman can be seen on <http://picasaweb.google.com/michael.ghitelman/CabbageAndCollards>.

June 2008 Newsletter
Dated material
Address correction requested

Non-Profit
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
White Plains, N.Y.
PERMIT NO. 1054