

October 1, 2015



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Special points of interest...

- Calendar of Events
October 2015
- Prayers and Joys
- Birthdays and Anniversaries
- Operation Christmas Child
- Hudson Valley MADD Walk

Pastor's Letter

Autumn is without a doubt my favorite season. Trees and vines are of a profuse and shocking color. The harvest is on with its lavish fecundity. The countryside is ablaze with a kaleidoscopic palate-incandescent and indecent. Animals are putting on the pounds in a grand race of gluttony. It is an embarrassment of sorts, the impertinence of nature.

And it is all dying. Autumn is a magnificent defeat, a natural festival masking the arrival of the long winter natures self-righteous grim reaper. But autumn is a lavish denial to the winter so surely just around the bend as if to say *no, we will have our celebration you'll just have to wait!* Autumn is a kind of declaration, a defiant stance in the face of what is surely to come. That's why I like it. I remember as a kid in Michigan climbing to the very tops of trees, holding on and swaying on the very top branches with the bracing wind, trying to see winter coming over the horizon of Lake Michigan. Winter was out there, even as I found myself in the profusion of color. It was only a matter of time.

I like the inescapable polarities found in autumn. It makes me wonder how our own lives look in the face of their certain ends. What true colors are shown in us? How are we to steward our lives in spite of their brevity? How do we come to terms with

endings? What legacy shall remain, even when our lives, like leaves, cascade to the earth?

In other words: even though life is short, will we be magnificent? It is a question with which our God is preoccupied. *The grass withers, the flowers fade...*and so on.

Impending circumstances brings out such character. The anticipation of war, tragedy, illness, grief will prove and test a person, a family, a community, a church. We see it often and call those who overcome heroes, though most of them would say that it was the circumstance that brought out of them the heroic. Prior to the extreme event, they never knew what was inside of them.

So the impending winter, though it brings a chilled wind, perhaps it is a strange sort of friend, a friend who comes with deadlines enough to push us to be our best, most lovely, most colorful selves.

So here's to the autumn season, and to your own autumn season. May it bring out the best in you and in us, knowing as we do, that winter shall surely arrive sometime soon enough. Even so, let us be magnificent.

Thom Fiet, Pastor at Lyall

From the Pastor....

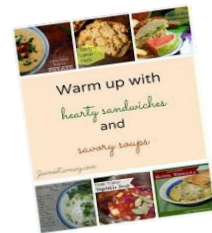
- The 60 Necessary Stories of Faith - The pastor has taken on this project to frame up the needful stories in the bible that every Christian might find helpful as we live out our faith (this does not include the Christmas or Easter stories, these will be handled separately).
- Watch for Podcasts to be coming soon!



News & Other Happenings...

- Do you Tweet? We are on the brink of beginning a Twitter Account, just to reach out to give the congregation a little encouragement during the week. More information to follow.
- Touch Screens Touch screen #3 is being installed this week on the 2nd flr outside MECEC.
- Audio System All monies have been received! Work to complete the audio system will commence forthwith.
- Denominational Assessment Checks have been sent. Blessings to you all, this was a terrific help.
- Lyall Lunch Update We want to thank the congregation for their generosity in response to our Lyall Lunch Program. \$200.00 was received with a single request. God bless you, dear ones. Wow!
- Food for Folks! For more information please contact Diane Moretti at 845-242-6508.
- Dinner & Homework Help For information contact: Lynn Grainger 266-8178 lynng125@optonline.net Sue McGinnis 677-6273 susmcginnis190@aol.com
- Harvest Buffet 1st Presbyterian Church Pleasant Valley Saturday, October 3rd 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm Advance tickets: Adults & Seniors \$15 Children 5-12 \$6

At the Door:
Adults \$18, Seniors \$15
Children 5-12 \$7
Advance Reservation
by 10/1 845-635-3289



Electronic Giving

In July we set up a bank account that our members can use for their giving, if they wish to use automatic electronic deposits. There was an email that went out the week of 7/12 that included a document with all the instructions. If you need to see that email again feel free to contact Kristen Reid at lyallchurchtreas@gmail.com. If you need a hardcopy there will be some copies in the church office. You will also see in the instructions that there are other ways to automate your giving. Many banks offer some kind of automatic bill pay - this kind of system has a paper trail where an actual check is cut and mailed. The information you would need to set that up is also included in the same set of instructions. Susan Tirante and Kristen Reid will help you with any questions you may have about setting up automatic giving.

Operation Christmas Child

There is a box outside the church office for shoebox items. We will make up 10 extra boxes for the older age groups, and are in need of toothpaste & brushes, hair brushes and combs, unscented soap and wash cloths, hard candy, small notebooks and pencils. The Shoeboxes for the congregation to fill will be handed out on October 18th. Boxes will be collected on November 15th at Lyall.

Hudson Valley MADD Walk

The Hudson Valley MADD Walk will be held on October 24th. A Team will again walk on the Fishkill Rail Trail in honor of Carolyn Reid's long recovery after being hit by a drunk driver. Please sign up early so Nancy Greer can coordinate plans. Also, if you would like to contribute to MADD and be a "virtual" walker, that would be appreciated. The money is used for victim services, and to work for more public awareness of the problem of DWI, which claimed over 300 lives in NYS last year.

Choir News

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL CHOIR

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sunday, December 13, 2015

PLEASE SING WITH US IN THE FESTIVAL CHOIR

CALLING ALL SINGERS FROM THE WIDER COMMUNITY - CHURCH CHOIRS, SCHOOLS, AND INDIVIDUALS WHO ENJOY CHORAL SINGING REHEARSALS BEGIN ON OCTOBER 18TH 6:30 - 9:00 UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DAN KOCH. ADULT CHOIR - HIGH SCHOOL AND OLDER; CHILDREN'S CHOIR 2ND - 8TH GRADES. INTERESTED SINGERS

CONTACT DAN AT dkochpiano@gmail.com OR

SUSAN TIRANTE AT 677-3485 OR

EMAIL lyallmemfed@gmail.com.

Healing Habits of the Heart - Workshops

Using the Circle of Trust® Approach

Five sessions, every other week for two hours
(Wednesday evenings, 7 - 9)

September 23, October 7, October 21, November 4,
and November 18

We will contemplate five "habits of the heart" described in Parker J. Palmer's *Healing the Heart of Democracy: The Courage to Create a Politics Worthy of the Human Spirit*.

- understanding we are all in this together
- appreciating the value of "otherness"
- holding tension in life-giving ways
- generating a sense of personal voice and agency
- and strengthening our capacity to create community

Parker Palmer is a Quaker, an author, a lecturer, and the founder of the Center for Courage & Renewal (www.couragerenewal.org), which developed The Circle of Trust® approach, based on specific principles and practices that nurture personal and professional integrity, and the courage to act on it. Participants experience a trustworthy space, explore their inner lives, and share voluntarily with others, who are practicing openhearted listening. Everything in a circle of trust is invitational. People leave more in touch with their "inner teacher" – a Quaker term for the quiet inner voice, the better self, the soul. They gain greater clarity about what they value in their lives and work, what they must change, and how to go about it individually and within our community.

Cat Greenstreet, a facilitator prepared by the Center for Courage & Renewal and a member of Lyall Memorial Federated Church, will facilitate the circles. She was an educator for over 25 years.

It is important that you commit to 5 sessions. You will need a journal and a pen.

October 2015

Schedule of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				Clergy Mtg Lunch @Lyall Adult Choir		Harvest Buffet 1st Presbyterian
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Bible Study	Board of Spiritual Life	Junior Choir Bible Study Dinner & Homework Help	Clergy Mtg Lunch @Lyall Adult Choir		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Worship Committee Music Committee	Columbus Day Bible Study		Junior Choir Healing Habits of the Heart Dinner & Homework Help	Clergy Mtg Lunch @Lyall Adult Choir		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Bible Study Operation Christmas Child begins		Junior Choir Bible Study Dinner & Homework Help	Clergy Mtg Lunch @Lyall Adult Choir		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Bible Study	Board of Trustees	Junior Choir Healing Habits of the Heart Dinner & Homework Help	Clergy Mtg Lunch @Lyall Adult Choir		

- **AA**
Gathering room
Weekdays 12:00 pm
Saturday's 7:30 pm
Sunday's 8:15 am
- **Bible Study**
Monday 11:00am
Wednesday 7:00pm
- **Board of Spiritual Life Meeting**
10/6 7:00 pm - Library
- **Board of Trustees Meeting**
10/27 7:00 pm - Library
- **Choir**
Adult Thursdays 7:30
Junior Wednesday 4:30
- **Clergy Meeting**
Thursdays
10:00 am Pastor's Study
- **Dinner & Homework Help**
Wednesdays from 5:00 - 7:00. Assembly Room
- **Healing Habits of the Heart**
meets every other
Wednesday evening
- **Historical Society**
Gathering Room
10/15 7:30
- **Lunch at Lyall**
Thursdays 11:30-12:30pm
- **Music Committee**
10/11 12:00 Noon
- **Worship Committee**
10/11 12:00 Noon

*A Church whose only label is Christian
and whose only Head is Christ. A
federated interdenominational
congregation that welcomes all Christian
traditions.*

Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:00 am until Noon.

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E-mail: Lyallmemfed@gmail.com

Find us on the web...

www.lyallmemorial.org

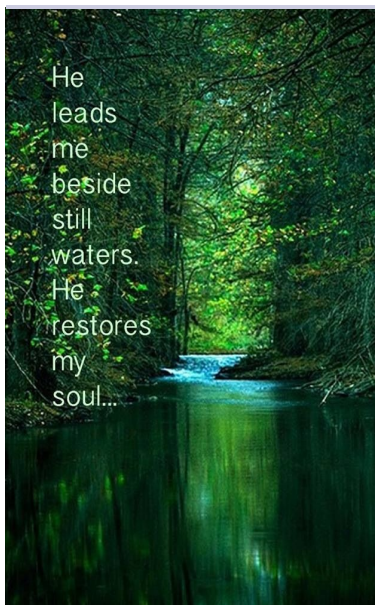


Birthdays

- 1 Bertha Howe
- 7 Harold Armstrong
- 13 George Oppenheimer
Diane Moretti
- 16 Anga Nielsen
- 20 Dawn Blackburn
- 22 Dorothy Evangelista
- 25 Justin Simmons
- 26 Andrew Wack
- 29 Dolores Secor
- 31 Allison Reid

Anniversaries

- 1 Mike & Brenda Deluca
- 5 Carlo & Taylor Curcio
- 8 Ed & Laurie Olson
- 13 Andrew & Katrina Wack
- 22 John & Nancy O'Leary



Prayers and Joys

Prayers for:

- Phillip Knapp, son of Dorothy and Frank Knapp, taken to Putnam Hospital
- Margaret Roth, friend of Flora Jane Hilderbrand, has cancer
- Ed Olson, recuperating from double knee replacement surgery
- Cat's friend, Deborah Mann and family, whose husband, (55) recently died of Leukemia.

- Lisa Still-Speare, fighting breast cancer
- PVT Matthew Fauci, going to Fort Sam Houston in Texas after graduating from boot camp training in S.C.
- Lynn Grainger from her recent bout with Shingles

Joys!

- Dan and Juliette Koch and family are moving to the parsonage!
- Phyllis Randall & Richard Lyczkowski a new granddaughter Ellen~

Prayers

And

Joys