

The Bellringer

The Newsletter of The Wyckoff Reformed Church

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"Where Are We?"

~ Rev. Jim O'Connell

A few months ago the Consistory circulated a survey on worship practices at The Wyckoff Reformed Church. Well over two hundred people offered their opinions, which made for some very interesting reading and discussion for Worship Committee, Executive Committee and Consistory. Everyone wants to know what the results of the survey are. Well, it isn't all that easy. What we can say for certain is that where will not be coffee and doughnuts in the Colonial Sanctuary any time soon. It is also fairly certain that Sunday School will continue to be offered at the same time as worship.

This is where it gets muddy. When we look at the data one way, it would suggest

that many of the congregation would support the elimination of the 11:00 a.m. service. However, when we look at it from another perspective, it would seem that the 11:00 a.m. service is meeting a need of the church. Some think the removal of the second worship time would open up space for more adult education opportunities, (the reality is that these offerings can and already do occur with our current schedule).

So where are we? Well to help the Consistory hear the needs and see more clearly what is in the best interest of the WRC, there will be a Town Hall style meeting on Wednesday evening, May 5, at 7:00 p.m. The idea is simple. The Consistory wants to hear from the congregation and on that evening they will be present to listen to the thoughts, concerns, issues and

hopes you have for the worship practices of WRC. This is a one-shot opportunity to share, and establish the fall schedule for the church in worship and education.

We are experiencing new growth in the life of the church. We need to be cognizant of where God is leading us. This Town Hall meeting is one way for us to hear and see what God is currently doing to prepare us for the journey. So, if you want to have an impact on the life of this body of Christ, to help us prepare for the future God has in mind, then it is important for you to be here. If you are not sure what your opinion is, it is still important for you to be here. If for whatever reason you can't be here then pray; pray for the Consistory to have open ears, pray for the

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You are invited to attend the installation of Carol Mutch as a Commissioned Pastor at 4:00 p.m. this Sunday at the Christian Health Care Center. The worship service and installation will be followed by a reception.

Prayer

concerns and

celebrations

Our Dear Friends at The Wyckoff Reformed Church,

"I had double heart bypass surgery two weeks ago last Monday night and was home sitting in my living room on the following Friday night. Sort of blows your mind.

"It is amazing how God plans these deals. I was on board a RCL ship 'Voyager of the Seas' where Michelle had decided to have a family vacation, with sons, daughter in law and granddaughter. We were in Cozumel when I felt my ulcers kicking (38 years of marriage I thought) I went to the onboard doctor who took my blood pressure (220 over 115) and promptly got rid of the problem by shoving us ashore to an Emergency facility I would not have thought possible in a modern resort area; no hot water, no toilet paper and dirty blankets to keep us warm at night.

"Michelle got active quickly and contacted a group in San Antonio and arranged a Life Flight from Cozumel to Houston for the next morning; you cannot imagine the relief to have a small jet with two highly trained registered EMT nurses to control things.

"The Life Flight guys had pre-admitted me to Memorial Herman Heart center in Houston and a room and doctor were waiting

for me. After a bunch of tests and discussion they first tried a catheterization, but found my BEST vein was 65% blocked and one other 100% so they did heart bypass surgery on me on Monday and sent me home the following Friday night.

"I had had a walking stress test in November which I passed with flying colors so did not expect any of this.

"I have no great thoughts other than how precarious life is and how great it is to have friends like the WRC to lift you up in PRAYER. It was like feeling a slow up welling of peace that grew through that first week, this was followed by a virtual avalanche of cards and emails which lifted our hearts and calmed our minds.

"There is no way that we can adequately express the emotion that you have ALL engendered in our hearts.

WHAT A WONDERFUL CHURCH YOU ARE.

May Our Lord God continue to bless you and to keep you close to His heart."

With much love and appreciation,
Michelle and Gordon Dobson

As an after note, our local church sermon last weekend included the admonition, "Do something worthwhile with the rest of your life.....don't make me have to lie at your funeral!"

Makes you think.... right?



Adult Education, Bible Studies & Book Groups

“Odd Sundays For Out-of-Sync Disciples” meets on odd-dated Sundays at 10:30. The topic on April 25 will be "The Book That Understands Me" from *Reading the Bible* by Chad J. Pierce. We welcome you to join us when you are able. Questions can be addressed to Phyllis O'Connell (oconnfam@verizon.net; or (201) 891-0808)

The Women’s Evening Book Discussion Group meets on the second Monday of each month. On May 10, the group will discuss “Suite Française” by Irene Nemirovsky.

The first and third Wednesday Women’s Evening Bible study meets at 7:30 p.m. The group is currently reading the Book of James. Questions? Contact Phyllis O’Connell, 201-891-0808, or by email at oconnfam@verizon.net.

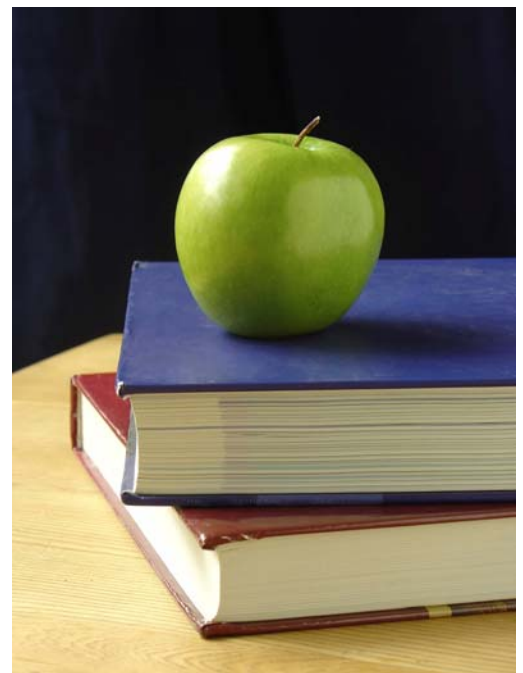
The Women’s Bible Study meets each Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. Please bring your Bible and join them!

The Daytime Book Club meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 3:15. At their next gathering on May 11, they will discuss "Gift from the Sea" by Anne Morrow Lindbergh.

The Thursday Morning Women’s Bible Study, which meets at 9:30 a.m., with the exception of the first Thursday of the month, is currently studying “*What’s So Amazing About Grace?*” by Philip Yancy. Yancy is an award winning author who “gives us a probing look at grace: what it looks like ... what it doesn’t look like ... and why only Christians can and must reveal the grace the world is searching for.”

This group looks forward to having you join them. Questions: Call Cyndie Bach at 201-891-7058.

Promise Keepers men’s Group meets at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday mornings. This group is open to all men who have an interest in growing their faith and being held accountable for their goals. The attire is casual, the study is currently the book of Exodus, the conversation is lively, and the prayers are powerful. Pastor Jim facilitates this gathering of men from WRC and other churches. There is plenty of coffee on hand, as well as hot water for tea drinkers. The door is open ~ join us!



Children's Sunday, May 23 to *"Rock the House!"*

The Children's and Youth Ministries of our blessed church want to invite our kids of all ages to an exciting music opportunity that will be an experience they (and you) won't forget. As part of our preparation for the May 23rd Children's Service, we are inviting ALL of the Sunday school AND junior high AND senior high kids in our church family to come together and participate in learning and singing a beautiful song chosen just for them. The group will be accompanied by our Senior High musicians.

Our church has a rich musical tradition that has always included our kids making their joyful noise unto the Lord. This year, we want to stretch through the ages from 0 to 18 (okay, maybe not 0, but you get the idea) and bring all of our brothers and sisters together because that's what they are - brothers and sisters in our church family. This will be a special opportunity for our kids to connect with one another and recognize how special it is to be members of such a wonderful community as they raise their voices to God and bring down the house.

Here's how we're going to do it. Starting Sunday, April 25, we would like ALL of our kids of whatever age to join Billy Norden and Kat Naumann immediately after the 9:00 services on the third floor for half an hour to introduce our

special song and get things rolling. Then we will meet the following three Sundays - same time, same place - May 2, 9 and 16 for a half an hour each to polish our vocals and get ready for our super fantastic unbelievable incredible debut in church (both 9 a.m. Traditional and Genesis services) on May 23.

When we say this is open to ALL our kids, we really mean it. We need EVERYONE so we can rock the house. Even the 2 and 3 year olds can take part! You DON'T NEED ANY SINGING EXPERIENCE. Trust us, when kids' voices come together to have fun and praise God, great things happen. All it takes is a half hour on four Sundays for what we promise will be a truly memorable experience. If anyone has transportation or other issues, let us know and we can get carpools together and work them out.

There will be a final rehearsal on Wednesday Night, May 19, at 7:30 p.m. in Heneveld Hall.

We are looking forward to having ALL of our children join their church brothers and sisters for this experience. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact John Corbett, 201-818-4750, Kat [\[katnaumann@gmail.com\]](mailto:katnaumann@gmail.com) or Billy [\[billynorden@gmail.com\]](mailto:billynorden@gmail.com).

See you on April 25!

The Church Picnic has been moved to Sunday, May 23.

We will all worship at either at Genesis or Traditional at 9:00, followed by games for kids and adults, then a picnic.

Invite friends and family to join us!



“Walk-in” dinner volunteers needed to serve

Hackensack homeless

We need four adult or teen (14 or older) volunteers to **help with serving the walk-in dinner on the Saturdays of June 26, July 10, August 21, and Oct. 30th.**

We gather at 3 p.m. in the kitchen area to pack up the food (note: the morning team has already prepared the food), load it into cars and bring it to the brand new shelter in Hackensack, where we will feed between 100 to 150 homeless adults. We need to be at the shelter at 4 p.m. where we set-up the food and serve from approximately 5 to 6 p.m. Last month we were out the door at 6:30 p.m. and back in Wyckoff around 6:45 p.m. This is an important mission of our church that has always been a wonderful experience for all that volunteer.

If you are able to join us, please call Kristi Droppers at 201-723-8103 or email her at kristi.droppers@gmail.com

We do this only 7 times a year. If you want to make a commitment for a different date, or sign up for all of them, that would be great.

“Where Are We?”continued members to speak openly about their needs and concerns for the whole church, pray for a clear vision to emerge from the visions shared.

We need you; you make a difference. Your voice will be heard, your ideas and thoughts matter. 7:00 p.m. on 5/5/2010. Your attendance is important.

Spring Motorcycle Ride to Encompass Tri-state Area

The inaugural Wyckoff Reformed Church spring motorcycle ride will take place on Saturday, May 1st.

Vic Franco will lead us on a ride that will span New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. We'll stop for lunch together at a restaurant on the Delaware River, and then head home.

We'll depart from the church parking lot at 9:00 a.m., and we'll expect to return at about 3:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Rev. Billy (201-891-1782) if you would like to join us.



Members and Friends Seek Connections and Opportunities Through Christian Employment Support Network

The CESN group includes church members and friends of the church who are looking for employment opportunities and need your support. Brief summaries of their needs are listed below.

"Executive with a broad skill set across all aspects of international business leadership, finance and operations. Seeking a leadership or general management position in any industry. I have a B.A. in Accounting and M.B.A. in Management." Tom Zitelli - tomzitelli@yahoo.com

"Communications and public relations professional, will help you create and execute your consumer and employee communications strategies. Keen expertise in speaking to ethnic and international audiences." Erenay Jackson - erenaylouise@aol.com

"Seasoned Human Resources leader in multiple industries seeking full time work in a small or medium sized company. Start up, compliance, and people solutions experience."

" Person seeking work as an **Assembly Mechanic.** Has tools and precision instruments." gmelignano@optimum.net

If you can help, please contact the person listed above or Karen Riether@kriether@gmail.com to make connections. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Wyckoff Reformed Church needs temporary / part-time sexton

Beginning June 1 there will be a position open for a temporary / part-time sexton. We expect the job will encompass 20 hours per week and run for *approximately* the next 12 months. Duties include set up and break down of tables and chairs for different church activities, as well as cleaning the church facilities, which includes the nursery school, and minor repairs. Contact the office, 201-891-1782, if you are interested, or know of someone who may be interested in this job.

*Beginning June 1
Wyckoff Reformed
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Car Washes Will Raise Funds for Mission Trip

The youth will host two car washes this spring and summer to raise funds for their mission trip to Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Please support our youth, and get your car into sparkling summer condition. The WRC car wash will be open for business on May 22nd and June 12th from 9:00-11:30. We hope to see you there.

The Ladies Aid Rummage Sale this Thursday, April 22

The semi-annual Ladies Aid Rummage sale is scheduled for this Thursday, April 22, between 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Receiving Days are Tuesday, April 20 and Wednesday, April 21, between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Items to be accepted include clean, wearable clothing for the whole family, bric-a-brac, linens, toys, boutique items, jewelry and small, clean, working appliances. *We cannot accept computers or their components, typewriters, infant seats, books or shoes.*

The regular meeting of the Ladies Aid Society will be at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday during work hours.

Adult and Teen Volunteers Needed for VBS

Enrollment for the WRC Vacation Bible School continues to grow! We will serve 180 kids this summer.

God has truly blessed this summer outreach program, from the volunteers who lead the stations and the crews, to those who donate supplies and provide child care for other volunteers.

Although we already have a substantial number of volunteers, adults and Senior High students are needed to be crew leaders. Crew leaders have fun getting to know a small group of kids, while shepherding them throughout the different stations. If you are interested in helping with this church mission, please contact Kat at katnaumann@gmail.com.



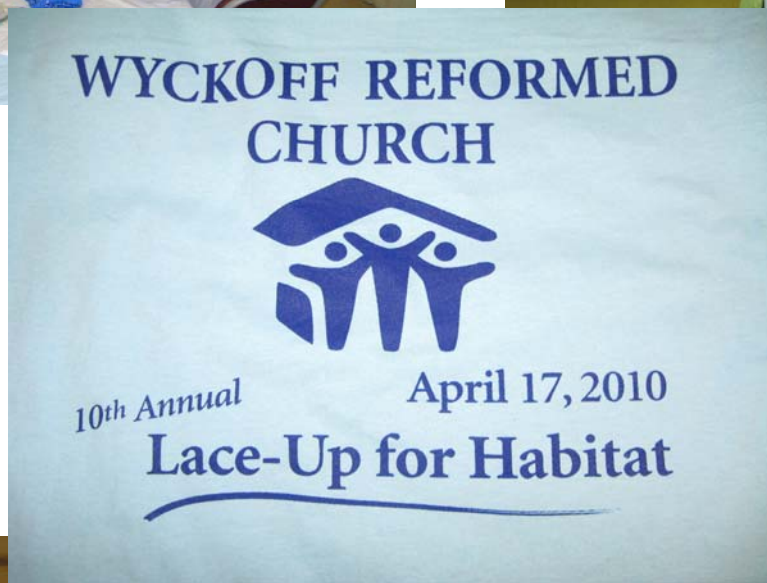
All Hands Needed for

Church Spring

Clean Up Day

Saturday, May 8

9:00 a.m. - Noon





The Wyckoff Reformed Church



580 Wyckoff Avenue
Wyckoff, New Jersey 07481

PHONE:
(201) 891-1782

FAX:
(201) 891-1260

E-MAIL:
contactus@wyckoffreformed.org

Rev. James O'Connell
Rev. David Bach
Rev. William Norden

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.wyckoffreformed.org
www.genesiswrc.com

**Bellringer deadlines
are the first and
third Sunday of each
month.**

Next deadlines are

May 2 and 16

The Bellringer

Upcoming Events at a Glance

- April 21 *Blue Moon* fundraiser – Eat in or take out lunch & dinner
- April 22 Rummage Sale
- April 25 Carol Mutch Installation at Christian Health Care Ctr.
- April 25 Covenant Class @ 7:30 p.m.

May Anniversaries and Birthdays

Lauren Donnelly	1	Christopher Repetto	19
Sara Sweetman	1	Carson DeMarco	20
Julia Hebner	2	Carl Hofstrom	20
Richard Buser	4	Barara McCarthy	20
Ryan Goodman	4	Grace Nelson	21
Helen Lawton	4	Juliana Schmid	21
Lynda Pasqueretta	4	Eric Thor	21
Kaitlin Stober	4	Rachel Christie	22
Louise Lane	5	Devin Murphy	22
Phyllis O'Connell	5	Lorraine Perry	23
Bryan Schwab	5	Mark Amodeo	24
Joe Lembo	6	Dick Van Hassel	24
Marjorie Bogart	7	Andrea Bichan	25
Carol Rasovic	7	Joy Eldred	26
Kathyann Bednar	9	Ylva Mann	26
Carly Hug	9	TJ Carosi	27
Daniel Murphy	9	Bob Galletly	27
Susan Schwab	9	Courtney Haan	29
Steven Toth	9	Peter Keith	29
Amy Walters	9	Robert Joseph	31
Mackenzie Daniels	10	Matthew Murphy	31
Christina Stokes	10	Marissa Shea	31
Doug Christie	11		
Amy Denekamp	11		
Carol Gerritsen	11	Anniversaries	
Dylan Diaz	12	Peg & Charles Marra	9
Peggy Gregory	13	Doug & Dana Christie	14
Tommy Pasqueretta	13	Laura & Stephen Flynn	18
Rhoda Sloyer-Reynolds	13	Ray & Liz Kuipers	18
John Ammirati	14	Dave & Lynn Murphy	18
Brian Baker	14	John & Velma Bagge	20
Christian DeRosa	14	Allison & Michael Turnamian	20
Kate Hug	14	Brian & Laura Sulborsky	22
Beverly Intveld	14	Barb & Doug Wiley	23
Helene Christensen	14	Tom & Anne Bodnar	24
Ward Eldred	15	Kevin & Nancy Wiechmann	24
Charlie Ras	15	Charlie & Linda Ras	25
Samantha Eldred	15	Trevor & Laura Hall	27
Clara Corbett	16	Daniel & Kimberly A. Baez	30
Lyndell Kegerise	17	Donna & Mike Brady	30
Carole Pasqueretta	17	Howard & Jane Goodman	30
Carol Bennorth	17	Lisa & Barry McMackin	30
Zachary Baker	18	Ray & Trudie Zegel	30
Ingrid Melnichuk	19	Paul & Ginger Gilard	31