

Connections

September 2021

Building a community where all are enriched through Christian Love, Service, and Spiritual Renewal.

Pastor's Message

It is good to be back among you. I want to thank Rev. Bonnie McDougall- Olson for filling in while I was away along with Margie Price and Chris Dieguez. Our guest ministers: Rev. Eugene Palmore and Rev. Dr. Ruth Shaffer preached the word of God as part of the church's Sabbatical experience. I felt blessed to have been able to take my sabbatical with the grant the church received through the Lilly Foundation Clergy Renewal Grant. The theme, Connections, proved to be an inspirational theme as I reconnected with my family, childhood friends, college friends and with God. I have so much to share with you.

Upon my return I have been talking with different people about how we are to move forward with the church. Unfortunately, COVID and the Delta variant are still lurking about, and we are again faced with how to proceed. I have learned that we as a body of Christ will need to Re-Connect with each other and rebuild Community with a renewed sense of commitment to our faith. We have been diligent in planning ways to do that. Over the summer different members of our church community have been sharing their faith journeys with us at the Wednesday Worship Service. They have been inspirational, and we thank all the people who shared their stories, which is much more difficult than one might imagine. Many thanks to Bonnie McDougall Olson, Susan Cushman, Andrew Ellis, George Petersen and Amanda Olivo - Ulichny. VBS redesigned a way to meet outside with our Camping Out with God theme, getting S'More of Jesus. I heard the drum circle Joe Rivera created, the story telling of Aqueelah Ligonde and the interpretive dance by Ying Westfall were well received alongside crafts, and activities. There has already been two scheduled game nights as an off-shoot. Many thanks to Margie and her team. The Mission Trip proved to be a huge success and I am forever grateful for Tracey Lawson and the Mission Trip Committee for making it happen. Hats off to our leaders: Susie Henriquez, Jesse Henriquez, Amber Henriquez, Roger Tusiani-Eng, Eric Gisolfi. Laura Baymack, Spencer Singer and for Susie Henriquez for becoming the point person on site.

I hope you have heard about our plans to honor the lives lost in the 20th Anniversary of 9-11. Our Ministry Committee gathered to plan opportunities for us to privately reflect and come together as a community to grieve. Twenty years ago, people flocked to our sanctuary the evening of 9-11 for prayers and together walked to the village gazebo. We also gathered in the Sanctuary, with no electricity nor printed order of worship when hurricane Sandy hit. That is what our community of faith has done – in times of distress, we come together. That is also what has been missing since COVID. I hope and pray you will all feel safe and return to our Sanctuary which has a new air filter and UV lights - making it very safe to return.

We are planning a series of worship experiences at our Wednesday Worship, Prayer Services and Vigils such as Tuesday Prayer Service and Blessing the Animals are being planned. Fair preparations are underway, and many baptisms are being scheduled. Please make it a priority to re-commit to our church and find your way to get connected.

It's good to be home,

Blessings,

Lynn

Senior Pastor

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Worship Schedule

Sundays

10:30 AM

Livestream & In-person

Tuesdays

Intercessory
Prayer Service
9:30 AM
In-Person

Wednesdays

8:00 PM
Starting 9/15
In-person & Via zoom

Letter from our COT Chair, Robin Boyle Laisure

August 12, 2021

Dear Church members,

Planning for the summer began early in the year with our Ministry Committee's search for a pastor to handle Rev. Lynn Sullivan's duties while on sabbatical. Thanks to their efforts, candidates were interviewed and the job description was fine-tuned, leading us to the fortunate hiring of Rev. Bonnie McDougall Olson. Thank you Janet Martens, Cindy Campbell, Mary Dewar, Lisa McCarthy, Jan Levine, Jane Nelson, and Alice Melkonian. Paul Cohn (Personnel) and the Finance & Administration Committee negotiated the terms of the contract. Thank you Rev. Bonnie for ministering to us through these past four months!

Thank you to Tom Masters for leading the Usher Team this summer and for the ushers' diligence in recording attendance. We also appreciate our Minister of Music, Frank Crosio, and soloists who provided beautiful music during Sunday worship services, without interruption. And thank you to our liturgists.

Our summer kick-off event was Juneteenth, when church and community members gathered under our lawn tent, discussed historical events concerning race and social justice, and reflected creatively and spiritually. The Social Justice Committee organized this event - Paula Tusiani-Eng, Mary Dewar, Peg Mainusch, Marilyn Yasu, George Bashian, Susan Cushman, and Dan McCarthy.

Activities continued under the tent when church families and the greater community got "S'More out of Jesus" with our Vacation Bible School. Special thanks to Ms. Margie Price for spearheading VBS, and to many volunteers - Christine Hanson (produced many tee-shirts), Joe Rivera (drumming demo), Ying Westfall (dance demo), Cindy Campbell, Jan Levine, and others.

At the July 25th worship service, Ms. Price provided the Commissioning of the Youth Mission Trip. Under the leadership of Tracey Lawson and the team's leaders, we sent a full crew to Massachusetts to assist the Boys & Girls Club of America, a safe space for youth, and to Tannersville Senior Living Center. Mr. Chris Dieguez welcomed the team back at the August 8th worship service, when they exclaimed in-person, "Yay, God!"

Family Game Nights are being held in July and August on the Church Lawn, coordinated by Margie Price.

All the while, our church volunteers cultivated the garden and donated fresh produce and canned goods to the INN and to the LICC Emergency Food Pantry. Thank you to Kimberly Pauley and her son Adam for their work in the garden and to Paula Tusiani-Eng for coordinating the service projects.

Behind the scenes, the air quality of our sanctuary improved with the installation of a ventilation system that now meets the state requirement for fresh air, thanks to diligence of Hugh Lacy who has been overseeing the project. We also installed UVC lights in the air circulation system that have been shown to kill viruses including Covid-19. Work is underway for improved ventilation in other rooms in our church building and nursery school.

The chapel renovation process has been progressing smoothly, under the project leadership of Cindy Campbell. We anticipate completion this Fall. Cindy has been assisted by the chapel team (Steve Short, Clem Olivo, Brad and Ruby Gustavson, Hugh Lacy, and myself), navigating approximately 10 different trade groups. In our hallways and offices, the custodial staff has been busy painting the church offices and hallways.

The livestreaming of our Sunday worship services has enabled us to partake of service remotely - thanks to the tech team of Steve Short, Doug Yasso, Faith Short, Rebecca Melkonian, Rainer DaLalio, Joe Rivera, Corwin Dunne, Tim Martens, Mark Sullivan, Andrew Ellis, Liam Nevid and Corey Laisure (summer '20). Steve and Corwin additionally volunteered to help with the sound system for the funeral of Matthew Perlungher, which was attended by several hundred police officers on August 11th.

Wednesday night worship continued in the beginning of the summer, took a short break, and resumed in August with faith journeys continuing into September: Rev. Bonnie McDougall Olson, Susan Cushman, Andrew Ellis, George Petersen, and Amanda Olivo-Ulichny.

Liz Hux leads the Welcome Day Committee, assisted by Bob Rumsey and Lisa McCarthy. They are planning Welcome Day for Sunday, September 19.th On that date, we will welcome Rev. Lynn Sullivan at the conclusion of her sabbatical and launch the start of our Sunday school program.

Also in the planning stages are Americana Fair (Cindy Campbell, Fair Chair), Forums (the committee was reconstituted and reinvigorated), the upcoming stewardship campaign (to be led by Kirsten Bahlke), and much more!

Our volunteers continue to serve the church by providing their time and talent: the Committee of Finance and Administration (Todd Lawson, Chair); Membership Committee (Celia Petersen, Chair); Program Committees (Love – Cindy Campbell, Service – Paula Tusiani-Eng, Spiritual Renewal – Christine Hanson); Ministry Committee (Cindy and Jan Levine); Personnel (Paul Cohn); Buildings (Hugh Lacy); Information Officer (Carol Schrafel); Treasurer (Rick Herbst); and COT at-large seats of Andrew Schrafel, Viki Rehkugler, Kirsten Bahlke, Maria Campese, Alison Forelli and Susan Cushman.

We are in need of volunteers to coordinate provisions for Fellowship Hour – please contact Celia Petersen if interested.

Please see our COVID guidelines circulated in our weekly e-blasts.

In peace,

Robin B. Laisure, Council of Trustees, Chair

Sermons and Services

We can mail a copy of our Sermons and Service to people that are NOT able to go on live stream to see our Sunday service. Please tell the church office if you know of someone that can't see our Live streamed service that would like to receive a copy of the Sermon and Service.

WELCOME BACK!

Our Welcome Day & Luncheon will be held outside under the tent on Sunday, **September 19th** following the 10:30 am service. It will be moved to Gardner Hall in case of severe weather.

Welcome Day (formerly Rally Day) is meant to instill excitement in the membership of the church about the educational opportunities for the upcoming year. We will also be welcoming back Rev. Lynn from her sabbatical.

Please fill out the online registration - FOR EACH MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY—no later than September 9th. Don't forget to mark you lunch selections on the online registration form.

<https://gcc.breezechms.com/form/bcea0e83>

Wednesday Worship will resume in person September 15

Until the Chapel is complete, we will meet in the Parlor and have a series of formats to experience. We will also offer the service via zoom. Our first series will go for about four weeks and is called Lectio Divina.



Lectio Divina (Latin for "Divine Reading") is a traditional monastic practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's word. Traditionally, Lectio Divina has four separate steps: **read; meditate; pray; contemplate**. First a passage of scripture is read, then its meaning is reflected upon. This is followed by prayer and contemplation on the Word of God. The focus of Lectio Divina is not a theological analysis of biblical passages but viewing them with Christ as the key to their meaning. We invite you to join us September 15th at 8:00 pm to learn more and discover how the word of God speaks to each of us.

COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES CALLS FOR A SPECIAL CHURCH MEETING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

In accordance with the Religious Corporation law of the State of New York, and the by-laws of the Garden City Community Church, notice is hereby given of a Special Church Meeting to be held on Sunday, September 26th at 12:00 noon. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the procedure for voting at upcoming meetings and elections.

The meeting will be in person and livestreamed. The link to the meeting will be given out prior to the meeting.

Altar Flower Sign-Up

Now that we have returned back to church, we are able to put flowers on the Altar to remember a special loved one or a special event. We won't have fresh flowers on the Altar at all times; but we will, if you want to sponsor a certain day for a \$50 donation. To sign up, call the office for more information.



TUESDAY PRAYER IN PERSON SERVICE

The Prayer Service is meeting in the Parlor Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am. Please email the church office or George Bashian if you have a prayer request. All requests are kept confidential.

INN BIN REQUEST

Please hold off on dropping clothes off at the church until further notice as the INN is not accepting clothing donations in the usual capacity at this time.

Sunday School Covid Guidelines

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

We are looking forward to seeing all of our children in-person again for Sunday School. However, we are aware that Covid-19 is still very present and a factor in all we do. As a community of God we are committed to caring for the youngest, and most vulnerable among us. As we prepare for Sunday School to start up again in-person, we would like to share the precautions we have taken and those we are asking our Sunday School members to undertake in an effort to keep us all safe.

- Masking – Following GCCC's Covid guidelines, all non-vaccinated people wear masks. As an added precaution, all volunteers and those working directly with our children will be asked to wear masks.
- Distancing – When we gather as a big group we will work to spread the children out as much as possible. And we will plan activities that do not group our children tightly together.
- Outdoors – Sunday School activities will be planned both indoors and outdoors, as weather permits.
- Air Filtration System – The air filtration system update will be completed by Welcome Sunday to provide as much fresh, Clean Air as possible.
- Sanitizing – Hand sanitizer will be readily available for all those who want or need it. Shared surfaces will be sanitized between uses.
- Attendance – We will take attendance of all children who attend Sunday School and all parents and volunteers who are present, for contact tracing purposes.

For some, this may sound overwhelming, however, many of the steps we are taking will simply be worked into the curriculum. The safety of our church family is our greatest concern. We can't wait to see our children again and to share the love of Christ with them. Part of that love is making sure we keep them safe.

If you have any questions or concerns about Sunday School's Covid-19 precautions, please feel free to contact Margie Price at margie@thegccc.org.

Welcome Back Sunday School!!

In the beginning... Genesis 1:1

On Welcome Day, Sunday, September 19th, Sunday School will begin again. After our summer break we are looking forward to seeing all of our children again, hearing about the things they have done, and seeing how much they have grown.

After a year of virtual Sunday School, we will be in-person once again, and we are so excited about it! We have a brand new curriculum planned with all new activities, music, games, and lessons about God's infinite love and blessings.

The fall will *begin* with a unit all about Creation. We will learn how we are all created by God, blessed, and given the duty to care for all of God's marvelous creation. We will continue throughout the fall with stories of how God has loved and used all sorts of people in the Bible: all kinds of people, just like us.

During the fall we will also be sharing special worship services, mission projects, and family fun nights. We look forward to seeing our old friends and getting to know new ones.

To register for Sunday School go to <https://gcc.breezechms.com/form/61c92f14> or go to the church website.

If you have any questions about Sunday School or any other children's program, please contact Margie Price at margie@thegccc.org.



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, September 26, 2021

4:00pm Church Lawn



Bring any animal you wish to be blessed (All pets **must be leashed, in a cage or tank or a picture.**) A member of the clergy will provide a blessing to all God's creatures

Church COVID Policy

Our most recent COVID Policy will be posted on our website. Please go to www.gardencitycommunitychurch.org for more information

Family and Friends Fun Nights

Throughout the summer we have hosted evenings of games and fellowship on Friday nights. We have played charades, done yoga, played with water balloons, and shared enormous pieces of watermelon.

But we're not done, yet!

On **Friday, September 17th**, before Welcome Sunday, we will be hosting another game night: **Bingo!** Join us on the front lawn of the church, from 6:30-8:00PM to share in some fun, some fellowship, and a lot of laughter.

We look forward to seeing you there!!



CONFIRMATION I VOLUNTEER LEADERS NEEDED September 2021– MAY 2022

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give God the glory."

Matthew 5: 16

Please contact the church office at churchoffice@thegccc.org if you are interested in learning more about volunteering as a Confirmation I Leader. The programs amazing success is because of the wonderful leader team. Be part of a team that changes lives.

"Do for other people what you want them to do for you." Luke 6:31

SCAM ALERT

During these times of social distancing we are becoming more exposed to 'cyber' attempts of scamming people. Please know that none of our clergy, or church staff would send you emails asking you to do us a favor and send cash, gift cards or any other currency through the internet. There are a number of scams going on that have been relying on the good nature of church members to send money stating that it will be used to help others. Unfortunately this is now an ongoing occurrence with many churches. Please do not open emails of this type - check the email addresses carefully.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Hey families! We've had an exciting summer. As we come down off the high of the mission trip, I'm reminded of what our youth are capable of when we come together as one community. Boston was a smashing success and all of our youth, volunteers, and families should be proud.

We're gearing up for a whole slate of youth programming this fall for middle school through high school. Middle school group will resume on Sunday, October 3rd from 1:30-2PM via Zoom. Everyone entering 6th grade to entering 8th grade is welcome to join.

Confirmation 1 and 2 will be starting up this fall as well, schedule to follow. If your child is entering 8th grade or higher and would like to participate in the confirmation program, please reach out to Lynn (lsullivan@thegccc.org) or Chris (chris@thegccc.org) for more information, or email the office to enroll.

This fall, we will be holding our biennial health and wellness program, OWL. OWL stands for "Our Whole Lives" and guides students in navigating the complications of becoming a young adult with faithful wisdom in mind. The program covers a wide range of topics including relationships, sexuality, social media, and substance use, and it has such an impact that many students opt to take the course twice. Parent orientation will be held on September 26th at 7:30PM and classes will meet Sunday evenings throughout the fall.

Because OWL overlaps with the time slot used for youth group, our monthly youth group meetings will be suspended this fall and resume in January.

Chris

ON-LINE GIVING UPDATE

Garden City Community Church has recently partnered with Breeze Church Management Systems to support our *On-line Giving Initiative*. If you would like to set up “Recurring Contributions” or make a “Onetime Contribution” to support our many Ministries, please click on the link below. Our new online giving platform allows us to align our congregational giving with our member data base, resulting in greater efficiency and clarity for Church Members.

<https://qccc.breezechms.com/login/create>

Giving can also be accessed through GCCC website via the “GIVE” button

<https://gardencitycommunitychurch.org>

We appreciate your support in our efforts. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Liz or Kim in the office (516)746-1700.

Monthly Men’s Group Breakfast

The Men’s Group meets in–person for breakfast every 1st Saturday of the month at 8:00 am. They are meeting at the Carle Place Diner, 151 Old Country Road, Carle Place, NY.

All men are welcome to attend. For questions or more information, please contact George Bashian at george@bashianrug.com

A SMILE IS A CURVE THAT CAN SET A LOT OF THINGS STRAIGHT.

Baptisms

Katherine Sery Cavallo June 6, 2021

Upcoming Baptisms

Brooks Tillman Meehan September 12, 2021

Eleanor Jo Bove September 18, 2021

Sery Elizabeth Cavallo September 26, 2021

Penelope Grace Torino October 3, 2021

Cameron Lee Journigan December 26, 2021

Deaths

Donald F. Raehmann May 4, 2021

Joan Lillian Typermass May 12, 2021

Joyce Cushman Alexander June 11, 2021 (Susan Cushman’s mother)

Hon. William H. Pauley III July 5, 2021

Matthew A. Perlungher August 4, 2021

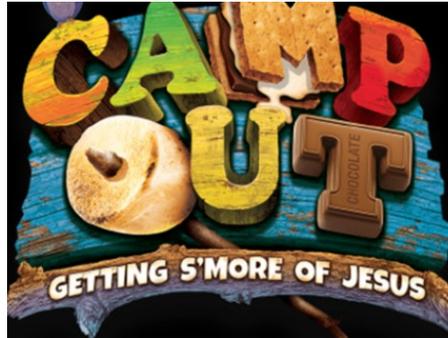
Mission Trip to Boston!

On August 1st we sent a fabulous group of students and leaders up to Boston to serve with Next Step Ministries. The week proved to be another impactful and productive trip! We worked at three sites and completed a tremendous amount of work including a bluestone walkway, lots of landscaping at a senior center, building church pews, flooring, moulding, painting, building complete staircases and general rehabilitation of a new teen center for the Boys and Girls Club. This teen center is set to open in September and will provide a safe space for the underprivileged youth in the area to convene, play and learn. In addition to the physical work our group also worshiped and grew closer to God and to each other.

We were blessed with a fabulous leadership team which included: Susie Henriquez, Jesse Henriquez, Laura Baymack, Roger Tusiani-Eng, Eric Gisolfi, Amber Henriquez and Spencer Singer. We truly appreciate the gift of their time and mentoring throughout the week! We are so pleased that despite the pandemic we were able to safely hold an incredible trip and continue to serve. To see pictures from our trip please go to the church's instagram site [@thegccc](#). Stay tuned to hear where we will be off to next year!



Camp Out Family Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School this year was a great success! We definitely got s'more of Jesus! We share the light and love of Jesus with over 100 people, both participants and volunteers under a tent on our front lawn. We did so much in the 4 days we shared together:

- tie-dyed t-shirts
- learned the science of lightening Bugs
- sang silly songs (and some serious ones, too)
- ran, s'mores races and launched marshmallows at a campfire target
- learned of Jesus' love for all humankind and helped to spread that love through a collection of food to the Long Island Council of Churches Food Bank
- And we worshipped together!

God provided us with the most perfect weather: clear, warm evening for all but the last night. But the heavy rain on our closing night did not pose a problem as we have an amazing church building where we could worship together in the sanctuary and enjoy our activities downstairs.

We had lots of opportunities for fellowship and many friendships were made. God's love was certainly felt all around us.

Once again, I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to all of our volunteers and those that helped to plan this amazing event. It could not have been done without all of you.

Blessings,
Margie

BI-WEEKLY FOOD COLLECTIONS FOR THE LICC EMERGENCY FOOD CENTER



We have been collecting non-perishable food items the past few months to support the Long Island Council of Churches Emergency Food Center. Your generosity has been a testament to what we can accomplish, even under the most trying of times. We are also in need of drivers to take the food to the food pantry. Our next few scheduled donation days are: September 8, September 22, October 6, October 20, November 3, November 17, December 8 and December 22. Donations should be left on the Whitehall porch before noon on the dates mentioned above.

If you want to sign up to be a driver to deliver the food to the pantry on one of our donation days, please go to: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084BACAD2EAA8-2021>

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

If you received a letter from Church in May 2021 requesting membership update information and you inadvertently misplaced it, you may fill information out on our Church's website using the Membership Update tab. You can also e-mail Celia Petersen at gpcatspawr@msn.com or call Gloria in the Church office.

Thanks! Celia Petersen, Membership Chair

Forums will resume in the Fall

After 18 months of hiatus, the Forum Committee will resume forums with its news schedules of great speakers on meaningful and relevant topics. It will offer wide range of subjects concerning issues within and around our community and the world centering on:

- Health – Mental Health, Circadian Sleep Rhythm, Know What we are Eating (Food allergies for children) and Heart Attack in Women.
- Social Issues - Human trafficking, Cult, Fentanyl and Overdose Prevention, and Climate Change
- School System - What Individualized Education Plans or Programs (IEPs) provide and challenges that parents face in getting accommodations for their children
- Faith Journeys – Members to share what GCCC means to them.
- Council of Trustees (COT) and Search Committee presentations
- Bible and Book Studies

We invite the congregation to participate by suggesting topics and to volunteer to lead one of the forums. Please contact the committee by emailing churchoffice@thegccc.org (attention: Forum Committee)

The new times and dates will be announced!!!

CHAPEL RENOVATION

It has been very gratifying for me to have worked with members of our Church who are gifted in so many ways. Our team consisted of Ruby & Brad Gustavson, Hugh Lacy, Robin Laisure, Clem Olivo and Steve Short. Also a huge thank you to Rob Sipkin, Billy Gagat, Gloria Malin and Liz Galzerano.

I am pleased to say that removal of the ceiling and floor tiles has been completed. The painting of the ceiling & walls has been completed. The altar wood floor has been refinished. A new lighting system has been installed.

Due to delivery delays, we are still waiting for lighting, flooring and chairs to arrive.

Looking forward to a ribbon cutting ceremony soon.

Cindy Campbell



Thanks to 'Membership Update' Volunteers

We are sending out a special thank you to those people that volunteered to take on the huge task of updating our church membership information. They made numerous phone calls and sent emails to 373 non-responders over the summer. Thanks to Isabel Masters, Peggy Kraff, Mary Dewar, Caroline Herbst, Robin Laisure, Paula Tusiani-Eng, Ivette Olivo, Victoria Rehkugler, and Susan Cushman. Thanks to Kim Pryor, and Gloria Malin for their assistance updating the information in our church system.

We send an especially big thanks to Celia Petersen, the guiding force with this herculean task.



Thanks to our Tech team - volunteers needed

We want to send out a special thanks to our tech team for all they do! Every Sunday, they are able to let us see the Sunday Service from the comfort of home. We would like to thank Doug Yasso, Steve Short, Joe Rivera, Tim Martens, Mark Sullivan, Andrew Ellis, Faith Short, Liam Nevid, Corey Laisure, Rebecca Melkonian, Rainer DeLalio, and Corwin Dunne.

Rebecca and Rainer have graduated high school and have moved on to college (Emerson and Hofstra respectively). The team gained two new members this summer: Corwin Dunne, a Garden City High School student who has been active in our VBS for the past four years, and Margie Price's son, Liam.

The Tech Team needs new members. Kids in high school and adults are encouraged to get involved; contact Doug Yasso and Steve Short if you are interested. **NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED. Just enthusiasm and a sense of fun.**



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Are they going to your Gmail's promotion tab

go to this link to find out why and what you can do about it

https://knowledgebase.constantcontact.com/articles/KnowledgeBase/6657-get-your-email-into-gmails-primary-tab?lang=en_US#

The Church has been named as co-defendant in a lawsuit brought by an individual who claims to have been a member of Boy Scout Troop 56, dating back 40 years ago. The plaintiff's claims were brought under the Child Victims Act and according to the complaint purportedly occurred off church premises. We have retained outside counsel to answer the complaint. Any questions about the lawsuit, please contact Robin B. Laisure .

SAVE THE DATE

Confirmation I (8th Grade) - Parent /Youth Orientation Meeting - Monday, September 27th 7:30 PM

Confirmation I - Youth First Meeting - Monday, October 4th 7:30 PM

Confirmation II (9th Grade) - Parent /Youth Orientation Meeting - Tuesday, October 5th 7:30 PM

Confirmation II - Youth First Meeting - Tuesday, October 12th 7:30 PM



Remembering the 20th Anniversary of 9-11



Garden City Clergy Fellowship

will host a service on 9/11/21 on the lawn of the Garden City Community Church

8:00 PM - 8:30 PM Service (If it is raining, we will use the Sanctuary)

- a. People can bring their own chairs for an allocated seating area
- b. Battery operated votive candles will be available
- c. Anticipating a large crowd (masks are required)

Garden City Community Church
245 Stewart Avenue, Garden City, NY 11530
www.gardencitycommunitychurch.org

Morning Prayers

The Sanctuary of the Garden City Community Church will be opened in the morning from 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM for guided prayers & meditation (enter at the Whitehall Blvd. door)

Ringling of the bells will be at:

1. 8:46 AM - WT1 (North Tower) was hit
2. 9:03 AM - WT2 (South Tower) was hit
3. 9:37 AM - West side of Pentagon was hit
4. 9:59 AM - WT2 (South Tower) collapsed
5. 10:03 AM – Flight 93 crashed in fields of Shanksville, PA
6. 10:28 AM – WT1 (North Tower) collapsed



AMERICANA FAIR

Saturday, November 6, 2021

10 am – 3 pm

GARDEN CITY COMMUNITY CHURCH

245 Stewart Avenue at Whitehall Blvd.

Garden City, NY 11530

(516) 746-1700

Free Admission

Contact:

Sorting: Celia Petersen gpcatspawr@msn.com

SILENT AUCTION--Antiques, Collectibles

SHABBY/CHIC

ATTIC TREASURES

HOLIDAY & GIFT BOUTIQUES

LINENS, LAMPS, CHINA, SILVER, JEWELRY

TOYS, PICTURES, FRAMES GOURMET

SHOP

BISTRO LUNCHEON or Hot Dog Tent



Dare to Believe!

By Angela Daubon, LCSW, LCC Counselor



How often have you looked at the limitations in life rather than the numerous opportunities? There are multiple contributions that form our beliefs on what is possible, such as life experiences, upbringing, current measure of faith, past traumas, view of one's self, a fear of failure, inability to handle rejection, unresolved previous disappointments or a current mental, spiritual or emotional condition. The list can go on and on. We can either let these factors be a tsunami that drowns us or a mountain that can be moved. Dare to consider that you can speak to the mountain and tell it to step aside!

Think about it---what things have you been talking about doing for the last ten years but have not made any significant strides in accomplishing? On the flip side, how many things have you impulsively done that left you feeling empty and more frustrated than when you started? Procrastination is often a camouflage for fear and conversely, acting in haste can be a smokescreen for lack of control and overcompensation for your insecurities. Reacquaint yourself with balance in your life; there is a middle ground between the two approaches called discernment.

Yes, there is such a thing as being realistic, but whose reality are you basing it on, yours or God's? Dare to imagine and believe beyond your current state of affairs. Be willing to reimagine your path with a new set of lenses, giving you 'new vision'. Yes, I said a new set. Sometimes the lenses you're wearing can't be repaired, because they are too broken, scratched or mangled. Maybe your prescription has changed and you keep straining to envision God through expired lenses. A new set may be needed in order for God to work anew in you this season.

Respect boundaries; however, be free to embrace new parameters. Don't be a 'string' when God is trying to stretch you like a 'rubber band'. Don't mistake the muddy waters you may have to travel through as cement. Don't be afraid to get out of the revolving door and step into your destiny. Don't let the gratitude and appreciation for where you are lure you into a state of stagnation. Stop making false claims of contentment while secretly harboring regret.

Be honest and true with yourself. What dream have you deferred? What purpose have you allowed to be compromised? What God-given assignment have you abandoned? This reflection is for acknowledgement purposes only. There is no time for self-criticism; don't waste your energy there. Turn your focus and attention to the matter at hand and get going. It's never too late! Today is the best day to start. You don't need to race in an effort to catch up. This is not a sprint, just a conscious decision to move forward with prayer, precision and purpose.

Simply put one foot in front of the other and press forward. Forward I said, not behind! Your head must be faced in the direction that you are going or you may stumble and fall. Even when going forward you may trip sometimes or experience setbacks. However, if you pick yourself up, dust yourself off and keep pressing on towards your goal, God will give you all that you need for the journey as you need it. Finally, if no one has told you yet, I would like to be the first to say, "I know you can make it". Dare to believe all the possibilities!

*For more encouraging messages from Angela please visit agapeinspirations.com or on Twitter @InspiredByLv
Please visit our website at: www.lccny.org for more information. For a counseling appointment, call LCC at 1-800-317-1173. All sessions are virtual.*