

POUGHKEEPSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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The Journey May 2025

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CENTER

The Deadline for the June Journey is Wednesday May 14





"Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and Truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks."

JOHN 4:23

My problem could also be put conversely. If I was failing to put my life where my mouth was, I was also failing to let my words emerge from the truth of my life. I was speaking about great possibilities without acknowledging how short my own life fell. Seldom do we live up to the truth we are given, but that does not mean we must cease speaking the truth—including our frequent failure to live it out. If we can do that, with ourselves and with each other, the words of truth will continue to be given, and we will be given the power to live them more fully. (Palmer, *To Know As We Are Known*, pg. 45)

Sometimes we feel that we must live a perfect life, or at least seem to have perfect attributes, to be a part of the church and on the road to perfection. I wish that I had a dime for all the times that I heard the comment, "I don't go to church because they're all hypocrites, they don't do what they say!" I would be a millionaire by now!

But if I had a penny for every time this statement had proven to be true, I would still be very monetarily well off! We all have a problem with sincerity, and I think it all stems from one's ability to be truthful with oneself.

We would all rather see the speck in the eye of another rather than recognize our own logs, and hence comes our penchant for being insincere. How can I truly, completely come before Christ if I cannot own up to my whole self, warts and all? Does it make me a better person, not even to mention Christian, if I live the outward attributes and language of faith, yet lack that inward conviction that Jesus Christ died and reconciled even my warts?

Too often, when someone realizes they are speaking to a clergyperson, they quickly say something like, "Oh, now I have to watch what I say." In that moment, sincerity gives way to guardedness, and people hide the parts of themselves they fear would bring shame—the very behaviors they struggle with, even when they know better.

Who among us has not experienced a “real Christian” who speaks fluent "God talk," yet leaves you feeling the weight of insincerity or a lack of true conviction and connection? You can sense when someone’s outward piety masks an inner struggle they won't admit. It's a problem of sincere worship, a problem of truth.

Parker Palmer calls us all to consider becoming more sincere in our walk. To possess the truth and live that truth out, we must first be truthful about who and what we are, for God does not see the public image or feign piety; God sees the inner being of the soul from which we may be able to run, yet from which we can never hide.

Are your spiritual disciplines flowing from the depth of your soul, or from a place of shame?

Your ability to know and live out the truth depends on your answer.

Yours in Christ, Gregg

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### *Fellowship Discovery Luncheon*

**Our April Fellowship Discovery Luncheon will be on Tuesday, May 27 @ 12PM.** Please let us know (by Thursday, May 22) if you plan to attend by scanning the QR code or as always you can contact the office.



### *Garden Group*

The Garden Group will meet twice in May; Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup> @ 10am -12pm and Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> @ 9-11am. Come prepared to dig in the dirt!



The Church Council met on  
Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Highlights included:

At the Church Council meeting on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, the following items were discussed:

- A budget has been developed for the Vacation Bible School, which will be run jointly with the Casa de Adoracion. T-shirts and water bottles will be sold as part of their fundraiser.
- New members are being sought for the Evangelism and Church Growth committee. Current activities include Love, INC, Tres Dias, Kairos, and the Arlington Street Fair and everyone is asked to reach out to those they know to join them at church.
- An extra meal was served during March for the Street Ministry.
- Thanks were given to Laura Gabor for the new sanctuary banners and praise to Barb Adams for publishing a cookbook benefitting Dutchess Outreach.
- Continued work will take place on the policy regarding ICE and local law enforcement as well as a review of the Safe Sanctuary policy.
- Pew cards will be developed with QR codes to reach specific website areas and to be sure that parents feel welcome with their children.
- The next Council meeting will be on Wednesday, May 7th.

## FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE



Friendship Circle's next meeting is on May 12

**New Baby?** - The Friendship Circle has a tradition of putting a rose on the altar for a new baby. If your family has a new addition (child or grandchild) that you would like acknowledged please provide birthdate, name, parent's names, grandparent's names (if appropriate) and siblings to be listed. Please provide info to the church office or to Pam Terwilliger.

# Children's Ministry News

We are glad to announce that once again Children's Ministry will be hosting the Children's Day Service on Sunday June 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00am. This is when the youngest disciples of our community will be once again showcasing their talents and their Christian teachings.



Volunteers needed for VBS: Crew leaders, snack preparation, adults to accompany children to the restroom, a greeter who will also take attendance upon arrival and exiting PUMC.

We are also looking for two teams.

1. Team one: who will help with the creation of decorations such as making Coral creating fish creating ocean waves etc.
2. Team two: will help turn fellowship Hall into an under the Sea adventure.

More information to follow in the next couple of weeks

We are asking all parents of 2, 3, and 4 year old children if there is any interest in a Sunday School program for preschoolers. It would only be 2 Sundays per month and run for 20-25 minutes. The new program will start in September along with regular Sunday School. We would like to have some numbers by the end of May so we can plan if there is enough interest. Please contact the office if you are interested.

Angela, Children's Ministry Coordinator

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## Prayer Team

**Join the Prayer Team for an Intro to Healing Prayer Class on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 10am in Room 33. All are welcome!**

Contact Vickie Carroll for more information.



## NOTES FROM THE CHOIR ROOM

"Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care. In thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds repair. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, thine we are.

Words: Attr. To Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1836 (UMH 381)

WELCOME, MAY! After a very busy musical April it will be refreshing to sing of green pastures and shepherds! I often picture those shepherds singing to their sheep and new lambs. Which makes me repeat a text I memorized seventy years ago. ... "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall want for nothing." Yes, I always add "for nothing!"

Here's something new-the fourth Sunday after Easter year C-is observed as The Good Shepherd Sunday-I did not know that! This year it falls on May 11<sup>th</sup> which is also the Festival of the Christian Home AND Mother's Day!

Can Mothers be Shepherds-I pray you answered YES! And, Oh, can we SING!! has other Sundays with special names!

May 4<sup>th</sup> Native American Ministries Sunday

May 11<sup>th</sup> Good Shepherd/Festival of Christian Home, Mother's Day

May 18<sup>th</sup> Heritage Sunday

May 25<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day weekend: (no special name-think "America, the Beautiful")

FINALLY.....May 4<sup>th</sup> our church will host the Dutchess Interfaith Council

MUSIC FESTIVAL @ 4pm. All welcome!

MAY YOU HAVE A BLESSED MAY! SEE YOU IN CHURCH!





Thank you for your prayers, cards, phone calls and e-mails during Our recent bout with COVID. We are truly thankful for our loving church family.  
Ray and Lorraine Ricci

## MID-HUDSON LOVE INC HIRING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Mid-Hudson Love In the Name of Christ (Love INC) is seeking a part-time, experienced professional to lead the organization. Requires personal relationship with Jesus Christ, knowledge of poverty issues, and leadership experience in non-profit, social work, ministry, community development, or related field. For detailed description, see Job Posting located at [www.mid-hudsonloveinc.org](http://www.mid-hudsonloveinc.org) Please submit cover letter and resume to [katherinebetz1@gmail.com](mailto:katherinebetz1@gmail.com) or Mid-Hudson Love INC, Attn: Personnel Committee, 748 Freedom Plains Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.



## May Calendar of Important Dates

Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Intro to Healing Prayer @ 10am

Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> – Dutchess County Interfaith Choir Concert

Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> – Church Council @ 7pm

Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup> – Garden Group @ 10am

Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup> – Mother's Day

Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup> – Friendship Circle @ 1pm

Ted Talk Watch Party @ 7pm

Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> – Journey Deadline

Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> – Garden Group @ 9am

Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> – Social Justice @ 7pm

Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> – Movies with Meaning @ 4pm

Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day-Office Closed

Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> – Fellowship Discovery Luncheon @ 12:00 pm

Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> – Trustees @ 7:00 pm

Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> – Children's Day Rehearsal @ 1pm







## From the Editor

### A Note from Karyn

#### VERY IMPORTANT!

If you haven't yet contacted the office to let me know that you would like to continue receiving *The Journey* in the mail please do so no later than May 15.

There has already been a great response so a huge thank you to all who responded. Starting next month all of the changes will be in place.

We currently mail out around 220 copies of the *Journey* each month. I would like to decrease that number significantly so that only the people who want the *Journey* are receiving it. This will save money, resources, and time. There are several ways for us to do this together.

1. Email – We have been sending out a digital copy for quite a few years now. If you haven't yet signed up for that you can do so at our website ([pokumc.com](http://pokumc.com)) or by contacting the office (845-452-2933 or [office@pokumc.org](mailto:office@pokumc.org)).
2. I know that people like to have a hard copy and I fully understand. The newsletter will be available to be picked up at church 1 or 2 Sundays before the 1<sup>st</sup> of each thmonth.
3. **This is the most important part:** I am still more than happy to mail it each month to those who really want it. Please contact the office (845-452-2933 or [office@pokumc.org](mailto:office@pokumc.org)) if you would like to continue receiving it through the mail. **Those who don't respond by May 15 will be removed from the mailing list.**



Graduate Recognition Sunday will be on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please fill out and return the form below by June 9<sup>th</sup> if you would like to recognize a high school, college, or trade school graduate.

### Graduate Recognition Information

*(Please print clearly so we can accurately recognize the graduate)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

High School, College, or Trade School attended and any degrees or certificates achieved

\_\_\_\_\_

If High School, college and major or job planned

\_\_\_\_\_

If College or Trade School, future plans, employment, higher education

\_\_\_\_\_

Family to be mentioned (identify parents, grandparents, etc. you would like mentioned)

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