

The Reformer

The Reformed Church of Port Ewen



Volume 23 Issue 3

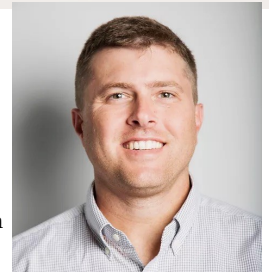
March 2025

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Meet the Steadmans	2
RCPE Women's events	2
"Yellow Pages"	3
Prayer List	3
Stewardship Moment	4
Lectionary for March	5
Set Clocks Ahead	5
Search Committee an-	5
Mission of the Month	6
Ashes to Go	6
Prayer Shawl Ministry	6
The Back Pew	7
Movies with Spirit	7
Birthdays	8
Pastor Nick's thoughts	8
3 Pillars of Lent	9
Ash Weds. Is late	9
Items needed for Parson-	10
age	
Chili Cook-off	12
Celebrating Women's	12
Ministries	
St Patrick's Day	13
New Paint	14

Meet the Steadmans

Brian and Jessie Steadman were born and raised in Alabama and Florida, respectively. After marrying in 2000, they moved to Austin, Texas where their love for and enjoyment of cities first took root. This desire to live and serve in an urban setting continued to grow the years they spent in St. Louis, where Brian completed his MDiv. Upon completion of seminary, the opportunity to serve as church planting intern for Resurrection Park Slope became the perfect next step for them following graduation. Brian and Jessie, with their children Georgia and Eben, moved to Windsor Terrace, Brooklyn in 2008. They welcomed Claire, their third child and a native New Yorker, in 2009. Brian also began serving as an assistant pastor later that same year. From October of 2012 until September of 2015, Brian focused on Hurricane Sandy recovery as Director of Resurrection Brooklyn Relief. As Sandy recovery ministry came to a close, a new chapter began with the launch of a new worshipping community in and for the neighborhood. Resurrection Sheepshead Bay held its first public worship service on November 22, 2015. From 2018 to 2022, Brian was a bi-vocational pastor, working for a construction company as Assistant Project Manager and Director of Safety. Brian also returned to Resurrection Park Slope to serve as Interim Pastor in 2021. On April 10th, 2022, Resurrection Sheepshead Bay held its last public worship service as a congregation in Sheepshead Bay. On Easter Sunday, April 17th, 2022, Pastor Steadman and the Sheepshead Bay congregation joyously began a new chapter with their sister congregation, Resurrection Clinton Hill (now Resurrection Brooklyn). For the past three years, Brian has likened his pastoral ministry to Nehemiah and Ezra rolled together, rebuilding a building and rebuilding a people. The church was able to purchase their first facility in the 20-year history of their church planting network, a 100 year old glorious ruin. All while bringing back together three sister congregations into one to pursue renewed growth and vitality after three hard years post COVID.



Jessie, the oldest of 7 and a natural teacher, got her college degree in Early Childhood Education and taught for a couple of years before staying home to raise the Steadman children. Jessie returned to teaching in 2019 at a nature preschool and then transitioned to being a yoga teacher at a downtown Brooklyn public high school in 2021. Jessie has found great purpose in inviting a demographic not typically exposed to the value of yoga to learn its mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual benefits. Jessie also received her certificate in Integrative Nutrition and Health Coaching and her Yoga Instructor certification in 2020 and has held her own private practice in both the last four years. Jessie served as the Children's Ministry Director at Resurrection Sheepshead Bay and stepped back into the role at Resurrection Brooklyn on an interim basis in September 2024. Jessie completely revamped our children's ministry at Resurrection Brooklyn last fall with great success. Georgia Steadman (22 years old) will finish her undergraduate degree in Fine Arts in May 2025. While a very talented visual artist, Georgia plans to be a high school art teacher. She will be looking for a job in NYC this summer as she plans to enter graduate school in the fall to pursue her Master's in Art Education.



Eben Steadman (19 years old) will finish his sophomore year in Conservation Biology at the University of Rhode Island this spring. Eben is excited for his parents to relocate to upstate NY and looks forward to spending his remaining summer breaks enjoying the mountains and waters of the Catskills. Eben will be looking for a summer job in the Port Ewen area so if you know a good opportunity, please keep him in mind.

Claire Steadman (16 years old in April) attends Shrub Oak International School in Mohegan Lake, NY, where she is learning and growing in a supportive community for people diagnosed with Autism. Claire loves basketball, art, singing, playing the piano, and all things current fashion.

The Steadmans may have moved to NYC with excitement for urban ministry, but you might say you can take the Steadmans out of the country but you can't take the country out of the Steadmans. As a family, they began spending day trips and long weekends in the Catskills almost as soon as they arrived in NYC in 2008. Since they didn't have a lot of money to spend on family vacations, Jessie scoured the internet for free to cheap places to stay for families in vocational ministry. She was able to find a pastoral retreat in Stone Ridge, NY and the Steadmans have made it their home away from home throughout the years. They have been hiking the peaks and valleys of the Mid-Hudson Valley, swimming in the lakes and streams, and enjoying the charms of upstate NY for 16 years. As their children became young adults with their own lives, Brian and Jessie began dreaming of the possibility that the next stage of their journey could find them working and living in the Mid-Hudson Valley rather than spending all their free time commuting there from south Brooklyn.

Feeling like his role at Resurrection Brooklyn and his ordination in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church was coming to a close, Brian began looking for a new call in the Reformed Church in America in the fall of 2023. Brian and Jessie were attracted to the pastoral opening at RCPE right away and are delighted that Brian has been called to be the next pastor of RCPE. They can't wait to join you full time this summer.

Brian and Jessie enjoy hiking, college football (Roll Tide!), grilled meat, disc golf, and gardening. They love trying local food and drink establishments, from off the beaten path greasy spoons to the fancier Catskills dining. Brian is very much looking forward to golfing and fishing in the Port Ewen area and would like to find some golfing and fishing buddies to show him the best spots for both.

RCPE Women's Schedule of Events

March 2025

- 2nd Communion Service 10 am
With Pastor Brian Steadman
- 5th Ash Wednesday 12-1 pm, 5-6 pm
In Front of the Church
- 9th Church Service 10 am, followed by Chili
Cook Off
- 23rd Celebrating Women's History 10 am
With Pastor JJ Tenclay,
Followed by Reception
- 30th Pastor Nick's Last Service 10 am
Followed by Special Coffee Hour

April 2025

- 5th Communion Service 10 am
With Pastor Brian Steadman
- 13th Palm Sunday 10 am
With Rev. James Alley
- 17th Maundy Thursday Service 7:30 pm
With Rev. James Alley
- 18th Good Friday Service 7:30 pm
With Rev. James Alley
- 20th Easter Sunrise Service (6:15 am, Beach)
Followed by Breakfast at RCPE
- 20th Easter Service 10 am
With Rev. Arlene Dawber
- 28th Service 10 am With Rev. James Alley

R.C.P.E. Yellow Pages

Data at your fingertips

Prayer Chain

Proverbs 15:29

“The Lord is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous.”

We amplify this power of prayer when we pray together.

To activate the chain for you or someone else, call Katherine Kinsch at 338-6378. That day, a team will be praying for you.



(Prayers will stay on for one month unless notified otherwise)

World — Prayers for our country, Troubled area of our world, Israel’s conflict, the Middle East, the innocent Palestinians, all of the people attacked in Israel, People of Ukraine, World Peace, Political Leaders, an end to the coronavirus, A solution for the refugee crisis, For all the homeless.

Consistory Meets

*The 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM
Meetings open--call 331-2782 for agenda space.*

Next meeting March 6th

Church Worldwide — Religious persecution in Bangladesh, Persecuted Church (China, Nigeria, North Korea).

RCA — Sudan Mission, Oman Protestant Church and Bode Family, Al-Amada Center.

Mid-Hudson Classis — John Young, Rev. Ann & Ron Rost, Bob Vanderlaan.

ELDERS

DEACONS

Matt Van Aken

Colleen Sutton

Ray Wells

Tom Gallagher

Linda McCarthy

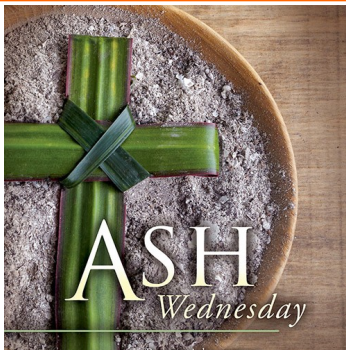
Monica Kelbaugh

Petitions of healing, protection, and deliverance — Rose Ann Vita, Alma, Pete Sarr, Chris Mabie, Audrey Weckesser, Tom Kelly, Kim Schaffer, Brie Bauer, Gary Van Voorhis, JoAnne Cross, Bill Geisel, Mike Goodrich, John Puglesesi, Matt Sutton, Mary O’Brien, Jenny, Carol, Rena Beall, Tyson, Charles Barnett III.

Church Family — Sunny Scherry, Elnora McSpirit, Bev Sickler, Linda Bresnahan-McCarthy, Janet Whaley, Ryleigh Goodrich, Fred Harries, Sr., Austin Stokes, Bob Schlichting, Monica Kelbaugh, Rev. Nick Miles, Janis Loring, Search Committee, Rhoda family, Bob Shelightner.

Homebound/nursing homes/institutions — Bea Hogan.

Grieving — Family & friends of: Rev. John Needham, Henry Knapp, Glenn Bell, Michael Riley, Wayne Freer, Frank Mushlit, Cathy Harshburger, Barbara Wiesmont.



March 5, 2025

Stewardship Moment

Day 15 – Be cautious of greed

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,
and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

Each man should give what he has in his heart to give, not
reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Christians tend to like rules. They like to know exactly what is expected in any given situation. Should I reach out to help this person? How much should I give? How long should I pray? What specific things should I do every day to please God?

These aren't bad questions, not at all. In fact, often these desires spring from our desire to please God in every way, yet not knowing exactly how. The problem with our love of rules, and specifics is that the Bible doesn't always give us specifics. The Bible, in many cases, tells us to do something; but leaves it to us to figure out how.

Take the command of "loving your neighbor as yourself." This is a powerful and important teaching of Jesus; but what does that look like? How do we do that exactly? Is it opening doors for people? Is it calling them up to see how they are? Is it inviting people over for dinner? Is it going to another country to help? The Scriptures don't specifically tell us. Christians are meant to study Scripture, pray, search their hearts, and then do what they can in a good conscience.

2 Corinthians 9 speaks about giving. In it Paul says, that we should give not reluctantly or because someone is forcing us to. Rather, we are supposed to decide in our heart what to do and give cheerfully. God does not want our generosity to be out of guilt. He wants generosity motivated by love. Sometimes you might not have much; but, you can still be generous with a cheerful heart. Sometimes you might have a lot in terms of resources, God calls you likewise to be generous with a cheerful heart. The amount of time or treasure you are generous with is not God's main point. For God, numbers are not the issue. God wants His children first to be generous from the heart, and then the specifics can work themselves out after that.

Today's Generosity Challenge:

One simple question: When does emotion dictate your giving? There's not really a right or wrong answer here; just describe it in writing here at <http://GenerousLife.net/Day15>. What have you learned?

* Michael L. Stickler, *A Journey to Generosity (41 Days to a Generous Life)* the Visiongroup Ltd. 2013. Pages 41-42

JOY = Jesus first, Others second, Yourself third.

Lectionary Scripture Readings for March 2025



First reading	Alternate first reading	Second reading	Gospel
And Psalm	reading		

March 2, 2025	Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36; (37-43)
March 9, 2025	Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 92:1-2,9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13
March 16, 2025	Genesis 15:1-12,17-18; Psalm 27; Philemon 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35
March 23, 2025	Joshua 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; I Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9
March 30, 2025	Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Reminder about inclement weather.

In the event we cancel church, a phone chain will be initiated (make sure you are up to date in our system), and we will let you know if we will be able to have church via *Zoom*.

Thank you from the Worship Committee



March 9, 2025

Set clocks AHEAD 1 hour

The Search Committee announces that the Rev. Brian Steadman and his wife Jessie will be joining us officially on July 1st. Prior to then, Brian will be preaching each Communion Sunday from March to June.

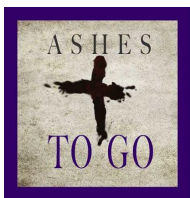
The Mission of the Month for March is Cap's Fund Inc.

The Mission of the Month for March will support **CAP's Fund, Inc. (Cancer Assistance for Parents)** located in Kingston. The mission of CAP's is to assist families with their fight with cancer and other catastrophic illnesses by providing financial assistance through fundraising efforts. Funds raised will go toward medical expenses, loss of income, and incidentals, such as pharmaceutical drugs, household bills, and gas and tolls. This not-for-profit corporation hopes that by relieving some of the financial burden, parents may concentrate their efforts on their child's health during this most difficult journey. Visit their website for more information at www.capsfund.org.



If you feel called to donate to this mission, please write checks to the Reformed Church of Port Ewen and write "March M.O.M." on the memo line. Online donations are also available.

Note: The Mission of the Month for January collected \$281.00



Pastor James Alley and an Elder will be administering ashes in front of the church on Ash Wednesday from 12 noon to 1 pm and 5 pm to 6 pm.



On Sunday, February 23rd, we had the "Blessing of the Prayer Shawls". All the shawls are made by Joyce Pade (pictured above), as an act of love for our Christian brothers and sisters who may feel a chill, or feel alone, or are in need of prayer, or may need to be reminded that they are part of this community.

May the recipients of these shawls, through the work of the Holy Spirit, be assured of our love and be strengthened by our commitment to them.

If you know of anyone in need of a prayer shawl, please contact the office.

The Back Pew Clean Humor & God's Truth



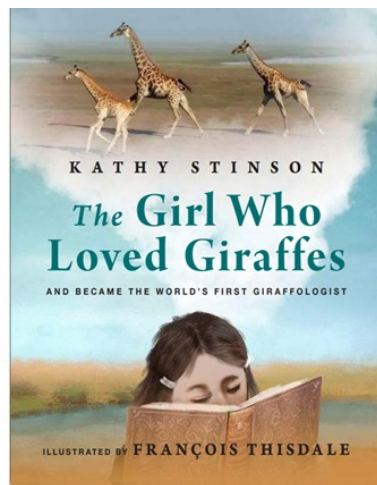
The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



The Samaritan Woman meets Jesus at the well. **JO 4:3-42**

MOVIES WITH SPIRIT

March 15, THE WOMAN WHO LOVES GIRAFFES (2018), Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Catskills, 320 Sawkill Road, Kingston — An award-winning documentary profile of zoologist, feminist and author Anne Innis Dagg — “the Jane Goodall of giraffes.” Dagg is widely credited with being the first scientist to research wild giraffes.



She conducted studies, wrote dozens of papers and books, and taught mammology and wildlife management at universities as an assistant professor. But she was continually denied tenure, despite demonstrated academic achievements. She was denied tenure at the University of Guelph in Ontario in 1972 due to “concerns about her qualifications” and then again at Ontario’s University of Waterloo. The Waterloo committee signaled there

was no point in granting tenure to her because she had a family and a husband. Winner of three festival awards, including the Audience Award for Best Documentary at California’s Sonoma International Film Festival. “An easy recommendation.” — Michael Ward, Should I See It. “Passionate, funny and modest, Dagg is the sort of ‘character’ documentarians dream of finding.” — Chris Hewitt, Minneapolis Star Tribune. “It’s worth being reminded that misogyny is as pernicious a force as the unchecked development that threatens the habitat of a majestic animal.” — Michael O’Sullivan, The Washington Post. *Not Rated.*

March Birthdays

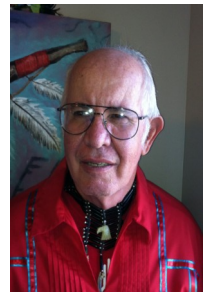
- 26 Pastor Nick Miles
- 30 Johnny Candlin



April Birthdays

- 3 Emma Spinnenweber
- 5 Beverly Sickler
- 5 Tom Sutton
- 13 Matt Van Aken
- 18 Elizabeth Finger
- 21 Lori Nichols

The month of March has arrived, one of my favorite months of the year for several reasons. First of all, we know that Spring is just around the corner. This has not been a really bad winter, weather wise, compared to other years. That is fine with me. We saw several birds throughout the winter months feeding on bread crumbs in the yard and temperatures weren't overly harsh if one thinks about previous winters. I love basketball and this is the time of March Madness and also the beginning of the baseball season, as teams begin Spring training.



And, there is the Lenten Season, giving each of us the opportunity to examine our lives, our ethics, our need for forgiveness and possibly giving up some bad habits or thoughts about others we associate with, whether family or stranger. And, as we examine our lives and ways of living, we know deep down, that God is with us, ready to forgive and forget. March is also the month in which I was born and God blessed me with another year completed and another year to look forward to with additional blessings.

So, I invite you to take advantage of his period of Lent to examine your own life, be willing to make changes for the better, and anticipating a newness of your spirit as you continue living knowing that the Grace of God, the Love of Christ and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit is always with you. AMEN

Pastor Nick Miles

The liturgical season of Lent can often become crowded and confused as we wrestle with what to give up and how to stay on track, but when we get down to the heart of it, **Lent is about only one thing—growing deeper in our relationship with the Lord.**

What are the three pillars of Lent?

To help keep us on track, the church offers us three pillars to focus our efforts during the 40 days of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. While the practice of fasting during Lent is widely known and observed, many are not aware of how to properly answer the Church's prompt to incorporate prayer during this season. God calls us to begin or strengthen our daily prayer regimen so that we may come to know him on a personal level. If we are truly going to grow in a relationship with Jesus Christ, increasing our time in prayer is exactly where we need to start.

What is prayer?

Prayer is our communication with God—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is a relationship of both listening and speaking. During Lent, we are called to pray as a way to connect with God and reflect on Jesus' sacrifice. Prayer helps us become attuned to God's voice, seek forgiveness and grow closer to him. It's a time for self-reflection and renewal, inviting us to align our lives with God's will. Through prayer, we find comfort, hope and strength in knowing that God is with us during our 40-day journey through Lent and beyond.

How to incorporate prayer into the Lenten season

Prayer is an essential component of growth in our relationship with the living God. If we have not already been incorporating prayer into our daily lives, Lent is an excellent time to start. Reconciliation comes through confession. As we set our relationship right with God, we can simultaneously add a manageable habit of prayer into our daily routine.

Make prayer a priority this Lent

Leading up to and throughout Lent, keep in mind that above all, this season is a time for deepening your relationship with the Lord. The three pillars of Lent—prayer, fasting and almsgiving—serve as guideposts on this 40-day journey. Prayer, in particular, holds a special place in this season of repentance and renewal. Whether you are new to praying or seeking a deeper prayer life, Lent offers a perfect invitation to begin wherever you are.

Why is Ash Wednesday so late this year?

According to Christian tradition, Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days, or 40 days excluding Sundays, before Easter Sunday. Easter is a moveable holiday, meaning Ash Wednesday moves with it.

The Old Farmer's Almanac explains that Easter Sunday changes dates each year because it depends on the lunar cycles of the Jewish calendar. While Easter Sunday can happen anywhere between March 22 and April 25, the holiday always falls on the first Sunday after the Paschal full moon, meaning a full moon that happens on or after the spring equinox.

This year, the spring equinox is March 20, and the first full moon following it is on April 12, making Easter April 20. 46 days before April 20 is March 5, making that date Ash Wednesday for 2025.

Dear RCPE Family,

As you are aware, Pastor Brian and Jessie Steadman will be joining us full time in July. As that time approaches, they will be moving into the Parsonage in stages.

In conversations with Jessie, she mentioned that since they will be maintaining 2 households, one here and one in Brooklyn, they will need some duplicate items. We asked how we might be of assistance to them, and suggested that they make a list of desired equipment.

Attached is that list. Jessie made it very clear that these are suggestions and that gently used items will be received gratefully.

Please help the Steadman's move easier and welcome them with our wonderful RCPE generosity.

Items may be dropped off in the Church on Sunday or left in the basket outside the office during the week.

Thank you all for your consideration. If there are any questions, please contact

Linda at 845-687-9664 or lmcbrs@aol.com

Christ's Peace, Your Consistory

Steadman Wish List 2-'25

[Chef Craft Heavy Duty Turner/Spatula, 13.5 Inch, Stainless Steel](#)

by Chef Craft (Kitchen) \$6.81 Size : 13.5 inch Style : Turner/Spatula

[Pyrex 4-Cup Glass Measuring Cup For Baking and Cooking, Dishwasher, Freezer, Microwave, and Preheated Oven Safe, Essential Kitchen Tools](#)

by Pyrex (Kitchen) \$9.99 Color : 4 Cup

[Joy hill Stainless Steel Measuring Cups and Spoons Set of 10 Piece, Nesting Metal Measuring Cups Set with Soft Touch Silicone Handles for Dry and Liquid Ingredients, Cooking & Baking \(Colorful\)](#)

by JOYHILL Color : Stainless Steel-Colorful \$21.99

[Silicone Spatulas Set, Rubber Spoon Spatula Heat Resistant Spoonula One Piece Design Seamless Spatula Non-Stick Scrapers Baking Mixing Tool \(Dark Blue\)](#)

by MOACC (Kitchen) \$16.99 Color : Dark Blue

[Eyliden Mop with 2 Reusable Heads, Easy Wringing Twist Mop, with 57.5 inch Long Handle, Wet Mops for Floor Cleaning, Commercial Household Clean Hardwood, Vinyl, Tile, and More \(Grey\)](#)

by Eyliden (Kitchen) \$23.88

[Amazon Basics Heavy-Duty Broom, Blue and White](#)

by Amazon Basics (Kitchen) \$13.99\$ Size : Queen Color : Ivory

[KitchenAid 9x13in Nonstick Aluminized Steel Baking Sheet, Contour Silver](#)

by KitchenAid (Kitchen) \$9.99 Size : 9 x 13-In Color : Contour Silver

[Zulay Kitchen Lemon Squeezer Stainless Steel - Premium Quality, Heavy Duty Solid Metal Squeezer Bowl - Large Manual Citrus Press Juicer and Lime Squeezer Stainless Steel](#)

by Zulay Kitchen (Kitchen) \$26.25 : Large

[Norpro Stainless Steel Grater](#)

by Norpro (Kitchen) \$10.74

[Deiss PRO Lemon Zester & Heavy Duty Cheese Grater & Vegetable Grater — Parmesan Cheese Lemon, Garlic, Nutmeg, Chocolate, Fruits, Vegetables, Ginger Grater - Cheese Shredder & Stainless Steel Grater](#)

by Deiss (Kitchen) \$10.98

[Cuisine 1 Quart Saucepan w/Cover, Chef's Classic Stainless Steel Cookware Collection, 719-14](#)

by Cuisine (Kitchen) \$19.95

[GreenPan Canterbury Hard Anodized Healthy Ceramic Nonstick, 3.25QT Saucepan Pot with Lid, PFAS-Free, Dishwasher Safe, Oven Safe, Black](#)

by GreenPan (Kitchen) \$44.99 Size : 3.3 Quarts

[Magic Bullet Blender, Small, Silver, 11 Piece Set](#)

by Magic Bullet (Kitchen) \$39.88 Size : 11 Piece Blender Set Color : Silver/Black

[Bamboo Cutting Boards for Kitchen \[Set of 3\] Wood Cutting Board for Chopping Meat, Vegetables, Fruits, Cheese, Knife Friendly Serving Tray with Handles](#)

by Freshware (Kitchen) Size : Medium (Set of 3) \$15.25

[Wooden Spoons for Cooking 7-Piece, Kitchen Nonstick Bamboo Cooking Utensils Set, Healthy Bamboo Wooden Spatula Spoon for Cooking, Eisinly](#)

by Eisinly (Kitchen) Size : 7-Piece \$8.99

[OXO Good Grips Swivel Vegetable Peeler](#)

by OXO (Kitchen) \$11.95\$11.95

[Cuisinart CSB-179 Smart Stick Variable Speed Hand Blender, Stainless Steel](#) Color : Stainless Steel Style : Variable Speed

by Cuisinart (Kitchen) \$59.99

[OXO Good Grips Soft-Handled Manual Can Opener](#)

by OXO (Home) \$13.84

[REVLON Turbo Hair Dryer with Advanced Ionic Technology, Ceramic Coating | Turbo Heat and Cold Shot Features, 1875 Watts for Fast Drying and Shine \(Silver\)](#)

by REVLON (Health and Beauty) \$19.99

[O-Cedar One Sweep Broom with Step-On Dustpan | Remove 99% with One Sweep | Lightweight Quiet Cleaning Tool | Ideal for Pet Owners](#)

by O-Cedar (Kitchen) \$12.98

[Amolliar Mason Jar Foaming Soap Dispenser Pump Lids, Rustproof Stainless Steel Lid Plastic Pump for Regular Mouth Mason Jar, Kitchen Bathroom Farmhouse Decor, Waterproof Stickers, Brushed Nickel 2Pack](#)

by Amolliar (Kitchen) \$9.49

[OXO Good Grips Stainless Steel Soap Dispenser](#)

by OXO (Kitchen) \$22.95

[HENCKELS Modernist Razor-Sharp 6-pc Studio Knife Set, Chef Knife, Paring Knife, Utility Knife, German Engineered Informed by 100+ Years of Mastery](#)

by HENCKELS (Kitchen) \$103.57

[Cuisinart HM-50 Power Advantage 5-Speed Hand Mixer, White](#)

by Cuisinart (Kitchen) \$39.95

[KitchenAid All Purpose Kitchen Shears with Protective Sheath Durable Stainless Steel Scissors, Dishwasher Safe, Soft Grip Comfort Handle, 8.72 Inch, Black](#)

by KitchenAid (Kitchen) \$8.99

[Degrees of Comfort Heated Blanket Queen Size for Bed, Fleece Electric Heating Blankets with Dual Control W/ Auto Shut Off, 20 Heating Levels, Microplush & Machine Washable -Ivory, 84Wx90L](#)

by Degrees of Comfort (Kitchen) \$79.99

[Wilton Perfect Results Premium Non-Stick Cupcake Pan, 12-Cup Muffin Tin, Steel Baking Supplies](#)

by Wilton (Kitchen) Size : Standart: 10.5 x 15 x 2 in. 12-cup pan \$14.99

[Pyrex Deep 3-Pack Glass Baking Dish Set \(9"x13", 7"x11", 8"x8"\) With BPA-Free Lids, Rectangular Glass Bakeware, Dishwasher, Microwave, Freezer & Pre-Heated Oven Safe](#)

by Pyrex (Kitchen) Size : 7x11, 8x8, 9x13 \$42.99 Size : 7x11, 8x8, 9x13

[KitchenAid 9x13in Nonstick Aluminized Steel Baking Sheet, Contour Silver](#)

by KitchenAid (Kitchen) \$9.99 Size : 9 x 13-In Color : Contour Silver

[Wilton Perfect Results Premium Non-Stick Cupcake Pan, 12-Cup Muffin Tin, Steel Baking Supplies](#)

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by Pyrex (Kitchen) Size : 7x11, 8x8, 9x13 \$42.99

Please let the office or Linda know if you have or buy any of these items so we can reduce duplicating.



Celebrating Women's History March 23

Please join us for worship on Sunday, March 23 at 10 am as Guest Pastor JJ Tenclay and the women of RCPE lead us in a service celebrating the contributions of women to our Faith and Society.

There will be a special reception following the service. Mark your calendars!



JJ TenClay, Refugee Ministries Coordinator for RCA Global Mission

Founded in the 17th Century, **Saint Patrick's Day** is both a commemoration of Ireland's patron saint as well as a popular celebration of Irish culture enjoyed worldwide by the Irish and the Irish-at-heart. Folks wear green, host parties and parades, and enjoy Irish food, drink, and dancing. While the holiday holds special significance for Irish-Americans, Saint Patrick's Day is a feast that all are invited to share in.

The lasting, inclusive nature of this holiday has much to do with the Irish people, their fight for freedom, and their collective experience as immigrants in America. Fittingly, Ireland's patron saint was himself an immigrant to Ireland from his native Roman-British shores. We celebrate Patrick today because he successfully spread Christianity across 5th century Ireland – a mission that forever altered the destiny of the Irish people. Patrick is beloved for preaching in the Gaelic language, for using natural imagery to illustrate Gospel truths, and for driving away superstitious pagan beliefs.

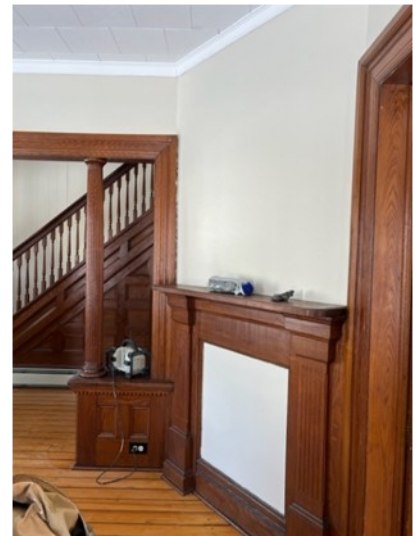
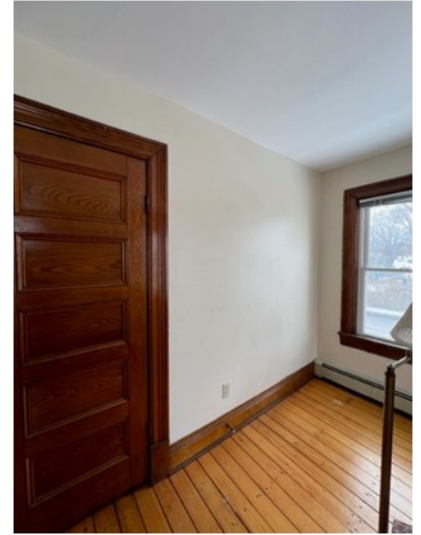
Like many early saints, Patrick's story is a mixture of legend and fact. However, beyond the colorful lore stands a real person whose deeds and words continue to inspire and affect us. To help you better know the man behind the myth, here are ten fascinating facts about Ireland's very first bishop:

1. **Patrick was not born Irish.** While he spent the majority of his life living among and ministering to the Irish people, Patrick was a Roman Briton by birth. His exact birthdate and birthplace are uncertain, but it is believed he was born in Scotland, England, or in northern Wales around 386 A.D.
2. **Patrick first came to Ireland as the captive of Irish pirates.** Patrick was a teenager when he and “a large number of his father's slaves” were stolen and sold into slavery by Irish raiders. This began a six-year stay of captivity in Ireland, during which Patrick's spiritual conversion began while he labored as a shepherd.
3. **Patrick escaped slavery with help from a dream.** After years of suffering and intense prayer, a voice in his dream said, “You have fasted well. Very soon you will return to your native country” [Confessio, 17]. The voice then told him where he would find a ship, some two hundred miles away, to carry him home to Britain and his family.
4. **Patrick spent time studying for the priesthood in France.** After his return to the Britons, Patrick travelled and continued his studies in Christianity at Auxere, France (formerly Gaul), possibly visiting Marmoutier Abbey in Tours, before being ordained.
5. **Patrick received a vision calling him back to Ireland.** After his parents begged him to cease his adventures, Patrick received another dream in which a man approached him carrying letters from the Irish people and imploring his return.. Patrick wasn't commanded to bring civilization or salvation to the heathens. He was invited to live among them as Christ's witness.”
6. **Patrick's Irish mission was unpopular.** Few of Patrick's brother clergy shared his sympathy for the Irish people, who were viewed as barbaric and hostile. Patrick's superiors disapproved of his calling; his *Confessio* was written partially as a defense and a response to critics of his mission.
7. **Patrick wasn't the first Christian missionary to Ireland.** “There were some Irish Christians, mostly on the eastern and southeastern coast. Many of these were probably British slaves who had been taken into captivity by the Irish. There is a record of a Bishop Palladius being sent to Ireland before Patrick. But the mission of Patrick was unique.”
8. **Patrick taught the Gospel through Celtic language and symbolism.** Patrick preached effectively in the Gaelic tongue, and he employed pre-existing pagan symbols in transmitting the faith. While Patrick's use of the three-leaf clover to illustrate the Trinity was likely a later addition to his legend, Patrick's *Confessio* specifically details his distinctions between Irish pagan sun worship and Christian worship – including Old Latin wordplay of the words *sun* and *Son*.
9. **Patrick drove out superstitious practices, rather than snakes.** Patrick is said to have driven out “all the snakes of Ireland” into the sea. While the National Museum of Ireland's fossil collections and records provide no evidence for snake species ever having existed in Ireland, Patrick likely did the Irish a greater service through his concrete and traceable efforts to build churches and ordain Irish priests—efforts which helped to drive out the druids who had formerly dominated Irish spiritual affairs.
10. **Patrick wasn't always associated with the color green.** Jumping forward in time – Saint Patrick's Day celebrations first bloomed in America in the early 1700s, where the Irish Diaspora developed them into the holiday we recognize today. However, it wasn't until 1798, the year of the Irish Rebellion, that the color green became officially associated with the day. Before then, the color associated with St. Patrick was *blue*, as it was featured both in the royal court and on ancient Irish flags. But as the British wore red, the Irish chose to wear green, and they sang the song ‘The Wearing of the Green’ during the rebellion, cementing the color's relevance in Irish history.

Wishing you a blessed and fun Saint Patrick's Day – *Sláinte (Health)*!

Preparing the Parsonage for the Steadmans

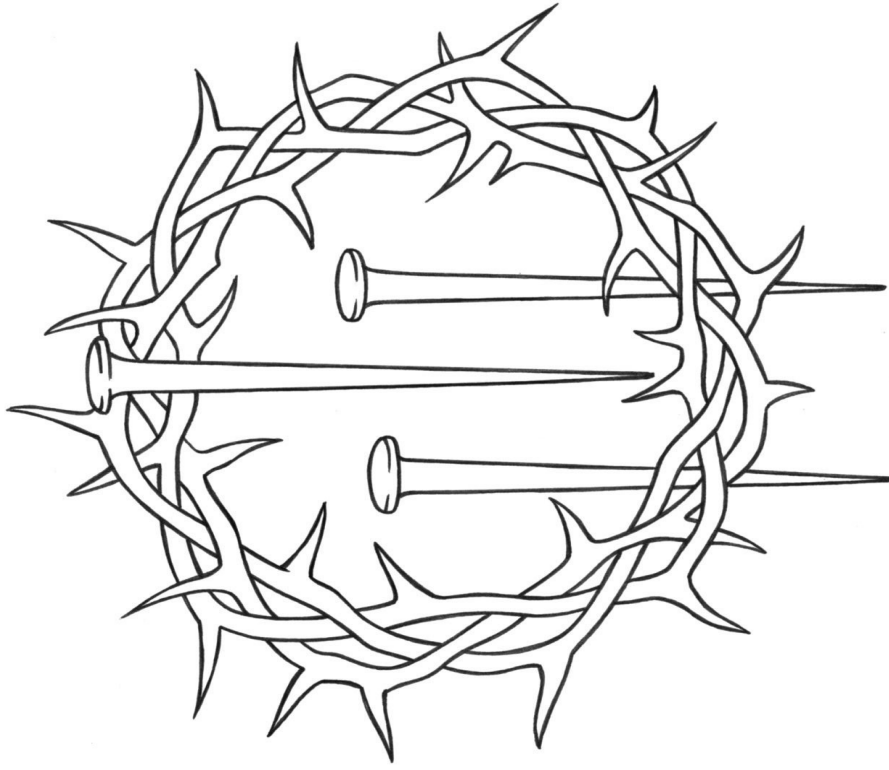
There will soon be a new family in the Parsonage, and we're taking care of many details prior to their arrival. Many thanks to Jeff Lucas for a superb paint job!



March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 6:30-10:30 pm Hudson Valley Comm Dance (FH)
2 9:00 am SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (FH) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	3 5:30-7:00 pm Girl Scouts (SCS) 5:30-7:00 pm Brownies (SCS)	4	5 ASH WEDNESDAY 12-1 pm/5:00-6:00 pm Ashes Given Out 12:30 pm Bible Study 4-9:30 pm SCA (FH)	6 7:00 pm Consistory Meeting	7	8
9 1st Sunday in Lent 9:00 am SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (SCS) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	10	11 9 am-2 pm Woodstock Weavers	12 12:30 pm Bible Study 4-9:30 pm SCA (FH)	13	14	15
16 2nd Sunday in Lent 9:00 SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (FH) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	17 5:30-7:00 pm Girl Scouts (SCS) 5:30-7:00 pm	18	19 12:30 pm Bible Study 4-9:30 pm SCA (FH)	20 REFORMER DEADLINE	21 5-9 pm ANA (FH)	22
23 3rd Sunday in Lent 9:00 am SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (FH) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	24	25	26 12:30 pm Bible Study 4-9:30 pm SCA (FH)	27	28	29
30 4th Sunday in Lent 9:00 am SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (FH) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	31					

Coloring Page



Lent begins Wednesday March 25th

Our facilities are handicapped accessible

We're on the net!
Therpcpe.org

March 2025 Reformer

The Reformed Church of Port Ewen
at Salem and Green Streets
P.O. Box 580
Port Ewen, NY 12466
(845) 331-2782 Church Office
(845) 331-2782 Church Hall
E-mail: office@rcape.info