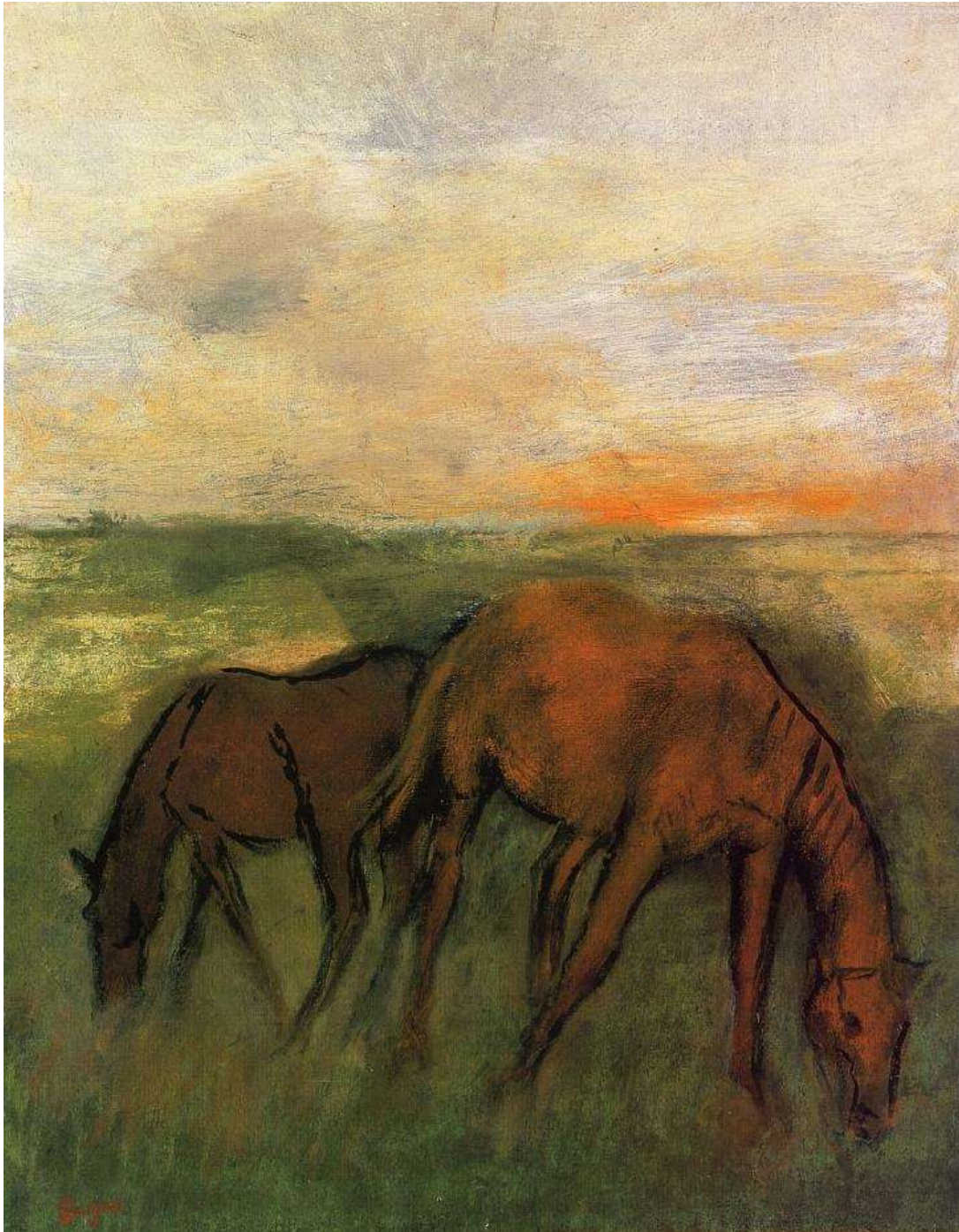




BEDFORD

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



“Two Horses in a Pasture” by Edgar Degas

April 21, 2024
Earth Day

Prelude *Prelude on St. Columba* Robin Milford

Ringling of the Bells

Introit *Sing Praise to God* M. Vulpius

Welcome and Announcements

***Opening Sentences from St. Francis of Assisi** Eric Eichhorn

Leader: Praise to you, my Lord, with all your creatures, especially Brother Sun. He is the day, through whom you give us light. And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor.

People: Praise to you, through Sister Moon and the stars. In the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.

Leader: Praise to you, through Brothers Wind and Air, and fair and stormy, all weather's moods, by which you cherish all that you have made.

People: Praise to you through Sister Water, so useful, humble, precious, and pure.

Leader: Praise to you through Brother Fire, through whom you light the night. He is beautiful, playful, robust, and strong.

People: Praise to you, through our Sister, Mother Earth. She sustains and governs us, producing varied fruits with colored flowers and herbs.

***Hymn 171** *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

Confession

Everlasting God, maker of all things, you created the cosmos, its unsearchable wonders, and this planet Earth. We give you humble thanks for the gift of creation and confessed that we failed to care for it. We confess that we have polluted the air, abused the soil, and contaminated the waters.

Forgive us, O God. Give us wisdom and reverence so that no one may suffer from our abuse of your creation. Through your Spirit, we pray.

[Silent confession]

Assurance of Pardon

Sung Response 577 *Glory Be to the Father*

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

You may stand and greet one another.

Time with the Children

The children are welcome to stay for the service or they may leave for Sunday Spirit.

Poetry Lesson

Psalms 23

Eric Eichhorn

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

Anthem

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

V. Thomson

Gospel Reading

John 10:11-18

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So, there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason, the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

Sermon

Rev. Carol Howard

Offering and Youth Collection

Anthem

O Sing Joyfully

A. Batten

***Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer 589 *Our Father, Which Art in Heaven*

***Hymn 267** *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

*Charge and Blessing

Benediction Response *The Peace of the Earth* John Bell

***Postlude** *Toccata on "O Filie et Filiae"* L. Farnum

*Please stand, if you are able.

Announcements

Please fill out the pew pads and pass them to your neighbor.

Child Care Available

In addition to Sunday Spirit for elementary school kids, childcare is provided during worship for those not yet in kindergarten. Please contact Courtney for more information.



May Day Celebration

Sunday, May 5

After worship join us on the front lawn to
celebrate May Day!

Free to Read Book Group

Sunday, April 28 at 12:15pm

Antioch Baptist Church

3 Church Street, Bedford Hills



King and the Dragon Flies
by Kacen Callender
Senior, Adult & Teen Program

Join us for discussions offered by **Free to Read**, a new book group that focuses on fiction and nonfiction books that have been targeted or restricted in libraries and schools and that may close off readers to people, places and perspectives.

Books are available at the Bedford Hills Library, ready for check out.



Register at:
bit.ly/KingDragon24

In a small but turbulent Louisiana town, one boy's grief takes him beyond the bayous of his backyard, to learn that there is no right way to be yourself.

King and the Dragonflies is a young adult novel that explores the intersection between race, gender roles and sexuality.

Published in 2020, it received the National Book Award for Young People's Literature, Boston Globe-Horn Book Award for Fiction and Poetry, and was a 2021 Coretta Scott King Honor Book!



THE MOUNT KISCO INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY
invites you to our

Community Table

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 • 6-9pm

Bedford Historical Hall • 608 Old Post Road • Bedford,
NY *A drinks & hors d'oeuvres reception featuring
music by DogBone*
"Snappy Casual" Attire

Our pantry promotes the health and well-being of our Northern Westchester community by providing weekly nutritious food and complementary education and services to those in need.



Purchase tickets online by
May 13 or return the enclosed
card with your check.

QUESTIONS? Please contact
development@mountkiscofoodpantry.org
www.mountkiscofoodpantry.org

EVENT COMMITTEE

Lena Cavanna
Julie Cooper
Jessica Crescenzi
Kelley Housman
Rick Mast
Veronica McIlraith
Rhonda Spevak
Lisa Summa-Guarino

THE MOUNT KISCO
INTERFAITH
FOOD PANTRY



Quilting



Tuesdays 1 - 4 pm
Chapel Room

Learn as you go
from other quilters.



Join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month!

LUNCH WITH FRIENDS

12:30 pm - Chapel Room



THE MOUNT KISCO

INTERFAITH

FOOD PANTRY

**BPC volunteers needed for Tuesday April 30th
5 - 7 pm.**

Help distribute food at the Pantry to area families in need.

BPC supports the mission of the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry to provide fresh, nutritious food to our neighbors facing food insecurity. On average, 630 households rely on the Pantry each week, a staggering 31% increase since 2022.

If you have any questions please contact Cecilia Rosenblum at rosenblumclr12@gmail.com or Sharon Seidell at sps1256s@gmail.com.

Check the enews to sign up or email Cecilia.

The results of the BPC survey are in! We had very strong participation with more than 90 participants from across the congregation completing the survey and providing comments and suggestions about current challenges and priorities for change. The Vision and Friends & Membership Committees have met to discuss the results and identify next steps recommendations to Session.

Based on the survey results and comments, we have identified four categories for action planning and change:

- Engaging leadership
- Compelling BPC experience
- Membership diversity and rejuvenation
- Community presence and outreach

Sub-committees will begin soon. If you'd be interested in participating in one of these committees please reach out and let us know.

A big thank you to everyone who participated in the survey and provided thoughtful comments. The results reflect the passion and pride we all feel for our church and each other, as well as the desire to launch a new era for the church.

We will be planning preview sessions or perhaps focus groups inviting the congregation to share highlights and gather additional feedback.

Stay tuned for more to come!

Anne Bentzen - Vision
Bart Tyler - Friends & Members
Rev. Carol Howard



BEDFORD BELLRINGERS



Looking for a new challenge?



Learn to play English handbells with the Bedford Bellringers. You must know how to read music. Prior experience is not needed but is helpful. Reach out to Heidi Michaels, (hmichaels425@gmail.com) handbell director for more information.

HELP LOCAL TEENS HAVE AN EVENING TO REMEMBER

CCNW'S ANNUAL PROM DRIVE

Each year, CCNW helps our students offset the financial burden of attending Prom by offering them access to formal wear for Prom night. Thanks to the generous donations of dresses, tuxedos, shoes and accessories from our community, our students can confidently attend their Prom in style.



ITEMS WE ARE COLLECTING NOW:

- 👗 Long and short dresses
- 👔 Tuxedos and navy/black suits
- 👞 Men's/women's dress shoes
- 👛 Purses, clutches, jewelry
- 👔 Bowties/neck ties/cummerbunds
- 👕 Men's white dress shirts

PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY CENTER:

Tues, Weds, Fri: 10am - 4pm, Thurs: 12pm - 6pm and Sat: 10am - 1pm

Do you know someone who needs help with Prom clothing?

Call us at 914-232-6572 ext. 105

All calls will be kept confidential.

84 BEDFORD RD, KATONAH, NY | 914.232.6572 | COMMUNITYCENTERNW.ORG

Bulletin & Weekly E-NEWS Announcements

To sign up for our weekly E-NEWS that has live links to all of our announcements, please go to the BPC website at bedfordpreschurch.org and select either 'Contact' at the top **or E-NEWS** just below it. To have information entered into the Bulletin and/or the E-NEWS, please email Jessica at Office@bedfordpreschurch.org and Elyssa at Elyssa@bedfordpreschurch.org by the end of the day Tuesdays for entry into that week's media.

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Sunday, April 21st

10 am

Worship and Youth Collection

11 am

Coffee Hour and Session Meeting

Monday, April 22nd

9 am

Yoga

Tuesday, April 23rd

1 pm

Quilting

12:30 pm

Lunch with Friends

7:15 pm

Bells Rehearse

Wednesday, April 24th

11 am

Cooking with Westchester Local Food Project

Thursday, April 25th

10 am

Bible Study. Please contact Alan McDougall at alanmcd@verizon.net

Sunday, April 28th

11 am

Worship & Baptism

11:30 am

Coffee Hour

Confirmation class

Our Leadership

Session

Clerk of Session Michelle Gosh, President Brian Hiller-Dupont (Worship),
Anne Bentzen (Vision), Linda Burpee (Mission),
Jessica Cunningham (Personnel),
Amy Drabek (Nominating Committee & Nativity Farm),
Danielle Gamar (Christian Education),
Ashley Glod-Hayes (Friends & Members),
Maria Andrea Laverde (Nativity Farm),
Sarah Ryan (Property & Maintenance),
& Bart Tyler (Finance)
Moderator Reverend Carol Howard

Deacons

Chair Kim Lapple, Sarah Alley,
Michele Eames, Pat Ferguson, Andres Mejía,
Diane Palmento, and Lisa Sayre

Staff

The Reverend Carol Howard, Pastor

The Reverend Courtney Steininger, Minister of Christian Education

John Lettieri, Director of Music

Jessica DeAlto, Administrative and Financial Manager

Elyssa Michaels, Director of Congregational Life & Digital Ministries

The Reverend Thomas A. Hughart, Pastor Emeritus

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914-234-3672



Axis Mundi

"Every Microcosm, every inhabited region, has a Centre; that is to say, a place that is sacred above all."

--Mircea Eliade

We know about the four directions--north, south, east, and west. And according to many religions, there is also a fifth direction. It is a sacred space that connects heaven and earth, God and humanity.

The architecture of holy places often reflects this role, like a steeple on a church. A tree of life, a cross, and a mandala are are other Axis Mundi symbols.

In Psalm 23, the shepherd's staff is a Jewish symbol that is considered a connection with heaven and earth.