

# NHRC Newsletter

New Hackensack Reformed Church  
1580 Route 376 Wappingers Falls, NY 12590  
(845)462-0810  
www.nhrc-church.org



## December 2025

### Advent Worship Schedule

~ SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP / CHILDREN AND WORSHIP ~ 10:00 A.M.

(ALL SERVICES ONLINE AND IN PERSON)

Facebook ~ YouTube ~ NHRC website <http://nhrc-church.org/index.html>

#### **Nov 30<sup>th</sup>: ADVENT I**

*Preaching Elder Sherry Seney*

#### **Dec 6<sup>th</sup>: PIGGY BANK BAZAAR**

*9am-12pm, "Come one – Come all"*

#### **Dec 7<sup>th</sup>: ADVENT II – COMMUNION SUNDAY**

*Rev. Jack Branford*

#### **Dec 14<sup>th</sup>: ADVENT III – BAPTISM**

*Rev. Jan Fritzing*

#### **Dec 21<sup>st</sup>: ADVENT IV – CHRISTMAS SUNDAY**

*Rev. Jack Branford*

#### **Dec 24<sup>th</sup>: CHRISTMAS EVE**

*Rev. Jack Branford*

*5:00 p.m. Family-Friendly Service – Scripture and Candlelight*

*8:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols – "Candlelight Service"*

#### **Dec 28<sup>th</sup>: FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE**

*Preaching Elder Sherry Seney*

Message from Miss Tina

A Fall Clean-Up Thanks

Sunday Flowers

Congregational Life

Cookie Bake

NHNS (Nursery School)

Piggy Bank Bazaar

Outreach Council

Order Poinsettias





## A Message From Miss Tina

As the calendar turns to December, we enter a beautiful season filled with anticipation, warmth, and the joyful expectation of Christ's birth. **This Advent season is a wonderful opportunity to slow down and refocus our hearts on the true wonder of Christmas.** For our church families, I encourage you to use the next few weeks, not just for the rush of preparations, but as a dedicated time to nurture your family's spiritual life. Consider setting aside moments each day for simple Advent rituals, perhaps lighting the candles on an Advent wreath, reading the scripture narrative of Jesus's birth together, or performing acts of kindness as a family to reflect God's love. **My prayer for all of our families this holiday season is that you find rest in the assurance of God's perfect gift and that the light of Christ fills your homes with lasting peace and joy.**



Blessing to you all,  
Miss Tina  
Interim Christian Ed Director

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## Fall Property Clean-Up: Thank You!

**A special thank you to all who came out on Saturday, Nov 1<sup>st</sup> to help us with our annual fall clean-up of the church property.**

Alex and Graham Bass  
Jerry Carey, Charles & CJ Hershman  
Donna & Fred Freck  
Pat Meaney  
George Popp  
Jeff Wright  
John Licari

Heather Bosco  
Brian Croswell  
Tom Gander  
Rev. Duncan & Betsy Nichol  
Tracy Schwind  
Don Vinchkoski



From John Licari, Property Committee Chair

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## Flowers For Sunday Morning Worship



**No additional flower sign-ups are needed through 2025.** If you would like to share flowers on a Sunday in 2026, please call Franca Petrillo or the church office. Franca will help you pick a Sunday and provide instructions. Your dedication will be shared in the morning announcements. Thank you to all who have contributed this year.



## Congregational Life Council

Many thanks to everyone who came out for our Spaghetti Dinner, hosted by Chefs Franca Petrillo and Jeff Wright. Olive Garden donated the breadsticks, Jeff made the meatballs, and Franca cooked up her special sauce! We made over \$600 for the Kitchen Fund. It was good seeing Fellowship Hall filled with church members enjoying great food and company!



Our Ships Ahoy Pasta Collection brought in a record 323 items of pasta, sauce, cheese and canned meals. They were distributed to 4 different pantries, including the veterans. Everyone was so appreciative. Thank you!

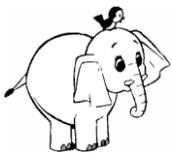


January brings frigid weather, and what could be better than sitting down with a hot bowl of soup? Our annual Souper Bowl will be running from Jan 4-Feb 8, so watch for can sales and coupons. All items collected will be donated to Liberty Station, Zion, St. Mary's, and Our Daily Bread.

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## Cookie Bake and Tree Decorating

We will be baking cookies for the big bake sale for the Piggy Bank Bazaar on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm. We will also be putting up our tree and having the kids help decorate it! All are welcome! Any baked good donations as also welcome.



## New Hackensack Nursery School

*MOTTO : "We encourage, nurture, and teach ...they explore, learn, and flourish"*

Dear New Hackensack Reformed Church Family,

We are celebrating such a wonderful time of the year, and we hope that you are all experiencing the joy of this season.

The children enjoyed a Thanksgiving feast as they gathered with their school friends. They sang, shared stories about the first Thanksgiving, and ate delicious snacks. They also discussed all that they are grateful for and how they can share what they have with others. **We participated in a fundraiser for a school family in need.**

We are busy preparing for the holidays, and the children are practicing the songs that they will perform at our Holiday concerts. **These concerts will take place in the Sanctuary on Monday, December 15, and Tuesday, December 16, at 9:30.**

January is also a busy month. **We will hold our annual Kindergarten Readiness program.** For this event a local Kindergarten teacher visits our school and provides parents with vital information



that they will need as they prepare their preschooler for next September. We will also host our Open House. **Families join us to tour our classrooms and meet our teachers as we prepare for Registration, which begins in February.** It is always a busy, productive time here at New Hackensack Nursery School!

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Regards, Abby Garcia  
on behalf of New Hackensack Nursery School

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## **Piggy Bank Bazaar A Craft Fair for Children**

Hello Everyone,

*T'was the month before December  
When all through the workshop,  
We boxed & bagged, tied & tagged  
The oh so many wondrous gifts to be had.*



### **For The 49th Annual Piggy Bank Bazaar is Here!!!**

**We welcome our young shoppers as they buy gifts for their family and friends on Saturday, December 6th, 2025 from 9am to noon here at the New Hackensack Reformed Church.** No gift over \$3.00 (cash & checks are accepted, no credit cards) and gift wrapping is FREE. Children should bring with them their money and a shopping list.

The bazaar entrance is next to the Fellowship Hall along the main driveway. All Volunteers helping at the Bazaar should arrive at 8:30am.

**The Biggest & Best Bazaar opens with 6,000 stunning assortments of crafty homemade gifts arranged by tables in 6 rooms.** Featured gifts are for children, women, men, pets, personalized, flower arrangements, and Christmas themed gifts. Photographers will be on hand to take a small photo of your child and put them in ornamental frames just in time for Christmas. Cashiers will be in the center hallway.

**Our guides (most of whom are Girl Scouts) will be on hand to escort the younger children and help them with their shopping, at the cashier, and the wrapping needs.** Older children may shop on their own. Parents can help too, or they can wait in the Fellowship Hall where refreshments are available. The bazaar is open to adults wishing to shop from noon to 12:30pm. The Youth Group will be sponsoring a Bake Sale. (Volunteer Bakers can bring their holiday treats to the kitchen on Friday,



December 5th or on Bazaar Day). Also, Volunteers, bring a snack to share to our break room, in room 7 for Friday and Saturday.

*Note: If the Bazaar has to be cancelled, due to inclement weather on December 6th, the snow date will be Sunday, December 7th from Noon to 3pm. Information about the cancellation will be posted on the church's answering machine. (845-462-0810).*

**THE BAZAAR is a WONDERFUL COMMUNITY EVENT! We encourage all of you to invite your family and friends to come to the Bazaar.** (Email, Facebook, etc.) **The Bazaar is one group effort and there is still time for a few more Volunteers to join in the magic and give us a hand.**

**SIGN UP SHEETS are in the gathering area, or to be a Volunteer contact Pat Meaney (meaneypj@gmail.com).** Also, ATTENTION: Junior & Senior High School Students; Volunteering at the Piggy Bank Bazaar can be used as a Community Service Activity. You will be provided with a letter of thanks on the church's letterhead.

**Wednesday, December 3rd - 9am – Sorting of the Gifts Day** – in rooms 13 and 15. We need many Volunteers to move the gifts from the huge pile in rooms 13 and 15 to the gift table destinations. If time permits, we will also be making inventory of the many gifts. See you there!

**Friday, December 5th 9am- SET UP DAY-** Volunteers are needed to move tables and chairs for set ups in the Fellowship Hall, refreshment areas, hallway, and gift wrapping areas. Move gifts onto tables in the 6 rooms. Hang and place signs, and setup the cashier and guide areas. Lastly, break down the empty cardboard boxes to be recycled.

**Saturday, December 6th – BAZAAR DAY** – all Volunteers helping at the Bazaar should arrive at 8:30am.

**After the Bazaar-12:30pm- CLEAN UP TIME-** Volunteers are needed to help pack-up gift wrapping supplies and unsold gifts, move tables and chairs, sweep the floors, collect the trash, and finally, move the boxes to the basement storage area. If you haven't signed up yet, feel free to volunteer to help us put everything back in order. (Whew)

**Piggy Bank Bazaar has given \$2,000 in donations this year.** These donations were equally distributed to the following: New Hackensack Nursery School, the Property Committee, River Haven, and the Hudson River Lodge.

**After Christmas Sales WISH LIST;** Restocking the Piggy Bank Bazaar Crafting Supply Cupboard: gift wrapping paper, tissue paper, bows, ribbon, Christmas decorations, Christmas themed table cloths, napkins, small plates, gift bags, grocery bags with handles, scissors, scotch tape, rubber bands, pens, pencils, 8 1/2 x 11 photo paper, acrylic paints, paint brushes, floral foam, silk flowers and leaves,



vases, mugs, and colorful rhinestone sheets. Any crafting ideas and supplies are always welcomed. Donations can be left in room 15.

**We extend A GREAT BIG 'THANK YOU'** to all the people who have helped make this Bazaar such a joy to run.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Cindy Corish, for the Wednesday Morning Workshop, and the NHRC Family and Friends

*PS. The Wednesday Morning Workshop helpers will take a vacation after the Bazaar and will resume meeting in February. Please be on the lookout for new craft ideas for the 2026 Bazaar*

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## Outreach Council December 2025 News

*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'*



*"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'"*

*"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:35-40*

**Food Closet:** We continue seeing a food shortage within the local food pantries. **After Thanksgiving the Pantries will probably see empty shelves after they serviced the many families with holiday meal items. Food donation bins are located upstairs near the Pastors office as well as in the Gathering Area. Any donation will be greatly appreciated.** Outreach continues to thank all the dedicated food donors that have supported the closet. Outreach would ALSO like to give a great shout out of thanks to The Regency for their HUGE food drive recently that helped fill the shelves at Zion Episcopal, St. Mary's Wappingers Falls, Fishkill, Our Daily Bread Food and Liberty Station Pantries. Each pantry was blessed with a full carload of donations. Thanks to the Miedowski family for organizing the drive, the many folks that came to sort all the donations and to those who delivered the donations to each of the pantries.

**Senior Meal Program:** 2025 is ending and we are blessed that each month has been filled. **We will be putting a new Volunteer Sign-Up list out for 2026.** We volunteer to prepare a meal for the 40 seniors living in low-income housing. Thank you to everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to prepare a lovely meal for these folks. They are so appreciative.

**Ladies Lunch Gathering:** We continue to have monthly lunch outings for the ladies of the church as well as their family and friends. **ALL ladies are invited so if you know of someone that would enjoy a nice lunch with a bunch of beautiful ladies, please feel free to invite them.** The December outing will be planned very soon. Keep your eye out. If you do not get the email notification, please let Arra Mowry know so she can add your email to the distribution list.



**Blood Drive:** The next Blood Drive will be January 13, 2026.

**2025 Mission of the Month Totals:**

January – Hope On A Mission - \$568  
February – Community Action Partnership - \$475  
March – Hudson Valley Hospice - \$552  
April – Church World Service - \$515  
May – Grace Smith House - \$460  
June – Meals on Wheels of Wappingers - \$753  
July – Dutchess Interfaith Council - \$180  
August – Acts of Kindness - \$432  
September – Literacy Connections of the Hudson Valley - \$398  
October – ALS Foundation - \$330  
November – Church World Service (Relief for Hurricane Melissa) and RMM  
December – Food Bank of the HV and Meals on Wheels

**Holiday Offerings:**

**Easter Special Offering:** Church World Service \$1,899.00

**Thanksgiving Special Offering:** Church World Service and Rural & Migrant Ministry

**Christmas Special Offering:** Food Bank of the Hudson Valley, Meals on Wheels and Church World Service

**Clothing Bin:** \$5,306.42

**LOVE INC (In the Name of Christ):**

The following items are collected by Love Inc to give to those in need. If you have any of these items you wish to donate, please feel free to drop them off at their respective donation drop offs.

**Personal Care Items:** Our Savior Lutheran Care Church of Fishkill  
Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Kleenex etc.

**Linens:** Immanuel Church – Wappingers  
Towels, Sheets, Blankets, Pillows (NEW ONLY)

**Hygiene Pantry:** First Baptist Church Poughkeepsie  
Feminine Products, Shampoo, Conditioner, Shaving Products, Band-Aids, Lip Balm, Q-Tips,  
Incontinence Products, Toothpaste and Brushes etc.

**BEDS INC:** Hopewell Reformed Church  
Contact 845-471-0102 #2

**FURNITURE MINISTRY:**

They will pick up the furniture. They require you to fill out a Donation Form. Google Love Inc, scroll down to the Furniture Donations and you will see a Click on to get the form. OR, call 845-471-0102 #2. They generally pick up the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month.



## Time to Order Christmas Poinsettias!!

At this time of year filled with hope and love, we remember, or honor loved ones or special events. Every year we are blessed to enjoy the beauty of these commemorations by filling the Sanctuary with poinsettias.

If you would like to dedicate a poinsettia in the sanctuary in memory or in honor of someone or a special event, please complete the form below along with a check in the amount of \$9.00 made payable to:

**New Hackensack Reformed Church**

memoed: **poinsettia**

Forms and payment may be mailed to:

New Hackensack Reformed Church

**Attn: Poinsettia**

1580 Route 376

Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

~ Or may be placed in the offering plate~

**THE DEADLINE TO ORDER IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th**

Poinsettias may be taken after the Christmas Eve 8:00pm service

.....  
In Memory or Honor of .....(please circle one)

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Given by \_\_\_\_\_

Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Will take after 8:00pm service 12/24 \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No



**Wishing you peace and joy this Christmas Season as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. See you in church or online!**