

NHRC Newsletter

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



May 2026

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>

May 3rd: Communion Sunday

Rev. Jack Branford

Assisting: Pam Kara

May 10th:

Preaching Elder Sherry Seney

Assisting: Roger Eddy

May 17th: Cantate Sunday

Preaching Elder Pat Meaney

Assisting: David Grammerstorf

May 24th: Day of Pentecost

Rev. Duncan Nichol

Assisting: Brad Moody

May 31st:

Rev. Jack Branford

Assisting: Liz Miedowski

Worship Schedule

Message from Miss Tina

Sunday Flowers

Search Committee

NHRC Website

Church Office

Property Updates

A Thank You Note

NHNS (Nursery School)

Piggy Bank Bazaar

Outreach Updates

- Ladies Luncheon





A Message From Miss Tina

Easter Sunday may have passed, but the story didn't end at the empty tomb – it was only the beginning. Think for a moment about a seed. It is pressed into dark soil, buried out of sight, and left in what seems like silence, yet beneath the surface something extraordinary is taking place. That is often exactly how God works in our lives – quietly, patiently, and with a purpose we cannot yet see. There are seasons in our faith walk when we feel buried, when prayers seem unanswered, and the path feels uncertain. But just as every garden in spring is full of unseen promise, so too are our lives in the hands of a faithful God. Keep watering your faith through prayer, worship, and fellowship – and trust what He is growing in you.

Blessings to all of you,
Miss Tina
Interim Christian Ed Director

Flowers For Sunday Morning Worship

We will need flower sign-ups for May 31st, June 14th, June 21st and into July. If you would like to share flowers on a Sunday, 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.



Notes from the Pastoral Search Committee



The pastoral search committee will be conducting two interviews this month.

Generally, however, the responses to our outreach have been disappointing. **Representatives from several denominations report similar experience with a shortage of qualified candidates and a large number of churches with open positions.**

We are broadening our outreach to include sitting ministers who may be interested in a change or relocation to our church. We continue to work closely with the Rev. Luis Perez, our supervisory pastor, and network wherever we can to find a match for us.

In the meantime, we remain faithful to our mission and hopeful for God's grace in our endeavor.

David Grammerstorf - Search Committee Chair



NHRC Website Update

We are excited to share that later this month, we should have a new and improved website to share with our community! The new site will be mobile friendly with easy access to update content as needed. We hope to share more Church ongoings, community outreach and events. Stay tuned to hear when the site goes live.



From the Church Office



The Property Committee has installed a new Office Mailbox outside. If you are unable to get to the church office to drop something off during office hours of 9am-12pm during the week, you may place it into a **securely locked mailbox outside near the main Church Office doors**. The mailbox is hung on the cement wall near the intercom. Each weekday morning Nicole will check the mailbox upon her arrival.

Property Updates

The Roof Project is Complete! The project to install a new roof in the area from the Sanctuary through the Gathering Area, Fellowship Hall, to the main kitchen is now complete. The old shingles were deteriorating significantly, and we were seeing evidence of leaks in several places. The contractor we used did satisfactory work on portions of the parsonage last year. He also happened to provide the lower estimate for the project.



You should know the contract price for the project was \$126,000. We knew there would be some amount of extra work encountered that could not be known in advance, for example finding wet/rotted plywood under the shingles. As it happened, we had to replace 14 sheets of plywood, a section of rotted fascia board behind a gutter, and a section of metal siding & coping to seal an area better than it was before. We also authorized pressure washing of several areas of vinyl siding that we would have difficulty accessing ourselves. These extras amounted to \$5,800 or 4.6%, which is not unreasonable on a project of this size, and for items that could not just be ignored. Fortunately, the church had sufficient money for this important project in the Property Reserve fund.

The next significant work you will see is the repairs to the three large stained-glass windows in the sanctuary. These were saved from the old church & installed here when the current church was built. More details on these windows will appear in future newsletters.

- The Property Committee



A Special 'Thank You'

I would like to thank all of the many church family members who showed their love and concern for me and my family as we grieved the loss of my mom earlier this year. The outpouring of calls, cards, and meals has been comforting during a very difficult time. – Sue Meaney



New Hackensack Nursery School

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

Hello everyone,

The end of the school year is near, and like every other year, it just flew by. We have experienced a fun, learning-filled year and are looking forward to a wonderful summer. **We will be holding three weeks of summer camp and are already busy preparing for those.**

We have experienced a year of transition, and our phenomenal staff has navigated it with grace and professionalism. The parents and families have had many opportunities to visit the school and enjoy events, as we enjoyed Orientation, Trunk or Treat, Holiday Concerts, Special Person's Day, Mother's Day Celebrations, Kindergarten Readiness and Open House. Mystery Reader has been a great success as parents come in to read to the class on Fridays, and grandpas have shared their love of music at singalongs. One grandpa dressed up in a dinosaur costume for Dinosaur Week!

The children have loved all the activities including School Spirit Week, Warm & Fuzzy treats (for being kind to one another) Pizza Parties, Cooking in Class, Field Trips, Birthday Celebrations, School Picture Days, Bingo, The Olympics, Bear Hunts, Butterfly Release, and K-9 Visit. The teachers have worked diligently to ensure that the students are hitting all of the academic marks without losing the fun of being preschoolers.

We appreciate all of the support provided to us by the School Committee, Nicole, the Office Administrator, Amy, the Property Committee, Piggy Bank Bazaar, the Personnel Committee and the New Hackensack Reformed Church congregation. The support and encouragement that we receive is invaluable and deeply appreciated.

We will see you all again in September.

Enjoy and cherish your days,
Abby Garcia
for New Hackensack Nursery School



Piggy Bank Bazaar 1976 50th Anniversary 2026



Hello Everyone,
Here is a little poem for you about the month of May.



*“May arrives on quiet feet, Soft with rain and warm with light,
Petals wake from winter sleep and stretch toward longer days and nights.
Lilacs whisper in the breeze, Daffodils in golden rows,
Every branch and trembling leaf Holds the promise that it grows.
In every bloom, a fleeting stay -- A gentle breath of bright display.”
-Author unknown*

Our Wednesday Morning Workshop is Craft Central, Inspirational & Inspiring! Come join us, we will be meeting on May 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th at 9:30am to 11:30am in the Education Center, rooms 13 and 15.

We have a really nice assortment of Kits which to choose from. Everything from painting, gluing, sewing, beading, and simply assembling. Some kits are very simple to do, while others take a few workshop meetings to accomplish. (i.e. like waiting for the paint or glue to dry.) We are coming up on the half year mark and we've completed 44 kits in 6 weeks, making about 464 completed gifts! (Whew!)

This year's bazaar is on Saturday, December 5, 2026!

We have used many of the donated supplies from our Crafting Cupboard, and are in need of restocking the following supplies:

Silk flowers & leaves, floral moss & foam, basket grass, small vases or containers, pliers & wire cutters, craft paints, tacky glue, hot glue sticks, sheet music, scrapbook paper, dowel sticks, new nails and screws, embroidery hoops, macramé cord, felt, plastic tubs with lids, glass stones, paperclips, thimbles, button magnets, ribbon, fiberfill, Christmas decorations, pompoms, rhinestones, jewelry beads, clasps, crimp beads, wire, jump rings, and charms. Donations of small gifts are greatly appreciated. We sell them along with the crafty ones.

A Great Big Piggy Bank Bazaar Thank You for all those supporting our creativity with your donations.

Cindy Corish, for the Wednesday Morning Workshop



Outreach Council May 2026 News



Food Closet: Food donations have been declining lately but we all understand that the price of groceries have increased. **If you are able, perhaps pick up a box or can of any non-perishable food and drop it off in any of the 2 bins one located by the Pastors office and the other in the Gathering Area.** Any kind of non-perishable food will be happily accepted. There are lists at the Information Table for both Liberty Station (Housing of homeless Veterans) and local food pantries.

Senior Meal Volunteers: The new 2026 Volunteer Sign-up sheet is available on the Info Table in the Gathering Area. **October through December is available.** Please feel free to select a date and prepare whatever meal you would like. You can work as a team as well to make it easier. Outreach invites all the Councils and Committees to participate. **Thanks to Congregational Life for their continued participation in this mission.** There are no dietary restrictions so any menu you would like to make is ALWAYS appreciated by these seniors.

Blood Drive: The American Red Cross was here at New Hackensack to provide a blood drive on April 7th and they collected 38 pints of blood. Each pint can save up to 7 lives. Thank you to all who assisted and donated.

Clothing Bin: \$1,868.92 has been received through April.

Ladies Lunch Gathering: The next Ladies Gathering will be May 13, 12 noon at Red Line Diner. Please contact Arra Mowry if you would like to attend. All are welcome. If you have any friends, senior neighbors who you feel would like to join us, please invite them and let Arra know.

Rural & Migrant Ministry: RMM continues to offer support to all our migrants who maintain work visas issues by the USA. **Food deliveries are made to families who are no longer able to get to the markets. In home classroom lessons are equally being handled for children who are unable to attend school.**

New Hackensack Reformed Church Missionaries:

Josh Bode is our Missionary in Oman – In a Muslim Majority nation, God calls Christians to bear witness to peace and reconciliation in Christ.

At this time, due to the war in Iran, The Bodes have been called back to the USA for their protection. It's not known when or if they will be able to return to Oman o continue their Mission Work.

The Fields are our Missionaries in Columbia – Andrew Fields serves as a professor, coordinator of field education and dean in the Biblical Seminary of Columbia. Amy Fields devotes time to her children and families in the Seminary Community as well as the Seminary Library. They help the Seminary offer high-quality accessible ministry training for the more than 200 students pursuing their calls to proclaim the gospel in Latin America.

NHRC grants each of these Missionaries and annual donation of \$1,500 each.



Bulletin Boards: Thanks to the beautiful graphic designs by Nicole Suranofsky, our Office Manager, there are signs on the Outreach, Music and Gathering Area bulletin boards. **Nicole is displaying the MANY opportunities that NHRC has to offer as well as informational notices. She also displays the thank you notes NHRC receives for your donations.** Please take a moment and look at them.

Mission of the Months:

January – Hope on a Mission – \$285.00

February – Community Action Partnership - \$325.00

March – St. James Episcopal Church Food Pantry

April – Meals on Wheels of Wappingers Falls - \$405.00

May – Grace Smith House

Easter Special Offering: \$1,320.00

Liberty Station: We continue to help our American Heroes by donating food, health supplies as well as bedding and towels.

American Flag: Nicole Suranofsky found an American flag in a storage box recently. She contacted Arra to see if it would be something the Veterans would be interested in it. **There was a letter along with it from one of the Architects that built the Capitol in Washington DC to Senator Jacob Javits dated 1963.** It's unknown how it was given to NHRC but we contacted Joe Cavaccini, Wappinger Town Supervisor, who is also an avid Historian, said he would love to have it being NHRC is in the Town of Wappinger jurisdiction. Joe mentioned that generally these are given in dedication of some special event. There is no other information regarding how the flag ended up at NHRC. **But, the good news is, the flag will be honorably preserved by Joe Cavaccini as historic.**

Newsletter Content Submission

If you have any information you would like to add into our monthly newsletter, please email Nicole in the office at office@nhrc-church.org. We would love to share important information within our Church and local community. Content is generally due a full week before the end of the month.



**A special Happy Mother's Day to all our moms!
We look forward to seeing you in church or online.**

