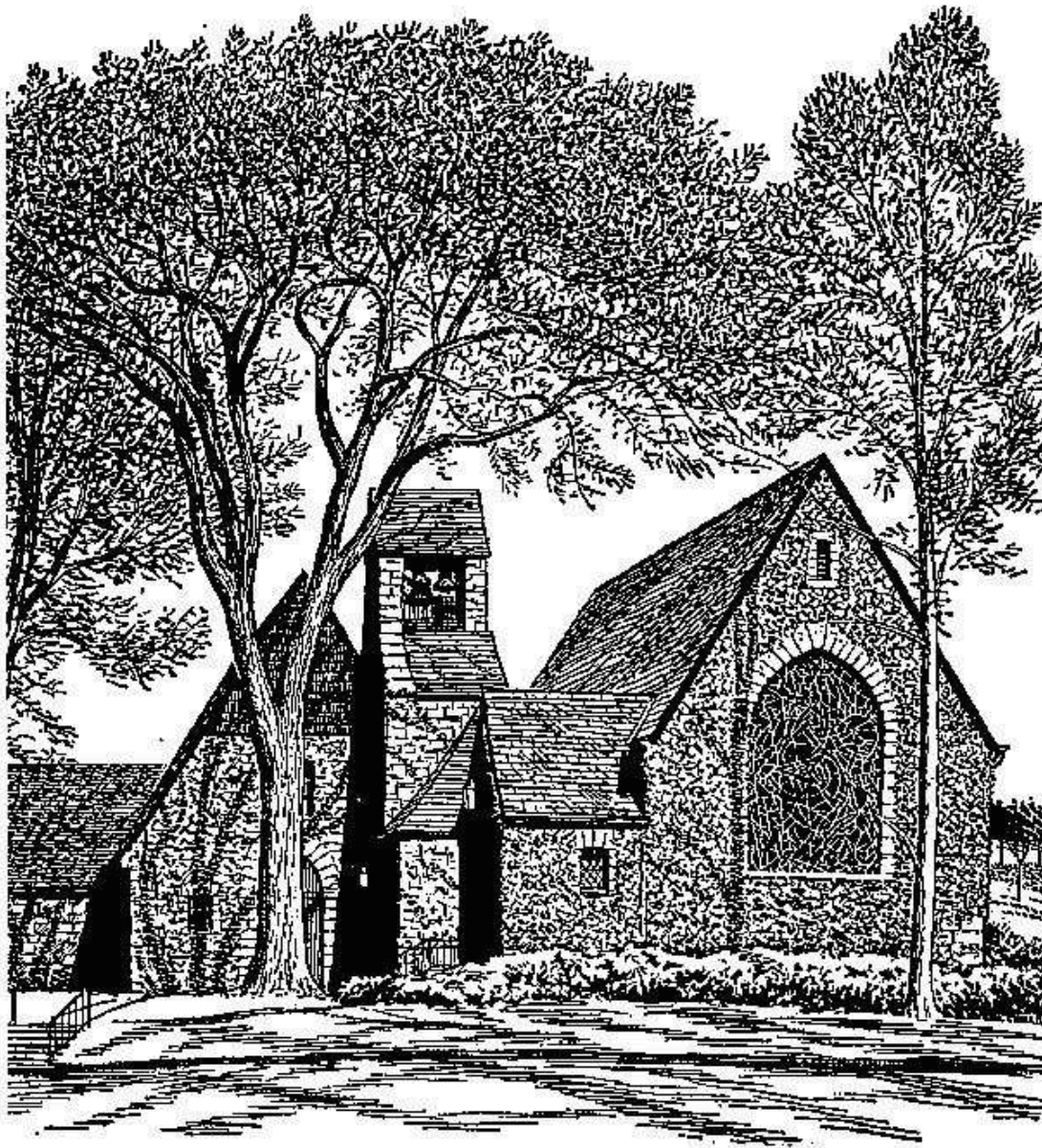


Union Church of Pocantico Hills

JULY 26, 2026

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



REV. PATRICIA CALAHAN - *PASTOR*

DR. KATIA KRAVITZ – *ORGANIST AND MUSIC DIRECTOR*

BILL GRAHAM - *DEACON*

JOAN COFFMAN – *USHER*



WELCOME TO UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

We are delighted to welcome all new guests today! – May your time in worship today be enriching and uplifting. We would like to get to know you better. Please help us by completing the welcome card and placing it on the offering plate. We look forward to welcoming you later in the week.

We offer programs for all children, ensuring there is a way for everyone to connect and feel at home. We provide Childcare services for younger children and Sunday School for children ages 5 to 12.

Please ask an usher to direct you to our childcare team.

Communion is served on the first Sunday and select services. All children will join us for communion.

As our worship is streamed online, we encourage thoughtful discretion when submitting prayer intentions.

Devotionals available – Daily devotionals by Upper Room are available on the literature rack in the Parish Hall. Please pick one up for your own spiritual practice.

Hearing assistance devices are available – please speak with an usher and they will be happy to assist with providing one for you.

ORDINARY PEOPLE OF FAITH

The Bible is filled with people we might easily overlook. They are servants, widows, children, outsiders, and shepherds. These figures are often even unnamed. Yet, these are often the very people through whom God changes the world. This summer we will discover what their stories reveal about God's surprising way of working, and about our own calling as ordinary people of faith.

JOIN US FOR COFFEE, COOKIES AND CONVERSATION TODAY AT FELLOWSHIP HOUR.

We invite you to stay after the service for Fellowship Hour and join us for coffee/tea in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to share, connect and enjoy the refreshments.

Scan or Touch the QR Code



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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The service of worship begins with the prelude;
quiet is requested as you enter the sanctuary and prepare for worship.

* Please stand as you are able. *

THE GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

Improvisation of Service Music Themes

THE STRIKING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

Adagio

John Bennett (1735-1784)

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP (BOLD IN UNISON)**

Come, all who are weary from carrying too much.

Come, all who worry there will not be enough.

We come seeking the God who gives daily bread.

God is found in unexpected places,
among unexpected people,
through unexpected gifts.

We come ready to receive and ready to share.

Let us worship the God whose abundance is greater than our fear.

Let us worship God.

***HYMN 476**

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

LYONS

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children will now be escorted by our Children's Ministry Staff

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the drying brook,

We confess that we cling to what once sustained us.

We long for the familiar,
even when you are calling us onward.

**We are slow to believe
that ravens can bring bread,
that widows can become our teachers,
that empty jars can become signs of hope.**

Forgive our narrow vision.
Give us eyes to recognize your presence
in unexpected people,
unexpected places,
and unexpected gifts.

**Help us to trust that your mercy is never limited
to one stream,
one season,
or one way of working.**

In Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The good news is that even if we at first do not hear the divine word addressed to us, God calls again and again. Friends, believe good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Hymnal 464 (stanza one)

Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824

*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the gloom of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 17:1-16 (NRSVUE)

17 Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word." ² The word of the Lord came to him, saying, ³ "Go from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the Wadi Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. ⁴ You shall drink from the wadi, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there." ⁵ So he went and did according to the word of the Lord; he went and lived by the Wadi Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. ⁶ The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the wadi. ⁷ But after a while the wadi dried up because there was no rain in the land.

⁸ Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, ⁹ "Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there, for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." ¹⁰ So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." ¹¹ As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." ¹² But she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die." ¹³ Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said, but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴ For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and

the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.”¹⁵ She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days.¹⁶ The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

“When the Jar is Empty”

Rev. Patricia Calahan

***HYMN 172**

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

RESIGNATION

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Digital plate offering is available on page two (2)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Sei getreu bis in den Tod Op. 36 (from Paulus)
Solo: Adam Goldstein

***THE PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS**

Festal Doxology

Hymn 592
Old Hundredth

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

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

We invite you to pray using words (debts/debtors, trespasses, sins) that feel comfortable to you.

SENDING

***HYMN 276**

Great is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

***BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Thomas Arne (1710-1778)

Allegra (from solo from a concerto)

**Congregation standing*



THE LUMINA ARTS CONCERT SERIES

2026/27 SEASON

UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

Katia Kravitz, Music Director

SUN, SEP 27, 2026, 3 PM

BENEFIT CONCERT TO SUPPORT YOUNG MUSICIANS

A special Jazz Performance by Musicians from the SUNY Purchase Music Conservatory

A concert for a great cause! Enjoy an afternoon of jazz while helping talented students from Sleepy Hollow High School receive musical instruction and opportunities. Please consider adding an additional donation with your ticket purchase.

SUN, OCT 18, 2026, 3 PM

NICHOLAS SALLOUM, piano

The brilliant young Swiss pianist gives a recital of Bach, Beethoven, Schumann, and Chopin.

SUN, NOV 15, 2026, 3 PM

JOHNNY GANDELSMAN, violin

Grammy Award-winning violinist and MacArthur Fellow Johnny Gandelsman performs an intimate concert of unaccompanied Bach.

SUN, DEC 13, 2026, 3 PM

HANDEL'S MESSIAH, Highlights

KATIA KRAVITZ, Music Director

EDDIE ZHENG, Organ

Soloists to Be Announced

All Singers Welcome!

This Christmas, by popular demand, Eddie Zheng returns to Union Church with highlights from Handel's *Messiah* with guest soloists, our choir, and audience singing.

SUN, FEB 14, 2027, 3 PM

ALEX SMITH JAZZ QUARTET

Celebrate Valentine's Day with Grammy Award-winning pianist and bandleader Alex Smith (Superbowl 2016 with Lady Gaga), bringing warmth, swing, and intimate jazz to Union Church with close musical collaborators.

SUN, MAR 14, 2027, 3 PM

CHAMBER MUSIC AT UNION CHURCH

IRINA NUZOVA, piano, AND FRIENDS

Acclaimed pianist Irina Nuzova joins fellow artists for an afternoon of chamber music featuring works by Beethoven, Brahms, and Rota.

SUN, MAY 16, 2027, 3 PM

BENEFIT CONCERT supporting THE LUMINA ARTS MUSIC PROGRAM at UNION CHURCH

*Featuring Musicians from
Union Church of Pocantico Hills*

Join Katia Kravitz, music director, and Pastor Patricia Calahan (our own resident violinist) for an uplifting afternoon of music that brings together beloved Union Church performers in support of the church's Lumina Arts music program.

Tickets to all programs are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Your additional donation is always appreciated! To order your tickets, please visit UnionChurchPH.org. We look forward to welcoming you to our church.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS



www.UnionChurchPH.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TODAY AT CHURCH

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00AM CHILDCARE 10:15AM – 11:00AM
FELLOWSHIP HOUR AFTER WORSHIP
ENCAUSTIC WORKSHOP 12:00PM – 4:00PM (LUMINA ARTS LOWER LEVEL)

EVERY THURSDAY

PRIVATE GROUP MEETING 6:30pm - 8:00pm

ENCAUSTIC WORKSHOP WITH SARAH B. NELSON TODAY

Sunday, July 26, 12:00–4:00 PM | Lumina Arts Contact sarah@radicallyhuman.com
Discover Encaustic Painting workshop, an introduction to painting with hot beeswax.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Registration is open for the 2026-2027 Sunday School year. The new registration form can be found on our website, or you can email Natasha at office@unionchurchph.org.

[2026-2027 Sunday School Registration Form](#)

THE LUMINA ARTS 2026-2027 CONCERT SERIES AT UNION CHURCH

The Lumina Arts Concert Series at Union Church of Pocantico Hills has announced its 2026/27 season! The new season brings acclaimed classical and jazz artists to our historic church, alongside benefit concerts supporting young musicians and the Lumina Arts Music Program. Led by Music Director Katia Kravitz, the season features performances by Grammy Award-winning violinist and MacArthur Fellow Johnny Gandelsman, pianist and longtime Lady Gaga and Tony Bennett collaborator Alex Smith, rising Swiss pianist Nicolas Salloum, organist Eddie Zheng, pianist Irina Nuzova, and musicians from the SUNY Purchase Music Conservatory. The series opens and closes with benefit concerts supporting music education and the musical life of Union Church. -[Tickets are \\$25 in advance and \\$30 at the door](#)

SLEEPY HOLLOW FOOD PANTRY

The SHHS Pantry operates because we have wonderful volunteers every week. While school is not in session, we don't have as many volunteers. - **All summer volunteer spots have been filled**
You can help by donating canned goods to the pantry. Please drop off non-perishable items in the red collection bin located in the parish hall.

CHAGALL'S CLOSET – IS ACCEPTING DONATIONS!

What to Donate: Gently used antiques, art, jewelry and collectible treasures.

Interested in helping at Chagall's Closet? – Contact Elizabeth Coogan or Ruth Tedder

Drop off donations during Fellowship hour or contact Natasha to drop off during a weekday.

UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

555 Bedford Road Tarrytown, NY 10591 | 914.631.2069 | www.UnionChurchPH.org

Office Hours: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM (Tuesday to Friday)

(Pastor's Day off – Monday)

Rev. Patricia Calahan, Pastor

Cell: 914.984.9135

Pastor@UnionChurchPH.org

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Katia Kravitz

Music Director & Organist

Music@UnionChurchPH.org

Gerianne Bittlingmaier

Bookkeeper

Accounting@UnionChurchPH.org

Natasha Krishnani,

Office Manager & Director of Events

Office@UnionChurchPH.org

Benjamin Unger

Media/Livestream

Office@UnionChurchPH.org

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Nancy Demirci, *Sunday School Teacher*

Megan Chiong, *Childcare Aide*

Azim Mahudhov, *Childcare Aide*

SundaySchool@UnionChurchPH.org

LUMINA ARTS AT

UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

Lumina Arts Committee

LuminaArts@UnionChurchPH.org

www.instagram.com/luminaartspocantico/

2026 BOARD LEADERSHIP

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