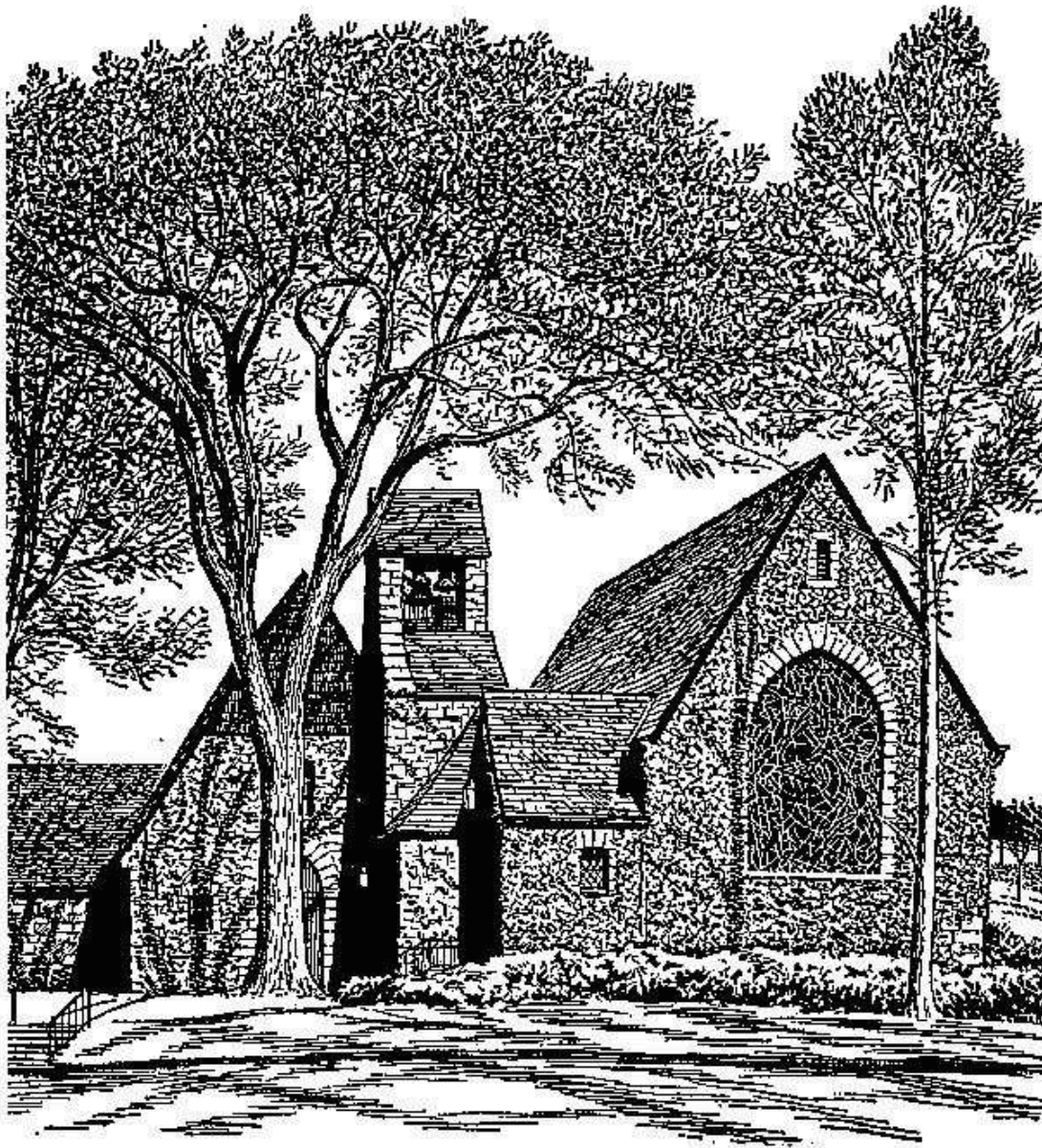


Union Church of Pocantico Hills

AUGUST 16, 2026

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



REV. PATRICIA CALAHAN - *PASTOR*
VICTORIA SHIELDS - *GUEST ORGANIST*
YVETTE LIN - *DEACON*
GREG PERRY - *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.

FISH STORIES

Have you ever noticed that the Gospel stories are a little “fishy?” They aren’t fishy in the sense of smelling a little funny or carrying other “fishy” overtones. The Gospels simply contain many significant stories involving fish. In fact, the fish became an early symbol of Christianity. Join us for a fun series featuring Gospel stories involving fish!

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

Gerre Hancock

Draw us in the Spirit's tether

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP (BOLD IN UNISON)

Jesus calls to us, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people."

Christ calls us to see what God sees.

People worthy of our time, our attention, and our care.

God seeks us with patience, meets us with compassion, and calls us beloved.

May we learn to see one another with the same love.

Come, Let us worship God.

*HYMN 478

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

CHILDREN'S TIME

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of compassion, you see each person as precious and worthy of love. Yet we confess that we do not always see one another as you do.

We hurry past people whose needs would require our time. We make assumptions instead of becoming curious. We wait for others to come to us rather than meeting them where they are. We measure people by what they can offer, how much we agree, or how easily they fit into our lives.

Forgive us. Give us the patience to listen, the willingness to seek, and the compassion to tend to one another's needs. Teach us to follow Jesus, who saw the crowds, drew near to them, and called them blessed. 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

Matthew 4:18-22 (NRSVUE)

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

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

“Gone Fishing”

Rev. Patricia Calahan

*HYMN 335

Though I May Speak

O WALY WALY

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Digital plate offering is available on page two (2)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Amy Beach

Prelude on an old folk tune *"The fair hills of Éiré, O"*

***THE PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS**

Hymn 592

Festal Doxology

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 434**

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

KINGSFOLD

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

C.V. Stanford

On a theme of Orlando Gibbons

**Congregation standing*



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TODAY AT CHURCH

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00AM CHILDCARE 10:00AM – 11:00AM
FELLOWSHIP HOUR AFTER WORSHIP

EVERY THURSDAY

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

GUEST ORGANIST

We welcome Victoria Shields as our guest organist this morning. Victoria is a regular here at Union Church, serving as our organist for many weddings and funerals. Her regular home is at St. James the Less Episcopal Church in Scarsdale where she is Organist and Director of Music. A graduate of the Eastman School of Music, Victoria is a prominent recitalist and educator. We are so fortunate that she is available to be with us this morning!

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.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

JAZZ SUNDAY & POCANTICO HILLS PICNIC

Sunday, September 13 10:00am to 3:00 pm

Join us for Sunday Service with jazz and original music by Ike Sturm and Arta Jekabsone in the Sanctuary. Followed by a picnic on the church lawn, co-hosted with The Church of the Magdalene.



UNION CHURCH CHILDREN'S CHOIR PROGRAM (NEW)

Open to all children | Grades K-6 | Director: Dr. Katia Kravitz

Rehearsals will be on Fridays from 5:00pm to 5:45pm

(except for the first Friday of the month)

First Rehearsal: Friday, October 9th

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

The new Sunday School year begins on Sunday, September 20! We look forward to welcoming our children back and meeting some new faces. Whether you are a returning family or joining us for the first time, please register your child for the upcoming Sunday School year. We can't wait to learn and grow together!



BENEFIT CONCERT TO SUPPORT YOUNG MUSICIANS

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

Sunday, September 27, 2026, 3 PM

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.*



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

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Music Director & Organist

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Natasha Krishnani,

Office Manager & Director of Events

Office@UnionChurchPH.org

Gerianne Bittlingmaier

Bookkeeper

Accounting@UnionChurchPH.org

Benjamin Unger

Livestream

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Nancy Demirci, *Sunday School Teacher*

Childcare Aides

Adele Dziugelis and Caitlin Chiong

SundaySchool@UnionChurchPH.org

LUMINA ARTS AT

UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

Lumina Arts Committee

LuminaArts@UnionChurchPH.org

www.instagram.com/luminaartspocantico/

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