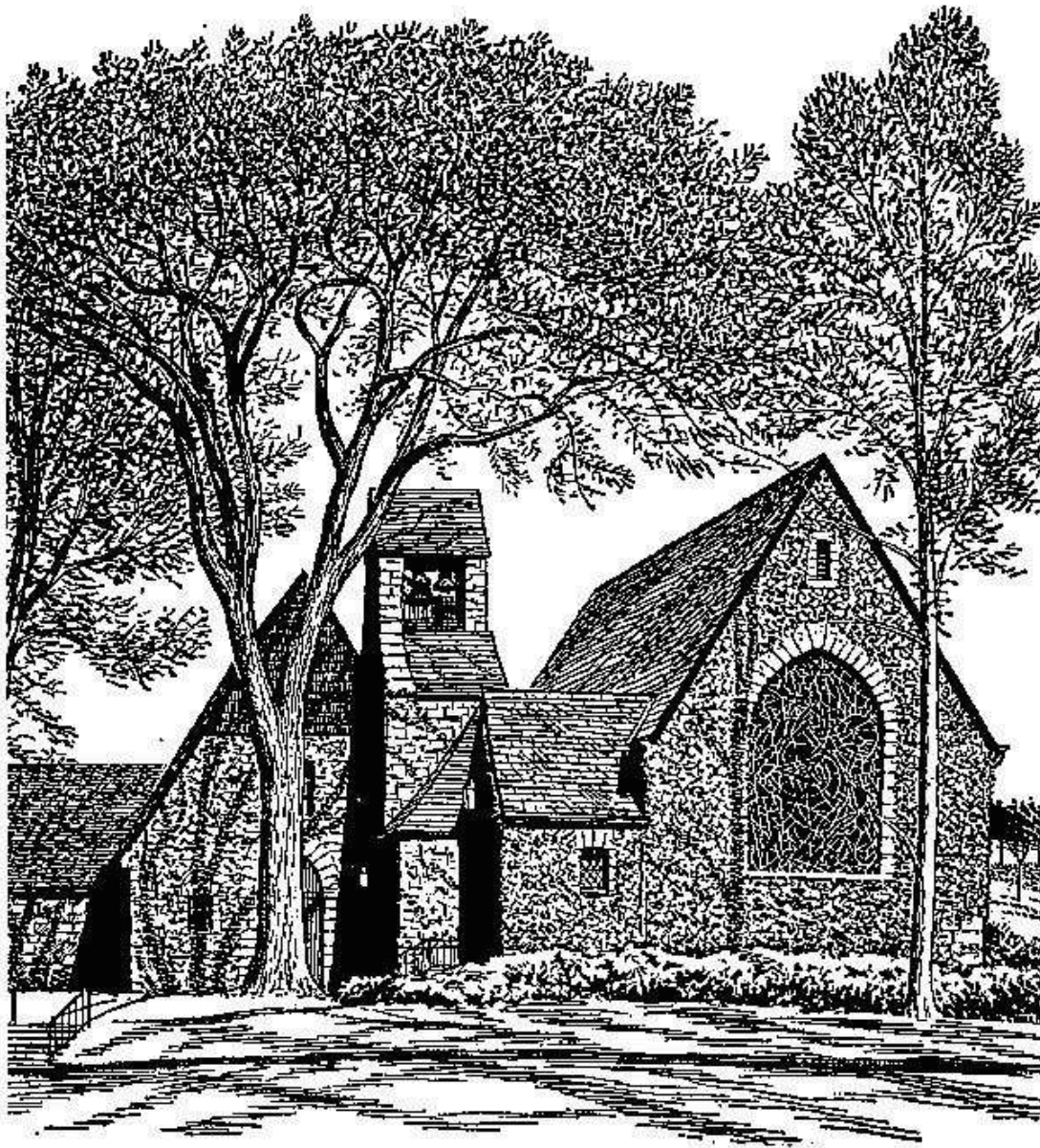


Union Church of Pocantico Hills

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



REV. PATRICIA CALAHAN - *PASTOR*

MUSIC BY IKE STURM AND ARTA JEKABSONE

KIM PERRY - *DEACON*

GREG PERRY - *USHER*

POCANTICO PARISH PICNIC



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.

GOSPEL = GOOD NEWS!

The word “Gospel” actually means “Good News!” Christianity begins with good news about what God has done and an invitation to live within the future God is bringing. This fall, we will explore some of the questions at the heart of Christian faith: Who is the God Jesus reveals? Why did Jesus die? What does resurrection mean? What are we saved for? Why church? And, what about ‘the others?’ Together, we will listen for the ways Scripture unsettles inherited answers, enlarges our understanding, and invites us into lives of grace, hope, reconciliation, and love.

Ephesians 2:8-10

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.”

Join us for the Parish Picnic today from 12:00 to 3:00pm

Scan or Touch the QR Code



Hymns and lyrics reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under CCLI License# A-22561274 and CCLI License# A-22561281
Hymns and lyrics reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-743639. All rights reserved.

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

lyrics Chanda Rule Bernroider, music Ike Sturm

Wide + Free

INTROIT

Ike Sturm

Psalm 90

WELCOME

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

Listen! Good news is sounding in the world.

God has drawn near!

In familiar melodies and unexpected turns,
the Spirit is making all things new.

Come with your joy. Come with your questions. Come ready to listen.

We come to join the song of grace.

Let every voice find its place, and let the music rise.

The reign of God has come near. Let us worship God!

***HYMN 554**

"Let All Things Now Living"

ASH GROVE

CHILDREN'S TIME

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, you announce good news, but we often rehearse the same old fears. We cling to familiar patterns when your Spirit invites us into something new. We insist upon playing our own part without listening to the voices around us. We allow judgment, obligation, and exclusion to drown out your song of healing, freedom, and love.

Forgive us. Teach us to listen deeply, to trust the rhythm of your grace, and to join what you are creating in the world. 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

For the Beauty of the Earth

Hymn 473 (vs. 1)

DIX

For the beauty of the earth
For the glory of the skies
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies
Lord of all to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 52:7-10 (NRSVUE)

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

8 Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices;
together they shout for joy,
for in plain sight they see
the return of the Lord to Zion.

9 Break forth; shout together for joy,
you ruins of Jerusalem,
for the Lord has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

10 The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

SOLO

Fluent Current

Arta Jēkabsone

SECOND LESSON

Mark 1 :14-15 (NRSVUE)

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

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

"Good News!"

Rev. Patricia Calahan

*HYMN 404

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

PRECIOUS LORD

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Digital plate offering is available on page two (2)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Billie Holiday and Arthur Herzog Jr.

God Bless the Child

*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

"Shine"

INSERT

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

**Congregation standing*

Shine on Me (Refrain)
Traditional African American Spiritual

The musical score is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Shine on me, shine on me, let the'. The second staff contains 'light from the light- house_ shine on me. Oh,'. The third staff contains 'shine on me, shine on me, let the'. The fourth staff contains 'light from the light- house_ shine on me.' The melody is simple and repetitive, with a focus on the words 'Shine on me'.

Shine on me, shine on me, let the
light from the light- house_ shine on me. Oh,
shine on me, shine on me, let the
light from the light- house_ shine on me.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2026

13

10:00 AM

JAZZ SUNDAY

Join us for Sunday Service with jazz and original music by Ike Sturm and Arta Jekabsone in the Sanctuary

13

12:00-3:00PM

POCANTICO PARISH PICNIC

Join us on the Church lawn for a picnic. See the flyer for Potluck information. Co-hosted with Church of the Magdalene and Pocantico Firehouse

13

11:30-1:30PM

ART & TALK WITH JOE FUSARO

Join artist in residence Joe Fusaro for in formal time in the Lumina studio to talk about contemporary art and make some art.

14

5:00 - 7:00PM

ART & TALK WITH JOE FUSARO

Join artist in residence Joe Fusaro for in formal time in the Lumina studio to talk about contemporary art and make some art.

19

12:00-4:00PM

ENCAUSTIC PAINTING WITH SARAH

No experience is needed, all materials are provided, and curiosity is encouraged. Reserve your seat!
Level I: Introduction class today \$175

20

10:15 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS

Register Today!

23

7:00-8:00 PM

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY BEGINS

We study the scripture text that will be used in worship on the following Sunday. Email Natasha if you would like to be included in the Bible Study email list.

27

3:00 PM

BENEFIT CONCERT TO SUPPORT YOUNG MUSICIANS

www.UnionChurchPH.org

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

Natasha Krishnani

Office Manager & Director of Events

Office@UnionChurchPH.org

Gerianne Bittlingmaier

Bookkeeper

Accounting@UnionChurchPH.org

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Nancy Demirci, *Sunday School Teacher*

Childcare Aides

Caitlin, Adele and Matthew

SundaySchool@UnionChurchPH.org

LUMINA ARTS AT

UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

Lumina Arts Committee

LuminaArts@UnionChurchPH.org

www.instagram.com/luminaartspocantico/

2026 BOARD LEADERSHIP

Clerk of the Congregation

David Bartholomew

Board of Deacons

Dawn Lorenz, President

Evelyn Gennarelli

William Graham, Jr.

Yvette Lin

Sarah Nelson

Kim Perry

Todd Rhoda

Sarah Rodriguez

Elaine Sheridan

Board of Trustees

Carla De Landri, President

Elizabeth Coogan

Ruth DiLorenzo

Kylan Johnson

Michael Lorenz

Robin Lynch

Catherine Pollock

Nelson Rockefeller

Robert Sweeney

FOLLOW US

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[YouTube](#)

[TikTok](#)