

October 2026 Newsletter



Kitchell
MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Phone: 973-887-6939 Hours: Mon-Thurs 9AM-1PM
Email: office@kitchellchurch.org or hallred@kitchellchurch.org

Past Event Photos

Did you get snapped at our last event? Check out the photos below and also our social media page to see if you were snapped!

Follow and Tag us in pictures of your own too!

@kitchellchurch



General Announcements & Special Dates

- Stewardship begins October 11th.
- Office closed October 12th for Columbus Day.
- Notices from the Finance Committee:
 - If you donate online, please make sure your address on your payment method (debit or credit card or ACH payment) matches the address entered with online Acct at VANCO.
 - Online giving is for donations only.
- After much deliberation, it's been decided to cancel the pumpkin patch this year. Rather than abandon this endeavor completely, it is being filed away to plan and prepare for at a later date when there isn't quite as much happening in the life of our church. We continue to inch ever closer to officially submitting our building plans to the town, along with expanding our Christian Ed programming and preparing for stewardship. It's a busy time! Rather than feel rushed and thrown together, sometimes it's best to cancel and try again next time. Thank you for your understanding. I apologize for any confusion or disappointment this may have caused. Rest assured, we will definitely pursue this fun idea again in the future and your help and enthusiasm will be much needed and appreciated.



Let us **PRAY** for:

- Congratulations to Carol Williams for her new grand-baby, Xavier Orian. Continued prayers for Emily and Baby Xavier.
- Dan, Tom Corea's friend, who has been in the ICU with heart issues.
- Prayers for Derek, Caitlin, Hannah, and Charlotte as they are abroad and travel back home.
- Christina Comprelli, family friend of the Allreds, as she continues to heal from a dog bite.
- Melody Bjorklund
- Pam and Souk Hasegawa
- Our nation and its leaders.

Stewardship is always a tricky time in the life of the church. While giving, generosity, and the concept of stewardship should not feel foreign or out of place for us, it's hard to kick off the season without feeling like the dreaded pledge drive of asking for people's money is once again upon us.

Deeper still, stewardship at Kitchell has been a hard one for me to wrestle. How do we cultivate a spirit of giving when we know our congregation sits on an endowment that has been keeping the congregation afloat for nearly a decade? Except, money has not kept our congregation afloat. Money never keeps churches alive. People do.

We could have all the money in the world but if we lack the hands and feet of the people of God to do the work, the money just sits there and eventually you stop paying the utility bills for a building where nobody worships.

Exasperated after a long meeting one evening, the remark was made: "*Church doesn't just happen!*" And those words stuck with me. Church doesn't just happen. Church is the culmination of so many moving parts and people volunteering their time behind the scenes. Yet all of this stems from the same starting place: showing up.

Our Presbytery Leader, Jeanne Radak, tells a story about a pastor who arrived at the church every Sunday hours early to turn on the lights and the heat to ensure by the time the congregation arrived, the church was lit and warm and ready for worship. The time came for him to retire and the Sunday following his big send-off, church-goers arrived to a dark and freezing sanctuary with a helpless guest preacher asking: "*Does anyone know how to turn on the heat in here?*" They did not.

I share this story not because I feel like I'm the only one who knows how to turn the heat. Quite the contrary. I share this story because stewardship is about far more than asking you to give money, it is about asking you to give a part of yourself. Whether that means turning the heat on or teaching church school, **YOU** are far more vital to this church than the dollars you leave in the offering plate. Furthermore, church is never just one person. It is all of us.

This year's stewardship campaign borrows from Shel Silverstein's book "*The Giving Tree*," a controversial story depending on how you read it. It's either a story about sacrificial love or a story about what happens when that love is one-sided... eventually you are left with a stump where there used to be a tree.

Join us this month as we explore the season of stewardship and ask not how much money you can pledge but how much of yourself you desire to pledge to this church community.

Grace and Peace,

 Pastor Hannah

The Giving Tree



Church Doesn't Just Happen
What imprint are you leaving?

STEWARDSHIP 2026

October 11th - 25th



Kitchell KID'S



Building a foundation of faith with God's LOVE

Kitchell Kid Grown-Ups,
Friendly reminder to do the following:

- complete the Ministry Safe Sexual Abuse Awareness training, required for all volunteers working with our kiddos,
- Download CHMeetings app (See Nicole's email,)
- and volunteer for church school one Sunday.



Month at a glance...

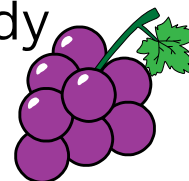
October 4th : Matthew 21:33-46 - Parable of the Greedy Vineyard Workers & World Communion Sunday

October 11th : Philippians 4:1-9 - Filled with Joy, Stewardship Begins

October 18th : Matthew 22:15-22 - A Roman Coin, Stewardship continues...

October 25th: Matthew 22:34-46 - The Golden Rule, Last Sunday of Stewardship

THANK YOU!



JOY





GETTING TO KNOW YOU

in the spotlight with...

Hazel Purcell

Hi everyone! My name is Hazel Susan Purcell. I was named after my Aunt Susu. My family calls me different names, like Hazy, or Hazy Sue or Hazlet. It doesn't bother me, I'm used to it.

I was born on flag day (June 14th 2021). I am 5 years old. I go to Kindergarten at Webster school in Weehawken. My sister, Baby Cat, goes to pre-k there. Our Mommy takes us to school. Sometimes we walk or ride our scooters, or she drives us.

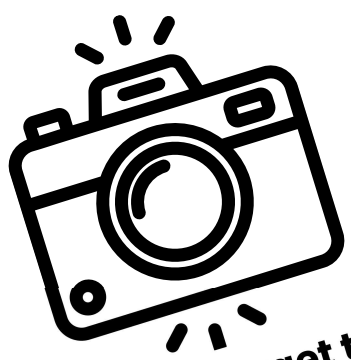
I live in a three family house on top of the Palisades above the Lincoln Tunnel. It has 3 apartments, one on each floor. My family lives on the 2nd floor. Aunt Em and Uncle Zac live on the 3rd floor, and Nannie and Popop live on the 1st floor. We go up and down to visit or play with everyone. Sometimes I go down to Nannie's and get butter or cheese or just visit.

My best friend is Winnie. She has a little sister Violet who is Baby Cat's best friend. We all love to play together. My favorite Animal (today) is the biggest dinosaur and a starfish. I change my mind about my favorites pretty often. My favorite color today is Rainbow.

I like to go to the park and shoot baskets. I like playing soccer. I like riding my scooter, and I love going down the shore to the boardwalk and going on the rides. I love camping and riding in a golf cart with my Daddy. I love dogs.

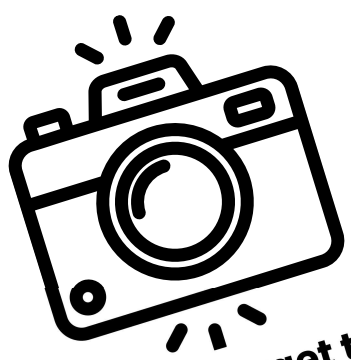
My favorite movie is Demon Hunters, and I love watching Danny Go, and Bluey and Peppa Pig. I love to dance and sing and make puzzles. I love buttered Noodles and croissants and maple syrup. My Nannie says that's because my Mommy is French Canadian. My favorite part of Church is the singing and music. I love it!





Don't forget to
send us your
pictures or tag
@kitchellchurch
at our next event!!





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October

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 AA Meeting 9:30AM
4 9AM Church School 9:20AM Senior Choir 10AM Worship 11:30AM Property Mtg	5	6 11AM Bible Study 7PM Finance Mtg	7 6PM Worship & Ed Mtg 7PM Handbell Choir	8	9	10 AA Meeting 9:30AM
11 No Church School 9:20AM Senior Choir 10AM Worship 2PM Columbus Day Parade Stewardship Begins	12 Office Closed Columbus Day	13 11AM Bible Study	14 7PM Handbell Choir	15	16	17 AA Meeting 9:30AM
18 9AM Church School 9:20AM Senior Choir 10AM Worship	19	20 11AM Bible Study 7PM Parish Life Mtg	21 7PM Handbell Choir	22	23	24 AA Meeting 9:30AM
25 9AM Church School 9:20AM Senior Choir 10AM Worship 11:30AM Deacons Mtg	26	27 11AM Bible Study 7PM Session Mtg	28 7PM Handbell Choir	29	30	31  Halloween AA Meeting 9:30AM



October Birthdays

October 1: Emily Davis

October 2: Kenneth Olsen

October 6: Carol Corea

October 15: Canaan Bump

October 19: Katie Lanigan

October 20: Douglas Macdonald

October 20: Kay Schalkoff

October 26: Melody Bjorklund

October 30: Tom Corea



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