

Second Presbyterian Church: May 2019

MAY CALENDAR

**Elaine Song is Worship Coordinator and
Karen Amrhein and Jane Yoo are Fellowship Hour Coordinators**

Sunday, May 5, 10: 15 am: On the 3rd Sunday of Easter, and the first of the month, we celebrate the Sacrament of Communion. After worship, we'll celebrate January-July children's birthdays in Fellowship Hour!

Saturday, May 11, 4:30 pm: New York Flutists in concert, with special guest, our own Eunjung Ahn on organ! See below for details.

Sunday, May 12, 10:15 am: On the 4th Sunday in Easter, and Mother's Day, we'll Shine a Light on the plight of mothers in prison, and the work of the Church of Gethsemane.

Monday, May 13 – Thursday, May 16: Please note that Rev. Lindsay Borden and Clerk of Session Nancy Hughes will be attending the Vital Congregations gathering in Atlanta, to learn more about this exciting denominational initiative.

Saturday, May 18, 10 - 3 pm: Join us as we again opens our red doors as part of the New York Landmarks Conservancy's Sacred Sites Open House Weekend. This year's theme is "From Medieval to Modern: Celebrating New York's Religious Art and Architecture." Our 1928 Rosario Candela building is home to one of the oldest congregations in NYC, founded 1756 – so come and visit, and you may even find a clue in our neighborhood scavenger hunt! (If you can help with the event, please contact Nancy Hughes or Elaine Steele.)

Sunday, May 19, 10: 15 am: Come and worship on this 5th Sunday of Easter! Stay for fellowship Hour, and a report from Nancy and Lindsay about Vital Congregations!

Wednesday, April 24, 12 noon: Our monthly midweek prayer group meets at Vivian Tom's house for prayer, fellowship and a light luncheon. All are welcome! Please let Vivian or Karen Amrhein know if you will attend (for lunch planning purposes).

Sunday, May 26, 10:15 am: This is the 6th Sunday of Easter, and we hope to see you! But if you're out of town for the Memorial Day weekend, we hope you'll find someplace to worship God – in a church, or outside in God's gorgeous world!

Monday, May 27: The office is closed for Memorial Day. Have a blessed and safe holiday – and take time to remember and honor the men and women who have died while serving in our nation's armed forces.

Opportunities from NYC Presbytery Social Justice Ministry

PLANNING MEETING IF ASYLEES ARE RELEASED IN NEW YORK

Thursday, May 2 from 2:30 – 4:30 PM

New Sanctuary Coalition Office at Judson Memorial Church

239 Thompson St NY NY 10012 (Assembly Hall)

The New Sanctuary Coalition will hold a planning meeting to organize what we will need to do if detained asylees are released into Sanctuary Cities (such as New York) as has been proposed by the President. The New Sanctuary Coalition's goal is to cast open our doors to those who are sent here. This will be an opportunity to discuss and plan for medical triage, food, clothing, transportation, legal, and housing.

HOUSING JUSTICE EVENTS

Join the Interfaith Assembly, in partnership with the [Upstate/Downstate Housing Alliance](#) and the "[Housing Justice for All](#)" campaign, to advocate for stronger rent laws on behalf of the 2.5 million New Yorkers living in rent regulated housing as well as the millions more with virtually no rent laws to protect them from unfair evictions.

NYC Rally for Housing Justice

New York City Hall, Thursday, May 2 at 10:00 am

And

Albany Rally and Lobby Day for Stronger Rent Laws

Free buses depart from many locations early morning Tuesday, May 14 and return early Tuesday evening

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdtrAyDvb29JezcpwV8TYyvmNH_FBjWPu0rgCHoO9V7oATA/viewform to reserve your seat

VIGIL FOR DISAPPEARED MIGRANTS

Friday, May 3 from 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Free Speech Area at WTC – corner of Church and Vesey

Sponsored by the New Sanctuary Coalition and Rev Billy & Stop Shopping Choir Gather Friday May 3rd from 6-7 pm to honor all those migrants who have disappeared as they cross borders, on land or sea, through desert or jungle, in trucks and boats. The vigil will take place at the World Trade Center, where Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) have their New York Office. Vigils will be held across the United States to draw attention to the growing number of migrants who have died or remain unaccounted for and will coincide with the trial of activist Scott Walker from No More Deaths who is facing upwards of 20 years in jail for helping people survive as they cross through the Cabeza Prieta Wilderness, a dangerous and difficult journey under the best of circumstances. Meet at 6, at the designated free speech area at WTC, on the corner of Church and Vesey in front of the “street art”.

FUNDING FOR SENIORS HOUSING

May 7, 2019 at 1:00 PM, Action on City Hall steps followed by hearing in the main chambers (Arrive by 12:30 to pass through security) – Security gates at Broadway & Murray or Park Row & Spruce Organized by the East Brooklyn Congregations and the Metro I.A.F., this event will call on the Mayor and the City to obtain publicly committed funds (\$500 million) to build thousands of new affordable apartments for seniors. This is part of the effort to build affordable housing, create new homes for seniors, and repair NYCHA.

EVENTS FROM THE NEW YORK CITY COMMITTEE, POOR PEOPLE’S CAMPAIGN

On **Wednesday 5/1 from 5:30-8:30PM**, the Kairos Center is leading a class on **Theories of Poverty** at the People’s Forum. The course will examine the deeply entrenched ideologies that prevent long-term and real solutions that can end poverty. You can find more info and sign up for this first session (of a two-part series) here: <https://peoplesforum.org/event/theories-of-poverty-2/2019-05-01/>

The **Reverend Dr. William J. Barber** will be at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine on **Tuesday, 5/7 from 7-9PM** as part of an evening of performance, song and discussion in honor of the 30th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square demonstrations. For tickets and more info: <https://worldvoices.pen.org/session/rise-up-tiananmens-legacy-of-freedom-and-democracy/> Rev. Barber will also be the guest preacher during Sunday service at St. John the Divine, on **Sunday, 5/5 at 11AM**.

Easter Day is past - but the season of Eastertide continues through June 2. And the spirit of resurrection lives all year long. In the words of poet Wendell Berry,

"So, friends, every day do something
that won't compute. Love the Lord.
Love the world. Work for nothing.
Take all that you have and be poor.
Love someone who does not deserve it....

Ask the questions that have no answers.
Invest in the millennium. Plant sequoias.
Say that your main crop is the forest
that you did not plant,
that you will not live to harvest.
Say that the leaves are harvested
when they have rotted into the mold.
Call that profit. Prophecy such returns...

As soon as the generals and the politicians
can predict the motions of your mind,
lose it. Leave it as a sign
to mark the false trail, the way
you didn't go. Be like the fox
who makes more tracks than necessary,
some in the wrong direction.
Practice resurrection."*

Remember those angels who said to the women, in Luke's gospel: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen." The women went and told their brothers, who thought: "It's an idle tale – it's crazy talk, it's nonsense!" But for we who have come to believe, it's the story of our lives. Christ is risen! Death is banished!

So, I urge you – when we go into the world today, and tomorrow, and the days after that: Let's talk crazy! Let's risk life! Let's, together, practice resurrection!

grace and peace,
Rev. Lindsay

*Wendell Berry, "Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front" from *The Country of Marriage* (NY: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1973).



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