

# Garden City Community Church Connections

November 2025

Building a community where all are enriched through Christian Love, Service, and Spiritual Renewal.



#### **Stewardship Campaign**

As our Stewardship Campaign continues, let us reflect on this year's theme: "*Dreaming God's Dream.*" What steps can we take together to support God's vision of the world?

Jesus teaches us to love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength-and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Your **pledge** is a powerful expression of that love. It is one way we live out our faith and commitment to building a better, more compassionate world.

At Garden City Community Church, we are called to build a community where all are enriched through Christian Love, Service, and Spiritual Renewal. We do this by faithfully reaching out to others and welcoming all into our fellowship.

As you consider your support this year, we invite you to reflect on a few questions:

- Where do you see our congregation changing lives?
- How does worship and music deepen your faith or bring peace to your spirit?
- In what way has the fellowship of our church brought you comfort, friendship, or strength?
- Has there been a time when pastoral care has made a difference in your life?
- How have you been a part of changing lives through ministries of our church?

Even as we continue the search for a new pastor, our mission remains clear: to serve God by serving others. We are committed to supporting the hungry, sick, and the homeless. Our prayer groups, youth programs, and local food initiatives are just a few of the ways we work to improve the well-being of others.

As you prayerfully consider your pledge, remember that generosity is a way of life and it brings God's dream to life-right here at Garden City Community Church.

Together through love, service, and faithful giving, we can make God's dream come true.

Please scan the QR code below to access online pledging and online recurring payment.





Inclusively Drawing In

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#### **Worship Schedule**

#### **Sundays**

10:30 AM Livestream & In-person

#### **Tuesdays**

Intercessory Prayer Service 9:30 AM In-person

## Simple Graces to use every day or on Thanksgiving in appreciation for all our Blessings - The Ministry Team.

"Thank You, God, for the food we are about to eat, for those who are here to share these blessings, for the generosity of our hosts that make this possible. Bless those who are here, and those who are in our hearts, and all those who are not as fortunate on this day. Amen."

-Patricia Gore

"Lord, you made a world full of goodness,
Filled with beauty, love, and nourishment.
Now as we talk and eat and pray,
We praise you Lord for Thanksgiving day." -Author Unknown

"For food in a world where many walk in hunger. For faith in a world where many walk in fear. For friends in a world where many walk alone. We give you thanks, O Lord." -Multiple Sources

"In gratitude we bow our heads,
To thank Thee, Lord, for daily bread.
And may we use the strength it brings,
For doing kind and helpful things." -Author Unknown

#### **Pulpit Supply for November**

November 2 – Rev. Noel Vanek November 9 – Rev. Brenda Ford

November 16 - Rev. Linda Tarry-Chard

November 23 – Rev. Rayford Howell

November 30 - Rev. Nancy Rehkugler



#### Emergent Pastoral Needs after August 24th

In the event of a Pastoral Emergency please contact the Church Office for Assistance – 516-746-1700.



#### Men's Breakfast

All men of the church and their visitors are welcome; it is an opportunity to enjoy relaxed fellowship and conversation over a shared meal.

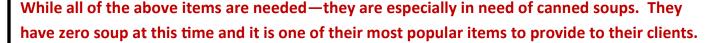
Next meetings are on Nov. 1st and Dec. 6th at 8:00 am: Carle Place Diner 151 Old Country Road in Carle Place. Reservations are not needed.



#### **LICC Emergency Food Pantry Bi-weekly Food Collections**

Our next scheduled donation dates are **November 12th and 26th.** Please drop off your non-perishable food items on this dates before noon on the Whitehall Blvd. porch.

- They are in need of: dry cereal (cold), Hot cereal (grits, oatmeal),
- canned vegetables,
- plastic bottles of jelly,
- any kind of soup, pasta, pasta sauce,
- 1 or 2 pound bags of rice,
- shelf stable milk,
- canned meats (chicken, spam, Vienna sausage)
- toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, deodorant, feminine products, razors, shampoo, Conditioner)
- all sizes of baby diapers.



If you want to sign up to be a driver to deliver our donations, please sign up here: <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084BACAD2EAA8-54023518-2025#/">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084BACAD2EAA8-54023518-2025#/</a>

We are working on a special seasonal donation at this time—please see the flyer in this newsletter to help out.



#### **New GCCC Photo Directory**

The COT is putting together a new photo directory. If you have not been able to attend one of the scheduled photo sessions, please contact, Karin Melkonian (<a href="mailto:karinmelkonian@gmail.com">karinmelkonian@gmail.com</a>) by Dec.1<sup>st</sup>, to arrange a sitting.

#### Donate your extra candy after Halloween!

On Sunday, November 9th, we will collect leftover candy to donate to Soldiers Angels, an organization that will share it with service members and veterans in the military community.

Please drop off your extra Halloween candy on **November 9th between 10 am and 6 pm.** There will be a marked box at the Whitehall Street entrance.

If you would like to make a monetary donation to help offset shipping costs, please go to our website <a href="www.thegccc.org">www.thegccc.org</a> and go the give/pledge button. Then go to the quick give button and select the "Treats for Troops" fund by November 16th."

#### 2026 Mission Trip July 12- 18th 2026 Colorado Springs, CO



Leaders needed for the 2026 Mission Trip to Colorado Springs. Please consider joining this amazing opportunity where you'll have the opportunity to grow your faith, develop adaptive leadership skills, and create a lasting impact in the community. For more info contact Jill Frain <a href="mailto:jillfrain@gmail.com">jillfrain@gmail.com</a>.

Save the Date: Our annual Christmas Tree Sale is on Sat. Dec. 6th 8am-12pm.



#### **Members at Home List**

If you or a loved one would like to be included on our 'Members at Home' list or if you have moved to a residential facility, please make the church office aware. We want to make sure we can reach out to you! Do you know a church member that we should add to this list? If so, please let us know.

#### **All Saints Day**

We would like to let you know that we will be celebrating All Saints Day on November 2, 2025 at our 10:30am worship service.

We will remember members and friends of Garden City Community Church who have died since All Saints Day last year by lighting a candle during worship and giving thanks for their lives. We wanted you to know about this special service. Please feel free to share this information with your friends and family.

If you are unable to attend in person, a Livestream video feed will be available for you to watch the service on your computer or smart phone. if interested: <a href="https://vimeo.com/event/5301393">https://vimeo.com/event/5301393</a>

#### Below are the names of those we will honor:

Marilyn Bostrom Virginia Campese Christie Capanegro
Rev. Sara A. Fetty Robert Forelli Connie Friedrich
Edith E. Gerber Barbara A. Helmus Gloria M. Jones
Laurel Lawton Joy Losgar Barbara Mallar
Grace (Connie) McGlynn Michael James Schroepfer



#### **MINISTRY ACTIVITIES**

#### **Worship Altar Flower Donations**

A \$50.00 dollar donation provides a gift of love! Use this link: <a href="https://www.gardencitycommunitychurch.org/give">https://www.gardencitycommunitychurch.org/give</a> and go to the online giving 'quick give' and choose the dropdown line: 'Give to 2025 Flowers' - or - hand deliver or mail to The Garden City Community Church.



Sign up: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084BACAD2EAA8-54023564-2025

Include the wording you wish us to include in the Order of Worship.

#### **2025 Fellowship Hour Sign Up**

#### **Hosting Refreshment and Friendship after worship conversation**

Perhaps hospitality and hosting are your passion. Schedule two ways: notebook in the Parlor or: <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084BACAD2EAA8-54023569-2025">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084BACAD2EAA8-54023569-2025</a>



Questions? Call the office at (516) 746-1700 or email <a href="mailto:churchoffice@thegccc.org">churchoffice@thegccc.org</a>

#### Fund a Refreshment and Friendship conversation time:

https://www.gardencitycommunitychurch.org/give and go to the online giving 'quick give' and choose the dropdown line: 'Give to 2025 Fellowship'.

#### **Worship Ushers or Liturgists Opportunity**

Perhaps you would love to serve as an usher or liturgist on Sunday morning?



Please call the church office at (516) 746-1700 or email us at <a href="mailto:churchoffice@thegccc.org">churchoffice@thegccc.org</a>.

Here is the link to sign up to be a liturgist:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084BACAD2EAA8-54020501-2025

#### **UNICEF Box**

The UNICEF box will be in the church hallway for donations now through **Friday, November 7**<sup>th</sup>.



# Americana Fair Saturday, November 8th from 10am—3pm

The Americana Fair is fast approaching so we need your help.

- Sorting starts Saturday, Nov. 1 from 10am— 4pm. We also need someone to assist with sorting during the week either morning or afternoon. You can select your own hours.
- If you have a favorite restaurant, hair or nail salon, etc... please think of getting a gift certificate for the gift baskets.
- According to our Safe Church Policy we need adults to work with the youth especially on Saturday afternoon (Nov. 1) from 10am -4pm and on Sunday afternoon (Nov. 2) from 11:30am 4pm. We also need adult help on Tuesday, Nov. 4th from 10:00am 4:00pm.

If you have thought about helping at the fair – here's your chance. Email Cindy at: <a href="mailto:cindala86@gmail.com">cindala86@gmail.com</a> for information.

<u>Empty Baskets & gift basket items needed to make raffle gift baskets for the Americana Fair</u> - We used up our supply of baskets at last year's Americana Fair, so we are sending out a plea for donations of baskets. We always have a nice variety of gift baskets to raffle off and to do this we need baskets. Please help us with this worthwhile cause if you are able. We are also in need of items to put in our raffle gift baskets. If you have something you would like to donate, there is a box upstairs in the hallway outside of the church office. Thanks!!!

<u>Baked Goods for Americana Fair</u> - Please make batches of your favorite pies, cakes, cookies, soups, chilis, etc. and drop them off to the Gardner Hall kitchen. If you drop them off before the morning of the fair, please put them in the Gardner Hall freezer (please include ingredient lists with your contributions.) **Volunteers are needed** to help at the Gourmet table on fair day (Saturday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>) from 9:30 am - noon or noon - 3:00 pm. For more information or to sign up, please call Cindy Campbell 516-524-1617

<u>Americana Fair Chicken Salad</u> - A long held custom at GCCC is Chicken Salad served at the Americana Fair! We are requesting contributions of cooked boneless chicken to continue that tradition! Donations should be placed in ziploc bags, marked for the fair and be placed in the basement refrigerator on Thursday, Nov. 6th and early morning Friday, Nov 7<sup>th</sup>. We will gather in the Gardner Hall kitchen to make the chicken salad on Friday, Nov 7th at 10:00 am. Please join us! Questions - contact Janet Martens 516-815-9563

Please save your NY Times newspapers and unneeded hangers for the Americana Fair and drop them off in the church building.



#### **Tuesday Prayer Service**

The Prayer Service welcomes anyone who wishes to join us. We are meeting in the chapel Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am. Please email the office if you have a prayer request. All requests are kept confidential.

#### Americana Fair Donation Drop-off days/times

We welcome your donations to the fair and will accept clean gently used items. For a list of items we accept please see the flyer in this newsletter.

#### Drop-off days/times

Sat. Nov. 1 10am – 4pm

Sun. Nov. 2 11:30am — 3pm

Mon. Nov. 3 10am — 4pm

Tues. Nov. 4 10am — 4pm

Wed. Nov. 5 8am — 4pm

Thurs. Nov. 6 8am-4 pm

#### No donations after Noon Friday Nov 7th

Please bring all donations down one flight to Gardner Hall

#### **NEWS FROM THE OFFICE**

HAVE YOU CHANGED ANY OF YOUR CORRESPONDENCE INFORMATION LATELY?

HERE'S THE THE

Moving or preparing to move?

Do you have a new address, a new phone number or a new e-mail address?

Do you want to receive our weekly e-blasts about all the activities going on in the church?

Are you getting the mailings from the church?

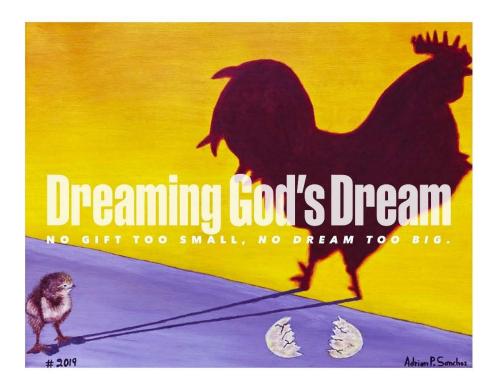
Please let the church office know if any of your information has changed so that we can stay in touch with you! We are updating our files and want to make sure we have the correct information.

#### **GC Community Church Tech Team**

We are looking for youth (and the otherwise young-at-heart) to contribute to bringing our weekly services, special services, and other content to our homebound and our away-from-home members. This is also our chance to reach out to those seeking a new church home. But we cannot do this alone, we need your help, or your children's help in making this happen. Absolutely no experience required, and while we will guide newcomers, we will also gladly take advice from the old sages.

Contact Steve Short, Tim Martens, or William Stone
Or Just join us some Sunday, in the balcony





Our Stewardship Campaign – 'Dreaming God's Dream' no gift too small, no dream too big is going on now.

Garden City Community Church's dream is to build a community where all are enriched through Christian Love, Service and Spiritual Renewal. We do this by faithfully reaching out, inclusively drawing in.

- Where do you see our congregation changing lives?
- How does worship or music change your life?
- How does the fellowship of the church impact you?
- When did pastoral care matter in your life?
- How have you been involved in changing lives through the church?

We pray together, play together, serve together, gather together and support the Wider Church together.

Our congregation is changing lives. The mission and ministry here stir our hearts – it's why we belong, why we volunteer, and why we give. Together we are dreaming God's dream for this community – where love, service, and faith transform the world around us.

We hope you will join us in financial support of our congregation as we 'Dream God's Dream.'

Stewardship Sunday will be on Sunday, November 23, 2025. Join us for a luncheon after the 10:30 am service. See the flyer in this newsletter about the luncheon.



#### Garden City Community Church Nursery School

245 Stewart Ave., Garden City, 11530 GCCCNursery@gmail.com

Nurturing Confidence, Curiosity, and a Love of Learning

#### 2026/27 REGISTRATION IS OPEN TO CHURCH MEMBERS BEGINNING NOVEMBER 3

We're excited to announce NEW opportunities for young learners
— along with our cherished, long-standing programs!



#### Pre-K and Transition PRE-K

A fun, hands-on year of learning that builds confidence and kindergarten readiness.

#### **Enrichment Programs (5 Days)**

Creative activities, exploration, and learning through play and discovery — a wonderful complement to the school day! (Now increased to 29 classes per year — up from 28!)



#### 5-DAY MORNING 3S PROGRAM

In addition to our popular 4-Day 3s class, families can now choose a 5-day morning option — perfect for children ready for a full, consistent weekly routine.

#### LITTLE LUNCHERS (FOR 3S)

Extend your child's day with this  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -hour after-school class (11:45-1:15). Children enjoy lunch together and extra classroom and outdoor playtime — a great way to build social skills in a relaxed setting!

#### NEXT STEPS - NOW 4 MORNINGS!

Our beloved Next Steps program will be offered four mornings a week! Next Steps is a gentle, play-based program designed as a bridge into preschool routines — socialization, simple group activities, and foundational gross/fine motor play. Afternoon options remain available as well.

#### PLAYSCHOOL

A warm introduction to nursery school for our youngest learners! This gentle separation class begins with a parent or caregiver joining in the classroom, easing the transition to independent participation. (Now increased to 28 weeks — up from 26!)

For more information about our school and our programs

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

GCCCNURSERYSCHOOL.COM

# Assemble Thanksgiving Fixin' Bags for INN Guests Garden City Community Church 245 Stewart Avenue Garden City, NY 11530

The Mary Brennan INN has asked for volunteers to donate holiday side dishes fixin' bags for their guests. Please assemble the following items in a durable, reusable grocery bag with handles. Every bag must have the same items inside, based on the list below. Sizes of items (Boxes and cans) may vary. Please no glass items.

- Either 1 box of Macaroni & Cheese **OR** 1 box of Boxed Mashed Potatoes (**please** choose one or the other)
- 1 can of cranberry sauce
- 1 can of fruit
- 1 can of soup
- 2 cans of vegetables
- 1 can of gravy
- 1 can of yams
- 1 box of stuffing
- 64 ounce plastic bottle of apple juice

Once your bag is complete, please drop it off at the church by Mon. November 10, 2025.

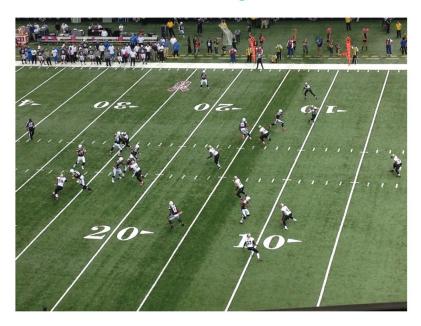
If you need a reusable grocery bag with handles – you can get one off our 'giving tree'. Please sign our list when you take a bag so that we know who is making a bag for us.

If you have any questions, please call the church at (516) 746-1700 or email us at <a href="mailto:churchoffice@thegccc.org">churchoffice@thegccc.org</a>



# HELP US TURN GCCC SPIRIT INTO COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Our Goal: To donate more food items than the Jets rush for yards this season



Why: the need for food assistance is greater than ever

**How we can help:** For this year's football season, please bring in non-perishable goods which will be donated to the LICC Emergency Food Pantry and the INN.

We will share donation updates throughout the season.

#### Help us beat the Jets to tackle hunger

As of the printing of this newsletter, we have donated 692 food items to the LICC Emergency Food Pantry during this campaign. The Jets have rushed 1, 105 yards this year. Let's try and keep up with their pace. Now that we will be collecting our Thanksgiving Fixin' Bags are numbers will increase. Watch our e-blasts for more updates. Thanks to everyone that has donated so far.



#### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8**

245 STEWART AVENUE, GARDEN CITY (516-746-1700)

# 10AM-3PM: FREE ADMISSION WE WELCOME YOUR DONATIONS TO THE FAIR AND WILL ACCEPT CLEAN, GENTLY USED:

Silent Auction - gently-used furs, special treasures and collectibles will go to the Silent Auction (please wrap and label these separately). Jewelry, china, crystal, silver, pictures and frames, lamps, new, unloved items for the Boutique, toys, holiday items, and household items for Attic Treasures.

Make sure all items are clean and in saleable condition.

There will be a Shabby/Chic Clothing and Accessories Room for adults and children's items.

#### NO LARGE PIECES OF FURNITURE OR ELECTRONICS, PLEASE.

Items may be delivered beginning:

Sat., Nov. 1 - 10:00 AM - 4 PM

Sun., Nov. 2 – 11:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Mon., Nov 3 - 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Tues., Nov 4 - (ELECTION DAY) - 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Wed., Nov. 5 - 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Thurs., Nov. 6 - 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

OPEN THURSDAY NIGHT NOVEMBER 6 FOR PRICING 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

#### NO DONATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 AT NOON

Please bring all donations down one flight to GARDNER HALL.



PLUS A VARIETY OF BOUTIQUE VENDORS



Saturday, November 8, 2025 10 am - 3 pm GARDEN CITY COMMUNITY CHURCH

245 Stewart Avenue at Whitehall Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530 (516) 746-1700

Free Admission
Contact:

Chair: Cindy Campbell <u>cindala86@gmail.com</u>

Youth Coordinator: Robin Laisure <a href="mailto:rblaisure421@gmail.com">rblaisure421@gmail.com</a>

SILENT AUCTION--Antiques, Collectibles
SHABBY/CHIC
ACCESSORIES
ATTIC TREASURES
HOLIDAY & GIFT BOUTIQUES
LINENS, LAMPS, CHINA, SILVER,
JEWELRY
TOYS, PICTURES, FRAMES,
GOURMET SHOP
BISTRO LUNCHEON or Hot Dog Tent

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# Thanksgiving Celebration!!

The GCCC welcomes you to join us in celebrating the season of Gratitude!!

### Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>

(after worship service in Gardner Hall)

A strong church is one that worships together, serves together, plays together and eats together!!

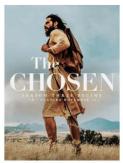
All Are Nelconnell

#### **Season 4: The Chosen**

#### Wednesdays at 7pm

Please join our dedicated and faithful "Chosen" discussion group to journey with Jesus exploring your faith and enjoying fellowship with church and community members.

#### All are Welcome!!



The Chosen is a depiction of Jesus' life from the perspective of his Chosen Disciples. Viewing Jesus' works through the eyes of the disciples puts us in their shoes allowing us to experience their excitement about their life with Christ but also their doubts & struggles with their faith

It's a great opportunity to share with fellow church & community members and get to know them better and their faith journey. For those of you who would like to join us, whether you have done so before or not we are currently on Season 4. You can easily catch up by viewing previous seasons on the Chosen app or just join us as the episodes stand on their own.

Questions: contact Karin Melkonian (karinmelkonian@gmail.com)

Our next scheduled viewings/discussions of the Chosen will be on Nov. 12th, Nov. 19th, Dec. 3rd and Dec. 10th. Season 4 will end on Dec. 10th. We will start up again with Season 5 in February or the early spring. Watch our e-blasts for further information.

## Musical Ensembles September through June

<u>Adult Choir</u> – Open to H.S. students through adults. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm. The choir sings from Welcome Day in September through Church School Sunday in June.



<u>Youth/Church School Choir</u> – Open to grades 3-5. Rehearses during Church School. Performs at the 10:30 am service before Church School dismissal.



<u>Handbell Choir</u> – Open to H.S. students through adults. Rehearsals are planned in modules before each performance. Performs 4 times a year.



**Youth Band** – Open to grades 8-12 and college students. Performs on special occasions.



For more information contact Frank Crosio, Minister of Music at <a href="mailto:music@thegccc.org">music@thegccc.org</a>

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If you would like to donate to enhance the Music Program of our Church, you are invited to contribute to the Music Fund in memory of or in honor of loved ones. Please fill out the form below and return it to the church office no later than Monday, December 8th

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_\_

OR

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_\_

#### **CHRISTMAS PLANTS 2025**

If you would like to donate to enhance the Flower Program of our Church, you are invited to contribute to the Flower Fund <u>in memory of</u> or <u>in honor of</u> loved ones. Please fill out the form below and return it to the church office no later than <u>Monday, December 8th</u>

In memory of:	
OR	
In honor of:	
Given by:	Amount enclosed: \$

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed: \$\_\_\_





#### **NOVEMBER 2025**

WITH SECURE, VIRTUAL COUNSELING SESSIONS AVAILABLE FOR ANY NEW YORK RESIDENT

Prepared especially for LCC Congregations & Schools

#### Occam's Razor and the Compassion Imperative

By the Rev. Forrest Parkinson, LP, LMSW

n pastoral counseling, we often encounter moments that test both our hearts and our understanding. One such moment came when a therapist's long-term client — a man recovering from alcoholism — suddenly stopped attending sessions without warning. Their last meeting had ended positively; nothing seemed amiss. Left puzzled and concerned, the therapist struggled to make sense of the sudden silence.

Here, applying Occam's Razor—the principle that the simplest explanation tends to be correct—can provide clarity. The most likely cause is relapse. Addiction, as Alcoholics Anonymous calls it, is "cunning, baffling, and powerful." Relapse frequently unfolds without outward warning, even to those who care deeply. It is often cloaked by silence and shame, obscuring the psychological struggles beneath.

Addiction's secretiveness is no accident. Shame around socially condemned behaviors drives individuals to hide their suffering. Deceit and concealment become survival tools that perpetuate the cycle. For those in recovery, the therapeutic relationship is a lifeline, a source of identity and hope. Yet, that relationship can also lead them to mask setbacks—to overstate strength, to avoid disappointing their counselor or themselves.



The answer that requires the fewest assumptions is generally the correct one.

When relapse strikes, shame can be so overwhelming that some abruptly end therapy, choosing silence over the humiliation of honesty. This act is less about avoiding the therapist's judgment than escaping self-condemnation.

For therapists, this turn is deeply challenging—balancing concern for the client, self-doubt, and confusion. Still, the key lies in readiness: maintaining "conditional positive regard," setting aside disappointment, and holding space for the client's return. This posture nurtures healing and models resilience.

Families and friends navigate similar emotional terrains: anger, loss, and frustration. Working through these feelings before a hoped-for reunion prepares them to respond with genuine grace and support.

When loved ones struggle with the addiction cycle of recovery, relapse and restoration, the call to compassionate presence is not easy.

Such realities invite us to contemplate God's relentless mercy. The parables in Luke 15—the shepherd leaving ninety-nine to seek one lost sheep, the woman sweeping her house for one lost coin—capture this divine pursuit. The hymn "Just As I Am, without one plea..." echoes this grace: we come not on merit but simply as we are, vulnerable and in need.

This truth shapes the counselor's role and the Christian calling itself. Our vocation is to love faithfully, patiently, leaving no stumbling blocks in the way of grace. We must resist judgment and doubt that hinder restoration.

When we do, we become instruments of God's healing, embodying mercy that restores and transforms. No matter how hidden the struggle or overwhelming the relapse, there is always room for return, forgiveness, and new life.

This call to compassionate presence is not easy. It asks us to hold paradox—to recognize addiction's power and pain while embracing the hope of restoration. It urges us to accept ourselves and others as beloved children of God journeying toward healing.

In the end, our highest calling is this: to love without reservation, to welcome without hesitation, and always ready to say, "Come just as you are."

We wish you a wonderful year, filled with new opportunities and many blessings.

To learn more about  $\underline{Pr.\ Forrest\ Parkinson}$  and all LCC's Counselors, go to  $\underline{https://www.lccny.org/meetourcounselors}$ . Call the Lutheran Counseling Center at 516-741-0994 or 1-800-317-1173 or e-mail us at  $\underline{Center@lccny.org}$  to set an appointment.

# Vovembei



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First Sunday in Advent 30 Service 10:30am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Hour 11:30am	23 Service 10:30am Sunday School 10:30 am Stewardship Campaign/Friendsgiving Luncheon 11:30am	16 Service 10:30am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Hour 11:30am Ministry Meeting 12pm	9 Service 10:30am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Hour 11:30am	Daylight Saving Time ends 2 Service 10:30am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Hour 11:30am Americana Fair Donation Drop-off times 11:30am – 3pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 12pm	Please Support our Stewardship Campaign	Sunday
	24	17 Council of Trustees (COT) Meeting 7pm	10	3 Americana Fair Donation Drop-off times 10am – 4pm		Monday
	25 Prayer Service 9:30am	18 Prayer Service 9:30am	11 Office Closed for Veterans Day	Election Day  Prayer Service 9:30am  Americana Fair  Donation Drop-off  times 10am – 4pm		Tuesday
	26 Food donations drop off before noon The Chosen 7pm not scheduled	19 The Chosen 7pm	12 Food donations drop off before noon The Chosen 7pm	Americana Fair Donation Drop-off times 8am – 4pm The Chosen 7pm not scheduled		Wednesday
	27 Office Closed for Thanksgiving	20 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm	13 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm	Americana Fair Donation Drop-off times 8am – 4pm Americana Fair Pricing Team 7pm – 8:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm		Thursday
	28 Office Closed for Thanksgiving	21	14	7 Americana Fair Donation Drop-off times 8am - noon		Friday
	29	22 Bell Choir Rehearsal 10am	15 Bell Choir Rehearsal 10am	8 Americana Fair 10am- 3pm	1 Men's Breakfast 8am Carle Place Diner Americana Fair Donation Drop-off times 10am-4pm	Saturday