

THE ARLINGTON POST

GRACE, GRACE GOD'S GRACE A FUTURE AND A HOPE

Dear Church Family and Friends:

Thank you for your participation in the process we began in January-our church requesting leave from the Reformed Church in America (RCA), with all of our property and possessions to affiliate with Changepoint Church in Poughkeepsie.

“TWO ARE BETTER THAN ONE,
BECAUSE THEY HAVE A GOOD
RETURN FOR THEIR LABOR.”

This request was not done lightly, without meetings, consultations, and seeking God. Your opinions and considerations have informed our every step, they have been invaluable and appreciated as the consistory prayed and planned.

As a church, we have been pulling along in faith and love with one another for years. But we have pastoral needs, growth needs, enhanced ministry needs, financial needs, building needs. And there

are apartments being built across from us on Raymond Avenue; we want to be ready for them...but how? We prayed diligently to become a vibrant church glorifying God on the corner of Raymond and Haight Avenues; we sought wisdom and direction from God.

Then, without knowing of our deep needs, through God's sovereign grace and love for us, Changepoint pastors came alongside us and began preaching and ministering to us and with us two and a half years ago. They love us. An affiliation with Changepoint Church strengthens and supports our presence in Arlington as a church family.

We had a congregational vote on 7.18.2021. Of the 33 active confessing members, 28 were able to vote: 26 yeses in favor of affiliating with Changepoint, 2 noes. Of the 35+ other congregants attending regularly there was resounding support for the affiliation.

If our Classis approves our affiliation, we will not

TRUSTING GOD

There are times when churches face challenges and struggles to one degree or another with being able to teach and preach to all their members, provide loving fellowship and care, have strong worship and prayer ministries. In these instances, a church family which is seeking to be healthy will pray about overcoming such challenges in a way that honors God and His intentions for His church. You have done this without warring or division. Change can be difficult and at times painful, but it is not always bad. What a witness to our community. Thank you.

be “absorbed” into Changepoint Church. We are not leaving our church building. Members of our current leadership and church family will be a part of the legal and leadership organization of the church ARC becomes when we affiliate with Changepoint. There will not be hasty changes.

In the book of Ecclesiastes we read: “Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor.” The scripture goes on to affirm helping each other as we labor together and when there is need. Changepoint church is a strong growing ministry minded church. We can be excited at the prospects of partnering to share God’s love in the community together.

We have completed most of the steps required according to the RCA’s Book of Church Order and our Classis. We thank the Ad Hoc committee of our Classis for all the time they have given in connection with our request, we thank our Classis

supervisor, Rev Dr Renee House for her guidance and support. Classis will decide by delegate vote most probably in the fall regarding our request to separate from the RCA. Please keep in prayer that we have a successful outcome, a smooth God honoring transition. In the meantime, through the summer, fall and end of the year, we continue as we have been, together, with the Changepoint pastors on Sunday.

Our dreams can be greater than our memories and our vision greater than our doubts. We are trusting God and believing his very best for us.

Church family, thank you for your prayers, for being present at meetings, discussions, votes. Thank you for peaceful assemblies and kindness toward each other. Thank you for sacrifices and faith decisions. You are the best family of God a person could ever hope to be a part of.

REVITALIZING THE ARTHUR S. MAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Starting Soon-Let’s Be Ready!

The former Arthur S. May Elementary School building will reopen as a commercial and residential center on Raymond Avenue directly across the street in walking distance to the Arlington Reformed Church.

The old Arthur S. May Elementary School at 25-31 Raymond Avenue is ready for a second life. The school, which dates back to the 1920s and was part of the Arlington Central School District, closed its doors in 2014 and has remained vacant ever since.

For the past four years, Arthur May



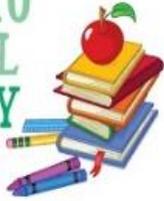
Redevelopment, LLC, (AMR), an affiliate of the family-owned, Poughkeepsie-based [PAZ Management, Inc.](#), has worked on their site plan for approval by the Town of Poughkeepsie Planning Board. It received the OK in January 2020 and seeks to break ground this fall. The site will be the home to 159 apartments as well as businesses and shops, bike paths and seating benches...and hopefully a parking lot.

As a church, we are praying to be ready for our new neighbors in walking distance to us.

AS MEMBERS OF THE ARLINGTON BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT COMMITTEE FOCUSING ON REVITALIZATION IN THE ARLINGTON AREA, WE KNOW A PRIMARY FOCUS WITH THE ONGOING DEVELOPMENT OF OUR COMMUNITY IS BETTER PARKING FOR BUSINESSES, RESTAURANTS, AND THE CHURCH IN THE RAYMOND AVENUE AREA. MORE ON THIS TO COME!

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



As a church family, we have an A S May Elementary School Supply Drive every year. Everything collected goes directly to the A S May Elementary School, part of the Arlington

School District. A S May Elementary School is around the corner at 601 Dutchess Turnpike. This drive directly benefits the kids and the families in our immediate neighborhood who struggle to buy the supplies their children need at the start of the school year. There are many school supply sales going on at pharmacies and department stores right now. Please start bringing in your supplies each week and put them in the box provided for them at the front of the sanctuary.

Suggested Items:

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| Organizers | Erasers |
| Inexpensive Backpacks | 3 Ring Binders |
| Marble Composition Books | Rulers |
| Pencils and Pens | Glue Sticks |
| Hand Sanitizer | Loose Leaf Paper |
| 3 Subject Notebooks | Sm Tissue Boxes |

Collections continue through 9/05/2021.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 2021- PIZZA AND SALAD LUNCH



Following our Lord's Supper service on August 1st, we will have a fellowship meal of pizza and salad with beverages and desserts. A safe single serve meal! Please let Josie

Sahawaeh know what your favorite pizza toppings are! Please plan to stay and have lunch with your church family. This is a great time to invite family members and friends. All are welcomed!

WHAT'S UP WITH OUR PIANISTS!?

We have been extremely blessed to have Lexi Johnson play piano on Sundays this summer-off and on-before she returns to school at SUNY Binghamton at the end of August. We will have her with us two more Sundays this summer and also when she is back home on school breaks..

Starting in September, Kara Lu rejoins our worship team when she returns to Vassar College for her music and mathematics major fall semester. Kara will play piano, sometimes guitar and has agreed to try her hand at



the organ! This is exciting news as we have members who miss an organ piece now and then.

In the meantime, Sheryl Wheeler has filled in on the piano, and our Jerry Canaday continues to lead worship on the guitar and our lovely Sandra Cox sings with him. We have it covered!

6-7:15PM WEDNESDAY STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP MEAL

We have started our 6 week summer study on the Compassion of Jesus. We start with singing led by Rob Grant on his guitar, we have a devotion together, then we head into the fellowship hall for a safe serve light meal. It's marvelous to worship and study God's Word together and have some fellowship over food afterwards. The Sahawaeh family help with serving and cleanup-thank you! Any one is welcomed to join us any week, we will conclude this program on August 18th.

TESTIMONY ANYONE?

On Sunday, July 18th, one of our newer attendees, Stephanie Kinney, gave a testimony of God's unfailing love in drawing her back to Him and His church. It was an amazing blessing to hear her words. We have been encouraged by her testimony and her family, which included five sons! If anyone has a testimony you would like to share some Sunday, see Cynthia.

DEEP CLEANING AND GARDENS?

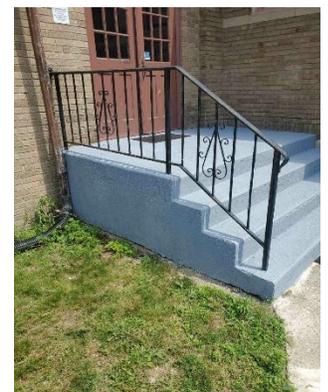
Our excellent church cleaner, Cheryl Dillinger, has continued to deep clean the church each week with NYS recommended procedures. The changes we made in cleaning the church during the pandemic will continue as normal protocols.

Cheryl also has a green thumb and has been planting flowers and shrubs around the church this year. We are so grateful for her gardening gift to us, what a blessing! The hanging baskets are courtesy of Linda Zimmermann, one of our Lutz House tenants.



SUMMER RENOVATIONS AND REPAIRS

The downstairs bathrooms needed some work: replacing an old (very old!) leaking sink and crumbling vanity, building some new radiator shelves and painting. We hired Jay Harrison who did the work for next to nothing for the church...thank you, Jay! Jay also repaired the steps into the sanctuary and has been painting the steps around the building.



Arlington Reformed Church
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**WE LOVE GOD, EACH OTHER AND OUR
COMMUNITY**
We worship Sunday at 11am