

## Hudson River Presbytery's Challenge to Change 2020 Grant Awards

Due to Covid 19, funds for the 2020 Challenge to Change Grants will be released when the programs are ready to start their projects.

### **All Souls Parish, Port Chester**

#### ***Creating Environmental Stewardship at All Souls Parish* **\$6400****

All Souls Parish plans to green their buildings and grounds using best practices for environmental sustainability. They are becoming a "zero-waste, zero plastic" church. The congregation will be better stewards of their grounds by changing landscaping practices, adding a pollinator garden, and promoting neighborhood education and participation. It is their intention to bring beauty to impoverished sections of Port Chester by planting small trees. All Souls will reach out to other Port Chester houses of worship to share resources and to promote interfaith greening. CONTACTS: Meryl Bovard and Heather Smith

### **Central Presbyterian Church, Haverstraw**

#### ***Sanctuary Arts Community Recycle Education Destination (SACRED)* **\$6400****

Central Presbyterian Church plans to expand their Sanctuary Arts program and continue to create community through intergenerational and intercultural arts and recycled-based arts workshops and events. By sharing the resources offered through the program, they will provide the support needed to serve a community in need of creative and personalized programming and outreach. A few of the initiatives the church is offering include open studio workshops that offer free supplies and creative space to the community and church members, exhibitions and events and partnering with the church summer breakfast program to engage youth and families CONTACT: Rev. Kathryn Rivera Torea

### **First Presbyterian Church of Chester**

#### ***Year of Good News: multi-program year of generating outreach* **\$3000****

The Chester congregation plans to reach out to the community with "A Year of Good News," a series of programs to engage and enrich the local community. Through involvement in common interests and the exchange of views and ideas the congregation will provide a space and an atmosphere for spiritual growth and a bit of fun. Programs will include healthy cooking classes, semi-annual community dinner, pub theology, school supplies collection/packing, jigsaw puzzle competition, and a Christmas fest. CONTACT: Rev. Erin Moore

### **First Presbyterian Church of Marlboro**

#### ***Music Mission* **\$6400****

The Marlboro Church plans to launch a year-long weekly music program for children. The church hopes to secure another generation of active Christians through a vibrant music program. Additionally, they want the weekly music program to be the foundation for a choir to be resurrected at the church. The plan is for a dozen children to participate in the music program with a children's choir to be launched after the first few months. At about the same time a group of adults will form an intergenerational choir. During the school year *Music Mission* will meet weekly. Volunteers will provide dinner for the children and their families. After dinner, participants will rehearse together. The program will consist of meal, music, and recreation. CONTACT: Rev. Laurie McNeill

**First Presbyterian Church of Phillipstown**

***Initial Projects to Promote Earth Care and Sustainability***

**\$6400**

The Green Team of First Presbyterian Church of Phillipstown plans to complete its first set of top-priority projects that promote earth care and sustainability. The grant will support congregational efforts to raise awareness in the church and the community, enhancing engagement of environmental and climate change issues, local to global. The projects supported by the grant are named: Goodbye Grass, Reduce Waste, Sustainable Products and Communication and Outreach. CONTACT: Rev. Rachel Thompson

**Hitchcock Presbyterian Church**

***Impact Now! – Faith Meets Action***

**\$6400**

Hitchcock Presbyterian Church working in a partnership with the Holmes Camp and Conference Center, Scarsdale Baptist Church, St. James the Less Episcopal Church, and Scarsdale Congregational Church plans to help fund a High School student mission gathering. They have chosen to provide a new opportunity instead of the traditional mission excursion. The pastors of the four churches have come together to provide a conference-style mission experience. The clergy will be on-site for the entire event and lead the youth through discussions and experiences that will open their eyes to real world issues, connect those issues to their faith, and help them discern ways in which they can make a difference now. Each of the churches have dedicated their summer 2020 mission trips to this event and have opened it to other youth as well through the Holmes registration process. The hope is to have at least 50 youth. CONTACT: Rev. Pete Jones

**Larchmont Avenue Church**

***Mental Health First Aid***

**\$3000**

The community of Larchmont is experiencing an increase in homeless adults including those exhibiting symptoms of mental illness. Many of the homeless are seeking services from the church where the mission is to welcome all individuals. Therefore, the church requested funds to provide a full-day mental health first aid course, open to church and community members, in response to this increase in homeless adults. They want to educate not only church members and leaders about mental illness but the community at large. The full day training will be offered by two qualified mental health staff from Westchester Jewish Community Services. CONTACT: Rev. Ellen Clark Clemot