RPC GRACE NOTES

Rye Presbyterian Church • November 2026 • Vol. 273



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Community

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 15, following worship

A congregational meeting is called for Sunday, November 15, immediately following 10:00 a.m. worship, for the purpose of acting on the nominations for Elders, Deacons, Trustees, and members-at-large to the Nominating Committee.

– John Shuck, Clerk of Session

Stephen Ministry Gives Thanks

"*In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*" — 1 Thessalonians 5:18

While we love this verse, living it out can sometimes be easier said than done. In this busy season full of big events and complex feelings, Stephen Ministry is here for you. Whether you need support finding something to be thankful for, or simply want to speak with someone who understands that a gratitude list isn't always the answer, we are available to help. To learn more, contact our Referrals Coordinator, Mary Versfelt, anytime at mdversfelt@gmail.com, or reach out to Pastor Dan or Pastor Cari. And know that we are thankful for YOU, always!

Daylight Saving Time Ends

Sunday, November 1

Remember to turn your clocks back one hour on Sunday, November 1. Enjoy the extra sleep, and we'll see you in worship!



The Opening Word

November opens with All Saints' Day, and winds down with Thanksgiving. It's a season to think about loved ones and mentors in our lives who've passed on, and the gratitude we feel that they once walked on earth beside us.

We talked a bit about loss at our recent "Roots of Faith" study with Rabbi Daniel Gropper, as he led us through the stories of Tamar and Ruth. Both women knew significant loss. But they- along with other women in scripture- claimed their agency and looked for ways to help each other survive and thrive.

From the other side of history, we may at first have difficulty relating to their circumstances. But as we grieve with Naomi, we see how she had to go through a season of "Call me Mara" (meaning "bitter") before she could pick up and plan for the future. As we meet these "bold women of the Bible," I'm struck by their honest, clever, can-do attitudes, even while naming their places of pain.

Proverbs 31 describes one of noble character, saying, "She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come." Laughing at the days to come does not mean skipping over "a time to mourn," or a "time to weep."

I love that this church is one that loves to laugh together. And the longer I'm here, I appreciate the ways we can cry together. Whether showing up to funerals or tending to one another's hurts in Stephen Ministry and small groups, this congregation shares the sorrows and joys of real life, lived in the hope of God.

Over the past few months, I preached on Moses- the manna in the wilderness, his exasperation with the Israelites, and his desire to see a glimpse of God's glory. It amazes me how much their journey mirrors our own- the struggle to keep going, the impatience for prayer to be answered, and the unique tests of leadership.



Roots of Faith *(Interfaith Bible Study)*

Rabbi Jonathan Kligler, my colleague and friend from the synagogue in Woodstock, notes:

As I read the Torah, I come to this conclusion- God, the Infinite Mystery of our being, desires us and longs to know us face to face. But most of the time we are like the children of Israel- on occasion, we stumble out of our daily preoccupations and catch a glimpse of the awesome and endless wonder that surrounds us.

We might sense a call from the universe- a conviction that despite our smallness, our lives matter, and that we have a place to fill and a task to perform. But we retreat from the encounter, unable to sustain our gaze.

We shrink our world into manageable forms- golden calves- and refuse to listen to the whisper that calls to our souls. Moses is not able to define God- no one is- but Moses encounters God, and then brings back to us the fruits of that living relationship.

This month, may you encounter God in the daily rhythms of celebration and sorrow.

May you carry the fruits of that living relationship everywhere you go.

And may you, by the grace of God, find lightness to laugh at the days to come.

Cari

Sunday Evening Worship
Crawford Chapel

RPC's Crawford Chapel is adjacent to the Sanctuary



November 1, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

All Saints' Day ✦ Worship, with Communion

Music will be provided by a quartet of
professional vocalists from the Chancel Choir.

These services, each approximately 40 minutes in duration, provide an opportunity to worship at the close of the day.

The intimacy of the chapel, coupled with its warm acoustics and decorative flexibility, enables clarity and resonance in the sung and spoken word.

Please join the Clergy of Rye for the

Rye Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

sponsored by the Rye Women's Interfaith Committee

Sunday, November 22, 2026
3:00 pm

Community Synagogue, 200 Forest Avenue, Rye

Guest Speaker: Reverend Christopher Monturo
Church of the Resurrection, Rye

Reception to follow hosted by the Rye Women's Interfaith Committee

Christ's Church
Rye, New York

Community Synagogue of Rye

Rye Presbyterian Church

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

Non-perishable food and monetary donations will be collected for Meals on Main Street. Suggested donations include checks, canned soups, and shelf-stable milk. Donations may also be made on their website mealsonmainst.org or by mail to: P. O. Box 682, Port Chester, NY 10573

MEALS ON MAIN ST.

Upcoming Events

Thrift Shop Evening Sale & Grant Recipient Spotlight

Wednesday, November 11, from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Earlier this year, we were fortunate enough to grant $102,000 to multiple local charities. Through these nonprofits, all Thrift Shop proceeds go towards helping women, children, and other underserved populations. Once a month, we invite you to get to know one of our many exceptional grant recipients during our evening sales. This month, we're proud to welcome 5 Steps to Five to Rye Presbyterian Church. 5 Steps to Five strives to be a trusted resource for parents seeking to give their child the best possible start to school and to life. Their program features bilingual teachers modeling simple and fun ways to nurture cognitive, verbal, emotional, and social skills. RPC's longstanding partnership goes back to our previous ownership of the All Souls Community Center, which continues to serve as the base of operations for 5 Steps to Five. Come shop, drop off donations, and learn about the many services and volunteer opportunities that this worthy organization provides.

Questions? Email RyeThrift10580@gmail.com, or visit ryepc.com/ministries/thrift-shop/.

To learn more about 5 Steps to Five, visit 5stepstofive.org via link or QR.

Sponsored by the RPC Women's Association.

New Member Meeting & Welcome in Worship

Meeting on Sunday, November 8, at 7:00 p.m.
Welcome on Sunday, November 15, during worship

Thank you to all who participated in our Membership Information Sessions! For those choosing to join the church, there will be a meeting with the leadership of the church on Sunday evening, November 8, at 7:00. This is a time to meet the officers of the church and for the church elders to welcome the group to official church membership. Public welcome and recognition of the new members will take place during worship on Sunday, November 15.

Greening of the Kirk

Wednesday, December 2, from 8:45 – 11:00 a.m.

It's almost that time of year when RPC's elves gather together to decorate the Sanctuary for the holidays You can look forward to snacks, coffee, and lots of holiday cheer. Please contact Ashley Ginnings at ashleytginnings@gmail.com if we can count on you!

Christmas Tree Lighting

Sunday, December 6, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Join us for carols around the tree to welcome the Christmas season! This year, we will begin our festivities on the front lawn at 6:30 p.m. After caroling, we will walk together next door to the 890 manse for desserts and hot chocolate from 7:00-8:30 p.m. We welcome members, friends, and visitors of all ages.

Please bring a dessert to share! Desserts can be dropped off in the church kitchen before 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 6, or they can be carried over with you after the tree lighting. Thank you!

CALLING ALL RPC BAKERS!

Sunday, November 15
Special Coffee Hour



Join us following worship in the Assembly Room for a special coffee hour and a chance to show off your baking talents!

Whether you're creative with decorations or prefer classic chocolate chip cookies, we'd love to have your contribution!

Let us know if you will be participating by emailing Sarah Barringer at ssbarringer@gmail.com.

Baked goods can be dropped off in the Assembly Room before worship.

ROOTS OF FAITH
Bold Women of the Bible

Join us on Thursdays, from 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.,
in Rye Presbyterian Church's Westminster Room.

Come join our local Rye clergy for an interfaith exploration of Tamar, Ruth, Esther, Mary, mother of Jesus, and Mary Magdalene.
Together we offer a shared scripture study that's open to all.

Sessions continue through Thursday, December 17. Kindly RSVP to **cpattison@ryepc.com,** through which a Zoom option is available upon request. Coffee and light refreshments are provided!



Rabbi Daniel Gropper
Community Synagogue of Rye



The Rev. Dan Love
Rye Presbyterian Church



The Rev. Cari Pattison
Rye Presbyterian Church



The Rev. Matt Stone
Christ's Church Rye



The Rev. Tommy Watson
Christ's Church Rye

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Book & Bible Studies

Young Moms' Bible Study

Sundays, from 8:45 – 9:45 a.m., in the Conference Room

This group is for moms with young children who are looking for support, encouragement, and fellowship with other moms. We meet together in the Upstairs Conference Room, and we conclude just before worship. Childcare is available! If you'd like to be on the email list and learn more, please contact Madison Walsh at madisonlichliterwalsh@gmail.com.

Men's Sunday Evening Bible Study

Sundays, November 1 and 22, at 8:00 p.m., in the Church Library

We continue to follow Jesus' teaching and ministry as we read through Matthew's gospel. All are welcome as we continue our study and time together. We meet in the church library, with a Zoom option available if needed. It is a great opportunity to meet others and hear how this amazing text still speaks to us today. If you'd like to be on the email reminder list, let Dan Love know at dlove@ryepc.com.

Monday Morning Bible Discussion

Mondays, November 2, 23 and 30, at 9:00 a.m., on Zoom

Our journey through the Gospel of Matthew continues! We meet almost every Monday from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. All are welcome to jump in at any time for great conversation, community, and learning. If you'd like to be on the email reminder list, let Dan Love know at dlove@ryepc.com.

Women's Discipleship Group

Tuesdays, from 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., in the Church Library

Please join us on Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the church library as we continue our study, *Walking in the Spirit's Power,* by Gary Hamrick. Everyone is welcome! If you have any questions, contact alicia.baldwin@verizon.net or courtneybennett910@gmail.com.

Children & Youth Ministries

Childcare

Sundays (4 Years Old and Younger)
Before Worship in the Education Wing

Our team of dedicated staff and volunteers is available to care for young children while parents attend worship. Childcare is available every Sunday morning on the first floor of the Education Wing. Children may be dropped off prior to the beginning of the worship service. To register your child for Childcare, and to learn more, please visit ryepc.com/. If you have any questions, please email Kristin and Margaret at directors@ryepc.com.

Sunday School

Sundays (Pre-K through 5th Grade)
During Worship in the Education Wing

Sunday School is held on Sunday mornings during the worship hour. Children begin the morning in worship with their families. Following the Children's Message, children are dismissed to their Sunday School classrooms. To register your child for Sunday School, and to learn more, please visit ryepc.com/sunday-school-registration/. If you have questions, email Kristin and Margaret at directors@ryepc.com.

Confirmation 2027

Sundays, November 1 and 22, at 5:00 p.m.,
in the Westminster Room

Together, this year's crew of enthusiastic 9th graders has begun exploring the core questions of the faith: What is the Bible all about? Who is God? Adam and Eve and that snake… what do they have to do with me? How can the world be both so beautiful and such a mess all at the same time? Please keep this year's class in your prayers throughout their journey!

High School Youth Group

High School Youth Group meets roughly twice per month, mixing dinner and time together with service in our local community. If you have questions, please contact either Rev. Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com, or Rev. Cari Pattison at cpattison@ryepc.com.

High School Youth Service Project – Building Beds!

Sunday, November 8, from 1:00 – 4:30 p.m.,
meeting in and returning to the RPC Parking Lot

The High School youth will be giving a few hours of their time to build beds at the Sleep in Heavenly Peace workshop in Bedford Hills. One of our Thrift Shop grant recipients, SHP builds and delivers bunk beds to families with children in our area so that "no kid sleeps on the floor in our town." We will leave from RPC at 1:00 p.m. and return by 4:30 p.m. Spaces are limited, so please let Dan Love know if you are interested! Email dlove@ryepc.com.

High School Youth Dinner
Sunday, November 22, 6:00 p.m., Westminster Room

Middle School Connection

Middle School Connection typically meets the first and third Wednesday of each month. We start with dinner followed by 45 minutes of games, learning, and fun. All 6-8 graders are welcome, as well as parent volunteers! If you have questions, please contact either Rev. Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com, or Rev. Cari Pattison at cpattison@ryepc.com.

Middle School Connection Meeting
Wednesday, November 4, from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.,
in the RPC Youth Rooms

Christmas Pageant

Christmas Pageant Sign-Up

Through carols and costumes, we will share the Christmas story with our congregation. Children in Pre-K through 6th grade are welcome to join us for the annual Christmas Pageant. All children who can attend rehearsals are guaranteed a part. Pre-K participants will need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian throughout the rehearsal process.

Rehearsals

Thursdays, November 5, 12 and 19, and December 3, 10, and 17,
from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m., beginning in the Westminster Room

Dress Rehearsal & Pizza Party

Saturday, December 19, beginning in the Westminster Room
Dress Rehearsal from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.,
followed by the Pizza Party at 12:00 p.m.

Dress Rehearsal & Pizza Party

Sunday, December 20. Children arrive at 3:00 p.m.
The Christmas Pageant begins at 4:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary

Christmas Pageant Volunteers

Volunteers will help us organize our young performers and keep everything running smoothly - from rehearsing their lines with them, making sure everyone has the right costumes, and assisting the choir director. Middle schoolers, high schoolers, and adults are all welcome to volunteer and help with this year's Christmas Pageant. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Margaret and Kristin at directors@ryepc.com.

ryepc.com/christmas-pageant/

Ongoing Events



Chair Yoga

Tuesdays, through November 10,
10:00-11:00 a.m., in the Chapel

Looking for a way to feel better in body and mind while accessing more ease and grace in your life? The ancient practice of yoga has been proven to help calm the nervous system, prevent injury, improve breathing, and promote physical and mental well-being. Did you know it can also be a beautiful method of prayer?

Join Co-Pastor and certified yoga instructor Cari Pattison (RYT 200) and friends from the RPC Senior Social Club for a new chair yoga class on Tuesday mornings. We'll work through a meditative stretching and breathing practice: weaving together scripture, prayer, music, slow movements, and aromatherapy.

All are welcome, whether RPC members or not, to this respite of calm and relaxation for seniors and others who prefer a gentler practice. It's also ideal for those of any age experiencing mobility limitations or injury recovery. Chairs, props, and water will be included. Just wear comfortable clothes you can move in!

The suggested donation for those not already giving to RPC is $10 per class. Giving can be done through our website at ryepc.com/give/. Kindly RSVP to Cari at cpattison@ryepc.com.

Chapel Yoga

Wednesdays, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., in the Chapel

Rev. Cari is a certified yoga instructor (RYT200), offering a Level 1 Vinyasa flow class on Wednesday mornings. Weaving scripture into the yoga practice structure, the class gives us an opportunity to stretch and strengthen our bodies, breathe into a posture of prayer, and deepen our relationship with God. Mats are available to borrow, along with other props. We encourage you to come five minutes early for setup. All are welcome, including beginners! To RSVP, email Cari at cpattison@ryepc.com.

Thrift Shop

Thursdays, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

For more information on donations, drop-off times, and shopping procedures, please visit ryepc.com/ministries/thrift-shop/, scan the QR Code, or email RyeThrift10580@gmail.com.

To learn about the upcoming Thrift Evening Sale & Grant Recipient Spotlight, please see page 6.

Rising Stars Recital

AGO Westchester

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
WESTCHESTER CHAPTER
presents

RISING STARS RECITAL

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2026
2:30pm

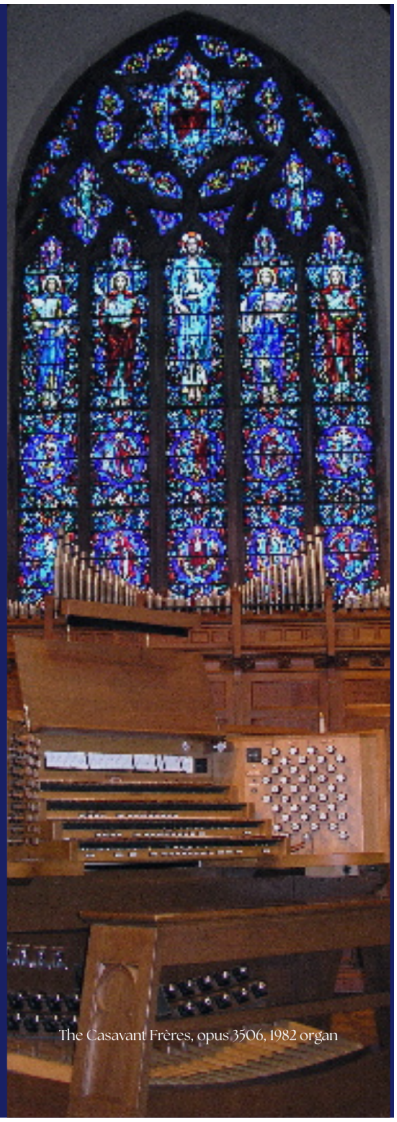

Marco Jimenez


Eddie Zheng

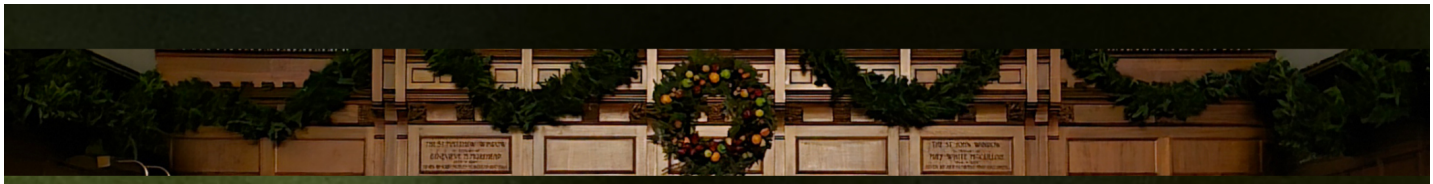

Cecily DeMarco

RYE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
882 Boston Post Road
Rye, New York

Reception to follow
Free & open to the public


The Casavant Frères, opus 3506, 1982 organ





CANTATA SUNDAY

SHOUT! EXULT! PRAISE!

Rye Presbyterian Church

December 13, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Festive Reception to Follow

Music for Choir, Soloists, and Orchestra

Bach: *Christmas Oratorio,* part 1:
Jauchzet, frohlocket, auf, preiset die Tage

(Shout, exult, praise the days [of Christmas])

Telemann: Concerto in D Major for
3 Trumpets, 2 Oboes, Strings, and Timpani

Cantata Sunday is made possible through
generous gifts to the Music Fund.

RYE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH · 882 BOSTON POST ROAD, RYE, NEW YORK 10580 · RYEPC.COM · 914.967.0842

Music Notes

by Jason Charneski

Rising Stars Recital

Young Organists in Concert

Sunday, November 15, using Both Organs

The Westchester County Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) will present a concert by three young organists here on Sunday, November 15, at 2:30 p.m. Many of you will remember one of the performers: Eddie Zheng, who served here as the first Knock Intern in Sacred Music. Eddie was a semi-finalist in this year's National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance, a biennial event of the larger national AGO. RPC is fortunate to have two excellent pipe organs (chancel and chapel) on which the performers will share their talents. Please see page 13 for more information.

Cantata Sunday

Sunday, December 13, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Plan to be in worship on Sunday, December 13, as the custom of Cantata Sunday continues (this year will mark the 37th offering; it would be the 38th were it not for the Covid pandemic in 2020)! The Chancel Choir, with soloists from its ranks, and orchestra will offer the first cantata "Jauchzet, frohlocket, auf, preiset die Tage" ("Shout, exult, praise the days [of Christmas]") from the *Christmas Oratorio* by J. S. Bach. Running about 28 minutes, this cantata tells and comments upon Luke 2:1-7, the first part of the Christmas story. Many of you may recall that we offered the third cantata of the Oratorio for Cantata Sunday in 2023. In addition, the orchestra will offer for the prelude and the postlude movements from the Concerto in D Major for 3 Trumpets, 2 Oboes, Timpani, and Strings by G. F. Telemann (a contemporary of Bach). Following the service, a festive reception will take place in the Assembly Room. The Cantata Sunday Orchestra is made possible through the generosity of four families: Susan and Dod Fraser, Amber Nee, Addy and Charles Park, and Mary and David Versfelt. Thank you!



Restored Harpsichord Inaugural Concert





Silent Movie Night

Worship and Giving



Join the Worship Team

We welcome those who would like to assist in worship on Sunday mornings by joining the team of people who read scripture, usher, or serve communion. If you are interested in doing so on an occasional basis, please contact our chair of the Worship and Music Committee, Carl Friedrich, at carlrfriedrich@gmail.com. In addition to adults, High School Youth are welcome to join the team!

Sunday Chancel Flowers

Each week, flowers adorn our sanctuary and provide an uplifting reminder of the goodness of God and the beauty of creation. Please consider honoring the memory of a loved one or recognizing a special occasion for a $100 donation. The flowers are a blessing to all attending the service, in the sanctuary as well as online. We will acknowledge your donation in the church bulletin. To make arrangements, please visit ryepc.com/worship/chancel-flowers/.

Giving at RPC

Online donation options are available on our giving page, at ryepc.com/give/ and through the QR Code. If you have any questions, please contact Maida Robinson at mrobinson@ryepc.com. *Your generosity makes all that you see here in Grace Notes possible!*

Sunday Worship

Join us each week for Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m. Instructions for online worship via Zoom or YouTube are on the church website: ryepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc

Previous sermons, bulletins, and livestreams can be found online on our sermons page: ryepc.com/worship/sermons/

Email Updates

RPC Weekly Updates – Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.
Worship Reminders – Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.
Contact mcrawley@ryepc.com to subscribe.

Children & Youth Ministries Monthly Newsletter
Contact directors@ryepc.com to subscribe.

Website Updates

RPC Website – Upcoming Events
ryepc.com/about-rpc/events/

RPC Website – Ongoing Events
ryepc.com/about-rpc/ongoing-events/

RPC Website – Calendar
ryepc.com/about-rpc/calendar/

Social Media

RPC Facebook – Rye Presbyterian Church

RPC Instagram – @ryepres10580

October 2026 at RPC





Thank you,Tom Young, for capturing our 2026 Congregational Photo! We're grateful to everyone who was able to participate in this landmark photo. For now, please enjoy these "behind the scenes" snapshots.



We're grateful to have launched *Roots of Faith: Bold Women of the Bible* with such an incredible turnout! To learn more about this Interfaith Bible Study, and to attend upcoming meetings, please see page 8.

Blessing of the Animals











Feeding Westchester















RPC Pumpkin Carving







Rye Presbyterian Nursery School









Greetings to the RPC Community

from Kristin Bassett Kumar

The children had a blast visiting the RPNS Pumpkin Patch! Each child had the opportunity to pick their very own pumpkin! While visiting the patch, the children sang "The Roly-Poly Pumpkin" together to celebrate this fun experience! Back in the classroom, the children decorated their special pumpkins before taking them home. It is so special to continue this fun fall tradition at RPNS!

The Reverend Daniel Love
Co-Pastor
dlove@ryepc.com

The Reverend Cari Pattison
Co-Pastor
cpattison@ryepc.com

Kristin Kumar
Interim Director for Children's Ministries
directors@ryepc.com

Margaret Sculti
Interim Director for Children's Ministries
directors@ryepc.com

Jason Charneski
Director of Music and Organist
jcharneski@ryepc.com

Maida Robinson
Chief Administrative Officer
mrobinson@ryepc.com

Peggy Berretta
Administrative Assistant
pberretta@ryepc.com

Max Crawley
Communications Director
mcrawley@ryepc.com

Aileen Lynch
Office Assistant
alynch@ryepc.com

Junior Morales
Head Sexton/Building Manager
amorales@ryepc.com

Eric Birk
Interim Assistant Organist

Alonso Osorio
Sunday Sexton

Norma Segovia
Evening Sexton