

# The Fisherman

*The Newsletter of the  
Reformed Dutch Church Of Claverack*

April 2025

## 2025 Consistory

### Elders

Snookie Patterson  
Melissa Skoda  
Carolyn Wilbur  
Glenn Holzhauser

### Deacons

Louise Bailey  
Jan Dunham  
Shirley Sullivan  
Jan Lynch

### Missionaries

Rev. and Mrs. Brad Kautz,  
Jicarilla Apache Nation  
RCA—Partner in Mission (PIM)

### Staff

*Rev. Vanessa Funk*  
Minister

*Andrea Mastrianni*  
Director of Music

*Kara Sullivan*  
Office Manager

*Lynn Oliveri*  
Custodian

## **Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack**

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Office Hours: Mon 10-2

Thurs 2-4 & Fri 2-5

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[claverackreformedchurch.org](http://claverackreformedchurch.org)

Hello,

**We are twenty-four days into Lent with thirteen days left in the wilderness with Jesus. Although the snowdrops, crocus, and daffodils have started to bloom, we wait. We wait and journey closer to the cross, remembering that we are human, that Jesus was human, and that we all walk at the God-speed of three miles an hour through life. In April, we remember to be together with those around us. We share our best carrot cake and rubarb-zucchini pie recipes with the friends we meet at our favorite coffeehouse or across from our own table. Let us remain in communion with one another until we can all celebrate the glory of Christ on Easter morning.**

**- Rev. Vanessa Funk**



**"Lent" by Zach Ford**

Lent is...  
Bowed row of ashy heads,  
Gentle service winding down,  
In penitent reflection.

Lent is...  
I give up this, you gave up that,  
We laugh,  
Over how long it will take until we fail.

Lent is...  
Reading the same book together,  
Talking over points,  
Laid forth in prose,  
Straining together to deepen ourselves.  
But do not forget.

Lent is...  
In the quiet of hearts,  
That know a glory is coming.



**~ A Prayer For April ~**

We thank you for the beauty of spring, for the blooming flowers and the renewal of life that this season brings.

Lord, we ask for Your guidance and wisdom as we navigate through this month. Help us to see Your hand in every moment, to trust in Your plan, and to find peace in Your presence.

## ★ **Worship Schedule** ★

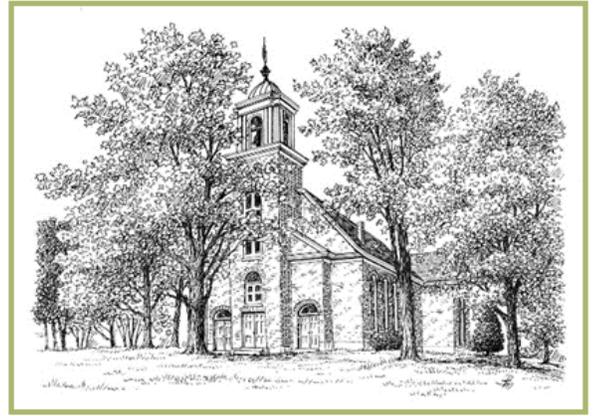
9:30 a.m. Sunday worship service  
followed by coffee hour  
immediately following the service.

April 6 **First Sunday of the month**  
Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Rev. Vanessa Funk

April 13 Rev. Vanessa Funk

April 20 Rev. Vanessa Funk

April 27 Rev. Ken Coddington



## **April Lectionary Readings**

### **Fifth Sunday in Lent**

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126;  
Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

### **Palm Sunday**

Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29;  
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16;  
Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56

### **Easter Sunday**

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24;  
1 Corinthians 15:19-26; John 20:1-18;  
Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 114:1-8;  
1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; Luke 24:13-49

### **Second Sunday of Easter**

Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29;  
Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31

## 2025 Lent & Easter Dates

**Palm Sunday - April 13 @ 9:30 a.m.**

A Sunday of Hosannas and the passing out of palms.

**Maundy Thursday - April 17 @ 7:00 p.m.**

A Tenebrae service with the extinguishing of candles.

**Easter Sunday - April 20 @ 9:30 a.m.**

Our annual Easter celebration -- He is risen indeed!



- Birthdays -

Kay Cook	4/4
Andrew Mackerer	4/4
Holly Barton	4/6
Lori Lennon	4/8
Jan Dunham	4/10
Sarah Veronezi	4/10
Vinessa Bowman	4/13
Ann Stone	4/19
Flore Champion	4/19
Lydia Skoda	4/19
Amy Race	4/25
Jim O'Neill	4/26
William Krein	4/30
Jennifer Stupplebeen	4/30

## April Birthdays

## & Anniversaries

- Anniversaries -

Linda & Mike Nielsen	4/3
Shanda & Gary Steenburn	4/20/85



## MINUTES OF THE CONSISTORY February 25, 2025 | 7 P.M.

### Welcome and Prayer

Rev. Vanessa Funk called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. EST, which was followed by a devotional and prayer on Psalm 121.

The following members were present for all or part of the meeting:

- *Louise Bailey*
- *Jan Dunham*
- *Rev. Vanessa Funk*
- *Glenn Holzauer*
- *Jan Lynch*
- *Snookie Patterson*
- *Melissa Skoda*
- *Shirley Sullivan*
- *Carolyn Wilber*

The following members were unable to attend the meeting:

- *(none)*

The following guests were present for all or part of the meeting:

- *(none)*

### Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to approve the previous meeting minutes with corrections.

[Here is a link to the previous minutes.](#)

### New Officer Appointment

#### Senior Deacon

- Shirley Sullivan

#### Clerk

- Louise Bailey

#### Treasurer

- Shirley Sullivan

#### VP Consistory (Senior Elder)

- Melissa Skoda

#### Elder Delegate

- [Elder Classis Report Form](#)
- Snookie Patterson
- Nancy Rassweiler (alternate)

### Classis Update

An update was given by classis representative Snookie P., on the March 4 Executive Committee meeting, the March 9 installation service, and the March 18 classis meeting.

\*see next pages

## Old Business

### Installation Service

- March 9 at 4:30 p.m., with a reception to follow
- Food will come from the church, and the main course (sandwiches) will be from a local restaurant in Ghent.
- Flowers will be ordered for the pulpit and reception (Donna)
- Bulletins will be printed the week of by Kara

## New Business

### Annual Report for Congregational Meeting

- [2024 Annual Report](#)
- The date of March 30th after church was decided for the annual congregational meeting. This will be posted in the bulletins for the next three weeks, along with a special save-the-date email from the office.
- Committees will be emailed asking for reports by March 15.

### Consistorial Report Form

- <https://crf.rca.org/>
- Due March 15

### Constitutional Inquiry Form

- The consistory discussed the church's health through the checks and balances of the list for consistory from the Book of Church Order.
- There was room for improvement on sections...
- This will be sent to classis by March 10.

### Building Use Request

- A building use request was received from The Good Dog Foundation, Inc. to use a classroom one night a week for "evaluating and training therapy dog teams."
- The discussion involved checking out downstairs rooms in the CEB to find the best room that would not interfere with daily happenings and the Bazar. Room 3 combined with room 5 was chosen as a tentative option.
- The consistory decided that further information was necessary to approve or deny the request (i.e., How long the space will be used, which space is best for them, etc.)

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to revisit the building use request at the March consistory meeting pending further information being gathered.

### Updated Contact Directory

- It was brought to consistory's attention that the last complete directory was from the 300th anniversary in 2016. The most recent directory is only for staff and does not include all necessary information.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to update the contact directory with a response date by May 30, a draft date by July 30, and a final to be brought to consistory for approval by August 12.

The process was discussed to send out an online form via email with a printable copy attached as well as copies to be put out in the CEB.

### Classis Dues

- The timeline of funds given to programming was discussed, and it was decided that it would be brought to the board of deacons before coming back to consistory in April or May.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to move the standing committee reports to the March consistory meeting due to time constraints.

### **Gratitude**

To practice gratitude together, the consistory wrote a thank you card for the Catskill Fire Department after their courage and quick response to the fire this week in downtown Catskill.

### **Prayer**

The session ended with prayer and concluded at 9:52 p.m. EST.

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**Next Meeting Date: March 11, 2025 | 7 p.m. EST**