

The Hyde Park Community Garden



At St. James' Episcopal Church

The Hyde Park Community Garden is a project that was very much in the “planning stage” for many years. St. James’ longtime parishioner and community advocate, Allelu Kurten, envisioned using the unused ball field behind the rectory for such a purpose.

Members of St. James’ earlier this year were throwing out ideas on how to honor and recognize Mrs. Kurten for her many years of service, since she was planning to leave Hyde Park and St. James’ this summer. What a great surprise for her when on April 15, 2012 the congregation gathered to dedicate the first area of this garden as “Allelu’s Garden” a day before her 82nd birthday!

A few weeks later a small but dedicated group of volunteers from St. James’, The Hyde Park Methodist Church, Regina Coeli/St. Paul’s and a local Boy Scout Troop came together to begin the process.



Out came shovels, hoes, and rototillers, putting down the necessary compost and putting up the very necessary deer fencing.

After many weeks of planting, watering and weeding, we started seeing the results of our labor!



To date we have donated a few hundred pounds of tomatoes, corn, beans, peas, zucchini, cucumbers, eggplant, cabbage and peppers to the Hyde Park Food Pantry and Hillcrest House in Poughkeepsie, which are two of Allelu's favorite causes.



And, this is only the beginning!

This year, our plans are to install a water line to go directly to the field, as well as installing a fence on the side that currently does not have any.

PLOTS AVAILABLE FOR LEASE

We are currently inviting the community to lease at a nominal charge a piece of the garden with the hope that a portion of that will be planted for the Food Pantry and Hillcrest House.

For more information, please contact Deb Belding at 229-0153.