Remarks from Mayor Jennifer White on the Occasion of the 175th Anniversary

October 20, 2013

I am so sorry not to be there today to celebrate your 175 years as one of the strongest, kindest institutions in our Village. As a joyous a celebration as this is, I must be up the street at the memorial to those brave Nyack men who lost their lives in the Brinks robbery that will always cause deep sadness in our heart. I will think of all of you as I stand there and grieve because you are the epitome of the kind of decency and kindness that our community shows every year on this anniversary.

We are a place that stands together, celebrates together and grieves together. This Church is a living example of that. What happens here is not just about religious faith but about all that it means to be a community. I applaud and admire all that you all do for all of us. I believe, as both Mayor, and a mother and wife in our small community, that we must all stand together, to help each other, to weather storms both literal and private, to support each other, to educate each other and to strive for good. This church glows, like a giant beautiful red love filled heart in our downtown, with that kind of commitment and partnership.

As a proud Soup Angels volunteer, I see the hungry in our midst. Within these walls and with the manpower the amazing Soup Angel volunteers, we are feeding them. I have met with your minister and I know, like me, he believes that we can raise up the youth of our community but, again, only if we work together. We can create mentorships, we can give children faith, we can feed our hungry and soothe our troubled and we can take our already wonderful community and make it better. Every time I come through these doors I feel the commitment to humanity…it sometimes feels like it actually starts here. The heart. Of Nyack.

Thank you for all you have done over an amazing 175 years…and all that we know you will continue to do. Congratulations on this incredible celebration.

Jennifer White
Mayor of Nyack