



Tidings

Faithfully Friendly For All – Always
Welcome . Include . Involve

December Calendar of Events

Friday	December 1	12:00pm	Bridge Club-Bailey Hall
Saturday	December 2	1pm-3:30pm	PW Christmas Bazaar & Tea
		5:00pm	Christmas Tree & Menorah Lighting-WHB Gazebo
Sunday	December 3	1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT—Communion	
		11:15am	Advent Festival
		11:15am	Inquirer's class
		2:30pm	EEH "Tree Of Lights Service" - WHB Gazebo
Tuesday	December 5	7:00pm	Deacons
Wednesday	December 6	9:15am	Mission Committee
		10:30am	Staff meeting
Thursday	December 7	7:30pm	Spanish Ministry
Friday	December 8	12:00pm	Bridge Club
Sunday	December 10	2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
Monday	December 11	5:00pm	Maureen's Haven
Tuesday	December 12	5:15pm	Music & Worship
		6:00pm	Session
Wednesday	December 13	1:00pm	PW Dessert Luncheon
Thursday	December 14	7:30pm	Spanish Ministry
Friday	December 15	TIDINGS ARTICLES DUE FOR JANUARY 2018	
		12:00pm	Bridge Club
		6:00-9:00pm	Christmas Cocktail Party-The Kings' Residence
Saturday	December 16	1:30-4:00pm	Christmas Carling
Sunday	December 17	3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT—Christmas Joy offering	
		10:00am	L.I. Brass Christmas Choir & dedications
		11:00am	Santa Brunch
		4:00pm	Blue Light Service at the Chapel/Reception
Monday	December 18	5:00pm	Maureen's Haven
Tuesday	December 19	7:00pm	Trustees
Thursday	December 21	7:30pm	Spanish Ministry

December Calendar of Events *continued*

Friday	December 22	12:00pm	Bridge Club
Sunday	December 24	4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT—CHRISTMAS EVE—Poinsettia dedications	
		10:00am	Sunday School Christmas Pageant
		5:00pm	Christmas Eve Sanctuary service
		9:00pm	Christmas Eve Chapel service
Monday	December 25	CHRISTMAS DAY—Office Closed	
Tuesday	December 26	Office Closed	
Thursday	December 28	7:30pm	Spanish Ministry
Friday	December 29	12:00pm	Bridge Club
Sunday	December 31	1st SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY—New Year's Eve	
		10:00am	Worship in the sanctuary



Prayer Concerns:

Recent: Eleanor Staniford, Hospice; Kay Kidde; John Campbell; Lily Burns; Paul Pfaff (Paul's son); Joe Pastore (chemo for colon cancer); Jim Bachman, home; Pat Shima, Westchester Center in Yonkers; Daniel Levitt (husband of Jennean Jessup Levitt); Jane Post; Vernon King, Westhampton Care Center; Gene Hubbard, Home; Linda Howard-Kloepfer

Long Term: George Payne (Kathy Tureski's father); Grace Haddad, Doris Towers, Westhampton Care Center; Chelsey Collins, Southampton Care Center; Peter Monsarrat; Russell Deihl; Brad Carbone; Martin Tener

Flower Chart 2018

The flower chart will be displayed the first week of December. Remember to sign up and dedicate these beautiful flower arrangements!

BLUE LIGHT SERVICE Sunday, December 17th at 4pm Quogue Chapel

It is for everyone in general, but in particular those who have lost a loved one or for whom this time of year is sad, lonely, or both. There will be a reception to follow in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.



MAUREEN'S HAVEN Donations & Volunteers!!

Do you have any small wash cloths or hand towels that you no longer need? Maureen's Haven will gladly take any donations of these items that you have. Bring them to the church office or contact the coordinator Maria Moore, mariazmoore@gmail.com for more information.



L.I. Brass Guild



They will once again be performing with the Christmas Choir on December 17th.

Please consider donating toward covering the cost and make a dedication to be displayed in our bulletin on Dec. 17th. Forms are in the back of the sanctuary.

From the Interim Pastor: Holy Emotions for Holy Times

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."
- Luke 2:10-12

I hope this past season of Thanksgiving has given you opportunity to reflect on the goodness of your life, the many ways you are blessed and the depth of the gratitude that reverberates within your soul at all times. Gratitude is right there at the heart of Christian joy, which flows through us whenever we are touched by the grace of God's abundant love.

Christmas, which is soon upon us, is often associated with joy. However, it seems to me that the most appropriate and important experience of our hearts at Christmas is not joy, but wonder. For what we celebrate on Christmas day is the most awesome miracle we know – God with us as one of us. This incomprehensible miracle – that a helpless, vulnerable baby could be God the Almighty Creator and Sustainer of the universe and of life – must surely produce in us wonder and awe as we ponder the unfathomable implications of this for our own life. Christian joy is, perhaps, more fitting as our response to the events we celebrate at Easter, when the meaning of the miracle of Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection is revealed.

But for now, even before the miracle of Christmas, we enter Advent – the time of anticipation, hope, and patient waiting. Much of our life is just that. As gratitude, wonder and joy are experienced by us throughout the whole year, is not hope also constantly with us? Our future is never empty, but always full. As you read this, you are anticipating many things. They may include visits from family, gifts to give and receive, Christmas cards, travel, shopping, sharing special meals, worshipping in candlelight, donating to church and other charities, listening to Christmas carols, a few days off from work, and sitting by the fire.

All of these are beautiful blessings from God, and are gifts to be appreciated and to fill our hearts as well as our days. This year, as you anticipate and live through each of these things, may they remind you of your deeper anticipations and the hope Christ came to fulfill – absolute peace and love and joy for yourself, for all individuals and for the whole world. We do experience this peace and love and joy from time to time. But we also continue to ponder and to wonder as we wait for it, living in pregnant expectation.

May this Advent and Christmas season be filled, for you, with gratitude, hope, peace, love, joy and wonder. And may they pass through you and beyond you to all who are near you.

We are well off in God, the Almighty, in God's holiness, always. - Pastor John



Poinsettia Order Form

Red poinsettia plants may be ordered to adorn the sanctuary on December 17th at a cost of \$18 per plant. The deadline for orders is 12/11. Please make your checks payable to Westhampton Presbyterian Church (memo: Poinsettias). Plants may be picked up after the service in the Sanctuary or left for Deacon delivery.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Number of plants: ____ @ \$18 per plant

Total: \$ _____

My plant(s) is given:

☐ In loving memory of

☐ In honor of



By _____

Plant(s) will be: *(please check one)*

Picked up by me after service _____

Left for Deacon delivery _____

The Long Island Brass Christmas Concert



On Sunday, December 17th the LI Brass Guild will join with our choir in presenting a Christmas Concert during the 10am service of worship. Contributions may be made in someone's memory or honor to help offset the cost for the Brass Guild.

If you would like to make a donation, please fill out the form below and place it in the collection plate or return it to the church office.

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____ for the LI Brass Concert. I dedicate this offering (check one)

_____ in honor of _____ in loving memory of

From _____

GIFT CARDS

Show Them You Have Great Taste in Giving

Not sure what to get that person on your list that is always hard to buy for? How about a gift card? Order now for Christmas gifts.

Not only can you use gift cards as gifts for others, you can use them yourself at your favorite stores while holiday shopping. It is easy and convenient and supports your church.

Gift cards will be for sale during coffee hour in the Parish Hall. A percentage of all sales will be returned to WPC's operating budget.

Don't see what you want on the green order form? Check out the full list of available cards at www.glscip.com.

For Christmas, orders will be placed December 3rd and will be distributed Sunday, December 10th. Please see Tom Rogers for more details.



Thank you to everyone who is participating in this year's Adopt-a-Family program!

Please wrap and clearly label your gifts with your persons' name and family number and drop off at the Immaculate Conception parish hall between Dec. 6-18 from 9am-3pm on weekdays and 9am-12pm on weekends. Please contact Deborah Busking if you would still like to participate or if you have any questions, dbusking@gmail.com or 631-325-1404.

YOUTH MINISTRY

“Every child loves gifts, both giving and receiving them. This Christmas, let your children bring blessings to others. Gather names of friends, relatives, classmates and let them pick one and make a gift or a card to give out. It’s difficult to say who will enjoy it more, “the child who loves to give; the friend whose heart is touched with love, or the parent who sees their child learning to give and receive love.” **Google Christmas Quotes**

A season for giving, Youth Group’s annual Heifer campaign kicks off on December 3rd and will run through the 24th. Heifer’s mission is to work with communities to end world hunger and poverty and to care for the Earth. They empower families to turn hunger and poverty into hope and prosperity. Their animals provide partners with both food and a reliable income. Their core model is passing on the gift; meaning the recipients share the training they receive, and pass on the first female offspring of their livestock to another family. Please consider giving a gift that keeps on giving this Christmas season.

The youth of our church are invited to our annual advent festival that will take place after worship on December 3rd in Bailey Hall. Join us for crafts and fellowship. The youth group will participate in Adopt-A-Family hoping to brighten a youngster’s Christmas morning. Also, we have plans once again to spread some Christmas cheer at Peconic Bay Medical Skilled Nursing Center; dates are being confirmed as I write this. Lastly, the Christmas Pageant will take place on Christmas Eve during the 10 AM worship.

It’s hard to believe that 2017 is coming to an end. Take time to reflect on your year. Did you accomplish what you wanted? What would you do differently? Want to keep Christ in Christmas? “Start by feeding the hungry, clothe the naked, forgive the guilty, welcome the unwanted, care for the ill, love your enemies, and do unto others as you would have done unto you”**Steve Maraboli**

Merry Christmas

Kathy



Youth Group Food Drive

From Left: Miriam Neubauer, Carter Cline, Griffin Neubauer, Sophie Cline
Missing from photo: Griffin Wagner

Presbyterian Women

Ten ladies joined for grace led by Rev. Kloefer before our luncheon meeting on November 8, 2017. Pat Bebon, Alix McKenzie and Joan King were welcomed for the first time. We hope they will consider coming as often as their calendars allow.

A card of good wishes was signed and mailed to Pat Shima. We all miss you.

Again this month, Gale Seidler, PW Treasurer, presented each of us with an excellent report for the month ending October 31, 2017. We will be in good fiscal standing to honor our mission pledges, our goal each year.

A sincere note of thank you received from Stu Wood for our gift to Memorial and Endowment Fund was read. We in turn thank Marilyn for all the memories she has left for each and everyone of us.

The place mats at each setting were to remind us of the Thank Offering dedication November 19, 2017 during the 10:00am church service. You will have made your Thank Offering when you read this for which we are grateful. The place-mats told where the monies go and how they are used for "The Healing of the Nations".

Peggy Childs has again provided sparkling posters announcing our Annual Christmas Bazaar and Tea. Does someone out there know when this annual event was given birth? Please let us know.

A very belated thank you, Tony Thompson, for a donation of 50 boxes of Crayola crayons to be shared with children near and/or far. Kathy Tureski, Youth Ministry Coordinator, has accepted them to be made a part of the gift boxes made by the Youth for their mis-

sion project.

A note received from Anjele Kalfayan and Denise Delahorne, her daughter, told of their summer at Hampton Bays. Anjele fell, breaking bones soon after their arrival. After weeks of healing and looking forward to enjoying the remainder of the warm weather, there was another set-back, more mending and healing. We regret we were unaware of Anjele's problems. We all wish you brighter days and to say thank you Denise for your love and caring through difficult days. God bless you and your families. Traditions, family, friends, laughter are all special reasons to be thankful at Thanksgiving and each day.

Happy Thanksgiving from—
Presbyterian Women



Habitat for Humanity

Ground breaking at 13 Ocean Ave, East Quogue is now underway for a young family to occupy it by summer. It will be a 2-story, 3 bedroom, 1 and a half bath, 1,100 square foot house. Please take a drive down Ocean Avenue and see the progress!

Community Tree Lighting

Christmas Tree & Menorah Lighting, carols and Santa. December 2 at 5pm at the Gazebo on Main Street.

"Tree of Lights Service"

East End Hospice invites you to join their annual "Tree of Lights Service" in memory of friends and loved ones. Join them at the Gazebo at the Village Green on Main Street, Sunday, December 3 at 2:30pm.

Deacon's Corner—

Would anyone be interested in helping the Deacons when a special reception occurs? Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

Many thanks— Korey Williams

Meal Ministry:

To those who may not know, a meal ministry program is available by the deacon's committee to anyone in our congregation who may be in need. Each meal also comes with a visit from a friendly face of someone in our congregation. Please let anyone on deacons know of someone who may need this service or if you would like to help make a meal and a visit, contact: Vern Hackworth, Meal Ministry Coordinator:
Cell (516)375-8891 or email: Vernon.Hackworth@integrium.com

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

The Fundraising committee has two events this month. The first is a Christmas Cocktail Party at the home of John and Meryle King on Friday, December 15, 2017. Expect a fun evening of food and drink among friends in their lovely home. Tickets are \$30 each.

The second event is a Santa Brunch on Sunday, December 17, 2017 immediately following the choir concert which is during worship. Jane Otis and her able crew are providing the brunch. There will be a bake sale so be prepared to take home some goodies. *All bakers who would contribute to the bake sale, please contact Susan Lipp! We would love to have your goodies at the brunch!* There will also be a “tree of treats” raffle which consists of a variety of lottery tickets, gift cards and grocery cards. Raffle tickets are \$5 each. Brunch prices are \$15 for adults, \$10 for children/seniors and \$40 per family.

Raffle tickets, tickets for the cocktail party, and the signup sheet for the brunch will be available then as well. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for some holiday fun and at the same time, support the budget of our church.

SESSION REPORT

At the most recent Session Meeting in November, the Session heard the report of the Plumb Line Committee. As expected, the report was approved. Now the Plumb Line Committee can take the report to the Long Island Presbytery’s Committee on Ministry for approval.

As that should be completed sometime in December it will soon be time for the Church’s Nominating Committee to get to work on a slate of church members willing to be voted onto the Pastoral Nominating Committee at another Congregational Meeting.

That committee would be open to any member of the Congregation who gets nominated and then elected by the Congregation at that meeting.

Members of the PNC will be expected to attend committee meetings (probably weekly), read many resumes, listen to many sermons and be totally involved in the process of nominating someone to be the next pastor at WPC.

So, if you think this is something you might be interested in getting involved in, stay tuned for further information about how you might get yourself nominated to be on this committee.

STEWARDSHIP

CALLING ALL MEMBERS! (yes even those of you who are living out of state)

Whether you live near or far, it is time to send in your 2018 pledge.

Our pledge commitment helps us budget for the year ahead. Our expenses include the salaries of our church staff, maintaining the sanctuary, chapel and buildings, our mission work and our other church activities. We also pay a per member fee to the Presbytery for their services. This is called the per capita and we ask that you add \$36.78 to your pledge (per person) for next year.

Pledges can be made weekly, annually, quarterly and even through automatic withdrawal at your bank. If you are interested in the latter, please contact our Treasurer, Janet Hann.

If you would like to meet with a Session member to discuss your pledge, please contact Elder Allison Worthington, 914-953-9512; allisoncarey@me.com or Elder Karen Neubauer, 288-6146.

Help support our church with your financial support.

Searching for the New Pastor

The Plumb Line Committee is nearly finished. Last month our Presbytery liaison signed off on our manuscript, and this month the Session has voted to approve it. We are on the Presbytery docket for December 5 to defend it and explain it to the Committee on Ministry, and they are very likely to say that we are now ready to start our search for the new pastor. This manuscript is no secret, by the way. It goes into detail about what our real strengths are and what our serious weaknesses are. It is too many pages to put into Tidings but we will leave a copy with Erika in the office for your reading. You may be surprised, or you may say, “That’s true!” but everything in it came out of the surveys you did back in September.

What’s next? The Nominations Committee will be taking names of people wishing to be on the search and picking some five to seven. Search committee members should be ready to drive or fly to faraway places, they must be available for lots of meetings, and they will have to take criticism no matter who the pastor turns out to be, even if it is St. Paul himself. Stu Wood for the Plumb Line Committee

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to:



2	Betsy Rowe	16	Jeff Munn
2	Pat and Bob Bebon	16	Robert Staniford
3	Lisa Jornitz	17	Gigi Ravenhall
3	Meredith and Gregory Imber	18	Janet and Rich Schneider
6	Kristin Miller	19	Gabriella Yervasi
6	Gabriella and Mario Ortiz	20	Dorette Jornitz
7	Cindy Drayton and Jim Rowbotham	21	Amy Mosher
8	Tracy and Gary Martin	22	Casandra Carrick
10	Brian Hansen	24	Chris Haddad
12	Bonnie Wootten	26	Jennifer Tamis
12	Bob Neibanck	26	Victoria Carrick
13	Erin Lynch	28	Marie Yervasi
14	John Hoch	28	Anne and Christian Charles
15	Pat Schultz	29	Tom DeMayo
		29	Victoria Kingwell



December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 12pm Bridge Club—Bailey Hall	2 1pm-3:30pm PW Christmas Bazaar & Tea 5pm— Christmas tree & Menorah lighting-Gazebo
3 1st Sunday of Advent Communion Inquirers Class 11:15am Advent Festival	4	5 7pm Deacons	6 9:15 Mission Comm. 10:30am Staff meeting	7 7:30pm Spanish Minishtry (Bailey Hall)	8 12pm Bridge Club	9
10 2nd Sunday of Advent	11 5pm Maureen's Haven	12 5:15pm Music & Worship 6pm Session	13 1pm PW Dessert Luncheon	14 7:30pm Spanish Minishtry (Bailey Hall)	15 Tidings Due 12pm Bridge Club 6-9pm Christmas Cocktail party-Kings' Residence	16
17 3rd Sunday of Advent Christmas Joy Offering LI Brass Christmas Concert 11am Santa Brunch 4pm Blue Light Service-Chapel	18 5pm Maureen's Haven	19 7pm Trustees	20	21 7:30pm Spanish Minishtry (Bailey Hall)	22 12pm Bridge Club	23
24 4th Sunday of Advent 10am Christmas Pageant Christmas Eve 5pm-Sanctuary 9pm-Chapel	25 Christmas Day Office Closed 	26 Office Closed	27	28 7:30pm Spanish Minishtry (Bailey Hall)	29 12pm Bridge Club	30
31 1st Sunday after Christmas Day 10am Service New Year's Eve					<u>AA:</u> Sat. 10am (Bailey Hall) Sun. 12pm (conference room) Sun. 6pm, Wed. 7:30pm (Bailey Hall)	

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Your issue of the December Tidings

