



TIDINGS

WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 2018

From the Interim Pastor: How Are We Doing Between Times?

Yesterday, about an hour before worship, the electricity went out in the church and surrounding neighborhood. PSEG said it would be back on by 1:00 p.m. at the latest. So we began worship with the Sanctuary pretty much like it must have been many years ago every Sunday – darker than we're used to, colder than we're used to, without any sound amplification and with only the piano for musical accompaniment. While these conditions were once the norm, it was very obvious that this was new for us.

However, everyone just accepted it and basically carried on as usual – as though nothing was out of the ordinary. What struck me was just how flexible and resilient this congregation is. It made me realize how wonderful the Westhampton Presbyterian Church is. Perhaps partly because of this, partly because I've recently begun my second year as your Interim Pastor, and partly because the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is just now beginning to sort through dossiers of potential candidates to be your next Installed Pastor, it caused me to reflect on where your church is in its interim process and how it's doing.

Most churches, when their pastor leaves, experience a period of what might be called the “blahs,” for lack of a better term. There's a reduction in attendance and giving and people in positions of leadership step down. These things certainly happened here at WPC after Rev. Cary retired, as is to be expected. However, as I reflected on it, I was also struck by how many good things have happened here this past year as well.

There was a very successful Summer Appeal for Technology that raised more money than the goal set by the Financial Committee. As a result, the church has a new sound system, a new software system to track both membership and giving, a new website that is just now ready to become operational and soon, a new printer/fax/copier and new folding machine. And in spite of the interim “blahs,” the church ended 2017 not only in the black, but with a surplus.

The Session has expanded your staff by hiring Kathy Tureski, already your Youth Advisor, to also serve as Sunday School Superintendent. And Session has given Erika Lukert, your Church Administrative Assistant, a raise in salary due to her bookkeeping responsibilities; and recently added medical benefits to her compensation package.

In addition to maintaining all of its mission commitments, your church also added a Spanish Speaking Protestant Ministry to its list of community organizations that use the church building on a regular basis.

In spite of needing to find people to serve on the Mission Study Committee last year and the Pastor Nominating Committee this year, your Nominating Committee has filled every available slot on the Session, Deacons and Trustees, with the lone exception of a Youth Trustee. And while the Manse has been empty, the Trustees have seen to it that it is structurally sound. They have also completely upgraded its kitchen, by installing granite countertops, a tile backsplash, a working island and a new refrigerator, stove and dishwasher. It's in great condition and ready for occupancy by a new pastor and family.

I expect you'll be hearing soon about how God is working through your PNC to find the person God has prepared to be your next called pastor. In the meantime, I am delighted to be here and to serve in an interim capacity. I hope each of you appreciates just how special your church is, and will spend the remaining interim period ensuring that WPC is a church your PNC will be proud to introduce to your new pastor.

We are well off in God always, Pastor John

Announcements

Prayer Concerns:

Recent: Jean Williams (friend of Vern Hackworth); Linda Howard-Kloepfer; Chip Williford (friend of Gale Seidler); Verna Merkel, operation; Nancy Winters; Carl Kupke (John Gillin's grandfather); Frank Jessup; Rev. Kate Jones-Calone; Pat Skates (friend of Karen Derryberry); Kay Kidde; Jim Bachman, home; Gene Hubbard, Home

Long Term: Daniel Levitt (husband of Jennean Jessup Levitt); Pat Shima, Westchester Center in Yonkers; Vernon King, Grace Haddad, Doris Towers, Westhampton Care Center; Chelsey Collins, Southampton Care Center; Russell Deihl; Brad Carbone; Martin Tener

Church Family News

April Sympathy:

Deepest sympathy to Kathy and Robert Tureski and their extended family on the death of her sister-in-law Catherine Tureski.

Deepest sympathy to Cathy Holliday, Pat Schultz, Fred Bauer and their extended family on the death of their aunt Eleanor Carter. Services were held April 7th at the Beach Methodist Church.

New Website up and running!

Check out our newly redesigned website:
www.westhamptonpresbyterian.org

We would love to hear your feedback!
Please contact the church office.



Memorial Scholarship Applications Available

The Memorial Scholarship will be distributed in early June to church members who are studying post high school. Applications are available in the church office and on our website. We encourage all of our member/scholars to apply. If you have questions, please call Nalda Rothe at 917 748 0644.

Remember

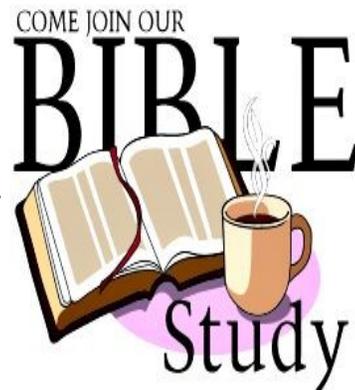


Our Fallen

Ushers Needed!!

Please help out, by signing up to Usher for the month of May. You can meet and greet your fellow parishioners, while distributing the service bulletins with a welcoming smile!

The ushers are a huge force in setting the tone for worship and helping to prepare the people to hear and respond to the Word of God.



Sunday's
after
worship
at
11:15am

Pastor Nominating Committee

The Pastor Nominating Committee can finally start bringing good news to the congregation. After nearly a month of fighting computer problems in Louisville, Kentucky, our information went out to the country. The first day we were online we had thirty Pastor Information Forms sent to us, and more than forty are in now.

Interestingly, there are approximately 1900 pastors nationwide looking for a job, and there are 561 positions open. We are also told that we are in a very desirable area, whereas in the middle of the country churches have trouble attracting candidates. Remember, we are seen as a strong church with a good financial picture and strong community involvement. Having the ocean a mile away can't hurt.

Our first reading of forty or so dossiers from at least 25 states and one foreign country gave us a number that could be turned away quickly because they did not offer what we want for various reasons, but we found eight that were simply stellar. We have watched sermons, contacted references and inspected backgrounds, and as of this writing we believe that our problem will be deciding among wonderful candidates, not settling for lack of choices. The committee is very happy with the way things are going and we are counting on the leading of the Holy Spirit to lead us to our perfect match.

-Stu Wood for the committee



Presbyterian Women

Wednesday, May 9 at noon
"Ladies Who Lunch"
at Jane Otis' house.
Be sure to sign up by May 1!



A sunny day brought more out for today's (April 11, 2018) Presbyterian Women's Luncheon/Meeting. Welcome, always. Rev. Kloepfer offered grace before we joined in conversation as we enjoyed salad, sandwiches and ice cream sundaes.

Gale Seidler provided each of us with a Treasurer's report ending March 31, 2018. She keeps tight strings on our funds. We received a letter from one of our four adopted children who lives in India. They are young people who make us aware of how grateful they are for our support through gifts at Christmas and birthdays.

In turn we must step back and think how fortunate we are to be introduced to these children and their families through their letter.

Our May 9th "Ladies Who Lunch" outing will be catered at the home of Jane Otis. We invite you to sign up on the church bulletin board by May 1st as space is limited. Your check of \$18 payable to the **Presbyterian Women** will hold your seat.

The Spring Rummage Sale was a success. Sadly, we missed more than one familiar face. We are grateful to welcome new faces. Then there are the faces we do not see-the behind the scenes volunteers. Thank you to all those who were able to volunteer during the whole process and to Korey and Donna Williams for once again providing a delicious lunch to the whole crew. Presbyterian Women can not continue to honor our mission pledges without everyone's support.

Sunshine Academy

Creating a better world, one child at a time.

Here at Sunshine Academy our mission is to create a learning environment where children feel safe, loved, and respected. With a mixed age of children 3 to 5 years of age, the environment we offer fosters independence, self-confidence, and empathy for others. We believe that children learn through the process of play and the handling of materials and teacher-directed group activities.

Our trained staff support a child's ability to make choices, take risks, and solve problems. We provide materials that are relevant, creative, challenging, and inspiring. Personal hygiene, good nutrition, gross motor activities and rest are modeled and instilled each day.

At Sunshine Academy, we provide a daily routine that is structured, yet flexible enough to meet the needs of the individual child. Children are immersed in materials and activities that teach letters, sounds, numbers, shapes colors and patterns. We have a print and vocabulary rich environment that emphasizes stories that rhyme, repeat and illustrate order.

We have a vast array of musical instruments, varied art mediums, time for dance and creative movement as well as a built-in stage with wigs, costumes and accessories.

We are currently enrolling new children! We look forward to working with you!

www.SunshineAcademyofWesthampton.com

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Meet Our Staff

Theresa Caponi: Owner/ Director

Theresa is a Montessori and HighScope Certified Preschool and Kindergarten Teacher with over 25 years of childcare experience. She is the owner of Sunshine Academy, as well as Little Me Busy Bee, another infant/toddler program located in Speonk. Being a mother of six children, she has a passion for nurturing young children and supporting working parents.

Katie Bacigalupo: Lead Teacher

Katie has a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and a Master's degree in literacy. She's also certified in early childhood special education. She has her TESOL certification to teach children of other languages.

Youth Ministry

We can feel springtime...sometimes! We shared some fellowship time with our friends from Pine Ridge the end of April. We had a glorious day at the beach, followed by a delicious dinner and lunch the following day. Our friends over at WHB Rotary made it happen for one of the youths, Mason. He will be an exchange student to WHB next year.

The youth's mission project for this spring, is the shoebox gift boxes for Brighter Tomorrows. The next couple of weeks they will be collecting new or gently used items to fill the shoeboxes for children of Brighter Tomorrows. We have lots of crayons and play dough. Things that we look for are: pens, note pads, small stuffed animals, cards, hair ties, baseball for each (not a hard ball!) tiny toys etc. Or if you'd like to make a donation the kids can shop over at the Dollar store, Target or Walmart for items to fill. Thank you in advance for supporting our project.

As the weather warms we look forward to outside activities and summer vacation!

Kathy





Happy Birthday!

Happy Anniversary!

1	Griffin Neubauer	17	Terri and Fred Bauer
1	Tony Thompson	18	Kathy Dayton
1	Madison Mosher	18	Jessica Aiello
2	Chloe Mosher	20	Claire and Creighton Berry
3	C.J. Andrews	20	Alexandra David
3	Jean Seyfert	21	Laura Schultz
4	Bob Fox	21	Stacey and Cooper Jessup
4	Marcia Koziarz	22	Kathy and Randy Dayton
4	Allison Worthington	23	Elizabeth Shane Pizzarello
5	Susan Rogers and Harold Williams	23	Bob Bebon
6	Barbara Rempe	24	Miriam Neubauer
6	Erin and Andrew Lynch	25	Kathy Frevert
7	Emilee Downs	25	Bob Baum
7	Barbara Danowski	26	Cara Oslager
8	Gini and Bryan Wagner	27	Alex Williams
8	Colleen McKennett	27	Dwight Surgan
8	Chrissy Barravechia	27	Brooks Surgan
9	Gene Hubbard	29	Alice Schultze
9	Cheryl Stevens	29	Elizabeth and Lou Pizzarello
10	Nancy Miller	29	Lenny Rempe
12	Bob Tureski	29	Lynda and Ralph Confessore
14	Cameron Hipp	30	Jessica and David Aiello
14	Henry Holliday	31	Dave Derryberry
16	Griffin Wagner	31	Anjele Kalfayan
16	Joey Nemeth		



May 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7pm Deacons	2	3 Nat. Day of Prayer 6-9pm EEH Training (Parish Hall) 7:30pm Spanish Ministry	4 May Friendship Day 12pm Bridge	5
6 6th Sunday of Easter Communion	7 8am-4pm WH Garden Club	8 5:15pm M&W 6pm Session	9 9:15am Mission 11am Staff 12pm PW "Ladies Who Lunch" Jane Otis' home	10 Ascension of the Lord 6-9pm EEH Training (Parish Hall) 7:30pm Spanish Ministry	11 12pm Bridge	12 8:45am-12pm Cub Scout Parent training (Bailey Hall)
13 7th Sunday of Easter Mother's Day	14 9am-1pm E.E.H. Committee mailing (Parish Hall)	15 7pm Trustees	16	17 6-9pm EEH Training (Parish Hall) 7:30pm Spanish Ministry	18 12pm Bridge	19 10am E.E.H. Meeting (classroom)
20 Day of Pentecost Pentecost offering	21	22	23	24 6-9pm EEH Training (Parish Hall) 7:30pm Spanish Ministry	25 12pm Bridge	26
27 Trinity Sunday Memorial Sunday w. dedications in Garden	28 Memorial Day Office Closed	29	30	31 6-9pm EEH Training (Parish Hall) 7:30pm Spanish Ministry		

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Your issue of the May Tidings
