

November 2022 Tidings



Faithfully Friendly For All – Always
Welcome . Include . Involve

A Word from your Pastor

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday many of us think about the same things—food, football, and good deals on Black Friday. But we all know that Thanksgiving is about more than that. It is great to be thankful for food with friends and family, a chance to relax and the opportunity to buy gifts for those we care about, but the idea of giving thanks is about more than that.

Thanksgiving was first celebrated in Massachusetts in 1621, in the month of December. One year earlier, a religious sect had moved to what is now the United States. Of the 102 original colonists, 44 died in the first year of malnutrition and scurvy. They endured months of hunger and starvation. Legend tells us that food rations were once only five kernels of corn per person per day. But as the second year rolled around, the harvest was good and the governor of the colony declared a feast. Not only did they eat, but also spent the day giving thanks to God for their bounty.

Throughout the Bible we can also find lots of examples of people giving thanks. In Exodus, the Israelites sing a song of thanksgiving after they miraculously cross through the Red Sea. The ancient Israelites also had feasts that were dedicated to thanking God such as Passover, Pentecost, and the Feast of Tabernacles.

The New Testament also says a lot about thankfulness, thanking God for love, mercy, and grace. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 tells us that in every circumstance we should give thanks, allowing gratitude to saturate our lives. Philippians 4:6 tells us: “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with **thanksgiving**, present your requests to God.”

It can be difficult to stay positive and thankful, especially during stressful family holidays. There is lots to be done, different branches of the family tree may cross, and expectations of perfection can throw us off. Our hearts aren't always happy and there can be times in our lives where it is difficult to think of something to be thankful for. And that is okay too. If you are struggling this year to find something in your life to be thankful for, remember that you have people who care and support you. If you are finding it a challenge to think of someone in particular, remember that I am thankful for you. The church of Westhampton Presbyterian Church is grateful that you are here and a part of our world, created by a loving God.

It is my prayer this Thanksgiving that you will be able to find something about this holiday which brings you joy and that you may find a part of you that is grateful. May your food be well cooked and tasty, your favorite football team win, and may you score the very best deals on your shopping. But may you also find some time to set aside and be thankful to God for all that we receive. May we be blessed by the knowledge that we are lovingly created, well loved, and the recipients of God's unconditional grace.

Many Blessings and with Thanksgiving,

Rev. Vanessa



***Prayer Concerns**

Recent: Kevin Fitzgerald; Dean Speir, Gale Seidler's brother; Diane F. Perry, home; Marjorie Ridgeway, home; Gene May, home; Seamus Naughton, home; Robyn DeLorenzo, Ruth Duvall's granddaughter; Ralph Downs; Kimberly Rogers Murawski

Long Term: Dee Dee Brumsey (sister of a close friend of Pete Seidler); Phyllis Styrzo, Hamptons Center for Rehab; Dana Barrett, friend of Nancy Miller; Chelsey Carter Collins, Hamptons Center for Rehab; Dorothy Evans; Paul & Ellen Pfaff; Rev. John Kloepfer, home; Jay Sears

Church Family News

Baptisms

Oct. 16—Fiona Quin Ravenhall



**Harvest Dinner
Thursday, November 17th
6pm**



Come share great Food, Fellowship & Fun! Betsy Doyle, Janet Hann, and Cheryl Van Tuyle will provide turkey, dressing and dessert under the excellent guidance of John & Meryle King! Please bring a side dish to share! Desserts will be provided. Sign up for this great evening in the Parish Hall.

WHB High School Performance

Free Admission! Mark your calendars to see the Westhampton Beach High School production of "The Man Who Came to Dinner", by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman, November 4, 5, and 6. Performances are at 7:30pm on Friday and Saturday and Sunday at 2pm. Our own Anderson Hipp, Kaitlynn Mazurkiewicz and Ryan Zollweg take part. Kimet Speed will be directing!



Mark Your Calendars!

Wreath Decorating & Pizza party!
Tuesday, November 29th at 6pm in Bailey Hall !

Sign up in the Parish Hall on the bulletin board. (*Wreath Order Forms on page 5*)

Santa Brunch

Sunday, December 11th at 11 am, following the Children's Christmas Pageant! Tickets: \$15 adults, \$10 children/seniors, \$40 for families

Parents: Don't forget your cameras for pictures with Santa!

Stay tuned for more info in your December Tidings from Fundraising!



Save the Date

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR & TEA



**Saturday
December 3rd
1:00-3:30 PM**



Wreaths, Baked Goods, Twice Nice, Hand-Crafted Items

See Christine Haddad if you would like to help or Eloise Carter if you would like to bake (more info on page 6)

Scrap Metal Fundraiser

I want to thank everyone that helped with the Scrap Metal Drive on September 24th and everyone that has helped with scrap metal all year. We collect scrap metal year round, so if you have any steel, copper, aluminum, old appliances, etc. they can be dropped off in the parking area behind the church. We have earned \$6, 076 from scrap metal so far this year. Thanks again, Tom Rogers

Fundraising Committee Ornaments

Something new from Fundraising this year is a brass etched ornament of our beloved church for sale during coffee hour for \$20. You can also order one or many using this order form. If you would like yours mailed for Christmas delivery, please have your order forms in no later than December 15th. They will look great on your Christmas tree and will also make excellent gifts.

We will continue to sell them through Christmas. Stop by the table in the fellowship hall and check them out.

Adopt A Family

The Adopt a Family program, like so many things, has had to adapt to our changing times. I, Deborah Busking, will be at coffee hour in late November with the Adopt a Family individual sheets. If you cannot attend, I am asking that you email me*

at dbusking@gmail.com with your interest in choosing someone to shop for this season. All information will then be emailed back to you, including name, age, sizes and special requests for gifts. It will also include drop off location and deadline dates.

*If you do not have access to email, you may call me at 631 325-1404, although email is preferred.



Fundraising Ornament Order Form



Make check payable to:

Westhampton Presbyterian Church
90 Meeting House Road
Westhampton Beach NY 11978

_____ **Pick up at church during Coffee Hour.**

_____ **Mail orders -due by December 15.**

Number of ornaments at \$20 each _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Please bring form to the church office or place in the offering plate.



CROPWalk2022

YOUTH GROUP

We kicked off October with serving at the World Communion Brunch and listening to Rev. Vanessa tell us about her mission work in Honduras and Columbia. We can't wait to hear about more trips and how we can help!

We also had some young folks from the church participate in the church's annual Crop Walk. They walked as independents opposed to a group, but all walkers had fun and enjoyed a light lunch after their walk. Thank you, mission committee! I hope you were able to sponsor one of the walkers. See the photo of all walkers and some other photos of Mother Nature's beauty from the short walk!

Youth Group had a Sunday morning bagel breakfast to discuss our fall schedule and see what kind of things we want to do. Our November is quite busy with giving back and helping our Deacons collect for their Thanksgiving baskets.



The first three weeks of November during coffee hour, we will have the Youth table set up (in front of our bulletin board) collecting "Thanksgiving items" for them. Items should be non-perishable: stuffing, gravy, canned corn, green beans, cranberry sauce, olives and yams, mini marshmallows, etc. You may also give CASH or purchase GROCERY CARDS from Lynne Jones so that families may also purchase additional fresh items. We are still awaiting approval to hold a food drive at King Kullen in Eastport, so look for updates on the Youth bulletin board and at our table in the Parish Hall. This is always a fun time for the kids to give back to our community. Items will be collected until November 20th and can be dropped off during the week, Monday-Friday 9am-2pm, or on Sundays to the Youth Table.

Don't forget to catch the WHBHS production of **The Man Who Came To Dinner** on November 4, 5 and 6th at 7:30 Friday and Saturday, Sunday at 2. We have several youths from the church cast and of course Kimet Speed is directing!

As we push into the holiday season mark your calendars.....

Our annual Advent festival will take place during Sunday School on **December 4th** where the children will make the traditional tiny gingerbread houses, and other Advent related items.

We are looking for children interested in participating in the annual Christmas Pageant which is being held during regular worship time on **December 11th**. Please send me an email if your child can participate. Rehearsal times have not been set yet, but a definite would be on Saturday the 10th before our actual production on the 11th. Kimet Speed will once again share her creative talents with us and direct the show! We may be able to film certain roles and put them into the production. So, don't hesitate and sign up now @ whpresbyteriss@gmail.com. All ages are welcome we can find a role for you!

Lastly a sign up for anyone interested in going Caroling to shut-in's from the church on December 11th in the afternoon (still working on a time but most likely somewhere between 2-4) will be on the Youth Bulletin Board.

We are so very grateful, incredibly thankful, and blessed to be able to help others during this season of giving.

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

Sunday Bell Ringers



2023 Stewardship

Pledge season is now. Stewardship letters and pledge cards are being mailed out. Please return your pledge cards to the offering plate or the church office.



A Note from the P.W.

Presbyterian Women met at noon, Oct. 12, 2022 for the monthly lunch-business meeting. We shared 3 baked casseroles, jellied salad, a fresh fruit with key lime dip and cookie dessert. We did a lot more than eat! We talked a lot, all to solidify plans for the Christmas Tea and Bazaar.

All this would not be possible without many helping hands. The Mean Clean Dream Machine uncovered our box of flatware. Not only did we have bright surroundings, the placemats set off matching place settings. Thank you again and again.

After lunch our attention was turned over to the Christmas Tea and Bazaar. Eloise Carter spoke for the Bake Sale, Cookie Walk and Tea table. All is in order, now for those amazing bakers to step forward for those customers always on line and eager to buy their favorites.

Donna Williams, one of the crafters, said they have been meeting and will be ready to greet shoppers in their welcoming place at the front door.

There would be no jewelry boutique with out Christine Haddad's eye. I hope to see lighted birch trees glow with gems.

There is more, but you can see the wheels of progress are in motion. Please put Saturday, December 3, 2022 from 1-3:30pm on your calendar!

It was after most of the ladies left, when Christine showed us a "Coffee Butler" given to us by a friend. One thought would be to purchase, 2 or 3 more to be used when we host overnights for Maureen's Haven. We would like to vote on this expenditure at the next meeting.

A letter from our Adopted Child was circulated for each to read. She is 8 years old and lives in Honduras. She is learning to use her "computer." She also included photos she took with her camera and a painting of her cat. This is encouraging to see how much can be accomplished with a gift of a few dollars.

The November P.W. lunch-business meeting will be Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2022 at noon in the Conference Room. We ask that you bring a sandwich from home. Soup, coffee/tea, and dessert will be served. This will be our final meeting prior to the Christmas Tea & Bazaar. Please join us.

Beware of Trick or Treaters as we near Halloween, they are excited as they move from one event to another even before the 31st. Be Happy, but first, be safe.

As we prepare, looking forward to Nov. 24th and all the memories of our Thanksgivings. Please keep in mind those who are less fortunate. They will appreciate being remembered with the Food Baskets, the dinners delivered and all the helping hands behind the scenes.

Let there be many Thanks offered and Giving, on our part, as we gather on Nov. 24. 2022.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Presbyterian Women,
Marjorie Beckwith



Presbyterian Women Christmas Wreath Order Form

Please mail or bring this form to the church office.

Make checks payable to:

Presbyterian Women

Westhampton Presbyterian Church

90 Meeting House Road

Westhampton Beach NY 11978

The deadline for orders is Sunday, November 27th.

Pick-up is on Friday, December 2nd at 10 am.

Number of wreaths at \$40 each _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Wreath Making / Christmas Tea & Bazaar

The Christmas Holiday Season will soon be here and the Presbyterian Women are happy to say that the Christmas Bazaar will be back with our famous full Silver Tea and Cookie Walk!! Please join us at this great way to kick off your Christmas Season on Saturday, December 3rd from 1-3:30pm.

We will again be selling fresh green wreaths. Get your creative juices flowing and join us for a pizza party and wreath decorating event on Tuesday, November 29th at 6pm. Bring your sheers, gloves and any items that you would like to decorate your wreaths with. Blank wreaths, bows, pics and greens will also be provided. Arrangements can be made if you would like to take your wreath(s) home to decorate. Be sure to sign up on the Parish Hall bulletin board so we can get a head count for pizza.

We are looking for people to bake for the bake sale and cookie walk. Breads, cakes, cookies and pies are welcomed. We will also need sandwiches, small cupcakes and cookies for the tea tables. See Eloise Carter to sign up to contribute. She will be available in the Parish Hall after church.

The Twice Nice committee are looking for new or nearly new, in excellent condition gift items to sell. Please bring to the church by Sunday, November 27th. Please no summer items or appliances.

The jewelry sale has been relocated to the classrooms in the new addition. Donations for this should also be dropped off to the church or given to Christine Haddad by November 27th.

The crafters are hard at work making delightful ornaments and crafts for you and your friends and families. Volunteers to help with this event are welcome starting with bringing Christmas items down from the closets, pouring tea and selling, as well as cleaning up. See Christine Haddad.

Let the Holiday Spirit begin!



Notes from the Session

About a year ago we sent all members a letter saying it was time to pledge, but if anyone wouldn't be pledging, to send us a note (if they weren't coming to church) saying they still wanted to be part of the church. This was after Covid had kept us apart and we weren't sure who was really out there. We gave everyone a stamped envelope to make replying easy. To my amazement only one person who wasn't pledging responded despite the free stamp. We have approximately 280 members on the books, and 99 people or families sent in pledges. That means that close to 100 church members have given us no indication of their feeling of belonging here. This is a Session concern partly because we have to pay the Presbytery over \$11,000 a year per capita based on that 280 number, but it is also a concern that so many people are not with us in worship. Perhaps some of those are our children who have gone on in life but are still listed as being here, we don't know.

A corollary problem is that for the first time in memory the Nominations Committee came up short two elders and one deacon after having repeatedly canvassed the membership. A small group keeps getting cycled around in the leadership positions even as our numbers decrease. It may become necessary to combine boards to get by.

These two are issues greatly concerning the Session right now. Please feel free to share your opinions to me or any Session member. Both issues will be high on the agenda in the new year.

Stu Wood for the Session



Wishing you a Happy Birthday and a Happy Anniversary...

1	Alison Nemeth-Steger	23	Ellen Pfaff
2	Chloe Rouhandeh	23	Pat Lutz
3	Sharon Taylor	23	Keri Shiu
3	Leif Neubauer	24	Kayla Jones
4	Tom Otis III	24	Betsy Doyle
5	Margretta Anderson	25	Glen Walker
7	Karen Derryberry	25	Shaun Holliday
7	Dan Pizzarello	28	Ryan Napolitano
8	Xochitl Seyfert	30	Alec Jessup Levitt
9	Kristina [Carter] & Micah Bennett	30	Joan & Bob Larson
10	Raymond Hann		
11	Amy Gwinn		
11	John King		
11	Amber Popper		
12	Billy Campbell		
13	Russ Babis		
14	Jim Rowbotham		
14	Collin Chattaway		
17	Maria and Tom Moore		
17	Ellen and John Campbell		
18	Evelyn Overton		
18	Tracy Speed-Zollweg		
19	Maura & Raymond Hann		
19	Laura Impomeni		
19	Maura Hann		
20	Maria Moore		
20	Mike Campbell		
21	Cooper Jessup III		
21	Sarah Miles Williams		
21	John Gillin		
22	Kyle Hubbard		
23	Bob Busking Jr.		



November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>AA: Sat. 10am –Choir Rm Sun. 12pm—Classroom Sun. 6:30pm– Choir Rm Wed. 6:30pm– Choir Rm</p> <p>Boy Scouts meet each Fri. 5pm</p>		<p>1 11am EEH Adult Bereavement Group</p> <p>5:15pm EEH Children's Bereavement & Yoga</p>	<p>2 5pm Budget Committee Meeting</p> <p>5:30pm EEH Adult Bereavement Group</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 11am EEH Adult Bereavement Group</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 22nd Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>Daylight Savings time ends</p> <p>10am Worship Sunday School</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 Election Day 11am EEH Adult Bereavement Group</p> <p>5:15 M&W</p> <p>5:15pm EEH Children's Bereavement & Yoga</p> <p>6pm Session</p>	<p>9 9:30am Mission</p> <p>10:30am Staff 12pm PW Luncheon meeting 5:30pm EEH Adult Bereavement Group</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 Veteran's Day (Office closed)</p> <p>11am EEH Adult Bereavement Group</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 23rd Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>10am Worship Sunday School</p> <p>Fruits of the Harvest</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 9:30am Fundraising Committee 11am EEH Adult Bereavement Group 5:15pm EEH Children's Bereavement & Yoga 7pm Trustees</p>	<p>16 5:30pm EEH Adult Bereavement Group</p>	<p>17 6pm Harvest Dinner</p>	<p>18 11am EEH Adult Bereavement Group</p>	<p>19 Hamptons Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at the Hamptons Synagogue</p>
<p>20 Christ the King 10am Worship Sunday School</p> <p>Sacrament of Baptism</p> <p>Fruits of the Harvest</p>	<p>21 5pm Maureen's Haven</p>	<p>22 11am EEH Adult Bereavement Group</p> <p>5:15pm EEH Children's Bereavement & Yoga</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Thanksgiving Day (Office closed)</p> <p>HAPPY  THANKSGIVING</p>	<p>25 Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 1st Sunday of Advent</p> <p>10am Worship</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 11am EEH Adult Bereavement Group</p> <p>5:15pm EEH Children's Bereavement & Yoga</p> <p>6pm Wreath Making & Pizza party</p>	<p>30</p>			

*WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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We're on the web:

www.westhamptonpresbyterian.org

Your issue of the November Tidings



*Happy Thanksgiving!
To You And Your Family*