



TIDINGS

WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

June 2023

A Word from Your Pastor

Dear Friends,

This time of year always reminds me of the scripture passages about the beauty of nature found in the Song of Songs, like this one from 2:12: “The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.” I recently came across this devotional reading relating to the changing of the seasons I thought I would share with you.

The season of spring is welcome in its freshness. The long and dreary winter helps us to appreciate spring's genial warmth, and its promise of summer enhances its present delights. After periods of spiritual depression, it is delightful to see again the light of the Sun of Righteousness. Our slumbering graces rise from their lethargy, like the crocus and the daffodil from their beds of earth; and our heart is made glad with delicious notes of gratitude, far more tuneful than the warbling of birds. The comforting assurance of peace, which is infinitely more delightful than the turtledove's cooing, is heard within the soul.

This is the time for the soul to seek communion with her Beloved; now she must rise from her natural sordidness and come away from her old associations. If we do not hoist the sail when the breeze is favorable, we make a grave mistake: Times of refreshing should never be allowed to pass us by. When Jesus Himself visits us in tenderness and entreats us to arise, can we be so ungrateful as to refuse His request? He has risen so that He may draw us after Him. He, by His Holy Spirit, has revived us so that we may in newness of life ascend to the heavenlies and enjoy fellowship with Him. We bid farewell to the coldness and indifference of a spiritual winter when the Lord creates a spring within. Then our sap flows with vigor, and our branches blossom with high resolve.

O Lord, if it is not springtime in my chilly heart, I pray You make it so, for I am tired of living at a distance from You. When will You bring this long and dreary winter to an end? Come, Holy Spirit, and renew my soul! Quicken me, restore me, and have mercy on me! This very night I earnestly implore you, Lord, to take pity upon Your servant and send me a happy revival of spiritual life! --C.H. Spurgeon

As you enjoy the springtime and coming summer, remember to look for God's presence all around us!

Many Blessings,
Rev. Vanessa



Youth Sunday
Pastor Vanessa
and son Wesley

Prayer Concerns:

Recent: Vita Collery, cancer, cousin of Karen Derryberry; **Ralph Neubauer;** Pat Bebon, recovering from surgery; **Bill Brenner,** recovering from surgery; **Amanda Walters,** cancer, friend of Karen Derryberry; **Dean Alonso,** diagnosed with cancer, friend of the Jornitz Family; **Helen Fitzsimons;** **Joyce Reaver;** broken femur; **Kevin Fitzgerald;** **Marjorie Ridgway,** home; **Seamus Naughton,** home; **Kimberly Rogers Murawski**

Long Term: **Dean Speir,** Gale Seidler's brother; **Dottie Evans,** home; **Ralph Downs,** Florida; **Phyllis Styrzo,** Hamptons Center for Rehab; **Dana Barrett,** friend of Nancy Miller; **Chelsey Carter Collins,** Hamptons Center for Rehab; **Ellen Pfaff;** **Rev. John Kloepfer,** home

Men's Group

Whether you are a friend or member of the church, we welcome you to join us on Thursday, June 1st at 10am in the conference room. Coffee and goodies will be available.

Presbyterian Walkers and Hikers

Saturday, June 3rd! Let's hike Laurel Valley County Park to Morton Wildlife Refuge! See page 3 for more details!!



SUNDAY, JUNE 11TH
After worship in the picnic area.

Sign up in the Parish Hall!
Bring a side dish to share!

Ice Cream Truck
&
Children's Games

Church Family News

Memorial Service:
Saturday, June 24th at 1:00 pm
for Michael Kirkpatrick fol-
lowed by a Deacon's reception
in the Parish Hall.
All are welcome.

Church Picnic:
Sunday, June 11th following
worship

Food Basket Thanks

Notice that the food basket in the church vestibule are all decked out in red, white and blue in recognition of Memorial Day. Thanks again to Donna Goebel Williams for the beautiful bows and for all who contribute to the food basket every week throughout the year. Your donations are greatly appreciated.



PW Strawberry Shortcake Meeting:
Wednesday, June 14th at noon. See page 4.

Join us for Worship this Summer!

Sunday, June 18th—Sunday, September 3rd
Quogue Chapel Service 9:00 am
Sanctuary Service 10:15 am

Memorial Scholarships

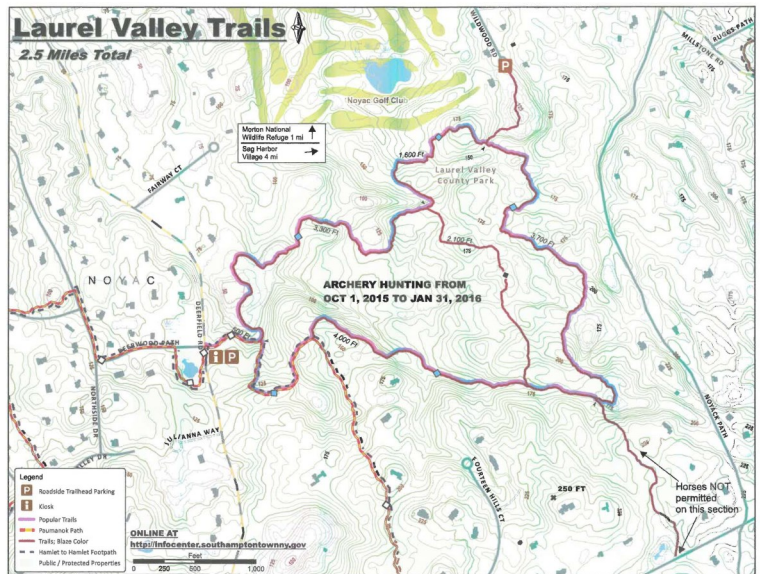
Applications are now available for eligible high school seniors and college level students who will be attending an accredited academic institution in the Fall. Applicants should be members in good standing of the WPC and provide documentation of Fall semester attendance. While last year's recipients should have received this year's application via email, they can also be requested by contacting Ellen Campbell at ecampbell18@optonline.net or by calling 631-255-9307 and in the church office. Applications, along with documentation and personal statements, must be received at the church by June 5th.



Presbyterian Walkers and Hikers

The first Saturday of June is recognized as National Trails Day. On Saturday, June 3rd, let's celebrate National Trails Day by hiking Laurel Valley County Park located in Noyac; south of Noyac Golf Club. The hike will be a 2.5 mile loop hilly hike. The trail terrain is considered moderately difficult with 45 feet to 230 feet elevations consisting of ravines, kettleholes, hilltops and ridges. There are dense stands of mountain laurel and is an oak-hickory forest. Also there is a grove of American Beech trees.

Dress for the weather, wear hiking boots or supportive walking shoes, light color pants and tuck them in your socks. Bring water & snack if you like. There are no bathroom facilities but it is not too far from Morton Wildlife Refuge where rest rooms are available after the hike. Meet at the church parking lot at 8:15 am to carpool or contact Janet for directions if you want to meet us there. Contact info: Janet H#631-2588-6884 or C#631-871-7240. Rain cancels.



Calling all Donor Angels

The fundraising committee is in the throws of plans for the summer party on July 22 called *Grillin' & Chillin'*. Once again Susan Lipp has graciously volunteered her lovely garden for the event. Tickets will soon go on sale. Watch for a flyer in your bulletin with all the details. In the past we have been blessed with a number of donors who have helped offset the cost of the event which allows us to keep the ticket prices reasonable. We are once again looking for such folks. If you are interested in being one of our angels, please speak to a member of the committee or Rev. Vanessa. Be sure to let them know if you wish to remain anonymous.

The committee: Nancy Winters, Susan Lipp, Tom Rogers, Lynne Jones, Nancy Vigorito, Betsy Doyle, Vern Hackworth

Pampered Chef Fundraiser

We have decided to give everyone a little more time to order from the Pampered Chef party! So if you need some goodies for summertime dining and entertaining, graduation or wedding gifts, or maybe just some goodies you've had your eye on, you still have time! Place your order online at <https://www.pamperedchef.com/party/wpcspring23> Or grab a catalog and order form at coffee hour and fill out at your leisure! Feel free to reach out to Jenny Gillin with questions! 631-682-0265 or Jennygillinpc@gmail.com

WPC Summer BBQ Fundraiser

Grillin' & Chillin'

In the Garden at the Home of Susan Lipp

*Join us for good food, friends and fun!
Food catered by Maple Tree BBQ
Live Entertainment by Bill Buhl & Friends
Wine, Beer and a signature cocktail*

22 White Oak Lane
Westhampton Beach, NY 11978

Saturday, July 22nd
5:00 pm

(Rain date: Sunday, July 23rd at 5:00 pm)

Tickets available:

Sundays after worship,
Lynne's Cards & Gifts, or
Church office:
631-288-2576

**Recommended
Donation: \$50
Ticket deadline:
Sunday, July 16th**

A Note from the P.W.

We met at Mary's Pizza in Speonk for our monthly May "Ladies Who Lunch" outing. The conversations covered multiple subjects all with worthy knowledge. We are a diversified group. Lunch was a "from the menu" selection. None were ready for dessert after generous entrée portions.

The Community Yard and Craft Sale will be in the books before you receive this. We will discuss future plans for the Yard Sale going forward at our June meeting.

Plans are complete for the annual Strawberry Shortcake feast; you need only to bring your appetite on Wednesday, June 14th at noon. Let's hope the weather will allow us to meet outdoors.

On another note, Tuesday mornings have been some what of a crafty/knitting formation. If you are available on Tuesdays at 10am for some light conversation, laughs and coffee or tea. Come join us in the library. Bring your knitting needles and yarn or a project that you have been working on, or have been wanting to start but just haven't found the right time, join us!

Youth Group

May opened with Youth Sunday about Shel Silverstein's book *The Giving Tree*. The children ran the entire service from Acolytes, ushers, lay readers, delivering the sermon and sharing their special musical talents with us! It was an inspiring service and we received a lot of positive feedback from the congregation! Thank you to all who helped make this possible. If you have photos from that day please forward to Erika (admin@westhamptonpresbyterian.org) and we can share them in our summer tidings.

If you are interested in sending your child(ren) to VBS this summer or you can help teach, I need a commitment so I can plan (purchasing curriculum, setting up classes, getting teachers etc.) It would be the last week of July (24th-28th) from 9- 11:30 . Please let me know if you plan to attend by June 18th. There is a sign up sheet on the YG bulletin board in the Parish hall or email me (whpresbyterianss@gmail.com). It cannot happen if we don't have children or adults.

It's not too early to plan: If you plan to send your child(ren) to Sunday School in the fall please email (whpresbyterianss@gmail.com) with the name and (age/grade they will be in September) I would like to add one or two Sunday School classes as the age levels in the classes now need to be separated. And that would mean I need teachers too! We can always team teach/co-teach please let me know if you are available. I would like to have the following classes: PreK-K, 1st -2nd, 3rd - 5th, 6th-7th, 8th - 12th. Email me if interested in teaching whpresbyterianss@gmail.com)

Our young adults that are graduating from college:

Andrew Hempel, MAGNA CUM LAUDE, Master of Arts in Teaching, SUNY @ Stony Brook University December of 2022

Cole Hempel, Cornell University, Bachelor of Science. (Any distinct recognition information was unavailable at time of writing and will add to summer tidings if applies)

Every summer has a story, make it a good one!

Kathy

**Congratulations
Class of 2023!**



Reminder: the next issue of Tidings is the July/August issue. Please have your submissions in by June 20th.

Deacons Closet

The Ukrainian Aid mission is a success. The oversupply of medical equipment from the Deacon's lending closet has been picked up and shipped to Ukraine. We supplied them 17 walkers, 23 pairs of crutches, 11 canes, 9 commodes, 3 showers chairs, 1 blood pressure monitor, 3 IV poles, 3 elevated seats for toilets, 4 bed pans, 6 male urinals, 1 each inflatable bed & chair mattress, 6 seat cushions, 1 walking stick for the blind, several oxygen nasal cannulas, various first aid & personal items. A large tote and a large laundry bag full of Red Cross blankets that were stored in Bailey Hall's closet were also given to the Ukrainians.

As long as there is a need, any oversupply of medical equipment will be donated to the Ukrainian Aid. Anyone who wants to make a donation to offset shipping costs can do so online at their non-profit site; <https://www.gethpua.com>.



 **St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Riverhead, NY**
21h · 🌐

Thank you Westhampton Presbyterian Church for your collection and donation of items for our Humanitarian Aid Mission to Ukraine. God Bless You All!

👍👍👍 21 1 comment

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share



A View from the Pew

For eight years, I worked at the Orient Congregational Church, United Church of Christ (OCC, UCC). My boss was Ann Van Cleef who had come to WPC as Ann Abbate. [*Yes, I admit, I have known Ann for 47 years and through two name changes by marriage.*] Ann was the music teacher at East Quogue Elementary School and chose our church because of our choir. She grew up as a Roman Catholic (RC), but soon after joining our choir she transferred her membership to WPC, a presbyterian church. Years later Ann entered seminary, seeking a second career as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. She subsequently became Temporary Supply Pastor at OCC and later accepted the call to become their installed pastor. At that time, I was a member of the Presbytery of Long Island's Committee on Preparation for Ministry (PLI, CPM), and Ann was under our care. As many of you know, I am a detailed person with a decent memory. As such, I have often found myself using this gift for the church. I was chair of the committee that totally rewrote our church's bylaws in 1990. Chuck Cary was our minister; Gale Spaulding (now Seidler) was the secretary; and I am fairly certain John Sprague was a committee member.

There is no question that I know Presbyterian polity; after all I have lived under it my entire life. I joined Christ's catholic church on Palm Sunday, April 7, 1963, after confirmation classes. [*A shout-out to Raymond Hann, a fellow confirmand who joined the church that day.*] I have been a member of PLI's Committee on Bylaws, Bills & Overtures more than once. I also served three years as commissioner to the Synod of the Northeast, and was on their bylaws committee. In 1991 we edited, perfected, and referred the newly rewritten bylaws to the body for approval.

I actually enjoy reading and studying details. I read instruction manuals and also an entire second party book on dBase III+ and found an error in it before I ever touched the program on my work computer. When I became Moderator of the PLI in 1995, the Stated Clerk, Ruth Bosch, gave me a copy of Robert's Rules of Order. I actually read a third of it and perused parts of the rest. I chose to attend a workshop on the Book of Order while attending a PW event at Stony Point.

I attended a Presbytery educational event on the Formula for Agreement. This policy was later approved and adopted by the four or five denominations who had composed it. It states that we mutually accept each other's understanding of our faith, our common sacraments, and our ordinations. As such, Vanessa was able to accept our call to be our pastor with no hoops to jump through. The fact that she is a member of the First Congregational Church in Riverhead, is simply a fact. Ministers in the UCC belong to a local UCC church. Presbyterian ministers belong to, are members of the presbytery.

I will never understand one detail of Presbyterian polity. It is simply not logical to me. Despite this open acceptance, this acknowledged sisterhood, this wonderful formal agreement, Ann Sutton was unable to become an ordained minister as pastor of the OCC. The PC(USA) will ordain a minister only if she/he is called to a Presbyterian church. Ann had to withdraw from being under care of the CPM. In 2004, Ann was ordained a minister by the UCC, installed as pastor at OCC, and that same day married Bob Van Cleef. Many members of our choir joined Ann, Bob, and the OCC choir in the celebrations that day.

As the Administrative Assistant at OCC those eight years, I was working under the guidance of their bylaws and under the constitution of the UCC denomination. When I started there in 2013, their document was on 11"x17" paper. The older bylaws were to the left, with words or sections struck out, and arrows pointing to the right. The substitutions and additions were written on the right half of the sheets. These changes had already been approved and were in effect. I took it upon myself to type them, carefully making all the additions and deletions. I knew them well. Ann and I often commented upon and discussed the similarities and differences in the polity between our churches. Ann even occasionally spoke of the RC church's practices.

How Our Church Governs (PCUSA compared to the UCC)

The UCC and the PC(USA) have much in common. We are Reformed Christian churches with very similar theologies. A major difference, actually the major difference, is the decision-making process. In a layman's terminology, where the buck stops. In the UCC denomination each individual church is autonomous in many aspects, and the entire congregation is involved in important decisions. Not so in the PC(USA) denomination. Our Book of Order, which is The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Part II, states clearly that the Session is responsible for the church: providing for worship, Christian education, care of congregants, hir-

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

ing staff, approving mission giving and collected offerings, electing a Treasurer, and establishing a budget. We were incorporated by New York state. And, yes, WPC is governed by the Religious Corporation Laws of the State of New York in civil matters, as we are governed by the Book of Order in ecclesiastical matters. Many Presbyterian churches, even here on Long Island, have a unicameral board. The ruling elders are also the trustees of the church's corporation. In presbyterian polity, the Deacons, the Trustees, and all other church organizations, such as the Presbyterian Women, are under the direction of the Session.

During my 60 years of membership at WPC, it has been suggested a few times that the Session become a unicameral board. My reaction and response is simple—look at the number of Session committees and the number of committees of the Board of Trustees. Do we really want one board to have to do all that work? For over 200 years, WPC has had separate boards. The Session has entrusted the Board of Trustees with the responsibility of caring for the church's property, the church building, the chapel, and the manse. But when there is a matter that involves expenses not already specified in the budget, the Trustees report to the Session, and the Session decides.

I have served on the Session several times since being ordained in 1986. During these times I have listened to reports given by a few different Trustee Presidents. They explained the proposed project, the estimates received, and their Board's recommendation. Many times, after some discussion, the Session asks for further details or suggests an adjustment to the project before being ready to make a decision. An elder might even recommend another business who could be approached for an estimate. In response, the Trustees do their part and return to the Session.

I cannot overstate how much I respect the Trustees. They have been good and faithful stewards of our church, and I applaud their dedication and their hard work.

Diane F. Perry

Fundraising Committee: Grocery Cards



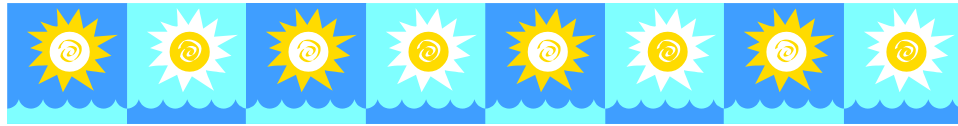
There are so many ways to buy groceries today. Many of us use our credit cards to garner the reward points. Sometimes, we order things on line and therefore have to use a credit or debit card. A lot of groceries are purchased in Costco or BJ's. Therefore, the grocery card program has to undergo some changes. Interest in purchasing cards on a regular bases has languished although there is always a flurry of activity around the holidays. And there are a few loyal regular buyers. Therefore, the fundraising committee doesn't wish to eliminate the program altogether. Our plan for the remainder of the year is to offer cards for sale on the last Sunday of each month. This way we

will be able to provide them for anyone who wishes to support the budget, contribute to the Thanksgiving baskets, or give the gift of groceries. We hope you will continue to support this program as it is part of our fundraising budget. Look for the table in the coffee hour and we will be happy to help you buy your cards, once a month on the last Sunday of the month.

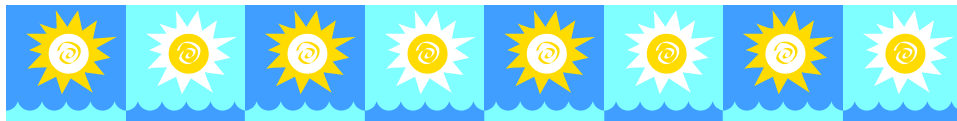
East End Women's Choir invites you!

You are invited to join us on a journey through time as East Women's Choir Sings music written by the Five B's, Bach, Brahms, Britten, Bernstein and Berlin. This performance will feature a Harpist, French horns and a Tenor Soloist. Performance dates are as follows: Friday, June 2nd at 7 PM at the Center Moriches Presbyterian Church and Sunday, June 4th at 4 PM at St. Louis De Montfort in Sound Beach. Ticket prices are \$20 per Adult and \$15 for Seniors.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 3 | Mary and John Hull | 23 | Holly & Ralph Hubbard |
| 3 | Hunter Wootten | 25 | Bruce Qua |
| 4 | Lynne & Mark Jones | 27 | Cormac Douglas Ravenhall |
| 7 | Joan Larson | 28 | Cindy Campbell |
| 9 | Chris Winters | 29 | Alvin Wintermyer |
| 9 | Nalda & Desider Rothe | 30 | Madeline Campbell |
| 9 | Amy and Brian Mosher | | |
| 10 | Bob Johnson | | |
| 10 | Anne Charles | | |
| 12 | Carol & Joe Nemeth | | |
| 12 | Frankie DiBiasco | | |
| 14 | Julia Ketner | | |
| 14 | Janet Hann | | |
| 15 | Meryle & John King | | |
| 15 | Tucker Collins | | |
| 17 | Abigail Ketner | | |
| 18 | Matt Hoge | | |
| 18 | Ellen Campbell | | |
| 18 | Ryan Zollweg | | |
| 19 | Holly Haile Thompson | | |



The monthly Tidings is a great way to spread good news, photos, events, activities, and fellowship. Everyone is encouraged to share an article!

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>AA: Sat. 10am –Choir Rm Sun. 12pm—Conference Rm Sun. 6:30pm– Parish Hall Wed. 6:30pm– Parish Hall Boy Scouts meet each Fri. 5pm</p>				<p>1 10am Men’s Fellowship Group</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 9am Preschool Graduation— Field</p>
<p>4 Trinity Sunday 10am Worship 2pm Rain date Preschool Grad.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 2-3:30pm E.E.H. Adult Bereavement 7pm Deacons</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 Rain date for Community Yard Sale</p>
<p>11 2nd Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship Choir Recognition Church Picnic!</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 2-3:30pm E.E.H. Adult Bereavement 6pm Session</p>	<p>14 9:15am Mis- sion 10:30am Staff 12pm PW Luncheon “Strawberry Shortcake”</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 3rd Sunday after Pentecost Father’s Day Summer Worship Begins 9am Chapel 10:15am Sanctu- ary</p>	<p>19 Juneteenth Office Closed</p>	<p>20 2-3:30pm E.E.H. Adult Bereavement 7pm Trustees</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 5:30-7:30pm WH Pines Condo meet- ing</p>	<p>24 1pm Memorial Service-Michael Kirkpatrick</p>
<p>25 4th Sunday after Pentecost Services: 9am Chapel 10:15am Sanctu- ary</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	

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Your issue of the June Tidings



Faithfully Friendly For All—Always
Welcome . Include . Involve