



Tidings

Faithfully Friendly For All – Always
Welcome . Include . Involve

A Word from your Pastor

As we come to the end of the year, I am incredibly grateful for all that we have experienced in our past year of ministry together. I thought I'd take a moment just to be thankful for all that has happened and all we've accomplished. In the spirit of the twelve days of Christmas, I offer to you twelve moments I hold close to my heart as this year comes to a close.

A new member class in February brought some wonderful new faces to us. We enjoyed getting to know each other a bit better, sharing our love of dogs, and learning more about our beloved church.

For the first time since Covid, as Maureen's Haven continued to house the homeless at the church once a month, I had a full slate of volunteers to help. It offered so much encouragement to me and those who are served by this program to have so many others participate and share their time.

For Ash Wednesday, we had a drop-in chapel service where people could experience quiet and meditative time in our beautiful chapel nourishing our spirits and receiving the mark of ash to remember our own mortality.

Sharing time with other pastors of the East End, often via zoom but also in person, getting to know my colleagues and learning more about the ministry ongoing in our area.

Hosting neutral pulpits for other churches as they search for their pastor. It was an honor to be helpful in this way and to be able to hear different voices in the pulpit.

Our ham dinner in April was a wonderful opportunity to gather together to share in food and fellowship that had been lovingly prepared by members of our congregation.

Youth Sunday is always a highlight for me, getting to hear the younger voices in our church and seeing the many gifts that they possess and are gracious enough to share with us.

Confirmation was celebrated at the end of May and we welcomed three young people as active members into the congregation following a period of classes and spending lots of time together. It is always a blessing to have the help of Kathy Tureski, our church's Christian Ed. Superintendent as my teaching partner.

The church picnic is always such a fun event, and this year we had beautiful weather and of course, delicious food. The ice cream truck made its annual appearance and fun was had by all.

Our summer Bible study that took place at the Beach Bakery in downtown Westhampton Beach was well attended and afforded us the opportunity to learn more about what Presbyterians believe and about each other.

Our church had quite a string of memorial services, especially at the end of the summer and the Deacons board was a real bright spot as they helped care for these grieving families and showed them the hospitality of our church.

The best part of this year and this faith community is—YOU. Each and every one of you has brought something to the church and congregation this year and I am truly grateful for the uniqueness and faithfulness of your gifts.

May you have a blessed and faith-filled Christmas season and remember the moments most special to you as we head into the New Year.

Blessings,
Rev. Vanessa



***Prayer Concerns**

Recent: Theresa Caponi & Family; Libby Hirsch, cancer, Tom Rogers' cousin; Raymond Hann; Pat Bebon, home; Trisha Knotoff (Hospice Care), Kathy Tureski's sister-in-law; Terry Heffernan(chemo), friend of Mimi & Stu Wood; Jane Busking; Vita Collery, cancer, Karen Derryberry's cousin; Ralph Neubauer; Amanda Walters, cancer, friend of Karen Derryberry; Helen Fitzsimons; Kevin Fitzgerald; Marjorie Ridgway, home;

Long Term: Phyllis Styrzo, Hamptons Center for Rehab; Kimberly Rogers Murawski; Ralph Downs, Florida; Dana Barrett, friend of Nancy Miller; Chelsey Carter Collins, Hamptons Center for Rehab; Ellen Pfaff; Dottie Evans

"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 on the Village Green on Main Street, Sunday, December 3 at 2:30pm. Our very own Rev. Winters will be participating.

Christmas Wreath Sale Pick Up
Wreath Pick up is Friday, December 1st at 10am at the church OR at the Christmas Bazaar! Wreaths are \$40 each. Please make checks payable to Presbyterian Women.

Christmas Tea & Bazaar
Saturday, December 2nd, 1-3:30pm
Wreaths, Handmade crafts, Cookie Walk, Silver Tea, jewelry and more! Don't miss out on the perfect gift and some holiday fun!

Santa Brunch
Sunday, December 10th after the Children's Christmas Pageant.
Tickets available during coffee hour and in the church office.

P.W. December lunch meeting
The Presbyterian Women would like to invite the men to join our holiday luncheon of lasagna on Wednesday, December 13th at 12 noon. Betsy Doyle will be leading us in singing holiday music after lunch. Please sign up on the bulletin board so we can plan numbers.

Board Members and Committees:

It's that time of year to start preparing your reports for the Annual Meeting. Please email your reports to admin@westhamptonpresbyterian.org no later than Friday, January 5th. Reports will need to be received promptly. Thank you for your attention.

Church Family News

We give our deepest Christian Sympathy

Deaths

October 26, 2023
Dean Speir, brother to Gale Seidler

November 14, 2023
Seamus Naughton, husband to Jessica Howard

November 21, 2023
Robert Van Cleef, husband to Rev. Dr. Ann Van Cleef

**BLUE CHRISTMAS
Quogue Chapel
Sunday, December
17th at 2pm**

It is for everyone, but in particular those who have lost a loved one or for whom this time of year is sad, lonely, or both. All are welcome.



**Community
Tree & Menorah
Lighting**

Christmas Tree & Menorah Lighting, carols and Santa. December 2 at 5:30pm on the Village Green on Main Street. Rev. Winters will be participating in this year's service.



Joy to the World!

O, a caroling we will go!
Sunday, Dec. 10th
after the Santa Brunch!

Christmas Eve Services

10am Worship with carols
5pm Candlelit Service
9pm Candlelit Service—Quogue Chapel



Santa Brunch

When: Sunday, December 10, following Children's Christmas Pageant

Where: Parish Hall

Tickets: \$20 for adults, \$15 for children and \$50 for families.

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



Christmas Cocktail Party

Come join us for drinks, hors d'oeuvres and Christmas cheer!

When: Saturday, December 16, 5:00pm–7:00pm

Where: The Home of Elizabeth Shane & Lou Pizzarello
136 South Country Road in Remsenburg

Tickets: \$50 each or \$80 per couple
(suggested donation)



Christmas Ornaments

Don't forget to pick up your ornament of our beloved church, for your tree or someone else's. They make excellent gifts-on sale now for \$20 each.

All tickets and ornaments on sale after worship or in the church office.



Adopt-a-Family

Once again, our church will be participating in the Adopt a Family program. Please stop by the Adopt a Family table during coffee hour and consider “adopting” someone for Christmas. For further details see Tracy Speed Zollweg or Sharon Conway.

Maureen’s Haven

Thank you all for the support that you continue to give for this mission. Volunteers are needed on the 3rd Monday each month through the winter. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board with available dates. See Rev. Vanessa if you have any questions.

SAVE THE DATE(S)

The fundraising committee has been busy planning some new ideas for the **2024** year. While we work out the final details, here are some of the events to look forward to!

Friday, February 9 - 7PM - Paint Night With Ginger Anderson

Friday, March 1 - 7PM - Line Dancing with Terry Lou - Lady T

Sunday, April 14 - 5PM - Ham Dinner

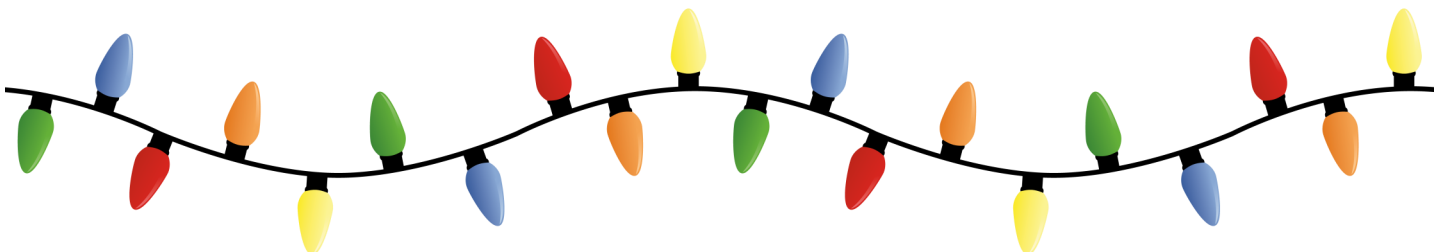
Friday, September 13 - 7PM - Trivia Night With Betsy

Saturday, September 28 - Scrap Metal Drive

We are also looking to schedule a Sunday afternoon concert series, with four, one-hour long performances in the Sanctuary. So far we have a soprano soloist, a harpist, a string quartet, and the possibility of a woodwind ensemble. Dates and times will be available soon.

And of course our Summer Cocktail Party, Pampered Chef Fundraiser, Church Ornament Sale, and Santa Brunch will be on the calendar as soon as dates and times are finalized.

Questions about any of the events can be directed to the fundraising committee or to the church office.





Poinsettia &
LI Brass
Christmas 2023



On December 17th, the Long Island Brass Guild will be playing once again during worship. Contributions may be dedicated in memory or in honor of a loved one to help offset the cost. In addition, dedications with red poinsettia plants may be ordered to adorn the sanctuary for the Christmas season at a cost of \$18 per plant. Make checks payable to: “Westhampton Presbyterian Church”.

LI Brass:

Enclosed is my contribution of \$_____ for the LI Brass Concert.

Poinsettias:

Number of plants: ____@ \$18 per plant

Total: \$_____

___ I will pickup after service

___ Please leave for Deacon delivery

My dedication is (please check one):

_____ in honor of

_____ in loving memory of

From _____

***Please return this form to the church office by
December 12th.***

Youth Group and Sunday School News

I can't believe that November has come and gone. The youth have been busy. First off, Heifer is moving right along. We have collected over \$600 as of November 1st and with our collection on the 19th we are just about to \$1000. Thank you! In December we will be collecting with pew envelopes or you can pick up at the youth bulletin board. We also will be in the Parish Hall collecting if you'd like to make a donation in honor of or in memory of someone. We will have "gift" cards that you can give to your recipient. We also will have Heifer pins and a few pencils. Remember that giving to Heifer is a gift that keeps on giving!!!!

Four of the kids in youth group went shopping for Thanksgiving items for the Deacons baskets on November 10th. Afterwards, we enjoyed a meal together at Ihop in Riverhead.

The Advent Festival will take place December 3rd in Bailey Hall at 10am. Please drop your child off just before worship to enjoy making some crafts and a light snack.

The Christmas Pageant (please let me know if your child is participating) takes place on December 10th followed by The Santa Brunch (gets your tickets during coffee hour) followed by caroling (sign up via youth bulletin board) to some of our members that are shut in.

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and are preparing to celebrate the season of Christmas.

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Kathy

Pampered Chef party!



Finance Committee Update

Dear friends,

We are reaching the end of 2023 and we thought it would be of importance to inform you about the financial health of our church, especially how our actual numbers look versus the budget 2023.

The year-to-date 10 months pledge goal is \$212,190 and the year-to-date actual giving is \$212,870, which means we are (just) positive difference between goal and actual at \$680. In other income categories we are far behind the budgeted goal. For example, Donation Other we are nearly 60% behind plan and in Loose Plate over 30%, accumulating for a gap of \$26,000. The October income year-to-date total is now \$378,588 and expenses \$374,652, which diminished our year-to-date difference between income and expense to \$3,936. However, the income includes major funding by the Memorial & Endowment fund of \$77,520, meaning financially we are not self-sustainable. Per Capita budget is \$4,500 for the year and we received so far \$4,328. This means, besides the financial burden the church experiences, we also need to cover the remaining \$7,846 payable to the Presbytery.

On the expense side, we all understand that inflation related expense level went up, for example electricity, but also building maintenance costs, insurance, office supplies and services. Our expenses were at close to 90% of budget with 2 more months to go. As the expenses will not lower, we may also need to review Mission Givings to balance the 2024 budget, as further withdrawals from the M&E fund are untenable.

With that said, we would like to ask you to review your current givings versus your pledge, your pledge for 2024 or your ability to donate to our church to gain a better financial health for our church. We all are under the constraints of higher inflation rates and economics uncertainties, but if you can support in any way, it would be highly appreciated !

Our church is blessed by your contributions, your support and all the volunteers who add to our financial stability. Hereby, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all you !

Respectfully submitted, Your Finance Committee

Candlelit Christmas Concert

You are invited, Friday, December 15, 2023 at 7:30 PM the East End Women's Choir, will be presenting a Candlelit Christmas at Westhampton Presbyterian Church, under the direction of Kamilla Ozman. This program is roughly based on the Anglican Advent service of Nine Lessons and Carols and is centered on both seasonal and non-seasonal classical sacred music with interspersed poetry readings. Candlelit Christmas has become a traditional seasonal favorite for East End Women's Choir audiences and the East End alike. The concert features selections by organist Tom Zatorski, soprano Emma Ozman, a brass choir as well as a bell choir. We invite you to join us in the singing of the Carols.

Deacons Corner

Thank you to all who generously donated food and/or gift cards to the Thanksgiving baskets this year.

We truly have an amazing congregation! We are sure that families in need were able to enjoy a nice dinner.

-Board of Deacons



Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to:



| | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|----|----------------------------|
| 2 | Betsy Rowe | 19 | Andrea Chattaway |
| 2 | Brian Babcock | 20 | Dorette Jornitz |
| 2 | Pat and Bob Bebon | 21 | Amy Mosher |
| 3 | Lisa Jornitz | 21 | Carol Lee & Jim Nespole |
| 3 | Meredith and Gregory Imber | 22 | Casandra Carrick |
| 6 | Gabriella and Mario Ortiz | 24 | Christine Haddad |
| 7 | Cindy Drayton and Jim Rowbotham | 24 | Desider Rothe |
| 8 | Tracy and Gary Martin | 26 | Jennifer Tamis |
| 9 | Emanuel Winters | 26 | Victoria Carrick |
| 12 | Bonnie Wootten | 28 | Marie Yervasi |
| 12 | Bob Niebanck | 28 | Anne and Christian Charles |
| 13 | Erin Lynch | 29 | Tom DeMayo |
| 14 | John Hoch | 29 | Victoria Hedberg |
| 14 | John David | | |
| 15 | Pat Schultz | | |
| 16 | Jeff Munn | | |
| 17 | Gigi Ravenhall | | |
| 18 | Janet and Rich Schneider | | |
| 19 | Gabriella Yervasi | | |





December 2023



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 1-3:30pm Christmas Bazaar 5:30pm Tree & Menorah Light- ing -Gazebo |
| 3 1st Sunday of Advent 10am Service Children's Advent Festival 2:30pm "Tree of Lights" Gazebo | 4 | 5 2-3:30pm EEH Adult Bereavement 5-7pm EEH Chil- dren's Bereave- ment 7pm Deacons | 6 | 7 10am Men's Fellowship Group | 8 | 9 |
| 10 2nd Sunday of Advent 10am Worship Children's Christmas Pageant followed by Santa Brunch | 11 | 12 2-3:30pm EEH Adult Bereavement 5-7pm EEH Chil- dren's Bereave- ment 6pm Session | 13 9:15am Mission 11am Staff 12pm PW Luncheon | 14 8am-5pm Preschool Gin- gerbread party 7-9pm East E Women's Re- hearsal | 15 7:30pm East End Women's Choir Concert | 16 5-7pm Christmas Cocktail Party @ the Pizzarello Residence |
| 17 3rd Sunday of Advent 10am Worship with LI Brass concert 2pm Blue Christ- mas—Quogue Chap- el | 18 5pm Maureen's Haven | 19 2-3:30pm EEH Adult Bereavement 5-7pm EEH Chil- dren's Bereave- ment 7pm Trustees | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 4th Sunday of Advent 10am Worship 5pm Candlelit Ser- vice—WPC 9pm Candlelit Ser- vice-Quogue Chapel | 25 Christmas Day Office Closed  | 26 Office Closed | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 1st Sunday of Christmas | | | | | | |

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Your issue of the December Tidings

