



TIDINGS

WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
APRIL 2024

A Word from the Pastor

Spring has finally sprung! At the time I am writing this (March 20th) it is officially the first day of spring! I have always appreciated the changing of the seasons and been grateful to live in parts of our country where we get to experience all four of them. Springtime has always been one of my favorite seasons—the return of the light to our days and evenings, fresh flowers, the ability to spend more time outside. King Solomon also loved springtime and writes about this in the “Song of Solomon” found in the Hebrew bible. He writes that it follows the long and cold, dark and wet winter and that it brings with it flowers with their fragrance and the promise of new experiences. If you are at all familiar with the Song of Solomon, you’ll also know it is considered the most romantic book in the Bible and Solomon notes that springtime even provides an ideal time for romantic love (Song 2:13).

Spring is also a time of great promise. We know that the cold rain we often experience during this time will yield to warmer weather and is necessary for the coming of the flowers and plants that will bloom later on in the spring. Birds are beginning to return north for the summer and even if we can’t hear all of their songs yet, we know that they are coming. Scientifically, we know why spring is arriving as the earth turns and brings us closer to the sun. But long before we understood exactly why, people have been celebrating the seasons and giving thanks to God for the beauty that accompanies them.

It is easy to complain about the sudden cold snaps and rainy days that may accompany early or mid-spring, but we are also reminded to give thanks to God for the rain that falls and the grass that grows (Psalm 147:7-8). We are reminded not to take these things for granted, even when it’s colder than what we would like or the rain is preventing us from being outside as much as we’d like. Spring is also a reminder for us to not only emerge from our physical homes and warm spaces, but to open our hearts up once again. As we start preparations for the summer and all the busyness that goes along with it, take the time to pause and reflect on the many gifts we’ve been given. Westhampton Beach and its surrounding towns and villages are a beautiful and unique place to live and we are blessed to have such beauty around us. It’s also a call to reach out to others who are also emerging from their winter-induced rest. What a wonderful time to meet with an old friend or pay a visit that you’ve been putting off.

Ancient people across the world would pause and give thanks for the coming of spring, when they could begin to plant the crops that would be needed for the coming year and for the return of warmer weather. These days we are much more able to mediate the effects of our environment, but it doesn’t mean that we shouldn’t take the time to stop and be grateful. Whatever springtime rituals you may have—cleaning up the leaves in the yard, planting bulbs and flowers—perhaps also take the time to recognize our place in the natural world and to give thanks for the opportunity to be within it.

Go for a walk with church companions on a hike led by Janet Hann, spend time walking on the beach or simply spend 5 minutes outside in the sunshine. God has given us so many gifts this spring, let us give thanks and rejoice in them.

Blessings,

Rev. Vanessa Winters

EASTER

Prayer Concerns

Recent: Leslie Johnson, cancer (Stephanie Miller's mother); Linda Howard-Kloepfer and family; Pat Bebon; Joan King, home; Glorja Johnson; Raphael Hidalgo, chemo (Seth Stevens' uncle); Ruth Feitl, Karl Feitl's mother; Libby Hirsch, cancer (Tom Rogers' cousin); Raymond Hann; Terry Heffernan, chemo (friend of Mimi & Stu Wood); Jane Busking; Vita Collery, cancer, Karen Derryberry's cousin; Ralph Neubauer; 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

Men's Fellowship Group:

Join us on Thursday, April 4th at 10am in the conference room. All members and friends are welcome. Goodies always served.



Spring Dinner Fundraiser
Sunday, April 7th at 5pm
 Sign up in the church office or Sunday morning with Fundraising Committee!

Presbyterian Women's April Meeting:

Wednesday, April 10th at noon
 Ladies Lunch Outing at Mary's Pizza and Pasta in Speonk! Hope to see you there!

We Are Live!

Visit the church website to view Sunday worship services streaming live every Sunday at 10am.
www.westhamptonpresbyterian.org

Direct Deposit

An option for your monthly pledge is Direct Deposit. On the 10th of the month your pledge amount will be automatically transferred from your individual bank account into the church's account. It is convenient and easy. If interested, contact our treasurer, Janet Hann for the necessary form.

Church Family News

Memorial Services

April 6 at 11am, WPC
 Anjele Kalfayan

Deaths

March 8th: Dottie Evans

March 18th: Inda M. Lawson
 Roger Anderson, brother to Linda Howard-Kloepfer

Presbyterian Walkers



Hike with Janet on April 20th! See her article on page 3 for details.

Community



(Look for information coming soon)

PRESBYTRIAN WALKERS



Hubbard County Park Hike Part II Saturday, April 20, 2024

On this hike we will explore the western section of Hubbard County Park in Flanders. There will be views of Mill Creek, Birch Creek and Flanders Bay as we traverse 3 miles of easy terrain on the trails and woods roads.

Meet at 9:30 am on Spinney Road North in Flanders, south side of NY 24 just east of Birch Creek Road (follow NY 24 from Riverhead or Sunrise Hwy exit 65, go north on NY 24 toward Riverhead, Spinney Road north will be on your left.)

Please wear comfortable hiking boots or walking shoes and pants that you can tuck in your socks. Bring water and snack if you like. No facilities. Rain will cancel. For questions or information contact Janet Hann at H#631-288-6884 or C# 631-871-7240.

Garden Club

In an effort to save on landscaping costs and to add some beauty to the beds around the Sanctuary and in the Memorial Garden, the Board of Trustees will be forming a Garden Club. Volunteers will meet approximately once a month from May through October to plant, weed, trim shrubs and do basic maintenance on the garden beds. If you are interested in helping out with this, please speak to Betsy Doyle.

Memorial Scholarships

Applications are now available for eligible high school seniors and college level students who will be attending an accredited academic or vocational institution in the fall. Applicants should be members in good standing of the WPC and provide documentation of fall semester attendance. Applications are available in the church office or by contacting Ellen Campbell at ecampbell18@optonline.net. Applications, along with personal statements and documentation must be received at the church office or at the above email address by the beginning of June.

PW Spring News



The PW met in March with a Saint Patrick's theme menu. At this meeting, we decided to mix things up a little bit and are going to go to a restaurant in April instead of May. We will be heading back to Mary's Pizza in Speonk for lunch on Wednesday April 10th at noon.

For our May Luncheon on Wednesday, May 8th, Bring your favorite sandwich to accompany soup and/ or salad. We will meet in the conference room at noon.

After the Easter holidays, we will begin to plan for our annual Yard Sale in earnest. I have

A Note from the Deacons

Hebrews 13:2 "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."

Our Ushers play an important role in the weekly worship service. With a friendly smile and a warm hello, they are the first people to greet both regular members and strangers upon entering our church, helping all to feel welcome and included. As an Usher, one's main job includes the greeting, passing out bulletins, collecting the offering and assisting with coffee hour. Some other tasks are lighting the candles, recording the number of people in attendance, and ringing the bell. For anyone interested in Ushering, a more complete guideline is available and may be found in the back of the sanctuary. In addition, any of the Deacons would be glad to offer an in-service training. If you've never ushered before, a great way to start is by signing up with someone who has. Ushering is always done in pairs. You will not be alone! So please consider signing up to Usher in this new year. It's a win win. Ushers offer an essential service to the congregation while getting an opportunity to become more familiar with their church family, and may even get to "entertain an angel without knowing it".

Thanks in advance from your Deacons!

Paint Night With Ginger Baer

Our next fundraiser is coming up! Paint Night with Ginger Baer is scheduled for Friday, May 10 from 7-9pm in the Parish Hall. Cost is \$40 which will cover the cost of materials as well as the refreshments that will be served. There will also be a raffle for a basket of art supplies. Spots are limited, so sign-up on the sheet in the Parish Hall starting April 7th. If you have any questions, you can speak to any member of the Fundraising Committee.

SAVE THE DATE! Trustee Spring Clean-Up Day

The Board of Trustees has set aside Saturday, May 11 from 9am-12pm for a Spring Clean-Up day at the Church. We have a list of inside and outside projects that we would love to do, and there will be a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall listing the projects. You can sign up for one or a few! Pizza lunch will be provided! Come help spruce up the Church in time for spring!



REMINDER - Sunday Afternoon Concert Series #2, Sunday, May 19 at 3pm Emma Ozman, Soprano

Tickets will go on sale starting April 14th

Line Dancing FUN-raiser!



Fun was had by all at last month's Line Dancing Night Fundraiser! Led by Lady T, she had everyone movin' and groovin' at all skill levels! Thank you Lady T! Look to your Fundraising Committee table on Sunday mornings for more information coming up!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Dave LeBleu | 20 | Wendy Hornick |
| 6 | Mary Beth Lundborg | 21 | Siri Howard |
| 8 | Linda Perritt | 22 | Marge Beckwith |
| 8 | Cindy Schneider | 25 | James Nespole |
| 10 | Matthew Sulzinski | 25 | Robert Doyle |
| 10 | Joyce Reaver | 26 | Tom Moore |
| 13 | Anee Mazurkiewicz | 26 | Brady Munn |
| 14 | Jack Shiu | 26 | Dick Lutz |
| 15 | Karen Andrews | 26 | Lynne Jones |
| 15 | Heather Martin | 27 | Andrew Lynch |
| 16 | Eloise Carter | 29 | Elizabeth Moore |
| 16 | Karen and Dave Derryberry | 30 | Dorette and Maik Jornitz |
| 17 | Meryle King | | |
| 17 | Christina Ravenhall | | |
| 18 | Randi DeMayo | | |
| 19 | Hanne Manker | | |
| 19 | Sara Lohneiss | | |

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed in observance of Easter	2 2-3:30pm EEH Adult Bereavement 7pm Deacons	3	4 10am Men's Group	5	6 11am Anjele Kalfayan Memorial Service
7 2nd Sunday of Easter 10am Worship 5pm Ham Dinner	8	9 2-3:30pm EEH Adult Bereavement 6pm Session	10 9:15am Mission 10:30am Staff 12pm PW Ladies Lunch Outing to Mary's Pizza in Speonk	11	12	13
14 3rd Sunday of Easter 10am Worship 3pm E.E. Women's Choir Cabaret (P.H.)	15	16 1:30-4:30pm E.E.H. Community Event— Parish Hall 7pm Trustees	17	18	19	20
21 4th Sunday of Easter 10am Worship	22 Earth Day	23 2-3:30pm EEH Adult Bereavement	24 3-4:30pm E.E.H. Gala Committee Meeting, Parish Hall	25	26	27
28 5th Sunday of Easter 10am Worship	29	30 2-3:30pm EEH Adult Bereavement			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	

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We're on the web:

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Your issue of the April Tidings



*Faithfully Friendly For All – Always
Welcome . Include . Involve*