



TIDINGS

WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

♥ FEBRUARY 2026 ♥

A Word from your Pastor

The Definition of Love

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

In keeping with the feast of the martyrdom of the 3rd Century priest/bishop Valentine celebrated every February 14th, I thought it appropriate to write about love. Well beyond the Hallmark holiday, chocolates, engagements, dinners, and other elements of romantic love, I throw good Ol single Paul's quote to the church in Corinth to you. Paul, not known for his romanticism, does offer a very compelling definition of love in his letter to the Corinthians.

As this verse is almost universally utilized for wedding ceremonies, the context is much more telling, the Church in Corinth is fractured. Sides are drawn based, not surprisingly, on social standing, politics, gender dynamics, accessibility, etc. Sound familiar? Paul sees that fragmentation as a genuine affront to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The remedy to a fractured world, a fractured church: love. These verses offer Paul's practical definition of what love is and it is of greater depth than what a box of chocolates can provide.

In a world where algorithms curate our exposure to demonize and build echo chambers that fragment for the sake of the "Almighty \$", may we choose the critical bridgebuilding found in the love of Christ.

In the love of Christ,

Rev. Michael Hafele



Sanctuary photo credit:
Richard Lamiroult of MTC Security

Prayer Concerns

Recent: Tammy Hackworth, healing prayers (Vern's sister); Suzanne Truscott; Austin Lock (friend of the Jornitz Family); Gale & Pete Seidler, Oasis Rehabilitation Center; Kimberly Rogers Murawski, healing prayers; Rob Hubbs, recovering at home (son in law to Ellen Brenner); Angel Knoedler, breast cancer (friend of Vern Hackworth); Jan Vinokour, recovering from a serious fall (friend of Mary & John Hull); Dick Anderson, healing prayers; Carolyn Manker Smith, breast cancer (Hanne & Bill Manker's daughter); Mariko Pichardo, healing prayers; Lenny Rempe, (longtime member of WPC); Susan Sullivan, friend of John and Mary Hull; Leslie Johnson, cancer (Stephanie Miller's mother); Pat Bebon; Libby Hirsch, cancer (Tom Rogers' cousin)
Long Term: Ralph Neubauer; Chelsey Carter Collins, Hamptons Center for Rehab; Dana Barrett, friend of Nancy Miller

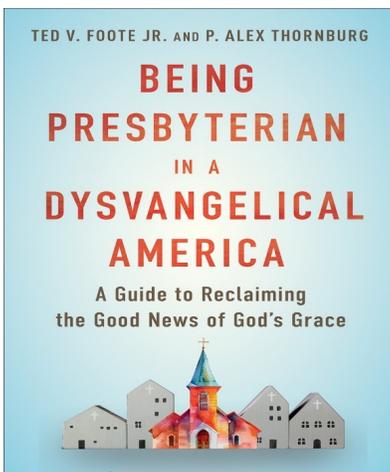
Presbyterian Women "Bring a Dish to Share" February meeting

Ladies! We hope you will join us on Wednesday, February 11th at noon. If you are able to attend, please bring a dish to share with everyone. We will discuss upcoming business and any new ideas that may arise.

Men's Fellowship Group

Whether a member or friend, join us on the first Thursday of each month in the conference room at 10am. Discussion and open conversation on current events and other topics. Coffee and goodies are always served.

**2026 Per Capita
\$47.51 per member**



Book Talk

Please join Pastor Michael on Sundays from 9:00-9:45AM as we journey through this compelling and approachable book offering positive ways for Presbyterians to articulate the faith in this contemporary context. The class will start on February 1st. Limited copies are available for you in the office or you may purchase one from Amazon.

Maureen's Haven Request:

If you have any extra reusable grocery bags (the nice heavy kind), our overnight guests are always asking for them. You can leave them on the stage in the Parish Hall. Thank you!

"Holy Flapjacks!" Pancake Dinner

Shrove Tuesday, February 17th 5:30-7pm
 Free of charge, but please sign up in the Parish Hall or contact the church office with how many guests. We will need a head count for shopping. Pancakes, fruit, eggs, bacon, coffee, tea and dessert!



Access Your Online Member Portal & Church Directory

Dear Members and Friends,

The Member Portal: Use the link below to update your own contact information and add a photo too! You are also able to see all of your financial contributions to the church!

You will create **your own** unique password for privacy purposes.

<https://servantkeeper.com/member-portal/westhampton-presbyterian-church>

You are also able to access the Online Directory through your Member Portal!

We want to ensure as much communication as possible with **all** of our congregation near and far, because each and every one of you has a special place here. Please don't forget to add or update your info to your member profile through the link provided above. Please contact Erika in the church office at admin@westhamptonpresbyterian.org or 631-288-2576 if you need assistance.

Christian Ed & Youth

I can't believe that February is knocking at the door! Shall we open it and find out what's going on? We had our first confirmation meeting on January 11th. It was a day where we got to know a little more about each other and what to expect in the next couple of months. We're looking forward to the journey ahead. Our next confirmation meetings will be February 1st & 8th.

February means "soup sale" for Souper Bowl of Caring. Once again, we will be selling homemade soups on Super Bowl Sunday, February 8th. The proceeds of the sale help with purchasing grocery cards that get used for local pantries and supplementing the Thanksgiving baskets that the Deacons provide to local families. We also collect food donations that are distributed to the little food pantries set up throughout WHB. Watch for more details about the types of soup that will be available for sale.

February also brings our annual Lenten Festival, which will also be held on Feb. 8th in Bailey Hall at the start of the worship service. It will take place in Bailey Hall instead of our regular scheduled Sunday School classes except we begin at the start of worship, 10am. So, drop off your child(ren) before heading into the sanctuary.

Mark your calendar now for Youth Sunday, May 10th. If your child(ren) is interested in sharing their musical talents with us, now is the time to pick a piece and start to practice because it will be here before you know it! If your child participates in SCMEA or NYSSMA or takes lessons that has always been a nice selection to hear too!

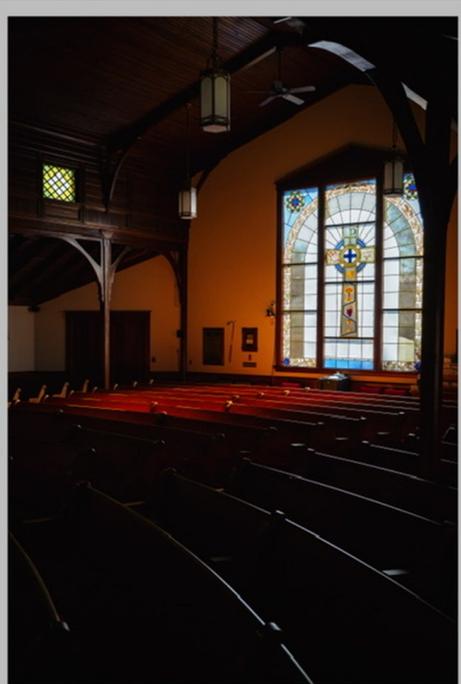
Our scheduled events are posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall, updates first come in the form of an email. So, make sure you're on the list to get them! Email: whpresbyterianss@gmail.com (Sunday School) or whpresbyterianyg@gmail.com (Youth Group)

Presbyterian Women News

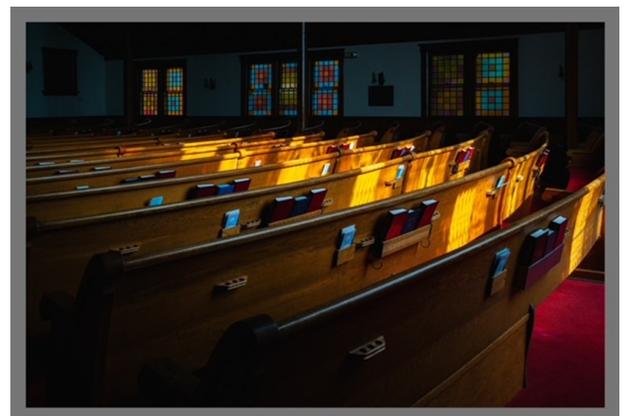
Eleven women met on January 14th for a lunch meeting of soup and sandwiches. The main discussion was that four women from our church, Betsy Doyle, Donna Goebel Willaims, Jean Seyfert, and Kathy Dayton volunteered at Long Island Cares. They helped unload the trucks and stock the bare shelves. Then, they helped the patrons "shop". Unloading and stocking required some muscle. Overall, they found they found the process to be educational as well as occasionally heart breaking. The ladies plan to go back on February 10th, March 10th, and April 21st. Talk with Donna if you are interested in volunteering. One need not go on those days to volunteer.

As of this writing, we will be having another Taco night evening meeting on the 22nd to include some of the working women. Last time was a fun time with a little business thrown in. Our next meeting will be on February 11th at 12 noon. Everyone is to bring a dish to share. We are also going to continue to ask that the ladies bring a personal hygiene product and/or a can of food for the food pantry.

This is a quiet time for the Presbyterian Women. Our next fundraising event isn't until May. Time to contemplate our mission and to see how we will go forward. Ideas are welcome.



Sanctuary photo credit:
Richard Lamiroult
of MTC Security





The 3 F's 2026 Event Calendar

February 17 - Shrove Tuesday "Holy Flapjacks" Pancake Dinner 5:30-7PM

March 6 - Line Dancing with DJ Lady T 7-9PM

April 19 - Ham Dinner 5PM

May 15 - Paint Night with Ginger 7-9PM

June 14 - Church Picnic following worship

June 28 - Sunday Afternoon Concert 2PM Moka Pot Duo, Daniel Keene- Guitar & Lisa Casal-Galietta, Violin

July 26 - Sunday Afternoon Concert 2PM Vanessa Trouble- Jazz Vocalist

August 15 - Summer Cocktail Party and Fundraiser 5:30PM

August 23 - Sunday Afternoon Concert 2PM Ethel's Mermen sing Sea Shanteys

September 26 - Annual Scrap Metal Drive 9AM-2PM

October (date TBD) - Pot Luck Supper with guest speaker

October 16 - Paint Night 7-9PM

November 19 - Harvest Dinner - 6PM

DID YOU KNOW?



Shrove Tuesday is a Christian festival celebrated in many countries across the globe. It falls on the day before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent – a period of around six weeks leading up to Easter. During Lent, Christians give up luxuries to remember when Jesus went into the desert for 40 days to fast and pray.

The exact date of Shrove Tuesday changes from year to year. But one thing stays the same — it's always 47 days before Easter Sunday. And yes, you guessed it, it's always on a Tuesday!

In the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia and Canada, Shrove Tuesday has another name... Pancake Day! Traditionally during Lent, Christians would give up rich, tasty foods such as butter, eggs, sugar and fat (some Christians continue to do so, in fact). Shrove Tuesday was the last chance to eat them – and what better way to do so than with delicious pancakes!

WPC will be celebrating Shrove Tuesday on February 17th with a "Holy Flapjacks!" Pancake Dinner in the Parish Hall from 5:30-7PM. Along with the pancakes, we will offer scrambled eggs, bacon, fruit cup, coffee, tea, juices, and cookies for dessert. There is no charge for this feast, but we do need you to sign up so that we can plan our shopping. You can call or email the office, and there will be a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall during coffee hour.

A Note from the Presbyterian Women



Our first volunteer session at The Harry Chapin Food Bank Hampton Bays Pantry, was a huge success. We unloaded the delivery truck full of non-perishable food, unpacked boxes, stocked the shelves, unloaded the second truck full of perishable food, filled the freezers and refrigerators, and assisted clients as they shopped. Our 3-hour shift was hard work but so rewarding in many ways.

Westhampton Presbyterian Church is scheduled for the following sessions:
Tuesday, February 10
Tuesday, March 10
Tuesday, April 21

If you would like more information about this outreach program, contact Donna Goebel, 631.838.2984 or dmgoebel@hotmail.com.

Long Island food banks are desperately low. When we arrived at the food pantry the shelves were bare. Let's help our neighbors by donating non-perishable food, toiletries, pet-food, etc. to our local food pantry. Your donations may be placed in the baskets located in the entrance of the Sanctuary or brought to the church office.

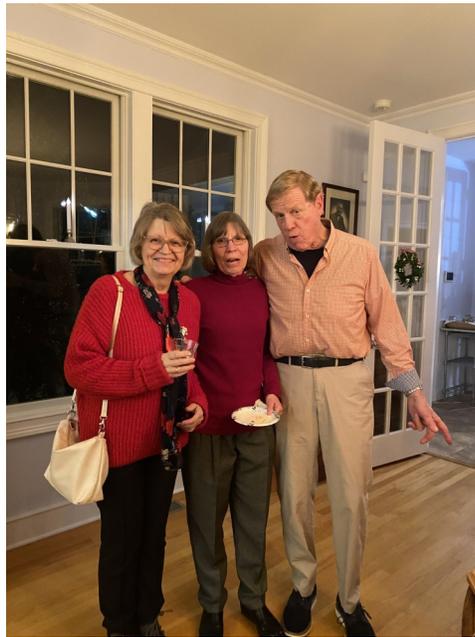
1 Peter 4:10

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

Kathy Dayton, Betsy Doyle, Donna Goebel, and Jean Seyfert at LI Cares The Harry Chapin Food Pantry, Hampton Bays, NY



Christmas Party 2025!



I ❤️
MY
CHURCH





1 Madeline, Michael, and Mac Gillooley
 1 John Campbell
 3 Deborah and Bob Busking
 4 Nancy Winters
 5 Zachary Downs
 7 Miles Tamis
 9 Donn Larson
 9 Carter Cline
 14 Taylor Wagner
 15 Mary Brennan
 18 Louise Smith
 18 Sean Doyle
 21 Carol Lee Nespole
 22 Casandra and Joshua Carrick
 23 Sandy Sorgan
 24 Geoffrey Strong

25 Kimberly Rogers Murawski
 27 Sally Hoge
 28 Jionni Vigorito
 29 Nora David
 27 Marissa Schultze
 28 Alison Strong
 28 Patricia Kottl-Bebon
 29 Warren & Brittany Frevert IV



Share!

Do you know a little history about the church or our community that you would like to share? Or a devotion-
 al, personal testimony, agendas from meetings, updates and events that would add connection for those near
 and far? All are welcome to contribute to our monthly Tidings newsletter! Send in your photos and articles to
 admin@westhamptonpresbyterian.org. (please have submissions in by the 20th of each month)

February 2026

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 10am worship Annual Meeting (Rescheduled Date)	2 7pm Online Bible Study	3 2:3:30pm E.E. Hospice Adult Bereavement Group 7pm Deacons	4	5 10am Men's Group 2-3:30pm E.E. Hospice Adult Bereavement Group	6	7
8 10am Worship 10am Lenten Festival—Bailey Hall "Souper Bowl for Caring" 	9 7pm Online Bible Study	10 2:3:30pm E.E. Hospice Adult Bereavement Group 5:15pm Music & Worship Meeting <i>Session will not meet in Feb.</i>	11 9:15am Mission 10:30am Staff 12pm PW "Potluck" meeting	12 2-3:30pm E.E. Hospice Adult Bereavement Group	13	14
15 10am worship	16 President's Day Office Closed 5pm Maureen's Haven 7pm Online Bible Study	17 2:3:30pm E.E. Hospice Adult Bereavement Group 5:30pm "Holy Flapjacks!" Pancake Dinner 7pm Trustees	18 Ash Wednesday 3-5pm Chapel Drop-In Service	19 2-3:30pm E.E. Hospice Adult Bereavement Group	20	21
22 10am worship	23 7pm Online Bible Study	24 2:3:30pm E.E. Hospice Adult Bereavement Group	25	26 2-3:30pm E.E. Hospice Adult Bereavement Group	27 AA: Sat. 10am —Choir Rm Sun. 12pm—Conference Rm Sun. 6:30pm—Parish Hall Wed. 6:30pm—Parish Hall	28