



TIDINGS

WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
APRIL 2026

A Word from the Pastor

Jesus said to her, "Mary!" -John 20:16

In John's resurrection account, Mary Magdalene heads to the tomb of Jesus well before sunrise. She notices the stone rolled away from the tomb and then runs to tell the disciples. Simon Peter, and presumably John, run to the tomb and noticed that all that was left was the linen wrappings. Uneventfully, John mentions that the two disciples return to their homes leaving Mary at the empty tomb alone. Unique to his Gospel account, John then gives attention to Mary. As Mary is in the tomb, angels appear to her and inquire why she is distraught. Garnering enough courage to respond, Mary requests if they know where the body has been moved to please tell her to offer closure for her.

We long for closure, particularly within our seasons of grief. It is a natural effect of moving emotionally and spiritually through one season to another. Ritual becomes a poignant means by which that transition is understood and offers healing. For Mary, the ritual of going to the tomb is the tangible means that allows her to move from chapter to chapter. Yet, in this account it is unfulfilled and it is initially devastating. Where is the body? Why is this happening? Where do I go? Confusion, anger, fear, and despair all flood into a solitary moment. Where have they taken him? It is my understanding that in this seminal moment, Mary speaks for all humanity in the wrestlings of lostness, uncertainty, fear, abandonment, hopelessness, and deep pain. Where is God in all this? The answer is immediate.

A voice reaches out to her and asks her two questions, in her deep sorrow Mary is unable to recognize the person speaking to her. Then the tender voice calls her by name, "Mary." The voice she has heard countless times calling her by her name is now flooding her soul with hope and joy where she calls and recognizes him. The potent ritual has been transformed as death does not have the denouement of the final act of humanity but as the herald to the final victory of life. That is the celebration of the Eastertide season, the Lord who calls each by name revealing anew the reality that life has the final word even over death. A blessed Easter to you and yours.

Blessings in Christ,

Rev. Michael Hafele



Prayer Concerns

Recent: **Barbara Thompson** (sister in law of Tony Thompson); **Pat Bebon**, Acadia Center in Riverhead; **John Sprague**, healing prayers; **Mariko & Leandro Pichardo**, healing prayers; **Suzanne Truscott**; **Austin Lock** (friend of the Jornitz Family); **Gale & Pete Seidler**, home; **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); **Lenny Rempe**, (longtime member of WPC); **Susan Sullivan**, friend of John and Mary Hull; **Leslie Johnson**, cancer (Stephanie Miller's mother); **Libby Hirsch**, cancer (Tom Rogers' cousin)
Long Term: **Ralph Neubauer**; **Chelsey Carter Collins**, Hamptons Center for Rehab; **Dana Barrett**, friend of Nancy Miller

Men's Fellowship Group:

Join us on the first Thursday each month at 10am in the conference room. All members and friends are welcome. Goodies always served.

Presbyterian Women's April Meetings:

Wednesday, April 8th at 12:00pm. "Potluck" luncheon meeting. See PW article for more details. Fellowship and discussion on our upcoming events.

Thursday, April 23rd at 6pm. Evening "Taco Bar" Gathering. Contact Gini Wagner if you will attend and a side dish to accompany the Taco theme!

Great opportunity to connect with other women of the church.



You're invited!

Annual Ham Dinner

Sunday, April 19th at 5pm.

Ham, coleslaw, mac 'n cheese, steamed veggies, fruit salad, dinner rolls and bundt cake!

Tickets will be available during coffee hour and during the week in the church office and at Lynne's Cards & Gifts on Main St.

Suggested donation:

\$20 adults, \$15 kids, \$50 family



Join us during Holy Week

Maundy Thursday, April 2

Tenebrae and Communion Service
7 pm Quogue Chapel

Good Friday, April 3

Good Friday Service
12 pm St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Sunday, April 5

6:00 am *Sunrise Service*
Swordfish Beach Club

Coffee and Hot cross buns will be served -Thank you John & Meryle King!

10:00 am *Easter Worship accompanied by the LI Brass Guild*

11:00 am *Annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt*

Community



(More info to come! PW News pg.4)



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.

Christian Ed Ministry

Is Spring here? I'm still wearing my winter clothes waiting for the day for short sleeve shirts and wind-breakers!

March was a month with lots of activities happening outside of church. A lot of youth were involved with theatre productions at their schools or the Westhampton Performing Arts Center. Also, some of the kids played or sang in SCMEA (Suffolk County Music Educators' Association). And let's not forget about everyone that's involved with sports, dance & clubs!! The kids stay busy.

... We close out March getting ready for Holy Week. YG will be filling Easter eggs to get ready for the annual Easter Egg hunt following the 10 am Easter worship service. We'll also be selecting some animals to purchase with Heifer monies we have collected throughout the year. A bonus is that anything we purchase will be matched by a group of community donors!

April will be the time we start to prepare for Youth Sunday, which will also include Scout recognitions on May 10th. The kids will learn some new songs to perform, help deliver the message for the day and share some of their talents with us. Don't forget to mark your calendar now, Youth Sunday is a day not to be missed!

ATTENTION: High School Senior's and college age adults attending or planning on attending a college, university or trade school, please keep an eye open for our church scholarship. Send your emails to: whpresbyteriany@gmail.com to make sure you get an application when they go out. Karen Neubauer and I will be working together on the scholarship committee. "Live as Children of the Light" Ephesians 5: 8

Kathy



Spring Outdoor Adventure April 25, 2026

This adventure will be the previously canceled hike at Broad Cove Preserve in Aquebogue which is a waterfront parcel on Flanders Bay. There are views of Terry Creek and Broad Cove. This nearly 100 acre parcel is the site of the former Broad Cove Duck farm and was purchased by the Peconic Land Trust saving it from development.

All interested in exploring this preserve on April 25th at 9:00 am see Janet Hann at coffee hour or call her at C#631-871-7240 or H#631-288-6884 and leave a message.

Dear Members and Friends,

Try our online Member Portal and Directory!

The Member Portal: Use the link below to update your own contact information, view and print your giving statements and add a photo too! You will create **your own** unique password for privacy purposes. You are also able to view the church Directory!

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



PW Spring News

The Presbyterian Women met on March 11th. Seven women showed up and we enjoyed delicious Minestrone soup made by Bryan Wagner. Gini Wagner and Janet Hann shared their experiences of their volunteer work with LI Cares. Table cloths, chairs for the foyer, and book clubs were topics of discussion.

Our next meeting will be a luncheon on Wednesday April 8th at noon which will be a "Potluck" luncheon, please bring a side dish to share. We are also having a supper meeting of "Make your own Tacos" on Thursday April 23rd at 6 pm. Contact Gini Wagner with a taco themed side you will bring.

Our yard sale will be on May 23rd, the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend, from 9-1. More information will be forthcoming. See Chris Haddad if you are interested in a booth.



Volunteer with us!

BECAUSE IT TAKES MORE THAN FOOD TO FEED THE HUNGRY



We were excited to have a few new participants join us during our March volunteer opportunity. Don't miss out on our next scheduled service event on Tuesday, April 21, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. If you are already registered for the Westhampton Presbyterian Church Group on the LI Cares website, please sign up today. Spaces are limited. For more information, please contact Donna Goebel 631.838.2984



A Note from the Deacons: The Important Role of Ushers

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!



Chapel Window Project to Begin



Exciting news! The project to repair the two windows on the Beach Lane side of the chapel will soon be underway. Artan Window Restoration is scheduled to begin the work after Easter Sunday. The company will be coming out to remove the existing windows and take them to their workshop in Oceanside to begin the process of refurbishing the windows. (Note that the windows are being refurbished and not replaced. The company will use as much of the original window and glass as possible, adding new, matching materials only where the age and weather damage requires it.) While the windows are out, the openings will be secured with weathertight, pressure treated plywood. While we understand this will be unsightly, the windows are scheduled to be reinstalled in time for the summer worship services. As part of the reinstallation, Artan will also be replacing the pulleys and ropes, making the windows functional for the first time in years.

If you have any questions about the project, the detailed quote of the work from Artan is in the Main Office, or you can speak with Betsy Doyle. If you would like to make a donation toward the project, you can send a check to the Westhampton Presbyterian Church, with CHAPEL WINDOW PROJECT in the memo line.

Bible On-Line Study with Rev. Michael

There will be no Bible Online through April 13th.

We will meet again April 20th.

Food Pantry Needs

LI food banks are desperately low. Please donate non-perishable food items. Thank you for supporting our community. Your donations have been a blessing to our community pantry

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)

Received during the season of Lent, but donations can be made throughout the year. Each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. Please join in making a difference in the world!

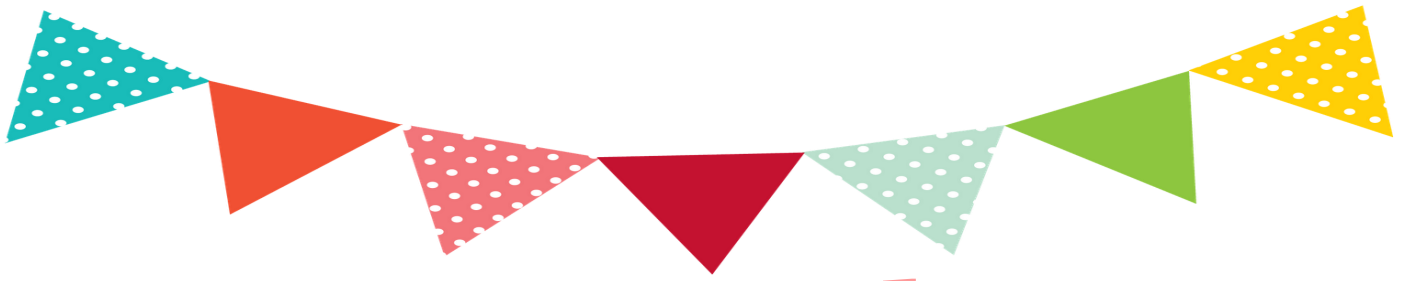


"Holy Flapjacks!" Night



Line Dancing Night!





April Birthdays and Anniversaries

6 Mary Beth Lundborg
8 Linda Rogers
13 Amee Mazurkiewicz
15 Karen Andrews
16 Eloise Carter
16 Karen and Dave Derryberry
17 Meryle King
18 Randi DeMayo
19 Hanne Manker
22 Marge Beckwith
25 James Nespole
25 Robert Doyle
26 Tom Moore
26 Brady Munn
26 Dick Lutz
26 Lynne Jones
27 Andrew Lynch

29 Elizabeth Moore
30 Dorette and Maik Jornitz

Celebrate!

*Don't see your birthday or anniversary?
Please contact the church office right away!*

April 2026

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</p>			1	2 Maundy Thursday 7pm Tenebrae Service Quogue Chapel	3 Good Friday Office Closed 12pm Service at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church 5pm Maureen’s Haven	4
5 Easter 6am Sunrise Service at Swordfish Beach Club 10am Service LI Brass Guild 11am Children’s Easter Egg Hunt	6 Office Closed	7 7pm Deacons	8 9:15am Mission 12pm PW “Potluck” Luncheon	9	10	11
12 2nd Sunday of Easter	13	14 5:15 M&W 6pm Session	15 10:30am Staff	16	17	18
19 3rd Sunday of Easter 5pm Ham Dinner	20 7pm Online Bible Study	21 7pm Trustees	22	23 6pm PW “Taco Bar” Evening meeting	24	25
26 4th Sunday of Easter 2pm Chapel Wedding	27 7pm Online Bible Study	28	29	30		

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Your issue of the April Tidings



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