

Visions Newsletter

Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church
www.wapc.net

Welcoming Everyone As We
Cherish Our Past

Living in the Present and
Celebrating Diversity

Moving Forward in Faith
With Jesus



JUNE 2020

From the Pastor's Desk

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Happy Birthday Church! Pentecost is the day we celebrate the day the church was born by the power of the Holy Spirit! The day when God's power exploded through the church and officially began its mission of making disciples.

Pentecost is no isolated event. It is the culmination of the mighty work of salvation Jesus began on Good Friday. Pentecost is the season of fire, the fire of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost is the season of wind, the wind of the Spirit that blows and gusts its way into the hearts of those who committed to God and his Kingdom.

Pentecost is the time when we need to be reminded that sometimes being the church can be dangerous. Author Annie Dillard is rather famous for saying that we ought to wear crash helmets in church and strap ourselves to the pews, because we do not know what a dangerous place this is.

When we leave worship and go out into the world, is the Spirit evident? Where we work, where we live, where we shop, where we do whatever it is we do, is the Spirit evident? We are Easter people, yes, but we are Pentecost people as well.

We are the church, and the church is the only institution founded by Christ himself. But we cannot witness our faith if the power of the Holy Spirit is not present in us. It is the rock upon which the weight of the entire structure rests. It is the cornerstone.

Scripture describes Jesus as the "Chief Cornerstone" of our faith. ... Isaiah 28:16, "Therefore this says the Lord God: 'Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation.

Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. [Ephesians 2:20-22].

During the Pentecost season, let us respond to the outpouring of God's great Spirit, and determine as individuals and a collective body of faith that it is time for us to act like Pentecost people. If you want to set someone on fire, you must burn a little yourself. Where is the Spirit? Can you feel it? Amen.

Sincerely,
Pastor Lindsey

TO PREVENT THE POTENTIAL SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS

**OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE WILL BE
PRE-RECORDED AND
STREAMED ONLINE AT 10AM
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

**IF YOU HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET, GO TO THE CHURCH'S WEBSITE
WWW.WAPC.NET AND CLICK ON THE CHURCH SIGN TO FOLLOW ALONG.**

HIGHLIGHTS OF SESSION MEETING – MAY 12, 2020

- Once again, we had perfect attendance at the Session meeting, compliments of Zoom technology and Elder Jim Roselli.
- Beginning Sunday, June 7, we will have virtual communion during the worship service. Those at home will be advised to have bread and juice ready to take part, as Pastor Lindsey shares the communion liturgy.
- A motion was carried to authorize Elder Roselli to purchase and install three indoor security cameras, one in the Narthex, one in the Parish Hall, and one outside the church office. The cost is approximately \$90 each.
- It was noted that we now have a “Coffee Hour Chat” immediately after online worship, and that it is an excellent way to stay connected with the pastor and other church members.
- Attendance at worship, as counted by views of the online worship, averaged 51 during April.
- Plans were made to distribute the remaining Operation Backpack food in front of the church, as we have not been successful in getting it to the students, since school has been on remote learning.
- Session viewed an excellent video created by the New Jersey Missional Transitional Working Group. The seven Presbyteries of New Jersey are being re-imagined. Elder Roselli is serving on the Working Group.
- Pastor Lindsey continues to shelter at home, preparing and recording worship services, coordinating worship with Jim Roselli and Quinn, keeping in touch with members by phone and keeping in touch with Greta, who comes to the office one day a week, working from home the other days.
- The next regular Session meeting will be on Monday, June 8, 2020.

MISSION UPDATE

Elizabeth Presbytery sent a grant of \$1,000 to every church in the Presbytery, to be used as each church's Session decided. Our Session decided to direct the funds toward feeding people in need. El Centro Hispanoamericano in Plainfield has been providing food to a large number of families during the pandemic. WAPC's \$1000 grant has been sent to El Centro to assist in their feeding program.

Operation Backpack has been suspended until schools reopen, because of the difficulty in getting the weekend food bags to the students. Last Thursday we distributed the remaining bags of food in front of WAPC. We informed El Centro and posted the food giveaway on the North Plainfield Community Facebook page, and we had a good response. A small amount of food that remained was taken to St. Joseph's Church for their Saturday morning distribution. Thank you to Susan Durick and Julia and Ellen Lake for their assistance.

The Mission Committee



MONDAY, JUNE 8TH, 7PM

VIA ZOOM MEETING

FATHER'S DAY
SUNDAY, JUNE 21ST



FLAG DAY,
SUNDAY, JUNE 14TH

FIRST DAY OF SUMMER
SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH



*** CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

WAPC JUNE REMINDER CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5***	6
7 ONLINE COMMUNION 10:00 AM, ONLINE WORSHIP <hr/> Zoom Chat Coffee Hour	8 *** SESSION MEETING 7pm	9	10	11	12***	13
14 FLAG DAY 10:00 AM, ONLINE WORSHIP <hr/> Zoom Chat Coffee Hour	15***	16	17	18	19 ***	20 FIRST DAY OF SUMMER 
21 FATHER'S DAY 10:00 AM, ONLINE WORSHIP <hr/> Zoom Chat Coffee Hour	22***	23	24	25 JULY VISIONS DEADLINE	26 ***	27
28 10:00 AM, ONLINE WORSHIP <hr/> Zoom Chat Coffee Hour	29***	30				

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Presbyterian Women



HEARTS, HANDS, & STITCHES

Hearts, Hand & Stitches members create shawls and lap robes to share God's love with those who are grieving, hospitalized, or at home, or celebrating a milestone.

**We are canceling our monthly meetings
until further notice,
in order to stay safely at home.**

We are busily knitting and crocheting at home, working to create shawls, baby blankets, hats, and lab robes (whatever keeps our interest, and uses up our yarn stashes).

**This year's Wool Walk of
local yarn shops is also cancelled.**

Please keep this ministry of sharing God's love through shawls in your prayers, and remember to let one of our members know if there is a need for a shawl.

We do have several available.

Call Gwyn Gronlund, (908) 754-1251,
for more information

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

**THE FELLOWSHIP
BREAKFAST
normally held
every second
Saturday of the
month.
IS CANCELLED
UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE**

For more info.
call the church
office

PRAYER LIST

Healing, comforting, and/or supportive prayers for:

- *Peggy Bunnell and the Bunnell family and friends* as they mourn the passing of *Jeff Bunnell*, lifetime North Plainfield resident and long time active WAPC member, on Tuesday, May 19.
- *Gwyn Gronlund's mother, Margaret Herman-Angely*, who is recovering at home after a brief hospital visit.
- *Bob Montieth*, whose symptoms are improving and is being treated at his residence, in Bridgewater.
- Former WAPC members, *Carole and Jerry Rose*, as *Carole's* brain cancer tumors are shrinking from her chemotherapy treatment and *Jerry and his family* in the lost of his sister, *Claire*.
- *Fran & Wayne Young's son, daughter in-law, & grandson, Tim, Yadira, & Bryan Young* recovering at home from COVID-19.
- *Valerie Reid's great nieces, Elizabeth & Grace*, who were born early and are hospitalized.
- *Marilyn Cortright*, recovering at home and continued prayers for her husband, *Tim Cortright*.
- *Amanda Lake* for health concerns.
- *Jim Roselli's sister, Joanne*, currently in a Kansas City hospital.
- *Susan Sendelsky & her sister, Kerry*, members of Pastor Lindsey's former church family, Oak Tree Presbyterian, both fighting cancer.
- *Jane Windbush, Pastor's sister & Stephanie Weaver, Pastor's niece*, both suffering from Rheumatoid Arthritis.
- *Jackie Slattery & Sean Slattery, daughter & grandson of Estelle Kennedy* during a difficult time.
- *Gail Schmeisser*, continuing to be challenged with mobility issues.

Continued prayers for those people at home or in continued care:

- *Grace Landsperger and Estelle and Betsi Kennedy* at home.
- *Gail McKenna*, at 2225 Kirkland Village Circle, Bethlehem, PA 18017.

Prayers of support and thanksgiving for:

- *Jim Roselli*
- *Pastor Madelynn Lindsey*



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