

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



JANUARY 2019

Letter from the Desk of Pastor Lindsey

Well, during Advent, we had a Blue Christmas service, we recreated the birth of Jesus Christ with a donkey, cow, a sheep and her baby with a life size stable which included baby Jesus, shepherds, angels an innkeeper and a story teller. We celebrated on Christmas Eve with lessons and carols with a choir, saxophone player, handbells and a solo and lit the Advance Wreath of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. We really did everything possible to make the coming of Jesus very special.

But now I ask you, after Christmas, What? There is an easy answer for Christians. Let us be about our Father's business! For we who are in our Father's house, Christmas is not over it has only begun. "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Heb 10:25).

God has come into the world. Jesus the Christ has been born into our midst. God is among us, but maybe there is a little bit of a feeling that when we started to look for him, we could not find him. We have been anticipating his coming for four weeks and we celebrated his arrival and now we just want to see him and hold him or be held by him, and there's nothing wrong with that. Amen!!

REMINDER: WORSHIP STARTS AT 10AM

If you cannot make it to worship in person . . .you can join us from the comfort of your home. If you have access to a computer and the internet, all you need do is go to <https://www.gotomeet.me/WatchungAvenueChurch> and you can see our worship service live.

HIGHLIGHTS OF SESSION MEETINGS – DECEMBER 9 and 10, 2018

- At a Special Meeting after worship on December 9, Session voted to accept the proposal for additional work on the Sanctuary roof. Because many additional sheets of plywood are needed, there will be additional cost of \$20,000. Funds will come from the Housing Fund.
- The payroll service plan is still under discussion.
- An insurance claim will be filed for the mold problem downstairs.
- Planning continued for the Live Nativity (scheduled for Sunday afternoon, December 23rd, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.)
- There will be a joint Blue Christmas service at 6 p.m. on Thursday, December 20, at Crescent Avenue Pres. Church, with Pastor Lindsey offering the message.
- The Annual Congregational Meeting will be on Sunday, February 3, 2019, following worship.

Summary by Gwyn Gronlund, Clerk of Session



NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

**The Annual Meeting of the
Congregation and Corporation of the
Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church
will be held on Sunday, February 3, 2019
at 11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall.**

**The purpose of the meeting is to review the
budget for 2019, elect officers, and transact any other business
that may properly come before the meeting.**

Gwyn Gronlund, Clerk of Session

FOOD FOR BACKPACK PROGRAM

The Mission Committee would like our church to take on the task of providing bags of weekend food for needy students in North Plainfield Middle School/High School. Currently those children in the program in grades K through 4 receive food items for their backpacks on Fridays. This helps them through the weekend, when they are not receiving meals at school. The older children are not currently served by the program. Approximately 25 children have been identified by the school system. We have already received a large donation of individual cereal packs from the Obama School.

We are asking folks who belong to Costco or BJ's to purchase and donate individually packed items from the following list. We will also accept monetary donations and donations of one-gallon Ziploc bags and empty plastic bins for storage. You may contact Gwyn Gronlund if you have questions. A list of recommended food items follows:

Food Bank Network of Somerset County BACK PACK FOOD LIST

Beef stew (small can) or

Vienna sausages (4.6 oz can)

Chef Boyardee canned pastas (7.5 oz microwave can)

Tuna (Ready to eat bags)

Milk (8 oz. shelf stable boxes)

Juice boxes (8 oz. boxes)

"Kraft Easy Mac & Cheese"
(microwave packets only - No cups)

Cold Cereal (small boxes 1.2 oz)

Pudding Cups or Fruit Cups

Snacks (Small packs pretzels, cookies, fruit snacks, etc)

For a total of eight (8) items per (1 gallon) zip lock bag



Let's see, what is missing?
We have coffee, tea, cups, sugar, cookies, napkins -
but there is something else. Hmm!
I know - it is you!
We need a host each Sunday to bring
the milk and/or cream

and to set up the table real pretty for coffee hour after worship service.
If you can host one Sunday out of the month,
please be a dear and sign up on the Coffee Hour chart in the Parish Hall.

Thanks, Dianne Ledder, PW Coffee Hour Chair



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY
meets at the church at 10am with Pastor Lindsey.
Contact office for more information.

THURSDAY NIGHT SEEKERS BIBLE STUDY
will meet January 3, 2019 at 7:30pm.

Contact the church office for more information.

*** CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

WAPC JANUARY REMINDER CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 10AM Bible Study CHOIR REH. 7pm	3 ZUMBA 6:30-7:30PM - PH ↓	4***	5
6 10:00 AM, WORSHIP/ 11amCOFFEE ↓	7 *** ZUMBA 6:30-7:30PM - PH ↓	8 H.H.S. meeting ZUMBA 6:30-7:30PM - PH ↓	9 10AM Bible Study CHOIR REH. 7pm ↓	10 ↓	11***	12
13 ↓	14*** SESSION MEETING 7PM ZUMBA 6:30-7:30PM - PH	15 ↓	16 ↓	17 ↓	18 ***	19
20 ↓	21*** M. L. King Day ZUMBA 6:30-7:30PM - PH ↓	22 ↓	23 ↓	24 ↓ VISIONS DEADLINE	25 ***	26
27 ↓	28*** ↓	29 ↓	30 ↓	31 ZUMBA 6:30-7:30PM - PH		

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Presbyterian Women



HEARTS, HANDS, & STITCHES

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

There will not be
a meeting
scheduled for
January 2019.
Please watch for
notice of future
meetings.

Thank you to all who
helped make the
Cookie Walk a
success. Over \$200.00
was raised.

Hearts, Hands & 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 continue to meet monthly. We create comforting shawls and lap robes at our meetings and on our own time. We also do some charity knitting and crocheting, such as creating chemo caps for local cancer patients and purple baby hats for awareness of shaken baby syndrome.

Our current members are Cathy Boleyn, Judith Botzan, Peg Bunnell, Gwyn Gronlund, Ellen Lake, Betty Miksa, and Fran Young.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 8,
at the home of Fran Young.

Four of our members attended the annual Advent Prayer Shawl retreat at the Catholic Community of St. Charles Borromeo in Skillman, which has a very active Prayer Shawl ministry, called the Purling Angels. This year's theme was "Come to my Table."

The retreat is a wonderful time to share ideas, be inspired, and feel blessed. We heard about various ministries, such as the Palestine Children's Relief Fund, for children in refugee camps in Jordan and the Gaza area, and Community Hope for veterans transitioning from homelessness to apartments. We hope to support these ministries with baby blankets and lap shawls this year.

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



Don't forget when shopping Amazon online, simply type in the word "smile" before Amazon, like so, <https://smile.amazon.com> It is the same thing as Amazon, but it enables shoppers to select a non-profit organization to receive a small percentage of the price of the merchandise. Select Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, North Plainfield, with every purchase you make, and Amazon will give back .5% to our church. Shop more, support our church and therefore support our community!



"FUND FOR FORTY"

campaign is still moving forward. Continue asking your neighbors & frequently visited businesses to visit the church website in order to donate. Reach out to your Facebook friends & family and encourage them to visit the church website, www.wapc.net, to donate.

Let's keep WAPC moving forward into the future!

[Alice Lester says, "Keep those aluminum cans coming!"]

WHO - WHAT - WHEN -WHERE - WHY ???

WHO?- YOU

WHAT?- ALUMINUM CANS.Bring your aluminum cans to church, completely empty

WHEN?- NOW..... and until further notice

WHERE?- TO THE PARISH HALL

WHY?- FOR RECYCLINGProceeds will go to the "Fund for Forty"

HELP GROW THE FUND--EVERY LITTLE BIT HELP

PRAYER LIST

Healing and/or supportive prayers for:

- *Tim and Marilyn Cortright*, during difficult times as their *daughter, Amy*, fights a neuro-virus in Overlook Hospital.
- *Jackie Slattery & Sean Slattery*, daughter & grandson of *Estelle Kennedy* during a difficult time.
- *Sarellen Hogan*, is continuing her recovery at home.
- *Tim and Marilyn Cortright*, and their home situation.
- *Gail Schmeisser*, who is still challenged with mobility issues.

Prayers for those in the military and their families:

- *Specialist Jasmine Harris*, serving with U.S. Army stationed in Fort Hood, Texas.

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

Estelle Kennedy, *Grace Landsperger*, and *Margaret Herman-Angely*, and *Helen Miller* at home; *Shirley Ferri*, at Sunrise Assisted Living, Basking Ridge, *Bob Monteith*, at Green Knoll Center in Bridgewater, *Beverly Krausse*, at Berkeley Heights Nursing & Rehab, Berkeley Heights, and *Gail McKenna*, at 2225 Kirkland Village Circle, Bethlehem, PA 18017.

Prayers of support and thanksgiving for:

- *Fran Young*, in remission from cancer.
- *Pastor Madelynne, Lindsey*



**WATCHUNG AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
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