

Visions Newsletter

Welcoming Everyone
Celebrating Diversity
Following Jesus

January 2014



Worship Schedule

**JANUARY 5
COMMUNION
EPIPHANY
STAR WORDS**

**REVEREND
CHERYL GALAN**

**JANUARY 12
BAPTISM OF THE
LORD
HEALING SUNDAY**

**SEMINARIAN
CHRIS BAILEY**

**JANUARY 19
COMMUNION
PRESBYTERIAN
WELCOME EVENT**

**REV. JOHN
RUSSELL STANGER**

**JANUARY 26
ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING AND
LUNCHEON**

**FORMER
SEMINARIAN ANN
ELYSE HICKS**



REMINDER: For pastoral care needs or emergencies please contact, **Interim Pastoral Care Associate Mark Smith** at marksmith@gmail.com

For assistance related to the ongoing ministry of WAPC please contact Administrative Assistant, Greta Martin-Worthy at office@wapc.net or 908-755-2781, Tues.-Thurs. from 9am-3pm.



*CHRISTMAS EVE
WORSHIP*

*PEACE AND
BLESSINGS TO ALL!*

Pastor Shannan's last Christmas
Eve candle lighting service at
WAPC . . .

She will be missed and we wish
her well in her calling to serve
our greater denomination.

Thank you Jim Roselli for the
Christmas eve photos!



Local Mission Contributions & Opportunities

- ❖ On Saturday mornings, WAPC is partnering with St. Joseph's Catholic Church to serve those in need in our community. Bags of food are given out every Saturday morning at 9 am, and clothing is given out on the third Saturday of each month. Helpers are needed to sort clothing and to help with the distribution. If you can help, come to the Parish Center at 99 Westervelt Avenue before 9 am. Donations are accepted of clothing in good condition and small household items. Bring your donations to the office at the Parish Center on weekdays between 9 am and 4 pm. Call or email Gwyn Gronlund for more information, at 908-754-1251 or gwyndagronlund@comcast.net.

- ❖ PW will be assembling **GROOMING KITS** for Somerset County homeless individuals being housed at the local Howard Johnson motel. The following items will be collected: toothbrushes, travel-sized toothpaste, shampoo, and soaps, combs, brushes, disposable razors and feminine hygiene products. Baskets will be placed at the Sanctuary doors every Sunday in January. Seminarian Chris Bailey is helping coordinate the collection.

- ❖ Would your family or small group like to take on a monthly task to help WAPC? Our beautiful church building needs some volunteers to dust certain areas on a monthly basis. Right now, the sanctuary and the library need teams or individuals to handle this task. It involves dusting surfaces only (no floors) once a month, to keep our gorgeous dark wood trim gleaming. Cleaning supplies are provided. If you are able to do this or have questions, please contact Gwyn Gronlund of the Building and Grounds Committee at 908-754-1251.

- ❖ **SANDY RELIEF VOLUNTEERS:** We're working with churches in the hardest-hit areas, providing volunteer help to those most in need. Participants have found this to be an incredibly rewarding way to show appreciation for all the blessings we've been given! If you're physically able & willing to help, please join us! Most of the work now is flooring, sheetrock, & painting. Our workdays are on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month for the foreseeable future. Our workdays continue on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month for the foreseeable future. The next few dates are: Jan. 11 & 25, and Feb. 8 & 22, 2014. For more info., please contact Mike Rountree, at NJMikeSandy@verizon.net 908-642-5402.

The Presbytery's Disaster Preparedness & Response Commission

And now a story a couple of months ago, we worked for a young man in his late 30s. He, his wife and two very young children are staying with his parents about 70 miles away from home. On the morning we started work, I made the mistake of judging him: I thought to myself, “He’s able-bodied and young, so why are we working on his house?” But we worked anyway, hanging sheetrock, while he was working on the plumbing and wiring. We’d all brought lunches but, at noon, he insisted on buying us pizza, and he started telling his story.

He had sent his wife and children to her parents’ home while he rode out the storm, trying to save the house that they had just bought, he in the second floor, with just a flashlight as the refrigerator on the first floor was floating and banging on the walls. After that horrific night, it turned out that they were some of the “lucky” ones – they had flood insurance, so they received funds for remediation. They had to lift the house 15 feet, which cost them \$24,000 – and that took all their remediation funds plus a little. And that payment had to be made the day the house was lifted. Then, they still had to put a new foundation under it – and that took almost every penny of their savings. Then, they still had work that had to be done by licensed plumbers, electricians, etc. As he told us, they cannot sell the house because it’s “under water” – an ironic choice of terms to explain more is owed than the house is worth. He explained that they are now living – literally – hand-to-mouth.

And then our group came along and, in one day, we provided 60 person-hours of work – work that would take him, alone, a month of weekends. His children are sleeping on his parents’ couch. Every morning, his wife drives the children the 70 miles so they can attend pre-school with their friends, while he works at his day job. They’ve brought the children home periodically, so they can play in their own bedroom – in their jackets because there’s still no heat. And, at his parents’ house, they’re constantly asking, “Daddy, when can we go home?”

As he so eloquently put it, “Each nail you nail and each screw you screw in, brings my wife and little children that much closer to coming home!” The good news is that they will soon have a Certificate of Occupancy so they can finally go home!

As I said before, this has been a truly wonderful experience for us, for we receive so very much more than we give. And we’d like to share the experience with you.

Mike Rountree (Basking Ridge)
Disaster Preparedness and Response Commission
The Presbytery of Elizabeth
908-642-5402 or NJMikeSandy@verizon.net

PRESBYTERIAN WELCOME EVENT

Join us for a full morning and afternoon on January 19, 2014.

With Reverend John Russell Stanger

Worship at 10:00am, 11:00am brunch in Parish Hall, 12:00 noon Bible Study

"What Does the Bible Say or Doesn't Say?"

The Bible and LGBTQ Lives

All welcome in worship, community and learning

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO GAVE SO GENEROUSLY
TO THE GIVING TREE THIS YEAR!!



Finding Peace and Healing After Loss

"Journey to Wholeness- Healing the Grieving Heart" (8 week seminar)

Sundays evenings: Jan 5- Feb 23, 2014.

[The First Presbyterian Church of Cranford](#)

The First Presbyterian Church of Cranford, 11 Springfield Ave., will hold their 8 week seminar - "Journey to Wholeness- Healing the Grieving Heart" on Sundays evenings from Jan 5- Feb 23, 2014. Patti Williams, R.N., and certified pastoral bereavement counselor, and Virginia Waters, PhD. Psychologist, will lead the sessions from 7-9 p.m. in the Thompson Youth Center of the church. It does not matter if your loss is divorce, or death or job loss; loss is loss- it must be grieved. Bring family members and friends. All faiths are welcome. To register for this life changing event, please call 908-709-1341. No fee is charged.

Presbyterian Women

Prayer Shawl Ministry Winter Meetings

Hearts, Hands & Stitches, the Prayer Shawl Ministry of WAPC, continues to meet monthly. We stitch at our meetings and on our own time to create comforting shawls.

Our winter meetings are scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, January 14, at the home of Fran Young
 Tuesday, February 11, at the home of Gail Smith
 All evening meetings are held from 7:15 pm - 9:30 pm.

We have a time of quiet, prayerful stitching, plan our projects, and have refreshments, of course.

All are welcome to join.

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

CIRCLE OF GRACE

**WILL BE MEETING ON
 MONDAY- JANUARY
 6TH @ 1:30PM @ THE
 HOME OF DOT FENZ.**

CIRLCE OF HOPE

**WILL BE MEETING
 SUNDAY, JANUARY
 5TH, FOLLOWING
 CHURCH WORSHIP.**

CIRCLE OF JOY

**MONTHLY MEETING
 FOR JANUARY IS TO BE
 DETERMINED AT A
 LATER DATE. PLEASE
 WATCH FOR THE
 NOTICE.**





Annual Women's Retreat

Sponsored by Presbyterian Women

All Women Welcome!

Saturday, January 25, 2014

9:30 AM

Mt. St. Mary's House of Prayer

Retreat Leader: Sarah Henckel

Cost: \$15.00 per person plus

an item for our "Community Soup"



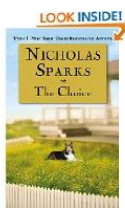
For planning purposes, please make reservations with

Gwyn Gronlund by **Sunday, January 19, 2014**

Book Club 2013-2014

The WAPC Book Club has chosen these books for our third year. Please join us on the **fourth Monday of November, February, and April at 7pm in the church lounge**. All are welcome, members of WAPC and guests. For more information, please contact Cathy Lyttle, 732-356-5253 or clyttle29@hotmail.com.

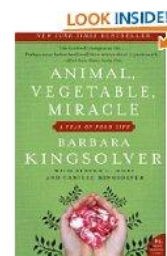
February 24: **The Choice** by Nicholas Sparks



A new tale about love found and lost, and the choices we hope we'll never have to make. Travis Parker has everything a man could want: a good job, loyal friends, even a waterfront home in small-town North Carolina. In full pursuit of the good life-- boating, swimming, and regular barbecues with his good-natured buddies--he holds the vague conviction that a serious relationship with a woman would only cramp his style. That is, until Gabby Holland moves in next door. Despite himself, Travis can't stop trying to ingratiate himself with his new neighbor, and his persistent efforts lead them both to the doorstep of a journey that neither could have foreseen. Spanning the eventful years of young love, marriage and family, *THE CHOICE* ultimately confronts us with the most heart-wrenching question of all: how far would you go to keep the hope of love alive?

April 28: **Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life** by Barbara Kingsolver

Author Barbara Kingsolver and her family abandoned the industrial-food pipeline to live a rural life—vowing that, for one year, they'd only buy food raised in their own neighborhood, grow it themselves, or learn to live without it. Part memoir, part journalistic investigation, *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* is an enthralling narrative that will open your eyes in a hundred new ways to an old truth: *You are what you eat*.



Kingsolver recounts a year spent eating home-grown food. Accomplished gardeners, the Kingsolver clan grow a large garden in southern Appalachia and spend summers "putting food by," as the classic kitchen title goes. They make pickles, chutney and mozzarella; they jar tomatoes, braid garlic and stuff turkey sausage. Nine-year-old Lily runs a heritage poultry business, selling eggs and meat. What they don't raise (lamb, beef, apples) comes from local farms. Come winter, they feast on root crops and canned goods, menus slouching toward asparagus.

The narrative is peppered with useful sidebars on industrial agriculture and ecology (by husband Steven Hopp) and recipes (by daughter Camille), as if to show that local food—in the growing, buying, cooking, eating and the telling—demands teamwork.

PRAYER LIST

- Prayers of healing and support for *Joe Steinau and his family* as he prepares to face major surgery on January 7th.
- Prayers of healing for *Estelle Kennedy*, recovering from a broken shoulder.
- Prayers of healing for *Louise Thul* who is recovering from an injured shoulder.
- Prayers of healing for *Helen Miller* recovering from a stroke at Greenbrook Rehabilitation.
- Prayers of comfort for *Josephine and Bethann Herbert* and *Jasmine Harris* as they grieve the loss of their son, brother and uncle, *Sylvester Herbert*.
- Prayers of healing for *Colleen Parlman and DeWitt LaMaire*.
- Prayers of comfort for *Sarellen Hogan* and her daughter *Susan*.
- Prayers of peace and comfort for *Alice Lester* as she mourns the loss of her husband, *Stewart J. Lester*.
- Prayers for *Jennifer Solis* who gave birth to a daughter, *Clara Elizabeth* and for her husband, *Victor*, during his year deployment.
- Prayers for peace in Syria and in Egypt, especially for the children of these countries.
- Prayers of healing and hope for *Harley Donham*, *Cathy Boleyn's* father.
- Prayers for *Amanda Lake* and her son, *Ryan Christopher Lake*.
- Prayers of healing, comfort and support for the following people and their families who are undergoing treatment for cancer: *Leslie Mitchell*, *Bunny Dow's* dear friend; *Julio Valle* and *Linda Seabrook*, uncle and friend of *Juan Ocampo*; *Ruth Stagg*, *Becky Gronlund*, *Don McGinn*, *Faye Steinau's* brother-in-law, *Avecita Justo*, *Bea Danyo*, *Alice Lester's* sister and *Marilyn Holcomb*.
- Prayers of continued healing for *Pat Roselli*, who is back to work and receiving therapy.
- Prayers for peace and an end to gun violence throughout our country.
- Prayers of healing and hope for *Betty Lou Diven*, *Fran Young's* sister.
- Prayers for *Shirley Ferri*, at Sunrise Assisted Living, Basking Ridge, NJ.
- Prayers for *Bob Monteith*, at Green Knoll Center in Bridgewater, NJ.
- Prayers for *Joan Brown*, *Helen Bradley*, *Nancy Higgins*, *Margaret L. Herman- Angely* and *Dorothy Blain* at home.
- *Mark Smith* and *Christopher Bailey*, our 2013-2014 Seminary Interns.


SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

One Vogt Drive
P.O. Box 6700
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807
(908) 526-4016 • Fax: (908) 707-8324
www.sclsnj.org

Brian K. Auger
Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Press Contact: Lisa Bogart
Somerset County Library System
908-526-4016 ext. 188
lbogart@sclibni.org

Help with the Affordable Care Act at SCLS Branches

Bridgewater, NJ. November 12, 2013. – The Affordable Care Act (ACA) takes effect in January, 2014. By March, 2014 all Americans will be required by law to have health insurance. The Somerset County Library System (SCLS) is hosting information and enrollment assistance services for individuals, families and small business owners at three branches starting the week of November 10.

The times and branch location information is as follows:

- **Bound Brook Memorial Library**
402 High Street, Bound Brook, 732-356-0043
Thursday, 3:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Saturdays, 10:30 am – 4:00 pm
- **Bridgewater Library**
1 Vogt Dr, Bridgewater, 908-526-4016
Wednesdays, 3:30 pm-8:00 pm
Saturdays, 10:30 am – 4:00 pm
- **North Plainfield Memorial Library**
6 Rockview Avenue, North Plainfield, 908-755-7909
Tuesdays, 3:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Saturdays, 10:30 am – 4:00 pm

■ SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM ■

■ Bound Brook Memorial Library ■ Bridgewater Library ■ Hillsborough Library ■ Manville Public Library ■
■ Mary Jacobs Memorial Library ■ North Plainfield Library ■ Peapack & Gladstone Library ■ Somerville Public Library ■
■ Warren Township Library ■ Watchung Library ■

REMEMBER THE DATE!

JANUARY 26, 2014

**ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING FOLLOWING
WORSHIP
WITH LUNCHEON**



WATCHUNG AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

170 Watchung Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060-4133

Visions Newsletter

Welcoming Everyone
Celebrating Diversity
Following Jesus

February 2014



Worship Schedule

**FEBRUARY 2
COMMUNION
ORDINATION/
INSTALLATION
NEW CHURCH
OFFICERS**

**REVEREND
NANCY ASBURY**

**FEBRUARY 9
HEALING SUNDAY**

**SEMINARIAN
MARK SMITH**

**FEBRUARY 16
COMMUNION
PRESBYTERIAN
WELCOME EVENT**

**REV. JOHN
RUSSELL
STANGER**

FEBRUARY 23

**REVEREND
NANCY ASBURY**



Congratulations to the
newly ordained and
installed Ruling Elders:

Robert Goellner

Gwyn Gronlund

Julia Lake

Susan Passe

Michele Ixim-Wallace

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emergencies please contact, **Interim Pastoral
Care Associate Mark Smith** at
marksmith@gmail.com

For assistance related to the ongoing ministry
of WAPC please contact Administrative
Assistant,
Greta Martin-Worthy at office@wapc.net or
908-755-2781, Tues.-Thurs. from 9am-3pm.

TWENTY-FOUR ATTENDED THE FIRST OF TWO LGBTQ/GENDER BIBLE STUDIES: IS THERE A 'SINGLE STORY'?

Twenty-four members joined Reverend John Russell Stanger at our first of two bible studies sponsored by Presbyterian Welcome. After relaxing at coffee hour/brunch, we gathered with the expectation of finding passages in the Bible that speak to gender and LGBTQ issues. We experienced much more. Here are a few reactions to the day:

"I was happy to be...in the discussion John led on understanding what the scriptures say to us and what they call us to do. John invites participants to share voluntarily and encourages dialogue." - *Gail Smith*

"The bible study with John Russell helped me to look back at all of the history represented in the Bible and once again find that it is relevant in today's world. The study was an interesting "refresher course" for me and helped me examine the source of my faith!" - *Bob Goellner*

"The study was a thought provoking hour. John Russell's etching style, his relaxed manner, and his sense of humor invited open and thoughtful discussion. It was good to see our younger members and to listen to their perspectives." - *Judy Botzan*

On February 16, John Russell will return to WAPC as guest minister. After a combined coffee/brunch hour, he will lead us in another discussion/study. We will examine scriptures that speak to us on dealing with issues of sexual orientation and gender. Participation at January 19th's study is not necessary or needed.

Please feel free to bring a guest!

PRESBYTERIAN WELCOME EVENT

Join us for a full morning and afternoon on February 16, 2014.

With Reverend John Russell Stanger

Worship at 10:00am, 11:00am brunch in Parish Hall, 12:00 noon Bible Study

*"What Does the Bible Say or Doesn't Say?"
The Bible and LGBTQ Lives*

All welcome in worship, community and learning

Local Mission Contributions & Opportunities

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The Gronlund family would like to thank all WAPC members and staff for your prayers, calls, cards and emails during Gwyn’s recent hospitalization and recovery. I really felt your love and God’s presence through each of you.
Gwyn Gronlund

Thank you for the prayers, cards and phone calls during my recent illness. I am grateful for a wonderful Church Family and for the power of prayer. I am on the mend and was very happy to be back at church on January 19! It was wonderful to see all your smiling faces even if we can’t pass the peace in the traditional way! Thank you again!

Cathy Boleyn

Presbyterian Women

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CIRCLE OF GRACE

**WILL BE MEETING ON
SUNDAY- FEBRUARY
9TH IN THE CHURCH
LOUNGE AFTER
COFFEE**

CIRLCE OF HOPE

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CROP WALK 2013

The weather on October 20 was perfect for our Crop Walk 41. However weather wasn't the only story. Last year's walk was notable for two very different reasons. First, there was the lowest number turnout of walkers ever, which we hope will turn around this year. Second and more importantly, these dedicated fundraisers, combined with a few wonderful donations, joined to collect **\$10,255.00** – the highest amount a Crop Walk has earned since 2001! Below are listed some of the honorable mentions:

Top 5 Fundraisers

- 1- Millicent Woodman, Covenant United Methodist*
- 2- Dianne Ledder, WAPC*
- 3- Phil Anderson, Plainfield Elks*
- 4- Lynn Lampariello, WAPC*
- 5- Gwyn Gronlund, WAPC.*

WAPC Members Earning Over \$200

Dianne Ledder, Lynn Lampariello, Gwyn Gronlund, and Ellen Lake

WAPC Members Earning \$100 or More

Joel Stambaugh, Zoe Peloso, Pat Roselli, Don Treichler, Lily Durick and Susan Durick

We want to thank everyone who participated in any way to help make our 2013 walk such a financial success. May God bless you for your efforts

**With appreciation,
Al Smith and Tom Ledder**

MEN'S BREAKFAST REMINDER!!
Every 4th Sunday of the month in Parish Hall
See you this month on February 23



***Watchung Avenue
Presbyterian Church
Presbyterian Women's 2014
Soup-A-Thon Fundraiser***

***170 Watchung Avenue,
North Plainfield at***

the corner of Watchung & Fairview Avenues

Sunday, March 2nd at 11:30AM, in Parish Hall

Get your appetite ready and come join us for
great food and a great time! Enjoy a variety of
soups and desserts too!

**Purchase Tickets during coffee hour starting
February 2nd (also at the door)**

\$ 6 for adults

\$3 for children, 10 & under

SEE YOU THERE!!

Members of WAPC and their Family and Friends:

Can YOU answer these questions?

What do Bubble Wrap, Band-Aids, salt water taffy, bar codes,
vacuum cleaners and ice cream cones have in common?

What about flat screen tv technology, M&M's, Play-Doh, Bosco syrup and golf tees?

And Graham crackers, solar panels, the modern submarine and electric guitar?

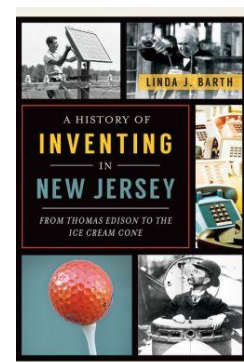
We invite all to come and find out the answers to these questions...and much more!

Sunday, March 16, 2014

11:15 in the parish hall

Lunch will be provided.

Join our guest, Linda Barth, author of A History of Inventing in New Jersey: From Thomas Edison to the Ice Cream Cone, as she "explores groundbreaking, useful, fun and even silly inventions and their New Jersey roots."

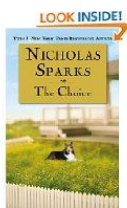


Sponsored by PW at WAPC

Book Club 2013-2014

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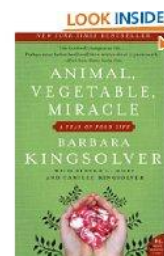
February 24: *The Choice* by Nicholas Sparks



A new tale about love found and lost, and the choices we hope we'll never have to make. Travis Parker has everything a man could want: a good job, loyal friends, even a waterfront home in small-town North Carolina. In full pursuit of the good life-- boating, swimming, and regular barbecues with his good-natured buddies--he holds the vague conviction that a serious relationship with a woman would only cramp his style. That is, until Gabby Holland moves in next door. Despite himself, Travis can't stop trying to ingratiate himself with his new neighbor, and his persistent efforts lead them both to the doorstep of a journey that neither could have foreseen. Spanning the eventful years of young love, marriage and family, *THE CHOICE* ultimately confronts us with the most heart-wrenching question of all: how far would you go to keep the hope of love alive?

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PRAYER LIST

- Prayers of healing and support for *Heidi Boleyn Rapach*, Cathy Boleyn's daughter, recently diagnosed with Lyme disease.
- Prayers of healing and support for *Joe Steinau*, who has been readmitted to JFK hospital in New York city.
- Continued prayers of healing and support for the following people:
Faye Steinau; Gwyn Gronlund; Estelle Kennedy, recovering in rehab at Aristocare;
Louise Thul, recovering from an injured shoulder; *Helen Miller* recovering at Greenbrook Rehabilitation; *Colleen Parlman; DeWitt LaMaire; Harley Donham*, Cathy Boleyn's father; *Amanda Lake* and her son, *Ryan Christopher Lake*; *Betty Lou Diven*, *Fran Young's* sister; *Shirley Ferri*, at Sunrise Assisted Living, Basking Ridge, NJ and *Bob Monteith*, at Green Knoll Center in Bridgewater, NJ.
- Prayers for *Jennifer Solis*, her daughter, *Clara Elizabeth* and for her husband, *Victor*, during his year of deployment.
- Continued prayers of healing, comfort and support for the following people and their families who are undergoing treatment for cancer:
Leslie Mitchell, *Bunny Dow's* dear friend; *Julio Valle* and *Linda Seabrook*, uncle and friend of *Juan Ocampo*; *Ruth Stagg*; *Becky Gronlund*; *Don McGinn*, *Faye Steinau's* brother-in-law; *Avecita Justo*; *Bea Danyo*, *Alice Lester's* sister and *Marilyn Holcomb*.
- Continued prayers for those people at home -
Joan Brown, *Helen Bradley*, *Nancy Higgins*, and *Margaret L. Herman-Angely*
- *Rev. Chris Belden* and *Elder Claudia Heffner*, who are working with WAPC through the pastoral transition.
- *Mark Smith* and *Christopher Bailey*, our 2013-2014 Seminary Interns.
- Prayers for peace and an end to gun violence throughout our country.


SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

One Vogt Drive
P.O. Box 6700
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807
(908) 526-4016 • Fax: (908) 707-8324
www.sclsnj.org

Brian K. Auger
Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Press Contact: Lisa Bogart
Somerset County Library System
908-526-4016 ext. 188
lbogart@sclibni.org

Help with the Affordable Care Act at SCLS Branches

Bridgewater, NJ. November 12, 2013. – The Affordable Care Act (ACA) takes effect in January, 2014. By March, 2014 all Americans will be required by law to have health insurance. The Somerset County Library System (SCLS) is hosting information and enrollment assistance services for individuals, families and small business owners at three branches starting the week of November 10.

The times and branch location information is as follows:

- **Bound Brook Memorial Library**
402 High Street, Bound Brook, 732-356-0043
Thursday, 3:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Saturdays, 10:30 am – 4:00 pm
- **Bridgewater Library**
1 Vogt Dr, Bridgewater, 908-526-4016
Wednesdays, 3:30 pm-8:00 pm
Saturdays, 10:30 am – 4:00 pm
- **North Plainfield Memorial Library**
6 Rockview Avenue, North Plainfield, 908-755-7909
Tuesdays, 3:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Saturdays, 10:30 am – 4:00 pm

■ SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM ■

■ Bound Brook Memorial Library ■ Bridgewater Library ■ Hillsborough Library ■ Manville Public Library ■
■ Mary Jacobs Memorial Library ■ North Plainfield Library ■ Peapack & Gladstone Library ■ Somerville Public Library ■
■ Warren Township Library ■ Watchung Library ■

SAVE THESE DATES!

**MARCH 2, 2014
ANNUAL SOUP-A-THON!**

**MARCH 16, 2014
PW GUEST SPEAKER**



WATCHUNG AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

170 Watchung Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060-4133

Visions Newsletter

Welcoming Everyone
Celebrating Diversity
Following Jesus



March 2014

Worship Schedule

MARCH 2
COMMUNION
SPECIAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING
SOUP-A-THON!

REVEREND
NANCY ASBURY

MARCH 5
ASH WEDNESDAY
7PM EVENING
WORSHIP

REVEREND
NANCY ASBURY

MARCH 9
HEALING SUNDAY

SEMINARIAN
CHRIS BAILEY

MARCH 16
COMMUNION
PRESBYTERIAN
WELCOME EVENT

REVEREND
NANCY ASBURY

MARCH 23
MEN'S BREAKFAST

REVEREND
NANCY ASBURY

MARCH 30

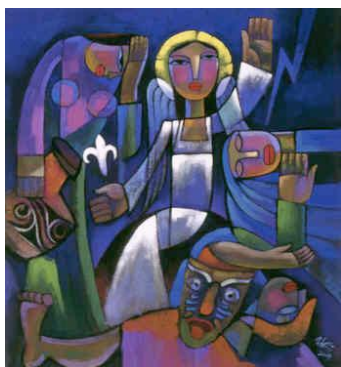
REVEREND
NANCY ASBURY

Search for a Temporary Pastor

The session designated a Temporary Pastor Search Committee comprised of Dave Lyttle, Bob Goellner, Michele Ixim Wallace, Julia Lake and led by Jeanne Fedoryk. The job description for the position has been finalized and approved by the Session. The next step is to identify potential candidates in collaboration with Transitional Leader and Committee on Ministry from the Elizabeth Presbytery. We will be providing updates as more information becomes available.

Session Summary for Feb. 10, 2014

- ✓ Jeanne Fedoryk (Head), Bob Goellner, Julia Lake, Michele Wallace and Dave Lyttle will make up the Search Committee for an Interim Pastor.
- ✓ March 2nd will be a Special Congregational Meeting to receive the Audit Report for 2013 and re-elect Judith Botzan to Session for a one year term.
- ✓ The Worship Service of March 16th will contain the ordination of Susan Passe, and the installations of Susan Passe, Julia Lake and Michele Wallace as Elders.
- ✓ Motion was passed that we will rent space to non-members and a set of policies will be developed. Sue Durick will meet with Greta to discuss prior policies.



Lent/Easter 2014

Wednesday, March 5 -7pm – Ash Wednesday Service

Led by Chris Bailey and Mark Smith, with Communion
led by Rev. Nancy Asbury

Plainfields Presbyterians Lenten Series

Wednesday, March 19 – “A Place at the Table”

Movie and Dinner

Wednesday, April 6 – Stephanie Merryman

Discussion and Dinner

Both events held at the United Presbyterian Church,
525 E. Front St, Plainfield in the Friendship Hall. A
simple meal is included.

Holy Week

Sunday, April 13 – 10am – Palm Sunday

Procession of the Palms led by the Children

Thursday, April 17 – Maundy Thursday

*There is no service at WAPC this year. We have been
invited to join the United Presbyterian Church at their
7pm service in their Chapel.*

Friday, April 18 – Good Friday – 7pm

*Service led by Chris Bailey and Mark Smith, with
Communion led by Rev. Nancy Asbury. Includes
interactive prayer.*

Sunday, April 20 – Easter Sunday – 10am

Easter Sunday Worship Celebration

Local Mission Contributions & Opportunities

- ❖ On Saturday mornings, WAPC is partnering with St. Joseph's Catholic Church to serve those in need in our community. Bags of food are given out every Saturday morning at 9 am, and clothing is given out on the third Saturday of each month. Helpers are needed to sort clothing and to help with the distribution. If you can help, come to the Parish Center at 99 Westervelt Avenue before 9 am. Donations are accepted of clothing in good condition and small household items. Bring your donations to the office at the Parish Center on weekdays between 9 am and 4 pm. Call or email Gwyn Gronlund for more information, at 908-754-1251 or gwyndagronlund@comcast.net.
- ❖ Would your family or small group like to take on a monthly task to help WAPC? Our beautiful church building needs some volunteers to dust certain areas on a monthly basis. Right now, the sanctuary and the library need teams or individuals to handle this task. It involves dusting surfaces only (no floors) once a month, to keep our gorgeous dark wood trim gleaming. Cleaning supplies are provided. If you are able to do this or have questions, please contact Gwyn Gronlund of the Building and Grounds Committee at 908-754-1251.
- ❖ **SANDY RELIEF VOLUNTEERS:** We're working with churches in the hardest-hit areas, providing volunteer help to those most in need. Participants have found this to be an incredibly rewarding way to show appreciation for all the blessings we've been given! If you're physically able & willing to help, please join us! Most of the work now is flooring, sheetrock, & painting. Our workdays are on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month for the foreseeable future. The next few dates are: Mar. 8 & 22, Apr. 12 & 26, and May 10 & 24. For more info., please contact Mike Rountree, at NJMikeSandy@verizon.net 908-642-5402.

The Presbytery's Disaster Preparedness & Response Commission

The Mission Committee and PW want to thank everyone for your generous donations of hygiene items for Grooming Kits. We are also grateful to all the youth and adults who gathered to assemble the kits in the Parish Hall last Sunday. The work went very quickly and it was a good way to keep warm! Seven large kits for families and 19 smaller kits for individuals were packed. The kits will be delivered by Seminarian Chris Bailey to the local Howard Johnson motel, where homeless families and individuals are being sheltered.

I would like to know if there is anyone who might have a DVD Tape Recorder X-Box Play Station that they no longer use and would be willing to donate or for a small fee sell to me for my three boys, Augusto-11, Manny- 8 and Daniel-5. The boys would love to have one and it would be very much appreciated. If you have any information, I can be contacted at 908-644-7752.

Thank you - Gilbert Garcia

Old Hymnals and Memories

If you would like the old hymnal that you or your family dedicated in honor of or in memory of a loved one please call or email the WAPC office by the end of March, office@wapc.net or 908- 755-2781 or tell any Session member.

WHAT IS NEW IN THE WORLD OF BULLETIN BOARDS?

As you know our bulletin boards are where we go to sign up for flowers and post and view pictures of WAPC events.

"Everybody knows that!" Yes, but did you know there is now a bulletin board where members can share stories, photos, family news, post articles, flyers and ask questions?

"Like what?" Do you have a new son or daughter or grandchild?

Have you been on a trip? Play in a band? Sing in the

HS school concert? Having a garage sale? Have a skill or

service to provide? Need a ride? Have information to share?

Questions to ask? **WAPC NEWS**, a bulletin board about and for our Church Family. Read, post, share.

"Everybody wants to know."

THE FLOWER CALENDAR for 2014 is posted in the parish hall on the bulletin board. Please sign up for flowers by writing in your name, phone number and/or email to a specific date.

Presbyterian Welcome Event

Rev. John Russell Stanger led or second, and sadly, last of our planned Bible study sessions on "The Bible and LGBTQ Lives." A representative group of our congregation met on Sunday, February 17th after Rev. Stanger preached during worship. The Bible study on this day consisted of the "seven clobber passages" in the Bible. We then discussed the places in the scripture that speak to LGBTQ lives in meaningful ways. Rev. Stanger wanted to help us understand scripture and use it to back up why we support LGBTQ lives in general, and specifically how we can be active and engaged in discussions in our own ministry; he wanted us to be prepared to use scripture when encountering people who do not support LGBTQ people. We all really enjoyed Rev. Stanger's sermons, his holistic understanding of scripture, and the sensitive and honest way he was able to facilitate our conversations among congregants. We hope he will be able to join us to lead more worship and educational services in the near future.

Michele Ixim-Wallace

A NOTE OF THANKS

In the absence of the Bereavement Committee's capable co-chairpersons, Faye Steinau and Peg Bunnell, I offered to organize the McKenna reception on February 8. With the support and willingness of all* who pitched in wherever needed, we did a great job. Thank you to each of you for your contribution to the luncheon for the McKennas, their family and friends. Whether you baked, provided fruit, helped set up, serve and/ or cleaned up, your efforts and the time were so appreciated.

I believe we hosted more than 125 guests. The Boleyns offered to take food that had not been opened to the feeding program at Elijah's Promise in New Brunswick. Either Elijah's or the homeless shelter for men in New Brunswick was able to use everything that was taken to them by Cathy and Doug.

I hope my memory is still serving me fairly well, but if I have omitted someone's name who helped with the reception, please let me know.

* Cathy and Doug Boleyn, Barbara and Bob Goellner, Dianne and Tom Ledder, Pat and Jim Roselli, Peg Bunnell, Dot Fenz, Gwyn Gronlund, Deb Hooker, Beverly Krausse, Evie LaMaire, Alice Lester, Pat Malin and Fran Young

With Appreciation,
Gail Smith

Presbyterian Women

Prayer Shawl Ministry Winter Meetings

Hearts, Hands & Stitches, the Prayer Shawl Ministry of WAPC, continues to meet monthly. We stitch at our meetings and on our own time to create comforting shawls. Our spring meetings are scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, March 11, at the home of Gwyn Gronlund

Tuesday, April 8, at the home of Fran Young

Tuesday, May 13, at the home of Cathy Boleyn

All evening meetings are held from 7:15 pm - 9:30 pm.

We have a time of quiet, prayerful stitching, plan our projects, and have refreshments, of course.

All are welcome to join.

If you would like to learn to knit or crochet, please contact one of our members. We will be happy to teach you! Call Gwyn Gronlund for more information (908) 754-1251

CIRCLE OF GRACE

WILL BE MEETING ON
SUNDAY- MARCH 9TH
IN THE CHURCH
LOUNGE AFTER
SERVICE- BRING
LUNCH WITH A SHARE.

CIRLCE OF HOPE

WILL BE MEETING ON
TUESDAY - MARCH
11TH AT THE HOME OF
CATHY LYTTLE AT
7:30PM.

CIRCLE OF JOY

WILL BE MEETING ON
SUNDAY - MARCH 9TH
AT THE HOME OF
ESTELLE KENNEDY
AFTER WORSHIP.





***Watchung Avenue
Presbyterian Church
Presbyterian Women's
2014
Soup-A-Thon Fundraiser***

***170 Watchung Avenue,
North Plainfield at***

the corner of Watchung & Fairview Avenues

Sunday, ***March 2nd at 11:30AM***, in Parish Hall

Get your appetite ready and come join us for great food and a great time! Enjoy a variety of soups and desserts too!

Purchase Tickets at the door-

\$ 6 for adults

\$3 for children, 10 & under

SEE YOU THERE!!

North Plainfield Girl Scouts Community Food Drive



WAPC is proud to partner with the North Plainfield Girl Scouts in their Annual Community Food Drive which will benefit the Somerset County Food Bank- North Plainfield Pantry at Vermeule Center and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul which operates out of the St. Joseph Parish Center.

The Girl Scouts are asking all churches and community organizations to come together and join them to fight hunger in our community.

There will be a number of opportunities to help.

- First 3 Weekends in March. (1st -15th)-11:00am- 2:00pm. With the support of Walmart in the Watchung Square Mall, the Girl Scouts will be collecting food donations outside the store the first 3 weekends in March. Please plan to shop and donate to support their efforts.
- Participating Churches including Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church will be participating by collecting food donations during their normal church activities the weeks of March 1-15th. Look for the Girl Scout drop box.
- Saturday, March 15th- 11am- 2 pm - Vermeule Community Center located at 614 Greenbrook Road / Clinton Avenue. Drop off food donations and/or grocery store gift cards.

All food donations should be non-perishable and within the expiration date. Gift Card Donations are welcome but must be dropped off on March 15th between 11 am and 2 pm at Vermeule Community Center.

If you have any questions, please contact Girl Scout troop 65937 at 908-917-0775 or email us at our2girlscouttroops@gmail.com



Celebrating over 65 years and still growing

WATCHUNG AVE. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PETALS FOR PROFIT FUNDRAISER

*We grow the plants to help your organization grow
its funds!*

Shop at Parker Gardens between
March 1st and June 15th and
we will donate **10%** of all the proceeds directly to
Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church

Just in time for all your spring plantings.
Whether you're looking for annuals, perennials, trees or
shrubs, water gardens, furniture and accessories, or landscaping
service, Parker's 14 acres of greenhouses & garden center
presents the area's **largest** selection of top quality plants and
services with **expert advice** that is second to none!
We make gardening easy!

Just mention that you are from **Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church** at the time of sale
and we will log the sale into your organization's account. At the end of the fundraiser,
10% of the total proceeds will be forwarded to your organization.

Parker Gardens

1325 Terrill Road Scotch Plains, NJ

(908) 322-5552

www.parkergardens.com

Offer cannot be combined with other offers or sales.



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

[Who we are](#) | [National responses](#) | [International responses](#) | [Volunteer opportunities](#) | [Your gifts at work](#) | [Give now](#)

DOES BLUE STAND FOR COMPASSION?

In PDA, it does! Colossians 3:12 encourages us as Christ followers to “clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.”

Across the nation, volunteers are giving their time, energy, and service to put on the compassion of Christ as they serve alongside disaster survivors, helping them to clean up and rebuild what wind and water have destroyed.

Those who serve through PDA-related volunteer hosting sites earn for themselves the joy of wearing a blue t-shirt with the clear message, “Out of chaos, Hope.”



First Presbyterian Church, Covington, Georgia.

Members of First Presbyterian Church of Covington, Georgia, are among the great company of PDA volunteers. Featured are some of the volunteers who have represented the congregation on three disaster recovery mission trips since 2006, helping with hurricane recovery in Louisiana and tornado recovery in Alabama.

Last year when PDA called teams to “Wear Your Blue T-shirt to Church Sunday,” the Covington group donned their blue t-shirts and sent us their photo to share.

In the last two years, at least four other congregations from the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta have served on disaster recovery missions. They join thousands of others around the nation who continue to put on compassion along with a blue t-shirt, make a trip to a disaster recovery area, and bear the hope of Christ along with their rebuilding skills.

Show us your blue! Work team members wear your blue t-shirts on **Sunday, March 9**, during the first Sunday in Lent. You’ll be wearing a reminder that your gifts to [One Great Hour of Sharing](#) support the work of disaster recovery in the United States and around the world. And for those teams who wear your blue – please send us a photo to share and help encourage others to continue with this mission of compassion. You can share them with us via [email](#), [tweet](#) them to us (be sure to include #PCUSA) or send them to us on [Facebook](#)! Let’s help encourage others to continue with this mission of compassion.

No shirts? No problem! You can still be true blue.

First Presbyterian Church of Berwick, Pennsylvania, joined with us in mission last year on “Wear Your Blue T-shirt to Church Sunday.” Even though the congregation hasn’t participated in a work team, they still support the ministry of PDA through their One Great Hour of Sharing offering. To kick off their Lenten season last year, they asked everyone to wear something blue to church.



First Presbyterian Church, Berwick PA

The Sunday School students made a sign, and a display was put together to help promote the special offering. They shared this photo of their creative participation with us.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

**Men's Breakfast
every 4th Sunday- Parish Hall**

See you March 23rd

2014 Per Capita Amount

Our assessment from the PCUSA for 2014 is **\$36.80 per member**.

This is just a \$.20 increase from last year. Paying your share frees up money for much needed other purposes. Use your per capita envelope or note "per capita" in the memo line of your check.

For pastoral care needs or emergencies please contact,
Interim Pastoral Care Associate Mark Smith at

marksmith@gmail.com or 609-731-4228

For assistance related to the ongoing ministry of WAPC please contact Administrative Assistant, Greta Martin-Worthy at office@wapc.net or 908-755-2781, Tues.-Thurs. from 9am-3pm.

Dollars Destroying the Deficit!

Each member - an additional \$1/day all year, will help lessen the church deficit. More funds for mission and ministry! Put your \$ in the DDD envelope found in your pew rack & then into the offering plate.

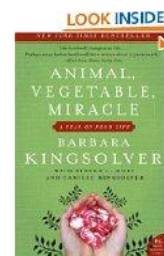
Book Club 2013-2014

This is the last book that the WAPC Book Club has chosen to complete our third year of book discussions. Please join us on **Monday, April 28th at 7pm in the church lounge**. All are welcome, members of WAPC and guests. For more information, please contact Cathy Lyttle, 732-356-5253 or clyttle29@hotmail.com.

April 28: *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life* by Barbara Kingsolver

Author Barbara Kingsolver and her family abandoned the industrial-food pipeline to live a rural life—vowing that, for one year, they'd only buy food raised in their own neighborhood, grow it themselves, or learn to live without it. Part memoir, part journalistic investigation, *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* is an enthralling narrative that will open your eyes in a hundred new ways to an old truth: *You are what you eat*. Kingsolver recounts a year spent eating home-grown food. Accomplished gardeners, the Kingsolver clan grow a large garden in southern Appalachia and spend summers "putting food by," as the classic kitchen title goes. They make pickles, chutney and mozzarella; they jar tomatoes, braid garlic and stuff turkey sausage. Nine-year-old Lily runs a heritage poultry business, selling eggs and meat. What they don't raise (lamb, beef, apples) comes from local farms. Come winter, they feast on root crops and canned goods, menus slouching toward asparagus.

The narrative is peppered with useful sidebars on industrial agriculture and ecology (by husband Steven Hopp) and recipes (by daughter Camille), as if to show that local food—in the growing, buying, cooking, eating and the telling—demands teamwork.



PRAYER LIST

- Prayers of comfort and support for the family of *Virginia (Ginny) Lawler*, as they grieve her passing.
- Prayers of comfort for the McKenna family, *Gail, Joanna and Jennifer* as they grieve the loss of their husband and father, *Dick (Coach) McKenna*.
- Prayers of healing and support for *Heidi Boleyn Rapach*, *Cathy Boleyn's* daughter, recently diagnosed with Lyme disease.
- Prayers of peace and comfort for *Jackie, Randy and Norman Blain* as they mourn the loss of their mother, *Dorothy Blain*.
- Continued prayers of healing and support for the following people:
Faye Steinau; Joe Steinau, home from the hospital; *Gwyn Gronlund; Louise Thul*, recovering from an injured shoulder; *Helen Miller* recovering at Greenbrook Rehabilitation; *DeWitt LaMaire; Harley Donham*, *Cathy Boleyn's* father; *Amanda Lake* and her son, *Ryan Christopher Lake*; *Betty Lou Diven*, *Fran Young's* sister; *Shirley Ferri*, at Sunrise Assisted Living, Basking Ridge, NJ and *Bob Monteith*, at Green Knoll Center in Bridgewater, NJ.
- Prayers for *Jennifer Solis*, her daughter, *Clara Elizabeth* and for her husband, *Victor*, during his year of deployment.
- Continued prayers of healing, comfort and support for the following people and their families who are undergoing treatment for cancer:
Leslie Mitchell, *Bunny Dow's* dear friend; *Julio Valle and Linda Seabrook*, uncle and friend of *Juan Ocampo*; *Ruth Stagg; Becky Gronlund; Don McGinn*, *Faye Steinau's* brother-in-law; *Avecita Justo; Bea Danyo*, *Alice Lester's* sister and *Marilyn Holcomb*.
- Continued prayers for those people at home -
Joan Brown, Helen Bradley, Nancy Higgins, Estelle Kennedy and Margaret L. Herman-Angely.
- *Rev. Chris Belden and Elder Claudia Heffner*, who are working with WAPC through the pastoral transition.
- *Mark Smith and Christopher Bailey*, our 2013-2014 Seminary Interns.
- Prayers for peace and an end to gun violence throughout our country.

SAVE THESE DATES!

MARCH 5, 2014

Ash Wednesday

Evening Service at 7 PM

MARCH 16, 2014

PW GUEST SPEAKER



**WATCHUNG AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
170 Watchung Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060-4133



Visions Newsletter

Welcoming Everyone
Celebrating Diversity
Following Jesus

April 2014



Worship Schedule

APRIL 6
COMMUNION

REVEREND
BRUCE
SCHUNDLER

APRIL 13
PALM SUNDAY
HEALING SUNDAY

REVEREND
NANCY ASBURY

APRIL 17
**MAUNDY
THURSDAY
NO SERVICE AT
WAPC**

INVITED TO UPC,
525 FRONT ST.,
PLAINFIELD
**7PM EVENING
WORSHIP**

APRIL 18
**GOOD FRIDAY
7PM EVENING
WORSHIP**

REVEREND
NANCY ASBURY
WITH MARK
SMITH AND
CHRIS BAILEY

APRIL 20
EASTER SUNDAY

REVEREND
NANCY ASBURY

APRIL 27
SEMINARIAN
INTERNS LAST
SUNDAY

MARK SMITH AND
CHRISTOPHER
BAILEY

Lent/Easter 2014

**Wednesday, April 9 – Stephanie Merryman,
Princeton Seminary student.**

Discussion and Dinner

Both events held at the United Presbyterian Church,
525 E. Front St, Plainfield in the Friendship Hall. A
simple meal is included.

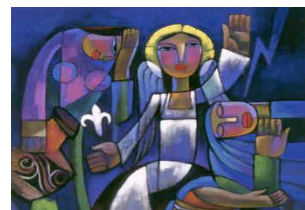
Holy Week

Sunday, April 13 – 10am – Palm Sunday
Procession of the Palms led by the Children

Thursday, April 17 – Maundy Thursday
There is **no service at WAPC** this year. We have been
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7pm service in their Chapel.

Friday, April 18 – Good Friday – 7pm
Service led by Chris Bailey and Mark Smith, with
Communion led by Rev. Nancy Asbury. Includes
interactive prayer.

Sunday, April 20 – Easter Sunday – 10am
Easter Sunday Worship Celebration



POINTS OF INTEREST FROM THE MARCH 2014 SESSION MINUTES

- Rev. Chris Bolden informed session that John Sullivan had resigned from session.
- A liturgical dance will take place on Good Friday. Mark will contact the dancers to clarify details regarding participants in the dance.
- Mail received concerning missions will be given to Gwyn Gronlund.
- Jennifer Hernandez's request for flexibility in scheduling her son's baptism was approved, as was the baptism of Katrina Musa's son, grandson of Ellen and Andy Lake.
- The Easter Egg Hunt is on although the date has not been chosen. Michele Wallace and Jim Thomas are planning the event. Judith Botzan and Susan Durick are willing to help. *(Egg hunt to be April 12, 10-12noon)***
- Jeanne Fedoryk reported on the progress of the Interim search. *(see letter from Sarellen Hogan, Clerk of Session on page 3)***
- Jim Roselli, with his partner and Brooks Smith, may use the church on April 27, 3:00pm . Jim will lead a free workshop, "Photographing the Mission Trip." Brook's 2014 Summer work/mission group to Nicaragua will be attending.
- Bob Goellner shared that he was asked and agreed to serve on the North Plainfield Forum. The group meets once a month to determine what North Plainfield needs. Bob expressed that WAPC involvement in the May 3, 2014 "Community Clean Up" can be a good mission activity while communicating WAPC's care for the North Plainfield community. It was agreed that we will participate.
- A different format was suggested to format of our prayer list published in the Sunday Bulletin.
- We still need to determine who will serve as President and Vice President of the Corporation. *(Garrett Hansen has assumed the position of President of the Corporation)***

Judith Botzan, Elder

**** Information received after March 10th session meeting.**

STATUS OF OUR INTERIM PASTOR SEARCH

Dear Friends,

I wanted to bring you up to date.

The Interim Pastor Search Committee, headed by Jeanne Fedoryk, interviewed three potential candidates and made a recommendation to Session. Session voted to accept that candidate. The next step in the process is for the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry (COM) to vote to accept the Session's recommendation. The next meeting of the COM will be on April 3rd and WAPC's interim search recommendation is on the docket. I hope/believe that the committee will vote "yes" and will formalize the appointment and the contract we offered.

We offered a renewable one year contract. If all goes as smoothly as we anticipate, our candidate will begin on May 15th. Once the COM gives the ok, the name will be released and we will move on to the next steps outlined below.

During the Interim Period

- The Session plans for a Mission Review study by appointing a Mission Study Team.
- The COM liaison works with the Mission Study Team; the Interim pastor may provide support and guidance, as well.
- The Mission Study Team, representative of the whole congregation, conducts a Mission Review and produces a report, including a recommendation about whether or not the congregation is in a position to search for a permanent, installed pastor.
- The interim pastor provides continuity of pastoral roles and responsibilities and provides assistance and guidance to the congregation, in working through the process of separating from the departing pastor and preparing for new installed pastoral leadership. This includes coming to terms with the congregation's history and identity as well as discerning a faithful and fruitful path into the future, given current realities.
- When the Mission study report has been completed and approved by COM, the congregation will be authorized to form a Pastor Nominating Committee.

Sarellen Hogan
Clerk of Session

APRIL SAVE THE DATE CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Bible study 10am, Fran Young's home	2 Choir Rehearsal	3 Bible study 7:30pm, call for location	4	5
6	7	8 ↓	9 ↓	10 ↓	11	12 Easter Egg Hunt 10-12Noon Clean Up Day 2-4pm
13 Palm Sunday One Great Hour of Sharing	14 Session meeting 7pm	15 ↓	16 ↓	17 ↓	18 Good Friday Evening Service 7pm	19
20 Easter Sunday	21	22 ↓	23 ↓	24 ↓	25	26
27 Free Photography Workshop 3pm	28 Book Club 7pm	29 ↓	30 ↓			

Local Mission Contributions & Opportunities

- ❖ On Saturday mornings, WAPC is partnering with St. Joseph's Catholic Church to serve those in need in our community. Bags of food are given out every Saturday morning at 9 am, and clothing is given out on the third Saturday of each month. Helpers are needed to sort clothing and to help with the distribution. If you can help, come to the Parish Center at 99 Westervelt Avenue before 9 am. Donations are accepted of clothing in good condition and small household items. Bring your donations to the office at the Parish Center on weekdays between 9 am and 4 pm. Call or email Gwyn Gronlund for more information, at 908-754-1251 or gwyndagronlund@comcast.net.
- ❖ **SANDY RELIEF VOLUNTEERS:** We're working with churches in the hardest-hit areas, providing volunteer help to those most in need. Participants have found this to be an incredibly rewarding way to show appreciation for all the blessings we've been given! If you're physically able & willing to help, please join us! Most of the work now is flooring, sheetrock, & painting. Our workdays are on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month for the foreseeable future. The next few dates are: Apr. 12 & 26, and May 10 & 24. For more info. please contact Mike Rountree, at NJMikeSandy@verizon.net 908-642-5402.



Easter Plant(s) Order Form

Please fill out this form and place it in the offering plate or leave it in the church office. Cash or check must accompany all orders.

Please make your check payable to: "PW in WAPC".

Enclose payment with your order by *Thursday, April 10, 2014*

Name: _____

Please write in how many of each plant you would like to order:

____ Daffodil(s) \$8.00 each

____ Hyacinth(s) \$8.00 each

____ Lily(s) \$8.00 each

____ Tulip(s)..... \$8.00 each

Total amount enclosed _____

____ Picking up my plant(s) after the service.

____ Deliver my plant(s) to a friend at home or someone who is ill.

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

To God's Glory for:

WHAT IS NEW IN THE WORLD OF BULLETIN BOARDS?

As you know our bulletin boards are where we go to sign up for flowers and post and view pictures of WAPC events. "Everybody knows that!" Yes, but did you know there is now a bulletin board where members can share stories, photos, family news, post articles, flyers and ask questions? "Like what?" Do you have a new son or daughter or grandchild? Have you been on a trip? Play in a band? Sing in the HS school concert? Having a garage sale? Have a skill or service to provide? Need a ride? Have information to share? Questions to ask?

WAPC NEWS, a bulletin board about and for our Church Family. Read, post, share.

"Everybody wants to know."

THE FLOWER CALENDAR for 2014 is posted in the parish hall on the bulletin board. Please sign up for flowers by writing in your name, phone number and/or email to a specific date.

So, what do Bubble Wrap, Band-Aids, M&M's, golf tees, and Graham crackers have in common?

The more than 40 people who came to the Family Lunch on Sunday, March 16th, found out that the answer to all of the questions was... NEW JERSEY. They were among the many things that were invented in New Jersey. Everyone who attended the luncheon joined our guest, Linda Barth, author of A History of Inventing in New Jersey: From Thomas Edison to the Ice Cream Cone, as she explored groundbreaking, useful, fun, and even silly inventions and their New Jersey roots. Food and fellowship followed her presentation where everyone was able to sample any of five delicious chilies and a luscious chocolate and vanilla sheet cake in the shape of New Jersey. Samples of fruits and vegetables you might find in our Garden State were also served. A fun time was had by all, and every family went home with a goodie bag filled with New Jersey "souvenirs."

On Sunday, March 2, 2014, close to 80 people attended WAPC's PW-sponsored Soup Luncheon fundraiser.

Those in attendance were able to sample 20 delicious homemade soups and vote for their favorite. The lucky winners were 1st place, Monica Boleyn's Creamy Shrimp Bisque; 2nd place, Patricia Merath's Loaded Baked Potato with Bacon; and 3rd place, Gail Smith's Skier's Soup. It was a time of fun and fellowship capped off with a variety of delicious homemade desserts ranging from a Pistachio Cake (the recipe handed down from one generation to the next) to the ever popular Carrot Cake, with Angel Food Cake, Brownies, and Chocolate Cakes in between. Over \$500 was raised towards the PW's annual \$1,000 gift to WAPC. **A BIG THANK YOU to all who helped make this year's Soup-a-Thon a huge success!**

THANK YOU to everyone who helped either setting up, baking, serving or clean up for Dottie Blaine's reception on Saturday March 22nd. You all have always been there for me and I just wanted to say thank you. -Faye

Presbyterian Women

Prayer Shawl Ministry Winter Meetings

Hearts, Hands & Stitches, the Prayer Shawl Ministry of WAPC, continues to meet monthly. We stitch at our meetings and on our own time to create comforting shawls. Our spring meetings are scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, April 8, at the home of Fran Young
Tuesday, May 13, at the home of Cathy Boleyn

All evening meetings are held from 7:15 pm - 9:30 pm. We have a time of quiet, prayerful stitching, plan our projects, and have refreshments, of course.

All are welcome to join.

If you would like to learn to knit or crochet, please contact one of our members. We will be happy to teach you! Call Gwyn Gronlund for more information (908) 754-1251

CIRCLE OF GRACE

WILL BE MEETING ON
THE FIRST WEEKEND
OF APRIL AT THE
HOME OF FRAN
YOUNG AT 1:30PM;
DAY TO BE DECIDED.

CIRLCE OF HOPE

WILL BE MEETING ON
TUESDAY, APRIL 8TH
AT THE HOME OF
DIANNE LEDDER AT
7:30PM.

CIRCLE OF JOY

WILL BE MEETING ON
SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH
AFTER WORSHIP
SERVICE IN THE
CHURCH LOUNGE.
BRING A SANDWICH.





**Parker
Gardens**

Celebrating over 65 years and still growing

WATCHUNG AVE. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PETALS FOR PROFIT FUNDRAISER

*We grow the plants to help your organization grow
its funds!*

Shop at Parker Gardens between
March 1st and June 15th and
we will donate **10%** of all the proceeds directly to
Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church

Just in time for all your spring plantings.
Whether you're looking for annuals, perennials, trees or
shrubs, water gardens, furniture and accessories, or landscaping
service, Parker's 14 acres of greenhouses & garden center
presents the area's **largest** selection of top quality plants and
services with **expert advice** that is second to none!
We make gardening easy!

Just mention that you are from **Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church** at the time of sale
and we will log the sale into your organization's account. At the end of the fundraiser,
10% of the total proceeds will be forwarded to your organization.

Parker Gardens

1325 Terrill Road Scotch Plains, NJ

(908) 322-5552

www.parkergardens.com

Offer cannot be combined with other offers or sales.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

**Men's Breakfast
every 4th Sunday- Parish Hall**

See you April 27th

2014 Per Capita Amount

Our assessment from the PCUSA for 2014 is \$36.80 per member.

This is just a \$.20 increase from last year. Paying your share frees up money for much needed other purposes. Use your per capita envelope or note "per capita" in the memo line of your check.

For pastoral care needs or emergencies please contact, Interim Pastoral Care Associate Mark Smith at

marksmith@gmail.com or 609-731-4228

For assistance related to the ongoing ministry of WAPC please contact Administrative Assistant, Greta Martin-Worthy at office@wapc.net or 908-755-2781, Tues.-Thurs. from 9am-3pm.

Dollars Destroying the Deficit!

Each member - an additional \$1/day all year, will help lessen the church deficit. More funds for mission and ministry! Put your \$ in the DDD envelope found in your pew rack & then into the offering plate.

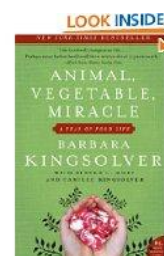
Book Club 2013-2014

This is the last book that the WAPC Book Club has chosen to complete our third year of book discussions. Please join us on **Monday, April 28th at 7pm in the church lounge**. All are welcome, members of WAPC and guests. For more information, please contact Cathy Lyttle, 732-356-5253 or clyttle29@hotmail.com.

April 28: *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life* by Barbara Kingsolver

Author Barbara Kingsolver and her family abandoned the industrial-food pipeline to live a rural life—vowing that, for one year, they'd only buy food raised in their own neighborhood, grow it themselves, or learn to live without it. Part memoir, part journalistic investigation, *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* is an enthralling narrative that will open your eyes in a hundred new ways to an old truth: *You are what you eat*. Kingsolver recounts a year spent eating home-grown food. Accomplished gardeners, the Kingsolver clan grow a large garden in southern Appalachia and spend summers "putting food by," as the classic kitchen title goes. They make pickles, chutney and mozzarella; they jar tomatoes, braid garlic and stuff turkey sausage. Nine-year-old Lily runs a heritage poultry business, selling eggs and meat. What they don't raise (lamb, beef, apples) comes from local farms. Come winter, they feast on root crops and canned goods, menus slouching toward asparagus.

The narrative is peppered with useful sidebars on industrial agriculture and ecology (by husband Steven Hopp) and recipes (by daughter Camille), as if to show that local food—in the growing, buying, cooking, eating and the telling—demands teamwork.



PRAYER LIST

- Prayers for *Tim Lyons*, grandson of *Carole and Gerry Rose*, currently serving in Afganistan.
- Prayers of comfort and support for the family of *Virginia (Ginny) Lawler*, as they grieve her passing.
- Prayers of comfort for the McKenna family, *Gail, Joanna and Jennifer* as they grieve the loss of their husband and father, *Dick (Coach) McKenna*.
- Prayers of healing and support for *Heidi Boleyn Rapach*, *Cathy Boleyn's* daughter, recently diagnosed with Lyme disease.
- Prayers of peace and comfort for *Jackie, Randy and Norman Blain* as they mourn the loss of their mother, *Dorothy Blain*.
- Continued prayers of healing and support for the following people: *Faye Steinau; Joe Steinau*, home from the hospital; *Louise Thul*, recovering from an injured shoulder; *Helen Miller* recovering at Greenbrook Rehabilitation; *DeWitt LaMaire; Harley Donham, Cathy Boleyn's father; Amanda Lake* and her son, *Ryan Christopher Lake; Betty Lou Diven, Fran Young's sister; Shirley Ferri*, at Sunrise Assisted Living, Basking Ridge, NJ and *Bob Monteith*, at Green Knoll Center in Bridgewater, NJ.
- Prayers for *Jennifer Solis*, her daughter, *Clara Elizabeth* and for her husband, *Victor*, during his year of deployment.
- Continued prayers of healing, comfort and support for the following people and their families who are undergoing treatment for cancer: *Leslie Mitchell, Bunny Dow's dear friend; Julio Valle and Linda Seabrook, uncle and friend of Juan Ocampo; Ruth Stagg; Becky Gronlund; Don McGinn, Faye Steinau's brother-in-law; Avecita Justo; Bea Danyo, Alice Lester's sister and Marilyn Holcomb*.
- Continued prayers for those people at home - *Joan Brown, Helen Bradley, Nancy Higgins, Estelle Kennedy and Margaret L. Herman-Angely*.
- *Rev. Chris Belden and Elder Claudia Heffner*, who are working with WAPC through the pastoral transition.
- *Mark Smith and Christopher Bailey*, our 2013-2014 Seminary Interns.

WAPC family, we want to thank everyone for all your cards, phone calls and especially all of your prayers during Joe's chemo, surgery and recovery. We know that we have a long road ahead of us but want you all to know that with all of your support it is easier.

Thank you, Joe and Faye Steinau

DON'T FORGET!
APRIL 12, 2014
WAPC CLEAN UP DAY!
APRIL 18, 2014
GOOD FRIDAY
Evening Service at 7 PM



WATCHUNG AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
170 Watchung Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060-4133

Visions Newsletter

Welcoming Everyone
Celebrating Diversity
Following Jesus

May 2014



Worship Schedule

**MAY 4
COMMUNION
JOINT WORSHIP
SERVICE**

**ROBERT
GOELLNER
PREACHING**

**MAY 11
MOTHER'S DAY
HEALING SUNDAY**

**REV. NANCY
ASBURY**

**MAY 18
COMMUNION**

**REV. JEAN HOLMES'
1ST SERVICE AS
NEW INTERIM
PASTOR!**

**MAY 25
MEMORIAL DAY
WEEKEND**

**Guest Preacher
To Be Determined**

Reverend Jean Holmes Becomes WAPC's New Temporary Pastor

Reverend Jean A. F. Holmes will begin serving as temporary pastor of Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church on May 15, 2014. A graduate of Millikin University in Illinois and Drew Theological School, Jean received her Master of Divinity degree in 1987. She was sponsored for ministry by the Session of Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church throughout her candidacy and was ordained in the PC (USA) in 1987. Reverend Holmes has served the church as Christian educator, associate pastor, solo pastor and temporary pastor, and she also served the denomination as temporary associate executive presbyter. She has been trained in traditional interim ministry as well as appreciative inquiry. She finds the appreciative inquiry approach to ministry and life to be more faithful and effective than any other. At present, Jean is training to become a spiritual director, companioning people and groups as they seek to deepen their relationship with God in a contemplative and deliberate fashion.

Married for 42 years, Jean lives in Oakland, New Jersey with her husband, Stewart, who is a director of music at the Old Paramus Reformed Church of America in Ridgewood, New Jersey and a fifth grade teacher in Ridgewood. Together they have two adult children: Dana, who practices acupuncture at North Jersey Community Acupuncture, a business she owns; and Russell, who is an administrative lab coordinator in the Department of Surgery at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in Manhattan. Russell is married to Lori Armstrong Holmes, who is a paralegal for DLA Piper law firm in Manhattan. They have one child, Russell George Holmes, born in August of 2012. He is all boy and pure joy for the Holmes family.

Jean is a knitter and an avid reader, and she loves to watch all kinds of movies. Her all-time favorite movie is *It's a Wonderful Life*. Her favorite food is chocolate! She looks forward with great anticipation to getting to know the people of Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, to reacquainting herself with those who were so important to her during her candidacy, and to being with the congregation as we continue to grow together in faith and service.



April Session
Meeting Highlights (4/14/14)

- ❖ A new, clearer format for the prayer requests that appear in the bulletin was agreed upon. ****(*The new format has been implemented.*)**
- ❖ The YMCA is asking to use the kitchen for two cooking sessions. Bob Goellner is negotiating with them to break even on the use of the kitchen. ****(*Bob and the Y were in final negotiations on April 22nd and we are waiting to hear from the director of the after school program.*)**
- ❖ A Korean PC(USA) church would like to rent space from us. Bob Goellner and Tom Ledder are looking into this.
- ❖ We will participate as a congregation on the May 3rd cleanup day for North Plainfield. Volunteers welcome. ****(*Clean Up Day T-shirts plus special arm bands with WAPC big and bold printed on them will be supplied to the volunteers.*)**
- ❖ The President and Vice- President of the Corporation must be members of session. Therefore, Gwyn Gronlund is the new President and Michele Ixim-Wallace is the new Vice President.
- ❖ Kits for the homeless men housed at the Howard Johnson's on Route 22 W have been delivered.
- ❖ Painting is planned for the boys' bathroom, front doors and choir room. The whole choir room will be refurbished. ****(*The bathroom and the front doors were painted on April 19th. Work began on the hallway leading to and including the choir room on April 30th.*)**

**** Denotes updates after session meeting was held.**

MAY SAVE THE DATE CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Bible Study 7:30pm, call for location	2	3 N. Plnfl. Clean Up Day
4	5	6 Bible Study 10am, Fran Young's home	7 Choir Rehearsal ↓	8 ↓	9	10
11 Mother's Day	12 Investment Com. mtg. 6:30pm Session mtg. 7:30pm	13 ↓	14 ↓	15 ↓ Interim Pastor start date	16	17
18 Blanket Sunday PW Annual Tea Party @ Gail Smith's home	19	20 ↓	21 ↓	22 Bible Study 7:30pm, call for location	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day	27 ↓	28 ↓	29 ↓	30	31

Local Mission Contributions & Opportunities

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The Presbytery's Disaster Preparedness & Response Commission

❖ **PEACEWORKS ANNUAL SPRING SHIPMENT- May 10th**

On Saturday, May 10, from 10 am until 4 pm at United Presbyterian Church on Front St., **Peaceworks** will be packing a trailer for shipment to Nicaragua. Items needed are: gently used summer clothing (for infants, children, teens and adults), school supplies, children's books (especially in Spanish), sewing and craft supplies, crutches and walkers. You can bring your donations on Saturday morning, or bring them in advance to the WAPC office. Volunteers are also needed on Saturday for sorting, packing and loading the truck.

PRESBYTERIAN WELCOME

Save the Date! Join Presbyterian Welcome, June 29, 2014.

All are invited to join Presbyterian Welcome at First Presbyterian Church in New York City for passing out water, cookies, and hugs to marchers during the 2014 NYC Pride March.

**FRIENDLY REMINDERS**

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Men's Breakfast
every 4th Sunday- Parish Hall

See you MAY 25TH!

For pastoral care needs or emergencies
UNTIL MAY 15TH please contact, Interim Pastoral
Care Associate Mark Smith at
markrsmith@gmail.com or 609-731-4228

For assistance related to the ongoing ministry of
WAPC please contact Administrative Assistant,
Greta Martin-Worthy at office@wapc.net or 908-755-
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Our Home... Our Community...

Our Responsibility...

BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD

2014 CLEAN COMMUNITY DAY

Saturday, May 3rd

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

You are invited to take part in our Eighth Annual Clean Community Day sponsored by the North Plainfield Forum and the Borough of North Plainfield. This day will be an opportunity to meet neighbors, make friends and work together to clean several areas in our community in commemoration of Earth Day.

The day will begin with registration at 8:30 AM at the North Plainfield Community Center (614 Greenbrook Road) and then move to the areas to be cleaned. Residents are welcome to organize a crew or come on their own. All civic groups and organizations are encouraged to participate! Children are welcome and encouraged to take part in Clean Community Day, but must be at least 7 years old to participate and accompanied by an adult.

Those helping are asked to wear appropriate work shoes or boots, and gloves. Bring a rake if possible! Other supplies will be provided by the borough. T-shirts will be given to volunteers at registration.

A picnic style lunch will be served to all volunteers on the Community Center Side Lawn at the end of the work day!

For more information, please call the Mayor's Office
@ (908) 769-2902

Presbyterian Women

Prayer Shawl Ministry Winter Meetings

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Tuesday, May 13, at the home of Cathy Boleyn

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We have a time of quiet, prayerful stitching, plan our projects, and have refreshments, of course.

All are welcome to join.

If you would like to learn to knit or crochet, please contact one of our members. We will be happy to teach you! Call Gwyn Gronlund for more information (908) 754-1251

CIRCLE OF GRACE

WILL BE MEETING ON
SUNDAY MAY 4TH AT
THE HOME OF
MICHELE IXIM-
WALLACE AT 12:30 PM.

CIRLCE OF HOPE

WILL BE MEETING ON
TUESDAY, MAY 6TH AT
THE HOME OF PEGGY
BUNNELL AT 7:30PM.

CIRCLE OF JOY

WILL BE MEETING ON
SUNDAY, MAY 4TH AT
THE HOME OF ESTELLE
KENNEDY AT 4 PM.

PW MEMBERS---PLEASE PAY YOUR PLEDGE

Only 7 out of more than 30 PW members have paid their pledge for 2013-2014. We are well short (only half) of our budgeted pledge amount. Please check with Peggy Bunnell to see if you've paid your pledge.





Sunday, May 18, 2014
Presbyterian Women
Garden Tea Social

11:30 AM in the garden* of:

Gail Smith

143 DeLacy Avenue

North Plainfield, NJ

****Tea will be moved indoors in poor weather.
Bring a favorite tea to share if you wish.***

***RSVP to circle chairwomen or the
church office before Sunday, May 11***



SPRING IS HERE!

and it's time
to prepare the
Faith Garden
for growing
lots of
vegetables.

The seeds have arrived from *Seeds of Change*, and soil has been added to some of the beds. Scheduled work times for May will be **Monday, May 5 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm** and **Saturday, May 17, at 9 am (weather permitting).**

Just come to the garden off the parking lot at St. Joseph's church, and bring tools such as trowels, hoes and rakes. You don't need to come for the entire time, just come when you can. I will be sending out email updates, so please make sure I have your email address, if you want to be involved.



Please pray for another successful
year of sharing the garden's
bounty with our neighbors in
Christ!

Contact Gwyn Gronlund, email
gwyndagronlund@comcast.net, if
you have any questions.



United Presbyterian Church

525 East Front Street - Plainfield, NJ

(908) 756-2666 • UPCPlainfield.org

UPC FAMILY FUN NIGHT

All ages are welcome

All fun activities welcome

Don't worry; there is enough space for everyone!

Never been to this event before? More reason to come

Parents, bring your child

Child, bring your parents

Have a fun idea? Share it!

Snacks serves



Date: **May 2, 2014 (1st & 3rd Fridays monthly)**

Time: **6:30 to 10 p.m.**

Location: **Meet in the Fellowship Room**

(Enter through the Sanctuary door from the parking lot)

In an effort to celebrate the diversity of humankind through games, movies, conversations, presentations, etc., we present Family Fun Night. Our emphasis is to get together and HAVE FUN!!!!

Have a game? Bring it!

Don't have one? NO PROBLEM!

Meet new people – experience new things

****STARTS IN MAY AND CONTINUES EVERY MONTH****



**Parker
Gardens**

Celebrating over 65 years and still growing

WATCHUNG AVE. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PETALS FOR PROFIT FUNDRAISER

*We grow the plants to help your organization grow
its funds!*

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Just in time for all your spring plantings.
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1325 Terrill Road Scotch Plains, NJ

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www.parkergardens.com

Offer cannot be combined with other offers or sales.



United Presbyterian Church

525 E. Front Street - Plainfield, NJ

"Where God is exalted, Everyone matters, and You belong!"



SHOP

Sell

Join us for lunch

Flea Market

Saturday, June 7th, 2014

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Registration Form (below)

In case of rain, we will be in doors

*If you have articles to sell, please fill out the registration form below
Tables \$20.00 each (with 2 chairs) ~ Spaces \$15.00 each (Buy 3 get the 4th FREE)*

Name _____ Number of Tables: _____ Number of Spaces: _____

Address: _____ Apt. _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone (Day) _____ (Night) _____ Email: _____

Vending space for food **not** permitted

Tables are available on a first come basis at the time of registration—register now!

Make money order or check payable to: United Presbyterian Church ~ Mail or bring money order or cash (do not mail cash) and this form to:
United Presbyterian Church • Attn: Flea Market • 525 East Front Street • Plainfield, NJ 07060

For additional information please call (908) 756-2666 or email upc525@verizon.net

PRAYER LIST

Prayers for those mourning:

- the family of *Becky Gronlund*
- the family and friends of *Jim Burchell* (Peaceworks Organization)

Healing prayers for:

- *Daniel Miksa; Heidi Boleyn Rapach*, battling Lyme disease; *Faye and Joe Steinau; Louise Thul; Helen Miller* recovering at home with a broken wrist; *DeWitt LaMaire; Harley Donham, Cathy Boleyn's father; Amanda Lake and son, Ryan Christopher; Betty Lou Diven, Fran Young's sister; Shirley Ferri*, at Sunrise Assisted Living, Basking Ridge, NJ and *Bob Monteith*, at Green Knoll Center in Bridgewater, NJ.

Prayers of healing, comfort & support for those battling cancer:

- *Leslie Mitchell, Bunny Dow's dear friend; Julio Valle and Linda Seabrook*, uncle and friend of *Juan Ocampo; Ruth Stagg; Don McGinn, Faye Steinau's brother-in-law; Avecita Justo; Bea Danyo, Alice Lester's sister and Marilyn Holcomb.*

Prayers for those in the military and their families:

- *Tim Lyons*, grandson of *Carole and Gerry Rose*, currently serving in Afganistan.
- *Jennifer Solis*, daughter, *Clara Elizabeth* and husband, *Victor*, during his year of deployment.

Continued prayers for those people at home:

- *Joan Brown, Helen Bradley, Nancy Higgins, Estelle Kennedy and Margaret L. Herman-Angely.*

Prayers for:

- *Rev. Chris Belden and Elder Claudia Heffner*, who are working with WAPC through the pastoral transition.
- *Mark Smith*, WAPC's temporary pastoral care associate.
- *Reverend Jean Holmes*, WAPC's new interim pastor.



**WATCHUNG AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
170 Watchung Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060-4133

Visions Newsletter

Welcoming Everyone
Celebrating Diversity
Following Jesus

June 2014



Worship Schedule

JUNE 1
COMMUNION

"Prepare To Be
Empowered"
Acts 1: 6-14

JUNE 8
HEALING SUNDAY

"Sharing the Spirit"
Numbers 11: 24-30
John 7: 37-38

JUNE 15
COMMUNION
FATHERS' DAY

"In the Beginning, God"
Genesis 1: 1-2, 4a
Matthew 28: 16-20

JUNE 22

"Seeking God's Realm"
Matthew 10: 24-39

JUNE 29

"Welcome!"
Jeremiah 28: 5-9
Matthew 10: 40-42

Dear Friends,

One of the first things I do as an Interim/Temporary Pastor is to "interview" the leadership (active elders) of the church with a set list of questions. This helps me to jump start the process of entering the system, so to speak. Interim pastors don't have the luxury of time that other pastors might have in order to figure out where a congregation is on its journey and join the crowd.

The first question I ask all the elders is to tell me anything they want me to know about them, so I am going to pretend that all of you asked me this same necessary question and give you some answers.

First and foremost, I want you to know that I have learned to not focus on numbers as a gage for the success of ministry. I will *not* look out at the congregation on a Sunday morning and count how many people are sitting in the pews. I *will* look out on a Sunday morning and give thanks to God for each person who has come to worship seeking to glorify God through his/her acts of praise. What I *do* gage the success of ministry on is relationships and lives transformed by love. I believe that

living a life of faith is learning the difficult lessons of living together in love; something I find most congregations woefully lacking in.

What you can expect from me is a compassionate and loving listener, an open and honest communicator (even when the truth hurts), a faulty human being who makes mistakes and asks for forgiveness, and a faithful disciple of Jesus who seeks to forgive even when forgiving is very difficult.

I plan to be in the North Plainfield area on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 11 AM on for as long as anyone needs me to be here. I will be here on Sunday from 9 AM on, also as long as anyone needs me. Mondays are my untouchable days. That is my day off. (I will make one exception per month for session meetings, coming in only for the meeting!) Friday I work from home creating a sermon for Sunday. Saturday is supposed to be my second day off, but I often make myself available on Saturdays as well. I always welcome people to stop by my office, so please do! The door is open to one and all.

We have much to learn about each other and much to learn from God. So let the journey begin!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Jean

PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours:

11 AM on Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday

Email: pastor@wapc.net

Cell phone: 845-304-9019

Love Faith Strength

JUNE SAVE THE DATE CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 Morning Bible Study 10am, call for location	4 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm ↓	5 Evening Bible Study 7:30pm, church lounge	6	7 Flea Market @ UPC, Plainfield, 9-3pm
8 Presbyterian Welcome Event @ WAPC	9 Session meeting, 7:30pm	10 ↓	11 ↓	12 ↓	13	14 North Plainfield Street Fair, 9am
15 Father's Day	16	17 ↓	18 ↓	19 ↓	20	21
22 Choral Recognition Sunday	23	24 Deadline for July/Aug Visions info.	25 Last choir rehearsal for summer	26 ↓	27	28
29 Presbyterian Welcome Event/NYC	30					

Local Mission Contributions & Opportunities

- ❖ On Saturday mornings, WAPC is partnering with St. Joseph's Catholic Church to serve those in need in our community. Bags of food are given out every Saturday morning at 9 am, and clothing is given out on the third Saturday of each month. Helpers are needed to sort clothing and to help with the distribution. If you can help, come to the Parish Center at 99 Westervelt Avenue before 9 am. Donations are accepted of clothing in good condition and small household items. Bring your donations to the office at the Parish Center on weekdays between 9 am and 4 pm. Call or email Gwyn Gronlund for more information, at 908-754-1251 or gwyndagronlund@comcast.net.
- ❖ **SANDY RELIEF VOLUNTEERS:** We're working with churches in the hardest-hit areas, providing volunteer help to those most in need. Participants have found this to be an incredibly rewarding way to show appreciation for all the blessings we've been given! If you're physically able & willing to help, please join us! Most of the work now is flooring, sheetrock, & painting. Our workdays are on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month for the foreseeable future. For more info. please contact Mike Rountree, at NJMikeSandy@verizon.net 908-642-5402.

The Presbytery's Disaster Preparedness & Response Commission

PRESBYTERIAN WELCOME SAVE THE DATE!**Join Presbyterian Welcome, June 29, 2014.****All are invited to join Presbyterian Welcome at First Presbyterian Church in New York City for passing out water, cookies, and hugs to marchers during the 2014 NYC Pride March.****FRIENDLY
REMINDERS****MONTHLY MENS BREAKFAST**

will NOT meet this month and
through the summer.
Join us again in the fall!

Reverend Jean Holmes**Office Hours****11 AM on Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday****Email: pastor@wapc.net****Cell phone: 845-304-9019**

THE FLOWER CALENDAR for
2014 is posted in the parish hall on
the bulletin board. Please sign up
for flowers by writing in your name,
phone number and/or email to a
specific date.

**For assistance related to the ongoing ministry of
WAPC please contact Administrative Assistant,
Greta Martin-Worthy at office@wapc.net or 908-
755-2781, Tues.-Thurs. from 9am-3pm.**

2014 Per Capita Amount

Our assessment from the PCUSA
for 2014 is \$36.80 per member.

This is just a \$.20 increase from
last year. Paying your share frees
up money for much needed other
purposes. Use your per capita
envelope or note "per capita" in
the memo line of your check.

Dollars Destroying the Deficit!

Each member - an additional \$1/day all year, will
help lessen the church deficit. More funds for
mission and ministry! Put your \$ in the DDD
envelope found in your pew rack & then into the
offering plate.

Presbyterian Women

Prayer Shawl Ministry Summer Meetings

Hearts, Hands & Stitches, the Prayer Shawl Ministry of WAPC, continues to meet monthly. We stitch at our meetings and on our own time to create comforting shawls.

This month we will be taking a road trip to Judith Botzan's home, on Saturday, June 7th. We will carpool, leaving about noon, so please speak to one of the members to make arrangements.

We will have a time of quiet, prayerful stitching, plan our projects, and have a light lunch. All are welcome to join.

July and August locations will be announced later.

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

CIRCLE OF GRACE

WILL BE MEETING ON
SATURDAY, JUNE 14TH
AT 1PM AT
GIOVANNI'S
RESTAURANT IN
NORTH PLAINFIELD.

CIRLCE OF HOPE

WILL BE MEETING ON
TUESDAY, JUNE 10TH
AT 5:30PM AT
GIOVANNI'S
RESTAURANT IN
NORTH PLAINFIELD.

CIRCLE OF JOY

WILL BE GETTING
TOGETHER FOR A
DINNER OUT ON A
DATE TO BE
DETERMINED.

What in the world is WWKIP? Is it a radio station?
A new social media website?

No, it is **WORLD WIDE KNIT IN PUBLIC Day**. The motto is "Better Living through Stitching Together." The Bound Brook prayer shawl ministry, Compassion-Knits, is planning an event for 10 am to 3 pm on June 21st. Several of our Hearts, Hands and Stitches members will be joining. The idea is to knit (or crochet) in a public place, to raise awareness and support a cause.

We will be knitting/crocheting and collecting 4-inch squares that will be assembled into blankets for Bridges Outreach, Inc. The finished blankets will benefit the homeless living under bridges in the NJ/NY area. This is a great way to use up scrap yarn and help our brothers and sisters without housing. For more about Bridges Outreach,
please visit: www.bridgesoutreach.org

LET'S PLAN FOR NEXT YEAR!

The **Annual Planning Meeting for PW** will be held at the home of Gwyn Gronlund, on Saturday, June 14 at 9:00 a.m. We will be finished in plenty of time to attend the North Plainfield Street Fair, where WAPC will have a booth.

Come for breakfast and bring your ideas. All coordinating team members, circle chairs, and any other interested women are invited to attend.

CLEAN COMMUNITY DAY OF NORTH PLAINFIELD

Did you see a lot of lime-green shirts around town on May 3? It was the 8th Annual Clean Community Day of North Plainfield. Teams of Scouts, church members, recreation sport teams, and other local groups, as well as families and individuals, gathered to clean up our



community. Our own WAPC team is pictured. From left to right, Tom Ledder, Julia Lake, Dianne Ledder, Peg Bunnell, Alice Lester, Ellen Lake and Gwyn Gronlund. Bob Goellner took the photo and organized our team. Susan Durick and Sarellen Hogan also joined us, but are not pictured.

We picked up litter from Watchung Avenue to Somerset Street and from Summit Avenue to Manning Avenue. We met several of our neighbors, who expressed that they were very pleased that we were participating in the cleanup and that they try to keep their own environs clean. You can see more details in the PRIDE of North Plainfield, our new local newspaper.

BOOK CLUB 2014-2015

Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church is thrilled to begin our **fourth year of Book Club**. We invite you to join us **Sundays at 12 noon in the Lounge**. Bring a bag lunch. The tentative dates are **September 21, November 23, February 15 and April 19**.

These are the suggested books:

"One Second After" by William R. Forstchen

"The Buddha in the Attic" by Julie Otsuka

"Home Front" by Kristin Hannah

"How Starbucks Saved my Life" by Michael Gates Gill

"Orange is the New Black" by Piper Kerman

"Book Thief" by Markus Zusak

"I am Malala" by Malala Yousafzai

"Eighty Dollar Champion" by Harry de Leyer

If you wish to join the Book Club, please send me an **email to clyttle29@hotmail.com by June 24** that states your **top three choices**. If you cannot email, please **call by June 24: 732-356-5253**.

We hope you will join us. Thank you.

Cathy Lyttle

Presbyterian
Welcome

YOUTH GATHER TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE AND AFFIRM THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY

On Sunday June 8, 2014, at 12:00, LGBTQ and
ALLIED YOUTH will gather at Watchung



Avenue Presbyterian Church, North Plainfield to celebrate the
LGBTQ COMMUNITY. We will be creating glittery posters to be carried at NYC Pride
Parade, June 29, 2014. Together we will bake cookies to be handed out to Pride
marchers. Lunch? Pizza! John Russell Stanger, Youth Advocate with Presbyterian
Welcome will be joining us. Every young person gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender,
straight, has a right to a safe place and an affirming place to gather. Join us at our first
Pride event.

For directions: www.wapc.net or 908-755-2781.

For information and questions: John, john@presbyterianwelcome.org, or Judy,
snaztob@gmail.com.



The Trustees, the Faculty,
and the Graduating Class of
Princeton Theological Seminary
are pleased to announce the
graduation of

Mark Robert Smith
Master of Divinity

at the
Two Hundred and Second
Annual Commencement
Saturday, the twenty-fourth of May
two thousand and fourteen

at
The Chapel of Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey



**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FORMER
INTERNS ON THEIR GRADUATION DAY!!**

MARK SMITH

WAPC INTERN 2012-2013 AND 2013-2014

ANN ELYSE HICKS

WAPC INTERN 2012-2013

Choir Room Gets A Facelift

Friday morning crew pictures taken by Hope Dolan who also worked with this motley crew.



We have made tremendous progress this past week on the choir room/stairwell renovation. Choir members Dianne Ledder, Julia Lake, Saraellen Hogan, Josephine Herbert cleaned the woodwork and windows in the stairwell after our contractor finished painting the stairwell. Brooks Smith did the first coat of paint on the choir room ceiling and with Wayne Fabricius completed the second coat on Wednesday, May 21. On Friday, Wayne, Brooks, Hope Dolan, Judith Botzan, Dianne and Gail Smith completed the first coat on all the walls, heat ducts, and painted bookcases in the choir room. On Saturday, Leslie Hansen worked with Brooks and Gail to complete the second coat on all walls, heat ducts and bookcases while Wayne installed the new window shades. Wayne's daughter, Alex, helped us clean up our messes and helped begin to put the room back together so WIC could meet on Tuesday. Leslie took a lot of choir materials home to sort through.

Well done, good and faithful servants!

Gail



IT'S ALMOST
SUMMER,

AND THE FAITH GARDEN IS WELL UNDER WAY.

We have already harvested spinach. The leaf lettuce and kale are getting bigger. Beans,



corn, zucchini, cucumbers, tomatoes, eggplant and peppers have been planted. We are accepting donations of plants, if you have any extra.

There are weeks available for you to water, weed, and harvest. Please sign up for a week or more, by emailing Gwyn at gwyndagronlund@comcast.net. I will send you a reminder for your week. Families are more than welcome!!

SPECIAL EVENT

At the North Plainfield Library on Thursday, June 12 at 7:00 pm, WAPC's Pastor Emeritus, Brooks Smith, will be speaking on his experiences in 1964 as a volunteer with the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in Mississippi during a time of racial and political civil rights changes.

All are welcome to attend.



**Parker
Gardens**

Celebrating over 65 years and still growing

WATCHUNG AVE. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PETALS FOR PROFIT FUNDRAISER

*We grow the plants to help your organization grow
its funds!*

Shop at Parker Gardens between now and **June 15th**
(last day to take advantage of this offer until the fall) and
we will donate **10%** of all the proceeds directly to
Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church

Just in time for all your spring plantings.
Whether you're looking for annuals, perennials, trees or
shrubs, water gardens, furniture and accessories, or landscaping
service, Parker's 14 acres of greenhouses & garden center
presents the area's **largest** selection of top quality plants and
services with **expert advice** that is second to none!
We make gardening easy!

Just mention that you are from **Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church** at the time of sale
and we will log the sale into your organization's account. At the end of the fundraiser,
10% of the total proceeds will be forwarded to your organization.

Parker Gardens

1325 Terrill Road Scotch Plains, NJ
(908) 322-5552

www.parkergardens.com

Offer cannot be combined with other offers or sales.



United Presbyterian Church

525 E. Front Street - Plainfield, NJ

"Where God is exalted, Everyone matters, and You belong!"



SHOP

Sell

Join us for lunch

Flea Market

Saturday, June 7th, 2014

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Registration Form (below)

In case of rain, we will be in doors

*If you have articles to sell, please fill out the registration form below
Tables \$20.00 each (with 2 chairs) ~ Spaces \$15.00 each (Buy 3 get the 4th FREE)*

Name _____ Number of Tables: _____ Number of Spaces: _____
Address: _____ Apt. _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone (Day) _____ (Night) _____ Email: _____

Vending space for food **not** permitted

Tables are available on a first come basis at the time of registration—register now!

Make money order or check payable to: United Presbyterian Church ~ Mail or bring money order or cash (do not mail cash) and this form to:
United Presbyterian Church • Attn: Flea Market • 525 East Front Street • Plainfield, NJ 07060

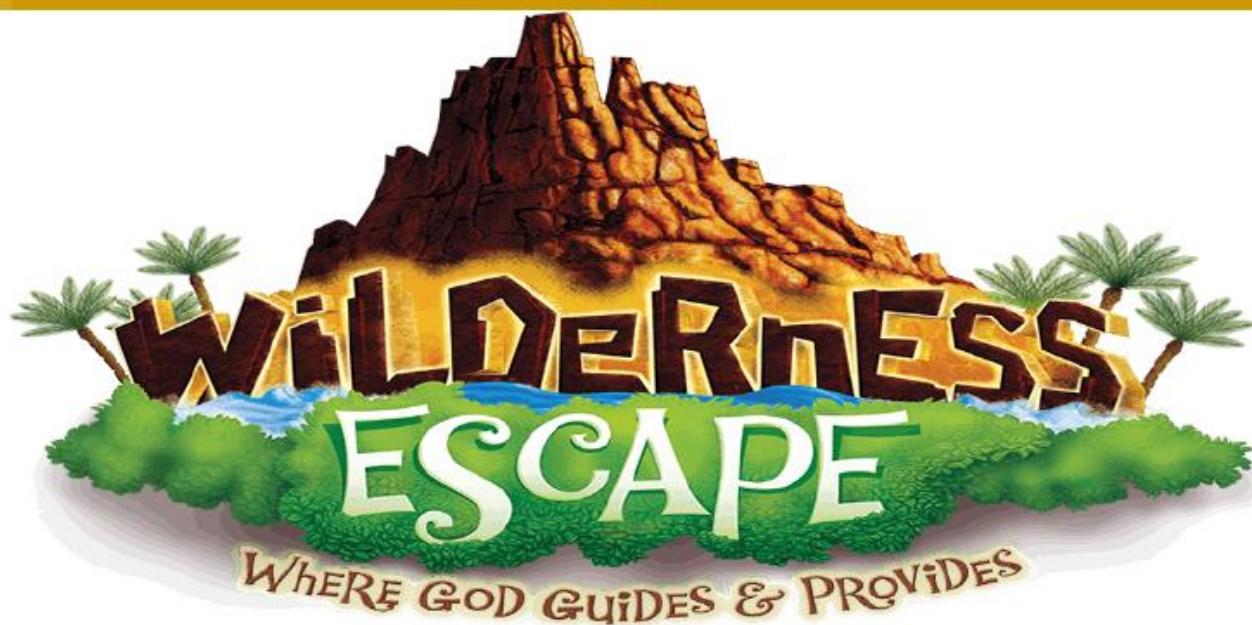
For additional information please call (908) 756-2666 or email upc525@verizon.net

REMEMBER TO JOIN UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOR FAMILY FUN NIGHT!

Celebrating the diversity of humankind through games, movies, conversation, presentations, etc. **1st & 3rd Fridays of the month, 6:30-10pm, Fellowship Room, 525 E. Front St., Plainfield.**
All ages, parents and kids, snacks provided!

****STARTED IN MAY AND CONTINUES EVERY MONTH****

United Presbyterian Church & Iglesia Nuevas Fronteras
Joyfully presents:



July 14-18 2014

8am-2pm

(breakfast & lunch included)

**VBS Celebration; Sunday, the 20th
10:00 a.m.**

*A week-long action-packed
experience!*

*\$25.00 Registration fee per
child Ages 4-12*

Discounts for households with 3 or more children

*Leaders In Training Program
(LIT) - Ages 13-14*

*(For more information on the LIT program, please con-
tact Nuevas Fronteras Church Office 908-756-3888)*



**For more information
please contact us at
908-756-3888 or
908-756-2666**

Rev. Victor Aloyo, Jr.
Pastor
525 E. Front Street, Plainfield,
NJ 07060



PRAYER LIST

Prayers for those mourning:

- the family and friends of *Marilyn Holcomb*, *Louise Griffin's* mother
- the family and friends of *Jim Burchell* (Peaceworks Organization)

Healing, supportive prayers for:

- *Lem Holcomb*, *Louise Griffin's* father, recently admitted into a rehabilitation facility for a fall.
- *Daniel Miksa*; *Heidi Boleyn Rapach*, battling Lyme disease; *Faye and Joe Steinau*; *Louise Thul*; *Helen Miller* recovering at home with a broken wrist; *DeWitt LaMaire*; *Harley Donham*, *Cathy Boleyn's* father; *Amanda Lake* and son, *Ryan Christopher*; *Betty Lou Diven*, *Fran Young's* sister; *Shirley Ferri*, at Sunrise Assisted Living, Basking Ridge, NJ and *Bob Monteith*, at Green Knoll Center in Bridgewater, NJ.

Prayers of healing, comfort & support for those battling cancer:

- *Jeanne Norrie*, *Leslie Mitchell*, *Bunny Dow's* dear friend; *Julio Valle* and *Linda Seabrook*, uncle and friend of *Juan Ocampo*; *Ruth Stagg*; *Don McGinn*, *Faye Steinau's* brother-in-law; *Avecita Justo*; *Bea Danyo*, *Alice Lester's* sister

Prayers for those in the military and their families:

- *Jennifer Solis*, daughter, *Clara Elizabeth* and husband, *Victor*, during his year of deployment.

Continued prayers for those people at home:

- *Joan Brown*, *Helen Bradley*, *Nancy Higgins*, *Estelle Kennedy* and *Margaret L. Herman-Angely*.

Prayers for:

- *Rev. Chris Belden* and *Elder Claudia Heffner*, who are working with WAPC through the pastoral transition.



**WATCHUNG AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
170 Watchung Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060-4133

Visions Newsletter

Welcoming Everyone
Celebrating Diversity
Following Jesus



July/August 2014

Worship Schedule JULY

July 6 Communion	"Rest for Your Soul" Romans 7: 15-25a Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30
July 13 Healing Sunday	"How Deep Is Deep Enough" Psalm 119: 105-112 Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23
July 20 Communion	"The Glory of the Children of God" Psalm 139 Romans 8: 12-25
July 27	"Prayer and Predestination" Romans 8: 26-29

Worship Schedule AUGUST

August 3 Communion	"Resistance" Romans 9: 1-5 Matthew 14: 13-21
August 10 Healing Sunday	"Beautiful Feet" Romans 10: 5-15 Matthew 14: 22-23
August 17 Communion	"Offering Forgiveness" Genesis 45: 1-15 Psalm 133 Romans 11: 1-2a, and 29-32
August 24 Guest Pastor	To Be Announced
August 31	"Take Action" Exodus 1: 8-2:10 Romans 12: 9-21

Dear Friends,

During this last month I have talked with several church members who helped me to realize that I was unclear about my schedule in the June issue of *Visions*. Let me clarify!

First, and foremost, I am available to this congregation – emotionally, spiritually, and physically. My covenant with the session of WAPC allows for 40+ hours of availability every week (with the exception of vacation and study leave time throughout the year). To this end, please understand that I am available and can be reached on my mobile phone at any time - **845-304-9019**. I welcome your calls and/or emails (my address is pastor@wapc.net) at any time. I expect to be “on call” 24/7 – 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. If I do not answer the phone immediately, I will get back to you as soon as possible. If I am physically unable to meet your needs, then I will arrange for other pastoral coverage.

Second, I need and want to set appropriate boundaries for my own emotional, physical, and spiritual health. Mondays and Saturdays are my regular days off. However, if there are urgent situations (versus ordinary issues), then by all means call me! On Mondays, I try to focus on my personal life, so if an issue is not urgent, then please connect with me on Tuesday morning. On Saturdays, I can be called as early as 8 AM.

During Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, feel free to call me any time after 8:00 am (or email me anytime). The hours I plan to physically be in my WAPC office (or in the Plainfield area at meetings) are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 11 AM to 7 PM (some days slightly earlier and some later depending upon meetings). On Sundays I will be in the Plainfield area from 9 AM until the afternoon and however late I am needed. I quite often make pastoral visits on Sunday afternoon and in the evenings on weekdays. Fridays I work from home with focus on writing my sermon for Sunday. If I am needed for a specific event during the early morning hours on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday OR any time on Friday or Saturday, I am happy to make arrangements to be there – just let me know in advance.

I hope this information is clarifying for you. The Personnel Committee has been most gracious in communicating with me and working out this arrangement for our covenant relationship. If you have any concerns or would like to discuss, please feel free to let me know.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Jean

JULY SAVE THE DATE CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Morning Bible Study, 10am, Fran Young's home	2	3 Bible Study 7:30pm, call for location	4 Happy 4th of July	5
6 10am, worship service	7	8 ↓	9	10 ↓	11	12
13 ↓	14 Session meeting, 7:30pm	15 ↓	16	17 ↓	18	19
20 ↓	21	22 ↓	23	24 ↓	25	26
27 ↓	28	29 ↓	30	31 ↓		

Local Mission Contributions & Opportunities

- ❖ On Saturday mornings, WAPC is partnering with St. Joseph's Catholic Church to serve those in need in our community. Bags of food are given out every Saturday morning at 9 am, and clothing is given out on the third Saturday of each month. Helpers are needed to sort clothing and to help with the distribution. If you can help, come to the Parish Center at 99 Westervelt Avenue before 9 am. Donations are accepted of clothing in good condition and small household items. Bring your donations to the office at the Parish Center on weekdays between 9 am and 4 pm. Call or email Gwyn Gronlund for more information, at 908-754-1251 or gwyndagronlund@comcast.net.
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FRIENDLY REMINDERS

For assistance related to the ongoing ministry of WAPC please contact Administrative Assistant, Greta Martin-Worthy at office@wapc.net or 908-755-2781, Tues.-Thurs. from 9am-3pm.

And please let the office know when you are scheduling meetings/gatherings in the church building. It's important that Greta is aware of who is in the building in case of emergencies.
Thank you!

2014 Per Capita Amount

Our assessment from the PCUSA for 2014 is \$36.80 per member. This is just a \$.20 increase from last year. Paying your share frees up money for much needed other purposes. Use your per capita envelope or note "per capita" in the memo line of your check.

FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

If you would like to remember a loved one or celebrate a special event by providing flowers for a Sunday worship service, the flower sign up calendar for 2014 is located on the bulletin board in the parish hall. If you are not bringing the flowers yourself, Gray's Florist in Watchung on Rte.22 E has been a good source and delivers to the church (908-757-0400). If you want Gray's to deliver, make sure you instruct them to do so. Greta, our church administrative assistant, will call you to remind you of flower sign up and confirm wording for the bulletin.



Dollars Destroying the Deficit!

Each member - an additional \$1/day all year, will help lessen the church deficit. More funds for mission and ministry! Put your \$ in the DDD envelope found in your pew rack & then into the offering plate.

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Cell phone: 845-304-9019

Presbyterian Women

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY SUMMER MEETINGS

Hearts, Hands & Stitches, the Prayer Shawl Ministry of WAPC, continues to meet monthly. We stitch at our meetings and on our own time to create comforting shawls.

We will meet at **7:15 pm on Tuesday, July 8,**
at the home of Gwyn Gronlund.

We will again carpool to **Judith Botzan's home, tentatively on Saturday, August 9th.**

We will have a time of quiet, prayerful stitching, plan our projects, and have refreshments. All are welcome to join.

Unfortunately, the **World Wide Knit in Public** event at Bound Brook Presbyterian Church was cancelled, so a few of us knitted in front of WAPC on Saturday, June 21st. We received some curious looks from passersby. Call Gwyn Gronlund for more information (908) 754-1251 (see Ellen Lake & Gwyn Gronlund below)



CIRCLE OF GRACE

**WILL BE MEETING
AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER**

CIRLCE OF HOPE

**WILL BE MEETING
AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER**

CIRCLE OF JOY

**WILL BE MEETING
AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER**

Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church

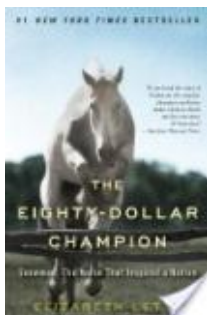
Book Club 2014-2015

Please join us on these **four Sundays at noon** in the lounge. Bring a bag lunch. Bring a friend!
For further information, please see Cathy Lyttle.

Sunday, September 21, 2014

Eighty Dollar Champion: Snowman, the Horse That Inspired a Nation
by Elizabeth Letts

Snowman (1949-1974) was a former plow horse, purchased on his way to the "meat market." Harry de Leyer, a Long Island, New York riding instructor, attended a Pennsylvania horse auction looking for school horses. He arrived late, and the only remaining horses were the "rejects", loaded into trucks bound for the dog food and glue slaughter house. De Leyer made eye contact with a large gray horse that he purchased for \$80. He first used Snowman as a lesson horse for children. De Leyer recognized talent in the horse after he sold him to a neighbor and the horse jumped high fences to return "home." This is their story.



Sunday, November 23, 2014

I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai

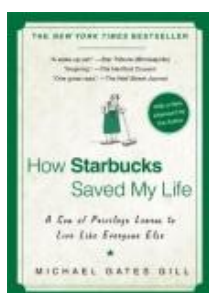
When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price. She was shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive. Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she has become a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize. I Am Malala is the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons. I Am Malala will make you believe in the power of one person's voice to inspire change in the world.



Sunday, February 15, 2015

How Starbucks Saved My Life: A Son of Privilege Learns to Live Like Everyone Else
by Michael Gates Gill

Nearing retirement, Michael Gates Gill lost it all. A Yale-educated ad exec making six figures, Gill was let go from his job (ostensibly for being old), saw his marriage disintegrate, and was diagnosed with a brain tumor. At the age of 63, desperate and without health insurance, he found redemption and a new sense of purpose where he least expected: behind the counter of a Starbucks. Gill tells his story in How Starbucks Saved My Life, an instant bestseller that has struck a chord with a large segment of middle aged and older Americans -- and which will soon be a film, starring Tom Hanks.

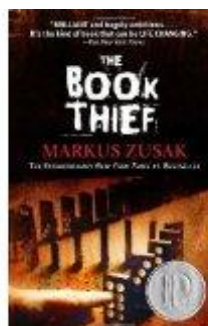


Sunday, April 19, 2015

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

It's just a small story really, about among other things: a girl, some words, an accordionist, some fanatical Germans, a Jewish fist-fighter, and quite a lot of thievery. Set during World War II in Germany, Markus Zusak's groundbreaking new novel is the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl living outside of Munich. Liesel scratches out a meager existence for herself by

stealing, when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement before he is marched to Dachau.





CHOIR ROOM RENOVATION COMPLETED

"We Did It!"

Planning Phase:

Leslie Hansen, Dianne Ledder and Gail Smith met with choir director, Jeremy Messmer, to discuss how the choir room could be better utilized. WIC was consulted on their needs. Paint colors were chosen. Window treatments were discussed; we decided on cellular shades with valances. Many members donated Bed Bath and Beyond coupons which enabled us to save a considerable amount of money on the cellular shades. Leslie found valances that coordinate perfectly with the walls and woodwork. Greta, WAPC administrative assistant, redid the fire escape sign and answered lots of questions about location of things.

Work Phase:

Stage 1 -The stairwell painting was done by contractor, John Herrick; wood work and window cleaning was expertly done by Josephine Herbert, Sarellen Hogan, Julia Lake and Dianne Ledder.

Stage 2 - Removal of folding doors, items not used by the choir or WIC and everything attached to the walls. Our strong arm crew removed the folding doors and hardware and got a lot of heavy items moved to the curb or to the basement for storage. Thanks to Tom Ledder, Wayne Young, Richard Kennedy, Al Smith, Tom McCann and Jake Waters for helping with this stage of the project.

Stage 3 - Ceiling and wall prep (what a lot of holes to plaster!) and then two coats of paint. Judy Botzan, Hope Dolan, Wayne Fabricius, Leslie Hansen, Dianne Ledder, Brooks Smith and Gail Smith worked on this stage. Installation of the cellular shades was done by handyman, Wayne Fabricius; Alex Fabricius helped with clean up. Dianne Ledder tackled cleaning the inside of the windows and the wood work.

Stage 4 - Two thirds of the floor was cleaned and sealed by our sexton, David. On June 1 volunteers moved everything in the room to the cleaned areas so the rest of the floor could be cleaned. Sunday morning movers included Tom Ledder, Wayne Young, Bob



Goellner, John Sullivan, Chris Piel, Tom Imperato, Julia Lake, Marla Miksa, Kathy Fortin, Ryan Thomas, Al Smith, Randy Blain, Josephine Herbert and Doug Boleyn.

Stage 5 - Installation of rods and valances by Leslie and Garrett Hansen. Cleaning of the rest of the floor and landings in the stairwell by our sexton. Thanks for the terrific job, David!

Stage 6 - Furniture got moved to trial spaces and bell choir equipment was moved upstairs to the choir room with the helping hands of: Al Smith, Joel Stambaugh, Randy Blain, Bob Goellner, Wayne Young, Tom Ledder, Doug Boleyn, Julia Lake, John Sullivan, Dave Lyttle, Julia Lake and her nephew, Tyler.

Final Stage - Our chancel choir members will reorganize the room and put on some finishing touches; Jeremy will continue to sort through and organize music.

Disclaimer- with so many people involved in some way or another, we may have inadvertently missed someone's name. Please know we are grateful to everyone.

Who Uses the Choir Room?

Our choir room serves as the office for choir director, Jeremy Messmer. Both the Chancel Choir and the Hallelujah Bell Choir rehearse there. Chancel Choir members are: Robert Goellner, Leslie Hansen, Josephine Herbert, Sarellen Hogan, Beverly Krausse, Ellen Lake, Julia Lake, Dianne Ledder, Chris Piel, John Sullivan and Frances Young. Members of The Hallelujah Bells Choir include: Cathy Boleyn, Peggy Bunnell, Gwyn Gronland, Ellen Lake, Julia Lake, Dianne Ledder, Alice Lester and John Sullivan.



Every Tuesday of the year, WIC uses the choir room. Women, Infants and Children (WIC) provides Federal grants to States for supplemental foods, health care referrals and nutrition education for low-income, pregnant, breastfeeding and non-breastfeeding, postpartum women and to infants and children up to age five who are found to be at nutritional risk.



SUMMER IS
HERE,

and despite cool weather, lots of weeds and munching rabbits, the *Faith Garden* is producing! We have already harvested spinach, leaf lettuce, kale and cilantro. Beans, corn, zucchini, cucumbers, tomatoes, eggplant and peppers have been planted.



There are still
weeks
available for
you to water,
weed, and
harvest.

Please sign
up for a week
or more, by
emailing
Gwyn
Gronlund at

gwyndagronlund@comcast.net. Gwyn will send you a reminder for your week. Families are welcome.



THE HAPPENINGS @ WAPC!



HEAD START GRADUATION JUNE 4, 2013 CONGRATULATIONS!!

The Head Start program has a new temporary management company, Community Development Institute (CDI) and the church is currently in the negotiating process to sign a new contract for the 2014-2015 school year to begin September 8, 2014. (photo credit: Patricia Cardoza)



North Plainfield 2014 Street Fair

Julia Lake, Marla Miksa, Kathy Fortin, Michele Wallace and Judy Botzan are seen here manning or should I say (wo)manning WAPC's table where Julia was painting free temporary tatoos to all who wanted!



Presbyterian Welcome Event

There was some cookie baking going on here! All in preparation for the **2014 Pride March** held in NYC on June 29th. The "master" bakers were (L to R) John Sullivan, Judy Botzan, John Russell Stanger, Debbie Borbely, Chris Piel and Zoe Peloso.

(Thank you Ellen Lake for the street fair and cookie bake photos! Though we can't see you, we know you were there.)

"SCHOOL'S OUT FOR THE SUMMER!" (anyone remember those song lyrics??)

Yes, the YMCA's After School Program is done until September but for the summer the YMCA will be holding Cooking Classes at WAPC for 9 weeks on Mondays from 10-12 noon and from 1-3pm.

Classes start June 30th and run until August 25th.



The Presbytery of Elizabeth
and
the Congregation of
Iglesia Presbiteriana Nuevas Fronteras in Plainfield
invite you to attend
the Service of Ordination of
David Mojica
on Sunday the 6th of July
Two Thousand and Fourteen
at Two O'Clock
in the Chapel of
Iglesia Presbiteriana Nuevas Fronteras
525 E Front Street
Plainfield, NJ 07060

Clergy are invited to robe. Red stoles are appropriate.
Light refreshments immediately following.

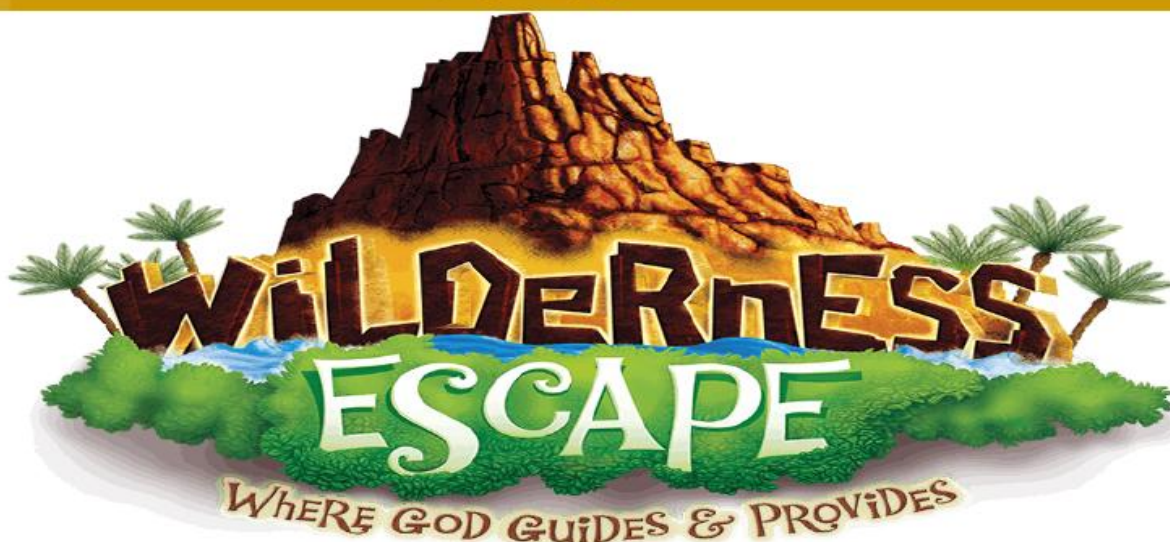
RSVP to dmojica3302@gmail.com

REMEMBER TO JOIN UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOR FAMILY FUN NIGHT!

Celebrating the diversity of humankind through games, movies, conversation, presentations, etc. **1st & 3rd Fridays of the month, 6:30-10pm, Fellowship Room, 525 E. Front St., Plainfield.** All ages, parents and kids, snacks provided!

****STARTED IN MAY AND CONTINUES EVERY MONTH****

United Presbyterian Church & Iglesia Nuevas Fronteras
Joyfully presents:



July 14-18 2014

8am-2pm

(breakfast & lunch included)

**VBS Celebration; Sunday, the 20th
10:00 a.m.**

*A week-long action-packed
experience!*

*\$25.00 Registration fee per
child Ages 4-12*

Discounts for households with 3 or more children

*Leaders In Training Program
(LIT) - Ages 13-14*

*(For more information on the LIT program, please con-
tact Nuevas Fronteras Church Office 908-756-3888)*



**For more information
please contact us at
908-756-3888 or
908-756-2666**

Rev. Victor Aloyo, Jr.
Pastor
525 E. Front Street, Plainfield,
NJ 07060



PRAYER LIST

Healing, supportive prayers for:

- *Colleen Parlman* recovering from surgery at home; *Grace Landsperger*, recovering at home from a fractured spine after a fall; *Lem Holcomb*, *Louise Griffin's* father, recovering from a fall; *Daniel Miksa*; *Heidi Boleyn Rapach*, battling Lyme disease; *Faye and Joe Steinau*; *Louise Thul*; *Helen Miller* recovering at home with a broken wrist; *DeWitt LaMaire*; *Harley Donham*, *Cathy Boleyn's* father; *Amanda Lake* and son, *Ryan Christopher*; *Betty Lou Diven*, *Fran Young's* sister; *Shirley Ferri*, at Sunrise Assisted Living, Basking Ridge, NJ and *Bob Monteith*, at Green Knoll Center in Bridgewater, NJ.

Prayers of healing, comfort & support for those battling cancer:

- *Jeanne Norrie*, *Leslie Mitchell*, *Bunny Dow's* dear friend; *Julio Valle* and *Linda Seabrook*, uncle and friend of *Juan Ocampo*; *Ruth Stagg*; *Don McGinn*, *Faye Steinau's* brother-in-law; *Avecita Justo*; *Bea Danyo*, *Alice Lester's* sister

Prayers for those in the military and their families:

- *Jennifer Solis*, daughter, *Clara Elizabeth* and husband, *Victor*, during his year of deployment.

Continued prayers for those people at home:

- *Joan Brown*, *Helen Bradley*, *Nancy Higgins*, *Estelle Kennedy* and *Margaret L. Herman-Angely*.

Prayers for:

- *Elder Claudia Heffner*, who is working with WAPC to accomplish our Mission Study during this interim period.



**WATCHUNG AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
170 Watchung Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060-4133

Visions Newsletter

Welcoming Everyone

Celebrating Diversity

Following Jesus

September 2014



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

September 7
Communion "Restored and
Renewed"
Exodus 12:1-14

September 14
Healing "Liberating Acts"
Exodus 14:19-31

September 21
Communion "Rumbling
Stomachs"
Exodus 16:2-15

September 28
"Testing God"
Exodus 17:17

Dear Friends,

During worship in the month of September we will journey with the biblical Israelites as they wander in the wilderness of their famous 40-year exodus from slavery in Egypt. It seems appropriate for WAPC, as a community, to connect your story with that of our brothers and sisters in faith from so many generations ago. This seems to me the perfect image for churches who find themselves in the midst of an interim time – a wilderness – a time between settled pastors.

There is a definite wilderness wandering quality to what you are about at this particular time. This is a time to gain a renewed sense of who you are as the people of God.

More times than I care to say a church becomes identified with the personality of the pastor – *too* identified I believe. So who or what is God calling WAPC to become in this wilderness wandering? Will you listen to God's voice or will you become afraid

and make golden idols out of the past? Will you trust God to nourish you with just enough manna or will you panic about not having enough and become a community of scarcity? Will you organize yourselves in a clear, easy, and inclusive way or will you seek to shrug your responsibility by being the victims of chaos? Will you trust that God is always with you, working in and through you, or will you doubt the truth and look to other gods?

Yes, this is a strenuous and dangerous time in the life of any congregation. It takes hard work and deliberate attention to make it through to the Promised Land. But it is also a time of intense excitement and expectation about all the possibilities of what can be. This is clearly a time when the people of God at WAPC are meant to follow and be protected by the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night. Do not be afraid. God is always with us!

Amen,

Pastor Jean

Church Key Cards

The **Administration Team** is reviewing / working on the list of people that have key cards for the church. Pastor Jean announced a few weeks ago at worship that we will be reviewing the list and deactivating those that no longer need access. She also asked the congregation to email or talk to her and advise if you have a card and would like to keep it active. To date, there are four pages of names under review. We have begun the process of deactivating the cards. Once this is completed, we will be looking at the time period allowed for access. Access will only be allowed during specific time frames. Only those warranted will have 24 hour access, all others will be adjusted accordingly. You will be advised of the time frame for your card once changed. Any questions please feel free to email or reach out to John W. Piel, jwp12@verizon.net.

DEAR WAPC FAMILY,

The Session wanted to make you aware of a new policy recently passed by the Committee on Ministry (COM) of the Elizabeth Presbytery regarding the separation policy for departing/retiring teaching elders as follows:

SEPARATION POLICY FOR DEPARTING/RETIRING TEACHING ELDERS THE PRESBYTERY OF ELIZABETH

“After the dissolution of the pastoral relationship, former pastors and associate pastors shall not provide their pastoral services to members of their former congregations without the invitation of the moderator of session.” G-2.0905

A pastor is called to serve a particular congregation through the voice of the congregation, confirmed by the presbytery. When pastors retire or are called to other positions, the pastor, the congregation and the presbytery appropriately enter into a new relationship. This policy will guide the relations between the former pastor and the congregation as they move through this time of transition.

When a pastor retires or leaves a congregation for another call, many different emotions flow through the life of the church. Hopefully, there are strong bonds of affection between the retiring/departing pastor and the congregation. Sometimes however, anger, frustration and sadness flow through many members. Whatever the mix of feelings and attitudes, the pastor's professional relation to the congregation has come to an end. Relationships of friendship may continue but the pastoral role does not. The following guidelines will direct the process of separation.

1. Notification of Session:

a. The retiring pastor shall inform the session officially at least 3 months prior to the retirement date. The retiring pastor also should be in contact with the Transitional Leader, the Committee on Ministry and the Board of Pensions.

b. Departing pastors shall inform the session as soon as possible after their new call has been finalized.

2. The retiring/departing pastor should communicate with the entire congregation as soon as possible. That communication shall include this Separation policy, including its guidelines. Our common purpose is to seek clarity in relationships for the well being of the retiring/departing pastor and the church. "Let us love one another not in word alone, but in deed and in truth," says the First Letter of John.

3. The retiring/departing pastor shall make every effort to be supportive of his/her successors, both the temporary pastor and the successor pastor. The retiring/departing pastor should refrain from reaching out to the successor pastor until first contacted by him/her.

4. The retiring/departing pastor shall refrain from any comment or conversation on the life of the church or the decisions/actions of the temporary pastor, installed pastor, or Session. Conversations on these issues with church members shall not occur. These guidelines extend to the use of social media, as well. Concerns should be referred to and handled by the temporary/successor pastor.

5. Any requests for retiring/departing pastors to officiate at weddings, funerals or baptisms must be directed to the temporary or installed pastor. Taking into account the wishes of the family and the well-being of the congregation, the temporary or successor pastor will determine what, if any, role the retiring/departing pastor will play. The retiring/departing pastor will defer to the judgment of the temporary/successor pastor.

6. If remaining in the community, the retiring/departing pastor should become an active participant in another congregation, so the successor pastor may establish her/his ministry apart from the presence and influence of the retiring/departing pastor. Although there is no rule that says the family of the retiring/departing pastor must give up its present church membership, the nature of the family's relationship with the congregation changes. For instance,

there should be restraint in conversation about the church and the successor pastor's ministry. Family members who hold office in the church must be ready to be supportive and accepting of the new pastor. Family members who are employed staff members of the church should resign.

7. A retiring/departing pastor may not continue to live in a manse following a termination date without the permission of the congregation, Committee on Ministry and Trustees of Presbytery.

8. The Committee on Ministry's exit interview with the retiring/departing pastor offers a time for debriefing, for recounting highlights of the pastor's ministry and for clarifying the relationship the pastor will have with the congregation after he/she has left. The exit interview is not an evaluation. Rather, it is a time of sharing framed by remembrance that ministry of the church is grounded in Jesus Christ and not in a particular pastor.

9. The Committee on Ministry's exit interview with the Session is a time to discuss the separation policy and plan for how its guidelines will be shared with members of the congregation, who should be encouraged to release their dependency upon the departing/retiring pastor and move forward as guided by the Holy Spirit. They also must understand that they cannot contact the departing/retiring pastor for pastoral care, worship or discussing any church matters. The vows in a Farewell Liturgy will reinforce this.

10. The church may wish to plan one or more farewell events to express gratitude to the departing/retiring pastor and to celebrate the ministry they have shared together. It is appropriate to plan a Liturgy of Farewell during the final worship service with the congregation.

Both the pastor and the congregation have a responsibility to make sure that the church is free to act when the search process for a temporary/installed pastor begins. If a pastoral departure is handled well by both pastor and congregation, a range of emotions will be expressed, relationships will be celebrated, and the church will be free to discern its own future mission and ministry.

WAPC STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

170 Watchung Ave., N. Plainfield, 07060

Interim Pastor	Reverend Jean A. F. Holmes	pastor@wapc.net ; 845-304-9019(cell)
Office Admin. Asst.	Greta Martin-Worthy	office@wapc.net ; 908-755-2781
Director of Music	Jeremy Messmer	jeremy.messmer@gmail.com ; 585-750-0842 (cell)
Sexton	David Eichenger	908-755-2781(office)

SESSION LEADERSHIP

Moderator	Rev. Jean Holmes	pastor@wapc.net ; 845-304-9019(cell)
Clerk of Session	*Sarellen Hogan	sarellen.hogan@gmail.com ; 908-757-3918
Pres. of Corp.	Gwyn Gronlund	gwyndagronlund@comcast.net ; 908-754-1251
V. Pres. of Corp.	Michele Wallace	mgeuinlove@gmail.com ; 908-644-8475

TEAMS OF SESSION

- I. **Administration Team - Co-Chairs** *John Piel jwp12@verizon.net; 201-394-3652(cell)
 *Michele Wallace mgeuinlove@gmail.com; 908-644-8475

Committees of the Team

Personnel	*Jeanne Fedoryk	jfedoryk@its.jnj.com ; 908-789-8630
Buildings & Grounds	Tom Ledder	bagpkg@earthlink.net ; 908-232-2119
Auditing	*Debbie Borbely	deborah.borbely@gmail.com ; 908-229-9432(cell)
Special Funds	*Judy Botzan	jbotzan@icloud.com ; 908-638-0559
Stewardship	*Sue Passe	Spasse27@aol.com ; 908-561-3477
Finance	Garrett Hansen	ghrhcpa@gmail.com ; 908-604-0337

- II. **Outreach Team -** *Bob Goellner mr.bobg1@gmail.com; 908-561-3346

Committees of the Team

Welcoming Church	*Judy Botzan	jbotzan@embarqmail.com ; 908-638-0559
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- III. **Mission Team -** *Gwyn Gronlund gwyndagronlund@comcast.net; 908-754-1251

Projects of the Team

Faith Garden
 Soup Kitchen - Saturday mornings
 Various Outreach Initiatives

- IV. **Fellowship Team** *Cathy Lyttle clyttle29@hotmail.com; 732-356-5253

Deacons/Visitation	Fran Young	fran.reid.young@gmail.com ; 908-757-2611
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- V. **Worship Team** *Debbie Borbely deborah.borbely@gmail.com; 908-229-9432(c)

Ushers	Shawn Watters	Shawn.Watters@verint.com ; 908-296-4026
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- VI. **Education Team - Co-Chairs** *Jim Thomas tireswing7@verizon.net; 908-756-2553
 *Julia Lake lake37@hotmail.com; 908-561-1818

Areas of Ministry

Youth Group
 Children Sunday AM
 Adult Bible Study

Phone #s home, unless labeled otherwise; * indicates session member; **bold** print indicates chair person

Below is the article submitted to "THE PRIDE" newspaper by Elder Bob Goellner:

WAPC Announces Its Fall Program Schedule

The Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church is pleased to announce, and offer for your consideration, the currently planned activities for this fall. There are other items still in negotiation which will be announced later.

The Church Activities List for fall reads: choir rehearsals, bell choir rehearsals, community basketball practice, a morning and an evening Bible study, book club, three women's Circles, a prayer shawl knitting group, and rehearsals for our resident Somerset Brass Quintet.

Community programs for the fall are: Women, Infants and Children (WIC) services, Girl, Boy, and Cub Scout meetings, Plainfield YMCA After School Program, Head Start Program, ESL classes, Zumba classes, Common Ground Program for the five Plainfield area Presbyterian Churches, and the CROP Walk for Hunger in October.

We invite all of our neighbors to investigate any of these programs that might be of interest. Please call the church office at 908-755-2781, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday between 9:30 am & 3:00 pm or visit our website at www.wapc.net.

Local Mission Contributions & Opportunities

On Saturday mornings, WAPC is partnering with St. Joseph's Catholic Church to serve those in need in our community. Bags of food are given out every Saturday morning at 9 am, and clothing is given out on the third Saturday of each month. Helpers are needed to sort clothing and to help with the distribution. If you can help, come to the Parish Center at 99 Westervelt Avenue before 9 am. Donations are accepted of clothing in good condition and small household items. Bring your donations to the office at the Parish Center on weekdays between 9 am and 4 pm. Call or email Gwyn Gronlund for more information, at 908-754-1251 or gwyndagronlund@comcast.net.

SANDY RELIEF VOLUNTEERS: We're working with churches in the hardest-hit areas, providing volunteer help to those most in need. Participants have found this to be an incredibly rewarding way to show appreciation for all the blessings we've been given! If you're physically able & willing to help, please join us! Most of the work now is flooring, sheetrock, & painting. Our workdays are on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month for the foreseeable future. For more info. please contact Mike Rountree, at NJMikeSandy@verizon.net 908-642-5402.

The Presbytery's Disaster Preparedness & Response Commission

SEPTEMBER SAVE THE DATE CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Labor Day Holiday	2	3	4 Bible Study 7:30pm, call for location	5	6 Agape House of NJ 5K Walk/Run
7	8 Session meeting, 7:00pm	9 Bible Study, 10:30am, call for location ----- Prayer Shawl mtg. 7:15pm ----- Circle of Hope, 7:30pm	10 Circle of Joy, 3:30pm	11 ↓	12	13
14 Circle of Grace, after worship ----- Common Ground Mtg. 3-6pm	15	16 Bible Study, call for location ↓	17	18 ↓	19	20
21 Book Club mtg. 12 noon	22	23 ↓	24	25 ↓	26	27
28	29	30		*Brass Quintet, 7:30pm, Thurs., Start date TBD *Choir Reh., 7:30pm, Wed., Start date TBD		

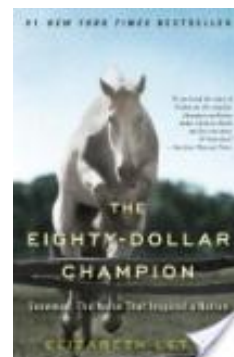
Book Club 2014-2015

Please join us on these at noon in the lounge. Bring a bag lunch. Bring a friend!
For further information, please see Cathy Lyttle.

Sunday, September 21, 2014

Eighty Dollar Champion: Snowman, the Horse That Inspired a Nation by Elizabeth Letts

Snowman (1949-1974) was a former plow horse, purchased on his way to the "meat market." Harry de Leyer, a Long Island, New York riding instructor, attended a Pennsylvania horse auction looking for school horses. He arrived late, and the only remaining horses were the "rejects", loaded into trucks bound for the dog food and glue slaughter house. De Leyer made eye contact with a large gray horse that he purchased for \$80. He first used Snowman as a lesson horse for children. De Leyer recognized talent in the horse after he sold him to a neighbor and the horse jumped high fences to return "home." This is their story.



FR IENDLY REMINDERS!

REMEMBER TO JOIN UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOR FAMILY FUN NIGHT!

Celebrating the diversity of humankind through games, movies, conversation, presentations, etc. **1st & 3rd Fridays of the month, 6:30-10pm, Fellowship Room, 525 E. Front St., Plainfield.** All ages, parents and kids, snacks provided!

****STARTED IN MAY AND CONTINUES EVERY MONTH****

For assistance related to the ongoing ministry of WAPC please contact Administrative Assistant, Greta Martin-Worthy at office@wapc.net or 908-755-2781, Tues.-Thurs. from 9am-3pm.

And please let the office know when you are scheduling meetings/gatherings in the church building. It's important that Greta is aware of who is in the building in case of emergencies.

Thank you!

2014 Per Capita Amount

Our assessment from the PCUSA for 2014 is \$36.80 per member.

This is just a \$.20 increase from last year. Paying your share frees up money for much needed other purposes. Use your per capita envelope or note "per capita" in the memo line of your check.



FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

If you would like to remember a loved one or celebrate a special event by providing flowers for a Sunday worship service, the flower sign up calendar for 2014 is located on the bulletin board in the parish hall. If you are not bringing the flowers yourself, Gray's Florist in Watchung on Rte.22 E has been a good source and delivers to the church (908-757-0400). If you want Gray's to deliver, make sure you instruct them to do so. Greta, our church administrative assistant, will call you to remind you of flower sign up and confirm wording for the bulletin.



Dollars Destroying the Deficit!

Each member - an additional \$1/day all year, will help lessen the church deficit. More funds for mission and ministry! Put your \$ in the DDD envelope found in your pew rack & then into the offering plate.

PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours: 11 AM - 7PM

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday

Email: pastor@wapc.net

Cell phone: 845-304-9019

Presbyterian Women



CIRCLE OF GRACE

WILL MEET ON
SUNDAY, SEPTMEBER
14TH RIGHT AFTER
WORSHIP AT THE
HOME OF DOT FENZ.
BRING A BAG LUNCH.

CIRLCE OF HOPE

WILL MEET ON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER
9TH, AT 7:30 PM AT THE
HOME OF PEGGY
BUNNELL.

CIRCLE OF JOY

WILL MEET ON
WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 10TH AT
3:30 PM AT THE HOME
OF ESTELLE KENNEDY

Prayer Shawl Ministry Fall Meetings

Hearts, Hands & Stitches, the Prayer Shawl Ministry of WAPC, continues to meet monthly. We stitch at our meetings and on our own time to create comforting shawls.

This summer, members of our ministry created 9 chemo caps to share with patients at Somerset Medical Center, through a Courier News request.

We will meet at:

7:15 pm on Tuesday, September 9, at the home
of Fran Young
and
7:15 pm on Tuesday, October 14, at the home
of Gwyn Gronlund.

We will have a time of quiet, prayerful stitching, plan our projects, and have refreshments. All are welcome to join.

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

SAVE THE DATE!

On **Saturday, October 11**, in our Parish Hall Presbyterian Women will sponsor a Continental Breakfast and program. All are welcome to attend. Our speaker will be **Veronica Finlay, Development Coordinator of the Resource Center of Somerset**, the local non-profit that works to protect victims of domestic abuse. Please come and learn more about this serious issue, and how we can help to give hope.
Breakfast: 9 am **Program: 10 am**

WAPC CRIB ROOM

Our crib room is now open every Sunday
during worship for our

infants, toddlers and preschool children.

Two adult volunteers are needed to keep them
company and keep them entertained!

Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles,
nieces, nephews, sons, daughters and cousins too,

ALL are encouraged to help just one Sunday a
month. There are rocking chairs and plenty of toys
and yes of course . . . a crib.



You may sign up on the
bulletin board in Parish Hall, near the
Flower Sign Up sheet.

If you have any questions,
ask Judy Botzan, jbotzan@icloud.com,
Julia Lake, lake37@hotmail.com or
Michele Ixim Wallace, mgeu@aol.com.

Come, visit and get a copy of the
suggested volunteer guidelines.



Thank you!

Judy, Julia, and Michele.





Y
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Sum-
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W
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C

Fight Childhood Obesity!
Encourage our children to Exercise.
Educate them to prepare and eat
healthy, well balanced meals.



The
finished
project ...

Yummie!

Looks
good
enough to
eat.



Clean Up!

Dishes
washed ...

Job well
done!

● ● ● | 5K WALK/RUN
SAVE THE DATE!

Agape House of NJ



401 Greenbrook Rd., North Plainfield
Saturday, September 6, 2014
Registration Starts @ 7:30am
Run/Walk Starts @ 9:00am

Fight Childhood Obesity. *Let's Move!*

Our 33rd Season!

Crescent Concerts

at the historic Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church,
716 Watchung Avenue in Plainfield, New Jersey



2014-2015 Season

October 26, 2014 3:00 pm

From BACH to BELLS

An organ recital by incumbent organist, F. Allen Artz, III, on the 97 rank Adams organ

November 15, 2014 8:00 pm

The Journey to Christmas

Crescent Choral Society with organist Brenda Day, F. Allen Artz, III, conductor
Vivaldi: *Magnificat*; Saint-Saens: *Oratorio de Noel*; Pinkham: *Christmas Cantata*

December 14, 2014 5:00 pm

Yuletide by Candlelight — What Sweeter Music

The Crescent Singers' annual musical gift to the community, free to the public.

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Showcase for Exceptional Young Artists

Chosen by competitive audition, these local musicians, ages 18 and under, will amaze you.

March 8, 2015 3:00 pm

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Our annual Festival of Organists—performers include
Gail Archer, William Entriken, Ryan Kenedy and Domecq Smith

April 11, 2015 8:00 pm

Requiem and Elegy

Crescent Choral Society with professional orchestra, F. Allen Artz, III, conductor
Cherubini: *Requiem in C minor*; Beethoven: *Elegaic Song*

May 17, 2015 3:00 pm

All Creatures Great and Small

The Crescent Singers sing favorites both sacred and secular, F. Allen Artz, III, conductor

— General Admission \$20, Seniors \$15, Students \$5 —



A Special Crescent Choral Society Event

October 11, 2014 7:00 pm

The Plainfield Symphony Orchestra and the Crescent Choral Society
present commissioned music of Marco Frisina, Rome, Italy
Visit www.plainfieldsymphony.org for ticket information.

Ample free, secure parking in the Church lot off First Place.



Funding has been made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts,
Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment of the Arts, through
a grant administered by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

www.crescentconcerts.org

PRAYER LIST

Healing, supportive prayers for:

- Former member *Bill Webster, Sr.*, recovering from several seizures; *Rev. Nancy Asbury*, undergoing surgery; *Lisa Gayle Schmeisser*, *Gail Schmeisser's* daughter; *Sarellen Hogan*; *Lem Holcomb*, *Louise Griffin's* father, recovering from a fall; *Daniel Miksa*; *Heidi Boleyn Rapach*, battling Lyme disease; *Faye and Joe Steinau*; *Louise Thul*; *DeWitt LaMaire*; *Harley Donham*, *Cathy Boleyn's* father; *Amanda Lake* and son, *Ryan Christopher*; *Betty Lou Diven*, *Fran Young's* sister; *Shirley Ferri*, at Sunrise Assisted Living, Basking Ridge, NJ and *Bob Monteith*, at Green Knoll Center in Bridgewater, NJ.

Prayers of healing, comfort & support for those battling cancer:

- *Jeanne Norrie*; *Leslie Mitchell*, *Bunny Dow's* dear friend; *Ruth Stagg*; *Don McGinn*, *Faye Steinau's* brother-in-law and *Bea Danyo*, *Alice Lester's* sister.

Prayers for those in the military and their families:

- *PFC Jasmine Harris*, currently stationed in Fort Hood, Texas; *Jennifer Solis*, daughter, *Clara Elizabeth* and husband, *Victor*, during his deployment.

Continued prayers for those people at home:

- *Joan Brown*, *Helen Bradley*, *Nancy Higgins*, *Estelle Kennedy*, *Margaret L. Herman-Angely* and *Helen Miller*.

Prayers for:

- *Elder Claudia Heffner*, who is working with WAPC to accomplish our Mission Study during this interim period.



Back
To
School!



**WATCHUNG AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
170 Watchung Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060-4133

Visions Newsletter

Welcoming Everyone

Celebrating Diversity

Following Jesus

October 2014



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

October 5
World Communion

"The Realm of
God, Part 1"
Mathew 21: 33-46

October 12
Healing

"The Realm of
God, Part 2"
Matthew 22: 1-14

October 19
Communion

"Conflicting
Allegiance"
Matthew 22: 15-22

October 26
Reformation

"The Jesus Creed"
Matthew 22: 34-46

Dear Friends,

On October 5th we will celebrate World Communion Sunday during worship. I am proud to say we fulfill one of the core values of Presbyterianism to be *ecumenically engaged* by doing so.

Wikipedia tells us that "**World Communion Sunday** is a celebration observed by several [Christian denominations](#), taking place on the first Sunday of every October that promotes Christian unity and [ecumenical](#) cooperation. The tradition originated in the [Shadyside Presbyterian Church](#) in 1933, was adopted throughout the [US Presbyterian Church](#) in 1936, and subsequently spread to other denominations. In 1940, the Federal Council of Churches (now the [National](#)

[Council of Churches](#)), led by [Jesse Moren Bader](#), endorsed World Communion Sunday and began to promote it to Christian churches worldwide."

Following reunion in 1987 a new curriculum was created for the newly formed PCUSA that was grounded in five core values. If memory serves me well they include:

- Biblically Grounded
- Historically Informed
- Ecumenically Involved
- Socially Engaged
- Communally Nurtured

Unfortunately the curriculum was not a sell-out success for multiple reasons, but I believe these core values continue to serve us well all these years later. It is the Presbyterian value of ecumenical involvement that led to the idea of World Communion Sunday, and we do well to remember the importance of embracing ALL our brothers and sisters in Christ as we gather around a world-wide communion table on this important Sunday.

In a world where we are constantly bombarded with news of and images from the violent divisions wrought in the name of religion I find it even more important than ever for those of us who stand for something different to breathe our quiet spirit of peace onto the rawness of it all. If only we could somehow make headlines by joining literal hands across the continents while gathering to share this precious sacrament. That would truly be good news about the true presence of God's way of living here on earth.

Please join me on October 5, 2014 when "all the dear and precious people of God" will reach out to one another in love and forgiveness across the din of destruction that seems to always make the front pages. And let's pray that somewhere this unity might possibly make the lead story of some well-known news organization – just once!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Jean



WAPC STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

170 Watchung Ave., N. Plainfield, 07060

Interim Pastor	Reverend Jean A. F. Holmes	pastor@wapc.net ; 845-304-9019(cell)
Office Admin. Asst.	Greta Martin-Worthy	office@wapc.net ; 908-755-2781
Director of Music	Jeremy Messmer	jeremy.messmer@gmail.com ; 585-750-0842 (cell)
Sexton	David Eichenger	908-755-2781(office)

SESSION LEADERSHIP

Moderator	Rev. Jean Holmes	pastor@wapc.net ; 845-304-9019(cell)
Clerk of Session	*Sarellen Hogan	sarellen.hogan@gmail.com ; 908-757-3918
Pres. of Corp.	*John Piel	jwp12@verizon.net ; 201-394-3652(cell)
V. Pres. of Corp.	*Michele Wallace	mgeu@aol.com ; 908-644-8475

TEAMS OF SESSION

- I. **Administration Team - Co-Chairs** *John Piel jwp12@verizon.net; 201-394-3652(cell)
 *Michele Wallace mgeu@aol.com; 908-644-8475

Committees of the Team

Personnel	*Jeanne Fedoryk	jfedoryk@its.jnj.com ; 908-789-8630
Buildings & Grounds	*Michele Wallace	mgeu@aol.com ; 908-644-8475
Auditing	*Debbie Borbely	deborah.borbely@gmail.com ; 908-229-9432(cell)
Special Funds	*Judy Botzan	jbotzan@icloud.com ; 908-638-0559
Stewardship	TBD	
Finance	Garrett Hansen	ghrhcpa@gmail.com ; 908-604-0337

- II. **Outreach Team -** *Bob Goellner mr.bobg1@gmail.com; 908-561-3346

Committees of the Team

Welcoming Church	*Judy Botzan	jbotzan@embarqmail.com ; 908-638-0559
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- III. **Mission Team -** *Gwyn Gronlund gwyndagronlund@comcast.net; 908-754-1251

Projects of the Team

Faith Garden
 Soup Kitchen - Saturday mornings
 Various Outreach Initiatives

- IV. **Fellowship Team** TBD
 Deacons/Visitation Fran Young fran.reid.young@gmail.com; 908-757-2611

- V. **Worship Team** *Debbie Borbely deborah.borbely@gmail.com; 908-229-9432(c)
 Ushers Shawn Watters Shawn.Watters@verint.com; 908-296-4026

- VI. **Education Team - Co-Chairs** *Jim Thomas tireswing7@verizon.net; 908-756-2553
 *Julia Lake lake37@hotmail.com; 908-561-1818

Areas of Ministry

Youth Group
 Children Sunday AM
 Adult Bible Study

Phone #s home, unless labeled otherwise; * indicates session member; **bold** print indicates chair person

HIGHLIGHTS OF SESSION MEETINGS JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2014

JULY

A motion was passed to endorse and abide by the Separation Policy of Retiring Teaching Elders in the Presbytery of Elizabeth. There was one negative vote and one abstention.

Elder Claudia Hefner – introduced “New Beginnings” a church assessment process. This program can be the mission study process for us. A “Come and See” event is scheduled for September 29th at the Westfield Presbyterian church. All members are invited to come.

Joint worship with Plainfield Presbyterians – May 3, 2015 – in the afternoon. A motion to approve the joint worship service with the other churches and ‘advertise’ our church.

The Nomination Committee nominated Debbie Borbely to session to become head of the worship team.

In their capacities as co-chairs of the Administration Team, John Piel is the President of the Corporation and Michele Wallace is the Vice President of the Corporation.

A motion was passed to extend Greta’s hours for three more hours per week, specifically to keep the website current.

AUGUST

A motion was approved to hire a part time Youth and Children’s Educator. The funding will come from the budget to hire student ministers. There was one “No” vote.

SEPTEMBER

MOTION was approved to send a letter regarding boundaries from the Session. Pastor Jean distributed a draft of the letter and Judy Botzan, Michele Wallace and Bob Goellner offered to assist in making the wording as clear as possible. Cheryl Galen, Transitional Leader for The Presbytery of Elizabeth, will review the final draft.

We average 47 persons and 5.9 children at each Sunday service.

Assets in the Housing Fund: \$258,411

Income transferred from the Housing Fund, working capital: \$21,045

MOTION was passed to ask Tom Ledder to seek bids on the cleaning of the inside and outside of the windows in the parish hall, as well as bids for cleaning only the outside of the parish hall windows.

Below is the article submitted to "THE PRIDE" newspaper by Elder Bob Goellner:

Churches Fight Hunger

On Sunday September 21st the Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church in North Plainfield hosted an important event for all of the people living in the Plainfields area. Organized under the banner, "Common Ground," the five Presbyterian churches have begun a year-long program to help fight hunger and its many causes in our local communities. The churches, Watchung Avenue, along with Bethel, Crescent Avenue, United, and Nuevas Fronteras – all in Plainfield – have partnered with Princeton Seminary's Food Justice Program to engage the services of Ms. Stehpanie C. Merryfield as Fellow for Food Justice. Merryfield is also a Masters of Divinity degree candidate. Ms. Merryfield brings a vast background of experience in this area and will facilitate the development of a common ground of expectations among the churches.

The thrust of our effort can be summarized as, "assisting the communities in becoming involved in the relocation of food production management, as well as empowering the economic enterprises needed to accomplish this goal." In practical terms we are intent on providing more food in more ways to those who are in need, as well as focusing more attention on the importance of following good nutritional guidelines for better health.

More information on this program can be obtained by contacting the individual offices of the churches. The respective pastors will be more than willing to explain the goals of the project as well as hearing your comments and concerns.

Local Mission Contributions & Opportunities

On Saturday mornings, WAPC is partnering with St. Joseph's Catholic Church to serve those in need in our community. Bags of food are given out every Saturday morning at 9 am, and clothing is given out on the third Saturday of each month. Helpers are needed to sort clothing and to help with the distribution. If you can help, come to the Parish Center at 99 Westervelt Avenue before 9 am. Donations are accepted of clothing in good condition and small household items. **Coats and other warm clothing are especially needed now.** Bring your donations to the office at the Parish Center on weekdays between 9 am and 4 pm. Call or email Gwyn Gronlund for more information, at 908-754-1251 or gwyndagronlund@comcast.net.

SANDY RELIEF VOLUNTEERS: We're working with churches in the hardest-hit areas, providing volunteer help to those most in need. Participants have found this to be an incredibly rewarding way to show appreciation for all the blessings we've been given! If you're physically able & willing to help, please join us! Most of the work now is flooring, sheetrock, & painting. Our workdays are on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month for the foreseeable future. For more info. please contact Mike Rountree, at NJMikeSandy@verizon.net 908-642-5402.

The Presbytery's Disaster Preparedness & Response Commission

OCTOBER SAVE THE DATE CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Choir Reh., 7:30pm ↓	2 Seekers Bible study, 7:30pm call for local	3	4
5 Circle of Grace, after worship	6	7 Bible Study, 10:30am, call for local Circle of Hope, 7:30pm	8 ↓	9 ↓	10	11 PW Continental Breakfast & meeting 9am-noon
12 Blessing of the Animals	13 NO Session Meeting	14 Bible Study, 10:30am, call for local Prayer Shawl mtg. 7:15pm	15 Choir Reh., 7:30pm ----- Circle of Joy, 3:30pm	16 ↓	17	18
19 CROP Walk	20	21 Bible Study, 10:30am, call for local	22 Choir Reh., 7:30pm	23 ↓	24	25
26 Session meeting 1-4pm off site	27	28 ↓	29 ↓	30 ↓	31 Halloween	

*** Brass Quintet, 7:30pm, Thursdays

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

The Annual Blessing of the Animals will happen this year at WAPC on October 12th. Bring your pets to worship and join the pastor for a special blessing on the front lawn following the service.

We offer this liturgy in October to honor St. Francis of Assisi who is well known for his love of animals. The Catholic Church celebrates St. Francis's feast day on October 4th.



Kevin E. Mackin, O.F.M. says, "The bond between person and pet is like no other relationship, because the communication between fellow creatures is at its most basic. Eye-to-eye, a man and his dog, or a woman and her cat, are two creatures of love." Let's all join in this special bond of unconditional love.

A WAPC member is looking for a 1 room studio apartment or 1 room in a home in the North Plainfield area. Anyone with information, please contact *Gilbert Garcia at 908-644-7752 or speak to Sarellen Hogan.*

FRIENDLY REMINDERS!

REMEMBER TO JOIN UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOR FAMILY FUN NIGHT! Celebrating the diversity of humankind through games, movies, conversation, presentations, etc.
1st & 3rd Fridays of the month, 6:30-10pm, Fellowship Room, 525 E. Front St., Plainfield. All ages, parents and kids, snacks provided!
CONTINUES EVERY MONTH

2014 Per Capita Amount

Our assessment from the PCUSA for 2014 is \$36.80 per member. This is just a \$.20 increase from last year. Paying your share frees up money for much needed other purposes. Use your per capita envelope or note "per capita" in the memo line of your check.

Dollars Destroying the Deficit!

Each member - an additional \$1/day all year, will help lessen the church deficit. More funds for mission and ministry! Put your \$ in the DDD envelope found in your pew rack & then into the offering plate.

PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours: 11 AM - 7PM
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday
Email: pastor@wapc.net
Cell phone: 845-304-9019

FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

If you would like to remember a loved one or celebrate a special event by providing flowers for a Sunday worship service, the flower sign up calendar for 2014 is located on the bulletin board in the parish hall. If you are not bringing the flowers yourself, Gray's Florist in Watchung on Rte.22 E has been a good source and delivers to the church (908-757-0400). If you want Gray's to deliver, make sure you instruct them to do so. Greta, our church administrative assistant, will call you to remind you of flower sign up and confirm wording for the bulletin.



For assistance related to the ongoing ministry of WAPC please contact Administrative Assistant, Greta Martin-Worthy at office@wapc.net or 908-755-2781, Tues.-Thurs. from 9am-3pm.

And please let the office know when you are scheduling meetings/gatherings in the church building. It's important that Greta is aware of who is in the building in case of emergencies.
 Thank you!



CIRCLE OF GRACE

**WILL MEET SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 5TH RIGHT
AFTER WORSHIP AT
THE HOME OF FRAN
YOUNG. BRING A BAG
LUNCH.**

CIRLCE OF HOPE

**WILL MEET TUESDAY,
OCTOBER 7TH, AT 7:30
PM AT THE HOME OF
CATHY LYTTLE.**

CIRCLE OF JOY

**WILL MEET
WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 15TH AT 3:30
PM AT THE HOME OF
ESTELLE KENNEDY**

Presbyterian Women

Prayer Shawl Ministry Fall Meetings

Hearts, Hands & Stitches, the Prayer Shawl Ministry of WAPC, continues to meet monthly. We stitch at our meetings and on our own time to create comforting shawls.

This summer, members of our ministry created 9 chemo caps to share with patients at Somerset Medical Center, through a Courier News request.

**We will meet at:
7:15 pm on Tuesday, October 14, at the home of
Gwyn Gronlund.**

We will have a time of quiet, prayerful stitching, plan our projects, and have refreshments. All are welcome to join.

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





**Presbyterian
Women
Saturday, October 11,
2014**

Continental

Breakfast at 9:00 AM

Program: 10:00 AM

WAPC Parish Hall

Veronica Finlay

***will share information about
domestic violence in society
and the ways we can support the
The Women's Resource Center
of Somerset***

For planning purposes, please make reservations to
Gwyn Gronlund or the church office
by **Sunday, October 4, 2014**

*This topic has been in the news a lot
lately, Come have your questions answered
and learn what you can do to help.*

A brief business meeting will follow the program.

WAPC CRIB ROOM

Our crib room is now open every Sunday
during worship for our

infants, toddlers and preschool children.

Two adult volunteers are needed to keep them
company and keep them entertained!

Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles,
nieces, nephews, sons, daughters and cousins too,

ALL are encouraged to help just one Sunday a
month. There are rocking chairs and plenty of toys
and yes of course . . . a crib.



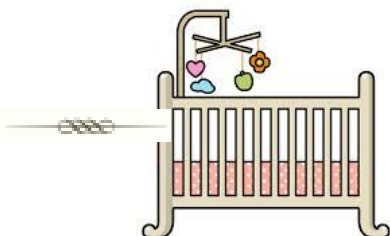
You may sign up on the
bulletin board in Parish Hall, near the
Flower Sign Up sheet.

If you have any questions,
ask Judy Botzan, jbotzan@icloud.com,
Julia Lake, lake37@hotmail.com or
Michele Ixim Wallace, mgeu@aol.com.

Come, visit and get a copy of the
suggested volunteer guidelines.

Thank you!

Judy, Julia, and Michele.



FROM YOUR EDUCATION TEAM

The following guidelines are meant to insure that the crib room is a safe and positive experience for our young children as well as those who volunteer. The guidelines will be given to parents, volunteers, and posted in the crib room.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT JUDITH BOTZAN, JIM THOMAS,
MICHELE IXIM WALLACE, OR JULIA LAKE.

Thank-you!
The Education Team

Guidelines for Crib Room

If you have not had an opportunity to visit the crib room we will be happy to show you the space.

You might want to check the volunteer sign-up sheet to see who will be with you. The education team will be sure that you will not be alone.

Before Service check to be sure the crib room is open. If not, a key can be found in Judy Botzan's mailbox in the Deacons Closet directly behind the back wall of the Sanctuary. Michele Ixim Wallace and Tom Ledder also have keys.

Crib Room care begins directly after the Children's Time during worship. Some parents will bring the children to the crib room while older children will walk down with you. Wait for them in the back of the Sanctuary.

Record the names of the children in the book near the door or ask the parent to sign in.

Place the gate across the door opening. Leave the door open.

It is important that the children never be left without an adult in the room.

The bathroom is to the left and down the hall. Children should not be allowed out of the room without supervision, therefore if you are alone you will need to take all the children with you. If you are unable to manage this send an older child to the Sunday School classroom for help.

There are many age appropriate toys available for the children to play with. Your guidance and active participation with the children will provide a comforting and enjoyable experience resulting in an eagerness to return each week. Because the children are very young they need your full attention and engagement. The Education team asks that you shut *off* your cell phone.

Please pick up the toys and tidy up as much as possible. If the children are preschool age you may expect their help in putting the toys away.

After worship each child's parent will come to the crib room to be reunited with his/her child.

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING!



Celebrating over 65 years and still growing

WATCHUNG AVE. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PETALS FOR PROFIT FUNDRAISER

*We grow the plants to help your organization grow
It's funds!*

Shop at Parker Gardens between
SEPTEMBER 1st and DECEMBER 30th and
we will donate **10%** of all the proceeds directly to
WATCHUNG AVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Just in time for all your fall plantings.
Whether you're looking for annuals, perennials, trees or
shrubs, water gardens, furniture and accessories, or landscaping
service, Parker's 14 acres of greenhouses & garden center
presents the area's **largest** selection of top quality plants and
services with **expert advice** that is second to none!
Parker Gardens is where beautiful gardens begin.

Just mention that you are from **Watchung Ave Presbyterian Church** at the
time of sale and we will log the sale into your organization's account. At the
end of the fundraiser, **10%** of the total proceeds will be forwarded to your
organization.

Parker Gardens

1325 Terrill Road Scotch Plains, NJ
(908) 322-5552

www.parkergardens.com

Offer cannot be combined with other offers or sales.

Our 33rd Season!

Crescent Concerts

at the historic Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church,
716 Watchung Avenue in Plainfield, New Jersey



2014-2015 Season

October 26, 2014 3:00 pm

From BACH to BELLS

An organ recital by incumbent organist, F. Allen Artz, III, on the 97 rank Adams organ

November 15, 2014 8:00 pm

The Journey to Christmas

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Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment of the Arts, through
a grant administered by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

www.crescentconcerts.org

PRAYER LIST

Healing, supportive prayers for:

- *Jeanne Fedoryk*, with early diagnosis of lymphomna which is being monitored; William Schwartz, recovering at The Woodlands following a major accident; Tim and Marilyn Cortright; former member *Bill Webster, Sr.*, recovering from several seizures; *Rev. Nancy Asbury*, undergoing surgery; *Lisa Gayle Schmeisser*, *Gail Schmeisser's* daughter; *Sarellen Hogan*; *Lem Holcomb*, *Louise Griffin's* father, recovering from a fall; *Daniel Miksa*; *Heidi Boleyn Rapach*, battling Lyme disease; *Faye and Joe Steinau*; *Louise Thul*; *DeWitt LaMaire*; *Harley Donham*, *Cathy Boleyn's* father; *Amanda Lake* and son, *Ryan Christopher*; *Betty Lou Diven*, *Fran Young's* sister; *Shirley Ferri*, at Sunrise Assisted Living, Basking Ridge, NJ and *Bob Monteith*, at Green Knoll Center in Bridgewater, NJ.

Prayers of healing, comfort & support for those battling cancer:

- *Jeanne Norrie*; *Leslie Mitchell*, *Bunny Dow's* dear friend; *Ruth Stagg*; *Don McGinn*, *Faye Steinau's* brother-in-law and *Bea Danyo*, *Alice Lester's* sister.

Prayers for those in the military and their families:

- *PFC Jasmine Harris*, currently stationed in Fort Hood, Texas; *Jennifer Solis*, daughter, *Clara Elizabeth* and husband, *Victor*, during his deployment.

Continued prayers for those people at home:

- *Joan Brown*, *Helen Bradley*, *Nancy Higgins*, *Estelle Kennedy*, *Margaret L. Herman-Angely* and *Helen Miller*.

Prayers for:

- *Elder Claudia Heffner*, who is working with WAPC to accomplish our Mission Study during this interim period.



**WATCHUNG AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
170 Watchung Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060-4133

Visions Newsletter

Welcoming Everyone

Celebrating Diversity

Following Jesus

November 2014



Dear Members and Friends of WAPC,

Thank-you for your prayers as the Elders of WAPC went on retreat Sunday October 26, 2014. The focus of our concentrated time together was to identify and define shared core values, and then come up with a plan of action for moving forward in mission and ministry. Below please find the list of findings that came out of our time together. We hope all members and friends of WAPC will find something of interest – some place by which to connect to the ongoing work of this part of the body of Christ here in North Plainfield.

Our time together as the leadership of this church was faithful and spirit-filled. I felt privileged to moderate such a lively and heart-felt discussion. As members of the congregation you need to know you have devoted leaders serving you on Session this year.

The final piece of the day included viewing a DVD called “Pulling Together.” This DVD takes a look at what we can learn from geese about working as a team. There were many interesting points, but the one I would most like to share with you, the congregation, is how the flock encourages its leaders.

I think we are all familiar with the loud honking that goes on whenever a flock of geese flies overhead. What I bet you *don't* know is that the honking is done as a means of encouraging those who lead the way and feel the drag of the wind current the most. That noisy honking is goose-language for “You’re doing a great job! Keep up the good work.”

Right about now would be a wonderful time for the congregation to “honk” your encouragement to the session. Interim times are not easy times, and your session is working hard to guide you through this important part of your process to a new settled pastor.

Also, an important decision was made during our retreat time. The session approved WAPC’s participation in a church assessment process called **New Beginnings**, something being offered to several churches in Elizabeth Presbytery. This includes the work of an outside consultant who comes to spend a day with the congregation to assess our ministry and community, does demographical research, and writes a comprehensive report, which is then used by the congregation to come to a decision about what the next step is for WAPC. This process will begin in December and hopefully be completed by May of 2015. You will be hearing more about this as the process unfolds and seeks to include each and every member and friend of WAPC.

There is much to be grateful for as I write this letter. I always find it such a satisfying process to think in terms of gratitude as we enter the month in which our nation celebrates Thanksgiving. One of the things I am most grateful for this year is the opportunity to serve God in this time and with this community.

With love,

Pastor Jean

TEAMWORK AT WAPC

October 2014 – Session Teams in alphabetical order

ADMINISTRATION TEAM

Leader Elders: John Piel & Michele Wallace

Personnel Committee – Chair; Jeanne Fedoryk, John Piel, Garrett Hansen
 Investments Committee – Chair; Mark Von Bradsky, Garrett Hansen
 Special Funds Committee – Chair; Judy Botzan
 Stewardship Committee – TBD
 Buildings and Grounds Committee – Chair; Tom Ledder, Gwyn Gronlund, Wayne Young, Tom McCann, Richard Kennedy
 Memorial Garden Committee – Chair; Wayne Fabricius, Tom Ledder, Debbie Borbely, Dot Fenz
 Building Usage – Michele Wallace

EDUCATION TEAM

Lead Elders: Jim Thomas & Julia Lake

Education Committee: Chair; Jim Thomas, Julia Lake, Michele Wallace, Judy Botzan

FELLOWSHIP TEAM

Lead Elder: TBD

Fellowship Committee: Chair; TBD, Sue Passe, Faye Steinau, Peggy Bunnell
 Pastoral Care Committee: Chair; Pastor Jean Holmes, Fran Young, Gwyn Gronlund

MISSION TEAM

Lead Elder – Gwyn Gronlund

Mission Committee: Chair; Gwyn Gronlund, Deb Borbely, Judith Botzan, Sue Durick, Dianne Ledder, Tom Ledder, Al Smith, Michele Wallace

OUTREACH TEAM

Lead Elder – Bob Goellner & Sue Durick

Outreach Committee: Chair; Bob Goellner, Sue Durick, Judy Botzan
 Welcoming Church Committee: Chair; Judy Botzan, John Sullivan, Debbie Borbely, Chris Piel, Julia Lake, Michele Wallace

WORSHIP TEAM

Lead Elder – Debbie Borbely

Worship Committee: Chair; Debbie Borbely, John Sullivan, Jeremy Messmer (staff)
 Rev. Jean Holmes (staff)
 Usher Committee: Chair; Shawn Watters, Sue Durick, Lily Durick, Michael Piel, Lynn Lampariello, Kathy Fortin, Al Smith, Evie LaMaire

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

(Not a committee of the session, but rather a committee of the congregation.)

Bob Goellner – Lead Elder
 Sue Durick – Elder
 Fran Young – Member of the congregation

Officers of the Church – Elected yearly by the Session

Moderator – Rev. Jean Holmes
 Clerk – Gwyn Gronlund
 President of the Corporation – John Piel
 Vice-President of the Corporation – Michele Wallace
 Treasurer – Garrett Hansen

SHARED CORE VALUES

(Identified and Defined)

WAPC Session – October 26, 2014

CORE VALUE NUMBER ONE – MISSION

- Local community
- Our neighbors
- Helping others
- Outreach to all
- The work that glorifies God
- Inclusive
- Serves the needs
- Prioritize
- Empathy
- Responsive
- Christ-like
- Relationship
- Respect

CORE VALUE NUMBER TWO – WELCOMING/EMBRACING

- Respect
- Outreach
- Diversity
- Equals sign and human rights campaign
- Belonging (times 2)
- Love
- Conscious awareness
- Safe place
- Open space
- Courage
- Validating and conforming
- Empathy

- How we do the work that glorifies God
- Action in advocacy

CORE VALUE NUMBER THREE – FINANCIAL STABILITY/GOOD STEWARDSHIP

- What enables the work that glorifies God
- Care of money, building, ourselves
- HARD WORK
- Expertise
- Time, talent, treasure
- Fiduciary
- Volunteer
- Caring for our history
- Caring for our future
- Objective reasoning
- Exploring realistic options
- New beginnings
- Trusting God
- Education
- Getting out of God's way

PLAN OF ACTION

WAPC Session – October 26, 2014

MISSION:

1. Serve hot meals to the community – Michele and Bob will begin to accomplish this goal by talking to the Girl Scouts about joining them in their Thanksgiving Dinner and the Iglesias Nuevo Pacto congregation about joining them in their Christmas Dinner.
2. Distribute Christmas baskets – Sue Passe and Gwyn will begin to accomplish this goal by using the help of Social Services and the schools to identify people/families in need.
3. Educate ourselves about the community we live in.
4. Create safe space in our community
5. Communication

WELCOMING/EMBRACING

1. Presence at NJ Gay Pride Parade – June 2015
2. Support the Human Rights Campaign – No one took responsibility to begin to accomplish this. One suggestion was to hang a Human Rights Campaign flag and Rainbow flag in a Hall of Flags.
3. Gay Men's Choir in concert at WAPC – Judy Botzan will begin to accomplish this with the help of Pastor Jean
4. Embrace and include children in all activities of the church. Talk to the Superintendent of NP Schools about the needs of the young people in our schools.
5. Provide off-campus space for NP High School LGBTQ Youth in need of counseling in safe space.
6. Bi-lingual worship service
7. Redo the visitor's cards in the pews.

FINANCIAL STABILITY/*GOOD STEWARDSHIP*

1. Campaign to support stewardship all year long – Sarellen Hogan will begin to educate herself toward this goal with the help of Pastor Jean.
2. New building users
3. Yearly Strategic Plan for mission and ministry of WAPC



From the Desk of the Administration Team

Michele Wallace

John W. Piel

Property Rentals:

October was a very good month for WAPC. We signed up two new renters for our property thus bringing in additional revenue for the church. The activities for the month were:

*Effective 10-3-2014, we welcomed The New Life Congregation (\$1200.00 monthly income).

*Effective 10-18-2014 we welcomed Iglesia Nuevo Pacto (\$1000.00 monthly income).

*The YMCA's new 3 year contract was negotiated with a 10% increase, as well as adding a summer cooking program.

*Head Start also had a slight rent increase and considering adding an additional classroom.

Church access:

Please be considerate of our renters when they are using the church. Please refrain from entering the church during the renter's time slots unless attending a scheduled meeting / activity for WAPC. Our renters are being told by the Admin Team, if they do not recognize anyone that should be in the church, or attending a WAPC activity / meeting, to not allow or give entrance to other than their own people as they are responsible for the property during their time slot. We are trying to avoid any form of vandalism or theft.

WAPC Website:

Please take a moment to check out the WAPC website. Updates are taking place and current church activity pictures are in place. <http://www.wapc.net>

Key Cards:

All cards not identified to the church office, the pastor or the administrative team as necessary, have been deactivated. A few of these deactivated cards have been returned to the office and can be re-activated when needed for renters or special situations. If any member discovers they have an unneeded key card in their possession, please return it to the office. This will save the church the expense of purchasing more key cards from the security company.

WATCHUNG AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Minutes of the Special Called Session Meeting
Sunday, October 26, 2014

The special meeting of the Session was held at Mt. St. Mary Academy during the Session retreat. Noting a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 1:55 p.m. by Pastor Jean A.F. Holmes, the Moderator. Opening prayer was offered by Elder Borbely.

Present: Deb Borbely, Judith Botzan, Susan Durick, Jeanne Fedoryk, Bob Goellner, Gwyn Gronlund, Sarellen Hogan, Julia Lake, Sue Passe, John Piel, Jim Thomas, and Michele Wallace

Guest: Kay Hurd, our representative from Committee on Ministry of Elizabeth Presbytery

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the resignation of Elder Hogan as Clerk, but not as Elder.

A motion was then made, seconded and approved to elect Elder Gronlund as Clerk of Session.

It was moved and seconded to agree to participate in the New Beginnings Church Assessment process along with other churches in the Elizabeth Presbytery. After discussion, the motion was passed by 11 affirmative votes and one abstention. It is noted that the cost of the program to W.A.P.C. will be \$1,400.

The deadline to sign up for New Beginnings is October 29th.

Two motions were previously passed by email, on October 15, 2014:

A motion to grant permission to serve communion in worship on Sunday, October 26, 2014 was approved by email, 12 votes Yes, zero votes No.

A motion to allow 30 minutes of the retreat time for a special called meeting to vote on the above 3 items: 1) receive the resignation of Sarellen Hogan as Clerk but not Elder 2) Elect Gwyn Gronlund as Clerk of Session 3) Vote on the New Beginnings congregation assessment process. Motion was carried by 11 votes Yes, 1 vote No.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 2:30 pm.

The next regular Session meeting will be held on Monday, November 10, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Library.

Gwyn Gronlund, Clerk of Session

NOVEMBER SAVE THE DATE CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Holcombe Memorial 11am
2 Daylight Savings time ends	3	4 ELECTION DAY Bible Study 10:30am, call for local	5 Choir Reh., 7:30pm ↓	6 Seekers Bible study, 7:30pm call for local ↓	7	8
9 Circle of Grace, after worship @member's home Worship com. mtg. Library 11:30am	10 Session Meeting Library 7pm	11 VETERANS DAY Bible Study, 10:30am, call for local Prayer Shawl member's home 7:15pm Circle of Hope, 7:30pm lounge	12 Choir Reh., 7:30pm ↓	13 ↓	14	15
16 Book Club Lounge 1130am	17	18 Bible Study, 10:30am, call for local ↓	19 Circle of Joy, 3:30pm @member's home Choir Reh., 7:30pm ↓	20 ↓ Newsletter Deadline	21	22 Girls Scouts' Community Thanksgiving Dinner 2-5pm
23 Presb. Welcome Event -PH 11:30am	24	25 ↓	26 ↓	27 Office Closed Thanksgiving Day	28	29
30						

*** Brass Quintet, 7:30pm, Thursdays

Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church
170 Watchung Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ 07060

908.755.2781
office@wapc.net; www.wapc.net

Interim Pastor
Office Admin. Asst.
Director of Music
Sexton

Reverend Jean A. F. Holmes
Greta Martin-Worthy
Jeremy Messmer
David Eichenger

pastor@wapc.net; 845-304-9019 (cell)
office@wapc.net; 908-755-2781
jeremy.messmer@gmail.com; 585-750-0842 (cell)
908-755-2781 (office)

FROM THE BEGINNING TO THE END - CROP WALK 2014 WAS A BEAUTIFULLY, SUNNY FALL DAY. A GOOD DAY FOR A WALK FOR A GOOD CAUSE!



ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

This year WAPC has been invited to worship with other Christians in North Plainfield at an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship Service. The worship will take place on Monday November 24, 2014. We will gather at 7 PM at Trinity Reformed Church at 401 Greenbrook Road, North Plainfield. Please bring an offering of **non-perishable food items for the FISH food pantry**. There will also be a collection taken during worship to support FISH.



GIVING TREE GIFT REQUESTS

Once again we will be collecting gifts for the Women's Shelter of Somerset County, an organization that helps women and children fleeing from troubled homes. All items should be NEW, UNWRAPPED, and have a nonviolent theme. Also, please consider donating holiday paper, tape, and ribbon. Gift tags will be available in the Parish Hall during Coffee Hour, Sunday, November 23rd and 30th. ALL gifts MUST be received by Sunday, December 7th Coffee Hour.

Please contact Peggy (908-668-0051) with any questions.

PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours are on
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, &
Thursdays

Email: pastor@wapc.net

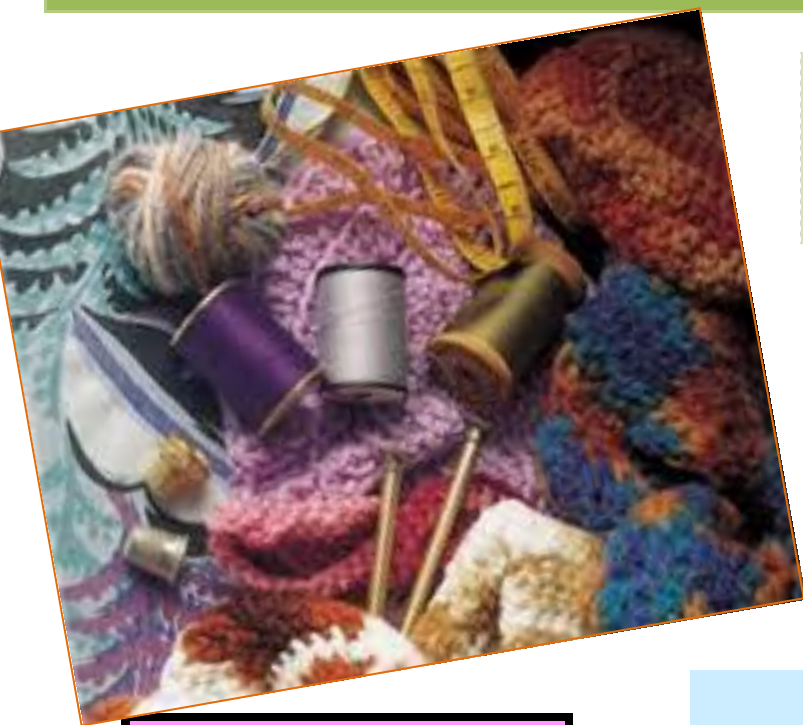
Cell phone: 845-304-9019

FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

If you would like to remember a loved one or celebrate a special event by providing flowers for a Sunday worship service, the flower sign up calendar for 2014 is located on the bulletin board in the parish hall. If you are not bringing the flowers yourself, Gray's Florist in Watchung on Rte.22 E has been a good source and delivers to the church (908-757-0400). If you want Gray's to deliver, make sure you instruct them to do so. Greta, our church administrative assistant, will call you to remind you of flower sign up and confirm wording for the bulletin.



And please continue to let the office know when you are scheduling meetings/gatherings in the church building. It's important that Greta is aware of who is in the building in case of emergencies. Thank you!



Presbyterian Women



CIRCLE OF GRACE

WILL MEET SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 9TH AT
THE HOME OF
MICHELE WALLACE.
IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING WORSHIP.

CIRLCE OF HOPE

WILL MEET TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 11TH, AT
7:30 PM IN THE CHURCH
LOUNGE.

CIRCLE OF JOY

WILL MEET
WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 19TH AT 3:30
PM AT THE HOME OF
ESTELLE KENNEDY

Prayer Shawl Ministry Fall Meetings

Hearts, Hands & Stitches, the Prayer Shawl Ministry of WAPC, continues to meet monthly. We stitch at our meetings and on our own time to create comforting shawls.

We will meet at **7:15 pm on Tuesday, November 11, at the home of Cathy Boleyn**. We do not have an evening meeting in December.

The Purling Angels, a very active Prayer Shawl Ministry in Skillman, N.J., will be hosting an Advent Retreat on Saturday, December 6, from 11 am until 2 pm. The theme is "Compassion." Several of our members have attended these Advent Retreats in the past, and have found them inspiring and enjoyable. There is a spiritual program, time for sharing our projects, a craft to make and take, and a delicious lunch. Please let Gwyn know if you wish to attend or would like more information. We will plan to carpool. All are welcome to join.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

WAPC ANNUAL **COOKIE WALK!**

DECEMBER 14TH

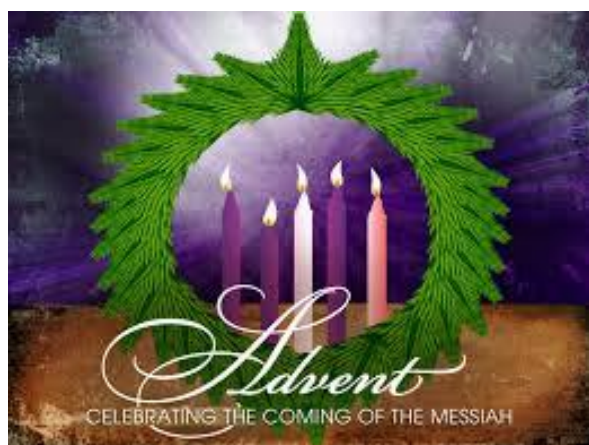
PARISH HALL

FOLLOWING WORSHIP



ADVENT LUNCHEON

Come gather with our WAPC family to celebrate the Advent season. A covered dish luncheon will be held on December 14th immediately following the annual COOKIE WALK. There will be lots of yummy dishes, Christmas carols, and crafts for young and old. Please plan to join us.



IN LIEU OF FUND

Dear Members:

Would you consider making a contribution to the "In Lieu of Fund" instead of sending Christmas cards to other members? This fund was used for many years to help defray the cost of a Christmas Food Basket program. This year we hope to renew a food program, including food gift cards, which can be purchased using your donations. Please give generously as you are able. Checks may be made payable to WAPC, with "in lieu of fund" in the memo area.

Many thanks from the Mission Committee



WHAT IS A SAFE SPACE? WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE? HOW WILL I FIND IT?

Most churches, no matter the denomination or tradition, proclaim that we are welcoming. Each congregation invites everyone to worship in their sanctuary. All schools promise students they are safe in their building – no one is supposed to be bullied, and everyone should be treated equally. BUT – how many times, as you watch the news reporting egregious acts of violence, have you heard it said, "I never thought this would happen in my town." "Not in my school!" "Not in my church!"?

What if you never felt completely safe, welcome, accepted, or protected? What if you always felt different, were made to feel ashamed, and were left out? What if you constantly felt yourself to be on the fringes of your world? What if you experienced bullying, abuse, rejection, or loneliness within a group of your peers or your family? What if you were a young adult, a teenager, or a family with a child who is experiencing the pain that results from this kind of exclusion?

How would you find a safe place with safe people? Where would you seek an open space that offered community? Is there a place that gives everyone the opportunity to be who God created you to be? Is it possible to find a place to laugh and play or eat a meal with friends while supported by adults who "get it?" What would that space look and feel like?

Your Welcoming Church Committee; Deborah Borbely, John Sullivan, Julia Lake, Christopher Piel, Michele Wallace and Judy Botzan have set a goal, which is supported by the newly established shared core values of Session to establish an open safe space for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender youth and their allies. We want WAPC to be safe space for everyone!

On November 23, 2014 the Reverend John Russell Stanger will facilitate a discussion about what an open space is and how we can create or facilitate this at WAPC. Some of us will share our personal stories even as we invite you and any youth who might like to be part of our dialogue. We will begin at 11:30 AM in the Parish Hall of Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church with the program lasting about one hour. A light brunch will be served. Please join us. And bring those you love – especially the youth – who might like to be a part of this transforming dialogue.



Celebrating over 65 years and still growing

WATCHUNG AVE. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PETALS FOR PROFIT FUNDRAISER

*We grow the plants to help your organization grow
It's funds!*

Shop at Parker Gardens between
SEPTEMBER 1st and DECEMBER 30th and
we will donate **10%** of all the proceeds directly to
WATCHUNG AVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Just in time for all your fall plantings.
Whether you're looking for annuals, perennials, trees or
shrubs, water gardens, furniture and accessories, or landscaping
service, Parker's 14 acres of greenhouses & garden center
presents the area's **largest** selection of top quality plants and
services with **expert advice** that is second to none!
Parker Gardens is where beautiful gardens begin.

Just mention that you are from **Watchung Ave Presbyterian Church** at the
time of sale and we will log the sale into your organization's account. At the
end of the fundraiser, **10%** of the total proceeds will be forwarded to your
organization.

Parker Gardens

1325 Terrill Road Scotch Plains, NJ
(908) 322-5552

www.parkergardens.com

Offer cannot be combined with other offers or sales.

Warrenbrook Senior Center November Special Events

- Monday, November 3 ~ 10:30 am ~ Functional Foods for Life: Is Chocolate the New Health Food? ~ Daryl Minch M.Ed., CFCS, Family & Community Health Sciences Educator, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Somerset County** ~ Chocolate has been called the “Food of the Gods” and it’s a favorite treat. It tastes wonderful and may provide health benefits. The speaker will discuss the history, production and health contributions of chocolate including recipes and tasting.
- Monday, November 3 – LUNCH & LEARN ~ 11:45 am ~ Acrylic Paint Basics, Lesson 1 ~ Program begins at 12:30 pm ~ Barbara Gerson**, owner and educational director of **Art-4-All** ~ Using acrylic paints is different than using oil and watercolor paints. If you would like to learn the difference, please make plans to attend this two-part class. Class can accommodate a maximum of 15 students and Lesson 2 will take place on Thursday, November 6 at 1:00 pm, after the 11:45 lunch. *Reservations required by Wednesday, October 29.*
- Monday, November 3 – LUNCH & LEARN ~ 11:45 am ~ Medicare Basics ~ Program begins at 1:00 pm ~ Medicare Basics ~ Kevin Lynch, CSA, American Prosperity Group** ~ This program will cover Medicare basics such as who becomes eligible for Medicare and when, how do you sign up for it and how to estimate health care costs in retirement. This program will also highlight long-term care, the big unknown. *Reservations required by Wednesday, October 29.*
- Friday, November 7 ~ 10:30 am ~ Raritan Valley Community College Dance Ensemble Performance ~** Under the direction of **Loretta Di Bianca Fois, Assistant Professor, Dance, Raritan Valley Community College**, the group’s performance will expose the communicative aspects of the art form of dance. It features dancers performing a variety of dances set to a wide range of music and sound accompaniment. The audience will have a chance to inspire movements that will be incorporated into dance phrases.
- Monday, November 10 ~ 10:30 am ~ Proper Back Care ~** A physical therapist from **Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) of Somerset Hills** will be at the center to discuss proper back care. Learn some tips to maintain a healthy back.
- Wednesday, November 12 ~ 10:30 am ~ Holiday Safety and Scam Update ~ Detective Larsen** from the **Warren Township Police Department** will offer safety tips as the holidays approach and will update us on the latest scams happening in our neighborhoods.
- Wednesday, November 12 ~ 11:00 am ~ Hearing and Earwax Concerns ~ Dr. Jed Kwartler, MD, from Summit Medical Group** will be at the center to discuss hearing problems and earwax buildup concerns. Dr. Kwartler is Director of Summit Medical Group’s Otolaryngology/Neurotology, is recognized as a leading ear surgeon and is a noted speaker regarding age-related hearing loss and hearing loss prevention.
- Monday, November 17 ~ 10:30 am ~ Calligraphy 101 ~ Catherine Lent** ~ Calligraphy is a visual art related to writing. It is the design and execution of lettering in an expressive, harmonious and skillful manner. If you have ever wanted to learn this art, please join us for this beginner class.



This program is made possible, in part, by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and administered by the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission through the State/County Partnership Local Arts Program.

- Friday, November 21 ~ 10:00 – 11:00 am ~ State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) Counseling ~** A counselor will be available to provide free help to New Jersey Medicare beneficiaries who have problems with, or questions about their health insurance. SHIP is a statewide program sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. **Call (908) 704-6319 to make an appointment.**

PRAYER LIST

Healing, supportive prayers for:

- *Pearl McKeithan*, mother of the YMCA's After School Program site director, *Keisha McKeithan*; *Joyce King*, newborn granddaughter of *Sarellen Hogan*, who is having surgery; *Wolfgang Gerhardt*, long time former member of WAPC, recovering from a bad fall; *Tom Flanders*, brother of *Pastor Jean* who is suffering from shingles; *Jeanne Fedoryk*, with early diagnosis of lymphoma which is being monitored; *William Schwartz*, recovering at home following a major accident; *Tim and Marilyn Cortright*; *Lisa Gayle Schmeisser*, *Gail Schmeisser*'s daughter; *Lem Holcomb*, *Louise Griffin*'s father recovering from a fall; *Faye and Joe Steinau*; *Louise Thul*; *DeWitt LaMaire*; *Betty Lou Diven*, *Fran Young*'s sister; *Shirley Ferri*, at Sunrise Assisted Living, Basking Ridge, NJ and *Bob Monteith*, at Green Knoll Center in Bridgewater, NJ.

Prayers of healing, comfort & support for those battling cancer:

- *Jeanne Norrie*; *Ruth Stagg*; *Don McGinn*, *Faye Steinau*'s brother-in-law and *Bea Danyo*, *Alice Lester*'s sister.

Prayers for those in the military and their families:

- *PFC Jasmine Harris*, currently stationed in Fort Hood, Texas;
- *Jennifer Solis*, daughter, *Clara Elizabeth* and husband, *Victor*, during his deployment.

Continued prayers for those people at home:

- *Joan Brown*, *Helen Bradley*, *Nancy Higgins*, *Estelle Kennedy*, *Margaret L. Herman-Angely* and *Helen Miller*.

Prayers for:

- *Elder Kay Hurd*, who is working with WAPC to accomplish our Mission Study during this interim period.



**Veterans
Day**



**WATCHUNG AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
170 Watchung Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060-4133

Visions Newsletter

Welcoming Everyone

Celebrating Diversity

Following Jesus

December 2014



Dear Friends,

As I sit to write this article for our newsletter my heart aches from reading several articles about the riots in Ferguson, Missouri. I try to make sense out of the violence on all sides and I cannot. When did all the hatred begin? When will it come to an end? Where is God in the midst of all this? I can ask the questions, but I have not good answers.

This seems to me to be the best possible emotional and spiritual position for the onset of Advent this year. It was just this kind of longing that overshadowed the world when Jesus was born. It was just this kind of violence that Jesus preached against throughout his life.

I find my longing for the new birth of the Christ Child to be more poignant this year than others. I have become so very exhausted from the level of violence and conflict I experience on all levels of my existence. From the constant threat of rage gone awry, whether it is in Syria or Israel or the Presbyterian Church, USA or Ferguson or 21 River Dell in Oakland, NJ I'm tired of the anger. Anger drains us dry. Love fills us up. Why is anger so easy and love so difficult? Again - the longing that breaks my heart.

When the prophet Isaiah cries out to God, "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down..." he cries out for all of us who long for a lasting and abiding peace to settle over the peoples of the world. Not an easy peace. Not an insignificant peace. Not a half-hearted peace, but the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is what I hope for and wait for every Advent season, but the longing seems deeper this year. And because the longing is deeper and more real I suspect my need to remove myself from the busyness of the season will be more profound. I suspect my need for silence will increase, even as the rest of the world rushes faster and faster toward the ultimate goal of a magical Christmas experience.

I invite you to join me in feeling your own longing - asking your own questions - seeking your own refuge - filling your own heart with a hope just waiting to be born. May we all embrace this Advent season as a preparation for the birth of hope, peace, joy and love - even in these most desperate times - for this is exactly the kind of world into which the tiny baby Jesus was born so long ago. And it is into this world we ask that he be born again.

Grace and peace to all,

Pastor Jean

TEAMWORK AT WAPC

October 2014 – Session Teams in alphabetical order

ADMINISTRATION TEAM

Leader Elders: John Piel & Michele Wallace

Personnel Committee – Chair; Jeanne Fedoryk, John Piel, Garrett Hansen
 Investments Committee – Chair; Mark Von Bradsky, Garrett Hansen
 Special Funds Committee – Chair; Judy Botzan
 Stewardship Committee – TBD
 Buildings and Grounds Committee – Chair; Tom Ledder, Gwyn Gronlund, Wayne Young, Tom McCann, Richard Kennedy
 Memorial Garden Committee – Chair; Wayne Fabricius, Tom Ledder, Debbie Borbely, Dot Fenz
 Building Usage – Michele Wallace

EDUCATION TEAM

Lead Elders: Jim Thomas & Julia Lake

Education Committee: Chair; Jim Thomas, Julia Lake, Michele Wallace, Judy Botzan

FELLOWSHIP TEAM

Lead Elder: TBD

Fellowship Committee: Chair; TBD, Sue Passe, Faye Steinau, Peggy Bunnell
 Pastoral Care Committee: Chair; Pastor Jean Holmes, Fran Young, Gwyn Gronlund

MISSION TEAM

Lead Elder – Gwyn Gronlund

Mission Committee: Chair; Gwyn Gronlund, Deb Borbely, Judith Botzan, Sue Durick, Dianne Ledder, Tom Ledder, Al Smith, Michele Wallace

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Lead Elder – Bob Goellner & Sue Durick

Outreach Committee: Chair; Bob Goellner, Sue Durick, Judy Botzan
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Lead Elder – Debbie Borbely

Worship Committee: Chair; Debbie Borbely, John Sullivan, Jeremy Messmer (staff)
 Rev. Jean Holmes (staff)
 Usher Committee: Chair; Shawn Watters, Sue Durick, Lily Durick, Michael Piel,
 Lynn Lampariello, Kathy Fortin, Al Smith, Evie LaMaire

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

(Not a committee of the session, but rather a committee of the congregation.)

Bob Goellner – Lead Elder
 Sue Durick – Elder
 Fran Young – Member of the congregation

Officers of the Church – Elected yearly by the Session

Moderator – Rev. Jean Holmes
 Clerk – Gwyn Gronlund
 President of the Corporation – John Piel
 Vice-President of the Corporation – Michele Wallace
 Treasurer – Garrett Hansen



Admin Team Desk

Michele Wallace

John W. Piel

November continued to be a good month for WAPC rentals. We met with our two new tenants and they are very happy with WAPC. They absolutely love the building and all that we have to offer. We will be sitting down with these two congregations on December 7th, 2014 and hopefully they will sign with us for the year 2015. Three additional day rentals took place in November. New Life Congregation had a Wedding in the Parish Hall on November 2nd, a Baby Shower took place in the Parish Hall on November 15th and E-Global rented the Library on November 16th for a Networking Gathering / Meeting.

Anyone that knows of an organizations or individuals interested in renting our building space for a Holiday Event, please refer them to Greta 908-755-2781. The Parish Hall is a great place for a Holiday Party or Gathering.

November 22, 2014 The North Plainfield Girl Scouts held a Thanksgiving Dinner in our Parish Hall for the needy of our area. Future Mission meals to take place in our Parish Hall. Please check out the web site for information / dates / time. Your volunteering of time / food / baking is always appreciated.

<http://wapc.net/>

Church Keys:

A new process was put into place for those requesting keys. Please pick up the form in the office, fill it out and return to Michele / John / Greta. The Administration will be responsible for approval / denial of all requests.

Administration Team Session Motions

At the session meeting of November 10, 2014, the following motions were presented and voted on:

Motion: Move the meeting day and time of the session meetings from the second Monday at 7pm to the second Sunday at 12 noon. This motion received a NO vote.

Motion: To accept without going to Session for approval all applications for building usage dealing with typical rentals such as baby showers, bridal showers, community events, and other celebrations going forward giving the Administrative Assistant the responsibility of accepting rental applications, coordinating the rental calendar and updating the Admin Team as applications come in. This motion received a YES vote.

Motion: The Admin Team will take on the responsibility of acquisition and distribution of keys. This motion received a YES vote.

Motion: Move Memorial Garden under Buildings and Grounds. This motion received a YES vote. Deborah Borbely will be the new Chair of this committee effective 1-1-2015.

Motion: Update Personnel Policies to remove the following: "As the duties of certain positions from time to time require work to be performed at other than the standard working hours, such affected employee may take scheduled compensatory time off during normal working hours with the approval of Head of Staff." This motion received a YES vote.

Motion: In conjunction with the Presbytery's new policy on medical coverage for pastors, adjust Jean Holmes's covenant agreement to reflect new terms of 36.5% of compensation (salary, housing allowance and 403B contribution) to cover Pension & Medical Benefits versus 35% currently in the agreement. This represents an additional ~\$1,000, and WAPC will apply for a hardship from the Presbytery to cover the cost.

HIGHLIGHTS OF NOVEMBER SESSION MEETING

Session met on November 10, 2014 with all elders present and Pastor Jean moderating. Plans were made for the New Beginnings Church Assessment, which will take place on December 1st. Various elders and members will meet with Rev. Kim for a tour of the building and the community, and to discuss finances and the church calendar. At 7 P.M., there will be an appreciative inquiry process for the entire congregation with Rev. Kim. Plans were made to encourage members to attend.

Several administrative motions were passed, including an increase to Pastor's medical coverage per Presbytery policy, moving authority for the Memorial Garden to the Building and Grounds committee, giving authority for church keys to the Administration Team, and authority to schedule routine rentals to the Administrative Assistant.

The sanctuary piano needs to be replaced because it can't hold a tune and could stop working at any time. Session voted to allocate two recent gifts of stock to the purchase of a refurbished baby grand piano.

There was a follow-up discussion of the actions planned as a result of the Core Values stated at the Session retreat. Serving hot meals to the community, bringing a gay men's choir to sing at WAPC and planning to support stewardship all year long were goals discussed.

Gwyn Gronlund, Clerk of Session

DECEMBER SAVE THE DATE CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 New Beginnings- 7-8:30pm	2	3 Hope Circle - 5:30pm at Giovanna's Restaurant 6pm -Head Start Parent Meeting - Library	4 No Seekers Bible Study ↓	5	6
7 9am Choir Rehearsals ↓	8 Session Meeting Library 7pm	9 10:30am, Bible Study at member's home PW Xmas Program 6- 8:30pm	10	11 ↓	12	13
14 11am, Cookie Walk Noon-3pm, Advent Luncheon	15	16 10:30am, Bible Study at member's home ↓	17 Joy Circle - 4pm- at member's home	18 January Newsletter Deadline No Seekers Bible Study	19	20
21 Poinsettia Sunday Grace Circle- after worship at memeber's home	22	23	24 9pm- Candlelight Service	25 Office Closed	26 Pastor Jean —————>	27 On Vacation —————>
28 —————>	29 —————>	30 —————>	31 —————>	New Years' Day January 1, 2015 —————>		

*** Brass Quintet, 7:30pm, Thursdays

Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church
170 Watchung Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ 07060

908.755.2781
office@wapc.net; www.wapc.net

Interim Pastor
Office Admin. Asst.
Director of Music
Sexton

Reverend Jean A. F. Holmes
Greta Martin-Worthy
Jeremy Messmer
David Eichenger

pastor@wapc.net; 845-304-9019 (cell)
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jeremy.messmer@gmail.com; 585-750-0842 (cell)
908-755-2781 (office)



GIVING TREE GIFT REQUESTS

Once again we will be collecting gifts for the Women's Shelter of Somerset County, an organization that helps women and children fleeing from troubled homes. All items should be NEW, UNWRAPPED, and have a nonviolent theme. Also, please consider donating holiday paper, tape, and ribbon.. ALL gifts MUST be received **by Sunday, December 7th Coffee Hour.** Please contact Peggy (908-668-0051) with any questions.

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKET PROGRAM

In the spirit of loving our neighbors, and knowing that food insecurity is a real problem in our community, we of the Mission Committee have decided to bring back Christmas food baskets. You can help in several ways:

- 1) Donate gift cards from area grocery stores.
- 2) Donate to the **"In Lieu of Fund."** Instead of sending Christmas cards to other members, donate an equivalent amount to the fund (checks payable to WAPC, write "in lieu of fund" or "Christmas food baskets" in memo area of check and place in offering plate.)
- 3) Donate non-perishable foods. These are some suggestions, but any nutritious food is welcomed: canned vegetables (such as carrots, green beans, corn, chick peas), bagged rice, beans (canned or bagged), corn flour (such as "Maseca" for tortillas), tomato sauce, canned soup, pasta, canned sausage, bagged potatoes, canned fried beans. Please bring to church between November 30 and December 16 and leave on the stage. Label bags for Food Baskets.
- 4) **Help to organize and bag the food on Friday evening, December 19th, at 8 p.m.**



Thank you all so much for sharing.

Blessings, the Mission Committee - You may call Gwyn at 908-754-1251 for further information.

PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours are on
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, &
Thursdays

Email: pastor@wapc.net

Cell phone: 845-304-9019

FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

If you would like to remember a loved one or celebrate a special event by providing flowers for a Sunday worship service, the flower sign up calendar for 2014 is located on the bulletin board in the parish hall. If you are not bringing the flowers yourself, Gray's Florist in Watchung on Rte.22 E has been a good source and delivers to the church (908-757-0400). If you want Gray's to deliver, make sure you instruct them to do so. Greta, our church administrative assistant, will call you to remind you



of flower sign up and confirm wording for the bulletin.

And please continue to let the office know when you are scheduling meetings/gatherings in the church building. It's important that Greta is aware of who is in the building in case of emergencies. Thank you!



Presbyterian Women



CIRCLE OF GRACE

WILL MEET SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 21ST AT THE
HOME OF DOT FENZ
FOLLOWING WORSHIP.
BRING SANDWICH &
GRAB BAG.

CIRLCE OF HOPE

WILL MEET
WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 3RD, AT 5:30
PM AT GIOVANNA'S
RESTAURANT IN
PLAINFIELD.

CIRCLE OF JOY

WILL MEET FOR A
COVERED DISH DINNER
AT ESTELLE KENNEDY'S
HOME ON WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 17TH,
AT 4 PM.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Fall Meetings

Hearts, Hands & Stitches, the Prayer Shawl Ministry of WAPC, continues to meet monthly. We stitch at our meetings and on our own time to create comforting shawls.

There is no evening meeting in December.

The Purling Angels, a very active Prayer Shawl Ministry in Skillman, N.J., will be hosting an Advent Retreat on Saturday, December 6, from 11 am until 2 pm. The theme is "Compassion." Several of our members have attended these Advent Retreats in the past, and have found them inspiring and enjoyable. There is a spiritual program, time for sharing our projects, a craft to make and take, and a delicious lunch. Please let Gwyn know if you wish to attend or would like more information. We will plan to carpool. All are welcome to join.

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

GREETINGS FROM THE PARISH HALL COFFEE MAKER

Hi, there!

Haven't I seen you in the Parish hall after service on Sundays? Isn't it a great time to meet & greet over a cup of joe or tea with a cookie or two?

Coffee Hour is a tradition going back to shortly after the the education wing and Parish Hall were built in the 1950's. Did you know that? WAPC's Session approved a gathering time between the two services that were held then for people to mingle and get to know each other.

"Coffee Hour" as we now call it, was soon a function of the Women's Association. Each existing circle (back then there were enough circles for each to take one month of the year) was responsible for supplying the goodies and making the coffee for one assigned month of Sundays. Lots of yummy home baked cakes and cookies back then!

As time went on there were fewer circles and more working women and less time to bake. So, for many years, a member of the church who worked for Tasty Bread donated cookies every Sunday. Eventually this member retired and moved out of state, so Presbyterian Women (PW), as the women's association is now known, added the purchase of cookies to the responsibilities of the Coffee Hour chairperson.

When there became less (wo)man power to staff every Sunday, the men of the church were asked to host Sundays in January, July and August and special Sundays such as Mother's Day. Eventually, hosting was opened to all members of the congregation. Each month one person volunteers as "captain" of the month and is responsible to get two volunteers to host each Sunday. The captain is then the support person for the Sunday volunteers with back up by the Coffee Hour chairperson. Members of the PW circles continue to fill in, usually for a month at a time.

What does a Coffee Hour host do? It is easy, really. Just come early enough before the service to set the table(s) and get the goodies ready. Bring milk, maybe a centerpiece, and an optional cold beverage, especially in the warmer weather. Cookies and everything else are supplied by PW and the chairperson will be there to open the cabinets so everything is available. Making the coffee is simple and the instructions are taped to my side. But, on most Sundays, Tom Ledder, "Mr. Coffee," will be there to get the coffee started for you.

You have found the baskets on the tables and are aware that they are there for donations. And you are always very generous, I must say. Probably you have no idea what happens to the funds once they reach the baskets. Well, the Coffee Hour chairperson buys all the supplies - coffee, tea, sugar, cups, napkins, stirrers, etc.- and then gives the accumulated surplus to the PW treasurer.

Over the years these funds have purchased items such as flatware, glasses, coffee carafes, kitchen supplies, you name it. PW was able to replace one of the refrigerators with the help of Coffee Hour funds. Even I, the coffee machine, was purchased with your Coffee Hour donations.

It is always a pleasure to see you on Sundays. I look forward to continuing to hear the chatter on Sundays. I love to add the stories of WAPC activities to the many stories passed down to me by my ancestors, the coffee urns, who have retired to a shelf in the kitchen.

So, until next Sunday, may Christ's peace be within you.

The Coffee Maker

PS: Please talk to Debbie Borbely if you can host a Sunday in December.

PW Coffee Hour Chairperson, Dianne Ledder, is looking for Captains of the month for January and the following months, also.

Remember - For every Sunday there is a Coffee Hour host, there will be a Coffee Hour.



Women's Annual Christmas Program

Tuesday, December 9, 2014

WAPC Parish Hall

Punch Bowl: 6:15 PM

Dinner: 6:30 PM

Candlelight Worship Service

Led by Pastor Jean Holmes

7:30 PM

For planning purposes, please reserve your place through
Circle Chairpersons or by calling the church office at
908 755-2781 by Sunday, December 7, 2014.

Feel free to invite friends!



Merry Christmas
Advent Luncheon
Sunday, December 14th
immediately following
10am Worship



and the Annual Cookie Walk

Reservations a must! at 908-755-2781

Your name-_____ #Adults_____ #Children_____

Please specify what you will bring:

Main

Dish_____

Salad_____

—

Vegetable_____

—

Please fill out this form, place it in the offering plate or leave it in the church office by Dec. 7th.





Poinsettias

We are beautifying our Sanctuary with poinsettias

for Sunday, December 21st and Christmas Eve worship service.

All who wish to share in this way of celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior are invited to fill out this form and **place it in the offering plate or leave it in the church office.**

All orders **must** be received with cash or a check; make checks payable to **PW in WAPC.**

Order with payment must be in by Sunday, December 14, 2014.

Given by _____

Please write in how many of each you would like to order:

_____ Red @ \$8.00 each

_____ White @ \$8.00 each

Total Amount Enclosed _____

_____ I will pick up my plant(s) **after** the Christmas Eve service.

_____ I would like plant(s) delivered to a member of our Church Family.

My plant is given:

_____ In Memory of _____

_____ In Honor of _____

_____ To God's Glory for _____

BELOW ARE TWO REPRINTS OF NOVEMBER "MOMENTS OF GRATITUDE" FROM WORSHIP :

Gratitude -- Kathy Fortin, November 16, 2014

Good Morning :-)

I was asked to speak today about gratitude.

The definition for me, immediately brings to mind Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church and you, it's remarkable congregation of caring individuals who make it a point of showing love and compassion to others, which has restored my faith, and given me a place to which I feel I belong.

I believe gratitude helps us to see outside of ourselves, to appreciate . . and acknowledge . . . how we are supported by the people and circumstances in our lives.

Although not always easy in today's challenging world, trying to feel, show, or express any amount of gratitude, every single day, no matter how much, has made me a better person and continually helps me to embrace a more positive outlook on life.

Attitudes are contagious, and this congregations unconditional love and support, that I have not only witnessed, but been embraced by, is well worth catching.

So today, I express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you.

Thank you all so very much.

GRATITUDE - Alice Lester, November 2, 2014

The bulletin says "A Moment of Gratitude" . . . do you know how short a moment is? . . . it's only an instant--hardly enough time to even say the word, so I'm going to take a minute or two to speak of gratitude, a synonym of thankfulness. And the focus is on why I am thankful for this church.

I can go to the supermarket and find the shelves stocked with foods to nourish my body. But it is in church that I can find the shelves filled with the spiritual food so necessary for my soul. And what is on these church shelves? Faith, comfort, trust, forgiveness, joy, grace, love, compassion, peace, and so much more. Blessings galore! And I can gather up all that I want and need, and I can check out without paying a cent. I come to church to be refreshed, to be restored, by partaking of what is on the shelves.

God is with me always in my home, but I find joy is being with him in His house on Sunday mornings. In gratitude for the countless blessings in my life I try to further God's work here on Earth by giving a substantial portion of my time, talents, gold and silver to my church. I'd like to share with you a reading from an old church hymnal, which says so well why I love my church and why I thank God each night for the influence it has on my life.

*This is the church of my dreams:
 (This is the church that I love:)
 The church of the warm heart,
 Of the open mind,
 Of the adventurous spirit:
 The church that cares,
 That heals hurt lives,
 That comforts old people,
 That challenges youth:
 That knows no divisions of culture or class,
 No frontiers, geographical or social:
 The church that inquires as well as responds,
 That looks forward as well as backward,
 The church of the Master,
 The church of the people,
 High as the ideals of Jesus,
 Low as the humblest human:
 A working church,
 A worshipping church,
 A winsome church:
 A church that interprets the truth in terms of truth:
 That inspires courage for this life and hope for the life to come:
 A church of courage,
 A church of all good men and women,
 The church of the living God.*



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shrubs, water gardens, furniture and accessories, or landscaping
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services with **expert advice** that is second to none!
Parker Gardens is where beautiful gardens begin.

Just mention that you are from **Watchung Ave Presbyterian Church** at the
time of sale and we will log the sale into your organization's account. At the
end of the fundraiser, **10%** of the total proceeds will be forwarded to your
organization.

Parker Gardens

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(908) 322-5552

www.parkergardens.com

Offer cannot be combined with other offers or sales.

PRAYER LIST

Healing, supportive prayers for:

- *Peggy Waldman*, recovering from a back injury; *Pearl McKeithan*, mother of the YMCA's After School Program site director, *Keisha McKeithan*; *Joyce King*, newborn granddaughter of *Sarellen Hogan*, as she recovers from surgery; *Lisa Gayle Schmeisser*, *Gail Schmeisser*'s daughter; *Lem Holcomb*, *Louise Griffin*'s father recovering from a fall;

Prayers of healing, comfort & support for those battling cancer:

- *Jeanne Norrie*; *Ruth Stagg*; *Don McGinn*, *Faye Steinau*'s brother-in-law; *Bea Danyo*, *Alice Lester*'s sister and *Joe Steinau*.

Prayers for those in the military and their families:

- *PFC Jasmine Harris*, currently stationed in Fort Hood, Texas;
- *Jennifer Solis*, daughter, *Clara Elizabeth* and husband, *Victor*, during his deployment.

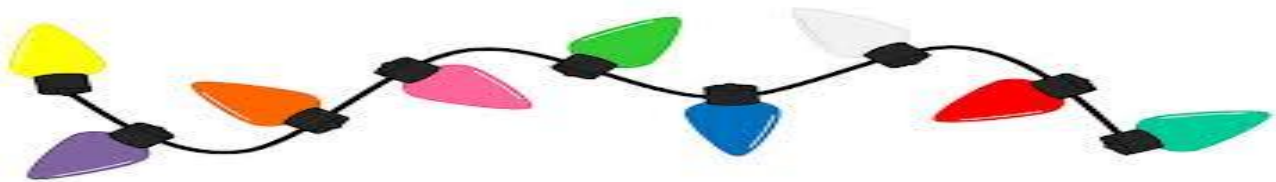
Continued prayers for those people at home:

- *Joan Brown*, *Helen Bradley*, *Nancy Higgins*, *Estelle Kennedy*, *Margaret L. Herman-Angely*, *Helen Miller*, *Louise Thul*, *Shirley Ferri*, at Sunrise Assisted Living, Basking Ridge, NJ and *Bob Monteith*, at Green Knoll Center in Bridgewater, NJ

Prayers for:

- *Elder Kay Hurd*, who is working with WAPC to accomplish our Mission Study during this interim period.

December



**WATCHUNG AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
170 Watchung Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07060-4133