
~FOR

HEAVEN'S

SAKE~

Volume 18 Issue 4

April 2025

The Pastor's Pen – April 2025

Dear Church Family,

Greetings and blessings! I do pray that this will find everyone well and feeling the blessing of a new season of spring. We go from going as quickly as possible from house to car and vice versa, to suddenly turning such tasks into a few extra minutes to be able to take a look to see how well the buds on the trees may be starting, we'll pay notice to the grass getting greener and to which flowers are coming up out of their winter sleep too. It's a season of new life and of re-awakening, which then not surprisingly, matches perfectly with what this season of the church brings to us.

Of course, I'm speaking about Easter and the sense of reawakening that should go along with it. What I mean here is that Easter here in our society, as we well know, has become something quite different than it was in many of our memories. When I was growing up there may not have been provided some deep understanding of what Jesus rising from the grave means to Christians, but there was this sense of how Easter brought new life, which matched with our surroundings, which in turn did give to us a somewhat deep sense of renewal. Then, living in the Middle East, I was obviously able to see and really experience what the holidays were like outside of a capitalist society, and was able to really experience that hope that Easter brings; for this life and the next, but not just in a prayer or word kind of way. There was a joy, it was a time of family and of a kind of reminder of what our faith teaches us about life, and about death. And of course, what's always been understood as the proof that was needed to show that Jesus of Nazareth really was the Messiah or Savior of God, because he did rise from his grave.

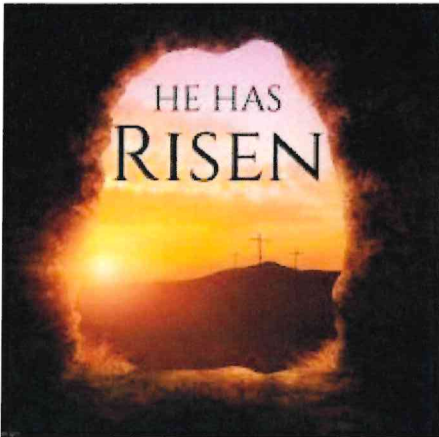
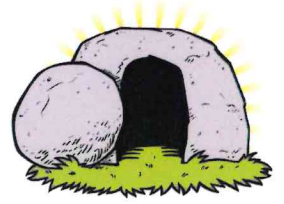
To me, because of having been blessed to experience those celebrations in the land where it all happened, Easter, in particular, took on a deeper meaning. And so what I'm proposing is that instead of paying attention to the way Easter seems to have become with pre-made baskets for sale and every type of candy imaginable, what we should really strive for is the really joyful understanding of this holiest of days on our calendar. I want us to really focus on what the meaning of Jesus of Nazareth rising

from the grave can be to us; proving and showing that he was and does remain our Savior.

As we approach the celebration of Christ rising from his grave, we'll remember the brutality of his Passion, but then we'll focus on the joy that came on Sunday morning!

See ya at church!

Pastor Chris



Joys & Concerns



- * Michaela thanks everyone for coming last week for the baptism. Her mom, Maureen is now in Milford Manor.
- * Zack is joyful to be in church with 10 week old Danica.
- * Kathy is happy to be back. She suffers from severe migraines.
- * Betsy has a joy that her friend, a spiritualist came to Bible study.
- * Joy that there are some little signs of Spring coming.
- * Greg-Joy for plans of starting up the bell choir very soon. See him to sign up.
- * Riley- Joy for grandpa recovering, he can now bend his leg and drive his car.
- * Chris-Had a nice trip to Maine with 18 year old Zaid. Hoping he'll be able to spend summer in NJ.
- * Nadiim got a residency at Mt. Sinai in NY but Jayoni got a hospital in Ft. Pierce in FL. Kinda a bummer.
- * Don-Tina is having a Big birthday.

- * Sophia asks for prayers for her friend, Kayden who is home from the hospital but still needs time to heal.
- * Kathy Holley asking for prayers for two former students, a brother and sister, Bill and Diana who both have cancer.
- * Kit- Prayers for coworker Scott whose mother died this week. Her boyfriend Joe is struggling with health issues and also prayers for those who are seeking their faith.
- * Zack asking healing prayers for Aunt Karen who had her appendix out this week.
- * Mary's coworker Danielle's family needs prayers. Also today is David's birthday. Happy birthday David!!
- * Prayers for Karen who has bronchitis .
- * Annette asking for continuing prayers for her friend Diane and Diane's brother, Mark.
- * Marty-Prayers for Phyllis who remains in rehab working on regaining strength.
- * Myrtle asking for prayers for her son in law, Rob who is in the hospital with an abscess related to diverticulosis. He will probably require surgery.
- * Jan- Her grandson Evan got poison oak from head to toe while playing in the woods. Not a fun way to spend his tenth birthday.
- * David-Prayers for family friend, Steve who has cancer.
- * Ruth Allen's daughter Jacqueline recently had surgery please keep her and Ruth in your prayers.





SESSION'S REFLECTIONS

APRIL 2025

SUBMITTED BY BETSY ENGELHARDT, CLERK OF SESSION

Easter is fast approaching, and much is planned for this holy week.

Palm Sunday, April 13 will celebrate baptism of Danica Humerick 9 AM at WMPC

Thursday, April 17 is Maundy Thursday at ORPC – 7 PM service

Good Friday, April 18 will offer a meager meal at 6PM and worship at 7 PM at WMPC

Sunday, April 20 – 9 AM Easter service with pancake breakfast following at WMPC

Look for the significance of each event further in this newsletter. Looking forward to great attendance at these various worship opportunities as we prepare to celebrate – CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!

You will notice fish banks available on tables outside our Sanctuary. It is One Great Hour Of Sharing time of year where we have an opportunity to provide offerings that reach programs around the world. Flyers will be available in our Sunday bulletins to hi-lite some of the great work being accomplished with these funds. Save your change and give what you can. Offerings will be collected on Palm Sunday.

Property Committee never rests. Much has been accomplished and even more planned in the coming months. The chair lift is already in use – good news that it was entirely funded by donations. Rich Hepp can sleep more comfortably at night knowing 3 new sub panels that regulate electricity to various parts of our buildings have been installed. New lighting has been installed in the Scout House and Food Pantry. In May, we will see much happening in Fellowship Hall as a new ceiling is installed, new lighting, and a fresh coat of paint throughout. Don't forget Levite Sunday, April 27 (rain date May 4) where the congregation gets to lend a hand to the hard-working Property Committee. They would love to share the labor!

Faith In Action usually planned in May will not take place this year. Instead, we encourage people to participate in the West Milford Township Wide clean-up day on Saturday, April 26 – 8:30 to noon. Contact Town Hall to register for participation in advance. They will distribute supplies and areas needing attention.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES



APRIL 13 - 9 AM
WMPC
SANCTUARY

On Palm Sunday, Christian worshipers celebrate the triumphant entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem, an event that took place the week before the Lord's resurrection. Before he entered the city, he sent two disciples ahead to the village of Bethphage to look for an unbroken colt: The men brought the colt to Jesus and placed their cloaks on its back. As Jesus sat on the young donkey, he slowly made his humble entrance into Jerusalem. The people greeted Jesus enthusiastically, waving palm branches and covering his path with palm branches. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" (Matthew 21:9)

THURSDAY APRIL 17 - 7PM - OAK RIDGE SANCTUARY

Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper, which Christians consider the institution of Holy Eucharist, also known as the Lord's supper or communion. It is described in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 22, verses 4-20. This is my body...This is my blood... Given for you.



FRIDAY APRIL 18 - 7 PM - HOSTED AT WMPC SANCTUARY

Pastor Chris will offer a traditional Tenebrae service. The purpose of this service is to remember the somber events that occurred in Jesus' life, from the story of Christ coming into our lives, the exuberant entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, his arrest and crucifixion, and finally the night of Jesus' burial on Good Friday. We generally leave the sanctuary after that service in silence.

MEAGER MEAL AT 6 PM IN FELLOWSHIP HALL



EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20 - 9 AM

WMPC SANCTUARY - BREAKFAST AFTER WORSHIP

I am the RESURRECTION and the LIFE.

He who believes in me,

Though he may die, he shall live.

And whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.



DEACON'S REPORT

The month began with a joint congregational worship with the Oak Ridge Presbyterian Church. Communion was served. We had our first baptism of the year. Lorelei Emileen Knapp presented herself with her winning smile as she toured around the sanctuary with Pastor Chris.

On Palm Sunday we will have another baptism. Danica Star Humerick will join us and receive her cross and white rose. Zach and Natalie are her parents.

Sadly, our choir is without Ian Smith as he passed away to be with the Lord. On Saturday, March 29 at 2 PM there will be a service held for him followed by a repast. "Music" will be the theme remembering that he sang in the choir for many years and sang with the Serendipity Singers of the Chelsie.

Deacons are preparing for the Easter Season. There is a flyer inside the Sunday bulletin for for you to order Easter flowers.

Marty Tappan, moderator



WA April Newsletter

As we left Aunt Jenny's Attic yesterday we noted the bulbs in the garden starting to come up, what a joy to see them. Spring is coming and all the beautiful plants will make our area so colorful! A true reason for joy.

On Friday night we had a lovely Fish & Chips dinner. Many people sat down with friends to talk and enjoy another delicious meal from Tastefully British. They are the best!

We want to thank our wonderful ShopRite for their generous donations to our church. Our great coleslaw crew, the fabulous kitchen crew, the floor crew and everyone who helped. Also thanks to our West Milford community that comes out to support our efforts.

For the last month we have been receiving messages, texts, calls from women wanting Teatime tickets. Don has printed them for us and the sales will begin. Right now we have sales of three and a half tables. The date is April 26th, 1-4. The cost is \$30.00. A side note, the women's club of Wayne had a tea last Saturday and the tickets were \$60 each and they didn't serve as much as we do.

Once the tea party is over we pack up Aunt Jenny's Attic and start sorting clothes for the Rummage Sale.

Our Rummage Sale is the largest fundraiser the church has. We all help and our church benefits. Funds from the sale have provided a new roof, gutters, windows, ceilings, lighting, painting, plumbing repair, etc.

Next on the agenda is the Fellowship Hall renovation. In May Rich and his buddies will start putting in a new ceiling and lights after painting the upper half of the room. Then more painting, new window treatments and new chairs. It will take some time but look so nice. Like a giant Spring cleaning.

So remember all our fund raising benefits our church. Therefore come and help your church family to continue to have a beautiful church home.

Happy and Blessed Spring.

Linda and Pam



SUNDAY SCHOOL DOINGS

Hope you have noticed that our children are involved in the church services. On March 16, Miss Dale's class ushered while Miss Kathi's class prepared and served coffee hour with the help of Miss Dale's class. By doing so we exposed our children to some of the workings of the church and to our church family. In April, the classes will have more opportunities.

In both classes, we continue to hear of the miracles of Jesus, such as the healing of Bartimaeus. And of the preaching of Jesus such as the Good Samaritan. We have also begun experiencing the Easter Story. Sunday School's Palm Sunday is on April 6, and Easter on April 13. This is done so that the children, Miss Dale and Miss Kathi may celebrate the joy of Easter, in church, with their families.

SAVE THE DATE: July 14- July 18, Vacation Bible School-Maker Fun Factory-Created by God Built For a Purpose. We offer a free fun filled week experiencing God's love through crafts, games, songs, Bible lessons, and even dinner! Registration is now open, to register or if you have any questions.

Please see Miss Kathi or Miss Dale.

IMPORTANT DATES

April 6. Sunday School Palm Sunday

April 13. Sunday School Easter

April 20. Easter Sunday-NO SUNDAY SCHOOL-Family Service

July 14-July 18 VBS





April in the Pantry

Thank you so much for dropping off pet food in the pantry along with items for Easter dinner bags. Never question the impact of doing these acts of kindness and generosity for those who are vulnerable in our community. They are filled with gratitude. Often in the pantry meetings our opening and closing prayer involves thanking God for this opportunity to serve and with your help we can and will together help to end hunger in our area.

During April as we round up items for the Easter bags , we can still use your help. If you aren't using your free ham from ShopRite or wherever it's offered, please consider picking it up and dropping it in the pantry. Other items needed are canned corn and pineapple, bottles of juice, ranch salad dressing, cake icing, bottles or cans of applesauce, Easter candy. Thank you in advance for any of these. The Pantry team



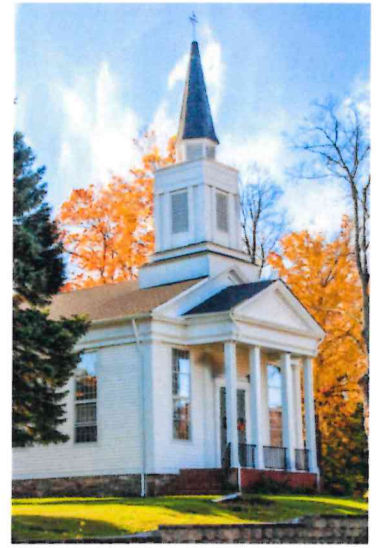
*Your Presence Is Requested
at The West Milford Presbyterian Church's
Queens High Tea*



**APRIL 26th AT 1:00PM
\$30.00 PER PERSON
TO GET TICKETS CALL 973-728-3081
OR STOP BY AUNT JENNY'S ATTIC**



Pitch In For West Milford.....



West Milford Presbyterian Church (WMPC), in conjunction with Shop Rite supermarkets, have an opportunity for everyone to aid their West Milford Neighbors..

At the church, anyone can come by and purchase Shop Rite gift cards in amount of \$25,\$50 or \$100. For each \$100 of cards Shop Rite gives \$5.00 to WMPC to put towards our community building and aid programs. Please consider helping the church to continue helping our neighbors. Any questions please call the church.

973-728-3081



West Milford Presbyterian Church

Vacation Bible School



FREE!!

FREE!!

JULY 14-18, 2025

6:00 - 8:15 pm

Ages: 4-12 yrs

1452 Union Valley Road
West Milford, NJ

Must Register in Advance!

Call: 973-728-3081

Email: kmenering@gmail.com



	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	9am - Community Food Pantry 5pm - WM Players Tech	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic 5pm - WM Players Tech	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints 5pm - WM Players tech	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic 5pm - WM Players Show	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic 5pm - WM Players
30	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Winter Farmers Market 11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic
29	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints 7pm - Maundy Thursday @ Oak	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic 6pm - Mesager Meal 7pm - Good Friday Service	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic
28	7:30pm - Zoom Bible Study	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic 5pm - WM Players Tech	8:30am - Town Wide Clean Up 9am - Community Food Pantry 10am - Tea 11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic
27	9am - Worship Service /Levite 6pm - Scouts	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
26	9am - Worship Service/Baptism 6pm - Scouts	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints 7pm - Maundy Thursday @ Oak	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic 6pm - Mesager Meal 7pm - Good Friday Service	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic
25	9am - Worship Service 10am - Pancake Breakfast 6pm - Scouts	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
24	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
23	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
22	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
21	Easter Sunday 9am - Worship Service 10am - Pancake Breakfast 6pm - Scouts	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
20	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
19	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
18	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
17	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
16	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
15	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Tax Day 9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
14	7:30pm - Zoom Bible Study	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
13	9am - Worship Service/Baptism 6pm - Scouts	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
12	9am - Worship 12pm - WM Players Show 6pm - Scouts	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
11	7:30pm - Zoom Bible Study	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
10	9am - Community Food Pantry 5pm - Karate Work Out 7pm - Session	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
9	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
8	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
7	7:30pm - Zoom Bible Study	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
6	9am - Worship 12pm - WM Players Show 6pm - Scouts	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
5	9am - Community Food Pantry 5pm - WM Players Tech	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic 5pm - WM Players Tech	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints 5pm - WM Players tech	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic 5pm - WM Players Show	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic 5pm - WM Players
4	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
3	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
2	9am - Community Food Pantry	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic	
1	9am - Community Food Pantry 5pm - WM Players Tech	11am - Bible Study @ WMPC 1pm - Aunt Jenny's Attic 5pm - WM Players Tech	9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints 5pm - WM Players tech	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic 5pm - WM Players Show	11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic 5pm - WM Players

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