
~FOR

HEAVEN'S

SAKE~

Volume 15 Issue 12

December 2022



Joy's & Concerns

Concerns:



- * Pam: Continued prayers for a friend, Barbara, who is in and out of the hospital with illness.
- * Friend, Jerry, had a heart attack.....don't know person's name
- * Prayers for Judy Mazur who fell and needs surgery.
- * Minister.....Prayers for young friend who lost her child a few months ago and is still in mourning.
- * Bobbie Del Sol.....has boot and is able to walk with it. Her Brother in Texas is in serious health, will have heart surgery
- * Mary.....husband's co-worker has lung cancer
- * Jan: Grandson, Evan, hospitalized with severe illness from virus. Now recuperating, ready to be discharged.
- * Julia's young relative in Germany has a severe, unusual illness. Needs prayers.

Joys:

- * Kathy Holley: Joy to see youth participation in church service
- * Pam....Welcome back to Bob who has been absent for 6 months. Bob "Thank the Lord."
- * Pam...Joy for Anna to be in church...can move her shoulder after surgery.
- * Irene.....The Scout troop is back from an exciting weekend at camp
- * Irene Kershaw Happy 14th Birthday Sophie
- * Kit Rusinack Happy 18th Birthday to her daughter
- * Bobbie del Sol Cat, Willow, missing for several months, has been found.
- * Happy Birthday to Kathy Holley
- * Linda: Thanks to veterans who gave up at least two years of their lives in service for our country.
- * Betsy thank you to Elders, especially George Stoph, for working on pastor search committee.
- * Linda: for past 10 years, we have worked with social workers at our schools who will give out gift cards to parents of children who need financial support for Christmas gifts. Deacons, Women's Association have each contributed \$400. A jar will be on coffee hour table for more donations.
- * Bob Sibson.....Joy for the beautifully decorated sanctuary.
- * December 11 at 2 PM Lee and his group will present a Christmas Jazz Concert.



**Reminder ----- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
Saturday December 17th @ 9:00am**





SESSION'S REFLECTIONS

DECEMBER 2022

SUBMITTED BY BETSY ENGELHARDT, CLERK OF SESSION

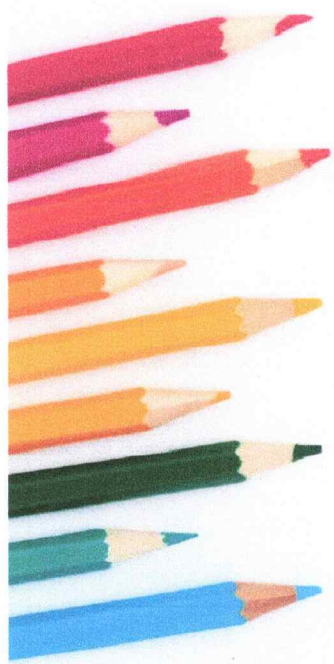
Our November Session meeting was the last opportunity for Elders to meet with Pastor Choi as our moderator. There was much to be accomplished and Pastor Choi was very helpful in assisting us in making plans for the month ahead. Our congregation will see a revolving schedule of Pastors or Commissioned Elders officiating Sunday worship throughout November and December. We hope to make these people feel welcome during their time with us. We plan on only one service for Christmas Eve. Details and times for that service remain a work in progress. Christmas Day is a Sunday with expected small attendance, therefore, we have planned a CAROL SERVICE with no pastor.

Lee Tombouljian's holiday musical concert has been rescheduled for Sunday, Dec 11 at 2PM. We are hopeful a daytime performance will help attract those that are not comfortable driving at night. It will be an event featuring all forms of music (not just jazz) with 2 additional band members to accompany him.

A new approval form has been instituted by Session to help manage FUND RAISER EVENTS. Form will be available from the office. Any coordinator for future fund raisers must complete this form and forward it to the office several weeks prior to the event date. It will need Session's approval before the event can proceed.

Property committee has responded to extra safety measures suggested to aid in emergency situations. Six (6) motion detection cameras have been installed strategically throughout our building, with remote access to monitor activity, and history storage to view past events. Portable escape ladders will also be purchased to aid in evacuations from our second floor. Special thanks to P & W for keeping their snowplow fees unchanged throughout the past decade and to Scout Troop 44 for their annual leaf cleanup on our property. Quotes are being obtained for replacing our roof.

For those that missed our special worship service and recognition luncheon on Nov 13, it proved a wonderful day for fellowship. The sermon "Who is the church" can be viewed from a video posted on the home page of the church website. After watching, if you'd like to join POD PRIDE, you can call the office with your interest OR volunteer signup sheets are available on the piano in Fellowship Hall. Pastor Choi's recognition luncheon was an uplifting event including a looping pictorial presentation capturing Justin's 4 years of service, great food contributions, and heartfelt memories shared of his time with us. During his last Session meeting, Elders thanked him for his leadership with special recognition for getting us through the Pandemic shutdown months. We wish he and his family God's blessings.



LEADERSHIP

- ✓ Inspire People
- ✓ Empower People
- ✓ Shared Vision
- ✓ Lead Change

LEADERSHIP NEEDED

Session and Deacons have important vacancies to fill beginning January 2023. Think what the church would be like if the following committee functions are unmanaged

SESSION: Property - Christian Education

DEACONS: Treasurer – Ushers & Greeters – Alter Flowers –
Communion Prep - Outreach & Mission work

With the response to our POD PRIDE Sunday worship, we already have a volunteer service list of people willing to support many committees with the work to be done, BUT, we need leadership in place to define the tasks at hand and support the volunteers willing to help. We ask everyone to talk with God and ask what leadership gift and talents can be shared to ensure an exciting and vibrant future for our church. Contact the church office or Clerk of Session with your interest in joining the class of 2025.

**DOING THE WORK OF THE LORD
GIVES BACK MORE THAN IT TAKES!**

**IF YOU MISSED THE SPECIAL SERVICE “WHO IS THE CHURCH”,
IT CAN BE VIEWED ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE HOME PAGE.**

**JOIN POD PRIDE AND THE MANY WHO ARE ANXIOUS TO GIVE OF THEIR TIME AND
TALENTS. SIGN UP FOR A SERVICE POD TODAY BY CALLING THE OFFICE OR USING THE
SIGNUP SHEETS ON THE PIANO IN FELLOWSHIP HALL.**

Leadership roles in our church are broken up into defined committees. Session & Deacons support these committee functions by chairing committees, defining the work to be done, and finding the volunteer pool able to complete the tasks. If the church is God’s people, we should be partnering our time and talents in the best way possible. If members of our church would sign up to help support a particular POD, we have helped create a volunteer pool able to keep our church doors open and our ministry and outreach efforts vibrant. Leaders within Session and Deacons will guide the way with the support of POD PRIDE within the congregation.

BEAUTIFICATION POD

Seasonal decorations, holiday prep, flowers, landscaping, children’s art displays, bulletin boards, repairs, cleaning, painting, event preparation, library, maintenance projects.

COMMITTEES:

Christian Ed/ Property/
Flowers/ Congregational Life

HOSPITALITY POD

Coffee hours, greeters, ushers, food pantry, outreach, nursery, event preparations, music, repasts, thrift shop, support towards special recognition ceremonies throughout the year.

COMMITTEES:

Deacons / Christian E/ Food
Pantry/ Greeters & Ushers /
Worship/ Congregational Life

GROWTH POD

Outreach & Mission efforts, support towards fund raising, new membership, church school attendance, pledge campaigns, worship & music opportunities, technology (audio/visual/virtual),

bible study & prayer groups,
leadership nominations

COMMITTEES:

Christian Ed/ I & S/ Mission/
Nominating/ Worship

DECEMBER

WA NEWS December 2022

We had a very lovely Christmas Bazaar on Saturday. Hopefully everyone had a nice time. Thanks again to Diane for chairing this event.

We will be opening Aunt Jenny's Attic soon with wonderful Christmas items. Stop in and say hello.

Once again the Deacons, WA and you will be teaming up to help some special families in West Milford. We will donate money, buy gift cards, give the cards to the school social workers and they will deliver them to families in need of help buying gifts for their children. Doing it this way enables the parent to get something their child really wants. No amount is too small since it all adds up to help make a child's Christmas special. We will be collecting after church on Sunday or take it from you at any time.

We will be having a WA meeting after church on December 4th. All of you are welcome.

We wish all of our church family a happy, blessed Christmas.

Linda and Pam

CARE TEAM

Until a more permanent pastor fills the position, Pastor Chris Doyle for Oak Ridge Presbyterian Church has graciously volunteered to cover any emergencies requiring attention and/or visitations. Our church office has his contact details if the need arises. Session would love to have a friendly and familiar face be part of these situations. We are looking for volunteers willing to serve on a CARE TEAM. A member of this team may be contacted to accompany Pastor Doyle or visit independently in his absence. If you would like to be part of this team, please contact the church office. Hopefully your availability on a given date will match the need for a visitation on that date.

DEACON DOINGS

December will find our sanctuary looking beautiful with garland, wreaths, the advent wreath, poinsettias and two brand new Christmas trees that were purchased with memorial funds in Phyllis Van Hooker's memory. Thank you to all who helped with the decorating.

Our Deacon's Café was a huge success and a big thank you goes out to those who helped prepare and serve the food. The Deacons are also grateful to West Milford Shop Rite for donating items to be sold, too.

Please be aware that communion, which is normally served on the first Sunday of the month, may occur on another Sunday during the upcoming months. An ordained pastor needs to be in the pulpit in order for communion to be served. Please watch for announcements in the bulletin or through a News Blast when communion is occurring.

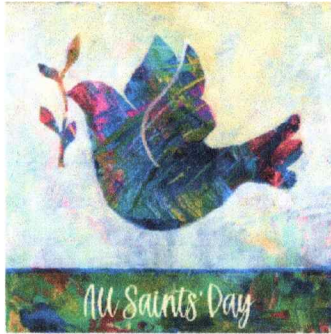
Poinsettias will be available for you to purchase. Please watch for the form in the bulletin or call the church office to place your order. You can also see Pat Wright or Marty Tappan for more information.

Gift cards to Shop Right and Target will be purchased by the Women's Association and the Deacons. These cards will be given to the West Milford school social workers and will be distributed to the families of children in need of a little something "extra" this holiday season.

Prayer shawls are available for anyone in need of peace or comfort. A shawl can be given to anyone, not just a member of our church. Call the office if you wish one or see a Deacon.

Wishing you the
Spirit of Christmas
Which is
Peace
The
Blessing of Christmas
Which is
Hope
From the
Heart of Christmas
Which is
Christ





Today we will be remembering Phyllis Van Hooker who has been received into the Heavenly Kingdom of our Lord. We also pray for those individuals who are family members and our dear friends who have passed this year as well.

We dedicate special gifts that have been purchased with monies from the Memorial Account. These include:

2 park benches for outdoors

The cleaning of choir robe stoles

2 new flags for Fellowship Hall, a USA flag and a Christian flag

Outdoor canopy for use during the Rummage Sale and other outdoor event

2 Christmas trees for the sanctuary (designated in Phyllis' memory)

Monetary gifts were also received in Phyllis Van Hooker's name.

RECIPE ROUND-UP

MARINATED MOZZARELLA BALLS

Looking for a delicious and simple yet stunning appetizer for the upcoming holidays, a family gathering or just because you'd like to try something new? This recipe using fresh bocconcini or mozzarella balls soaked in olive oil, garlic, and fresh herbs is just the thing you are looking for!!



Serves 6-8

Ingredients:

1 / 2 cup extra virgin olive oil

2 -3 cloves garlic, minced

1 / 2 tablespoon fresh parsley, finely chopped

1 / 2 tablespoon fresh basil, finely chopped

1 teaspoon fresh oregano, finely chopped

1 / 4 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes (or more to taste)

1 / 8 teaspoon salt

8 ounce container mozzarella balls or bocconcini, DRAINED

Instructions:

In a medium jar or container that has a tight fitting lid combine olive oil, garlic, parsley, basil, oregano, red pepper flakes, and salt. Cover jar or container with lid and shake to combine.

Place the drained mozzarella balls in a medium bowl that has a lid. Add the olive oil mixture and stir to fully coat. Seal the bowl and refrigerate for at least 1 hour to allow flavors to infuse.

Serve in a serving bowl with a side of toasted pita bread or other crusty bread.

Notes: Marinated bocconcini is best served fresh. You can store it for up to one day, but longer than that the texture begins to change.

If you do have leftovers, the olive oil will solidify in the refrigerator. Just allow the bowl to sit at room temperature for 20 minutes or so until the oil thaws.

Bulletin Board -

Dear friends,

I don't know just how many years it has been since I started putting up (decorating) the bulletin boards in our church, but I can tell you it's been a long time and I am running out of steam. My last bulletin board will be the one I put up for Christmas. I'll soon be looking through the materials I have for bulletin board making and will save anything that might be useful to those who might want to take over this job.

In 2008, believe it or not, I started to work in the library with hopes that I could make it more inviting to church members, ordering and asking the Women's Association to help with purchasing new books. Every month I put an article in the Newsletter which mentioned the new books we purchased with a quick summary about what those books were about. Over the years I found that only a few books were taken out and I began to think a library in our church might not be needed. I really don't think time should be put into it when it is not used for the purpose it was intended. Perhaps there's a better use for that large room. Something to think about.

Sincerely,

Fran Ehrhardt



West Milford Presbyterian Church



2022 Poinsettia Orders

<u>PLANT SIZE</u>	<u>Price each</u>	<u>Total</u>
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1 - 8 inch Pot	\$15.00	_____
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Total Price: _____

Make check payable to
Board of Deacons

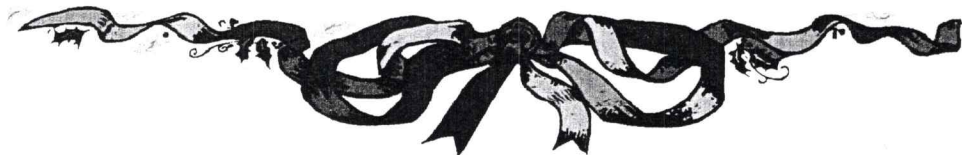
Name: _____

Phone# _____

Message: _____

Note: Poinsettias will be Red. If at all possible and you plan on being in Church on Christmas day, please wait till after the Christmas service to take your flowers home.

All orders must be in by December 11th and may be given to a Deacon or put in the Deacons Mailbox in the church office. Thank you!!





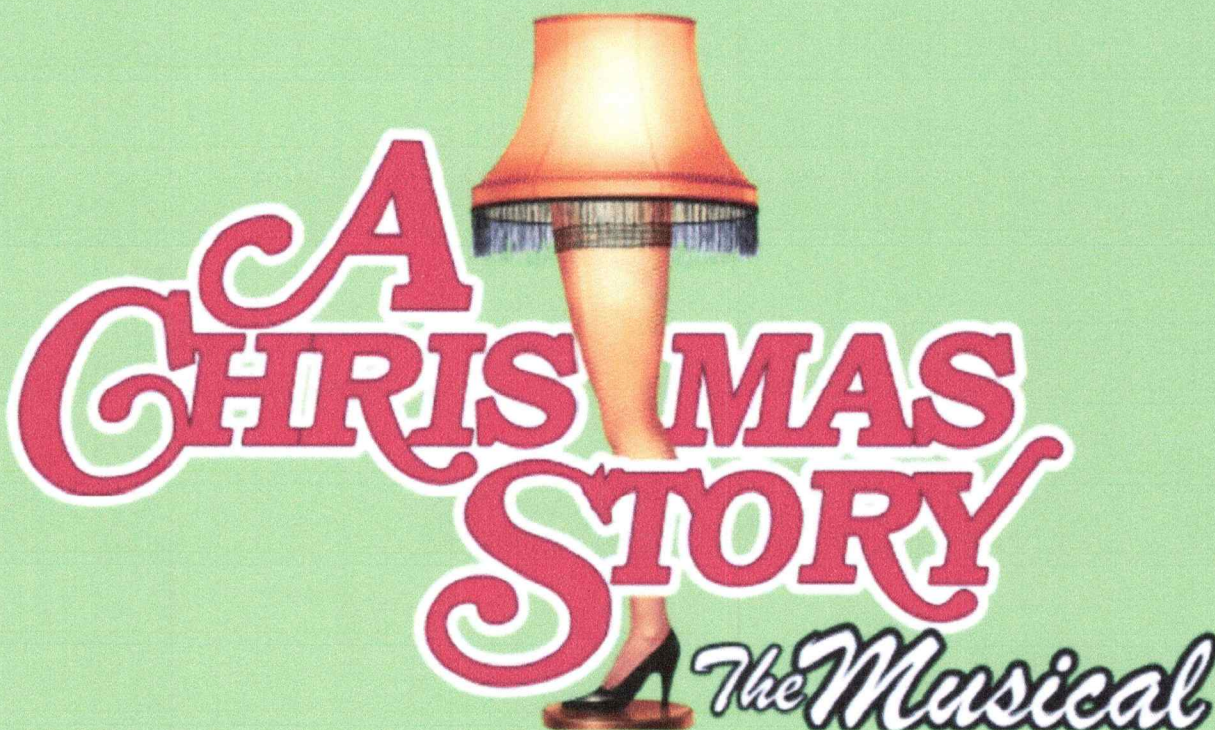
LEE TOMBOULIAN'S TRIO PRESENTS HOLIDAY MUSIC CONCERT

Nothing brings the spirit of the season faster
than a holiday music concert.

Join us in our sanctuary for an afternoon of Holiday musical
arrangements performed by our talented music director,
Lee Tombouliau, accompanied by 2 other musicians.

PLACE: West Milford Presbyterian Church
1452 Union Valley Road, West Milford, NJ
DATE: Sunday, Dec 11 **TIME:** 2:00 PM
FEE: \$20/Adult - \$10/Child (age 5 to 15)
CHURCH OFFICE: 973-728-3081

The West Milford Players Present:



Friday, December 2 - 8:00pm

Saturday, December 3 - 2:00pm & 8:00pm

Sunday, December 4 - 2:00pm

Adults: \$20.00 - Students/Seniors: \$18.00

Advanced Tickets Suggested:

<http://www.thewestmilfordplayers.org>

Join 9 year old Ralphie Parker as he sets out on a quest in the 1940's to get the best Christmas present ever, a Red Ryder BB Gun but first he must convince all the adults in his life that he won't "shoot his eye out". Added to this chaos is an "old man" who wants to win the ultimate prize of the most "FRAGILE" kind and you have a family fun musical that is sure to please all. Drift back to the 1940's with us to laugh, cry and remember what it was like to be a child on a quest to obtain that ultimate Christmas present. Bring the whole family to enjoy this one of a kind Holiday Celebration.

West Milford Presbyterian Church
1452 Union Valley Road • West Milford, NJ 07480

Questions: 973-697-4400



Sat

December											
10am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 12pm - WM Players 6pm - Scouts	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 2pm - Lee Concert 6pm - Scouts	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 6pm - Scouts	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4