
~FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE~

Volume 18 Issue 6

June 2025

The Pastor's Pen -

Dear Church Family,

I do pray that this finds everyone well and rejoicing in the change of weather, even if there does seem to be a heck of a lot of rain! I'm just happy to be able to get out in the yard when I have a spare hour or two. I've planted a bunch of flowers and the blueberry bushes that I planted last year are visibly growing. I do like this time of year.

And, we have the excitement of what's ahead of us in the summer months. Of course, this is the Season of Rummage, and as usual, every nook and cranny seems to have stuff to be sorted, organized and priced. The job is monumental, to that there's no doubt, and is certainly one that really requires all hands to be on deck. If you have a spare hour or two, those in charge would be grateful for any help. And if you think you wouldn't be a help, please don't consider such a notion! And I will say that it's actually pretty fun.

We come together with Oak Ridge AT Oak Ridge in the sanctuary on June 8th, that will be Pentecost Sunday, the third most important celebration in the church, and then starting on July 6th, the Oak Ridge folks will be coming over to West Milford each Sunday for the month. West Milford folk will then join Oak Ridge in the air conditioning at Oak Ridge in August. And about this I wanted to say a word.

I know that many folks may feel uncomfortable driving over to Oak Ridge on Sunday mornings in August, or even for the special services, but if you do feel this way, I'm sure that some carpooling efforts from the church parking lot could be arranged. Or perhaps you may not feel that Oak Ridge is 'your church', and I know some do think as such, but I'll just remind that every church is 'our' church. And I'll add that those services are always great, and really help us to leave the church feeling good and perhaps happier than when we'd first arrived.

And where would we be without the excitement of summer VBS to look forward to!!? This year's program being put together by Kathi and Dale is entitled "Maker Fun Factory" starting July 14th through the 18th. This year the program will be running from 6-8:15 pm. If you'd like to help out and be a part of the team, both Kathi and Dale, I'm sure, would be happy to hear from you.

And one last thing, our Summer Reading Group! This summer we'll be making our way through "Chicken Soup for the Christian Family Soul", the thought is to have something a bit lighter for the summer, as well as inspirational. I'd love to see folks take advantage of this opportunity. We meet virtually on Thursday evenings to discuss the reading, and get into lots of other things too. For more information, just reach out to me. And I'll see ya at church!

Be Good & Do Good,
Pastor Chris

JOYS:

- * Sandy got a text from China that Erin had a baby girl Elora born on 5/19/2025 6:46am 7.9 lb, 19.7 in long, Mommy and baby are doing well.
- * Kathy and Alan are going to Florida for a week for their grandsons high school graduation.
- * Ruth is in Colorado visiting her grandson.
- * Happy Memorial Day and thank to all who gave their lives to protect our country.
- * Tucker was able to take four steps with PT assisting on each side. Also able to breathe on his own. Praise be to God!!
- * Aksel graduated with honors two weeks ago and Kari graduated with two awards from West Point yesterday. We are very proud!
- * Pam is thankful for all the help yesterday emptying the garages. Now we can use help emptying the boxes and bags.
- * Next Sunday is Pentecost and we will be at the Oak Ridge church at 10AM.
- * Rejoicing for our Sunday School program and our precious children.
- * Riley is excited about VBS July 14-18.
- * Audrey is happy that her son Don is coming for four days from Maine.
- * Chris told us his son had a 2PM flight to Florida and it left at 11PM. In two weeks he will be graduating from med school and will then go on to Mt. Sinai for his residency.

CONCERNS:

- * Annette's granddaughter had some dental work done and she now has a fractured jaw. Her jaw is wired for six weeks.
- * Chris is asking for prayers for Irene Balls from Berkshire Valley church who is dying.
- * Prayers for Sue's friend, Emily who is having spinal surgery tomorrow.
- * Prayers for Phyllis Wilson who is at Care One in Wayne and not doing well.
- * Mike Hashimoto's father died. Prayers for the family.
- * Let's all pray for our nation and the world.
- * Betsy spent three days at Chilton with her husband Ron and was very impressed with the care he received. Prayers for Ron's recovery from pneumonia/bronchitis.
- * Prayers for Sue's coworker Stephanie who had a heart attack.
- * Prayers for continued healing for Karen, Myrtle and Tucker.
- * Fran is excited and concerned for her daughter, Tracey who is traveling to Japan today.





SESSION'S REFLECTIONS

JUNE 2025

SUBMITTED BY BETSY ENGELHARDT, CLERK OF SESSION

During the month of May, there were 2 important leadership meetings conducted. We met for our monthly Session meeting on May 20th, but we also combined our thoughts and talents with a joint meeting for Elders and Deacons on May 17 to discuss ***HOW WE BECOME THE CHURCH WE WANT TO BE***. The following topics were discussed at length:

- How do we sincerely listen
- How do we grow the church
- What is Church Leadership and how do we increase Leadership.

Many great ideas were shared, and the meeting gave us much more to think about as we serve in our leadership positions.

As part of the regular Session meeting, we voted to adopt an Anti-Racism policy, as is required by Presbytery and PCUSA. We hope by now everyone has seen the hard work completed by the Property committee and the Hepp Brothers in making our Fellowship Hall look clean and bright and ready for public use. The new dropped ceiling, lighting, and paint colors have truly transformed this space. Hours of personal time was devoted to this project – thank you to all involved falls short in expressing our appreciation for the work completed. Christian Ed committee was excited to report we have a confirmation class for the next school year consisting of three students. Sunday School Sunday is scheduled for June 1st – an opportunity to hear all that was taught throughout the year along with showing appreciation for the teachers and aides that devote weekly hours of prep time to ensure our program is meaningful, educational, and FUN!!!

Important dates to put on your calendars:

- Throughout June and event dates of Jun 20 thru 22 – Rummage sale set up and event
- June 8 – Joint 10AM worship service at ORPC as we celebrate Pentecost.
- Throughout July – Joint 10AM services with ORPC held in our sanctuary. Pictures continue to be taken in Fellowship Hall after worship for our Pictorial Directory. If you missed having your photo taken, visit Don Wright.
- July 14 to 18 – Vacation Bible School
- July 27 – church picnic
- Throughout August – Joint 10AM services with ORPC held at Oak Ridge sanctuary
- August 16 – second annual Family Festival Outdoor Movie Night
- October 4 – outdoor blessing of the animals tentatively scheduled

DEACONS REPORT

JUNE 2025

Deacons could be called the people connection of the church. We reach out to those who are in need of comfort, send appropriate cards for illness, birthdays, and thoughts of love. We host a repast for a family after a funeral.

We also have happy times. Promotion Sunday was on June first. As Deacon moderator, I had the fun of presenting Miss Dale and Miss Kathi with hanging baskets of colorful flowers as a way of thanking them for the many Sundays of teaching our children about the word of the Bible. As they water their plants, they can reflect on these happy, fun, challenging times. I also recognized our two assistants, Sophie Ferris and Victoria McGurr. Also recognized were Roberta Schmidt, Bonnie Rogers, Karen Willmott, and Sandy Smidt for their curriculum planning. Most of all, the parents who had their children in church by 9 AM each Sunday.

Rummage Sale is fast-approaching. Each year, we have our Deacons Café. Again, Dale and Kathi, not Deacons, will be having fun as they flip burgers and grill hot dogs. Many thanks in advance to both of them.

Deacons will not be active during the summer months, but we will be thinking of our Session-Deacon meeting and be ready to meet and plan in the fall.

Marty Tappan

Deacon moderator



Sunday School Doings

Hard to believe that Sunday School is just about over, as our last class is May 18! The following Sunday, May 25 is Memorial Day Weekend with a Family Service-no Sunday School. June 1, is Sunday School Sunday, please have your children in the classrooms by 8:45.

These past few weeks have found Sunday School to be very busy! Thanks to the congregation, Our Bagel Bag held on Levite Sunday was a success! We made a profit of \$80 for the Darlene Witham Scholarship.

On Mother's Day during service our children handed out homemade lavender scented scrubs along with biodegradable seed packages to all the women of our church. We also prepared a strawberry short

Cake which we served at Coffee Hour.

May 15th, both classes ushered for the last time this year. In addition to all our church activities the children have been learning of the time after Jesus' resurrection. The last lesson centered around Pentecost and the beginnings of the Church; so of course we had to have a birthday party!

IMPORTANT DATES

May 18, Last Day of Sunday School

May 25, Family Service-Memoerial Day Weekend

June 1, Sunday School Sunday-children must be in the classroom at 8:45

July 14-18 Vacation Bible School-don't forget to register!

Miss Dale and Miss Kathi thank you for all your support. We are blessed to be able to spread the Word of God to your children.

Submitted by:

Kathi Enering



Pantry Wish List

We'd love to encourage you through the month of June to donate toiletries to the pantry. We've already explained that families can't use SNAP to purchase these things so let's help them out and donate from the following list:

Men and women's soap in bar form or liquid pump, bodywash

Men and women's shampoo / conditioner

Toothpaste including kinds for sensitive teeth, etc.

Soft toothbrushes, Mouthwash, Q tips, Cotton balls

Razors for men and women & shaving cream

Men's and women's deodorant

Women's feminine products like pads and Tampax

and don't forget the smallest with baby soap/shampoo, creams, baby wipes.

Soap can't wash away all life's troubles but it can take away one group of items that won't need to be purchased because of your generous donation. Thank you in advance for your kindness!

If you're interested in joining us please let one of us know and we'll discuss various jobs you might enjoy.

Church members of the team are Pat Wright, Roberta Schmidt, Helen Kershaw, Marty Tappan, Dale Hamilton, Kathy Holley, Carol Stanhope and myself, Bonnie Seufert.



June

**RUMMAGE
SALE**

**June 20th, 21st,
& 22nd
Friday & Saturday
9-4
Sunday 11-3**



**1452 Union Valley Road
West Milford NJ 07480**

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9am - Worship Service 6pm - Scouts	2 RUMMAGE SET-UP 7:30pm - Zoom Bible Study	3 9am - Community Food Pantry	4 11am - Bible Study @ WMPC	5 9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	6	7
8 RUMMAGE SET-UP 10am - Join Worship 5:30pm - Pry Piano Recital 6pm - Scouts	9 7:30pm - Zoom Bible Study	10 9am - Community Food Pantry 7pm - Session	11 11am - Bible Study @ WMPC	12 9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	13	14 Flag Day 9am - Community Food Pantry
15 RUMMAGE SET-UP Father's Day NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 9am - Worship Service 6pm - Scouts	16 7:30pm - Zoom Bible Study	17 9am - Community Food Pantry	18 11am - Bible Study @ WMPC	19 June Birth 9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints	20 Rummage Sale	21 Rummage Sale
22 Rummage Sale 9am - Worship Service 6pm - Scouts	23 7:30pm - Zoom Bible Study	24 9am - Community Food Pantry	25 11am - Bible Study @ WMPC	26 9am - Community Food Pantry 9am - Sr. Saints 6:30pm - Canning Club	27	28 9am - Community Food Pantry 11am - Aunt Jenny's Attic
29 9am - Worship Service 6pm - Scouts	30 7:30pm - Zoom Bible Study					5

