
~FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE~

Volume 16 Issue 3

March 2023

*O God, have mercy on us.
Strengthen us to give us
your radiant joy so we
can have your light shine
for all to see. We praise
you wholeheartedly,
Almighty God, and ask
that the holy spirit moves
in us to help us walk
your will. In the name of
Jesus, Amen.*

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Joy's & Concerns



Concerns:

- *Kathy Holley's friend's husband lost his battle with cancer. Prayers for his wife and family.
- *Fran. Prayers for people in Turkey. Thousands lost were all part of families.
- *Please find a donation site to send aid.
- *Lee is looking for potential choir members.
- * Myrtle had a Hernia surgery and having complications.
- * Linda Fredricksen not feeling well.
- * Continued prayers for Diane Eriksen
- *Betsy- her friend Monica's mom died, and prayers for her friend's husband diagnosed with Alzheimer's.
- *Linda- prayers for Diane and Karen
- *Pam- friend diagnosed with cancer
- *Kathy Holley- prayers for earthquake victims in Turkey
- *Rich- new water filtration system paid for by an anonymous donor.
- *Jan-safe trip for Bonnie and Howie.

Joys:

- *As Betsy and Roberta spent many hours working on the auction, they were aware of the many people working in the church. Dale buys for the food pantry,. Teachers prepare for Church School. Many people contribute to the running of our church, even when we do not have a pastor. This includes organizing a valentine's cookie walk to support the church.
- Thank you to Jane Moser, again, for her beautiful sermon. Faith, Hope, and Love. We all gather many inspirational moments from it. The love sermon, red candles, and red bouquets contributed to a special morning.
- * Good to see Julia Held back in the choir after a short illness.
- * Joy for Lee playing songs with cello player Ratzo Harris
- * Pam has joy for her friend, is home from the hospital, now able to drive around
- * Jan Son Jason got engaged!
- * Thank You to Lee for the wonderful Hymn Sing on Sunday.





SESSION'S REFLECTIONS

MARCH 2023

SUBMITTED BY BETSY ENGELHARDT, CLERK OF SESSION

As things seem to go at a slower pace during the winter months, so did our February Session Meeting. Little was reported that is new for most for most committees. Moderator of Deacons, Jan Halvorsen, joined our meeting to discuss volunteers needed to usher every Sunday. Those that volunteered on our POD PRIDE LISTS have commitments elsewhere during March. Please contact Jan if you can help fill this void.

Much time, however, was spent discussing the auditing of our church financial records. To date we have 10 separate bank accounts under our church tax ID number. The book of order REQUIRES us to audit those records on a yearly basis and the results of those audits to be recorded at a Session meeting by the Session Clerk. The Finance Committee believes in this day and age of virtual banking, setting up each account for on-line banking gives those of authority the information and transparency needed to easily audit all activity. There are many safeguards associated with this process that would prevent access to funds but provide access to monitor activity. Getting the 8 signers/co-signers of these 10 accounts along with a church trustee together on a date the bank is open has been a daunting task, but the Finance Committee will continue to work to get this accomplished.

The worship committee has secured Pastor Roger Assimos to cover most of worship for the months of March and April. This is great news since it helps Sandy with the weekly planning of the church bulletins, ensures we can continue with our practice of serving Communion the first Sunday of each month, and secures coverage for the Easter holy week. Lee has been actively trying to embellish our music ministry. Those in attendance to February 19th worship enjoyed the addition of a bass player. Deacon Moderator Jan Halvorsen suggested memorial money funds be used to help fund future musicians and will discuss further at future Deacon meetings. To ensure the monies budgeted for our music ministry are available throughout the calendar year, Lee will be asked to advise Worship Committee in advance of any funds needed to secure future musical talent.

The PNC was excited to bring to motion the need for a Meet & Greet and Congregational Meeting to introduce their nominee for an installed pastor for our church. We are hopeful all members will be in attendance during the weekend of March 18 and 19. It is important to remind everyone the PNC does NOT elect our pastor. They have spent 3 years vetting candidates to bring forth a nominee. The members of our church vote to elect the nominee at the Congregational Meeting scheduled for March 18. There are very special circumstances associated with this candidate that prevent us from announcing the name and background until the date of the Meet & Greet – March 18. We ask for our congregation's respect for the process and patience as we move forward abiding by specific policies and procedures.

Virtual Auction dates were February 23 through February 25. Special thanks go out to all the donors, sponsors, wrappers, proofreaders, and street pounders who constantly canvased our community for support. This important fundraiser would not be possible without the talent, experience, and hard labor provided by our committee chair, Roberta Schmidt.

PASTORAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

MARCH 2023 UPDATE – BETSY ENGELHARDT, PNC MODERATOR

After close to three years of hard and dedicated work, the PNC finally has a candidate to offer as the nominee to the position of installed pastor to West Milford Presbyterian Church. The following dates have approval by Session and we ask everyone to mark their calendars:

Saturday – March 18 – 3 PM to 5 PM – Meet & Greet

We ask our congregation to join us in the sanctuary for a presentation from PNC on how we got to this date, followed by a formal introduction of our candidate. Immediately following, we will hold a refreshment hour with veggie platters, cheese & crackers, cookie tray and beverages. This will be the opportunity to individually introduce yourselves to the candidate and ask further questions that may not have been covered during the presentation.

Sunday – March 19 – 10 AM Worship – 11:15 Congregational Meeting

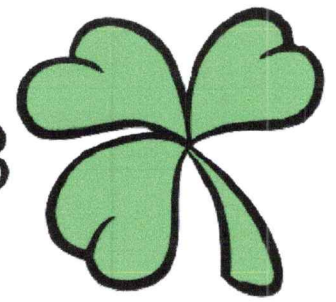
Our candidate will be officiating worship service this Sunday. Immediately following, a Congregational Meeting will be brought to order by a representative from Presbytery. This is the opportunity that our members get to decide if this candidate should receive their vote to serve as installed pastor of WMPC. We remind everyone that PNC does not elect the pastor – that right is reserved solely for the members of our church. Coffee hour will immediately follow the congregational meeting.

We wish it were otherwise, but there are special circumstances that prevent us from revealing the identity and background of this candidate until the Meet & Greet on March 18.

We ask for our congregation's respect for the process and patience as we move forward abiding by specific policies and procedures.



WA News March 2023



On February 6th twenty six women and one special young man gathered for our annual luncheon. The food was delicious and the company terrific.

February 12th was our annual Valentines Cookie Walk and it was very successful. Thanks to everyone who baked the delicious cookies. Thanks to Diane for making gnomes and tea towels and for NOT baking! Also thanks to Karen for making her runners and Shirley her dolls. Lots of thanks to everyone who purchased our goodies.

On March 10th we will be having our annual Fish and Chips dinner. Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Meanwhile Aunt Jenny's Attic is open three days a week for fellowship and joy. We also have some great items for sale-cheap.

Think Spring!

Blessings to all, Linda and Pam



Recently, Gene and I attended a funeral service in Pa. for a very special friend. The sanctuary was moderate in size. It was quite formal. The pulpit area was large. There was a tiny plastic flower arrangement in the back.

As I sat there, I couldn't imagine myself wandering through the building, answering food pantry calls, arranging flowers, or finding jobs always to be done. There was no repast so the sons ordered sandwiches and coffee from a local deli so we could meet before we, and the others, had to head home.

A few weeks ago, after a memorial service, our Deacons set up a repast for a member who, because of physical disabilities, has not been in church for several months. We inquired what sort of table setting would be appropriate. Food and drinks were provided. Later, we cleaned up. The family, who came from a distance, thanked us for our warm reception for them. Our church members may not be numerous, but we are always complimented on how welcome we are to outsiders. We can be proud as we continue to serve in our church.....Marty Tappan

The word "Welcome" is written in a large, hand-drawn, stylized font. Each letter is outlined in black and filled with a different color or pattern: 'W' is red, 'e' is purple, 'l' is yellow with black vertical stripes, 'c' is red, 'o' is blue, 'm' is pink, and 'e' is orange. The letters have a slightly irregular, artistic feel.

**West Milford Presbyterian Church
Women's Association**



Take-Out Dinner

Friday, March 10, 2023

5:00-7:00 PM

West Milford Presbyterian Church

**Delicious "Tastefully British" Fish or Chicken
with homemade coleslaw, roll and dessert!**

Tickets \$18.00

Tickets must be Pre-Purchased by March 8th

Call: 973-728-3081 (Mon. & Wed. 9:30-3:00)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 11:15am - Deacons Meeting 12pm - WM Players 6pm - Scouts	3pm - Girls On The Run		Facility of Women's Ministry 6pm - WM Players	9am - Sr. Saints 6pm - WM Players	5pm - WM Players	12pm - WM Players
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10am - Sunday School 10am - Girl Scout Sunday 10am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 6pm - Scouts	3pm - Girls On The Run 7:30pm - Session		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	9am - Sr. Saints	Fish & Chips	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 11:15am - Congregational 6pm - Scouts	3pm - Girls On The Run	21	22	9am - Sr. Saints		10am - Girl Scout Tea Party 3pm - Meet & Greet
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10am - Sunday School 10am - Worship 6pm - Scouts	3pm - Girls On The Run	28	29	9am - Sr. Saints		
26	27	28	29	30	31	

