Volume 14 Issue 7

November 2021

Greetings WMPC Family,

We are in the middle of the harvest season. It reminds us of the song of harvest in Psalm.



"The Lord has done great things for them.
The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.
Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.
May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.
Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves."
~Psalm 126:3-6~

The Talmud tells a story about a traveler who came across an old man planting a carob tree.

The traveler was skeptical. He asked the man when he thought the tree would bear fruit. "After seventy years," was the reply. "Old man, do you expect to live seventy years and eat the fruit

of your labor?" The elderly man looked up and said, "Son, I did not find the world desolate when I entered it. And as my fathers planted for me before I was born, so do I plant for those who will come after me."

The truth is we too have been entrusted with much: the health of our faith communities, the

beauty of the earth we live on, the freedom of this country we live in, and care of our communities. Many people worked hard to preserve, to improve upon, and hand these down to us. Not only do we have much to be grateful for, we too have a role to play in the stewardship

of these gifts. As we draw near to the Thanksgiving holiday, may we continue to count our blessings. May we give thanks to God for those who have gone before us. And, may we ever be looking for ways to give back in response. We will "reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out bearing the seed for sowing shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves." Amen.

In His Grace, Pastor Justin Choi



Prayers:

Concerns

- *Bill Connolly's sister broke her ankle.
- *Rich Hepp's father, Frank, will have knee replacement.
- *Sandy Schmidt's brother and family have challenges with covid.
- *Pam McGlashan- Bob Innella died (he was a vendor at the spring craft show);
- *Eileen Schott in Chilton with covid;
- *Hans Hader passed away Please keep his family in your prayers.
- *Mary Macheska- concern for client with shingles.
- *Carol Wosyluk had knee surgery and is now home.
- *Pam McGlashan- Hans Harder in Chilton.

Joys

- *Linda Fredricksen- joy that the new carpet is installed.
- *Sandy Smidt- son getting married
- *Dee Casey- thank you to everyone for the Memorial service and repast for her sister, Mackie
- *Bonnie Seufert- thank you from the Deacons for the church family that helps whenever there is a need.
- *Happy birthday to Karen Willmott and Sandy Schmidt
- *George Stoft Jr.- WM Highlander band won 1st place
- *Kathy Holly- Phyllis Van Hooker doing fine.
- *Roberta Schmidt- a big thank you for the Senior Saints and all the hard work they do in the church and for their help painting the Sunday School classrooms.







SESSION'S REFLECTIONS

NOVEMBER 2021 SUBMITTED BY BETSY ENGELHARDT, CLERK OF SESSION

Fall is in full swing — I know because leaves are falling like rain around our home — an endless task of blowing and raking this time of year. I enjoy God's beautiful nature no matter what form it takes and always appreciate time spent outdoors. In September's Session meeting, Property demonstrated they too are spending outdoor time assessing the numerous repair and upgrade projects required around our buildings. The church is in good hands under the watchful eyes of this committee, always hard at work. I'm sure they would love to hear from our congregation members offering any time and talents they can provide to help in their long list of projects. Interpretation and Stewardship Committee will be looking for pledge cards flooding the church office. October 24th is the day designated as Consecration Sunday. A brunch will be offered immediately following church service as a "thank you" for participating in our 2022 pledge campaign. Reminder to mark your calendars for Nov 5th thru 7th to plan on attending West Milford Players production of "Godspell" in Fellowship Hall. Our building usage agreement earns us \$1 for every ticket sold to their plays. Enjoy the cooler temps and smell of Fall in the air!

PASTORAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 2021 UPDATE - BETSY ENGELHARDT, PNC MODERATOR



STILL HARD AT WORK!!! Continue to keep us in your prayers as God leads us to continue our search

Deacons Doings- November 2021

October was a busy month with Pastor Appreciation Sunday, Communion, a Memorial Service and Repast for Marilyn Rath, and always the food pantry.....but it doesn't come near to the level of activity in November. In this month of Thanksgiving, it's all about showing our gratefulness and we start with thanking our veterans for their service to our country and way of life. Linda Fredricksen and Karen Willmott decorate the sanctuary with a patriotic flair while Jan Halvorsen makes sure that every man and woman who served gets a sweet treat. We transfer from there to packing bags of groceries with Thanksgiving dinner items for our pantry friends as no one should face empty plates on this traditional day of sharing with those around us, the abundance we enjoy. The Christmas Bazaar on the 20th this year always draws a large crowd. The Deacons are delighted to run our Deacon's Café serving hardy fare for busy shoppers. The day after the Bazaar we celebrate Thanksgiving in our church and the Deacons will have transformed our Communion Table into a Harvest Table overflowing with gifts from the Earth. Which takes us to the 25th, Thanksgiving Day. Dear friends, may God bless you and the ones you hold dear on this Thanksgiving and always. Wishing you hope, joy, peace, good health, and love. The Deacons



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2021-2022

Our Sunday School officially began on September 19, 2021. With the absence of a Christian Education Director, a Christian Education Committee has been created to assist in the program.

The teachers have been introduced to a new curriculum for this year which is called Seasons of

the Spirit and will go through the same format as the church service following the revised common lectionary. The primary purpose of this curriculum is that the focus of the church service and the children's program will be the same. Sunday School children begin by joining their families in church and listening to the children's sermon before departing for their Sunday School rooms for the rest of the class. They will also have the opportunity to share in the Communion experience. The lessons of these past



weeks have covered creation, kindness and sharing, God's love of children, prayer through Jesus and realizing the true definition of greatness is using their own talent, serving others, and supporting those in need. Our talented teachers always have a great story and craft to keep the children involved.

As we move forward, we will work on adding music to our Sunday School program and a library story time. Parents will be advised when a Family Service will be held instead of Sunday School.

In preparation for the coming year where there are still concerns for Covid, we have cleaned and organized the Sunday School area, all furniture, toys, etc. have been scrubbed and sanitized and will continue to be throughout the year. Per Covid rules, all stuffed animals have been eliminated. The nursery is open, and you are welcome to bring your little ones there or let us know if you wish to have someone watch your child for you. Please spread the word and encourage children to attend. God's love will shine through your child.



Lots going on at this time of year.

Diane has sold all the spots for our fabulous Christmas Bazaar. We will have 40 vendors, our yummy Sweet Stop and our delicious Deacons Cafe. Save the date-November 20th for a great day.

Our thanks to everyone who has helped with Aunt Jenny's Attic. We have had a lot of visitors and sales with some very enjoyable fellowship. Stop in and enjoy some coffee or tea and cookies and chat with us.

We will be closed the week before the bazaar and the week after due to Thanksgiving. We will reopen on December 1st with lots of Christmas items.

Hoping to see you at our next meeting on November 14th after church.

Blessings, Linda and Pam



Being a Christian is like being a pumpkin!

God picks you from the patch and brings you in.
(John 15:16)

Then washes all the dirt off of you. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

He opens you up and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc. (Romans 6:6:)

Then He carves you a new smiling face.
(Psalm 71:23)

And He puts His light inside you to shine for all the world to see.

(Matthew 5:16)





The leadership for Johnsonburg

CAMP JOHNSONBURG NEEDS OUR SUPPORT



Camp & Retreat Center has begun

a fund-raising campaign entitled "Marked for the Future" and is reaching out to all area churches for support. They are embarking on expanding and strengthening their programs with plans to improve year-round accommodations, improve the infrastructure that supports their facilities, update existing housing options to accommodates people of all ages, and upgrade site areas which support a diversity of program options. Many of our children in years past have enjoyed summer camp experiences and special programs offered throughout the year. The Retreat Center also offers a location for Pastor Respite, monthly Presbytery meetings, and training seminars for church leadership and lay persons. To see a more thorough review of their services, visit www.campjburg.org.

We are our history

In 1959, Johnsonburg Camp & Retreat Center was established to provide experiential Christian education in support of the Presbyterian Church in New Jersey. Johnsonburg today is a place where city kids meet country kids, where black and white discover common ground, where the rich and poor of means and spirit are valued equally, and where each is encouraged to take another vital step toward realizing oneness in Christ.

We are what we do

- Summer Camp Ten weeks of Christian camping and leadership training.
- Programmed Retreats Nine weekends annually for older elementary, junior-highs, senior highs, and families.
- **Spiritual Sanctuary** Sabbath events and opportunities for personal retreat and respite. Outdoor chapels, labyrinth, spiritual direction, seven miles of trails.
- **Conference/Retreat Venue** 400-acres in the rolling hills of northwest New Jersey with year-round overnight lodging, dining service, meeting rooms, worship and recreational facilities.
- Special Needs Camps Opportunities for adults who are intellectually disabled.
- Four weeks of service to the homeless through the Interfaith Hospitality Networks of Warren and Sussex County.

If you or a family member has been touched by the services provided Camp Johnsonburg OR you recognize the importance of this center continuing to thrive and provide for the future, please consider contributing to their campaign today.

Ways to donate:

- Write a check payable to: Johnsonburg Camp & Retreat Center
 Drop it in the Sunday collection plate OR mail directly to 822 Route 519, Johnsonburg NJ 07825
- Visit <u>www.campjburg.org</u> and donate by credit card online.

Session thanks you for your consideration of supporting this important fund-raising campaign.

Betsy Engelhardt Clerk of Session



"Bits and Bites"

News from the Food Pantry

Our Community Food Pantry continues to be a vital outreach to many who are seeking assistance during these times of uncertainty. Our doors are able to remain open because of the generous giving of so many, including our congregation, community groups, local churches, schools, the Farmer's Market, and those who drop off food and/or gift cards.

Nonperishables as well as fresh fruits and veggies, dairy products, meats, health and beauty aids, cleaning supplies, and paper goods are still being distributed. Our days of distribution are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Of course if an emergency arises we try to accommodate the request.

If anyone would like to donate one of the free items from Shop Rite or another grocery store please let a Deacon know or call the office at 973-728-3081. This way we can arrange for the drop off. We will be distributing Thanksgiving bags to those who request them. Again, if you wish to help with items for the bags please speak to one of the Deacons and we'll let you know what items are needed and by what date.

Questions? I can be reached at 973-728-7369 or janlee702@gmail.com .

Jan Halvorsen



RECIPE ROUNDUP

This recipe is from the book "Cranberry Thanksgiving" by Wende and Harry Devlin. I read this story to my students when Thanksgiving was approaching and then served this quick bread to the students. They really enjoyed it and I hope you do, too. A mixer is not required! Jan Halvorsen

Grandmother's Famous Cranberry Bread

2 cups sifted flour 1 egg beaten

1 cup sugar 1 teaspoon grated orange peel (dried or from

1 ½ teaspoons baking powder a fresh orange)

1 teaspoon salt 3 / 4 cup orange juice

1 / 2 teaspoon baking soda 1 ½ cups fresh or frozen cranberries, chopped

1 / 4 cup butter (you don't have to defrost cranberries)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 9 x 5 x 3 inch loaf pan.

Sift flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, and baking soda into a large bowl. Cut in the butter until mixture is crumbly. Add beaten egg, orange peel, and orange juice all at once; stir just until mixture is evenly moist. Fold in the chopped cranberries.

Spoon mixture into the greased pan. Bake for 50 -55 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Let cool for approximately 10 minutes. Then remove from pan and cool on a wire rack.

This bread keeps for several days wrapped well and kept on the counter or you can freeze it, too.



WEST MILFORD LIONS CLUB COMMUNITY COAT DRIVE

The West Milford Lions Club is looking for "gently worn" coats.

Kids Coats

Adult Coats - Men/Women

Winter Hats

Winter Gloves

Items can be dropped off at the church during office hours which are Monday and Wednesday 10-3 or on Sundays 9:30-11:30.

Please drop them off by November 19, 2010.

If you have further questions please reach out to Lion member

James Kenny @ 201-906-9513



Veterans Day is a time for us to pay our respects to those who have served. For one day, we stand united in respect for you, our veterans. This holiday started as a day to reflect upon the heroism of those who died in our country's service and was originally called Armistice Day. It fell on Nov. 11 because that is the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I. However, in 1954, the holiday was changed to "Veterans Day" in order to account for all veterans in all wars.

When first celebrated as Armistice Day, the day marked the end of World War I, formally recognized on the "11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month" in 1918.

Today we continue to celebrate the day as Veterans Day, still recognizing the original tie with November 11. That means Veterans Day is on the same day every year -- November 11 -- regardless of on which day of the week it falls.

The Deacons and the church wish to pay their respects to veterans attending church service on November 7th. A special treat will be given out to show our appreciation for all you did for your country. THANK YOU!!!



PRESIDE COUNTY CLERK

DANIELLE IRELAND-IMHOF 2021 OUTREACH SERVICES SCHEDULE

WEST MILFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY 1470 UNION VALLEY ROAD WEST MILLFORD, NJ 07480

SPM - 7PM

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

The Passaic County Clerk's Office Outreach Program is coming to your town and will provide full Passport Services, Notary Oath and Renewal and free Veterans ID Cards on the dates listed.



For information on all fees and services, please call the County Clerk's office at 973-225-3890



f (6) & Passaic County Clerk



www.PassaicCountyClerk.org