

Greetings WMPC Family,

There is a situation in the Bible where Jesus calms the wind and the sea. This incident is found in Matthew 8:24-27, Mark 4:37-41, and Luke 8:22-25. When you read these passages, they talk about Jesus calming the sea and the wind because the apostles feared they would perish. If you look at the passages closer, you will notice that this story is really not about the power that Jesus has to calm the wind and the sea. He already had that power long before this. This isn't the focus or the purpose of the passages.

This particular incident implies the idea of not having the right level of expectations. I think God is often disappointed in us for not having more faith and believing Him for greater things in our lives. I think God expects us to expect more from Him than what we do. Often, we only expect Him to do what we ask. Is this why we don't bother to pray? Is this why we try to accomplish things on our own without going to the Lord first? Notice the response of Jesus when He gets up to calm the sea and the wind. Jesus says in so many words, "Why did you fear? Where is your faith?" What did Jesus mean by this?

How many times do we focus on the circumstances around us rather than on the fact that Jesus is with us? The Apostles panicked and thought they needed help. What they forgot was that Jesus was on the boat, too. He was going through the storm as well. Yet Jesus wasn't running around in a state of frenzy. Jesus was sleeping and resting while the storm was raging.

Faith is often expressed more by our resting in the assurance that Jesus is with us. He is a friend that "sticks closer than a brother." Christ understands what we are going through and is right there with us. Rather than feeling like we have to be rescued all the time, we need to sit back and relax, knowing that He is with us always. Question: Were the Apostles really in danger with Christ on board? Do you believe that Christ is also on board your ship? The apostles should have remembered the words, "Let us go to the other side." They should have known and expected that when Jesus said they were going to the other side that He meant just that, whether the sea was calm or raging. Christ was going to the other side and the apostles were going with Him.

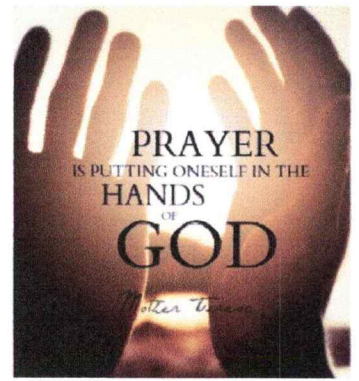
The lesson here is why don't we "expect" more from the Lord? Low expectations will rob us from so many great blessings God has for us, and also keep us from the rest that God desires us to have. This is my prayer for you West Milford. "Lord, help me to Expect more, Trust more, Believe Your Word, and Rest in Your Promises!" In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

In His Grace,

Pastor Justin

Joys:

- *Judy M. 64th anniversary
- *Victor Webb's grandchildren in church
- *James Ester in church with his aide Johnson
- *Linda Sibson's neighbor Karl needs prayers
- *Bob Sibson's B- day on Wednesday
- *Dee Casey's B day
- *Lee- choir kick off 9:30am every Sunday Please Join Us.
- *Joy to see the Sunday School active again with the children and teachers
- *Linda: Joy for the very successful ribbon cutting of Aunt Jenny's Attic. Many people came and many re-acquaintances were made. Off to a happy start.
- *Good to see Dee Casey back from Arizona.
- *Judy Mazur and husband are celebrating their 64th wedding anniversary.
- *Lisa Choies b-day is Tuesday
- *Justin thanks to Bonnie and Roberta for assisting with Christian Ed room.



Concerns:

- *Pam - Friend Barbara's grandson killed in auto accident Friday night.
Daniel 19 years old
- *Mary Macheska's daughter Nicole and her family all have Covid. Lives in N Carolina.
- *Fran Ehrhardt: continued prayers for Jeff.
- *Karen Willmott: prayers for Victor, Denise's husband, has cancer
- *Pam: Joy to visit Phyllis Van Hooker at Chelsea. They had a good conversation.
- *Carol Stanhope: Her mother-in-law passed away.
- *Sandy Schmidt: Prayers for grandson who will undergo minor surgery.
- *Barbara Zaraentine, now living in Maine passed away. Barbara was very active in our church.
- *Joy that choir is back.
- *Jan Halverson is recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- *Prayers for Sue Spinelli and her husband who is now in hospice . Stage 4 kidney cancer.
- *Karen Willmott has bronchitis. Son- in- law, Victor has liver and pancreatic cancer.
and is starting chemo.
- *Audrey went to the memorial for Bernie Snaut. Service was nice and she got to see a few former church members



SESSION'S REFLECTIONS

OCTOBER 2021

SUBMITTED BY BETSY ENGELHARDT, CLERK OF SESSION

Our September Session meeting made it very clear we have a busy Fall ahead. Approval was given to the Friends of the West Milford Township Library to install free book-sharing boxes on our property with a sign saying, "take a book, return a book".

Members of the "Friends" will monitor the box to keep it filled with books and in good condition. During the pandemic and summer vacation schedules, it has been difficult for Elders to keep up with counting and depositing of the weekly offerings. Session created a schedule for the Fall and into the future that will help ensure more timely attention handling this important financial support by our congregation. Property Committee accomplished so much during the summer months, with a growing list of projects for the Fall or future consideration. Quotes are already being solicited for replacements of windows and doors in the Parish and Scout houses. Unhealthy trees over the Parish House need attention or removal. Gutters need attention. Windows in the Sanctuary and possible roof replacement are projects on the wait list. We have contracted with West Milford Players for use of Fellowship Hall for their play productions. We are excited about this collaboration and look forward to our church members attending their play dates. Best yet – we will receive \$1.00 for every ticket sold as compensation – so please spread the word of their Sept 25 cabaret production of "Those Were the Days" AND their Nov 5th thru 7th production of "Godspell".

Interpretation and Stewardship Committee is hard at work on the Fall pledge campaign. In the weeks ahead you will be hearing about this year's theme "Let the Healing Begin". Pledge cards will be available with Consecration Sunday scheduled for October 24 - the traditional time to return your pledge commitments for the next year. Christian Education Committee has grown in size as the church works towards plans for the new school year without a Christian Ed Director. Much work was accomplished during the summer to pick a curriculum, discuss outreach efforts to increase attendance, and arrange for staffing.

PASTORAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 2021 UPDATE

PNC has been working diligently to review candidates that have been matched to our church needs through the Church Leadership Connection system. It has been a frustrating process as we find candidates, we wish to advance for further consideration have taken themselves off the market when we contact them. Since our first matching request of 30 candidates resulted in only 1 interview appointment, we have asked Presbytery to process another match request of candidates. We are now working on a list of 21 second wave candidate matches for review. This is a very lengthy process with no timeline for completion in sight. PNC will not complete its work until they are confident, they have reviewed enough available top candidates to make a confident final decision. At the advice of Presbytery, and with Pastor Choi's interim contract renewal due on October 15, Session voted to extend his contract to May 1, 2022 with an option of a 30-day cancellation clause by both parties. As always, we ask for the patience and prayers of our membership as we work towards our mission of finding the best candidate to serve our church for years to come.

Respectfully submitted,
Betsy Engelhardt, PNC Chair





WA NOTES

The Grand Opening of Aunt Jenny's Attic was a very nice event. We had a wonderful turn out and many people sat down to chat and have some cookies and punch-it was great. Everyone seemed to like our special place and we hope it grows. Many people helped to make it a reality and it is appreciated.

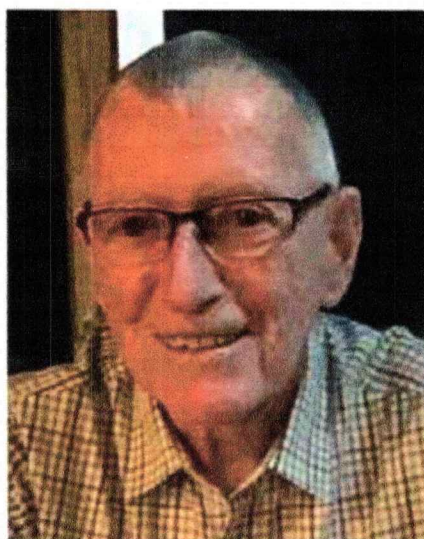
Looking forward we will hold our annual Christmas bazaar on November 20th. Contact Diane Eriksen with any questions.

Also we are planning our Roaring Twenties dinner in the near future. We'll keep you posted.

Hoping to see you at Aunt Jenny's Attic. Hours are Wednesday 1-4, Friday and Saturday 10-2. Volunteers welcome.



William H. Francis passed away on August 24, 2021 at the age of 88. A dedicated member of the West Milford Lions Club, Bill was a resident of West Milford for the past 52 years. Born in Queens, NY he was



employed by American Cyanamid of Wayne, NJ as an international traveling manager and retired in 1995, after which he worked at Greenwood Space Center and then at West Milford Town Hall until early 2020. Bill had many interests, including learning to play piano later in life, playing Frisbee-golf, dining out with friends and spending time with his beloved family. He was a member of West Milford Presbyterian Church where he was a Deacon and a member of the church choir. Bill was predeceased by his wife of 38 years, and is survived by one daughter, three sons, eight grandchildren and five great grandchildren. He will be greatly missed.

The West Milford Lions Club will be giving a William Francis Scholarship for a deserving high school senior. If you would like to contribute to this scholarship, please make out a check to West Milford Lions Charities and mail it to

West Milford Lions Club
PO Box 100
West Milford, NJ 07480

Graveside Service

Rev Janet will be doing a graveside service for Helen Maier. at 11 am on October 16th . The cemetery address is 500 Fairview Avenue Fairview NJ 07022
If anyone would like to go .



Help Wanted: We are in need of Readers,Greeters, people to help with coffee hour. If you would like to help please let the office know. We would appreciate your help.

Aunt Jenny's Attic at the West Milford Presbyterian Church held it's grand opening on September 15th. It was well attended and our mayor Michele Dale helped to cut the ribbon.

We received some very nice comments about the store. Our aim is not to just have a thrift shop but to have a place where friends can stop in, have a cup of coffee and meet up with each other or make new friends. We are hoping it will become a true asset to our wonderful community and that you will stop in and check us out.

All are welcome so come visit. Hours are Wednesday 1-4, Friday and Saturday 10-2.



Aunt Jenny's is looking for a good working vacuum. If you have one that you would like to donate please let Linda know, Thanks

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10am - Worship 6pm - Scouts						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10am - Worship 6pm - Scouts		3pm - Farmers Market	9am - St. Saints			10am - Deacons Meeting
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10am - Worship 11am - WA Meeting 6pm - Scouts	10am - WA Meeting 7:30pm - Session	3pm - Farmers Market	9am - St. Saints		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	11am - Helen Maier
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10am - Worship 6pm - Scouts		3pm - Farmers Market	9am - St. Saints		5pm - WA Roaring 20's	11am - Rath Memorial
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10am - Consecration 6pm - Scouts			9am - St. Saints			
31	1			4	5	6
10am - Worship 6pm - Scouts						

