

Greetings!

September is here, Fall is back! It's that time of the year when we see changes in colors, trees producing fruits, the cooler weather, and people coming back from vacations to work, school, or church.

Although Summer seems hot and sticky, the truth is that Fall reveals what Summer did in secret. This is the challenge of God's people and His church.

Psalms 91:1 declares "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." (KJV) The reason why so many people don't seem to bear fruit the way we like is because there is no secret place of personal commitment and consecration with God.

We see the fruit of so many powerfully anointed ministries and forget to understand the depths of their walk with God. But just like nature is at work in Summer, with sunshine and heat for the bearing fruits, God is at work within His church, preparing His people for harvest and revival. Let me encourage you to find that secret dwelling place where God's presence guides our hearts and ministry in Jesus Christ.

In His Grace,  
Pastor Justin Choi





## Joys

- \* Fran Ehrhardt is rejoicing that the PET scan on Jeff shows no more cancer. Jeff is cancer free.
- \* Great to see Howie back in church. Still no hugs allowed.
- \* Audrey: Grandson of Hank visited Audrey with wife and son. Would be Hank's great grandson
- \* Betsy noted some comments on the rummage sale. "I can't believe the scope of the sale." "So much stuff" ..... So well organized. Betsy and Ken Dykstra reminded us that most of the workers are of an aging group.
- \* Mary Macheska will be a grandma in December.
- \* Irene Kershaw: Sophie and Troop 44, B&G, went to Scout Camp Turrell for a week.
- \* Sandy Smidt spent time with her family.
- \* Jan Halverson: Younger grandson spent a week with her.
- \* Bobbie Del Sol: Will babysit grandchild for a week
- \* Lee is going to Jazz Camp then will play jazz in 6 cruises to Alaska and back
- \* We are thankful for the wonderful article in the messenger about Aunt Jenny's attic and its history. And we are thankful for all who help with the rummage sale, set up, and clean up... \$25,000 was made.
- \* A joy from Keith Williams that he had a wonderful trip to Iceland with his mom and he is thankful for his new job.
- \* It was a beautiful service for Phyllis Van Hooker. Phyllis was responsible for the new piano and organ that we hear each Sunday.
- \* Julia Held: Will soon become a new great-grandmother.
- \* Ruth Allen's birthday
- \* Sandy Smidt: a friend is completely recovered from breast cancer.
- \* Thanks to all who continue to support our Food Pantry
- \* Leah Majka is a Grandma, Aug 23rd a Baby girl Emma Grace born 4:45pm 7lbs 7 oz.
- \* Sandy Smidts niece had a baby boy.

## Concerns

- \* Chris Rodek's husband Rich lost a cousin in a car accident.
- \* Zack Rodek's best friend Alex recently died.
- \* Allison from Shop Rite is suffering from a pinched nerve and can't work.
- \* Prayers for Phyllis Van Hooker's family.
- \* Prayers for Karen Willmott and her family on the passing of her son-in-law Victor.
- \* Betsy Engelhardt's cousin passed, Ted Townsend.
- \* Prayers for Barbara Nesta who is in the hospital
- \* Ruth Allen: Prayers for the family of Stephen Castinova Jr.. who passed away.
- \* Linda and Bob Sibson have Covid
- \* Cathy Holley's neighbors, Easterbrooks, have Covid.
- \* Fran's daughter-in-law, Julia's father died.
- \* Continued prayers for Diane Eriksen and Karen Willmott
- \* Prayers for the Ukrainian people
- \* Prayers for the people suffering from the floods in Kentucky.
- \* Prayers for those in California.....raging fires destroying homes, forests
- \* Mary Macheska fell. Broke her right ankle. Not able to drive for 6 weeks.
- \* Don: His Niece Michelle needs prayers, may have brain damage
- \* Dale (Sunday school teacher): her brother had shoulder surgery and it was successful.
- \* Victor and Wendy Webb lost their cherished pet Chloe this past week.
- \* Jan Halvorsen had knee surgery please keep her in your prayers.







# SESSION'S REFLECTIONS

SEPTEMBER 2022

SUBMITTED BY BETSY ENGELHARDT, CLERK OF SESSION

As we hope has been the case with the congregation, Session enjoyed summer vacation time with family and took a much-needed break from monthly meetings. It is a great time to rejuvenate and reflect on work completed and work yet to be accomplished in the months ahead. When we resume for our September Session meeting, we will be meeting jointly with Deacons to discuss goals for our future, vacancies in leadership positions, and a path forward to keep our church vibrant, relevant, and healthy well into our future. We ask for your prayers and active participation in helping to see our proposed path become a reality.

Our Christian Education committee has been working on curriculum plans for the new school year. Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 11 as the date for our annual Church picnic. Property committee's work is never done! As chair, Don Wright often works silently behind the scenes to make sure all property needs are addressed on a timely basis. We are grateful for his time, talent, and dedication to this vital responsibility.

As Fall approaches, let us enjoy cooler temperatures, beautiful autumn aromas and the vibrant colors this season brings. Let us rejoice in the knowledge we have the freedom to worship and the ability with our God's given talents to maintain and promote our church as a community center providing spiritual nourishment, a welcoming vibe, and outreach projects to meet the needs of those near and far.

Well in June we had another very successful Rummage Sale! Our 67th!!!!

In the 8/23/1954 Sunday church bulletin it was happily announced that they had made \$150.00 on their White Elephant Sale. This made us wonder why is it a White Elephant Sale?? So we looked it up and it seems the King Of Siam (Yul Brynner will always be the king for me) I thought that was interesting. This year we made \$25,000.00!

Our Rummage sale is not only important to our church but it is very important to our community. Some folks show up at 6:30 AM for a 9:00AM opening.

It is a lot of work but it is also fun and fellowship for all involved. People who don't belong to our church thank us for letting them help so we must be doing something right.

Sadly our core group is getting older and needs help. I implore you all to think about this and search your hearts and decide to help us next year. You don't have to come every day just a few hours will help. 🙏

We are making plans for the coming year. If any of you have any ideas you'd like to share please come to our meeting after church on 9/18/22 and let us hear them.

Our Christmas Bazaar will be held on 11/19/22 so save the date.

Last but not least please stop in Aunt Jenny's Attic for a cup of tea or coffee and some cookies and some nice conversation.

Hope to see you soon. Blessings Linda and Pam



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL 2022-2023 SEASON BEGINS!**

The Christian Education Committee has been planning for this year's Sunday School opening and program. Sunday, September 11, 2022 is our first day and registration. All families are welcome to bring their children (ages 4 to high school) whether they are members or not. Nursery is available for those under four. Please pass the word to family and friends.

Our curriculum this year will be based on "Growing in God's Love – A Story Bible",



and the Weekly Lectionary. Games and crafts will enhance the lesson each Sunday. Sunday School children will 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 program. They will also have the opportunity to share in the Communion experience.

We are looking for volunteers who will help with the nursery on Sunday mornings (maybe volunteer once a month if we can get enough volunteers) so parents can go to the service. Also, we can use substitutes for classes.

The Christian Education committee consists of Pastor Justin, Fran Erhardt, Bonnie Rogers, Dale Hamilton. Roberta Schmidt and Sandy Smidt along with Karen Willmott as the Deacon's representative.

# West Milford Presbyterian Church

Invites You To



## Sunday School Program

**ALL CHILDREN WELCOME!!**

Ages 4 to high school; nursery available for under 4

**(You do not have to be a church member to attend.)**

**Sundays at 10:00 am**

**Call to register or for more information**

**973-728-3081**

**Please pass on to friends and relatives**

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

