



TIDINGS

WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FEBRUARY 2012

A February Word from Chuck Cary

I think it was Mark Twain who declared that “there are lies, darn lies, and then there are statistics”. Perhaps this is not the quote to begin this column for February when statistical reports for churches are examined for indications of faithfulness and then forwarded along to the General Assembly offices in Louisville, Kentucky to be combined with others to discern trends within the denomination as a whole. Statistics by themselves do not measure everything (such as the spirit of a place and people), but they do help measure objective realities which aid in decision-making for the future.

Read the 2011 annual report for your church and you will find some statistics to celebrate such as the financial revelation that shows a balanced budget for the year past, and projections for the same in 2012. You will also note in the current budget less of a draw from the endowment than last year, and other key indicators which ought to prod us to prayers of thanksgiving.

I always look at worship attendance as a key revelation of a church’s commitment. During the holidays of Easter and Christmas we welcomed over 400 persons to our combined worship services at each. The ushers counted 121 at the chapel on Christmas Eve. Who knows who else might have come if we had had room. Folks were standing in the vestibule and latecomers were out of luck. I asked the Worship committee to evaluate our Christmas Eve schedule to see what we can do to accommodate everyone. 293 were counted in the sanctuary. It is a pleasant problem, and a trend to celebrate as more folks find a home in our pews.

One trend that gives me concern is the decrease in the number of young people who worship regularly. We did an analysis in my previous congregation and determined that it was possible for a child to grow up into young adulthood and never take part in a service of Holy Communion. Hence, we were sending 18 year olds into the world having never broken bread or shared the cup. What conspired to produce this statistic? Our schedule was one thing to blame. Programs galore competed with morning worship and prevented young people from finding their place at the table. Other assumptions suggested that young people were not suited for worship that resonated with adult tastes (Did not Jesus welcome a child to his knee and declare that to such belongs the Kingdom of God?). As a parent and grandparent, I also realize the challenge of imparting worship etiquette to the new generation.

One way that I addressed the matter was to require all confirmation students to attend worship from beginning to end, taking notes on what bored and inspired them. We then debriefed these notes and their impressions at consequent class sessions. I had to eat humble pie often as they raised questions about a passage or sermon. I also rejoiced when it was clear that eighth graders grasped the full message and theme of my proclamation. Remarkably, those young people offered sensitive, mature farewell words on my last Sunday there.

I hope and pray that a future statistic of Westhampton Presbyterian will declare that we had worship which speaks to all ages here. In the meantime let’s do better at making sure that all children and youth know that Sunday worship welcomes them as much as anyone else.

THIS MONTH IN WORSHIP

- February 5 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11; I Corinthians 9:16-23;
Mark 1:29-39
Sermon: "The State of the Church—2012"
Annual Meeting to Follow Morning Worship
- February 12 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
I Corinthians 9:19-27
Sermon: "All Things to All People?"
- February 19 TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**
Mark 9:2-9
Sermon: "Transfigured and Confirmed"
Sacrament of Baptism for Piper Jaime Heath
- February 22 ASH WEDNESDAY**
Ecumenical Service to be Announced
- February 26 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Mark 1:9-15
Sermon: "A Wilderness Journey"

Notes from Session

2012 Session Assignments

- Clerk:** Dick Anderson
Clerk Pro Tem: Hanne Manker
Music/Worship: Rosemary Cline, Kathy Tureski
Christian Education: Amy Mosher
Youth Ministry: Barbara Mitchell, Kathy Tureski, Mara Terchunian
Mission: David LeBleu
Church Life: Open
Finance: Maik Jornitz
Personnel: Hanne Manker, Scott Campbell
Memorial & Endowment: Mimi Johnson
Fundraising: Tom Otis
Membership: Andrea Lohneiss
Presbytery Commissioners:
 January 28 (Sat.): Dave LeBleu, Mimi Johnson
 Apr. 17 (Tues.): Dave LeBleu
 June 26 (Tues.):
 October 27 (Sat.):
Nominations: Mimi Johnson (chair), Andrea Lohneiss
Scholarship: Rosemary Cline

Church Family News

We celebrate the birth of Crawford Gardiner Jackson IV. Crawford was born on January 2 to Chandi Neubauer and Gar Jackson and joins his sister Grace. He is also the fourth grandchild of Karen and Ralph Neubauer. Congratulations to all!

A memorial service was held for Edwin G. Follett of Vicars Landing, FL at the Follet and Werner Funeral Home on January 4th. Mr. Follet died on December 29, 2011. Rev. Cary officiated the service.

We bid farewell and God-speed to Jean Duffield as she moves to California to a new community near her son Terry. Her forwarding address will follow in the next issue of Tidings.

Congratulations to Brittany Bauer and the Bauer family on her marriage to Sam Hower-ton on January 14th in the sanctuary. We wish them a lifetime of happiness and many blessings.

"For the church to function fully, we must all fulfill our role; while the Spirit's gifts are many, they combine to serve the whole."

*By David Sper
from the Devotional, Our Daily Bread, December 2011.*

Submitted by Sarajane Giere

Synod Wurffel-Sills Interest Free Loans and Scholarships

Interest-Free Loans and Scholarships are available to all active members of a Presbyterian Church in the Synod of the Northeast for the upcoming school year (2012-2013) from "The Karl, John, Elizabeth Wurffel Memorial Fund" and "The Allie L. Sills Memorial Fund." Applications must be received in the Synod Office by April 1, 2012.

Individuals who are or will be pursuing higher education goals and will be attending seminary, graduate or undergraduate or educational programs at accredited institutions on a full-time basis, within the United States and Canada are welcome to apply.

All applications for the upcoming school year are reviewed by the Individual Grants Task Force. Three applications are chosen for scholarships. Those not chosen for the scholarship program will be reviewed for an interest-free loan.

Visit Synod of the Northeast website or for more information, contact the Synod Office by phone at 315-446-5990/800-585-5881, Ext. 215 or by sending an email to financeadmin@synodne.org

Youth Ministry

The Youth Group would like to thank everyone who attended our annual French Toast Breakfast in January. There was a wonderful show of support for our program that helped raise three hundred dollars for Youth Fellowship!

Remember to Pay Your 2012 *Per Capita*!

Again this year the Session of Westhampton Presbyterian Church **encourages** its members to pay the *per capita* as a special, designated donation, in addition to their support of the overall church program. This will help us to move toward financial stability over the long run. To facilitate *per capita* donations, a special envelope is included in each box of offering envelopes, right at the front. Members are urged to use this envelope to make *per capita* donations for all members in the household. **In 2012, the *per capita* assessment is \$30.39 per member.**

As Presbyterians at Westhampton Presbyterian Church we value greatly our connections with other Presbyterians – around the corner, and around the world. We are united by beliefs and traditions, and united in spirit and love. This unity takes tangible form when we "pool" our resources, for the purpose of doing Christ's work together. One of the ways this happens is by means of the "*per capita*" apportionment. Each congregation agrees to support the essential functions of the larger church by a donation based on membership.

The 2012 *per capita* apportionment for churches is split between the three governing bodies in this way:

- Presbytery of Long Island: \$19.81
- Synod of the Northeast: \$ 3.95
- General Assembly: \$ 6.63
- **Total per member \$30.39**

To assist you in your planning, the following figures are pre-computed per household:

- One member: \$30.39
- Two members: \$60.78
- Three members: \$91.17
- Four members: \$121.56
- Five members: \$151.95
- Six members: \$182.34

Since the church "covers" unpaid *per capita* donations from the operations budget, individual payment frees-up resources for other important programs and priorities and so multiply the good work it does! *Per capita* donations are welcomed all year, of course, but are especially appreciated as early in the year as possible.

Looking ahead toward February, we have some great events planned including a trip to Manhattan for Midnight Run on February 18th. Also in anticipation for our nation's most popular sporting event, our Youth will once again be participating in a Souper Bowl



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Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women need your in-put. We are not only the 15 or 16 who gather monthly for lunch and a business meeting. We are all the women of the church — members and friends. We need your comments, suggestions and help for the future traditional programs, especially the Rummage Sales, Summer Treasure Sale and the Christmas Tea and Bazaar. It is obvious fewer hands have been available to make all these possible. Strong sentiments, pro and con, have been expressed. We need volunteers to keep these programs alive.

The annual report will show the receipts and disbursements for the 2011 fiscal year.

We need your response. Do we have your hands-on support? A questionnaire will be included in a future Tidings. Please take the time to let us know whether we can count on your help in 2012.

2011 was encouraging in many ways. We honored all mission pledges, including our own WPC, adopted children, here and abroad, LIPW and more. Do we remain dedicated to our purpose?

January 11, 2012 was the first meeting of the New Year. If the appetizers didn't whet your appetite for the luncheon, you were among the missing. Eleanor Hoyt captured our attention during the devotional minutes when she invited us to consider the evolution of Christmas cards. They originated in the simplest of formats, to mass production, to the technology of today. It is a history to be revisited. A history begun in the 1700's!

Preliminary plans for 2012 were presented. You will see an invitation to participate with an enthusiastic group of ladies interested in creating hand crafted items. (This is not to be considered a part of the Tuesday morning group.) There will be a kick-off meeting on February 10 at 7pm at the home of Gini Wagner. More information to come. This promises to be a new format with new faces, good company and fun.

A familiar face, a loyal friend and senior member of PW has made a difficult decision. Jean Duffield, a member of more than 60 years, will move from our family to be with her California family. Jean steadfastly resisted change in her church life routine. She has had many years of devoted Sunday attendance, weekly oversight of kitchen maintenance and decades of behind the scenes fellowship. Jean, your "new" church family has no idea what a friend they will inherit. Peace be with you always with our love.

We meet again on February 8 at noon. Bring your favorite sandwich to enjoy with homemade soup, dessert, coffee and tea.

The Smartest People in the World

A doctor, a lawyer, a little boy and a minister were out for a Sunday afternoon flight on a small private plane. Suddenly, the plane developed engine trouble. In spite of the best efforts of the pilot, the plane started to go down. Finally, the pilot grabbed a parachute, yelled to the passengers that they had better jump, and then he bailed out. Unfortunately,

Mission Ministry

Hospice Pledge

The Mission Ministry would like to announce the Session-approved pledge of \$25,000 to East End Hospice. The pledge is to be paid over the next 5 years. This pledge is to have a room in their new 8 bed facility on Meeting House Road named for Dottie Savage. As many of you know, Dottie, a member of our church, was the force to establish East End Hospice after the death of her husband Hugh. More details will follow.

Adult Work Camp

In other Mission news, we have a solid core of 9 people signed up for the Adult Work Camp at Stony Point Center during the week of June 17-22. We would love to have more participants, so if you would like to serve the church in this way with your time and energy, please contact Dave LeBleu.



there were only three parachutes remaining. The doctor grabbed one and said "I'm a doctor, I save lives, so I must live," and jumped out. The lawyer then said, "I'm a lawyer and lawyers are the smartest people in the world. I deserve to live." He also grabbed a parachute and jumped. The minister looked at the little boy and said, "My son, I've lived a long and full life. You are young and have your whole life ahead of you. Take the last parachute and live in peace." The little boy handed the parachute back to the minister and said, "Not to worry. The 'smartest man in the world' just took off with my back pack."

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 <i>9am-3pm EE Hospice Camp Good Grief Reunion; 9:30am M&E meeting; 6pm Youth</i>
5 <i>8:30am Adult Study Congrega- tional Meeting Souper Bowl Of Caring</i>	6 <i>7pm Boy Scouts</i>	7 <i>11am Staff 7pm Deacons</i>	8 <i>12noon PW Lunch</i>	9	10	11
12 <i>8:30am Adult Study Scout Sunday 11am Youth</i>	13 <i>7pm Boy Scouts</i>	14 <i>7pm Session</i>	15 <i>Tidings Dead- line</i>	16 <i>6pm Avon</i>	17	18 <i>Midnight Run Time: TBA</i>
19 <i>Baptism</i>	20 <i>President's Day-Office Closed</i>	21 <i>11am Staff 7pm Trustees</i>	22 <i>Ash Wednes- day</i>	23	24	25 <i>8:30am Men's Group</i>
26 <i>Communion 4pm Youth</i>	27 <i>7pm Elizabeth Circle 7pm Boy Scouts</i>	28	29	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p>WEEKLY: Adult Study: Sunday 8:30am; Worship: Sunday 10am Sanctuary Choir: Sunday 9:30 and 11:15am Jr. Choir: Tuesday 5:45pm (seasonal) AA: Sunday 12 and 7:30pm, Wednesday 7pm, Saturday 10am Nicotine Anonymous: Wednesday 6pm Christmas Bazaar Workshop: Tuesday 9:30am</p> </div>		

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 WESTHAMPTON BEACH, NY 11978

BULK RATE
 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 US POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #98
 WESTHAMP-



**President's Day
 February 20th**

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Your issue of the February Tidings

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS	9	Jonn Larson	18	Sean Doyle	
AND ANNIVERSARIES	9	Donn Larson	23	Sandy Surgan	
	9	Carter Cline	25	Lise Frielinghaus	
1	Joanna Howard	10	Elva Stanley	27	Sally Hoge
1	Madeline, Michael, and Mac Gillooley	11	Julie and Eric Diers	27	Marissa Schultze
1	John Campbell	12	Phyllis Styrzo	28	Laurie Pitcher
3	Deborah and Bob Busking	12	Cassie Dayton		
4	Nancy Winters	12	Jean Halsey		
5	Christopher James	14	Taylor Wagner		
5	Zachary Downs	15	Mary Brennan		
9	Michael Baird	16	Marilyn Wood		
		16	Matt Ravenhall		
		18	Louise Smith		



TACKLE HUNGER

So Simple

Souper Bowl of Caring is youth across the nation working to fight hunger and poverty in their own communities around the time of the Super Bowl football game. Please support our youth as they sell soup on Souper Bowl Sunday, February 12th.

Hunger in America

The number of Americans living in poverty is the highest it has been in 52 years. One in seven households in our nation are food insecure, which affects more than 16 million children. *(source: United States Department of Agriculture)*

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fundraiser, with the goal of raising money to support soup kitchens. We hope once again to see such loving endowment toward our Youth Group and its mission.

In Peace

Kyle Miller & Jillian D'abramo

2011 NATIONWIDE:
 17,700 groups generated
 \$9,590,540 in cash and food items
 for local charities!