



# TIDINGS

WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
JANUARY 2012

## A January Word from Chuck Cary

**2012....** May the next 12 months be a season of renewed hope. I hope for a global economic recovery. I hope for peace on earth. I also hope for a presidential campaign which can focus on the issues at hand and leave character assassination and demagoguery behind. Renewed hope is the essence of the Gospel itself, wherein resurrection follows crucifixion and life forever trumps death. May Westhampton Presbyterian Church be a place and people of steadfast hope which is forever tangible in our life and witness.



Steven Pinker, a psychology professor at Harvard is the author of a book *The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined*. He makes some surprising assertions, which ought to startle the most jaded cynics. He claims that there is a growing repugnance to systemic violence and that most of us are getting the picture that war diminishes the victor as well as the loser. I hope to read the text in its entirety while on vacation later this month. For now, as the final troops return from the eight plus year war in Iraq, I welcome his call to what Paul the apostle termed *the still more excellent way of love*. The conference table as opposed to the battlefield remains the most viable means to settling our differences.

Emily Dickinson, a Theologian as well as a poet in my opinion wrote the following poem, no. 254 in her collection:

*'Hope' is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul  
And sings the tune without the words  
and never stops at all  
And sweetest—in the Gale is heard  
And sore must be the storm  
That could abash the little Bird  
That kept so many warm  
I've heard it in the chillest land  
and on the strangest Sea  
Yet, never in Extremity, It asked a crumb-of Me.*

May the power of hope be the fuel which drives the engine of our souls this new year. Without it, we will be the less. With it we can move mountains!

See you in church!

PS. If you are in Florida January 22<sup>nd</sup> Millie and I would love to have you join us for worship at the Moorings Presbyterian Church in Naples where I will participate in the burning of their mortgage. If you are coming, let me know as I would love to recognize WPC members and friends as part of the service. They worship at the same time we do... 10:00 am. [www.mooringspresby.org](http://www.mooringspresby.org)

## THIS MONTH IN WORSHIP

- January 1**    **First Sunday after Christmas**  
New Year's Day  
Luke 2:22-40            "Nunc Dimittis"
- January 8**    **The Baptism of the Lord**  
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper  
Ordination and Installation of Officers  
Mark 1:9-11            "Baptized: Does It Still Matter?"
- January 15**    **2nd Sunday after Epiphany**  
The Rev. Jean Wilson Baum
- January 16**    **(Monday) 7:30 PM**  
Martin Luther King Jr. Ecumenical Service  
St. Paul's AME Zion Church, Quogue
- January 22**    **3rd Sunday after Epiphany**  
The Rev. Jean Wilson Baum
- January 29**    **4th Sunday after Epiphany**  
The Rev. Kenneth Graham
- NOTE:            Rev. Cary is on vacation from January 15-31. Emergency coverage is provided by the Rev. Jack King of Beach United Methodist Church

## Notes from December 13<sup>th</sup> Session Meeting

Following an open house at the manse joined by deacons and trustees, the elders convened at the church for their regular meeting. The moderator began the meeting with Scripture, a reading from the Mission Yearbook, and prayer. New elders present included Andrea Lohneiss and Scott Campbell. Maik Jornitz was excused. Mimi Johnson joins this class for a second three year term. Other elders introduced themselves and a routine docket was approved.

Minutes of previous meetings were approved as corrected. The pastor's report noted strong worship attendance during November-December and highlighted other activities such as worship and communion at the Protestant service at the Westhampton Care Center; various ministry teams reported on their activities and were reminded to complete their annual reports for inclusion in the 2011 annual report to be distributed before the Annual Meeting called for February 5, 2012 in the sanctuary following the morning service.

Discussion took place about the possibility of using Skype technology to allow for elders to participate in meetings even when away. The financial reports for November portray an uptick in giving as we near the year end. We are poised for a balanced operating budget. Concern was expressed that 2012 pledges still represent a significant shortfall between the actual total and pledge goal. Follow up contacts are being made with those who have yet to pledge for 2012.

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## Church Family News

Westhampton Presbyterian Church and the Village of Quogue mourn the loss of Patricia Driver Shuttleworth. Pat died on November 1, 2011. A celebration of Pat's life was held on December 10th in the sanctuary with a reception following hosted by the Deacons. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Pat's family and friends.

## Pledging for 2012

The new year is almost here, and we have not quite met the pledge goal that would let us fund all of our programs fully. There are still folks who have pledged with us in the past whom we haven't heard from, as well as new members who might wish to help but haven't gotten around to it. Now is the time.

Our budget has to be in place as we start January. Making a promise to support the church is an individual decision, and it may be modified at any time circumstances change, but if you are able and willing to help, we need you now. Send a memo to the church office at 90 Meeting house Road or reply to me at [stuwood@fastmail.net](mailto:stuwood@fastmail.net)

Stu Wood, Stewardship chair

### **REMINDER . . .**

**ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE BY JANUARY 13.**

**Any questions, call the office: 288-2576.**

## Christmas Bazaar

Christmas is now a memory, but one of my favorite memories is that of our annual Christmas Tea and Bazaar. This year people noticed that it looked especially lovely.

Jane Otis decorated the tree and made our head table look elegant. Marge Beckwith has the magic touch decorating the Parish Hall. The large wreath, arrangements and this year's popular seller, the lit glass blocks, made the room look quite in the spirit. How Marge and Peggy Childs come up with the ideas for the Tea year after year amazes me. Marge also headed up the kitchen staff keeping the beverages and food coming. They were attractively displayed for the tea table. Peggy headed up her room of homemade treasures. She is also the computer whiz behind our posters. We had an especially large group of twenty come out to make a beautiful collection of wreaths at our pizza party organized by Eloise Carter. We even ran out of pizza. Everyone had a good time expressing their creative talents. The wreaths were supplied by the Mankers, and Ben Larson and his son Donn again supplied the beautiful greens. The greens were used the next day to make lovely arrangements. Kudos to the new members who came to both events. What a great way to meet some of the people in our church. Karen Andrews, Louise Smith and Sarajane Giere transformed the conference room to a Twice Nice Christmas shopping delight. They make their room look so picturesque year after year. Jean Seyfert gathered knick knacks and such into hot selling baskets. Holly Hubbard thought of selling some scarves, etc. from the treasure sale in with the jewelry which was a good idea. I adopted some new faces to help with the Bazaar. Our patrons love to see young people involved.

Thanks to all who baked for the bazaar and made sandwiches. We had an abundant supply. People love the cookie walk which sold most all of its cookies. Every thing was tempting. Cheryl Van Tuyle headed the cookie walk and contributed some beautiful hand painted and crafted ornaments.

After much discussion we decided to have one vendor who supports Global Girlfriend. This is a project which helps women in poorer countries support themselves. People who bought her items contributed to this cause. Charlene Maloney has a shop called Calico Garden in East Quogue and was so happy to have a part in our festive afternoon. She was gratified that the proceeds which we generated will go to such a worthy endeavor.

Thank you to all who helped in every way: setting up, working during the bazaar, and cleaning up. There are too many to name. My hope is to form a group of crafty people who might meet one evening a month or Saturday morning to make something for next year's bazaar. This talent missed me but I will be happy to organize this endeavor. Let me know who you are. Bring ideas. Some of our best ideas have been borrowed, bring those too.

Christine Haddad, Chair

## PW News

The spirit of Christmas came to us through the words and drawings of Charles Schulz as we watched part of "Charlie Brown's Christmas". Eleanor Hoyt led devotion using this as a reminder to all of the true meaning of Christmas. We enjoyed coffee, tea and assorted desserts before a brief business meeting.

The Christmas Tea and Bazaar was an overwhelming success. Lots of helping hands, lots of interesting things for sale and goodies aplenty for our guests. "This is the best ever" was a comment often heard. Thank you all.

We look forward to 2012 with enthusiasm. Come to the Covered Dish luncheon, Jan. 11, 2012 at noon. Plans for next year will be considered. Your ideas and input are always welcome.

Merry Christmas. May God's love surround you all through the New Year.

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*(Continued from page 2) Session Meeting*

Thanks were offered for seasonal programs such as the Christmas Pageant, the special worship services, and the like. Concern was expressed that the church balance its special appeals in ways that do not hamper each by being too close.

There was discussion about inactive members and a decision was reached to make the contacts in the new year as opposed to acting now without full information. Session was nevertheless reminded that the Annual Report will reflect the accurate membership numbers at the close of 2011.

Outgoing elders Jennifer Ketner, Vernon Hackworth, and Stuart Wood were recognized and

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## Church School News

### UPCOMING MEETINGS FOR THE NEW YEAR:

**Sunday, January 8th: Sunday School Teachers meeting at 11:15am**

**Sunday, January 22nd: Children's Ministry Meeting at 11:15 am**

We invite anyone who is interested in helping with Children's activities this year to attend. In addition to our annual activities; Lenten & Advent festivals, Easter Egg Hunt, vacation bible school, Christmas pageant and movie nights, we are also looking for new ideas. We need volunteers to keep these events going for our children! Babysitting will be provided during the meeting. Please contact Amy Mosher if you have any questions. (631)704-2411 or [abmosher@optonline.net](mailto:abmosher@optonline.net)

## Mission Committee

### Adult Work Camp

A meeting will be held in mid January for anyone interested in helping to organize and steer the effort to implement the work camp, June 17-22, at the Stony Point Center. The work camp is part of a barn-raising style project to build a comprehensive arts building at the Stony Point retreat center. This would not obligate you to attend the work camp, only to help ensure successful participation in this exciting project by our congregation, and perhaps others. This is our first ever Adult Work Camp which hopefully will become another cornerstone of our hands-on mission work here at Westhampton. There will be much to do and all are welcome. Please see or call Dave LeBleu, if you are interested.

Dave LeBleu,  
Chair, Mission Committee

## Sunday Morning Adult Discussion Group

**Jan. 8 to Feb. 12: Video and discussion: Wrestling with Angels:**  
An Intimate Look at the Tough Questions of Life in a six week video and discussion study.

Attend one or all; as six well-known authors/communicators speak honestly of their deepest struggles with life's really tough questions. Their very intimate stories and insights form the launch points into what God has for us when we face these tough issues and situations. All group discussions will begin with the video presentation as our guest speaker shares their story and insights. Here is the line-up:

**January 8: Guidance** with Tony Campolo: How Do I Know What to Do? Tony Campolo is an ordained Baptist Minister, who has pastored churches, founder and president of the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education (third-world countries), and professor of Sociology and Youth Ministries at Eastern College.

**January 15: Why me?** with Philip Yancy: If You're So Good Why Are Things So Awful? Philip Yancy is a freelance writer and editor-at-large of Christianity Today, Inc. and author of *Where is God When it Hurts?*, *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made*, and *In His Image*.

**January 22: Prayer** with Richard Foster: Why Don't My Prayers Get Answered? Richard Foster is a speaker, preacher and lecturer of international acclaim, professor of theology at Friends University in Wichita and author of *Freedom of Simplicity*, *The Challenge of the Disciplined Life* and *Prayer, Finding the Heart's True Home*.

**January 29: Forgiving** with Lewis Smedes: How Do I Forgive and Get On With My Life? Lewis B. Smedes is award-winning author of ten books, including *Forgive and Forget*, *Choices*, *Caring and Commitment*, *A Pretty Good Person*, and *Shame and Grace* and is a wise and respected counselor and teacher.

**February 5: Doubt** with Madeleine L'Engle: How Can I Question and Still Believe? Madeleine L'Engle is the best selling author of over 25 books including the Newbury prize winning, *A Wrinkle in Time* and is known for combining an intelligent curiosity in the scientific order with an enduring faith in the presence of God. In her autobiographical book, *Marriage: A Two Part Invention*, she writes of her relationship with her husband and how in the midst of his illness and death, God's presence was constant.

**February 12: Love** with Keith Miller: Why Is Loving So Hard? Keith Miller is the popular best-selling author of over 14 books including the classic *The Taste of New Wine*. Educated in psychology and theology, Keith draws upon his own faith journey to explore the tensions and connections between faith and living practically. His book *A Hunger for Healing* examines the popular 12-step ad-

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# JANUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2 <i>Church Office Closed in celebration of New Year's Day</i>	3 <i>7pm Deacons</i>	4	5	6	7 <i>8:30am Audit Committee 9:30am Budget Committee</i>
8 <i>8:30am Adult Study 9-12 Youth Breakfast Fundraiser Ordination Installation, Communion 11:15am Christian Ed Teachers' Meeting</i>	9	10 <i>7pm Session</i>	11 <i>12pm PW Covered Dish Luncheon 4pm Hampton Interfaith Board 7pm Mission Ministry Meeting</i>	12 <i>6pm Avon</i>	13 <i>5-8pm HS Club CURE Spaghetti Dinner 6pm Wedding Rehearsal</i>	14 <i>4pm Sam Hower-ton/Brittany Bauer Wedding, Sanctuary</i>
15 <i>Tidings Deadline 8:30am Adult Study 5:30pm Youth College Care Pkgs.</i>	16 <i>Martin Luther King Day Church Office Closed 7pm MLK Community Service at St. Paul's AME Zion</i>	17 <i>7pm Trustees</i>	18	19	20 <i>7pm Youth Group Lock-In</i>	21 <i>10am Youth Group Lock-In ends</i>
22 <i>8:30am Adult Study 11:15am Children's Ministry Meeting</i>	23	24	25	26	27	28 <i>8:30am Men's Group Presbytery Meeting 6pm Youth Pot Luck Dinner</i>
29 <i>8:30am Adult Study 6pm Youth make lunch for Maureen's Haven</i>	30	31				

**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  
**Maureen's Haven:** Monday 5pm

WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
 90 MEETING HOUSE ROAD  
 WESTHAMPTON BEACH, NY 11978

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



Phone: 631-288-2576

Fax: 631-288-6011

email:

admin@westhamptonpresbyterian.org

*We're on the web:*

[www.westhamptonpresbyterian.org](http://www.westhamptonpresbyterian.org)

***Your issue of the January Tidings***

**Happy Birthday and Anniversary to:**

- 1 Scott Campbell
- 2 Paul Pfaff
- 2 Oliver Bradley
- 4 Briana Oakland
- 5 Lilly Wagner
- 6 Diane Perry
- 6 Nancy Hamma
- 7 Jared Jessup
- 9 Mackenzie Schindler
- 11 Adele Becker
- 11 Ralph Hubbard
- 11 George Burns
- 12 Jessie Deihl
- 13 Karen Neubauer
- 14 Seamus Naughton
- 14 Cole Schindler
- 15 Bob Busking
- 15 Derik Herzing
- 15 Claire Berry
- 15 Suzanne Jessup
- 18 Steve Ravenhall
- 20 Gordon Hubbard
- 20 Christian Carter

- 20 Rudy Gasparik
- 23 Jenna Klepper
- 23 Brian Mosher
- 23 Bob Schindler
- 23 Spencer James
- 23 Tabitha Heath
- 25 Karen Diers
- 25 Cynthia Diers
- 26 Eric Wootten
- 26 Kearney Staniford
- 30 Maik Jornitz
- 31 Ralph Downs
- 31 Sophie Rouhandeh

*(Continued from page 3) Session Meeting* thanked for their leadership. They then offered their reflections about the importance of serving as a church officer. Personnel reported on the summary document on Chuck Cary's First Year review, a copy of which is available in the church office.

The meeting concluded with prayers of thanksgiving and intercession.

*(Continued from page 4) Wrestling with Angels* diction programs to reveal that many can benefit from what he believes are classic Christian principles of spiritual healing.

The Adult Discussion Group meets each Sunday at 8:30 am in the Founder's Room of the Failing Wing. All are welcome.

***CALLING ALL ARTISTS AND CRAFTSPEOPLE!***

A new group is forming of artistic and crafty people who might enjoy meeting one evening or Saturday morning a month to make items for next year's Christmas bazaar. This talent missed me but I will be happy to organize this endeavor. Let me know who you are. Bring ideas. Some of our best ideas have been borrowed, bring those too.

Chris Haddad