



TIDINGS

WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JUNE 2008

A Note From the Interim Pastor's Study

Dear Members and Friends,

On this year's Trustee sponsored *Church Clean-Up Day*, someone in our "garden club" planted petunias—along with a host of other flowers—in the garden circled by the driveway. They look beautiful! I think it is about time someone said a kind word about *petunias*.



Every gardener is eager to show the *dahlias*, *roses*, or *lilies*, but I have never had anyone invite me into the yard to look at *petunias*. We exhibit the earliest *tulips* and the last *poinsettia*, but no one ever exhibits a *petunia*. Brides carry flowers ranging from *edelweiss* from the mountains to *lilies* of the valley; but no bride would consider carrying a *petunia*.

Everyone ignores the *petunia*, but it goes on blooming. It's time someone appreciated it. Perhaps ministers are unusually sensitive to flowers because they remind them of people. In fact, any group of people has about as many varieties of "plants" as does the garden.

Every group has its *roses* that must be handled with kid gloves to avoid pain and hurt; its *azaleas* that produce only if the soil and sunshine is exactly to their liking; its *irises* that is quickly susceptible to rot if it is not constantly in the sunshine. We could go on and on—from the *aster* that wilts; the *snap-dragons* that rust; the shrinking *violets* that need to be encouraged; the stubborn *glad's*, who cannot be bent; the regal *chrysanthemum* that stands out in the crowd, and fits into the situation only if it is in command; the tender *morning glory* that blooms in splendor at the beginning of the day, but fades at noon. Every variety of people needs some special attention to make it bloom—except the *petunia*.

Perhaps now you understand why the *petunia* is so dear to the pastor's heart. They are those persons who go right on doing their part without any special attention. No one fusses over them or pampers them or cultivates them. No one stops to compliment them or praise them for their dependability or loyalty.

But, like the *petunia* in the garden, they don't seem to mind. They don't expect to win a blue ribbon; they cause no trouble. Like the *petunias*, they just keep on blooming the very best they can. All kinds of people make this world. Every minister knows that some varieties will always need special attention to help them bloom; it is expected. This is all in a day's work, but when that day is finished, and has been especially difficult and disappointing, there arises from the quiet of a pastor's study, a very simple prayer—

(Continued on page 5)

The Memorial Scholarship Fund of Westhampton Presbyterian Church

The Westhampton Presbyterian Church Memorial Scholarship fund was established to assist members in good standing of the Westhampton Presbyterian Church to attend accredited institutions of higher learning. The Church expresses its gratitude for the generosity of the primary donors named above, as well as the many others who have contributed to this fund.

To qualify for a scholarship, an individual must:

1. Be a member in good standing of the Westhampton Presbyterian Church;
2. Be accepted to an accredited institution of higher learning; and
3. Submit a completed Scholarship Application to the Scholarship Committee by July 15th of each year.

Applications for scholarships will be considered by the Scholarship Committee, which is appointed by the Session, and shall be comprised of: i) One Ruling Elder, who shall be the Committee Chair; ii) One Trustee; and iii) Two members of the Church chosen by the two preceding persons.

Both at-large members of the Committee serve one three-year term. Parents of college age students should not serve due to a potential conflict of interest.

A student may receive an award for up to five years or until they complete their degree program,

**Ruth Lawrence Wittmer
Eleanor B. Griffith
Dorothy and Lyle Cary
Doris & William C. Lashley
Virginia Kavan**

whichever comes first. Scholarships are not automatically renewed. Applicants must meet the guidelines stated above each year, including the submission of an application by July 15th of each year.

Finally, the Committee shall publicize the availability of the scholarships and salute appropriately the scholarship recipients.

In contributing to this fund and in granting these scholarships, the members of the Westhampton Presbyterian Church wish to express their pride, love, faith, hope and support to each and

every student in our congregational family.

The Westhampton Presbyterian Church Memorial Scholarship Fund was established to aid financially, members in good standing who wished to attend an accredited institution of higher learning. Applications are made available on the 15th of May each year in the Church Office and must be completed and returned to the Church Office by the 15th of July. At that time the Scholarship committee will review each application and each recipient will be notified of the amount of the award, which is determined each year by The Memorial & Endowment Committee from the funds made available. These funds are divided evenly among the accepted applicants who will be notified by letter. The September Tidings will include a message to the Congregation of the awards.

Mission Ministry

Since I was not here to see the end of this year's Maureen's Haven program, allow me to give thanks to all the volunteers that made the program this year a loving experience for our homeless guests.

When problems and emergencies developed in our program with the volunteers, a group of men and women stepped forward and put their time and bodies on the line for the Lord's work. And to those wonderful ladies who every week picked up and returned the laundry from Strebel's Laundromat, to the volunteers who gave their time and talent to provide evening dinners and morning breakfasts and lunches, to the steady overnight volunteers who were faithful servants each month, to those young men who volunteered to stay overnight at the last moment to save me from sleeping over at least five or six times during the program, I thank you, the Mission Ministry thanks you, and our church thanks you!

— Creighton Berry, Mission Ministry Chair

Nominations for Church Officer

Who do you feel would be a faithful servant, giving of their time and talents, energy and dedication, imagination and love, to serve Christ and your fellow congregants here at Westhampton Presbyterian Church?

The Nominating Committee is asking this question because we want your suggestions! After giving the question some thought and prayer, please take a brief moment to fill out the form on this page and:

1. Place it in the offertory plate on Sunday;
2. Present it to any member of the Nominating Committee; or,
3. Mail or deliver it to the church office:
90 Meeting House Rd.,
WHB; 288-2576.

If you have any further questions or general concerns regarding the nominating process or appointment involvement, please feel free to speak with any member of the Nominating Committee.

With appreciation,
In Christ's name,

The Nominating Committee

Nancy Winters
Diane Perry
Bonnie Wootten
Jason Ketner
Andrea Lohneiss
Judy Sprague
Fred Bauer
Pat Shima
Korey Williams
Pastor Peter, ex officio

***ELDERS: provide prayerful governance and oversight of all ministries in our church.**

I recommend _____ for ELDER.

I, _____ wish to be prayerfully considered for ELDER.

***DEACONS: provide ministry of compassion to congregants who are ill, homebound or in need.**

I recommend _____ for DEACON.

I, _____ wish to be prayerfully considered for DEACON.

***TRUSTEES: provide oversight and attention-giving to our church's facilities, properties and all necessary repairs and renovations.**

I recommend _____ for TRUSTEE.

I, _____ wish to be prayerfully considered for TRUSTEE.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN OFFICER IN THE WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ELDER

Term of Office:

3 years (unless filling an unexpired term)

Time Obligations:

Stated Meetings of the Session—monthly, *every 2nd Tuesday and 7 pm*
Every Elder serves on a Committee of the Session—monthly meetings

Committee Ministries of the Session:

**Music and Worship
Children's Ministry**

(Continued from page 3)

Committee Ministries of the Session: (con't.)

Youth Ministry
Adult Ministry
Church in Mission
Nominations
Budget and Finance
Stewardship
Memorial and Endowment
Memorial Scholarships
Personnel
Communications

*****NOTE: Elders are encouraged, BUT NOT REQUIRED, to provide Minutes for Mission**

DEACON

Term of Office:

3 years (unless filling an unexpired term)

Time Obligations:

Stated Meetings of the Board of Deacons—monthly, every 1st Tuesday at 7 pm

Committee Ministries of the Board:

Flowers—delivery of flowers to infirmed and homebound
Visitation—visiting members who are unable to come to church
Deacon's Closet—provide home hospital equipment (walkers, beds, etc.)
Food Pantry—taking food stuffs to various depots for distribution
Ushering—securing members for greeting/seating for Sunday worship
Special Receptions—funeral/memorial or “Thank you’s!” in the Parish Hall
Youth Liaison—a youth who reports Middle School and High School events
Transportation—providing rides to doctors, grocery, etc.

TRUSTEE

Term of Office:

3 years (unless filling an unexpired term)

Time Obligations:

Stated Meetings of the Board of Trustees—monthly, every 3rd Tuesday at 7 pm

Committee Ministries of the Board:

Building and Grounds
Housekeeping
Finance/Insurance
Scholarship Committee
Nominations Committee Rep.
Memorial and Endowment Rep.
Audit Committee Rep.
Personnel Committee Rep.
Stewardship Committee Rep.

Spring Clean-Up Day Spruces Up the Church

Sunday, May 18th was Spring Clean-Up Day sponsored by the Trustees. Many members came to worship in their work clothes prepared to take on a task or two—from washing windows, polishing the pews to taking down storm windows and other odd tasks to transform our church and grounds from winter readiness to summer readiness! The informal “Garden Club” members planted colorful flowers and nurtured many of our scrubs along. Thanks to all who helped out in the twice-a-year event!

Health Minute: “On the Go” Diet with Fruits & Vegetables

According to the Centers for Disease Control everyone needs to eat more fruits and vegetables. They contain essential vitamins, minerals, and fiber that may help protect you from chronic health problems, including diabetes, strokes, cardiovascular diseases, and cancer. Nutrients best come primarily from foods, not supplements. The beauty of the fruit and vegetable diet is the added incentive of losing or controlling weight.

Fruits and vegetables are easy to transport and can be the “on the go” diet. Vegetables and fruit come in striking and visual colors. Start today by eating the green spinach, orange sweet potatoes, black beans, yellow corn, purple plums, red watermelon, and white onions.



A Summer Parable...

Now it came to pass as the time of vacation drew near, a certain member of the church bethought him of cool streams where fish were abundant; his children thought of sandy beaches by the sea, and his wife thought of the mountains. And this church member lifted up his eyes unto the hills and spoke, saying, “Lo, the hot days come and even now are at hand. My work lieth heavy upon me. Come, let us depart and go to the North Country where fishes do bite and cool winds bring refreshment and pleasant scenes await.”

“Thou speakest wisely,” said his wife, “yet, three, nay, even four, things we must do ere we go.”

“Three things I can think of, but not a fourth,” the husband said. “We ask our neighbor to minister to our flowers, our lawn to be mowed and watered, and also our mail forwarded; but no other thing cometh to my mind.”

“The fourth thing is like unto the other three, but greater than all,” his spouse said. “Even this, that thou dig into thy purse and pay the church pledge, in order that the Lord’s work not be hindered, that the good name of the congregation be preserved, that the heart of the treasurer be made glad, and that it may be well with thee. For verily I say unto thee, thou has more money now than thou shalt have when thou wilt return.”

The husband replied, “Verily,

Pastor’s Letter

(Continued from page 1)

Dear Lord, Thank you for the petunias! Amen.

Many thanks to all who helped make our grounds and buildings ready for the summer months. As you garden, enjoy your *petunias*, and remember to bring in some of your flowers for our worship services!



As always, in our shared Interim Ministry, please do not be hesitant or consider it unimportant to involve me in your concerns. This is the time to reflect, and deal with, issues of grief and endings, trust, congregational identity, and expectations for the future. I am in the office Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 am-12:00 noon. Drop by or arrange with Nancy a more convenient time: 288-2576; my email: pastor@westhamptonpresbyterian.org .

Faithfully yours in peace,

Peter Sulyok
Interim Pastor

thou art noble and wise among women.” He did pay his pledge for the summer. He seemed to enjoy his vacation all the more, and the church treasurer rejoiced exceedingly, saying, “Of a truth, there are those who care for the good of the church. Praise the Lord!”

And it was so.

The Deacon's Corner Coffee Hour Cards

One of the many ways that the Deacons reach out to the homebound members in our congregation is through sending "Coffee Hour Cards."

Once a month, at our Deacon's meeting, we think of two people, who would benefit from a greeting card. The recipient may be someone who is permanently homebound, in a nursing home or recuperating from an illness or an operation.

These cards are made available to the congregation to sign during coffee hour, with a reminder in the bulletin that day. Our hope is that these cards bring some cheer to those in our church family who can not attend worship.

If you know of anyone in need of a card, please put a note in the Deacon's mailbox. We prepare these cards for the Sunday following our Deacon's meeting, which occurs the first Tuesday of the month.

—Eloise Carter



Summer Backyard Bible Study on *Rediscovering Paul*

The summer Backyard Bible Study returns!

This year the topic of the eight week study will be ***Rediscovering Paul: Understanding the Controversial Apostle***. Both young people and adults are welcome to join in the study and discussion that will take place in the manse on Wednesdays, beginning June 18th, from 7:00-8:30 pm, and end on August 13th. There will be no study on Wednesday, July 2nd.

Of all the Apostles, Paul has had the most influence of developing the early church and helping church members to understand the importance of Jesus in their lives. The evening meetings usually start with some punch or coffee or tea and light refreshments. The eight-week study will be divided into three units rediscovering the Apostle Paul. They will follow the following order:

- **“Paul: His Life and Thought”**: This three-session study provides a summary of who Paul was, his conversion experience, and some of the main beliefs he had about who Christ was and how Christians should live.
- **“Paul’s Journeys”**: This three-session study takes participants on a tour of Paul’s three missionary journeys. What he saw and what he did on each of the journeys will be discussed.
- **“Paul and the Role of Women in the Church”**: This two-session study examines Paul’s statements and actions in order to conclude just what Paul really thought about women and their role in the church.

This is a “summer” study, so do not feel you have to attend all of the group discussions. Come when you are able. A brief reading handout will be distributed prior to each class and will be available in the Church Office. A flyer listing the class sessions and dates in greater detail is

Kay Kidde honored as Long Island Woman of the Year

Congratulations to Kay Kidde as she was honored this evening as the Suffolk Community Council's Long Island Women of the Year at a banquet held to mark the 75th Anniversary of the SCC! WPC is proud to have Kay witness her faith to the community and to have her work

honored in this way. WPC sent a bus load of members and friends to celebrate the honor with Kay and the Suffolk Community Council.

The festivities took place the Venetian Yacht Club in Babylon and Westhampton Presbyterian Church folks were in attendance as she shared her wisdom and witness for the homeless. Kay was selected due to her work in founding Maureen's Haven and

its care for the homeless on Long Island as well as being an editor and poet in our community.

Brides' Magazine's **Style Director holds** **Photo Shoot at WPC!**

Maria McBride, Style Director for *Brides' Magazine*, visited WPC on Thursday, May 15th for a photo shoot of our church front

(Continued on page 7)

Session Actions from the Clerk of Session

The Session was blessed to share a meal and discussion with our Confirmation Class 2008 on May 13, 2008. Following the meal it was our honor to examine these young people with respect to their personal, creative statements of faith and listen to the wonderful stories about the various mission projects in which they participated and the impact those projects had on them. The Session enthusiastically voted to receive C. J. Andrews, Christi Dawydiak, Gil Frevert, James Fink, Lydia Frenzel-Sulyok, Chloe Rouhandeh, Megan Speer, Mara Terchunian, and Alexandra Walker into the membership of the Westhampton Presbyterian Church. Plan to be in worship on Sunday, June 1, 2008 when they will be welcomed by the congregation.

Session also had the pleasure to receive by Letter of Transfer, Mr. Harris Palmer into the membership of WPC. Mr. Palmer was formerly a member of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City.

In 2003 the Board of Trustees came to the Session with proposals for several projects for the church properties. One of those projects was a proposal for a handicapped accessible ramp at the chapel. At that time the Trustees were given permission to proceed with obtaining bids and any other information the Trustees thought would be helpful for the Session. The time has come and Trustees Kimet Speed and Bernard Giere came with several options and bids. After hearing the proposals and op-

tions the Session voted to permit the Trustees to proceed with erection of a handicapped ramp authorizing \$30,000 for the ramp and any landscaping changes that might be needed as well.

Elder Creighton Berry has been elected by the Presbytery of Long Island to be Elder Commissioner to the 218th meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in San Jose, California June 21-28, 2008. The Session voted to give Elder Berry \$200.00 toward his expenses while attending the Assembly and an additional \$250.00 for the specific purpose of purchasing materials he feels would be relevant to our church's ministry. Please pray for Creighton and the other Commissioners from Long Island, Elder Barbara D'Andrea, Moderator of the presbytery, the Rev. Elizabeth Simpson, and the Rev. Peter Kelly as they make decisions affecting the church now and in the future.

The church has been notified by the Presbyterian Foundation that the late Edward T. Otis and the late Dorothy Otis had established annuities in the Foundation. We received two checks representing disbursements from those annuities. One check was for \$555.67 and the second was in the amount of \$13,546.97. The Session voted to deposit these checks into the session fund as we await the recommendation of the Finance Ministry for its disbursement.

The Session also received notification from the Surrogate Court charged with the probate of the

will of Alan Peters that Mr. Peters had made a bequest to the church in the sum of \$10,000.

The Session voted to make a donation of the \$100.00 to the Covenant Network of Presbyterians.

—*Glorya Johnson*

Nicotine Anonymous Holds Wednesday Meetings

A new group begins meeting in the church Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm—Nicotine Anonymous. Nicotine Anonymous is a Non-Profit 12 Step Fellowship of men and women helping each other live nicotine-free lives. Nicotine Anonymous welcomes all those seeking freedom from nicotine addiction, including those using cessation programs and nicotine withdrawal aids. The primary purpose of Nicotine Anonymous is to help all those who would like to cease using tobacco and nicotine products in any form. The Fellowship offers group support and recovery using the 12 Steps as adapted from Alcoholics Anonymous to achieve abstinence from nicotine. We welcome them to Westhampton Presbyterian Church!

Brides' Magazine

(Continued from page 6)

doors. *Brides' Magazine* is doing a special article called, "Decorating Church Doors for Your Wedding." Watch for the article and photos in the November issue of the magazine!



Nine in Confirmation Class to Join Church on June 1st

The Confirmation Class Dinner with the Session took place Tuesday, May 13th and following the dinner, a special meeting of the Session was held to meet with and examine our youth in the Confirmation Class 2008. The Session met with the nine members of this year's class and all nine read their individual Faith Statements. The Elders then engaged them in questions about their faith and life--some of the toughest questions possible. In the end, all nine confirmands were accepted unanimously into the membership of Westhampton Presbyterian Church. The Session celebrated this new step in their journeys of faith by singing the Doxology and "Called As Partners in Christ's Service."

Come out to worship on Sunday, June 1st at 10:00 am as we welcome our newest members into the church as they make their Confirmation. They are:

- **C.J. Andrews**
- **Christi Dawydiak**
- **Gil Frevert**
- **James Fink**
- **Lydia Frenzel-Sulyok**
- **Chloe Rouhandeh**
- **Megan Speer**
- **Mara Terchunian**
- **Alexandra Walker**

As you see them around the

church, please congratulate them as they profess their faith and assume greater responsibility in the life of the church and God's mission in the world.

The Confirmation Class was led this year by Pat and Gordon Hubbard with Pastor Peter. Along with the special classes Sunday mornings, the group had a Confirmation Retreat one weekend, each member attended a meeting of the Deacons, Trustees, or Session, engaged in a mission project and had special opportunities for developing a relationship with a "mentor" through a number of activities. We welcome these newest members to the Church of Jesus Christ here at Westhampton Presbyterian Church.

Youth Sunday brings Youth Vigor to Worship Experience

Youth Sunday occurred on Pentecost this year and God's Spirit was active in the sanctuary! Our youth brought the sanctuary to life with their enthusiasm, heartfelt faith and red balloons, symbolizing the "tongues as of fire" of the first disciples as they preached the Good News of Jesus Christ that first Pentecost!

Everyone in the congregation had a chance to participate as each worshipper brought a colorful flower forward and placed it in wire netting around a six-foot tall wooden cross to symbolize the transformation faith in Christ brings! Thanks to all our youth for their hard work and willingness to share their faith and gifts! The "birthday cake" following worship was a special treat!

Youth Ministry Auction Supports Mission WorkCamp

Thanks to all those who donated prizes and those who came to bid on the gifts on Friday, May 16th. The Youth Ministry made \$2,330. That will help offset the cost of taking 15 youth and three adults to Oceana, West Virginia, for the REACH Mission WorkCamp in July.

Graduating High School and College Students...

If you or a family member is graduating from high school, college or a graduate program, please email or phone the church office so that WPC can honor all our graduates. We will run the names of our graduates in the next *Tidings*. If you have a youth or young adult graduating this year please give their graduation information, future plans if they are known, accomplishments, and a picture if possible to Nancy in the Church Office by Monday, June 16th.

JUNE 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30am Spiritual Conv. Confirmation & Communion 12pm Worship Ministry 4pm Youth Vol- leyball with the Pastor	2	3 7pm Deacons	4	5	6	7 9am M&E Meeting Youth Great Adventure Trip
8 Last Day of Church School Recognition Sun. / Church Picnic	9 2pm WH Garden CLub	10 7pm Session	11 9:30am Nurs- ery School Graduation 12noon PW Luncheon	12	13	14
15 FATHER'S DAY Chapel Service begins Tidings Dead- line for July/August 7pm REACH planning sess.	16	17 7pm Trustees	18 7-8:30pm Backyard Bible Study	19	20	21 4pm Memorial Service for Alan Peters in the sanctuary
22 12noon Memo- rial service for Eric Homrig- house	23	24	25 7-8:30pm Backyard Bible Study	26	27	28
29	30					
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>WEEKLY: Sunday Worship 10 am Sanctuary (begin. 6/15: 9am Chapel, 10:15am Sanctuary) Choir: Sunday 9:30 and 11:15am Jr. Choir: Tuesday 5:15pm (seasonal) AA: Sunday 12 and 7:30pm, Wednesday 7pm, Saturday 10am Nicotine Anonymous: Wednesday 6pm Christmas Bazaar Workshop: Tuesday 10am</p> </div>						

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

BULK RATE
 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 US POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #98
 WESTHAMPTON BEACH, NY 11978



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We're on the web:

www.westhamptonpresbyterian.org

Your issue of the June Tidings

Notes from your Peace-making Representative

Three Things to Pray for . . .

Pray for the people of Kenya. Mediation efforts continue with hopes for a sustainable peace.

Pray for children involved in armed conflict in Columbia. Human Rights Watch estimates that some 11,000 child soldiers are involved in the longest protracted conflict in the Western Hemisphere.

Pray for the people of Israel and Palestine. May they know an end to violence and the creation of a just, secure peace.

I will be attending the Peace-making Conference in Orange, California in July. The theme is "Sowing Mustard Seeds: Working for God's Justice—

June Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 Gene O'Brien
- 3 Hunter Wootten
- 4 Lynn and Mark Jones
- 5 Meigan Yuen
- 6 Jeannine Frenzel and Peter Sulyok
- 7 Johnathan Pacholk
- 9 Amy and Brian Mosher
- 10 Bob Johnson
- 11 Brittany Bauer
- 12 Garrett Collins
- 12 Carol and Joe Nemeth
- 12 Halsey Swann
- 14 Julia Ketner

Confronting Poverty". The conference is being held at Chapman University.

The Mission Committee hopes to bring an International Peace-maker to speak to our World Communion Sunday Brunch.

- 14 Janet Hann
- 14 Andrea and Bob Lohneiss
- 15 Meryle and John King
- 15 Ellen and Paul Pfaff
- 17 Jason Ketner
- 17 Abigail Ketner
- 17 Micki Niebanck
- 18 Matt Hoge
- 20 Barbara and John Fochtman
- 22 Jennifer and Steve Collins
- 23 Nikki Schindler
- 23 Holly and Ralph Hubbard
- 25 Paige Golding
- 25 Stephanie Shea
- 26 Doug Oakland
- 26 Pat and Gordon Hubbard
- 27 Eleanor and Bob Hoyt
- 28 Lynn Frielinghaus
- 28 Carolyn Dettmer
- 29 Marion Van Tassel
- 29 Ellie Brubaker
- 29 Kim Yuen
- 30 Sue and Jim Bachman