



TIDINGS

WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2009



A Note From the Interim Pastor's Study

Dear Members and Friends,

It is the harvest season—the fields, orchards, and vineyards are ripe and God's grace is manifest in the abundance of nature. It is also the month when we celebrate World Communion Sunday and join as a church family to hear our guest speaker Robert Hunter in worship and at the Annual Peacemaking Dinner—a catered dinner where we gather together in Parish Hall. We also acknowledge that the entire world is **not** so richly endowed as we are in this country.



The abundant harvest that we enjoy is but an unfulfilled hope for millions of God's children in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and even in our own land, where hunger continues to rear its demonic head as our food pantries are struggling to keep up with demand, challenging our affluence. At such a time, it is fitting that we consider Jesus' summary of the law:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these commandments depend all the law and the prophets. [Matthew 22:37-40]

When Jesus says that we should love the Lord our God with all our hearts, Jesus reminds us that we are citizens of the household of faith and our duty is to share our bounty.

On Sunday, October 4th, at 10:00 AM you are invited to celebrate The Lord's Supper on World Communion Sunday. People "will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God." As we worship, Christians of all races and nations will gather around the same Table. They will pray "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven"—that God's intention that there be peace will become a reality. The meaning of Christ's own self-giving, proclaimed in the bread and the cup, will be present.

Jesus—the One who lived for Others—calls on us to partner with him in loving and caring for others!

As always, in our shared Interim Ministry, please do not be hesitant or consider it unimportant to involve me in your concerns. While we continue to use this time to reflect, and deal with, issues of grief and endings and trust, we now turn toward congregational identity and expectations for the future—our Mission Vision—the final step prior to selecting the Pastor Nominating Committee. 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

World Communion Sunday October 4th

Christians all around the world celebrate The Lord's Supper on Sunday, October 4th. WPC traditionally has a special Peacemaking Theme to our World Communion Sunday and this year is no different!

Our World Communion Sunday luncheon speaker will help us *"focus on the problem of modern-day slavery and what we can do about it—how to be an activist!"*

Sometimes when we look at the world's problems we just get overwhelmed. In the face of so much misery, can what we do make any real difference? 200 years ago it was no different, and maybe worse. Slavery was an accepted part of every society then, with men, women and children treated like property. But in England, a remarkable group of Christian men and women—just about a dozen to start—decided to do something about that. The movement they began eventually ended slavery in the British Empire and laid the foundations for anti-slavery movements everywhere. In fact, what they did was really the first grass-roots political campaign.

In 2002, over dinner conversation about a class on the Civil War at Brown University, someone remarked that the Civil War did not really end slavery. A young woman found that hard to believe, but a little research convinced her. So she raised some money from a university competition, turned her back on medical school, and with a friend from Brown founded the Polaris Project, a non-profit that, among other things, manages the national anti-trafficking hotline.

Our speaker, Robert Hunter, is a retired federal worker who did 26 years as a Foreign Service Officer. His area of specialization was Asia, especially China. Before joining the federal government, he taught Chinese history at the University of Washington in Seattle. He now works as a consultant in Washington.

Bob is a member of Lewinsville Presbyterian Church in McLean, Virginia. During his time in Asia he had personal encounters with the reality of human trafficking, and had a small part in some federal efforts against it. Recently, he has gotten involved in work on the issue with the Polaris Project and through his church.

Watch for the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. The luncheon is free and follows the worship service at 11:30 AM. All are invited.

Your Peacemaking Representative,

Linni Deihl

Luncheon Speaker is Robert Hunter

Each year the Mission Ministry presents a Peacemaking Luncheon with a presenter on a challenging topic as part of our October 4, 2009 World Communion Sunday activities. This year is no different! You are invited to this no fee catered luncheon and presentation!

Our guest this year is Robert Hunter and he will begin his visit as our guest preacher during the 10:00 AM worship, with the sermon title: "Missionary Stew." Moving immediately from worship to the Parish Hall for the Peacemaking Luncheon, his luncheon talk is: "How to Change the World: Faith Moving Mountains."

Join us for lunch and a discussion on how to really get something done. We will look at some astonishing examples of faith that moved mountains, using the fight against human trafficking--historical and contemporary--as our example. The inspiring story of two young people who "took up the cross and followed" will serve as our springboard into a discussion about what we are called to as Christians in mission to the world. We guarantee that you'll have more to chew on than lunch!

We would like it if you might register in advance, but do come for the luncheon even if you were unable to previously register. No one should miss this opportunity for a challenging talk and conversation.

Celebration The Lord's Supper at WPC with Christians around the world on this particular Sunday! We will celebrate communion during our 10:00 AM worship. Our first graders traditionally celebrate their "first communion" on this day, following preparation offered by Eloise Carter the Sunday before.

Session Actions from the September 15th Meeting

At the September meeting of the following actions or information was received:

- Received a draft report from the Mission Vision Team and authorized a brief report to the congregation on Sunday, September 20 with respect to the draft and a longer Minute-For-Mission on October 11;
- Received the financial reports, Deacons, and Trustees reports;
- Heard a report from the Personnel Ministry that Gail Klepper and Mark Klepper have volunteered to be Youth Ministry Coordinators September, 2009-June, 2010;
- After hearing a report from the Nominations Committee, Session called for a special meeting of the congregation/corporation on Sunday, September 27, 2009 for the purpose of electing youth church officers and setting, if the way be clear, ordination and installation during the worship service on Sunday, September 27, 2009;
- Heard a report from the Memorial Scholarship Ministry that seventeen individuals will receive scholarships this year;
- Empowered the Clerk of Session to invite Rep. Tim Bishop to speak on health care a mutually agreeable date;
- Elders were informed that additional help is needed in the nursery in accordance with the Child Safety Policy; and,
- Heard that the nursery school has temporarily suspended their operation after 24 years.

The next meeting of the Session is October 13, 2009 at 7:00 PM. Guests are always invited to address the Session and attend the meeting.

If you would you like to be part of a “**Tables of Eight**” group, sign up in the Parish Hall and you will be placed in groups of eight and agree to meet over dinner four times that they schedule together in four of their homes. The hosts will provide the entrée and drinks for the dinner and the guests bring the other courses!

CROP Walk to Walk Sunday, October 18

Walk to make a difference! Walk to raise money to fight hunger! Walk with other church friends through lovely Quiogue and Westhampton Beach on a beautiful Sunday afternoon! The annual CROP Walk, sponsored by the East End Presbyterian Parish in conjunction with other East End congregations, will be held on Sunday, October 18, immediately following worship.

We will depart from worship and “parade” along Main Street to St. Mark’s Episcopal Church and then return along the same route, with a brief stop at the Gazebo in the town park for a brief inspiration message. We will then continue the walk for a lunch together in Parish Hall.

Walkers are encouraged to secure pledges prior to the walk. All funds collected are used to combat hunger abroad and in our community. Pick up your form Sunday and obtain your supporters. If you can’t walk, support someone who is!

Mission Vision Team Invites You for Conversation!

The **Mission Vision Team** is moving forward rapidly with their Mission Vision Report and made available a draft to the congregation on Sunday, September 20th as Chair Stu Wood made a brief report to the congregation during worship.

The information gathering phase now moves from the Congregational Survey taken in the Spring and the Weekly Questions offered each week during the Summer to the **Opportunities for Mission Vision Conversation** to be offered in the Fall. Four “Ya’ll Come” gatherings are scheduled, where some members of the Mission Vision Team will offer a brief presentation of the topic of the day/evening and then record your thoughts and concerns.

Here is a schedule of the “Opportunities for Mission Vision Conversation:”

- Sunday, October 11th at 11:30 AM—1:00 PM: After worship, gather with coffee for conversation on the WPC Draft Mission Vision Report, made available in September, and a special focus on the topic: *How Are We Doing as a Welcoming Congregation?*

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CROP Walk

Sponsored by the East End Presbyterian Parish

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2009
11:15 AM**

**Around the Village of Westhampton Beach
Beginning at the Westhampton Presbyterian Church**

The purpose of the ecumenical CROP Walk is to raise money to fight hunger. 25% of the total raised is returned by Church World Service to the East End for distribution to ten food pantries from Montauk to Westhampton Beach including Springs and Sag Harbor and the social services program at Long Island Council of churches in Riverhead. The CROP Walk motto is : "We walk because others must walk for food, water, medical care and other basic necessities of life." for more information, go to www.churchworldservice.org.

This is how it works:

- Get a sponsor form and fill in the information at the top.
- Ask your family and friends to sponsor you and fill in their names.
- Collect the money and keep it in your sponsor form envelope.
- Bring the envelope to the registration table on October 18.
- Enjoy the walk, knowing that you are bringing hope to people around the world.

A light lunch will be served after the walk at the Westhampton Presbyterian Church

To get a sponsor form or for more information, contact:

**Creighton Berry—288-2962
Nancy Hamma—288-2576**

MISSION VISION (Continued from page 3)

- Thursday, October 15th at 7:30—9:00 PM: Enjoy coffee and dessert as we gather for conversation on the topic: *Worship and Church Life—the Spiritual and Social sides of our Life Together.*
- Sunday, October 25th at 11:20 AM—1:00 PM: After worship, gather with coffee for conversation on the topic: *Where Are We Going with Christian Education and Youth Ministry—Children, Youth and Adult Faith Formation?*
- Thursday, October 29th at 7:30—9:00 PM: Enjoy coffee and dessert as we gather for conversation on the topic: *What Does It Mean to Live into WPC Mission Today?*

It is hoped that a representative cluster of WPC members and friends will attend each meeting and a deepened conversation on the church's future in each of the areas can be held. Pastor Peter joins Chair Stu Wood in believing these conversations will offer a breadth of perspective on where WPC will be heading in the next few years with its new pastor.

Copies of the draft are available in the Church Office. Pastor Peter has been resourcing the MVT in its work as a consultant.

New Youth Coordinators Announced! Welcome Gail and Mark Klepper!

WPC members **Gail and Mark Klepper** have agreed to serve as Westhampton Presbyterian Church's new Youth Coordinators working with the Session's Youth Ministries. They kicked off their year with a Youth Family Barbeque on Sunday, September 20th, to a crowd of youth and parents exceeding 60 people. The youth were able to sign up on posters to show their interest in various events to be schedule during the fall through January. There was a lot of excitement as the youth saw the activities and suggested new ideas.

At the Session Meeting Tuesday, September 15th, Elder Hanna Manker reported for the Personnel Committee that Gail and Mark Klepper have agreed to serve in this important ministry to our youth and their families. Mark and Gail are no strangers to our congregation—both have served as Elders as well as many other leadership roles. Most recently, Gail served with Pastor Peter leading the Confirmation Class 2009. Their two daughters—Jennifer, now teaching in San Diego and, Alyssa, in college—were active and gained much spiritually and personally from the Youth Ministry. Gail and Mark both have a deep desire and commitment to ensure our Youth Ministries continues to nurture and challenge our youth with motivating activities.

The Session and Pastor Peter are very excited Gail and Mark are stepping into this new leadership role and believes the whole congregation—and especially the youth—is blessed to have their leadership as we begin this year's activities.

The **Youth Family Pot-Luck Barbeque** was a wonderful way

to welcome Mark and Gail and has generated a lot of interest among the youth—even those who were unable to attend—as we live into the fall activities. Watch the Youth Bulletin Board in Parish Hall for announcements of activities and Youth Group meetings! The whole schedule of events will be available following World Communion Sunday, October 4th.

Sunday Church School Is Off and Running!

Sunday Church School registration and the annual Sunday School Photo took place on Sunday, September 14th and classes began the next week and continue weekly now through the Spring (with the exception of some Communion Sundays).

If you have not yet registered your child, please complete the yellow form on Sunday or obtain one at the Church Office during the week. All children are invited to “bring a friend from school” to their Sunday School Class, which meets following the Children's Message during worship (approximately 10:20 AM).

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Wanted: College Addresses

The Youth Ministry Program is getting ready to prepare our famous college care packages. We cannot successfully complete this mission project without the addresses of our college students. Please provide the church office with the address of your college student(s) so that we can send them a box of goodies. (We also need their emails, phone and year of study they are in.)

Presbyterian Women

September is also known as Reunion time here at Westhampton Presbyterian Church.

Tradition brought PW together for a Covered Dish luncheon September 9th after the summer hiatus. If you missed the September luncheon you can catch up on PW plans at noon, October 14th, 2009. Soup, beverage and dessert will be served. Bring your favorite sandwich and share the fellowship.

The Fall Rummage Sale will have come and gone as you read this. It's time to consider the next annual event—the Christmas Bazaar, December 5, 2009. More details soon.

Plans are underway for our Cook Book. This is a first for us. Have you looked for that special recipe to include? Cooperation from the entire congregation is needed to create a successful book. Early spring is our publication goal.

Listening to Nancy Miller and Gale Spaulding made us feel a part of the Triennium in Louisville, KY. There is no doubt, Triennium is an experience of a life time. Thank you for sharing your reflection on workshops, fellowship and worship services.

The Pony Express Is Saddling Up!

Watch for the Pony Express again this year!

We are moving into our time of the Fall Stewardship Drive as Session Ministries begin to prepare their budgets for 2010. An early forecast shows that we will have our regular expenses plus the additional cost of a Pulpit Nominating Committee doing its search for our next pastor and the moving costs of our new minister and his or her household.

Last year's Pony Express was very successful in bringing in the pledges and assisted our Session in being able to plan its budget. Session is challenged to reduce dependency on the Memorial and Endowment monies as we seek to be self-sufficient and pro-

ject a strong and balanced income/expense flow for the new pastor candidates to view as they consider whether we are a good “financial risk” in their search for their call.

Elder Margretta Anderson is chairing our Stewardship Committee again this year and will be seeking Pony Express Riders to assist in delivering and moving along the “Pony Express Saddle Bags!” A mailing will go out in late October/early November with information on our Challenge Budget in anticipation of the arrival of the Saddle Bag with your Pledge Card and further information.

Watch for the Pony Express!

CHURCH SCHOOL (Continued from page 5)

Our teacher line-up follows:

- **Pre-K: Ellie Brubaker and Mimi Johnson**
- **Kindergarten and 1st Grade: Eloise Carter and Karen Derryberry**
- **3rd Grade: Gini Wagner**
- **4th and 5th Grades: Kathleen Frevert and Nancy Miller**
- **Middle School: (6th –8th grades): Meg Baird**
- **High School: (9th –12th Grades): Lisa Finn**
- **Adult Class Leaders: Valerie O'Brien, Glorya Johnson and Pastor Peter**

Spiritual Conversations and *John Calvin: His Life and Legacy* will be part of our early October Adult Discussion Group offerings. They meet at 8:30 AM around the Kitchen Table and in the Founders' Room, respectively. Join the discussion!



FALL CLEAN UP DAY

You are invited to participate in the Fall Clean-Up Day, Sunday, October 25th sponsored by the Board of Trustees. Please come to worship dressed to work. A list of areas to help clean and straighten up will be available. Let's all keep the facility sparkling clean and shiny!





October 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
WEEKLY: Adult Study: Sunday 8:30am; Worship: Sunday 10 am 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 6 pm Christmas Bazaar Workshop: Tuesday 9:30am		Library Program <u>Monday</u> Cooking—Bailey Hall Kitchen; Backyard Chicken Class—Choir Room <u>Wednesday</u> Mother Goose—Choir Room <u>Thursday</u> Bridge—Conference Room; Teen book club—Bailey Hall <u>Friday</u> Miss Deb—Choir Room <u>Saturday</u> 10/24 Dark Surroundings—Parish Hall		10am Women's Club Board Mtg. ▶ 1 1pm Bridge (Library)	2 9:30am Miss Deb (Library)	3 2pm Adult Ed "The Backyard Chicken" (Library)
4 8:30am Spiritual Conversations World Communion Sunday Peacemaking Speaker & Luncheon; Peacemaking Offering	5 WH Garden Club 6:45pm Pilates (Library) 7pm Cooking Class (Library)	6 10am Yoga (Library) 11am Meditation (Library) 7pm Deacons	7	8 1pm Bridge (Library) 5pm Teen book club (Library)	9 9:30am Miss Deb (Library)	10 1pm LeBleu/Bennetts Wedding—Chapel
11	12 Columbus Day—Office Closed 6:45pm Pilates (Library)	13 10am Yoga (Library) 11am Meditation (Library) 12:30pm WH Women's Club 7pm Session	14 12noon PW Luncheon	15 1pm Bridge (Library) Tidings Deadline	16 9:30am Miss Deb (Library)	17 Ester Kim wedding—Chapel
18 CROP Walk	19 6:45pm Pilates (Library)	20 10am Yoga (Library) 11am Meditation (Library) 7pm Trustees	21	22 1pm Bridge (Library) 5pm Teen book club (Library)	23 9:30am Miss Deb (Library)	24 9am Presbytery (Hempstead) 7pm "Dark Surroundings" Ghost Stories (Library)
25	26 6:45pm Pilates (Library) 7pm Elizabeth Circle	27 10am Yoga (Library) 11am Meditation (Library)	28 9:30am Mother Goose (Library)	29	30	31

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

Phone: 631-288-2576

Fax: 631-288-6011

email:

admin@westhamptonpresbyterian.org

We're on the web:

www.westhamptonpresbyterian.org

Your issue of the October Tidings

*Happy Birthday
 and Anniversary to:*

- 3 Melissa O'Laughlin
- 3 Audrey Juliette LeBleu
- 5 Heather Bester
- 6 Eleanor Hoyt
- 6 Cory Hubbard
- 7 Renee Marcks
- 8 Eloise and Keith Carter
- 8 Thomas Speer
- 9 Andrea Lohneiss
- 10 Christan Niebanck
- 11 Katie Derryberry
- 11 Gail and Mark Klepper
- 11 Renee Marcks
- 12 Alyssa Klepper
- 12 Gabriella Mazariegos
- 13 Mimi Johnson
- 13 Sarajane Giere
- 13 Lise Frielinghaus and
Aram Terchunian
- 15 Sue Bachman
- 15 Barbara Fochtman
- 15 Lynn Frielinghaus and
Steve Rouhandeh

- 16 Brendan Yuen
- 17 Terri Bauer
- 17 Dottie Evans
- 20 Wes Winters Jr.
- 20 Judy Sprague
- 21 Mary Hoch
- 21 Inda Styrzo
- 22 Valerie and Gene O'Brien
- 23 Ryan Case
- 24 Jane and Bob Busking
- 26 Christian Tureski
- 27 Oliver Fiore
- 28 Heather Wootten
- 28 Alex Nagle
- 29 Melanie Bass
- 29 Joe Nemeth
- 29 Cory Doyle
- 30 Stephanie and Doug
Oakland
- 31 Linni Deihl



A Thank You Note

Dear Confirmation Class at
 Westhampton Presbyterian
 Church,

I forgot to drop you a
 note of thanks for all the prayers
 sent our way. The origami swans
 will adorn our first Christmas
 tree with the verses on them.
 How special they are!

The house is almost com-
 pleted, up to tiling the floors and
 painting. Then, landscaping and
 driveway. May be in by Novem-
 ber 1st!

Please come to dedica-
 tion day if you can. Thank you
 again for your hard work, kind-
 ness and prayers.

The Strand-O'Shea family -
 Cathy, Nick, Thomas & Reilly
 (just turned 3!) God bless!