



TIDINGS

WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SEPTEMBER 2009

A Note From the Interim Pastor's Study

Dear Members and Friends,

Summer went by much too fast! From the Bagel Breakfasts to the Hawaiian Luau to the Dinner on the Deck we had opportunity to relax together and enjoy each other's company.

With the warmth of summer still fresh within us, we turn to our church family at Westhampton Presbyterian Church. Like many of you, I feel newly energized as we begin this fall. As you prepare for the start-up of church activity again this fall, I want to place before you a challenge. Let's call it: "Each One Reach One!" Think about whom you might invite to a church activity or to worship between now and, let's say, Spring. Who might that be? What family might that be? Let's make a commitment to church growth and each of us nurture one person or one family along in their faith journey.

One of the most important ways to bring and keep new members in a church family is to adopt them into a smaller group: for example, women's group, men's group, youth, Sunday School class, choir, the Session Ministries, Maureen's Haven, or special activity groups like "Tables of Eight." Our Mission Vision Team has learned that many of us enjoy and want to be part of small groups where we can meet people and develop friendships. Let us have each group reach out and let us form new groups as we have the need, especially among the men, post-high school age, young couples and seniors. As we enter the fall, look on the bulletin board in Parish Hall for sign-up sheets to show your interest in being in a new or existing group. Let us seek to build caring and supportive fellowship for all our members!

Fall is a time of starting-up new things and becoming involved. There is nothing more important for our future together than what you can do for your church family. When we increase our involvement in the church, we discover that, almost effortlessly, we find ourselves helping others. Let us join in personal and social and spiritual growth together!

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



Session Actions from the August 11th Meeting

At the August 11th, 2009, meeting of the Session the following actions were taken by the Elders:

- Approved the baptism of Reagan Faith Schindler, daughter of Nikki and Robert Schindler, during the Service of Worship on Sunday, September 20, 2009;
- Formally elected Barbara Rempe as Assistant Financial Secretary in accordance with an email poll. Barbara continues the work of Judy and David LeBleu, following their resignation at the end June after many years of service. The Session expressed its gratitude to Judy and David;
- Approved the final payment of \$2,945.60 to Twin Forks Office Products for furniture purchased for the Youth Coordinator's Office, thus completing a project begun in 2002. It was deemed that it would be fitting that the funding for the Youth Coordinator's Office would come from the Elsie Plainver Fund;
- Approved payment of \$1,945.96 for repairs and improvements to the phone system from the Capital Reserves Fund. The phone "system" broke down after fifteen good years of service and was replaced with a system that now has answering service that respects confidentially of calls left for the Pastor;
- Accepted with regret the resignations of Cindy and Jim Relyea as Youth Ministry Coordinators;
- Accepted the resignation of Karen Derryberry, with an expression of gratitude for her service, as Session Representative to the Memorial & Endowment Committee; and, elected Vern Hackworth as the new representative, replacing Karen;
- Appointed Elders Diane Perry and Glorya Johnson to develop an administrative handbook to maintain the various policies and actions of the Session to help coordinate and facilitate the finding and updating of policies

Other actions of the Session are reported in various other articles in this issue of *Tidings*.

—Respectfully submitted, Glorya Johnson, Clerk of Session

Session Grants Approval to Explore Possible Forum on Health Care Legislation

At its August meeting, the WPC Session granted permission for Glorya Johnson, Clerk of Session, to explore the possibility of seeking other Presbyterian churches in our Presbytery to partner together to provide an educational forum/program on the recent health care reform.

As a congregation, no doubt we have a spectrum of views on the issue and few of us will have the time to "do a read" of the full docu-

M & E Policy Review Team Reports to Session

At its August meeting, the Session heard a report from its Memorial and Endowment Policy Review Team formed in the Spring to review the consistency of the implementation of the policy guiding the Memorial and Endowment Funds. The Session M&E Team met with the Chair of the M&E Committee and drafted a proposal for the Session. The M&E Committee reviewed the Team's work and offered comments to the Session.

Session approved changes to the Memorial & Endowment Committee policy with respect to gifts made to the M&E Fund. The new wording states:

"Gifts made to the Memorial and Endowment Fund as such will be preserved and invested to meet the ongoing needs of the church unless otherwise designated. Except for extraordinary necessity as determined by the Session and the Trustees, only the earnings and net capital gains will be spent for the operating budget or for repairs and improvements. However, after ten years from the date of the gift by a majority vote of the Session and Trustees up to ten per cent of the principal may be used in any given year for any purpose."

The new wording helps to clarify the use of the monies in ways that the earlier policy that it replaces did not.

HEALTH CARE *(Continued from page 2)*

ment—let alone be able to interpret it and bring an analysis to it. The challenge for us is to see if other congregations might wish to join in such an endeavor; then, seek funding from Presbytery; form a design group that will plan and carry out the program/forum.

While still in the incubation stage, for this type of program or forum to be most beneficial for the community, it is generally prudent to offer a neutral description of the topic and the tensions as helpful to all. Then, there are various ways of approaching the project yet to be determined:

- A panel, with representatives from various perspectives, might either offer opening arguments (for or against, with alternatives) and then have a response from each person, with opportunity for Q&A from audience;
- Our representative in Congress, Tim Smith, might make a presentation, and respond to Q&A; or
- A “neutral” think-tank-type perspective that offers balanced analysis and responds to Q&A.

Session has not taken a position on the issue, nor is there a plan for taking a position in the future. The planning team of possible partnered churches would need to frame the issues and tensions, illuminating the pluses and minuses in a helpful way.

In any of these combinations, there is the opportunity to examine the national PC(USA) policy as guidance for members in their reflection. The national church policies generally do not advocate any one particular plan, but rather highlight the principles that should be behind what Congress decides.

For more information, contact Glorya Johnson.

Pastor Peter Attends “Synod of the Waldensian and Methodist Churches”

Pastor Peter will be away for one-week of Study Leave to attend the annual meeting of the “Synod of the Waldensian and Methodist Church 2009” in Torre Pellice (near Turin, Italy) from Saturday, August 22-28, 2009. He will be attending as the official representative (in his role as President) of the American Waldensian Society.

Each year the Waldensians gather for the meeting of their Synod (similar to our Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s biennial General Assembly meeting). The Waldensian Church is the partner church of the PCUSA in Italy sharing in mission together.

The Waldensians are a people and a church that have lived in the alpine valleys southwest of Turin for over 800 years. The unique history of the Waldensians is marked by a faith, rooted in the Gospels, which has emphasized commitment to freedom of conscience informed by Scripture and withstood persecution.

Martin Luther, a main figure in the Protestant Reformation, once said, “We were all Waldensians without knowing it.”

Waldensians congregations today are spread throughout Italy and South America. As in the past, the Bible, freedom of conscience, and passionate commitment to peaceful, just coexistence among all peoples occupy a prominent place in the lives of Waldensians.

Pastor Peter will be away on vacation August 19-21 and August 29-September 4, 2009, several dates surrounding the Synod meeting. Please contact Glorya Johnson, Clerk of Session, or the Church Office, for pastoral emergencies: 631-288-2576.

Jared Frenzel Sulyok Returns from Casa Cares

Jared Frenzel Sulyok spent two months as a Mission Volunteer with Casa Cares, a Waldensian Church Retreat and Conference Center in Reggello, Italy. Casa Cares is a center for dialogue and exchange, testifying to a Protestant perspective, with a particular interest in “the theme of Integrity of Creation and how it relates to justice and peace in our world.” Since 1983, when the centuries old farm villa, surrounded by ten acres of olive tree terraces was given to the Waldensian Church, the voluntary spirit of co-workers and guests has sustained the life.

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

(Continued on page 5)

Pew Bible Fund Drive

New Revised Standard Version Bibles in *Large Print* were ordered for the chapel and sanctuary and arrived this week. You may once again "purchase" these Bibles as memorial gifts or in honor of loved ones for \$23.00 each. A placard will be affixed to the inside front cover denoting your choice. Order forms are available in the church office.

Large Print Pew Bible Order Form

If you would like to purchase a Large Print pew Bible for our Chapel or Sanctuary, please fill out the order form and dedication below. You may mail your order to:
90 Meeting House Road, Westhampton Beach 11978,
drop it in the collection plate, or bring it to the church office.

Please make check payable to
Westhampton Presbyterian Church,
noting Pew Bible(s) in the memo section.

I would like to order:

_____ pew Bibles at \$23 each for a total of \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

(use additional forms if necessary)

Given ___ in loving memory of ___ in honor of

By _____

WORLD COMMUNION**SUNDAY** (Continued from page 4)

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 follows the worship service at 11:30 AM. All are invited.

Your Peacemaking
Representative,

Linni Deihl

“Reunion Sunday” Planned for September 13th

“Reunion Sunday”—some refer to it as “Rally Day”—is always the first Sunday after Labor Day weekend. This year that falls on Sunday, September 13th, which will be our first Sunday with a “reunion” of our Quogue Chapel and Quogue Sanctuary worship services.

Let’s all place this day on our church calendar and plan to join in the celebration of the beginning of fall church activities!

Sunday Church School News...

Parents—Is Your Child’s Sunday School Registration Up-to-Date?

This is a reminder to parents that all children in childcare and Sunday Church School need to be registered each year, even if they have been registered in the past. These registrations keep our records up-to-date. If you have not yet done so, please complete a registration form from your children’s teacher or the Church Office. Please be sure your family is on the Church Email List. Thank you!

Sunday School Photo and Registration is September 13th

The annual Sunday Church School photo will be taken on Sunday, September 13th, which is also Sunday School Registration Day. Rain date for the photo is Sunday, September 20th.

Come out and register for Sunday School and be in the photo. Classes generally meet for a brief time this day as students meet their Sunday School teachers.

Youth Group Members— Are You Registered?

Both Middle School and High School Youth Group members are asked to fill out a Registration Form this year to bring our church records up-to-date. If you have not completed one, please pick up on at the Church Office or see Pat Hubbard. The form is the same one utilized for Sunday Church School. Please be sure you are on the church email list!

Presbytery Visioning Retreat Planned for Saturday, September 19

The Presbytery of Long Island invites you to a Visioning Retreat to be held Saturday, September 19th at Old First Presbyterian Church in Huntington. Be part of those who are seeking God’s vision for our life and ministry together as Presbyterians on Long Island, with particular focus on the staffing rationale for the Presbytery Office. Contact the Church Office if you would like to car-pool to this event.

East End Presbyterian Parish to Meet

The East End Presbyterian Parish will meet at Springs Presbyterian Church on Thursday, September 17, from 10:00am-12:00pm. They will be planning the CROP Walk, thinking about joint Church Officer Training, planning the winter educational series and thinking creatively about their future work together. Join in!

Support This Fall’s CROP Walk!

The CROP Walk will take place this year on Sunday, October 18th, as Westhampton Presbyterian Church joins with other churches in our community to Help Stop Hunger! CROP—the acronym—means “Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty” and that’s exactly what we do.

Everyone can participate!
In September forms will be dis-

(Continued on page 6)

CROP WALK (Continued from page 5) tributed to all wishing to participate in this year's walk—from our seniors to our youth to our youngest children. With the CROP envelope, you will collect people to sponsor you as you walk to stop hunger. If you can't walk, then support someone who is walking with your donation!

The monies raised in the North and South Forks on CROP Sunday will go to stop hunger and a portion of the monies will be divided among the food pantries supplying much needed food and nourishment to those in our community that are hungry. Watch your Sunday bulletins for more information on how you can help.

Together, we can make a difference! Join the CROP Hunger Walk or contribute to a Walker.

Who Wants to Welcome New Members and Nurture Small Groups?

Our Evangelism and Hospitality Team needs some new faces and new energy. This fall our Pastor has challenged us to: "Each One Reach One," in his *Tidings* newsletter note. To provide support for all of us in this endeavor and hospitality and a welcome for our visitors and new members, we want to revitalize this function of the church.

Some immediate work that might be done is drafting a "Welcome Brochure" for visitors offering helpful information about our church; develop a process or a network to contact

Mission Vision Team News

We are still getting the question, "When is the new minister coming?" so we remind you again that we have used this summer to give surveys to find out what our congregation feels strongly about so that we can look for a minister whose strengths are a good match for our wishes. In the early fall we will bring all of our information back to you for comments and study, and when Presbytery approves our mission statement we will form a Pastor Nominating Committee, probably in November. That leaves the PNC reading resumes and interviewing candidates around February, which is just when the most candidates will be looking for placements, planning to move to their new churches with their families as school gets out. The point is that we are right on schedule and doing things properly to find the best pastor at just the right time.

Right now the Mission Vision Team is analyzing the results of the US Congregational Life Survey that 120 of us filled out during the worship service on June 14. We have learned, for example, that 66% of us feel that our church has no clear vision, goals, or direction for our ministry, or else are unaware of the goals. This gives us something to work on—it is very important that our church be a beacon to the community conveying what we believe and what we do. Likewise, the survey documents make crystal clear how important effective children's and youth programs are to bringing in new members, and we are facing dropping enrollment and leadership problems in both areas.

We can't wait for a new minister and hope that he/she will fix it all up. Now is the time for us as a church family to recognize where our weaknesses lie and work on them. Our surveys show how much we love this church and how much care there is for each other, so this interim time before the new minister comes is our time to pull together as a family and show that not only do we have a vision for our future, but we are working to make it a reality.

Stu Wood for the
Mission Vision Committee

Let's Get
Acquainted!



and follow-up on each visitor; and, support the Pastor in providing New Member Groups periodically through the year.

These tasks are wonderful ways to become involved in the church and to make new friends as we concretely demonstrate our hospitality to strangers! Sign-up on the Bulletin Board if you are interested in this work or talk with Elder Karen Derryberry, chair of Church Life, under which the Evangelism and Hospitality Team resides.

Presbyterian Women

The Summer Treasure Sale that *almost* didn't materialize was a HUGE success. The workers were the "treasures" of the day. Donations were generous. The displays were eye-catchers. There was a steady flow of shoppers. A round of applause for everyone, on stage and behind the scenes.

Do you recall a special dinner, traditional menu or recipe? Some of our best mental pictures developed around the dinner table or in the family kitchen. A committee is forming to make the WPC cookbook a reality. More information will appear in our church news letters.

The month's ahead will be busy.

Nancy Miller and Gale Spaulding will bring news from the 2009 Triennium after a covered dish luncheon at noon, September 9th.

Details of the September Circle are hi-lighted in a separate Tidings article. Don't miss this special meeting!

The Fall Rummage Sale will be held September 25th and 26th. Collection has begun. ***Please do not leave large electronic items (TV's, computers, etc.) or pieces of furniture*** without calling the church office before noon weekdays. We do not have storage space or disposal facilities.

Christmas Bazaar workshop will meet weekly on Tuesday mornings, 9:30-12:30 beginning September 15th.

Deacons and their Call to Care

We Deacons have been studying a book by Kenneth Haugk called, Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart, a book that shows us how to relate to those who are suffering. Dr. Haugk bases his text on interviews with caregivers and care respondents in all sorts of situations. Each chapter serves as a multi-layered devotional, as we gather together to begin our monthly meetings.

We've discovered many insights that help us identify the challenges of relating to others. The true accounts inspire us, and provide a model of behavior that has helped us in our visitations and in our own lives.

As pastor, clinical psychologist, and the founder of Stephen Ministries,* Dr. Haugk has devoted his life to caring for others and equipping others to care. We Deacons have ordered a series of books by him, called Journeying Through Grief. Each of the four, short books will provide valuable and timely information about grief to those who are hurting:

Book 1: A Time to Grieve will be given three weeks after the loss of the loved one. ... "around the time when the casserole dishes have been returned, the phone calls and visits have tapered off, and the painful reality of the loss is settling in."

Book 2: Experiencing Grief will be given three months later, ... "around the time when many others begin telling the grieving person to 'cheer up' and 'get over it' because they mistakenly think grief should only last a few months."

Book 3: Finding Hope and Healing will be given after six months, ... "around the time when the person is wondering, 'Why don't I feel better yet? Is it normal to still feel sad? Doesn't anybody understand how I feel?'"

Book 4: Rebuilding and Remembering is given eleven months after the loss... "around the time when the grieving person is feeling anxious about the approaching anniversary of the death – and wondering if anyone else even remembers."

We hope these books provide comfort to those in our church family who have lost loved ones.

Three times a year you will find a small manila envelope in the pew rack, with *Board of Deacons* stamped on it. The Session has approved this offering to help the Deacons Fund, a fund that not only pays for this series on grief, but also helps us to reach out to those in our church family who need assistance in any number of ways. Your generosity is humbly appreciated by all of the Deacons.

* *Stephen Ministries is a not-for-profit Christian training and educational organization based in St. Louis, Mo. Since 1975, Stephen Ministries has provided high-quality, Christ-centered training and resources to tens of thousands of congregations from more than 100 denominations. For more information, see www.stephenministries.org, or call (314) 428-2600.*

Five-Week John Calvin Adult Discussion Begins at 8:30 AM September 13th

The Adult Discussion Group will begin a five-week study on *John Calvin: His Life and Legacy*. This year is the 500th Anniversary of John Calvin's birth and that makes it a great time to examine just who this "father" of the Presbyterian and Reformed churches is!

The group will watch and discuss the new film documentary *John Calvin: His Life and Legacy*, which combines insightful interviews of well-known Calvin scholars and Reformed church leaders to tell the powerful story of the sixteenth century pastor John Calvin with creative and stunning visuals from such places as Geneva, Switzerland, Dordrecht and Paris. With clear, insightful scholarship and analysis, this project is the first definitive documentary to dispel the myths of, and set the context and conditions for, Calvin's effect on the church and the whole course of Western civilization.

The five-week series on Calvin will meet September 13, 20, and 27 and October 11 and 18 meeting in the Founders' Room at 8:30 AM. This documentary will stimulate audiences and inspire a greater passion and an understanding of our history as Reformed Christians.

Remember that the First Sunday of the month is "Spiritual Conversations" with Valerie O'Brien and meets in the kitchen. Watch for the flyers in the Church Office listing the Adult Group Discussion topics. All are invited to both gatherings.

Elizabeth Circle

You Are Invited!

The Elizabeth Circle of Presbyterian Women is excited to be hosting Dr. Magda Iskander. Dr. Iskander is a medical missionary based in Cairo, Egypt. Come and hear about her work developing home health care and ministering in the name of Jesus Christ in the midst of the world's second largest Muslim city.

Dr. Iskander dedicates her life to honoring the dignity of people through holistic training and care of people in chronic need. Motivated by her motto "No starfish left stranded on the beach," she tackles seemingly impossible challenges to help marginalized people.

Dr. Magda Iskander

founded Care With Love (CWL). CWL was the first institution of its kind to train marginalized youth to provide high-quality, affordable home health care. With over 1000 graduates to date, CWL is now fully self-sustainable.

She has also has been the driving force behind the creation of Health and Hope Oasis, a residential facility offering nutrition and hygiene training for families of children with cancer.

Come and hear Dr. Magda Iskander speak and learn about her dedication to these programs that have positively impacted so many people's lives.

Join the Elizabeth Circle on Sept. 28 at 7 p.m. at the home of Sara Jane Giere. For more information, call Gale Spaulding at 631/902-6458.

Gift Cards Are Back!

They are ordered the last Sunday of the month and are distributed the first Sunday of the following month.

Plan ahead for birthdays and anniversaries with these wonderful gift cards.

These cards are not only for gifts! Do it for yourself. When you get these convenient gift cards from many local merchants, you can use it for yourself **AND support your church**.

Get a gift for someone from Applebee's, Amazon.com, Best Buy, Dunkin Donuts, Home Depot, Kmart, Khol's, Macy's, Office Max, Panera Bread, Sears, Subway, Tanger Outlet, Walgreens, and Walmart.

Change the way you shop and give to your church. Everyone wins when you plan ahead!

In addition to the retailers on the green order form, we can also order from over 600 retailers. For a complete list of retailers, go to www.glscrip.com/index. Click on Retailer List Alphabetically.

Join the WPC Choirs!

Fall is the time to think about ways in which to serve in the coming church year. Why not join the WPC Adult Choir under the direction and leadership of Music Director and Organist Linda (Howard) Kloefer. They practice before and after worship each Sunday and have several party "get-togethers" during the year.

We also offer Monday afternoon practice for the Junior Choir and periodically offer the Cherub Choir.

Don't Miss Anything this Year! Give the Church Office Your Email!

WPC is moving more and more in the direction of communicating with the congregation through email. Email offers the opportunity to receive late breaking announcements, prayer concerns, and information about church activities that cannot be done through the *Tidings* or in the weekly worship bulletin. Please email Pastor Peter with your email if you would like to be included in this email listing: pastor@westhamptonpresbyterian.org.

Laurel Williams Cary Baptized

Laurel Williams Cary, daughter of Abraham Richard Cary and Lucy Jane Cary, was baptized on Sunday, June 21, 2009 in the Quogue Sanctuary, with the Baptism administered by The Reverend Chuck Cary. Laurel was born 9/23/08 at Mount Sinai Hospital, Manhattan, NY.

Weddings

We wish the following three couples, married since our last newsletter, a long and happy life together:

Linda Howard and John Kloepfer were married on July 11th in Pittsburg, NH, with Peter Sulyok, officiating.

Danielle Mendola and Brian Keller were married on July 19th at the Quogue Chapel, with Peter Sulyok, officiating.

Lauren Ashley Siller and Andrew Michael King were married on August 13th in the Quogue Chapel, with Peter Sulyok, officiating.

Deaths and Memorial Services

An Interment Service was held for Dickey Fischer at Quogue Cemetery on June 13th, with Peter Sulyok, officiating.

A Committal Service was held for William Dudley in the Memorial Garden on July 2nd, with Peter Sulyok, officiating.

A Memorial Service was held for Robert Thornton on July 18th, in the sanctuary, with Peter Sulyok, officiating, and with Thomas Truscott, offering the mediation.

A Memorial Service was held for Margaret Stanton, at her home, 3 Ocean Avenue, in Quogue, on August 2nd, with Peter Sulyok, officiating.

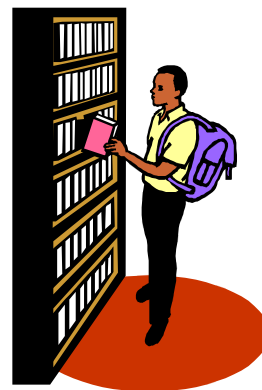
Church Library Offers Many Opportunities

Have you checked out the church library lately? It is a good place to find a book to read or do some research. Not only does the library contain books about the Bible, Presbyterianism, spirituality and religion in general, there are also a number of special interest books as well. The Children's Section of the library is especially inviting to younger children, who often view videos during the Church Coffee and Fellowship Time. Drop in and borrow a book!

Seekers' Class Planned...

The Seekers' Class is an opportunity for you to learn more about Westhampton Presbyterian Church and what it means to be a Christian in the Presbyterian and Reformed Tradition. Offered periodically, it is a good way to explore the faith and ministry we share and to become involved. It meets three times as we explore what being Presbyterian means, how the church runs, and the ministry and mission we do.

The next Seeker's Class will be held mid-September on Sunday mornings after church. The Class is a time to explore how we live our faith today and does not mean a commitment to becoming a member at the end. WPC maintains both list of members and a list of friends of the church. If you would like to attend the fall Seeker's Class or would like more information, contact Pastor Peter: 288-2576. To be included in the Fall Group, contact Peter by Monday, September 14th.



2009 Visioning Retreat

The Presbytery of Long Island

Saturday, September 19, 9:30-4:00
Central Presbyterian Church, 240 Main St., Huntington

At last year's Visioning Retreat we discerned that, *"For 2009 and 2010, the Presbytery of Long Island, as a partnership of churches, commits itself to deepening discipleship, building community, and obeying Christ's call to mission (service, justice, and evangelism)."*

For two and a half years we have been living our way into becoming a new kind of presbytery, one that functions more as a partnership rather than a hierarchical, top down organization. Our goal has been to empower grassroots mission, to work together as collaborative teams, and to accomplish our shared goals through a network of strong churches committed to being the Body of Christ in this place. It is time now to evaluate our progress – to see what is working and what needs some revision. We also need to decide what kind of staffing pattern will best help us do what God is calling us to do.

At this year's Visioning Retreat we will focus on the hard work done by the Mission Design Assessment Team (MDAT), which has spent this whole year listening to presbytery entities and individuals regarding the current Mission Design and reflecting on what they have heard. MDAT will bring a preliminary report to share at the retreat, with particular emphasis on staffing needs for the near future. We may also have time to explore financial realities and possibilities for funding our mission and ministry.

Please come and share your thoughts and ideas as we evaluate together how our current Mission Design is functioning, how it might work more effectively, and discern the staffing pattern we need to support the ministry to which God calls us in these days.

Call 631-499-7171 to register; **deadline for lunch reservations is Monday, September 14.** See you at Central!

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
LIBRARY PROGRAMS <u>Monday</u> Children's Yoga: Choir Room; Pilates: Parish Hall (Bailey Hall 9-21) <u>Tuesday</u> Yoga, Meditation: Choir Room; Children's Music: Parish Hall <u>Wednesday</u> Bridge: Conference Room (Bailey Hall 9-23); Mother Goose: Choir Room; Sugar Blues: Bailey Hall <u>Saturday</u> Children's Art—12th Parish Hall, 26th Bailey Hall							
6	7 <i>Labor Day— Office Closed</i>	8 <i>10am Yoga (Library) 11am Medita- tion (Library) 7pm Session</i>	9 <i>9:30am Mother Goose (Library) 12noon PW Luncheon</i>	10	11	12 <i>1pm Children's Art (Library)</i>	
13 <i>Reunion Sun- day—Return to One Service of Worship Christian Ed Teachers' Com- missioning</i>	14 <i>4:30pm Chil- dren's Yoga (Library) 6:45pm Pilates (Library)</i>	15 <i>9:30am CBW resumes 10am Children's Music; 10am Yoga(Library) 11am Medita- tion; 7pm Trus- tees (Library) Tidings Deadline</i>	16 <i>9:30am Mother Goose (Library)</i>	17 <i>10am EEPP Springs</i>	18	19 <i>9:30am Vision- ing Retreat</i>	
20 <i>Reagan Schindler Baptism Rummage Sale set-up through Thursday</i>	21 <i>4:30pm Chil- dren's Yoga (Library) 6:45pm Pilates (Library)</i>	22 <i>10am Chil- dren's Music (Library) 10am Yoga (Library) 11am Medita- tion (Library)</i>	23 <i>4pm Bridge (Library)</i>	24 <i>7-9pm Rum- mage Sale for members</i>	25 <i>9am-4pm Rummage Sale</i>	26 <i>9am-Noon Rummage Sale 1pm Children's Art (Library)</i>	
27	28 <i>4:30pm Chil- dren's Yoga (Library)</i>	29 <i>10am Chil- dren's Music (Library) 10am Yoga (Library) 11am Medita- tion (Library)</i>	30 <i>4pm Bridge (Library) 7pm Sugar Blues (Library)</i>	WEEKLY: Sunday Worship: 9am Chapel, 10:15am Sanctuary – begin 9/13; 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 Stretch and Tone: Thursday 6:30 pm			

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Your issue of the September Tidings

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Chris and Steve Ravenhall
- 1 Ralph Neubauer
- 1 Karen and Ralph Neubauer
- 1 Robertas Nielsen
- 1 Jessie Fox
- 2 Rev. Ann Van Cleef
- 2 Sarajane and Bernie Giere
- 3 Tracy Martin
- 4 Donna Goebel
- 4 Fred Bauer
- 5 Jessica Howard
- 5 Kathy Johnson
- 5 Jane Otis
- 5 Marian and Marvin Raynor
- 6 Jim Bachman
- 6 Jessica Howard and Seamus Naughton
- 7 Heather and Colin Bester
- 8 Jared Frenzel Sulyok
- 9 Susan Shenker
- 9 Blake Busking
- 11 Jane Busking

- 11 Jennifer Golding
- 11 Grant Babis
- 13 Doris Towers
- 13 Vern Hackworth
- 14 Kristin Lohneiss
- 15 Creighton Berry
- 15 Hanne and Bill Manker
- 15 Marie Osburg
- 17 Bonnie and Eric Wootten
- 17 Mabel Anderson
- 18 Pat Shima
- 18 Jordan Shenker
- 18 Gary Martin
- 18 Mark Jones
- 18 Todd Nielsen
- 19 Kimet Speed and Mike Hipp
- 20 Jessica Czachur
- 21 Karen and Chris Andrews
- 22 Stuart Wood
- 22 Mike Hipp
- 22 May Griffin
- 22 Jim Czachur Jr.
- 23 Bryan Wagner
- 24 Nancy and Harry Miller
- 24 Nicki and Bob Schindler
- 26 Holly Hubbard

- 27 John Sprague
- 29 Bobby Fox Jr.



Congratulations Graduate

Bunker Seyfert - graduate of Drexel University 2009 Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design. Awarded: "Best Cinematographer"

WPC Web Page Supports Members Businesses

If you are a WPC member or friend, and would like to have your business or professional service listed so our members and friends can support you and your work, we invite you to submit your name and business contact information/web page to our church office. See the businesses already listed at www.westhamptonpresbyterian.org.