



The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, NJ // 140 Mountain Avenue // Westfield, NJ 07090

Welcome Home

I don't know about you, but I am really looking forward to the months ahead. The crisp autumn air, apple orchards, the promise of a full staff... I miss seeing so many of you in person and am excited about some of the events being planned now for late summer and early fall. We have chances for outdoor get togethers on the lawn, events for all ages – both online and in person.

Even as these plans come together uncertainty clings to the air. Alpha, Delta, Lambda -- the fraternity of COVID variants raging through the country -- seem to threaten gains made in the spring. It can be discouraging, but let's be clear - we will get through it. Our church leaders are committed to ensuring that everyone connected to our church and the larger community remain safe; we are doing all we can to protect your physical and spiritual health, at the same time. As of this moment our current practices match recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and Johns Hopkins and we will continue to adjust as necessary. While we continue to encourage mask wearing, and ask that we keep masks on during singing, we have not ruled out reinstating masks indoors as conditions evolve.

But none of this will slow us down. We are a church and a people on the move! Last year, while in the depths of this pandemic, our church led efforts to support the most vulnerable in our local community; it was clear God was at work and doing something special. Thank you to all who helped in ways large and small to launch our Agape Local program, who continued to enable us to run our Agape program in Elizabeth to feed and support the homeless population there, and all of you who joined our "Be the Light" campaign to kick off Advent. You have all given so much over the past year to support your own neighbors and to weather this storm of political, social, and economic unrest amid the dread of the virus.

Now is a time for you and your spiritual health. Now is a time for you and your friends and your families to be supported more directly by the church. We have new pastors coming on staff, Sara Benedetti starts August 1, and we are investing heavily in ways of helping all of our members stay more connected to each other as we start the new program and school year.

In-person, online, through social media, we are your home for worship and learning. Your home for connecting and serving. This fall, Welcome Home.

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Clerk's Report June 2021

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated on June 6, 2021 at the 10am video Facebook Live/YouTube live, 10 am Traditional and 10 am wired services with Rev. Jeremy Jinkins presiding.

Sacrament of Baptism (W-3.0403, W-3.0404, G-3.0204b, G-3.021b)

The following Baptisms took place on June 13, 2021. Rev. Jeremy Jinkins presided. Ruling
Elder William Cook assisted.

Zachary Daniel Cordero, born July 9, 2020 in Summit, New Jersey, son of Daniel and Alison Grow Cordero.

Kaley Harper Shafer, born August 24, 2020 in Livingston, New Jersey, daughter of Nicholas and Lauren Shafer.

Margot Weldon, born January 31, 2020 in Summit, New Jersey, daughter of Brian and Lauren Weldon.

The following Baptisms took place on June 27, 2021. Rev. Jeremy Jinkins presided. Ruling
Elder Nancy R. Smith assisted.

Leonardo Maranzano, born May 31, 2018 in White Plains, New York, son of Giancarlo and Jillian Maranzano.

Vivienne Maranzano, born December 5, 2020 in Summit, New Jersey, daughter of Giancarlo and Jillian Maranzano.

Marriages (W-4.06)

There were no marriages in June, 2021.

Member Deaths:

Penelope (Penny) H. Johnson, (February 4, 1950 - June 8, 2021). A memorial service will be held on Saturday, July 31, 2021 in the Sanctuary. Rev. Jeremy Jinkins will be presiding. Internment in the church cemetery took place on June 24, 2021.

Nancy M. Roff (August 3, 1928 - June 28, 2021). A memorial service will be held on August 14, 2021 at 2:00pm in the Chapel.

Inactive/ Former Member Deaths:

Helga Martha Elliot (reported in February, 2021) was interred with a graveside service on Sunday; June 13, 2021. Rev. Jeremy Jinkins presided.

Richard Morrison Tahl (husband of former member Melissa Tahl) had a memorial service in the Chapel on Saturday, June 19, 2021 with internment at Fairview Cemetery. Rev. Jeremy Jinkins presided.

Eleanor Svenborg Tilton, (August 25, 1926 - July 27, 2020). Information of her death was received on June 8, 2021. Memorial service in the Chapel to be held on Saturday, August 28, 2021 at 1:30 pm.

Membership

Membership as of the end of previous month	943
New Adult Members	8
Confirmands	0
Reinstated	0
Member Deaths	2
Transfers Out	0
Moved to Inactive Status	0
Membership as of the last day of this month	949



- Pamela H. Shaw, Clerk of Session

Agape

Our church cares about community. Pretty much everything we do seeks to establish relationships and preserve community. We have a long-term presence here in Elizabeth; in fact, if one goes back far enough, Westfield started as the "Westfields of Elizabeth" and there has always been a deep tie for our church to this city. For the past twenty years our youth have been engaged in a mission at the site of the church that sponsored us almost three hundred years ago. *Agape* is a mission set up on the premise that our homeless neighbors spend most of the week invisible and unheard. Each week, however, they are welcomed in and given a sense of home by our youth, who do much more than feed a meal. Guests are served, talked to, and over time relationships are formed.



High School Mission Trip 2021



For over thirty years our youth have spent part of their summer on a High School Mission Trip, either internationally or to disaster-struck regions of the U.S. Due to the restrictions of the pandemic, we chose to stick closer to home this year, and I am so glad we did! We have been introduced to an organization right in our own backyard who is working to bring our community together, eliminating food deserts, and demonstrating the rising of new life in what had been a largely dead space. There are so many possibilities for future partnership between us, and I look forward to other organizations and churches finding out about this gem.

American Red Cross Blood Drive at PCW

PCW is hosting the Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, August 17, 2021, 10am-3pm in the Assembly Hall.

If you would like to give, please schedule your appointment by visiting redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code: PRESBYTERIAN WESTFIELD, or call 1-800-Red-Cross.



Westfield Daycare Center Liaison Wanted

The Westfield Day Care Center needs YOU! We are searching for a Church member to fill an important role on our Board of Trustees – the position of Church Liaison. The liaison is a voting member of the board and is present to represent the Presbyterian Church's interests. The church liaison is required to attend one meeting a month, usually a Monday at 7:30pm. The position will begin in October 2021.



Please contact The Westfield Day Care Center at 908.232.6717 for more information or to volunteer.

Compassion Camp Recap!

Thank you to all the families who participated in this year's Vacation Bible Camp at Presbyterian, Compassion Camp: Changing the World Through Lovingkindness! We spent the week discovering the idea of lovingkindness and how to express it to ourselves, our community, and the world. Characters from the bible like Miriam, Elijah, the good Samaritan, and Jesus helped us explore the concept in stories we read or listened to.



Learning how to treat ourselves well included kids' yoga and meditation with Brandi Look, from Brassy Buddha; self-care bingo; compliment flowers; and staying cool and hydrated with ice pops and water balloons in the extreme heat!

One of the ways we showed lovingkindness to each other was to create care rocks that send positive messages. Many of these painted rocks can be seen around the church property; we hope they make you smile when you see them. Some classes made journey sticks (while others made journey bracelets), and we talked about how our journeys are all different, and our differences should be celebrated.

Campers showed lovingkindness to the community by learning about our church's local Agape program, which provides nutritious food bags weekly to 107 neighbors identified by The Westfield Board of Education and others as families who were struggling with food insecurity during this pandemic. They helped by sorting groceries and also created prayer cards to include with the food. This is an ongoing program through the church, and they always welcome food donations. To find out what items are needed, please visit: <https://signup.com/go/MpQDgNm>.

Each participant left camp with a copy of the Lovingkindness Prayer and a stained glass prayer jar they created themselves, filled with things and people and ideas they can pray for.

For more information on children's activities at the church, please contact Krista Aslanian at faithformation@westfieldpc.org. And from all of us who participated in Vacation Bible Camp: **May you be happy. May you be healthy. May you be safe. May you be at peace.**

Talks with Tom

Tuesday Talks with Tom is taking a vacation in August.

Tuesday Talks with Tom returns in September 2021! Please check the September Spire for details.



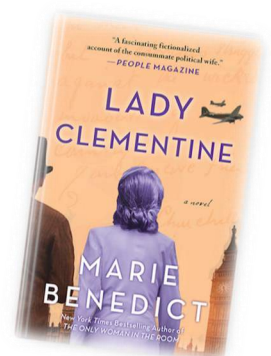
Rev. Tom Kort,
Parish Associate

Lunch and a Book

Even though Lunch and a Book is not meeting over the summer, we are reading "Lady Clementine" by Marie Benedict, and will discuss it at our September meeting.

Lady Clementine is the ferocious story of the ambitious woman beside Winston Churchill, the story of a partner who did not flinch through the sweeping darkness of war, and who would not surrender to expectations or to enemies.

Questions? Contact Lisa Black, lmb.blacklaw@gmail.com.



NJFO's New Beginnings Part 2

New Jersey Festival Orchestra, led by Music Director David Wroe, continues to restart the artistic engines with messages of hope, rebirth and spiritual enrichment!

Stars from international opera houses, the Broadway stage and Dance Theatre of Harlem return to NJFO for *New Beginnings*, Part 2, a second virtual presentation of renowned tenor fare, dazzling dance classics and Broadway favorites.



The concert promises a selection of completely new material that was chosen in collaboration with guest artists - Broadway's Marissa McGowan, Met Opera tenors Errin Brooks and Jeremy Bauner, and dancers from Dance Theatre of Harlem.

"We are featuring music that our superb guests themselves asked explore – and in the manner they requested," explains maestro Wroe. "We see Dance Theatre of Harlem's unique interpretation of "Dance of the Flowers," an up-tempo salsa version of "Besame Mucho," and the renowned "Nessum Dorma" in a fascinating collaboration by two internationally acclaimed tenors. All this and more will delight in our cabaret-style show."

New Beginnings Part 2 was safely filmed at the magnificent Ward Mansion in Westfield. And come free of charge thanks to generous support from NJ State Council on the Arts, The Westfield Foundation, James and John Ward and NJFO patrons Jerome and Helene Dreskin.

New Beginnings Part 2 is now available on demand. Watch it any time and enjoy fabulous music any time of day or night! Look for the free video link and more information about the program and artists on www.njfestivalorchestra.org. For questions, contact NJFO by email at patronservices@njfestivalorchestra.org or call (908) 232-9400.

Please view on a large screen if possible. Watching by phone does not do justice to this magnificent concert film!



Weedy Workers

Grab your gardening gloves, tools and a bucket and join us on the church grounds on Saturday mornings from 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. to pull weeds and spruce things up. No need to sign up in advance, just show up the morning of. Any questions, please contact Lisa Black, lmb.blacklaw@gmail.com.



Summer Reading Invitation

"It ain't those parts of the Bible that I can't understand that bother me, it is the parts that I do understand".

—Mark Twain

Even when Jesus is being completely clear, it's easy to be dismissive and to rationalize his teaching. Jesus' core message as presented in the Sermon on the Mount presents a picture of God's intention for us living in His creation. In clear and practical terms, Jesus helps us see what this looks like lived out in real life, in the middle of broken human conditions. But we inevitably and practically end up ignoring His teaching and this invitation.

The challenge that this presents is the intention for our new summer series for your consideration and participation. Opening our hearts and mind to the essence of Living in the Kingdom is the goal.

Sometimes getting started is the hardest part. To help get you started, we are presenting a flexible and accessible way to enter this challenge and to dwell on it. Through a series of various readings, lectures and interviews we invite you to explore Jesus' message, to reflect on interpretations from different perspectives, and consider some of our limits, options, and next steps.

The design of this offering is flexible and can be tackled in any order you like. It can entail some or all of the components to gain access or insights into your understanding and acceptance of Jesus' invitation into the Kingdom.

The core of the offering is to read *Jesus and the Disinherited* by Howard Thurman. This landmark book presenting a perspective on Jesus from what may be a very different point of view from where you have considered him before. This book was a foundational influence on Martin Luther King, Jr. as he formulated his mission and work. We will gather in September in small groups to discuss this book and to integrate some of the concepts developed in the following resources intended to support and expand the message Thurman presents in this book.

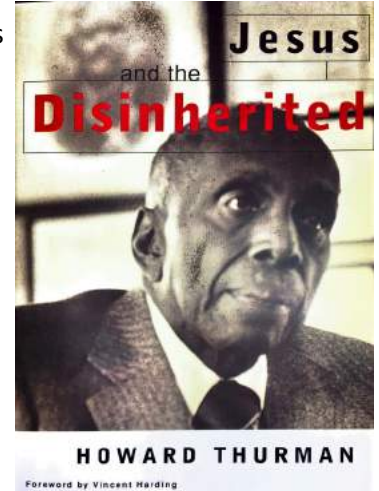
You can purchase this book from: [The Town Book Store - Westfield, NJ](#); [Barnes & Noble](#); [Amazon](#).

Please contact Alan Smith @ alandsmith518@gmail.com to learn more about this opportunity to delve deeper into the meaning of following Christ's calling for us.

—Alan D. Smith

Cell: 917-239-1667

Email: Alandsmith518@gmail.com



Ways to Give @ PCW

- Online Bill Pay
- Cash - Check

- EasyTithe
- Givelify



On the PCW website: westfieldpc.org and click on "Give" tab, and follow the directions.

Will You Join Us In Helping Our Brothers And Sisters in Zambia?

As Christians we are reminded in various parts of The Bible to “persevere” and hold “steadfast” in times of difficulty and doubt to accomplish what we are called to do in serving Christ’s purposes for us and our responsibilities to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

In the face of the pandemic and its challenges, PCW has stayed steadfast in its support for others by adjusting and maintaining existing missions such as Agape and a modified High School Mission Trip, support for our sisters and brothers in Christ in Zambia, while also starting exciting new ministries like “Agape Local/Friends Feeding Friends.”



Certainly, PCW’s members and local community have been challenged by the pandemic--- sickness, fear, lives lost, careers and educations disrupted, and on and on, but it appears we are beyond the worst of it and ready to help others in need as we are called to do.

Our sisters and brothers in Zambia are in a much different situation: vaccines not yet readily available, businesses totally disrupted, very limited government assistance available, inflation rampant and a declining kwacha, and the enduring fight against the ravages of HIV/AIDS continues.

As their fight continues, their faiths are strong and, yes, they still pray for us in prayer blouses and caps! PCW has decided that NOW is the best time to do what God is calling us to do in Zambia.

We are increasing our commitment to help them by investing in crucial needs with long term impacts—

1. Support a project for drilling a bore hole, a deep well to provide a clean and reliable source of water for the church, church school, and their boarding house. Think of the church as a community center throughout the week that has never before had water security; it can also provide a significant improvement to historic sanitation challenges.
2. Support a series of sustainability and empowerment activities to include small loans (“micro-loans”) to help members whose businesses are suffering, and/or individuals experiencing food insecurity, and to increase our funding support for the “Home Based Care” victims of the HIV/AIDS scourge.

So, we ask:

- If your brother told you he was hungry, would you respond?
- If your sister told you she has no access to clean water and sanitation in such a challenging time, would you respond?
- If that brother or sister has asked, “Would you please pray for me?” how would you respond?

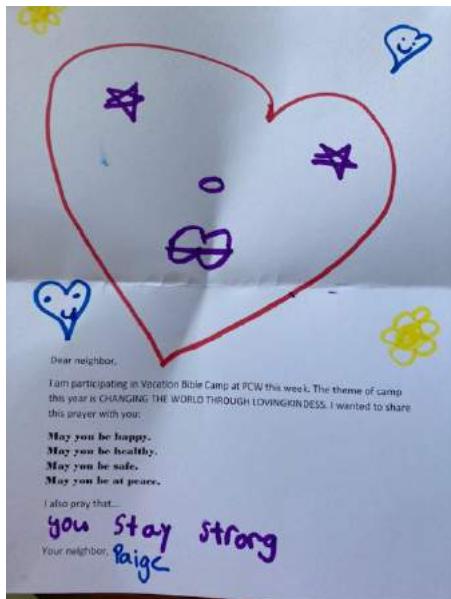
PCW’s response to all of these questions is a resounding “YES!” Please join us by praying for God’s help for these dear people and supporting our fund raising effort. We are hoping to raise \$15,000 from the congregation. Each donation will be matched 100% by the Mission Commission. Contributions may be sent:

- via Zelle— **(Please be sure to use tbarulli@westfieldpc.org as the recipient)**
- [EasyTithe](#)
- Checks. Please mark all contributions “For Zambia.”



We appreciate your support.

Vacation Bible School 2021– COMPASSION CAMP



The theme of the Camp was **Changing the World through Lovinkindness**. This is the prayer the children shared with their neighbors:

May you be happy.
May you be healthy.
May you be safe.
May you be at peace.





IMAGINE A Center for Coping with Loss

Imagine provides free peer grief support groups for children ages 3-18 who have experienced the death of a parent or sibling. Concurrent English and Spanish speaking adult groups are available for the parents or caregivers of the youth who attend Imagine. We also offer support groups for young adults ages 18-30. All groups are held either in-person or virtually.

Support groups are facilitated by trained adult volunteers who attend a three-day training totaling 24 hours, as well as regular continuing education.

Volunteers come from all walks of life and no special background is required other than a willingness to listen, a heart inclined to serve, and the ability to be with children and adults in pain without trying to fix, solve or give advice. No prior experience is necessary. Volunteers must be 21 years or older. Volunteers serve as companions and loving listeners for those who are grieving.

"In order to continue to grow our English and Spanish speaking programs, we need to constantly train new volunteer facilitators," said Veronica Ortiz, Imagine Program Manager. "Our programs are growing because of the great need in this community, especially in the wake of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Over 220 children and adults have been participating in our virtual support groups this year. We are now preparing to launch a new program year that will offer the option of in person or virtual support for English and Spanish speaking groups. Doing these additional trainings will ensure that no child will ever have to wait to get the support they need."

Imagine is offering two facilitator training class options this summer. The first training class will take place virtually from August 27-29. The second training will be held in person at Imagine in Mountainside from Sept. 17-19. Vaccination is required for the in-person training. Each training takes place from 9 am-5 pm each day. For more information, please contact Imagine Training Manager, Jamie Saltamachia at jamie@imaginenj.org. If you have questions regarding the trainings, please call us at 908-264-3100.



PCW Church Officers 2021 & 2022

Session

Howard Adams
Bill Cook
Susan Dougherty
Ethan Harris
Martha Kieczkowski
Ginny Leiz
Gerry Lorenzetti
Josh McMahon
Liz Miller
Courtney Nemec
Mike Quinlan
Pam Shaw, Clerk
Nancy Smith
Bill Tittle

Board of Deacons

Cooper Andrews
Anna Lee Bachtell
Christian Cederqvist
Patty Chen
Joe Diacheysn
Dave DuBois
Yelena Grow
Anastasia Harrison
Jim Hewitt
George Himmel
Larry Kinsella
John LaMond
David Leiz
Debbie Lorenzetti
Lauren McDonough
Will Murtishaw co-Moderator
Norma Nemec
Susan Pink
Sue Prisco
Joan Quinlan
Lorraine Ruprecht
Maddy Serra
Faye Sobala
Val Stierhoff
Chris Svoboda
Daniel Swartz, co-Moderator
Lynn Vinegra

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*If you don't see your birthday listed,
please contact the church office.
We will be happy to add your name
to the monthly birthday list!*

August 1

Katherine Doyle
Olivia Dembiec

August 2

Gus Johnson
Jennie Williams
Leslie Crowe

August 3

Barbara McLaughlan
Jessica Esposito
Allyson Panton

August 4

Ann Fontana
Joe Pink
Scott Giles
Mackenna Heesters
Bethany Swartz
Nicholas Mora

August 5

Jeanne McCurdy

August 6

Jonathan Jacobs
Ava Harrison

August 7

Debra Murphy
Catherine Parker
Sarah Huntington
Amanda Schmeling
Dylan Howland
Daniel Kohler
Shannon Gibbs
Grace Dailey

August 8

John Shpunder III
Scott Sinclair
Jake Cerra
Emma Crossland
Nicholas Koch
Mark Fico
Phillip Kim

August 10

Lynn Vinegra
Brandon Vazquez

August 11

Cynthia Kudron
Jennifer Santagata
Ben Shepard
Cooper Andrews

August 12

Mary Thompson
Michael Sturr
Casey Heintz

August 13

Frank Rellosa

August 14

Ron Straight
Irondi Aliche
Emma Sugrue

August 15

Diane Yamano
Olivia Shields
Henry York

August 17

Ernst Wildi
Gail Kender
Jeff Kole
Isabelle Weldon

August 18

Mary Johnson
Lauren Stravach
Richard Thomas
Chris Dackow

August 19

Daniel Sawicki
Emily Ince

August 20

Ralph Braun
Nicole Jacobs
John McCauley
Madelin O'Connor

August 21

Patrick Cerria
Holly Smith
Evan Leone

August 22

Jane Tsai
Dominique Eck
Noelle Heber
Meagan Thompson

August 23

Vanine Armstrong
Kristen Bartok
Amy Cummings
Zachary Harris

August 24

Fran Comstock
Sylvia Aliche

August 25

Joan Robbins
Lisa Walker
Paige Venturino

August 26

Wendy Schoenemann
Addie Cummings

August 27

Charlie Monzella

August 28

Judith Rich
Paula McCauley
Harrison Grom

August 29

Will Gordon II
Vince DuVernois

August 30

Ken August
Susan Beauchamp
Ryan Finley
Alyson Palia
Matthew Paden

August 31

Donna Masterson
Joey Santoro

*We have no recorded birthdays
for August 9 & 16 in our database*



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MORNINGS @ 10am

Traditional in Sanctuary
wired in Westminster Hall
Online

Online Sunday School

3yrs - 5th grade

Adults

Questers
Serendipity

Do you have news to share?

If you have great news to share with PCW such as, an engagement, anniversary, adoption, baptism, birth, etc., please email a picture and a short paragraph to spire@westfieldpc.org to be featured!

We'd love to celebrate with you!

CONTACT US

westfieldpc.org | wired4worship.com



Rev. Jeremy Jinkins

Pastor, Head of Staff
jjinkins@westfieldpc.org | Ext. 45

Rev. Sara Benedetti

Associate Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families
Sbeneditti@westfieldpc.org | Ext. 38

Rev. Tom Kort

Parish Associate
t.kort@westfieldpc.org | Ext. 48

Paul Sanner

Director of Music & Organist
psanner@westfieldpc.org | Ext. 46

Krista Aslanian

Interim Christian Education Coordinator, Children/Youth
faithformation@westfieldpc.org | Ext. 44

Kevin Wilkin

Director of Contemporary Worship
Kevinw@toaelectronics.com
908-821-5551

Lou Ann Kaplonski

Church Administrator
lkaplonski@westfieldpc.org | Ext. 26

Tina Barulli

Comptroller
tbarulli@westfieldpc.org | Ext. 23

Beyanka Wheatley

Communications Specialist
bwheatley@westfieldpc.org | Ext. 27

Betty Born

Church Secretary
bborn@westfieldpc.org | Ext. 22

Pam Shaw

Clerk of Session
pam.shaw.bhi@gmail.com

Jim Kajosevic

Maintenance Supervisor
jikajosevic@westfieldpc.org | Ext. 34

Amy Jones

Agape Coordinator
agape@westfieldpc.org

Jen Collum

Director, Presbyterian Nursery School & Kindergarten
pnsandk@verizon.net | 908-233-0766

Mary Danskin

Director, Time Out for Parents | 908-654-5157