



## **A Message from Our Pastor**

The leaders of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield have some exciting news about plans to help our members stay connected through this health crisis – indoor worship is returning to our congregation. Now, before we get to thinking that we are getting back to normal, please read on to see (1) how we got here; and (2) what it means for us to do indoor worship, and the restrictions we may face:

### **How we got here**

As you may know we have already maintained some of our small groups, children’s ministry, and worship by moving the core of our activities online, and our Senior Network has been tremendous in helping keep our senior members connected through this ordeal. In addition, during the summer our Session moved to allow outdoor, in-person worship, which has now been going on since the beginning of August, and several of our ministries began holding outdoor gatherings on our lawn to take advantage of the opportunity.

At this time, our church leaders recognize that the seasonal weather shift will make it much more difficult to maintain any sort of outdoor activity, and have been seeking to balance both the very real physical health risks with the very real mental and spiritual health needs of our members and guests. The Session has identified a few ways that we may be able to safely hold indoor gatherings. One important way we are doing this is through worship. While we will continue to have significant restrictions on in-person worship through the duration of the health crisis, we have been meeting in-person weekly since the summer and have learned a great deal of how to limit our risk exposure.

### **What we are doing**

Kicking things off we will bring our Wednesday 7pm worship experience indoors for three weeks in November (the 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup>), and starting on November 29<sup>th</sup>, the first Sunday in Advent, we will have a Sunday service at noon to supplement our online worship. “Why noon?” you may ask. Noon allows for people interested in both worship experiences to participate, and it helps us remember that we are not worshipping in the way we are used to – this is a measure we are taking to celebrate life together when significant restrictions exist, even those that may require suspending this service. It will also make for a much sweeter return when we really do “return.”

In both instances, masks are required, we will social distance, and ask everyone to register ahead of time. We will also limit the way we enter and depart, take temperatures and make it possible to conduct contact tracing. Further, if our local health conditions deteriorate we will suspend indoor gathering of any sort until it is safe.

In the coming days similar information will be on our website, distributed through emails and our social media platforms, and shared in our online worship experience. Updates will continue to come to help clarify what we are doing and how.

#### **IN THIS ISSUE**

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| Page 2 | Faith Formation<br>Luminaria            |
| Page 3 | Agape Local Mission<br>PCW Turkey Drive |
| Page 4 | From our Music<br>Director              |
| Page 5 | Advent Wreaths<br>Small Groups          |
| Page 6 | Stewardship<br>Church Triumphant        |
| Page 7 | Happy Birthday                          |

# Message From Our Pastor (continued)

If you are in a risk category, have traveled to a state on the naughty list, or have any reservations about engaging in this way, no worries! Our current forms of worship (home delivery packets, website liturgy, and online video) will all continue without interruption.

Peace be with you all,

Jeremy

---

## Faith Formation

### CHILDREN'S OPPORTUNITIES

**ADVENT** is right around the corner and Faith Formation is busy working on two exciting projects:

**"Zoom to Bethlehem"** – This online celebration of the story of Jesus' birth will be held on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. There will be links to crafts, an interactive story time, and music as we celebrate the birth of Jesus from the shepherds and wisemen to the angels and the manger. Please plan to be part of this unique and fun activity.

In addition to "Zoom to Bethlehem," Faith Formation is also creating an online **Advent Calendar** with activities for each day of Advent. There will be videos, music, crafts, recipes, stories and more all to help your family celebrate Advent every day. Be sure to jump in on the first day of Advent, Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. Don't miss a single day – this is going to be AWESOME!

**GIFT BIBLES:** Every year, PCW presents Bibles to our Kindergarten children and our 4th grade children during worship services. Due to Covid, we were not able to present them in worship. However, during October, the Faith Formation Commission delivered 11 Bibles for our Kindergarten and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade students. We hope you and your families will read, learn and grow in your faith!

### ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday mornings provide two Adult Christian education opportunities with Questers at 9:00 a.m. led by Nancy Smith, and Serendipity at 11:00 a.m. led by Robin Hoy. These classes are open to everyone. Please contact Nancy at [nancyreidsmith@gmail.com](mailto:nancyreidsmith@gmail.com) and Robin at [crhoy4@gmail.com](mailto:crhoy4@gmail.com) to get the information to join the sessions each Sunday. Connect and grow with others!

---

## Come Together! Support Those in Need! Be the Light!

At dusk on November 29th, the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend, the Westfield United Fund, The Presbyterian Church in Westfield and the Rotary Club of Westfield invite Westfield residents to light luminaries to fight hunger in Union County. Spread the message of light and hope as we support those in need!

Each luminary kit sold raises more than \$10 for hunger programs in Union County. Purchase luminaries or make a donation to this effort at [www.bethelightwestfield.org](http://www.bethelightwestfield.org). Luminary kits are being PRE-SOLD. Each kit includes 10 candles, bags and plastic cups, and are priced at \$20. The money raised from the Luminary Kits will be \$10 to \$15 per kit.



The luminaries will be available for **pick-up the weekend of November 21 and 22**, and can be purchased now **through November 14th**.

Help us line our streets with the light of hope burning within our community...**Be the Light, Westfield!**

# Mission Commission - AGAPE Local

In February, we were all going about our lives with little thought that everything would be upended by March. The past eight months have been unlike anything that we have experienced in our lives. We have paused our in-person Sunday services. We have discontinued social gatherings. We are maintaining social distance. We are wearing our masks. We are doing all of these things because we value our neighbors and want to do anything that the medical/scientific professionals tell us to do to help mitigate the effects of the coronavirus.

Did you know that in this pandemic, one in four families do not have enough food to feed their families each day? At least one study shows a 170% increase in food insecure families with children under the age of twelve. Families who have never relied on any assistance now find themselves jobless or with hours/wages drastically cut, and are unable to obtain the basic necessities on their own.

Since May, we have been providing food and other necessary household supplies to local families in need. Each week we create a donation list of specific items. Some congregants choose the items they would like to donate and drop them off at the church Monday through Thursday. Many congregants have opted to send in cash donations; those funds are used to supplement the food bags with chicken, beef and additional fresh fruit and vegetables. Unlike many other food pantries, we are supplying healthy, fresh items to the families. On Fridays, Agape Local volunteers put the bags together and distribute them to the families.

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize this year for its efforts in combating hunger around the world. The WFP states that there are 690 million people suffering hunger globally, with a projected increase within the year of 250 million additional people starving due to COVID-19. The numbers are difficult to comprehend, especially when you realize that the majority are children.

We here at PCW are not in a position to assist all of the hungry people around the world; we can, however, give of ourselves right here, right now, by helping 97 people in our community who need us. Please take a look at the weekly list <https://signup.com/go/MpQDgNm> and decide what you can donate to help ensure that our neighbors don't go to bed hungry.

If you have any questions, please contact Carole Cook at [chcook22@yahoo.com](mailto:chcook22@yahoo.com) or 908-789-9097.



## Frozen Turkey Drive... and the Fixin's Too!

This year, when the need is greater than ever, PCW will once again be collecting frozen turkeys for our friends in Elizabethport.

Please consider donating a frozen turkey and/or nonperishable side items (e.g., stuffing mix, canned vegetables, pasta, canned fruit, etc.) Donations will be distributed the week of Thanksgiving week by the Elizabethport Presbyterian Center.

With no outside access to the Parish House, we must modify how we collect these items.

- A cooler labelled "FROZEN TURKEYS" will be outside the Parish House doors on the parking lot level.
- There will also be a second labelled bin for the non-perishable items.

**TURKEYS WILL BE ACCEPTED MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, 9AM – 3PM ONLY!**  
**Please do NOT leave a turkey outside overnight. It will thaw, and be wasted. All donations must be received by November 20.**

Thank you for your support!



# **From Our Music Director**

Hello Everyone,

Here we are, mid-Autumn. I would ordinarily greet you with words such as "I hope you are well and enjoying beautiful Autumn in NJ". I do hope that, but in these times, that doesn't seem enough. My prayer is that you are healthy, that your loved ones are healthy, that, whatever your living situation, you see or "see" other people enough that you are maintaining connection to people you love in whatever communities you inhabit. If you are reading this, you share with me, and anyone else who reads this, connection (perhaps very important in your life) to the Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

Worship is central to our life together, one of the primary ways in which we experience communion with each other and PCW. So naturally, at each new stage of the Covid-19 pandemic, we wonder: what about worship? Since March, we've experienced online worship in video and written form, as well as outdoor worship, recently including the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. In current events, the Covid-19 pandemic continues in force. According to yesterday's New York Times "the nation...is on pace to record the most new daily cases of the entire pandemic in the coming days." In Westfield, colder weather approaches, outdoor gathering is always possible, but becomes less attractive as the temperature drops and daylight hours decrease. So now, again, we wonder: what about worship?

At the time of this writing, I don't know what exactly the next stage will look like, but here are some of the many thoughts and considerations that inform our conversations about pandemic worship at PCW. In our thinking and planning...

- We endeavor that what is spoken, prayed and sung in worship speaks to the felt need of those who might worship with us -- right now, our worship sermon series is "Unhinged", about keeping faith, and how our faith continues to speak to us, to lift us, even in uncertain times.
- We consider the ordering of worship itself -- gathering around, listening to, and responding to the word. While online worship isn't the same experience as in-person worship, we are still gathered, we still listen and respond. We hope that, even in its different-ness, our online worship still nourishes and builds community. As worship leaders, we practice, learn and hopefully continue to elevate the online worship experience that we offer. I hope, as you continue to worship online (also practicing, in a sense) your experience of worship includes a sense of gathering, listening and response.
- We consider worship in the context of the past and present "life of the congregation", as well as a variety of futures: immediate (this week, next week), soon (Advent), kind-of soon (winter), the near future (spring) and The Future (later). We are mindful of the affinities that people hold to the different Sunday worship experiences that we've offered through recent years. We plan while at the same time watching as the pandemic and reactive societal choices re-shape our culture. We make educated guesses about what "things" will look like on the other side, but we understand the limits in our ability to predict the future. We also bring forward from pre-pandemic times much thought and planning for worship in the next seasons and years -- worship that evolves as our congregation evolves, living on our street corner always as the church we are called to be, here and now.
- Above all, I believe we consider the physical and spiritual / emotional health of all in our community. For some, a less physically gathered world (and church) is neutral, tolerable, sometimes even enjoyable. Others profoundly miss gathered community -- not only at church but in many walks of life. Concurrent to respect for one's spiritual / emotional health is the necessity of caring for each other's and one's own physical well-being. We each respond differently to risk. An unscientific way of looking at personal risk might be that there are four places on a spectrum of interacting with risk -- accepting, reducing, minimizing and eliminating. I probably live most often in the "minimizing" space, sometimes adventuring up to reduction, sometimes retreating toward eliminating. When planning for the possibility of gathered-in-person worship, we understand that "adults make adult decisions" about their own risk. At the same time, in non-pandemic times, we hope that people prioritize "showing up" for church. If we decide to meet for in-person worship during the pandemic, do we set up a situation where people are truly free to "make adult decisions" about risk, or is there extra implied obligation and weight given to "showing up for church."?

## **From Our Music Director ( continued )**

You may have heard me speak of one way that I understand the Kingdom of Heaven: a place where everybody matters and where there is always enough to share. Consideration of our worship life for me is on the “everybody matters” side of that duality. As a welcoming and nurturing community, in this time and place, how may we best and most fully walk with each other, walking with God? How do we reconcile the meaning of physical presence in our lives with the inherent risk (in the foreseeable future) in gathering in groups beyond our individual household?

Later this month we will celebrate Thanksgiving, possibly (probably) with intentionally smaller groups of friends and family than in past years. I am grateful for the community of faith we share at PCW, and for my role in the life of our church. I’m thankful for all of our opportunities to worship together, in all times, places and spaces.

Peace be with you.

Paul

---

## **ADVENT WREATHS**

Advent is a time of preparation and waiting. It is a time of individual and family growth as we prepare our hearts and our lives for the birth of Jesus. In this time of waiting we mark the four Sundays before Christmas by lighting candles to remind us of the hope, peace, joy and love that Christ brings to our lives.

Your Faith Formation and Worship Commissions are teaming up to make Advent Wreath Kits available for purchase. Kits will contain a wreath form, candles and cup holders, boxwood greens and a booklet with readings and prayers. The price is \$15 and kits will be ready for pickup at the church on November 21 and 22. This year, the first Sunday of Advent is November 29<sup>th</sup>.



To order your kits please email or call Nancy Smith – 908-578-4741 or [nancyreidsmith@gmail.com](mailto:nancyreidsmith@gmail.com).

Leave your name, number, email and how many you would like to purchase. On pickup you may pay with cash or by a check made out to The Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

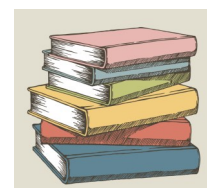
Order your wreaths now. Make one for your own use and maybe one for a friend. This is a great family project for Thanksgiving weekend!

---

## **SMALL GROUP BOOK STUDIES**

### **Theology Discussion Group**

We invite you to join us for our next discussion Monday, November 5th and 19th, 7:30 - 8:30pm as we read and reflect on Thomas Merton’s “No Man Is an Island”. We will be covering chapter 5 on the November 5th and chapters 6 on November 19. If you would like more information, please contact Alan Smith, 917-239-1667.



### **Lunch and A Book**

Our November book is “The Rent Collector” by Cameron Wright. We will have our Zoom discussion on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> from 12-1. All are welcome to participate! Please contact Lisa Black, [lmb.blacklaw@gmail.com](mailto:lmb.blacklaw@gmail.com) to get the Zoom link. Our January book will be “Where the Forest Meets the Stars” by Glendy Vanderah.

# STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

This year has been hard! The pandemic has been devastating. The health crisis, economic crisis and sociopolitical crisis are clouding and hiding the good at work all around us. It sometimes seems that we have too few resources too little good news, too much to worry about.

It is time for us to remember that GOD is with us and for us and calls us to care for others and His world.

Pledging your support of all kinds is our Christian tradition and really what our Church is all about.

You should have received a pledge card in the mail. If you have not, please use the one pictured right, or you may email your pledge to Tina Barulli, our comptroller at [tbarulli@westfieldpc.org](mailto:tbarulli@westfieldpc.org).

Pledge Sunday is November 22!

## Giving at PCW

- ◆ Online Bill Pay
- ◆ EasyTithe
- ◆ Givelify
- ◆ Zelle (designate fund)
- ◆ Cash - Check

or on the PCW website: [westfieldpc.org](http://westfieldpc.org),

Click on "Give" tab, and follow the directions.

### The Presbyterian Church in Westfield Annual Pledge Campaign 2021



*Each person should give as decided for oneself...  
God loves a cheerful giver*

2 Corinthians 9:7

BECAUSE WE BELIEVE IN THE FUTURE OF OUR CHURCH  
AND WANT TO BE A PART OF ITS SUCCESS, WE WILL  
ENDEAVOR TO GIVE TO THE ANNUAL MISSION AND  
MINISTRY OF PCW.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Weekly for 52 Weeks for a Total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly for 12 Months for a Total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Annually

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope No (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

**Others in our household who should be listed  
in the 2021 PCW directory:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail this in by Sunday, Nov 22, 2020 to**

**The Presbyterian Church in Westfield  
140 Mountain Ave, Westfield NJ 07080  
ATTN: Tina Barulli, Comptroller**

**[tbarulli@westfieldpc.org](mailto:tbarulli@westfieldpc.org)  
908-233-0301 x23**

## All Saints Sunday—November 1, 2020

*Family and Friends who have joined the Church Triumphant 10/1/2019 — 10/31/2020*

*Sally S. Allen  
William Coles  
Stewart Crane  
Lauramae Cutler  
Maryann DeJong  
Eleanor DuBois  
Scott Gray  
Clifford Hall*

*Betty Ann Hannon  
Anne S. Heinbokel  
Catherine (Kit) Huff  
Janet O. Jackson  
Bruce McFadden  
Kenneth P. May  
George R. Melloan  
Claudine W. Mill*

*Lyndsay Nelson  
Jane Orto  
Phyllis B. Pecka  
Zoltan L. Pope  
Benjamin Quesada  
Harold E. Roberts, Jr  
Kristen Schundler  
Joanne Sullebarger*

# Happy Birthday to YOU!



## NOV 1

Joan Purachev  
Nancy Thornberry

## NOV 2

James Cyr  
LCPL Paul Kolterjahn  
Nicholas Robins  
Claire Yamano

## NOV 3

Margaret McIntyre  
Rachel Lamb  
Marissa Lowe

## NOV 4

Doris Reinhardt  
Barbara Sturm  
Thomas Walker  
Sara Shields  
Eric Shor  
Ella Conover

## NOV 5

Wayne Schroeder  
Christina McCrea  
Adam Fraites

## NOV 6

Alice Ousterman  
John Sandstedt  
Anne Marie Mora  
Celine Crenshaw

## NOV 7

MaryBeth Lapham  
Christine Binder  
Kelsey Dix

## NOV 8

Kathryn Tonking

## NOV 9

Hal Benz  
Lisa DuMont  
Katherine Pink  
Declan McCauley  
Jack Fallo

## NOV 10

R Wallace Roff  
Geoff Mockbee  
William Cook

## NOV 11

William McMeekan  
Alicia Rogers  
Eric Palia

## NOV 12

Betty Brown  
Manju Sharma  
Audrey Zavetz  
Lorraine Ruprecht  
Scott Thompson  
Maria Gerckens

## NOV 13

Ryan Thompson

## NOV 14

Jane Hoffman  
Karen Keating  
Jennifer Star  
Kevin Moriarty

## NOV 15

## NOV 16

Karen Gruman  
Allison Fleder  
Kyle Kristiansen  
John McCall  
Thomas McCall  
Kelsey Swingle

## NOV 17

Timothy Shields  
Natasha Koetje  
Catherine Korins

## NOV 18

Mary Beke  
Amee Riley

## NOV 19

Maggie Crooks

## NOV 20

Alex DiMaria  
Gordon MacPherson  
Andrea Ward

## NOV 21

Karen Kashlak  
Jake Zippler

## NOV 22

Christopher Fischer  
Katherine Fischer  
Aidan Dailey

## NOV 23

Carey Golden

## NOV 24

Sally Wright  
Whitney Crooks

## NOV 25

## NOV 26

Theresa Spurlock  
Russell Howell  
Charlotte Dolling  
Maxwell Ingrassia

## NOV 27

Charlotte Gillespie  
Henry Johnsen  
Cheryl Paden  
Claudia Lamberts

## NOV 28

Terry Hennessey  
Bill Golden  
Samuel Brown  
William Taylor  
Michael O'Donnell  
Perry Tarleton

## NOV 29

Tucker Trimble  
Nicholas Polak  
Katherine Kim

## NOV 30

Kathleen Bond

*PCW's database has no recorded birthdays on November 15 & 25. 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!*



140 Mountain Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**SUNDAY MORNINGS 10AM!**

**ONLINE**

**YouTube and FB**

**NOVEMBER 4, 11, 18 @ 7PM**

**In the sanctuary**

### Sunday School Online

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](mailto:spire@westfieldpc.org) to be featured!

***We'd love to celebrate with you!***

## **CONTACT US**

[westfieldpc.org](http://westfieldpc.org) | [wired4worship.com](http://wired4worship.com)

908.233.0301 | Office Hours: Monday- Friday, 9am- 5pm



@PCWestfield

### **Rev. Jeremy Jinkins**

Pastor, Head of Staff

[jjinkins@westfieldpc.org](mailto:jjinkins@westfieldpc.org) | Ext. 45

### **Paul Sanner**

Director of Music & Organist

[psanner@westfieldpc.org](mailto:psanner@westfieldpc.org) | Ext. 46

### **Kevin Wilkin**

Director of Contemporary Worship

[Kevinw@toaelectronics.com](mailto:Kevinw@toaelectronics.com)

908-821-5551

### **Lou Ann Kaplonski**

Church Administrator

[lkaplonski@westfieldpc.org](mailto:lkaplonski@westfieldpc.org) | Ext. 26

### **Tina Barulli**

Comptroller

[tbarulli@westfieldpc.org](mailto:tbarulli@westfieldpc.org) | Ext. 23

### **Beyanka Wheatley**

Communications Specialist

[bwheatley@westfieldpc.org](mailto:bwheatley@westfieldpc.org) | Ext. 27

### **Betty Born**

Church Secretary

[bborn@westfieldpc.org](mailto:bborn@westfieldpc.org) | Ext. 22

### **Ginny Leiz**

Clerk of Session

[ginnyleiz@gmail.com](mailto:ginnyleiz@gmail.com) | Ext. 48

### **Jim Kajosevic**

Maintenance Supervisor

[jkajosevic@westfieldpc.org](mailto:jkajosevic@westfieldpc.org) | Ext. 34

### **Amy Jones**

Agape Coordinator

[agape@westfieldpc.org](mailto:agape@westfieldpc.org)

**Time Out for Parents** - 908-654-5157

**Mary Danskin**, TOPS Director

**Presbyterian Nursery School & K** - 908-233-0766

**Jen Collum**, PNS&K Director

**Furniture Assist** - [info@furnitureassist.com](mailto:info@furnitureassist.com)