



December 16, 2018

"We are a welcoming and diverse Christian community living our faith in God and affirming the gifts of all of God's people. We are dedicated to serving those in need, demonstrating our faith in action by following the teachings of Jesus Christ."

Statement Adopted by the Wilton Presbyterian Church Session, May 2018

If you are here for the first time or a frequent visitor, we would like to **WELCOME** and **THANK YOU** for visiting with us today! If you would like to learn more about our church life, please visit our website at www.wiltonpresbyterian.org and take a moment to fill out the fellowship pad (*located in your pew*), so that we may contact you.

Stewardship

WPC Stewardship supports all the ministries that define who we are. It is a blessing to give of our resources, so please pledge to support the ministry of all God's children.

We recently dedicated our annual gifts to God with thanks and asked the congregation to make Stewardship a year round priority. Today, we celebrate the 3rd Sunday of Advent and the beginning of our 2nd phase of Stewardship. The goal of our Stewardship Ministry is to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of time, talent and resources. WPC members give **above and beyond** their time and talent. We ask the same of our financial resources to enable all of the WPC ministries to continue. Our goal *has* to be increased rather than decreased to support our mission, pastoral care, and youth programs. Please pledge if you have not already done so, and if you have, would you consider increasing it by 15%? God's blessings have not become static and neither should our giving.

You can NOW pledge online at www.wiltonpresbyterian.org



Holiday Gift Drive

The holidays are officially here and filled with happiness, friends and family. Children especially look forward to the fun and presents. This holiday season help bring smiles to children who are less fortunate. Once again our friends over at Family ReEntry are sponsoring the holiday gift drive and they are needing donations of *new, unwrapped toys and gifts* for children ages 4-17 years old.

Please consider donating one or even more of the following items: *hats, scarves, gloves, teen T's, fun socks, sweatshirts, dolls & sports items, arts & crafts, Legos, action figures, toy cars, including gift cards to Walmart, Target, Old Navy, TJ Maxx and Game Stop.* Thank you and please bring donations to the church by no later than the end of **TODAY!!**

For more information email Brandon Bone brandonbone10002@yahoo.com

DEC. 16TH – DEC. 24TH

Sunday, December 16th (Advent-Joy)

- 10:00 AM Big Music Sunday
- 11:00 AM Family Chili Luncheon/Parish Hall
- 11:00 AM Family Cookie Decorating/Parish Hall

Monday, December 17th

- 12:00 PM AA Meeting/Upper Core
- 7:00 PM Endowment Meeting/Alcove
- 7:30 PM New Life AA Meeting/Upper Core

Tuesday, December 18th

- 7:30 PM Session Meeting/Lounge

Wednesday, December 19th

- 8:00 AM Morning Prayer Service
- 2:00 PM Afternoon Prayer Service
- 6:45 PM New Life AA Meeting/Upper Core

Thursday, December 20th

- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 21st

- 12:00 PM AA Meeting/Upper Core
- 8:00 PM New Life AA Meeting/Upper Core

Sunday, December 23th (Advent-Love)

- 10:00 AM Lessons and Carols

Monday, December 24th Christmas Eve

- 4:00 PM Christmas Family Service
- 9:00 PM Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Frank & Judy Mabley, Steve Connor, Kristina Grish, Marjorie Wilkinson, Emily Bohrer, Brandon Bone, Courtney Kleeman's mother.

Please pray for those that are in need, and who choose to remain private.



Youth Body & Relationship Mindfulness Seminar

Registration begins for 7th and 8th Graders

This is a 4 week series meeting on Tuesdays from 6:00p -8:00p beginning **January 8th**. It provides a nurturing, safe and supportive faith-centered environment for our 7th and 8th graders to learn about their God given gift of sexuality and how to live responsibly with this blessing.

All students must register by January 6th. Registration forms are available on the table outside the Church School office.

If you have any questions or you need more information please contact Julie Fowler

Julie.fowler@wiltonpresbyterian.org

Or you can call 917-446-3510

For a listing of our full calendar visit our website at www.wiltonpresbyterian.org

CHOIR CORNER NEWS

My note for this Sunday is brief. Very brief. I'll simply let the Sanctuary Choir speak/sing for itself.

Here's wishing everyone -- members and guests alike -- a very Merry Christmas.

Blessings to you all, Al

For more information contact the Music Director, Al Galletly
agalletly88s@gmail.com

Church Office

The holidays are upon us!! Do you know of any future events, meetings or retreats coming up and would like to advertise them in our weekly newsletter?

If so, contact Suzanne, in the office no later than Monday of that week at suzannemercer@wiltonpresbyterian.org

The church office will be closed during the week of Christmas and New Year's, **December 25th thru January 2nd**. If there is a pastoral emergency, please call Rev. Shannon White.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH NEWS

Today in Church School

The Gospel of Luke tells the story of the angel Gabriel coming to Mary to tell her that God had chosen her to be the mother of Jesus, God's son. Mary visits her much older cousin, Elizabeth who is pregnant with the baby who will grow up to be John the Baptist. Elizabeth realizes that God has blessed both Mary and herself. Mary has the choice to accept God's calling or not. Mary says yes to God and praises God's mercy and power in her prayer, the Magnificat. God speaks to each one of us as well. Will you say yes when God calls to you?

~Peace, Grace & Love, Nate

*For more information on any of these events email Nate Taylor nate.taylor@wiltonpresbyterian.org



This Sunday's Advent wreath candle lighting of the "pink/rose" candle is to emphasize the joyous anticipation of the Lord's coming. The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudette Sunday, which is known as the "Sunday of Joy". The word "Gaudette" means to "rejoice" in Latin. This is a reminder that we are called to rejoice, as we light a pink candle. Only the Christ candle is white, also a color signifying joy in many cultures, because the fullness of joy is in the Lord.

www.presbyterianmission.org

REMINDER

If you are in need of new pledge envelopes, please contact Suzanne in the office to pick them up.

2018 ADVENT SEASON

The **Christmas Special Music & Flower Fund Donations** envelopes are included in this week's bulletin. When filling out your form, do not forget to include your dedicated names and donations.

In order to have your dedications included in the Christmas Eve bulletin, please return everything in the envelope back to the church office no later than **Monday, December 17th**

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

High School Joint Youth

January 6

Off campus trip to Colony Pizza, Norwalk

January 27

Study Break Lunch Gathering

8th Grade Confirmation

January 5

Worship at Our Lady of Fatima at 4:30PM

January 15

Confirmation Class at 4:30PM **note time change**

January 25

Worship at Temple B'Nai Chiam at 5:45PM

7th and 8th Grade

Body and Relationship Mindfulness Seminar
January 8, 15, 22, 29

*For more information on any of these events email Julie Fowler Julie.fowler@wiltonpresbyterian.org

