

WILTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

News From the Pews

October 2020

"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

What's Happening: WPC at a Glance

Sunday October 11th at 10:00 AM: We celebrate **World Communion Sunday** in an outdoor service.

Monday November 9th at 1:00 PM: Susan DeGeorge will be leading a Zoom **Bible Study** each Monday through **November 22nd**.

Sunday December 6th at 4:00 PM: Join us for outdoor **Christmas caroling** and cocoa in the WPC parking lot!

Sunday December 13th at 4:00 PM: Don't miss our outdoor **live Nativity!** Drive by to experience the joy of the season with us!

DEACONS

The **Deacons** have been busy maintaining communication with their families (**Flocks**). Deacons will be surveying their members regarding tolerance for limited in-person services/activities as the winter months approach. Concerns/solutions have dominated committee discussions regarding members who might be more isolated than usual, as well as for families with school-age children who are learning virtually (creating additional parental duties and oversight). Plans for a **monthly Deacons newsletter** and a **virtual connection** for several flocks at one time via Zoom are in the works. Ideas around the upcoming **Christmas** season are being developed to include videos of Christmas-themed events to be used in a montage for the Christmas service. There is a planned drive-by **live Nativity scene** available on **Dec. 13th** in the church parking lot in addition to other activities within our youth program.

[Sally Carta](#) and [Dave Hull](#)

OCTOBER 11-20, 2020

Sunday, October 11th World Communion Sunday

9:00 AM Church School 3-5 (Zoom)
10:00 AM Outdoor Worship Service

Monday, October 12th

12:00 PM AA Meeting
7:30 PM New Life AA Meeting

Wednesday, October 14th

8:00 AM Cooking for Open Doors
7:30 PM New Life AA Meeting

Friday, October 15th

12:00 PM AA Meeting
8:00 PM New Life AA Meeting

Sunday, October 18th

9:00 AM Church School K-2 (Zoom)
10:00 AM Worship Service w/Guest Preacher

Monday, October 19th

12:00 PM AA Meeting
7:30 PM New Life AA Meeting

Tuesday, October 20th

7:00 PM Session Meeting (Zoom)

FAITH IN ACTION

Faith in Action, co-chaired by **Debi Forsyth** and **Linda Rost**, met on **September 24th** via zoom. All agreed that our primary focus would be on providing assistance for those experiencing food instability, and with the issues confronting our youth.

We voted to donate \$1000 in food gift cards to **Wilton Social Services**, replacing our traditional Thanksgiving baskets, due to Covid-19 concerns. We will purchase an additional \$400 worth of gift cards to be given to Social Services throughout the year when their donations are down.

We approved \$1500 for **Wilton Youth Council** to use for their programs supporting children and parents during these difficult times. An additional \$500 to be sent to **Trackside** to support their work with youth in our town.

We are exploring ways in which we can assist **Open Door Shelter** at **Christmas** as we did last year, possibly with a giving tree once again. We are also aware that they have significant needs for non-perishable food. Donations in these categories would be due on **December 13th**, when a planned live Nativity is scheduled to take place in the church parking lot. We will meet again (virtually) on **Thursday, October 22nd at 6:30 PM**. All are welcome to join us.

As an addendum, we are still considering ideas for putting our remaining mental health grant funds to use; please contact us with any suggestions.

[Debi Forsyth](#) and [Linda Rost](#)

Wilton Presbyterian Church

CHOIR CORNER

On **September 27th**, **Al Galletly**, celebrated his last day as **WPC's Music Director** with us. Al's special message: "Thanks to everyone for making the past 20 years such a wonderful experience. Loads of incredible memories. Obviously, my fondest ones will always be associated with the choir, but the thing that makes a choir work is the membership of the church. My sincerest thanks to all those who have participated in the choir for the past 20 years... and equal thanks to those who have supported our work. Loads of hugs and kisses to all.

Al Galletly

And from WPC's new Music Director:

Hello! I am so excited to be at WPC and am looking forward to meeting everyone! I was fortunate to be able to meet with **Al** shortly before my first official day and he was able to show me around the choir music library and talk to me a bit more about what's been happening with the music program.

I've already reached out to current choir members about getting together for an outdoor, socially-distanced meeting soon. We're going to be talking about safe and creative ways that we can make music for **Advent** and **Christmas** — hard to believe it's already time to start thinking that! When that meeting is set, I'll be sure to get information about to the congregation in case anyone else wants to join!

I look forward to meeting everyone!

Zack Wright

NEWS FROM SESSION

Throughout the pandemic, Session has been meeting regularly and working safely behind the scenes. **John Burgdorfer** has kept us updated on the financial and member software conversion to Realm as well as our financial status. He expects us to be on target to make budget with the help of the loan from the Payroll Protection Plan (PPP).

Steve Connor is volunteer chair of the **Personnel** Committee.

The **WEPCO** board received notice from **Sandy Muschler** that she is retiring at the end of the year. The position has been posted and interviews will begin later this month.

The **Building and Grounds** committee is working on the installation of a WIFI network into our sanctuary, basement and Memorial Garden. **Mike Marley** and **Jock Wright** have joined **Berta Hull** on this project. A temporary fix is in place to allow the New Life groups to safely meet.

Bryan Campbell will lead the **2021 Stewardship** Campaign that will kick off after Advent Season. **Jason Rice** has volunteered to help with the campaign.

[Berta Hull](#)

A SOCIALLY-DISTANT WEPCO WORKDAY

Saturday November 14th (rain date **November 21st**) **9am—12 noon**

In family groups with masks and gardening tools help ready the church campus for the winter. Wave to your fellow parishioners but do not work side-by-side! Spend some time outdoors and visit St. Matthew's outdoor sanctuary and the WPC Memorial Garden.

Questions? Contact [Berta Hull](#) or Brian Angerame

CHILDREN AND YOUTH NEWS

In **Church School** programming, we are currently conducting biweekly zoom Church School meetings on Sunday mornings. Families are mailed home material filled packets for our K-5th grade youth complete with a story message, scripture and fun activity including alternate week family discussion prompts complete with activity and scripture passages. 6/7th grade Church school is now integrated into 6/7th grade youth group. If you would like to receive packets for children ages K-5 going forward, please email Julie.fowler@wiltonpresbyterian.org

We have 6 **Confirmands** this current year. Our Confirmands this year and their mentors are:

Lily Archibald	Jessica Jones
Matt Darien	Jock Wright
Grace Ratcliffe	Berta Hull
Aiden Sharp	Ralph Bernabei
Caleb Sharp	Max Gabrielson
Sora Yu	Nicole Volavka Close

We have had a Confirmand/Mentor Zoom opportunity followed by our first class and are off to a wonderful start.

6-12th Grade Joint Youth Ministries

All groups met in September to check in and prepare for our year which was well attended. We welcomed our 6th, 8th and 9th graders to each new youth group. If you would like more information about youth group, please send me an email: Julie.fowler@wiltonpresbyterian.org

*Our next meeting dates: 6/7th: **10/6**, 8th: **10/20**, 9-12th **10/18***

Other News:

We held a special space for our youth needing reflection and prayer following the passing of their Wilton classmate in September. Please continue to pray and support our youth as they navigate these days ahead. Kind words, encouragement and praise go a long way. We will continue to offer our support and ministry for anyone who seeks. Please don't hesitate to reach out. Go in Peace.

[Julie Fowler](#)

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Our new Director of Music, **Zachary Wright**, started his ministry with us on **October 1**. Zack was unanimously approved by both the Worship & Music committee and by Session.

Our committee remains determined to keep producing meaningful weekly on-line services for our congregation and community. We also continue to explore ways to worship outdoors in a manner consistent with Covid-19 rules and requirements.

[Chris Jones](#)

For a listing of our full calendar and much more, visit our website at:

www.wiltonpresbyterian.org