

WILTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

News From the Pews

Summer 2021

"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

A Message from Rev. Shannon White

Dear WPC Family,

Thank you, again, for 8 ½ years of wonderful ministry together. We changed and grew in so many ways to the glory of God! I look forward to seeing what your next phase in ministry brings. I have no doubt that it will be fruitful and impactful in Wilton and beyond.

As I mentioned at the fabulous celebration you threw on June 13, I am beginning a new chapter in my professional life. I have been hired as a teacher at the Hoffman Institute, an organization which leads people through deeply transformational work. I attended back in 2008 and have continued to learn from them over these last years. I cannot say enough good things about this organization. While they are based in northern California, they also do work here in CT. I will be trained part-time for the next two years before joining them fully. I will be also doing some other part-time work in the area as well.

I will always remember my time at Wilton Presbyterian Church with the deepest gratitude to God. I am especially thrilled that you were able to celebrate with me my marriage to Virgil two years ago. Thank you for all you gave to Peyton, as well. We are still in CT but have moved further down the Merritt Parkway. Virgil is loving having a 15-minute commute to his office! Thank you for having welcomed and ministered to my family as well as to me for this period in our lives.

While Presbytery guidelines require me to keep my distance so that you may connect with a new pastor during this transition and beyond, please know that you will remain in my prayers as you find your way forward as a thriving church community.

Grace and Peace to You All,

Shannon



What's Happening: WPC at a Glance

Check out our great lineup of guest preachers this summer! Please join us for in-person worship during the summer starting at 9:30 am!

Sundays at 9:30 am: *In-person worship, live-streamed*

Sundays at 12 noon: View worship service on Facebook and YouTube, recorded live.

Sunday, July 4th, 9:30am Worship Service

Guest Preacher: Rev. Mark Grorud

Sunday, July 11th, 9:30am Worship Service

Guest Preacher: Rev. Chris Tate

Sunday, July 18th, 9:30am Worship Service

Guest Preacher: Rev. Gail Schneider

Sunday, July 25th, 9:30am Worship Service

Guest Preacher: TBA

Sunday, August 1st, 9:30am Worship Service

Guest Preacher: Rev. Mark Grorud

Sunday, August 8th, 9:30am Worship Service

Guest Preacher: Rev. Richard Williams

Sunday, August 15th, 9:30am Worship Svc

Guest Preacher: Rev. Shelly Donaldson

Sunday, August 22nd, 9:30am Worship Svc

Guest Preacher: Rev. Jessica Jones

Sunday, August 29th, 9:30am Worship Svc

Guest Preacher: Cathy Thomas

SESSION

The Interim Search Team has sent the Terms of Call to their top candidate, has received his acceptance, and is currently awaiting the completion of his examination by the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry. An official announcement is forthcoming. Stay tuned...

The live-streaming system is taking a step forward this week by updating our sound system. Next step is to go live!

[Berta Hull](#)

FAITH IN ACTION

Faith in Action continues to work on our priorities of helping the food insecure and addressing the mental health needs of our young people as they transition back to "normal" life. We are currently exploring a very exciting initiative regarding the latter, and are hoping that some new members from the congregation will join us. A very few people have been working very hard for a very long time, and we are longing for new blood! We also encourage you to bring any projects you are interested in supporting to our group, providing they meet our guidelines as stated above.

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, July 27th at 6 pm**. Please RSVP to Linda Rost at lrost0411@gmail.com

[Linda Rost](#)

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Church School is offering a four-week series of fun and inspiring Bible stories via Zoom.

June 27, July 11, 18 and 25th
9 am—10:30 am

VBS returns and will be in person! Please join us for this special week of Compassion Camp, "Changing The World With Lovingkindness" on the WEPCO campus.

August 23rd, 24th, 25th and 27th
9 am—11 am

[Register HERE for VBS](#)

If I can be of any help or provide any guidance, please don't hesitate to reach out.

[Julie Fowler](#)

For our full calendar and much more, please visit our website: www.wiltonpresbyterian.org
Email: wpchurch@wiltonpresbyterian.org

DEACONS

The Deacons met via Zoom on **June 2nd**.

Rachelle opened the meeting with prayer.

Shannon spoke very kind words about each deacon, as a tribute to our work together over the years she has been pastor. Shannon mentioned that there is a lot of progress being made by the committee to select an interim. We should have news soon once session votes.

Patti Dormer led a discussion on a special project a committee of deacons is working to complete very soon. It was mentioned to contact flock members if possible if they want to participate. June 10 deadline.

Deacons discussed whether to have a meeting **July 28**, as we typically do not hold meetings in July and August. We agreed to have an IN PERSON (outside) meeting as it may be an opportunity to meet the new interim and/or connect re flocks for continuity and also to offer our services if necessary. Deacons shared concerns regarding their flocks.

Cathy Thomas wanted to know how services were going to work in the summer. As far as we know, Deacons are on duty for scripture or prayer throughout the summer.

Cathy Thomas ended the meeting with an inspirational poem by E. E. Cummings, "I thank you GOD for this amazing day" Listen to E. E. Cummings read it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=axH9A28CTjw>

[Rachelle Bernabei](#), Moderator

MUSIC ~ EXCITING NEWS!!

We have received word from the Presbytery that we may finally sing hymns in our worship services again! I wanted to be sure that everyone in the congregation was aware of this change to avoid anyone feeling surprised when attending a service.

We will be integrating hymn singing into our services beginning on July 11, 2021. Since we are worshipping inside, we will continue following COVID-19 safety protocols by wearing masks while singing.

[Zachary Wright](#)

Thank You!!

Special thanks to Chris Jones and the worship team for putting together a dynamic group of guest preachers this summer. Please join us for worship in our air-conditioned sanctuary!