



RESPONSE

The Presbyterian Church of White Plains **Newsletter**

39 North Broadway, White Plains, NY 10601

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SUMMER 2013

Mission

Elder Michael Doehring Chair

1) **Peacemaking**– The Special PC(USA) Offering when we focus on peacemaking – here and around the world. WPPC retains part of the offering – what should we support this year? (Why does it seem there is always so much need to keep the peace in this world?) On Sunday October 6 which is World Communion Sunday.

2) **Kingsley House Strawberry Social** – A party with the folks at Kingsley House was held on Sunday June 23 with fun and good fellowship and great food.

3) **GREENING WPPC** – A committee has been formed under the leadership of Will Summers. Stay tuned – an exciting time.

4) **RED CROSS** – WPPC will be hosting Blood Drives once per month, usually the third Friday. Also we are in talks with the Red Cross regarding the use of WPPC as an emergency location for folks displaced by fires, etc. Help with coordination will probably be needed – stay tuned for that also.

5) **ANGEL TREE, ETC.** – Ready for **Christmas?** Sheesh – kind of rushing the season - I dislike the early commercial push but **save those blank Christmas cards** you don't need so we can again write cards to prisoners AND also give them cards and stamps to write to their families, etc. **Calendars** are much appreciated as well.

And, we may host an Angel Tree party in December for local families of prisoners.

So, **save those Christmas Cards and Calendars** – we'll collect them in the late fall.

6) **PRAY** – For an end to violence of all types. Remember we're all kin, we're all interdependent. And that's the basis of compassion, which was Jesus' ultimate teaching.

Remember – Mission is Possible!

Enjoy your summer.

Congratulations

Graduating **High School seniors (Akeyla Sterling, Allison Fuerst and Sydney Walsh)** were recognized and honored in June.

All of the graduates received \$500 from Women's Association Scholarship that was presented by Carmen Gray

All received a gift from the prayer ministry presented by Leslie

Akeyla & Allison Applied and Split the William Small Scholarship presented by Mike Doehring

Akeyla received the gold Cross and her name on the plaque for the William Small Award



Council Clips previously Session Snippets
Deirdre Lewin, Clerk

Now that we are pretty well accustomed to using our new title “Council” and having been stuck for so long on finding a new name, how about “Council Clips”? One of the definitions of “clip” is “a short sequence taken from a film or broadcast” - or in this case, from a meeting.

As always there are so many things to be grateful for and the recent Council meetings were no exceptions.

We extended our deepest gratitude on behalf of the church to the wonderful Nifty Thrifty ladies and (one) gentleman for all their hard work and their success in raising over \$3,600, and to all those who helped them.

Then we read the remarkable grant proposal that Jeff presented. The “Faithful Servant” grant proposal “Nurturing Good Soil” requested \$25,000 for each of three years from the Synod of the North East. He and Noelle had shown an extraordinary commitment of thought, prayer, work and creativity in developing and articulating this request. But I will leave it to Jeff to tell you the outcome – my job is tell you how deeply thankful we are to them both!

After many months working out all the details we finally reached the point where we could offer Lynn Dunn the newly created position of “Minister of Christian Education and Spiritual Formation”. We feel that Lynn offers so much to our Christian Education program and are truly blessed to have her with us and to be able to offer her this position.

Hearing Will Summers talking about the proposed “Green Team” of the WPPC and the Green Faith program which supports environmental stewardship in churches was inspiring and we hope to proceed with this initiative

And then of course there are the challenges of being responsible stewards in so many ways - in mending boilers, balancing budgets, finding volunteers to fill vital roles in the church among others.

The two new confirmands were examined at another meeting and then the council enjoyed lunch with them and their families and officially voted them into membership of the WPPC. Congratulations and best wishes for all blessings to Elorm Anyidoho and Annick Tabb and their families.

And to all of you reading this - May each one of you find the Lord’s blessings in the long sunlit days, the brightness of the flowers and the summer sunshine!

Deirdre Lewin
Clerk of Council

visit us online!

at our website wppresby.org

E-mail: wppresby.church@optonline.net



Rev. Jeffery A. Geary, Pastor

Sarah Henkel, Parish Associate

Tyrell Lundman, Director of Music

Lynn Dunn, Director of Christian Education

Stella M. Aviles, Executive Assistant.

Vicente Velasco, Facilities Supervisor

Doug Astarita, Night Custodian

Gina Cerillo, Nursery School Director

Noel Warner, Business Mgr.

Agnes Scheu, Church Treasurer

Olga Daniels, Asst. Treasurer

Wanda Van Woert, President of Trustees

Betty Peene, Financial Secretary

Worship Time: Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Office Hours: 9:00-a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

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View the up-to-date calendar on website



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Pastor Jeffrey Geary, Editor-in-Chief

Agnes Scheu, Editor, Layout Designer

Articles for coming months must be submitted as e-mails sent to pastorgeary@optonline.net by the

15th of the month. The articles should be no longer than approximately **200** words.

Youth Group

Youth Group Fundraising UPDATE - Just \$183 short of our goal!

The Youth Group has been raising funds to send four youth members to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium in July. We are so very grateful for the wonderful support of the congregation in this effort! Now, we are just \$183 short of our goal.

This Sunday, we will make one last appeal during worship, asking for contributions for the Presbyterian Youth Triennium. Please consider a small donation to send our four outstanding youth members to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium this year.

This will be the first time in over 10 years that youths will represent WPPC at the PYT. Over 4,000 youths from all over the country and our mission partners throughout the world will gather for a chance to deepen their faith and make lifelong connections and friendships within the church. This Sunday will be our final fundraising effort for PYT.

The four youths who will be going to PYT this year are Akeyla Sterling, Sedinam Anyidoho, Awa Nyambi and Elorm Anyidoho. Akeyla was the recipient last week of the William Small Award and shares this year's William Small Scholarship with Allison Fuerst. Awa Nyambi will be our worship leader this Sunday. Sedinam Anyidoho was confirmed two years ago, along with Awa Nyambi, and she has just become a deacon at WPPC. Elorm Anyidoho is expected to be confirmed this year, along with Annick Tabb. Please consider a donation this week to support our youth who are attending Presbyterian Youth Triennium.

THANK YOU!



Baptisms

This spring WPPC had five baptisms.

May 12

Gabriela Elena Aviles was baptized. She was born on March 1, 2013. Her parents are Adriana and David Aviles. Stella Aviles our office manager is her grandmother.

May 26

Jackson Charles Shaver was baptized. He was born July 12, 2011. His parents are Angeline & Jeffrey Shaver.

May 26

Julia May Shaver, was baptized. She was born July 12, 2011. Her parents are Angeline & Jeffrey Shaver. (Jackson and Julia are twins.)

May 26

Emanuel Gopaul was baptized. He was born October 13, 2012. His parents are Priya & Emanuel Gopaul.

June 2

Benjamin Matthew Morello was baptized. He was born November 7, 2012. His parents are Ivette & Matthew Morello. Isadora Morello is his sister.

Explanations of four of the banners that hang on walls in the Sanctuary

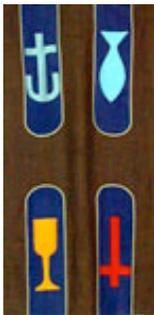
The Nicene Creed



The Cross which is also a sword is a symbol for the Emperor Constantine and his successors. He called the Ecumenical Council that began the deliberations which resulted in this creed. Constantine was the first Christian emperor, and he began the tradition of imperial Christianity. The cross is central on this banner because the doctrine of Christ is central in the Nicene Creed. The Green

Triangle and the three symbols with it stand for the doctrine of the Trinity formalized in the Nicene Creed. The hand reaching down is a symbol for God the Father. The Chi Rho monogram is for Christ. These are the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ, used by Constantine on shields and helmets of his army. The Dove is our symbol for God the Holy Spirit, since the Gospels tell how the Spirit descended on Jesus like a dove from the sky. The Crowns on the banner speak of the rule and glory God.

The Apostles' Creed



The somber Brown Color reminds us of the difficulty and rigor of early Christianity under persecution. It may also represent for us the monks — the monastic tradition of the early centuries. The purple arches suggest the entrances to caves or catacombs where early Christians met in secret. They also represent the shape of church windows. The

Anchor Cross symbolizes security in Christ, as found by the apostles, some of whom were fishermen. The Fish is an ancient symbol for the Christian faith, perhaps a secret code mark. Letters of the Greek word for fish can be used as the first letters in the phrase, Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior. The Chalice points to the Lord's Supper and the earnest and simple fellowship of the early church. The Upside Down Cross stands for Peter, chief of the apostles. In legend Peter is said to have been crucified upside down, because he thought himself unworthy of a death like his Master's.

The Scots Confession



The Blue of the shield is the background color of the seal of the Church of Scotland. The cross appears in some form on all nine banners. The Tartan, X-Shaped Cross is a form called St. Andrew's Cross. St. Andrew was the apostle who became the patron saint of early Christians in that part of the world. The tartan or plaid is that of the Hamilton clan in honor of the

first Martyr of the Scottish Reformation, Patrick Hamilton. The Celtic Cross is another ancient form associated with Christians in the British Isles. The circle on the cross may stand for the whole of life, or the whole of the world for which Christ died. The Ship is a symbol for the church. This confession contains a remarkable and strong doctrine of the church. The Bible and Sword: the Apostle Paul called the Word of God, the sword of the Spirit; and the sharpness of John Knox's preaching of the Word was a major power for reformation in Scotland. The Burning Bush which is not consumed reminds us of Moses' experience on Mt. Sinai. This symbol for God's presence and God's call to service is a prominent symbol of the Church of Scotland.

The Heidelberg Catechism



The regal Red and Gold constitute a tribute to the rule of Frederick III, who ordered the writing of the catechism for followers of John Calvin in Germany. The Crown of Thorns, the German Cross, and the Tablets are symbols of Misery, Redemption, and Thankfulness, which are the three basic themes of

the catechism. The Tablets stand for the Ten Commandments, which appear in the catechism's instruction that Obedience is the proper form of thankfulness to God. The two Lights and the fire represent the Trinity, with the Hebrew name of God on the left orb, and the flame standing for the Holy Spirit. There is a lengthy discussion on the flame standing for the Holy Spirit. There is a lengthy discussion on the Trinity in the catechism.