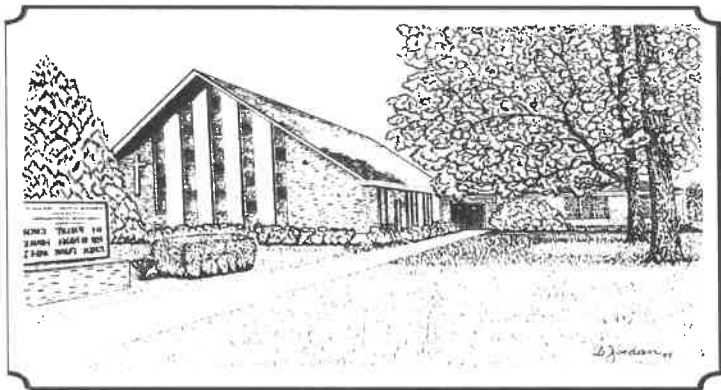


# MESSENGER

Published by the Wantagh Memorial Congregational Church  
1845 Wantagh Avenue, Wantagh, New York 11793-3909



Rev. Ronald Garner, Pastor                      Lori Sobey, Editor  
Hsia-Jung Chang, Choir Director/Organist

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To remove your name from our mailing list,  
check here  and return.

## Contains Time Sensitive Material

*E-mail us at [WMCC1845@Verizon.net](mailto:WMCC1845@Verizon.net)  
or check out our web site at  
[www.wmcc1845.com](http://www.wmcc1845.com)*

Dear Friends,

Many years ago (yes, I'm getting old) I was serving two small northwestern Wisconsin churches as a student pastor. They were too small to be able to afford a full-time ordained minister and so, I became their pastor. I appreciated the opportunity to 'get my feet wet' before ordination and was grateful for the stipend that they could pay me as I attended seminary.

But the reality was that these churches had once been thriving. They had full time ordained ministers and lots of folks from the communities that surrounded them in attendance. But as the years passed they had failed to grow and many of their older members had died or moved to Florida. Financially the churches were on shaky ground. But since they were in farm country and the only UCC churches for miles they wanted to stay open.

Shortly after arriving, I visited a pastor who had served the two churches just prior to my arriving. He had faithfully been their pastor as they declined and had served them for nearly 25 years. Over the years they had not been able to pay him the Conference Guidelines on ministerial compensation and had to reduce the amount they paid into his pension. Now in his retirement he was on shaky ground financially.

I was able to direct him to the Pension Boards and they, in turn, were able to supplement his retirement income. He also received a gift check in the month of December which was greatly appreciated.

Early on in my ministry, I saw the good work that **The Christmas Fund** is capable of doing for former pastors and lay employees. I encourage each of you to give generously to this fund. I am blessed that you are able to compensate me as a full-time minister and fully pay into my pension. Such is not the case with all churches. Let us give thanks for our own financial situation and recognize those churches that struggle.

Sincerely,

Ron

**Please keep in your prayers this week:**

- Gavin Taylor
- Arthur Singer
- Mateo Cardoza
- Karen Jackson
- Beverly Perlow
- Lois Klappert
- Mr. & Mrs. Tiso
- The Family of Bob Lennon
- Stirling and Rita Soukup
- Flo Clausen
- John Moriarity
- Charlie Jackson
- Tom Jackson
- Taylor Kenney
- Michelle Rosenberg
- Carolina Menendeo
- Christine Sokol

All who have been affected by COVID 19  
**We pray all will be well soon.**

We would appreciate your keeping us updated and letting us know of any changes. If you have any changes, or if you would like to add someone to the list, who is in need of prayers, call the church at 785-1829. **Thank You.**



**December**

- Sun. Dec 13th Community Caroling Around a Fire Pit **2 pm**
- Sun. Dec. 13th BOCO Fundraiser drawing
- Sun. Dec. 20th Pageant (**During Church**)
- Dec 24th Christmas Eve Services (5 pm, 8 pm 11:30 pm)
- Dc. 25th **Merry Christmas**

**Mark Your Calendars!!**



RADA CUTLERY is more than just cutlery. They have a variety of kitchen utensils, seasonings, soup & sauce mixes, party dips, cookbooks and baking pans. This fundraiser is year round. Orders can be placed anytime, but allow a **minimum of NINE days** to receive your order before you need it.

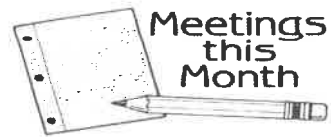
**THANK YOU** for supporting our fundraiser through Rada Cutlery – well known for quality Made in the USA products. Every purchase you make using our unique shopping link **helps support our group!** Use the link below to shop. You can copy and paste. I tried it and it works.

<https://radafundraising.com?rfsn=4889540.5206f3>

**Thank you for supporting our church!!**

**DEADLINE FOR MESSENGER**

If you have an item to be printed in the Messenger, you **MUST** get it to the Church Office no later than **MONDAY NOON**, or place it in the Messenger mail box prior to Monday noon.



**December**

Thur. Dec. 10th	Deacons	7:30 p.m.
Sun. Dec. 13th	Council	11:15 a.m.
Mon. Dec. 27th	Trustees	7:30 p.m.

**Please Mark Your Calendars**

**DECORATING TREES FOR THE VA HOSPITAL**



We would like to thank everyone who either took trees home to decorate, or came out last Friday night, to finish the trees and fill out cards for the patients at the VA Hospital. We especially want to thank Manny Marino & Laurene Lynn, for delivering the trees.



**The patients always appreciate our efforts.**

**BOCO FUNDRAISER**

**LAST CALL TO BUY A TICKET!!!**  
**YOU HAVE TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT!**  
**DRAWING DECEMBER 13TH**

Cost **\$25.00 Per Ticket**

What's your lucky number? These are still available.

- 1, 4, 48, 51, 52, 54, 58, 67, 72, 74, 76, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 92, 94

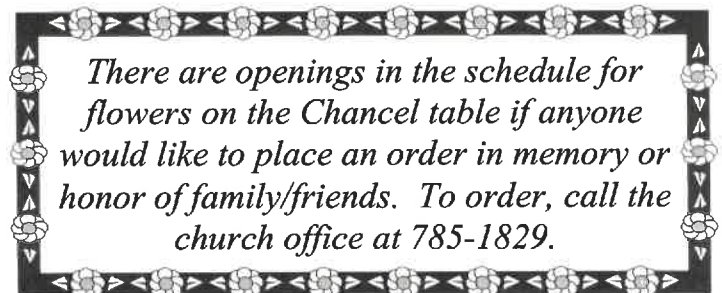
**The 100th ticket drawn will win \$1,000.00!**  
**Also 5 chances to Win \$50**

**There are only 100 tickets sold!!**

**Please support BOCO and the mission work of our church!!**

**Give Lori a call in the church office**  
**If you would like to buy a ticket**

**at 516-785-1829.**



*There are openings in the schedule for flowers on the Chancel table if anyone would like to place an order in memory or honor of family/friends. To order, call the church office at 785-1829.*

**Sunday December 13, 2020**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**WORSHIP: 10:00 A.M.**

**Andrea Ash Chancel**

**Lori Sobey Usher**

**TBA Usher**



### 2020 COOKIE WALK

Just one more thing that is going to be different this year. Since we can't have an in-person Cookie Walk, we're asking anyone who wants to share their favorite cookie recipe to send an email to the Deacons at [wmcc.deacons@gmail.com](mailto:wmcc.deacons@gmail.com). Please type or PRINT neatly so the recipe fits on half of an 8-1/2" x 11" paper (8-1/2" x 5-1/2") Please submit the recipes by Dec. 13. When we get them, we will let you know how to retrieve them.



### BOCO Christmas Card "Tree"



Now that the holiday season is here, BOCO will once again have their Christmas Card "Tree.", which in one form or another has decorated the church during Christmas, for many years. The idea is, instead of sending individual Christmas cards to all your church friends, send just one to be placed on BOCO'S Christmas card Tree for all your church friends to see. It is hoped that the money you save in postage stamps, cards, etc. will be donated to BOCO. BOCO will then donate all monies received to the Christmas Fund to supplement the current UCC special offering. Please make your checks payable to WMCC . Put BOCO Card Tree in the memo. **Thank You!**

### WEEKLY MEDITATION CLASS



Our meditation class meets on Thursday evenings, at 7:00 p.m.. There is no charge, it is free! All are welcome. No reservations required. We are having our meditation meetings by zoom. If you are interested in joining, please call Rev. Ron, and he will add your email address to his zoom invitations for this event.



We will continue to have our Just Peace zoom meetings on Saturday evenings, at 8:00 p.m. If you would like to be part of this group, please send an e-mail to the church at [wmcc1845@verizon.net](mailto:wmcc1845@verizon.net), and Rev. Ron will add you to the zoom invite list.

### CROCHET GROUP



Our crochet group has been having zoom meetings weekly, at 7:30 pm on Tuesdays, to chat, and share work, patterns, projects and ideas. If you would like to join this virtual meeting, send an email to [wmcc.deacons@gmail.com](mailto:wmcc.deacons@gmail.com).

### WMCC 2020 ONLINE FALL FUNDRAISER

Our online fall fundraiser is starting today, and will end on December 15th. In order to maintain social distancing, your order will be placed online and delivered to your home. Attached to this Messenger is a flyer with everything you need to know to start shopping today!! There is a variety of beautiful gift wraps, gifts, frozen cookie dough and much, much more. Go to [misschocolate.com](http://misschocolate.com), use our Church seller ID#, which, is 340042 and start shopping. It's that easy.



**It's more than just chocolate!!!**

### Mini Food Drives



Because of the continued shortage of food at the Freeport Emergency Food Pantry, we will have a drive up food drive in the church parking lot **EVERY Monday**. Ron will be there from **10AM to 11AM** to collect donations of food or financial contributions. You can also drop food at the church during the week. Please call 516-785-1829 with questions.

### USHER LIST

The usher/chancel deacon list has been e-mailed to those people that volunteer. Please check your emails. **Thank you**

The *Messenger* is published weekly by the **Wantagh Memorial Congregational Church**, 1845 Wantagh Avenue, Wantagh, NY 11793, a member congregation of the **United Church of Christ**.  
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**Upcoming Usher Schedule**

**Week Of: December 20th**  
 Louise Radzicki (Chancel Deacon)  
 Kim Walker (Usher)  
 Debbie Davis (Usher)

**Week of: December 27th**  
 Andrea Ash (Chancel Deacon)  
 Lori Sobey (Usher)  
 Joan Holdsworth (Usher)

**If you know that you will be unable to serve, please switch with someone from the Usher List and notify the church office of the switch at 785-1829. Thank you.**

**FUNDRAISING PROJECTS  
 PREPAID GIFT CARDS**

Remember this is an ongoing fundraiser. There are many holidays throughout the year that we give gift cards. We would really appreciate it if you would buy your gift cards from us. Also, if you purchase an Amazon Gift Card from us, and use it on Amazon Smile, the church will benefit twice. **Thank you in advance for purchasing your Gift Cards from us. An order form is attached to this Messenger. Please mail your order forms and checks to Karen Jackson, 64 Swan Lane, Levittown, NY 11756.**

There is never any additional fees or any expiration date. If you have any questions, please call Karen Jackson at 516-731-6248 or send an email to casey0704@aol.com.

**COUNCIL MEETING**

The next Council meeting is this coming Sunday, December 13th, immediately following the morning worship service, in the sanctuary. Your input is valuable, so please send a representative from each board or committee to report..



**Christmas Carols  
 Sunday, December 13th  
 2:00 p.m.**



Sing-a-long with your favorite Christmas Carols, in a relaxed, informal setting, around a fire pit and enjoy some holiday treats!

**THE BOCO RAFFLE WILL BE PULLED AT THIS EVENT**

**Sorry for the short notice this year, but our florist retired and we have been searching for a new one. We have decided to stay with Colonial Florist on Jerusalem Ave, and support the new owners.**

**We need to stick together as a community and buy local!!**

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER FORM (Deadline—Sunday December 13th)**

PLEASE include payment with your order, and mail to the church, or bring it into the church office. This year we will have RED and WHITE poinsettias. Each plant will cost only \$12.00. Please make your check payable to the Wantagh Memorial Congregational Church. **Thank you for helping to beautify our Chancel for Christmas!**

NUMBER OF PLANTS \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_ PAYMENT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ORDERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF/IN MEMORY OF (please circle one): \_\_\_\_\_

**December 2020**

THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED
<b>10</b> 7:00 Meditation 7:30 Deacons	<b>11</b> 7:00 Troop 689	<b>12</b> 9:00 Meroke	<b>13</b> 10:00 Worship 11:15 Council 2:00 Caroling	<b>14</b> 10:00 Food Drive Behind the Church in the Parking lot	<b>15</b> 7:00 Cyber Fellowship 7:30 Virtual Crochet	<b>16</b>