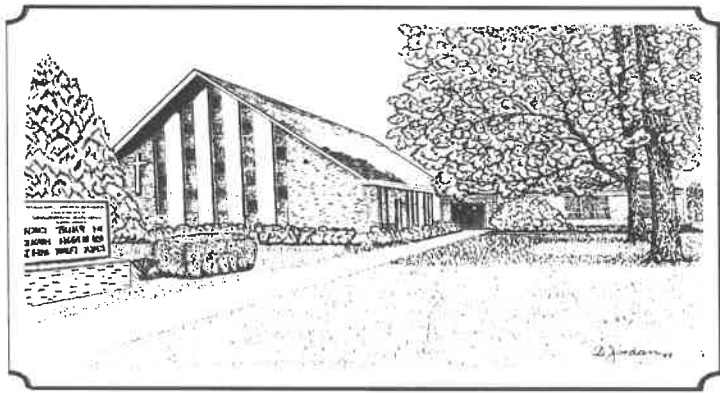


# MESSENGER

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

VOLUME 63, NUMBER 38  
December 16, 2020

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,

As we move through the season of Advent we should be constantly aware that it is a season of preparation. We await for the birth of Christ once again. But this Advent seems very different than the other Advents I have shared with you over the last eleven years.

The pandemic has seemingly changed every way that we worship together. We have moved from Zoom services, outdoor services and finally have arrived back in the sanctuary-even though we have been forced to have "stripped down" services (no collection of offerings, no communion, and no passing of the peace). It has seemed quite strange.

-  
On Sunday, we lit the candle of joy on the Advent wreath. I am an optimist and so I believe that we will over the next year begin to return to a more familiar type of worship. Yes, I'm an optimist!

But is that the answer to our current situation. Or is it an opportunity to make some changes about how we gather together. I recently purchased two books that I am studying in advance of the end of the Covid-19 pandemic. They were written by Marlea Gilbert and Christopher Gundy. Gilbert's book is "The Work of the People: What We Do in Worship and Why" and Gundy's book is "Recovering Communion in a Violent World: Resistance, Resilience, and Risk."

I will keep you posted on what I am (re) learning from these two authors. I firmly believe that you can teach old dogs new tricks. Yes, I'm an optimist!

I believe that every time we meet, whether in worship or other activities, we remind ourselves that we are God's people.

As we prepare for the coming of Christ let us also prepare to meet the challenges of the future.

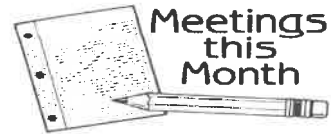
Sincerely,

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
- 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**

Mon. Dec. 27th Trustees 7:30 p.m.

**Please Mark Your Calendars**

**CHRISTMAS CANTATA**



This past Sunday, December 13th, the WMCC Choir, entertained us with a beautiful Cantata, accompanied by Rev. Ron giving the narration. If you missed it, you can view it on our Face book page. We would like to thank Hsia-Jung, for all her hard work putting this together. We would like to thank our Chancel Choir members, Helen and Laura Mauer, Janet Sietz, Laurie Nunez, and Sharon Cozzoli. Thank you for the beautiful Cantata. Below are a few pictures taken by Louise Radzicki. Thank you Louise.



**December**

- 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!!**

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!!**

[wmcc1845.com](http://wmcc1845.com)

**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.

**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!**



*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 20, 2020**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**WORSHIP: 10:00 A.M.**  
**Louise Radzicki Chancel**  
**Kim Walker Usher**  
**Debbie Davis Usher**



**CAROLING AROUND THE FIRE PIT**



(Pictures by Sharon Cozzoli)

Thank You Sharon

This past Sunday, 12/13/20, We had our caroling around a fire pit on the front lawn. Just a handful of us participated. It was very enjoyable and those that attended had a great time. We had the fire, but the weather was beautiful. **The BOCO fundraiser raffle was drawn during this event.** Our small group took turns pulling all hundred tickets. It was exciting to see what name would be on the 1st, 25th, 50th, 75th, 99th and of course the big winner of the 100th ticket drawn.

1st ticket drawn was 39 and wins \$50  
 25th ticket drawn was 68 and wins \$50  
 50th ticket drawn was 85 and wins \$50  
 75th ticket drawn was 43 and wins \$50  
 99th ticket drawn was 26 and wins \$50  
 100th ticket drawn was 59 and wins \$1,000  
**BOCO would like to thank everyone who participated and will post which charity will receive the funds after we have a meeting to discuss it. Thank you for helping us to help others.**

**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.



**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.

**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).



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.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

Please join us for Christmas Eve. Services. We will be having three services:

- 5:00—**is our Family Service**
- 8:00—**we have Candles & Carols**
- 11:30—**is a Midnight Worship Service**

With all the choices, we hope everyone will be able to join us for one service, or come to all three, we would love to see 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**.  
 Rev. Ronald Garner, Pastor  
 Lori Sobey, Editor  
 Office Phone (516) 785-1829  
 Fax phone (516) 785-1351  
 e-mail: [WMCC1845@Verizon.net](mailto:WMCC1845@Verizon.net)

### Upcoming Usher Schedule

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

**Week of: January 3rd**  
 Manny Marino (Chancel Deacon)  
 Linda Cortes (Usher)  
 Debbie Davis (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.**

#### OFFERING ENVELOPES

2021 Offering envelopes are on the table in the Narthex. Please call Lori at the church, if you would like to stop by and pick up your envelopes.



#### 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.



### 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. 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.

#### Pay-Pal

If you like what the church is doing, like our signs or just want to help out, please make a donation to our Pay Pal account. You can find it on our website at [www.wmcc1845.com](http://www.wmcc1845.com). **Please do not use this account for your offering donations or event tickets. Thank You**

**DONATE**



**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 20th)

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
17 7:00 Meditation 7:30 Bible Before Bed	18 7:00 Troop 689	19 9:00 Meroke	20 10:00 Worship <i>Pageant During Church</i>	21 10:00 Food Drive Behind the Church in the Parking lot	22 7:00 Cyber Fellowship 7:30 Virtual Crochet	23