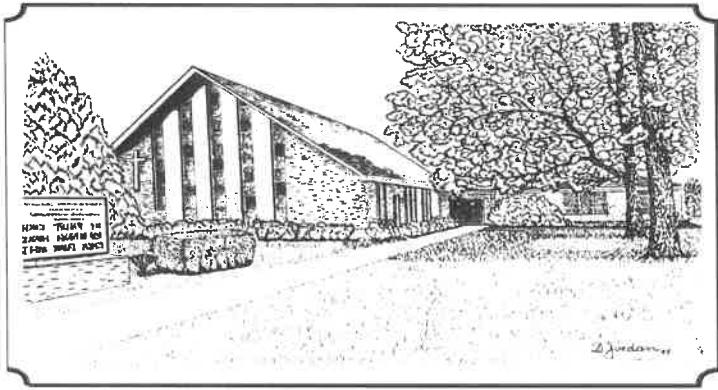


MESSENGER

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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December 30, 2020

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

Contains Time Sensitive Material

*E-mail us at WMCC1845@Verizon.net
or check out our web site at
www.wmcc1845.com*

Dear Friends,

Frustration. That's what I'm feeling on the twenty-eighth of December as the year wanes away. We had been back in the sanctuary for a few weeks and things seemed a bit more normal, and then Covid 19 changed our plans. Although we practiced social distancing, wore our masks and didn't collect an offering, two of our folks tested positive. Now, I've been exposed to Covid 19, and so we'll meet by zoom for the first Sunday in 2021. Frustration.

As I said in my last Messenger letter, I am reading two fascinating books on worship, with a focus on Holy Communion. I have fortunately chosen a vocation where one of my tasks is to read. I will be discussing these books with the deacons, and I am also planning to do a mini retreat (Zoom of course), to reflect upon what I have learned.

Let me remind you of other opportunities that you have to connect with your church. We have Fellowship time every Tuesday evening at 7 p.m.. On Thursdays, we have meditation at 7 p.m., every Thursday, and Bible Before Bed at 7:30 p.m., on the first, third and fourth Thursdays of each month.

Since these activities are done by Zoom, I think that some of them are best accomplished in this manner. As an aside, our Metropolitan Association is considering establishing a "virtual office", which will save much of our operational budget, which now goes to rent for an office.

As you know, I am the Chair of the Social Justice Committee. One of our annual events is a service of Worship on Martin Luther King day. This year we will do something slightly different. We will have a lecture by Charles W. Mills who is author of the book, *The Racial Contract*. Since it will be a Zoom event we can all attend without having to travel in to the city. Details to follow. I want to thank the Association Executive Director, the Rev. Dr. Kris Watson, who did the ground work for this event.

May each of you have a blessed New Year.

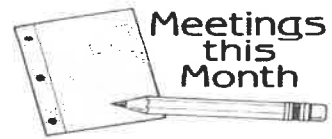
Ron

Please keep in your prayers this week:

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



Meetings
this
Month

January

Thur. Jan. 14th	Deacons	7:30 p.m.
Sun. Jan. 24th	Council	11:15 a.m.
Mon. Jan. 25th	Trustees	7:30 p.m.

Please Mark Your Calendars

BOCO Christmas Card "Tree"

BOCO would like to thank everyone who sent a card to the church. It was nice to hear from everyone. The money collected will be donated to the UCC Christmas Fund, which helps out ministers in need. Here is a picture of our BOCO Christmas Blessings tree for this year.



January 2021

Fri. Jan. 1st	Happy New Year 2021
Mon. Jan. 18th	Martin Luther King Jr. Day

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](https://radafundraising.com?rfsn=4889540.5206f3)

Thank you for supporting our church!!

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!!

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.

2021

Happy New Year

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.



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 January 3, 2020

First Sunday after Christmas

WORSHIP: 10:30 A.M.

Manny Marino Chancel
(Church will be via zoom)



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.

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 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.

ANNUAL REPORTS



All annual reports are due no later than January 31, 2021. Please try to get these reports in by that date. It takes time to prepare the annual report, for our Annual Meeting. If your report is not handed in in time, you will need to type it, and present it at the Annual Meeting. Please call me at the church and let me know if you are having a problem getting your report to me and I will try and work with you. Thank You, Lori

Messenger Articles

If anyone has an item, whether it be something spiritual, funny, informative, news about the family, etc., for the Messenger, please feel free to submit it to me. **It can also be a story about the history or traditions of our awesome church. Thank you! Lori**

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.



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, and Rev. Ron will add you to the zoom invite list.

Food Pantry Needs

- *Canned Vegetables/Fruit/Soups
- *Fresh Vegetables/Fruit (Bags or Bunches)
- *100% Fruit Juice, Dry Milk/Parmalat
- *Pasta, Rice, Bags of Potatoes
- *Complete Pancake Mix, Cereal, Oatmeal Syrup, Tomato Sauce, Butter, Cooking Oil
- *Canned Meats, Tuna, Chicken, Stew
- *Peanut Butter & Jelly, Bread
- *Baby Food, Baby Formula, Diapers
- *Shampoo, Soap, Toothpaste/Tooth Brushes
- *Low Salt, Low Fat Items, Gluten Free Dairy Free Items
- *Toilet Paper, Paper Towels.

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: January 10th**
 Margaret Silberger (Chancel Deacon)
 Lori Sobey (Usher)
 Joan Holdsworth (Usher)
- Week of: January 17th**
 Luke Benedetto (Chancel Deacon)
 Laura Mauer (Usher)
 Sharon Cozzoli (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.

MacMillan Mutterings
 Volume LXXX, Final Issue
 December 2020



*Merry Christmas
 and
 Happy New Year!*

We are writing this year to let you know that this is the final edition of the long running *MacMillan Mutterings* Christmas letter. Our dad, Richard "Dick" MacMillan passed away early this year after a fall and stroke in 2019 and bout with pneumonia in January of 2020.

His past few years had been pleasant and quiet after moving back to Iowa City in 2015. He had his own apartment at Melrose Meadows, a great senior living center where he made many friends with "fellow inmates" during meals in the dining room. He was content to read, play his recorder and look after his cat, Apple. He got a kick out of learning to work his Google Home/assistant and asking it about the news and weather.

Shirley and her sons live nearby and kept him involved with outside activities for variety. They took him out for his favorite scallops on special occasions. He and Shirley were active in an investment group and the Iowa City Congregational Church choir. (This is the same church where he met and married our Mom in 1950.) Carol visited from Michigan every few months.

After his fall in May 2019, he had a stroke and gradually lost the use of his right arm. When released from the hospital he was in Briarwood rehab nursing home where he received therapy but slowly declined. Shirley visited daily to help with meals and was a great advocate for him. He even managed to use chopsticks with his left hand, once. While he could no longer play his recorder, he enjoyed listening to classical music on the local NPR radio station.

In early January he contracted pneumonia and was admitted to the University of Iowa hospital. Visiting him at the University of Iowa Hospital, we had our first encounters with face masks. They told us that he also had coronavirus (the common kind, not the new novel one that was just appearing in the US). The day after Carol arrived he was moved to palliative/hospice care. We spent that night with him knowing that "it could be any time." It was a wise move as there was an ice storm/blizzard that night and the city was shut down

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.**

until mid-day. We were with him when he passed quietly early in the morning of January 15.

There was a lovely service for him at the Iowa City Congregational Church on January 25 that was well attended by friends from the church, Melrose, Briarwood, the Woolums, the Isaksons from Michigan and niece Nancy Mars from Virginia. While the occasion was sad, the timing was fortunate as we were able to gather before the COVID-19 pandemic got established.

He will be buried at the Arlington National Cemetery Columbarium joining our mother, and near his parents, sister and brother-in-law. We planned to have the Arlington service for the extended family last summer but have postponed it to some time in 2021.

Our Mom started writing an annual Christmas letter in the 1930s then carried on with "the Mutterings" when they were married. As I start to compile our family history, I am grateful for this annual chronicle of events and adventures that provide perspective and key dates from our family's past!

Best wishes from our family to yours for a safe and healthy winter and a more peaceful year to come!

Carol MacMillan (isakson cmisakson@gmail.com)
 42534 Keystone Ln. Canton, MI 48187
 Shirley Woolums samwoolums@aol.com
 431 Kirkwood Ave. Iowa City IA 52240



December 2020 January 2021

THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED
31 Happy New Year's Eve	1 <i>Happy New Year</i>	2	3 10:00 Worship Zoom	4 10:00 Food Drive Behind the Church in the Parking lot	5 7:00 Cyber Fellowship 7:30 Virtual Crochet	6