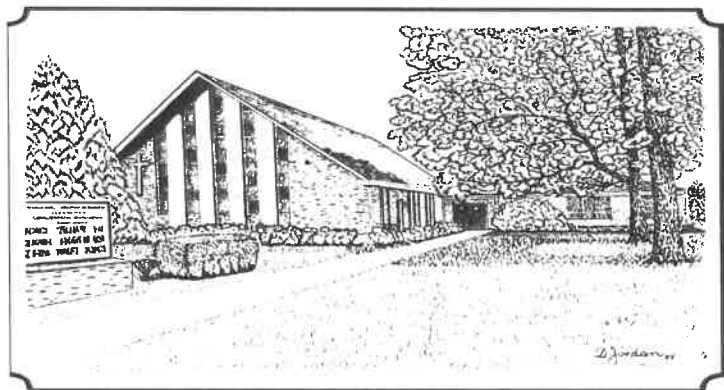


# MESSENGER

Published by the Wantagh Memorial Congregational Church  
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Rev. Ronald Garner, Pastor                      Lori Sobey, Editor  
Hsia-Jung Chang, Choir Director/Organist

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February 17, 2021

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)*

## Adrift

Talitha Arnold

*Therefore we must pay greater attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it. - Hebrews 2:1 (NRSV)*

Growing up in the Arizona desert, I didn't know much about boats until the summer I worked at a YMCA camp in Pennsylvania and led canoe trips down the Delaware River. It only took a day to learn that an unmoored boat didn't need a big wind to blow it downstream. If it wasn't secured to a rock or tree, a canoe drifted away in the slightest current.

Whoever wrote the Letter to the Hebrews also knew how easily things, or people, could go adrift. The author may have been writing to a community caught in the storm of Roman persecution. But they may have faced the more mundane challenge of keeping a community from drifting away from one another and their faith.

As in our time, lots of things could distract the early Christians from their faith and from gathering together. Roman imperial spectacles and gladiator fights provided more excitement than a weekly worship service. Mystery cults and emperor worship promised more immediate benefits, spiritually and otherwise. The author had their work cut out for them when it came to keeping their community focused and faithful.

Moreover, as with most letters and sermons, the author may have been writing as much to themselves as to their congregation. I know I can (and do) drift away from God's presence as easily as anyone in the community I serve.

I need to remember the lesson learned on the Delaware River, and wrap my life around God's word as securely as a canoe line tied to a sturdy tree. Perhaps you do, too.

## Prayer

Secure us with your presence, Lord, lest we drift away from you. Amen.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Talitha Arnold is Senior Minister of the United Church of Santa Fe (UCC), Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**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	Mr. & Mrs. Tiso
Carolina Menendeo	
Stirling and Rita Soukup	Christine Sokol

The family of John A. Moriarity St.

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.



*God didn't promise days without pain,  
laughter without sorrow or sun without rain.  
But He did promise strength for the day,  
comfort for the pain and light for the way.*



**February 2021**

Tues Feb. 16th	Shrove Tues (still in the talks)
Wed. Feb. 17th	Ash Wed. Service 7:30 pm

**March 2021**

Sun. Mar. 7th	Annual Meeting 11:00 am
Sat. Mar. 27th	Virtual Soup & Scripture

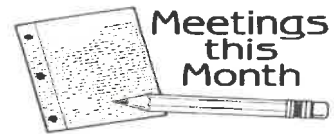
**Mark Your Calendars!!**

**Deepest Sympathy**

*It is with deepest sympathy that we inform everyone of the death of the Honorable Judge John Moriarity Sr.. He died on Wednesday, February 10th, in North Carolina, at home, where he lived with his son Mike. We would like to send our condolences, along with our prayers to his family. We would like them to know that we are thinking about them, at this very difficult time.*



*In Memory of*  
John A. Moriarity, Sr.  
1923 - 2021



**February**

Sun. Feb. 21st	Council	11:15 a.m.
Mon. Feb. 22nd	Trustees	7:30 p.m.

**Please Mark Your Calendars**

**Messenger Appreciation**

It's that time of year again, when we humbly ask our readers to consider making a donation to help support the printing of the Messenger. The cost of publishing and mailing the Messenger each week is about \$25 per year, per subscription. This is an optional donation and any amount would be a great help. Please make checks payable to "WMCC" and in the memo area of your check mark it for "Messenger Appreciation".

**Thank you to the following for your donation:**

- Mary Crabbs
- Judith Adams
- Lee Fraser
- Brenda & Gary McCue
- Margaret and Jim Silberger
- Bob & Jane Atkinson
- Edward & Judith Marcak



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**

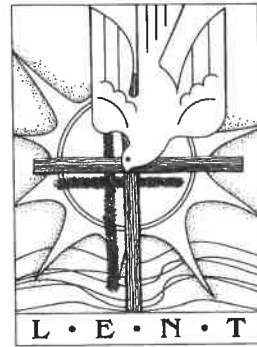
If you have an item to be printed in the Messenger, you **MUST** get it to the Church Office no later than **MONDAY NOON**, or place it in the Messenger mail box prior to Monday noon.

*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 February 21, 2021**

**First Sunday in Lent**

<b>WORSHIP:</b>	<b>10:00 A.M.</b>
<b>Sharon Cozzoli</b>	<b>Chancel</b>
<b>Linda Cortes</b>	<b>Usher</b>
<b>Andrea Ash</b>	<b>Usher</b>



**PIXIE NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS**



Pixie Nursery School registration for the 2021-2022 school year has begun. Classes are filling up quickly. We have a virtual tour on our website, at [wmcc1845.com](http://wmcc1845.com). Click on Pixie Nursery School and click on, click here for a "Peek" inside. Please call the nursery school at 785-1247 for any questions.

**ANNUAL REPORTS**



The Annual reports are now officially past due. Please reach out to me if you haven't sent me your report. 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

**Trustees Meeting**



February's trustees meeting will be Monday, February 22nd, at 7:30 p.m.. Be on the look out for your zoom invite.



**COUNCIL MEETING**

The next Council meeting is this coming Sunday, February, 21st, 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..



**Board/Committee Openings**

With the Annual Meeting about a month away, there are board and committee openings for anyone who might be interested. Some of our boards and committees are.

**The Board of Deacons**

**(Which has three sub-committees within it; Worship & Spirituality, Christian Education, and Mission & Outreach)**

**Board of Trustees**

**Memorial Fund Committee**

**Flower Committee**

**Fundraising Committee**

Please call the church office and let us know if you would like to be considered to fill an opening. Your church needs you. Get involved. Many hands makes light work.

**THE CALL TO MEETING**

The Annual Meeting of the Wantagh Memorial Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, will be held on Sunday, March 7th, directly after church in the sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting is to hear reports of its officers and organizations, to elect officers for the year 2021, and to enact any other business proper, to come before the meeting.



**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.

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!!**

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



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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 e-mail: [WMCC1845@Verizon.net](mailto:WMCC1845@Verizon.net)



## Upcoming Usher Schedule

**Week Of: February 28th**  
 Manny Marino (Chancel Deacon)  
 Kim Walker (Usher)  
 Debbie Davis (Usher)

**Week of: March 7th**  
 TBA (Chancel Deacon)  
 TBA (Usher)  
 TBA (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.**

### 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).

### 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. Monetary donations should be either cash or **checks made payable to The Long Island Council of Churches, with Food Pantry in the memo**. You can also drop food at the church during the week. We would like to thank all of you who have been donating each week. It is amazing how generous everyone has been, and the amount of food that we collect each week is awesome. Please call 516-785-1829 with questions.

### 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.

### 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**

## 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](mailto:casey0704@aol.com).

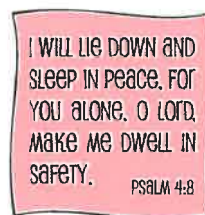
### VIRTUAL SOUP & SCRIPTURE



On Saturday, **March 27th, at 6 pm**, we are going to try something new. We will have a virtual Soup & Scripture Time of Fellowship. You will supply your own

soup and we will supply a bread bowl for you to have you soup in. Bread bowls will be available from 2-4 at the church for pick-up. We will zoom and have dinner together along with scriptures from Rev. Ron. Look for your Zoom invite, or send the church an email if you would like an invite.

### BIBLE BEFORE BED



Bible Before Bed will be held every Thursday evening via zoom, at 7:30 p.m. The only exception to this will be the second Thursday of each month, because this is when the Deacons meet. This Bible Study is getting glowing reviews from all

who attend. You will want to see what all the hype is about, so give it a try. All are welcome, if you would like a zoom invite for this bible study, send an email to the church, at [WMCC1845@verizon.net](mailto:WMCC1845@verizon.net), and we will add your e-mail to the invite list.

### 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**

## February 2021

THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED
<b>18</b> 7:00 Meditation	<b>19</b> 7:00 Troop 689	<b>20</b> 9:00 Meroke 8:00 Justice Zoom	<b>21</b> 10:00 Worship 11:00 Council	<b>22</b> 10:00 Food Drive 7:30 Trustees	<b>23</b> 7:00 Cyber Fellowship 7:30 Virtual Crochet	<b>24</b>