



THE PATHFINDER

A Publication of West Haven Presbyterian Church for our Members and Friends in Christ
Issue 39

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We are growing in grace one neighbor at a time.



What Do the Symbols in Our Stained Glass Mean?

By Rev. Tyler Williams

Our stained glass in the sanctuary has many biblical reverences and Christian symbolism. Let's look it over again with fresh eyes and see the artistry as well as what each

image references in our canon.

The top the window has the text “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet.” This is a reverence to Psalm 119:105 “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” This is also the opening verse of worship here at West Haven. God’s Scripture and Christ as the Living Word illuminate our lives as we journey in faith.

The primary image is of course the equilateral Celtic cross. This golden amber cross has several inlaid images that we will touch on. But first the equilateral cross is often used to illustrate that Christ is the Messiah of east and west, north, and south. This notion is further emphasized by the compass rose motif that encircles the center of the cross. This compass rose furthers the idea of Jesus as the Messiah of all places and peoples. Also, these points of the compass rose along with the golden amber color make a sun- like image. Thus connecting back to the light imagery ie- Jesus as the light of the world. John 8:12 “Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”

Inlaid within the cross are grapes and vines. This points to Jesus as the vine as well as the Sacrament of Communion. John 15:1 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower.”

Also inlaid within the Celtic cross is the shepherd’s crook. This is reference to both Psalm 23 and John 10:11 where Jesus says “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”

At the base of the cross is an open Bible. This again points back to the verse on the top of the glass but it also means that the Bible is our base or foundation. The open Bible also means that it is being read or recited. Appropriate since each worship service we read and proclaim the Scriptures as a central activity at worship.

There are also 8 eight pointed stars surrounding the cross. These stars can be associated with the priest-king Melchizedek who is referenced in Genesis 14:18-20. But this priest-king role is also given to Jesus in Hebrews 7. Thus the 8-pointed stars can illustrate the role of Christ in the world and our souls as both priest and ruler of our lives.

The background of the glass is red and blue. These are traditional colors associated with Christ. Red in Christian art is associated with Christ's blood on the cross. Blue is more multivalent, meaning the hue can represent many ideas. Blue can be the cosmos, the divine nature, or the sovereignty of Jesus since blue was an expensive color to make for centuries.

The green leaf like shapes in the edges of the glass can represent creation or the green growth of discipleship reaching for the light of the cross.

Lastly at the very center of the glass is the Chi-Rho or the X P . This is an ancient symbol for Christ. In the Greek, Christ is spelled Χριστός. The first 2 letters of this word are the x and p and became a short hand for Christ or Jesus in early Christianity. Thus, at the heart of the cross is Christ and our ancient traditions.

I hope this has been helpful in deciphering the many symbols and icons found in our beloved stained glass. Thank you and God Bless.

-Rev. Tyler Williams

"God of..."

God of soapy hands, warm baths, and clean towels,
wash our souls clean of the misgivings, mischief and
mistakes that stain our lives. Make us pristine again.

God of clear water, cool mornings, and sharp
peppermint, refresh our muddled minds.

Inspire us to be holy as you are holy.

God of earthy basil, sour vinegar, and sweet
tomatoes, cleans our pallets that we may sing your
praises with fresh mouths. Amen.

-Rev. Tyler Williams



SUN. MARCH 10, 2024

**TIME WILL CHANGE!
SET CLOCKS ONE HOUR FORWARD**

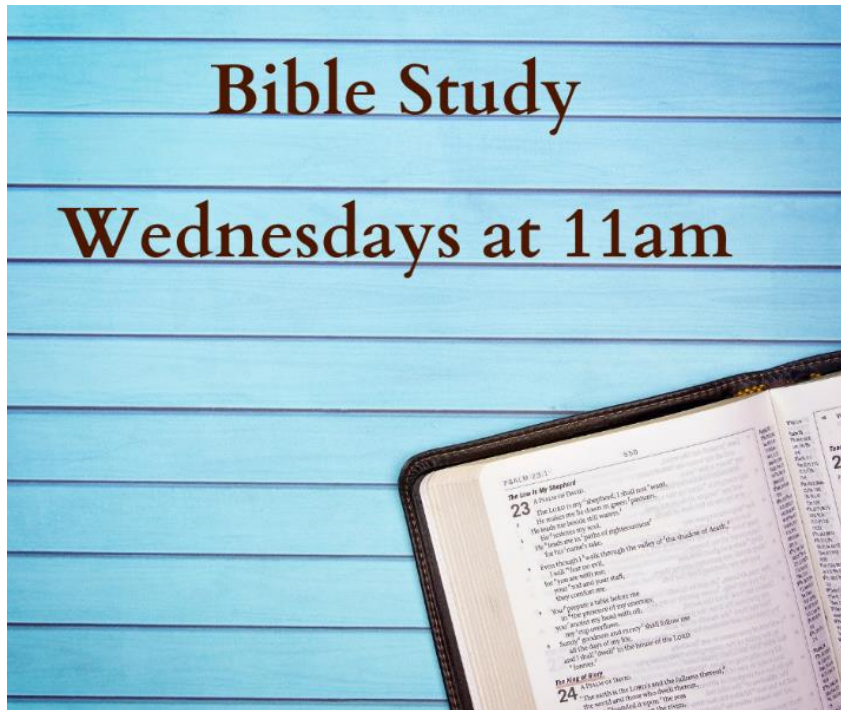


**Presbyterian
Women**

**WED. MARCH 6TH
AT 12:30 IN
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Bible Study

Wednesdays at 11am



Choral Evensong at Good Shepherd 5pm Sun. March 10th



Covenant Prayer – John Wesley
I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you,
Praised for you or criticized for you.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory
and service. And now, O wonderful and holy God,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
you are mine, and I am yours. So be it. And the
covenant which I have made on earth,
Let it also be made in heaven. Amen.

Christ Be With Me – St. Patrick

**Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ where I lie, Christ where I sit, Christ where I arise,
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of every one who speaks to me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.
Salvation is of the Lord.
Salvation is of the Christ.
May your salvation, Lord, be ever with us. Amen**

Around the Church

Session News:

According to the Session meeting minutes February 27, the following business was conducted 2024.

- Approved request by Rick Adams to coordinate pickle ball activities in our gym.

- Approved West Haven's participation in the Community Maundy Thursday service on March 28th at Bethlehem Presbyterian Church.
- Approved West Haven's participation in the Community Good Friday Service on March 29th at Mt. Pisgah.
- Approved Easter Sunrise Service in the sanctuary at 8:00 am, followed by breakfast in the fellowship hall at 8:30 am, and Easter service at 11 am.
- Approved West Haven's Women's Circle to host the District Presbyterian Women's meeting on April 20th.
- Approved Souper Bowl Funds to be distributed evenly between St. Andrews Food Pantry and UCM.
- Approved One Great Hour of Sharing Easter Offering on March 31st.
- Approved Hunger for Change funds to transition from Presbytery to local hunger mission.
- Approved Rick Adams to set up direct draft from Wells Fargo to General Fund.
- Approved salad bar luncheon after worship on Palm Sunday, March 24th.

Announcements

- Next Sunday, March 6th, Time will Change. Please set clocks forward 1 hour.
- Bible study Wed. at 11 am.
- Liturgist sign up sheet for March & Easter is on the bulletin board.
- Women's Circle will meet Wed. March 6th at 12:30 pm.
- Presbyterian Men will meet Tues. March 12th at 6:30 pm.
- Palm-Passion Sunday is Mar. 24th.
- Salad Luncheon after Palm-Passion Sunday Mar. 24th service in fellowship hall.
- Community Maundy Thursday service Mar. 25th at Bethlehem Presbyterian Church. Will provide a soup dinner at 5pm. Tenebrae service at 6:30 pm.
- Community Good Friday Service Mar. 29th at Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church at noon.
- Easter Sunday Mar. 31st. Sunrise service in Sanctuary at 8 am., Breakfast in fellowship hall at 8:30 am. Easter Service at 11 am.

Salad Bar Luncheon

Plan to stay after church on Palm Sunday for salad, salad, everything salad. Lots of choices, healthy for you food, plenty of fellowship, and of course dessert. That date is March 24th. See you then.

Letter from Nan and John Stratton:

Dear West Haven Family,

A very belated thank you for the warm send off in January. It was not easy leaving you all. You were there for both of us as we lost beloved family members--even pets. You encouraged our courtship (maybe with a little matchmaking) and celebrated our marriage. You truly are family.

We are slowly settling in. Now the boxes are only halfway to the ceiling instead of all of the way to the top. And we only have to do laundry once a week instead of every four days. I have a feeling that by the time we find all of our winter clothes, we will have broken out the Spring clothes. Still, it is slowly but surely becoming our home.

We have been attending church at John's home church, Tuckahoe Presbyterian. It is a very friendly church and it is so heartwarming to see the welcome back John is receiving. They are also offering a fascinating Lenten study.

All in all, things are going well. This house is slowly but surely becoming our home. Know that you are all welcome to visit--just give us a heads up so we can hide boxes.

We love you all,
Nan and John

Thanks to PW for our new ice maker, and thanks to Phil Broomell for installing it.
Peggy Griffin



Finance and Personnel

Pledges as of date: 1/31/2024

\$5,475.00 (YTD Actual)

\$5,781.67 (YTD Budget)

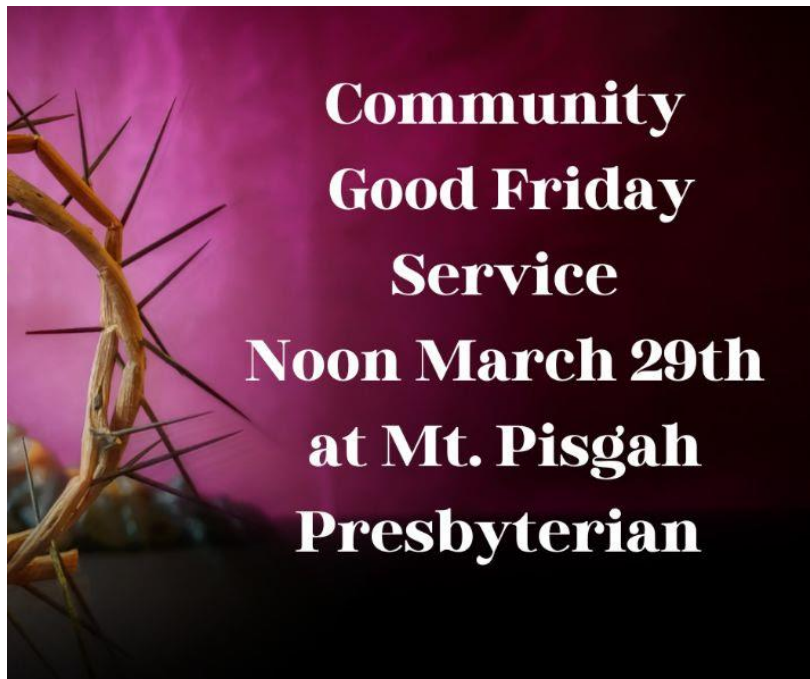
WH Endowment Fund balance 1/31/2024 - \$106,061.78

“Promise of Spring”

**Master of the Great Design,
We have endured the long nights,
Remembering your promise of spring,
And here it arrives anew, the pledge fulfilled.
Your spring rains wash winter’s staleness away,
The smell of petrichor, earthy and verdant, fills the air,
And reminds us there’s still room to grow in great wide world.
Your spring, comes with the green growth,
Bright chartreuse on the vine,
Fresh shoots and springs jut out from the depths,
Full of eager possibility, and a courage warmed by the sun.
Your spring comes to us in constancy and mystery,
Your spring comes as thing hoped for and beauty realized
Your spring has arrived and we are grateful, Holy Creator.
Amen -Rev. Tyler Williams**



Community Maundy Thursday Service!
Bethlehem PC will host a soup dinner
March 28th at 5pm
with worship service at 6:30pm



**Community
Good Friday
Service
Noon March 29th
at Mt. Pisgah
Presbyterian**

“In the Evening”

O Lord, support us all the day long,
until the shadows lengthen,
and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed,
and the fever of life is over,
and our work is done.

Then in thy mercy,
grant us a safe lodging,
and a holy rest,
and peace at the last. Amen.

**"He Is Risen" Matt. 28:6
Resurrection Sunday March 31st**



**Sunrise Service Sanctuary 8am
Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 8:30am
Easter Service 11am**



Recipe!

Irish Soda Bread

Ingredients:

2 cups all-purpose flour
2 Tablespoon brown sugar
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt

3 Tablespoons cold butter, cubed.

Directions:

1 - Preheat oven to 375°. Whisk together first 5 ingredients. Cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. In another bowl, whisk together 1 egg and buttermilk. Add to flour mixture; stir just until moistened. Stir in raisins.

2 - Turn onto a lightly floured surface; knead gently 6-8 times. Shape into a 6-1/2-in. round loaf; place on a greased baking sheet. Using a sharp knife, make a shallow cross in top of loaf. Whisk remaining egg; brush over top.

3 - Bake until golden brown, 30-35 minutes. Remove from pan to a wire rack. Serve warm.

From Taste of Home Online Magazine

Copy Cat Honey Baked Ham

Ingredients:

8 lb bone-in spiral sliced half ham

2 Tbsp butter, melted

3 Tbsp honey

1 1/2 cups granulated sugar

1/2 tsp seasoned salt

1/2 tsp onion powder

1/2 tsp ground cinnamon

1/2 tsp ground nutmeg

1/4 tsp ground ginger

1/4 tsp ground cloves

1/4 tsp paprika

pinch of allspice

Directions:

1. Trim ham if needed, then place in slow cooker. Combine melted butter and honey, then massage over ham, getting in between the slices a little. Cover and cook on LOW 4-5 hours.

2. At the end of the cooking time, preheat broiler to HIGH, and line a roasting pan with heavy duty aluminum foil.
3. Combine sugar, seasoned salt, onion powder, ground cinnamon, ground nutmeg, ground ginger, ground cloves, paprika and allspice in a small bowl. Pat half of the sugar mixture over the top of the ham.
4. Broil for several minutes, until bubbly and caramelized, then remove from oven.
5. To a small saucepan, add remaining sugar mixture. Add 3 Tbsp of either water or ham juices from bottom of the slow cooker. A combination of water/ham juice and bourbon is a nice alternative! Stir, and heat to a boil. Boil for about a minute, then remove from heat.
6. Brush or pour glaze over the ham, then broil again for a minute or two (careful... don't let it burn!). Remove from oven and let ham rest for 5-10 minutes.
7. Serve warm or cold and enjoy!

www.thechunkychef.com

**Rocky Mount Flute Choir
will preform at
Good Shepherd Church
5pm Sun. April 14th**

