



WEST HEMPFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8 West Hempfield Drive

Irwin, PA 15642

724-863-1260

www.westhempfieldpc.org



Hello to all the newsletter readers of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church!

As the structure of our in-person worship service finds its way back to “normal,” this Lent we are bringing back the Corporate Prayer of Confession. Of course, in this environment, it is up to you whether you speak the words with me or just read them silently. Spoken or silent, we pray together to humble ourselves. Without a confession of our own sin, we risk thinking it is our own righteousness, rather than the Lord’s, that opens the door and allows us to be in God’s presence.

The PCUSA Book of Order recommends the Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon saying ... *Having praised the holiness of God, we must also face the sinful state of the world and of our lives, confessing our unworthiness to enter into God’s presence. Nevertheless we approach God with confidence, trusting in the mercy of Jesus Christ. This turn from communal praise to corporate confession, established on the promise of God’s grace, is one of the hallmarks of the Reformed tradition.*

A call to confession expresses God’s initiative in calling for repentance and promising forgiveness in Christ. As members of Christ’s body, we confess the reality of sin, captivity, and brokenness in personal and common life and ask for God’s saving grace. A declaration of forgiveness proclaims the good news of God’s mercy and offers the assurance of pardon in Jesus’ name.

Other actions may follow—a song of praise, such as “Glory be to the Father”

Blessings, Rev. Andrew Wirt

What is Pastor Andrew Reading?

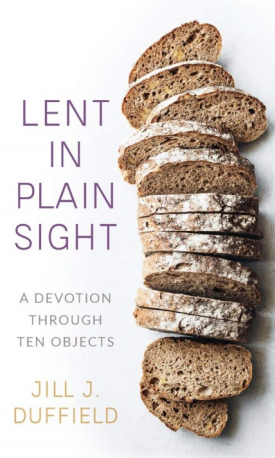
Lent in Plain Sight:

A Devotion through Ten Objects

By Jill J. Duffield

From the Amazon listing:

God is often at work through the ordinary: ordinary people, ordinary objects, ordinary grace. Through the ordinary, God communicates epiphanies, salvation, revelation, and reconciliation. It is through the mundane that we hear God’s quiet voice.



In this devotion for the season of Lent, Jill J. Duffield draws readers attention to ten ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem: dust, bread, the cross, coins, shoes, oil, coats, towels, thorns, and stones. In each object, readers will find meaning in the biblical account of Jesus final days. Each week, readers encounter a new object to consider through Scripture, prayer, and reflection. From Ash Wednesday to Easter, Lent in Plain Sight reminds Christians to open ourselves to the kingdom of God.

Jill J. Duffield is editor of *The Presbyterian Outlook*. She holds an MDiv from Union Presbyterian Seminary and a DMin from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary with a concentration in preaching. She lives in Charlottesville, Virginia.

MARCH IN PERSON WORSHIP SCHEDULE

March 7– Regular Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM,
Communion, Sunday School 9:45 am

March 14 – Regular Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM,
Sunday School 9:45am,

March 21– Regular Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM,
Sunday School 9:45 am

March 28 - Regular Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM,
Sunday School 9:45 am



April 1 - Maundy Thursday service, 7:00pm, Communion

April 2 - Good Friday service, 7:00pm, Communion

April 4—Easter Sunday, 8:30AM & 11AM, Sunday school, Communion

AT HOME WORSHIP SCHEDULE

There are several ways to worship with WHPC ...

- You can listen to the service LIVE over the phone at 11:00am (for instructions, please call the church office)
- We mail DVD recordings of full Sunday morning services to anyone who requests one. If you would like one please call the church office
- You can watch a shortened service on Facebook – www.facebook.com/westhempfieldpresbyterian

The same video will be also be available on the church website www.westhempfieldpc.org (After the video on Facebook has finished, it will continue to be available on Facebook as well to watch any time, at your convenience).

Reminder: Anyone can join us for **at-home communion** by calling in at 11am on the first Sunday of the month.

WORSHIP AT HOME HELP

If you have experience in creating videos, audio and video hardware set up, sound production, video editing software, etc., we could use your help. As we look to the future, many churches are predicting that the worship-at-home option will not be going away. Winter weather, illness, travel, and more can prevent us from being in person for worship and the at-home service provides an opportunity to stay connected. Online worship also provides a low pressure way for new people to check out a church ahead of time before making the decision to attend in person. If you have the kind of experience that would be helpful as we plan for the future of the at-home service, either to volunteer on a regular basis or even just to sit down and have a conversation about some tips, tricks, and best practices, please contact the church office.

We could use a helping hand.

Office hours Monday-Friday 9am-1pm, 724-863-1260.



FEBRUARY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on February 23, 2021

Together we covered our church and congregation with prayer, studied the Bible, discussed upcoming events, and reviewed the submitted reports.

- For our Bible study we read the day's entry from *Lent in Plain Sight* by Jill J. Duffield, based on Mark 7:24-30
- We approved February session minutes
- As we transition to having a new clerk (Thank you Karen for years of service!), we have decided to try having several elders take turns at performing the clerk duties before settling in with an official clerk.
- We received and reviewed staff and committee reports, assigning and confirming elder committee assignments.
- Pastor Andrew will be using a week of vacation before Easter. There will be pulpit supply on Sunday, March 14, 2021.
- The church qualified for second round of Payroll Protection Loans, applied, and was approved.
- We are having problems with the furnace that supplies Tony's Office, the prayer room, and the former youth director's office. A new furnace may be needed.
- Maundy Thursday & Good Friday services were approved
- Communion was approved to continue on the first Sunday of each month, and to be a part of Holy Thursday and Good Friday Services.
- Reviewed other upcoming events
- Still looking for help with production of at-home worship and running screens at in-person worship on Sunday mornings

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Let the Outreach committee help you get the word about your committee event! We can be sure all event information is posted on the church Facebook page, added to the morning announcements screens, put in the Newsletter and we can also organize the use of the Arona Road sign.

Please email all event details to - outreachwhpc@gmail.com



SCREENS

Can you lend a hand to help with sound and screens Sunday mornings?

We will train you!! Call the church office 724-863-1260.

MUSIC BY TONY

We are looking for special music for Lent and Easter!

Not only is it fun when someone request hymns, it gives more to the service knowing someone has a special meaning tied to a particular hymn. if you have any hymns that you would like played for prelude, postlude, or offertory please contact Tony Greendonner gre0151@gmail.com



EASTER FLOWER ORDERS

ORDERS DUE WITH PAYMENT BY MARCH 14



If you would like to order a flower for yourself, in honor of or in memory of another, complete the form provided at the church or call the church office to place your flower order. Place paper forms along with your payment in the offering plate or in the office. We will decorate the sanctuary with them for Easter. After Easter services please take yours home with you.

Flower choices are lily, tulip, or hyacinth. All flowers are \$10 each. Please fill out a form at the church or call Heather to place your order.

Thank you!

SNACKS FOR PRESCHOOL

The preschool is in need of snacks. Some requests are Little Debbie's, Chips, Pretzels, Oreos (does not have to be individually wrapped, they use gloves to distribute). Thank you to everyone for your generous donations this school year! We have a few month left of school and plan to continue providing snacks to the children, any help is appreciated.

THE PRESCHOOL THANKS YOU FOR ALL THE SNACK DONATIONS THIS SCHOOL YEAR!



WEST HEMPFIELD PRESCHOOL



We are currently accepting registration for the school year 2021-2022.

This program is designed for 3 & 4 year old children.

The child must be 3 by August 31, 2020 and potty trained.

The registration fee is \$30.

If you would like more information, visit their website at

www.westhempfieldpreschool.org, call the church office between 9am & 1pm or see Linda Simpson. Thank you!

HAITI MISSION—DRIVE THRU SPAGHETTI DINNER

Please join us for our first ever drive thru spaghetti dinner on March 20 from
4:00pm-6:30pm

Adults (12 +)..... \$ 9
Kids (3-11)..... \$ 5
Children under 3..... Free



Because of the pandemic, we will be doing things differently this time around, although we will still be offering the same homemade sauce and meatballs. Please be patient with us until we can get things back to normal.

We will also be offering quarts of sauce with 6 meatballs for \$ 8 each. If you want to be guaranteed any, these **MUST** be pre-ordered by calling the number below. You will be able to pay when you pick it up on the day of the dinner. Otherwise, it will be first come, first serve at the end of the fundraiser.

We are requesting that you consider pre-ordering your meal as well. This will help us have better planning on how many dinners to prepare. Please call Jen between 9 and 6 to pre order. The phone number is 724-689-3168. We will be accepting cash only. Exact change is appreciated!

As always, all proceeds will benefit starving children in Haiti. Please remember that world hunger doesn't stop for anything, including COVID. Every meal bought will help alleviate starvation!

Thank you!

Jen and Arleen

West Hempfield
Presbyterian Church
Rev. Andrew Wirt

In Person & At Home

Sunday Morning Service
8:30AM & 11AM
Call in available for 11AM service.
Recording of morning service will be
available online ASAP

westhempfieldpc.org

Let's keep in touch!



THANK YOU

A collection of Lent devotional materials. It includes a red card with a heart shape and the text 'Lent Devotionals', a book titled 'Our Daily Bread', a book titled 'THESE DAYS', and a book titled 'The Way to Shalom'. The background is a solid purple color.

Lent devotionals for adults are available from the church at no cost to you. Contact the church office and we can see that you get one.

If you have a child in middle school or high school who is interested participating in a WHPC confirmation class, please contact the church office.

Confirmation

As most of you have seen or heard, we will be having the Movie Night / PJ party this year on March 5th, 2021. This year we will be doing things sort of different. There will be an in-person event, as well as an at-home event. As the March newsletter comes out, the event is less than a week away, but if you haven't had a chance to sign up yet, please contact the church office to do so by March 3. Additional details are as follows:



If you are attending in-person:

This year's movie will be SING! The event will be starting at 6pm on Friday, March 5, in the WHPC Fellowship Hall (enter from the back parking lot).

Bring your own blankets / sleeping bags / pillows to get comfortable!

Please feel free to bring your own snacks (please be courteous to not leave any mess). Bottled water and juice boxes will be provided.



St. Patrick's Day Gift Bags!

Be on the lookout for a March / St. Patrick's Day bag from Christian Ed for all the youth. We will be distributing the bags on March 14th, 2021 between services.

If you (or a youth person you know) can not make it, please let Tony, Heather Ressler, Mary Esther or the church office know. We would be more than happy to get it to you.

Easter Egg Hunt!

We are planning on having the annual Easter Egg Hunt this year regardless of the weather. The egg hunt will be **April 3rd from 10:00 am until approx 11:30. All are welcome!**

A few changes will happen this year as we abide by health regulations for Covid-19. There will be no food and the entire event will be outside, so dress accordingly. We are asking that everyone does what they feel is appropriate for social distancing and mask wearing. Also, the eggs will not be recycled as they have been in previous years. All eggs collected by the kids will go home with the kids. As well, a gift bag from the church will be distributed to every youth who attends (this will be in lieu of the bunny money prizes and our guessing game). Lastly, rumor has it that a special guest is planning on hiding all of the eggs, so don't miss out on seeing who it is! 🐰



Starting March 7th, there will be a bin outside Mr. Tony's room for any Easter Candy donations. Please make sure all candy is prepackaged/wrapped and can fit inside an easter egg.

Any questions, please feel free to message Tony or any of the CE members.

Have a fun and joyous March!

Christian Ed Committee



Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Ash Wednesday service to kick off the season of Lent. We shared sunflower seed planters as a gift from WHPC that can serve as a reminder to be humble and a symbol of new life and how we are growing in Christ. If you were not able to get one, sunflower kits are still available at the church.

I would like to thank all of my church family for all of the lovely cards and get well wishes. It was so nice to hear from you and was greatly appreciated.

**Elsie Barton
God Bless you all!**

Thank you for your donations to the Food2Go fundraiser. A total of \$545.00 was raised to feed children at WHE.




MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 3	Jake Gilmartin	March 21	Mary Porterfield
March 4	Connor Wybiral	March 24	Ruth Uhlig
March 5	Paul Jackson	March 24	Barbara Davis
March 9	Debbie Miller	March 25	Nancy Stepinsky
March 11	Janet Vandermer	March 25	Jeff Siegel
March 11	Heather Manhart	March 27	Joyce Edmonds
March 14	Matt Porterfield	March 28	Sam Joseph
March 16	Marion MacIntosh	March 28	Wylie Irwin
March 19	Cameron Mackenzie	March 28	Pat Smith
		March 29	Karissa Hrico

If you have a March birthday, and we've missed you –PLEASE, let the office know!

March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Girl Scouts, 5:00pm - upstairs kitchen	3 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm Men's Group, 7:00pm Soccer Shots - Fellowship Hall	4	5	6
7 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Communion Sunday School 9:45am	8 	9 Deacons Meeting, 6:30pm NAMI 7:00pm	10 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm Men's Group, 7:00pm	11	12	13
14 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Sunday School 9:45am St. Patty's Day Youth Activity Bags	15	16 Stewardship & Finance 6:30pm	17 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm Men's Group, 7:00pm	18 SESSION REPORTS DUE	19 Meatball making, 6:00pm Fellowship Hall	20 Haiti Spaghetti Dinner 4-6:30pm Drive-Thru
21 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Sunday School 9:45am	22	23 Session Meeting 6:30pm	24 Staff Meeting, 10am Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm Men's Group, 7:00pm	25 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	26	27
28 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Sunday School 9:45am	29	30	31			