



Join us for a very special
EASTER SUNDAY (April 4th)
At Wilton Presbyterian Church

6:00 AM ~ Start your day at our **SUNRISE SERVICE**
in the Memorial Garden

10:00 AM ~ **FESTIVAL OF EASTER**

Immediately following the service, the Church Life Committee
is organizing
Coffee Hour and the
EASTER EGG HUNT!



All WPC children and guests (through grade 5) are invited to
participate. Baskets will be provided*.

*Weather permitting; the Easter egg hunt will take place in the side yard where the volleyball net is. In case of rain, Easter baskets will be handed out to the children immediately following worship.

We tend to think of Jesus’ resurrection as a single event and Easter as a single day, a single event. But actually they are two, or, perhaps more accurately, two aspect of the very same event. Crucifixion/resurrection. Good Friday/Easter. As a matter of faith, so inextricably interwoven are these two that there simply is not one without the other.

The crucifixion of Jesus on Good Friday is not a glad event. The Service of Tenebrae at 8 PM is not a glad, “Hallelujah” service for one simple reason: the passion story of Jesus’ last week in Jerusalem is not a glad occasion. The reading of the passion narrative, the extinguishing of candles, the closing—and dropping—of the Bible, the lack of benediction and blessing, and the silence recreate the betrayal, arrest, trial, suffering, and abandonment of Jesus by the disciples (and some might even say, by God) leave the story unfinished, one’s heart thumping, and one’s spirit deeply, solemnly moved.

The resurrection of Jesus on Easter is a glad event. The Easter Sunrise Service at 6 AM in the Memorial Garden and the Festival Service at 10 AM in the Sanctuary. They are “Hallelujah” services—the “hallelujah” services of the whole Christian year: the readings, the music, the rising—and later—bathing of sunlight, the clothes, the greetings all reflect the wonder and amazement of the women at the tomb and the disciples back at home. It is the finish of the Gospel in Jesus of Nazareth and the new beginning of the Gospel story, courtesy of the Spirit of Christ, in the disciples and leaves us invigorated, refreshed, renewed, and, above all, joyful. I am indebted to Carole Telyan (and her source) for a less formally theological, but more practical understanding of this interwoven Good Friday-Easter drama:

If you see only the happy ending of a movie, everyone who saw it from the start is elated, but you go away saying, ‘So they were all hugging each other? So what?’ But if you see the beginning and the middle part, with all the suspense and grief, you understand what the characters overcame, and the happier ending is all the happier. So to me, attending the Easter service without attending the Holy Week services is like watching the happy ending of the movie without seeing the middle—you only rob yourself of joy.”

So, if you wish not to “rob yourself of joy” at Easter, consider attending

The Maundy Thursday Supper-Service in the Lounge at 6:30 PM on April 1;

The Joint Children’s and Families’ Good Friday Service, 4:00 PM in St. Matthew’s Nave on April 2;

The Good Friday Tenebrae Service in the Sanctuary at 8 PM on April 2;

And the Easter Services—in the Memorial Garden at 6 AM, in the Sanctuary at 10 AM—on April 4.

There’s no between way to multiply your joy at the “end” of this movie than to participate in the drama that comes before it.

Grace and Peace,

David Graybill

Your Pastor

THE MEMORIAL GARDEN “*The (Almost) Perfect Fall*”

Nick Lee (Young’s Nursery) had mentioned years ago to Beth Mason that the “grandfather” of white pine trees in the Memorial Garden would be the first to fall. He didn’t say when...only that it would be the first. And it was. In the wind-and-rain storms over the past weekend, this tree did fall. And thunderous that fall must have been. But...it was an “almost perfect” fall...in between the birdbath and the meditation bench (no damage to either), damaging (perhaps) one marker, and mashing only a portion of the creeping juniper and one other planting, before tearing through the Norwalk Second Taxing District Water Department fence. To look at the tree trunk, you see why it fell. Indeed, it was the grandfather. Ah, but what this grandfather left for us to behold in relief...a young grandchild pine tree growing right next to its rotted stump. And on one side blooming crocus while on the other blooming Lenten roses...with daffodils and other flora breaking through the earth’s crust in the warm, spring sun. The tree has been cut and removed now, but it is a positive Easter symbol that, along impression of this (almost) perfect fall...spring flowers are rising and blooming.

WORSHIP AT WILTON

April 4, 2010
EASTER SUNDAY
The Services for the Lord's Day

David Graybill, preaching

Sunrise Service	6:00 AM	Memorial Garden
Festival Service of Easter	10:00 AM	Sanctuary

Call/Worship: Lisa Caswell
Reader: Tom Mann
Scripture: Luke 24.1-12
I Corinthians 15.19-26
Ushers: Patty & Steve Connor, Max Gabrielson, Elaine Shields
Hymns: 123 Jesus Christ is Risen Today
115 Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain
113 Christ the Lord is Risen Today
Anthems: Hope is Alive!
Christ the Lord is Risen Again

Easter Egg Hunt	11:00 AM	Great Lawn
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April 11, 2010
Easter 2
The Services for the Lord's Day

The Sacrament of Baptism
David Graybill, preaching

Call/Worship: Pam Kelley
Reader: Charlie Watkins
Scripture: John 20.19-31
Acts 5.27-32
Ushers: Amy & Steve Roberts, Carol Rowe
Hymns: #498 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise
#399 We Walk by Faith, and Not by Sight
#118 The Day of Resurrection
Anthem: O Sons and Daughters

April 18, 2010
Easter 3
The Services for the Lord's Day

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
David Graybill, preaching

Call/Worship: Max Gabrielson
Scripture: Acts 9.1-6
John 21.1-14
Ushers: Sally Post, Margaret Carkner
Hymns: #462 Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies
#324 Open My Eyes That I May See
#122 Thine Is the Glory
Anthem: All in the April Evening

April 25, 2010

Easter 4

The Services for the Lord's Day

Wilton Clergy Association Pulpit Exchange

Tom McManus, Deacon, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, preaching

Call/Worship: Tom Mann
Reader: Irla Landry
Scripture: Psalm 23
John 10.22-30
Ushers: Pam, Chris & Will Kelley
Hymns: #171 The King of Love My Shepherd Is
#310 Jesus, The Very Thought of You
#387 Savior Like A Shepherd Leads Us
Anthem: Deep Waters

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

This sacrament will be administered on upcoming Sundays April 11, May 16 and June 20. Parents wishing to present their child(ren) for this sacrament are urged to contact the church office as far in advance as possible. Ordinarily, only two baptisms are scheduled at a single service.

YOUTH EVENTS IN APRIL

Friday, April 2 Good Friday Liturgy for Children & Youth, 4:00pm
Tuesday, April 6 Sixers 6th Grade Youth Group, 5:30-7:00pm
Sunday, April 11 9th Grade Koinonia Group, 4:30-6:00pm
10th-12th Grade Katalysta Group, 4:30-6:00pm
Tuesday, April 13 8th Grade Confirmation Class Examination, 7:45pm
Wednesday, April 14 7th and 8th Grade Youth Group, 6-7:30pm
April 17 – 25 Wilton Public Schools Spring Break—Enjoy!

WPC is a partner in the Joint Youth Ministries Program, a cooperative venture with Zion's Hill United Methodist and St. Matthew's Episcopal Churches. Unless otherwise noted, youth groups meet at the WEPCO complex, 48 New Canaan Road. Please contact Director of Spiritual Formation, Jane Field, jane@wiltonpresbyterian.org or 762-5514 if you have any questions or concerns. If your family includes a 6th-12th grader and you have not been receiving our regular email reminders or "snail-mail" postcards, please let Jane know and we'll add you to the list right away!

CALLING A FEW GOOD PEOPLE

Once again this year, a crew of 6-8 WPC members will be staffing/serving at the Saturday, May 1st, St. Mathew's spring auction. Some WPC folk have already volunteered (Steve Connor, David Graybill, and Barry Gutknecht). If you are interested and available to help staff/serve, contact Barry. He's coordinating our part in the evening. P.S. In turn, St. Matthew's folk will staff/serve at our June 5 "Hooray for Wilton Pres" auction/talent show.

AN ECUMENICAL MEN'S GROUP
begins Friday, April 9 7:00 AM
Wilton Baptist Church

Coordinated by Jason Coker, Wilton Baptist's Pastor, this book study is open to all men, including WPC men and friends. The first book for discussion is N.T. Wright's Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense. From there we can do whatever we want! If you are interested and willing to attend, please let Jason know so that he can make appropriate plans.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES NEWS

April Meetings:

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| Tuesday, April 6, 7:30am
Lounge | Get Real! Christian Ethics Lecture Series
Steve Lanza on Incarceration Alternatives |
| Tuesdays, 12 noon
Alcove | Bible with the Boys – “Saving Jesus” |
| Sundays at 9am
Meditation Room | Sundays with the <u>Times</u> (Faith & Current Events) |
| | Back 2 Nature – TBD (see note below) |
| Fridays, 10:30am
Alcove | Girlfriend's Guide to the Bible – “Saving Jesus”
(through April 16) |
| Thursday, April 15, 7:30pm
Conference Library | Third Thursday Movie Group – Film: “Up!” |
| Wednesday, May 5, 7:30pm
Lounge | Good Book Group: for their next read “Mere Christianity” by C.S. Lewis |
| Wednesday, April 21, 6:30 pm | Two By Two Wednesday Dinner Group, at the home of Frank & Judy Mabley
(tentative) |
| Thursday, April 6, 6:30pm | Two By Two Thursday Dinner Group, location TBD |

Notes from the Back 2 Nature Small Group's March 20 Expedition:

On a day so lovely it was hard to imagine that just one week before we were bracing ourselves against falling timber and 80 mile per hour winds – Sonny Kern, Margaret Carkner, Florence Johnson, Dan Delmar, and Robert Bourguignon tackled the mighty Connecticut River with the help of the Connecticut Audubon Society for an Eagle Watching Tour. We saw osprey (ospreys? plural?) and seagulls, both in some abundance. We also managed to see a few eagles, albeit from a great distance. Apparently, it had been a relatively warm late-winter, so the migratory bald eagles had already headed north. But we did view some nesting eagles. Eagles or not, it was great to spend time with the WPC folks who attended. We were amazed at the avid avifaunists who were our tour guides. These people are able to identify a tiny black speck high up in the air as either (i) a two year old red-tailed three-footed goat-beaked warbler, or (ii) a six-sided post-traumatic Madagascan finch hawk of indeterminate parentage. Miraculous people!

CONNECTICUT BICYCLE PROJECT
Saturday, May 1st

DONATE TRANSPORTATION (AND FUN!) TO THOSE LESS FORTUNATE

Spring cleaning? Keep the Bike Project in mind! We are collecting adult and children's bicycles, trikes, wagons and scooters. Bring them to the WEPCO parking lot Saturday May 1st 11:00 am- 2:00 pm. Yes, you may drop your donations off the week before the collection! Contact Sandy Muschler 761.8730 wepco@optonline.net

NOTES ON PEOPLE

We hold close in prayer Louise Leinroth, who is recuperating at home following two falls (and subsequent, short stays at Norwalk Hospital);

Mac MacGregor, who underwent vascular surgery and is recuperating slowly but steadily at home;

John Kelly, father of Nancy Smith, who is a resident at the Osborn Retirement Community in Rye, NY.

We congratulate former WPC Organist and Music Director, Dr. Eileen Hunt and Mark English who were married at Green's Farms Congregational Church in Westport on Sunday, February 14, 2010. Eileen served WPC from 1978 through 1986. She has been Minister of Music at Green's Farms Church since 1986.

We extend our Christian sympathy to Don Marquardt at the death of his brother, Arthur, on Saturday, February 20. Art was living in a retirement community just outside Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina.

We extend our thanks to Linda Rost, Claire & Geoff Brown, Mark Carta, Sarah Carta, Patty Connor, Susie Gross, Hilary Jacobs, Beth Mason, Peggy Rost and members of their "crew" for their dedicated work in presenting "The Lonely Soldier Monologues" at WHS' Little Theatre on Saturday, March 6th.

Husam, Noorhan, Haneen, and Saif Khairalla have moved from their apartment in Weston to a new apartment in Stamford. Their new address is 12 Relay Place, Apt 2. Stamford, CT 06902

We extend our Christian sympathy to Joe Dionne at the death of his younger sister, Anne Sikes, in Atlanta, Georgia. Her funeral service was held on March 10th.

Mac MacGregor is slowly, but steadily recuperating at home following heart surgery at Norwalk Hospital on March 1st.

Philippe Chassagnoux underwent heart surgery at Daconess Hospital in Boston on Monday, March 22—adding a pacemaker and defibrillator. He returned home to Wilton on Palm Sunday weekend.

Glenn Shattuck had a visit to the Norwalk Hospital Emergency Room recently, resulting in a change in medication.

Barbara Quincy is home recuperating from arthroscopic surgery on her left knee, all in time for her graduation from UConn's Continuing Education Program on May 8 at Storrs, CT. Yea, Barbara!

Malcolm and Vivian Doak are settling into their new home at 9505 Northpointe Blvd. #9304A, Spring, TX 77379 (832-296-8223)..just 15 minutes away from their daughters Lisa and Robin (and not far from Stewart and Jane MacColl!).

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

**Have you ever been in the Garden of Gethsemane?
Have you laid down palms during a parade?
Have you ever seen a crown of thorns?**

If you have never done these things, come to our annual **Children and Families' Good Friday service, April 2nd at 4 pm** in the St. Matthew's sanctuary and surrounding spaces. This service gives children (especially appropriate for ages Pre-K through 5th grade) an opportunity to experience the last days of Jesus' life through movement. Children go to the Garden of Gethsemane, remember the Last Supper, carry a cross and prepare themselves for the joy of Easter. It is a very powerful service for children and their families. Children continue to learn and mature in their understanding as they come back year after year. Many families have commented on how the Good Friday service deepens their experience of Easter. Childcare is provided for infants, and an additional program is provided for 3 and 4 year olds. We hope that you will join us for this very special service.

Spring Mission Project

On April 25th and May 2nd all of the Church School classes will be busy making their creation for our annual Spring Mission Project. Some classes will cook and others will create small gifts which will be delivered to friends within our two churches. This project is a wonderful way for our children to reach out and connect with others in our church community. Children can go with their families to deliver the gift bags. **Please volunteer to deliver on May 2nd!**

2010-2011 PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Your comments and suggestions are encouraged, needed, and welcome!

On Tuesday, April 6, WPC's program staff David Graybill (Church Life, Mission, Outreach, Stewardship, and Worship), Jane Field (Adult Education, Children's Ministry, Joint Youth Ministry, Small Group Ministry, and Women's Ministry), Al Galletly (Music), and Sheri Richards (Church School) will be meeting to begin the process of 1) evaluating 2009-2010 program ministries and 2) developing 2010-2011 program ministries.

At the April 13 Session meeting, they will be presenting their initial 2010-2011 program calendar to Session for information, comment, and discussion before developing a second draft.

The key people in this process are **YOU**, the individual members of the congregation. **YOU**—your children and youth, your families and friends,—are the ones whom these programs have served this past year and ones whom future programs aspire to serve next year. So your individual comments, ideas, and suggestions are so very important. Jot them down on suggestion cards in the pews or on the front/back of fellowship sheets in the Sanctuary and place them in the offering plates or the church office. Call or email any one of these staff members—or the leader of the program committee (Their names are listed in the back of the 2010 Church Directory). Participate in shaping the future program ministries by participating now! Each suggestion will receive serious consideration! Session, staff, and other members thank you more than words can tell.

WILTON GO GREEN FESTIVAL

May 2, 2010

11 AM – 4 PM

Wilton Town Center

A fun way to learn about energy conservation and sustainable living—the **small** things that you can do every day to make a **big** difference.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

At its Stated Meeting on March 16, Session took actions including the following

- +Authorized the baptism of William Charles Mihelic, son of Amanda and Mark Mihelic, at morning worship on April 11;
- +Referred the Finance Committee a note that WEPCO's 2010 capital contribution will be \$5,000 (instead of \$10,000);
- +Received an update on the June 5 "Hooray for Wilton Pres" event;
- +Received a report on recent WPC Youth Committee and Joint Youth Ministry leadership meetings;
- +Authorized an appeal for contributions to the Music Fund;

NEXT STATED MEETING

Tuesday, April 13 (second Tuesday due to Wilton School's spring vacation)

7:30 PM

Included on this docket will be:

- +Review first quarter financial statements;
- +Presentation of Confirmands;
- +Update on the June 5 "Hooray for Wilton Pres" event;
- +Conversation with WPC program staff regarding 1) 2009-2010 program ministry evaluation and 2) 2010-2011 program ministry development.

All Session meetings are open. Members are cordially invited to attend as their interest and time permit.

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR ROOM

OK, everyone, it's time to put on your Easter bonnets and do that Irving Berlin thing; you know, "stroll down" Fifth Avenue in hopes of having some "photographer catch you" so you end up in the "rotogravure." Well, maybe not all that old, out-of-date stuff, but there is something special about enjoying the passage of winter and taking in the delights of a beautiful spring morning.

BUT ... (you just knew there would be a "but", didn't you!) ... but ... it would be unseemly of you to do the strolling bit without first coming to church, hearing the Easter message once again, and taking in some glorious Easter music provided by your WPC Sanctuary Choir.

Given the Easter message of Jesus Christ having conquered death and having risen to life eternal (pretty powerful stuff, I might add), we feel it is more than appropriate to enhance our celebratory worship and triumphal music with appropriate brass and other instrumental accompaniment.

We've performed any number of anthems written by John Rutter over the years, but it was only recently that I came across an exciting Easter anthem by Rutter. It's full of excitement, has some jazzy rhythms, and is punctuated throughout by continuing brass fanfares. You'll get to hear it along with all those familiar hymns on Easter Sunday. That's Sunday, April 4th, at 10 a.m.

So put on those Easter bonnets, but don't go down to NYC ... come to WPC. It's a much shorter, much less expensive commute, and you're bound to run into a lot more of your friends and neighbors.

Al

PS: If you absolutely need the photographer memorialized in the Irving Berlin tune, heck, I'll even bring my camera to church on Easter morning. Come by after the service and I'll take your picture. But please sit back and enjoy the music first. Thanks.

SAVE THE DATE!

“HOORAY FOR WILTON PRES”

Join us for a spectacular evening of epic proportion
Featuring talented members and friends of the WPC community

Saturday, June 5, 2010

More details to follow...