



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 10:00 AM
DECEMBER 24TH, 2023

Welcome to Wallingford Presbyterian Church

Members and friends gather here each Sunday morning (and lots of times during the week!) to celebrate and serve. We rejoice that you are here, and hope that you'll feel right at home.



Please take a moment to silence your cell phone.



Face Masks are optional for all activities and are available upon request.



Friendship Pew Pads can be found at the end of each pew.

Please fill them out and pass along to your neighbors.

Visitors are encouraged to reach out about activities they may be interested in.

WPC Directory Our church uses the online directory feature of Planning Center.

Find it online or on the Church Center app. Contact the church office with questions.

WPC Happenings Stay informed! Physical copies available out in the Narthex.



Visual Worship Schedules are available upon request.



If You Need a Little Help Hearing, portable listening devices are available.

An All Gender, ADA Restroom is located in the Narthex.



An Infant Changing Station and Quiet Room for parents is located in the Narthex.

Activity Packets are available for children to use during worship.

Fidget Toys for children (and adults) are available at the Narthex entrance.



Gluten Free Cookies are labeled and available during coffee hour.

Communion is served the first Sunday of the month.

WPC uses bread that is gluten free and made without tree nuts or peanuts.

Please ask an usher if you need help; we are here to assist you!

STAFF & HOURS

PASTOR: Rev. François Lacroix

- Tuesday, 11:00am-4:00pm
- Wednesday, 10:00am-2:00pm

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Rev. Taylor Cornelius

- Monday, 11:00am-4:430pm
- Thursday, 10:00am-1:00pm

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Lee Hagon-Kerr

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Nathan Gibson

- Monday-Friday, 9:00am-3:00pm

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR: Leslie Krowchenko

CLERK OF SESSION: Christine Darr

CO-TREASURERS: Ed Mattote and Todd Darr

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Michelle Hall

A community where all who seek God are Welcome...



A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

The prophet Isaiah writes that the Lord will give us a sign. Look, the young woman is with child.

She shall bear a son, and name him Emmanuel: "God with us."

We light this fourth candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

At Christmas, we remember how Jesus came to us.

Jesus came as a little baby.

Jesus came in the flesh to show us God's love.

We show God's love when we care for one another.

May we remember God's love and God's gift of children as we worship today.

Let us worship the Lord!

*OPENING HYMN #133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

AN ANGEL VISITS MARY

Long ago, the angel Gabriel visited a young woman named Mary. She was going to marry a man named Joseph, but they were not married yet. The angel said hello and that the Lord was with Mary. She was very confused. Then the angel told Mary not to be afraid. God loved her and had an important job for her to do. She was going to have a very special baby! The baby would be named Jesus, and he would be part of God's plan.

Mary said, "How is this going to happen?" The angel told her that the Holy Spirit would make it so, and that this baby would be the Son of God. Mary agreed to do the important job. She worshipped God and rejoiced. Mary knew her baby would be part of God's dream for the world.

AN ANGEL VISITS JOSEPH

An angel also visited Joseph, Mary's fiancé, while he was asleep dreaming. The angel told Joseph that he should still marry Mary. "She will have a baby boy, and you will name him Jesus," said the angel. "He will save his people from their sins." When Joseph woke up, he decided to do what the angel told him to do. All of this happened exactly as the prophets had said it would.

MARY AND JOSEPH TRAVEL TO BETHLEHEM

The emperor decided that the government needed a count of everyone who lived in the area. So, Mary and Joseph travelled back to Bethlehem, the town where Joseph's family lived. They may have walked or ridden on a donkey. But when they got there, it was time for Mary to have her baby! Because there were so many visitors in the town, there were no rooms left in the inn. Mary and Joseph were probably in a stable where animals stayed. They cleaned up the baby Jesus, wrapped him in cloth and let him rest in a manger.

HYMN #115

Away in a Manger

MUELLER

SHEPHERDS RECEIVE A SPECIAL MESSAGE

Not so far away, there were shepherds who lived with their sheep in the fields. An angel appeared before them, and God's glory shined all around. The shepherds were really scared! But the angel said "Do not be afraid. I have good news that will be a great joy to everyone. A very special baby has just been born in Bethlehem, and this baby is the Messiah, the Lord. You'll know it's the right baby when you see him wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger." Then the whole sky filled up with angels and they all started singing, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!"

After the angels went back to heaven, the shepherds hurried into the city. They found Mary, Joseph and the baby. Everyone was amazed. Mommy Mary treasured the things the shepherds said in her heart. The shepherds went back to their sheep telling everyone what happened and praising God.

HYMN #119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

THE MAGI FIND JESUS

When Jesus was born, a huge and super bright star filled the sky. Some Wise Men from the East watched the skies all the time, so they knew the special star was God's way of telling them something important. They stopped and visited King Herod on their way to find the baby, but eventually they followed the star all the way to where Jesus was. When the Wise Men found Jesus, they were full of joy! They knelt and gave the baby fancy gifts. King Herod wanted the Wise Men to tell him where to find Jesus, so instead of visiting the king again, they went home a different way.

CONCLUSION

HYMN #136

Go Tell it on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

MISSION AND MINISTRY

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY



If you wish to give electronically from your smartphone or tablet, please scan the box at the left, to go to the website where you can give to WPC via credit card, or give via the Church Center app.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

SENDING

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CLOSING HYMN #134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

(Parts of this service were designed by the Rev. Dr. Jenny Lee is a native North Carolinian who now lives in Sanford, North Carolina, with her husband and two children. She is the pastor at Pocket Presbyterian Church and teaches ethics at Central Carolina Community College.)

**Those who are able, please stand.*

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Thank you to Lin Floyd, and all who assisted with the worship service this morning.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

133

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain

born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

115

Away in a Manger

Capo 3: (D)
F

(G)
B \flat

(D)
F

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes,
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

(A7)
C7

(D)
F

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

(G)
B \flat

(D)
F

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love thee, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

(A7)
C7

(D)
F

(Em)
Gm

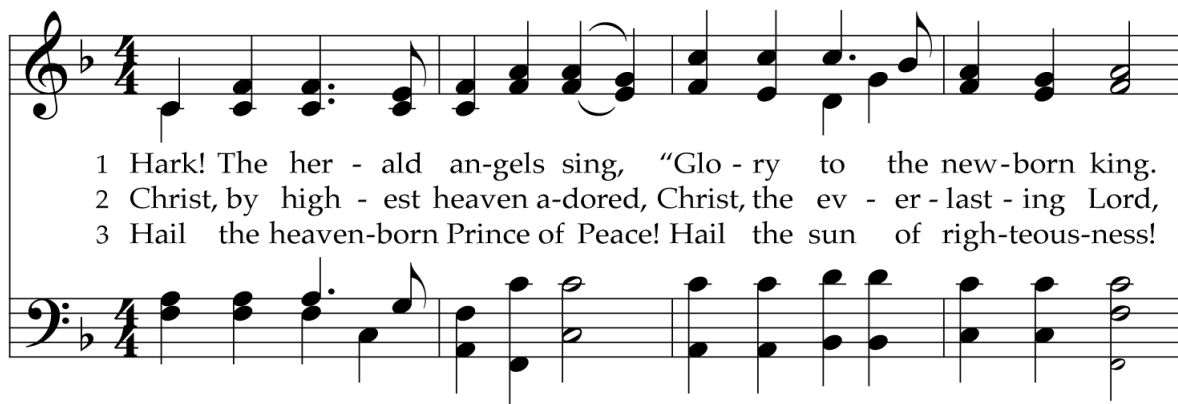
(A7)
C7

(D)
F

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is night.
and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

Though erroneously attributed to Martin Luther, this anonymous carol has North American roots, probably originating among Pennsylvania Lutherans. Although more than forty melodies have been connected with these words, this tune was among the earliest written for them.

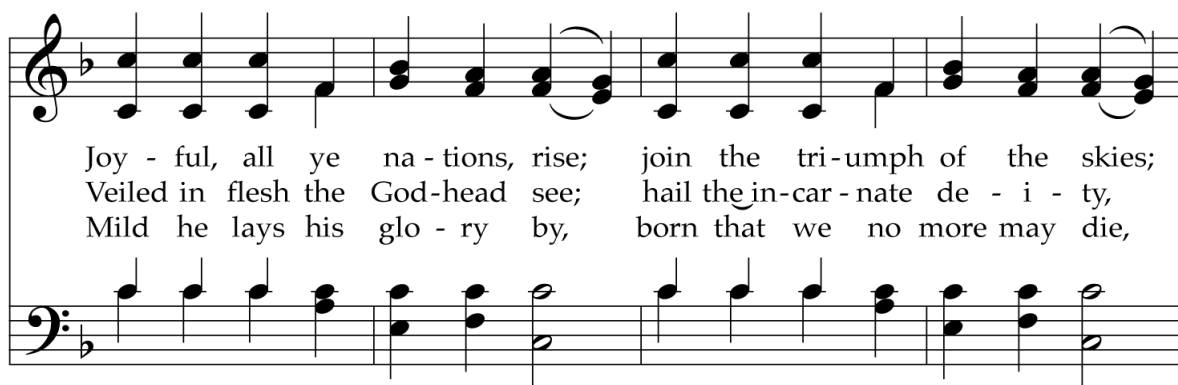
119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



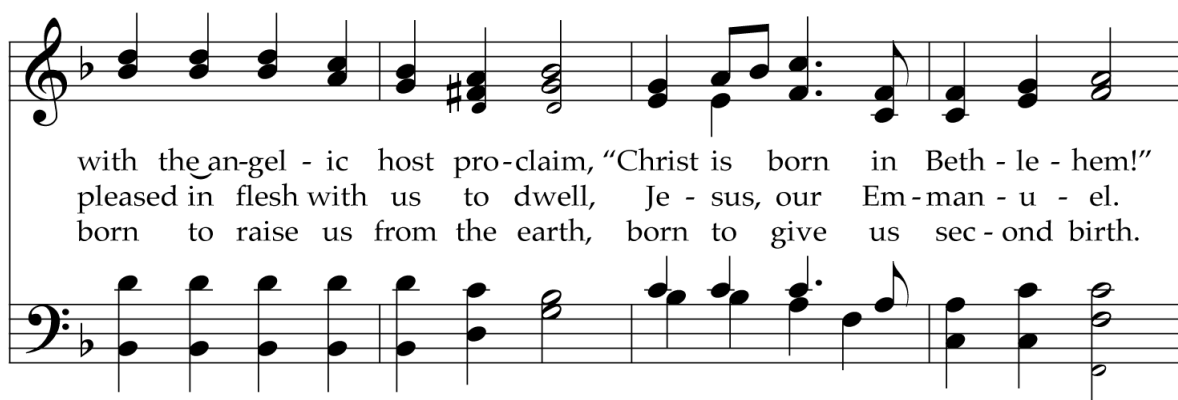
1 Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king.
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the vir-gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car - nate de - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,




with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Brought together in the mid-19th century, the text and tune of this familiar carol began in quite different forms. The text had ten stanzas and began, "Hark, how all the welkin rings." The tune was created for a festival celebrating Gutenberg's introduction of moveable type.

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

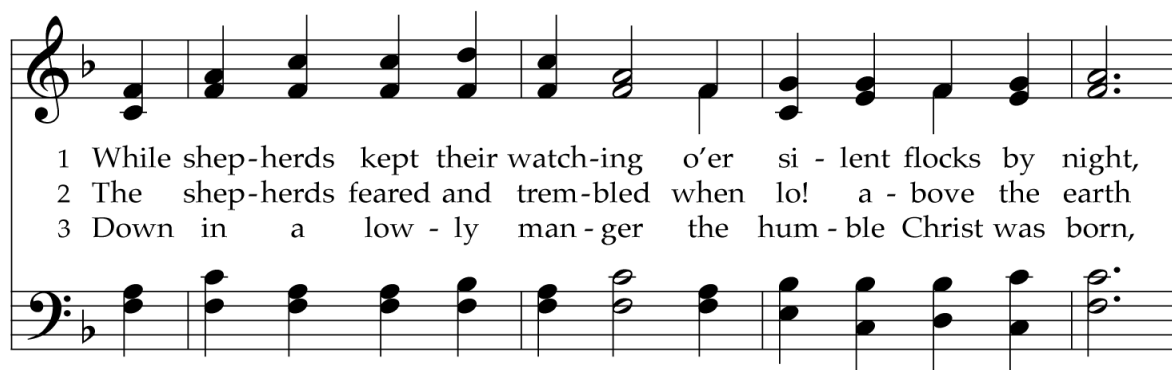
136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain 

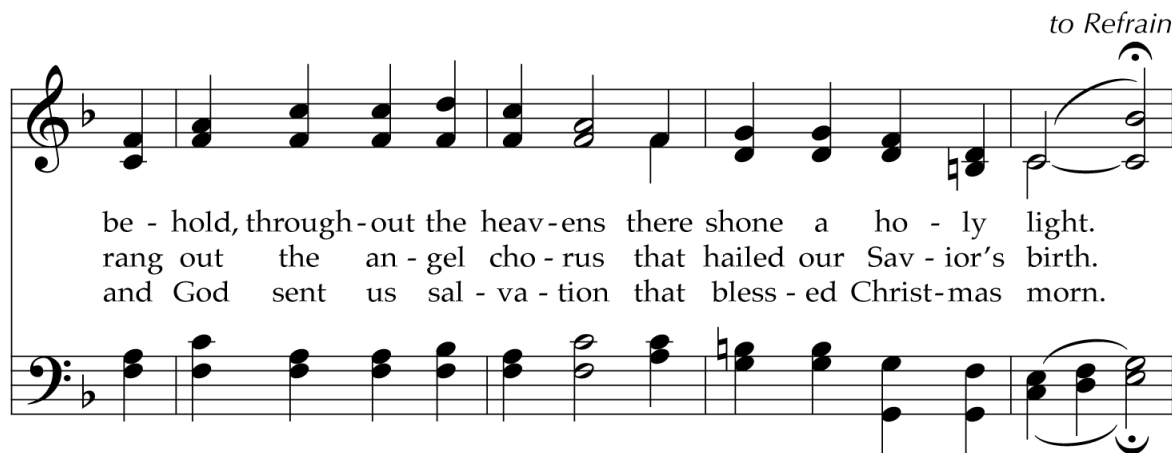

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;



go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.

134

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.












heaven and na - ture sing,













While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.



Christmas Poinsettias



Given By	Dedication
 Jon Bauer	In Memory of Belle and Pete Bauer
 Sally Clyde	In Memory of Bill Clyde and Family Members
 Mary Lou Day	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Chris Dearnaley and Joe Benvenuto	In Honor of Family and Friends
 Jeff Draine and Deb Dunbar	In Honor of Susan Eberle, Ed Reed, and Alan Barman
 Walter M. Dunham	In Memory of Parents Ernest & Elizabeth Dunham
 Roger and Carol Freidinger	In Honor of Our Family
 Helene Furlong	In Honor of My Parents, John R and Helene Furlong
 Bud and Edna Fury	In Memory of Our Parents
 Fred and Mary Ann German	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Alva Hayes	In Memory of Donald Hayes and Family

 Chris Jacobsen	In Memory of Her Parents, Frank & Lynn Deming
 Reg Jones	In Memory of William and Rhoda Jones
 Don Killian	In Memory of Parents Allan & Pauline Killian
 Cathy Kilpatrick	In Memory of Harry
 Russ Kinder	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Henry and Leslie Krowchenko	In Memory of Sam and Caroline Keys
 Mary L. Payne	In Memory of Bob Foley And Walter & Elizabeth Payne
 Dave and Shirley Rudd	In Memory of Our Parents George & Lorna Lemberger And Vincent & Vera Rudd
 John, Teresa and Shane Sawyer	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Scott Sawyer	In Memory of Loved Ones
 Harry and Carol Schultz	In Memory of Our Mom, Connie Kraus and Our Son, Brian Andrew Schultz
 Earl Varney	In Memory of Mina Hale Varney

PLEASE NOTE

We will not provide childcare (Nursery, Toddler Room or Sunday School) today, **Sunday, December 24** (Christmas Eve) so children can enjoy the family-friendly services.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES Sunday, December 24 - 10 a.m., 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

10 a.m. – Morning Worship A service for all ages with stories, songs and carols.

7:30 p.m. – Service of Lessons and Carols A family-friendly service equally appealing to children, youth and adults, ending with “Silent Night” sung by candlelight.

10 p.m. – Candlelight Service Our traditional service of Bible readings, carols and anthems by our vocal and instrumental choirs, ending with “Silent Night” sung by candlelight.

BLOOD DRIVE IN NETHER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP Garden City Fire Company #1 Banquet Hall, 412 Moore Road, Wallingford, PA 19086. **Tuesday, December 26, 2023 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.** Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Nether Providence to schedule an appointment.

BREAKFAST CLUB Students grades 6-12 – take a break from normal worship, **10 a.m., Sunday, December 31**, and share fellowship in the Youth Room. Enjoy breakfast, discussion about the week’s “Nooma” video and games.

FELLOWSHIP HALL WINDOWS The Trustees are replacing three old windows in Fellowship Hall with double pane windows, which will provide greater energy efficiency and insulating properties. If you would like one of the current windows, contact Walt Kaminski.

REUSABLE SHOPPING BAGS Show the world how proud we are of our music ministry with reusable shopping bags emblazoned with “Make a joyful noise” and Wallingford Presbyterian info. They demonstrate to everyone involved in the program how much we appreciate them with a little extra funds for all those “nice to haves” and “if I could’s.” Available at Coffee Hour. Cost – one for \$10 or three for \$20.

CHANCEL FLOWERS 2024 The sign-up board for sponsoring Chancel Flowers in 2024 is live and posted in the Fellowship Hall. Sign your name and the dedication you would like printed in the bulletin. Suggested donation price is \$50. Payments will be collected at the beginning of each month. The church office will reach out with a reminder when your month is coming up.

VASES Have any small vases you could give to the Deacons? They need them to deliver the Chancel flowers each Sunday to members and friends. Please leave them in the kitchen.

Year-End Giving

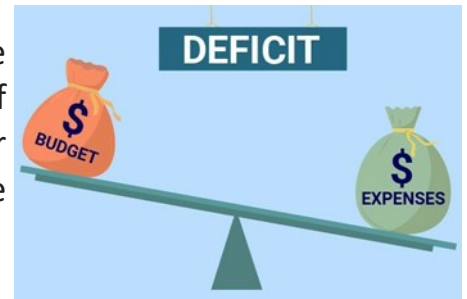


As we approach the end of the year, the Stewardship Council wants to thank the members and friends whose financial contributions sustain the mission and ministry of WPC.



The church was fully open this year, post-pandemic, and your monetary contributions have allowed us to provide an array of activities and programs for all ages and complete interior and exterior maintenance of the building and grounds.

The projected income for 2023 is \$490,000 to support the increased programming, but contributions have fallen short of our estimate. As of the second Sunday in December, our revenue is approximately \$405,000, \$85,000 less than the anticipated amount.



We appeal to you all to remember the church as you make year-end gifts. We understand everyone is facing higher costs right now, but if you can share some of your resources to support our church, our community, our faith, we would greatly appreciate it.

Donations may be made by cash, check or using the QR code.



Many thanks,
The Stewardship Council

WPC Week at a Glance	
<i>The Church Office will be closed the week of 12/25-12/29</i>	
Sunday, December 24	Tuesday, December 26
10:00 am- Worship	Wednesday, December 27
11:00 am- Wallingford Winds	09:00 am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner
07:30 pm- Service of Lessons and Carols	Thursday, December 28
09:00 pm- Wallingford Winds	Friday, December 29
09:15 pm- Bell Choir	Saturday, December 30
09:30 pm- Chancel Choir	Sunday, December 31
10:00 pm- Candlelight Service	10:00 am- Breakfast Club
Monday, December 25	10:00 am- Worship
Christmas Day	11.00 am- Coffee Hour

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