



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
NOVEMBER 30TH, 2025  
1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# 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.**



Friendship Pew Pads can be found in each row.

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.



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**

### CHURCH OFFICE

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

ASSOCIATE PASTOR, ACTING HEAD OF STAFF: Rev. Taylor Cornelius

- [pastortaylor@wallingfordpres.org](mailto:pastortaylor@wallingfordpres.org)

MINISTER OF MUSIC: Lee Hagon

- [music@wallingfordpres.org](mailto:music@wallingfordpres.org)

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Nathan Gibson

- [office@wallingfordpres.org](mailto:office@wallingfordpres.org)

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR: Leslie Krowchenko

CLERK OF SESSION: Christine Darr

TREASURER: Todd Darr

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Michelle Hall

## **WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS**

### **This Week**

USHERS: Ellis Warley

Heather Warley

LITURGIST: Mary Lou Day

COFFEE HOUR: Worship Council

### **Next Week**

LITURGIST: Sharon Babcock

COFFEE HOUR: Deacons

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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



A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### WORDS FOR MEDITATION

#### **Meaning of Advent**

For the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Advent is a season of anticipation and preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth and an expectant look toward his second coming. The word "advent" means "coming" or "arrival," and the four-week period is a time for both communal and personal examination, reflection on themes of hope, peace, joy, and love, and a spiritual readiness for the future. It is a more somber and soulful time of contemplation compared to the commercial Christmas season.

A common practice is lighting candles on an Advent wreath, with each candle representing themes including hope, peace, joy, and love. On Christmas Eve we will light the final candle, which is the white center candle, which represents the Christ-child.

We hope you will journey with us through this Advent adventure, each week here at WPC, as we open our hearts with expectancy and love to make room for the Savior! Each week we will have our Advent Worship Services at 10am here at WPC, and please join us for a Family-Friendly Service at 4pm, and our Traditional Candle-Lighting Service at 10pm both on Christmas Eve! Let us walk this journey together, and we will celebrate with the joy of fulfillment when the Christ-candle is lit!

### GATHERING

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Where can I go from Your Spirit? **Or where can I flee from Your presence?**

If I ascend to heaven, You are there; **If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there.**

If I take up the wings of the dawn, **If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea,**

Even there Your hand will lead me, **And Your right hand will take hold of me.**

**Let us worship God!**

#### ADVENT LITANY OF LIGHT: ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

The prophet Isaiah foretold a Messiah who would be born. He told us, "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

**And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.**

He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this."

**Lord, as we light this purple candle of hope, we remember that Your light pierces the darkness and brings hope to all who trust in You. Fill our hearts with anticipation for Your coming, and may we carry this hope into every corner of our lives. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN #88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
(verses 1, 5 and 6)

VENI EMMANUEL

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

*All children are invited to come forward at this time. Parents are encouraged to accompany younger children and sit with them on the chancel steps or in the front seats. After the lesson, children grades K-6 are invited to Sunday School classes or to stay with us in worship. The Nursery is open to children between 12 months and pre-K for the duration of worship. If this is your child's first time going to Sunday School or the Nursery, please accompany them so that we may register your child.*

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Emmanuel Shall Come

D. Eliot

**WORD**

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

NRSV OT 735

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

ANTHEM

An Advent Fantasia

O. Johnson

*Creator of the stars of night, your people's ever lasting light, Jesus Redeemer, save us all, and hear your servants when they call. Come, O come, Emmanuel, come and ransom the captive Israel, that mourns in exile here until the Son of God appear. Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung, of Jesse's lineage coming, as seers of old have sung. It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.*

SCRIPTURE READING

John 17:25-26

NRSV NT 112

<sup>25</sup>Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup>I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them.

SERMON

Christianity As Seen Through the Eyes of a Greek

Roger Demos

\*HYMN #418

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY

## MISSION AND MINISTRY

### MOMENT FOR MISSION

#### OFFERTORY

Meditation on "I Wonder As I Wander"

J.G. Barr



Scan the QR code to give via credit card on 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.***

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Lord of our lives, you have created this whole world, and given us every good and perfect gift we've ever received. We thank you and bless your Holy Name. May you, Lord of Heaven and Earth, take these gifts and use them to magnify the Christ-child, who alone is greatest gift we could ever receive. Amen.**

#### PRAYER OF INTERCESSION 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 glory forever. Amen.**

## SENDING

#### \*CLOSING HYMN #625

How Great Thou Art

HOW GREAT THOU ART

#### \*CHARGE, BENEDICTION AND THE PEACE OF CHRIST

#### \*RESPONSE #582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

(VASILE)

***Glory to God whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.***

***As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

***World without end, without end. Amen (x3)***

***As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

*Thank you to everyone who assisted with worship this morning.*

## 88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
 4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
 all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge  
 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
 law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
 save and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, thou Key of David, come,  
 and open wide our heavenly home;  
 make safe the way that leads on high,  
 and close the path to misery.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
 our spirits by thine advent here;  
 disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
 and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
 all peoples in one heart and mind;  
 bid envy, strife, and discord cease;  
 fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

*One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:*

Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)

Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)

Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4)

Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)

Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)

Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7)

Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

# 418 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
 3 O for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

*Refrain*  
 watch - ing for you and for me.  
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!  
 par - don for you and for me. "Come home, come home!

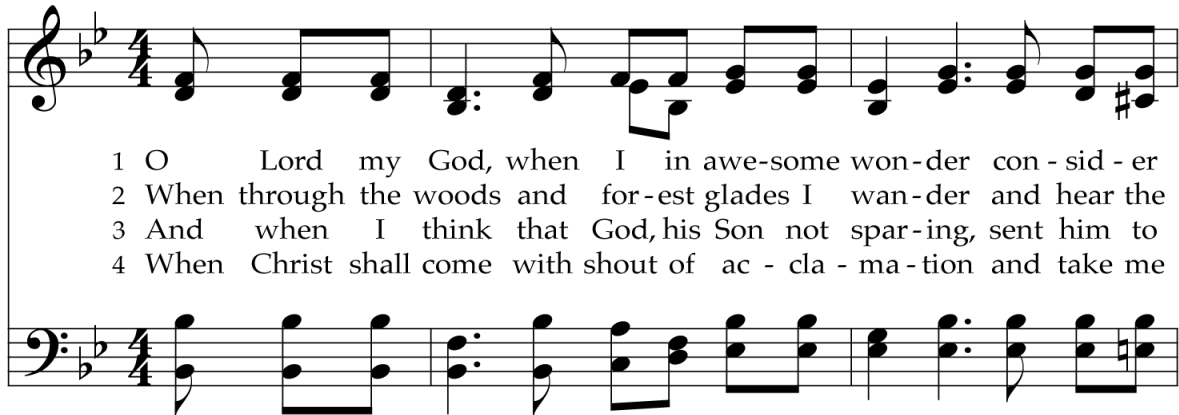
You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

This 19th-century gospel hymn has often been used as a hymn of invitation at evangelistic services. Its imagery is primarily based on Jesus' parable in Luke 15:11–32, commonly called "The Prodigal Son." Each singer thus becomes a wandering child who is urged to return home.

# O Lord My God

## How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con - sid - er  
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der and hear the  
 3 And when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to  
 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion and take me



all the \*worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I  
 birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, when I look down from  
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my  
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then \*I shall bow in



hear the \*roll - ing thun - der, thy power through - out the  
 loft - y moun - tain gran - deur and hear the brook and  
 bur - den glad - ly bear - ing, he bled and died to  
 hum - ble ad - o - ra - tion, and there pro - claim, "My

*\*Author's original words are "works," "mighty," and "shall I bow."*

This tuneful retelling of the salvation story began in Swedish and was translated into German and then into Russian before reaching its English form. Despite such linguistic and musical revisions, it continues to be a meaningful source of comfort to many people.

TEXT: Stuart K. Hine, 1953; Spanish trans. Arturo W. Hotton Rives, alt.; Korean trans. anon.

MUSIC: Swedish folk melody; adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1949

Text and Music © 1949 and 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust (U.S.A. print rights admin. Hope Publishing Company.

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HOW GREAT THOU ART

11.10.11.10 with refrain

*Refrain*

u - ni - verse dis - played:  
feel the gen - tle breeze: Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to  
take a - way my sin:  
God, how great thou art!"

thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my

Sav - ior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!



## 2025 Giving Tree and Angel Tree

### **Giving Tree**

gift cards and toys for families of Chester Eastside,  
City Team and within the Wallingford Swarthmore  
School District

### **Angel Tree (through Prison Fellowship)**

children of incarcerated parents receive a gift  
with a note from the parent expressing their love,  
helping to build a bond and learn about  
the love God has for them

**Chester Eastside, City Team and WSSD families**  
**\$25 Walmart and Target cards or toys**

**Angel Tree – specific gift suggestions for each child**

**Look for the Giving Trees in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall**

**Tags available Sundays before and after worship**

**Nov. 30**

**Return unwrapped gifts and gift cards on or by Dec. 7**

**The Deacons thank you for  
your continued generosity and support**

Sally Clyde   Deb Dunbar   Sheila Elmhurst   Carol Freidinger  
Chris Jacobsen   Don Killian   June Tolomeo

## Wallingford Presbyterian Church **ChristMarket 2025**

WPC supports several charitable groups throughout the year, missions near and far, such as **Chester Eastside** [ceichester.org](http://ceichester.org), **The America Team for Displaced Eritreans** [eritreanrefugees.org](http://eritreanrefugees.org), and **CityTeam Chester** [cityteam.org/get-help/chester](http://cityteam.org/get-help/chester). You may choose specific groups or choose to give a lump sum to be distributed among all groups. We will still have printed cards available should you want to send them to loved ones informing them that you have contributed in their honor as an alternative gift. **DON'T FORGET** - You can use checks, cash, credit cards, and such apps as Venmo and Apple Pay.

We are sorting other groups as International, National, and Local. We have included website URLs so you can learn more and we will speak about these organizations leading up to Advent so we can be better informed.

### INTERNATIONAL:

**Malala Fund** [malala.org](http://malala.org) Supporting Girls' Education Worldwide

**Heifer International** [heifer.org](http://heifer.org) Providing livestock for food and farming

**The American Team for Displaced Eritreans** [eritreanrefugees.org](http://eritreanrefugees.org) Assists refugees and asylum seekers, helps with resettlement, provides emergency medical services and advocacy.

**United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees** [unrefugees.org](http://unrefugees.org) UNHRC responds to emergencies and provides long-term solutions for refugees forced by war, persecution, or natural disasters to leave their countries.

### NATIONAL:

**4 Paws for Ability** [4pawsforability.org](http://4pawsforability.org) Training service dogs for people with disabilities

**Arbor Day Foundation** [arborday.org](http://arborday.org) Over 50 years of planting trees to improve the climate.

### LOCAL:

**Spring Garden Soup Society** [springgardensoupsociety.org](http://springgardensoupsociety.org) Supporting eleven organizations in Philadelphia that offer food, housing, counseling, and other services.

**City Team - Chester** [cityteam.org/get-help/chester](http://cityteam.org/get-help/chester) Assistance with transitional housing (including for mothers and babies), immediate hunger needs, and 12 step programs.

**Crum Creek Watershed Association** [crcwatersheds.org](http://crcwatersheds.org) Restoring and conserving the natural resources of Chester Creek, Ridley Creek, and Crum Creek.

**Chester Eastside** [ceichester.org](http://ceichester.org) Helps children and families by providing access to hunger safety net programs and a safe environment for adult and youth education and exploration.

# Christmas Poinsettias

A distinctive way to decorate the sanctuary for the holiday season



In honor or memory of a loved one or as a free will gift

6-inch pots with 5-7 blooms

Color options - red or white

Cost - \$9 per pot

Place this form -with payment- in the offering plate, return to the office, or  
drop off in the church mailbox

Order Deadline - Monday, December 8

.....

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

# of Red Poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_ x \$9

# of White Poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_ x \$9

Free Will Gift \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication: In Honor/In Memory of (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to Wallingford Presbyterian Church

Memo line - Christmas Poinsettias

## THIS WEEK AT WPC ....

**CHANCEL FLOWERS 2026** The sign-up board for sponsoring Chancel Flowers in 2026 is posted in Fellowship Hall. Sign your name and the dedication you would like printed in the bulletin. Suggested donation – \$50. Payments will be collected at the beginning of each month – the church office will reach out with a reminder as your month nears.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** If you requested offering envelopes for 2026, pick them up in Fellowship Hall.

**ONLINE DIRECTORY** Want to learn how to easily update your picture or information in the secure online WPC directory? Learn more at a table in Fellowship Hall following the service where you can also get one-on-one help to access the directory from your phone or a laptop and how to change your picture or contact information.

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PRACTICE** Pageant practice continues **11:15am, TODAY**, with costume fittings and running through the script and songs.

**MOMENT FOR WELLNESS: FOSTERING SELF AND COMMUNITY CARE** Nalini Prakash, PhD, BC-DMT, CMA, an Assistant Professor in the Creative Arts Therapies Department at Drexel University, will talk about the impact of dance/movement therapy on empathy, peer relationships and cultural self-efficacy, **Wednesday, December 3**. Her presentation will be an interactive session using dance and movement therapy, with everyone welcome to participate regardless of their ability or mobility level. **Dessert and coffee – 7:00pm; presentation – 7:15pm.**



**FALL CLEANUP** We need as many hands on deck as possible to help tidy up our grounds, **9am, Saturday, December 6**. The main task will be raking leaves and we welcome all hands. Please bring your own tools. Use the QR code to sign up.

## LOOKING AHEAD ....

**PRIME TIME** Award-winning professional photographer Robert Wood will talk about his more than 45 years of experience capturing landscapes, weddings, families and life's most meaningful moments, **Tuesday, December 9**. His focus will be on how to take better pictures using light, composition and storytelling. **Lunch begins at noon; the talk, 12:30pm.**

**WOW CHRISTMAS DINNER** Women of Wallingford - join for our annual holiday event, **6pm, Wednesday, December 10**. We will provide the main course and beverages – please bring an appetizer, salad, side or dessert. End with the Christmas story and carols.



**MEDIA CHAMBER CHORALE CONCERT** Enjoy "Strike the Harp and Join the Chorus – Holiday Music from Around the World to Lift your Spirits," **7:30pm, Friday, December 12 and 3pm, Saturday, December 13**. The concert will be held at WPC. Use the QR code to purchase tickets.

## ADVENT OPEN HOUSE ....

**ADVENT OPEN HOUSE** An event for all ages! Start the season with crafts, carols and a cup of (age-appropriate) cheer, **4:30-6pm, Sunday, December 7.**

- Kids – make Advent/Christmas decorations, listen to a holiday story and munch on snacks
  - Adults – chat with friends while enjoying a glass of wine, beer or non-alcoholic beverage and tasty bites.
  - Everyone – end the evening singing holiday songs and carols
- Please bring a full size bottle of shampoo to donate toward our ongoing collection for the WPC Day of Service.



**ADVENT OPEN HOUSE HELPERS** Helpers are needed for all phases of the December 7 event – setup, crafters and cleanup. To volunteer – use the QR code or sign up in Fellowship Hall.

**ADVENT OPEN HOUSE SHAMPOO DONATIONS** Please bring a full-size bottle of shampoo (or make a monetary donation) to the Advent Open House in exchange for the opportunity to receive a Trader Joe's gift bag. Benefits WPC's Day of Service (Monday, January 19).

**ADVENT OPEN HOUSE Appetizers** Have a family favorite appetizer, snack or beverage of choice you'd like to share? Bring it for the nosh table.



**YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY** Tweens and teens – help with Advent Open House crafts, then stay for the Christmas Party, **4:30pm, Sunday, December 7.** Use the QR code to register.

## GIVING AND SERVICE ....

**LEAST COIN** Look for the water jug in the Narthex (before church) and Fellowship Hall (during coffee hour) to deposit your least coins (loose change) for the WPC Day of Service. Continues through mid-January.



**PC(USA) MISSION YEARBOOK** WPC goes national! An article about our Abilities Initiative is the devotion in the Tuesday, November 18 PC(USA) Mission Yearbook. Use the QR code to read it.

**WPC DAY OF SERVICE** For the WPC Day of Service (Monday, January 19), the Abilities Initiative is exploring ways to provide children in our community with hygiene products and snacks. Sometimes larger companies are eager to partner in this kind of effort, but are easiest to reach through personal connections. If you or someone you know works for a company that might be willing to donate, we would be grateful if you would alert us. Your connection could make a big difference. Please contact Michelle George (610-417-3734) or Shirley Rudd (717-644-5451) so they can follow up.

**WPC DAY OF SERVICE DONATIONS** The WPC Day of Service (Monday, January 19), an inter-generational opportunity organized by the Abilities Initiative to benefit others, will involve donating items to four local organizations, including the Delco Domestic Abuse Project in Media and Bridge Houses through CityTeam in Chester. For November, we are asking for donations of full-size tubes of toothpaste and individually-wrapped toothbrushes. Place in large bin outside the church office.

**RED WAGON** WPC supports 3 food pantries – Chester Eastside, LifeWerks & Media Food Bank. LifeWerks is requesting:

- Cereal (kids' favorites)
- Jam or jelly (grape, strawberry or other berries)
- Crackers (Ritz, Triscuits, Wheat Thins, Nut Thins, graham)
- Canned vegetables (carrots, collard greens)
- Salad dressing (all varieties)
- Snack bars
- Paper Products (napkins, toilet paper, tissues)
- Skin care products (shampoo, body lotion or cream, wet wipes)
- Feminine hygiene products (panty liners, maxi-pads, overnight)
- Pet food (dog/cat; wet/dry)

## WPC Week at a Glance

<b>Sunday, November 30</b>	<b>Thursday, December 04</b>
09.30am- Chancel Choir	06.30pm- Bell Choir
10.00am- Worship	07.30pm- Chancel Choir
11.00am- Coffee Hour	<b>Friday, December 05</b>
11.15am- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal	<b>Saturday, December 06</b>
12.00pm- Chapel Ringers	09.00am- Fall Clean Up
<b>Monday, December 01</b>	<b>Sunday, December 07</b>
10.00am- Bible Study	<b>Sunday, December 07</b>
<b>Tuesday, December 02</b>	09.30am- Chancel Choir
07.30pm- Peacemaking & Social Justice	10.00am- Worship
<b>Wednesday, December 03</b>	11.00am- Coffee Hour
09.00am- Breakfast Group @Court Diner	11.15am- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
07.00pm- Moment for Wellness	12.00pm- Chapel Ringers
	04.30pm- Advent Open House

110 E. BROOKHAVEN RD, WALLINGFORD, PENNSYLVANIA 19086

WEBSITE: [wallingfordpres.org](http://wallingfordpres.org) PHONE: 610-566-1644 EMAIL: [OFFICE@WALLINGFORDPRES.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@WALLINGFORDPRES.ORG)