

## **The Many Faces of Need**

*A struggling small-business owner in Ridgewood who let her health insurance lapse in order to save money.*

*A family facing foreclosure on their home in Ho-Ho-Kus due to crushing, unforeseeable debt.*

*A divorced couple in Wyckoff whose incomes can barely support two households.*

These folks all have one thing in common—they are using the sliding scale fee option to pay for desperately needed mental health services at West Bergen Mental Healthcare.

“There can be a lot of shame associated with financial difficulties as well as mental illness,” said Lee Schaeffer, chief operating officer of West Bergen. “By allowing people to pay what they can afford, we remove the financial stress and allow them to deal with whatever painful situation made them knock on our door in the first place.”

Like mental health struggles, financial struggles are often hidden, according to Lee. “You can look at a person and think everything is great, but you don’t know what’s happening behind the scenes,” she said. “We’ve had situations, for example, where parents have suffered the loss of a child, and the entire family needs treatment. When you’re treating mom and dad and two kids, it gets very expensive, even if you have insurance. If you have a \$45 or \$50 co-pay and four people are going to therapy regularly and maybe mom is taking an antidepressant and needs to see a psychiatrist...a lot of people can’t afford that.”

Currently, about one-third of West Bergen’s clients use the sliding fee scale at some point during the course of their treatment. Approximately 32 percent of these clients have no health insurance, and 68 percent either have a very high deductible (\$1,000 to \$7,000 per year) or they can’t afford to pay the full co-pay that their plan requires for each visit.

“That’s why we do a lot of fundraising—to fill the gaps,” Lee said.

*To contribute to our Lent/Easter Campaign, and help West Bergen fill the gaps, please use a pew envelope or visit [westside.org/giving](http://westside.org/giving). No donation is too small!*

## Is This Your First Time Visiting West Side?

Welcome! We're so glad you're here. We look forward to helping you connect with others, grow more deeply in your faith and enrich your own life by serving others. Wherever you are on life's journey, there's a place for you at West Side.

Please stop by the visitor table located just inside the front doors, fill out a Let's Connect card and pick up a visitor bag. And please stay after the service to enjoy coffee/tea and refreshments and meet the pastors and members.

Have a question? Our staff is here to help:

Rev. Marc Oehler, pastor, [moehler@westside.org](mailto:moehler@westside.org)

Rev. Penny Hogan, associate pastor, [phogan@westside.org](mailto:phogan@westside.org)

Rev. Liz Junod, pastoral associate, [ljunod@westside.org](mailto:ljunod@westside.org)

Deborah Holden-Holloway, minister of music, [dholden-holloway@westside.org](mailto:dholden-holloway@westside.org)

Pat McGlade, R.N., faith community nurse, [pmcglade@westside.org](mailto:pmcglade@westside.org)

Esmé Elkins, children's ministry coordinator, [eelkins@westside.org](mailto:eelkins@westside.org)

Anne Lee, executive administrative assistant, [alee@westside.org](mailto:alee@westside.org)

### Easter Egg Hunt Today—Rain or Shine!

The Easter Bunny doesn't let the threat of rain stand in her way. Neither does the Family Life Committee! The hunt will go on regardless of the weather. Pastor Penny will share the details during worship.

### Third Thursday on Wednesday

Due to Maundy Thursday falling on the third Thursday of the month, the guys are getting together on Wednesday, **April 17** at the Ridgewood Country Club at 7:30 pm, hosted by Larry Noel. If you would like to join the fun, please RSVP to Anne Lee ([alee@westside.org](mailto:alee@westside.org)) by April 12. Please note: No jeans. Collared shirt required. Complimentary valet parking.



### Maundy Thursday Dinner and Worship

You're invited to share a Maundy Thursday meal with your West Side family at 6:00 pm on **April 18**. Steven Kopf will continue the long-standing family tradition of preparing lamb stew for the congregation. A vegetarian option and a child-friendly alternative will be available too. Cost: \$5 per person. Dinner will conclude in time for the 7:30 pm worship service, for which childcare will be available. Please RSVP to Pastor Penny ([phogan@westside.org](mailto:phogan@westside.org)).

## Lenten Prayer Stations

We invite you to visit the Prayer Stations in the Pulsifer Chapel this week and spend some time in guided prayer. Each of the interactive stations has a theme and takes you through a guided activity that will help you pray creatively. Go through the stations at your own pace, releasing the regrets or burdens that are on your heart, claiming your own belovedness, offering your prayers for the world, reflecting on Jesus' suffering as well as your own. The experience can be quite moving and powerful. The prayer stations will be staffed by the Deacons on Maundy Thursday, **April 18**, from 8:30 to 9:30 pm and on Good Friday, **April 19**, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm and 2:00 to 5:30 pm.



## Home Communion

On Good Friday and Easter Monday, the Deacons will be delivering communion to members and friends of West Side who are homebound. On Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday, a portion of the communion elements will be set aside for home communion, providing a visual reminder to the congregation of those who aren't able to be with us in person.

## Lent/Easter Campaign Update

The deadline to raise \$71,000 by Easter Sunday to support those in our community who cannot afford treatment for mental illness is one week away! So far, 96 people have donated a total of \$17,629. Can we count on your support for this important initiative? \$46,000 (\$1,000 x **40** days of Lent + **6** Sundays or "Little Easters" = **\$46,000**) will go to West Bergen Mental Healthcare, and \$25,000 will go to our mission partners who minister to the vulnerable. To give today, please use a pew envelope or visit [westside.org/giving](http://westside.org/giving). No amount is too small to contribute!

## Women's Retreat

Block out the dates—**April 26 to 28**—for the Women's Retreat at Johnsonburg. The theme: Resilience for the Fearfully and Wonderfully Made, based on Jeremiah 29:11 and Matthew 11:28-30. For details and to register, visit [www.campjburg.org](http://www.campjburg.org).

## New Sermon Series

*Everything happens for a reason. God helps those who help themselves. God won't give you more than you can handle.* They're simple phrases that sound Christian and capture some element of truth. But they also miss the point in some very important ways...and they aren't in the Bible! Join us every Sunday from **May 5 through June 2** for our Half Truths Sermon Series.

## Men's Retreat

When: **October 11 to 13**. Where: Warwick Conference Center. Stay tuned for details!

## TODAY AT WEST SIDE

8:00 am—Little Lambs Child Care - Room 202	10:15 am— <b>Traditional Worship</b> - Sanctuary
8:15 am— <b>Chapel Worship</b> - Chapel	10:15 am—Sunday School - Rooms 206, 306, 311, 312 and Serenity Room
9:00 am— <b>Contemporary Worship</b> - DePhillips Hall	11:15 am—Lenten Small Group - Chapel
9:00 am—Sunday School - Rooms 206, 306, 311, 312 and Serenity Room	11:15 am—Prayer Circle - Chapel
9:00 am—Lenten Small Group - Conference Room	11:45 am—Easter Egg Hunt - Plaza
9:00 am—Blood Pressure Screening - Library	3:00 pm—Parlance Chamber Concert - Sanctuary
9:15 am—Lenten Small Group - Chapel	4:00 pm—Emotionally Healthy Relationships Course - DePhillips Hall
9:45 am—Centering Prayer - West Side Room	7:00 pm—Sunday Night Live - Barn
10:00 am—Lenten Small Group - West Side Room	

## COMING UP AT WEST SIDE

**April 17 - Third Thursday Men's Group** at the Ridgewood Country Club at 7:30 pm

**April 18 - Maundy Thursday Dinner** in DePhillips Hall at 6:00 pm

**April 18 - Maundy Thursday Worship** in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm

**April 19 - Good Friday Worship** in the Chapel at 1:00 pm and the Sanctuary at 8:00 pm

**April 20 - Holy Saturday Worship** in DePhillips Hall at 6:00 pm

**April 21 - Easter Sunday Worship** in the Sanctuary at 8:45 am and 11:15 am

**April 28 - Healing and Wholeness Service** at 8:15 am, 9:00 am and 10:15 am

**May 1 - Interfaith Holocaust Memorial Service** in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm

**May 3 - First Friday Women's Group** at Carol Wilkenson's Home at 7:00 pm

**May 3 - Ridgewood Symphony Orchestra Concert** in the Sanctuary at 8:00 pm

**May 5 - Kids Under Pressure Seminar** in DePhillips Hall at 7:00 pm

**May 5 - JW Chorale Concert** in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm