

Weekly Newsletter
June 2, 2019

WEST SIDE IS A WELCOMING CHURCH, ROOTED DEEPLY IN CHRIST, INVITING ALL TO CONNECT, GROW AND SERVE.

A STORY WORTH TELLING

In 2017, West Side's Refugee Assistance for Families Team (RAFT) helped the Gardoon family from Afghanistan settle into an apartment in Englewood. The relationship continued, with West Siders helping Noor with his resume and driving lessons, Tamkeen with a computer course and ESL classes, and Azeen and Puran with summer camp and school supplies...and so much more.



The spring brought a new opportunity for the Gardoons.

They moved to Ashburn, Virginia, to be closer to family and friends. Following is an excerpt from a letter to RAFT written by Noor.

"I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for every support that you guys provided to us during our time in New Jersey. We left Afghanistan to escape war and insecurity, in search of safety for my family and children. Although I knew America would provide us with endless opportunities to establish a new life, I also was aware of the difficulties we would face here. Our life here would have been very tough if we hadn't met you all. We would not have been able to overcome our difficult days without you all.

"I sincerely thank Peter [Dykstra], Paul [Gary], Jim [Horton], Steven [Johnson], Tim and Alix [Brown], and, of course, our shining star Alison [Tatem] and other members of your church for their help and constant support. May our paths cross again soon."



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 members and pastors:

Rev. Marc Oehler, pastor, moehler@westside.org

Rev. Penny Hogan, associate pastor, phogan@westside.org

Rev. Liz Junod, pastoral associate, ljunod@westside.org

For more information about our faith community, please visit westside.org.

COMING UP ON JUNE 9

West Side Concert Series

The West Side Concert Series wraps up its 2018-2019 season with a performance by one of the nation's premier professional chamber choirs, Kinnara Ensemble, at 3:00 pm. In their concert, "Gravity & Levity," the choir will wander through the years, from Renaissance motets through 20th-century part songs. Music will include



White's Lamentations of Jeremiah, Debussy's Trois Chansons and works by Stanford and Gibbons. Kinnara Ensemble, now in its 11th season, comprises some of the finest ensemble and solo singers in the country. Admission, as always, is free. Donations are welcome. Invite your friends!

A Talk with Harriet Shepard

Head down to DePhillips Hall at 11:30 am to hear Harriet Shepard's riveting first-hand account of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Harriet, who turns 93 on June 11, was 13 years old, living with her family in Honolulu, when the bombs rained down on the Pacific fleet on December 7, 1941. In less than two hours, nearly 20 American ships and more than 300 airplanes were crippled or destroyed, and more than 2,400 sailors, soldiers and civilians were killed.

Senior Sunday

Join us at 10:15 am for a special worship experience featuring our graduating seniors and other

high school youth. Listen to these wonderful young adults preach, read about their post-high school plans in the newsletter and wish them well.

Sunday Night Live!

Drop off your middle school/high school kids at 7:00 pm for 90 minutes of fun, fellowship, awesome music...and a special year-end celebration with pizza and s'mores.

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Hospitality Help

The Deacons could use your help on Sunday mornings this summer. Are you able to arrive at West Side 10 minutes early to greet people? Are you able to stay after worship to "host" coffee hour? No special skills are required for either task—just a warm, welcoming smile. (The coffee is already made!) It's an easy and incredibly satisfying way for both new and long-time members—as well as families—to jump in and get involved. Signup sheets for greeting and hosting during the



summer are available at the coffee station. Thank you in advance!

Environmental Stewardship

Are you passionate about the environment? Interested in exploring how we, as a community of faith, can become better stewards of the environment? Please reach out to Pat McGlade (pmcglade@westside.org), who is organizing opportunities for like-minded individuals to get together and brainstorm.

The Nonagenarian Ministry

Are you—or someone you know at West Side—90 years or older? The Chancel Choir would like to give them a call and sing Happy Birthday! They don't want to accidentally leave anyone out, so please forward names to Anne Lee (alee@westside.org).

A Day at Camp Johnsonburg

Pastor Penny is driving the church bus to Camp Johnsonburg on Wednesday, **July 10**! Children ages 6 to 11 are invited to join her and Esmé Elkins for a day of fun and faith formation in the meadows, on the water and on the trails. It's a great way for kids to get a taste of Camp Johnsonburg...and get excited about a sleep-away experience next summer. Cost: \$45 per person, which includes lunch. For more information, and to



reserve your child's spot on the bus, please reach out to Esmé (eelkins@westside.org).

Please Note: The password for WSPC Guest WiFi is narthex1.

TODAY AT WEST SIDE

8:00 am—Lit	le Lambs Child	Care - Room 202
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8:15 am—Chapel Worship - Chapel

9:00 am—Contemporary Worship -

DePhillips Hall

9:00 am—Sunday School - Rooms 206, 306,

311, 312 and Serenity Room

9:00 am—Half Truths Small Group -**Conference Room**

9:00 am—Blood Pressure Screening - Library

9:45 am—Centering Prayer - West Side Room

10:00 am—Half Truths Small Group -West Side Room

10:15 am—**Traditional Worship** - Sanctuary

10:15 am—Sunday School - Rooms 206, 306, 311, 312 and Serenity Room

11:15 am—Prayer Circle - Chapel

11:30 am—Sermon Talk Back - Chapel

11:30 am—Gang of 8 Meeting - Serenity Room

11:30 am—Health Ministry Reimagination Meeting - Conference Room

11:30 am—WE@WestSide Meeting -West Side Room

4:00 pm—Emotionally Healthy Relationships -DePhillips Hall

7:00 pm—High School BARN - Barn

COMING UP AT WEST SIDE

- June 7 First Friday Women's Group at Inmo Parloff's home at 7:00 pm
- June 8 New Jersey Choral Concert in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm
- June 9 Talk with Harriet Shepard in DePhillips Hall at 11:30 am
- June 9 West Side Concert Series (Kinnara Ensemble) in the Sanctuary at 3:00 pm
- June 9 Sunday Night Live at the Barn at 7:00 pm
- June 15 Good Neighbor Concert in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm
- June 20 Third Thursday Men's Group BBQ at Steve Marguard's home at 7:00 pm
- June 22 Imperial Brass Concert in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm
- July 4 Office Closed for the 4th of July
- July 5 Summer Office Hours Begin 8:00 am to 12:00 pm on Fridays
- July 10 A Day at Camp Johnsonburg for ages 6 to 11
- July 27 Youth Mission Trip with Appalachia Service Project
- August 5 Vacation Bible School at First Presbyterian Church in Ridgewood
- Please visit www.westside.org for more information about our programs. 4