

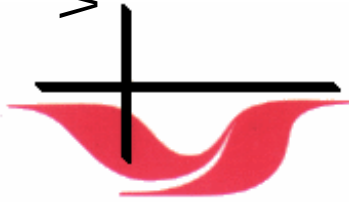
The purpose of the West Hills United Methodist Church is to be a living church, where we can learn about our Lord, love Him, worship Him, and serve Him. We want our church to emphasize fellowship with a sense of sharing one another's concerns and joys. We want our church to reach out to the needs of our youth, and encourage them to participate in our programs. We want our church to be actively involved in the world community, with outreach programs to help the needy and less fortunate, and to attract others in our community who are not currently attending worship service.

#### PURPOSE STATEMENT

CELEBRATING 160 YEARS SERVING OUR LORD

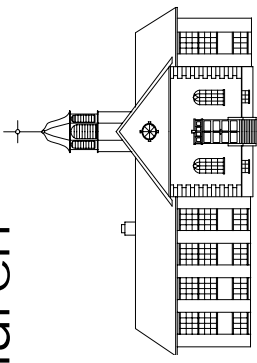


Visit us On-line at [www.westhillsumc.com](http://www.westhillsumc.com)



West Hills United Methodist Church

# Newsletter



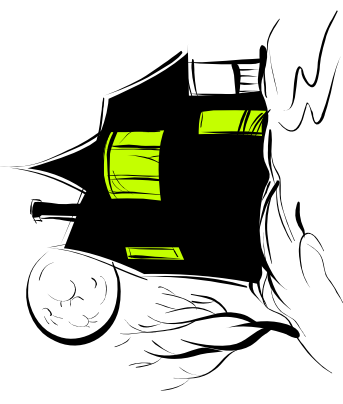
Bruce Anspach, Pastor  
Todd Winch, Newsletter Editor

Fall 2004

Church: 271-4474  
Parsonage: 423-1523

Located off of West Hills Road, across from the Walt Whitman High School  
Celebrating 160 years serving our Lord

West Hills United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 467  
One West Hills Court  
Huntington Station, NY 11746



## From The Pastor

This time of year our sisters and brothers in the Jewish faith greet each other with, “*shana tovah*” as they share wishes for a “good year”. This, of course, marks the celebration of *Rosh Hashanah* or the “beginning of the year”.

While we Christians don’t generally celebrate the biblical new year since we follow the Roman calendar, the fall does represent a time of new beginnings. We’re all programmed by our years in school and by the end of summer to think of this time as a fresh start. I think it’s a great time for us to take stock and reflect on the coming months.

Our Christian cycle of time begins in late fall with Advent as we prepare for the coming again of the Christ Child into the life of the world. This year the first Sunday of Advent is the last Sunday of November (the 28<sup>th</sup>) as we begin to move through our yearly observances of our faith.

With schools open again and fall activities in full swing, everybody is busy. Here at West Hills we are back on our regular schedule with Sunday School, confirmation class and other programs back in session. Everybody is excited about Halloween, Thanksgiving and the Christmas Holidays not far off.

But before we get too busy or too involved with fall activities, it’s good for us to take some time for reflection and remember that in our biblical tradition and in the Christian faith fall and the coming seasons are a time for recommitment. In today’s busy (and sometimes frightening world) it’s easy to let “busyness” get in the way of our “business” as God’s people. Fall needs to be a time of spiritual awareness and reconnection with our faith traditions and faith community.

We as a community can best do this by making participation in worship an important part of our family week. Fellowship with

## Blast from the Past

More pics from Dave Knorr—  
The 1983 Youth Group Rock-a-Thon



# Congratulations



To Judy Knorr for her recent quilting competition victory!

Martha would be proud.

each other, taking part in the projects and missions that our church sponsors and meeting for study, exploration and dialogue are also great ways to help yourself, your family life, your church, the community and the world.

Please join us here at West Hills as we begin a new year, end an old one and begin another one all in the same season. Be part of the confusion, the fun, the serious spiritual searching and service that keeps our church alive.

Remember, God is the center of our lives no matter what we do. Life is better and the world is a better place if we keep that truth alive in our living and doing.

Blessings,  
Pastor Bruce

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Please Lend a Hand!



We are always in need of:

Ushers  
Liturgists  
Counters

Sign up in the Narthex

## Inspiration Via Email

I received this from a family member...I thought it was Newsletter worthy.

There was a certain Professor of Religion named Dr. Christianson, a studious man who taught at a small college in the Western United States. Dr. Christianson taught the required survey course in Christianity at this particular institution. Every student was required to take this course his or her freshman year regardless of his or her major.

Although Dr. Christianson tried hard to communicate the essence of the gospel in his class, he found that most of his students looked upon the course as nothing but required drudgery. Despite his best efforts, most students refused to take Christianity seriously.

This year, Dr. Christianson had a special student named Steve. Steve was only a freshman, but was studying with the intent of going onto seminary for the ministry.

Steve was popular, he was well liked, and he was an imposing physical specimen. He was now the starting center on the school football team, and was the best student in the professor's class.

One day, Dr. Christianson asked Steve to stay after class so he could talk with him. "How many push-ups can you do?"

Steve said, "I do about 200 every night."

"200? That's pretty good, Steve," Dr. Christianson said. "Do you think you could do 300?"

Steve replied, "I don't know... I've never done 300 at a time."

"Do you think you could?" again asked Dr. Christianson.

"Well, I can try," said Steve.

"Can you do 300 in sets of 10? I have a class project in mind and I need you to do about 300 push ups in sets of ten for this to work. Can you do it? I need you to tell me you can do it," said the professor.

Steve said, "Well... I think I can... yeah, I can do it."

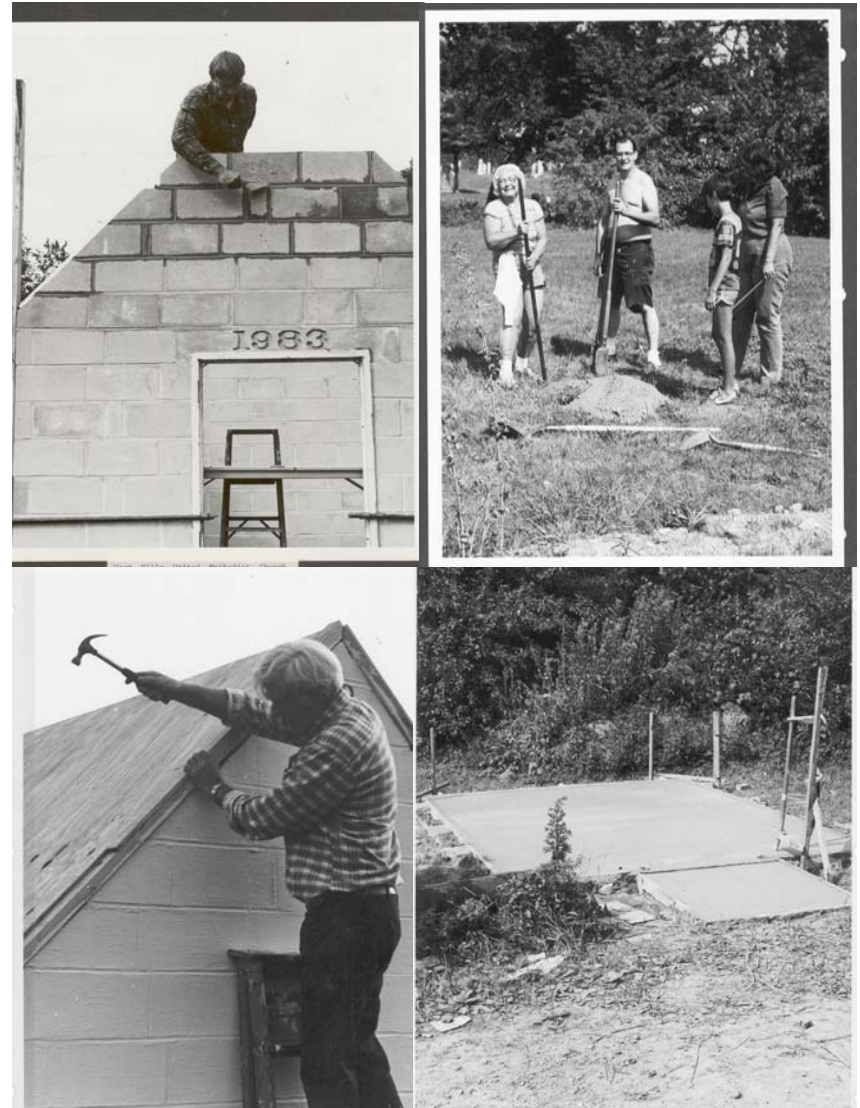
Dr. Christianson said, "Good! I need you to do this on Friday. Let me explain what I have in mind."

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Friday came and Steve got to class early and sat in the front of the room. When class started, the professor pulled out a big box of donuts. Now these weren't

## CHURCH HISTORY MINUTE

*Check out some of the pictures below from the building of the church shed Courtesy of Dave Knorr*



# The New Phone Directoy

Coming in December—the new West Hills Phone Directory.  
. I do not have phone numbers for the following people:

Don & Dolores Hansen  
Sandy Ingargiola  
Bill & Marge Magerkurth  
Doug & Laura Hinton  
Cynthia Bye  
Debbie & James Robey  
Linda Symington  
Donald E Harkness  
Francois W. Gay  
Amanda & Spencer Segalla  
Rev. and Mrs. Joseph Gillespie  
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Cornish  
Fred & Frances Frewert  
Delores Hazelton

If you can help with these numbers, please let me  
know.



the normal kinds of donuts they were the extra fancy BIG kind, with cream centers and frosting swirls. Everyone was pretty excited it was Friday, the last class of the day, and they were going to get an early start on the weekend with a party in Dr. Christianson's class.

Dr. Christianson went to the first girl in the first row and asked, "Cynthia, do you want to have one of these donuts?"

Cynthia said, "Yes."

Dr. Christianson then turned to Steve and asked, "Steve, would you do ten push-ups so that Cynthia can have a donut?"

Steve said, "Sure," and jumped down from his desk to do a quick ten. Then Steve again sat in his desk. Dr. Christianson put a donut on Cynthia's desk.

Dr. Christianson then went to Joe, the next person, and asked, "Joe, do you want a donut?"

Joe said, "Yes." Dr. Christianson asked, "Steve would you do ten push-ups so Joe can have a donut?" Steve did ten push-ups, Joe got a donut.

And so it went, down the first aisle, Steve did ten pushups for every person before they got their donut.

And down the second aisle, till Dr. Christianson came to Scott. Scott was on the basketball team, and in as good of a condition as Steve. He was very popular and never lacking for female companionship. When the professor asked, "Scott do you want a donut?" Scott's reply was, "Well, can I do my own pushups?"

Dr. Christianson said, "No, Steve has to do them."

Then Scott said, "Well, I don't want one then."

Dr. Christianson shrugged and then turned to Steve and asked, "Steve, would you do ten pushups so Scott can have a donut he doesn't want?"

With perfect obedience Steve started to do ten pushups. Scott said, "HEY! I said I didn't want one!"

Dr. Christianson said, "Look, this is my classroom, my class, my desks, and these are my donuts. Just leave it on the desk if you don't want it." And he put a donut on Scott's desk.

Now by this time, Steve had begun to slow down a little. He just stayed on the floor between sets because it took too much effort to be getting up and down. You could start to see a little perspiration coming out around his brow.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bob and Julie announce the engagement of their daughter, Kathryn, to Gregory. Gregory is currently employed at Northrop whereas Greg is an active member of the U.S. Coast Guard, stationed at Montauk Point, NY. At present, no wedding date has been set. We wish Katie and Greg all the best as they plan their new life together.



Schreiber are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kathryn, to Gregory. Gregory is currently employed as a financial analyst at Northrop whereas Greg is an active member of the U.S. Coast Guard, stationed at Montauk Point, NY. At present, no wedding date has been set. We wish Katie and Greg all the best as they plan their new life together.

## CONGREGANT EARNS MEDAL AT EMPIRE STATE GAMES

Our own Katie Schreiber was a member of the silver-medal winning softball team in the 2004 Empire State Games held July 28-Aug 1 in Binghamton, NY.

The Empire State Games are an annual Olympic-style competition that draws some 6,000 athletes from across New York State. Athletes represent six regions – Western New York, Central, Adirondack, Hudson Valley, New York City, and Long Island – and compete for gold, silver, and bronze medals in 25 sports.

Katie earned her silver medal as part of the Long Island Women's softball team. This was the first time since 1999 that the Long Island team medalled in softball. During the Long Island team's victorious match against Western New York, a win that assured them a place in the medal round, Katie singled and scored the only run in Long Island's 1-0 victory.

Success on the athletic field is nothing new for Katie. She was an all-state player her senior year at Whitman, participated

"Steve, will you do ten pushups so that Jason can have a donut?" Steve did ten pushups very slowly and with great effort. Jason, bewildered, was handed a donut and sat down.

Dr. Christianson finished the fourth row, then started on those visitors seated by the heaters. Steve's arms were now shaking with each pushup in a struggle to lift himself against the force of gravity. Sweat was profusely dropping off of his face and, by this time, there was no sound except his heavy breathing, there was not a dry eye in the room.

The very last two students in the room were two young women, both cheerleaders, and very popular. Dr. Christianson went to Linda, the second to last, and asked, "Linda, do you want a doughnut?" Linda said, very sadly, "No, thank you."

Professor Christianson quietly asked, "Steve, would you do ten pushups so that Linda can have a donut she doesn't want?"

Grunting from the effort, Steve did ten very slow pushups for Linda. Then Dr. Christianson turned to the last girl, Susan. "Susan, do you want a donut?"

Susan, with tears flowing down her face, began to cry. "Dr. Christianson, why can't I help him?"

Dr. Christianson, with tears of his own, said, "No, Steve has to do it alone, I have given him this task and he is in charge of seeing that everyone has an opportunity for a donut whether they want it or not. When I decided to have a party this last day of class, I looked at my grade book. Steve, here is the only student with a perfect grade. Everyone else has failed a test, skipped class, or offered me inferior work. Steve told me that in football practice, when a player messes up he must do push ups. I told Steve that none of you could come to my party unless he paid the price by doing your push ups. He and I made a deal for your sakes. Steve, would you do ten pushups so Susan can have a donut?" As Steve very slowly finished his last pushup, with the understanding that he had accomplished all that was required of him, having done 350 pushups, his arms buckled beneath him and he fell to the floor.

Dr. Christianson turned to the room and said, "And so it was, that our Savior, Jesus Christ, on the cross, plead to the Father, Into thy hands I commend my spirit.' With the understanding that He had done everything that was required of Him, he yielded up His life.. And like some of those in this room, many of us leave the gift on the desk, uneaten." Two students helped Steve up off the floor and to a seat, physically exhausted, but wearing a thin smile. "Well done, good and faithful servant" said the professor, adding "Not all sermons are preached in words."

Turning to his class the professor said, "My wish is that you might understand and fully comprehend all the riches of grace and mercy that have been given to you through the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who spared not the only Begotten Son, but gave Him up for us all for the whole Church, now and forever.

Dr. Christianson started down the third row. Now the students were beginning to get a little angry.

Dr. Christianson asked Jenny, "Jenny, do you want a donut?"

Sternly, Jenny said, "No."

Then Dr. Christianson asked Steve, "Steve, would you do ten more pushups so Jenny can have a donut that she doesn't want?" Steve did ten, Jenny got a donut.

By now, a growing sense of uneasiness filled the room. The students were beginning to say "No" and there were all these uneaten donuts on the desks. Steve also had to really put forth a lot of extra effort to get these pushups done for each donut. There began to be a small pool of sweat on the floor beneath his face, his arms and brow were beginning to get red because of the physical effort involved.

Dr. Christianson asked Robert, who was the most vocal unbeliever in the class, to watch Steve do each push up to make sure he did the full ten pushups in a set because he couldn't bear to watch all of Steve's work for all of those uneaten donuts. He sent Robert over to where Steve was so Robert could count the set and watch Steve closely. Dr. Christianson started down the fourth row. During his class, however, some students from other classes had wandered in and sat down on the steps along the radiators that ran down the sides of the room. When the professor realized this, he did a quick count and saw that now there were 34 students in the room. He started to worry if Steve would be able to make it.

Dr. Christianson went on to the next person and the next and the next. Near the end of that row, Steve was really having a rough time. He was taking a lot more time to complete each set.

Steve asked Dr. Christianson, "Do I have to make my nose touch on each one?"

Dr. Christianson thought for a moment, "Well, they're your pushups. You are in charge now. You can do them any way that you want." And Dr. Christianson went on.

A few moments later, Jason, a recent transfer student, came to the room and was about to come in when all the students yelled in one voice, "NO! Don't come in! Stay out!"

Jason didn't know what was going on. Steve picked up his head and said, "No, let him come."

Professor Christianson said, "You realize that if Jason comes in you will have to do ten pushups for him?"

Steve said, "Yes, let him come in. Give him a donut"

Dr. Christianson said, "Okay, Steve, I'll let you get Jason's out of the way right now. Jason, do you want a donut?" Jason, new to the room hardly knew what was going on. "Yes," he said, "give me a donut."

in two junior college World Series while at Briarcliffe College, and earned all-conference honors during her senior year at Molloy College. And let's not forget all those church picnic games where the boys soon learned not to get too close to the plate when Katie was hitting!

Needless to say, Mom and Dad are very proud of all that Katie has accomplished, both on and off the field. We all wish Katie continued happiness and success.



**Katie singles against Western and scores the lone run in LI's 1-0 victory**



**The silver medallists. Katie is in back row, third from left**

# Bring Your Can To Church!



**Good Work West Hills!!!**

**We should make the 1000 can mark this week!!**

**Now start bringing in food for the Thanksgiving  
Food baskets!**



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NEXT NEWSLETTER: HOLIDAY EDITION  
DEADLINE: THANKSGIVING  
PUBLISH DATE: DECEMBER 1

## Autumn Word Search

T T W X M S F O U G B P G T C  
F H R E W O L F Y A M N A S O  
C A L P D A D A T S I R P E O  
O N L L E I U S H F H S P V L  
S K A L A T X O F A R M L R V  
T S B F U B P U L F E I E A E  
U G Y M L P T L U F D R S H T  
M I N D I S O O A E I G E D E  
E V F N N W M T O U C L V I R  
C I G L E A H F Q F N I A G A  
X N T E L E C T I O N P E O N  
G G N I K P M U P E I P L Z S  
T F G O B L I N S Y E K R U T  
S T A E R T M R O W I T C H G  
C O L O R S D R B Q P U O A E

Words:

APPLES AUTUMN BATS CANDY CIDER COLORS  
COOL COSTUME ELECTION FALL FOOTBALL  
GOBLINS HALLOWEEN HARVEST LEAVES  
MAYFLOWER PIE PILGRIMS PUMPKIN  
SHOPPING STUFFING THANKSGIVING TREATS  
TURKEY VETERANS WITCH

