

The Pathway

Newsletter of the Webster Presbyterian Church
Webster, New York



November 2021

Vol. LI No. 9



From Pastor Phil

To my brothers and sisters of the Webster Presbyterian Church,

There have been numerous moments when the work of the Healing and Reconciliation Committee has inspired me. One such moment was the last meeting when church member Karen Stoddard led our period of devotion. As part of her devotion she shared something that was so appropriate to not just our healing, but to our maturing in faith as well. Here is that devotion in part:

"Human beings are such that life together always involves them in hurting one another in some way. People may want to disbelieve this, but even a brief exposure to real vulnerability will testify that it is so. In a desperate scramble to avoid this fact of life, people will remain distant and superficial with everyone. They will run to other churches or groups at the first sign of differences. They will clam up in a tight little shell that does not know how to cry...or laugh. Such a flight from reality is not life, but death...If we want life, we must be prepared to hurt and be hurt. We simply must make peace with this fact. Once we accept this as a true perception of "life together", we can exert our energies learning how to deal with it, rather than attempting to avoid it."

Richard J. Foster, 1987

I ask each of you to read these words several times over. Consider what they could have meant to our church membership of recent years and what they mean for the future of our church. I also ask that you thank Karen for her insight to share these words with us. I'll start. Thank you, Karen.

Peace,
Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor Phil

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REMEMBER to turn your clocks back one hour when Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 7th!



Worship and Music

New Streaming System Going Live Soon!

*But let all those
that put their
trust in thee
rejoice: let them
ever shout for joy,
because thou
defendest them:
let them also that
love thy name be
joyful in thee.*

Psalm 5:11

We are excited by the work that the technology team continues to do each week to install, connect, and test the new video system. We are thrilled to announce that we will soon be starting to transition to the new system and use YouTube and Facebook as the web-based locations to join our service virtually. Please begin to check out how the new system looks and sounds at this point by

visiting our YouTube link (Note: the new system is still being developed):

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5-thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA>

You will be able to access the Sunday service each week by going to our church website, www.websterpres.org, and in the worship tab you can click on the Facebook link (then click on videos) or the YouTube link. If you miss a Sunday and want to go back and watch a recording of the service, you can find them here also.

Let's all rejoice at the work and efforts by Jay Petrino, Todd Hall, Dick Dodd, and Todd Fargo for keeping us connected and moving forward with technology so we can serve those not able to join us in person!

Children's Time

Anita Bocker continues to delight our young children and congregation with a wonderful interactive story every other week. The number of children attending grows weekly. Be sure to bring your children as soon as you are comfortable. Gayl Galen has a wonderful program for your children after the Children's Time.

Favorite Hymns and Praise Songs!

Have you been enjoying the hymn selections? I bet you have – and it's due to the list of Top 40 hymns and praise music that you shared with Lee Ann. If you think your favorites have been missed, please share them with Lee Ann by phone, email, or in person!

Healing and Reconciliation

After more than a year of diligent congregational work and personal study, with God's help, your Healing and Reconciliation Steering Committee (HRSC) Team has concluded that WPC is ready to begin the next step in the process leading to the formation of a PNC. At its regularly scheduled meeting on October 18th, via ZOOM, with each member having voice, we unanimously agreed that, "it is time". Our congregation will be required to do the background work necessary - a congregational self-study - to write its Mission and Ministry Statement. A professional transitional consultant may be engaged to assist in the study. In any case, John DeHority, our Presbytery Committee on Ministry (COM) liaison, will be at our side for guidance. A Mission Study Document/Report will need to be submitted to the COM for its approval to form a PNC. We humbly ask for your continued support and patience and prayers during this phase of our work, especially for the individuals, yet to be determined, who will be leaders in the effort. As one of our HRSC Team members reflected, "I am excited to find out what God has planned for us." Indeed!

As you may remember, the Spiritual Nurture Committee (SNC) became the HRSC to lead the work of healing and reconciling in our congregation. One of the ministries that has been ongoing is the "Memory Verse of the Month." This has been carried on through the efforts of just one of our members for many years. It is time to offer relief. Might someone of you in the congregation consider taking this over? You wouldn't have to join the committee, but just make this your ministry to WPC for a one year period starting in January 2022. You will be filled in on all details. Please call Barb Hach if you can help. (585-746-0764). Thank you!

Memory Verse

Thanks be to God!

He gives us the victory through
our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:57



Mission Updates and Opportunities

Cold Weather Clothing for Cameron Community Ministries

We are continuing to collect winter and fall clothing for Cameron until Monday, November 15th. Gently used or new men's, children's and women's clothing will be accepted. Collection tubs are outside the north door and in the Narthex and upper hallway. If you don't have something in your closet to donate, please consider buying something at a local store to donate. There is a great need for clothing in the city for this winter!



Christmas Gift Cards for Grace House

From late November until about mid-December, we will be collecting \$10 gift cards for the men at Grace House. Again this year, due to the ongoing pandemic, we will just be collecting gift cards. There will be more details in the December Pathway and in bulletins starting in late November.



Ngcokivane Kenya High School Students Fund Update

The use of this repurposed fund is already underway as three Kenya students began high school in August using it! We are sponsoring Tabitha, Lydia, and Arnold, who graduated from the Thogoto primary school where we have also funded lunches for many years. We will get updates from them occasionally during the year.

We have recently received voluntary contributions totaling \$4180 and we thank you so much for that! Although we will accept additional contributions at any time (payable to "WPC" with "Kenya High School Students" on the memo line), we will be emphasizing this fund again next September.



Angel Tree

The Deacons are sponsoring the Angel Tree again this year to benefit the Williamson Come-Unity Center. Our contributions over the last several years have been greatly appreciated. We will again have a wish list set up on Amazon. You can scroll through and choose an item to order. When you proceed to check out, be sure to choose "Laura Oliver's Gift Registry Address" in the shipping options to have it sent directly to her home.



Click to view the list:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/A24YBQ1700QX?ref=wl_share

OR you can log in to Amazon and search for the "Williamson Come-Unity Center Angel Tree" list.

If you choose to have the gift shipped to your home, or if you purchase a gift elsewhere, please bring your unwrapped items to church by **Sunday, December 12th**. If you prefer us to pick up from you, please contact Amy Vallone at 766-0417 or aevallone@yahoo.com.

In this season of giving, and during a time that has been so difficult for so many, help us remember these families with our gifts and prayers.

Thank you!

Operation Christmas Child

WPC will once again take part in the outreach project of Samaritans Purse/Operation Christmas Child. Shoebox gifts may be dropped off in the lower Narthex on the following days:

Sunday, November 14 th	8:30 am – 11:30 am
Tuesday, November 16 th	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Wednesday, November 17 th	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Thursday, November 18 th	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Sunday, November 21 st	8:30 am – 11:30 am

Dedication of our gifts will take place during worship at 9:30 on the 21st.

If you have any questions, please contact Gayl Galen at 872-5154.



More Opportunities to Give

Afghanistan Refugees

Who can forget the disturbing scene at the Afghan airport of people trying to flee their country? Our first thoughts were "What can I do", "How can I help?"

The Catholic Family Center has already welcomed several families to the Rochester area and is in need of cleaning supplies.

Rachel, Naomi, and King Circles will be in charge of collecting donations from our congregation. Starting November 1st, there will be a collection tub in the Narthex. Also, on November 14th, there will be a "Drive Through" from 1 to 4 pm. Enter on the north side and stop at the north door where someone will help you, then continue around the circle.

At this time, they are only accepting **Cleaning Supplies**. This is because their capacity, both storage and personnel, is very limited.



Women's Circles News

King Circle will be meeting on November 11th at 10:00 am at church in Room 9-10. Our program will be our Talent Auction. Participate as you wish!

Naomi Circle will meet on Wednesday, November 10th. The program will be candle making at Scents by Design. We will meet around 12:30 pm at the church to carpool there.

Rachel Circle - Join us on Sunday, November 28th after the service (10:45 ish) to prepare the church for Advent. We will meet in the Social Room and assign tasks at that time. The decoration theme will be *simplicity*. We will put a large tree in the Sanctuary, one in the Narthex (not the giant tree, though), and our wreaths/ swags in the Sanctuary. All are welcome to help.



Heart and Hand

Friday 10:00 am November 19
At Church and Zoom



In November, we will begin our annual production of adult fleece hats and scarves for Mercy House. At church, we will be cutting fleece and making kits for sewing and fringing. Kits will be available on a table in the hallway outside the Sanctuary for people to pick up to complete at home.

From last spring, we have several children's sets which we will send with our pillowcases to refugees through Catholic Family Charities. There will be about 30 pillowcases for delivery to the refugees.

Currently, the kits that are available are for "Care Bags" for children who are victims of fire or other tragedy and adults with special needs.

Also at home, all will be working on our current special "Fun and Done" quilt. Batting is available on our "kits" table.

Zoom will include a **devotion** as well as a time for **sharing and praying** before sewing.

Questions:

Tina 413-7809 tmcneary@gmail.com

Jean 645-4991 maierj@gmail.com

Jen 329-1958 jwengender@clarkpatterson.com

Food Barrel

Thanks for all of the wonderful food donations to the food barrel this month. They have been donated and are benefiting Webster residents in need! Continued donations of peanut butter, cereals, soups, canned veggies, pasta & sauce, and more are appreciated!



Trustee's Corner

Thank you to all the Scouts, Church members, and Herman Rolle who participated in the Fall Workday in October. The Inside cleaning jobs including window washing, sanitizing all chairs and tables, stove cleaning, and brass polishing were completed. Some storage areas were well reorganized. In addition, the west wing exterior entrance doors received their first coat of fresh paint. (Since that day, Gary Maier has completed the painting.)



Because of the heavy rain on Workday, no outside chores were done. Another day will not be scheduled. If you are interested in helping with some of the traditional exterior chores on your own time, please contact Bob Kizer or Tina McNeary. Some chores are listed below and we will post a list in the Narthex.

Also on workday, all padded chairs were checked for needed repairs. If you note any that were missed, please set them aside and let Gary Maier know. He and Jean will be doing the repairs through the winter.

Did you notice? The exterior wood trim of the Church has been restrained. Thank you to John Wilbert for keeping on the completion of this project.

Finally, a big thank you to Dick Dodd, Jay Petrino, and the rest of the Audio/Visual team for their extensive work to repair and/or install new equipment in the Sanctuary, allowing all of our members to participate in services and meetings being held there.

Exterior Chores

- ☐ Pick up branches and twigs in yard, gravel parking lot, and north side of north drive.
- ☐ Weed under east Chapel overhang, redistribute mulch.
- ☐ Weed, edge, trim myrtle in garden outside Sanctuary windows.
- ☐ Pull weeds in south entrance gardens.
- ☐ Weed playground, redistribute ground chips.
- ☐ Rake up leaves around perimeter of building and under maple outside Social Room.

Please contact Bob Kizer (967-4789) or Tina McNeary (413-7809) if you'd like to take on one of these chores. *Thank you!*

A Note from Session

Last month I wrote about approval for the use of our building by outside organizations. This month I am writing about updating church policies and procedures. This year, Session reviewed all church policies. This is not a particularly fun thing to do, but it is important. The Policies and Procedures Manual had not been totally updated since 2015. Certain policies such as sexual harassment prevention and child protective care are required to be updated at least every three years. A new policy for electronic meetings was prepared in 2020 because of the need to meet virtually. Other policies updated this year include use of our financial resources, church by-laws, building usage requirements, acceptance of non-cash donations, job descriptions for board members and other policies. A paper copy of the Policy and Procedures Manual is available for review in the church office or, if you desire to see a specific policy, please contact me and I will send you an electronic copy.

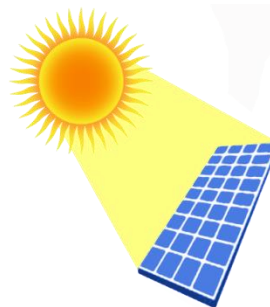
Tony Hubbard – Clerk of Session

Green Tip of the Month

Buying into a local Community Solar Farm is now cheaper than buying regular, dirty energy. Several companies are building solar farms across New York and other states, and are looking for resident, church, and business partners to switch to clean, renewable energy to strengthen the grid. Type your town and 'local community solar' into your web browser to find the best one for you.

If you live in NY State, go to:

<https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/NY-Sun/Solar-for-Your-Home/Community-Solar/Choosing-a-Community-Solar-Project>



Several in our church family are benefitting from this and the church will receive \$50 for every church member that makes the switch!

Feel free to contact Tony Hubbard (265-1224) with any questions.

Learning for a Lifetime

Note: All Adult Education sessions are scheduled for Sunday mornings at 10:45 am.

November 7 Sanctuary and Zoom

Sermon Talk Back with Pastor Phil

You are invited to share comments and ask questions about the morning's sermon.

November 14 Sanctuary and Zoom

Resettling Afghan Refugees in Rochester

Rochester is one of the 25 cities in the United States to welcome families from Afghanistan. How can we help? Join us as a representative from the Catholic Family Center informs us how we might support their efforts as they welcome these families who are facing such loss. There are a variety of ways to participate, including one that several Circles are organizing. Look for their article on page 4 of this Pathway. Come discover what might be the right level of participation for you, as well as for our church.

November 21 Room 9/10

Why Thanksgiving: Then and Now?

Join us on a journey of discovery of Thanksgiving history and tradition from the earliest settlers and Native Americans to the observances of today. We all delight in gathering with family to enjoy turkey and pumpkin pie. But beyond that, what is our Christian response to Thanksgiving? How do we develop habits of gratitude for God's goodness and provision?

November 28 Social Room

Preparing for Christmas with Richard Rohr

In his book, *Preparing for Christmas, Daily Meditations for Advent*, Richard Rohr "invites us beyond a merely sentimental understanding of Christmas as 'waiting for the baby Jesus' to an adult and social appreciation of the message of the Incarnation of God in Christ." He challenges us to let the Word of God confront, convert, and console us as we deal with suffering, injustice, and devastation on this planet.

Come join us to reflect on and discuss this perspective as we enter into Advent.

"Advent is always – until the end of days."

*Fr. Richard Rohr,
O.F.M.*

November Lectionary Readings

November 7

Old Testament	1 Kings 17:8-16
Psalms	Psalms 146
New Testament	Hebrews 9:24-28
Gospel	Mark 12:38-44

November 14

Old Testament	Daniel 12:1-3
Psalms	Psalms 16
New Testament	Hebrews 10:11-14; 19-25
Gospel	Mark 13:1-8

November 21 – Christ the King Sunday

Old Testament	Daniel 7:9-10; 13-14
Psalms	Psalms 93
New Testament	Revelation 1:4b-8
Gospel	John 18:33-37

November 28 – 1st Sunday of Advent

Old Testament	Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalms	Psalms 25:1-10
New Testament	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Gospel	Luke 21:25-36

Women's Bible Study

November 2 *Jesus and the Women*

This will complete the study of "The Lessons and Wisdom of the Women of the Bible".

November 9 *The Widow of Zarephath*

November 16 *Dorcas*

These two weeks will draw from "100 Stand Alone Bible Studies" with a look at an unnamed woman and a minor character from the New Testament.

November 23 *No Bible Study*

November 30 *Listening to and Looking at Scripture from Handel's Messiah*

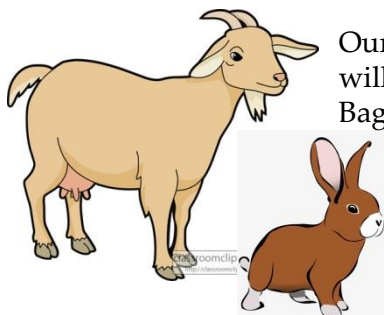
The season of Advent, that time of preparation for the birth of Christ, is once more upon us! The oratorio is a fixture of the Christmas season, but how many of us have checked the

texts from the King James Bible that graces its choruses, recitatives, and airs? We will be sampling from Part 1 which gives the prophecies of the birth of Jesus. Join the group on Tuesday mornings for carols in the Chapel at 9:30 followed by The "Messiah" at 9:50. Let our hearts "prepare Him room".



Children's Christian Education

Our first outreach project for **SHINE** took place on Sunday, October 24th. The children attending that day put together "Snack Bags" for 18 rabbits and 6 goats who call Cracker Box Palace home. **Cracker Box Palace** is located in Alton, New York, overlooking Sodus Bay. The 624 acre farm is a not-for-profit, farm animal rescue shelter. It is home to over 300 surrendered, abused, abandoned, neglected, or retired farm animals. The animals are cared for by veterinarians and volunteers who work to rehabilitate, train and eventually adopt to loving homes. It is a no-kill shelter where the animal residents can spend the rest of their lives loved and in peace if their condition does not allow them to be adopted. Gwen Hoffman, (Gayl's sister) is a volunteer at Cracker Box. The treat bags for the rabbits contained carrots, lettuce, and a special bunny treat. The bags for the goats contained carrots and animal crackers! On October 27th, our SHINE Treat Bags were delivered with love and care to Cracker Box to share with Darius, Irwin, Gaston, and all of their friends.



Our project for November will be to pack "Blessing Bags" of trail mix which will be handed out by the **SHINE** children to people attending worship on November 21st.

CCE Mission Statement

To equip and nurture the children of God with Biblical knowledge and spiritual development in order to begin their faith journey and become disciples of Jesus Christ.

Bible Sunday took place on October 24th. Kindergarten Bibles were presented to:

Jack Hewlett
Hunter Smith

Third Grade Bibles were presented to:

Addison Hewlett
Ashlynn Smith

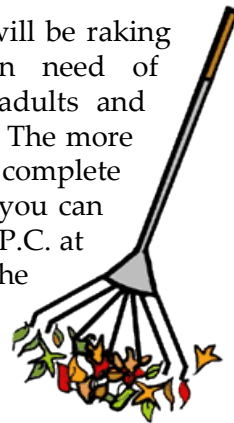


Youth Fellowship

November 7th, come on down to the Youth Room for a **service and fellowship opportunity** from **4-6 pm**. We will tie and stuff fleece pillows to donate for the Afghan refugees that have come to the Rochester area. It will be a great chance for us to strengthen our bonds of friendships in conversation and helping others.



Sunday, **November 14th**, youth will be raking leaves for a few members in need of assistance. We are looking for adults and alumni to join us in raking yards. The more hands, the more yards we will complete before dark. Please contact me if you can help us rake. We will gather at W.P.C. at **1:00 pm**. Please dress for the weather, wear gloves, and bring rakes, leaf blowers, and tarps.



Want to be part of Guinness World Records day but not sure if you've got a special skill? The good news is that you don't need to be an Olympic athlete to take part. Sunday, **November 21st** from **4-6 pm** in the **Social Room** we will try our hands at breaking some Guinness World Records.

All youth grades 6th through 12th are welcome and are always encouraged to bring friends to Youth Fellowship. Youth Fellowship permission forms are available outside the Youth Room or from Wanda. Please bring the completed form to the first event.

Be sure to contact Wanda if you need to be added to the email distribution list and to join our Facebook group, Webster Presbyterian Church Youth Fellowship.

Together in Fellowship & Service,
Wanda Nungesser
Director of Youth Ministries
youth@websterpres.org
585-414-1337



Church Family News

We are saddened by the passing of long-time member **Carroll Manning** on September 21st, former member **Bobbi Tobin** on October 18th, and **Marge Peura**, Mark Pipal's mother, on October 20th.

In October we prayed for:

John Brocker, Justin Davis, Melissa, Caroline, Mary P. Simmons, Marcia Urschel, and Camryn Zeitvogel.

New Addresses:

Bob Abbott
920 Cherry Ridge Lane
Room 2102
Webster, NY 14580

Joyce Tompkins
965 Cherry Ridge Blvd.
Apt. 304
Webster, NY 14580
Phone: 585-203-4016

Bob and Betty Moore
841 Cordial Court
Webster, NY 14580

Join us in the Sanctuary!

More and more people are worshipping in person on Sunday mornings (with required masking for safety purposes).

ALL ARE WELCOME

No reservations are needed.

Sunday Services continue to be livestreamed

You can watch them live at 9:30 using:

ZOOM:

<https://zoom.us/j/200521841>

Password: **worship**

Or on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Websterpres/>

Or YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5-thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA>

Many Thanks!

Adopt a Highway Clean-up

On Saturday, October 8th, three youth and 12 adults completed our fall clean-up of Rt. 250, from Klem Road to Lake Road. Many thanks to everyone who volunteered. Our church has now been doing this clean-up twice a year for over a decade. Over that time, the amount of debris we need to collect is reducing. This is gratifying, as we attempt to keep the roadside clean. Please consider joining us for our next clean-up this coming spring.

THANK YOU
volunteers

To my friends at Webster Pres,

Many thanks for your support and your prayers during this challenging year. Thanks for the excellent memorial service for Mom, with many wonderful memories, and the strong testimony to the resurrection of Christ. I appreciate all that you did.

I am back in Zihuatanejo again after my U.S. treks. The area is "green" again - low COVID - so our children's ministries are starting up again. I am also enjoying online Bible studies with children and teens.

Thanks again. May the Lord continue to bless you.

With love in Christ,

Jody Collinge

Advent begins on Sunday, November 28

Pastor Phil has chosen *The Fullness of Time* from Henri Nouwen for our Advent Devotional. For our families with young children, *Season's Greetings: Welcoming Christ Through the Traditions of Christmas* is available. Booklets can be picked up outside the north entrance or in the Narthex beginning November 18th. Enrich your Advent Season with daily devotions!



The *December Pathway*

deadline is

NOVEMBER 17th.

Please note that this is
early due to the
Thanksgiving Holiday!

