

# The Pathway

Newsletter of the Webster Presbyterian Church  
Webster, New York



January 2022

Vol. LII No. 1

## From Pastor Phil

"Think outside the box" is a common expression. It comes up in all kinds of situations when people are looking for a way forward. I want to challenge the good people of the Webster Presbyterian Church to "think outside the box" as you look forward into the future ministry of the church. In order to do so you must first admit to the "boxes" you are in and how those boxes have shaped all aspects of your lives.

But more importantly how those boxes have shaped your ministry to date. This is not an easy task. This work can be uncomfortable. It might even anger some of you that I would dare suggest we live in, and operate in boxes; boxes that have limited what loving God looks like.

When Jesus stood in the temple and read from the scroll of Isaiah, he began with the words, "The Spirit of the Lord." My prayer is that the "The Spirit of the Lord" will free us to "think outside the box" and discover anew what it means to, "proclaim good news to the poor ... heal the brokenhearted ... proclaim liberty to the captives ... the recovery of sight to the blind, [and] set at liberty those who are oppressed".

Sincerely,

Your Brother in Christ,  
Pastor Phil

## Join us in the Sanctuary on Sunday Mornings!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

No reservations are needed. Masks are required.

Sunday service continues to be live-streamed. Links are available at [www.websterpres.org](http://www.websterpres.org). See page 2 for more details.

**2022 Offering Envelopes** are now available in the hallway outside of the church office. You may pick them up at your convenience when the church is open; Sunday mornings or Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 am – 3 pm. If you do not find envelopes and would like them, call the church office at 265-9700.

**Annual Reports** are due in the church office by Monday, January 10th. Articles can be dropped off or sent in an email attachment to [office@websterpres.org](mailto:office@websterpres.org) and [g Hubbard@websterpres.org](mailto:g Hubbard@websterpres.org).

**Annual Meeting of the Congregation**  
Sunday, January 30th after the 9:30 service.



# January

## what's inside

Page:

2. Worship and Music, Mission Update
3. Deacon's Doings, A Note from Session
4. Trustee's Corner, Women's Circles, Heart and Hand, Women's Bible Study
5. Learning for a Lifetime, Lectionary, Memory Verse, Bell Choir Schedule
6. Children's Christian Ed, Youth Fellowship, Church Family News, Notes of Thanks

## COMMUNION

January 9th

*Baptism of the Lord Sunday*

The **February Pathway** deadline is

**JANUARY 20th.**

email articles to

[jchippero@websterpres.org](mailto:jchippero@websterpres.org)

AND

[g Hubbard@websterpres.org](mailto:g Hubbard@websterpres.org)



## Worship and Music

### *Are You Receiving the Worship Service on YouTube or Facebook?*

Thank you for the great comments on the improved video and audio. Are you having problems getting the service, signing in, or other issues? We want to help you have a great experience and, most importantly, be a part of the WPC congregation each Sunday. If you have questions or are experiencing any problems, please contact Alissa Mayer, Todd Fargo, or Bob Blakey.

*As a reminder:* You will be able to access the Sunday service each week by going to our church website, [www.websterpres.org](http://www.websterpres.org). 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 the service, you can also find them here.

You can also access YouTube directly with this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5-thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA>

### *Jay Petrino and Todd Hall Recognized for the New Streaming Service*

In case you missed it, Jay and Todd were recognized at the December 5th worship service for their exceptional effort to upgrade the streaming service. Their skills and dedication have produced a superior streaming experience that we are all enjoying.

### *Choir Members Needed!*

The choir is joyfully sharing wonderful anthems under Lee Ann's direction. We have a place for you! The choir practices on Sunday mornings at 8:00 am, so no Wednesday practice. Join us and enjoy the blessing of sharing your singing with the Lord and the congregation. Contact Lee Ann at 899-0120 with questions.

### *Liturgists Needed – Including Youth!*

The Liturgist role in our worship service is even more meaningful thanks to Pastor Phil's guidance. Our wonderful youth are welcome! This is a great way to help make the service increasingly worshipful for the congregation. Please call Bob Blakey at 317-7523.

### *Comments?*

The Worship and Music Team appreciates and needs your comments and suggestions. Please leave comments in the office, the offering plate, or call any of the Music and Worship Team – Jackie Anderson, Bob Blakey, Lee Ann Daigle, Todd Fargo, Alissa Mayer, Beth Petrino, Sally Turner.

## Mission Updates

### *Special Giving Opportunity for December Tornadoes in Kentucky*

From January 2nd until 23rd, we will be collecting voluntary contributions that will be sent to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to help with the recovery from the devastating tornadoes in Kentucky and nearby states. PDA is already working in this area as a first responder. Please prayerfully consider making a donation – make your check payable to Webster Presbyterian Church, write "PDA – December tornadoes" on the memo line and put it in an offering plate, or the mail, or take it to the church office.

### *January 23rd - Adult Ed from Kenya!*

Adult Ed on January 23rd will feature John Sankok virtually from Kenya. Our mission teams to Kenya have been blessed to be able to work with John, and our congregation has supported his projects for many years.

He will talk about his project to change the Maasai tribe's practice of having their 12 to 15 year old daughters marry much older men to get a payment from the men. John persuades some Maasai families to allow their daughters to get a high school education instead of "selling" them in marriage. We provide total financial support for two of these girls each year for this schooling.

John is also a "nurse-plus" with additional medical education in areas such as minor surgery, dental work and delivering babies. He was originally mentored by an American physician, Dr. Susie Snyder. He is now director of at least 10 medical clinics in the very sparsely populated Maasai Mara region of Kenya (where wild animals such as lions, cheetahs, giraffes and elephants roam)! These clinics are the only modern medical facilities in this large region of Kenya, and he will talk about them also. Please come to what will be a very interesting discussion!

### *Christmas Joy Offering*

We are still accepting contributions for the Christmas Joy offering until January 2nd. Special envelopes are in the chair racks. This special Presbyterian denominational offering is used to provide emergency financial assistance to active and retired pastors and church workers, and to provide scholarships and other aid to Presbyterian-related colleges that primarily serve students of color.

## Deacon's Doings

### *Annual Meeting Luncheon*

The Deacons will be serving a light lunch during this year's Annual Meeting of the Congregation. For ordering purposes, we need to get a head count of how many people are interested. The meeting is on **January 30th**, following the 9:30 service. Please email Laura Oliver at [loliver421@gmail.com](mailto:loliver421@gmail.com) or call the church office by January 19th if you would like to be included in this free lunch!

On behalf of the Deacons, *thank you* for your donations to the Angel Tree! Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, 110 gifts were donated to the Williamson Come-Unity Center this holiday season. We were thrilled to once again continue this long-standing Christmas mission during these uncertain times. The Come-Unity Center's Christmas event takes place every December. Families register ahead of time to come to the center and choose from the donated gifts - this year, 300 families were served. They were so grateful for our donations.

The Center has been serving Wayne County residents in need since 1949. More than 4,000 people a year are served with free boxes of food on a monthly basis. Over half the people served are children, senior citizens, or disabled. They also offer financial assistance with heat, rent, and prescription medicine. Free clothing is given to people in crisis. The "Common Cents" thrift shop provides about 1/3 of their budget. Donations of clothing and household goods are accepted.

"More than half a century ago, some very special and courageous people planted seeds of harmony and unity by befriending and meeting the needs of Wayne County's migrant farm workers. Although their cause was not a popular one, they persisted and grew, championing society's downtrodden and steadfastly refusing government assistance in order to maintain their own independence. Along the way, they began to serve all people in need in Wayne County and learned that there is more sameness than differences in diverse peoples. Soon they saw the wisdom in seeking good people of all races, religions, classes and ages to assist them in their cause of working toward the common good. Thus the Wayne County Rural Ministry/Come-Unity Center, Inc., was born and good people like you have been befriending and helping the rural poor of Wayne County ever since."

## A Note from Session

They say as you are driving, look through the windshield first, and then through the rearview mirror. I'd like to start by looking through the rear view mirror of 2021 as I complete the first year of my fourth term on Session. We have much to be thankful for. Pastor Phil completed almost two years leading our worship service, the tech team greatly improved the online broadcast of services, the Shine program restarted, Youth Fellowship was active, Deacons and Trustees continued their programs of service to the church, new staff was welcomed, generous pledges and gifts came in, adult ed didn't miss a beat, Bible studies met regularly, a strong mission outreach program locally, nationally, and internationally continued, and the Healing and Reconciliation Steering Committee helped us through the trauma of 2020.

So, what's up as we look through the windshield for 2022? We are in the early stages of beginning a search for a new pastor to lead our fellowship. Session and representatives from deacons and trustees are interviewing for a consultant to help us develop a Mission Study for our congregation. We will all have an opportunity to contribute to this process in 2022. While our on-going programs will continue, I hope that all our members will help us with this process of preparing to call a new pastor which we hope will be completed sometime in 2023.

Tony Hubbard, Clerk of Session

### *Food Barrel*

Thanks for the contributions to the food barrel! The items collected in December have been donated and were appreciated by local families in need. We are continuing to collect non-perishable foods and cleaning supplies. Donations of canned fruit, cereal, peanut butter, and chunky soups are always appreciated.



## Trustee's Corner

Following our recent septic system emergency, by midday November 24th, the church was reopened with our sewer connected and water turned on! Thanks to Gary Maier and John Wilbert for "contracting" this extensive project. The Town of Webster will not be charging us for the work that the Town needed to have done.



Winter is here along with snow and ice. If you notice that the walks are slippery, please tell a Trustee or feel free to sprinkle the area with a little salt from the bin near the door.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year!

### Women's Circles News

**King Circle** will meet on **January 13th** at the church in Room 9/10. The meeting will start at 10:00 am.

**Naomi Circle** will meet on Wednesday, **January 12th** at noon in the Memorial Room for a luncheon meeting.

**Rachel Circle:** Rachel's circle will have a busy January starting with the undecorating of the church on Sunday, **January 2nd**. We will meet after the service (10:45ish) to put the decorations away for another year. We will meet again on Monday, **January 31st** at 7:00 pm in the Youth Room for fun and fellowship. Dust off your knowledge of current events for a game night of trivia called *Time to Remember*. Please RSVP to Gayl ggalen1@yahoo.com.



### Green Tip of the Month

Instead of buying a new disposable air filter for your furnace each year, consider buying a permanent one that can be washed and reused indefinitely. Most of these filters have lifetime warranties, so you'll save money in the long run as well as reduce the amount of waste you send to the landfill!



### Heart and Hand

We have completed sewing over 30 Children's Care Bags for children who are victims of fire and other emergencies in the Webster area. The three Women's Circles of WPC are helping with this project by donating items to fill the bags. We have planned to deliver at least half of the bags to the Fire Department before the New Year.

We delivered our first two special care bags for adults to Mary Grace Thomas and Anita & John Broucker in December.

The fleece hat and scarf sets for homeless and/or refugees in the Rochester area are taking a little more time than we hoped. If you are interested in helping, kits are available in the hall outside the main office for sewing at home. Completion by early January is our current goal for this project.

We have been collecting baby flannel for one of our favorite projects of Incubator Covers for the NICU at Rochester General. These delightful quilt/blankets will begin to come off the sewing machines in January.

We are wishing all a blessed and healthy New Year.

Tina 413-7809 [tmcneary@gmail.com](mailto:tmcneary@gmail.com)

Jean 645-4991 [maierj@gmail.com](mailto:maierj@gmail.com)

Jen 329-1958 [jwengender@clarkpatterson.com](mailto:jwengender@clarkpatterson.com)

### Women's Bible Study

We will resume on January 11th with the Apostle John's first letter to early churches. John is the "apostle of love," and love is mentioned throughout this letter along with light and life, his common themes. False teachings had entered the church and John writes to correct the errors. John was overwhelmed with God's love. Are you?

Come on Tuesdays at 9:30 to praise God with songs in the Chapel, followed by discussion and prayer time in Room 9/10. Start the New Year with the Word!



*May the New Year Fill You  
with Peace, Joy and Happiness.*

## Learning for a Lifetime

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

### January 2 Room 9/10 Ten Questions to Ask at the Start of a New Year

*From an article by Don Whitned, Professor of Biblical Spirituality, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary*

The beginning of a new year is an ideal time to stop, look up, and get our bearings. Even those most faithful to God occasionally need to pause and think about the direction of our lives. It's so easy to bump along from one busy week to another without ever stopping to ponder where we are going and where we should be going. Join us as we consider these questions prayerfully before God to help bring an issue or commitment into focus.

### January 9 Room 9/10 "Choosing Life" 101 Stand Alone Bible Studies

As we continue our thoughts on choices for the New Year, we reach again into Insights from the Law and the Prophets where, through His Word, God helps us along our faith journeys and moral choices.

### January 16 Room 9/10 Let's Talk About It

Come join us for an opportunity to explore issues that have relevance for our Christian walk in today's world. This session, and future sessions, will introduce an article which we will read and discuss together. The January 16th article is about the trend of mini-churches in American religion. Our hope is to stimulate thoughts about such topics and to provide a safe place to discuss the issues. Come join us! No preparation is necessary, just an openness to learning and growing.

### January 23 Sanctuary & Livestream Mission Committee Presents John Sankok via Zoom from Kenya

John will talk about his project to change the Maasai tribe's practice of selling their 12 to 15 year old daughters in marriage to older men. John persuades some Maasai families to trade marriage for a high school education for their daughters. Our congregation supports two girls each year.

John is also director of at least 10 medical clinics in the very sparsely populated Maasai Mara region.

Please see complete article on Page 2.

### January 30 Social Room Annual Meeting of the Congregation

## January Lectionary Readings

**January 2**  
Old Testament      Jeremiah 31:7-14  
Psalm                Psalm 147:12-20  
New Testament    Ephesians 1:3-14  
Gospel                John 1:1-18

**January 9**  
Old Testament      Isaiah 43:1-7  
Psalm                Psalm 29  
New Testament    Acts 8:14-17  
Gospel                Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

**January 16**  
Old Testament      Isaiah 62:1-5  
Psalm                Psalm 36:5-10  
New Testament    1 Corinthians 12:1-11  
Gospel                John 2:1-11

**January 23**  
Old Testament      Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10  
Psalm                Psalm 19  
New Testament    1 Corinthians 12:12-31a  
Gospel                Luke 4:14-21

**January 30**  
Old Testament      Jeremiah 1:4-10  
Psalm                Psalm 71:1-6  
New Testament    1 Corinthians 13:1-13  
Gospel                Luke 4:21-30

### Memory Verse

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...God saw all that he had made and it was very good.

Genesis 1:1, 31



## Bell Choir Update



**Glory Bells** will resume rehearsals on January 20th. They meet on Thursday mornings from 9:00 – 10:00 in the Sanctuary.

**Alleluia Bells** rehearses on Thursday evenings from 6:00 – 7:15. Rehearsals for January will be on the 13th, 20th and 27th.

## Children's Christian Education

In December, the children in our SHINE Sunday School program decorated Christmas cards for some of our church members who are unable to be at in-person worship. Thank you to Domenico, Josie, Zella, Addison and Jack for their help and creativity.



Our Fruit of the Spirit word for January is PEACE.

*We can replace worry with peace because God is on our side.*

**January 2:** Bible Lesson with Mrs. Brocker, Communion.

**January 9:** Bells and Chimes with Mrs. Anderson.

**January 16:** Bible Lesson with Mrs. Brocker.

**January 23:** Outreach Project with Mrs. Galen. We will be baking dog treats to give to church members and a local dog rescue.

**January 30:** Craft - Decorating your own tote bag.

**And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7)**

## Youth Fellowship

**Sunday, January 9th**, popcorn will be popping and the movie, **The Big Year**, will be on the screen of the **Youth Room**, so show up at **4pm** in your pajamas and bring a blanket and pillow to curl up and enjoy movie night! The "Big Year" in bird watching is a competition to see the most birds in a year. Throughout the year-long competition, there are moments of hilarity, disappointment and the development of lifelong friendships as they work together and against each other to win the title.

**Sunday, January 16th**, we will work together to make **all-natural bird feeders** of all sorts to feed the birds in the area. We will be spreading seeds, peanut butter, and making feeders from **4 - 6pm in the Social Room**.



**Sunday, January 23rd**, we will venture out around **Webster** at **4pm** to spread our natural feeders for the birds to feed from and the bird watchers to enjoy seeing what birds they attract.

**Saturday, January 29th is a Presbytery-wide event** that we will partake in. I will send out the details of this event when they become available to me.

All youth grades 6th through 12th are welcome and you're always encouraged to bring friends.

Together in Fellowship,

Wanda Nungesser

Director of Youth Ministries

[youth@websterpres.org](mailto:youth@websterpres.org) 585-414-1337



## Church Family News

*In December we prayed for:*

Carol Hurley, Donna Romashko, and the Kloosterman Family.

*We are saddened by* the passing of longtime member, Ron Kloosterman on December 19th, and the recent passing of our former pastor, Lisette (Maginn) Russell.



## Many Thanks!

### Christmas Gift Cards for Grace House

The Lord and the men at Grace House are very thankful for your donation of 72 gift cards to these men! This will enable each resident to receive two gift cards from us and the several other churches which also provided gift cards for them.

### Greetings WPC Congregation,

I would like to write and say thanks so much from the bottom of my heart for the love and support and for the funds from the church to help me go home for my brother's funeral. I couldn't have left without y'all support. Thanks so much for all that the church has done for me. I'm so grateful for the church and pray that y'all will keep my family in prayers. It is hard right now for my family.

Love,

Brother Joseph (Burton)