



The Pathway

Newsletter of the Webster Presbyterian Church
Webster, New York

May 2022

Vol. LII No. 5

A Note from Session

We continue to make good progress toward beginning the pastoral search process. In April, nine teams of observers drove around town and reported their findings to our consultant, Rev. Dr. Carson Mouser. Rev. Mouser has received a demographic report from Experian Marketing Services which he is reviewing with four WPC members. We will soon receive a summary of these reports from Rev. Mouser to help us identify community needs. These reports will be shared with the congregation.

In May, the congregation will be asked to complete a questionnaire to help us to identify the pastoral characteristics and competencies of the person who God is leading to us. Our goal is to complete this preparatory work so the congregation will be ready to elect a Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) in June. The All-Church Nominating Committee will begin seeking nominees for election to that committee very soon. If you are interested in becoming a member of the PNC, please contact myself or Kathy Barbehenn for more information.

Tony Hubbard, Clerk of Session
tghubbard@frontiernet.net

Join us in the Sanctuary or on Livestream!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

No reservations are needed. Masks are optional.

Our services continue to be livestreamed. *Just click the links below:*

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5-thYxua2HQSFP6P71wA>

Facebook:

<http://facebook.com/Websterpres/>

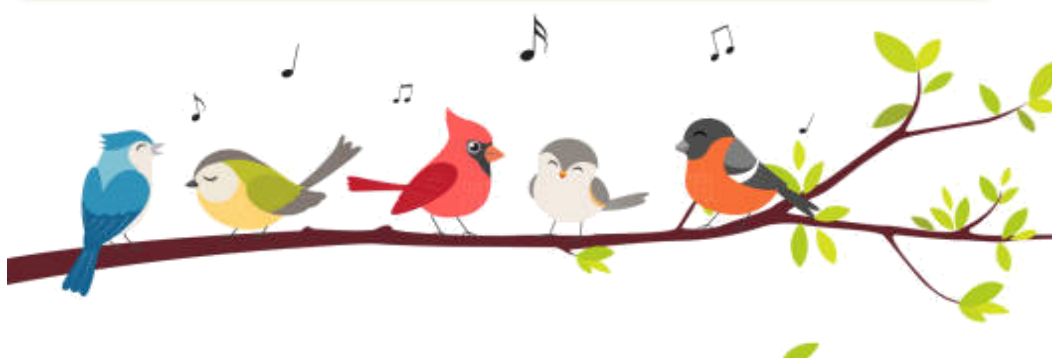


May

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The **June Pathway**
deadline is

MAY 20th.

email articles to

jchippero@websterpres.org

AND

tghubbard@websterpres.org

From Pastor Phil

Touched By An Angel

By Maya Angelou

*We, unaccustomed to courage
exiles from delight
live coiled in shells of loneliness
until love leaves its high holy temple
and comes into our sight
to liberate us into life.*

*Love arrives
and in its train come ecstasies
old memories of pleasure
ancient histories of pain.
Yet if we are bold,
love strikes away the chains of fear
from our souls.*

*We are weaned from our timidity
In the flush of love's light
we dare be brave
And suddenly we see
that love costs all we are
and will ever be.
Yet it is only love
which sets us free.*

Save the Date!

MAY

- 8th Coffee Connections Presentation *see pg. 4*
- 12th Life Span Scam Prevention Presentation *see pg. 6*
- 14th Spring Work Day *see pg. 2*
- 15th Yellow Rose Sunday *see pg. 6*
- 20th ROC City Ringers Concert *see pg. 3*

JUNE

- 12th All Music Sunday

JULY

- 25th-28th
Vacation Bible School *see pg. 7*



Deacons' Doings

Reusable Coffee Mugs

We hope everyone has had a chance to stop by the Coffee Bar on Sunday mornings to enjoy a cup of coffee brewed by the Deacons!

The Deacons will be offering travel mugs for you to bring with you to church on Sundays to fill up with your favorite hot beverage. The mugs will be stainless steel with a closeable lid. We plan to have our church logo and new statement printed on the mugs. While we will still have disposable cups available, our goal is to be more "green" by reducing the number of paper cups and plastic lids we use. We would also love it if everyone used their mugs everywhere they travel!



#zerowaste

To find out how many people are interested in a mug, we will have a sign-up sheet at the Coffee Bar on Sunday mornings through the month of May. Or you can contact Janet Chippero at 233-9514 or janetchipper@gmail.com.

Once we know how many people would like mugs, we will place an order.

Thank you for your Food Barrel donations!

With inflation on the rise, there is an increased need for food and personal items right here in the Webster community! Donations of laundry detergent, dish soap, cereals, crackers, pasta and sauce, canned fruits and veggies, and more are always appreciated.



Spring Work Day

You are invited to join your Church Trustees on **May 14th at 8:00 am** for coffee. We will then share jobs, both inside the church and outside from **8:30 am till noon.**



Spiritual Nurturing

Our experiment with the spiritual practice of Contemplative Prayer in shared silence on Zoom on Holy Saturday (11:30-noon) was well received by those who attended. A few expressed the desire to try it again.

Another form of Contemplative Prayer is called *Lectio Divina*. It is "...a way of sitting with a passage from the Bible and letting the Bible speak into our lives." *Lectio Divina* means "sacred reading" and has been in existence throughout Christian history; it came into its own in the 6th century, becoming an essential part of monastic life and prayer. It may be done alone or in a group setting. There are four basic steps:

1. **Read** a Bible passage slowly 2 or 3 times, watching for a word or a phrase that jumps out at you.
2. **Meditate** or ponder the meaning of the word or phrase.
3. **Pray** however you are moved on the word or phrase.
4. **Contemplate**, listening and waiting for God to speak to you, perhaps through an image or a metaphor.

You could begin with May's Memory Verse of the Month: 2 Timothy 1:7.

Your Spiritual Nurture Committee is discussing resuming Prayer Under the Cross. We will need volunteers to help lead praying. We are also considering offering the opportunity to engage in the spiritual exercise of walking a Labyrinth. "Labyrinth walking is an ancient practice used by many... faiths for spiritual centering, contemplation and prayer... It has one path (unicursal). Once at the center, there is only one way back out."

*The discussion of Lectio Divina comes from the book Joy Together: Spiritual Practices for Your Congregation, by Lynne Baab.

Your SNC members are Bob Blakey, Nancy Duquette, Barb Hach and Connie Rice.



The ROC City Ringers Invite You

to a
FREE CONCERT

Friday, May 20th

7:00 pm at Webster Presbyterian Church

The ROC City Ringers rehearse in our Sanctuary most Saturday mornings throughout the year. This Community Bell Choir uses our handbell and chime equipment. As a thank you to our congregation for allowing them to do this, the choir will perform their Spring Program in our Sanctuary on Friday, May 20th at 7 pm.

The choir will perform pieces from all your favorite genres including classical, pop, movie scores, marches and more! They ring on 5 octaves of Schumelrich handbells and 5 octaves of Malmark chimes. Thirteen ringers from various churches from around Rochester make up the choir.

Please join us for a wonderful evening of music!

Questions? Contact Jackie Anderson at jktanderson42@gmail.com.



Mission Updates and Opportunities to Give

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)

From March 27th until April 24th, we collected voluntary donations for OGHS. As of April 19th, the total amount collected was \$3865. Thank you!

Donations for Ukraine Relief

During March and April we also collected voluntary donations for relief for Ukrainians in Ukraine and for their refugees in surrounding countries. As of April 19th, your donations have totaled more than \$2700, and in addition, the Mission Committee has allocated an additional \$1000 from its Discretionary Mission Fund for this extremely worthy cause! Thank you for contributing so generously!

Coffee Connections Adult Ed on May 8th



Guest speaker, Rev. Joy Bergfalk, Executive Director of the Coffee Connection will be here to tell us about the CC program and how it empowers women on their journey to sustainable recovery from addiction. Through counseling

and training, these women are able to find jobs in the CC shops that sell fair trade and organically grown coffee. There will be a display of the coffee item for sale in the Narthex.

Summer Clothing for Cameron Community Ministries

During the month of May, we will again be collecting summer clothing for Cameron Community Ministries located in the city where a lot of needy people reside. Collection boxes will be available in the Narthex beginning May 1st. Here are their current specific needs:

Casual summer clothing for men, dressy and casual summer clothing for women and casual summer clothing for children.

Please do NOT donate winter clothing at this time as they don't have room to store it and do NOT donate dress clothing for men as they already have plenty of that. If you don't have anything to donate from your closets, please consider going to a local thrift or discount store to purchase something. Thank you.



Summer Mission Projects

This year the Mission Committee was blessed to have six worthy projects to consider for Summer Mission. After some discussion, we selected the following two as being especially deserving:

Jennifer House: they provide housing and other services for women who have been incarcerated or abused or have been homeless. Jennifer House is part of Spiritus Christi's prison outreach project.

Keeping Our Promise: this organization provides comprehensive resettlement for refugees from US allies who have served our interests in conflicts and war zones. They are currently resettling mostly refugees from Afghanistan in the Greater Rochester area.

We won't begin collecting for Summer Mission until June, so look for more details in the June Pathway. Also, both of these organizations will send one or more representatives to talk to us about their ministries at the June 5th Adult Ed. We have set this year's goal to be \$8000 and will divide whatever is received equally between these two ministries.

Youth Fellowship Service Project

Do you have a gently used purse or drawstring bag that you are no longer using? Youth Fellowship is asking you to fill it with hope. To honor the women in our lives, we are collecting gently used purses and drawstring bags filled with new personal care items to give to women in need at Jennifer House, Spiritus Christi Prison Outreach.

Recommended new items are: hand/body cream, hand sanitizer/wet wipes, lip balm/lip gloss, facial moisturizer/cleanser, pen, notebook/journal, hairbrush/comb, tissues, deodorant, tooth brush/paste, floss, shampoo and conditioner, nail kit, soap, feminine hygiene products, first aid kit, socks, gloves, hat.



There will be a collection bin in the Narthex for the month of May.

Worship and Music

"For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Revelation 7:17

Minister Dozier, Sunday, May 15th

Pastor Phil will be out of the pulpit for the May 15th service hopefully enjoying himself. In Pastor Phil's absence, Minister Jarmani Dozier will bless us again by leading the Sunday service. We received many kind words after Minister Dozier's last visit and welcome him back on May 15th.

Prayer Candles Continue

Due to the congregation's very positive response to the prayer candles, they will continue to be available. We appreciate that personal silent prayer is a very important part of our prayer life.



Children's Time

We are so thrilled to have children and their families attending in person again now that the Covid guidelines are relaxed. Your Worship and Music team wants to make sure our children have a special time during the service. To do this, we need your help with the children's message on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. A short, easy program will be provided for you to share with



the children. Please call Sally Turner at 671-9045 or Bob Blakey at 317-7523 to help enrich our children by sharing a special lesson.

Streamed Service – Better and Better

We hope you will agree that the streamed worship service continues to improve weekly. Not only is the audio and video quality very high, but thanks to the creative talent of the streaming team, the graphics and the feeling of being a part of the service have improved. If you have any problem viewing the streamed service, please contact Alissa Mayer or Todd Fargo.

Call for Summer Special Music

We are eagerly looking forward to special music offerings this summer from our very talented congregation. Each summer we are blessed with exceptional music from our youth and adults – it is one of the most special parts of our annual music program. Please contact Lee Ann at 889-0120 to get on the summer music schedule.



All Music Sunday, June 12th

One of the most enjoyable and spirit lifting Sundays is All Music Sunday. June will be here before we know it, so be sure to mark this special day on your calendar!

Welcoming Our Visitors

We hope you have noticed that we are being blessed with more visitors recently. A special quality of our congregation is the warm, personal welcome we provide.

Sometimes we are so pleased to meet the new visitors that we may want to introduce them to the congregation during the service. If you feel so inclined, please make sure that the visitor will be comfortable with a public welcome.



What's on Your Mind and Heart?

We also invite you to let your hearts speak about the worship and music program. Please share any reflections, questions and ideas for change to the Worship and Music Committee. In particular, tell us what you think about:

- Should Prayer Under the Cross be restarted?
- Is the length of time for Passing the Peace adequate?
- Suggestions for the streamed worship service?



Memory Verse

For the Spirit God gave does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.

II Timothy 1:7

Yellow Rose Sunday



This is the time at WPC when we honor or remember those who have made a difference in our lives as Christians. On May 1st and 8th, we will be accepting donations in their names. Yellow Rose Sunday will be May 15th when we will dedicate the gifts during the service.

All donations will go to the WPC Endowment Fund. Like the annual pledge, an endowment gift is a way to financially support the mission and programs of the church. Unlike normal pledges, an endowment gift is perpetual – the church retains the principal value of the gift, and each year just uses the interest income. In a typical year, the fund can conservatively provide between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

For over 30 years, the endowment has grown, and WPC has reaped the benefits, using the proceeds for things such as choir robes, the grand piano, New Beginnings, and Mission projects.

You can donate by using the Yellow Rose envelopes at church, by mailing in a check and noting that it is for Yellow Rose, or clicking on the 'Give' button on the website and indicating that it is for Yellow Rose.

Women's Circle News

King Circle will be gathering on Thursday, May 12th. A Life Span spokesperson will be presenting a program about scams and how to recognize and deal with them. **This event will be open to anyone in our congregation.** It will be held in the Social Room and will start at 10:00 am. As we will need a count of people attending for setting up chairs, please RSVP to either the church office or call Sue Wroblewski at 545-4807 by May 11th.

Rachel Circle will meet on Monday, May 23rd at 6:30 pm in the Kitchen/Memorial Room for Bread Making with Georgia.

Women's Bible Study will continue its look at the centuries old Apostles' Creed during May. Come for praise in the Chapel at 9:30 am followed by study and prayer in Room 9/10. The annual Brunch will be on May 31st in the Memorial Room at 9:30 am and any who have participated during the year are encouraged to attend.



Learning for a Lifetime

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

May 1 Sanctuary & Livestream
Sermon Talk Back

Once again, we have an opportunity to share our questions and comments with Pastor Phil about the morning's sermon. Grab a cup of coffee and join us in the Sanctuary after the service.

May 8 Sanctuary & Livestream
Mission Committee Guest Speaker

Rev. Joy Bergfalk,
Executive Director of the Coffee Connection

See the full article on page 4.

May 15 Room 9/10
LET'S TALK ABOUT IT – "Reimagining the Church Parking Lot" by G. Travis Norvell

Join us as we discuss this article from "The Christian Century" and perhaps discover ways in which our parking lot might help us become more connected to our community. What if it functioned more like a bridge than a wall? Read the article below and come prepared to share your thoughts and ideas.

<https://www.christiancentury.org/article/recommendations/it-s-time-reimagine-church-parking-lot>

May 22 Room 9/10
TO BE ANNOUNCED

May 29 Room 9/10
NOOMA Video with Rob Bell

Are there things in your life right now that you wish were different? Stuff you're dealing with? Situations you're going through? Is prayer about changing you or about changing what's happening? How could prayer change your perspective?

Summer Reading

Do you ever experience doubt or have a question about a long held Christian belief but are afraid to speak about it?

The Adult Education Committee invites you to include in your summer reading a book by Rachel Held Evans entitled, "*Faith Unraveled: How a Girl Who Knew All the Answers Learned to Ask Questions.*" Follow-up discussion will take place during Adult Ed in the fall.

Beginning Sunday, May 22nd, the book will be available for purchase in the Narthex at a reduced price of \$10.

Children's Christian Education

Our *Fruit of the Spirit* word for May is
Kindness

*"Make sure that nobody pays
back wrong for wrong, but
always try to be kind to each
other and to everyone else"*

1 Thessalonians 5:15



Children naturally want things their way, and they are still learning to put others first.

This journey strives to teach children to sympathize with other people and to understand others' feelings, putting others first rather than continuously thinking of their own personal needs or satisfaction. It encourages children to be kind to others at all times.

We are helping the kids in SHINE understand that KINDNESS means using kind words as well as being kind by doing something nice for someone else and even just by thinking kind thoughts.

May 1: Bible Lesson on KINDNESS with
Mrs. Brocker

Bell and Chime practice with
Mrs. Anderson

May 8: Kids will play bells in
worship at 9:30

PANCAKE PARTY in
SHINE

May 15: Bible Lesson with
Mrs. Brocker

May 22: Springtime Craft with Mrs. Galen

May 29: Games and Craft with Mrs. Galen



Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School 2022

July 25th—28th 9:00 am—Noon

PreK—5th Grade

All children must be 4 years old by January 1, 2022

Cost: \$20 per child

Deadline for all registrations is July 20th

Contact: Gayl Galen at 265-9700

ggalen@websterpres.org

Youth Fellowship

On **Sunday, May 1st**, invite a friend to join you in fellowship from **4-6 pm** in the **Youth Room**. Do you remember playing the telephone game and the fun of whispering a message into your friend's ear and passing it down the line to see how the message would change as it was passed person to person? We will take the telephone game and sketch it out in **Telestrations**. Come draw, guess and laugh at the funny and unpredictable outcomes. We will enjoy the Mark's pizza PEEP show award. Please R.S.V.P. to attend with your favorite pizza topping.

Sunday, May 8th is Mother's Day, so take the day to cherish your Mother. To honor the woman in our lives, we are collecting gently used purses or drawstring bags filled with new personal care items to give to a woman in need at Jennifer House, the Spiritus Christi Prison outreach. Recommended new items are: hand/body cream, hand sanitizer/wet wipes, lip balm/lip gloss, facial moisturizer/cleanser, pen, notebook/journal, hairbrush/comb, tissues, deodorant, tooth brush/paste, floss, soap, shampoo, conditioner, feminine hygiene products, nail kit, first aid kit, socks, gloves and a hat. We are asking church members to join us in this project. The collection bin will be in the Narthex for the month of May.

Sunday, May 15th, we will play "New Phone Who Dis?" A rotating judge will pick an Inbox message and read it out loud. The other players will submit a reply as a response. The funniest reply will win the round. Invite a friend to join in the fun in the **Youth Room** from **4-6 pm**.

May 22nd, meet at The Great Escape Room, 1150 University Avenue at 4:00 pm.

This will be a private tour of the White House. As we make our way through the tour, the bunker suddenly goes into automatic lockdown, and we are informed of an imminent attack on the United States. We will have 60 minutes to work together to prevent nuclear Armageddon! The whole world will be counting on you so grab your friends and **R.S.V.P to me as soon as possible so I can reserve the spot for 10 of us**. If we have more than 10 interested, we will book a second escape room adventure. **Pick up will be around 5:40 pm.**

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



May Lectionary Readings

May 1

Old Testament	Acts 9:1-20
Psalm	Psalm 30
New Testament	Revelation 5:11-14
Gospel	John 21:1-19

May 8

Old Testament	Acts 9:36-43
Psalm	Psalm 23
New Testament	Revelation 7:9-17
Gospel	John 10:22-30

May 15

Old Testament	Acts 11:1-18
Psalm	Psalm 148
New Testament	Revelation 21:1-6
Gospel	John 13:31-35

May 22

Old Testament	Acts 16:9-15
Psalm	Psalm 67
New Testament	Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5
Gospel	John 14:23-29

May 29

Old Testament	Acts 16:16-34
Psalm	Psalm 97
New Testament	Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
Gospel	John 17:20-26

Bell Choir Rehearsals



Glory Bells: Thursday, May 5th, 9:00 to 10:00 am.

We will be performing our Spring Program off-site on May 12th, 19th, and 26th.

Alleluia Bells: Thursdays, May 12th, 19th, 26th, 6:00—7:00 pm.

Church Family News

In April we prayed for the Tompkins family, Lauren Pearson, Senayt Sebhatu, Noah Thomas, Jeanne Cameron, Elaine Wilbert, and the Spicker family.

We were saddened by the passing of longtime members, Dick Tompkins on April 5th and Tom Spicker on April 25th.

Happy Mother's Day

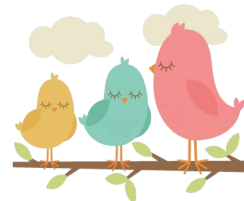
God's Masterpiece

~Herbert Farnham

*God took the fragrance of a flower,
The majesty of a tree,
The gentleness of morning dew,
The calm of a quiet sea.*

*The beauty of the twilight hour,
The soul of a starry night,
The laughter of a rippling brook,
The grace of a bird in flight.*

*Then God fashioned from these things,
A creation like no other,
And when his masterpiece was through,
He called it simply -
Mother.*



Green Tip of the Month

Bottled water is not healthier or safer than tap water because it is not regulated as strictly.

Bottled water costs a lot more than tap water, requires 47 million gallons of oil per year to produce, and produces 1.5 million tons of plastic waste each year. Multinational bottled water corporations purchase groundwater and distribution rights to commoditize a basic human right: the access to safe and affordable water. Instead, use a stainless steel thermos. If you do not like your tap water's taste, use a water filter.

