



The Pathway

Newsletter of the Webster Presbyterian Church
Webster, New York

February 2023

Vol. LIII No. 2

A Note From Session

At our congregational meeting on January 29th, we will review the year 2022 and look forward to 2023. In 2022, we created our new identity statement: *We are followers of Jesus Christ living and sharing the love of God through faith and action, welcoming all.* We chose and elected a Pastoral Nominating Committee who are now in the process of interviewing candidates. We made expected and unexpected capital improvement project plans for a new parking lot and new boilers to heat the building. Our church boards and committees continued their ministries to the congregation and to the community outside of the church as reported in the annual report. Reverend Phil Davis Sr. continued to faithfully lead us as our stated supply pastor as we seek new leadership.

As we begin 2023, we can be thankful for our church staff and volunteers and those who have committed financial resources so we can be confident that, with God's help, we will continue serving this community of faith to live the identity statement quoted above as best we can.

Tony Hubbard, Clerk of Session

*We are followers of Jesus Christ,
living and sharing the love of God through
faith and action, welcoming all.*



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Join us Sunday Mornings at 9:30 in the Sanctuary or on Livestream. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Livestream links: YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5-thYxua2HOSPF6P71wA>

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

2023 Officers

The Session

Kathy Barbehenn	Youth, Nominating, New Beginnings
Bob Blakey	Worship & Music
Lee Ann Daigle	Children's Christian Ed
Todd Fargo	Personnel
Barb Hach	Spiritual Nurture
Tony Hubbard	Clerk, Mission
Alissa Mayer	Technology
Connie Rice	Stewardship & Finance
Karen Stoddard	Membership

The Board of Deacons

Janet Chippero	Moderator
Bob Anderson	
Doreen Clark	
Rose Fombe	
Nikki George	
Karen Hunt	
Arlene Sahmel	
Sarah Stein	
Jen Wengender	
Sue Wroblewski	

The Board of Trustees

John Wilbert	Moderator
Chris Adams	
Clark Chippero	
Dick Dodd	
Karen Fargo	
Scott Hewlett	
Jaol Jamison	
Gary Maier	
Dan Marsh	

The March Pathway deadline is FEBRUARY 20th.

Email articles to

jchippero@websterpres.org

AND ghubbard@websterpres.org.

Deacons' Doings

As we head into the new year, the Deacons will be saying goodbye to five of their board members. We are so thankful for the hard work and dedication of Nancy Granger, Laura Oliver, Steve Oliver, Amy Vallone, and Dawn Wiley. This year welcomes two new Deacons: Bob Anderson for a 1-year term, and Doreen Clark for a 3-year term. The Deacons would also like to thank Arlene Sahmel and Jen Wengender for extending their terms for a year. We also have retiring Deacons who will continue to serve committees that they have been involved with. Laura Oliver will continue to share her talents for the Angel Tree program and Dawn Wiley will continue her great work with our Friends at Home. Many thanks to all!

Everyone is welcome to help the Deacons serve the congregation and community. Two areas that we really need your help are serving coffee on Sunday mornings and ushering for our worship services. Please contact Janet Chippero (233-9514 or janetchipper@gmail.com) to get on the schedule! Both of these options offer a great opportunity to greet and welcome new and old friends!

Trustees' Corner

New Trustees and Retiring Trustees

We want to welcome Scott Hewlett and Dan Marsh to the Board of Trustees for a 3 year term. And many thanks to Bob Kizer, Tina McNeary and Dick McNeary for all the hours and work they have done for WPC. Just remember that "once a Trustee, always a Trustee"!

The Boiler Project

The new 2-boiler system is in place and working great. We still have some control issues to sort out due to the switch from one system to another. We will then receive training because the new boilers have more functions than the previous system.

We have also signed a contract with Metro Group to monitor the hot water boiler loop. They have put cleaning agent into the loop to clean it. We then put in fresh water and drained out the dirty water. Once the water was tested and found to be clean, neutralizer was added into the loop. Metro Group will check the loop water to insure that it remains neutral by adding more chemicals as needed.

Pipe Organ Repairs

Parsons Organs is scheduled to begin the repairs necessary on the rank of pipes that have warped. This work is a rollover project from 2021 and 2022. The work is to start Monday, January 30th and be complete by Friday, February 3rd.

Winter Weather means ICE

Just a reminder that we all need to be aware of ice on the side walks and parking lots. There is salt just inside all the entry doors, so if it is slippery, sprinkle a little salt on them.



Mission Updates and Opportunities to Give

Adult Ed. Guest Speaker, Rev. Jim Crowley

Join the Mission Committee during Adult Ed. hour on February 5th as they present Reverend Jim Crowley, a semi-retired pastor who has worked with Saving Grace ministries for the past 18 years. He is currently the Director of Grace House which WPC has been supporting both financially and with volunteer help.

Men who are released to parole supervision come through Grace House's program each year. However, this year they have changed their policy to accept men who are homeless or disadvantaged in some way. Here they learn life skill training in housing, employment, money management, self-advocacy, responsible parenting, and decision-making to equip clients for long term success.

Blanket Sunday Offering

Our annual collection for the "Blanket Sunday" offering will be from Sunday, January 29th until Sunday, February 19th this year. Envelopes are in the chair racks. This offering is organized by Church World Service and collected by many churches nationwide. It provides not only blankets (for about \$10 each!), but also other essentials such as food, seeds, farming tools, etc. to impoverished and hungry people around the world. Please give generously to this very worthy offering. If you are paying by check, please make it payable to our church, with "Blanket Sunday" on the memo line. Thank you in advance!

Christmas Joy Offering

The total donations to this annual offering, which assists current and retired pastors and church workers who have financial hardships and students of color at Presbyterian-related colleges, were \$820 compared to \$720 a year ago. Thank you!



Heart and Hand

On January 20th, Father Roman of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Epiphany visited our church to accept a gift of 18 children's "Care Bags" from Heart and Hand for Ukrainian refugee children. Each bag included a variety of health care items, toy/game, story book, coloring fun, and a fleece hat & scarf set. Additionally, we gave Father Roman five special Ukrainian colored (bright yellow and blue) hat sets. Father Roman shared that 3,000 Ukrainian refugees arrived in the Rochester area within the past year. Pastor Phil suggested that we would appreciate a more lengthy visit to share some of their needs with more of the congregation.

Later in January, we will deliver over 30 fleece hats and scarves to the Open-Door Mission's Coldwater House for their homeless families.



Happening Soon!

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be Sunday, **January 29th**, immediately after the 9:30 service in the Social Room. We encourage everyone to attend to hear information on the church finances, the Mission Committee's work, the Trustees' and Deacons' plans, and the work toward calling a new pastor.

Annual Reports

Annual Reports are available in the Narthex for you to take and read prior to the Annual Meeting. One per family, please.

The Presbytery of Genesee Valley

Family Winter Fun Day

Saturday, February 4, 10 am—2 pm

Hazelwood Lodge at Ellison Park

This is an event for all ages! The event is free, but please register if you plan to enjoy the free food and drinks. See the Youth Fellowship Article on pg. 8 for more details and the link for registration.



Women's Bible Study

We continue on the first three Tuesdays of February with the Gospel of Mark as we note Jesus' ministry in this fast-paced Book. It is not too late to join in the excitement. We meet at 9:00 am in Room 9/10.

The last Tuesday of the month, February 28th, begins *A Journey Through Lent: Reflecting on Christ's Sacrifice for Us*, a 7 session DVD study by Redeemer Presbyterian Church in NYC. Pastors Dr. Timothy Keller and Pastor David Bisgrove will take us through Psalms that "address the reality of our broken humanity" and the world. Come, ready your heart for these 40 days to find "repentance, rest, security, and hope" as they culminate in the joy of Easter.



Food Barrel

Thank you for your Food Barrel donations!

With the new year upon us, the cost of household expenses and food continues to increase!

Donations of juice, soup, tuna and other canned meat, condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo), canned vegetables and fruits, peanut butter, cereals, crackers, coffee, tea and more are very much appreciated.



Join Us for LIVE, LOVE, LENT!



Lent is the 40-day period where we draw closer to God in the lead up to Easter.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (Feb. 22), six and a half weeks before Easter, and while some Christians from more orthodox or traditional denominations fast during Lent, we are looking to create a daily scripture and activity resource to connect us in Living and Loving like God during this season.

For many Christians, Lent is a time where we make space to pray, read the Bible, and reflect on God's love. Please look for this fun resource to be provided as a paper copy and posted on our social media sites (similar to the Advent Adventures we created in December).

Worship and Music

February—A Special Month

Lent begins early this year with Ash Wednesday on February 22nd. Be sure to carefully check the weekly bulletin, the Adult Ed. offerings, and the Spiritual Nurture article for the special activities that we hope will make your Lenten season very special. Carefully chosen music for Lent will add to the spirituality of the season.

We continue to be blessed with new voices in the pulpit thanks to Pastor Phil's continuing efforts.

February 12 – Reverend Lawrence Hargrave, retired.

February 26 – Pastor Mark McDaniel, Christ Clarion PC – pulpit exchange

Scout Sunday

On February 12th, we will be joined by members of the scouting units we support. WPC has chartered Scouts BSA units for over 50 years and has provided rooms for Girl Scouts for many years. Currently, the church charts three Scouts BSA units: Boy Troop 262, Girl Troop 425, and Cub Scout Pack 262. They have done many major (Eagle) projects for the church and continue to make major contributions on church workdays. They will participate in the service, including an opening ceremony.

Join Us in Fellowship

Please consider attending worship in person each Sunday, but especially during the Lenten season. You and your friends will be richly blessed.

John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.'
John 1:26-27

Learning for a Lifetime

Adult Christian Education is pleased to welcome Reverend Robert “Bob” Heppenstall as our program leader on Sundays, February 12th and 19th. Reverend Heppenstall is a retired Presbyterian pastor who has been worshipping with us and has graced our pulpit when he is not busy serving as a supply pastor within the Genesee Valley Presbytery.

On these two Sundays, Reverend Heppenstall will be looking at the **Gospel Lessons** from the **Transfiguration through Easter**. He invites us “to consider these lessons with him through the eyes of poetic reflection. Each lesson is an invitation to reflect on the presence and purpose of the God we’ve come to know in Christ Jesus...and what that may mean for us and how we live. We are being **invited into God’s continuing story**...especially as it continues in and through us.”

Bob often uses poetry as his way of wrestling with the meaning of a Biblical story. He invites us to join him as he shares his love of the Word and poetry. See his poetic invitation, “Consider the Day” in the sidebar to the right.

February Calendar

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

February 5 Sanctuary & Livestream

Mission Committee Guest Speaker

Rev. Jim Crowley, Director, Grace House

See article on pg 3.

February 12 Room 9/10

Poetry and Prayer

Gospel Lessons from the Transfiguration through Easter—part 1

Rev. Robert Heppenstall

February 19 Room 9/10

Poetry and Prayer

Gospel Lessons from the Transfiguration through Easter—part 2

Rev. Robert Heppenstall

February 26 Room 9/10 & Zoom

Week 1—DVD Lenten Series with Adam Hamilton

“Words of Life: Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today”

Hamilton brings modern eyes to the most important set of ethics in history. He considers the commandments in their historical context, unpacking how Jesus reinterpreted them, and showing how *every “thou shall not”* was intended to point to a life-giving *“thou shall”*. He explores how the latest research in science and psychology illuminates these commandments as a way of ordering one’s life beautifully in the present day.

Join us as we view and discuss the first two commandments of this five week series:

*“You shall have no other gods before me.” and
“You shall not make for yourself an idol.”*

Consider the Day

Consider the day...

Consider it before you are beset by the wild animals of your own desires or the lurking expectations of the surrounding herds and hoards of others...

Consider what might become of the minutes and hours once they have finally unfolded into that greater tapestry not just of your life...but of all life...

Consider the day...

Consider it a gift wrapped in ribbons of potential and hope to be unraveled not by sheer strength or human cleverness or mere speed...but by quietude and prayer...

Consider that still quiet voice that speaks to the heart at dawn’s first light and invites you to a purpose greater than your own...and then...listen...listen deeply and...

Consider the day...

Consider that it will not necessarily come again...at least not in the same opportune fashion that lies dormant in the unique and precious moments it now holds...

Consider the One who invites you forward in the mysterious friendship we call faith...and into the equally mysterious and unexpected place we call Kingdom...

Consider the day...the day that lies ahead ...just as it dawns...and as you rise to greet it...Consider the day with care...and perhaps when it has passed...you will be able to consider it well spent...and smile as one at peace.





February Lectionary Readings

February 5

Old Testament	Isaiah 58:1-12
Psalm	Psalm 112:1-10
New Testament	I Corinthians 2:1-16
Gospel	Matthew 5:13-20

February 12

Old Testament	Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm	Psalm 119:1-8
New Testament	I Corinthians 3:1-9
Gospel	Matthew 5:21-37

February 19

Transfiguration of the Lord

Old Testament	Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm	Psalm 2
New Testament	II Peter 1:16-21
Gospel	Matthew 17:1-9

February 26

1st Sunday in Lent

Old Testament	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm	Psalm 32
New Testament	Romans 5:12-19
Gospel	Matthew 4:1-11

Memory Verse

*We love because
he first loved us.*

I John 4:19

Bell Choir Rehearsals

Glory Bells: All Thursdays at 9:00—
10:15 am in the Sanctuary except
February 23rd.

Alleluia Bells:

Thursdays at 6:00 pm in
the Sanctuary except
February 23rd.



Church Discovery Group

The Session has been thinking about how to insure the future of our church. One way is to connect with other PC(USA) churches in our area to learn best practices that they have for various areas of ministry. We could then incorporate any of these ideas that we felt would help us. (They would also be free to incorporate any ideas they picked up from us.) We are forming a committee to do this work and are calling it the 'Church Discovery Group'.

We would welcome anyone who would like to participate in this effort. Please contact Connie Rice at 585-703-0618 or connie56rice@gmail.com.

Spiritual Nurture

As of this reading, our Spiritual Nurture Committee's (SNC) Adult Ed program on "Sensing the Divine" will have already taken place on January 22nd. If you missed it, you can still watch the 20 minute YouTube video, "The Contemplative Pathway" by Reverend Richard Rohr, OFM, from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. Also, Pastor Phil suggested several resources for further study and exploration:

The Power of Now: A Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment
by Eckart Tolle

Discipline of the Spirit by Howard Thurman

The Silent Life by Thomas Merton

Why Not Be A Mystic? An irresistible invitation to experience
the presence of God—here and now
by Frank X. Tuoti

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. The SNC will bring out the Labyrinth from under the stage and lay it on the floor of the Social Room for your use all that day and into the evening after the Ash Wednesday service. We showed a 5 minute YouTube video on October 23, 2022 during Adult Ed when we introduced you to "Walking the Labyrinth." You can still view it. Just enter into the search bar, "Spiritual Practice: Praying the Labyrinth" with Sue Palmer, a spiritual practices specialist.

We are *your* Spiritual Nurture Committee. Our mission is to "...promote an environment in Webster Presbyterian Church that fosters spiritual growth of the congregation as a whole as well as of the individuals therein." It is the SNC that brings you the Memory Verse of the Month, the Prayer of the Week, and hosts Saturday Morning Prayer Time at 9:00 am. If you have any special requests or wish to join our committee, please be in touch:

Bob Blakey, Nancy Duquette, Connie Rice,
Barb Hach, Chair.



New Beginnings

New Beginnings continues to move forward, reaching out to the Webster community. Our partnership with State Road School is exciting and rewarding. Congregation members are signing up to read to our little friends in Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade. Our dads and moms and granddads and grammas will be sharing stories and special time with two or three children at a time for a half hour each week. If you would like to be part of this front line group, please call the church office and I will get back to you ASAP. By the time you read this, we will have begun, but we will always have room for more of you. In addition, the new chime sets have been delivered to school and are being put to use. The whole building is excited.



Thanks to Phyllis Smeltzer, the chimes purchased by her mom, Wilma Brucker, have been donated to Cherry Ridge, and Mary Johnson continues to lead classes there on Monday mornings. Our Cherry Ridge Chimers will be playing at Pastor Phil's service there on the 3rd Sunday of February and will hopefully be regulars during the year. Please consider joining us at these beautiful services. Jim Hoffman also adds his wonderful piano music each month. God bless and keep Wilma. Her chimes are a legacy to remind all there of the glory and wonder and power of music to heal and bring joy.



If you are planning to purchase the wonderful soups offered by Comfort Care of Webster, wouldn't it feel extra wonderful to purchase an extra quart to be delivered to some of our friends at home or to Grace House? If you buy, we'll see them delivered promptly. Use the link below to place an order. And, of course, those donations are tax deductible. A little thing with a very big return...of grace and blessing.

<https://www.webstercomfortcare.org/pdf/wcch-souper-bowl-2023.pdf>



Plans are in the works for another movie night for our Shine-age kids and their friends. All of our grandchildren and their friends are welcome too. We'll keep you posted.

Meanwhile, don't forget Hope Ministries when you shop or clean out your closets and drawers. And Meals on Wheels clients could use cat and dog food donations. Boxes for both are on the upper level of the Narthex.

Thank you for all you do. Together we might not change the whole world, but we sure can make a difference in our own little corner. Have faith, we can do this!

Contact Kathy Barbehenn at 748-6000 with any questions.



Women's Circles

Naomi Circle will meet on **Wednesday, February 8th, at 1:00 pm** at **Jean Maier's home** for game time.

King Circle will meet at church on **Thursday, February 9th, at 10:00 am** in the **Memorial Room**. The program will be "Games" by Eleanor Scott!

Rachel Circle will meet on Monday, **February 27th at 6:30 pm** in the **Youth Room** for coloring and fellowship.

Church Family News

During January we prayed for:

John Brocker, Kirk Baker, Elaine Wilbert, Chuck Crockett, Lindsay Powers Huck, Katari James, and the Brucker family.

We are saddened by the passing of:

Long-time member, Wilma Brucker, on January 18th.

New Address:

Judy Kloosterman
965 Cherry Ridge Blvd.
Apt. 308
Webster, NY 14580
Phone: 585-347-2236

Bob Rice
1010 Hazelnut Bend
Apt. 109
Webster, NY 14580
Phone: 585-446-0009

Children's Christian Education

*God is good no matter what...
even when life's unfair*



During this month we will be hearing the story of Joseph and his brothers. These lessons were also part of our 2022 Vacation Bible School program.

Kid's lives have ups and downs. They deal with changing teachers, coaches, houses, and shoe sizes. Elementary kids' sense of justice is so strong – if they are good, they expect good things as a result. But as Joseph's life shows us, that's not always the case. Circumstances don't change God's goodness. When life is wonderful, God is good. When life doesn't go as planned, God is still good.

February 5

Bells/Chimes *with Mrs. Anderson*

February 12

The Beginning Story of Joseph *with Mrs. Galen*

February 19

Crafts/Games *with Mrs. Galen*
We will be handing out
Valentine treats in the Narthex

February 26

Joseph Forgives
His Brothers
with Mrs. Bocker



Green Tip of the Month

Attics are the greatest source of home heat and cooling loss. Use enough insulation to go higher than the floor joists (about 12-15 inches thick). It can be rolls, batts, rigid boards, loose fill, or spray foam, as long as it is rated at R-38 or higher. Insulating hot water pipes can also save on water heating costs.

Youth Fellowship

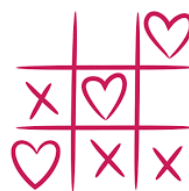
Family Winter Fun Day with the Presbytery of Genesee Valley at **Hazelwood Lodge at Ellison Park** is on **Saturday, February 4th**. Bring your own equipment for sledding, ice skating, skiing and hiking. The Pavilion Lodge will be heated by a warm fire and you can enjoy hot cocoa and soup. There will be a brief worship at noon. The day will run from **10 am—2 pm**.

The whole family is invited; let me know how many of you will be attending so I can look for you there! Registration with the PGV by 2/2 at

<https://pbygenval.org/event/winter-gathering/>.



On **Sunday, February 12th**, we will have a pregame **Super Bowl party** from **4:00—6:00 pm in the Social Room**. There will be Super Bowl themed games and activities. Youth will compete in a **Tailgate Food Cook Off!** Youth should bring their favorite tailgate food to be judged and awarded by the other youth. The award categories are: Football Presentation of Food, Team Related Food, Taste, and Overall Winner for incorporating all categories.



On the third **Sunday, February 19th**, you win **Tic-Tac-Toe** with three in a row of X's or O's. Did you know there are 19,863 ways to fill in the 3 x 3 grid? We are going to play a variety of tic-tac-toe games from picks, whacks, to throws. Everyone can play this game so come cheer each other on to victory from **4:00—6:00 pm in the Social Room**.

February 26th, is **National Letter to an Elder Day**, so we will put pen to paper to write some letters to spread our cheer. We will also make a special surprise to include in the envelope. We hope you will all be able to help us with this outreach from **4:00—6:00 pm in the Youth Room**. If you can't be with us in person, we pray you will write letters to an elder(s) that inspires you.

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

Together in Fellowship and Service,

Wanda Nungesser,
Director of Youth Ministries
youth@websterpres.org

585-414-1337

