



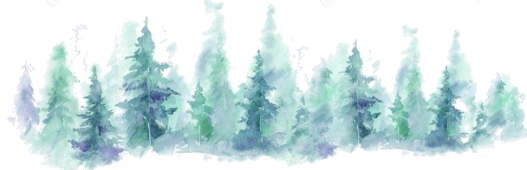
The Pathway

Newsletter of the Webster Presbyterian Church
Webster, New York

January 2023

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January



A Note From Session

Two members of the Board of Trustees came to the December Session meeting to explain work that has been started at the request of Session to prepare an Emergency Action Plan (EAP). Trustees completed a survey of on-line and written materials on this subject for churches and did a walk around inspection of our building. While the probability of emergencies happening in the church is very low, we seek to keep all users of the building safe while keeping in mind our identity statement which includes the phrase “welcoming all.” A committee of trustees, elders, and deacons will be formed in 2023 to develop this plan further with the goal of ensuring that the church is as much of a safe place as possible while continuing to be welcoming.

New church officers will begin their terms of service in 2023. If you are not already serving on a church board or committee, I encourage you to consider joining one of the committees that plans and conducts our programs. Members with ideas to help us plan and implement our programs are always needed. Please call me (265-1224) or the church office (265-9700) if you would like to learn more about the needs on any of our committees.

Tony Hubbard, Clerk of Session

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

what's inside

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January 8th

Communion

Baptism of the Lord Sunday



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/>

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be Sunday, **January 29th**, immediately after the 9:30 service in the Sanctuary. 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 from Committee Chairpersons and Treasurers are due in the church office by **Monday, January 9th**. You can submit your information by email as a Word or Excel file, or bring a paper copy to the church office.

2023 Offering Envelopes

Envelopes are now available in the hallway outside of the Sanctuary. You may pick them up at your convenience when the church is open; Sunday mornings, and from 9:00 am till 3:00 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. If you do not find envelopes and would like them, call the church office at 265-9700.

The February Pathway deadline is JANUARY 20th.

Email articles to
jchippero@websterpres.org

AND ghubbard@websterpres.org.



Trustees' Corner

The Boiler Project

During December, we have had two of our three boilers fail.

In the interest of keeping our Church warm for all, we are updating our boiler system. The three boiler system that is now in place had an expected life span of 15 years. The boilers are currently 14 years old.

We have signed a contract to install two high efficiency boilers to take their place. They will have the same BTU capacity as the old boilers, but will be capable to ramp up from 10% to 100% as the church needs heat.

The cost for labor, materials and boiler units is estimated to be \$63,000.

Money from the church's cash reserve will be used to pay the bill. Then we will need to replenish that \$63K which we are calling the Boiler Fund. To do so, we will be looking at the Operating Budget for savings and at the endowments for funds. There is also an opportunity for people in the congregation to contribute to the Boiler Fund.

Any questions, contact John Wilbert at 503-9151 or Connie Rice at 703-0618.

Heritage Christian Services

In addition to the very important message about the installation of new boilers in the church, Trustees Mark Pipal and Gary Maier have spent many hours rejuvenating Room 6 for lease to Heritage Christian Services. Heritage was much in need of more space to better serve their people. We all agree that this will help them out and be easily accessible.

And here it is...

*Ice & Snow Season!
Please be careful!*



Spiritual Nurture

Immanuel! As we mentioned last time, your Spiritual Nurture Committee has chosen for our theme this new year, "A Sense of the Divine," inspired by a sermon by Pastor Phil. How a sense of the divine happens varies with one's experience of the holy, one's connection to the sacred, one's knowing and feeling the presence of God. Please join us on January 22nd for our Adult Ed program: "A Sense of the Divine: A Sharing." Pastor Phil will be joining us and we would love for you to come and, if you are so moved, to share your stories and experiences of sensing the divine in your lives. Listening to one another is enriching and affirming in growing our faith in God and our love for one another.



Thank You for Your Generosity!

During the Christmas season, our congregation shows its giving nature in so many ways to help so many people. Many thanks to all!

Gift Cards for Christmas for Grace House

We delivered 68 ten-dollar gift cards to Grace House on December 19th! **Thank you** so much for your generosity, as this will provide about 3 gift cards for each resident, and other organizations are contributing to this effort as well. Rev. Jim Crowley sends us his sincere appreciation and thanks. He will join us on Sunday, February 5th, during Adult Ed. to update us about all of the positive things going on at Grace House.

Angel Tree

On behalf of the Deacons, **thank you** for your donations to the Angel Tree! Thanks to the generosity of our congregation and community, 197 gifts were donated to the Williamson Community Center this holiday season. This was a combination of gifts ordered from Amazon and gifts brought to church. We were thrilled to once again continue this long-standing Christmas mission. They were so grateful for our donations and many families will benefit.

Operation Christmas Child 2022

Thank you to all who contributed shoebox gifts for the 2022 outreach of Samaritans Purse.

27 boxes were delivered to the Webster Assembly of God collection center.

JOY TO THE WORLD!

A Letter from Meti

Meti is the young lady in Ethiopia who we are sponsoring for her junior year of high school.

Hello Brad and other friends in Webster Presbyterian Church,

I am Meti from grade 11 at Bethel Evangelical Secondary School in West Ethiopia. I want to say thank you very much for helping me to sit in BESS and get my education. I am very very happy. You gave me food, uniform, exercise book. My father died but you are my family. Thank you.

I have no one who helps me in all ways. Teacher Amanuel our school director told me to write for you. He is our nice director. All the students and teachers love him a lot.

Please please do not forget me. I like English and Maths. I am reading.

Please greet your church for me.

Thank you.

Meti

Mission Updates

Christmas Joy Offering

The annual Presbyterian denomination-wide Christmas Joy offering will be collected until Sunday, **January 1st**, and envelopes are still in the chair racks. Half of these voluntary donations are used to assist current and retired church workers and pastors with critical financial issues, and half is used for scholarships for students of color at Presbyterian-related colleges. Thank you to those who have already donated to this worthy offering!

Blanket Sunday Offering

This note is just an early "heads up" that we will again be collecting the Blanket Sunday offering for Church World Service from later in January until sometime in February. Watch for more specific announcements and information in the bulletins and February *Pathway*.



Deacons' Doings

Food Barrel

Thank you for your Food Barrel donations!

As a result of the increased cost of household expenses and food, the local food pantries are seeing more and more people that need help with feeding their families.

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.



Do You Need a Ride? Can You Provide a Ride?

The Deacons' Congregational Care Committee works to coordinate rides for members. Occasional rides are needed to pick up non-driving members who would like to worship in-person on Sunday morning. Drivers are also needed from time to time to take non-drivers to appointments. If you are in need of a ride, or are able to provide a ride, please call the church office or contact Nikki George at 671-1103.

Presbytery Collaborative Ministry Grant

In the fall of 2022, Session approved WPC's submission of an application for a Collaborative Ministry Grant. The **Collaborative Ministry Grant** is intended to encourage intentional partnerships that serve the people of our local communities in Christ-like ways, promoting God's works through community and relationships, especially in challenging times. These awards aim to promote ministry connections between the Presbytery of Genesee Valley congregations or neighborhoods with one or more community agencies, faith communities, or other local entity. These grants are intended to support true partnerships between those working together on a common ministry for God.

WPC's application has been submitted, approved and secured to partner with State Road Elementary School and use the \$1100 funds for supporting students and families through providing books and activities for school and home use, snacks and meals when needed, and chimes to support learning and emotional connectedness through the gift of music. Special thanks to Kathy Barbehenn and Kim Phillips for their efforts in securing a relationship with the State Road school community. If you would like to help plan or deliver activities with State Road, please contact Kathy Barbehenn.

Worship and Music

New Year, New Voices!

January 1: Minister Jarmani Dozier, will be returning to bless us with his message.

New Year's Day worship service will be at 10:30 am to make it easier to attend!

January 15: Pastor Phil has arranged a pulpit exchange with Pastor Laura Fry from Perinton Presbyterian Church. This is a continuation of Pastor Phil's effort to bring other voices into our Sanctuary.

Join Us in Fellowship

Please consider attending worship in person in the new year. You and your friends will be richly blessed.

*Oh come, let us sing
to the Lord;
let us make a joyful
noise to the rock of
our salvation!*

Psalm 95:1

Abbey's Playlist

Have you enjoyed the music in the Narthex before and after worship? Our social media intern, Abbey Mayer, created a playlist of songs you all recommended and posted it to our YouTube account. You can listen to it at home, in the car, at the office, or wherever you are, and feel God's presence in each lyric. Here is the link to the playlist for your enjoyment:

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhn6WFO0zeHeivwxJvIkQfVHMBnJFoJpe>

*Forget the
former things;
do not dwell on
the past. See, I
am doing a new
thing! Now it
springs up;
do you not
perceive it? I
am making a
way in the
wilderness and
streams in the
wasteland.*

Isaiah 43:18-19

Learning for a Lifetime

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

January 1

New Year's Day—No Class

January 8

Room 9/10

Let's Talk About It LGBTQ+ Discussion

With Lee Ann Daigle and Nancy Duquette

Join us as Lee Ann and Nancy share with us their personal experiences with LGBTQ family members. Hear their perspectives, both personal and relevant to us all.

Come and reflect on your own heart and mind as we seek to extend the love of Christ to everyone we meet.

January 15

Sanctuary & Livestream

Speaker—Sienna Petrino

*"Braiding Sweetgrass: The Indigenous Tale of the Creation Story
and Our Connection to the Earth"*

Sienna Petrino is a young adult member of our church and a senior at SUNY College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry in Syracuse, NY. Her major is Conservation Biology with minors in Marine Science and Environmental Writing.

Sienna will share insights from the book, *"Braiding Sweetgrass,"* authored by Robin Wall Kimmerer, an ESF professor and alumna. Professor Kimmerer writes about the relationship between humans and Mother Earth from an indigenous point of view. With the growing concerns about climate change, deforestation, and the depletion of our natural resources, it is more important than ever to reevaluate how we treat the world around us.

Please join us to welcome Sienna home.

January 22

Room 9/10

A Sense of the Divine: A Sharing Spiritual Nurture Committee

Join us to explore how to sense the divine in your life through experience of the holy, connection to the sacred, and knowing and feeling the presence of God.

See Article on pg 2.

January 29

Sanctuary & Livestream

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

January Bell Choir Rehearsal Schedule

Glory Bells: Thursdays at 9:00 am in the Sanctuary
January 12th, 19th and 26th.

Alleluia Bells:

Thursdays at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary
January 12th, 19th and 26th.



Women's Bible Study

**NEW TIME NEW STUDY
NEW YEAR**

Women's Bible Study resumes Tuesday, January 10th, at **9:00 am** in Room 9/10. Chapel praise time has been discontinued so that discussion will begin at 9:00.

The New Year starts with the Gospel of Mark, the earliest, the shortest, and the most concise account of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. The pace hurries: the sentence structure is simple, yet "rich and vivid in eyewitness detail". Join in January for the Good News!



Heart and Hand

Heart & Hand will recommence sewing on January 20th after taking December off. All are welcome to join us.

Please note that we made gripper squares as gifts for the congregation for Christmas. What is that? They are rubber backed fabric squares to be used to grip the lid when opening a jar.

You will find them in the Narthex on Sundays. Please help yourself and choose one per family.

We wish you all a Happy New Year!



Women's Circles

Rachel Circle will "undecorate" the church on **Saturday, January 7th, at 10:00 am.** Program for the January 30th meeting TBD.

Naomi Circle will meet on **Wednesday, January 11th, at 12:00 noon** for a soup and salad lunch and 2023 program planning.

King Circle will meet on **Thursday, January 12th, at 10:00 am** in Room 9/10. We will be deciding the distribution of our funds from our treasury for mission at this meeting.

Church Family News

During last month we prayed for:

Marie Thorn, the Fischer family, Dawson Koepke, Joyce Tompkins, Lindsey Oliver, and Bonnie.

We are saddened by the passing of:

Ruth Fischer's husband, John, on November 26th;

Long-time member, Marge Wells, on December 3rd;

Jeanne Rice on December 11th.

New Address:

Joyce Tompkins
Freedom Village
25 Freedom Blvd.
Apt 1150
Coatesville, PA 19320
Phone: 484-288-2321

Webster Holiday Parade of Lights

WPC participated in the Webster Holiday Parade of Lights for the 3rd year, wishing a Merry Christmas to over 1,000 community members! Our 500 candy canes were gone within five minutes! Thanks to all that helped prepare, decorate and walk to spread His Joy and Light!

No longer will you have the sun for light by day, nor for brightness will the moon give you light; but you will have the Lord for an everlasting light...
Isaiah 60: 19-20



Youth Fellowship

On **Sunday, January 8th**, we will ring in the New Year with laughter, playing games based on world-wide New Year's traditions and resolutions. We will celebrate the Epiphany and eat King Cake. We will meet from **4 - 6 pm** in the Youth Room.

Service is scheduled to spruce up our space on **Sunday, January 15th from 4 - 6 pm** in the **Youth Room and hall**. We will clean, frame and hang T-shirts, and more.



On **January 22nd**, we will strap on skates at the Webster Ice Arena, 865 Publisher Parkway, from **3:30 - 5:00 pm**. Parent drop off and pick up will be at the arena. Skaters can rent or bring their own skates.

On **Sunday, January 29th, from 4 - 6 pm** we will enjoy pizza and play party UNO, SPOONS and other Youth Fellowship favorite games. R.S.V.P. by 1/27 with your favorite pizza toppings and those you won't eat!



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



Children's Christian Education

Jesus loves everyone...and sees our potential.



We all have our not-so-friend-like moments: times we choose ourselves over others. We begin the month with the story of **Zacchaeus** who had a lot of those moments, yet Jesus still wanted to be his friend. Jesus sees who we are and what we can be. Through this story, the kids will learn that it is easy to love people who

love you back; it's harder to love people who are mean to us. Even when people let us down, Jesus never will.

We will also hear about how **Jesus welcomes children**. Even as adults, we can run into cliques at work or in the neighborhood-people who make us feel like an outsider. It's not a pleasant feeling and it's even worse for kids. Friendships change by the day or even by the hour in their world. They don't have our years of experience to help them navigate through those moments. The children will hear that Jesus is always paying attention, and always loving them.

January 1

Bells/Chimes with Mrs. Anderson

January 8

The story of **Zacchaeus** with Mrs. Galen

January 15

Winter Craft

January 22

The story of **Jesus Welcomes the Children** with Mrs. Brocker

January 29

Mission Outreach Project with Mrs. Galen

*"So now I am giving you a
new commandment;
Love each other.
Just as I have loved you,
you should love each other."*

John 13:34



Green Tip of the Month

Did you get new electronics for Christmas? Wondering what to do with your old ones? Recycling electronics keeps toxic waste out of landfills and reduces the resources needed to produce new electronics. Visit sunnking.com to find local electronics recycling events. Go to sellyourtech.com to sell your recyclable electronics, or generosity.com to donate them for worthy causes.

January Lectionary Readings

January 1

Old Testament
Psalm
New Testament
Gospel

Isaiah 63:7-9
Psalm 148
Hebrews 2:10-18
Matthew 2:13-23

January 8

Baptism of the Lord

Old Testament
Psalm
New Testament
Gospel

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

January 15

Old Testament
Psalm
New Testament
Gospel

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
I Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

January 22

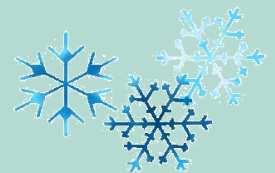
Old Testament
Psalm
New Testament
Gospel

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
I Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

January 29

Old Testament
Psalm
New Testament
Gospel

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
I Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12



Memory Verse

*Commit to the Lord whatever you do,
and he will establish your plans.*

Proverbs 16:3

