



# The Pathway

Newsletter of the Webster Presbyterian Church  
Webster, New York

April 2023

Vol. LIII No. 4

## From Pastor Phil

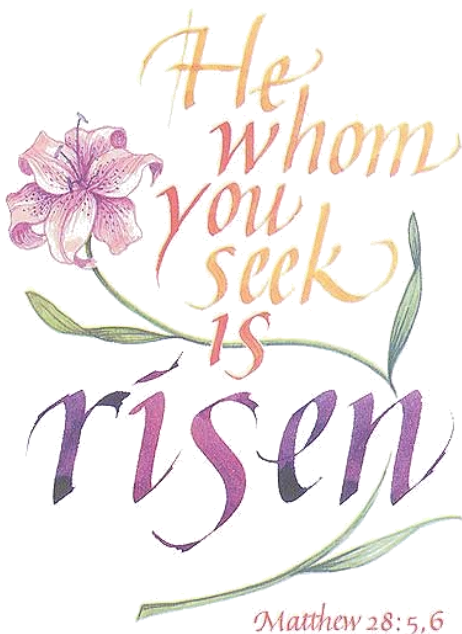
To My Sisters and Brothers at the Webster Presbyterian Church,

Hope. The Easter season is a reminder of the incredible hope we have. Hope that comes from the resurrection of Jesus our Christ. That hope is a powerful force and spirit that can guide us through even the most difficult times. Look for the many signs of hope that are around you. You will find kindness and generosity. And let the “green-ness” of spring remind you that renewal is simply what God does. I invite you to renew your commitment to live the resurrection hope made known to us in Christ Jesus. Wherever you are, let the light of Christ shine in you. Be a beacon of hope. Be a living testimony to the grace and mercy of God.

Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor Phil

## Holy Week Services



APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup>  
*Palm Sunday*  
Communion

9:30 am in the Sanctuary  
and Livestream

APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup>  
*Maundy Thursday*  
Communion

7:00 pm in the Sanctuary  
and Livestream

APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup>  
*Good Friday*

7:00 pm in the Sanctuary  
and Livestream

APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>  
*Easter Sunday*  
Communion

9:30 am in the Sanctuary  
and Livestream

# April



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

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-thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA>

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



## Trustees' Corner

Have you ever wondered what the Trustees do? We are responsible for maintaining our church building and grounds. If you can touch it, clean it, or move it, chances are it is something managed by the Trustees. We manage projects like the new boiler, the new Social Room floor, and the new parking lot. We arrange workdays - our congregational project to spruce up the church facilities. We manage the electrical system, the communication system, and more. If you have any concerns regarding the building and grounds, feel free to reach out to the Trustees.



As we mentioned, the trustees manage the church workday program. And, since spring has arrived, it's time to roll up our sleeves and clean up what winter left behind. **Please join us on Saturday, May 20th, for our SPRING WORKDAY. We will start at 8 am and finish around noon.** We'll bring the cider and donuts.



There is something that you can do now to help keep the church clean. If you have boxes to recycle, please break them down before placing them in the recycle bin. This allows for more boxes to be kept in an orderly fashion.

Stay tuned for updates on the parking lot project. The trustees have contacted the paving company and hope to have a firm start date soon. We will keep the congregation posted on the progress.

**The MAY Pathway deadline  
is APRIL 20th.**

Email articles to  
jchippero@websterpres.org  
AND  
ghubbard@websterpres.org.

## A Note From Session

The Session of WPC is proceeding in our quest to learn more about LGBTQ+ so that we might truly show that we are working to fulfill our identity statement: "We are followers of Jesus Christ, living and sharing the love of God, through faith and action, welcoming all." To that end, we have invited Elder Ralph Carter, long-time member of Third Presbyterian Church in Rochester, to attend our April meeting. We are asking him to share his experience during the years that his church explored becoming a More Light Church and since that time. Also, we will ask him to increase our awareness of ways to demonstrate that WPC is a welcoming church to the LGBTQ+ folk (the inclusive alternative to folks). This year, and years ahead, we hope to offer Adult Ed programs that enhance the learning of the congregation as well as Session. A committee will be formed to follow up on our discussion with Ralph Carter. If you would like to be part of this process in a more collaborative way, please contact Elders Barbara Hach, Connie Rice, or Tony Hubbard.

## Stewardship and Finance

### *Another Way to Give*

There are many ways we show our thanks to God: through giving of our time, our talents, and our resources. We are so fortunate that so many in our congregation give generously in all these ways!

From a resources point of view, we have talked about pledging and about tax-free giving from our IRAs to the church. One avenue of giving that we haven't talked a lot about is bequests - gifts made by designating in our wills that the church receive part of our estate when we pass.

Our church has benefitted greatly from members who have done this - our endowments have grown, much of the parking lot was paid for, and opportunities for bell programs were created, to name a few.

If you feel God may be calling you to do this, please speak with your attorney or estate planner.



### *Food Barrel*

Happy Spring! Thank you for all your generous donations. The local food pantries are very grateful! The current needs of the community are fruit juice in cans and bottles, applesauce in jars, canned tuna, pasta, pasta sauce in jars, and more are always appreciated!

Thank you!



## Mission Update

### One Great Hour of Sharing



The One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) collection is continuing through Easter to help fund three denominational programs:

- (1) Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)
- (2) Presbyterian Hunger Program, and
- (3) Self Development of People

Please consider donating to OGHS during Lent for this PCUSA special offering that brings hope to so many people. More information can be found at:

<https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/oghs/>.

### Clothing Collection for Cameron

This is an early heads-up that the Mission Committee will again be collecting gently used and new spring and summer men's, women's, and children's clothing for Cameron Community Ministries beginning May 1st. More information will be forthcoming, but as you begin to get out your spring and summer clothes, please set aside the items that you are willing to donate. Thank you!



### Spring Adopt-A-Highway Clean-up

Spring is showing signs of appearing! With spring comes our semi-annual Adopt-A-Highway clean-up of Rt. 250 by the church. This year's spring clean-up will be Saturday, April 22nd, beginning at 10:00 am. The commitment is less than two hours, as everyone is always done before noon. Please consider volunteering for this effort – first time participants are always welcome! Besides "pickers" we also need two drivers to get those collecting the debris to and from their section of the roadway.



April 22nd happens to be Earth Day. Participating in the clean-up is certainly a good way to recognize Earth Day and show that being good stewards of God's creation is important to us.



If you have any questions or to sign-up, please contact Mark Pipal at 787-4301 or pipalmw@yahoo.com.



Meet Arnold

*We have received heart warming thank you notes from some of the students that we support through our gifts. We will be featuring these over the next few months. Please keep these children in your prayers as they work hard to gain a life-changing education.*

Dear Sponsor,

How are you? i hope you are doing good. This letter is to pass my deepest appreciation to you for paying my school fees. i know it takes a good heart to be touched to do such a kind deed. i know you could have done alot with the money but you chose to help me. May God bless you. Your kindness is of high level.

May God give you more to continue helping - helping even others in need.

i will be going back to school on 24th and i will put more effort in my studies to qualify for a better grade. i had a C+ last term. I will be joining form 3 this year.

it is with great pleasure i am saying thanks alot and may God give you a long life so you can continue helping others who need help. Thanks alot.

Yours faithfully,

Arnold.





## Worship and Music

The Music and Worship Committee met via Zoom on February 28th. It was suggested that the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services be streamed. The singing of the Lord's Prayer has enriched our Lenten season and we will continue this practice on Communion Sundays in the future.

The committee is always looking for comments from the congregation about our worship services. The comments may be directed to any worship committee member. They are as follows: Jackie Anderson, Bob Blakey, Janet Chippero, Lee Ann Daigle, Todd Fargo and Sally Turner.

### "Technology Tales"

The Technology Team will be presenting *Technology Tales* during Adult Ed. on April 23rd. See the Learning for a Lifetime article on page 5 for more details.

### Cherry Ridge Services

Pastor Phil holds a worship service at Cherry Ridge the third Sunday of each month at 3 pm. It is our belief that anyone who wishes may attend. It looks as though the restrictions that were in place have been lifted.

### Children's Time

Sally Turner heads up the Children's story segment of our worship. If anyone has an idea for or would like to participate in giving a Children's story, please contact her at 671-9045.

### Handbell Concert

Glory Bells will be presenting a **Handbell Concert** in the Sanctuary on Thursday morning, April 20th at 10:00 am. The music selections will include favorite long-time hymns. It will be open to the public. In May the choir will be presenting their concert at three different nursing homes.

## Spiritual Nurture

Your Spiritual Nurture Committee has received a special request to repeat the presence of the Labyrinth for use during Easter week. As you may remember, it was made available in the Social Room on Ash Wednesday. To refresh your memory about the Labyrinth, here is a quote from the book, *Walking the Sacred Path: Rediscovering the Labyrinth as a Spiritual Practice*, by Lauren Artress, who in 1995, helped to bring the labyrinth back into public awareness:

*"Walking the Labyrinth has reemerged today as a metaphor for the spiritual journey and as a powerful tool for transformation. This walking meditation is an archetype, a mystical ritual found in all religious traditions. It quiets the mind and opens the soul. Walking A Sacred Path explores the historical origins of this divine imprint and shares the discoveries of modern-day seekers. It shows us the potential of the Labyrinth to inspire change and renewal, and it serves as a guide to help us develop the higher level of human awareness we need to survive in the twenty-first century."*

The Labyrinth will be laid in the Social Room from Maundy Thursday through Easter Sunday. It is okay for more than one person to walk it at the same time, in quietude. You can learn more by watching the YouTube video, *Spiritual Practice: Praying the Labyrinth*. Sue Palmer, Spiritual Practices Specialist at the Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center in Carefree, Arizona, hosts a 5:20 video that is quite enlightening.

May you encounter a sense of the divine as you avail yourself of this opportunity for spiritual renewal!

Another opportunity for spiritual renewal will be on Holy Saturday, April 8th, at 9:00 am on ZOOM. You are invited to join us in a 20-30 minute time of silent, contemplative prayer with others. Taking this brief time holds the potential to settle yourself, to make yourself available to God, to listen for him, to sense his guidance for you, to empower you to follow him and to serve him in your own unique way. Being in the presence of others is affirming and less lonely. Please consider joining us. The link will be sent in a church wide email a few days beforehand.



*Do not  
be afraid;  
do not be  
discouraged,  
for the Lord  
your God will  
be with you  
wherever  
you go.*

*Joshua 1:9 (NIV)*

## Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study continues the "A Journey Through Lent" DVD series by Timothy Keller. After Easter we will return to the Gospel of Mark, chapter 10. Join us on Tuesday mornings in Room 9/10 at 9:00 or on Zoom.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5123370883?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5123370883?pwd=SExVanpZN29JTk03Ykg2VUUrSGd6UT09)

[pwd=SExVanpZN29JTk03Ykg2VUUrSGd6UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5123370883?pwd=SExVanpZN29JTk03Ykg2VUUrSGd6UT09)



## Learning for a Lifetime

*Learning for a Lifetime* is a chance for adults to meet to discuss issues of faith, current events, hear outside speakers, have Bible studies, and grow in their own faith journey as well as have chances to raise concerns, ask questions, and get to know other church members in a candid and open setting. The Adult Christian Education Committee is in great need of new members to continue planning and implementing these offerings for all. Please prayerfully consider being a member and contact Sandi Blakey or Sally Turner.

### April Calendar



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

**April 2** *No meeting—attend All-Church Brunch*

**April 9** *No meeting—Easter Sunday*

**April 16** *in Room 9/10 and Zoom*

#### *Let's Talk About It*

What Might the Church of the Future Look Like?

What would a “way of life/way of love” church look like?

What would it ask of its members?

How would it differ from a more conventional church?

What could and should happen, with God’s help, at WPC?

Come join the discussion, based on Chapter 3, “Learning How to Love”, from Brian McClaren’s book, *The Great Spiritual Migration*.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82938906726?pwd=NUIkaHpTY3hYR2pFZFhaN1U0NFElZz09>

**April 23** *in the Sanctuary and Livestream*

#### *Technology Tales*

The Technology Team will share where we’ve been, what we’ve learned, and how we hope to grow the technology and streaming services we use at WPC. Participants can bring their phones, tablets, and laptops if they need support in accessing social media or the WPC website. Please send any questions you would like covered on to anyone in the Technology Group: Jay, Todd, Dick or Alissa.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA>

**April 30** *in the Sanctuary*

#### *Chimes and Bells*

Have you ever wanted to try playing the chimes or bells? Here’s your chance! Kathy Barbehenn will teach us how, adults and children! (Young children will need a parent to help them.) There will be demonstrations, music, and the opportunity to try both and have fun doing it. Who knows? You may find your undiscovered talent.



### *Bell Choir Rehearsals*

#### *Glory Bells:*

Rehearsals on Thursdays at 9:00 am  
in the Sanctuary

April 6th—No rehearsal

April 13th—rehearsal

April 20th—Concert at 10 am

April 27th—rehearsal

#### **May—Off-site performances**

May 4th—Cherry Ridge

May 11th—TBD

May 18th—Heathwood

#### *Alleluia Bells:*

Rehearsals on Thursdays at 6:30 pm  
in the Sanctuary

April 13th, 20th and 27th

### Glory Bells Presents

## *Favorite Hymns* *A Handbell Concert*

**Thursday, April 20th**  
**10:00 am**

*In the Sanctuary at*  
*Webster Presbyterian Church*

Join the Glory Bells as they  
perform some of your long-time  
favorite hymns.

Free of Charge    Open to All





## April Lectionary Readings

### April 2 Palm/Passion Sunday

Palms:

Psalm Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
Gospel Matthew 21:1-11

Passion:

Old Testament Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm Psalm 31:9-16  
New Testament Philippians 2:5-11  
Gospel Matthew 26:14—27:66

### April 6 Maundy Thursday

Old Testament Exodus 12:1-14  
Psalm Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19  
New Testament I Corinthians 11:23-26  
Gospel John 13:1-17, 31b-35

### April 7 Good Friday

Old Testament Isaiah 52:13—53:12  
Psalm Psalm 22  
New Testament Hebrews 10:16-25  
Gospel John 18:1—19:42

### April 9 Easter

Old Testament Jeremiah 31:1-6  
Psalm Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
New Testament Acts 10:34-43  
Colossians 3:1-4  
Gospel Matthew 28:1-10

### April 16

Old Testament Exodus 15:1-11  
Psalm Psalm 16  
New Testament Acts 2:14a, 22-32  
I Peter 1:3-9  
Gospel John 20:19-31

### April 23

Old Testament Isaiah 51:1-6  
Psalm Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
New Testament Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
I Peter 1:17-23  
Gospel Luke 24:13-35

### April 30

Old Testament Ezekiel 34:7-15  
Psalm Psalm 23  
New Testament Acts 2:42-47  
I Peter 2:19-25  
Gospel John 10:1-10

## Memory Verse

*He is not here; he has risen, just  
as he said. Come and see the  
place where he lay.*

Matthew 28:6



## Library News

Check out the new titles in the Library. You might find your next personal read or title for your small group or book group.

- *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence* by Diana Butler Bass

A beautifully written book that renews faith. Bass explores the many changing versions of Jesus one may have over a lifetime.

- *Wholehearted Faith* by Rachel Held Evans and Jef Chu  
Chu completes Rachel's book after her untimely death. It tackles topics such as grace, doubt, and sacrifice.
- *The World According to Mister Rogers, Things to Remember* by Fred Rogers  
Is it possible to disagree politically and love unconditionally?
- *Irresistible: Reclaiming the New that Jesus Unleashed for the World* by Andy Stanley  
Early followers found a religion that was irresistible; why is it not that way now?
- *Into the Mess & Other Jesus Stories* by Debie Thomas  
Thomas looks deeply into familiar stories with a fresh perspective.
- *The Gift of Years, Growing Older Gracefully* by Sister Joan Chittister  
The joys and challenges of growing older by a well-known author of over 40 books.
- *Raising Lazarus: Hope, Justice, and the Future of America's Overdose Crisis* by Beth Macy  
First account stories of heroes fighting the opioid health crisis.
- *Psalms for Praying* by Nan Merrill  
Merrill beautifully rewrites Psalms in a modern contemplative way.
- *Why did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road?* by Brian McLaren  
Love your neighbor; can you be a Christian and love those of other faiths?
- *Everything Belongs, the Gift of Contemplative Prayer* by Richard Rohr





## Getting to Know You

### *A peek into the lives of our Friends at Home.*

#### Jack and Mary Grace Thomas

Mary Grace Jones was born in 1931 in Guatemala (yes, I was surprised too!) Her father was a Primitive Methodist missionary. When Mary Grace was 5, the family came to America via the Panama Canal on a banana boat (yes, those are a real thing!) and settled in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Jack Thomas was born in Kingston, PA, but his great-great grandparents emigrated from Wales. (Sean Connery country!) Jack's family was raised in the Westmore Church of Christ.

They met while attending Christian Endeavor events (our local Webster Methodist church has hosted these in the past), courted, married and after a one day honeymoon in Atlantic City, settled down separately for their first year of married life. Mary Grace taught school in Williamsport, PA while Jack worked at Harter's Dairy in Dallas, PA.

Jack graduated from Rider University in 1953 with a degree in business. He worked for several years in a school for the deaf and finds himself unconsciously signing certain phrases while he's talking. He started working at Royal Globe Insurance, but eventually ended up as an administrator for the Salvation Army for 18 years. Upon leaving the "Army", he worked at Chase Pitkin (I still miss that store!) and Wegmans for 16 additional years. (Back when it was still allowed, I always loved going to Wegmans and seeing what food sample Jack was offering). Mary Grace, meanwhile, taught Spanish and Social Studies at Spry Middle School in Webster for most of 23 years.

Jack has always loved to sing and for 41 years was a member of SPEBSQSA (Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America!). Singing with The Chorus of the Genesee, he and Mary Grace traveled to many a competition throughout the Northeast. He organized and sang in multiple quartets at WPC as well (not easy singing sacred music with a barbershop flare though!). Mary Grace taught basket-weaving in her basement for years – I am a proud student and a proud owner of several baskets made under her watchful eye. I loved every minute of her classes and use those baskets every day.

If you want to cook their favorite foods, just rustle up some macaroni and cheese, roast beef, potatoes and gravy. But if you REALLY want to make Jack, in particular, happy – cook up some Porcupine Meatballs!! (I don't think you'll find the recipe in your everyday cookbook though, so we may have to ask Jack to leak the family secret!).

As for travel, their favorite trips were overseas to see their missionary son Bill, daughter-in-law Colleen, and the grandkids in Ukraine, but they'll tell you the family's camping vacations were always the best time of the year. Their daughters, Gwen Hoffman and Gayl Galen, both settled in Webster and have followed the family tradition of service to others coupled with a strong and resolute faith.

Jack and Mary Grace will celebrate 69 years of marriage in July of this year – any words of wisdom to share?

**Mary Grace** – Keep a positive attitude.

**Jack** – Never go to bed mad – you don't want to start tomorrow with yesterday.

Jack and Mary Grace live at Atria in Penfield and they would love to have a visit with you. You can find their birthdays listed on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Birthday cards are a lovely way to tell someone you're thinking of them, even if all you know about them is written above.

*"Getting to Know You" is written by Dawn Wiley and will appear in future editions featuring our "Friends at Home".*

### Women's Circles

**Naomi Circle** will meet on **Wednesday, April 12th at 1:00 pm** at Color Me Mine.

**King Circle** will gather on **Thursday, April 13th, at 10:00 am** in the **Memorial Room**. Tina McNeary will be presenting a program on Quilts.

**Rachel Circle** will meet on **Monday, April 24th at 6:30 pm** for a dinner out! Location TBD.

### Church Family News

*During March we prayed for:*

Charles Styles, the family of Spence Radnich, Jim Coler, Carol Frank, and the family of Bob Rice.

*We are saddened by the passing of:*

Long-time former member, Spence Radnich, on February 25th., and Long-time participant, Reverend Bob Rice, on March 14th.



## Children's Christian Education

*Jesus rescues us...  
and fills us with joy!*

Imagine being first at the tomb on Easter morning. The women must have been filled with both sorrow and dread. Their beloved friend, the Messiah, was dead.

In an instant, sorrow was turned to surprise. Surprise to wonder. And wonder to excitement. They rushed to tell the disciples what they had seen and heard. It wasn't enough to hear the news from an angel. Jesus himself appeared in the midst of his friends to prove to them that what he had said had come true. He had come back to life!



Today you have the privilege of telling your kids this amazing story - the life-changing story of Jesus. Even if kids have heard it before, what better day than on Easter Sunday for them to hear it again? Jesus' sacrifice was real, his love for them is real every day, and his rescue of us lasts forever.

- |                 |                                              |  |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------|--|
| <b>April 2</b>  | Palm Sunday lesson<br>with Mrs. Brocker      |  |
| <b>April 9</b>  | Easter Lesson<br>with Mrs. Galen             |  |
| <b>April 16</b> | Butterfly Craft<br>with Mrs. Galen           |  |
| <b>April 23</b> | Communion Lesson Review<br>with Mrs. Brocker |  |
| <b>April 30</b> | Mission Project Craft—paper flowers          |  |

## Vacation Bible School 2023

July 24 - 27<sup>th</sup> 9:00-Noon Classes for PreK - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

We are hard at work putting together another exciting VBS adventure, friends. All are welcome!

Registration forms will be available on the church website beginning June 1st, in the Narthex at church, or by contacting the church office at 265-9700. Registration forms will be mailed to WPC church families on May 15th. Adult and teen volunteers are always needed!

Any questions please call:  
Gayl Galen 872-5154



## Youth Fellowship

**Sunday, April 2nd**, from 4-6 pm we be **decorating Easter eggs** in the **Kitchen**. From Volcanic Fizzy egg dying, to natural egg dying, and other methods in between, youth will create a colorful dozen eggs to take home. Let me know if you will be in town to participate so we can prepare the appropriate amount of supplies.



Come out to decipher, **Sunday, April 16th**, from 4-6 pm in the **Youth Room**. The youth will form two teams to compete to see who can make contact with all of their agents first. Two rival spymasters knowing the secret identities of the 25 agents will give one word clues to direct their team to identify their agents by their **code names** before the opposing team.



**Sunday, April 23rd**, we will observe **Earth Day** from 4-6 pm. We will begin making **seed paper** to plant and grow flowers. Then we will enjoy a nature **hike**. Come wearing proper hiking footwear. Please **RSVP** so supplies can be purchased.

**Sunday, April 30th**, we will go out on the town to **car cache** from 4-6 pm. We will seek out **geocaches** around the area to find what treasures are hidden in plain sight from the car. We will need GPS units, so if you have one, please let me know. Youth with phones should download Geocaching, a free app. **Please RSVP** so I can plan for enough seating in cars.

There will be no fellowship on Easter.

Together in Fellowship and Service,

Wanda Nungesser  
Director of Youth Ministries  
youth@websterpres.org  
585-414-1337



## Green Tip of the Month

When mail ordering, skip the two-day shipping if possible. Ground shipping uses less energy than airmail.

