

The Pathway

Newsletter of the Webster Presbyterian Church Webster, New York

May 2023 Vol. LIII No. 5



At the conclusion of our service on April 23rd, when Michael Boucher, LCSW, spoke about mental health, I sensed a measure of relief among many in the church family. In the wake of his remarks, I was asked a question that went something like, "What is the connection between our mental health and our spiritual health and doesn't good spiritual health lead to good mental health?" I would answer that by saying that both are aspects of our overall well-being.

As a Christian minister, my answer about spiritual health care is that it is what we do in pursuit of the peace of our Christ that passes all understanding. Our mental health is part of our peace. Peace that is aided when we concretely address and unpack issues or challenges that are negatively impacting our mental well-being, such as anxiety, depression, or stress.

As Christians, we are called to "take everything to the Lord in prayer," and without question prayer changes things. Yet, some of us carry burdens which can appropriately be labeled as trauma and the mental health professionals are best suited to help us understand it's impact and address it. The psycho-therapist, Resmaa Menakem, writes, "Trauma in a person, decontextualized over time, looks like personality. Trauma in a family, decontextualized over time, looks like family traits. Trauma in a people, decontextualized over time, looks like culture." Among the roles of the psycho-therapist is to help us unpack and put our anxieties in context.

Our guest speaker's remarks freed many to understand their overall well-being in a broader context which includes mental health care.

I can only call that a blessing.

Your Brother In Christ,

Pastor Phil



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



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The JUNE Pathway deadline is MAY 20th.

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



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: https://facebook.com/Websterpres/

A Note From Session

Clerk's Report

Do you know what a connectional church is? According to the 2021 Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA) statistical report, there were 8,813 congregations in our denomination at that time. Since then, some churches have been dissolved and some new congregations have been formed. Not surprisingly, as with many denominations, we have lost more churches than have been formed. We are connected to all the PCUSA churches by multi-state and regional presbyteries. Being a connectional church enables us to share resources including assistance such as finding a new pastor as we are doing now through the PCUSA leadership connection. We can participate in national and international mission programs as we just did through the One Great Hour of Sharing program. Our local Presbytery of Genesee Valley prepares a monthly newsletter informing local congregations about events occurring in our area. The link for the April newsletter is:

https://pbygenval.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2023/04/E-News-APR-041123.pdf.

I will be attending the presbytery meeting on April 29th, at which time, the presbytery will vote on amendments to the PCUSA *Book of Order* that is part of our constitution along with the *Book of Confessions*. Next month, I'll summarize some of the decisions made at that meeting and how those decisions will connect us with other PCUSA churches.

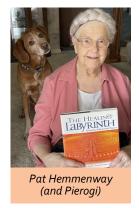
Tony Hubbard, Clerk of Session

The Labyrinth

Perhaps you know that there is no longer a physical office for the Presbytery of the Genesee Valley (PGV). As a result, there is no space to store "stuff"! Our church has been the repository, under the stage, for the 24' x 24' cloth labyrinth that was laid in the Social Room during the Holy Days of Easter. You may have walked it. It is the property of the Presbytery and we borrowed it first for a Spiritual Nurture Adult Ed Program in 2022 as an example of a spiritual practice. Cheryl Battaglia, PGV Staff Operations Manager, asked if we would be willing to keep the labyrinth and loan it out to churches that may request it. We said, "Of course!" That led to us wanting to know about its origin and history.



The labyrinth was inspired by an airport discussion while traveling to an annual Christian Ed. conference! In 2003, Pat Hemmenway, Interim Church School Director at Bethany Presbyterian Church on Dewey Avenue in Greece, and Rev. Susan Hartley collaborated to sew and paint "our" labyrinth right at the church with the



help of volunteers. In 2006, they actually painted a labyrinth on the parking lot of the church. The design that was used in both labyrinths is what was inlaid into the floor of the Chartres Cathedral in France during the 13th century, representing the spiritual journey we all take through life. Bethany Presbyterian opened the labyrinth to the public during specified hours. They used it as the centerpiece for their evening Vacation Bible School for all ages, including adults. It was taught about and used in the Church School. Pat has given us several books about labyrinths that we will add to our Library, as well as other literature, newspaper articles, and photos from the creation of their parking lot labyrinth. There has already been a request to borrow our labyrinth by the Parma Greece UCC!

EAP Committee Update

The Emergency Action Plan committee is preparing an evacuation statement to be read once a month to state where the exits are, where to meet outside the church, and other items of importance in an emergency.

Letter signage is being purchased to identify the 15 outside doors to the church. We are working with the fire department regarding the size and reflectivity that is required.

The lettered doors will be identified on a drawing of the church. A copy of this will be given to the police and fire departments to help them locate, as closely as possible, where they are needed in case of an emergency.

Signs are also being purchased to identify where people are to meet outside the church in an emergency. One will be placed by the sign located in front of our church and the other will be located in the north parking lot in the unpaved area. The signs will read "Evacuation Meeting Place".



Worship and Music



Special Children's Music – May 7

On Sunday, May 7th, the Shine Kids and the Chancel Choir will combine for a special song – "The Tree Song." Lee Ann has been working with the children and they are very excited to bring this beautiful song with a wonderful message to our church family. Please make sure you don't miss this wonderful hymn.

Rev. Carson Mouser - May 14

Rev. Mouser, who many of you met during our discernment process leading up to calling the PNC, will be leading us in worship on Sunday, May 14th. Pastor Phil will be away that weekend and we are privileged to have Rev. Mouser in his absence. He has a wealth of experience working with congregations as they call a new pastor, as well as pastoral work and serving as an interim pastor. We welcome him to our pulpit!

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

1 John 4:7-8

Communion Sunday

We are returning to more traditional ways of serving communion beginning Sunday, May 7th. We will be asking everyone to come to the front where they will be served the communion elements. The elements will be brought to those who are unable or choose not to come forward. We hope you will find this further opens our hearts to God.

In addition, we hope that you have been moved by praying the Lord's Prayer through

song. We have received very heartfelt comments. We will continue to sing the Lord's Prayer on Communion Sundays.

Children's Time

Sally Turner, with help from other contributors, provides a memorable Children's Time message each Sunday. Additional volunteers are needed to continue this program at the current level. Please consider volunteering. Stories and resource materials for simple-to-share stories are readily available through Gayl Galen. Please consider this opportunity to help our children know and love our Lord, Jesus the Christ.

Social Media

Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

Ephesians 4:31-32

WPC has a presence on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube. Please explore these options to stay connected with each other and our community. Here is the link to an article to help us think about how to build our presence in the virtual world:

https://www.sharefaith.com/blog/2015/11/social-mediatips-for-churches/?utm_term=&utm_campaign=DSA+-+ACQ+-+tCPA+-

+US&utm source=adwords&utm medium=ppc&hsa ac c=8702921626&hsa cam=17322795786&hsa grp=1386785 32442&hsa ad=599984787583&hsa src=g&hsa tgt=dsa-19959388920&hsa kw=&hsa mt=&hsa net=adwords&hsa ver=3&gclid=CjwKCAjwov6hBhBsEiwAvrvN6JuwZC G5kcXaN6zswap7 iGOnaUnJCS7pFFDgiXO6i164JE3AY ggGhoC3u8QAvD BwE









Tech Team Update

The Tech Team continues to produce high-quality online services each Sunday. We are very grateful for their commitment to our streamed service.

The Tech Team and the Worship and Music Committee met to prepare an initial future list of improvements to further enhance the quality of both the online service and the audio video flexibility in the sanctuary. All comments and suggestions are always appreciated.



Trustees' Corner

SPRING WORKDAY



MAY 20th 8:00 am-noon



Mark your calendars to help get the church and grounds to a proud and welcoming place to visit and worship. Refreshments will be supplied!

The parking lot project is scheduled to start in the beginning of June. At this



time, we do not have a schedule for how they will approach this project. It will affect parking and

entrance into the church, but this will be minimal. We will have details for the project in the June issue of the Pathway.

We are purchasing thin jell strips that grip the floor as well as the carpet runners so they will stay in place, but not mark up the tiles.

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will be finishing the Gospel of Mark in May. We meet on



Tuesday mornings at 9:00 in Room 9/10, except on the 30th when the Annual Brunch will take place in the Memorial Room.

Anyone who has participated this year is encouraged to come to the brunch for food, fellowship, and fun. Bring a dish to pass if you can - protein, fruit or juice, or a sweet bread.



Mission Update



One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great

Thanks to your generous donations, \$2,770 was collected for the PCUSA One Great Hour of Sharing program during Lent. This national and international program works with the Presbyterian Mission Agency to help people with food insecurity, disaster assistance, and self-development of people. Thank you for your generosity!

Clothing Collection for Cameron

From April 30th until May 30th, we will again be collecting new and gently used lightweight (for spring and/or summer) clothing for Cameron Community Ministries. The highest priority is for men's clothing, but women's and children's items are also gratefully accepted. Please check your closets for items to

donate. Bring your items to church and put them in one of the blue tubs located in the Narthex and in the upper hallway. If you don't have items in your closet to contribute, please consider going to a local thrift or discount store to buy items to donate. Savers has a sale every Tuesday



and Goodwill has a sale every Wednesday, so prices are especially reasonable then. We have collected generous clothing donations for at least 10 years now and thank you in advance for helping us to do that again this spring! (Please do NOT donate winter clothing at this time as Cameron does not have room to store them.)

May 7th Adult Ed Program



At our May 7th Adult Ed, we will be blessed to have our local Young Life leader, Dustin Bailey, talk to us about the mission trip they took to El Salvador during February school break. They have gone to the same village in El Salvador for a number of years and his story of how they have helped the village progress is very inspiring!

These Young Life mission trips are somewhat similar to trips our church members have taken in the past to both national and international (Kenya) locations. Perhaps Dustin's presentation will inspire some of our members to think about doing new trips! So please mark your calendar and don't miss this one!

Summer Mission 2023

The Mission Committee has researched and submitted two projects to aid Ukrainians who are still in that war-torn country. These projects will hopefully be approved by Session at its May meeting. More details will be forthcoming in May, and the June 4th Adult Ed. will include a presentation from the project(s) that get approved. This will be another Adult Ed. that you won't want to miss!



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.

May Calendar

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

May 7

in the Sanctuary and Livestream

Young Life Presentation

Our local Young Life leader, Dustin Bailey, will talk to us about their mission trip to El Salvador. (see Mission article on page 4)

May 14

No meeting—Mother's Day

May 21

in Room 9/10 and Zoom

Let's Talk About It

Does Prayer Really Heal People?

Does God move in response to people's prayers in a way God would not otherwise?

Is profound medical recovery ever a purely spiritual movement?

Many of us have wrestled with these questions. Join us as we discuss an article written by John Pavlovitz, pastor and author. The article provides open and honest insights into this topic. Below is a link to the article so you can take a look at it before our discussion.

Article link:

https://johnpavlovitz.com/2023/01/11/do

Zoom link for class:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82938906726? pwd=NUlkaHpTY3hYR2pFZFhaN1U0NFE1Zz09

May 28

in Room 9/10

Bible Trivia



Do you watch Jeopardy or have you played "Trivial Pursuit"? Then you will like attending Adult Ed. on the 28th! Bone up ahead; bring your Bible and come for games and fun and learning. No cash prizes!



Deacons' Doings

Coffee

As you may recall, Coffee Connections was one of our Summer Mission Projects last year. This program empowers women on their journey to sustainable recovery from addiction, trauma, and incarceration. Through counseling and training, these women are able to find jobs in the CC shops that sell fair trade and organically grown coffee. The Deacons have decided that we will provide ongoing support to this mission by purchasing coffee to serve on Sunday mornings from them.

Food Barrel

Thank you for all of your generous donations; the local food pantries are very grateful! Recently, Webster Hope had to discard their applesauce supply due to a food recall so we are adding jarred applesauce to the list! Other current needs of the community are fruit juice in cans and bottles, peanut butter, canned tuna, pasta, pasta sauce in jars, and more. Thank you!

Friends at Home Birthdays

Check out the Friends at Home bulletin board in the Narthex. There you will find a calendar marked with birthdays along with cards to use and a list of names, birthdays, and addresses for you to take. It couldn't be easier to send some cheer to our Friends at Home!

Picnic Time!

Mark your calendar for June 11th! The deacons will be hosting a picnic following the All-Music Sunday Worship Service. More details to come in the June *Pathway* and in upcoming bulletin announcements.



Bell Choir Update Glory Bells:

Off-site Spring Program Performances

May 4th—Cherry Ridge May 11th—Aaron Manor May 18th—Heathwood all begin at 10:30 am

Alleluia Bells:

Rehearsals on all Thursdays in May at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary

May Lectionary Readings

May 7

Old Testament Proverbs 4:10-18
Psalm Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

New Testament Acts 7:55-60 I Peter 2:2-10

Gospel John 14:1-14

May 14

Old Testament
Psalm
Psalm
Psalm
Psalm 66:8-20
Acts 17:22-31
I Peter 3:13-22
Gospel
John 14:15-21

May 21

Old Testament Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalm Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

New Testament Acts 1:6-14

I Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Gospel John 17:1-11

May 28 Day of Pentecost

Old Testament Numbers 11:24-30 Psalm Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

New Testament Acts 2:1-21

I Corinthians 12:3b-13

Gospel John 20:19-23

Memory Verse

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer.

Romans 12:12





Yellow Rose Sunday

Spring has come with flowers blooming and leaves coming out on the trees! This is the time at WPC when we honor or remember those who have made a difference in our lives as Christians. On May 7th and 14th, we will be accepting donations in their names. Yellow Rose Sunday will be May 21st 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 uses the interest income. In a typical year, the fund can conservatively provide between \$5,000 and \$10,000. You can

donate by using the Yellow Rose envelopes in the chair rack, by mailing in a check noting that it is for Yellow Rose, or clicking on the 'Give' button on the website indicating that it is for Yellow Rose.

Please take the time to honor someone who means much to you and also help our church at the same time.





Heart and Hand

Thanks to the dedication of volunteer sewers, by the time you read this, twenty incubator flannel blanket covers will have been delivered to the Rochester General Hospital's Neo Natal Intensive Care Unit. The blankets are used to darken the baby's space during the night to train them to sleep on a family schedule.

The month of April marked the delivery of the 30th love quilt that Heart and Hand has given to members and friends of WPC since the beginning of 2017. The hand-made quilts are given to share the church's loving support of members who have experienced a great loss, are undergoing severe heath



issues, or are celebrating a very significant life experience. We would appreciate being informed of any members in these situations. Surely, we don't know of them all.

Our next meeting will be May 19th at 10 am in the Memorial Room. We will be sewing pediatric surgical caps for the Golisano Children's Hospital. All are welcome, whether you sew or not. We have plenty of jobs to complete any project.





WPC Men's Breakfast Reunion

Save the Date-Saturday May 13th, at 8:30 am

The Social Room RC Flying and Driving Friday Morning Guys are hosting a breakfast in appreciation for the wonderful times we have



had in the Social Room for many years. More importantly, as we have gathered most recently, celebrating the lives of so many good friends at WPC, it has become clear that it is past time to reconnect and enjoy each other's company. Be prepared to drive and fly (there will be drones and remote cars to try) after breakfast in the Social Room. If you have a remote car or drone,



bring it along. Better yet, if you have a young person in your world that would enjoy the hobby, Dan Marsh has a wonderful set of drones that can be easily enjoyed by all beginners. Finally, bring your appetite and the smiles we miss very much.

God Bless and see you there for Breakfast on May 13th! Contact Dan Marsh (760-9241) or Bob Kizer (967-5389) with questions.

Monroe County in Bloom

Have you seen the WPC sponsored Monroe County in Bloom Garden on the corner of Phillips and Schlegel Roads? Flowers are ordered during the winter months. We plant annuals in early June and go out for ice cream to celebrate successful planting and trimming the shrubs. During the summer months, we take turns watering, weeding and dead-heading. Our happy gardening group includes Tony and Georgia Hubbard, Brad and Kathy Adams, Tina and Dick McNeary, and John and Elaine Wilbert.



We would love to have you join our group since many hands make light work!

For more information, call Elaine Wilbert 585-503-9141.



Green Tip of the Month

Spring is here, and along with it, spring cleaning! Be sure to recycle whenever possible. Monroe County has an EcoPark at 10 Avion

Drive near the airport. They take zillions of items for recycling, such as appliances, tires, batteries, jewelry, electronics, lightbulbs, metals, cooking grease, syringes, sneakers, textiles, and more! For hours and a complete list of where to recycle anything in Monroe County, go to monroecounty.gov/ecopark.

Women's Circles

Naomi Circle will meet on Wednesday, May 10th, at 1:00 pm at the home of Elaine Wilbert. We will be making terrariums.

King Circle is presenting an open program from Caring Choices Pregnancy Help Center at our May gathering on Thursday, May 11th. Natalia Logue, Director of Client Services, will be our speaker. We contacted both Women's and Men's Bible Study and other Circles about this program and welcome others who might be interested. gathering will start at 10:00 am in the Social Room with refreshments. Program will start at 10:30. We request an RSVP by May 7th by calling the church office at 265-9700 or Sue Wrobleski at 545-4807



Rachel Circle is still planning our May gathering. We will get the word out when we finalize our plans!



Thank You!

Thank you for all of the donations received (dresses, accessories, and shoes) for the girls to wear to prom. Your generosity was a blessing!

Pam Booth





Getting to Know You



A peek into the lives of our Friends at Home.

Robert "Bob" Rollog

If you ever happen to find yourself in Norway, look up a town named Rollag. How many of us can say we have a town named after someone in our family? Dad was born in Canada and according to Bob "got tired of everyone mispronouncing Rollag," so he changed the spelling. Mom was a native of Bellingham, Washington.

Bob will turn 94 in May this year – one of 5 kids, 4 boys and a sister who died at the age of 4 months. A child of the depression, Bob and his family did whatever it took to survive. His Dad worked the WPA projects of FDR, sold hot dogs and cars, and in June of 1940, took the family to Dutch Harbor, Alaska. He opened a bake shop in the SS Northwestern – a 103 foot steamship that ran aground and was being used by the military as temporary barracks! However, after December 7th, 1941, Bob's family was evacuated back to Seattle. As a teenager after the war, Bob worked on tugboats pushing barges of lumber from Juneau to Seward, finished high school back in Seattle and in 1949, joined the Marines Aviation Group at Sand Point Air Station. He was stationed in Hawaii for ten months during the Korean War working as a mechanic. He also found a missionary church in Kailua and, upon returning to Seattle, accepted the Lord during a Billy Graham crusade.

Bob bounced back and forth between Washington and Alaska – worked for Boeing, a janitorial service, in a carpentry shop and as a longshoreman. He literally "bumped into" his second wife, Mary Anne, in Ketchikan. (There's a rhyme in there "Mary Anne in Ketchikan!") Mary Anne, a native of Bath, NY, had been teaching kindergarten in Webster. She and two friends went looking for adventure and applied for jobs in Ketchikan. Destiny took over, and when Bob's final divorce paperwork came in the day before he married Mary Anne in 1966, the rest was history. Sadly, in 2004, after thirty-eight years of marriage, Mary Anne passed away.

They settled in Webster, and Bob continued to do whatever was necessary to support his family(s), having two children from his first marriage and two more with Mary Anne. He worked for a printing company, Comstock Foods, and rototilled gardens on the side. In 1978, he found stability and went to work for the Village of Webster, retiring in 1998.

Bob likes to read – more non-fiction than fiction. If you want to make him smile at the dinner table, just bring out either pot roast or steamed clams with plenty of drawn butter! (Yum!) If he could settle anywhere but Webster, he'd go to Port Angeles, Washington – in his opinion, the best of all worlds – moderate temperatures, skiing, fishing and camping year round, surrounded by mountains but close enough to the ocean, with easy access to both Seattle and Ketchikan. The way he describes it – I may move there myself!!

About 5 years ago, he and his daughter Beth took the best trip ever – Seattle to Ketchikan to Bellingham, Vancouver Island, Hurricane Ridge, Tacoma and, of course, Port Angeles. His son Mark flew in from Australia and met them in Ketchikan – now that's family devotion!

Beth lives with her Dad, 3 cats and a dog, at the family home on Mohawk Street in the Village and works from home for an insurance company. Mark works for Apple in California. Steven and Jennifer, his children from his first marriage, live in Seattle and Missouri respectively. He also has two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren!

Bob's memorable phrase: "It's time for a strawberry milkshake!"

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

Church Family News



During April we prayed for:

Cathy Blakey, Mike Deveny, Tom McIlevne, Gayl Galen, the family of Peggy Heier, and the family of Phyllis Curtis.

We are saddened by the passing of:

Former member, Phyllis Curtis, on April 17th.

New Address:

Carol Martin 1010 Hazelnut Bend Apt. 114 Webster, NY 14580

Vacation Bible School

July 24 - 27th 9:00-Noon Classes for PreK – 5th Grade



All church families will receive a registration form in the mail by May 15th. Additional 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. Any questions please call: Gayl Galen 872-5154.



putting together another exciting VBS adventure for your kids. Spread the word to their friends.

All are welcome!



Children's Christian Education

May 7 Crafts & Games with Mrs. Galen

> The SHINE kids will sing with the adult choir in worship



May 14 Pancakes!!



Bell/Chime practice with Mrs. Anderson

Crafts & Games with Mrs. Galen May 21

> Family fieldtrip to Crackerbox Palace Animal Rescue Meet at the church at 1:30 at historic Alara Farm



May 28 Bible Lesson with Mrs. Brocker

June 4 Bell/Chime practice with Mrs. Anderson

> We will hand out our paper flowers after

worship

Music Sunday — June 11

> All kids will stay in church. There is no SHINE.

Children will play chimes in worship.

NOTE:

There is no SHINE class after June 11th. Worship Bags will be available at the back of the Sanctuary for children attending worship during the summer. Bags contain word puzzles, coloring pages and story books. SHINE will resume in the fall!

Youth Fellowship

On Sunday, May 7th, we will be creating candles and cards to gift on Mother's Day. Supplies to pour and decorate your own candle as well as a

handmade card will be provided. Please RSVP by May 3rd for proper supplies to be purchased. We will work in the Social Room and Kitchen from **4-6 pm**.



Fellowship will travel to Club House Fun Center, 70 Jay Scutti Blvd. on Sunday, May 21st, for miniature golf, go-kart racing, bumper cars and



arcade games from 4-6 pm. The initial **RSVP** is needed by May 7th so I can make the initial deposit with the center. I will add participants for as long as possible.

There will not be Fellowship on May 14th and May 28th to make time for you to celebrate the holidays with family.

All youth grades 5th through 12th are welcome and you're always encouraged to bring friends.

We like to give 5th graders the opportunity to experience Fellowship in May. We hope that youth will find time in their schedule to participate in these events. Help me to plan for these events by responding with your expected attendance as soon as you decide. I need to buy tickets, plan supplies, provide adult support, rides and snacks.

Together in Fellowship & Service,

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

