



The Pathway

Newsletter of the Webster Presbyterian Church
Webster, New York

June 2023

Vol. LIII No. 6



June

To my Church Family,

In his letter to the Romans, the Apostle Paul challenges us to “be not conformed to the patterns of this world: but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

Transformation requires a deliberate effort to unlearn preconceived notions and expand our perspectives. To not conform often means not following the crowd and not uncritically adhering to tradition. This can mean unlearning ideas we believe to be sacred, expanding our perspective and broadening the scope of our love.

I’ve come to see Jesus as modeling critical thinking for us and I see the Apostle Paul inviting us to critical thinking.

My prayer is that you give prayerful consideration to how you can transform and renew your mind to share your faith in this present age.

Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor Phil

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

Summer Office Hours

From **May 30th through Labor Day**, the church office will be open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from **9:00 till noon**. The secretaries or pastor can be available at other times. Please call ahead to ensure someone is available to help you, 265-9700.

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

Thank you to all of you who participated in the Spring workday on May 20th. We were very busy sprucing up the church (outside and in) and it shows. As the old proverb goes, "Many hands make light work."

Our parking lot project is scheduled to start on Monday, June 12th. Ruston



Paving will start with the North Loop.

There will be no parking available on the north side of the church until that portion of the project is completed (estimated 5-6 days for completion).

The South Lot will then be resurfaced. During this part of the project, parking will be limited to the gravel lot on the south side of the church and the newly repaved North Loop. We are excited that this project has finally come to fruition and ask for your patience during the reconstruction process.

One of the cost-saving measures we have implemented over the last year was to reduce the frequency of our recycling pick-up from our waste service to once a month. This leads to an accumulation of recycling materials in our bins. Because it is important to remove the materials on the scheduled days, we ask that you not park your vehicle in front of the bin on **Tuesdays**. We have experienced several instances where the recycling truck had to skip the scheduled pick up because a vehicle was blocking access to the bin. Thank you for your understanding.



A Note From Session

I represented our church at the Presbytery in-person meeting at the Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church on April 29th. A time of worship was included between times of reporting on routine business items and reports from various committees. The major item of business was proposed updates to the PCUSA Book of Order. Presbytery voted on the Church Discipline section of the Book of Order and sent the results to the national church to be tallied with the voting from other presbyteries. Amendments to other sections of the Book of Order were completed earlier this year. A revised Book of Order will be printed after results from all presbyteries are received. Meeting with other church members in our Presbytery enables us to share the opportunities and challenges we are all facing.

As summer starts, many church programs and activities will take place. Our work to prepare an Emergency Action Plan to improve safety in our building will continue, the Discovery team will be meeting with other churches in Webster to learn how we can support each other and share in activities, Vacation Bible School will take place in July, the summer mission collection will help people in Ukraine, the church parking lot will be repaved, and the newly formed ONE in Christ Committee (explained on page 6) will continue its work to help make us a "Welcoming All" church. Please contact me if you want to learn more about any of these summer activities.

Tony Hubbard, Clerk of Session

EAP Committee Update

The Emergency Action Plan Committee is forging ahead with a formalized emergency program for our church. We have been diligently working on our fire emergency plan which includes an emergency evacuation plan, evacuation routes, signage, and a remapping of the church. Once we have determined that our fire program is adequate for our needs, we will take on other emergency preparedness topics including weather emergencies and mitigating violent events. We will keep you posted on our progress.

Adopt-a-Highway Clean-up

On Earth Day, Saturday, April 22nd, fourteen of our church family successfully completed an Adopt-a-Highway clean-up of Route 250, by the church. A big thank you to all who participated. It is clear we are making a difference in how the roadway looks, and that it is appreciated by those living along the road. WPC has been conducting this twice/year clean-up for over a decade with many people having participated in the activity. Come join in the fall clean-up. I bet you'll enjoy it!



Deacons' Doings

Picnic Time!



Mark your calendar for **June 11th**! The deacons will be hosting a picnic following the All-Music Sunday Worship Service. Join us for **Food, Fun, and Fellowship!** We will be grilling up hot dogs and will provide salads, beans, watermelon, desserts, and beverages.

Weather permitting, we will be outdoors, so bring your lawn chair! Play a round of Bocce or join a Corn Hole tournament. There will fun for the whole family! **Sign-up by June 4th** in the Narthex or by calling the church office at 265-9700. If the weather does not cooperate, we will bring the fun indoors.



Food Barrel

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



Coffee Update

Due to popular opinion, coffee service will continue through the summer months. We will also be offering lemonade and iced tea.

During May, we began serving coffee from Coffee Connection, a locally run coffee roaster that employs women who are in recovery from addiction, trauma, and incarceration. Their coffee is organically grown, fair trade, and delicious! We've received many positive comments on the new brew!

Please remember to bring your reusable coffee mug on Sunday mornings! Let's be good stewards of the earth!



Green Tip of the Month

The summer months have arrived, and it is important to stay hydrated. Did you know that bottled water is not healthier or safer than tap water? This is due to the fact that bottled water is not regulated as strictly as tap water. Bottled water costs a lot more than tap water, requires 47 million gallons of oil per year to produce, and produces 1.5 million tons of plastic waste each year. Multinational bottled water corporations purchase groundwater and distribution rights to commoditize a basic human right: the access to safe and affordable water. Instead, use a stainless steel thermos or, if you don't like your tap water's taste, use a water filter.

Spiritual Nurture

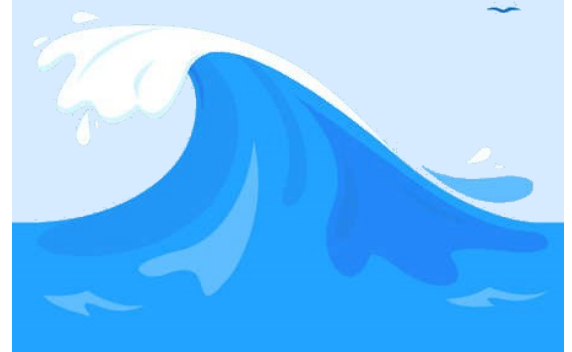
Summer is soon upon us and the Pathway will be on vacation for July and August. So, we of the Spiritual Nurture Committee would like to wish you well as you continue your spiritual practices over the summer. A recent contributor to the *Upper Room* expressed it this way: "...spiritual growth happens over time. Such growth requires regular, thoughtful focus on God's word. Our spiritual journey needs constant effort. The world is full of distractions which can cause great anxiety... Pausing daily to reflect, meditate, and pray leaves us less anxious and more able to bear the fruit of God's Spirit." (see Gal. 5:22-23)

Father Richard Rohr of the Center for Action and Contemplation (meditations@cac.org) has led contemplative prayer using *Psalm 46:10*: "Be still, and know that I am God." And more recently, it was suggested in one of the daily online offerings to repeat it as a chant. It would go like this:

Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am
Be still and know
Be still
Be



We wish you a restful, restorative, and Spirit-filled summer. May you experience a sense of the Divine! We look forward to sharing with you again in September. Immanuel!



Worship and Music

All Music Sunday – June 11

Please plan to join us for worship on June 11th at 9:30 as we celebrate ALL of the music that our church raises in praise to God! Musical offerings will be provided by the Alleluia Bells, Chancel Choir, Kids Chimers, Sally Turner/flute, Ryan Chan/guest organist and a group of our own instrumentalists, organized by Tony Hubbard. After the service, join us for a picnic with our church family!

Visiting Pastors

We are blessed to have Rev. Heppenstall return to the pulpit on **June 11th** to lead our worship service on All Music Sunday in Pastor Phil's absence.

On **June 18th**, Pastor Phil has arranged a pulpit exchange with Pastor Fox-Kline, Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church's new pastor. This is a continuation of Pastor Phil's wonderful effort to bring other voices into our sanctuary.

Calling all Musicians!

If you would like to praise the Lord with music, we have an opportunity for you! Please consider sharing your gifts by providing special music during summer Sunday worship. Sharing your music is a gift to our loving God and adds depth and meaning to our worship service during the summer months when our choir and bells take a well-deserved break. Singers and instrumentalists are welcomed and encouraged!

You can contact Lee Ann Daigle for more information at 585-899-0120.

O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.

Psalm 96: 1-3

Tech Team Update

Many thanks to Jay Petrino, Dick Dodd, Todd Fargo and Todd Hall for sharing with 20 people during adult education in May, a glimpse into our history of building a technology presence and hope for our growing future. Please consider giving “the techies in the back” a break this summer by offering to advance slides in the sanctuary or learning the livestreaming process - if you are willing to give it a try, contact any of the Technology or Worship Committee members.

If you would like assistance in setting up any devices (laptops, tablets, phones) to connect with WPC to watch Sunday services, Adult Ed., church related meetings, or social media news, please contact Janet in the office or Alissa Mayer (585) 694-4667 so we can send someone to visit you and help set up your devices.

Benefits Of Having a YouTube Account and Subscribing to the WPC YouTube Channel

Having your own YouTube account and subscribing to the Webster Presbyterian Church - New York YouTube page has numerous benefits for individual users and the church.

Benefits:

- Subscribing to the church's page keeps you updated on new content. Whenever the church posts a new video, notices are sent to subscribers' emails, so you always know when something new is available. You also receive alerts when the channel goes “Live”.
- It helps the church know how many viewers we are getting and provides analytic information that helps us improve the service.
- It allows the user to create personalized “playlists”, and enhances people's search results by seeing what the user likes and suggesting similar content.
- Subscribers can make comments directly on the video being watched in real time, while the content is streaming, allowing watchers to stay in touch with the wider church community.

All of this is free-of-charge.

How to sign up:

To sign into YouTube, go to the YouTube.com website and click the “Sign-in” button in the upper right corner. Click “Create Account”. Choose “For Myself” and fill in the information for your Google account. If you don't have a Google account already, you can create one directly for YouTube.

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/161805?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop>

To Subscribe to WPC:

Go to the YouTube.com website.

Search for Webster Presbyterian Church - New York (not the one in Texas!).

<https://www.youtube.com/@websterpresbyterianchurch-287>

Click on the image for the church's page and click the black “Subscribe” button. You are subscribed!

If you have any questions or would like assistance contact: Alissa Mayer, Todd Hall, Todd Fargo, or Jay Petrino.

Mission Update

Clothing Collection for Cameron

Until May 30th, we are collecting new and gently used light weight (for spring and/or summer) clothing for Cameron Community Ministries. (Please don't donate winter clothing now as Cameron has no room to store them.) The highest priority is for men's clothing, but women's and children's items are also gratefully accepted. If you don't have items in your closets 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 with prices being especially reasonable then. We have already made one trip to Cameron with your donations from the first half of May and will make a second trip in very early June. Thank you to everyone who has already donated!



School Supply Collection

The Mission Committee is again collecting School Supplies for needy students at Williamson Community Center and for Eastern Service Workers. The collection starts July 9th and will run through August 13th. Three collection boxes will be placed (1) outside at the North entrance to the church, (2) in the Narthex and, (3) in the upper hallway.

Supplies needed are: pencils, crayons, markers, glue sticks, colored folders, scissors, back packs, rulers, index cards, and spiral note books. Also needed are individual tissue packs and hand sanitizer.



All school supplies need to be in small individual sizes or containers.

Thank you for helping these children start school with the right tools!

Summer Mission 2023

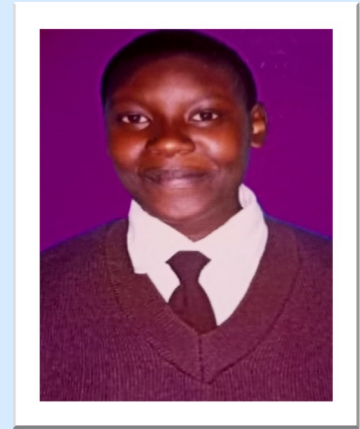
This year we will focus on supporting the people in Ukraine who have been at war with Russia since 2014.

On June 4th, come hear about the two exciting projects Mission has selected to support. We will meet in the Sanctuary at 10:45 am.

#1 Yellow Box Project - This is run by Cru, formally called Campus Crusade for Christ. Missionaries and volunteers deliver boxes of supplies to Ukrainian families. Each box contains: flour/sugar, sunflower oil, tea & coffee, canned foods, plus a Gospel letter about God's love in the midst of tragedy.

#2 ROCMaidan - a Ukraine Organization located in Webster on Jackson Rd. The project is to fill backpacks with medical supplies. Each bag costs \$225.00. Shipments are sent to specific locations where volunteers distribute them to medical people and field clinics. However, if a need comes up for a larger medical item, our donations could be used for that also.

Our goal is \$8,000. Envelopes will be in the chair racks beginning June 4th and ending August 27th.



Meet Esther

We have received heart warming thank you notes from some of the students that we support through our Kenyan 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,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for your generous support towards my education. Your financial contribution has made a significant impact on my academic journey, and I cannot thank you enough.

With your support, I am able to focus on my studies and pursue my dreams without the added stress of financial burden. Your investment in my future will have a lasting impact and I am determined to make use of this opportunity.

Once again thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Yours sincerely,
Esther Wanjiku.





Learning for a Lifetime

June Calendar

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

June 4

in the Sanctuary and Livestream

Summer Lectionary Readings

June 4 Trinity Sunday

Old Testament	Genesis 1:1 - 2:4a
Psalm	Psalm 8
New Testament	II Corinthians 13:11-13
Gospel	Matthew 28:16-20

June 11

Old Testament	Genesis 12:1-9
Psalm	Psalm 33:1-12
New Testament	Romans 4:13-25
Gospel	Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 18

Old Testament	Genesis 18:1-15 (21:1-7)
Psalm	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
New Testament	Romans 5:1-8
Gospel	Matthew 9:35 - 10:8-23

June 25

Old Testament	Genesis 21:8-21
Psalm	Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
New Testament	Romans 6:1b-11
Gospel	Matthew 10:24-39

July 2

Old Testament	Genesis 22:1-14
Psalm	Psalm 13
New Testament	Romans 6:12-23
Gospel	Matthew 10:40-42

July 9

Old Testament	Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
Psalm	Psalm 45:10-17
New Testament	Romans 7:15-25a
Gospel	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16

Old Testament	Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm	Psalm 119:105-112
New Testament	Romans 8:1-11
Gospel	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23

Old Testament	Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalm	Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
New Testament	Romans 8:12-25
Gospel	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30

Old Testament	Genesis 29:15-28
Psalm	Psalm 105:1-11, 45b
New Testament	Romans 8:26-39
Gospel	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Continued on page 7

Summer Mission Project Presentation

Join us to learn about our selected summer mission recipients, Yellow Box Project and ROCMaiden. Guest speakers will describe the work they do, the clients they serve, and their current needs. See the Mission article on page 5 for more details.

Learning for a Lifetime will return in the fall. We wish you all a refreshing summer!

ONE in Christ

Session has approved the formation of a subcommittee for the purpose of discerning whether Webster Presbyterian Church is ready and/or willing to become a More Light church. As a More Light church, we would publicly acknowledge that we are inclusive of our LGBTQIA+ siblings, thereby contributing to the fulfillment of our Identity/Mission Statement, "We are followers of Jesus Christ, living and sharing the love of God through faith and action, **welcoming all**. Our new subcommittee is named "ONE in Christ." The acronym ONE stands for O=Our, N=iNclusive, E=Exploration in Christ; it is based on Ephesians 3:26-28 (NIV). We hope to accomplish our goal through congregational education and conversation via Adult Ed. programs, book studies, and guest speakers. We have applied for the Presbytery of Genesee Valley 2023 Congregational Vitality Grant of \$1000 to be used toward this end.



Books with Study Guide possibilities include:

Transforming, The Bible & Lives of Transgender Christians
by Austen Hartke

Jesus, the Bible, and Homosexuality; Explode the Myths, Heal the Church by Jack Rogers

Unclobber, Rethinking Our Misuse of the Bible on Homosexuality
by Colby Martin

Other rich resources include the More Light Presbyterians website: mlp.org; Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School (CRCDS); More Light Presbyterian Churches in the Rochester area.

ONE in Christ members include Sandi Blakey, Lee Ann Daigle, Barb Hach, and Alissa Mayer; Barb is the chair.

We hope and pray that you will participate in our programs so that we will all become enlightened and have a voice in our decision.

Bell Choir Update

Alleluia Bells will rehearsal on June 1st and 8th at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary.



Library News

What do you know about the history of labyrinths and the spiritual use of them? When our church inherited the Labyrinth, along with it came a number of books about labyrinths. There are too many for our church library. A couple will be chosen for all to share from the library; the rest will be put out for anyone interested to take. Look for them on display.



The SEPTEMBER Pathway deadline is AUGUST 20th.

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

“Don’t shine so that others can see you.
Shine so that through you, others can see Him.”

C. S. Lewis

PNC Update

The Pastor Nominating Committee continues to work diligently through interviews and conversations. We are at a delicate phase of ongoing communications and ask for continued prayers and support from the congregation as God leads us to our new pastor.



Women’s Circles

King Circle will be gathering on June 8th at 11:30 am for their annual lunch out at Mama Lors near Union Hill, located at the corner of County Line Rd. and East Ridge Rd. See you there!

Naomi Circle will meet Wednesday, June 14th at 12 noon for the year-end picnic at Gay Coler’s home.



Church Family News

During May we prayed for:

Tricia Comfort, Chuck and Mary Crocket, and the family of Jan Smith.

We are saddened by the passing of:

Long-time member, Jan Smith, on May, 20th.



Summer Lectionary Readings

August 6

Old Testament	Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm	Psalm 17:1-7, 15
New Testament	Romans 9:1-5
Gospel	Matthew 14:13-21

August 13

Old Testament	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
Psalm	Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22
New Testament	Romans 10:5-15
Gospel	Matthew 14:22-33

August 20

Old Testament	Genesis 45:1-15
Psalm	Psalm 133
New Testament	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Gospel	Matthew 15:10-28

August 27

Old Testament	Exodus 1:8 - 2:10
Psalm	Psalm 124
New Testament	Romans 12:1-8
Gospel	Matthew 16:13-20

Summer Memory Verses

June:

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life.

Psalm 143:8

July:

As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 55:9

August:

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one that takes refuge in him.

Psalm 34:8

Vacation Bible School



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



We are hard at work putting together another exciting VBS adventure for your kids. Spread the word to their friends. **All are welcome!**

Registration forms are 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

Children's Christian Education

June 4

Bell/Chime practice with Mrs. Anderson. We will hand out our paper flowers after worship.



June 11

Music Sunday - 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 be back in the fall!



Youth Fellowship

Congratulations to our graduating 2023 High School Seniors: Hunter Booher, Tyler Kirschbaum, Jason Riek, Miranda Vallone, Samantha Vallone and Sam Wengender.

- Hunter is graduating from Eastridge Senior High School and heading to his mother's alma mater, SUNY Fredonia, where he will major in Photography.
- Tyler is graduating from Webster Thomas High School and going to Paul Smith's College to study Wildlife Sciences. Tyler will run Cross Country with the Paul Smith's Bobcats.
- Jason Riek is graduating from Webster Thomas High School. Jason will be studying Computer Science at Syracuse University.
- Maranda Vallone is graduating from Webster Thomas High School. She will be entering the workforce and hopes to find a job where she can work with animals.
- Samantha Vallone is graduating from Webster Thomas High School and attending SUNY Geneseo to study Science in the fall.
- Sam Wengender is graduating from Webster Schroeder High School and heading to the University of Buffalo to study Engineering.

Blessings continue for our 2019 High School graduates on their future endeavors.

- Jay Daigle graduated from the College of Wooster in Studio Art with Honors.
- Anna Giesen is enrolled in a Child Development Associate (CDA) certification program and is teaching in a day care.
- Abbey Mayer graduated from SUNY Geneseo with a degree in Communication and minors in Spanish and Linguistics. She is working as an Event Coordinator at a winery on Conesus Lake while looking for a career based in Philanthropy, Media or Graphic Design.
- Lindsey Oliver graduated from Westminster College with degrees in Criminal Justice Studies and Psychology with honors. Lindsey will continue her education at Syracuse University College of Law.
- Sienna Petrino graduated from SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry with a B.S. in Conservation Biology and minors in Marine Science and Environmental Writing & Rhetoric. Sienna has accepted a position with Natural Heritage program and NYSDEC.
- Chris Riek graduated from Syracuse University with a double major in Business Analytics and Accounting. He will begin employment with Ernst and Young in Buffalo.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men." Colossians 3:23

We are praying that God be with you wherever you go and in whatever you do.

Wanda Nungesser Director of Youth Ministries