

The Pathway

Newsletter of the Webster Presbyterian Church Webster, New York

November 2023

Vol. LIII No. 9

Dear WPC Family,

As the weather begins to cool and the leaves continue to change, I am reminded of why I love the changing of seasons. There's a quote about fall that has always stuck with me:

"The trees are about to show us how lovely it is to let things go."

As the season changes, and the trees let go of their leaves, I wonder what it is we need to let go of? Maybe it's a belief that we are unworthy. Or maybe it's a habit or relationship that isn't life-giving anymore. Maybe we need to let go of a god you have come to believe in, and reinvigorate a belief in the God who believes in you. Whatever it is, you aren't alone in it. The God who orchestrates the trees letting go of the leaves, is also at work in our lives, helping us to let go of whatever it is we need to let go of.

We are already entering the month of November, and as always, there is much to celebrate here at Webster Presbyterian Church. We recently celebrated the consecration of next year's pledges to the Stewardship Drive and the promise of another year of life and ministry. We celebrate the continued mission work that serves our community and beyond. We celebrated a fall festival last month that brought the community together for fun and music. We celebrate worship, new visitors, and times for study and growth together. In this season of thanks, there is so much to be thankful for.

As always, I want to hear from you. So please don't hesitate to reach out to speak with me, be it a question, a concern, or just a time to get to know one another. My office and heart are open to you! And I hope you'll join me for a time to talk about our recent sermon series, "A New Way," on November 5th during Adult Ed time.

Our next sermon series will be starting on December 3rd and will be on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's devotional, *God is in the Manger*. We will be looking at the themes of waiting, mystery, redemption, and incarnation. We will be using this as our Advent devotional this year and copies will be available for anyone who wants one. Donations to help defray the costs are also appreciated. Sign up in the Narthex or contact the church office if you're interested in getting one!

I give thanks for you and all of the ways you contribute to the life of the church: from watching worship online, donating to mission projects, joining together for important conversations, making a pledge, showing up for fellowship and Bible study, making music in worship, and all of the ways that each and every one of you give of yourself. Thank you and thanks be to God! Peace,

Pastor Nadia

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



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The DECEMBER Pathway deadline is NOVEMBER 17th.

Please note that this is early due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. Email articles to jchippero@websterpres.org AND ghubbard@websterpres.org



Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on Sunday, November 5th!

Trustees' Corner FALL WORK DAY November 4th 9:00 AM until noon

Please join the Trustees as we work through our project list, readying the



church for the winter season. Coffee, cider, donuts, and bagels will be provided. All are welcome.

The throw carpets have been placed in the halls for fall and winter weather. We added jell strips to the underside of the carpets to keep them from slipping. Please let us know if there are any further issues.

The roof in the Social Room has a leak. We had patched it in hopes of resolving the issue. After our latest heavy rains, our efforts slowed the leak but did not eliminate it. We will be working with a contractor who will be able to determine the cause of the leak and patch it. This will be a minor repair and we will keep you posted on the progress of this project.

The Emergency Action Plan Committee has been busy at work. We have established emergency stations throughout the church which contain flashlights and high visibility vests. In the event of a fire, the designated fire leaders will be able to escort our members to safety. In addition, we have new maps of the church (thanks to the diligent work of Jennifer Wengender). We sent copies of the maps to both Webster Fire and Webster Police to help them plan should an emergency occur.



It was with great joy that the church celebrated the installation of Pastor Nadia Mullin at a worship service on Saturday, September 30th. Representatives from the Presbytery of Genesee Valley presided at the service. WPC's former Associate Pastor, Walter Stuber, opened the service and told us a little about his current life since he left WPC. Reverend Gail Ricciuti offered the sermon. Our Pastoral Nominating Committee hosted a luncheon after the service as their final action to complete the process of leading Pastor Nadia to us. Thanks to all members of the PNC for their tireless efforts over the last year.

An announcement was made at the October 1st worship service that the Personnel Committee has recommended, and Session has approved, suspension of the Youth Program, ending the position of Youth Director for the time being. Unfortunately, over the last several years since COVID, we have seen a decline in participation in the program leading to the decision for this temporary suspension. It is our hope that as some of the younger children growing up in the church enter the youth years, that the program can be resumed. Also at the October meeting, Session discussed looking at alternative ways of offering opportunities for interested youth to join with other youth groups in faith and fellowship building activities. We thank Youth Director Wanda Nungesser for her years of service, offering excellent programs and activities for the youth. We value our youth, and it is our hope that a way to begin a program anew will come to light in the future. Please reach out to a member of Session if you have questions.

Lastly, I want to encourage every member or friend of the church, if not already involved, to choose one activity in addition to Sunday morning worship where you can lend your support. The Nominating Committee is seeking new members for the three church boards this month. If serving on a board does not interest you, all church committees are looking for new members. Also, there are Bible studies for both men and women, a book club, Heart and Hand, volunteer work projects to help maintain the church buildings with the Trustees, and other opportunities. Think about how you can help the WPC fellowship live the part of our faith statement, "through faith and action", by joining with others sometime in the next year. To find out about these activities, contact the church office at 265-9700 (office@websterpres.org), or me at 265-1224 (tghubbard@frontiernet.net).

Tony Hubbard, Clerk of Session



Join us Sunday Mornings at 9:30 in the Sanctuary or on Livestream.

ALL ARE WELCOME

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5

thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA

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

Deacons' Doings

Angel Tree



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!! Yes, really it is!!

The Deacons are sponsoring the Angel Tree again this year to benefit the Williamson Come-Unity Center. Our contributions over the last several years have been greatly appreciated. The Tree will

be up in the Narthex starting Sunday, November 5th, and will be loaded with gift ideas for you to take. Please bring your unwrapped gifts to church no later than December 10th.

If you prefer to do your shopping on line, we again have an Amazon wish list available if this option is easier for you. When you proceed to the checkout, you may choose "Laura Olivers Gift Registry Address" in the shipping options to have it sent directly to Laura's home (or you may ship it to your home and bring it into church). Please be sure that your delivery arrival time on the order will be prior to December 10th.

Click here to view the Amazon list:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/A24YBQ17OOQX?ref =wl share

If you have any issues or questions or need a Deacon to pick up your donation from you, please contact Doreen Clark at drc.doreenclark@gmail.com or 585-750-3904. Again, gifts need to be returned **unwrapped** by **Sunday, December 10th.** Thank you in advance for your continued support of this very worthwhile program!

Poinsettia Sale

Once again, the Deacons will be taking orders for Poinsettias that will decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas Eve. Look for us in the Narthex for ordering beginning on Sunday, December 3rd. More details to come in upcoming bulletin announcements and the December edition of *The Pathway*.

Food Barrel

With the hustle and bustle of the upcoming season, don't forget about donating non-perishable items to the Food Barrel which is located by the south entrance in the upper hallway. Many of the donations that we collect are distributed locally to Webster Hope. Their



current needs are: pasta sauces (Marinara & Alfredo too!), pasta, applesauce, and canned corn. As always, cereals, crackers, albacore tuna, and chunky canned soups, and more are appreciated. Food insecurity is right here in our neighborhood. Please be generous if you are able!

Communion at Home

Do you livestream the Sunday worship service? Would you like to participate in Communion at home? We have individually wrapped



communion elements that we would be happy to deliver to your home. Just call or email the church office (265-9700 or jchippero@websterpres.org) and we will arrange to have someone drop them off to you.

ONE in Christ

Your ONE (Our iNclusive Exploration) in Christ Session Subcommittee wishes to thank all of you who participated in our two October panel discussions of the book, UNClobber: Rethinking the Misuse of the Bible on Homosexuality by Colby Martin. The average attendance was thirty, indicating that exploration of LGBTQIA+ inclusion at WPC is of interest and importance. Our panelists, Anne Waasdorp, Ralph Carter, and Pastor Nadia lent their expertise and willingness to be vulnerable. Thanks to them, and to you, for your authentic and profound personal sharing and your respect for one another. This exploration, a labor of love, will take the time it needs to make sure that WPC is a safe place to be for all who come here, including LGBTQIA+ individuals. We would appreciate hearing feedback from you about our panel discussions. We would also like to know what types of programs would be helpful to you in learning more about LGBTQIA+ inclusion. You may approach any of our members with your thoughts and ideas: Sandi Blakey, Shirley Crane, LeeAnn Daigle, Barb Hach, Abbey Mayer, Alissa Mayer and Marj Shriver. The PC(USA), of which we are a part, has voted to permit ordination of LGBTQIA+ people and to permit same-sex marriages in church buildings by Presbyterian ministers. They have also committed to advocacy for equal rights in church and society for all sexual orientations and gender identities. To date, these policies are permissive and not mandatory.

"Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

1 Corinthians 13:6-7





Webster Parade of Lights

How many of you have started thinking about Christmas decorating, baking, and shopping? Let's get excited to kick off the holiday season with the Webster Parade of Lights! The date is still to be determined, but we expect it to be the first weekend of December (maybe December 2nd). So pencil - in the date and think about any ideas for making and being part of WPC's Nativity float! More details to come!

Women's Circles

King Circle will be meeting in the Memorial Room on Thursday, November 9th. The meeting starts at 10:00 AM and our annual Talent Auction will follow! Eleanor Scott will be our auctioneer! Open to anyone who wishes to come!

Naomi Circle will meet on TUESDAY, November 14th, at 1:00 pm in Room 9/10.

Rachel Circle will meet on Monday, November 27th, at 6:30 pm in the Youth Room where we will celebrate the 25 year anniversary of Rachel Circle.

Help is needed on Sunday, November 26th, immediately following the worship service. Once again, The women of Rachel Circle will be coordinating the Christmas decorations for the Sanctuary and Narthex. All extra help will be appreciated.





Worship and Music

New Ways Forward

There have been many wonderful comments from you, the congregation, regarding Pastor Nadia's messages. Her sermons are uplifting, challenging, and help us experience the divine in new ways. We look forward to seeing you in person or online each Sunday.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

Psalm 100:4

Communion Sunday, November 5th

Communion is a celebration, a time to reconcile, a time to commune with Christ, and it is a time when we can strengthen and nourish our faith. Please join us.

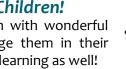
Sing a New Song



This month, Lee Ann has several wonderful new hymns for us. Come sing with us!

November 5 – "Great is the Lord" November 19 - "What is the World Like?"

Calling all Children!



Pastor Nadia provides our children with wonderful stories and questions to encourage them in their walk with Jesus. And the adults are learning as well!

Welcoming Our Visitors

We certainly have been blessed with more visitors recently. A special quality of our congregation is our warm and personal welcome. Please wear your name tag and say hello to someone you don't know!

Tech Team Reminder!

He said to them. "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." Mark 16:15

Social media can help grow our church physically and spiritually. It is a tool that can be used to help attract new people, connect with existing members, and get your church's message out. It also is a tool that allows us to build up our members' and guests' spiritually through engaging posts that help all grow.

Join us on Social Media and remember to check out our LiveStreamed services. Please remember to join us on Instagram (websterpreschurch) and Facebook (Webster Presbyterian Church, Webster NY) and visit our website at www.websterpres.org for highlights from Sunday services and exciting events!

Jazz Vespers at Two Saints Episcopal Church Friday, November 3rd, 5:15 PM

Just a reminder that the Jazz Vespers service is a special way to worship the Lord through unique contemporary liturgy supported by jazz music. You may be surprised who you meet there! Please contact the office or Bob Blakey (317-7523) if you would like to attend or have questions.

Mission Update

Kenya High School Students Fund

Praise the Lord for your very generous voluntary donations to this fund during the September to early October special offering. Our goal was \$5000 and your donations totaled more than \$7000! This, combined with previous contributions, will allow us to support seven students in 2024, including one new freshman.

You are also welcome to make contributions to this fund anytime during the year, as it is always open, and the year-end balance carries over into the next year. We are considering other ways to support this fund in the future without having a separate special offering period.

Clothing for Cameron

We are continuing to collect gently used and new men's, women's and children's winter clothing for Cameron Community Ministries until Monday, November 13th. Please donate from your closets and/ or shop for gently used or new items to donate. Clothing for men is the highest priority. Blue collections bins are in the Narthex and upper hallway. Thank you!

Gift Cards for Christmas for Grace House

Once again, we will be collecting \$10 gift cards for the men at Grace House for Christmas from late November until mid-December. More details, including exact dates, will be in bulletin announcements starting in mid-November and in the December *Pathway*.

Adopt a Highway Clean-up

A big thank you to the 16 people who conducted the Adopt-a-Highway clean up of Route 250 on Saturday, October 14th. Participants had to contend with lightly drizzling rain, but it was more a nuisance than a hindrance. This clean-up had several first-time volunteers, including Pastor Nadia and her family!



It was a joy that the roadside was the cleanest we have ever seen in the years WPC has been conducting the clean-up. Perhaps the day will come when people are conscientious enough that the clean-ups



Our next Adopta-Highway cleanup will be sometime in April 2024. Come join us!

will not be needed.

Operation Christmas Child

Twenty-seven years ago, our congregation began collecting shoeboxes filled with small gifts for children around the world through Samaritan's Purse and Operation Christmas Child. We have seen wonderful generosity from many of you and thank you for supporting this program.

We will no longer be collecting as a church. We encourage you to support the Deacon Angel Tree as well as local charities such as Hope House in Webster. Both are in need, especially this time of year. We are currently looking ahead to organizations in both Webster and Rochester for possible future outreach opportunities.

If you would like to continue donating for Operation Christmas Child, the Webster Assembly of God Church on Hard Road in Webster is the drop-off center for this area. Filled shoeboxes can be dropped off to them from November 13th - 20th. Please do not leave shoeboxes here at church.

Thank you for 27 years of giving and support of Operation Christmas Child. It doesn't need to end here. Our sharing and giving can continue in many ways. Not just at Christmas, but all year long.

Webster Assembly of God 708 Hard Road, Webster

Monday	11/13	5-7pm
Tuesday	11/14	3-5 pm
Wednesday	11/15	5-7 pm
Thursday	11/16	3-5 pm
Friday	11/17	3-5 pm
Saturday	11/18	10 am-noon
Sunday	11/19	1-5 pm
Monday	11/20	9-11 am





Heart and Hand

The highlight of October was the pleasure that a few members of Heart and Hand enjoyed on October 20th when

we delivered a delightful quilt, on behalf of our congregation, to Marge Crumb. The quilt was given in celebration of Marge's 100th birthday and in honor of her many, many years of dedication to



Webster Presbyterian Church.

Before November, Heart & Hand will be delivering 20 pillowcases to **Ryan's Case for Smiles** for children in cancer treatment at Golisano Children's Hospital.

On October 20th, the ladies began to make fleece hats and scarves for 52 disadvantaged children who live in Webster. We would truly appreciate help from our extra volunteers to complete this project before December 1st. Kits to sew will be available in the hallway across from the church office. Thank you all.

Bell and Chime Choir

November Rehearsal Schedule:

Glory Bells and Alleluia Bells will rehearse in the Sanctuary on all **Thursdays** in November except for Thanksgiving day.

Glory Bells: 9:00-10:00 am Alleluia Bells: 6:00-7:15 pm

Chime Kids and Parents:

Rehearsal on November 19th after SHINE

Questions?

Contact Jackie Anderson (585) 703-2381 jktanderson42@gmail.com

New Beginnings

I think we are all pretty familiar with the New Beginnings Program at this point. It began a few years ago as a new and bold series of initiatives to expand our presence in the community and let people know that Webster Presbyterian is here, alive, and ready to help our neighbors. It was a great beginning and we learned a lot. Covid got in the way and we had to pull back. We had an Earthquake event here and New Beginnings had to pull back some more. In the process of recovery, we had the opportunity to take a long look at who we are, where we are in the community of God and the world, and looked forward to what might be a **NEW BEGINNING.**

And we started again. Our partnership with State Road has been wonderfully received by all. It has become a congregation-wide endeavor with book purchases and collections, readers, and music. We are reaching hundreds of children while we focus on promoting reading. As an additional benefit, we are reaching their parents.

We bring chimes to three different assistant living facilities and for and hour a week, those folks play hymns, and favorite songs. The side benefits? focus, rhythm, brain stimulation, socializing, and just plain fun. And they get to perform for their friends. At Cherry Ridge, the group plays at a Sunday service once a month. All the groups will play when the Glory Bells perform at Christmas. Outreach, love, sharing, and music therapy too.

By the way, Glory Bell concerts? that is outreach. Use of the building by Heritage Christian, Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts and the new Scouts program; those are outreach programs. Our professional kitchen has been used by outside groups for special events. The Christmas Parade? that's outreach. Heart and Hand? - oh my, those ladies are a treasure - sewing hats and scarves for kids at State Road and other groups, surgical caps and isolette covers for hospitals, pillowcases for our college freshmen, gifts for meals on wheels and so much more. This is outreach.

The parking lot is getting used for outside events. Food collections, special soup delivery from our local hospice, trunk or treat by the Girls Scouts are all outreach. All these are letting Webster know that we are here, we are open, and we welcome all.

And that is not all. New programs are developing, more people are involved and we are seeing new and old faces on Sundays. A community meal is in the works, along with movies nights and additional work with State Road. Concerts by outside groups that will be open to the public are being planned.

We are here, we are open, and we welcome all. And we can use your help. Think about what you can do, where you fit in, what tickles your fancy. Invite your friends and neighbors, offer suggestions; we are here, we are open, and we welcome all.



Learning for a Lifetime

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

November 5th

Join Pastor Nadia for a discussion about the recent sermon series, "A New Way," and to dive into any questions you might have about the texts we covered this fall. We will meet in Room 9/10.

November 12th

A Litany of Thanks for Church Officers followed by a discussion of chapters 3, 4, and 6 of *We Make the Road By Walking*, by Brian McLaren, in Room 9/10.

November 19th

TBD November 26th

Thanksgiving Weekend — No Class

SHINE

Children's Christian Education



Children care about what their friends think and do. Peer pressure to do the wrong thing grows greater as children grow older. Our lessons this month center on Daniel and his friends. We will use these lessons to help kids know it is

important to do what's right and to stand strong for God. Then they can be a positive influence to help their friends do what's right too!

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong" 1 Corinthians 16:13

November 5: Chimes with Mrs. Anderson

Communion with their family

Bible Sunday -

Congratulations Makayla Smith

and Aurora Mullin

November 12: Josiah promises to follow the Lord – Mrs. Galen

November 19: Daniel and his friends – Mrs. Galen

Chime rehearsal after SHINE with parents.

November 26: God protects Daniel in the lion's den – Mrs. Brocker

Women's Bible Study



Women's Bible Study continues reading and discussing the life and character of David, shepherd and king, though 1st and 2nd Samuel. Join us on Tuesday mornings now or wait for the next study during Advent. New

and former members are always welcome for this time of the Word, fellowship, and prayer. We meet in Room 9/10 at 9:30 am.

Advent Devotionals

Advent begins on Sunday, December 3rd. Pastor Nadia has chosen God is in the Manger by Dietrich Bonhoeffer as our Advent devotional for this season. Her next sermon series will be based on this book. Copies will be available for all who are interested. Sign up in the Narthex or call the church office at 265-9700 to order your copy. Donations will be accepted to help defray the cost of the books. Suggested donation amount is \$10.

Mystery in the Manger is the devotional chosen for the children. Look for them in the Narthex and upper hallway at the end of the month.

November Lectionary Readings

November 5

Old Testament Joshua 3:7-17
Psalm Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
New Testament I Thessalonians 2:9-13
Gospel Matthew 23:1-12

November 12

Old Testament Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 Psalm Psalm 78:1-7

New Testament I Thessalonians 4:13-18 Gospel Matthew 25:1-13

November 19

Old Testament Judges 4:1-7 Psalm Psalm 123

New Testament I Thessalonians 5:1-11 Gospel Matthew 25:14-30

November 26 - Christ the King Sunday

Old Testament Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm Psalm 100
New Testament Ephesians 1:15-23

Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

Memory Verse

"I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds."

Psalm 9:1



Getting to Know You

A peek into the lives of our Friends at Home.

Anna Jeanne Williams Watson Cameron descends from good English stock, mostly Welsh with a bit of American Indian added to the mix - like so many Americans - a real "melting pot" in her roots. She was born to Mildred and Chester Williams just a few short months before the stock market crash of 1929. The Roseland neighborhood in the town of Penfield was Jeanne's home for the first 20 years of her life. She attended a one room schoolhouse on Plank Road, helped her family on their fruit and vegetable farm, sold flowers and crops at the Rochester Public Market, and graduated from Webster High School on Sanford Street in 1947. This building is now the muchmodernized and renovated Spry Middle School. Jeanne furthered her education by attending dental hygiene school at the Eastman Dental Center in Rochester, graduating in 1948. She loved her profession and stayed with the same dental practice in Webster until her final ten years of working which she spent employed by New York State attending to special needs patients.

On May 14, 1949, Jeanne married Howard Merrill Watson at the original Webster Presbyterian Church on Main Street. They welcomed 5 children - Carol, Elaine, Merrill, Wanda and Thomas and, in time, 8 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. They raised their family in a home they built on the family farm. Jeanne brought joy to her home through her music playing both piano and organ. Christmas was a time for the family Christmas carol sing-along. Her favorite hobby however, was sewing (she would have loved being part of Heart & Hand!). She designed clothing, entered her creations in competitions at local and state fairs, made matching dresses for her daughters and granddaughters and, just so the guys wouldn't feel left out, created deer hide vests for hunting season!! (Let me tell you, sewing hides together is no easy task!) Everyone learned to sew in Jeanne's house and there was always a "project" happening in the sewing room. Dresses, suits, prom gowns, wedding dresses, bridesmaids' gowns, fleece jackets, mittens and hats, and if that wasn't enough, she moved on to quilting so she could make wedding quilts as the kids married!! Vacations were spent tent camping, fishing and water-skiing at Kring Point State Park in the Thousand Islands. Sadly, after 35 wonderful years together, Howard passed away in 1984.

Jeanne was blessed to find love a second time and married Robert Cameron in 1991 at the **new** Webster Presbyterian Church. The family now included Robert's 5 children, 11 grandchildren and 16 greatgrandchildren!! A total of 54 relatives – now that's a family tree with a LOT of branches!!

Jeanne loved to travel and has camped (via tent, popup camper, or 5th-wheel trailer) her way through every state in the Union and all but Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island in Canada! She and Bob even tent camped for their honeymoon! After retirement, they wintered in Texas for 12 years pulling their 5th-wheel along to make the trip easy and enjoyable. Heartbreakingly, Jeanne became a widow for the second time in 2019.

Never one to shy away from new experiences, Jeanne rode a chairlift up a mountain at Holiday Valley in Ellicottville to attend her granddaughter, Sara Nungesser's wedding at the age of 93!

When asked what she wanted for her 94th birthday dinner, Jeanne said Zweigle's white hots and pecan pie and, you know what, that's exactly what her family gave her!

Even though Jeanne made it her business to visit the rest of the United States, in her words "There's no place like home!" (although she admits she would still like to check off those two Canadian provinces!) She knows her legacy includes the wonderful family she helped create and hopes she is remembered for always trying to make people happy. Two of her children are part of our WPC family, Elaine Wilbert and Wanda Nungesser. Currently, the sisters share caring for Jeanne who lives with Elaine and John Wilbert.

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

Church Family News

During October We Prayed for:

The friends and families of Ferna McDonough and Mike Lafferty - Sally Jamison's aunt and cousin, and for Jacob Thomas - Gayl Galen's nephew and Jack and Mary Grace Thomas' great-grandson.

