



# The Pathway

Newsletter of the Webster Presbyterian Church  
Webster, New York

May 2024

Vol. LIV No. 5

Dear WPC family,

**“Instructions for living a life.**

**Pay attention.**

**Be astonished.**

**Tell about it.”**

— Mary Oliver, excerpted from *Sometimes*

I have recently been reading poems by Mary Oliver as part of my daily time with God. I love how she speaks to the grandness and the wideness of God’s beautiful creation. Her poetry reminds me to pay attention, to be astonished, and to go out and tell someone about it.

In our daily walk with Christ, it can be easy to let life just rush by us without noticing that it’s gone. The spiritual discipline of paying attention is so important because it invites us into the here and now. God is in the here and now. And so when we pause and give ourselves over to being in the moment, we are invited into God’s presence. We pay attention to life as it goes by so that we can see God at work.

We have to be paying attention if we’re going to be astonished. To be astonished is to be caught off guard by something miraculous or beautiful, to wonder is that real or is that true? We can be astonished by much in this life. By a flower while we are taking a walk. By the cry of a baby in Wegmans. By the taste of a really good meal. All of which can stop us in our tracks and bring us from astonishment to gratitude.

As we approach Pentecost, we will soon be hearing the story of how the Holy Spirit came down upon the disciples and they spoke in many different languages. They took Jesus’ command to them and applied it as they told the world about Jesus’ resurrection. We too live with the instructions to tell the world. We can tell the world about how we experience Christ in our daily lives, how we are astonished by God’s love and grace, and how when we take time to pay attention, we can see God’s work in new and profound ways.

In this season of new life, let us take the time to pay attention, be astonished, and to tell about the glorious and life-giving love of Christ.

Peace,

Pastor Nadia

**Join us Sunday Mornings at 9:30 in the Sanctuary or on Live-stream.**

**YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5-thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA>

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

**ALL ARE WELCOME.**

# May



**what’s inside**

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

Email articles to  
[jchippero@websterpres.org](mailto:jchippero@websterpres.org)  
AND  
[g Hubbard@websterpres.org](mailto:g Hubbard@websterpres.org)  
*This will be the last Pathway  
until September.*



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



## Trustees' Corner

Spring Workday is May 11<sup>th</sup>

Join us from 9 am until noon.



We have a big list of projects to complete, but with many hands, the work will be completed quickly!

Please remember to break down cardboard boxes when placing them in the recycle bin. This will enable us to fit all our recycles in the bin, as it is emptied only once a month.

Our office phones have been reworked so that calls and messages will be directed to the intended person. We used an outside expert to help us re-program the system. Many thanks to our expert who volunteered her time to help us solve this very perplexing problem.

As many of you know, the recent power outage caused some damage to our mechanical systems resulting in a loss of heat to the building. To protect our new boilers, we decided to add surge protection on our heating system. This will be installed after the heating season is over.

Lastly, we want to let you know that we are keenly aware of ever-increasing costs to keep our church building in good repair. As part of our mission, we review our contracts and expenditures on a regular basis. Recently, we reviewed our refuse contract to verify that we are receiving a competitive rate. Next on our list is our elevator maintenance agreement. We are researching other service providers to ensure we are receiving a good program at a fair rate.

## A Note from Session

I was walking along the driveways in my apartment complex last week and what to my wondering eyes did appear? 'Twas a mock pear tree with blossoms of white covering limbs reaching to the sky. There were squirrels chittering and birds chirping and two deer munching on the green grass. People were outside chatting, walking and smiling. It was an incredible day. A few days earlier, we were all outside in the rain waiting for the eclipse that was - just not here. But the effects of the eclipse were so amazing. It was light, and then it wasn't. It only took a moment for it to go from light to dark. And then a few minutes later, it was light again. All of this reminded me just how powerful is our God. He shares with us the wonders of our planet, our homes, our families, and He reminds us that what we have can disappear in an instant.

We have, but not all of us do. Many have, and then don't have. Jobs are lost; families fall into poverty. Some of our brothers and sisters never had, and unless we all recognize and work together, it won't get any better. We can't change the world, but we can make our piece of it a little better. Our New Beginnings programs continue to help us reach out to our neighbors. New Beginnings is not just a committee; it's a congregation working together to share what we have with our neighbors.

We have a few new initiatives that we are very excited to share:



We are setting the date for early June to return to serving a free meal for our community. We will join 5 other local churches in a community-wide effort to do what we can to reduce hunger. Each church will provide one meal per month. That will be six meals provided each month, free to all. We will be asking for your help to assist our leadership team in preparation, serving and cleanup on just one Sunday afternoon each month. A few hours will provide a wonderful meal and fellowship time. If you were a part of our Phillips Village dinners, you'll love this program too.

We are returning to Webster Hope (formally Hope House). You have been wonderful with donations of food and clothing. Now we plan to return to a more hands-on approach. Hope Ministries is asking for gardeners this summer - a wonderful opportunity for families to spend quality time together while helping to provide fresh foods to those who can't afford fresh-picked vegetables. They also need some help with receiving donations and stocking shelves at their building on Ridge Road. Their Back-to-School Night and Garage Sale fundraiser are both big events that could use our help.



Miracle Field will soon be shouting "PLAY BALL". Ask for a yellow shirt and join the cheering squad.

Keep tuned in. These new initiatives need you. Webster needs you. If God can keep the sun shining, the trees growing and the world turning, we can surely help care for our brothers and sisters in our little town.

Submitted by Kathy Barbehenn on behalf of Session



## Deacons' Doings

### Food Barrel

Thank you for your continued support for Webster Hope. Your donations directly help member of our community who are in need. Ongoing needs include: canned corn and peas, pasta, pasta sauce, and toiletries. Our community thanks you!



### Picnic Time!

Mark your calendar for June 9<sup>th</sup>. 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.



## Worship and Music

### All-Music Sunday

Summer is on the horizon! Please plan to worship with us on Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, for All-Music Sunday. We are looking forward to hearing from our Chancel Choir, Alleluia Bells, Shine Kids, Men's Group with Bells and more! It is always a special day in the life of our church family. Your Worship and Music Committee hopes you can be with us.

### Summer Music

Calling all musicians for summer worship: After June 9<sup>th</sup>, the Chancel Choir and Alleluia Bells will be on their summer hiatus. Would you consider offering special music during worship this summer? Singers and instrumentalists are welcome. Please contact Lee Ann Daigle or Heather Hewlett for more information.

### Join the Choir!



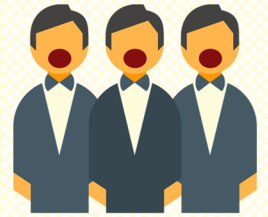
Did you know that singing with a group is one of the healthiest things you can do? It is good for mind, body and spirit! And did you know that our Chancel Choir is short on female voices right now? If you enjoy singing and spending time with some really wonderful people, please consider joining the choir. Rehearsals are on Sunday mornings at 8:15 and all are welcome! We would love to have you sing with us! If interested, contact Lee Ann Daigle.

### Help Wanted!

Looking ahead: WPC hopes to host an organ concert series next year with the hopes of highlighting our beautiful instrument and bringing community members into the church. The Worship and Music Committee needs your help. If you have organizational skills, enthusiasm and a little time, please reach out to Heather Hewlett, Kat Jolliff or any member of the committee.

## Calling all Men!

Let's sing a joyful song together on All-Music Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. An all-men's choir will be joining with the Alleluia Bells to perform the beautiful song, "You Raise Me Up."



Lee Ann will have short rehearsals after worship on May 19<sup>th</sup> and June 2<sup>nd</sup>. In addition, there will be one evening rehearsal with the bells on Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.

This is a special opportunity to come together with a special offering to God!

Please contact Bob Blakey, Todd Fargo, Bob Kizer, Bob Smith, Lee Ann Daigle, or Jackie Anderson to sign up.



## Bell Choir Schedules

### Glory Bells:

#### Rehearsals:

Thursday Mornings 9:00 - 10:00  
May 2nd only

#### Spring Program Performances:

Performances are at 10:30 am.

May 9 Marquis at the Woods

May 16 Village at Penfield  
(formerly Atria)

May 23 Kirkhaven

### Alleluia Bells:

#### Rehearsals:

Thursday Evenings 6:00 -  
7:30

We will meet on all Thursdays in May.





## Yellow Rose Sunday



Yellow Rose Sunday is a time to honor or remember those who have influenced our lives as Christians. It is a wonderful way to highlight their lives.

Contributions will go to the Church Endowment Fund, which is invested, with the earnings used for special projects and missions of the church. It has helped pay for the parking lot, choir robes and New Beginnings, for example.

Yellow Rose Sunday will be May 12<sup>th</sup> (Mother's Day). We will be accepting donations between now and then. You can use the Yellow Rose envelopes in the chair racks, mail in a check noting that is for Yellow Rose, or click on the 'Give' button on the website indicating it is for Yellow Rose.

We encourage you to honor someone who has meant a lot to you and help our church at the same time.

Any questions, contact Connie Rice or Georgia Hubbard.



## Women's Bible Study

"Gratitude: Giving Thanks in Life's Ups and Downs" continues in Room 9/10 at 9:00 am. All are welcome! We think of gratitude in November, but that "attitude of gratitude" is for every day. Is there a deficit of thankfulness in today's world? Is it easy to have gratitude when life is not going well? The Old and New Testaments have much to tell us about gratitude. Join this Bible study as we explore this topic and realize that every day God gives us reasons to be thankful.

## Mission Update

### Summer Clothing Collection for Cameron

For the entire month of May, we will once again be collecting gently used and new **summer** clothing for Cameron Community Ministries. Cameron will greatly appreciate Men's, Women's and Children's clothing – but as usual, their highest priority need is for Men's. So please check your closets soon! An additional way to get clothing to donate is to purchase used items at Goodwill or Savers, or new items at a discount store. Blue collection tubs will be in the Narthex and upper hallway beginning around May 1<sup>st</sup>. Please prayerfully consider donating clothing for the many needy folks in the Lyell Avenue area of Rochester.

### Extra Mission Donations

At our April meeting, the Mission Committee was blessed to be able to send the following extra donations from our Special Gifts to Mission Fund:

\$750 for Maasai girls' education in Kenya (John Sankok)

\$500 for World Central Kitchen for hunger relief in Palestine/Gaza

\$500 for The Outreach Foundation for relief in Lebanon/Palestine/Gaza

\$500 for The Medical Benevolence Fund for emergency medical care in Haiti

### Our 2024 Summer Mission Projects

The Mission Committee has selected Family Promise of Greater Rochester and The People's Pantry as our Summer Mission projects for 2024. Both projects serve folks in the city of Rochester. You will hear more about them in the next couple of months, and we will begin collecting donations in early June.

### One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

The annual One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special offering ended shortly after Easter. We donated a total of \$3185 this year, which is over \$400 more than last year! Thank you!

## Spiritual Nurture

During Lent, Pastor Nadia treated us to a series of sermons based on *An Altar in the World*, a book by Barbara Brown Taylor. We were introduced to various simple, yet profound and unexpected, ways of spiritual practice: waking up to God, paying attention, wearing skin, walking on the earth, getting lost, encountering others, living with a purpose, saying no, carrying water, feeling pain, being present to God, and pronouncing blessings.

Fr. Richard Rohr, in one of his daily meditations from the Center for Action and Contemplation (CAC), comments: "...all spiritual practices have this purpose - to allow us to touch the depths of our inner selves and to live a generous life of participation with Divine Love in absolute openheartedness; to move from what we know in our heads about God to living and moving and having our being in God; to be present in this life, to the world around us, and to Divine Love."



## Learning for a Lifetime

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

**MAY 5** The ONE in Christ committee will host this session in the Sanctuary and on live-stream. More details are available in the ONE in Christ article below.

### Section IV of *We Make the Road By Walking*, by Brian McLaren *Alive in the Spirit of God:*

**MAY 12** This week, chapters 40 and 41 will be discussed as a preview to Pentecost. Can we unlock our inner vacuums for the Spirit to enter and fill? Come join the discussion.

**MAY 19**

**and 26** We will continue with *We Make the Road By Walking*. In chapters 42-44 we will explore how we might develop the practice of posture for love of God, neighbor, and self.

In chapters 45 and 51 we will examine Spirit of Unity and Diversity and Spirit of Hope.

Chapter 52 finalizes our walk and helps us to embrace the great mystery. Come join us in this thought-provoking and inspiring book discussion. All are welcome!

## ONE in Christ

As promised in the last *Pathway*, your ONE in Christ Committee will host Adult Ed on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 am in the Sanctuary, where our program will be live-streamed. Our purpose is to report to you, our congregation, the results of our year-long exploration into whether or not we are living into our Identity Statement: “We are followers of Jesus Christ, living and sharing the love of God through faith and action, *welcoming all*.” Is our *welcoming* inclusive and affirming of marginalized groups? Please join us and see also, for the first time, the banner our committee has designed and produced with the approval of Session.

### Our iNclusive Exploration in Christ

## Women’s Circles

**Naomi Circle** will meet on Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at the home of Elaine Wilbert. Pastor Nadia will be providing the program.

**King Circle** plans to have a special presentation from Lifespan on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am in the Social Room. This program will be open to the congregation and friends and neighbors in our community. Lifespan, a member of the American Society on Aging, helps older adults and caregivers take on the challenges and opportunities of longer life. Justin McCabe will be our speaker from Lifespan and will give us an updated program on scams in a game called “Name that Scam”. This will also be a time to learn more about Lifespan’s other services and help available to seniors, their families and caregivers. Come join us!

**Rachel Circle** TBD



## Heart and Hand

In May, Heart and Hand’s, primary project will be to make additional prayer pockets for Pastor Nadia to carry as gifts on her various visits.

At the same time, we will be completing the children’s surgical caps for Golisano Children’s Hospital. If you would like to participate, there are still kits for stitching on the table in the hallway outside the church office. The plan is to deliver the caps in May.

Remember, all are welcome to join us in Room 5 at 10:00 am on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday morning of most months. There are jobs for all capabilities, and all tools and supplies are available. We would love to see you there.

If you would like to receive announcements of the monthly Heart and Hand gatherings, please send your email address to Tina McNeary, [tmcneary@gmail.com](mailto:tmcneary@gmail.com).

Enjoy the amazingly brilliant Spring flowers! Thanks be to God.



## Green Tip of the Month

If you wash your car at the car wash, the dirty water goes to the water treatment plant, but if you wash your car at home or drain your chlorinated swimming pool, do it on the lawn so soaps and chemicals don’t go into stormwater drains, which lead directly into our streams and lakes. If you have to use fertilizer, be sure to use a low phosphorous fertilizer and do it in the fall for the least harmful impact on our water system.



## Church Family News

### Church Directory Updates:

#### New Member contact information:

**Elissa Burke**

husband - Josh  
children - Heather and Maisie  
5632 Ontario Center Rd.  
Ontario, NY 14519  
518-378-9024  
elissajaneburke@gmail.com

**Colby and Beth Carson**

children - Grady, Nix and Lola  
573 Autumn Breeze Lane  
Ontario, NY 14519  
Colby: 407-362-8738  
wcolbycarson@gmail.com  
Beth: 407-506-6149  
bethdcarson@gmail.com

**Bill and Nancy Martin**

426 Lake Road  
Ontario, NY 14519  
Bill: 518-441-2073  
ber033227@nycap.rr.com  
Nancy: 518-378-9023  
nancy.martin54@me.com

#### Address Changes:

**Carol Martin**

Heathwood Assisted Living  
100 Elderwood Court #257  
Penfield, NY 14526

**Dorothy Neal**

1340 Parkwood Drive #126  
Macedon, NY 14502

#### During April we prayed for:

Bob and Holly Grocki, Phyllis Smeltzer,  
the family of Rosalyn Algase, and the  
family of Florence Rice.

#### We are saddened by the passing of:

Long-time member, Pat Sabin, on  
April 5<sup>th</sup>.



## SHINE Church School News



### Pentecost

Jesus had told his followers before he ascended to heaven that they were to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit to come upon them. They needed the power of the Holy Spirit to spread the good news. When God has something big for us to do, he'll empower us to do it. And God may use us in remarkable ways if we are willing to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit.

May 5: Chimes with Mrs. Anderson and Crafts with Mrs. Galen  
Communion

May 12: Mother's Day Craft

May 19: Bible Lesson: Jesus Sends Power  
from God – Acts 2:1-21

Bible Point: God gives us the Holy Spirit



May 26: Mission Outreach – We will be packing bags of snacks for the animals at Cracker Box Palace, the rescue center for farm animals that we support with offering donations.

#### NOTE:

***If your child needs a box of Giving Envelopes, please let me know.***

June 2: Chimes with Mrs. Anderson and Crafts with Mrs. Galen

June 9: ALL-MUSIC SUNDAY - **No SHINE class**

Kids will be singing in worship with Mrs. Daigle and playing bells and chimes with Mrs. Anderson.



June 16: **PANCAKE PARTY!!** – This will be our last SHINE class for the school year.



**On Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>,** we celebrated the Easter season with a Children's Easter Party. There were 13 children, preschool – 5<sup>th</sup> grade, who took part in games, crafts, snacks, and an Easter egg hunt. By the end of our party the prizes had all been won, eggs had been discovered, and treat bags were overflowing.

**Thank you** to members of our WPC Rachel Circle, members of the CCE committee, and SHINE parents for helping to make it possible.



## Save the Date!

### Vacation Bible School 2024! July 15, 16, 18 and 19

9:00 – Noon

There will be no session on  
Wednesday, the 17<sup>th</sup>

### Classes for PreK - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

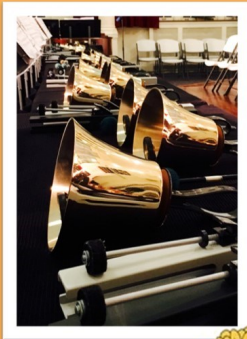
Children must have been 4 years old by February 1, 2024.  
Registration forms will be mailed to SHINE families June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### The ROC City Ringers Invite You to their Spring Concert

The ROC City Ringers is a community bell choir that is directed by Jackie Anderson and Chris Lenti. The group is incredibly grateful to be able to practice in the WPC Sanctuary and use our set of handbells. Here are two opportunities to see them perform their Spring Concert:

# Celebrate SPRING

with the  
ROC City Ringers



### Spring Handbell Concert Series

**Friday May 17 7:00 pm**

12 Corners  
Presbyterian Church  
1200 Winton Road South

**Saturday May 18 2:00 pm**

Webster Library  
980 Ridge Road Webster  
The library asks that you register for  
the concert on their website:  
[www.websterlibrary.org](http://www.websterlibrary.org)

These concerts are free  
and open to the public

ROCcity  
RINGERS

### May Lectionary Readings

#### May 5

Old Testament	Genesis 35:9-15
Psalm	Psalm 98
New Testament	I John 5:1-6
Gospel	John 15:9-17

#### May 12

Old Testament	Jeremiah 10:1-10a
Psalm	Psalm 1
New Testament	I John 5:9-13
Gospel	John 17:6-19

#### May 19 - Pentecost

Old Testament	Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm	Psalm 104:24-34
New Testament	Acts 2:1-21
Gospel	John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

#### May 26

Old Testament	Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm	Psalm 29
New Testament	Romans 8:12-17
Gospel	John 3:1-17



### Memory Verse

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
and do not rely on your own insight.  
Proverbs 3:5

HAPPY  
MOTHERS  
DAY

