



The Pathway

Newsletter of the Webster Presbyterian Church
Webster, New York

September 2024

Vol. LIV No. 7

Dear WPC family,

Another summer has come and gone and we find ourselves staring down the season of fall with all of its colors, smells, and tastes. When I think of the changing of seasons, I often think about the way that that change impacts my senses. I feel cooler temperatures, I see leaves changing color, I smell cinnamon, I taste fresh apples, I hear the sounds of leaves crunching beneath my feet. These all serve as signs and signals to me that something new is on the horizon.

What are the signs for you that God is doing something new in your life? What do you notice? How does it make you feel? How might we as a church be paying attention to the new directions, hopes, and dreams that God has for us?

I think we can tune in to God's voice just as we tune into the changing of the seasons. We tune in through reading scripture, through prayer, through coming to worship, through holy conversations with loved ones. The beautiful thing is that we have many avenues of accessing the holy. God does not close God's self off to us, but has made God's self known through nature, scripture, spirit, and the person of Jesus Christ who lived a very human life, died a human death, and reigns in power at the right hand of God the Father.

If you have any rituals that accompany the changing of the season, I challenge you to adapt them to the way that you pay attention to God's presence, voice, and work in your own life. As these summer days settle into cooler nights, as you return to your schedules of work, or school, or just plain everyday life, consider what new thing God might be doing in this season.

We will be exploring the person and work of Jesus this month in a sermon series called, "Who is This Man?" Join us for time spent diving into some of the stories that both question and answer who Jesus is exactly and what he means to us.

As always, if you'd like to talk or to pray, my door is open to you. Feel free to send me an email (nmullin@websterpres.org) or give the church office a call to set up a time to talk.

Peace,
Pastor Nadia

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



September

what's inside

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Office Hours

Regular office hours resume on September 3rd. The church office will be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from **9:00 am till 3:00 pm.**

Office phone: 585-265-9700

Office email:
office@websterpres.org

Church website:
websterpres.org



Trustees' Corner

Dan March reached out to 3 tree service businesses for the removal of the 10 large dead ash trees on the church's property. We received quotes from: Don & Jon's Tree Service, Preston's Tree Service, and Weber Tree service. We are going with Weber Tree Service as they are *donating the tree removal for free*. Many thanks to this company for their generosity!

The tree work will be done in the fall.



The Social Room ceiling leak is still outsmarting us. It has gotten smaller, but is still leaking. We may have to get a roofing service to redo the seams to get it repaired.

We contracted with Integrity Sealcoating to seal all of the old parking lot surfaces. As you can see, they look great. Thinking about next year's budget, I asked Integrity for a ball park figure for the cost to sealcoat the new section of the parking lot. Their estimate came in at \$20,000 but is high due to not knowing where the cost of materials is headed.

We have installed a new electric panel in the boiler room. The panel has been equipped with surge protection. It runs the hot water tank, the 2 boilers and all of the pumps for the heating system.

*Keep me as the
apple of your eye;
hide me in
the shadow of
your wings*

Psalm 17:8 (NIV)



A Note from Session

After slowing down for the summer, activities at church are again picking up. I'm sure others writing for this *Pathway* edition will have much to say and I encourage you to read the full *Pathway* to learn more about summer activities and new opportunities that will begin in September.

I would just like to highlight a few things that are new for 24/25:

- We are seeing more children and youth coming to church. Therefore, Sunday School for youth in sixth to twelfth grade will begin again during some Sundays this fall.
- 2025 will mark the 200th anniversary of our church which began as the Presbyterian Church of North Penfield and Ontario with eleven members. A committee has been formed to recommend how we will celebrate our anniversary. Contact Tony Hubbard at 265-1224 if you would like to be on the committee.
- After completing a study of what the "welcoming all" part of our identity statement means, a decision was made to purchase and display the heart banner that was placed in the parking lot driveway. Those colorful hearts are an expression of how WPC seeks to be welcoming to all.

Tony Hubbard, Clerk of Session

Deacons' Doings

Food Barrel



Thank you for all of your generous donations. The Webster Hope House has an urgent need for diapers! They will take

opened packages so if you know of someone whose child has outgrown a size, remaining diapers can be donated. The greatest need is for sizes 5-7. In addition, Webster Hope is collecting new socks and underwear for school-aged children. Nonperishable food items are always in need and greatly appreciated. The food barrel is located in the upper Narthex. Thank you for your continued support!



**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.

Learning for a Lifetime

Adult Ed classes begin at 10:45 and are in Room 9/10 unless otherwise indicated.

September 8: PRAYER

Prayer is the topic as we gather on September 8th to begin a series of varied programs for the autumn. Please join the Adult Christian Education and Spiritual Nurture Committees in discussing the many facets of prayer and how it affects our lives and others. To conclude, John Kubinieć will lead us in guided meditation in the Chapel.



September 15 and 22: MISSION

Join us for two sessions on Mission led by Pastor Nadia.

September 29: CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM

Christian Nationalism will be the topic of conversation; its history, impact, influence. This term is tossed around in the media and publications, but why is it important for us to know about it and understand it?

Prayer

How is your prayer life? Do you want to re-energize it as we start into the fall?

Just renewing your commitment to keep praying is a good start. You can also think about how and when you pray and talk with God about what, if any, changes he wants you to make. You might want to read what the Bible says about prayer. Another possibility is to spend more time in prayer and see what comes up.

The first Adult Ed this fall will be on Prayer, and we encourage you to attend that. See the article above for more information.

There is a strength in praying with others. (Jesus said that where two or three are gathered, there I am in the midst of them.) Every Saturday morning from 9 – 9:30 am, the WPC Prayer Group meets by Zoom. We invite you to join us. You can listen or verbally pray as you are comfortable. It is a friendly group which lifts up the concerns of the congregation and others in prayer.

To be added to the email containing the link for the Prayer Group, Please contact:

Connie Rice (connie56rice@gmail.com) or Barb Hach (bspitzer@rochester.rr.com)



ONE in Christ

Welcome back from summer, dear family in Christ! Your ONE in Christ Committee has worked hard since our formation in April 2023. We have taken the summer off and we will refocus our efforts to learn, enlighten, and educate ourselves and you about our LGBTQIA+ family in Christ. If you wish to join us in that endeavor, please reach out to one of us: Sandi Blakey, Shirley Crane, Lee Ann Daigle, Barb Hach, John Kubinieć, Abbey Mayer, Alissa Mayer, or Marj Shriver. Praise be to the God who loves us all!



Spiritual Nurture

Dearest WPC family in Christ, we of the Spiritual Nurture Committee (SNC) pray that you have had a restorative summer and look forward to being the hands and feet of our Lord with renewed energy.

The 24'x24' cloth floor labyrinth that we were bequeathed by the Presbytery of the Genesee Valley is in demand again! The Parma United Church of Christ has regularly borrowed it from us and most recently, we were asked if it could be rented (!) by the pastor of the Honeoye United Church of Christ, Kenneth McIntosh. He has done labyrinth seminars and has taken the Veriditas Labyrinth Facilitator Training Program which prepares people to introduce others to the labyrinth in an articulate, professional, and effective way. It addresses meditative walking and ceremonial use. Of course, we will not charge rent! Perhaps one day we could have Pastor Kenneth come and do a labyrinth seminar at our church!

In addition to our regular offerings of the Prayer of the Week (POW), Memory Verse of the Month (MVM) and Saturday Morning Prayer Time (9:00 am for about 30 minutes via Zoom), your SNC is thinking about forming a Small Group(s) around Pastor Nadia's sermon series in the coming year that could meet after worship during Adult Ed time. A thought and a work in progress. Interested participants please reach out to:

Bob Blakey
bobyekalb@aol.com

Nancy Duquette
nandqu27@gmail.com

Barb Hach
bspitzer@rochester.rr.com

Immanuel!



Mission Update

School Supply Drive

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

The Mission Committee is very thankful for the overwhelming generosity of this congregation for the many school supplies collected for Williamson Come-Unity Center and Eastern Service Workers.

This year more than 120 children will benefit from the backpacks and other school items we collected.



A special thanks to the VBS children who donated many of the supplies, the people who helped

pack the items and to the drivers who delivered them.

It is such a blessing that we are able to help equip so many children with the proper tools to start school.

Top photo: School Supply delivery to Eastern Service Workers

Bottom photo: School Supply delivery to Williamson Come-Unity Center

Summer Mission Projects Update

As you probably recall, the Mission Committee, with approval from Session, selected two local projects for our church family's Summer Mission giving this summer – The Peoples Pantry (formerly South Wedge Food Cupboard) and Family Promise of Greater Rochester (formerly RAIHN). Both organizations are located in Rochester and serve not only those in the city, but some deserving folks in surrounding areas as well. Both organizations continue to see a steadily increasing demand for food, housing, and counseling for homeless families but have experienced a downturn in donations this summer.

So, our extra support of these two organizations has been very timely. We are extremely pleased to report that as of this writing in mid-August, with 2 more weeks until we finish collecting, we have already exceeded our original goal of \$8000! Praise the Lord and thank you so much for your extremely generous contributions to these two very worthy organizations! In September, we will announce the total amount that was donated.

Kenya High School Students Fund

In Kikuyu, Kenya, near Nairobi, we continue to support very needy, deserving young students for their four years of high school and hope to continue to do so for many years to come. We will support 5 students for the 2025 school year (begins in January in Kenya) and plan to support 4 students each school year in 2026 and beyond.

This year, as recommended by Session, the Mission Committee is not having a specific collection goal and time period during September for this important project. Instead, we are relying on your voluntary donations throughout the year, but especially in September. The current fund balance is sufficient to fund the 2025 school year but not beyond then. Therefore, we ask that you prayerfully consider making a voluntary donation this September or fall to help keep this fund viable into the future. Thank you for considering this!

Special Gifts to Mission

We continue to be blessed with occasional significant gifts for Mission that are given to the Mission Committee to disperse as we see fit! At our June meeting, we were blessed to be able to make additional donations to the Outreach Foundation (for Christian churches in the Middle East), the Medical Benevolence Foundation (for emergency medical needs in Haiti), ROCMaidan (for medical supplies in Ukraine) and the American Bible Society for Bibles! And at our August meeting, we were able to make extra contributions to Cameron Community Ministries, Open Door Mission, FoodLink and Keeping Our Promise! All of these organizations have been especially short of donations this summer.

Trip to Egypt in February 2025

From February 10th - 22nd, 2025, one of our long-time mission partners, Hands Along the Nile (HANDS) is offering a trip to Egypt that will be led by a Presbyterian pastor and will focus on visiting Presbyterian Churches and mission projects there. It will also include visits to the Pyramids, Sphinx and other famous sights. If you are interested in learning more about this trip, contact the church office.

Worship and Music



We hope you enjoyed your summer! It went by fast, it seems like just last week we were wishing each other well and saying “see you in the fall”! Fast as it went, we’re looking forward to the cooler weather and routines that come this time of year, and most especially, reconnecting with each other during Sunday services. Here are a few things that may get you excited as well!

Join Us in Making Music

Are you interested in singing? Our Chancel Choir needs more voices and we’d love to have you! We rehearse Sunday mornings so the time commitment is quite small, and there is so much joy as we sing in praise! Please see Lee Ann Daigle for more information.

There are several bell choirs at WPC including the Alleluia Bells, Glory Bells, and our Youth Handbell Choir. Currently, ringers are only needed for the Youth Handbell Choir. For more information, see the article in the right hand column.

Organ Concert Series Planning

WPC is planning an organ concert series this fall that will highlight our beautiful instrument and bring community members into the church. We need help planning and are asking anyone with organizational skills, enthusiasm, and a little time, to join us in putting on this exciting event. Please see Kat Jolliff or Sally Turner if you are interested.



The Tech Team Needs You

The WPC technology team is asking for your help to continue our worship engagement through Sanctuary projection, sound, and live-streaming. If you can use a remote control for your TV, you’re qualified! Those of us who worshiped online this summer can attest to how important our tech team is, and we need a few more regular volunteers who can help give our veteran team some well-deserved breaks. Please see Alissa Mayer or the church office for more information. You can also visit Jay, Dick, or Todd in the back of the Sanctuary to see how easy it is to help.

Women’s Circles

Naomi Circle will meet on Wednesday, September 11th at 1:00 pm at Jean Maier’s home for our annual auction for outreach.

King Circle will be meeting in the Memorial Room on Thursday, September 12th at 10:00 am. Eleanor Scott will be doing the program on “Getting to know you better!”

Rachel Circle will meet on Monday, September 30th for a Pot Luck Supper at 6:00 in the Memorial Room.

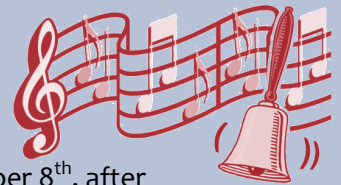
Are You the Parent or Grandparent of a 5th – 8th Grade Youth?

If so, please read the following!

Youth Handbell Choir History: In the late 1960’s three octaves of Hand Bells were donated to the church. The bell choir was made up of youth of the church. Since then, to my knowledge, there has always been a middle school aged bell choir at Webster Presbyterian. In the last decade or so, parents have played along with their youth in order to have a full contingent of ringers.

At the onset of the COVID pandemic, that ended.

We would like to bring it back!



On September 8th, after the worship service, there will be a meeting of parents and youth to discuss starting up a bell choir to include the middle school youth (along with some 5th graders), their parents and/or grandparents. We will talk about the timing and frequency of rehearsals and worship musical offerings.

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

Bell Choir Rehearsals

September Schedule

Glory Bells: Thursday mornings at 9:00 in the Sanctuary.
No rehearsal on 9/12.

Alleluia Bells: Thursday evenings at 6:00 in the Sanctuary.



New Beginnings

Welcome back everyone. Another church year begins this month and we are all excited to greet friends we haven't seen in a while. It's been a busy summer hasn't it? I hope you all basked in the sun and the rain (remember, rain makes flowers grow), vacationed or staycated and had time to reflect on what has been and what will be. Trustees, Deacons and Session continued through the summer but took time off too. The choir is back and so are the bell choirs and the children's bells and Shine. Every group would love to have you join. Everyone is welcome.

September reminds us it's time to continue to play and continue to pray and continue to spread the Word. God is in all we see and in all we do. It's time for New Beginnings to continue too. I'm not sure who said it, but "...so much to do, so little time...", so we are asking for you to help where you can.

Our partnership with State Road School continues. We will be filling that snack cupboard regularly for the kids who can't afford to bring their own. We've also found that an occasional extra snack as motivation for work well done above what's required or expected brings a special kind of smile. Please remember to look through your children's books and share those they've outgrown. If you have none at home, Savers sells used books really cheap and the library sales are better yet. We can only accept books in excellent condition, suitable for grades K-5. And please, no faith based or religious texts.

We will be continuing our primary grade reading program. If you have 1/2 an hour a week and love to read, we've got the perfect setting for you. We'll even provide the books for you though you are welcome to bring your own favorites. Contact me (Kathy Barbehenn at kcb2029@gmail.com) or the church office if interested.

Our music outreach is going strong with groups at Cherry Ridge, Heathwood and The Village at Penfield. Glory Bells will be giving concerts at Christmas and in the Spring. If you would like to learn how to share music or just visit and read with our elder friends, contact me (Kathy Barbehenn) and I'll be glad to get you started. It's easy and more fun that you can imagine.

Heart and Hand is amazing. They make so many items; from isolette covers to jar openers to hats and scarves and placemats and pillowcases! Join them, you don't need to sew. There are a lot of unskilled jobs to do (I know, I ironed for the group) and Everyone is Welcome. See the article on page 7 for more details.

Movie nights for kids, road cleanup, church cleanup, gardening, and church luncheons will expand if you help just a little. And Webster Hope (formally Hope House) needs us all. Please remember September 7th, just two hours to help get ready for their biggest fundraiser of the year. And don't forget to shop at their sale. They have fantastic buys and ridiculous prices, especially on Saturday, September 14th, from 10:00 am until noon, when everything is 1/2 price. And please continue to donate - food, toiletries, diapers, you name it, they need it.

Thanks for all you do and please think about volunteering.



September Lectionary Readings

September 1

Old Testament Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Psalm Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9
New Testament James 1:17-27
Gospel Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

September 8

Old Testament Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm Psalm 125
New Testament James 2:1-17
Gospel Mark 7:24-37

September 15

Old Testament Proverbs 1:20-33
Psalm Psalm 19
New Testament James 3:1-12
Gospel Mark 8:27-38

September 22

Old Testament Proverbs 31:10-31
Psalm Psalm 1
New Testament James 3:13 - 4:3, 7-8a
Gospel Mark 9:30-37

September 29

Old Testament Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22
Psalm Psalm 124
New Testament James 5:13-20
Gospel Mark 9:38-50

Memory Verses

*Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast,
immovable, always excelling in the work
of the Lord, because you know that in the
Lord your labor is not in vain.*

1 Corinthians 15:58



WPC is a member of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley (PVG). To keep up-to-date on what's happening in our Presbytery, click the link below to read the PVG newsletter:

<https://pbygenval.org/newsletter/>

Nominating Committee

Happy September everyone. Happy Labor Day when we celebrate all those who work for us, with us and around us. Happy change of seasons and welcome to the beautiful colors of Autumn. And Happy new Church Year.

Every September, we begin again, and continue, the great adventure that is the growing family of Webster Presbyterian church, our home away from home, the House of the Lord, where we are all welcome. We've come a long way in the last couple of years. Working together, we are growing in numbers but much more important, we are recognizing and living in His name. We are reaching out more and more into the community. Truly all are welcome here.

But you all are aware that none of this happens by just showing up on Sundays. Dedicated brothers and sisters in Christ work behind the scenes throughout the year to help us all achieve our goals. Trustees, Deacons and Session members work cooperatively to plan and execute all phases of this House.

Our All-Church Nominating Committee will begin to actively seek membership on all three boards in the weeks to come. There is a special camaraderie that develops when you meet with people who are all working for the same goal. We all help each other help all of us. Please prayerfully consider how you can best help, where you would best fit. Talk to us, ask questions. If you've never been on a board, what a great time to start. If you have previous experience, perhaps you have more to share. Please pray and please be open to our invitations. God bless.

Kathy Barbehenn LeeAnn Daigle Scott Hewlett Amy Vallone
John Wilbert Jen Wengender

Heart and Hand



The Heart and Hand planning team invites you to join them on September 20th at 10:00 am in Room 5. At that time, we will kick off our new season by making pillowcases for WPC family members who will be college freshmen this Fall. Additionally, we will make pillowcases for a Women and Children's shelter in Monroe County. This is always an enjoyable and rewarding project.

Our wrap-up for last spring was the delivery of over 100 delightful surgical caps to Golisano Children's Hospital.

Remember, all are welcome to join us in Room 5 on the 3rd 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 at tmcneary@gmail.com.

The OCTOBER Pathway deadline is SEPTEMBER 20th.

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



Women's Bible Study

"GOING FOR THE GOLD"

Women's Bible Study resumes on September 10th in Room 9/10 (and Zoom) at 9:00 am. Olympic gold vs. God's gold. Join us and discover the winner!

We will continue through the fall with "James and the Power of Words". Who was James? Why did he write his letter? To whom? How's your tongue? Come, whether a regular or new member, with your Bible. We'd love to have you be part of this fellowship group!

Church Family News

During the summer, we prayed for:

Pat Murray, the family of Cathy Blakey, Joseph Burton, Sue Wroblewski, Marge Crumb, Lee Ann Daigle, the family of Jan Thorne (Amy Vallone's mother), Barb Hackett, Brian (Connie Rice's brother-in-law) and the Weishaar family.

We are saddened by the passing of:

Irv Crane on June 1st, Bob Joslyn on June 2nd, Joan Baden on June 10th and Betty Moore on June 21st.

Address Changes:

Alta Harter: 223 Elderwood Ct.
Penfield, NY 14526
Phone: 265-0516

Matt & Doreen Clark:
365 Longbush Lane
Webster, NY 14580
Phone:
Matt - 750-3590
Doreen - 750-3904



VBS Thank You

Thank you to the 15 adults and 7 teen helper volunteers who made it possible for WPC to once again offer a VBS adventure.



Thirty-Seven VBS campers, ages PreK-5th grade filled the rooms and hallways with excitement and energy as

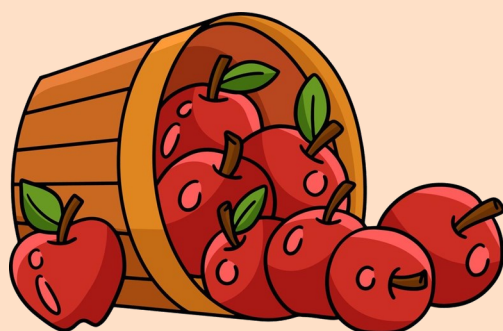
we experienced SCUBA: Diving into friendship with God.

Each day the kids attended sessions in Bible Adventures, Music, Bells and Chimes, Imagination Station Science, Crafts, and of course, snack!

A special Thank You to Scott Oelkers who stopped by to share his diving experiences as a certified scuba diver. It was a wonderful addition to our lessons.

School supplies were collected as our VBS mission project and donated to the efforts of the WPC Mission

collection for Eastern Service Workers and Williamson Come-Unity Center. Plans have already begun for VBS 2025!!



SHINE Church School News

Mark your calendars!!

Our SHINE program begins on September 8th!

Our SHINE Sunday School program is for children PreK-5th grade. We meet in rooms 2 and 3. The teachers will once again be Gayl Galen and Anita Brocker. Jackie Anderson will also continue with her chime/handbell program.



Beginning on October 6th, there will be no SHINE class on the first Sunday of each month. All kids will remain in worship. SHINE kids/youth will take part in the morning worship service by reading the Call to Worship, Prayer of Invocation, scripture reading, lighting the candles, handing out bulletins or assisting with the Joys and Concerns microphone. We are hoping to have three or four kids taking part each month.

Our SHINE curriculum will be from Group Publishing called *Hands-On*. We have used this material in the past and have found it very well presented and appropriate for all ages. This fall we will be hearing stories of David, Esther and Daniel. We will also continue with some new mission outreach projects throughout the year. Anita Brocker will spend some extra lessons teaching all of the kids how to use their bibles; finding scriptures and learning the books of the Bible.

Our stewardship efforts will also continue. All money given by the kids will be sent to Little Children of the World to continue our monthly support of Maxinne in the Philippines and we will continue to donate to Cracker Box Palace (animal rescue center) nearby in Alton, New York. If your child/children need offering envelopes they will be available in their SHINE classroom or on the table across from the Christian Education Office.

Communion/Baptism Class

Sunday, September 29th 10:45-11:30 am

This will be a family class on communion/baptism led by Pastor Nadia. It will be a chance for parents, grandparents and kids to review as well as be introduced to the meaning of both communion and baptism. Many of our SHINE kids have taken part in communion lessons but this will be a chance to review and remind them of what these two sacraments are all about.

If your family would like to participate in this, please RSVP to Gayl at ggalen@websterpres.org so that we know how many to plan for.

YOUTH

Beginning on Sunday, September 15th, Youth in grades 6 - 12th will have the opportunity attend Sunday School on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month. Watch for more information in your bulletin announcements!

