



The Pathway

Newsletter of the Webster Presbyterian Church
Webster, New York

November 2024

Vol. LIV No. 9

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way.
The Lord be with all of you. - 2 Thessalonians 3:16

Dear Webster Presbyterian Church family,

What can I say to sum up my time with you? It has been full. Full of sharing your joys and your sorrows, celebrating and mourning, growing and healing. I am so honored that I got to spend these last 14 months with you, even though it isn't as long as I had planned or we had hoped. Goodbyes can be difficult. It can be difficult to express everything you need to express before parting. It can be difficult to understand what emotions are at play. I take refuge in the fact that as we say goodbye to each other, that we don't say goodbye as the world does. We say goodbye confident that in Christ we will meet again.

I will bring with me many happy memories, many treasured relationships, and hope from my time with you. I will treasure memories of worshiping, fellowshiping, and working alongside each other. I will treasure the relationships that we formed and the great honor it has been to walk alongside you through ups and downs. One thing I've been saying since I got here was that I truly believe this is a hopeful congregation: a congregation that looks out at their future and at the world and sees possibilities for growth, for service, and for love. With Christ at the head, and the Holy Spirit as its guide, Webster Presbyterian Church will continue to warmly open its doors to new visitors, will continue to engage in deep and meaningful mission work, and will continue to offer worship that lifts up and enriches the heart, mind, and soul.

I am going to miss being with you, even as I look toward my own future with optimism and hope. My prayers will be with you as you walk faithfully into your future, confident that you do not walk alone. You have each other, and as always, you have the promises of God never to leave or forsake you.

Peace,
Pastor Nadia



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



November



What's Inside

Page:

2. A Note from Session,
Upcoming Events,
Ways to Get Involved,
Contact Us
3. Deacons' Doings - Angel Tree,
Trustees' Corner - Workday
4. Spiritual Nurture,
ONE in Christ,
Mission Update
5. Worship & Music,
Bell Choir Schedules,
Women's Circles
6. Learning for a Lifetime,
Heart & Hand, Lectionary,
Memory Verse
7. SHINE, Youth Sunday School,
Family Movie Night,
Church Family News,
Operation Christmas Child

The DECEMBER Pathway deadline is

NOVEMBER 19th.

Email articles to
jchippero@websterpres.org
and
g Hubbard@websterpres.org

DON'T FORGET!

Set your clocks back!

Daylight Savings
Time Ends on

**Sunday
November 3rd!**



Upcoming Events!

November 3 after Worship

Farewell Reception for Pastor Nadia

Join us in the Social Room

November 3 at 3:00 pm

Organ Recital

Join us for the first in a series of Organ Recitals! See details in the Worship & Music article on pg 5.

November 8 at 7:00 pm

Family Movie Night

Join us to watch Pixar's film *Inside Out 2*. See pg 7 for details.

November 14 at 10:00 am

King Circle Presents:

Susan B. Anthony as portrayed by Barbara Blaisdell. See the King Circle's article on pg 5.

Ways to Get Involved!

Please consider sharing your time and talents with us!

Fall Workday - November 9th 9:00-noon

See Trustee article on pg 3.

Decorate the Church for Christmas -

November 24th after worship

See Rachel Circle's article on pg 5.

Sewing for Heart & Hand -

See article on pg 6.

Liturgist - contact Heather Hewlett

heather.hewlett@yahoo.com

Welcomer - contact Karen Stoddard

hockenbrough@hotmail.com

Contact Us

Office hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from **9:00 am till 3:00 pm**.

Office phone: 585-265-9700

Office email: office@websterpres.org

Church website: www.websterpres.org



A Note from Session

As most of you know, Pastor Mullin is leaving her ministry with WPC. We understand that she needs to make this change for her and her family. We have been blessed by her pastoral leadership for the past year. While we are sad to see her leave, our church family is a community of believers and church life will go on as we welcome visiting pastors and begin a new search process. Our church leadership has been meeting with the Presbytery Committee on Ministry (COM) to make this transition go as smoothly and quickly as possible. At the Congregational Meeting on October 20th, we approved the necessary actions to end Pastor Nadia's relationship with our congregation. Once COM has reviewed our actions, they will help us to begin the process to first locate an interim pastor and then to form a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) to search for a new full time senior pastor.

We had a wonderful PNC that completed their search in 2023 and brought Pastor Nadia to us. If you are interested in serving on the new committee when it is formed, you may talk to Kathy Barbehenn or Todd Fargo. If you would like to learn how the process works talk to me or to Heather Hewlett who was on the 2022/23 committee.

It is hard to say "Goodbye" to someone we have grown to know and love. However, we must move on to continue our mission to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to our members and our community. One of my favorite passages from Jeremiah 29: 11-13 is: *For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart.* So we know, with God's help, we will get to a good place. November 3rd will be Pastor Nadia's last day with us. I encourage you to attend as we bid her and her family well as she, and we, begin this new chapter in our lives. Session and the Board of Deacons are planning a reception after worship in the Social Room on November 3rd to express our thanks to Pastor Nadia and to bid her farewell.

Now there is one thing that I am asked to convey to the congregation when a minister leaves our church. The departing minister is required to agree to the Policy for Separation Ethics when leaving a church. If you were at the congregational meeting on October 20th you heard about this. It sets guidelines for the pastor and the congregation to follow. The full document can be found on the Presbytery website. Here is an excerpt:

When a pastor leaves a charge for whatever reason, there are bonds of affection that still tie that pastor and congregation together. Individuals among the church membership retain friendships with the former pastor. So on the day of dissolution and thereafter, the Presbytery through its Committee on Ministry takes the opportunity to remind church members and pastor that only the moderator of the Session can invite a former pastor to participate in the life of the congregation in any professional or pastoral role. The Presbytery reiterates that a new era in the history of the congregation and the former pastor has begun, all parties are to rejoice and be glad in it.

So let us rejoice for the time we have had with Pastor Nadia and let us work together to find where God is leading us.

Tony Hubbard, Clerk of Session

Deacons' Doings

Angel Tree

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Yes, it really 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 3rd, and will be loaded with gift ideas for you to take. Please bring your **unwrapped gifts to church no later than Sunday, December 8th.**



If you prefer to do your shopping on line, we again have an Amazon wish list available if this option is easier for you. Using the QR code below, use your phone's camera to hover over the code. You will get a pop-up for Amazon; follow this pop-up to the gift registration site in Amazon. Select your gifts. When you proceed to the checkout, you should get an option to ship to Laura Oliver's home. You can choose this option and Laura will take care of your purchase. Or you can elect to ship to your home and bring your purchase to church. Please be sure that your delivery arrival time on the order will be prior to December 8th.



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 8th.** Thank you in advance for your continued support of this very worthwhile program!

Food Barrel



Webster HOPE is extremely grateful for our congregation's donations that help serve neighbors in our own community! They are seeing an increase in Webster residents needing food (in one night, they served 28 households in 2 hours!). Please consider donating non-perishables or hygiene items. Specifically, they need canned vegetables and fruits, spaghetti sauce and pasta, soap, and laundry detergent. Thank you!



**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.

Trustees' Corner



Our Church Fall Workday will be Saturday, November 9th from 9:00 am till noon. We have many projects scheduled to prepare the church for winter. Please join the Trustees as many hands make for light work. Coffee, juice and light breakfast foods will be provided.

We are removing 10 large, dead ash trees from the property on October 25th. Weber Tree Service has graciously donated the tree removal to our church, saving us thousands of dollars. We are very grateful for their generous donation.

After several attempts to repair the Social Room roof leak internally, we are turning the task over to the professionals. We have hired Finger Lakes Roofing to make the repair so that we will have a proper solution to this problem that has plagued us for the last two years.

The heating system has been turned on for the season. The boilers have been serviced and are ready to go for the winter heating season.

Otis Elevator has notified us that the controls for the elevator in the new wing have become obsolete. They provided us a quote to replace the controls: \$20,000. Due to the limited use and the fact that the elevator is in good working condition at the present time, we have elected to delay the replacement.



Spiritual Nurture

As sad as we are to see Pastor Nadia leave, we wish her Godspeed in her new calling. Our church family has suffered losses in the past and we have grieved, as we must, with God's loving arms surrounding us. Let us now look forward to a "new beginning," as we work together, worship together, find joy together, and bring glory to God as we go. "May it be so." Amen.



ONE in Christ

Your ONE in Christ Committee has updated our purpose, having achieved our original purpose of determining whether or not to become More Light Presbyterians of the Presbyterian Church, USA. Without requiring that designation, we believe that we present ourselves as an open and inclusive congregation, welcoming all. Thus, we proclaim, *"Our purpose is to support our LGBTQIA+ siblings, as we continue to foster an inclusive and compassionate community, rooted in faith, through education and advocacy."* We are so grateful for Pastor Nadia's leadership and unequivocal support in this area. We have learned and grown and become convicted in our own beliefs, thanks to her. We will miss her. Yet we shall continue our work, having her model of wisdom and compassion as reference and inspiration.

There are bookmarks in a vase on the Welcome Console in the Narthex, depicting the banner that is displayed on one of the light poles in front of our church. Please feel free to take one.



Mission Update

Winter Clothing Collection for Cameron Community Ministries

Through Sunday, November 17th, we are again collecting gently used and new winter clothing for Cameron. Blue plastic collection tubs are located in the upper and lower Narthex. We are collecting men's, women's and children's clothing, shoes and boots. As always, men's items are the most needed. Children's clothing (especially boys pants and jeans) are also in short supply and they will gladly accept women's clothing too. NEW THIS FALL: CAMERON IS ASKING FOR BLANKETS AND SLEEPING BAGS SO THAT THEY CAN BETTER SERVE THE UNSHELTERED IN THEIR AREA. So please start searching your closets, and if you don't have much to donate, please consider going to a local thrift store to buy some gently used or new items. Cameron is located in an extremely needy and high crime section of the city in the Lyell Avenue/Childs Street area and always very much appreciates our donations.



Adopt-a-Highway Thank You!

A big thank you to those who participated in the fall Adopt-a-Highway clean-up on October 19th! Fifteen of us enjoyed a beautiful fall morning cleaning up our adopted section on Route 250. A pre-assessment of the route indicated it

was quite clear of debris, so we were even able to add an additional section south of Klem Road to our clean-up activities. Please consider joining in the next clean-up which will be this coming spring.

thank you

Worship and Music

Organ Concert Series

Come hear the sounds of the Webster Presbyterian pipe organ on Sunday, November 3rd at 3:00 pm! You'll be graced with a free concert from students of the Eastman School of Music including our own award-winning organist, Kat Jolliff. The performers range from undergraduate to doctoral and artist diploma students who will share with us a very diverse program. Donations will be accepted and very much appreciated.



This will be the first recital of the 2024-2025 WPC Organ Recital Series. All concerts will be open to the community. Plan to attend and bring your friends and neighbors to support these talented musicians.

Save the date! The next concert in our series will be on Sunday, January 26th.

Welcoming our Upcoming Substitute Pastors

As much as we will all miss Pastor Nadia in the pulpit, we have some wonderful pastors lined up to lead our worship services until an interim pastor joins us. Rev. Bruce Boak, Rev. Betsy Crumity, Minister Jarmani Dozier, John Kubiniec, and Rev. Lynda Meyers will be joining us over the next several weeks. We share the good news that Minister Dozier was ordained in a service at Greater Harvest Church on October 27th. Congratulations Jarmani!

We have been blessed by the willingness of these folks to lead our services through this transitional time and look forward to the time we will spend together in worship.

It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

Deuteronomy 31:8

Bell Choir Rehearsals

November Schedule

Family Bell Choir:

Sunday from 10:45 - 11:30 am in the Sanctuary on November 10th & 17th.

Glory Bells:

Thursdays at 9:00 am in the Sanctuary.
No rehearsal on the 28th.

Alleluia Bells:

Thursdays at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary.
No rehearsal on the 28th.



Women's Circles

Naomi Circle will meet on Wednesday, November 13th at 1:00 pm in the Memorial Room. Meg Marsh will be presenting a craft project as the program.

King Circle cordially invites you to join us in the Social Room on Thursday, November 14th at 10:00 am to enjoy a time with Susan B. Anthony, portrayed by Barbara Blaisdell. Barbara has been portraying SBA for 33 years! She will remain in character the whole time she is with us.

You're Invited!

November 14 10:00 am
In the Social Room

A Visit with Susan B. Anthony
as Portrayed by
Barbara Blaisdell



A freewill offering will be directed to the Susan B. Anthony House. A sign-up will be in the Narthex on the two Sundays before the event.

Rachel Circle will decorate the church for Christmas at 10:45 following worship on November 24th. Our November 25th program is TBD.

Deck the Halls!



Join the members of Rachel Circle when they decorate the Church for Christmas! Stay after worship on November 24th to help!



November Lectionary Readings

November 3

Old Testament	Ruth 1:1-18
Psalm	Psalm 146
New Testament	Hebrews 9:11-14
Gospel	Mark 12:28-34

November 10

Old Testament	Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17
Psalm	Psalm 127
New Testament	Hebrews 9:24-28
Gospel	Mark 12:38-44

November 17

Old Testament	I Samuel 1:4-20
Psalm	Psalm 16
New Testament	Hebrews 10:11-25
Gospel	Mark 13:1-8

November 24

Old Testament	II Samuel 23:1-7
Psalm	Psalm 132:1-18
New Testament	Revelation 1:4b-8
Gospel	John 18:33-37

Memory Verse



O give thanks to
the Lord, for he
is good, for his
steadfast love
endures forever.

Psalm 118:29



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/>



Learning for a Lifetime

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

This year, we have chosen *Into the Mess & Other Jesus Stories*, by Debie Thomas (a columnist for *The Christian Century*) as a guide for our discussions. The book presents a series of short essays on the stories of Jesus. They are "invitations to faith in all its complexity and untidiness. The Jesus who emerges here is not the sanitized Christ of piety and platitudes, but the Christ of complicated joys and transcendent sorrows. The Christ who weeps, wonders, loses, learns, and seeks. These are the stories of the Incarnate God who finds and loves us in the messiness of our lives."

Watch for announcements each month to inform you of which essays we will reference on a given Sunday.

The book can be purchased for \$15 and will be available in the Narthex before and after the service, or see Sally Turner or Sandi Blakey.

NOVEMBER 3 - No Adult Ed Class - Reception for Pastor Nadia

NOVEMBER 10 - Prayer

John Kubinieć will lead us as we continue exploring various ways to experience prayer.

NOVEMBER 17 - Book Discussion

We will discuss 3 reflections from *Into the Mess*, by Debie Thomas:

But We Had Hoped, p. 194

The Blessing and the Bite, p. 120

On Fairness, p. 156

NOVEMBER 24 - Giving Thanks with Jesus

What did Jesus say about thanksgiving? Join Adult Education as we use "100 Stand Alone Bible Studies" to consider giving thanks with Jesus. The Bible has much to tell us about this topic as we celebrate the American Thanksgiving.

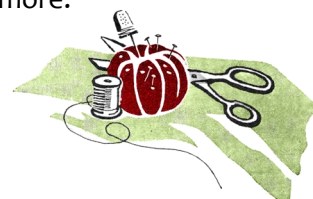


Heart and Hand

Thanks to all of you who quickly stitched up our delightful pillowcases for Open Door Mission's Coldwater home. We currently have 40 of them which are ready for delivery.

Now we are into a pile of colorful fleece for hats, scarves and neck warmers. This year, we are once again making them for State Road School Christmas baskets. This is a joint project with WPC New Beginnings who buy the fleece, and we joyfully turn it into fun warm clothing. Kits for volunteers to sew are in the church offices hallway if you would like to try to assemble one or more.

All are welcome to join us for group stitching at 10:00 am on the 3rd Friday of most months in WPC's Room 5.



SHINE Church School News



As an exile in Babylon, Daniel was surrounded by influences that would tempt him to abandon his faith. But Daniel and his friends recognized that attractive enticements of their new culture as traps that would lead them away from God. The stories of Daniel show God's power. God watched over Daniel and his friends, protected Daniel in the lion's den, saved Daniel's friends from the fiery furnace, and brought low a mighty and boastful king. Daniel's adventures send a powerful message that true rewards in life come from honoring and following God.

Like Daniel, kids today are surrounded by influences that entice them away from God. They feel pressured to have the latest and greatest toys and the best brands of jeans and athletic shoes. Peers may encourage them to use bad language and to hang out with popular kids while excluding others. When kids choose to honor God by doing what is right, they may face resistance or even ridicule.

Our lessons this month of Daniel will hopefully give kids an understanding of faith in our powerful God and confidence to face life's difficulties.

November 3: NO SHINE CLASS – Kids remain in worship.
Bible Sunday

November 10: Bells/Chimes with Mrs. Anderson

November 17: Daniel: God helps us make the right choices.
Daniel 1: 3-17
God helps us stand up for what's right.
Daniel 3: 1-30

November 24: Daniel: God deserves credit for all good things. **Daniel 4: 4-37**
We should follow God no matter what happens. **Daniel 6:1-28**



YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Youth Sunday School is off to a great start! Youth in grades 6th - 12th can attend Sunday School on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month.



Join us in the Youth Room following the Children's message during the worship service.

November & December:

Nov 10
Nov 17
Dec 8
Dec 15

Family Movie Night

Join us on Friday, November 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary for Pixar's film, *Inside Out 2*. Bring blankets, sleeping bags, pillows, etc. Popcorn and snacks will be provided. All are welcome!



Church Family News

During October we prayed for:

Beth Petrino and Jerry Steinorth.

We are saddened by the passing of:

Long-time member Phylliss Smeltzer.

Operation Christmas Child

Last year, we decided that we would no longer collect Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes as a congregation. If you would like to continue to support Operation Christmas Child, you can drop off your shoeboxes at:

Assembly of God Church
708 Hard Road, Webster

November 18	5-7 pm
November 19	3-5 pm
November 20	5-7 pm
November 21	3-5 pm
November 22	3-5 pm
November 23	10-Noon
November 24	1-5 pm
November 25	10-Noon

