



# The Pathway

Newsletter of the Webster Presbyterian Church  
Webster, New York

December 2024

Vol. LIV No. 10

Advent begins on the first of December this year. It's a time for reflection, prayer, and spiritual readiness as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

But the busyness of the season can be overwhelming as can the feelings of loss or loneliness as we approach the holiday without a loved one. Together, let's find ways to focus on the significance of Christ's arrival and cultivate a spirit of joyful anticipation during this special season.

Each Sunday morning, you are invited to join us at 9:30 for worship. We will be lighting the candles on the Advent wreath and exploring the Advent themes of hope, peace, joy and love.

Advent devotion booklets have been chosen for you. These daily inspirations from Henri Nouwen will provide quiet moments for reflection. Your Worship and Spiritual Nurture teams have put together a simplified Advent calendar that embraces the weekly themes of Advent. Be sure to pick up copies of both of these items in the Narthex. The Advent calendar is also being sent digitally along with this edition of *The Pathway*.

Opportunities for Advent study include Adult Ed. sessions that offer the DVD series, *An Unlikely Advent*, by Rachel Billups for viewing and discussion (see pg 6). And Women's Bible Study is continuing with last year's *Advent in Plain Sight* (see pg 6).

Do not miss worship service on the 15<sup>th</sup> when the sermon will be replaced by a delightful nativity pageant featuring the children of the congregation (see pg 5).

If you want feel the joy of Advent, check out our float in the Webster Parade of Lights on December 7<sup>th</sup>. You are welcome and encouraged to walk with us (see pg 5)!

Our Christmas Eve Service will be at 4:00 pm. Let's gather together as the Advent season culminates with the celebration of the birth of our Savior!

May we all feel the hope, peace, joy and love that Advent promises.



## December

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



**Christmas Eve Service  
4:00 pm**

Communion and  
Candle lighting



## Trustees' Corner

The church fall workday was November 9<sup>th</sup>. A big thank you goes out to all that helped make it a great success. We washed windows, got the snow blower ready for winter, put salt by all the doors, and cleared all the gutters and roofs of leaves. We inspected all the chairs for ripped seats and broken parts and cleaned all the halls with an extra tall Swiffer to remove all the cobwebs and dust. We finished making repairs on the cracks in the south sidewalk. The air conditioner was covered and leaks were cleaned up all around the church. The Narthex was given a deep clean and the exhaust fan above the pastor's office was repaired.



Weber Tree Service has cut down the 10 large dead ash trees plus removed the large tree branch that hung over the path to Respitewood. We are very grateful for their generous donation.

Finger Lakes Roofing has repaired the Social Room roof. They did return to do a second repair after it rained and a second leak was found. We are crossing our fingers that all leaks have been repaired, but we will need it to rain before that question can be answered.



## A Note from Session

At our November Session meeting, we formed a subcommittee to prepare a job description and terms of call for a stated supply minister to lead us as we seek a new minister. Interviews for that position have started. The stated supply minister will be under contract to serve us while we form a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) and search for a new full-time minister. The PNC will be using the Mission Study that was prepared in 2022 as updated to prepare a list of characteristics that we are seeking in a new minister. If you are interested in being part of that process, please talk to Todd Fargo, Kathy Barbehenn, or myself. In the meantime, Heather Hewlett, chair of the Worship and Music Committee, has recruited visiting pastors to lead worship until we hire a stated supply minister. Rev. Phil Davis was our stated supply minister from January 2020 until Pastor Nadia began her ministry at WPC in August 2023. Many people are continuing to keep our programs for children, youth and adults going at WPC as we seek to bring God's word to people in our community.

WPC is part of the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA). As of 2022, there were over 9,300 PCUSA churches. The PCUSA provides resources for churches. The constitution of the church has two parts, *The Book of Confessions* and *The Book of Order*. These documents include confessions that have been part of church history and provide guidelines for the mission of the church, form of government, directory of worship, and rules of discipline. If you want to learn more, both documents can be downloaded at the PCUSA website. I bring this up because Session is charged with following the guidelines prescribed by the national church. Two requirements for all PCUSA churches are to have policies for Prevention of Sexual Misconduct and Child and Youth Protection. These policies were developed by Session committees and are part of a set of policies available for review in the church office or, if interested, I can lend you my copy. A new requirement for PCUSA churches is preparation of an antiracism policy. Session reviewed policies already in place by the PCUSA and our local Presbytery of Genesee Valley (PGV) and has developed the statement shown below which we think complies with the new PCUSA requirement.

*The policy is: Racism is the opposite of what God intends for humanity. It is the rejection of the other, which is entirely contrary to the Word of God incarnate in Jesus Christ. Racism is also a lie about our fellow human beings, for it says that some are less than others. Webster Presbyterian Church stands against racism and will seek opportunities to educate our congregation and staff in how to recognize and address racism in our lives. We will also conduct anti-racism activities including speakers, listening sessions, book discussions, and field trips. This training and these activities will be conducted following the guidance of the Presbytery. All persons shall be treated as beloved children of God.*

We expect there will be opportunities in 2025 to discuss this further with the congregation. In the meantime, if you have any comments for Session, please contact me.

Tony Hubbard, Clerk of Session



## Deacons' Doings

### Angel Tree Collection continues thru 12/8



The Angel Tree will continue to be up through December 8<sup>th</sup> to benefit the Williamson Come-Unity Center. Our contributions over the last several years have been greatly appreciated. If you have not yet picked up a gift idea, please do so soon, the gifts are due back **unwrapped by December 8<sup>th</sup>**.

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 8<sup>th</sup>.

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](mailto:drc.doreenclark@gmail.com) or 585-750-3904. Again, gifts need to be returned **unwrapped by Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you in advance for your continued support of this very worthwhile program!



### Food Barrel



As we head into the holiday season, many of our neighbors depend on Webster Hope for food and other necessities. Webster Hope currently has 205 families receiving food and gifts for Christmas. One hundred and six of these families have children. They are in need of the following:

- Canned goods: peas, pineapple, mandarin oranges, beets, potatoes, pasta sauce
- Hygiene supplies: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, bar soap, lotion, deodorant, toothpaste
- General cooking needs: cooking oil, flour, sugar, pasta

Thank you all for your generous donations to help our community have a hopeful, joyful Christmas!

**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.**

### Poinsettia Sale



The Deacons will soon be taking orders for beautiful red poinsettias for display for the Christmas Eve service on December 24<sup>th</sup>.

Sign up in person in the Narthex before and after the Sunday morning worship services on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup>.

The poinsettias will be \$15 each this year. Pay by check or cash. Make checks out to Presbyterian Women or PWC with "Poinsettia" on the memo line.

Payment can be made in person when you place your order or dropped off or mailed to the church office.

Orders can also be placed by contacting Sue Wroblewski at 585-545-4807 or [sue.wroblewski@icloud.com](mailto:sue.wroblewski@icloud.com), or by calling or emailing the church office.

Poinsettias can be brought home after the Christmas Eve service or donated to our Friends at Home. When ordering, you may include a dedication in memory or in honor of a loved one that will appear in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

All orders must be placed by Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.

*Merry  
Christmas*



## Spiritual Nurture

Merry Christmas from your Spiritual Nurture Committee (SNC)! You received a simplified, weekly Advent calendar along with the mailing of this Pathway. Your SNC contributed the prayers and scripture for this Advent piece.

Please remember that we welcome your suggestions for programs of spiritual interest to you.

During this season, be especially mindful of the homeless, the hungry, the hurting. May you follow the leading of the Holy Spirit.

"Wherever you go, God is sending you. Wherever you are, God has placed you there. God has a purpose in your being there. Christ who indwells you, wants to use you right where you are."



## ONE in Christ

Your ONE in Christ Committee wishes you a Blessed Christmas!

*May the God who created a world of diversity and vibrancy,  
Go with us as we embrace life in all its fullness.*

*May the Son who teaches us to care for strangers and foreigners,  
Go with us as we try to be good neighbors in our communities.*

*May the Spirit who breaks down our barriers and celebrates community,  
Go with us as we find the courage to create a place of welcome for all.*

Clare McBeath and Tim Presswood  
Jesuit resource.org

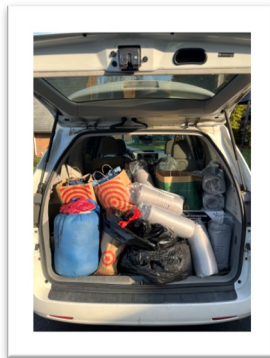


## Mission Update

### Special Visit by Jody Collinge on Monday December 2!

On Monday December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 am, there will be a special opportunity for us to hear from and talk to Missionary Jody Collinge, who grew up in our church and for many years has been a medical doctor and a missionary in Mexico and in other countries. We have helped support her ministry for many years as part of our annual Mission budget. This informal get-together with Jody will either be in the Memorial Room or in the Social Room. Please come to be part of this special opportunity if you are available!

### Winter Clothing Collection for Cameron Community Ministries Wrap-Up



On November 18<sup>th</sup>, we made our second large delivery of winter clothing, sleeping bags and blankets to Cameron Community Ministries in the city. You were especially generous with your donations this fall, and Darlene, the Clothing House Manager, was extremely



appreciative. This year, in addition to the items that all of you donated, we were able to buy 10 sleeping bags and 10 warm blankets for homeless folks in Cameron's area of the city with extra financial contributions the Mission Committee received this year! Thank you everyone!

### Gift Cards for Christmas for the Men at Grace House

From November 24<sup>th</sup> until December 15<sup>th</sup>, we are once again collecting gift cards for Christmas for the men at Grace House. They prefer that we donate \$10 gift cards for Wendy's, Chick Fil-A, McDonald's and Walmart since these places are within easy walking distance of Grace House. Please place your gift card contributions either in the box on the table in the Narthex on Sundays, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, or drop them off or mail them to the church office. The men who reside at Grace House are recommended by a city or county agency including the Parole Board. Many have been in prison and most would be homeless if they were not at Grace House, so they very much appreciate our donations. Thank you in advance!



### Christmas Joy Offering



This annual offering is sponsored across the USA by our denomination, PCUSA. Half of it goes to provide emergency funds for current and former pastors and church leaders and their families, and half goes for scholarships and other support for students at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges that primarily serve people of color. Special Christmas Joy envelopes will be in the chair racks from December 8<sup>th</sup> until January 5<sup>th</sup>. Please consider making a generous donation to this worthy offering.



## Worship and Music

### Webster Parade of Lights

Join us for the Webster Parade of Lights! WPC will have a float in the parade again this year, and we'd love for you to walk with us or cheer us on! The parade is Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm on Main St.

In past years, we've dressed in costume as angels or shepherds. You're welcome to do that again, or dress in any other Christmas holiday wear, or come as you are (just be sure to dress warm)! The goal is to be together and have fun! We are also inviting other groups to walk with us in hopes of fostering community, including Vacation Bible School families, as well as the Scout Troops and the Webster Theater Guild that use our church building.

If you are interested, please let us know using the link below and we will be in touch with more details in the next week. If you have any questions, reach out to Alissa Mayer, Heather Hewlett, Elissa Burke or Kathy Barbehenn.

Sign up using this link : <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E49ACA62DAAFC1-53097915-walk> We hope you'll join us!

### Christmas Pageant

On Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, the sermon will be replaced by a children/handbell pageant, "Mary, Joseph, and the Baby". The story of Jesus' birth will be told from the perspective of the animals in the stable. Through humor and spiritual insight, the Christmas message comes forth. All children and youth are welcome to participate. Contact Elissa Burke (518-378-9024) or Jackie Anderson (585-703-2381) for more information.

### Simplifying the Advent Calendar

The Worship and Music Committee gathered over the summer to brainstorm Advent ideas. We came to the realization that many of us get overwhelmed with the busyness of Advent. We decided to try a new style of Advent calendar to share with you this season. Instead of daily offerings, we offer you just one theme each week. We coordinated our efforts with the Spiritual Nurture Committee and hope you enjoy "Finding Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love this Christmas". A copy of this was attached to the mailing of this Pathway and hard copies can be found in the Narthex alongside the Advent devotion booklets.

### Christmas Eve Worship Service - 4:00 pm

Mark your calendars for 4:00 pm on December 24<sup>th</sup>! There will be a family friendly service with music, Scripture, Communion, and candle lighting as we gather to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child. Come and bring your family, friends, and neighbors. There is room in the Sanctuary for all!

### Organ Concert Series

**Save the Date!** Our next Organ Concert will be on January 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. Look for details in the January edition of *The Pathway*!



## Women's Circles

**Naomi Circle** will meet on Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at Diane Cole's home for their Christmas Party Gift Exchange.

**King Circle** will meet on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at Barb Coleman's home. Following the meeting, they will have a lovely Christmas luncheon provided by their hostess, Barb Coleman.

Barb's address is 5966 Trillium Trail, Ontario, NY 14519.

**Rachel Circle** will meet on Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm for their Christmas Party at the home of Laura Oliver.

## Bell Choir Update

The Glory Bells will be presenting a short holiday concert at each of the following senior facilities:

Dec. 5	Baywinde
Dec. 12	Chapel Oaks
Dec. 19	Heathwood

### November Rehearsal Schedule

#### Family Bell Choir:

December 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 am

#### Glory Bells:

No rehearsals, off sight performances

#### Alleluia Bells:

Thursdays at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>



## December Lectionary Readings

### December 1 - First Sunday of Advent

Old Testament Jeremiah 33:14-16  
Psalm Psalm 25:1-10  
New Testament I Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Gospel Luke 21:25-36

### December 8 - Second Sunday of Advent

Old Testament Malachi 3:1-4  
New Testament Philippians 1:3-11  
Gospel Luke 3:1-6

### December 15 - Third Sunday of Advent

Old Testament Zephaniah 3:14-20  
New Testament Philippians 4:4-7  
Gospel Luke 3:7-18

### December 22 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Old Testament Micah 5:2-5a  
Psalm Psalm 80:1-7  
New Testament Hebrews 10:5-10  
Gospel Luke 1:39-55

### December 24 - Christmas Eve

Old Testament Isaiah 9:2-7  
Psalm Psalm 96  
New Testament Titus 2:11-14  
Gospel Luke 2:1-20

### December 29

Old Testament I Samuel 2:18-20, 26  
Psalm Psalm 148  
New Testament Colossians 3:12-17  
Gospel Luke 2:41-52



## Memory Verse

*And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.*

John 1:14



## Learning for a Lifetime

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

### DECEMBER 1 and DECEMBER 8 - DVD Series and Discussion

Please join us for the DVD series, *An Unlikely Advent*, by Rachel Billups. This study takes a close look at some of the unlikely people we encounter in the stories about Jesus's birth. We will meet in Room 9/10 to view and discuss these extraordinary people of the Christmas story.

### DECEMBER 15 - Book Discussion - after the Congregational Meeting

After the Congregational meeting that follows worship, we will gather in Room 9/10 for a discussion of *Into the Mess & Other Jesus Stories*, Chapter 1, The God Bearer.

### DECEMBER 22 and 29 - No class

## Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will continue from last year's *Advent in Plain Sight* as we look at *cloth, light, hearts, gold, stars*. "Could this be the Advent we remember *Immanuel*, God with us, in all places, reminded of God's presence, provenience, and power by everyday objects that point us to the salvation story?"

Slow down and join in this time of waiting on Tuesday mornings, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, & 17<sup>th</sup> as we note everyday things and connect them to Scripture and our unchanging God as we anticipate once again the birth of the Christ Child.



## Heart and Hand

This month's highlight for Heart & Hand was to give Pastor Nadia a special "Thank You" quilt on behalf of the congregation at her going away reception. Jennifer Wengender designed and stitched the beautiful quilt in a French braid pattern. Pastor Nadia was delighted with the gift.

Currently on the agenda for Heart & Hand is the completion of 50 pillowcases to be delivered this week to Open Door's Coldwater Home.

We have a wrap-up date of **December 8<sup>th</sup>** for returning any fleece hats or neck warmers to the church office. There are still a couple kits to be returned. Thank you all for your generous gifts of time and talent.

We don't always meet in December, but this year we expect to meet on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Any are welcome to join us during this festive season.



## SHINE Church School News



We begin the month talking about the wonderful surprises that God has planned for us. The kids will hear about Zechariah and God's plan for the baby boy who would prepare the way for the Messiah.

We will talk about God sending Jesus to us as a baby, not as a grown-up, and all the things that Jesus had to learn as he grew up.

*"For a child is born to us,  
a son is given to us"*

*Isaiah 9:6*



- December 1:** Bible Lesson: God surprises us.  
*Jesus is born.* Luke 1:5-25 57-65
- December 8:** Bells/Chimes with Mrs. Anderson
- December 15:** Pageant - No Shine Program
- December 22:** Bible Lesson: Simeon and Anna See Jesus  
*Jesus is our savior.* Luke 2:21-38
- December 29:** Mary and Joseph take Jesus to Egypt  
*God's angels watch over us.* Matthew 2:13-18

## YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Youth in grades 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> can attend Sunday School on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month.

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

### December:

Dec 8

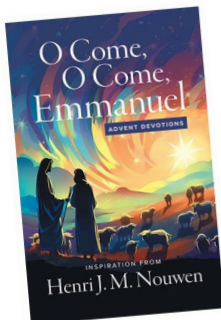
Dec 15 - Pageant - no class

### January:

Jan 12

Jan 19

## Advent Devotion Booklets



This Advent, our Spiritual Nurture Committee chose *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* with inspirations from Henri Nouwen as our Advent Devotions booklet. Pick up a copy in the Narthex.

Gayl Galen has chosen *Guess Who's Coming for Christmas - Stories and Activities for Advent* for the SHINE kids. She will be handing copies to the kids. A few extra copies will be available on the table in the upper Narthex.

## Church Family News

**During November we shared prayers and praise for:**

Kay Wahl, Marge Crumb, Ruth Fischer, and Evelyn Kromm.

### New Address:

Evelyn Kromm  
Fairport Baptist Home G2-06  
4646 Fairport Nine Mile Point Road  
Fairport, NY 14450



## Holiday Office Hours

The church office will be open from 9:00 am - noon on December 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> and from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm on December 31<sup>st</sup> and January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The office is closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.



## Contact Us

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

Office phone: 585-265-9700

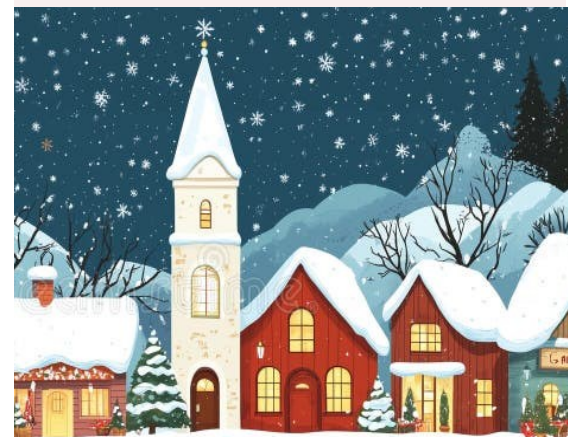
Office email: [office@websterpres.org](mailto:office@websterpres.org)

Church website: [www.websterpres.org](http://www.websterpres.org)



**The JANUARY Pathway  
deadline is DECEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>**

Email articles to  
[jchippero@websterpres.org](mailto:jchippero@websterpres.org) and  
[ghubbard@websterpres.org](mailto:ghubbard@websterpres.org)



*Merry Christmas!*