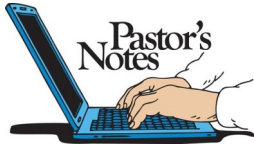


# Inside Wayside

VOLUME 59, NO 1

January 2021



Last year at this time we did not know what was coming. Other cultures have faced such completely limiting events before, but it has been a long time since our nation has – nothing anyone now living can recall. Someone commented to me about how if people seem to be disengaging from things, don't assume it is because of disinterest. This comment aligned with something I have been aware of – how people are responding in times and circumstances that are not normal.

What I have seen is a congregation that has been about being Christians in a common life under uncommon times – caring for one another, being in touch with one another, praying for each other, celebrating each other, grieving in common, worshiping together separately, participating separately together in service, gathering outdoors, giving generously, and longing for a return from a kind of exile with hope to be able to worship together. You have been the church all along without the usual benefits of a common place and a common time to join together. You have been the church in the world as Christ has called you and equipped you to be. You have done and been what you would have hoped you would do and be in such an unusual time. When things are not normal.

Scholars said Judaism was formed in the exile, when the faith and heritage of the people was under threat, when they were in a strange place; when things were not normal. It was not until what really mattered to the people of God was at risk that they worked at keeping it. We can be relieved that our exile is right where we are, and that we live with hope in a restoration coming this year. Still, when the masks are off and we can touch each other, let us retain the lessons of these months. God is with us and has been with us, so this time holds gifts for us. Like the exiles, as we reinhabit places and practices that have stood empty, may we take stock of whose we are and what grace sustains us.

*May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves. Psalm 126:5-6*

The congregation presented a wonderful pastor appreciation gift a couple of months ago, a gift certificate to Pressed Bookstore. I neglected to say thanks but now I am reading my second book from that gift and want to say – Thank you very much. I am grateful to God to serve as pastor of Wayside Presbyterian Church.

Many thanks to those who have served as officers of Wayside and are completing their terms of service: Elders Melissa Grimm and Chris Hoyt; Deacons Carrie Bastow, Betsy Deimel, Dick Reese and Dan Taylor; Trustee Jami Sundberg. I think of the gifts and commitment of each of these persons, the faith and love they each exhibit, and realize how very blessed Wayside is to have been well served by this fine group. I also realize and how very deep is the fellowship with them of gifted and willing servants. Thanks be to God for gathering this congregation in and calling forth servant leaders for the congregation and the community in which we minister.

On January 5<sup>th</sup> the Presbytery of Lake Erie will have a special meeting to act on one topic – the candidate

brought by the General Presbyterian Nominating Committee to fill that position. I am grateful to God to tell you that this candidate is the Rev. Anita Bernhardt! If she is elected at the presbytery meeting she will conclude her service at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church on January 15 and begin with the Presbytery on February 1. When I came as your senior pastor 5 years ago Anita was associate presbyter for the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, and some of you might remember she continued that work until September of that year. Before she served in that position she was the interim Association Minister for Western North Carolina (a similar position) in the United Church of Christ. She has continued to have a strong call to "mid-council ministry" and we are grateful that this call has now been realized here.

**James**

---

### **BUDGET BYTES from the Budget Committee**

As this is being written in the dark days of a 2020 pandemic winter we are longing for some financial good news, even as we celebrate the spiritual good news of Jesus' birth. And so, voilà, here is a positive report from Karen, our Financial Secretary, as of the end of November. We will have to wait until December 31 to know how we actually finished the year, financially-speaking, but let's not get ahead of ourselves. We have cause to be pleased with the November report.

Year-to-date budgeted revenue was set to be \$482,000, the actual received was \$479,000, giving us a shortfall of just \$3,000 which was quite amazing considering all the challenges we have faced this year. Pledges were down but unpledged giving was up, including a gratefully received \$10,000 gift over and above one family's regular pledge. As far as YTD expenses, we were budgeted at \$503,000 while actually spending \$474,000, giving us a savings of \$29,000.

In a nutshell: YTD we expected to show a deficit of (\$20,000) but sit at \$5,000 to the good. How is that for good news?

We do have some concern that the \$57,000 that was budgeted to be received in December, based on prior years, might not reach that level considering that there won't be filled pews during the Advent/Christmas season. However, expenses should come in about \$6,000 under budget in December which will help. More importantly, God has already blessed us this year with amazing Wayside generosity and we are thankful for the Spirit-filled and faithful followers of this congregation. We await year's end with hope.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Nov Rev	\$33,794.96
YTD Rev	\$478,950.39
Nov Exp	\$46,071.68
YTD Exp	\$473,884.59

Please remember  
to keep your pledge up to date.

## The Legacy Committee: Project Update

The 2 year remediation construction phase of the Legacy Project for the Wayside Presbyterian Church is now completed! The goal has now been met to seal the building from water infiltration. The actions were:

1. replacement - aged roof membrane sections and shingled areas,
2. capping limestone members,
3. cleaning/ sealing - facia brick/limestone structures,
4. replace broken windows,
5. replacing windows having rust thru metal frames and single panes with no thermal barrier capacity,
6. Air condition high usage rooms.
7. The above activity uncovered unknown structural issues - limestone ceiling slab and brick columns collapsing along with Fellowship Hall roof at risk with snow load potentially collapsing its structure. These were remediated.
8. Music and classroom interior walls were painted having removed blisters and the rusted metal heating panels as well as patched kitchen ceiling and walls with follow up painting. The blue wall tarps are now gone!

The Legacy Project activity cost is \$ 454,013.00. Within this amount, \$ 66,823.00 were unforeseen expenses. The table below shows the church location / problems/ remediation taken and the associated cost. The attached pictures show the key areas that required remediation. The WPC annual report will have the before/ after pictures.

A pledge campaign resulted in a 3 year commitment for years 2019 thru 2021 of \$ 403,742.00 from 88 members. To date Legacy has received \$ 346,686.00. The Committee is profoundly great full for the ongoing generosity by those participating in the Project. If the 2021 pledge of \$ 70,657.00 can be received, a deficit of \$ 36,670.00 is realized. The current 2020 pandemic has made it very difficult for the Committee to seek additional commitments to close on the short fall. Efforts will be undertaken in 2021. Currently the Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program thru the Presbytery is being applied to for Program loan purposes. Details of this action will be communicated during the January 2021 Congregation meeting.

Regards,

Legacy Committee

***A table is included as an insert.***



## BREAD FOR THE WORLD

This is the first year in many, many years that PW did not sponsor a Bread for the World Offering of Letters. With all the changes in how we accomplish church activities due to the pandemic, we just did not get to this one. It is our goal for 2021 to make it happen! BFW kept very active in 2020 even though it was a year of challenge. In their recent newsletter it was reported that Bread and its members did achieve significant results for those struggling with hunger in part because BFW knows that the ultimate allegiance is to the kingdom of God, not to any political party. Jesus' entrance into this world – born in a manger because there was no room at the inn – reflects the story of those who have been marginalized, deprived, humiliated, and have struggled for a dignified life. BFW continues its effort to end hunger here in the US and around the world.

A major achievement this year is that Congress passed a Global Nutrition Resolution. This bipartisan supported resolution recognizes the importance of United States leadership in the effort to reduce global maternal and child malnutrition – the topic of the 2019 Offering of Letters-

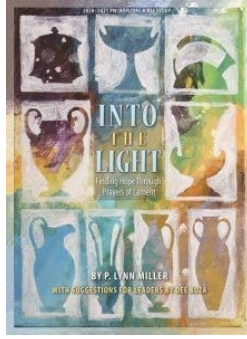


The Sophia Circle will meet on **Tuesday January 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. on zoom**. Please contact Karen Haas if you want the zoom details emailed to you ([karenhaas79@gmail.com](mailto:karenhaas79@gmail.com)). Jean Moore will lead the group in Lesson 5 "Lamenting Life" based on the scripture Job 3:1-4, 9-19, 24-26.

Over \$250 was collected for our annual December mission project and it was given to Second Harvest Food Bank. If you would still like to contribute to this project, please send your donation to Karen Haas. We need a leader for our February 16<sup>th</sup> Lesson 6 "Lament Over the City. If you are willing to lead this lesson, please send an email to Karen.

**Presbyterian Women to sponsor Church World Service BLANKET SUNDAY January 17<sup>th</sup>.** God has blessed us with so much, and we have much to share. Share this love by providing CWS Blankets to those in need. Each blanket costs only \$10, but these blankets can be a vital resource for someone needing a little support, warmth, and encouragement. Together, we can help even more families stay warm this winter. We have a goal to provide 100 blankets. Please consider donating to our Blanket Sunday Offering





The Sophia Circle continues their study **“Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament”**. This month the main idea was the death of someone we love is an occasion for lament. We were challenged to write songs of lament and remembrance. The following laments are to be sung to the tune of “Amazing Grace”.

**In remembrance of Tom Fye:**

We thank you God, for brother Tom,  
for his soft-spoken ways.  
He worked so hard for our dear church.  
Keep him in our hearts always.

**In remembrance of Bill Weborg:**

Thank you, our God, for artistic eyes,  
that Bill used to build and create.  
His visions lead to symmetry and strength.  
May designs remind us of his days.

**In remembrance of Betty Irvin:**

We thank you God for Betty's gifts,  
she shared so graciously.  
Served as a nurse and session clerk.  
Remember her joyously.

**In remembrance of church women no longer with us:**

Our sisters past have served us well,  
in many different roles.  
They lead the way with grace and faith.  
We thank God for their souls.





# Birthdays of the Month

Michael Paris	2-Jan	Rachael Sbrocco	14-Jan
Barry Stamm	2-Jan	Dale Kirkpatrick	15-Jan
Shelby Sheriff	3-Jan	Robin Steger	15-Jan
Joseph Turner	4-Jan	Karen Carpenedo	16-Jan
Claire Bowes	5-Jan	Dick Reese	19-Jan
Jeffrey Boyd	5-Jan	Trevor Grode	20-Jan
Erica Jewell	6-Jan	Suanna McGuire	20-Jan
Denise Borowski	7-Jan	Greg Miller	21-Jan
Lorah Momeyer	7-Jan	Lorie Marsh	22-Jan
Christine Boyd	8-Jan	Maia Edwards-	
Shirley Diller	8-Jan	Borowicz	23-Jan
Ellie McGill	10-Jan	Jack Bestwick	25-Jan
Michele Reed	10-Jan	Vincent Keibler	27-Jan
Elana Dolan	11-Jan	Laura Knoll	27-Jan
Sarah Larson	12-Jan	Debbie Smith	27-Jan
		Richie Fremer	28-Jan
Maureen Schneider	12-Jan	Mya Jeglinski	28-Jan
Dale Cage	13-Jan	Richie Kuzmin-Fremer	28-Jan
Rob Harcourt	13-Jan	Angela Sbrocco	28-Jan
Stacy Fox	14-Jan	Jaida Fried	29-Jan
Aidan Kirkpatrick	14-Jan	Nolan Jeglinski	29-Jan
		Lucas Starr	29-Jan
		Jackie Cross	30-Jan
		Samantha Momeyer	30-Jan
		Meredith Thompson	30-Jan
		Devin Johns	31-Jan



Jill & David Abbott	2-Jan
Colin & Bethany Hurley	6-Jan
Ed & Jan McEllroy	9-Jan
Molly & Andy Allen	22-Jan
Bruce & Nancy Kern	31-Jan

## IRON CHEF COMPETITION FOR FAMILIES: Wednesday, January 27th

This January, families are invited to participate in our first Iron Chef Competition, combining teamwork, creativity, and fellowship as households integrate three key ingredients into an appetizer, main course, and desert. Here's how it works:

- Register with Pastor Nathan by Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> that you plan to participate.
- Pick up your three food items from Wayside Presbyterian at 3:00pm on Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Plan your appetizer, main course, and desert (the three ingredients don't need to all be present in EACH dish, but all three need to be used over the course of the meal) as a family.
- Prepare your meal Wednesday night, January 27<sup>th</sup>, in time to meet up on Zoom at 6:30pm to share and explain your meal to the group. A panel of judges will determine Wayside Presbyterian's **IRON CHEF FAMILY**.



## WORSHIP IN JANUARY



**January 3** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas Holy Communion  
"Heads Up" Based on Matthew 2:1-12

**January 10** Baptism of the Lord Sunday Ordain and Install Elders and Deacons  
Genesis 1:1-5 Install Trustees  
Acts 19:1-7  
"The Spirit of Creation"

**January 17** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
1 Samuel 3:1-10  
"The Persistent Spirit"

**January 24** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Mark 1:14-20  
"Alternative Reality"

**January 31** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
Mark 1:21-28  
"A New Teaching"

### **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY MORNING MEET-UP: Sundays at 9am**

All children up through 5<sup>th</sup> grade and their families are invited to join us Sunday mornings at 9am for a time of sharing, stories, and discussion. Each meet-up is based on a simple question shared by Pastor Nathan Monday afternoon on Facebook and YouTube (let Nathan know if you would like to receive a YouTube link in email if you haven't already). Zoom link for our meet-up will be in the Sunday Worship email.

### WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1208 Asbury Road Erie, PA 16505  
email: [wpc@wayside-erie.org](mailto:wpc@wayside-erie.org)

Phone: 814-833-7653  
[www.wayside-erie.org](http://www.wayside-erie.org)

#### STAFF

The Reverend James Bernhardt  
[james@wayside-erie.org](mailto:james@wayside-erie.org)  
The Reverend Nathan Royster  
[nathan@wayside-erie.org](mailto:nathan@wayside-erie.org)  
Dawn Weborg  
David Sickles  
Karen Pastewka  
[steward@wayside-erie.org](mailto:steward@wayside-erie.org)  
Katie De Pew  
[wpc@wayside-erie.org](mailto:wpc@wayside-erie.org)

Senior Pastor/Head of Staff  
828-381-6582 (cell)  
Associate Pastor  
  
Music Director  
Sexton  
Financial Secretary  
  
Administrative Assistant

#### Newsletter Collating Team:

Sally DeWitt, Shirley Diller, Jane Hess, Louise Martin, Jan McEllroy,  
Annette Rothschild, Helen Smith, Wilma Valentz

### WEST MILLCREEK FOOD PANTRY

Requested items for January

*Tuna, canned spaghetti, spaghetti and sauce, mac & cheese,  
peanut butter, cereal, baked beans and soup.*

*All non-perishable items including diapers, feminine hygiene  
products and pet food are always welcome.*

*Remember: West Millcreek Food Pantry is **NOT** a member of  
the Second Harvest Foodbank.*

*All donations are received directly from volunteers like you.*

*Checks may be made out to  
"West Millcreek Food Pantry"*



### WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNERS

Are temporarily postponed until further notice.



Fellowship Meal

### WELCOME

***"I will show love to those who were called unloved and, to those who were called 'not-my-people',  
I will say 'you are my people' and they will answer, 'you are our God'." (Hosea 2:23)***

Wayside Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) is a place where the mind is nourished as well as the spirit, and where we affirm the dignity and worth of every person. As we are all created in the image of God, we believe discrimination is incompatible with Christ's Gospel of unconditional love. While we celebrate our Presbyterian identity, we acknowledge that we are not alone on the path to understanding God. We invite conversations that move us to seek a deeper understanding of life in the Spirit.

***Be who you are and be welcome here.***

**If you would like to receive your newsletter  
(in color) by e-mail, please contact Katie at  
833-7653 or [wpc@wayside-erie.org](mailto:wpc@wayside-erie.org).**

### DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER:

**January 22, 2021**