



WAYSIDE
Presbyterian Church

Inside Wayside



April 2021

Scriptures for Worship in April

April 4

Easter Sunday

**Sunrise Service - 7am
(on the Wayside back lot)**

Luke 24:1-12

Main Service (online)

John 20:1-18

Holy Communion

"To the Garden"

April 11

2nd Sunday in Easter

Nathan preaching

April 18

3rd Sunday in Easter

Luke 24:36b-48

"Wounded Friend"

April 25

4th Sunday in Easter

John 10:11-18

"Skin in the Game"

Easter comes. We say, "Christ is risen!" and we respond, "He is risen indeed!" We are people of resurrection faith. All of life is changed through the power of hope in Jesus Christ risen from the dead.

The cynical part of us thinks, "Yes, and we said this last year. And here we still are caught in the pandemic." There are many times we may feel this way in our lives. We die a lot of little deaths, and we grieve some big deaths as well. It is true. Dr. Brian Blount, president of Union Presbyterian Seminary, once preached about Lazarus, Jesus' friend who died and was laid in the tomb for a few days before Jesus arrived. (John 11:38-44) Dr. Blount talked about the humanity of us, and that like Lazarus, laid in the tomb, we might start adapting to death, making the tomb home. Jesus stands outside and calls to him, "Come out!" And Lazarus does, but not like Jesus' resurrection – he is still wrapped in cloth – he was starting to settle in, Dr. Blount suggests. Jesus will not let him stay there.

Jesus does not adapt to death. There is so much life in Christ, and in those who trust in him. Life is surging to newness in Christ, so Jesus calls us out to not be content with what is passing. Grieve it, celebrate it, remember it, and live on – let life fill what was and make it new. It is good to hear people reflect on life that has surged even within the confines of the pandemic. Certainly everyone from teachers to businesspeople has worked around new practices and structures. Resurrection faith has been active in perspectives, gratitude, care, and wonder, to name a few. We hear people ask often "what new things are coming from this time?"

Jesus will not permit us the comfort of the tomb – to become accustomed to hate, or to close our doors against those whose lives are broken, or to rest in our contentment when others do not have peace. Yet, Jesus also brings life out of death, light in darkness, and creates love as the antidote to hate. The same hopeful Spirit in us that works to see life surging in our perplexity is at work to keep life surging against all that tries to deny it.

We are Easter people. Each day for us is the day of resurrection. Life surging before we see it, calling to us to have hope, creating possibilities for us to make our own.

And so we say to one another, and to our world. "Christ is risen!" Our faithful response is with eyes and heart already turning to look in faithful expectation to the world God has made and loves and redeems. We say it with confident hope and joy, "He is risen, indeed!"

Grace and peace to you all in everything.

James Bernhardt



GENEROSITY THOUGHTS

This month we want to continue to highlight a few of the living examples of generosity in our midst. If you intentionally look and listen, you will begin to see examples of Waysiders' generosity everywhere. Generous sharing of time and talent are evident in the volunteers who appear on our Sunday online worship services to lead us and to provide music to enhance our worship experience. Behind the scenes there are many folks who serve on various church boards and committees who help to continue Wayside's tradition of mission and service. Lois May and Linda Pentz recently organized and coordinated the preparation of a Sunday meal for our unfortunate neighbors in Erie's inner city. At the end of March desserts were provided to feed those who come to the Emmaus Soup Kitchen for sustenance. Were you one of the Wayside bakers who helped with those two efforts? Do you volunteer at Habitat for Humanity's ReStore? Are you the person who graciously volunteered to produce this newsletter this month? Then you are a living example of the generosity of one's time and talent.

Did you send in a financial donation to the recent project sponsored by the West Millcreek Food Pantry to provide hams for Easter dinner? Did you or will you contribute to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering? Did you send in your family's Per Capita share for this year? Have you been able to continue to send in your regular financial gifts to support the ongoing work of the church? If so, you show all of us what it means to be generous with your treasure.

To all of you, seen and unseen (and there are many), thank you for your generous and loving outpouring of time, talent and treasure. Be on the lookout, everyone....generosity is catching!

The Generosity Committee

The Inreach Fund

This is money set aside to assist Wayside members and friends who face an unanticipated need.

To make a request, contact James or Nathan.

Confidentiality is assured.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Feb Rev	\$33805.01
YTD Rev	\$94919.01
Feb Exp	\$42128.31
YTD Exp	\$90807.11

"BUDGET BYTES" from the Budget Committee

We have a "spring" in our step this month as we greet our much anticipated spring in the Erie region. That lift is because in the overall year-to-date financial accounting (as of the end of February) we were in the black and we are enjoying this luxury while it lasts. We expected to be in the red by (\$2,000) whereas we ended up at \$4,000 to the good, putting us \$6,000 better than projected.

How did we arrive there? It wasn't because of revenues received, unfortunately, because we were budgeted to receive \$99,000 YTD while we received \$95,000, leaving us (\$4,000) short in the revenue column. (Pledges were off by \$4,000; unpledged gifts showed a surplus of \$1,000.)

It continues to be on the expense side of the ledger where we are helped, budget-wise, again due to the fact that our building has continued to be basically closed. We budgeted our YTD expenses to be \$100,000; in actuality we spent \$90,000, showing a savings of \$10,000. However, it is important to remember that once we return to active use of the building as the pandemic hopefully eases, our expenses will be more in line with actual projections.

In other words, while we are thankful to God for these expense savings, we all look forward to the day when normal expenses occur because we are once again physically together to worship our Creator. As we wait for that time, let us encourage one another to "spring" for an increase in revenues, knowing that our expense cushion will soon bid us a fond farewell. *"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." (1 Thess. 5:11)*

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS

Presbyterian Women will hold their Second Quarter Business Meeting via zoom on Sunday April 25th at 1:00 pm.

All women are welcome to attend! A reminder will be sent out via email. If you have any questions, contact Karen Haas.

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://eriesd-org.zoom.us/j/8942999182>

Meeting ID: 894 299 91 82



Soup to Go for Ghana

A big "THANK YOU!" for everyone that supported our special "Soup to Go for Ghana" mission project! The proceeds from this project will benefit the Ghana Partnership. The Ghana Partnership is working on ways to help get COVID 19 vaccines to remote areas of Ghana. Your donations will bring hope to Ghanaians waiting for vaccines. (Ghana began getting some vaccines at the end of February as part of the UN-backed Covax distribution. Ghana's President Nana Akufo-Addo was the first to receive the vaccine and encouraged Ghanaians to get vaccinated.)



The Sophia Circle will meet via zoom on Tuesday April 20th at 7:00 pm. We will be discussing **Lesson Eight "God Laments"**. The focus scripture is Hosea 11:1-9 and Luke 19: 41-44. A lesson leader is needed. Please contact Karen Haas if you can lead this lesson. All women are welcome to attend.

The main idea of the March lesson was: Creation itself laments. Creation has had cause to lament from almost the very beginning. Creation suffers through no fault of its own. Rather, the source of creation's suffering is humanity and human failings. In this lesson, we were asked to choose a creature or a creation-related issue and write a lament in the voice of the creature or creation.

The Bee's Lament

Creator of nature,
Pollinators are disappearing.
The search for food is unending.
Our food is being poisoned.
O God, guide the humans to an awareness
of their destruction.
Allow the flowers to flourish.
You make the rain to fall and the sun to
shine.
Praaaaa "bee" to you!



The Water's Lament

Provider of the life source to all,
The oceans, rivers, lakes, and streams are suffering
from pollution.
Humankind is disrespecting their natural resources.
Do they not know that water sustains life and provides
pleasure and joy?
You separated the water from the land.
Wake up humankind before it is too late!
The seas are confident that you will guide your people
to right action
until the waters are re-
stored, sparkling and
clean.



Presbyterian Women to sponsor Bread for the World Offering of Letters

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. By changing policies, programs, and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist, we provide help and opportunity far beyond the communities in which we live.

Because we are currently not in person, we are going to do things differently! You will have four options to participate-

1. Write by hand the sample letter below, changing the names as you write to our two Senators (*Sen. Bob Casey / Sen. Pat Toomey U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510*) and your Representative (most church members have *Mike Kelly* as their Representative -a few have *Glenn Thompson*). Please add some personal thoughts before you sign your letter.

April 2021

Rep. Mike Kelly,
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515



Dear Representative Kelly,

Hunger is reaching historic levels. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to devastate communities across the United States with a disproportionate impact on Black, Latino, and Native American families, and immigrants and worsening the effects of hunger and poverty around the globe.

The pandemic has exposed vulnerabilities in our safety net and food systems from farm to fork. And child hunger in both the U.S. and abroad has skyrocketed. Specifically, Congress should:

- *Make the expansion of the child tax credit in the American Rescue Plan permanent and available to all children regardless of immigration status. The CTC expansion will lift millions of children out of poverty, as well as help reduce hunger and narrow the racial wealth gap exacerbated by unemployment amid COVID-19.

- *Increase U.S. leadership and funding for global nutrition programs without which an entire generation may be denied of their God-given right to flourish.

Now more than ever, my faith calls me to stand alongside impacted people in my community and around the world. Let us work together to ensure U.S. policies help people move out of poverty and feed their families in the U.S. and around the world.

Sincerely,

(your name and address)

2. Download the letter(s), print, add a personal note before you sign and mail.

[BFW letter to Mike Kelly 2021.docx](#)

[BFW letter to Toomey 2021.docx](#)

[BFW letter to Casey 2021.docx](#)



3. Go to the link below on the Bread for the World website and follow the directions to send emails to your congressmen. Please add a personal message before you send it.

https://secure.bread.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=401&s_subsrc=web site-offering-of-letters-microsite

4. Write letters to your congressmen giving your own thoughts about hunger and actions you would like them to take. You do not need to follow the suggested letter – just let them know that hunger issues matter to you. You decide what you want to say.

Supported with prayer, these letters are a bold witness to God's justice and mercy. Year after year, they impact the decisions made in Congress. Please consider writing letters this year to help end hunger! Once you have sent your letters, please email karenhaas79@gmail.com so PW can keep count of how many letters we have sent. THANK YOU for taking action to help stop hunger!

WELCOME STATEMENT

"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.

Newsletter Collators:

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

Many thanks to you all for your help!!!

Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WaysideErie/>
or @WaysideErie



DEADLINE FOR MAY NEWSLETTER
April 16, 2021

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



WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNERS

Are temporarily postponed until further notice.



Fellowship Meal



It's back! The PW Rummage Sale will be in August this year. Items may be brought to the church **August 12-26**, and the sale will be **August 27-28**. Help is needed to receive, sort, and set up for the sale, as well as on the days of the sale. Contact Nancy Fye or the church office if interested.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Judy Bestwick	4/2
Shawn Babcock	4/3
Jessica Kocan	4/3
Sue Hain	4/5
Peter Momeyer	4/5
Steve Porter	4/5
Bill Pentz	4/6
Jill Fosco	4/7
Isaiah Fried	4/7
Vanessa Paris	4/7
Joanne Gustin	4/8
Kristy Stack	4/8
Gabby Fox	4/10
Bill Martin	4/10
Daniel Pora	4/10
Jarod Wallwork	4/10
Nicole Lowry	4/11
Sarah Boyd	4/12
Leo Keibler	4/12
Jackson Starr	4/12
Diana Day	4/13
Jessica Garcia	4/13
Judy Hamilton	4/13
Laurie Brugger	4/14
Mark Buseck	4/15
Brian Hutzelman	4/15
Jenn Sadowski	4/15
Sara DeBello	4/16
Andrew Potocki	4/16
Ed Snyder	4/17
Drew Larson	4/18
Dave Loesel	4/18
Mary DeBello	4/19
Paul Jewell	4/19
Ethan Kirkpatrick	4/19
Megan Miller	4/19
Ron May	4/20
Janet Mitchell	4/20
Adrienne Catrabone	4/21
Dan McGill	4/21
Katie Sundberg	4/21
Ed McElroy	4/23
Aidan McGill	4/23
Sydne Pollifrone	4/23
Dan Pora	4/24
Brian Reed	4/25
Andrew Steehler	4/26

Rhett Sundberg	4/27
Bill DeWitt	4/29
Sallee Rabenold	4/29
Marilyn Spensley	4/29
Kyle Pentz	4/30
Nancy Snyder	4/30
Jim & Donna Villa	4/5
Ryan & Lorie Marsh	4/18
Tom & Christine Boyd	4/12
Kerry & Lisa Moyer	4/28
Harry & Sue Eighmy	4/14
Rick & Pam Weaver	4/19
Don & Becky Worthington	4/19
Lenora & David Lewis	4/27

INTRODUCING...

JENNIFER LOCKETT!

Jennifer will be the new Office Administrator for Wayside. She will begin April 5, during a time in the life of our community and church that is unusual and changing for the tasks in the office. Jennifer brings a lot of experience and talent, and we look forward to her working with us. Please make her feel welcome when you get the opportunity to meet her!

THE PER CAPITA CHALLENGE AND YOU

What is the "per capita"?

It is the cost we pay for the blessing of being able to be connected to other Presbyterians—locally through the Presbytery, more broadly through the Synod, and nationally through the General Assembly.

At each level we are held accountable, provided with great resources, and assisted in meeting the challenges of church life.

The *per capita* helps pay the administrative costs of these governing boards so that they can provide their crucial services.

What does this mean for Wayside?

The *per capita* assessment in 2021 is \$32 per confirmed member (not simply households).

Wayside has 511 confirmed members, so our obligation for 2021 is \$16,352.

The majority of those funds (69%) stays locally to support the work of our Lake Erie Presbytery.

How can I help?

Support the Per Capita Challenge to raise \$5,500 to help defray some of the cost of Wayside's assessment.

The Session encourages every confirmed Wayside member to make that \$32 *per capita* offering.

Choose one of three ways to pay: the specially marked envelope in your packet, submit a check made payable to Wayside Church and earmarked "per capita", or by Wayside e-giving (choose "fund" and then "per capita").

Thank you for considering this extra support!



Outreach Opportunities

The Outreach Committee of Session has the following service opportunities available for April and May. For further information please call the Church Office.

Saturday April 10

Packaging food boxes for families at Second Harvest Food Bank (intergenerational, 12 person limit). Please contact James Bernhardt, Nathan Royster or the Church office to register.

Saturday April 24, 9am -- noon

Wayside Grounds cleanup. All ages are welcome. Bring yard and garden tools. (See below.)

Saturday May 1

Spring cleanup Asbury Woods – details to be announced.

Saturday May 8 and Saturday May 15

Up to 8 volunteers needed to clean inside the church building, preparing for indoor worship. Contact Bill Pentz to sign up.

Saturday May 1, 9am -- noon

Saturday Service Project Opportunity – Habitat for Humanity needs 4 volunteers. Work will be in the ReStore and will involve unloading items dropped off by donors and moving items in the warehouse, so lifting is required. To sign up to volunteer please contact Paul Carpenedo at 814-392-7636.



Be welcome here.



SPRING CLEAN UP

The annual Wayside Spring Grounds Clean Up, sponsored by the Trustees and the Outreach Committee, will be held on **April 24th from 9:00 until noon.**

No sign up is necessary. Bring gloves and garden tools which you think may be useful. If you do not have tools, please come anyway and join the fellowship and fun!!

"If people did not love one another, I really don't see what use there would be in having any Spring."

-Victor Hugo



A note about resuming worship in person:

As of now, the plan for resuming in-person worship is to begin **Pentacost Sunday, May 23** with services that day both in the sanctuary and outdoors. Look for details to come.

Also, an outdoor service on Wayside's back lot is planned for **Sunday, May 9**, Mother's Day. Masks and social distancing will be required.

Additional information regarding the opening of the church building can be found in the letter sent in March to all members and friends.

Be welcome here.

WAYOUTH

Wayside's fellowship for 6th-12th graders

Wednesday, April 7th at 6:30

Fire and S'mores at Daehnke's backyard (directly across from the north entrance of Wayside)

Wednesday, April 11th 11am-Noon

Prayers and Pastries. Light refreshments and time for prayer and sharing

Wednesday, April 21st at 6:30

Discussion and Recreation at Wayside (outside if weather permits; in fellowship hall if not)

Saturday, April 24th

Wayside Clean-up Day: families are welcome to get some fresh air and help out with clean-up and landscaping at Wayside



WOW CLUB

Wayside's fellowship for 2nd-5th graders



WOW Club will meet on Wednesday, April 14th and 28th at 4:00pm.

Details will be coming through email. Contact Nathan to be added to the list.