

Inside Wayside

VOLUME 61, NO. 3 MARCH 2022



The forty days of Lent begin **Ash Wednesday, March 2**. **Drive–through ashes** will be available 7:30–8:30 am and 4:30–5:30 pm. Enter the north driveway. James and Nathan will be stationed outside the kitchen entrance. **A service of worship with the imposition of ashes and communion will be at 7:00 pm in the church sanctuary**.

The gospel readings for Lent begin with the story of the forty days Jesus was in the wilderness being tempted by the devil. The temptations run the gamut from food and popular appeal to the possibility of invincibility. All the temptations require Jesus to be someone he is not--inauthentic and fake, and promise him satisfaction, authority, and

success. Jesus responds to each of the temptations by returning to what he knows of the trustworthiness of God's ways; and trusting that the path he is on, as trying and difficult as it may be, is ultimately the only way to fulfill his life and his mission.

Not everyone has such blessed foresight. Many of us do not realize what we have agreed to on our way until we are well into it, nor can we foresee events that will shape us and influence outcomes. Jesus' words and example still speak to us on the way, reminding us of God's grace, and the many second chances that are given. The disciples that journey with Jesus to the cross illustrate this. Their misunderstanding and perplexity, and their love and devotion, can teach us that on the way with Jesus, forgiveness, growth, understanding, and change are possible.

A haunting song by John Bell and the late Graham Maul of the Iona Community brings us into prayer with the story of Jesus' temptation.

When Satan speaks in angel tones and sanctifies the road to ruin;

when on that path we're asked to go,

Lord Jesus, give us then the courage to say no.

In Lent we experience the love of Christ that fended off every temptation, and with a gentle hand leads us, even as he endures the cross for our sake. Let us walk this Lenten journey together.

The Script Project

This endeavor to gather people to learn and talk about race will begin in March, with lunch gatherings following worship on March 6 and 20, a total of six gatherings continuing in April and May. We will be under the guidance and experienced leadership of Janelle Newman, one of the founders of The Script Project. You can learn more by visiting the web site http://thescriptproject.org and you may contact me. About 10 folks have shown an interest, and there is room for more. The gatherings will happen at 12:20 and are planned for an hour.

Grace and peace to you all,





MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

The February distribution for the Second Harvest mobile food pantry at the Federated Church in East Springfield is March 28. Volunteers can park behind the church at 11995 Main Street in East Springfield to begin set up at 11:00 AM. Please see Harry or Sue Hain for more information or sign up in the lobby.

WEST MILLCREEK FOOD PANTRY

Suggested Items for March

Mac and cheese, peanut butter, cereal, baked beans, spaghetti and sauce, tuna, canned spaghetti, and soup.



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

Remember: West Millcreek Food Pantry is NOT funded by the Second Harvest Foodbank and relies heavily on donations received directly from volunteers like you.

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

BAKERS NEEDED!

For many years Wayside has supported the efforts of the Emmaus Soup Kitchen by supplying desserts in months that have five Mondays. The Soup Kitchen was closed during the pandemic but opened again in 2021. At that time we were asked to resume our support. A group of 20 Waysiders provided desserts for the clients of the Soup Kitchen four times last year, during months that had five Mondays. As we resume our efforts in 2022, several of our faithful bakers are no longer able to continue working on this project, so we are looking for people who would like to participate in this project in 2022.

How does this work? During months when there are five Mondays, you would receive an e-mail about a week before the desserts are needed. You can bake anything....cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, etc...and we ask that you provide at least 24 servings. Desserts can be delivered to the church during the week before the fifth Monday and placed in the freezer in the church kitchen, or brought to the church on Sunday morning the day before the fifth Monday, or you can drop your dessert off on the fifth Monday and leave it in the kitchen. In 2022 there are 4 months we will be baking....January (which we have already done), May 30th, August 29th, and October 31st. Desserts are delivered on Monday afternoon so all desserts need to be at the church by noon on Monday.

As you can see this is a very easy project to participate in and requires limited time commitment! If you are interested in joining our faithful bakers this year please contact Lois May at rg ld may@verizon.net or call her at 814-490-9426.

EASTER DINNERS

West Millcreek Food Pantry is again putting together food for an Easter dinner for families they serve in our community. Last year they provided over 120 families food to fix a traditional Easter

dinner. Wayside gave over \$1200.00, which purchased all the ham and potatoes. The food pantry purchased much of the rest of the food from Second Harvest, where they can buy what they needed. If every Wayside family would consider a gift of at least \$10.00 we will again meet their need for the ham and potatoes. Please write West Millcreek Easter Dinner in the memo line of your check, or on the website, under Giving, find Mission Giving and sub fund "West Millcreek Food Pantry." All money must be in by March 30. Please help us bless over 120 families, our neighbors, with a gift of this dinner, as Christ has blessed us.



LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

LENTEN WORKSHOP: GETTING STARTED WITH SPIRITUAL PRACTICES

Sundays in Lent, 9:45am

Lent can be an opportunity to pick up or reinvigorate spiritual practices and disciplines, but...what does that even mean? We are often told that prayer is important, but are given little guidance as to what prayer is and how to engage it. Or maybe we are looking for new ways to be in the presence of God.

This Lent, there will be a workshop on spiritual and contemplative practices, offering an opportunity to exercise a variety of approaches to prayer and reflection. There will be some discussion and sharing, but the main focus will be on introducing and providing a space to try out new practices and approaches.

The current schedule is as follows (subject to change):

MARCH 6: What are Spiritual Practices? An Invitation Into Silence and Centering

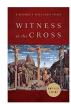
MARCH 13: Praying and Scripture: God's Word Still Speaking

MARCH 20: Personal Examination: Cultivating Awareness and Gratitude

MARCH 27: For the Other: Hospitality and Justice

APRIL 3: For the Beauty of the Earth: Walking and Prayer APRIL 10: Rule of Life: Discerning Our Calling and True Self

LENTEN BOOK STUDY



Join with Nathan Royster on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 AM, beginning March 8, or James Bernhardt on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM, beginning March 9, for the Lenten Book Study: *Witness at the Cross* by Amy-Jill Levine. This book considers those who were at the cross when Jesus was crucified and looks at the issues raised through the lenses of these characters. The book is widely available to order. Each person should obtain their own copy.

March 2 Ash Wednesday 7:30-8:30 AM Drive-through ashes 4:00 PM WOW 4:30-5:30 PM Drive-through ashes 5:30 PM Primary Choir 6:00 PM Dinner 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service April 3 Sunday 11:00 AM only Children's Musical April 10 Palm Sunday 8:30, 11:00 AM Celebration of Worship April 11-15 Holy Week 7:00 AM Morning Prayers via Zoom April 13 Wednesday NO WOW ACTIVITIES	LENTEN AND HOLY WEEK EVENTS						
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	April 11-15	Holy Week	7:00 AM	Morning Prayers via Zoom			
April 14 Maundy Thursday 7.00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	April 13	Wednesday	NO WOW ACTIVITIES				
April 14 Maurity Thursday 7.00 FM Maurity Thursday Service	April 14	Maundy Thursday	7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Service			
April 15 Good Friday 7:00 PM Good Friday Service	April 15	Good Friday	7:00 PM	Good Friday Service			
April 17 Easter Sunday 8:30, 11:00 AM Worship	April 17	Easter Sunday	8:30, 11:00 AM	Worship			

BUDGET BYTES

from the Budget Committee

In the "Merry Month of March" we bring you the report from a completed "Joyful January." Karen, our Financial Secretary, says it is one of her favorite months because we had the welcome bonus of pre-paid pledges to add to our regular receipts for the month. In January we saw total revenues of \$66k which included \$36k in pre-paid pledges received in 2021 but not booked until January.

Spaced out over a year, our monthly expenses average \$42k, depending on when certain bills come due; in January we spent \$41k. January was budgeted to finish at \$23k in the black and we actually ended at \$25k, so we will enjoy this bright picture while we can. Enjoy, enjoy, enjoy, savor, savor, savor.

OK, friends, time's up for the savoring and on to a reality check for the challenges that lie ahead in the coming months for Wayside. We have projected a year-end deficit of (\$64k) for 2022, with no PPP funds coming in from the federal government to bail us out. The Budget Committee and Karen will continue to closely monitor our monthly progress and we encourage you to consider your part in helping to rise above this challenge. Let us all pray for God's guidance and support as we carry on the important and fruitful mission-driven, God-given work of Wayside.

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS

Waysiders, how can we live a life of *generosity* as children of God? We can

Give often and freely of our time and talent.

Encourage love, compassion and a welcoming spirit.

Notice where there is a need and act.

Enjoy the God-given wonders of this planet and protect it.

Remind ourselves that "our" treasures are gifts from God.

Open our hearts and our wallets in grateful response to these gifts.

Share the joy of the Holy Spirit in study and worship.

Inspire others to faithfully serve God in word and deed.

Tell the good news of Jesus Christ.

Yearn for a culture of generosity and practice it.

PER CAPITA REMINDER

The Per Capita is a per member assessment charged to all Presbyterians by the PC(USA). This fee supports Presbyterian efforts at the national, Synod and Presbytery levels, with most of the funds returning to our Lake Erie Presbytery. It has been called "part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together."

We are assessed a fee of \$33.00 for each confirmed member on our rolls; Wayside's required contribution in 2022, therefore, is \$16,665.00 (based on 505 members).

If you have not already paid your Per Capita fee, please help us meet our obligation with your check of \$33.00 for each confirmed member in your family, payable to "Wayside Church" with "Per Capita" on the memo line. If you use the Wayside giving envelopes, you will find an envelope specifically marked for this purpose (dated March 6). You may also submit your fee via Wayside's online giving portal; go to FUND and select Per Capita from the drop-down box.

The Session thanks you for your generosity!

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

 Jan Rev
 \$65,707.27
 Jan Exp
 \$41,092.96

 YTD Rev
 \$65,707.27
 YTD Exp
 \$41,092.96

WOW MUSICAL APRIL 3

The WOW Choir members will present a thought -provoking musical, "Peace in the Kingdom" on Sunday, April 3, at 11 AM. The play is based on Isaiah 11:6, and as the children step out of the painting "The Peaceable Kingdom" by Quaker artist Edward Hicks, they tell the story of many of the problems and discord in today's world. "It's a jungle out there ...!"



Need to take your singing out of the shower? The Chancel Choir is always accepting new members and no auditions are required! Rehearsals are Sunday mornings at 9:30 and Thursdays March 31 and April 7 at 7 PM in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. Join us and make a joyful sound!

Say "Hello" and "Welcome"

The Lytles, Chuck and Dottie, joined Wayside recently, but they are not new to church life and activity. Dottie says she's been teaching Sunday school since she was 16 years old, and both were very active in the First Baptist Church of Edinboro. She is a pre-school teacher in Edinboro, and Chuck is a research specialist and advocate for improved child care. Both are graduates of Edinboro University. Chuck is originally from Pittsburgh, and Dottie grew up in Edonboro where her father was a professor.

The couple has four adult children and two grandchildren——a son and family in Edinboro and daughters in Pittsburgh, Meadville, and Washington, D.C.

In his spare time Chuck enjoys sports and building things and was on hand for the erection of the big Christmas tree in the sanctuary this year. Dottie enjoys games, puzzles, and reading. Dottie first learned about Wayside talking with Jill McGill who is a fellow teacher in Edinboro and

from their daughter's fiancé who has friends at Wayside. We are glad that they have chosen to become part of Wayside.





PW NEWS



CIRCLE NEWS Sophia Circle

Sophia Circle will meet on Tuesday March 15th at 7:00 pm in the church parlor. We will study Lesson 7 - Mary $"\dots$ Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah." The biblical account of Mary tells of a young girl, in danger of complete disgrace, who has the courage to say "Yes!" to God. Mary's experience of motherhood in-



cludes a bewildering birth, a risky escape as a refugee and a message from prophets that warns of the death of her son. She meets these difficulties with thoughtfulness and steadfastness. Please let Karen Haas know if you will be attending. All women are welcome!

Naomi Circle

The Naomi Circle will meet on Wednesday, March 23 at noon in the church parlor. Guests are welcome!

Elizabeth Circle

The Elizabeth Circle will meet Thursday, March 24 at 11:30 AM in the parlor.

PW "Mission Giving and You"

In late January PW sent out a "Mission Giving and You" Fundraising request along with our annual PW Program. We are happy to report that many women made donations and we received over \$2,250. Thank you for a great response ladies!! There is still time to give. Please send a check made out to Wayside Presbyterian Women or give on the church e-giving portal--select the category Presbyterian Women--subcategory mission fundraiser. Your donations help PW fulfill their mission projects!

PW Soup Sale Was a Success!



PW sold 49 quarts of stuffed green pepper soup and 37 quarts of broccoli cheddar soup. The soup was delicious!! A BIG THANK YOU to Jane Gilewicz and Jill and David Abbott for being "souper" cooks! Thanks also to everyone generously made donations for the soup! PW raised \$1,097 for this event. This money will help fund

PW mission projects.

Wayside Lunch Bunch

Thursday, March 10, 12:30 PM



Khao Thai 2430 W. 8th St.

RSVP to

Jean Moore 814-461-9665

Presbyterian Women Donations

Each year PW works to fulfill our purpose:

"Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves:

- -to **nurture** our faith through prayer and Bible study,
- -to support the mission of the church worldwide
- to work for justice and peace, and
- -to **build** an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the PCUSA and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom."

One way we do this to make donations to organizations that we feel helps fulfill our purpose. This year we made the following donations:

\$600 to purchase needed items for the International Institute (US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants)

\$500 to Vision for the Poor (See the PW bulletin board for more info)

\$300 to the following 7 organizations: Daystar Awareness Prison Ministry, Mercy Center for Women, The Refuge (homeless shelter), Ghana Partnership with Lake Erie Presbytery, Inner Church Ministries, Safe Net and The Multi-Cultural Resource Center.

Along with the donations, we sent letters of encouragement to these groups and thanked them for all their efforts! PW will continue throughout the year to be strong supporters of mission projects.

We Purchased 119 Blankets!!



Thank you for your generous donations to Blanket Sunday! We exceeded our goal of 100 blankets, and this is fantastic news!! Your generous blanket donations will provide warmth and comfort to people in need. Each

blanket allows someone to feel God's love in their lives. Thank you!

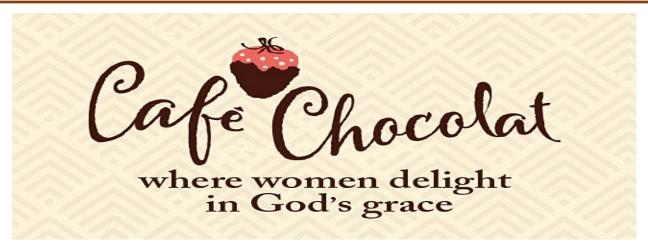
Baskets for Refugee Newborns

Thank you to everyone that donated to the Wayside commitment to assemble 10 baskets filled with supplies for refugee

babies and expectant mothers. The baskets were filled with diapers, wipes, lotion, diaper rash ointment, pacifiers, thermometer, bottles, nail clips, receiving blanket, bibs, a changing pad (not in the basket- it was too big to fit) and clothing. Harry and Sue Hain also donated a crib. The International Institute was



thrilled to get the baskets!!! You have helped make these babies feel very welcome to Erie!



A Women's Spiritual Retreat sponsored by Presbyterian Women of the Synod of the Trinity

Come join us on <u>Saturday June 25, 2022</u> at the Friendship Community Center. Rt. 108, Slippery Rock, PA.

Registration begins at 8:30 AM - Sessions 9:00 AM til 4:00 PM

Cost is \$ 45.00 which includes continental breakfast, lunch, snacks and materials. Lake Erie Presbyterian Women will offer a \$30 scholarship for any woman from our Presbytery that registers to attend. Contact Karen Haas 814-397-1619

All ladies from Beaver-Butler, Shenango, Kiskiminetas and Lake Erie Presbyteries are invited. Please invite sisters in faith to join this event. We will be the only group in the facility and we can practice safe protocols. Come be enriched and enjoy chocolate.

Send your registration to Janice McElhinny, 510 Courtney Mill Rd.,
Grove City PA 16127

	•		
Name	phone number		
Address:	email:		
Registration deadline is May 1, 2022	Checks payable to PW Synod of Trinity		

WAYOUTH REVISED SCHEDULE FOR MARCH AND APRIL

WaYouth, Wayside's group for 6th-12th graders will be shifting from Wednesday nights to Sundays after church bi-weekly. Lunch will be provided. The schedule for March and April is:

MARCH 13: Building-wide games

MARCH 27: Project for International Institute

(refugee resettlement)

APRIL 10: Helping/planning Eggs-perience

APRIL 24: Year-end picnic

ISSUES OF FAITH

Issues of Faith continues to meet in person at 9:45. Please join us for stimulating conversations about spirituality and social justice. Upcoming topics include:

March 6: Will Koehler LSW, "The Trauma-informed Church"

March 13: US Committee on Immigrants and Refugees, "The arrival of Afghans to Erie"

March 20: Colin and Bethany Hurley "Tic Talk: Understanding Tourette Syndrome"

March 27: Robert Sinner, "Looking for the Better Angels of our Nature" (see below)





JULY 18-22

"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." — Romans 12:21

"Lent is a period of preparation for the annual Easter Vigil; a time for the reconciliation; and an opportunity for spiritual discipline through prayer, fasting, service, and generosity." (PCUSA).

Could there be any better time to look at ourselves and our country as followers of Christ? I will be presenting a two-session class during the final Sundays before Palm Sunday ["Looking for the Better Angels of our Nature:" on March 27 & April 3] on this topic.

I would like to frame the conversation around this premise: "The United States appears to be in the midst of a struggle for its very soul." Some of the focus will be around the questions: Are we members of self-interest and partisan groups? OR Are we "one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all?" Lent seems to me to be a good time to meditate on these issues and questions. Looking forward to visiting this topic with you.

Bob Sinner



Sunday, March 6

Sunday, March 27

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



Holy Communion

James preaching

WORSHIP IN MARCH

	Luke 4:1-13	"The Work of the Holy Spirit"	James preaching
	Sunday, March 13	Second Sunday in Lent	
	Luke 13:31-35	"Rooted Leadership in Anxious Times "	Nathan preaching
	Sunday, March 20	Third Sunday in Lent	
	Luke 13:1-9	"Limited Time Offer"	James preaching
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Fourth Sunday in Lent

"What Grace Enables"

First Sunday in Lent



March 1	Alice Edwards			March 23	Betsey Miller
	Kent Jacoby	March 14	Bethany Baney		Mardy Marsh
March 2	Heidi Utley		Barb Richardson	March 24	Joey Kocan
March 3	Austin Jewell		Hannah Hutzelman		Nolan Martin
	Isaiah Pentz	March 16	Chris Hoyt	March 25	Nathan Latimer
March 5	Jan McEllroy		Justice Severance	March 26	Matt McGill
	Tom Momeyer	March 17	Karen Sundberg		Jeff Brinling
	Pattie Pora		Anita Bernhardt	March 27	Jill Wallace
March 9	Harry Eighmy	March 18	Roman Bojewski	March 28	Scott Jackson
	Lee Gehrlein	March 19	Cheryl Sealy		Aaron Garrity
March 10	Mary Marsh	March 20	Jennifer Taylor		Christian Sundberg
	Andrea Jacoby		Staci McGill	March 29	Barb Reese
March 11	Colin Potocki		Kylie Sundberg	March 30	Pam Weaver
	Patrick Callahan		Emily McGuire		Barbara Trisket
March 13	Gary Christensen	March 22	Ramon Watkins	March 31	Mike Anderson
	Jill Gomes		Carrie Bastow		Sami Wismer

March 1 Jim and Mardy Marsh



March 2022



Sun	Mon	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 7:30-8:30a Drive- through ashes 4p WOW 4:30-5:30p Drive- through ashes 5p Generosity 5:30p Primary Choir 6p Dinner 7:00p Ash Wednes- day Service	3 1:30 North Coast Sewing Guild 6:30p Al-Anon	4	5
Online Worship Holy Communion 8:30 Early Worship 9:30 Chancel Choir 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Lenten Work- shop 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship 12:20 The Script Project	7 6:30p AA 7:00 Sanctuary Bells 7:00 Outreach	8 10a Prayer Shawl Ministry 10a Lenten Book Study	9 4p WOW 5:30p Primary Choir 6p Dinner 6:30 p Lenten Book Study 7:30p Session	10 9a Yoga 12:30p Lunch Bunch 6:30p Al-Anon	11	12
13 Online Worship 8:30 Early Worship 9:30 Chancel Choir 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Lenten Work- shop 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship 12:15 WaYouth	14 6:30p AA	15 7p Sophia Circle 10a Lenten Book Study	16 4p WOW 5:30p Primary Choir 6p Dinner 6:30 p Lenten Book Study	17 9a Yoga 6:30p Al-Anon	18	19 8:30a HAAEQG Sew- in
20 Online Worship 8:30 Early Worship 9:30 Chancel Choir 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Lenten Work- shop 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship 12:20 The Script Project	21 6:30p AA	22 10a Lenten Book Study 5:30p HAAEQG	23 12p Naomi Circle 4p WOW 5:30p Primary Choir 6p Dinner 6:30p WMFA	24 9a Yoga 11:30a Elizabeth Circle 6:30p Al-Anon	25	26
27 Online Worship 8:30 Early Worship 9:30 Chancel Choir 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Lenten Work- shop 11:00 Worship 12:00 Fellowship 12:00 WOW Practice 12:15 WaYouth	28 11:00a Mobile Food Distribution 6:30p AA	29 10a Lenten Book Study 1:00p Newsletter Collating	30 4p WOW 5:30p Primary Choir 6p Dinner 6:30 p Lenten Book Study 7:30p Session	31 9a Yoga 6:30p Al-Anon 7p Chancel Choir	WAY	SIDE ian Church

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP **DINNERS**

Our Wednesday evening Fellowship Dinners are served at 6:00 PM. Everyone is invited to take the night off from cooking and join your Wayside family for good food and fellowship - no reservations necessary.

If you would be interested in cooking one of the Wednesday evening dinners, please contact Bobbi Jo Fye at 814-449-1808 or e-mail her at fye@gannon.edu.

Individuals are free to cook a meal of their choosing and the cost of the dinner is covered by freewill • donations and the church.



SCRIP ORDERS

Purchasing gift cards through our Scrip cards pro-Stop by the Information Table to place your order.

WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1208 Asbury Road Erie, PA 16505 Phone: 814-833-7653

email: wpc@wayside-erie.org

STAFF

www.wayside-erie.org

The Reverend James Bernhardt Senior Pastor/Head of Staff

james@wayside-erie.org 828-381-6582 (cell)

The Reverend Nathan Royster **Associate Pastor**

nathan@wayside-erie.org 814-715-6367 (cell)

Dawn Weborg Music Director

David Sickles Sexton

Karen Pastewka Financial Secretary

steward@wayside-erie.org

Jennifer Lockett Office Administrator

wpc@wayside-erie.org

Newsletter Collators:

gram is a great way for you to contribute to Wayside. | Jane Hess, Rita Herold, Louise Martin, Jan McEllroy, Linda McFarland, Annette Rothschild, Wilma Valentz

Many thanks to you all for your help!!

WELCOME STATEMENT

"I will show love to those who were called unloved and, to those who were called 'not-mypeople', 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.

