

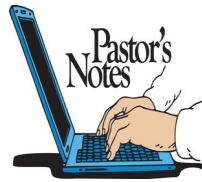
Inside Wayside

VOLUME 61, NO. 8

AUGUST 2022

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In 2006 I was truly blessed to visit Israel. Our hotel in Jerusalem was across the street from the wall around the old city. The rocky end of Mount Zion jutted beneath the wall that had been constructed on top of it. I kept looking at the rock, the mountain, the sign for so many people, over many centuries, of the permanence in this world of the transcendent God of the universe. These verses from a Psalm of Zion capture the idea.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,

though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; Psalm 46:1,2

Now that we are more than two years out from the onset of the pandemic it is important to not forget what that first year was like. Beyond the daily news stories that were alarming was the daily faithfulness of people. We watched John Krasinski's, "Some Good News," his brief online series in which he pointed out people doing their best to maintain hope and goodwill during all the fear and restrictions. As I think back to that time, and the years since, I realize how many folks acted with a deep conviction about what matters and what is essential. Though it may seem like something different than faith in God, the conviction that motivated them runs deep, and almost beyond words. We should not forget how people were faithful in many ways. I am still amazed we were able to carry out, with the work and commitment of tens of thousands, a successful election in 2020 for officials local, regional and national. In a recent visit with nurses I was reminded of the "over and above" duties these wonderful people carried out. I am astounded at the dozens of people at Wayside who helped lead worship online and the many who faithfully worshiped at home, and the millions across the globe who did that. Remember all those "essential workers" who showed up to carry out things people could not do without. Remember the adaptations so many made, especially teachers and students and parents, to keep on seeking to do the necessary and right tasks.

As people of faith we can name our motivation, we say we called upon God, we found God faithful. Yet the strands and fibers of keeping home and heart together, those things for which we are grateful to God, connect to and run through the deep and daily convictions of others, whether they have the words to name God, or share the stories and teachings of faith that we do, or not. Thanks be to God for those who have borne the burden and carried the freight; we stand on this side of a pandemic due to the convictions of so many. Maybe not the same as a mountain, like Zion, but people have proved indispensable and sturdy and faithful. We cannot forget.

Grace and peace!

The Nominating Committee is beginning their work to prayerfully seek elders and deacons to serve. Do you sense a call to serve? Is there someone whose gifts and faith you would like to suggest be considered? Look for a form in the church lobby, or contact Paul Bittner, Georgia DelFreo, or one of the pastors.

Rev. Nathan Royster and Rev. Britney Vokish Knight, from First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, are doing a pulpit exchange on August 14. It will be fun to have Britney here, and the good folks at First Covenant will be blessed to have Nathan with them.

August 21 is our day to worship at Presque Isle. The Worship, Music and Fine Arts Committee will provide chicken and drinks. You are encouraged to bring a dish to share for a picnic.

James



Psalms 113:3
From the rising of the
sun unto the going
down of the same the
LORD'S name is
to be praised.

WAYSIDE'S NEXT MUSIC DIRECTOR – NICHOLAS NASIBYAN



Wayside will soon have a new Music Director/Organist! Nicholas Nasibyan has accepted the position and will start in August. Nicholas grew up in the Erie area, graduating from Mercyhurst Prep and studying music at Mercyhurst University. He has been the Director of Liturgical Music at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Corry, PA for the past nine years and has also served as the Director of Music at Belle Valley Presbyterian Church for the past several years. Nicholas also works as the accompanist for the Dance Department at Mercyhurst University and can

be seen around town performing in the jazz trio “Chautauqua Jazz Revival” which he founded. During his performance interview, the search committee was wowed with his organ playing, connection with the children’s choir, and his ability to motivate the adults. The members of the search committee are eager for Nicholas to start leading the music ministry at Wayside and for the rest of the congregation to meet him. Be on the lookout for some meet-n-greet opportunities in the near future. Nicholas has some big shoes to fill following Dawn’s long tenure, but we are confident he will help lead Wayside with a thriving music ministry. Please welcome Nicholas when you have a chance!

OUTDOOR WORSHIP AND PICNIC

Sunday, August 21

Perry Monument Pavilion

Presque Isle State Park

Worship at 10:00 AM

Picnic lunch to follow:

Chicken and drinks will be provided.

All are welcome for lunch and encouraged to bring a dish to share.



WAYSIDE SAYS FAREWELL

A special reception was held for Elisabeth Waka, Mikal Degefa, and Bedasa Choroke wishing them all the best for their move from Erie to Denver. Elisabeth and Mikal have been at Wayside for several years. They came seven years ago as Ethiopian refugees via Egypt. Cindy Grode introduced them to Wayside Church. Bedasa, after 6 years, was finally able to come to Erie in June 2021. Our congregation has been supportive of their family as they navigated life in Erie. We have been blessed to learn about their culture and to grow in faith and friendship together.

We will miss them but are joyful in the hope that they will have a wonderful future in Denver.



BUDGET BYTES
from the Budget/Finance Committee

The “dog days” of August echo the slower-paced revenues which came into our coffers in June...but that came as no surprise. We took in \$3,000 less than projected but year-to-date we had received \$26,000 more than anticipated. YTD pledged and unpledged gifts, the Per Capita, and loose offerings were all above budget projections, and the “Second Ask” for one-time gifts and increased 2022 pledges resulted in a \$22,000 bite out of our (\$64,000) projected deficit. Praise the Lord for that blessing.

Where do we stand with expenses for June? We overspent by \$10,000...but wait a minute, do not panic. Due to a timing issue, the July 1 salary payroll was recorded as a June 30 expense because that’s the day the money left our bank account in order to be ready for a July 1 payout. Since we had budgeted for three payrolls in July, there will now only be two payrolls in July and all will be caught up at the end of the month. As of June 30, YTD budgeted expenses were \$274,000 compared to an actual expenditure of \$275,000 but that latter figure already contained the early July 1 payment. If you are confused, do not worry, we understand what happened and all is well!

Overall, for bottom-line receipts over disbursements we were projected to be at (\$67,000) but sit at (\$42,000). It’s still a large deficit but it’s \$25,000 better than anticipated halfway through the year and we are grateful.

On a final note, amidst these “dog-days” of revenue input, (assuming that July figures also show reduced income), we foresee needing to resort to using our line of credit to pay our bills through the end of August before the income from Wayside’s participation in *Erie Gives*. Once those *Erie Gives* funds are received, we will immediately pay off that loan. You can be confident that the Budget/Finance Committee and Karen Rae continue to work diligently to steward our finances in a way that honors God and supports Wayside’s mission.

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS

It may be summer but the generosity of Waysiders has not taken a vacation. We would like to salute these recent examples of generosity in action:

- * Thanks to Bill Pentz (chair set up), Andy Potocki (sound set up), and Bobbi Jo Fye (cookies) for enhancing our first outside service on Father’s Day.
- * Thanks to all those involved in any way to make the PW Rummage Sale another success, especially Nancy Fye (chair), Lois May, and Karen Haas.
- * Thanks to Sarah Jay for helping to chaperone the Youth Mission Trip to Asheville, North Carolina.
- * Thanks to the Music Director Search Committee: Matt McGill (chair), Paul Bittner, Rita Brown, Sue Decker, Bethany Hurley, Sallee Rabenold, and Karen Sidorowicz for their diligent and time-consuming work to bring in Nicholas Nasibyan as our new Music Director.

We are grateful for these efforts and for others of which we may not be aware. Please let the office know of folks who are generous with their time, talent and treasure and we’ll happily recognize them.

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

June Rev	\$26,801.92	June Exp	\$54,034.53
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YTD Rev	\$233,536.53	YTD Exp	\$275,432.51
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PW NEWS



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN 3RD QUARTER BUSINESS MEETING

PW will meet directly following the church service on **August 28th** (note this is a date change from our program booklet). All women are encouraged to attend. We will make plans for our fall/winter events. Hope to see you there!

WAYSIDE LUNCH BUNCH

Thursday, August 11

12:30 PM

Woody's Backwater Barge and Grill

110 East Dobbins Landing

RSVP to Jean Moore

814- 461-9665

ELIZABETH CIRCLE

The Elizabeth Circle will meet for lunch and discussion on Thursday, August 25 at 11:30.

SOPHIA CIRCLE

The Sophia Circle does not meet in August. We will have our first meeting on Tuesday, September 20th at 7:00 in the parlor. We will start our new Bible Study ***Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight.***

BIG SHOUT OUT TO ALL THOSE WHO HELPED AT THE RUMMAGE SALE!

Because of all the following helpers, it was very successful:

- Donors
- Sorters
- Pricers
- Sign-makers
- Cashiers
- Parking lot guides
- Clean up crew

**The receipts were close to \$4,000
and we were able to donate
to the following:**

- Erie City Mission
- Habitat ReStore
- Elmwood Free Store
- Salvation Army

SAVE THE DATE!



Presbyterian Women of Lake Erie Presbytery

Fall Gathering – Saturday October 1st

9:00-10:00 AM optional hands-on mission project and registration with breakfast

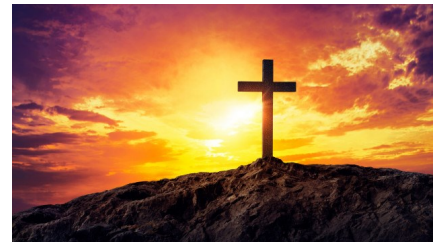
10:00 – 1:30 PM event, ending with lunch

First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant

“Witnesses for a New Day?”

“You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen...”

Isaiah 43:10



Explore the topic of “Witnesses for a New Day” with Keynote speaker – Rev. Katherine Randall.

Katherine and her husband Rob are co-pastors at Bradford Presbyterian Church. Katherine was ordained to pastoral ministry in 2000 and served communities in Louisville, KY and Simpsonville, SC prior to being called in Bradford. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

In addition to the keynote speaker Rev. Katherine Randall, you may enjoy the following highlights during the Gathering * an early morning hands-on mission project from 9:00-10:00 am * You can register anytime until the event starts at 10. * There will be a choice of break-out sessions *Presbyterian Women’s Business Meeting *song * prayer and * fellowship with women from all over our presbytery.

***** You will not want to miss the outstanding program!!*****

Rev. Katherine Randall has some wonderful insights into the issues we are all facing as church members in the 21st century – thinking also about issues surrounding the challenges created by the pandemic.

You will have several opportunities to show mercy and be a neighbor through donations to special mission projects.

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday October 1st - Hope to see you there!

Don't Forget *Erie Gives* +2



August 9

8 AM-8 PM

at eriegives.org

Check Deadline: August 8

You are invited to the
Annual ONE TABLE PICNIC



August 4, 2022 (Thursday)

4:00pm-8:30pm Meal at 6:00pm

**Runners Pavilion
Presque Isle State Park(see map)**

**Bring a dish to share and a lawn
chair.**



Questions:
Call Gary Larson
716-307-5815
gslarson1@gmail.com

All are welcome

**Please share this
invitation with others!**

See you there!

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY at Asbury Woods

On Saturday 8/13 from 9-11 am you can join the Buckthorn Bandits at Asbury Woods to assist in removing invasive species from designated forest areas. Our leader, Bill Smith, will provide training. There are not any thorns, but this is physical work. It is recommended that you wear long pants/long sleeves due to the risk of ticks and poison ivy. Our work is greatly needed and appreciated. Sign ups are in the lobby. If you have any questions, please contact Daren McCullough (darenmccullough@gmail.com). Rain date 8/27.

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

AUGUST 12

WEST MILLCREEK FOOD PANTRY

SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR AUGUST

Mac and cheese, peanut butter, cereal, baked beans, spaghetti and sauce, tuna, toilet tissue, bar soap, canned spaghetti, and soup.

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

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"



**Feeding the
Community**

WAYSIDE GARDEN

Thanks to our faithful gardeners, vegetables are available in the kitchen. Donations for garden produce benefit the West Millcreek Food Pantry. We were recently reminded of the impact of the food pantry on individual families as they expressed their appreciation for our continued support.



MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

The August distribution for the Second Harvest mobile food pantry at the Federated Church in East Springfield is August 29. 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.

HOMELESS MEALS

August 20, 9:30-10:30

To help prepare and assemble bagged lunches to feed the hungry in Erie, contact Pastor Nathan at nathan@wayside-erie.org.



WORSHIP IN AUGUST

Sunday, August 7

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

"Promised Land, Uncertain Journey"

Holy Communion

Nathan preaching

Sunday, August 14

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Preacher

Rev. Britney Knight

Sunday, August 21

Luke 13:10-17

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

"Jesus, Liberator"

James preaching

Worship at Presque Isle

Sunday, August 28

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

"Minding P's and Q's"

James preaching



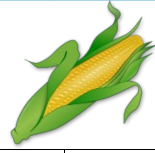
Aug 1	Linda Bremmer	Aug 12	Mac Pollard	Aug 21	Jon Hoyt
Aug 2	Kenneth Momeyer	Aug 12	Karen Potocki	Aug 21	Jack Grimm
Aug 2	Audrie Watkins	Aug 12	Elaine Garts	Aug 22	Susan Baltes
Aug 3	Kathleen Reed	Aug 12	Jamie Bowes	Aug 22	Kimberly Morrow
Aug 4	Nancy Fye	Aug 14	Kurt Menges	Aug 23	Nicki Jares
Aug 4	Chris Wolford	Aug 14	Jonathan Jewell	Aug 23	Steve Hutzelman
Aug 4	Benjamin Coyne	Aug 15	Linda Wilkinson	Aug 23	Jonathon Sidorowicz
Aug 5	Mollie King	Aug 16	Cammy Melaragno	Aug 24	Johanna Anderson
Aug 6	Sally DeWitt	Aug 16	Becky Worthington	Aug 25	Jim Marsh
Aug 6	Brooke Marsh	Aug 16	Maria Carpenedo	Aug 26	Paula Reade
Aug 7	Kameron Bastow	Aug 16	Ginny Ackley	Aug 28	Maggie Christensen
Aug 7	Lindsey Kirkpatrick	Aug 18	Eli Yahn	Aug 29	Rod Foutz
Aug 8	Molly Fritts	Aug 18	Jane Moelk	Aug 29	Debbie Peterson
Aug 10	Barb Sundberg	Aug 20	Elias Fuchs	Aug 30	Tom Lewis
Aug 11	Eliza Sundberg	Aug 20	Anna Hurley	Aug 31	Pam Johns



Aug 2	John and Barb Egg	Aug 17	Kirk and Rosanne Steehler
Aug 4	David and Kylie Sundberg	Aug 17	Jim and Jackie Tingley
Aug 6	Ritch and Mary Marsh	Aug 19	Bill and Sally DeWitt
Aug 7	John and Cammy Melaragno	Aug 19	Harry and Sue Hain
Aug 7	Matt and Jill McGill	Aug 19	Barb and Keith Sundberg
Aug 8	Gene and Jami Sundberg	Aug 19	Vanessa and Kelly Fremer
Aug 9	Jim and Jackie Cross	Aug 20	Doug Villella and Holly Skala
Aug 10	Roger and Laurel Taft	Aug 22	Tom and Debbie Peterson
Aug 10	Matt and Daren McCullough	Aug 24	James and Anita Bernhardt
Aug 14	Barry and Carol Stamm	Aug 24	Todd and Sarah Jay
Aug 14	Dave and Micki Loesel	Aug 27	George and Paula Vilushis
Aug 14	Patrick and Renee Callahan	Aug 28	James and Mary Lou Edgett



AUGUST 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p AA 7:00p Outreach	2 10:00a, 4:30p Music Together	3 9:30a Stronger Srs. 10:00a, 12:30p, 3:00p Music Together 5:00p Generosity	4 1:30p North Coast Sewing Guild 7:00p AlAnon	5	6
7 10:00a Celebration of Worship 11:00a Fellowship	8 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p AA	9 10:00a Prayer Shawl 10:00a, 4:30p Music Together	10 9:30a Stronger Srs. 10:00a, 12:30p, 3:00p Music Together 7:00 PM Session	11 12:30p Lunch Bunch 7:00p AlAnon	12 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	13 9a-11a Asbury Woods Outreach
14 10:00a Celebration of Worship 11:00a Fellowship	15 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p AA	16 10:00a, 4:30p Music Together	17 9:30a Stronger Srs. 10:00a, 12:30p, 3:00p Music Together	18 7:00p AlAnon	19	20 8:30a HAAEQG 9:30a Bag lunch packing
21 Presque Isle Service	22 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p AA	23 10:00a, 4:30p Music Together 1:00 PM Newsletter Collating 5:30p HAAEQG 7:00p Raucous Readers Book Club	24 9:30a Stronger Srs. 10:00a, 12:30p, 3:00p Music Together	25 11:30a Elizabeth Circle 6:30p Piano Recital 7:00p AlAnon	26	27
28 10:00a Celebration of Worship 11:00a Fellowship	29 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p AA	30 IU5 Preschool	31 IU5 Preschool 9:30a Stronger Srs.			

Summer Worship



10:00 AM

June 5-Labor Day

Has your information changed? Maybe you got rid of your landline or changed internet and email providers? Call or email Jennifer in the office to change or confirm your contact information.

SCRIP ORDERS

Purchasing gift cards through our Scrip cards program is a great way for you to contribute to Wayside. 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 www.wayside-erie.org

STAFF

- 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)
- David Sickles Sexton
- Karen Pastewka Financial Secretary
steward@wayside-erie.org
- Jennifer Lockett Office Administrator
wpc@wayside-erie.org

Newsletter Collators:

Jane Hess, Rita Herold, Louise Martin, Jan McEllroy, Linda McFarland, Pat Fish, 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-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.

Be welcome here.