

Inside Wayside

VOLUME 62, NO. 1

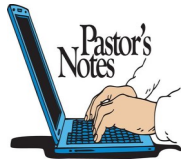
JANUARY 2023

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HAPPY NEW YEAR



This is the time when many are making New Year's resolutions. The success people have with this annual practice is mixed. Some of the things most often resolved are diet changes and behavior modification. I think maybe the lack of success is because most of the things we resolve to do differently are solitary things.

One of the best resolutions I heard about was told by my friend who lives in a large Southeastern city. The church she serves as pastor was established in the 1950s in a thriving middle class neighborhood. As happens in urban settings, over time people aged and their children moved elsewhere, and as generations passed the neighborhood changed and the socio-economic makeup transitioned. The church began to struggle as members passed away and relocated. The church's mission from its inception was to be a light to the community. Over the almost 10 years my friend has been pastor there, she and the congregation have done a good job to live into the changes and know their neighborhood, in all its diversity, as partners in their mission.

My friend shared a long time member's resolution. This man was feeling, at times, in his neighborhood and in his church, a little like a stranger. He decided he had a choice in how he responded to these feelings. His resolution was to "be changed with the new people God is bringing into my life." According to my friend, she could see the results. She saw him, on more than one occasion, holding a baby for a busy mom who is new to the church, and of a different ethnicity. And she has been impressed that he is helping the confirmation class of five youth that is as diverse as the neighborhood. She has seen him at coffee down the block with the old dudes he has always hung out with, no doubt sharing stories about these new things he is doing and people he is knowing. She sees him making new friendships. She wrote, "Imagine how many ways his resolution changes the world and not only him."

What about you and me? Can we resolve to be changed by God's grace like this fellow? It may not result in a slimmer waistline or a neater desk, but likely will work change in concert with God's promise to transform the world.

Happy New Year. May you be blessed to know God's grace and peace all the way along your journey. And may you be a messenger of that blessing to others.

James

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS

"Each should use whatever gift one has received to serve others." 1 Peter 4:10



Happy New Year from the Generosity Committee! In thinking back to all of 2022 there were so many instances of generosity of time, talent and treasure at Wayside. We'd like to focus, however, just on December's multiple gifts of generosity during a wonderful Advent season in preparation for the holiness of Jesus' birth.

- To the folks who put up all the lovely Christmas decorations, including Micki Loesel whose behind-the-scenes efforts were essential to bringing everything together
- To those who contributed poinsettias which brightened our sanctuary
- To those who provided Sunday bulletins and special video slides to enhance our Advent worship
- To the Advent Candle readers and lighters
- To Angelle Sundberg, Sallee Rabenold, Jessie MacDonald, and Kennady Johnson, whose artistic gifts and leadership gave us a vision of hope, peace, joy, and love this Advent season and brought out and incorporated the efforts and talents of so many.
- To the Abbott and Gilewicz families who directed the PW Christmas Cookie Tray Sale which raised \$1,700 for mission, to all the cookie bakers, and all who purchased a tray
- To those who supplied gifts and those who wrapped them for the Deacons' Angel Tree project
- To those who purchased items for the Diaper Project and to Lois May for coordinating it
- To those who contributed to the Christmas Joy Offering
- To those who supported the Baby Shower for Jesus
- To the children who spread joy in their Christmas pageant
- To those who sang carols to share the Christmas message in Wayside's neighborhood
- To the singers, bell ringers and musicians whose offerings glorified God in worship
- To our pastors and staff who helped to make the season so special

Thank you to all for your generous gifts of time, talent and treasure. It's quite a list.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Nov. Rev	\$21,671.86	Nov. Exp	\$40,291.06
YTD Rev	\$480,535.57	YTD Exp	\$471,542.14

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.

Dear Wayside Presbyterian Parishioners,

Thank you for your generous Thanksgiving donations to the West Millcreek Food Pantry. This was a tough year for the pantry. The list of those in need keeps growing.

Happy Holidays and God Bless You,

WMFP Volunteers

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

JANUARY 14

Pledge Results of 2023 Financial Commitment Challenge



	2023 pledges as of 12/19/22	2022 pledges (final)
Dollars pledged	\$390,524.02	\$365,382.03
Increased	42	55
Remained same	43	47
New	14	13
Decreased	23	14
TOTAL	122	129

Thanks to all who have made a financial commitment to support the ongoing ministry and mission of Wayside in 2023. If you have not yet done so and would like to, please contact Karen Pastewka, Financial Secretary, in the church office. It's never too late to make that commitment!

BUDGET BYTES from the Budget/Finance Committee

You are reading this in the new year (Happy New Year to you!) but it's being written during the season of Advent as we eagerly wait for Jesus' arrival. As always, our reports reflect the prior month's finances. Our revenue status as of November 30 was similar to what happened in October in that November also showed a shortfall in receipts. Pledges budgeted for November were short by \$7,000 and unpledged by \$6,000; however, year-to-date pledges were \$10,000 ahead of projections and unpledged giving was \$17,000 ahead of budget, so we'll use the very Christmas-y word "rejoice" to express how we feel about that stat.

As far as expenses, all committees combined showed a savings of \$7,000 YTD. Building expenses were overspent by \$3,000, due to electric bills and building repairs that were 40% higher than two years ago. We can report, however, that YTD expenses reflected a savings of \$20,000, calling for another "rejoice".

For December it has been projected that we will receive revenues of \$43,000, as a traditionally high month for receipts. If the October/November trend continues, however, we will fall short of this target. This is what Karen Pastewka, Financial Secretary, wrote in her report to Session in December: "If we perform as budgeted [in December], we'll end the year just (\$6,000) in the red, all but abolishing the (\$64,000) deficit. The big question is, can we bring in the revenue? The trends of the last two months say no, my heart says yes." As in Advent, you will have to eagerly await to see if Karen's heart was rewarded with a positive December. Until then, "Rejoice!" God goes with us, no matter how our budget year ends.



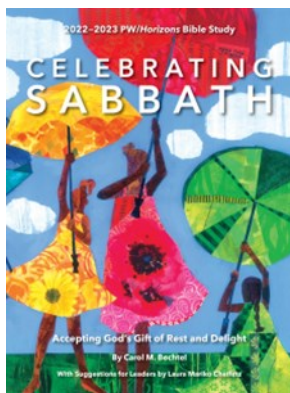
PW NEWS



SOPHIA CIRCLE

The Sophia Circle will meet on Tuesday January 17th at 7:00 pm in the Parlor. Dawn Weborg will lead the lesson and provide the snack. We will be studying Lesson Five – Sabbath and Servitude.

The Scripture Lessons are: Genesis 2:15, Genesis 3:17–19, Exodus 31:12–18, and 35:1–29, and 36:1–7. The Key Idea is Work without Sabbath is servitude. All women are welcome to join us!



NAOMI CIRCLE

Wednesday, January 25
at noon in the parlor.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE

Thursday, January 26
at 11:30 AM in the parlor.

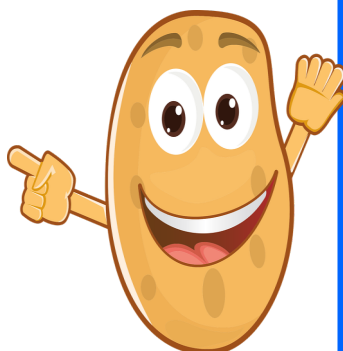
WAYSIDE LUNCH BUNCH

Thursday, January 12
12:00 Noon
Applebee's
2911 West 12th Street



PW Baked Potato Dinner

Wednesday, January 18 at 6PM will be the PW Baked Potato Dinner and all donations will benefit the Heifer Project! We will, of course, have animal posters for our children to choose from to donate to people in need. We will supply chicken nuggets, potatoes, toppings, and dessert....we just need you!



BUSINESS MEETING

PW 1st Quarter Business meeting will be on Sunday, January 29 after the 11:00 service in the parlor. A light lunch will be served. All women are welcome to attend. Come find out how you can be involved!

Christmas Tea



Fun and fellowship were enjoyed by Wayside women at our Christmas Tea and Carol Sing! Many thanks to Rita Brown for sharing her musical talent and to the many women who lent a hand to make the event so successful. Poinsettias were distributed for Presbyterian Women's annual delivery to our families who have lost a loved one this past year or are homebound. Check the calendar for upcoming PW events and join us for opportunities of friendship and mission.



COOKIE TRAY SALE

Many thanks to all the PW bakers and workers who made this year's cookie sale such a success. Besides providing opportunities for great fellowship, we



raised \$1,700 for mission, and we donated trays to the Westlake Middle School staff, Millcreek Police Department, the TSA agents at Erie International Airport, and the International Institute. Great job everyone!

PW of the Synod of the Trinity Summer Gathering is hosted every three years to bring together Presbyterian Women from around the Synod to help celebrate our connections with each other and learn more about Presbyterian Women - in our congregations, in our presbyteries, in our synod, as well as Church-wide.

- ❖ Plenary sessions and worship with inspiring speakers
- ❖ Engaging workshops and mission opportunities
- ❖ Shopping and sharing resources from a variety of vendors
- ❖ Fellowship with sisters in PW

Put these dates in your calendar now and plan to join us next summer—July 10-12, 2023—at The Penn Stater Hotel

& Conference Center in State College, PA for the PWS Summer Gathering—"Do Everything In Love."




Presbyterian Women to Sponsor Church World Service BLANKET SUNDAY February 5th

God has blessed us with so much and one great way to show your love and share with those in need is to purchase blankets on CWS Blanket Sunday!

Each blanket costs only \$10. These blankets can be a vital resource for someone needing help after a natural disaster. They provide warmth, can be used for shelter or can help as a way to carry supplies. They definitely provide encouragement and love. Together we can help many families!

Our goal is to provide 100 blankets. Please consider making a donation to our Blanket Sunday Offering.





2023 JUSTICE and PEACE Book Discussion Group

FEBRUARY 13

WHAT KIND OF CHRISTIANITY

A HISTORY OF
SLAVERY
AND ANTI-BLACK
RACISM IN THE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

WILLIAM YOO



SPECIAL WEBINAR
WITH AUTHOR



DISCUSS THE BOOKS WITH OTHERS VIA ZOOM

• The J&P Book Discussion Group is open to all!



DISCUSSION GROUP MEETS EVERY OTHER MONTH

• Read and discuss any or all books that appeal to you. Registration will be needed to join the discussion on Zoom.



RECEIVE STUDY GUIDES TO INFORM YOUR READING

• Questions for discussion or reflection will be sent with your registration confirmation.

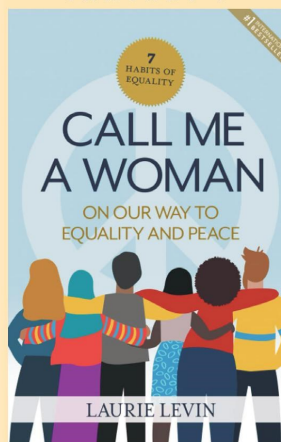


To register, scan the QR code with your smart phone or go to presbyterianwomen.org/justice.

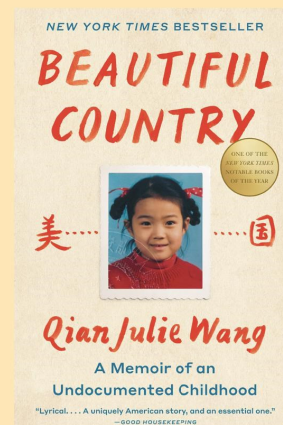
Reading Selections

(6:30 PM – 8:30 PM Eastern Time)

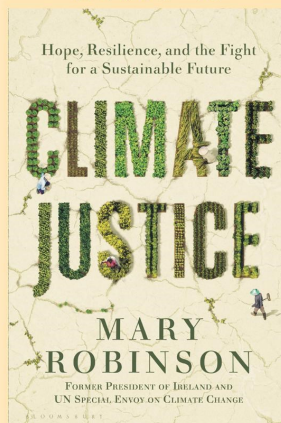
JANUARY 9



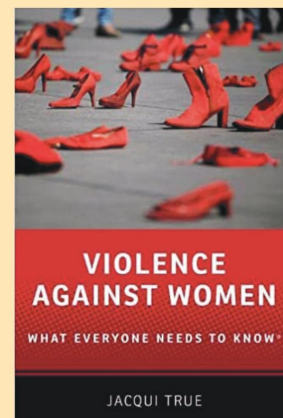
JULY 10



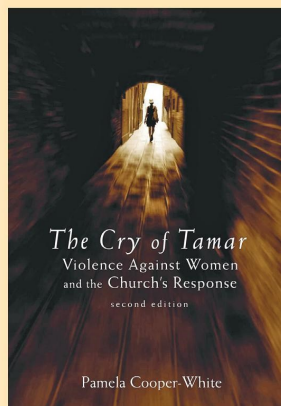
MARCH 13



SEPTEMBER 11



MAY 8



NOVEMBER 13



Selections are recommended by the Justice & Peace Committee of PW's Board of Directors.

WOW CLUB SCHEDULE

WOW Club is Wayside's fellowship
for 2nd-5th graders,
meeting Wednesdays at 4:00-6:00

JANUARY

- 4 Notes for Homeless Meals
- 11 Church Building Blessing
- 18 Script Project Speaker on Racism
- 25 Bowling Trip

ISSUES OF FAITH

Issues of Faith meets Sundays at 9:45 for stimulating conversations about spirituality and social justice. Upcoming topics include:

JANUARY

- 8 **Karen Potocki** "Our Family's Journey: Navigating a Life with Special Needs"
- 15 TBA
- 22 **Verna Ehret, Ph.D.** Theology of King's Letter from the Birmingham Jail
- 29 TBA

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

The January distribution for the Second Harvest mobile food pantry at the Federated Church in East Springfield is January 23. 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.



WAYSIDE MULTICULTURAL DINERS' CLUB

Twenty enjoyed a fine Asian fusion diner at Chopstix, on West Lake Road on Tuesday, December 6. Owner Sophie, arranged a wide variety of buffet foods for our dining experience. You may know that Chopstix suffered some fire damage this past year and it took several months of shut down before they could re-open. Restaurants of every ilk are still struggling after the pandemic. Over the winter, gather some friends and try a new place. There are so many. We're planning the next WMDC for March.

ERIE-AREA PRESBYTERY
YOUTH OVERNIGHT

Saturday, Jan. 14
Sat. 5:30 to Sun. 12:00
For 6th-12th graders
Wayside Presbyterian Church
Dinner, Snacks, and Breakfast included

RSVP with # of adults and students
by Jan. 6 to nathan@wayside-erie.org

Worship, games, fellowship, and
exploring the questions Jesus asks us.

The poster features a blue sky background with white clouds. At the bottom, there is an illustration of four diverse youth (two boys and two girls) standing with their backs to the viewer, holding hands and raising their arms in a celebratory gesture. The text is arranged in a clear, bold font, with the event title "ERIE-AREA PRESBYTERY YOUTH OVERNIGHT" at the top. The date and time are prominently displayed, followed by the location and included activities. The RSVP information and a description of the event's focus are at the bottom.



WORSHIP IN JANUARY

Sunday, January 1

Matthew 2:13-23

1st Sunday of Christmas
New Year's Day
"Letting Tears Fall"

Holy Communion

James Preaching

Sunday, January 8

Psalm 29
Matthew 3:13-17

Baptism of the Lord Sunday
"Beauty of the Storm"

James Preaching

Sunday, January 15

Psalm 40:1-11
John 1:29-42

2nd Sunday after Epiphany
Annual Meeting
"Invitation"

James Preaching

Sunday, January 22

Matthew 4:12-25

3rd Sunday after Epiphany
"Drop Everything"

Nathan Preaching

Sunday, January 29

Psalm 15
Matthew 5:1-12

4th Sunday after Epiphany
"The Blessed Way"

James Preaching

Not sure what to do in between worship services?

THE IN-BETWEEN TIME



A simple time for scripture, connection, and prayer



*Sundays at 9:45-10:45am in the church prayer room.
Light refreshments provided.*



01/02 Barry Stamm
 01/02 Michael Paris
 01/03 Shelby Sheriff
 01/04 Joseph Turner
 01/05 Claire Bowes
 01/05 Jeffrey Boyd
 01/05 Susanna Merwin
 01/06 Erica Jewell
 01/07 Lorah Momeyer
 01/08 Shirley Diller
 01/08 Christine Boyd
 01/10 Michele Reed
 01/10 Ellie McGill
 01/11 Elana Dolan

01/12 Sarah Larson
 01/12 Maureen Schneider
 01/14 Rachael Sbrocco
 01/14 Aidan Kirkpatrick
 01/14 Stacy Fox
 01/15 Robin Steger
 01/15 Dale Kirkpatrick
 01/16 Karen Carpenedo
 01/19 Dick Reese
 01/20 Trevor Grode
 01/20 Suanna McGuire
 01/21 Greg Miller
 01/22 Lorie Marsh

01/23 Maia Edwards-Borowicz
 01/27 Debbie Smith
 01/27 Vincent Keibler
 01/28 Angela Sbrocco
 01/28 Mya Jeglinski
 01/28 Richie Kuzmin-Fremer
 01/29 Jaida Fried
 01/29 Lucas Starr
 01/29 Nolan Jeglinski
 01/30 Jackie Cross
 01/30 Samantha Momeyer
 01/30 Meredith Thompson
 01/30 Rob Lish
 01/31 Devin Johns

01/02 Jill and David Abbott
 01/06 Colin and Bethany Hurley
 01/09 Ed and Jan McElroy
 01/31 Bruce and Nancy Kern



JANUARY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 11:00 Celebration of Worship	2 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30p AA	3 IU5 Preschool	4 IU5 Preschool 9:30a Stronger Seniors 4p WOW Kids 5p Generosity Committee 5:30p Primary Choir 6p WOW Dinner	5 IU5 Preschool 1:30p North Coast Sewing Guild 6p AI-Anon New-comers 7p Chancel Choir 7:30p AI-Anon	6 IU5 Preschool	7
8 Officer Installation 8:30 Early Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Celebration of Worship	9 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p Sanctuary Bells 6:30p AA 7p Symphonic Singers 7p Outreach	10 IU5 Preschool 10a Prayer Shawl Ministry	11 IU5 Preschool 9:30a Stronger Seniors 4p WOW Kids 5:30p Primary Choir 6p WOW Dinner 7:30p Session	12 IU5 Preschool 12p Lunch Bunch 6p AI-Anon New-comers 7p Chancel Choir 7:30p AI-Anon	13 Newsletter Deadline	14
15 8:30 Early Worship 9:15 Breakfast and Congregational Meeting 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Celebration of Worship	16 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p Sanctuary Bells 6:30p AA 7p Symphonic Singers	17 IU5 Preschool 9:30, 10:30, 12:30, 4:30 MTWMM 7p Sophia Circle	18 IU5 Preschool 9:30, 10:30, 12:30 MTWMM 9:30a Stronger Seniors 4p WOW Kids 5:30p Primary Choir 6p WOW Dinner	19 IU5 Preschool 6p AI-Anon New-comers 7p Chancel Choir 7:30p AI-Anon	20 IU5 Preschool	21 8:30a HAAEQG Sew-In 9:30a Bag Lunch Packing
22 8:30 Early Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Celebration of Worship	23 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p Sanctuary Bells 6:30p AA 7p Symphonic Singers	24 IU5 Preschool 9:30, 10:30, 12:30, 4:30 MTWMM 1p Newsletter Collating 5:30p HAAEQG 6:30 Raucous Readers Book Club	25 IU5 Preschool 9:30, 10:30, 12:30 MTWMM 9:30a Stronger Seniors 12p Naomi Circle 4p WOW Kids 5:30p Primary Choir 6p WOW Dinner 7p WMFA	26 IU5 Preschool 11:30a Elizabeth Circle 6p AI-Anon New-comers 7p Chancel Choir 7:30p AI-Anon	27	28
29 8:30 Early Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Celebration of Worship	30 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p Sanctuary Bells 6:30p AA 7p Symphonic Singers	31 IU5 Preschool 9:30, 10:30, 12:30, 4:30 MTWMM				

Wayside Book Club:

Raucous Readers

We are NOT a raucous group but we did inherit that name from the original book club that formed many years ago! We have reformed and invite any woman who likes to read and discuss good books to join us, either regularly or whenever you see that the book we are reading for a particular month interests you.

We meet on the 4th Tuesday of every month (except July, August, and December) at 6:30 PM in the Parlor. Our next meeting is January 24 and we will be discussing "Dinners With Ruth" by Nina Totenberg, lead by Linda Wilkinson. You are welcome to join us for an evening of discussion and fellowship.

Call or email Mary Marsh (814-474-1063 or mmarsh43@gmail.com) if you are interested or

have questions.



WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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email: wpc@wayside-erie.org

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STAFF

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steward@wayside-erie.org
- Jennifer Lockett Office Administrator
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December Newsletter Collators:

Rita Herold, Louise Martin, Linda McFarland, Pat Fish,
Annette Rothschild, Wilma Valentz,

Many thanks to you for your help!!

*Be who you are
and be welcome here.*

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.