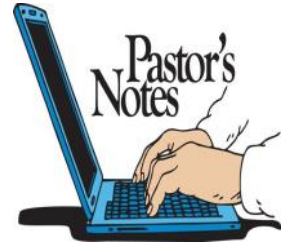


Inside Wayside

VOLUME 62, NO. 5

MAY 2023

Often the invitation to the communion table is from Matthew 11:28-30, "Come to me all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." This is a word of welcome.



Welcome is another of the four core values of Wayside that the elders discerned, and about which I have been writing: Compassion, Wonder, Faithfulness, and Welcome. "Be who you are, and be welcome here" is our easily remembered statement of welcome. Thanks be to God! Being welcoming is a value that often seems passive – like holding a door open – which is active but only to a point. Jesus, in the passage from Matthew, is inviting us in, welcoming us, but he is also presenting us with permission to live into our heart's calling and obligation. He promises we will find rest for our souls as we accept the yoke on our shoulders that Christ has, a burden which is easy and light. It is a journey of our lives to discover the unique fit of that yoke upon us. So, the welcome, to be who we are, invites us into fellowship with Jesus with whom we will walk. We will change, and that change will be inward and outward as we learn from Jesus, gently, and in humility. In this way, welcome is both passive, in that we say, "come on in!" and active in that we trust the transforming power of Jesus to shape our lives, the lives of others, and all of us together. Welcome!

Sunday May 28 is Pentecost Sunday and on that day we remember the story of the powerful movement of the Holy Spirit in the church. This year we are receiving a denominational offering for the first time, "the Pentecost Offering" which is for youth ministry across the denomination and right here at home. As we consider the future, we rely upon the work of the Holy Spirit to bring God's changes to our world. I have such confidence and hope in the character and creativity and genius of the coming generations, I want to give generously to an offering that recognizes the Spirit's invitation to all of us, working new vision and power in those upon whose gifts and leadership we depend and hope.

Our summer worship schedule begins June 4 when we transition to a single service Sunday morning at 10 AM. Also, the Technology Committee plans to transition in June from the pre-recorded worship services that we have been posting to social media and emailing out since the beginning of the pandemic three years ago, to the livestreaming of worship on Sunday morning, with services archived for viewing later. This will mean a change for those who have been viewing worship on Saturday night, or early Sunday morning in their pjs. We hope, too, it will be a window into the real events, music, people and celebration of being the church gathered, so that those unable to attend can enjoy those aspects that have been missing from our current format.

May grace and peace abound through Jesus Christ!



Life Around Wayside



Mindful Parenting Study



Eggs-perience Easter Event



WaYouth at
Escape Game Erie

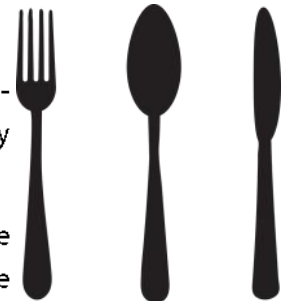
WAYSIDE MULTICULTURAL DINER'S CLUB

The next Wayside Multicultural Diner's Club (WMDC) outing is at Namaste, Indian and Nepali, 5901 West Ridge Rd. on **Tuesday, May 9 at 11:30am**. Reservations are due in the Wayside office (814-833-7653) by May 5.

There will not be a buffet, so order off the menu when you arrive. There's plenty of seating. The day and time was selected as a "slow" time and the owner assures us that they can create many meals quickly.

You'll enjoy meeting the owners and hearing what they have to say, wonderful people and eager to showcase their cuisine. There is no exclusiveness in WMDC. Invite anyone and everyone to join us, but add their email to our growing list which Jennifer keeps in the Wayside Church office.

Gary Larson 716-307-5815



Going . . . Going . . . Gone!



Thanks to all who participated in the Talent Auction by donating and bidding! Over \$7100 was raised by 40 bidders for Wayside operating expenses and One Great Hour of Sharing!



SAVE THE DATE

WAYSIDE VBS: JULY 24-28



"Summer Holiday": Knowing Our Story Through Our Celebrations

BUDGET BYTES
from the Budget/Finance Committee

The end-of-March financial report, in terms of revenues received, was a gloomy one, much like the Erie March weather it mirrored. We dislike beginning our update this way but we always aim to be open and candid and these numbers need to be shared with you. Total revenue for the month was projected to be at \$34,000 whereas we received \$26,000, leaving us \$8,000 short. Pledged giving was (\$6,000) below March projections, unpledged (\$2,000) and the Per Capita appeal (\$1,000). In terms of year-to-date revenues, we were (\$6,600) below projections. Ouch.

On the good news side, expenses stayed on track for the month and even came in below projections by \$1,000 despite continuing high utility and snow removal costs. YTD expenses were projected to be \$137,000 and that is right where we stood at the end of March.

Overall YTD projections (revenues vs. expenses) were for us to be in the red at (\$6,000); in actual numbers, however, we were in the red at (\$13,000). We are grateful to all those who did contribute their offerings while hoping that March was a one-and-done revenue slide and pray that April will see a return to the normal pattern of generosity so typical of Waysiders. We thank all for your continued support of our important ministry and mission.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mar. Rev.	\$26,479.23	Mar. Exp.	\$43,764.37
YTD Rev.	\$124,678.76	YTD Exp.	\$137,750.84

RETURN OF THE NOISY OFFERING

The third Sunday of each month, bring your spare change to make a joyful noise to support our monthly brown-bag lunches for the homeless.



Hello, Hello, the Per Capita Appeal Calling....

Hello, hello...is anybody home? This is your Per Capita Appeal calling since we didn't receive our usual hefty March response from Wayside Church. We are concerned because in March 2022 Waysiders contributed a total of \$1,982 but this year we only received \$738. (In fact, for the past ten years we received an average of \$2,600 in March, so we hope nothing is amiss at your house.) Perhaps you were basking in warmer climates (we don't blame you!) and forgot all about us...but we haven't forgotten about you because we are counting on your support.

In case you don't remember what we are, here it is in a nutshell (or a seashell, if you were in fact on some sunny beach in March):

The Per Capita Appeal (goal of \$6,000) asks that every confirmed member of Wayside will contribute \$33 per head ("capita" in Latin, FYI) to help defray Wayside's yearly obligation to the PCUSA (\$16,302 in 2023).

The funds support the important on-going work of the Presbyterian Church on the national, synod, and presbytery levels and help to keep us connected.

Our local Lake Erie Presbytery receives the bulk of our Per Capita monies (you may recall that our Executive Presbyter is closely related to Pastor James...hint, hint).

We don't wish to be a nuisance but we plan to be diligent in trying to reach you because we know how generous you have been in the past. You can remit your \$33 contribution by check ("per capita" on the memo line, made out to Wayside Church) or via the Wayside online giving portal (see "Per Capita"). We hope to hear from you soon.

Thank you and have a nice day. Good-bye.



SUMMER IS COMING!

- * We've shared the last WOW dinner until fall.
- * The Sunday School year ends May 21 with a Fellowship Lunch after church.
- * Summer Worship begins June 4 with a single service at 10:00 AM.
- * Watch for opportunities to stay involved and connected throughout the summer!



ISSUES OF FAITH

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

MAY

- 7 Rabbi Rob Morais, "Israel and Anti-Semitism"
- 14 TBA
- 21 Will Meyer, Ph.D., Anthropology, Mercyhurst University

Join "Wayside Issues of Faith" on Facebook for weekly speaker updates!

ATTENTION PARENTS OF SENIORS

Please email a photo and a short bio of your senior to Jennifer in the office,



wpc@wayside-erie.org by May 12th.

We will be recognizing our graduates June 11.

SAVE
THE
DATE

MISSION CAMP

JUNE 18-23

RISING 6TH GRADE-
2023 GRADUATES

Camp
Lambec



Time To Take Care of Mom!

Through home schooling, pandemic sickness, and balancing budgets with inflation, mom is in need of some SPA TIME! This year's Mother/Child Banquet celebrates mom and the knowledge that without self-care the entire family will suffer! We will make at-



home spa treatments for mom and celebrate all she does for her family and friends. Please join us at the "Wayside Spa" May 8, 2023 for appetizers, chicken parmesan and spaghetti dinner, and dessert served by our Wayside men. Appetizers will be served at 5:45 with dinner at 6:15. We can't wait to see you there!



PW NEWS



SOPHIA CIRCLE

The Sophia Circle will meet on Tuesday, May 16th at 7:00 pm in the Parlor. This is our last lesson for the Bible Study Celebrating Sabbath. Lesson Nine is Sabbath and Community. The scripture lesson is Acts 2:42-47. The key idea is - community is key for sustaining us in our Sabbath journey. Linda Lorah will provide the snack and lead the lesson. All women are welcome! "Setting Sun Prayer"



by Leah Dorion

NAOMI CIRCLE

The Naomi Circle will meet Wednesday, May 24 at noon in the parlor.

ELIZABETH CIRCLE

The Elizabeth Circle will meet Thursday, May 25 at 11:30 AM in the parlor.

LUNCH BUNCH

The May Lunch Bunch gathering will be Thursday, May 11 at noon at Erie Brewing Beechwood, 4102 W. Lake Rd, (near Montpelier Ave.).

Presbyterian Women of Lake Erie Presbytery will hold their Spring Gathering on Saturday May 20th at Irvine Church. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear all about the history of the Irvine Church and to have fellowship with women from around our presbytery. Please consider attending. **A sign-up sheet is in the lobby. The registration deadline is May 8th.** We hope to have a good group from Wayside attending and can carpool to the event. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Haas.



Irvine Church built in 1835

PW to sponsor Fellowship Luncheon on Sunday, May 22

Presbyterian Women will sponsor a luncheon to celebrate a great Sunday School year directly after church on May 21.

No reservations are needed. Donations will be accepted to cover the costs of the meal. We will be serving sandwiches, an assortment of salads, and dessert. Please plan on joining us for good food and fellowship! All are welcome!



We wrote 63 letters to each of our legislators and urged them to support the reauthorization of the farm bill to build healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems.

The letters were all hand delivered to our legislators by Karen Haas and all the key points were reviewed with a staff member. It was made clear that Wayside is working hard to fight hunger and we hope our government will do their part and pass a strong Farm Bill.



Mike Kelly's office asked if they could respond to just one person. The letter received from Representative Kelly is posted on the PW bulletin board. Thank you to everyone who participated by writing letters! Your voices were heard! Let's keep working to end hunger!



WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S

ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE

Tuesday, May 14

Please support our mission fund by baking pies, breads, or cookies. Items can be brought to the church on Sunday, Monday, or early Tuesday morning. Cookies should be packaged in groups of six. Please do not send pies that need to be refrigerated as we cannot display them.

You can also stop in to make a purchase even if this is not your voting place. Call Pattie Pora (814-449-3271) or Amy Valentine (814-833-3211) with any questions.



Presbyterian Women's Annual Birthday Offering to take place Sunday, May 14

This offering gives us a way to celebrate the blessings in our lives. Envelopes to donate to the offering will be in the pew racks on May 14 and 21. Please make checks out to Wayside Presbyterian Women. You may also use E-Giving to donate. For the FUND category select "Presbyterian Women." For the subcategory choose "Birthday Offering." This year two projects will receive funds from the Birthday Offering.

Making Miracles Group Home Phase II Group Home Tallahassee, Florida (\$150,000)

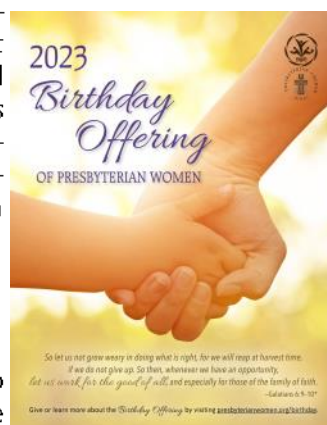
Making Miracles Group Home (MMGH) helps young mothers break the cycle of abusive relationships, addiction, incarceration and early motherhood—a repeating pattern that is difficult to break and overcome. Since its inception in 2010, MMGH has served over 100 women and their children by providing a one-year, live-in program designed to support young mothers and help them develop skills to live independently and care for their children. With the Birthday Offering grant, MMGH will purchase a second group home to serve an additional five families who are at risk of experiencing homelessness. With loving support and tools to establish stable, permanent housing, these families can look forward to a hopeful and successful future.

Berhane Yesus Elementary School Kindergarten School Construction Dembi Dollo, Ethiopia (\$99,400)

Berhane Yesus Elementary School, located in the western highlands of Ethiopia, seeks to change lives by sharing the "Light of Jesus" and by providing the best possible educational experience for the children of Dembi Dollo. This K-8th grade school has been serving the community and been a part of the Presbyterian Church in this rural community since 1921. Western Wollega Bethel Synod has provided land for a kindergarten classroom and the Birthday Offering grant will provide all necessary funding for its construction.



Donations to the Birthday Offering are greatly appreciated! We will celebrate the Birthday Offering with Birthday Cake at Fellowship time. Please plan to have a piece of cake!



OUTREACH NEEDS

MCRC provides a variety of educational, social service, child development housing, and employment programs to the Latino, Refugee, Immigrant, and New American populations in Erie in a client-first and focused manner. Some time in May, MCRC will begin to resettle refugees in Erie. There will be:

- * A Burmese family of 5 coming. A husband and wife with a 7-year-old daughter, 5-year-old son, and 2-year-old daughter.
- * A Syrian family of 6 coming. This is a husband and wife with 3 girls (9, 5 & 1.5) and a 7-year-old boy.
- * Another Syrian family of 5 coming. This is a husband and wife with 3 daughters (soon to be 15, soon to be 13 and 5).
- * A single Congolese gentleman and his brother.



MCRC will be working as a team to get housing set up for these families and is looking for community support to make sure that everything is set up in a welcoming and warm fashion. The following are needed items:

- Queen size beds, twin beds, toddler beds, cribs
- Couches, recliners, desks, chairs, coffee tables
- Televisions, lamps, end tables, bookshelves

If you have any of these needed items, please contact Karen Haas or reach out directly to MCRC Refugee Resettlement Manager Connie Frey (814-455-0212 ext. 326 or cfrey@mcrceerie.org).

RUMMAGE SALE

JUNE 23-24

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO:

- **SET UP**
- **SORT DAILY, BEGINNING JUNE 6**
- **CASHIER--DAY OF SALE**
- **CLEAN UP--SATURDAY AT 1:00**
- **DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN JUNE!**

CONTACT NANCY FYE TO VOLUNTEER:

814-838-3607 OR

TFYE@ROADRUNNER.COM





WORSHIP IN MAY

Sunday, May 7

John 14:1-14

Fifth Sunday of Easter

"Greater Works"

Holy Communion

James Preaching

Sunday, May 14

John 20:1-18

Sixth Sunday of Easter

"God Already at Work"

Nathan Preaching

Sunday, May 21

Psalms 100

Seventh Sunday of Easter

"Joyful Noises"

Music Sunday

James Preaching

Sunday, May 28

Acts 2:1-21

Day of Pentecost

"What We Are Waiting For"

James Preaching



May 1	Jennifer Garcia	May 9	Flori Porter	May 22	Henry Mullett
May 2	Molly Allen	May 10	Flora Hu	May 22	Amy Valentine
May 2	Jim Richardson	May 10	Madeline Nelson	May 22	Henry van Helden
May 3	Kristin Babb	May 11	Karen Latimer	May 23	MacKenzee Jewell
May 3	Lily Babb	May 12	Rich Pulling	May 23	Matt McCullough
May 4	Missy Grimm	May 12	Emma Sidorowicz	May 23	Grace Stack
May 5	Mitzi Moore	May 12	Mark Twinem	May 23	Maddy Stack
May 5	Aaron Pentz	May 14	Eliza Porter	May 24	Hal Kelley
May 5	Madeline Pora	May 16	Jordan Babcock	May 24	Bethany Lavery
May 6	Vaska Lewis	May 17	Kaela Mitten	May 24	Heather Lewis
May 6	Annamarie Sheriff	May 17	Anthony Villella	May 24	Dawn Weborg
May 6	Noel Sundberg	May 18	Jim Tingley	May 25	Lily Olsen
May 7	Chloe Olsen	May 19	Ashley Buseck	May 26	Mitchell Hoyt
May 7	David Wallwork	May 19	Ginny Pollard	May 26	Tyler Marsh
May 8	Fia Fox	May 19	Mary Yonkers	May 27	Ellie Lish
May 8	Teddy Lish	May 19	Leslie Youngo	May 28	Louise Martin
May 8	Lori Miller	May 20	Abigail Stack	May 28	Owen McCullough
May 9	Michael Cross	May 21	Kallan Fuchs	May 28	Vince Sidorowicz
May 9	Kelly Fremer	May 21	Bobbi Jo Fye	May 28	Isaac Sundberg
May 9	Ben Kocan	May 21	Sandy Reed	May 30	Max Hutzelman
May 9	William Lamont	May 21	Lisa Watkins	May 30	Roger Taft
May 9	Lois May			May 31	Donna Bittner

Happy Anniversary

May 4	Ron and Lois May	May 19	Jim and Barb Richardson
May 10	Richard and Susan Decker	May 20	Dale and Linda Massing
May 10	Brian and Jessica Zimmerman	May 21	Gary and Maggie Christensen
May 12	Christian and Angelle Sundberg	May 25	Greg and Lori Miller
May 12	Miranda and Daniel Lish	May 25	Jonathan and Erica Jewell
May 17	Mark and Rae Jean Catrabone	May 27	Tim Feltmeyer and Diane Feltmeyer
May 18	Vic and Shawn Babcock	May 30	Lindsay and Christopher Kopac
May 19	Pam and Joe Monaco	May 31	Chris and Kathy Wolford

MAY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p Sanctuary Bells 6:30p AA 7p Symphonic Singers 7p Outreach	2 IU5 Preschool MTWMM	3 IU5 Preschool MTWMM 9:30a Stronger Srs 5p Generosity	4 IU5 Preschool 1:30p North Coast Sewing Guild 6p A-A non	5	6 8a HAAEQG 10a WOW Outing 2p French Horn Group
7 8:30 Early Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Celebration of Worship	8 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6p Mother Child Banquet 6:30p Sanctuary Bells 6:30p AA 7p Symphonic Singers	9 IU5 Preschool MTWMM 10a Prayer Shawl Ministry	10 IU5 Preschool MTWMM 9:30a Stronger Srs 7p Session	11 IU5 Preschool 12p Lunch Bunch 6p A-A non New- comers 7p Chancel Choir	12 IU5 Preschool Newsletter Deadline	13
14 Birthday Offering Mothers' Day 8:30 Early Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Celebration of Worship	15 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p Sanctuary Bells 6:30p AA 7p Symphonic Singers	16 Election Day Bake Sale IU5 Preschool MTWMM 7p Sophia Circle	17 IU5 Preschool MTWMM 9:30a Stronger Srs	18 IU5 Preschool 6p A-A non New- comers 7p Chancel Choir	19 IU5 Preschool	20 8:30a HAAEQG Sew- In 9:30a Bag Lunch Packing
21 Music Sunday Noisy Offering 8:30 Early Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Celebration of Worship 12p Fellowship Lunch	22 9:30a Stronger Srs. 11a Second Harvest Mobile Food Dist. E. Springfield 6:30p AA	23 IU5 Preschool MTWMM 1p Newsletter Col- lating 2p Presbytery Meeting 5:30 HAAEQG 6:30 Raucous Readers Book Club	24 IU5 Preschool MTWMM 9:30a Stronger Srs 12p Naomi Circle	25 IU5 Preschool 11:30a Elizabeth Circle 6p A-A non New- comers	26 IU5 Preschool	27
28 8:30 Early Worship 11:00 Celebration of Worship	29 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30p AA	30 MTWMM	31 IU5 Preschool MTWMM 9:30a Stronger Srs			

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

The April distribution for the Second Harvest mobile food pantry at the Federated Church in East Springfield is May 22. 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.



We welcome the Presbytery of Lake Erie to Wayside for its stated meeting on May 23 at 2 PM.

WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1208 Asbury Road Erie, PA 16505
email: wpc@wayside-erie.org

Phone: 814-833-7653
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)
- The Reverend Jim Haas Pastor Emeritus
- Nicholas Nasibyan Director of Music
nick@wayside-erie.org 814-490-8012 (cell)
- David Sickles Sexton
- Karen Pastewka Financial Secretary
steward@wayside-erie.org
- Jennifer Lockett Office Administrator
wpc@wayside-erie.org

*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.