

# Inside Wayside

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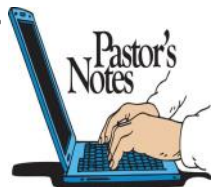
"I thank my God every time I remember you; constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Christ." Philippians 1:3-6

When Paul wrote this he was in prison, far away from his beloved friends in Philippi. He also is unsure whether he will be able to come to them ever again.

My upcoming time away on sabbatical is not so extreme as this, thankfully. I will be remembering you in prayer. Like Paul's words say, I have confidence in you to be the church, to be doing those things that communicate to each other and the world the love of Jesus Christ. You have wonderful leaders as your deacons and elders, great church staff, and Nathan is a good pastor. Take care of one another and support Nathan, (he enjoys cookies).

I am so grateful for this time away from the customary. I covenant with you to make good use of the time, and to return with renewed energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.

Grace and peace to you,



Session has approved a plan for an ad hoc committee to consider the best stewardship of Wayside's blessing of a large facility and plenty of land.

*"How are we called to manage this legacy in ways that help build God's kingdom both now and five, ten, fifty years on. How do we serve and interact with our immediate neighborhood? From the mundane to the visionary, we collectively have both a responsibility and an opportunity to envision and plan for the future. Prior to Covid, Wayside formed an ad-hoc group to collect ideas for how we could take greater advantage of our facility and land. That effort dissipated as we all reacted to the pandemic. Now is a good time to reconstitute and formalize that effort. Because this effort will touch on every aspect of life here at Wayside, we need to engage as broad a group of Waysiders as possible. Hence this proposal for an ad-hoc, single purpose committee that draws from both existing leadership (Session and existing committees) and the Congregation at large. We may also want to consider adding representatives of the surrounding neighborhood to ensure that those interests are also represented. At a minimum, a part of the committee's charge should be to coordinate with and seek input from the surrounding neighborhood as we consider how best to use our facility and land.*

*Over the years, there have been numerous good, creative ideas for how Wayside could use our facility and grounds, but without a sustained effort to gather, organize, prioritize, and realize those ideas – Wayside is likely to remain in a business-as-usual mode.*

*The task for the committee would be to develop a comprehensive plan for the building and grounds looking as far into the future as possible. A fundamental piece of this would be to develop a financial blueprint for achieving the broader vision – or at least pieces of it."*

Thanks to those serving on the committee: Jeff Brinling and Britt Daehnke, co-chairpersons; Rita Brown, Bethany Hurley, Sarah Jay, Bob Scholl, Ed Snyder, and Tim Stancliff, with Steve Porter and James Bernhardt.

**BUDGET BYTES**  
**from the Budget/Finance Committee**

We are halfway through the year, budget-wise, as of June 30. We have been on a roller coaster ride this year, with some months up and some down. June's receipts were \$3,000 short and year-to-date we are running \$7,000 below projections.

Even though pledged and unpledged receipts were under for the month and for the year, we do have a few bright highlights to share. Elsewhere in the newsletter you will read of the success of the Per Capita Appeal (we have reached and even exceeded our year-end budget projection of \$6,000!). Building rental was projected to be at \$7,000 and yet we have received \$8,500; we will take that momentary gain as a welcome sign. Interest income is up and the Talent Auction took in \$4,000, providing both an influx of funds and a fun event for those in attendance.

Expenses are looking good. YTD we are running \$5,000 below projections, thanks to the continuing diligent efforts of our staff and committees, especially Spiritual Nurture and Development, Worship Music and Fine Arts, and Deacons, all of whom are underspent for the year.

Overall, in the area of receipts versus expenses, we are just \$1,000 off budget at the mid-year point. This is an excellent place to be and we still look forward to an influx of cash when the Erie Gives receipts come in August.

However, (we wish that we didn't always have to close the monthly reports with a "however"), we remain in a deficit budget situation (\$41,000). That is what was projected in January and it remains steadfastly lurking in the background, even as we are grateful that we are staying on target with projections for the 2023 budget. God-willing, we will ride that roller coaster up, up, up for the second half of the year and forget about any downward motion. (Ooh, perhaps that was an awkward stretch of a metaphor, but you get the picture.) Onward and upward, in other words. Amen.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

<b>JUNE REV</b>	<b>\$24,361.38</b>	<b>JUNE EXP</b>	<b>\$52,096.82</b>
<b>YTD REV</b>	<b>\$220,477.58</b>	<b>YTD EXP</b>	<b>\$285,794.51</b>

**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.



**PER CAPITA SUCCESS!**

Thank you, thank you, thank you, Waysiders, for your generosity! What a joy it is to report this success story in the Per Capita Appeal. Our annual budget goal was set at raising \$6,000 and as of June 30 we received \$6,005. In addition to that, as this is being written in mid-July, we have received an additional \$500. If you have not yet contributed your \$30 per each confirmed member of your family, we encourage your participation. Wayside's contribution to the PC(USA) is \$16,000 in 2023 so your gift helps to defray our obligation to the work of the Presbyterian Church nationally and locally. Thanks again to all.

**Don't forget Erie Gives + 2 !**

**August 8, 2023**

**8 AM – 8 PM**

**at [eriegives.org](http://eriegives.org)**

**(checks due August 7)**

### WAYOUTH AND WOW CLUB PROJECT: GARDEN OF EDIN

**Watch for an email around August 6 for a date between August 14-18 for this exciting project!**

*A project to learn about and serve with a community garden that is contributing to the community life of Edinboro and making significant contributions in the fight against food scarcity.*

**9:30**—Meet at the Garden of Edin Community Garden, 4281 Route 6N Edinboro, PA

**9:45-10:30**—An overview and history of the garden and its mission will be given along with a quick tour, including harvesting veggies for the Edinboro Food Pantry.

**10:30-11:45**—Since we will be building compost bins, we will briefly explain what compost is and how it is made, followed by deconstruction of the old compost bins.

**Lunch** at Sarah Jay's house (1 mile from garden) - Hot dogs, chips, watermelon, drinks, etc. Along with cornhole, KanJam, and Slammo.

**1:00-3:00**—Build new compost bins.

- Other potential projects: weeding beds and paths, spreading mulch on the paths, and walking the labyrinths (with lessons about identifying weeds and labyrinths).
- It is recommended to bring good work gloves and a shovel, but not mandatory as there will be some provided. All other tools will be provided. Drinks will be available at the garden while they're working, probably snacks too.

### **One Table Summer Picnic**

Another summer picnic? You betcha. ONE TABLE is a multicultural group that has an annual picnic at Presque Isle State Park. You and your family are invited on Thursday, August 3 at the Runners' Pavilion. We gather at 5pm to eat at 6pm. We provide drinks and table service and you bring a dish to pass, perhaps a delicacy from your cultural tradition. It's a gala event with foods from around the world. If you have questions, call me, Gary Larson, 716-307-5815.

Directions to Runners' Pavilion: After entering the park itself, take your immediate first left turn (it comes up quickly). You must then stop to let exiting traffic leave the park. Drive straight ahead onto a dirt road and you'll see a building to the far right, which is Runners' Pavilion. Invite and bring family and friends. You'll meet some wonderful people.



### **THE RETURN OF SCI-FI AND THEOLOGY**

*August 28 at 6:00 pm at Lavery Brewing Company*

Join people from a variety of backgrounds and interests as we once again attempt to go where no one has gone before with discussions about the intersection of science fiction and religion and spirituality.

Each month comes with **recommended** reading or viewing options, but they are not required to have a great conversation.

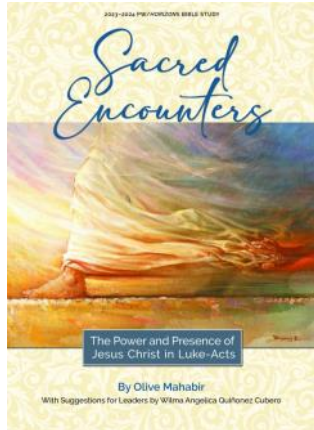
August 28: Parable of the Sower with Melinda Hall from the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Paul

## SOPHIA CIRCLE

The Sophia Circle does not meet in the summer. When we start up again in September we will be studying *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts*.

If you want to order a study guide, please give Karen Haas \$11 by August 1st.

Enjoy summer!



## LUNCH BUNCH

Thursday, August 10

Noon

Location TBA

**Elizabeth Circle**  
**No August meeting.**



# News from Presbyterian Women



## HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

PW is accepting nominations for honorary life membership. The Honorary Life Membership (HLM) program was established early last century in the Presbyterian Church to honor faithful service to the women's organization and to the church. Recipients become a part of a large group of women (and a few men) who have been recognized in this way. More than a thousand are awarded each year. The Honorary Life Membership is represented by a silver or gold membership pin that is presented along with a personalized certificate. The Honorary Life Membership pin symbolizes values held dear by Presbyterian Women. Funds derived from Honorary Life Membership support the PW Leadership Development Grant Program. Grants from this program enable individuals to engage in leadership development opportunities such as the Churchwide Gathering, Ecumenical Advocacy Days and the UN Commission on the Status of Women. **Nomination forms are on the information table and will be accepted until August 15. A list of previous recipients can be found on the PW bulletin board outside the church office. There is an envelope in the office for completed nominations.**





## WORSHIP IN AUGUST

*Single Summer Service at 10 AM through Labor Day*

**Sunday, August 6**

Genesis 32:22-31

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

"Knockdown, Dragout Faith"

Holy Communion

Nathan Preaching

**Sunday, August 13**

Matthew 14:22-33

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

"Get out of the Boat"

Gregg Rabenold Preaching

**Sunday, August 20**

Matthew 15:21-28

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

"Jesus Said What Now? "

Nathan Preaching

**Sunday, August 27**

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Steve Porter Preaching

### WORSHIP LIVESTREAM

Wayside Worship is now being livestreamed each week. You can join Wayside Worship as it is happening at 10:00 (summer schedule) on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@waysideerie1070>, or tune in to the same link later to view on demand. The link is also included in the Wayside Weekly email.





Aug 1	Linda Bremmer	Aug 12	Mac Pollard	Aug 20	Elias Fuchs
Aug 2	Kenneth Momeyer	Aug 12	Karen Potocki	Aug 20	Anna Hurley
Aug 2	Audrie Watkins	Aug 12	Elaine Garts	Aug 21	Jon Hoyt
Aug 3	Kathleen Johnson	Aug 12	Jamie Bowes	Aug 21	Jack Grimm
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 5	Mollie King	Aug 15	Linda Wilkinson	Aug 23	Jonathon Sidorowicz
Aug 6	Sally DeWitt	Aug 16	Cammy Melaragno	Aug 25	Jim Marsh
Aug 7	Kameron Bastow	Aug 16	Becky Worthington	Aug 26	Paula Reade
Aug 9	Jan Pedersen	Aug 16	Maria Carpenedo	Aug 28	Daniel Lish
Aug 9	Sam Sesler	Aug 16	Ginny Ackley	Aug 29	Rod Foutz
Aug 10	Barb Sundberg	Aug 18	Eli Yahn	Aug 30	Tom Lewis
Aug 11	Eliza Sundberg	Aug 18	Jane Moelk	Aug 31	Pam Johns



Aug 2	Barb and John 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 18	Gene and Jami Sundberg
Aug 7	Cammy and John Melaragno	Aug 19	Harry and Sue Hain
Aug 7	Matt and Jill McGill	Aug 19	Barb and Keith Sundberg
Aug 9	Jim and Jackie Cross	Aug 19	Vanessa and Kelly Fremer
Aug 10	Roger and Laurel Taft	Aug 24	James and Anita Bernhardt
Aug 10	Matt and Daren McCullough	Aug 24	Sarah and Todd Jay
Aug 14	Dave and Micki Loesel	Aug 28	James and Mary Lou Edgett
Aug 14	Patrick and Renee Callahan	Aug 29	Paula and George Vilushis



# August 2023



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		<b>1</b> MTWMMM	<b>2</b> MTWMMM 9:30a Stronger Srs. 5p Generosity	<b>3</b> 1:30p North Coast Sewing Guild 5p One Table Picnic 6p Alanon Newcomers	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 10a Summer Worship	<b>7</b> 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p AA 7p Outreach	<b>8</b> MTWMMM 10a Prayer Shawl Ministry	<b>9</b> MTWMMM 9:30a Stronger Srs. 7p Session	<b>10</b> 12p Lunch Bunch 6p Alanon Newcomers	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 10a Summer Worship	<b>14</b> 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p AA	<b>15</b> MTWMMM	<b>16</b> MTWMMM Youth Garden of Edin outreach activity 9:30a Stronger Srs.	<b>17</b> 6p Alanon Newcomers	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 8:30a HAAEQG 9:30a Bag Lunch Packing
<b>20</b> 10a Summer Worship 11a PW Quarterly Mtg	<b>21</b> 9:30a Stronger Srs. 6:30p AA	<b>22</b> MTWMMM 5:30p HAAEQG	<b>23</b> MTWMMM 9:30a Stronger Srs.	<b>24</b> 6p Alanon Newcomers	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 10a Summer Worship	<b>28</b> 9:30a Stronger Srs. 11a Mobile Food Pantry 6:30p AA	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:30a Stronger Srs.	<b>31</b> 6p Alanon Newcomers		<b>Newsletter Collating: Watch the bulletin and for a postcard from Jennifer for this month's collating date.</b>

### MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

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



### Change in Karen Pastewka's Schedule

The Personnel Committee has approved a request from Karen Pastewka that she work from home on Thursdays and Fridays. This is to accommodate her need to support her mother whose health requires close monitoring. Karen will continue to be at the church office Monday–Wednesday. She can be reached at home on her cell phone, 814-600-4586, or by email. You may also leave messages for her at the church office.

### WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1208 Asbury Road Erie, PA 16505  
email: [wpc@wayside-erie.org](mailto:wpc@wayside-erie.org)

Phone: 814-833-7653  
[www.wayside-erie.org](http://www.wayside-erie.org)

### STAFF

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| • The Reverend James Bernhardt   | Senior Pastor/Head of Staff |
| <a href="mailto:james@wayside-erie.org">james@wayside-erie.org</a>     | 828-381-6582 (cell)         |
| • The Reverend Nathan Royster  | Associate Pastor            |
| <a href="mailto:nathan@wayside-erie.org">nathan@wayside-erie.org</a>   | 814-715-6367 (cell)         |
| • The Reverend Jim Haas  | Pastor Emeritus             |
| • Nicholas Nasibyan  | Director of Music           |
| <a href="mailto:nick@wayside-erie.org">nick@wayside-erie.org</a>       | 814-490-8012 (cell)         |
| • David Sickles  | Sexton                      |
| • Karen Pastewka   | Financial Secretary         |
| <a href="mailto:steward@wayside-erie.org">steward@wayside-erie.org</a> | 814-600-4586 (Thurs/Fri)    |
| • Jennifer Lockett   | Office Administrator        |
| <a href="mailto:wpc@wayside-erie.org">wpc@wayside-erie.org</a>         |                             |

*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.