

WESTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & SOCIETY
PALMYRA, NY
2025 ANNUAL REPORT



western
presbyterian
church

“Living water for a thirsty world.” ~Isaiah 44:3

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents.....	p. 2
Christian Education Ministry Team Report	pp. 3-4
Church Statistics-Report of the Clerk.....	p. 5
Deacons Ministry Team Report.....	pp. 6-7
Deacons Treasurer's Report	
Fellowship Ministry Team Report.....	p. 8
Finance Team.....	p. 9
Mission and Social Concerns Team Report.....	pp. 10-13
Good Neighbor Fund Report and Weekend Wellness	
Property Ministry Team.....	pp. 14-15
Worship Team.....	p. 16
Pastor's Postscript Report.....	pp. 17-20
Annual Projects and Financial Reports	
Women's Association Financial Report.....	p. 21
Angel Tree Project.....	p. 22
Endowments/Operations Account Balances Report.....	p. 23
Financial Accounts	p. 24
2025/2026 Budget & Salaries.....	pp. 25-26
Summary of Receipts and Expenditures.....	p. 27

*Western Presbyterian Church is Building Faith, Family & Fellowship.
We are Christ-centered, Nurturing, Caring, Welcoming, and Generous.
Western Presbyterian Church nurtures spiritual growth, joyful fellowship,
meaningful community and global involvement,
worshipping and serving God with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.*

Christian Education Ministry Team Annual Report 2025

Building Faith, Family, and Fellowship. WPC nurtures spiritual growth, joyful fellowship, meaningful community, and global involvement: worshiping and serving God with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.

The CE team of 2025 consisted of Emily Hunt (chairperson), Jody Pruitt, and Cim McFarlane (Sunday School Director, as a non-elected member). Ellen Avery joined us in spirit as she continued to recover at home. We work as a team with the congregation “to tell the story of love and grace we have received from God, because it is a story we love to tell!”

We had in-person Sunday School with weekly attendance ranging from 3-10 children, with a rotating teacher (Kelly Babcock and Jody Pruitt rotated Sundays), and Cim McFarlane was always there as the Sunday School Director. We continued to hold a multi-age class with children ranging from ages 3-16. Teachers are using a curriculum for multi-age classes called Growing in Grace and Gratitude.

Cim continues to provide leadership for:

- Attending Sunday School each week, prepping the classroom before class and cleaning up the classroom after class.
- Keeping the Sunday School snack supply well stocked.
- Selecting and ordering curriculum for Sunday School.
- Selecting and organizing Sunday School teachers.
- Orchestrating two Children-Lead Worship services (Epiphany and spring)- providing full scope of planning and executing.
- Sending regular mailings and emails to all Sunday School and VBS families.
- Participating in the Camp Whitman Advisory Committee. (This is a volunteer position outside of Sunday School Director responsibilities)
- Planning the making of holiday cards for WPC shut-ins and WPC college students for Valentine’s Day, Easter, and Christmas (a minimum of 40 cards were made for each holiday).
- Planning and executing Summer Vacation Bible School (combined sponsors with Palmyra Reformed Church)- 2025’s theme was True North. Children made crafts, played games, listened to Bible stories, and sang lots of songs. Around 40 children attended, and 25 adults and teens volunteered. About 90 lunches were served every day.

- Cim planned and executed a VBS service project of collecting cereal for the Lois Daniels cereal drive. 100 boxes were collected and Cim orchestrated delivering those boxes to the food pantry.
- Promoting Camp Whitman- 5 WPC youth, 1 WPC adult attended camp in the summer of 2025. Two WPC young adults worked at Camp over the summer of 2025.
- Updating the bulletin boards in Fellowship Hall and outside of the Sunday School classroom.
- Updating the WPC Facebook page with upcoming events.
- Orchestrating the Camp and Retreat Sunday with a special Camp Whitman themed children's sermon.
- Continuing and leading the Toddler Time at WPC for preschoolers and their caregivers. Cim is anxiously awaiting the reopening of the muscle room to begin Toddler Time again in 2026.

Under the leadership of the CE Team:

- Hosted the Back to Sunday School breakfast in September.
- Presented Bibles to Max and Ollie in 2025.
- With the help of Pastor Hodong, we commissioned 2 Sunday School teachers, 1 Sunday School Director, and 1 teacher's assistant in 2025.
- We participated in the annual Palm Sunday parade.

CE Community Outreach:

- Hosted the Easter Bunny Breakfast in April.
- Passed out candy and a worship invitation to over 500 youth at the Trick or Treat on Main Street event.

The team works to provide Christian Education, leadership, and mission opportunities for both adults and children in a loving and caring way-

**“Together let us tell the story of love and grace we have received from God,
because it is a story we love to tell!”**

Respectfully submitted by Emily Hunt- Christian Education Team Chair

“Living waters for a thirsty world.” Isaiah 44:3

Church Statistics- Report of the Clerk

Active Membership as of January 1, 2025 **83**

Additions

By Profession of Faith, Restoration, Reaffirmation	0
By Certificate of Transfer	0
Other - moved from inactive back to active	<u>0</u>
Total Additions	0

Losses

By Certificate of transfer	0
By Death	3
By Removal to Inactive Roll	0
By Removal from Rolls	<u>0</u>
Total Losses	3

Total Active Membership as of December 31, 2025 **80**

Session Members Serving in 2026

Roxanne Dobson- Fellowship	Cassie Hughes- Mission
Randy Kennard- Deacons	Alicia Lynch- Finance
Courtney Marr- Worship	Jody Pruitt- Christian Ed.
Philip Opdycke-Property & Presbytery Delegate	

Eric Chapman-Treasurer
Janet Manktelow- Clerk
Alicia Lynch- Head of Corporation

The Deacons Ministry Team Annual Report for 2025

The Deacons Ministry Team of 2025 consisted of Randy Kennard- Chairperson, Sandy McMenamin-Treasurer, Nancy Talma, Patricia Dlugosh, Linda Pulcini, Sandy Betts and Muffie Beato. Leaving our committee this year are Sandy Betts and Linda Pulcini. Pastor Hodong is an active and critical member at our meetings and outreach. All are fondly referred to as both prayer warriors and deacon demons!

Deacon areas of care:

Prayers to and for those in need. The heart and soul of our ministry is through the power of prayer. We are always learning ways to funnel this spiritual power to raise those in need up to our Lord and Savior. We lean on the congregation to communicate the needs to the Deacons. Our active prayer list includes those with immediate needs and long-term needs for prayer. In addition, we bring prayer close to our hearts by caring for a confidential list as well. Those on this list are offered the power of prayer while honoring their need to hold their struggles private. As we hold all in prayer, we liberate the weight of concern that is a heavy struggle, which is lifted to the Lord enabling release and grace. By engaging our congregation in the community of prayer we are unifying the faith and care reflected with the Love of Jesus Christ. *Thanks be to God.*

Outreach to those requiring a personal connection is the extension of the prayer ministry of the Deacons. The home bound, the ill, the convalescing, the grieving and the palliative care tend to be the major focus of the Deacon's energy. Sometimes phone calls and emails are the best way to initiate contact. However, face-to-face is the most powerful way to communicate care. The delivery of flowers is an added way to share care and concern with others. In some cases, we have brought meals to assist in transitions to independence. The offering of meals may initiate within the Deacons, but is opened up to the entire congregation. In this way, the Deacons are a doorway of engagement for the congregation to care for those in need. Like with prayer, we lean on communications of the congregation to ensure that we learn about who needs various forms of care.

Referral of Pastoral Care is only needed when a concern is not expressed directly to our pastor. We are rich with the gentle care and listening ear of our pastor. Pastor Hodong joins us with visits to folks as he develops a relationship with them. In other cases, we learn of his caring moments after he has connected with folks during their time of need. I am constantly humbled by the stories of care, concern and listening that this humbled and generous pastor radiates. He invests his time and attention to all those sheep of his congregation.

Special card mailings attempt to communicate to all that they are not forgotten and that they matter. We have various kinds of outreach that includes both written and spoken communications. The deacons send out birthday cards, anniversary cards and general care cards. We have a rotating list of folks that we like to connect with to make sure they know we are still thinking of them, and that we pray for them. Our mailings include both members and non-members. Also, we send cards to those in armed services, especially if they are deployed. (We lean on our congregation to update us on military status of these folks.) We are ever appreciative of the Sunday School for creating cards for various holidays throughout the year. Recipients love to see the artistry and handwritten notes of our next generation.

Communion preparation is an honored role of the Deacons to offer the elements for this important sacrament. The Lord's Supper is offered monthly in our Church.

Funding for the Deacon's work is done through donations. Our expenses are the cards, stamps, communion elements and devotional booklets offered to the congregation.

Those who have joined our Lord this year are:

2025				
Date	Funerals of WPC	Officiating	Funeral Home	WPC Participation
4/10/2025	Bev Koeberle	Pastor N. Farrell	Murphy	funeral
5/13/2025	Frances Storm	Pastor Hodong	Murphy	funeral and reception
8/17/2025	Frank Lawrence	Ptr N. Farrell & Hodong	Yost	funeral and reception
9/23/2025	Susan Leuchauer	Yost Prayer Service	Yost	No church intervention
10/20/2025	Ellen Avery	Pastor Hodong	Murphy	Service in 2026
11/26/2025	Harold Schraffenberger	Pastor Hodong	Murphy	Home Service

2025					
Month	Visits	Phone Calls	Cards sent and Email outreach	Communion Served	Communion Date
January	15	24	69	49	1/12/25
February	5	18	56	39	2/9/25
March	16	16	99	49	3/9/25
April	22	15	57	73	4/20/25
May	11	19	50	57	5/11/25
June			24	49	6/8/25
July	18	36	70	46	7/13/25
August	16	15	57	48	8/10/25
December	24	15	53	105	12/24/25
Year to Date	159	199	685	680	

Respectfully submitted by Randy Kennard and the entire Deacon's team

**Deacons Ministry Team
Treasurer's Report 2025**

Balance on Hand January 1, 2025	\$1,007.92
Deposits for Year	<u>1,070.35</u>
Total	\$2,078.27

<u>Disbursements</u>	
Cards, Postage	\$ 431.50
These Days Devotionals	<u>139.00</u>
Total	\$ 570.50

Balance on Hand January 1, 2026	\$1,507.77
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**Respectfully Submitted,
Sandra McMenamin
Treasurer**

FELLOWSHIP TEAM

2025 YEAR-END REPORT

The Fellowship Team: Sue Pringle, Ray Marr, Val Gendron, Terry Gendron, Jan Taylor, Norm Underwood, and Roxanne Dobson as chairperson.

The Fellowship Team had a busy year in 2025.

In January, we hosted a family game night. Everyone was invited to bring their favorite game and a snack to share. It was a wonderful turnout, and our friends from the Episcopal church joined us.

In March, we hosted our "world famous" Sweets and Treats with a Mardi Gras theme to usher in our time for Lent.

In May, we held our annual Church picnic.

In June, we gathered for another 5th Sunday potluck.

September 20th was the Progressive Dinner. Many thanks to Rena Haigh and Jody Pruitt for hosting the hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Dinner at the church featured a baked potato and salad bar with help from Muffie Beato. What fun!

October is when we honor our 50+ year members. The Fellowship Team hosted the coffee hour for Western Horizons.

On November 1st, we hosted another game night. Again, we asked everyone to bring a snack to share, and we had a wonderful variety of foods to snack on. Everyone was asked to bring a box of cereal. We collected 13 boxes of cereal to go to the food pantry. It was wonderful to share the evening with our Episcopal friends again.

At the end of November, we hosted the "Hanging of the Greens" 5th Sunday potluck. The theme was German cuisine. Many helped decorate the Fellowship Hall and light the Christmas tree.

One expense out of the norm was to purchase some new Christmas decorations for the Fellowship Hall.

A special thank you to everyone who enjoyed and supported our activities.

Finance Team – Year End Report For 2025

One of my biggest disappointments this year is not being able to report that our church audit review is done. The CPA that we were going to use has been ill and unable to work so it's back to the drawing board for us. Good news is- at least the gathering of the needed documents, and policies has been compiled; so, when we find someone, we'll be ready.

Our meeting with Ryan Tomko, with Howe and Rusling, was supposed to happen this week to review our investments. However, he will be out of the office until February enjoying his ever-growing family- he and his wife have welcomed a new baby boy this week.

Our yearly juggling act on the budget is coming to a close. A shrinking membership and increased costs are very real and continue to be a challenge. We are so very lucky to have our investments. I can say that without a doubt, I am so very grateful to have Eric Chapman as our Treasurer and of course our own wealth of information- Val Gendron.

Happy Blessed New Year,

Alicia M. Lynch, Chair

WPC Finance Team - Eric Chapman (Treasurer), Val Gendron (Financial Secretary), Bill Hassler, Alicia Lynch (Chair)

Mission and Social Concerns Team **Annual Report for 2025**

In John 21:15-17, the disciples encounter Jesus while fishing. Jesus asks Peter if Peter loves him. When Peter responds, “Of course I love you, you know that I do.” Jesus says, “Feed my lambs. Take care of my sheep. Feed my sheep.” and WPC has taken this to heart. Most, if not all, of our mission work is focused on hunger, housing, and health.

In 2025, the congregation met a **1,000-boxes of cereal challenge** that honored the memory of Lois Daniels.

Lois gave 1,000 boxes of cereal one year to the food pantry. From March 16th through November 23rd, the congregation rose to the challenge and collected over 1,000 boxes of cereal. The VBS collected 120 boxes and the Women’s Association donated 106 boxes from Rummage Sale proceeds. The 1,000 boxes were split between the food pantry and the food cupboard.

The **Emergency Food Cupboard** is used by numerous people in Palmyra. There is a different volunteer each day who replenishes the cupboard. Thank you to Peter Fadden, Sandy McMenamin, Jan Taylor, Muffie & James Beato, Sue Leonard, Courtney Marr, Don & Ruth Dantz who tend the cupboard each week. The Lion’s Club has held food drives to gather food to be used in the cupboard. Community members stop to leave food in the cupboard, members of the congregation donate food, and \$2,400 of the mission budget is used to buy food for the cupboard.

The **Food Pantry** located in Zion Episcopal has volunteers from WPC 3 evenings a month. Ruth and Don Dantz and Elaine Hassler represent WPC on the Food Pantry Board.

The **Reverse Advent Calendar** donation contributed personal hygiene items, laundry soap, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, and all those things that SNAP benefits don’t cover, to the Food Pantry. \$1,363 of the Mission Team funding went to buy these items so the pantry has them available for families throughout the year.

Weekend Wellness helps fight food insecurity for school aged children on the weekends. Bags are sent home with children that include 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, and 2 dinners. Also included are 2 snacks, milk, juice, and fruit cups.

The Food Pantry buys food and fills the bags for Weekend Wellness. During the 2024-2025 school year, 4,042 bags were delivered to the schools. The summer of 2025, 826 bags were delivered to the library and the children’s homes. It costs about \$8 for each bag. In 2025, the Mission Team donated \$6,037 to the Food Pantry to help cover the cost of Weekend Wellness.

Good Neighbor Fund – John Cook and Wilma Redman have administered the Good Neighbor Fund again this year. \$5,000 was given by WPC to support the Good Neighbor Fund throughout the year. The Session applied for and received a Presbytery grant for the Good Neighbor Fund of \$2,250. There is a report attached on how the money was used to serve the families in Palmyra.

The Clint McCoy Feeding Center in Mzenga, Malawi was established in 2010 through memorial gifts to honor the legacy of Rev. Clinton A. McCoy. The center provides a warm meal, simple games, and songs to over 80 young children two days a week. WPC mission team sent \$500 to feed the children.

Healthy Ninos Honduras was supported this year with a donation of \$800. The funding was to be used where the need is greatest. \$40 buys a water filter for a family to have “safe” water in their home. These filters have a 60-year lifespan.

Meals on Wheels – We continue to support the delivery of meals to senior citizens. In 2025, we sent \$1,000 to the ARC where meals are made.

Summer Lunches for kids is a community project we support with volunteers. The ARC makes lunches for the kids in Palmyra. Volunteers pick lunches up at the ARC in Newark and bring them to the library where kids can pick up their lunch.

During Lent, the Congregation participated in a donation with a **One Great Hour of Sharing Giving**

Calendar. Money was put into a loaf bank and a donation of \$1,002.75 was collected for OGHS Mission in the US and throughout the world.

In May, 120 Hygiene kits were made and sent to **Church World Service**.

Family Promise sold the Day Resource Center in Lyons and moved into the 2nd floor of the United Methodist Church in Newark. Family Promise has been serving one family living in an apartment and continues to have churches volunteer for Monday night dinners. \$2,000 was donated to Family Promise by the Mission Team. During the summer, members of WPC and the community baked pies to sell after worship. \$750 was raised for Family Promise through this project.

The **Survivor Advocacy Center of the Finger Lakes** received \$1,000 from the Mission Team. This agency provides service to victims of domestic abuse.

In the spring, books and stuffed animals were given to Social Services to give to children in Child Protective Services.

The small envelopes in the pews can be used to donate money to the various missions of the church and to the Deacon's Fund. Check the box, and the money will go to the mission you designated. You can even add a different mission on the line, and we'll see the money gets to that program.

As a Presbyterian Church, Mission support is given to Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. The \$2,540 was given to Presbytery and used to support Camp Whitman and session approved mission grants. \$100 was sent to both Synod and General Assembly for those mission projects.

The Mission Team knows without the support of the congregation we would not be able to do what and as much as we do. A total of over \$24,000 was used by the Mission Team to support the ministries in Palmyra-Macedon, in Wayne County, in the Presbytery, in the United States, and throughout the world.

By volunteering your time, talent, and treasure, you are doing what Jesus told Peter to do, "Feed my sheep." "Take care of my sheep." "Feed my sheep." Thank you for making and keeping WPC a mission-oriented congregation.

The Mission and Social Concerns Team is looking for volunteers who would like to serve on the Mission Team or participate in one of the mission projects. We have meetings on the first Thursday at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

There is room for YOU on the team. Please prayerfully consider if you are being called to help our neighbors. Anyone is welcome to join us.

The Mission and Social Concerns Team:
Edie Chapman, Sally Chase, Ruth Dantz,
Irene Fadden, Rena Haigh, and Cassie Hughes

Good Neighbor Fund – 2025 Annual Report

If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? I John 3:17

The Mission/Social Concerns Team of the Western Presbyterian Church has been the overseers of the Good Neighbor Fund since its reorganization in October 2015. The following volunteers have each given many hours to this program in the past year:

Coordinator:	John Cook
Office Assistant:	Kathy Barr
Treasurer:	Wilma Redman

January – December 2025

Balance on Hand 1/1/25	\$ 1,255.66	
Donations Received:	\$ 17,404.00	
Amount Disbursed:	\$ 12,226.47	
Balance on Hand 12/31/25	\$ 6,433.19	
# Families Assisted: 27	# Adults: 33	# Children: 30
# Declined: 1		

Since 2015 we have disbursed \$185, 248.01 to assist 559 adults and 549 children.

We are grateful for the services of our volunteers and the generosity of area churches, service organizations, and individuals. We are especially grateful for the caring support Kathy Barr provides by phone screening the applicants and helping them fill out their applications. We have also cooperated with the St. Katharine Drexel Social Ministry Fund in Macedon and The King's Daughters in Palmyra to augment what we are able to provide.

We ask for your prayers and ongoing support throughout the coming year as we determine how best to serve our neighbors.

Thank you for your support of the Good Neighbor Fund throughout 2025. Your generosity is appreciated!

WEEKEND WELLNESS

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

*“For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink” Matthew 25:35*

The Mission/Social Concerns Team continues to partner with the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District, the Pal-Mac Food Pantry, and the Pal-Mac Rotary Club to ensure that our young children will not go hungry over the weekend.

Approximately 40% of the students in the Palmyra Macedon Central School District live with food insecurity. When these children are not in school on weekends, they may have less food than they need. This can result in a weaker immune system, increased hospitalization, lower IQ, shorter attention span, and lower academic achievement. The “Weekend Wellness” program helps to fill that need and aid in our children’s continued growth and development.

As food insecurity continues to grow, the Weekend Wellness numbers continue to increase. Many additional people have helped both physically and financially- a community of carers.

Each week that school is in session, one team of our volunteers delivers the food to each of the four schools in the Pal-Mac school district. The teams are: (1) Edie Chapman, (2) Ruth & Don Dantz, (3) Randy & Steve Kennard, (4) Ray Marr & Terry Gendron, (5) Dave Nagle and (6) Rotary members. Many members of the Pal-Mac Rotary Club volunteer their time to help with loading & deliveries. We greatly appreciate their assistance.

During the 2024-2025 school year, we delivered 4,042 bags of food. During the summer of 2025, 826 bags were delivered. From September through December of the 2025-2026 school year, we delivered 1,744 bags.

We are grateful for the financial support we received this year from AEY Enterprises, Inc., Palmyra-Macedon Rotary Foundation, Inc., and generous individuals.

Western Presbyterian Church: Property Ministry Team Annual Report 2025

Property Ministry Team Annual Report 2025

Significant Activities & Notes for the year

Our team: Phil Opdycke, James McFarlane, Gary LaBerge, Don Dantz, Steve Kennard and Steve Ellis

A. Safety:

1. Continue to replace the old fluorescent bulbs with new LED's.
2. Replacing some 8-foot tubes in the nursery with standard 4-foot tubes.
3. We had a successful fire inspection and insurance inspection prior to the opening of Little Froggies Day Care.
4. The issue of radon gas abatement was reviewed. After technical review, we began sealing and building a system to remove the present air with new fresh air.
5. Periodic air sample testing continues.

B. Maintenance & Repair

1. The digital face for the boiler furnace was replaced.
2. The pumps for the inflow of water and outflow from the boiler were replaced.
3. Furnace filters for the four hot air furnaces were replaced in November. This is an annual replacement.
4. The outside water lines and gas lines were located outside the building.
5. The sewer lines (2) were both roto rooted, and the flow has greatly improved.
6. An extra garbage toter was purchased for the extra garbage from the day care.
7. Air conditioners were put in place for the summer heat and removed and stored in October.
8. The gutters were cleaned: producing five buckets of leaves & gravel.
9. The small ailing maple tree in the front yard was removed.
10. Larry Sprague continues to do our mowing.
11. Hired a cleaning service to clean the church and twice a year clean the windowsills & woodwork.
12. A safety fence was installed on the east side of the church yard for the protection of the day care kids.
13. The southern stair landing was cleared of old nursery school stuff no longer desired.
14. The kitchen plumbing fixtures & pipes were removed and replaced, and Fellowship Hall was cleaned.
15. The new freezer was installed in the kitchen.

Facility Use

1. There was an increase in use of the church by outside groups.
2. The Seneca Lakes Boy Scout directors now meet at our church once a month.
3. The Boy Scouts continue to use our church for meetings twice a month.
4. There were nine requests for building use for weddings, parties and school activities.
5. The Finger Lakes Camerata performed twice in the sanctuary.
6. The T-coil for the hearing impaired has been serviced. In the near future, a better service will be installed.
7. The group "No Strings Attached" led by one of our organists, Elijah Malach, performed acapella music twice in the sanctuary.
8. A group from Historic Palmyra toured the church & learned about the underground railroad use during the Civil War.

Our committee has been very active and are very skilled in the maintenance of the church. We are lucky to have such a group of skilled members.

Respectfully submitted,
Phil Opdycke

Worship Team Annual Report

This past year, the Worship Team continued to serve faithfully throughout the year with our regular Sunday worship, seasonal services, and special events. We experienced many blessings in worship leadership, congregational engagement, and teamwork and worked through some challenges as opportunities for growth.

If we had to sum up this year in one word, it would be grateful. We have so much to be thankful for, and we give thanks to God for meaningful worship, devoted members, and the joy of gathering together as the body of Christ.

The Worship Team extends its sincere gratitude to all who faithfully make weekly worship possible. We give special thanks to our pastor, Hodong, for faithful leadership in Word and Sacrament; to Kathy, our secretary, for her careful preparation and support; to James (as well as Phil and Doug as substitutes), for running our live streaming and recording every week; to Irene, for preparing the worship slides that guide and support our services; to Sue who organizes the schedules for the weekly readers, ushers, and communion elder; and to Gary and Mary Beth who help our team with our sanctuary candles and help when we need it. We are also grateful for our readers and ushers for their faithful service, and for our organists, whose beautiful music enriches our worship and leads the congregation in praise.

Thank you, our congregation, for your faithfulness and your continued commitment to the life and worship of this church. We look ahead with hope and trust, confident in God's guidance and excited to see what God has in store as we continue to worship and serve together.

Finally, I am deeply thankful to the dedicated members of the Worship Team who work together to handle the many details of our ministry- and who manage to have fun along the way. Thank you to Alicia Lynch, Linda Williamson, Joan Durfey, Carol Sloan, Sharon Marr, and Sue Leonard for your time, care, and commitment.

Respectfully submitted by Courtney Marr

Pastor's Postscript for Western Presbyterian Church and Society's Annual Report 2025

Happy New Year to y'all, my church family. How y'all doin so far in this New Year? (I am using my southern accent from Nashville). It is not a pastoral cliché when I say, "Everything is the grace of God," or if I used the language of Apostle Paul, "I am whatever I am by the grace of God, and His grace toward me has not been in vain," (1 Corinthians 15:10), as I look back on 2025, because I truly mean it.

I have a great congregation as my flock that is a vibrant and healthy spiritual community. As a pastor, I fully understand the fact that there is a chasm between a pastor's ministry style and a congregation's receptiveness to it in many churches. More often than not, this chasm becomes the cause of many troubles for either the pastor or the church. But I thank God that Western Presbyterian Church has been so generous in taking me in as its pastor and giving me warm appreciation and acknowledgement of my sermons, Bible Study classes, and pastoral care. I praise God for providing me and all of us with the hearts of love to fill each other's needs instead of digging up each other's weaknesses, which, I believe, doesn't happen without God's intervention, protection, and guidance in our midst. Truly, a happy church life is crucial for church growth and motivates its members to share their faith with those who haven't yet joined a church.

This principle is given by Jesus himself, as he prayed to the Father in John 17:20~21, "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me." Surely, to love one another in our faith community is a cornerstone for a healthy and growing church, drawing new people into the community.

As much as it is true that strong family relationships require consistent and intentional effort, the unity of a church that makes the growth of a church possible also requires ongoing effort. It is not an accident that the Bible compares a church community to a building (or a temple) precisely because the God of love is not a fixed and unmoving concept but is manifest as an active and continuous force that pours into human hearts and lives in them so that a church built through the dynamic and ever-present effort of its members.

Did you hear me say ‘dynamic and ever-present effort’? If it is the way to raise a building, it is the same way to build a church. Ephesians 2:21 says, “In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit.” Our intentional participation and communication, shared traditions and visions, mutual support, and care in the love of Christ are essential ingredients to build this beloved community.

Having said that, I would like to remind all of you of the importance of your intentional participation in the ministries at Western Presbyterian Church. First and foremost, I can’t emphasize enough the importance of your physical presence in church worship. Just like we pray for the presence of God in our difficult times because God’s presence gives us strength and comfort, the presence of the people of God offers support and encouragement to others as we share the moments of worship and fellowship together, making ourselves available for each other. While I appreciate those who choose to participate in worship online, they might not realize how uplifting their presence in person can be for me and others, strengthening our sense of community.

We also have many committees in our church you may consider joining. The Worship Committee plans, organizes, and supports our Sunday worship logically and spiritually and works with the pastor and music director to provide a meaningful and engaging worship experience. You can bring your own ideas for worship that will bless everyone else. You may also join the choir that is expected to start in early 2026.

The Christian Education Committee helps nurture faith for our children and youth, selecting curriculum and managing programs for Sunday School. It also prepares Vacation Bible School each year and organizes special events and family activities to promote spiritual growth and unity. If you enjoy using your creativity for children, this is the committee for you!

The Mission Committee is what makes our church famous in town because we are very much a mission-oriented church. This committee leads the congregation's outreach in local, national, and global missions including the Good Neighbor Fund (to assist persons in crisis), the Weekend Wellness (to provide a bag of food for students who may not have food over the weekend), the Food Pantry (to provide people with cereal and non-perishable food products), the Food Cupboard (located in front of the church to provide food items for struggling people), Family Promise (temporary housing for the homeless), and overseas missions like the Feeding Center in Mzenga, Malawi). As Teresa of Avila in the 16th century said, "Christ has hands, no feet on earth but yours," you can join the committee to be Christ's hands and feet.

The Property Committee oversees and manages the issues related to the church building, grounds, and equipment ensuring they are safe, functional, and well maintained. This committee plans routine repairs and long-term improvements and volunteers for tasks like mowing the lawn and changing the light bulbs. Just like you manage your house, you can be a part of managing the house of the Lord.

The Fellowship Committee plans and hosts social events (dinners, picnics, board game nights, coffee hours) to build community, welcoming new members and strengthening bonds among the people at church. Through fun activities, people can feel connected and supported and be a part of a spiritual family. If you are talented at creating fun activities and coordinating activities like potlucks, parties, and welcome events to unite people in love and faith, you are invited to this committee.

The Financial Committee oversees the church's financial health by preparing budgets and monitoring spending and manages resources for the church missions. It really serves as the steward of the church's financial resources. We are looking for some people who are faithful to God in maintaining church finances with transparency and accountability. If you are good at dealing with numbers, please consider joining this committee.

The Deacons' Group is the backbone of our church in providing spiritual and physical care for people. The Deacon's Group focuses on ministries of sympathy and service ranging from praying for the sick (physically, mentally, and spiritually), visiting the shut-ins and others with special needs, and preparing the elements for the communion table. If you are a spiritually mature person who understands Romans 12:15, "Rejoice with those who rejoice. Mourn with those who mourn," you are encouraged to join this group.

Besides these committees, you are welcome to attend the monthly Women's Circle Bible Study and the Men's Group meetings. For dates and times, simply consult the calendars in the Western Spire which is WPC's monthly newsletter.

In conclusion, faith in God and building a faith community are not two different matters precisely because the church is Jesus' own body (Ephesians 1:22~23, Colossians 1:18). As we build the body of Christ with our hands, feet and tears using our unique spiritual gifts given by God, our faith grows together into the full standard of Christ. I don't know if there is any other way to help our spiritual growth other than practicing faith in God, bearing the burdens together and witnessing to others. No! You are not too young, too old, too weak, too small, too busy, too sinful, too broken, or too important to be used by God because "it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill God's good purpose." (Philippians 2:13) Remember Moses' age when he was called by God?

Peace of Christ,
Rev. Hodong Hwang

Annual Report Projects and Financials for 2025

Women's Association Financial Report January 1 – December 31, 2025

Receipts

Balance on hand January 1, 2025	\$ 7,077.64
Rummage Sales	\$ 3,167.00
Donations- 2 funerals	\$ 375.00
Reimbursement of study books for circle	\$ 10.00
Least Coin	\$ 32.84
Rada Sale	<u>\$ 226.00</u>
Total Receipts	\$ 3,810.84
	\$ 10,888.48

Disbursements

Move money to Schwab account	\$ 2,500.00
Kitchen and coffee hour supplies	\$ 302.52
Lunch for Habitat build	\$ 130.99
Towards church budget	\$ 1,500.00
Media for Rummage Sale	\$ 54.80
Supplies for funeral receptions	\$ 302.67
Supplies for concert "No Strings Attached"	\$ 26.82
Donation to Good Neighbor Fund	\$ 1,000.00
Cereal for Lois Daniel Drive	\$ 288.89
Supplies for Toddler Time	\$ 124.22
Purchases for Food Cupboard and Food Pantry	\$ 1,000.00
Study books for women's circle	<u>\$ 158.40</u>
Total Disbursements	\$ 7,389.31
Balance on Hand December 31, 2025	\$ 3,499.17

Balance in Schab account as of 11/30/25 \$ 2,646.00

Respectfully Submitted, Susan Pringle, Treasurer

ANGEL TREE PROJECT

This year, the Angel Tree got off to a very early start, and I have no idea if it had anything to do with the results, but the community participation was off the charts this year and was not like anything I have ever experienced in my twenty plus years. All but two angels were selected from the trees located at Community Bank, Palmyra Library, and Macedon Town Hall and of course at Western Presbyterian. I kept getting phone calls asking for more angels! What a great response! As you know, there are no children that do not receive gifts, and we have funds to take care of those but this year I only needed to shop for two such angels.

The system for notifying qualifying families continues to be handled by the school district, specifically Kimberly Stewart, Community and Family Outreach Coordinator; this program would not exist without her help. I would also like to extend my gratitude to our partners at Garlock and St. Annes Church. James R. Hickey American Legion Post hosted their third annual Angel Tree fundraiser which brought in over 90 toys and \$1,325.00. The Angel Tree is still very much needed as evidenced by the 58 families and 146 children that were provided for this year. It's said that it takes a village and I'm here to assure you- Palmyra and Macedon are two at the very top!

Please let me know if you're interested and would like more information, or perhaps you would like to train to chair this fun project!

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Lynch, Angel Tree Project

SUMMARY OF WPC FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS						12th month of 2025	
Endowments/Operations			December 31, 2025				
Howe & Rusling-Schwab-6217							
ENDOWMENTS - OPERATIONS		12/31/2024	12/31/2025	YTD Variance	December Income	YTD Income	
Church Endowment #		\$ 298,073	\$ 323,908	\$ 25,835	\$ 771	\$ 10,122	
Davidson-Pastor Salary		\$ 197,584	\$ 214,667	\$ 17,083	\$ 511	\$ 6,645	
Milligan Family Fund		\$ 133,647	\$ 145,258	\$ 11,611	\$ 346	\$ 4,548	
Helen T. Smith Endowment		\$ 616,854	\$ 670,333	\$ 53,479	\$ 1,595	\$ 20,946	
Mertz Family Fund		\$ 21,266	\$ 23,112	\$ 1,846	\$ 55	\$ 719	
Housing Loan Fund		\$ 68,654	\$ 74,609	\$ 5,955	\$ 178	\$ 2,330	
Lois/Francis Daniels Endowment		\$ 1,632,485	\$ 1,774,003	\$ 141,522	\$ 4,222	\$ 55,436	
David Smith Endowment		\$ -	\$ 101,609	\$ 101,609	\$ 242	\$ 1,386	
Operations Total		\$2,968,563	\$3,327,503	\$ 358,940	\$ 7,920	\$ 102,132	
ENDOWMENTS - EDIFICE							
Henry W. Griffith Endowment*	Unrst Edif	\$ 973,528	\$ 1,057,926	\$ 84,398	\$ 2,518	\$ 33,057	
Davidson - Edifice	Extr Edif	\$ 35,616	\$ 38,702	\$ 3,086	\$ 92	\$ 2,658	
Helen T. Cloyd	Extr Edif	\$ 44,423	\$ 48,276	\$ 3,853	\$ 115	\$ 3,315	
Walter P. Smith	Extr Edif	\$ 221,514	\$ 240,713	\$ 19,199	\$ 573	\$ 7,522	
Agnes Griffith	Unrst Edif	\$ 52,595	\$ 57,149	\$ 4,554	\$ 136	\$ 1,782	
Edifice Total		\$ 1,327,676	\$ 1,442,766	\$ 115,090	\$ 3,434	\$ 50,116	
Endowment Total		\$4,296,240	\$4,770,269	\$ 474,030	\$ 11,354	\$ 150,466	
Miscellaneous Funds- Schwab 7897							
Cash Reserve (TRP Spectrum)	Ops	\$ 199,492	\$ 211,846	\$ 12,354	\$ 1,088	\$ 11,555	
Mary Co Fund (TRP-Spectrum)		\$ 14,891	\$ 15,801	\$ 910	\$ 81	\$ 861	
Organ Fund (TRP-Spectrum)	73	\$ 5,249	\$ 5,565	\$ 316	\$ 29	\$ 305	
Women's Assoc (TRP-Spectrum)		\$ -	\$ 3,646	\$ 3,646	\$ 18	\$ 91	
EDIFICE-INC-AM Century**		\$ 79,126	\$ 93,704	\$ 14,578	\$ 9,283	\$ 9,423	
EDIFICE-INC-VIRTUSSEIX**		\$ 45,997	\$ 49,368	\$ 3,371	\$ 292	\$ 3,173	
Miscellaneous Funds Total		\$ 344,755	\$ 379,930	\$ 35,175	\$ 10,791	\$ 25,408	
Total Investment Accounts		\$4,640,995	\$5,150,199	\$ 509,205	\$ 22,145	\$ 175,874	
Repectfully submitted, Eric Chapman		1/15/2026					

WESTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

12/31/25

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

<u>Value of Investments</u>	<u>12/31/2024</u>	<u>12/30/2025</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>%</u>	
Operations	\$2,968,563	\$3,327,503	\$358,940	END	69.75
Edifice	\$1,327,676	\$1,442,766	\$115,090	Ed-UnR	23.88
TOTAL	\$4,296,240	\$4,770,269	\$474,029	ED-R	7.02

MISCELLANEOUS FUNDS

	<u>Account Description</u>	<u>1/16/2025</u>	<u>1/15/2026</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Value of Checking Accounts		\$271,379	\$288,519	\$ 17,140
Community Bank Acct. #2862	Checking	\$170,783	\$242,627	\$ 71,844
Community Bank Acct. #2897	Women's Association	\$13,764	\$3,446	\$ (10,318)
Community Bank Acct. #2942	Memorial/Edifice (Designated Funds)	\$84,207	\$29,610	\$ (54,597)
Community Bank Acct. #9285	Good Neighbor Fund	\$575	\$6,453	\$ 5,878
Community Bank Acct. #5919	Weekend Wellness Fund	\$2,050	\$6,383	\$ 4,333

DESIGNATED FUNDS

(Specific List printed Quarterly)

E.Chapman Edifice Exterior Fund

1/15/2025 Edifice Unrestricted Fund

Memorial Fund

Other Miscellaneous Funds

Western Presbyterian Church
2026 Budget

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>
Operating Income		
Pledges	\$65,120.00	\$61,145.00
Loose Offerings	\$3,000.00	\$2,500.00
Per Capita Donations	\$4,884.00	\$3,471.00
Other Donations	\$4,206.00	\$0.00
Building Usage	\$0.00	\$0.00
Women's Association	\$500.00	\$500.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00
Investment Income	<u>\$168,000.00</u>	<u>\$115,419.00</u>
Total Receipts	\$245,710.00	\$183,035.00
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>
Administrative	\$4,500.00	\$6,300.00
Deacons	\$0.00	\$0.00
Christian Ed.	\$2,450.00	\$2,853.00
Finance		
Other	\$4,500.00	\$1,600.00
Insurance	\$2,800.00	\$2,400.00
Fellowship	\$500.00	\$600.00
Personnel - Staff & Taxes	\$71,895.00	\$55,466.00
Pastor		
Salary	\$39,121.00	\$58,718.00
Housing	\$21,065.00	
Board of Pensions	\$31,394.00	\$27,000.00
50% of SETA	\$4,604.00	\$4,492.00
Auto	\$0.00	\$0.0
Continuing Ed./Mission	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Property		
Other	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Sewer & Water	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Cleaning	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
Social Concerns/Mission	\$24,845.00	\$24,095.00
Worship	\$1,800.00	\$1,060.00
Per Capita \$59.00 each	\$5,280.00	\$5,015.00
Audit (replaced PNC)	<u>\$5,000.00</u>	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
Total Expenditures	\$238,254.00	\$213,099.00
NET RECEIPTS/EXPENSES	\$7,456.00	(\$30,064.00)

SALARIES	2026	2025
Sexton		
Bookkeeper	\$9,500.00	\$8,142.00
Secretary	\$17,724.00	\$15,000.00
Sunday School Coor.	\$9,712.00	\$9,712.00
Organist	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
AV Coordinator	\$7,800.00	\$7,800.00
Pulpit Supply	\$1,050.00	\$870.00
Choir director	\$11,000.00	
Total	\$66,786.00	\$51,524.00