

Advent

“Advent is more about girding up our loins with humbleness, acknowledging our limitations and dependence on a higher power, realizing God’s grace and blessings are fresh and renewed for us in the coming year”.

WESTERN SPIRE

DECEMBER 2024

Happy New Year to You all!!

Some of you may say, “Pastor, it is still 2024, it is not even Christmas yet.” It is true. By the time this Spire is sent to our congregation, it is almost Thanksgiving. Those who complain that cold weather is caused by people decorating for Christmas too early may complain about my new year greeting, as well. But it truly is a new liturgical year from the first Sunday of December with the Advent season.

Early Christian fathers gave a whole lot of different meanings to the practices of worship and faith community. For example, even though there is no explicit command to change the worship day in the Bible, they blatantly moved the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday. Such a shift in the worship day was the result of their reflection of the resurrection of Jesus as the center of their faith. If the original Sabbath was established to commemorate Creation as God rested after six days of labor, the day of Jesus’ resurrection that fell on Sunday morning was considered as the day of “New Creation.” For them, Jesus’ resurrection signified a complete renewal and transformation of the created world. Then, even from the earliest stage of the church’s life, Christians gathered on Sunday for worship.

How about the meaning of community? The first church in Jerusalem was comprised of Jews who followed Jesus, and they continued Jewish practices in their church in regards to prayers and dietary restrictions. As you may know, Jews derived their Jewishness through either being born in a Jewish family and others turn to Judaism through conversion. The Christians in the Jerusalem church followed the Jewish models in their worship and practices. As churches were established in the Gentile territories as mixed congregations, the struggles and tensions between the Jewish groups and the non-Jewish groups were intensified. If we read Acts 15, there is a good example of how the Jerusalem church and those churches in the Gentile areas came to a conclusion to minimize Jewishness and to introduce new religious practices and traditions for the Gentiles. It was such a revolutionary statement when Apostle Paul who established many churches in the Gentile territories declared, “There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.” In Galatians 3:18.

The famous axion of the Reformation Era that said “the church has reformed and is always reforming” was not new only to the Reformists because it has been the practice of the entire church history from the beginning. As the church confined God in the boxes of their limitations, understanding, or expectations based on institutional agendas, there always emerged a nonconformists’ movement in the church. After all, God was not a God of the past but present with them in the moment. As Jeremiah said, God’s steadfast love never ceases, never comes to an end, and is new every morning (Lamentations 3:22~23) because God unlocks a door to lead us to a new path in our lives that was previously unknown to us.

I hope and pray that a new liturgical year with Advent inspires our lives for a new year-long journey. Advent is more about girding up our loins with humbleness, acknowledging our limitations and dependence on a higher power, realizing that God's grace and blessings are fresh and renewed for us in the coming year. We must listen to God's voice through prophet Isaiah:

“Forget the former things. Do not dwell on the past.

See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” (Isaiah 43:18~19)

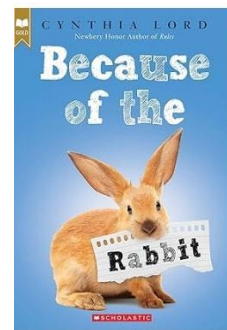
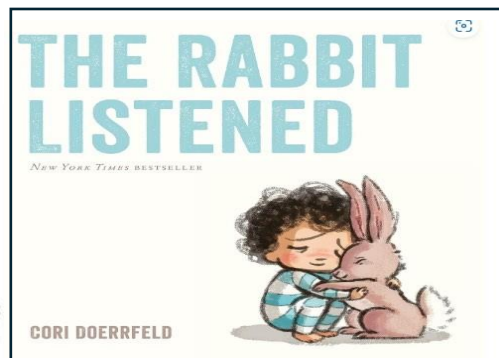
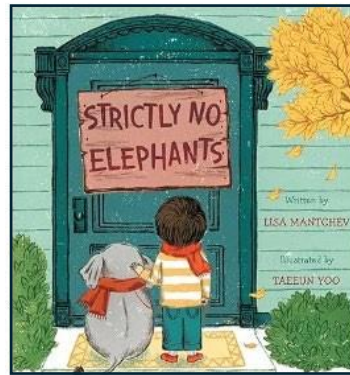
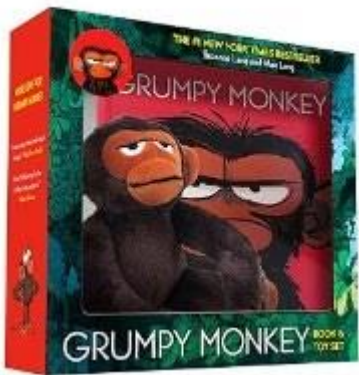
Peace of Christ,

Rev. Hodong Hwang

A New On-Going Mission Project to Begin in the New Year

Nancy Roets, our newest Mission member, has brought us a new mission project. The way it works is WPC provides a stuffed animal and story book that will be given by a child when they are in crisis by a social service organization that is involved with the family.

Things are still in the planning stages, but imagine this scenario, a child's home is destroyed by fire. All of the child's toys and books were lost in the fire. The child can find comfort from the new friend and a new book. Here are a few ideas.



or

Watch for more details in January.

This was from our November Mission Team Minutes

Food Cupboard Report: We discussed food which can be left in the Food Cupboard when it is freezing this winter. We **cannot** put canned foods with water as they expand and “explode” when frozen. This eliminates – canned vegetables and fruit, canned tuna and chicken, canned chili and stew, soups, pasta sauce, probably ravioli.

We can put in bags of shredded cheese, (not blocks of cheese) bread, peanut butter, boxed scalloped and mashed potatoes, stuffing mix, Knorr side dishes, cereal, granola bars, tortillas, and mac and cheese. We will get some dried soup mixes that require water and cooking. If they do not get taken, we will not get them a second time.

The cupboard continues to be replenished during the week. Every day the cupboard is nearly empty. You are invited to put food into the cupboard after you have done your weekly shopping. Just pick up a box of mac and cheese or a loaf of bread and add it to the cupboard. Our community has a lot of hungry people. Any donations are gratefully accepted.



This was after it was replenished.



This is the next morning.

The cupboard is being used.



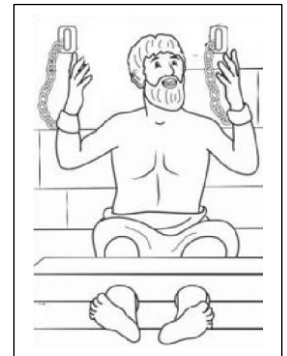
Summary of Women's Circle meeting as we covered lesson 4 of **Strength in the Struggle** Bible study.

***All are welcome. Books are available.*

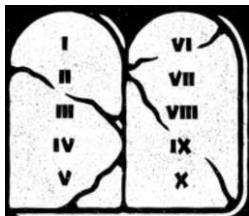
Could you tell others what gives you JOY?

Well, that is how we started our Women's Circle this month as we introduced ourselves to a new attendee, Nancy Roets. Many expressed how the love of food and sharing it, the giving of time and talents, and the joining people together were the ways joy defined them.

How did this fit into our lesson on Timothy and Paul you might ask. At First, we acknowledged that God gives us a spirit not of fear, but of power, love, and self-control, and yes, joy. In 2Timothy, Paul the apostle is prodding Timothy to keep the message of the gospel alive. He wrote the letter to Timothy as he was in jail sure that his fate would be death. The urgency of his message could not be minimized. In the letter Paul wrote, he expressed that he needed Timothy to ignore social pressures to deny Jesus. Paul wanted Timothy to profess the good news to everyone he uncouncted. If this would happen, his death would not be in vain. Jesus' life wouldn't be in vain.



It is from this framing of the Bible that the group was asked.... What if Timothy and all the mentees of the twelve disciples failed in professing the gospel and carrying on the teachings of Jesus Christ. What would our life be like? [What if we forget or never were aware of the power of the gospel?] How would our society be different from how it currently is? This question challenged the group, and they found it uncomfortable to think about. With further prodding they were asked, what things from the OT would still be present today and what would be no more?



Knowing that God is forever present in the OT, it was comforting to know the morals and teachings of God were still present, the golden rule, the ten commandments. Those could be brought forward to current times. The group acknowledged that one difference between the OT and the NT was

that God's ruling was to punish, and Jesus was to model grace, love and compassion. Looking beyond the religions in the Bible, the group sited

other religions such as Buddhism, Confucianism and Muslim faith be more the mainstream? Then there were questions about if Satan would be more present in contemporary times if the gospel was not taught and lived. Maybe Satan appears as a fallen angel in Jesus' time. Without the gospel, would the world be more of a den of iniquity? What would change? Are we saved through Jesus Christ?

We looked at the gifts of the trinity. By cherishing these gifts, we are stronger to take on the challenges of life. When discouragement is in our heart, God gives us hope. When we are anxious, we are given peace with a deep breath.

When we are chained up and the fears, hungers, anxieties of hate, jealousy and terror hold us down...



Take a deep breath, calm yourself and then open your heart and mind to feel the love and support of the Lord...



The Lord's calm force will fill you with peace, self-confidence and assurance that you are loved.... And can handle what is in front of you.



Celebrate in the fruits of the spirit: [Galatians 5:22-23]

Love Joy Peace Patience Kindness Goodness Faithfulness Gentleness Self-control



Women's Holiday Luncheon ~~~

Warfields on Wednesday, December 18th at noon

All women of the church are welcome.....

If you plan to carpool, meet us at the church at 11:30am

Please R.S.V.P. to either Jan Taylor or Randy Kennard by December 16th



2024 Reverse Advent Calendar for the Food Pantry

Instead of getting something every day of Advent, give to others.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				28 Thanksgiving Day	29 Deodorant	30 Handwashing soap
1 A bottle of dish detergent	2 Diapers or sanitary products	3 Roll of toilet paper	4 Toilet bowl cleaner	5 Box of tissues	6 Bottle of spray with bleach	7 Deodorant
8 Box of tissues	9 Handwashing soap	10 A bottle of dish detergent	11 Tube of toothpaste & a brand new toothbrush	12 Laundry soap and dryer sheets	13 Diapers or sanitary products	14 Roll of Toilet Paper
15 Bottle of spray with bleach	16 Laundry soap and dryer sheets	17 Handwashing soap	18 Roll of Toilet Paper	19 Tube of toothpaste & a brand new toothbrush	20 Box of tissues	21 Toilet bowl cleaner
22 A bottle of dish detergent	23 Roll of Toilet Paper	24 Deodorant	25 Merry Christmas			



Fill the Advent bags with gifts as suggested on the calendar, or with what you have to share. Please bring your bags each week and place the gifts in the large boxes under the tree.

Paper products, personal care items and cleaning supplies are always needed by those who come to the food pantry.

Thank you for helping these families stretch their dollars to get necessities not available with SNAP funds.

FINGER LAKES CAMERATA PRESENTS:

A Modern Medieval Christmas



ANTHONY D'AGOSTINO, DIRECTOR
SARAH REILLY, ACCOMPANIST

Saturday, December 7th, 2024
3:00 pm

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
58 NORTH MAIN STREET
CANANDAIGUA, NY

Monday, December 9th, 2024
7:00 pm

WESTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
101 EAST MAIN STREET
PALMYRA, NY

Sponsored by the Finger Lakes Community College Music Department

A free-will offering will be collected at intermission. Donations will be made to the A. John Walker Scholarship Fund given to deserving music students to further their perfection of their craft. Refreshments will be served after the performance in Fellowship Hall.



POINSETTIA ORDERS



POINSETTIAS ARE \$10 PER PLANT.

**Please fill out the insert in the
bulletin and attach your payment.**

**PAYMENT CAN BE GIVING TO CAROLS,
MAILED TO THE OFFICE, OR PUT IN THE
WORSHIP MAILBOX.**

**CHECKS CAN BE MADE OUT TO THE
WESTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**

**ORDERS DUE NO LATER
THAN DECEMBER 15.**





2nd Annual Be Festive Contest

On December 22 the Worship Committee will be hosting their 2nd Annual Be Festive Contest during our 10 am Worship Service. Get your most festive wear ready! There will be categories and multiple winners! More information on the categories to come!

ADVENT READERS NEEDED

The Worship Committee is looking for groups of 3-4 people to read and light the Advent candle.

The groups could be anyone- family, friends, pew neighbors, etc.



Dates needed:

December 1

December 8

December 15

December 22

Christmas Eve Dec.22

Contact Sue L to sign up



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December 3	Linda Williamson
December 8	Kelly Babcock
December 11	Fran Storm
December 15	Sandy McMenamin
December 17	Peter Fadden

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

December 9	Robert & Sue Pringle
December 27	Joshua & Emily Hunt
December 29	Steve & Randy Kennard

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please contact the office at 597-9171 so we can add it to our list next time!

The team minutes received for November include:

WPC Christian Education Team
Minutes November 12, 2024
Virtual Meeting

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

Present: Jody Pruitt, Emily Hunt, Cim McFarlane

In Spirit: Ellen Avery, Pastor Hodong

Upcoming Events:

December 1- No Sunday School (Thanksgiving weekend)

December 29- No Sunday School (Christmas weekend)

January 5- Children's Service Epiphany

January 12- Valentine Card Making

February 9-Camp and Retreat Sunday

March 9-Girl Scout Sunday

March 16- Easter Card Making

March 23- Palm Sunday Bulletin Making

April 12-Easter Bunny Breakfast

April 13- Palm Sunday Parade

April 20- No Sunday School (Easter weekend)

May 18- Spring Children's Service

July 28- August 1- VBS

Continuing and New Business

Sunday School News- We have had two new Sunday School participants lately. Children made cards for Christmas to send to shut-ins.

Trick or Treat on Main Street- Thank you to everyone who donated candy for Trick or Treat on Main Street. Thank you to Courtney for printing WPC labels. Thank you to Jody, Cim, James, and Nella for handing out hundreds of candy to children.

Epiphany Service- More Than a Wish- combines the wish portion of the Old Testament and promise in the New Testament. Emily M will be organizing the skit portion of the service.

Camp Whitman- Cim shared that they are adding two more Pathfinder camps for 2025. They are going to run an Adventure Camp in the Adirondacks. One fourth of the staff is secured for 2025.

Camp and Retreat Sunday- will be February 9. Emily will reach out to Pastor Hodong and the Worship team to ask for time during the children's sermon to have the video and camp talk. Pastor Hodong agrees that a children's sermon with a camp theme is a great idea.

Girl Scout Sunday- we heard from the Durfey family that March 9 is Girl Scout Sunday. The girls are interested in ushering and serving Girl Scout cookies during Coffee Hour. Emily will reach out to the worship team to make this happen.

Easter Bunny Breakfast- April 12- Saturday before Palm Sunday. Proceeds to Bob Gunkler Campership. We will ask for donations. Emily will look to find notes from 2024 breakfast.

Presbyterian Youth Triennium- The theme for Triennium 2025 will be As If We Were Dreaming. It will be held July 28-31 in Louisville, Kentucky. The Presbytery has not yet discussed this and a registrar is still needed.

2025 VBS- Cim ordered the new curriculum- True North

Toddler Time- Jody ran Toddler Time today while Cim is recovering. 11 families attended. Cim is thinking about storage and will work with Gary L to figure out options.

A big thank you to WPC Women's Association for purchasing the books for Christmas gifts for Toddler Time families.

Youth Group- Holiday Festival of Lights- Cim saw on Facebook that an announcement will be made. We will keep watching and start planning- will need to plan through email.

Next meeting: December 10, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Emily Hunt

Deacons Team Meeting Minutes

October 8th, 2024

Present: Sandy McMenamin, Randy Kennard, Nancy Talma, Patti Dlugosh, Muffie Beato, Linda Pulcini, Sandy Betts & Hodong Hwang

In Support: Sara Bush

Meeting opening with lighting of the Christ Candle *This month's discussion and prayer*

• **Old Business:**

1. **Approval of last month's minutes & correction of meeting date to Sept 3rd** Motion: Sandy M. & Second: Sandy B.

2. **Treasurer's Report:** Current balance & expense/donation Status– Sandy M. –

Oct-24	Deacons Checking Account
Initial balance	\$ 1,129.17
Additions	\$ 37.00
Deductions	\$ 212.00
Ending balance	\$ 954.17

Description of Additions: + \$37 from offerings

Description of Subtractions: - \$ 73 stamps & - \$139 These Days devotional magazines

a. Balances

3. Sharing Correspondence: letters/emails/cards - none received

4. Next Communion – on November 10th ~ Usually on 2nd Sunday of the month

a. Prepared 64 and served 43 in September and served 47 in October

b. Enough Pita, loaf and juice for this month- *thank you Patty*

c. Who can assist in set-up on the – no commitment till next month.... 10th ?

5. Update of Prayer concerns: Define where extra outreach is needed / adds, removals etc.

6. Group Prayer – Lord, hear our prayers

7. Visits/ Calls/ cards counts - visits with special meaningful moments of faith

2024					
Month	Visits	Phone Calls	Cards sent and Email outreach	Communion Served	Communion Date
January	7	13	63	41	1/14/24
February	17	16	60	43	2/18/24
March	22	16	76	79	3/31/24
April	14	16	55	45	4/21/24
May	9	19	72	53	5/12/24
June	12	10	86	51	6/16/24
July	10	18	67	48	7/14/24
August	13	14	63	45	8/11/24
September	6	15	62	43	9/8/24
October				47	10/6/24
Year to Date	110	137	604	495	

S.S. created cards
28 S.S. created cards
21 Easter Lily Deliveries
3 bouquets from TD funeral
23 bouquets from JB funeral
World communion Sunday

8. Special Needs cards –

a. Elements of the mailing:

i. Scripture ~ theme of the month..... select such that if it was alone in the card, would it be an uplifting scripture – full committee to approve before including/ share event

ii. Personal message – uplifting thoughts fitting to recipient

iii. Signature – either your name or Deacons of WPC

b. Special Care Mailings Current Roster 18+rotating alternate recipients

c. Birthdays/anniversary Card mailings each month – **shift of responsibilities**

Verse: Psalm 34:4 *"I sought the lord and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears"*

New Business: Birthdays/anniversary Card mailings each month – **shift of responsibilities**

Meeting closed with prayer.

Next meeting Tuesday 11/5/2024 @ 10:30am Respectfully - Randy Kennard, Chairperson

Fellowship Meeting Minutes

November 12th 2:00 PM

Present: Sue P., Roxie D., Ray M., Jan T., Norm U. Excused: Terry, Val Gendron

Recap of Progressive dinner: Mostly positive reviews. Only one negative that we know about. Will definitely do it again, perhaps earlier in the season so it will still be light in the evening. Possible redo the signup sheet.

Hanging of the Greens: 11/24 during coffee hour. Ray and Terry will bring up decorations. Norm to get juice, Ray will do crème puffs, Sue and Jan will do cookies and brownies. Jan will bring creamers.

Outline for coming year, all dates are tentative:

5th Sunday Potluck lunches: 3/30, 6/29, 8/31.

Game night: January 25th. Possibly pizza.

Sweets and Treats: March 2, Sunday before Ash Wednesday.

Picnic: June 29th.

Progressive dinner: September

Western Horizons Sunday: October 26th.

Jan brought up a suggestion that we set up a "puzzle corner" in Fellowship Hall for people to pass the time while waiting for a meeting or for Sunday school. She has several puzzles she could bring.

January 5th during coffee hour to take down the decorations.

Next meeting is January 6th at 2:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Norm Underwood

PRESENT: Bill Hassler, Val Gendron and Alicia Lynch

BUDGET: We discussed many loose ends concerning the budget. Some of the items that are still lacking are budget requests from Worship and Property. We also need some idea of what to expect in terms of costs for the office - Kathy and HoDong. We need verification of total members and the cost per capita. (Current membership was 85 and per capita was \$57.77) It would be nice to verify salaries/personnel with Session. HoDong has finished his letter regarding pledges and Kathy has mailed them out. Worship committee is willing to share Nov. 17 to share with Pie Sunday as the "soft deadline" return date for pledges. Last year it was called Pledge Pudding Sunday, this year Pie and Pledge Sunday.

SALARIES DISCUSSION: Session needs to put together salaries and salary packages as soon as can be done as it is needed for the budget. Absolutely appropriate to be done without our illustrious pastor in attendance.

AUDIT: A. Lynch has started pulling together all our Trust Account Data sheets and policies to share with A. Rich for our "audit review". We all concurred that we will schedule our review after tax season as most accountants are busy doing client taxes. Also A. Lynch is rather busy with Angel Tree right now and won't be able to work on this till after Christmas. A. Lynch will ask E. Chapman to create a trust account data sheet to the more recent bequests.

CONTRACTS: A. Lynch will report to Session about the contract with Emily Demeurisse for cleaning services. The contract states the invoice be sent at the start of the month requesting payment for that month, due within 15 days. For Finance, that's the issue that seems wrong; it means payment will be made before the service is rendered. We all concurred that this is just not standard operating procedure in business- invoice first and work after you're paid. There are other questions as well.

1. As a vendor she needs to provide proof of insurance, naming the WPC as additionally insured. (We have not received this.)
2. The above notation would not be required of an employee, should she be added as such which would ensure she was paid every other week.
3. K. Barr has reported that EJCS is not signing in and out of the log as all other contractors are required to do.
4. EJCS has not been emptying the trash in Kathy's office nor has Val's office been cleaned yet. (Really doesn't need more than 4 or 5 times per year.)
5. Shouldn't the Finance Committee review any vendor contracts before signing?
6. And finally- what does WPC do from here?

Finance will be meeting again in November to put together the budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Lynch

Mission and Social Concern Team

Minutes 11-7-2024

Present in person - Cassie Hughes, Irene Fadden, Nancy Roets, Pastor Hodong, Rena Haigh, Ruth Dantz, and Sally Chase and via Zoom – Edie Chapman.

The meeting was opened with symbolic lighting of the Christ Candle, and a reading of James 2:14-17.

Food Pantry Report: Foodlink delivers food every week. Ruth received a tax-exempt form to purchase cleaning and personal health products for the pantry. Ruth reported that 20 families continue to be served each evening when the pantry is open.

Nancy Roets will visit the Food Pantry with Ruth.

Baskets for food donations are on the window shelf by the coat rack across from the kitchen.

Birthday Bags are always needed for the Pantry. They can be left in donation baskets.

During Advent, we will again collect items for the food pantry that families can't purchase with SNAP benefits. (Cleaning, paper, and personal health products)

Weekend Wellness Report: 410 bags were sent home in October for a total of 538 for the school year.

Another \$2,000 was received from an individual, making the total in the bank account of \$3,000. Wilma will be asked to send \$2,500 to Elaine Hassler at the Food Pantry.

A box remains under the buffet across from the office. WPC collects individual Mac and Cheese cups and Granola/Breakfast Bars for the Weekend Wellness Bags. Everything we collect helps defray the cost for the Food Pantry.

Food Cupboard Report: We discussed food which can be left in the Food Cupboard when it is freezing during the winter. We can **not** put canned foods with water as they expand and "explode" when frozen. This eliminates – canned vegetables and fruit, canned tuna and chicken, canned chili and stew, soups, pasta sauce, probably ravioli.

We can put in bags of shredded cheese, bread, peanut butter, boxed scalloped and mashed potatoes, stuffing mix, Knorr side dishes, cereal, granola bars, tortillas, and mac and cheese. We will get some dried soup mixes that require water and cooking. If they do not get taken, we will not get them a second time.

The cupboard continues to be replenished during the week, and it is used by those who need food. Any donations are gratefully accepted.

Good Neighbor Fund Report: Beginning Balance of \$49.34, Deposits of \$3,070.00 1 check written for \$723.68 – utilities for 2 adults and 1 child. Ending Balance of \$2,395.66.

Family Promise Report: Over \$30,000 has been raised to buy an apartment building, but to date one has not been purchased.

Irene will be taking dinner on Nov. 25th. Ruth will make a dessert, and Sally volunteered to make something. As the time gets closer, the plans will be finalized. One family doesn't have SNAP benefits currently. If they don't by the end of the month, we will take the groceries needed. Any donations for groceries would be appreciated. See Irene with questions.

One Great Hour of Sharing: We do not have a total given at this time. Val will be contacted for the amount.

Gift Cards for the ARC: Rena contacted the homes on Jeffery Road – 8 Men, and Main St -9 people. She will get \$20 gift cards and small stockings with candy for each of the residents. She will ask the staff to save them for Christmas.

Books and Bears: Nancy has been involved with a project that gave a book and a stuffed animal to children who are in crisis. For example, when a deputy went to a home on a call, if there was a child in the family, they would get a bag with a book and a stuffed animal to possibly comfort the child. Nancy also brought the suggestion that it be used by a child advocacy group in Lyons. We decided to do this project in January or February. Watch for more details.

The meeting was closed with prayer using Micah 6:8: "And what does God require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God."

Respectfully Submitted, Irene Fadden

The stated meeting of the session of Western Presbyterian Church & Society, Palmyra, New York was called to order by the moderator Reverend HoDong Hwang at 7:00PM in Fellowship Hall. The meeting was opened with prayers.

Present:

Norman Underwood, Alicia Lynch, Philip Opdycke, Randy Kennard, Irene Fadden, Emily Hunt, Courtney Marr

0 Absent -

1 Excused- Janet Manktelow

A quorum was present.

Randy Kennard to fill in for the clerk, Janet Manktelow, at the Oct. 8th session meeting.

- ❖ Motion made by Norm Underwood seconded and carried to approve the meeting agenda.

Courtney shared devotions with us.

Clerks Report

- ❖ Motion made by Alicia Lynch seconded and carried to approve the minutes from the September meeting with the following correction, No one officiated Doris Chiswell’s graveside service.

Financial Secretary’s Report

	August 2024			
	Current Month	2024 YTD	2024 Budget	YTD% of Budget
Receipts	\$6,177	\$125,910	\$173,285	72.66%
Expenditures	\$15,068	\$104,758	\$185,198	56.57%
Total Receipts and Expenditures	(\$8,891)	\$21,152	(\$11,913)	

Business of the Church

- Presentation by Lily Cooley – Donation boxes out from now till 1st week of November, and a congregation announcement in worship in early October.
- New chair purchase summary – Balance paid on qty of 60 chair delivery and inspection made September 20th – much positive feedback
- Baptism of Bentley David Matz on October 27th, son to Cheyenne and Alec Matz.
- ❖ Motion made by Philip Opdycke seconded and carried to approve the baptism of Bentley David Matz on Sunday October 27, 2024 in worship. *[this is in the event we had not already done so]*
 - Baptism of Jack Aurthur Sweeney on December 1st, son to Kari (Chapman) and Cameron Sweeney.
- ❖ Motion made by Irene Fadden seconded and carried to approve the baptism of Jack Aurthur Sweeney on Sunday December 1st, 2024 in worship.
 - Graveside funeral service for Betsy and Eric Goodwin in the Palmyra Cemetery on October 17th at 10am, officiated by Rev. HoDong Hwang.

- Discussion on the mission budget to reevaluate the designation of funds to Mission.
- ❖ Motion made by Alicia Lynch seconded and carried to approve designation of funds for Mission to be amended for 2024 to \$20,285 *[This is in place of the 10% tithing previous designation.]*
- Purchase of One License for Glory to God- extended discussion around various copyright categories and where WPC fits. Courtney Marr to do more investigation especially around CCLI license.
- Update on the Proposed Day-care status- process is progressing. State inspection occurred with various findings where exit lights, signs and doors need attention. A follow up inspection scheduled for October.

Ministry Team Reports

Worship Ministry Team – Hymnal fund raising is in process to replenish the memorial fund.

- All Saints Day, November 3rd will have current and previous year’s deaths acknowledge in program.

Fellowship Ministry Team –

- Western Horizon Sunday celebrating 50-year members Sunday, October 20th
- Progressive Dinner Saturday, November 2nd appetizer (Rena H.)-Entree (WPC)-Dessert (Jody P.)
- Hanging of the Greens November 24th
- ❖ Motion made by Norm Underwood seconded and carried to approve Roxanne Dobson to chair the Fellowship Ministry Team starting in 2025.

Deacons Ministry Team -Rev. Dr. Nancy J. Farrell will have hip replacement surgery – cancelled

- Collection of communion cups will be done by 2 people following the candle recessional during the postlude.

Mission Ministry Team – Identified storage of large inventory of cereals – use old CTNS office on 2nd floor

Finance Ministry Team –

- ❖ Motion made by Alicia Lynch seconded and carried to approve Finance to change payroll provider to Complete Payroll come the first of 2025.

CE Ministry Team-

- Request from CE that session members approach their committees to assist in generating a volunteer list to assist with nursery care during worship.
- Sunday School offering is reinstated, and children will select the mission for their offering.

Property Ministry Team –

- Concern around obsolete audio system and expense to replace with another system that will in a short time also be obsolete.

Presbytery –

- Per Capita for 2025 will be \$57.77
- The board of pensions is making changes to medical insurance adjusting to single or family policy.

Devotions at the Nov. 5th meeting- Phil Opdycke

Motion made by Norm Underwood seconded and carried to adjourn with prayer at 9:00PM.

Janet Manktelow
Clerk

Randy Kennard
Substitute Clerk

Worship Meeting October 8, 2024

Present: Carol, Joan, Alicia, Linda, Courtney, and HoDong

Absent: Sue and Sharon

Hymnal Sale Update- We have received a steady amount of hymnal nameplates. We will keep this an ongoing sale that doesn't need to have an end date. All funds will be up in the Memorial Fund.

Hymnal Feedback: People enjoy having the new hymnals but don't feel confident singing the new songs. A few people suggested we still sing some songs that might be more familiar from the blue hymnals or repeat new songs for a couple of weeks, so it becomes familiar.

All Saints Day- Nov. 1 is All Saints Day. We will have something on Nov. 3. We decided on a slideshow of names and pictures of loved ones no longer with us and will highlight those who recently passed.

*Randy gave me a list of members who passed away from 2022-present to use in the slideshow. Thank you, Randy.

Thanksgiving- Throw mums out that have died and keep fall decorations up. Sharon will place the cornucopia on the piano.

Pie Sunday- Pie Sunday will be on Nov. 17. We will combine this with HoDong's first year with us and will collaborate with Finance for Pledge Sunday.

*Plates, Cups, Coffee Creamer: Alicia

*Napkins and whipped cream: Carol

*Utensils: Linda

*Ice Cream: Courtney

*Cheese: Joan

*Juice:

*Pie: Everyone

Communion date for November: Nov. 10th

Christmas Decorations: Discussed different ways to change how we decorate our sanctuary with the same decorations.

Christmas Eve Service- Discussed Special Music and possibility of having a choir.

Christmas Parade: We will have our Christmas Parade again! The date will be set at the next meeting.

Baptism: We will have 2 special baptisms in November and December.

*We need to ask for property to move the Baptism Fountain and we will need to clean it.

* Discussed our traditions of gifting the family something

Ended in Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Courtney Marr

Our Prayer Concerns (updated November 20, 2024)

Grieving:

Family & Friends of Gene Bassage (requested by the Deacons)

Family & Friends of Connie Reybrouck (requested by Courtney Marr)

Family & Friends of Jerry Frizelle (requested by Linda Pulcini)

Serving in the Armed Forces:

AJ Bliss, Quintyn McLeod, Josh Polle

Please pray for those of our congregation with immediate concerns:

Ellen Avery, Joan Barnard, Rev. Dr. Nancy J. Farrell, Jonnie Fontaine, Pam Gnagy, Gary Hughes, Frank Lawrence, Tricia Owen, Harry/Laurie Schraffenberger, Jan Semans, Scott Semans

Congregation members needing continued prayers:

Wes Barager, Scott Bush, Irene Fadden, Cim McFarlane, Wilma Redman, David Squier, Fran Strom

Congregation members in nursing homes or shut-in:

Beverly Koeberle, Rochelle Morse, Bev Mouton

Others for whom prayers have been requested:

Doreen Alvito, Sarah Carone, Charlotte, Melissa Dantz, Joey DelPapa, Mark Fiegl, Janet Haigh, Paul Hargrave, Bobby & Eileen Haurand, Rob King, Jessica Locey, Deb/Bruce Merla, Kate Pfaff, Jim and Marcia Robbins, Jack Sweeney, Rose Ann Wagner, Connie West, Vicki Wilkins, Marie Winker

May your prayers go out to:

All caregivers; All those affected by natural disasters; All those who have no one to pray for them; All victims of violence, hatred and hunger; Please pray for those that wish to remain anonymous

Prayers and Congratulations:

Congratulations to Cheyenne and Alec Matz on the baptism of their son Bentley David Matz on Sunday October 27.

Names will remain on the prayer list for 30 days unless renewal has been requested.

Prayers of Intercession are offered each day by our Deacons. To request prayer for yourself or another, please contact Randy Kennard, chair of Deacons, Sandy McMenamin, or Kathy in the Church office.



DECEMBER 2024

SUN.

MON.

TUES.

WED.

THURS.

FRI.

SAT.

1 1st Sunday of Advent No Sunday School 10 am worship service Baptism of Jack Arthur Sweeney	2	3 10 am Deacons 1 pm Men's Group 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room 7 pm Session	4	5 9:30 am Mission/ Social Concerns 11 am Bible Study	6	7
8 2nd Sunday of Advent 9 am Sunday School 10 am worship service	9 7 pm Finger Lakes Camerata Concert	10 9:30 to 11 am Toddler Time 3:15 pm Worship 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room 7 pm Christian Ed.	11 7 pm FH Boy Scouts FH	12 11 am Bible Study	13	14
15 3rd Sunday of Advent 9 am Sunday School 10 am worship service	16	17 Spire Deadline 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room	18 Noon Warfield's Women's Circle Luncheon 6:30 pm Property	19	20	21
22 4th Sunday of Advent 9 am Sunday School 10 am worship service Be Festive Contest	23 Office Open 8:30 am to 2 pm	24 Christmas Eve Office Open 8:30 am to 2 pm 8:30 am to 1 pm FH Pruitt Family XMAS Christmas Eve Candlelight Service and Communion Time to be determined.	25 Christmas Day Office Closed 8 am to 8 pm FH Manktelow & Pringle family XMAS	26 Office Open 8:30 am to 2 pm	27 Office Closed	28
29 1st Sunday of Christmas No Sunday School 10 am worship service	30 Office Open 8:30 am to 2 pm	31 New Year's Eve Office Open 8:30 am to 2 pm				



JANUARY 2025

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
1			1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2 Office Open 8:30 am to 2 pm 9:30 am Mission/ Social Concerns	3 Office Closed 8:30 am to 2 pm	4
5 2 nd Sunday of Christmas 9 am Sunday School 10 am children led Epiphany service	6 Annual Reports due in church office 2 pm Fellowship	7 10 am Deacons 1 pm Men's Group 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room 7 pm Session 7 pm No Strings Attached Concert	8	9	10	11
12 Communion & Cereal Sunday 9 am Sunday School 10 am worship service	13	14 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room	15 1 pm FH Women's Circle Bible Study 6:30 pm Property 7 pm Boy Scouts FH	16 11 am Bible Study	17	18
19 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany 9 am Sunday School 10 am worship service	20 Martin Luther King's Birthday	21 Spire Deadline 7 pm Boys Scouts Muscle Room	22	23 11 am Bible Study	24	25 Game Night
26 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany 9 am Sunday School 10 am worship service Congregational Meeting	27	28 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room	29	30 11 am Bible Study	31	