

When we say, “a part of me says this” and “another part of me says that”, both can be blessings from God.

WESTERN SPIRE

DECEMBER 2025

If someone were to ask me to name the most important human trait, I would choose integrity- this applies to Christians as well as non-Christians. While some Christians might argue that ‘faith’ holds the top spot, faith is invisible to others and, according to Jesus, sometimes even to Him. Jesus mentioned in Matthew 7:21, “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.” This suggests that both professing faith (calling Jesus Lord) and taking action (doing the will of God) together constitute ‘integrity’.

Integrity is not the same as consistency because consistency can have a negative meaning, as we often say, “someone is consistently breaking the law” or “consistently making poor choices”. On the contrary, integrity is always about acting in accordance with one’s moral and ethical principles. It also involves honesty and a sense of justice because integrity helps to build trust in yourself and others.

As a Christian and a pastor, I find integrity to be my greatest challenge. It is never easy to consciously align my actions with my core values. I confess that I have failed and keep failing, because sometimes my core values are unclear and other times, I am just lazy or not courageous enough to take actions. This is usually followed by guilty feelings.

“Am I a good Christian? Am I a good human being? Am I a good preacher? Am I a good caregiver? Am I a good father and husband? Am I good at keeping my integrity?” When I can’t give positive answers to these questions, I am weighed down by feelings of regret and guilt, as I believed the conclusion had to be one way or the other. If I am not good at something (Christian, human being, preacher, caregiver, father, husband, at keeping my integrity), I assume that I am bad at it.

Such an attitude doesn’t make me humble, though, because humbleness is to acknowledge my dependence on God’s grace, while the weight of guilt entails a feeling of shame and self-condemnation. Humbleness leads to a desire for obedience to God’s will, while guilt is just the flip side of ‘self-sufficiency’. Humbleness invites honesty and openness into the scene as David confessed in Psalm 51:17, “The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit”, while guilt causes us to hide to avoid further shame.

Recently, while I listened to a ‘Ted Talks’ video, I learned a magic phrase that, although likely familiar to many and something I may have heard countless times before, still stood out to me. It suddenly became a magic phrase or a secret ingredient for my integrity. The presenter was a therapist, and she talked about her experiences with various patients including those who often got on her nerves. As we all know, to deal with annoying people who provoke us with their rudeness is never easy. However, during her presentation, the therapist said, “A part of me wanted to give him an insensitive response but a part of me said ‘No! do your job professionally.’ A part of me tried to focus on what was done to me, but a part of me wanted to sympathize with the patient.” I don’t recall how many times she said the phrase ‘a part of me,’ during her presentation.

The phrase helped liberate me from having to choose between one aspect of myself (negative) and another aspect of myself (positive) in the name of integrity. My guilt often stems from thinking I can't be both, but I can—and I shouldn't dismiss one just because of the other. I don't have to deny the blessings of God because I am belittled by my guilt. I don't have to deny my relationship with someone because of my broken heart from his bitter words. When we say, "a part of me says this" and "another part of me says that", both can be blessings from God, as one makes me grateful and the other makes me grow spiritually. After all, God is the one "who makes everything beautiful in His time" (Ecclesiastes 3:11) and "who in all things works for the good of those who love Him" (Romans 8:28). As I mentioned above, integrity is complete when it aims to build healthy relationships with myself and others.

As the year 2025 comes to an end soon, let us be grateful to God for everything we have experienced during the year, because God's purpose is not to give us happy moments all the time but to make us grow in faith and integrity through our good and bad experiences. Praise be to God who has kept us in His glorious grace in 2025! Amen.

Peace of Christ,
Rev. Hodong Hwang

**Need a Christmas gift for the
Master Chef on your list?**



**WPC Women's Association RADA cutlery sale will be held
on December 7 during coffee hour.**

The holidays are quickly approaching.

Is your kitchen ready with all your cutlery needs?

Also available are baking pans, soup and sauce mixes, dip mixes, and gift sets.

Please contact Elaine Hassler with any questions.

Thank you for your support of the women's association.



The Welcome Ministry Team invites all of you to join us in praying this scripture through the month of December.

John 3:16 NIV

For God so loved the world
that He gave His one and only Son,
that whoever believes in Him
shall not perish but have eternal life.

Who is Jesus, as found in the Gospel of Luke

Our women's circle gathered to discuss and learn from the only non-Jewish writer of the Gospels. Luke was a learned physician who leveraged the knowledge of scholars and shaped all into his own storytelling style. Luke was a companion to the Apostle Paul. Luke's background as a Gentile makes him unique among the Gospel writers, being a non-Jew. Also, Luke is a historian and tries to present an "accurate" interpretation of Jesus Christ's story using reference of other voices. He writes about the same time as Matthew and is somewhere outside Palestine.

His Gospel was created into 3 sections: stages of salvation history:

- The era of the law & prophets ~ Themes of forgiveness, redemption and the fulfillment of OT prophecies
- The Ministry of Jesus Christ starting with his inaugural sermon, emphasizing compassion, mercy, and the fulfillment of God's promises
- The Gospel ends with the period of the Church focusing on Christian Worship

WORSHIP_ This scripture [Luke 4:16-21] suggests that it was his custom to regularly attend service in synagogues where OT was read and prayers offered and the Word of God was explained.

- a. There was great corruption in doctrine and practice at that time, but Christ did not on that account keep away from the place of public worship. From this we may learn:
 - That it is our duty and privilege "regularly" to attend public worship.
 - That it is better to attend a place of worship which is not entirely pure, or where just such doctrines are not delivered as we would wish, than not attend at all. We are not perfect.
- **It is of vast importance that the public worship of God should be maintained; and it is "our" duty to assist in maintaining it, to show by our example that we love it, and to win others also to love it.**
- This is in light to where we are in our WPC congregation as we are trying to grow our church and be strong in modeling Jesus's messages.

Turns these thoughts UP...

Jesus says to:

- ... Feeds the hungry, not just your family and friends or rich neighbors
- ... When you give a banquet invite the poor, crippled, lame and blind
- ... Jesus Welcomes the children
- ... Embraces those that are socially different like the prostitutes and Tax collectors

Jesus illustrates his compassion through action

... Seek and save the lost

Jesus turned everything upside DOWN

Jesus does not only come to make a way for people to get into heaven,
But to bring the wholeness and freedom of Heaven to Earth.

Turns these thoughts DOWN ...

What Jesus chooses us NOT to do:

- ... The Tax collectors and money changers ~ table tipped over
- ... Don't serve a banquet to the affluent and those you want power from
- ... Don't exclude non-Jews from the Heaven on Earth

Jesus challenges the Jews and Gentiles to a new Perspective



December 17 we will meet at Warfields for a 11:30 reservation.... PLEASE sing up if you plan to attend!!!!

January 21st we will be looking at the Gospel of John at 1pm

Ribbit Report



What's Hoppin'?

Upcoming Events:

- 11/11 Pal-Mac NO SCHOOL
- 11/26 Little Froggies closes early at 3pm
- 11/27 & 11/28 Little Froggies CLOSED for the Thanksgiving Holiday

Welcome to our new friends who have joined us this month!

Delany & Douglas



Frog-tastic Moments



THANK YOU, PALMYRA FIRE DEPARTMENT



A big thank you to the Palmyra Fire Department for visiting and teaching us about fire safety! The kids had a blast exploring the fire truck.

**Hoppy Birthdays!**

We hope your day is toad-ally special



Braelynn- 11/29

Parent Pond Tips

Quick tip for this month:
Don't Sneak Out: Leaving without saying goodbye, while it may seem easier, can damage your child's trust. Instead, make your goodbye loving and complete.

Friendly Reminder.....

Cooler days are here! Please be sure your child has warm outerwear for outdoor time — we try to get outside every day, even if it's just for a quick walk. Feel free to keep an extra hat or pair of gloves in your child's cubby just in case.

**CLOSING CROAK**

- › Reminders: If paying by credit card, a 3% fee will be added.
- › Starting in October, late payment fees will be enforced.
- › The Toddler and school-age rooms have openings, so if you know anyone looking, please let them know about Little Froggies Childcare. It's also never too late to get on the waitlist for the September 2026 school year.

Thank you for being part of our Little Froggies family! We love watching your children grow, learn, and leap into new adventures every day.

101 E. Main St., Palmyra ~ 315-502-0100 ~ www.littlefroggieschildcare.com

2025 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
				Nov. 27 Thanksgiving Day	Nov. 28 Laundry Soap and Dryer Sheets	Nov. 29 Handwashing Soap
Nov. 30 Dish Detergent	Dec. 1 Diapers or Sanitary Products	Dec. 2 Toilet Paper	Dec. 3 Toilet Bowl Cleaner	Dec. 4 Box of Tissues	Dec. 5 Bottle of Spray with Bleach	Dec. 6 Deodorant
Dec. 7 Box of Tissues	Dec. 8 Handwashing Soap	Dec. 9 Laundry Soap and Dryer Sheets	Dec. 10 Tube of Toothpaste & a Brand New Toothbrush	Dec. 11 Dish Detergent	Dec. 12 Diapers or Sanitary Products	Dec. 13 Toilet Paper
Dec. 14 Deodorant	Dec. 15 Dish Detergent	Dec. 16 Tube of Toothpaste & a Brand New Toothbrush	Dec. 17 Toilet Paper	Dec. 18 Laundry Soap and Dryer Sheets	Dec. 19 Bottle of Spray with Bleach	Dec. 20 Toilet Bowl Cleaner
Dec. 21 Dish Detergent	Dec. 22 Toilet Paper	Dec. 23 Handwashing Soap	Dec. 24 Box of Tissues	Dec. 25 Merry Christmas		



Fill the Advent bags with gifts as suggested on the calendar, or with what you have to share.

Paper Products, soaps, and cleaning supplies are always needed by those who come to the food pantry.

Please bring your bags each week and place the gifts in the large boxes under the tree.

New idea to feed the hungry. This came from Edie Chapman and the Foothills Family Resources in South Carolina. The idea is that we put a full meal in a Zip Lock Bag with instructions on how to make the meal. The mission team will leave bags on the wire shelves in the entryway by the eastside parking lot. We'll keep the meals on the metal shelves in the east side parking lot. The volunteers who replenish the Food Cupboard will take the bags with the other items for the cupboard.

Foothills Family Resources Wish List:
 Easy meals: pack in a 2 gallon ziplock bag or plastic grocery bag and write contents on the outside. Store brands are welcomed and encouraged as they have less sodium and in most cases have more product and less water in the can.

Chicken pot pie Can of chicken Can Cream of chicken/mushroom Can of mixed veggies Package Biscuit mix for topping	Easy meal 1 jar Peanut butter 1 Jar Jelly Box Crackers 2 cans of soup (pop top)		Holiday meal for family of 4: One can or pouch each: canned ham Sweet potato's Green beans Mushroom soup Dried fried onions Cornbread stuffing mix Two pouches gravy mix Two pouches biscuit mix One box cake mix (Pumpkin/Spice would be nice) Frosting
Protein 2 cans chili with beans Crackers Corn bread mix	Easy meal Two cans beef stew One bag egg noodles		Easy meal Dry milk Evaporated milk Work well for recipes calling for milk
Italian meal: Pasta Meat sauce or Alfredo sauce Grated Parmesan Packet Bread mix	Easy meal Can of Tuna Tuna helper type meal or Can of chicken Chicken type helper meal		Breakfast: cereal is good

If you think of something else that will provide a meal for a family, add the meal to the list on the bulletin board. Mac and Cheese with canned meat. Knorr side dishes, or Tuna Helper or Chicken Helper.

The Food Pantry is buying all the items for a Christmas Dinner. Cash donations will help the Food Pantry have dinners for all families needing one. You may use the small envelopes in the pew. Be sure to mark it for the Food Pantry.



Welcome Ministry Team

Sandy Betts, Karen Wallace, and Jan Taylor comprised the initial team that Rev. Hodong Hwang created. We give a special “thank you” to Karen Wallace who helped us tremendously in our effort to get our team “off the ground”. She has left our church to support her family. We wish her well.

Sandy and Jan will continue to lead the “Prayer and Scripture Time” held in the parlor every Sunday at 9:30 am. We’d love to have you join us every Sunday, weather permitting.

As the Welcome Ministry Team, our primary purpose is to make our guests feel welcome immediately. We will greet them personally. On their first visit, we will present them with a welcome bag containing a WPC mug and other items.

We and Rev. Hodong Hwang will follow up with our guests with e-mails, texts, notes, visits, and personal invitations to our church events.

Our other mission is to make our physical space more welcoming. We will endeavor to make our bulletin boards more visible. We have already created an event board in one location outside the kitchen. Please feel free to post any of your team’s or group’s upcoming events on that board.

Another project will be to create a welcome board at the back entrance which amplifies our church and its mission.

The board by the office will be designated for the Mission Team.

We also plan to work on new signage which will help our guests navigate our church better.

We are open to suggestions and new ideas to make our church more welcoming. Feel free to share your ideas with Sandy or Jan. Thanks.



Family Promise of Wayne County (FPWC), New York, Inc.

Family Promise received from Western Presbyterian a \$2,000 donation this past month. This money helps increase their operating fund balance to assure its programs can continue. Those congregants who wish to donate individually can do so by using one of the brown envelopes in the pews, marking the box for Family Promise, and placing in the offering plate. A small monthly donation adds up 12-fold over the fiscal year for Family Promise! You can also contribute on the Family Promise web site at: [DONATE | FP Wayne NY](#).

The ROTH (Roof Over Their Heads) Program continues to help prevent homelessness of families who face imminent loss of housing. The Newark Central School District benefited so much from their first encounter with this support program that it has requested two additional slots!

One family that is currently in shelter is waiting for completion of painting of their new residence. Another family came into the shelter program this past month. Six families are on the waiting list. After the interview and evaluation of waiting list families, a second new family is anticipated to be selected to enter the program.

The FPWC staff continues to work part time. Obtaining sufficient funding to maintain the staff full-time is the top priority of the FPWC Board. The second priority is for the Board to obtain additional cash assets of \$175,000.00 in the FPWC end of Calendar Year 2025 Fund Raising Campaign. This is so FPWC can be considered financially stable enough to apply for and obtain funding from many more grant sources with large sums available. So, get your calculators out and see what tax reduction you will get by donating to FPWC. And extend that into 2025 with a monthly, quarterly or semi-annual donation to enable FPWC to extend its efforts in helping the nearly or openly homeless families in Wayne County.

Access to the FPWC offices at the First Methodist Church of Newark is at the High Street side entrance. As the staff schedules vary, please call ahead at (315) 665-0037 or E-mail (familypromiseofwaynecounty@gmail.com) to make an appointment.

Coming up on **December 2** is **Roc the Day** through United Way's End of Year Appeal. FPWC is registered for this one day of donations. So, if you participate in United Way, please consider this opportunity to direct your giving to FPWC.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

December 9	Robert & Susan 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 December include:

WPC Christian Education Team

Minutes November 11, 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.

Present: Jody Pruitt, Emily Hunt, Cim McFarlane

In Spirit: Pastor Hodong

Upcoming Events:

November 30- No Sunday School Thanksgiving Break

December 28- No Sunday School Christmas Break

January 4- Youth Epiphany Service

January 18- Valentine Card Making

February 22- No Sunday School- February Break

March 1- Easter Card Making and Bulletin Making

March 29- Palm Sunday Parade

April 5- No Sunday School Easter

May 31- Youth Service, Last Day of Sunday School

July 27-31- 2026 VBS

Continuing and New Business

Sunday School News-Cim reported that we had 8 fantastic card makers this past Sunday to make Christmas cards for our shut-ins and college students. Cards were delivered to the Deacons to distribute. The curriculum is going well, and Jody and Kelly are doing an excellent job rotating Sundays.

Nursery- Courtney reposted the nursery job on Facebook- still no interest. If you know of anyone over 18 who would like a little side job, please send them our way.

PrayGround-Cim, Rachael, and Pastor Hodong will meet to discuss starting a pray ground in January at WPC. This is going to be the area on the side of the sanctuary where the Christmas trees are kept for the Advent/Christmas season. There will be coloring, felt boards with felt pieces, and other quiet activities where parents and young children can play together during worship. This will not be an adult directed area, but rather an area where children and their parent(s) can congregate during worship.

Radon Update- Gary shared at the Session meeting that the work to abate the radon will begin soon. The radon reading needs to be under 4 to be safe. Emily shared the idea to rope off an area of Fellowship Hall to use for big muscle play for the daycare, possibly the nursery, and possibly Toddler Time. Cim has decided to wait to begin Toddler Time until the muscle room is officially open. She thinks that the number of participants will be too big for the roped off area in Fellowship Hall. We pray that the plan shared by the Property Team will take care of the radon and the muscle room will open soon.

Camp Whitman Board Update- Cim shared that the 501C3 is complete and will be voted on at the November 18 Presbytery meeting. If approved, Camp Whitman will be known as Camp Whitman on Seneca Lake Inc.

Epiphany Service- Cim shared that the service is called Incredible Christmas, Incredible Trust. It is based on the book of Luke where the angel visits Mary. Jacob is working on the music, and Emily M will begin work on the skit once her plays at Oswego have wrapped up.

Next meeting: If needed December 9- possibly virtual.

Respectfully Submitted,
Emily Hunt

Deacons Team Meeting Minutes

10/7/2025

Present: Sandy McMenamin, Randy Kennard, Nancy Talma, Patti Dlugosh, Sandy Betts & Hodong Hwang

In Support: Linda Pulcini & Muffie Beato

Meeting opening with lighting of the Christ Candle *Prayer Strategies ~ first part ...*

- **Old Business:**

1. Approval of August month's minutes *Motion: Sandy B. Second: Sandy M.*
2. **Treasurer's Report:** Current balance & expense/donation Status– Sandy M. –

Sep-25	Deacons Checking Account
Initial balance	\$1,236.97
Additions	\$ 76.00
Deductions	\$ 217.20
Ending balance	\$1,095.77

a. Balances

3. Sharing Correspondence: **letters**/emails/cards - *none received this month, 2 calls of thanks received*

4. **World Communion** – on Sunday, October 4th

- a. Verify that enough Pita, loaf and juice ~ *Thanks Patty [discussion re. if loaf is frozen when Pastor breaks it... no worries, even if it's frozen it can be broken.]*
- b. Thank you for assisting in set-up/clean up – for Oct 4th ~ P.D., S.M., S.B., N.T.
- c. Review and approve Communion procedure document ~ document put in sleeve in Kitchen for reference.
5. Review of **Prayer List** and adjust accordingly of needs
6. **Prayers** for those in need and beyond
7. Visits/ Calls/ cards **counts** - visits with special meaningful moments of faith

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
September	13	14	46	48	9/14/25
October				55	10/4/25
Year to Date	116	157	528	513	

18 Lilys delivered

4 flower deliveries

4 flower deliveries

3 flower deliveries

8. Special Needs Mailings –

- a. 15 monthly repeat mailings and 9 rotating recipients *from list reviewed by RK and SB*

Bible Verse: **Joel 2:23** [New International Version] ²³ *Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the Lord your God, for he has given you the autumn rains because he is faithful. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains, as before.*

- **New Business:**

- o Prayer Strategies for Web & Deacon Description for future website
The Deacons are the gate keepers to those who need spiritual support.
Support through prayers, calls, text, and visits to shut-ins and others needing personal connections.
We bring the congregation closer to our Lord through preparation of the communion elements.
- o Sandy Betts plans to step down from Deacon's Team at the end of 2025.

Meeting closed with prayer.

Next meeting Tuesday 11/4/2025 @ 10:00 am

Respectfully - Randy Kennard, Chairperson

Fellowship Meeting

11/4/2025

Present: Roxanne Dobson, Norm Underwood, Jan Taylor, Val Gendron, and Sue Pringle

Excused: Ray Marr and Terry Gendron

The Game and Euchre evening was a success. We had 16 in attendance. We plan to host 2 more in the coming year.

In preparation for the Hanging of the Greens, we have decided to retrieve the boxes of decorations and review them to identify and replace any old or damaged items. Jan, Sue, and Janet will be going shopping to brighten up the Fellowship Hall.

On November 30th, we will have the Hanging of the Greens potluck with a German theme. I will make a flyer to put on the website and in the bulletin.

The team discussed and completed the budget to submit to Finance.

We discussed our Roadmap for 2026. Planned are:

1. Progressive Dinner
2. Picnic (May)
3. Game nights (2)
4. Bible Trivia Night
5. Ice Cream Social (late June)
6. Western Horizons (October)
7. Potluck Dinners (March 29th, May 31st, and November 29th)

Respectfully submitted,
Roxanne Dobson

Mission Team Minutes for November 6, 2025

Present: Edie Chapman, Ruth Dantz, Cassie Hughes, Irene Fadden, Rena Haigh

Excused: Sally Chase

The meeting opened with the imagined lighting of the Christ Candle, Matthew 5:14-16, and prayer.

Family Promise: Ruth will arrange for a dinner, Nov 24th. Irene will buy the groceries.

Food Cupboard – Irene let replenishers know that we should put out more food because SNAP benefits were not sent out for November. Courtney Marr said she would check the cupboard more than just on Friday and add food when it is needed. At least 2 replenishers noted that someone from the community brought food for the cupboard while they were there.

Irene will buy items for the cupboard to keep the shelves filled. Edie will get some for Dec and January when she comes home before Christmas.

Lions Food Cupboard Drive – Donations were collected. Rena reported the cupboard was filled with a plentiful number of fresh vegetables. It was suggested that we put items for a full meal in a bag and put them in the cupboard.

Edie noted that a group in South Carolina puts meals into bags for a food pantry. She sent the information to the team, and we will let people know about the project. Wire shelves have been put in the entryway for the bags. Information will be in the Spire and on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary. This does not replace anything we are doing with the food cupboard, just another idea to meet a need.

Food Pantry (\$200) – Ruth will continue to pick up non-SNAP items. Clients at the pantry vary from 22 to 12 families per evening. On Monday, there were 21 clients, and none were new to the pantry.

Birthday Bags – this is a project done by Women's Circle. The cake can be made with a can of soda taking the place of eggs, water, and oil. We will print labels that explain why the soda is in the birthday bag.

1,000 boxes of Cereal in Memory of Lois Daniels – Less than 50 boxes remain

Good Neighbor Fund Update – August and September

Ending Balance 9/30/2025	\$236.14
deposits in October	+1,350.00
1 Check written in Oct	- 300.00 – 1 rent – 1 Adult, 1 child
1 stop payment Fee	- <u>36.00</u>
Ending Balance 10/31/2025	\$1,250.14

Weekend Wellness update – This ministry costs about \$40,000 each year.

9 Balance 9/30/25 \$4,382.89
Bags delivered 2025-2026 year – 779 bags
Program continued from the first week of school.

Foster Care Duffels – Irene talked to Lisa Graf on the phone. The state is providing bags for foster kids. No more black garbage bags are being used. They are working with many homeless families.

Lisa suggested winter hats, gloves, mittens, scarves. Rena has these items from Warm Winter Project and will get them to Lisa, her neighbor.

Lisa suggested pajamas, socks, and hygiene kits are always needed by the homeless. Social Services also provides the homeless with food, and she commended us for our food ministries to the community.

Hygiene kits fit in with our idea of collecting items as a challenge project like cereal.

Child Advocacy Program could use new stuffed animals, blankets – new are preferred, possibly the books we have collected.

Social services have shelves to put the donations for the clients.

Reverse Advent Calendar – Irene will make the calendar and have it ready for the December Spire and the bulletin board.

One Great Hour of Sharing. Lent is Feb 18- April 5 links were provided to Cassie for a short video and where the calendar might be available as it was last year.

ARC Homes – Rena will contact the home on Parker Road and get cards and gift cards for the residents.

We have \$1,000 to send to the **Victim Resource Center, Survivor Advocacy.** Sally will call and see if they need something besides money – like hygiene kits, duffel bags, books, stuffed animals, blankets.

Next meeting – Our next meeting will be Thursday, December 4th at 9:30. Edie will join us on Zoom.

The meeting closed with prayer of Micah 6:8

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Faden

Property Committee Meeting 10/15/2025

Present: Phil Opdycke, James McFarlane, Gary LaBerge

1. The meeting opened with a prayer.
2. James reported that Courtney will tell James when the fall decorations are removed and the Christmas materials go on the sills. James has contacted Emily about the extra cleaning for the decorations on the sills.
3. James will contact Emily about cleaning the Fellowship Hall rug.
4. James contacted the scouts about using the Fellowship Hall when it is not used by Session or the rummage sale.
5. There seems to be no problem with the Seneca Lakes Scouts Executives meeting here once a month.
6. Emcore was here and replaced the display panel on the boiler. As of yesterday 11/3, Emcore replaced the bearings in the hot water pump.
7. Gary has closed the ceiling panels over the church ceiling and has covered the north side fan opening.
8. New bookshelves with casters have been purchased.
9. There was a discussion on what to do with the meat slicers.
 10. On the landing all the extra nursery school extras went to the rummage sale. The plastic shelves will be used for the food cupboard.
 11. The kitchen faucet problem: DeMay plumbers are going to replace the plumbing and the faucet.
 12. Radon mitigation: looked at prices. Several problems were seen in the bid given by a local company from Victor. Lots of disclaimers and they insisted on a four-inch pipe going outside up to the roof. So, we are looking at plan B. Having a local plumber seal the two openings and having an exhaust fan vented through the capped chimney so that pipe is not visible.
 13. Phil put in new air filters in the west furnaces.
 14. Larry, Phil, and Gary will continue to remove the mountains of leaves over the next two weeks.

Respectfully submitted by Phil Opdycke

The stated meeting of 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 the lighting of The Christ Candle and prayer.

8 Present: Randy Kennard, Philip Opdycke, Irene Fadden, Alicia Lynch, Roxanne Dobson, Emily Hunt, Courtney Marr, Janet Manktelow

0 Absent

0 Excused

A quorum was present.

Motion made by Philip Opdycke seconded and carried to approve the meeting agenda.

Clerk's Report

Motion made by Randy Kennard seconded and carried to approve the minutes from the September session meeting.

Little Froggies Daycare sent the clerk a copy of their first newsletter. We will check to see if it is alright to put it in the church newsletter.

Financial Report

	<u>Summary of Receipts and Expenditures</u>			
	<u>Current</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>YTD% of</u>
	<u>Month</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Total Receipts	\$4,494	\$141,255	\$183,035	7.17%
Total Expenditures	\$21,523	\$127,989	\$213,099	60.06%
Net Receipts/Expend.	(\$17,029)	\$ 13,266	(\$30,064)	

Motion made by Irene Fadden seconded and carried to approve the financial report.

Business of the Church

Radon testing- scheduled for next Wed.

Mission- The mission team is going to start putting together duffel bags for children in foster care. These will be for them to carry their possessions in. It will also come with some needed items in them. When they get a little more info, we will do an e-mail vote.

New members- we need the names of people that might be interested in joining the church.

Leadership transition- We are looking for 3 people willing to take over the chair of Finance, Christian Ed. and Mission.

Ministry Team Reports

Worship Ministry Team – Knucklehead Farms loved doing the farm market in our yard on Sundays; They are willing to do it again next year. Oct 19th will be a special service to honor all cancer survivors and those lost to it and those in the fight right now.

Fellowship Ministry Team – Western Horizons Sunday is Oct. 26th.

Deacons Ministry Team – one of their team members is stepping down.

Mission Ministry Team – the Reverse Advent Calendar is ready.

Finance Ministry Team – in need of budget sheets from each team.

CE Ministry Team -will meet next week.

Property Ministry Team – the team is involved in many projects.

Motion made by Property Team to dispose of the 70-year-old, broken organ in the parlors. Motion passed.

Presbytery- continuing to work on combining with other presbyteries.

Next meeting- Nov. 4, 2025

Devotions -Emily Hunt

Motion made by Roxanne seconded and carried to adjourn with prayer at 8:35PM.

Janet Manktelow

Clerk

Worship Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2025

Present: Sue, Alicia, Joan, Linda, Sharon, HoDong, and Courtney

Absent: Carol

Planning for Caner Prayer Service

Guest speaker is Dave Taylor- will need to speak for 7 minutes or so.

What we need:

Set up/clean up: Courtney will set up some things on Saturday but everyone who can will come at 9:30.

Passing out hearts: Joan

Pass out pins: Joan

Cake, coffee/tea, punch servers: all

Balloons: Courtney

Parking on Sunday mornings: We have noticed an increase in the Catholic Church members using our parking lot on Sunday mornings. We have had a few people voice concerns about less spots for our congregation, especially when the snow starts. Janet M. stated that the Catholic's Sunday Mass starts 30 minutes later now (there was a sign) which is why we are seeing cars still in our parking lot. HoDong will ask Janet to write a letter or contact someone at the church to voice our concerns. We will also ask about using the old Methodist Church parking lot as well for both churches.

Offering: We see a slight decrease in offerings every Sunday. We would like to give it more time so people can adjust to the difference. We will make a sign near the plate and ask if the money can be collected after everyone leaves the sanctuary.

Pie Sunday: We are signed up for Pie Sunday. We will use our funds to buy the pies.

Closed with prayer

Respectfully submitted by Courtney Marr

Our Prayer Concerns (updated November 19, 2025)

Grieving:

Family & Friends of Janet Haigh (requested by the Deacons)

Family & Friends of Rachel Vaughn (requested by Rena Haigh)

Family & Friends of Ellen Avery (requested by the Deacons)

Serving in the Armed Forces:

AJ Bliss, Josh Polle

Please pray for those of our congregation with immediate concerns:

Joan Barnard, Scott Bush, Pam Gnagy, Tricia Owen, Nancy Roets, Jan Semans, Keyna Sloan

Congregation members needing continued prayers:

Joan Durfey, Cim McFarlane, Wilma Redman

Congregation members in nursing homes or shut-in:

Rochelle Morse, Bev Mouton, David Squier

Others for whom prayers have been requested:

Clare Boesel, Bill Brien, Sarah Carone, Mark Fiegl, Barb Gillespie, Laura Gleeson, Nancy Grantling, Don Hagen, Russell Harris, Sarah Hovermale, Jerry Locey, Laurie Loomis, Bentley Matz, Iris McConnell, Chrissy McDonald, Mike Nash, Kate Pfaff, Patty Rogers, Cole Sinatra, Jack Sweeney, Jake Taylor, Joann Treviso, Bill Walton, Connie West, Dmitry Wieber, Donna Wirth

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, hunger, and homelessness; Please pray for those that wish to remain anonymous.

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 2025

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
	1	2 10 am Deacons 1 pm Men's Group 3 pm Fellowship 7 pm Session 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room	3	4 9:30 am Mission/ Social Concerns 11 am Bible Study 6-8:30 pm FH Seneca Waterways Council	5	6
7 2 nd Sunday of Advent 9 am Sunday School 9:30 am Prayer & Scripture 10 am worship service RADA Cutlery Sale	8	9 3:15 pm Worship 7 pm Christian Ed. 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room	10 8:30 am to Noon Toddler Time 7 pm FH Boy Scouts	11 11 am Bible Study	12	13
14 3 rd Sunday of Advent 9 am Sunday School 9:30 am Prayer & Scripture 10 am worship service	15	16 SPIRE DEADLINE 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room	17 11:30 am Women's Circle Luncheon Warfields 6:30 pm Property	18	19	20
21 4 th Sunday of Advent 9 am Sunday School 9:30 am Prayer & Scripture 10 am worship service	22 Office Open 8:30 am to 2 pm	23 Office Open 8:30 am to 2 pm 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room	24 Christmas Eve Office Open 8:30 am to 2 pm 9 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service	25 Christmas Day Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27
28 1 st Sunday of Christmas No Sunday School 9:30 am Prayer & Scripture 10 am worship service Rev. Pamela J. Gnagy preaching	29 Office Open 8:30 am to 2 pm	30 Office Open 8:30 am to 2 pm 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room	31 New Year's Eve Office Open 8:30 am to 2 pm			



JANUARY 2026

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
				1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2	3
4 2 nd Sunday of Christmas 9 am Sunday School 9:30 am Prayer & Scripture 10 am Youth led Epiphany service	5	6 Annual Reports due 10 am Deacons 1 pm Men's Group 3 pm Fellowship 7 pm Session 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room	7	8 9:30 am Mission/ Social Concerns 11 am Bible Study 6-8:30 pm FH Seneca Waterways Council	9	10
11 Baptism of the Lord Communion & Cereal Sunday 9 am Sunday School 9:30 am Prayer & Scripture 10 am worship service	12	13 3:15 pm Worship 7 pm Christian Ed. 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room	14 8:30 am to Noon Toddler Time 7 pm FH Boy Scouts	15 11 am Bible Study	16	17
18 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany 9 am Sunday School 9:30 am Prayer & Scripture 10 am worship service	19 Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	20 SPIRE DEADLINE 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room	21 1 pm FH Women's Circle Bible Study 6:30 pm Property	22 11 am Bible Study	23	24
25 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany No Sunday School 9:30 am Prayer & Scripture 10 am worship service Congregational Meeting	26	27 7 pm Boy Scouts Muscle Room	28 8:30 am to Noon Toddler Time	29 11 am Bible Study	30	31