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SESSION

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A Publication of Wayside Presbyterian Church



Wayside Presbyterian Church

A safe, inclusive place for all people to worship

95 Years in Ministry
5017 Lake Shore Road
Hamburg, New York 14075

Sunday Service @ 10:00 AM
Sunday School @ 10:00 AM

Communion is Served on first Sunday of Month

Join us *In Church* or *Online*, every Sunday at 10:00 AM



Church Office:

Monday-Friday 9:00am - 1:00
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Did you know that Wayside has a Facebook page?



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I feel like we just celebrated the Holidays together and here we are getting ready to enter the month of March!

For us WNY'ers I'm not sure another month is more perfectly placed during the Lenten season as the month of March. To be most honest, I despise March. The long dreary days filled with who knows what weather, teasing us that spring is around the corner but still so far away...This year it's especially dreary and heavy as we celebrate the 1 year passing of my little sister. Hard to believe.

We just celebrated Ash Wednesday where we began a 40 day journey of identifying with Jesus as he entered the desert for 40 days and nights to fast and pray. If you remember, this took place

right after his baptism. When he ended his 40 days in the wilderness he would publicly start his ministry and long journey to the cross. Hungry and tempted by Satan to lay down his humanity for divinity, Jesus refused to prove his power and circumvent the path to the cross.

For some reason, I was led to look up the definition of March outside of its association with the month. I found this...

March - to proceed or advance inexorably (in a way that is impossible to stop or prevent)

This is exactly what the mission of Jesus looked like as he emerged from the 40 days. He exited these 40 days of solitude and definitively walked to the tune of his Father's will at all costs, even to the point of death on a cross.

During Lent we are invited to reflect on and deepen our understanding of our brokenness and limitations as humans and acknowledge our great need for saving. We mourn our sin and look again and again to God to empower us to turn from what drags us down from living a life of freedom, and hurts us, one another, and the world we live in. Let's be honest, like March this can feel kind of dreary.

But like spring always faithfully shows up, because of the faithfulness of God, we can emerge with a greater love, gratitude, joy and hope for the rescue that is ours! We look forward to Easter where we celebrate how Jesus rescued us from sin and death by going to the cross and overcame evil and the grave once and for all, making a way for us to come before a Holy God now and for all of eternity.

Typically, through prayer, fasting (abstaining from something to reduce distractions and focus more on God) and giving, or charity we turn from our selfish and self absorbed ways and align ourselves with the Father's will for our life.

We declare yet again that his mercy, grace and love is enough! Like the crocus that arrives first thing in spring we emerge from the cold, hard ground of our sin and grow towards new light, warmth and love of the Son.

With Love,

Becky Ventre
Congregational Care Director



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

David English Jr	March 01
Bruce Decker	March 10
Barb Boquard	March 12
Laura Glista	March 14
Alicia Faust	March 18
Mark Panfil	March 21
Nash Ebel	March 22
Jan Evert	March 28
Rich Hilliman	March 30



David & Bonnie Moran
March 05

Mirella Ventre February 20

Kaison Koehler February 22

Michael English February 27

Happy belated birthday to you!



WHAT A TREAT!

Special thanks to Dick Sutfin and George Pacifico who cooked up a delicious lunch for us on Sunday, February 26th. You never know what delicious treats you're going to find downstairs after service at coffee hour!

Everyone is always welcome. Please make sure to join us for coffee and fellowship!.



What is the standard by which you judge a life to be well lived?

Some people believe their life is defined by their work; their career path, how high they have risen in a company, or how happy they are in their job, marriage, how much money, possessions etc.

Others would measure the quality of their relationships with friends and family; or their pursuit of education and knowledge.

What we seek to accomplish in life should not be confined to a single area but should span relational, vocational, educational, and personal realms.

You must live a life as Jesus taught up and that means to give to others less fortunate or not, what you have learned and accomplished. There is *never* a wrong time to make others feel valued.

George Pacifico
-with many thanks to Trey Gowdy

Last June, Kris Passinault learned through a mutual quilting friend, Barb Fleetwood, that a person was interested in donating money to groups that had community outreach projects for the Western New York area. She immediately thought that the Women of Wayside definitely exceeded his criteria. She sent Mr. John Caselinuovo a letter explaining their Cradle Beach quilt project, Children's Hospital receiving blanket project, hats and scarf donations to local agencies and schools, grocery bags for the East Side community and our Quilt of Valor project. She went on to explain that they have worked with Western New York Heroes for 8 years with quilts for children and Veterans.

Their group of women welcomes approximately 25 women from various religions to join them on Wednesdays during the day. Since Kris wrote the letter, Lisa Laffrado started a Tuesday evening sewing group for people who work during the day.

Women of Wayside are very appreciative of this generous donation to continue to reach out to our community and make a difference.

Pictured accepting the \$500 check are Kathy McKinney, Becky Ventre, Barb Fleetwood (friend of John Caselinuovo), and Kris Passinault.



The Giving doesn't End...

Look at all these beautiful receiving blankets that Kathy McKinney made while she was on a quilting retreat! These blankets all found a home at Oishei Childrens Hospital.



Early in February, if you missed it, Deb and Bev Tyler sister Cheryl, passed away. The office was asked to pass along this thank you letter.



"Thank you for all the heartfelt condolences we received on the passing of our sister Cheryl from all our wonderful Wayside Family."

The Tyler Girls

“I DO”...still see you

Special thanks to Cheryl Panfil for taking the lead and organizing this special day.

Also, thanks to everyone who took the time and pulled out their wedding albums and pictures to share during coffee hour.



Gordon Poecking
FROM

*Timothy F. Noca
David & Patricia Hal
Richard & Joan Auth*



JUST SO YOU KNOW!



I will be out of the office for the month of March. I'm taking my computer with me and I'll be doing the bulletin, weekly emails, and many of my other duties while I am away.

If you are planning on coming into the church building during the week, please remember to call ahead and make sure Becky is at her desk, and not out visiting, or working from home that day.

I'll be checking the phone daily, you have Becky's cell (716) 310-8152 if you need her, or mine (716) 983-3888 if you have any questions.

I've got a great group of people helping to get information to me, and cover anything that needs covering while I am away from my desk.

Any questions, please send me a text or give me a call.

Julie



Big changes coming
soon! Stay tuned...

Mark Your Calendars!

The Buffalo Bluegrass Youth Ensemble made up of young fiddlers, banjo, mandolin, guitar, dobro and bass players from all over the great Buffalo area, are giving a free concert at Wayside Presbyterian Church on Monday, May 1st starting at 7 PM. Parents and members of the Youth Ensemble will also have a bake sale immediately following the concert downstairs in room 110. All are invited for the concert and bake sale. There will be a free will offering taken at the concert. All proceeds from the concert and the bake sale will go directly to the general fund of Wayside as a way of saying thank you for allowing us to meet at Wayside throughout the school year.

