



Spring 2025

Chris McClellan
Qadosh Bells
Director



Kathy Whittemore
Treasurer



Amanda Slack
Clerk of Session



Bill Gross
President of
Deacons



Gary Olson
President of
Trustees



The Congregation
Ministers of
The Gospel

*"This is what the Lord says—
"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing!"*

Isaiah 43:16b, 18-19a

Update on Pastor Search following Buddy's Retirement

We are pleased to announce that the Session has approved our Mission Study and presented it to the Presbytery COM as we prepare for the search for our new pastor. This is a big step in this process of moving forward after Buddy's retirement. Many thanks to the Mission Study Group for all their hard work in getting this done in such a timely manner.

The next step in the calling of a new pastor is to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee. This group needs to be representative of the whole congregation, spanning all ages and genders. They have the task of selecting and interviewing any candidates to serve as our new pastor. It is a big task, but with God's help we can do it, with YOUR help! The Presbytery of Lake Erie will help us all along the way, and if we are diligent we can be successful in finding a pastor who will help us move into the future. Please think and pray about what you can do to help our congregation call a new pastor. We need people who are knowledgeable about the church and the community. They need to be willing to make a significant commitment of their time, energy, and wisdom in listening for the voice of God.

If you are interested in serving, or just want to learn more about what is involved in serving on the P.N.C., please speak to any of our Ruling Elders or a member of our Nominating Committee. The sooner we are able to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee, the faster we are able to call a new pastor and move forward in our mission and ministry of the church.

If you are able to help the Wards with their final move, they will be loading the "moving containers" between Tuesday, March 4th and Tuesday, March 11th with a special moving party on Saturday, March 8th from 9 am to 4 pm. Pizza will be provided for lunch. Please come if you can lend a hand, your help will be much appreciated!

A Note from Buddy and Anne:

It has been a rewarding experience to serve the Lord with you over these past 27 years. You have been an inspiration to us and our family through all your friendship, prayers, love and support. Thank you so much for all the cards, gifts, and kind words that were given to us at our pastor appreciation dinner back in January and afterwards. It has been truly a blessing! We will miss you sorely, but rest assured that you will remain in our prayers as you search for your new pastor. As a way of saying our final good-bye we leave you with these words from verses 24 and 25 from the book of Jude.

"To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen."

Holy Week Activities

Palm Sunday

April 13, 2025

9:30 am Sunday School
for all ages

11:00 am Worship

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025

7:00 pm Communion

**Easter Egg Hunt
and Party**

April 19, 2025

10 am to 12 noon

Easter Day

April 20, 2025

9:30 am Sunday School
for all ages

11:00 am Worship
Celebration of the

Resurrection

(all services are available in person
and on Facebook)



News from the Pews

Spring 2025



Ladies Luncheon

Prayer Group

The Ladies Luncheon Prayer Group meets the 2nd Thursday of each month a 12:30 pm. This will be March 13, April 10, and May 8.



Hostesses for the month will provide coffee and dessert. Please bring a sandwich.

All women of the church are invited to attend each month for prayer, a meal and fellowship.

Early Church Service

Beginning on May 25, the Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend, we will be changing to a 10:00 am start for our Worship Service. There will be no regularly scheduled Sunday school during the summer. We will return to an 11:00 am start time the weekend after Labor Day.

Per Capita

If you have not already done so, please pay your \$35.00 Per Capita (for each member of the church, not family) as the church will soon have to make a payment to the Presbytery for 2025. Please mark Per Capita on your memo line.

Thank you

Easter Flowers

We are taking orders for flowers to decorate the Sanctuary for the Easter season. The cost is \$8.00 each and an order form is included. Deadline to order is March 30.



One Great Hour of Sharing

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)—Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People—all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Received during the season of Lent (March 6-April 20), each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share Gods love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

The enclosed envelope and fish banks should be returned by Palm Sunday, April 13.

Trash & Treasure Day

Boy Scout Troop 13 will have a sale on April 26 in the Dave Clark pavilion to benefit the North Warren Playground Fund.



Donations (no clothes) may be put in the church youth room any time before April 26.

Daylight Saving Time

Be sure to turn your clock ahead one hour Saturday night, March 8. Daylight saving time begins March 9.



News from the Pews



Spring 2025

Personnel, Finance, Endowment & Investment Committee (PFEI) Update

Personnel: We would like to welcome Dawn Thayer as our new part-time secretary. Dawn began her 3 days/week, 2 hours/day job in January. Our “old secretary”, “Buddy”, has been busy training her to do what he has been doing, including the weekly bulletins, how to deal with the copier, where items are kept, and a myriad of other office things.

Finance: The monthly financial statements are posted on the bulletin board to the left of the nursery. They show in detail, how the General Fund is doing plus “basic transactions and balances in each of our other Funds (Building, Community House, Flower, Deacons, memorial, Park & Playground, Endowment, Youth Mission).

We ended the year 2024 more than \$15,000 OVER-budget (in other words, a \$15,000 loss) in our General Fund (the day-to-day operations of the church). The cause for the “loss” is not due to overspending, but due to the \$19,000 shortfall of what was budgeted for church donation income. Please prayerfully consider increasing your 2025 tithe & offering. We are a small congregation who wants and needs to grow AND “attract” the new pastor that God is preparing for us. We also want to be able to pay for the missions and programs that our congregation has deemed vital for our growth.

If you are 70 ½ years old and are required to take monies (RMD) out of your IRA retirement accounts, even if you don’t want the income, there is something called a Qualified Charitable Deduction (QCD) to

help you at least reduce your federal income tax on some or all of those RMD’s. Basically, you instruct your IRA Administrator to pay your RMD (some or all), directly to a Qualified Charity (i.e. the church) and that portion of your RMD is not taxable to you. See Chris McClellan for more details if interested.

Investments: Our investments earned an 11.14% rate of return in 2024. We currently take 4.5% of the Endowment and Unrestricted Fund investments as Budgeted General Fund income each year if needed. We definitely used that 4.5% in 2024 in the amount of \$12,762. If we hadn’t, our General Fund loss would have gone from the \$(15,000) reported above to almost \$(28,000). And while we are grateful to God that we have these investments to use to supplement our General Budget, they won’t last long if we have to dip into them more than the budgeted amounts.

IF anyone has questions about the church’s finances, please see Chris McClellan, Gary Olson, Tricia Poston, Judy Sweet or Shirley Betts. If we can’t answer right away, we will find out and get back to you.

Sharing Place Bakers

Our next dates to provide cookies for Sharing Place are as follows:

March 20 – Lynn Olsen, Lois Marshall, Mary Putnam, Ellen Nelson, Donna Caito, and Amy Ransom.

May 8 – Donna Caito, Nancy Bullock, Susan Stout, Ellen Nelson, Ruth Morrison, Lynn Collins and Sheryl Ash.



Note from Deacons

Because of your generosity the Deacons were able to provide 11 families (61 people) with food boxes for Thanksgiving, Christmas gifts for 10 children, 20 Aldi gift cards, and 12 Kwik Fill gift cards. We also gave money to the PC USA Hurricane Relief Fund, WAHS Robotics team and helped with an educational expense.

If you know of any one in need, please let the Deacons know. They will assist in any way that they are able. Thank you.

Bill Gross, President of the Deacons

Sharing Place Update

While our overall numbers remain strong—typically over 100 dinners per night—we haven't seen much of an increase in the number of guests choosing to stay and eat. That number usually remains under a dozen.

We are taking another small step toward rebuilding the sense of community we had before COVID when more than 50 people would regularly stay for dinner. For the next several months, on the last Thursday of each month, we will ask a church to provide volunteers to set tables, serve meals, pour beverages, and help with cleanup. Our first ask will go to the church scheduled to provide desserts that evening. If they are unable to assemble a team, we will reach out to another church.

We'd love to have a North Warren team—or even multiple teams—willing to serve. We're being upfront that there may be some downtime, as attendance can be

unpredictable. We might have 6 guests or 16 or even 26. But we're hopeful that as more people see their friends staying to eat, they'll be encouraged to do the same.

We already tested this approach with encouraging results. On Thursday, January 30, Grace Methodist provided four volunteers, and we promoted the event in the weeks leading up to it. That evening, 18 people stayed to eat, making for a warm and welcoming gathering with a new menu and live music from Pastor Tara, the new pastor at First Presbyterian. Given that our 2024 average was just under 12 dine-in guests that was a 50% increase.

The Scout group hosted by First Presbyterian Church has enthusiastically volunteered to serve on the last Thursday of February, the 27th. We're excited to continue this effort and appreciate any support in making it a success.

In all of this we are guided by the words of St. Matthew the Evangelist. "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in."

We very much appreciate the enthusiasm and commitment on the part of the North Warren Presbyterian Church congregation.

Any questions, feel free to be in touch
David Snyder 814 688-4911

North Warren Presbyterian Church

200 S. State Street • Warren, Pennsylvania • 16365-4645 phone (814) 723-5060

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| <i>Transfiguration Sunday 2</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Communion Service | 3 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:00 PM Christian Ed | 4 | <i>Ash Wednesday 5</i> 6:30 PM Qadosh bells | 6 6:00 PM Deacons 6:30 PM Community House Committee | 7 | 8 |
| <i>Girl Scout Sunday 9</i> <i>Daylight Savings</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee | <i>No School 10</i> | 11 | 12 6:30 PM Qadosh bells | 13 12:30 PM Ladies Prayer Luncheon Group | 14 | 15 |
| 16 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM Session meeting | <i>No School 17</i> 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study | 18 | 19 6:30 PM Qadosh bells | <i>Sharing Place 20</i> | 21 | 22 |
| 23 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee | 24 | 25 | 26 6:30 PM Qadosh bells | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship | 31 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study | | | | | |

March 2025

March Events 2025

Birthdays

Happy Birthday!

| | | |
|-----|----|-----------------|
| Mar | 01 | Bill Boyles |
| | 05 | Ken Bakewell |
| | 05 | Jerry Schultz |
| | 06 | Raymond Barrett |
| | 06 | Mynda Rossman |
| | 07 | Mark Nickerson |
| | 08 | Rachel Hughie |
| | 08 | Leslie Swanson |
| | 12 | Drake Lawson |
| | 12 | Neil Morrison |
| | 13 | Andrea Larsen |
| | 15 | Gary Olson |
| | 22 | Brenda Scott |
| | 23 | Londa Barrett |
| | 24 | Anaya Hughie |
| | 25 | John Schultz |
| | 26 | CJ Mix |
| | 26 | Michael Schultz |
| | 27 | Emma Jones |

Anniversaries

| | | |
|-----|----|-----------------------------|
| Mar | 01 | William & Sharon Boyles(10) |
| | 14 | Jack & Lynn Collins |
| | 17 | John & Marcia McKown |
| | 22 | Pete & Marlene Engman |
| | 26 | Gary & Kathy Olson |
| | 26 | Bruce & Linda Swanson |



Girl Scout Sunday

March 9, 2025

Transfiguration Sunday

March 2, 2025

Lay Leaders

| | | |
|-----|----|-----------------|
| Mar | 02 | Chris McClellan |
| | 09 | Ivy Whilton |
| | 16 | Celia Gross |
| | 23 | Heidi DeWald |
| | 30 | Amanda Knopf |

After Church Coffee

| | | |
|-----|----|-------------------------|
| Mar | 9 | Chris & Denny McClellan |
| | 23 | Nancy Bullock |

Sound Booth

| | | |
|-----|----|------------------|
| Mar | 02 | Mark Nickerson |
| | 09 | Philip Nickerson |
| | 16 | Dawn Thayer |
| | 23 | Drake Lawson |
| | 30 | Mark Nickerson |

Nursery

| | | |
|-----|----|--------------------------|
| Mar | 02 | Christina Wilson-Hartman |
| | 09 | Nancy Bullock |
| | 16 | Ivy Whilton |
| | 23 | Amy Ransom |
| | 30 | Christina Wilson-Hartman |

Sanctuary Flowers

| | | |
|-----|----|--------------------|
| Mar | 02 | John & Donna Caito |
| | 09 | Mark & Sheryl Ash |
| | 16 | Bryan & Lynn Olsen |
| | 23 | Gary & Kathy Olson |
| | 30 | Mynda Rossman |

Greeters / Ushers

Bill Gross
Celia Gross

North Warren Presbyterian Church

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Penny Sunday 6</i> 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee | 7 6:00 PM Christian Ed | 8 | 9 6:30 PM Qadosh bells | 10 12:30 PM Ladies Luncheon Prayer Group | 11 | 12 |
| <i>Palm Sunday 13</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship | 14 | 15 7:00 PM PFIE Committee | 16 6:30 PM Qadosh bells | No School 17 Sharing Place 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Communion service | No School 18 Good Friday | 19 10:00 am-noon Children's Easter party |
| <i>Easter Sunday 20</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM Session meeting | No School 21 | 22 | 23 6:30 PM Qadosh bells | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee | 28 | 29 | 30 6:30 PM Qadosh bells | | | |

April 2025

April Events 2025

Birthdays

Apr 03 Bruce Swanson
06 Anna Nickerson
07 Paige Rimer
09 Zoey Port
12 Jamie Caito
12 Sara Nickerson
15 Lee Jones
15 Tammy Mix
16 Amanda Knopf
19 Heidi DeWald
20 Kathy Swartz
22 David Snyder
23 Elizabeth Lucks
25 Megan Grady
26 John McKown
28 Lois Marshall

Anniversaries

Apr 01 John & Jerry Schultz
13 Mark & Sheryl Ash
17 Raymond & Londa Barrett (10)
23 Don & Roxy VanOrd

Lay Leaders

Apr 06 Mark Ash
13 Ruth Morrison
17 Bill Gross
20 Amy Ransom
27 Celia Gross

After Church Coffee

Apr 06 Ruth Morrison
27 Ivy Whilton

Sound Booth

Apr 06 Philip Nickerson
13 Dawn Thayer
17 Drake Lawson
20 Mark Nickerson
27 Philip Nickerson

Nursery

Apr 06 Nancy Bullock
13 Amanda Knopf
17 Ivy Whilton
20 Megan Grady
27 Christina Hartman-Wilson

Sanctuary Flowers

Apr 06 Mark & Sheryl Ash
13 Palm Sunday
20 Easter Sunday
27 Ellen Nelson

Greeters / Ushers

Marcia McKown
Ellen Nelson

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025

Ruling Elders will greet
and serve communion

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| | | | | 1 6:00 PM Deacons 6:30 PM Community House | No School 2 | 3 |
| <i>Penny Sunday 4</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship | 5 6:00 PM Christian Ed | 6 | 7 6:30 PM Qadosh bells | 8 12:30 PM Ladies Prayer Luncheon Group Sharing Place | 9 | 10 |
| <i>Mother's Day 11</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship | 12 | 13 | 14 6:30 PM Qadosh bells | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee 6:00 PM Session meeting | 19 | 20 | 21 6:30 PM Qadosh bells | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 10:00 AM Worship | <i>Memorial Day 26</i> No School | 27 | 28 6:30 PM Qadosh bells | 29 | 30 | 31 |

May 2025

May Events 2025

Lay Leaders

May 04 Heidi DeWald
11 Ivy Whilton
18 Kathy Whittemore
25 Mark Ash

After Church Coffee

May 18 Amy Ransom

Sound Booth

May 04 Dawn Thayer
11 Drake Lawson
18 Mark Nickerson
25 Philip Nickerson

Nursery

May 04 Chris McClellan
11 Amanda Knopf
18 Ivy Whilton
25 Amy Ransom

Sanctuary Flowers

May 04 Kathy Whittemore
11 Bill & Celia Gross
18 Caroline Benson
25 Lee Jones & Barrett family

Ushers / Greeters

Nancy Bullock

Birthdays

May 01 Liam Ferry
02 Caroline Benson
04 Soojye Gustafson
08 Connie Mahan
08 Andrew Owen
08 Bill Ransom
08 Elexis Johnson-Wilson
11 Fletcher Blumquist
11 Tristan Brumagin
16 Natasha Ferry
18 Logan Bullock
21 Brodie McElhatten
22 Mary Putnam
23 Chris McClellan
25 Terry Hockensmith
29 Denise Cederquist
29 Brian Wood

Anniversaries

May 02 Charlie & Natalie Lucks
03 Buddy & Anne Ward (45)
20 Chris & Allen Crocker
29 David Snyder & Susan Stout
30 Ken & Audrey Bakewell
30 Andrew & Deborah Owen (5)



Mother's Day

May 11, 2025



EASTER MEMORIALS AND HONORS

As we prepare to decorate our church sanctuary for Easter, we are again asking for your help. You may purchase a flowering plant of your choice that will decorate our church sanctuary, or you may specify your donation for the Deacon Fund or both. All donations may be in memory of or in honor of family, loved ones and/or friends.



Cost is \$8.00 each

Please specify your choice of flower below. Sorry no choice of colors.

ORDER DEADLINE IS MARCH 30, 2025

Flowers must be picked up after the Easter Sunday Service on April 20, 2025. Orders may be mailed to the church office or placed in the collection plate. Please enclose your check or cash in a separate envelope % Flower Committee. All Checks Should Be Made To: North Warren Presbyterian Church (or NWPC).

Please write "Flower Committee" on the memo line



Thank you for your participation. *The Flower Committee*

Name _____ Phone _____

Email: _____

| Type | How many | | Total |
|-------------|----------|---------|----------|
| Lily | _____ x | \$ 8.00 | \$ _____ |
| Tulip | _____ x | \$ 8.00 | \$ _____ |
| Daffodil | _____ x | \$ 8.00 | \$ _____ |
| Hyacinth | _____ x | \$ 8.00 | \$ _____ |
| Deacon Fund | | | \$ _____ |
| | | Total | \$ _____ |

In Memory Of: _____

In Honor Of: _____

Address Service Requested



North Warren Presbyterian Church
Presbyterian Church (USA)
200 S. State Street
Warren, PA 16365- 4645

Phone: (814) 723-5060
Email: secretary@nwpchurch.org
Web: www.nwpchurch.org

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Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 am
(10:00 am Memorial Day to Labor Day)

Church Office Hours: Monday,
Wednesday & Friday 11 am to 1 pm.
Other times by appointment

The Beauty of Easter



With OUR EYES we see the beauty of Easter
as the earth awakens once more...

With OUR EARS we hear the birds sing sweetly
to tell us spring again is here...

With OUR HANDS we pick the golden daffodils
and the fragrant hyacinths...

But only with OUR HEARTS can we feel the
MIRACLE OF GOD'S LOVE which redeems all men...

And only with OUR SOUL can we make our "pilgrimage to God"
and inherit His Easter gift of **ETERNAL LIFE**.