



The Vine

North Warren Presbyterian Church

200 S. State Street, Warren, PA phone (814) 723-5060

Sessions Corner

Winter 2025

Chris McClellan
Qadosh Bells
Director



Amanda Slack
Clerk of Session



Bill Gross
President of
Deacons



Chris McClellan
Acting Treasurer



Dawn Thayer
Secretary



The Congregation
Ministers of
The Gospel

PASTORAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE: We are pleased to announce that the Presbytery COM has approved the Mission study. It is now updated and LIVE on the CLC website, which is the site Pastors use to find new positions. As of now we have 22 “viable candidates”. With that being said, it does not mean we have 22 interviews, but 22 profiles to go through. We have several scheduled meetings with the PNC Committee, where we are going through these profiles and offering interviews to potential Pastors.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: We are happy to report that the furnace has been repaired. We are still fine tuning the thermostats but it is much more comfortable in the Sanctuary.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE: We sent \$800 to Church World Services for the Blanket Fund. We also sent a donation to Mission to the World, for Dr. Matt Megill, who is stateside visiting family until February when he and Tara and their two youngest (now teens) will head back to Niger, Africa, to continue serving at Galmi Hospital. When he was in Warren the last weekend of October, he asked for continued prayers for his family and all those associated with the Galmi Hospital compound. The political situation in the country continues to be tenuous at best.

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND: The way our financial situation stands, our monthly contributions have been substantially less than prior months/years. For example, October we brought in roughly \$6,000 of the \$12,000 that we would have normally needed when our previous Pastor was here. We are holding our own, since we are not currently paying a Pastor at this time, but it is still something that we need to keep in mind, and is of great concern, when hiring potential candidates. Our hope is still to hire a Full Time Pastor. With this being said, please continue to pray for our Congregation, our PNC Committee, and that God provide us with the perfect match for our needs.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, don’t hesitate to reach out to any of us on Session, or the PNC Committee

Amanda Slack
Clerk of Session / PNC Committee

Your fellow session members: Amanda Slack, Celia Gross, Ivy Whilton, Nancy Bullock, Dawn Thayer, Tricia Poston and Kyle Wilson.

Christmas Eve

Candlelight
Communion Service

7:00 pm



Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

You and your family are invited to attend our special Christmas Eve candlelight communion service at 7:00 pm on Wednesday December 24, to celebrate our Savior's birth. We will worship together with carols and the telling of the timeless story of how God's love was sent to earth to save this world. As part of the evening's worship, we will join together in sharing the Lord's Supper with individual, separate juice and bread, along with your choice of a personal "flameless" candle or a more traditional open flame while we join in singing Silent Night.

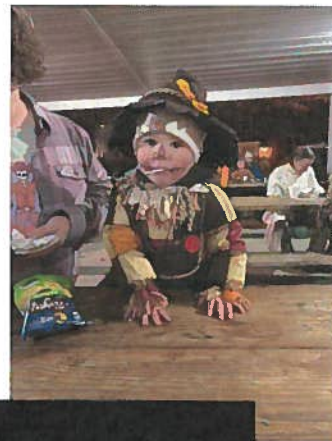
If you are not able to join us in person, the service will be streamed live on our Facebook page. Those celebrating at home are encouraged to provide their own juice and bread for communion, and a candle for the candlelight service.



Halloween in the Park

It was a very cold and windy night but folks braved the elements to join us in the pavilion. We served 260 hotdogs, 10 gallons of hot chocolate, 3 gallons of cider and SO MANY Halloween treats. Thank you to the Deacons who headed up the event this year for the Outreach Committee and to Ivy Whilton for the awesome decorations.

Thank you also to everyone who donated candy and those who came to help serve and greet our friends and neighbors.





News from the Pews



Winter 2025-2026

Sanctuary Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for the Sanctuary please see Marcia McKown know. These can be placed in memory or in honor of a loved one if you wish.

The following dates are open are February 22, March 22, May 3, July 5, October 4 & 11, and November 8.

Also, don't forget to pick up your poinsettia after the 7:00 pm Christmas Eve service.



Per Capita

The Presbytery adopted a \$37.00 per person Per Capita into their 2026 budget. This means our church pays \$37.00 per person (not family) to the Presbytery. If you would like to help us with this expense, please contribute this amount to the church and mark Per Capita on your memo line. Thank you.

Winter Address

If you are going south for the winter, please notify Dawn in the church office of your temporary address. Also, let her know when you are leaving and returning to Warren.

Sharing Place

Over the years, the heart of Sharing Place has remained steadfast. Churches have changed, volunteers have rotated, and meals have evolved—but the mission continues: to serve with kindness, consistency, and care. Meal counts grew steadily between 2016 and 2019, and when the pandemic came, the ministry adapted—ensuring meals and encouragement continued to reach those who needed them most.

As of the end of October 2025, more than 5,500 meals were served, an average of 122 meals each week. In all of 2024, 4,422 meals were served.

January 29, 2026 bakers are: Nancy Bullock, Susan Stout, Ellen Nelson, Ruth Morrison, Sheryl Ash and Amy Ransom.

Other weeks for 2026 are March 19, May 7, June 25, August 14, October 1, and November 19.

Thank you for your continued support – whether through prayer, giving, volunteering, or spreading the word. You are part of what keeps Sharing Place strong. There will always be a seat at the table. And always a reason to give thanks.



Sound Booth

Do you like working behind the scene? We have the perfect opportunity for you.

We are in need of folks in the sound booth on Sunday mornings. No extensive technical knowledge is required. There will be a short training session so you will be comfortable running the equipment.

Currently we have Dawn Thayer and Drake Lawson in the booth and once school is out, Drake will no longer be available. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to support our church.

If you have any questions, please see Dawn Thayer.

Ladies Luncheon

Prayer Group

The ladies will be traveling to the Hill Top Restaurant for their luncheon on December 11. Be there by 11:30 am. Let Marcia McKown know if you are attending (814) 726-0198

Just a reminder, there will be NO luncheon in January.

We will meet at 12:30 pm on February 12 in Fellowship Hall. Bring a covered dish to share. Coffee and dessert will be provided.

Note from the Deacons

The Board of Deacons would like to thank those who donated turkeys to fill our 13 Thanksgiving boxes. Your generosity is always appreciated.

Following the recent food drive, we delivered 22 boxes of food to the Salvation Army and 4 boxes to a local Food Pantry.

The Salvation Army Christmas gift "Angel Tags" are available for those interested. The unwrapped gifts must be returned to the church by Sunday, December 7 to allow time to sort and pack the gifts to be taken to the Salvation Army.


The Christmas season is a joyful time for most of us, but others have no extra money for gift giving or buying adequate food for their holiday table. Please contact one of our Deacons if you know someone in our congregation or community that needs assistance.

The Christmas Eve offering is an appropriate time for giving so the Deacons can say "yes" when calls for help are made to us.

Merry Christmas from the Deacons, Bill Gross, Shirley Betts, Judy Sweet, Ellen Nelson, and Denny McClellan.

North Warren Presbyterian Church

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

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|--|---|----------|
| | No School 1 6:00 PM Christian Ed | 2 | 3 | 4 6:00 PM Deacon | 5 | 6 |
| 7 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 11:30 am Ladies Luncheon Prayer Group at Hilltop Restaurant | 12 | 13 |
| 14 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee | 22 | 23 | No School 24 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service | No School 25 | No School 26 | 27 |
| 28 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship | No School 29 | No School 30 | No School 31 | |  | |

For a complete up-to-date view, visit our website at <http://www.nwpcchurch.org/events-news-and-lists>

December 2025

North Warren Presbyterian Church

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---------|-----------|--|--------------|----------|
| | | | | No School 1 6:00 PM Deacons 6:30 PM Community House | No School 2 | 3 |
| 4 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee | 5 6:00 PM Christian Ed | 6 | 7 | 8 NO Ladies Prayer Luncheon Group | 9 | 10 |
| 11 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | No School 16 | 17 |
| 18 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee | No School 19 Martin Luther King Day | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 Sharing Place | 30 | 31 |

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January 2026

North Warren Presbyterian Church

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--|-----------|---|
| Scout Sunday 1 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Soup and Pie hosted by Scouts and Scouters | 2 6:00 PM Christian Ed | 3 | 4 | 5 6:00 PM Deacons | 6 | 7 |
| 8 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee | No School 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 12:30 PM Ladies Luncheon Prayer Group | 13 | 14  |
| 15 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Communion service | No School 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |

For a complete up-to-date view, visit our website at <http://www.nwpcchurch.org/events-news-and-lists>

February 2026

December 2025

January

February 2026

Birthdays

| | | |
|-----|----|-------------------|
| Dec | 01 | Kate McClellan |
| | 09 | Burt Ward |
| | 10 | Wyatt Trojanowski |
| | 12 | Brett McElhatten |
| | 13 | Marian Hartman |
| | 15 | Melani Decker |
| | 20 | Nancy Bullock |
| | 24 | Sam McKown |
| | 26 | Ellen Nelson |
| | 27 | Cale Ash |
| | 27 | Judy McElhatten |
| | 30 | Madelyn Nelson |
| | 31 | Laura Megill |
| | 31 | Rylan Wilson |

Anniversaries

| | | |
|-----|----|--------------------------|
| Dec | 29 | Andrew & Caroline Benson |
|-----|----|--------------------------|

Sanctuary Flowers

Advent Decorations
and Poinsettias

Birthdays

| | | |
|-----|----|--------------------|
| Jan | 05 | Kathy Olson |
| | 08 | Kyle Wilson |
| | 10 | Ivy Whilton |
| | 14 | Taylor Swanson |
| | 14 | Gavin Wilson |
| | 15 | Shawn Billman |
| | 16 | Avalynn Swanson |
| | 20 | Alex Ferry |
| | 22 | Carol Pusateri |
| | 23 | William Swartz |
| | 24 | John Caito |
| | 24 | Ryan Knopf |
| | 24 | Alicia Trojanowski |

Sanctuary Flowers

| | | |
|-----|----|---------------------|
| Jan | 04 | Poinsettias |
| | 11 | Lois Marshall |
| | 18 | Bryan & Lynn Olsen |
| | 25 | Joe & Tricia Poston |

Birthdays

| | | |
|--|----|------------------|
| | 05 | Nova Gustafson |
| | 06 | Shirley Betts |
| | 10 | Buddy Ward |
| | 13 | Jaylene Swanson |
| | 17 | Lynn Olsen |
| | 18 | Ron Davies |
| | 20 | Levon Gustafson |
| | 22 | Mary Ann Erdmann |
| | 23 | Penny Wolboldt |
| | 25 | Susan Stout |
| | 26 | Teresa Blumquist |
| | 26 | Heather Nelson |

Anniversaries

| | | |
|-----|---|--------------------|
| Feb | 1 | Amanda & Joe Slack |
|-----|---|--------------------|

Sanctuary Flowers

| | | |
|-----|----|---------------------|
| Feb | 01 | Jim & Ruth Morrison |
| | 08 | Penny Wolboldt |
| | 15 | Mary & Sheryl Ash |
| | 22 | OPEN |

December 2025

January

February 2026

Lay Leaders

Dec 07 Heidi DeWald
14 Celia Gross
21 Ruth Morrison
24 **OPEN**
28 **OPEN**

Lay Leaders

Jan 04 Chris McClellan
11 Ivy Whilton
18 Heidi DeWald
25 Celia Gross

Lay Leaders

Feb 01 Boy Scouts
08 Ruth Morrison
15 Bill Gross
22 Mark Ash

Sound Booth

Dec 07 Dawn Thayer
14 Drake Lawson
21 Dawn Thayer
24 Drake Lawson
28 Dawn Thayer

Sound Booth

Jan 04 Drake Lawson
11 Dawn Thayer
18 Drake Lawson
25 Dawn Thayer

Sound Booth

Feb 01 Drake Lawson
08 Dawn Thayer
15 Drake Lawson
22 Dawn Thayer

After Church Coffee

Dec 07 Marcia McKown & Ellen Nelson
21 Mark & Sheryl Ash

After Church Coffee

Jan 04 Nancy Bullock
18 Chris McClellan

After Church Coffee

Feb 01 Boy Scouts
08 Mark & Sheryl Ash
22 Ivy Whilton

Ushers/Greeters

Bill Gross
Celia Gross

Ushers/Greeters

Ellen Nelson

Ushers/Greeters

Nancy Bullock

Nursery Workers

Dec 07 Chris Case Crocker
14 **OPEN**
21 Ivy Whilton
24 Megan Grady
28 Nancy Bullock

Nursery Workers

Jan 04 Christina Hartman-Wilson
11 Nancy Bullock
18 Christina Hartman-Wilson
25 Nancy Bullock

Nursery Workers

Feb 01 Chris Case-Crocker
08 Christina Hartman-Wilson
15 Chris McClellan
22 Christina Hartman-Wilson

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

Published Quarterly
Winter 2025-26 Newsletter

Sunday School: 9:30 am
Worship Service: 11:00 am

Church Office Hours are Monday,
Wednesday, and Friday. 11 am to 1 pm

MEGILL UPDATE

Since 2008, Matt & Tara have been working at a Christian hospital in West Africa. Matt works as a physician, as deputy director of HIV and TB programs, and as regional director. Tara champions vernacular Bible schools and provides educational support to the children. While Irene and Emmett are at university in the U.S., Alethea and John continue homeschooling in Africa.

In a region where less than 0.3% of the population is Christian, Matt and Tara's work seeks to strengthen every step of the journey from darkness to light. The ministry delivers life-sustaining medications to over 1,400 HIV-positive beneficiaries, as well as critical medical care for cases as diverse as malaria and cancer. As most patients come from villages with no Christian witness, Matt and Tara have the opportunity to share with many who have never heard the good news.

They also work with local pastors to strengthen follow-up evangelism, and discipleship. This Muslim majority country is one of the world's least-reached nations, and yet the light is breaking in.