



JERUSALEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September Newsletter

A Letter From Pastor Andy

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Dear JPC family and friends,

Many people volunteer their time, gifts, and resources to sustain the ministries of JPC. I want to spotlight one group who fills a pivotal need each fall—and throughout the rest of the year when called upon. The personnel committee is comprised of Larry Bartz (chair), Pat Bjorgaard and Cindy Barder (elders), Sue Snyder (deacon), and Kelly Parsons (member-at-large). Becky Gapinski is also a member of the team but is on hiatus due to her health concerns.

Every fall the committee works through a process of checking in with the four JPC staff members and makes a recommendation to the session regarding compensation for the coming year. The process varies from year to year; this year the process included a formal written evaluation for me (including a self-evaluation which I wrote and presented to the committee). As Nathan, Bruce, and Mary are all part-time, they do not have as rigorous or extensive an annual process. Each will meet individually with two members of the committee and talk about the successes and challenges of the past year, and what they need in terms of support for the coming year.

Last week I met with the committee for my evaluation. This took place earlier than most years due to scheduling conflicts for various members of the committee throughout September and October. The committee will have their informal check-ins with the other three staff members before the end of September.

One question raised by the committee last week during my evaluation was How can we support you (as pastor) better? We discussed the idea that the personnel committee is to be a conduit of communication. The committee members are here to collect feedback from the congregation—both positive and any concerns regarding members of the JPC staff—and communicate such things to the proper person(s).
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Weekly Happenings

Mondays

9:00 am Women's Coffee @
Black Canyon

Wednesdays

8:00am Men's Breakfast @
Sunnyside Restaurant in
Dousman

Sundays

9:30 am Worship Service

A Letter From Pastor Andy

Continued

I encourage any and every person who has feedback to reach out to Kelly, Cindy, Sue, Pat, and/or Larry. You can also contact Mary, Bruce, Nathan, or myself directly if you so desire.

Communication is a key in any relationship, whether that's pastor-congregant, director-choir member, or between family, friends, business associates, or anything else.

Thank you to the members of the personnel committee, and everyone else who volunteers so much to make our church the loving family that it is.

May Christ's Peace be with you,

Pastor Andy

An Admin Note from Bruce

It is a pleasure to serve this church in many capacities. As Office Amin, I want to insure the best of communication and service to all of you. I am in the office on Tuesdays from a short period (usually 9-11) to upload the live stream to YouTube and begin to layout the Sunday bulletin. If you need something communicated by eBlast or a short blurb in the bulletin, call me Tuesday or please send me an email by the end of Wednesday of each week. On Thursdays (9am-noon) I finish designing and printing the bulletin and then send out an eBlast to everyone. If something is urgent and I am off, please feel free to call my cell phone at 262-853-7616 so I may assist you. Thank you.



3 Phyliss Beil

6 Jake Schulz

8 Walter Schulz

8 Carolee Lancour

11 Abby Lorenz

12 Dawson O'Connell

12 Dawn Samuels

14 Karen Potratz

15 Perry Galloway

15 Maria Tammi

16 Valerie Dickinson

17 Linda Smith

23 Miranda Zywicki

25 Bonnie Morris

28 Bill Bailey

Mission Committee

The Peace & Global Witness Special Offering will take place between September 1 and October 6, 2024. This is the third of the four Special Offerings sponsored by the Presbyterian Church annually. Twenty-five percent of this offering stays with the local congregation to promote peacemaking in the community. Twenty-five is used at the presbyteries and synod in the region. The remaining portion will be sent to the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Thank you for your continued support.



Donna Lexa Art Fair Testimonial

Good Morning Pam and Karen,

I wanted to thank you both and all your colleagues for all your hard work in making the Donna Lexa Memorial Art Fair such a great day. I had a great experience for my first art fair and am so proud that I was a part of this fair.

I also wanted to thank you so much for the award, check, and entry into next year's fair. It truly means so much to me! Receiving the ribbon and hearing my name announced was definitely the high point of my weekend and first art fair experience. Between hearing all the great feedback from the many patrons of the fair and winning the award, brings me so much inspiration as I find my way along my artistic path.

Thank you again for everything! I very much appreciate all the work that everyone puts into organizing the Donna Lexa Memorial Art Fair. I am truly grateful! See you next year!

Sincerely,

Erich Ramb



The Hope Center Breakfast



We are looking for JPC volunteers to help serve our community members who are less fortunate. Sign up with your spouse or a friend from church. The typical hours are from 8:30am to 9:45am.

If you work on that day, consider being a volunteer to provide either a hot entrée, fresh bakery, fresh cut up fruit along with milk and juice.

Use the SignUp Genius, or see Bruce Parker. The next opportunities are Thursday on Sept. 6th and Oct. 3rd.

Hope Center's Mission

Reducing the risks of poverty by helping people in Waukesha County meet basic needs.

All of our programs are based on the needs that are recognized in our communities. We believe that helping people with their basic needs is essential for them to have dignity and respect in their lives. Hope Center has helped thousands of people over the years.

Habitat for Humanity Happenings



We are looking for volunteers like you, to help out on Saturday September 14th from 10am-1pm.

See Jerry about signing up.

Reflections on the JPC Annual Book Sale

The JPC Book Sale actually was preceded by a lending library on a rolling library cart at the back of the sanctuary. Anyone who had read a particularly enjoyable book set it on the cart along with videos and CD's.

Then we began getting larger donations of books and decided to sell them. Larry and I volunteered our basement to store the books as they were donated. We soon grew tired of hustling the heavy boxes up and down our stairs so donors were asked to hold off their donations until after the Chicken Barbecue so the boxes could be kept at the church. Our sale became an annual one augmented by the boxes of books left over from St. Mary's sale which our church members hauled and sorted before our own sale. This required a lot of coordination to secure a trailer and a team of workers with the muscle power to load and unload dozens of boxes. The actual sale, however, was part of the Donna Lexa Art Fair along the bike trail so once the titles were sorted, they had to be hauled once again onto tables set up along the trail under tents. Then someone had the brilliant idea to sell the left overs at the next Maxwell Street Sale in Mukwonago. So once more the boxes were loaded up in a trailer and unloaded at our stall for this two-day event. Finally the left overs were hauled once again into Half Price Books. Larry estimated that each box was handled 9 times over the course of a sale. And volunteers had to be recruited to sell at all these events. We only did this for a few years. Two years ago, when a potential storm caused the art fair to be postponed, we held the book sale as a separate event as it was now situated in the church and not in the park with art fair. Still, browsers and buyers supported the book sale as much as before so we knew it was an event anticipated by readers each year.

This year's sale was no exception. Visitors continued to tell us that they look forward to our sale every year. Volunteers selling the books shared titles and authors in lively conversations, helping visitors find what they're looking for and what might be considered according to their tastes. It is a way to demonstrate to the community at large that our church values reading and books and enables readers to stock up on quality titles to brighten up a long winter. A grocery bag full of books for \$10 is a steal. Teachers have been able to stock their classroom libraries on a budget. One woman came to the checkout with several bags of children's books she said she was buying in anticipation of adopting a child in the near future. She was very excited to share this news with us. That makes the effort of sorting and organizing so worthwhile for Kelly and I. We recognize that the Book Sale is a lot of work. And that we are an aging congregation which reconsiders projects each year based on what we still have the capacity to do. Does the benefit still outweigh the effort? That is what we have to decide.

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Reflections on the JPC Annual Book Sale Continued

This year's sale total was nearly \$1,200 and is designated for the HOPE Center which is running a gift matching program so every dollar donated will be matched dollar for dollar. They have a debt after moving into and renovating a new site. This kind of community involvement is so reflective of what our church is, a congregation reaching out to make a difference in Waukesha County. We have to decide, will this continue or will we change course and find another outlet. Meanwhile, the books remain in our basement until the Session decides where they go from here. -Marge Bartz

Small Fellowship Groups

This Fall, the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee is organizing small fellowship groups of 6 to 8 people. The groups will be set up and you can each take a turn planning your group's time together. You may want to meet for breakfast, lunch or dinner, in your home or at a restaurant. Unlike last time, your group will keep the same people so you get to know each other better.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the back of the church as well as on Sign Up Genius on or by Sunday September 1st. Please direct your questions to Pat Bjorgaard (414.690.8645) or Miranda Zywicki (262.391.5528)

The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee



The Many Faces of Jerusalem by Linda Ravelo



This is the first in a series of articles to highlight how Jerusalem makes God smile! The large Presbytery “Food for the Journey Garden” on County K in Stone Bank is supported by Delafield, Faith, Kettle Moraine and Jerusalem churches. Volunteers work two to three hours on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from May through October. They plant, tend, water and harvest hundreds of pounds of fresh vegetables weekly. The bounty includes beans, carrots, cucumbers, peppers, potatoes, radishes, summer squash, tomatoes and zucchini which are all delivered to Apostle church on 76th and Greenfield Ave in West Allis for their Wednesday food pantry.

Recent improvements to the garden include a series of covered compost bins, a tool shed and a garden hose conveniently inside a deer fence. The 5 (4x16) raised beds eliminate bending or kneeling and the wide gravel pathways make gardening a real pleasure.

Will you help make a difference and keep God smiling? By joining a team of workers during September, the joy of feeding our community in the future will continue.

Mondays: Harvest and Water

Wednesdays and Fridays : Tend and Water

Please see Linda Ravelo about car pooling to the site or call her at (262) 269-2936.



Using the Phone:

The church office hours are
Tuesdays 8:30-10:30 and
Thursdays 8:30 AM to 12PM

The church phone number is:
262-968-3408 or Rev. Andrew
Holmes can be reached at
(414) 544-2188.

Using the Post:

Our Location Address is:
Jerusalem Presbyterian Church
207 W. Main St.

Wales, WI 53183

Our Mailing Address is:

Jerusalem Presbyterian
Church

P.O. Box 88

Wales, WI, 53183

Using the Web:

To send an email to the pastor
revandrewholmes@gmail.com

To send an email to the church Office
Administrator Bruce Parker at
jpcoffice207@gmail.com

Visit our website for more information:
at jpcwales.org and also view YouTube
for past Sunday Worship Services and
other special life events.

Jerusalem Presbyterian Church
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