



July 2025 Newsletter

Embracing the Divine Beauty

As the sun rises higher in the sky, and nature blooms with vibrant colors, summer beckons us to embrace its warmth and beauty. For Christians, this season offers an opportunity to reflect on the wonders of creation, express gratitude to God, and find solace in His presence. Through the power of poetry, we can capture the essence of summer while intertwining it with our faith.

"Whispering Breeze"

In the hush of a gentle summer breeze,
I hear the voice of God whispering to me.
Through rustling leaves and swaying trees,
His presence surrounds, setting my spirit free.

"Sunlit Reflections"

As the sun casts its warm embrace,
Upon a tranquil, shimmering lake.
I see the reflection of God's grace,
And my weary soul finds solace, wide awake.

"Divine Masterpiece"

Behold, the canvas of creation unfurls,
Summer's colors, a divine masterpiece.
From emerald forests to blooming meadows,
God's handiwork, a testament of His peace.



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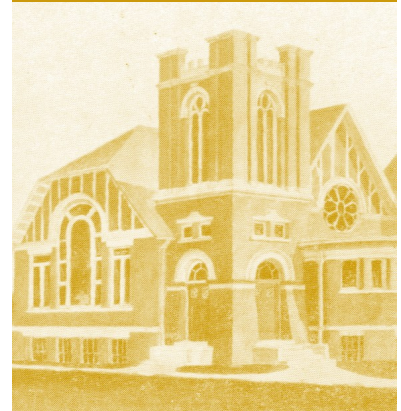
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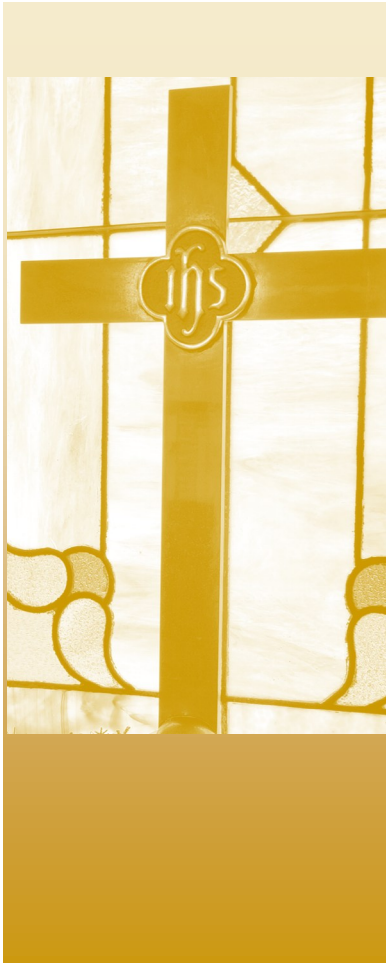
Weekly Happenings

Mondays: 9am Women's Coffee
at Black Canyon in Wales

Wednesdays: 8am Men's Breakfast
Sunnyside Up in Dousman

Sundays: 9:30am Worship Service





June Session Notes

2025 Session notes for the July newsletter. Here is a brief summary of the business items discussed at the June 11, 2025, session meeting.

June 11 motions:

- To approve the minutes of May 14, regular session meeting. **Approved.**
- To approve the minutes of May 21, special session meeting. **Approved.**

June 11 other business:

- Pat Ruis is filling one of the two vacant deacon positions.
- The trash collection issue has been resolved resulting in a lower monthly cost and credit given to the JPC account.
- JPC needs someone to teach Sunday school for the younger group starting this fall.
- Nathan Zywicki or Cindy Barder will provide updates about Pastor Holmes' status as it is available.
- The General Assembly (PCUSA) will take place in Milwaukee in the summer of 2026. JPC is a great candidate to be a host church for Assembly attendees to visit.

The next session meeting is scheduled for August 13. Note that this meeting will likely be cancelled due to the rescheduling of Pastor Holmes' surgery.



Habitat for Humanity Happenings

Come join in the fun, and meet the community!

ReStore Center: Saturday July 12th from 10:00am-1:00pm



Jerusalem has signed up to work at the Habitat for Humanity Restore Center on the second Saturday of each month from 10am until 1pm. Our duties include stocking donated items out on the sales floor, unloading donated items as they are brought in, helping customers load purchased items into their vehicles and straightening out items on the sales floor. New JPC Volunteers need to register at www.habitatwjc.org, click **volunteer** and then click on apply to **volunteer** and follow the instructions. Previous volunteers need to click on <https://habitatwaukesha.volunteerhub.com/vv2/lp/jpc> go to the JPC Calendar and click on the event they want to register for.

Sunday School Recap with Jane Bauer

Handing off the young people you have been working with for the past several years is definitely bitter sweet. You start with “Adam...who is he?” and you work your way through “I think what (whoever) did was really dumb” to “I read from my Bible everyday.” (Okay, not everyone does that!)

You become a part of the personal lives of the young people you serve and so, of course, continue to be interested in what they are doing. You also hope that you had some positive impact on their learning about what the Christian faith is all about and whether they are moved to believe what you present.

This year the older KIAs worked their way through the account of Jesus’ life and ministry as recorded in the Book of Matthew, the beginning of the church in parts of Acts and what the beliefs of Presbyterians are.

A big part of the program has been centered on giving. Yes, we have recorded what things the group members have done to share their time and talents. Everyone has participated in the worship service in some way, whether collecting offering or performing the role of liturgist or even entertaining with seasonal plays, works of art or piano playing. The most consistent role they have played in giving is in their selection of charities they have wished to support and to utilize Sunday School offerings, congregation support, and the rebates they have gotten from Sentry. The final two contributions of \$150 for

this past six months have gone to Mercy Ships which brings surgeries to people all over the world who would not be able to have access to them otherwise, and to the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) which rescues, releases and finds other ways to promote the safety of animals everywhere.

I would like to share a few words from each of these organizations in giving thanks to our young people for their support:

Mercy Ships: “Thank you for your \$150 gift to Mercy Ships. YOU helped bring hope and healing to children and adults who were struggling to survive. I wish you could see the smiles and joyful tears on the faces of our patients and their loved ones, and hear the heartfelt thanks directly from the people you are helping. They are extremely grateful and so are we. Friends like you are a blessing and your kindness CHANGES LIVES FOREVER.”

IFAW: “Because you cared, orphaned elephants are safe...wildlife can roam safely and freely...and animals caught in disasters are rescued and reunited with their family. What a lifesaving difference you are making for animals in need. We are so grateful for your support and your belief in a world where animals and people can thrive together in the one home we share.”

My heart is full for the love shown by our KIAs, and I hope yours is too!





The Hope Center Breakfast

Monthly we are looking for volunteers to help out with the Hope Center Breakfast.

Everyone is encouraged to sign up on the clip board in the narthex if you would like to be a server, help prep the main entree, buy some fresh fruit, ground coffee, bake some luscious muffins or other baked goods. Deb Bennett (Deacon) has agreed to plan the entrée selections throughout 2025. Recipes are located on the back of the clip board.

Below is a calendar of all the 2025 events remaining at The Hope Center so you are able to coordinate with your own schedules. We hope to see you there.



The Hope Center 2025 Calendar

Mission

Reducing the risks of poverty by helping people in Waukesha County meet basic needs such as food, shelter and clothing through services, partnerships and community collaboration

Vision

Providing hope and resources to help people

July 3rd 9am Breakfast

October 2nd 9am Breakfast

August 7th 9am Breakfast

November 6th 9am Breakfast

September 5th 9am Breakfast

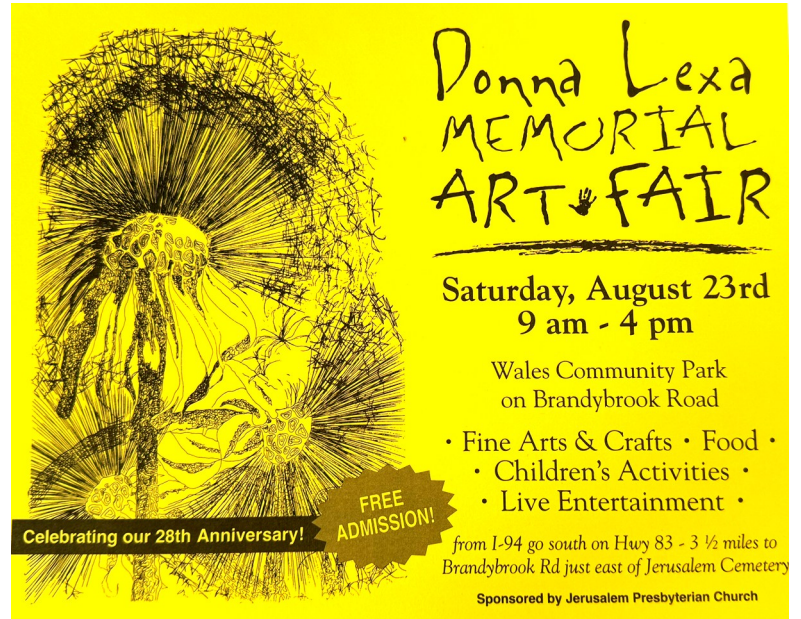
December 4th 9am Breakfast



Donna Lexa Art Fair

It's time to think about the 28th Donna Lexa Memorial Art Fair on Saturday August 23rd. The sign up sheets will be in the back of the sanctuary very soon, so watch for them as we will need everyone's help again. We have the artists, the musicians, and now all we need is you to help with this event.

Proceeds go to non-profits in Waukesha County and they all need financial help, so please help wherever you can, as it is greatly appreciated.



“Today you are you! That is truer than true! There is no one alive who is you-er than you!” – Dr. Suess

July Birthdays

3rd Bill Barder	21st George Morris
4th Gary Reichart	23rd Kristen McEwing
8th Gail Norwood	24th Christi Kilpatrick
8th Henry Zywicki	26th Deb Bennett
9th Cate O’Connell	26th Dean Potratz
11th John McEwing	26th Ron Dobrich
13th Rich Csavoy	27th Becky Gapinski
19th Kaylee Zywicki	27th Dennis Ruis



June Deacon's Report

- During the month of June your Deacons cared for our church community by initiating a summer "Fill The Barrel" food collection for the Food Pantry which will help feed families with children who do not receive school lunches during these crucial months.
- The Weekly Prayer Chain continues to reach out and keep everyone aware of those who need our urgent prayers.
- We celebrated Marge and Larry Bartz for their longtime commitment to our church and the friendships that will follow them to the next chapter of their lives.
- Happy Birthday wishes were sent out to fifteen of our fellow church family members.
- Visiting, carpooling, grocery shopping for one church member.
- We are deeply grateful for the church's ongoing commitment and support of the Hope Center breakfast, which provided meals to approximately 60 individuals this month. A heartfelt thank you as well to the deacons for generously supplying desserts and assisting with cleanup during the June 11th Hope Center dinner, where over fifty guests were warmly served.
- These expressions of love reflect Christ's calling for us to embrace grace to uplift and care for each other. We are profoundly grateful for the kindness and encouragement of our church family.

The Deacons

(Deb Bennett, Marge Bartz, Pat Ruis, Dawn Carr, Bruce Parker, Thea Ragatz, Linda Ravello)

The logo features the words "Embrace Grace" in a black, elegant cursive script. Behind the word "Embrace" is a teal-colored brushstroke graphic. Within this teal graphic are two overlapping hearts: a smaller red heart in front of a larger white heart.

Embrace Grace

Church Office Hours

Our Location Address:

Jerusalem Presbyterian Church
207 W. Main St.
Wales, WI 53183

Our Mailing Address:

Jerusalem Presbyterian Church
207 W. Main St.
Wales, WI 53183

Our Phone Numbers:

Church Phone 262-968-3408
Rev. Holmes 414-544-2188

Our e-Mail Addresses:

Pastor Andrew Holmes:
revandrewholmes@gmail.com

Office Admin. Bruce Parker:
jpcoffice207@gmail.com

Pastor Andy Holmes will be on medical leave from June 28 through Aug. 22. In case of emergencies, pastoral care, etc., contact either Bruce Parker at the church office, or one of the Deacon co-moderators, Thea Ragatz or Deb Bennett.

Admin. Bruce Parker: Tuesdays 9am-11am and Thursdays 9am-12 noon.

JPC Website & YouTube

JPC Website: Visit us for more information on the web at jpcwales.org.

YouTube Live Church Service Streaming: Every Sunday starting at 9:30am and new posting every Tuesday.

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=jerusalem+presbyterian+church



207 W. Main St.
Wales, WI 53183

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE