



September 2025 Newsletter

A Message From Pastor Andy

“How was your summer?”

I have dreaded that question over the past few weeks as I have started to reemerge from an eight-week medical leave. It is a common ice breaker question in meetings and other gatherings at this time of year. I have had to answer it at both a presbytery committee meeting and a meeting of the synod steering committee. I couldn't say what I really wanted to say: *How was my summer? Non-existent. Away from the world. Long, boring, zero stars, would-not-recommend. A waste of time.* Summer happened while I stayed at home, recovering from heart surgery, and I felt like the world passed me by.

I was reflecting upon this with my Aunt Bino, a retired financial executive from Bank of America. She has sat through her fair share (and then some) of meetings and ice breakers. She stopped me and said plainly: *“Your summer hasn't been pleasant, but it wasn't a waste of time. You have been doing what you needed to do to allow yourself hopefully many more summers.”*

One of the reasons I love Aunt Bino is her direct pragmatism. She is right: my summer was a lot of things, but a *waste of time* it wasn't. Our Christian theology teaches us that all time is gift, given by God. Because of this, all time is sacred and thus is never a waste. We are only wrong when we chose to use labels as such because God never declares something as time wasted. *“All in God's time,”* isn't that what we say? *Cont. Page 2*

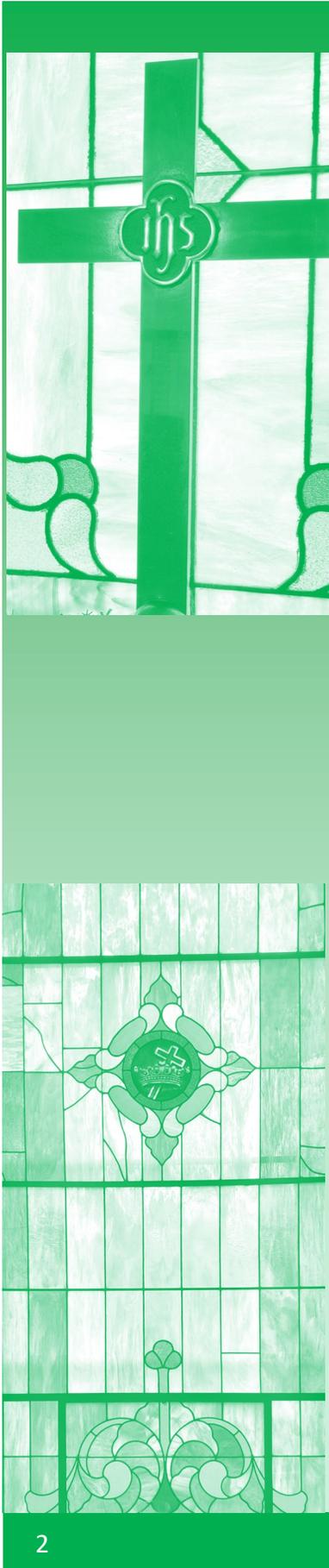
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Weekly Happenings

- Mondays: 9am Women's Coffee at Black Canyon in Wales
- Wednesdays: 8am Men's Breakfast at Sunnyside Up in Dousman
- Thursday: 7pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (check emails)
- Sundays: 9:30am Worship Service





A Message From Pastor Andy Cont.

There are other parts of God's creation that people mistakenly call *waste*. As is true for time, God created all space. So there is no space in our world that is a waste of space. All space is sacred; it just might be set aside for different purposes. We can find God in the JPC sanctuary, of course, but we also can find God in nature, or at the state fair, or in the church parking lot. God's presence is not limited or confined to space, so all space is sacred.

The third part of Christian theology I want to lift up is the idea that we are all made in the image of God. All people are, there is not a single person who has lived that wasn't. And so the same is true here: all people are sacred. No one is a waste. We are all born with gifts and talents, intellect and desires. And we are to treat our fellow humankind with that in mind.

This is true not just in Christianity but in most of the world's religions. It is one interpretation of the Sanskrit word *namaste*: "the divine in me honors the divine in you." Think of how our world would be better if we all believed that. And if we truly lived out that belief? What a world that would be. Welcome to autumn where hopefully we will honor God's creation of time, space, and people.

Namaste,
Pastor Andy

Session Notes

Both the July and August session meetings were cancelled since there were no urgent matters in immediate need of attention, and the fact that Pastor Holmes was unavailable to moderate the meetings.

The next session will be scheduled for September 10 (second Wednesday of the month). Anticipated agenda items will include the presentation of the report from the financial review committee and discussion about filling the open positions for both elder and deacon.

Congregants are encouraged to communicate their JPC related questions, issues, or concerns with any of the session members. Your feedback is appreciated.

September Birthdays

3 Phyliss Beil	15 Perry Galloway
6 Jake Schulz	15 Maria Tammi
8 Walter Schulz	16 Valerie Dickinson
8 Carolee Lancour	17 Linda Smith
11 Abby Lorenz	23 Miranda Zywicki
12 Dawson O'Connell	25 Bonnie Morris
12 Dawn Samuels	28 Bill Bailey
14 Karen Potratz	

***"Today is the oldest you have been and the youngest you will ever be again.
Make the most of it!" — Nicky Gumbel***

Habitat for Humanity Happenings

Come join in the fun, and meet the community!
ReStore Center: Saturday, September 13th from 10am-1pm



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. To sign up and volunteer, go to the sire below or speak with Jerry Gapinski.

<https://vhub.at/jpc>



The Hope Center Breakfast

Monthly we are looking for volunteers to help out with the Hope Center Breakfast. This also includes two evening events that we supply homemade desserts and beverages. We hope to see you there on Thursday September 5th at 9am.



Deacon's Monthly Update

In August, the Deacons continued to serve with compassion and care, supporting our community through meaningful acts of love:

- Sent 12 heartfelt cards to members in need of encouragement or congratulation
- Provided support through visits, phone calls, carpooling, grocery runs, and rides to church for two members.

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Food Pantry—your support has already filled the barrel once this summer! We will continue to “fill the barrel” through Labor Day—so bring your contributions.

We're especially grateful for your ongoing commitment to the Hope Center Breakfast, where we served approximately 60 individuals this month. We've noticed an uptick in breakfast numbers (we ran out of baked goods!) We're continuing to plan on 60 and will monitor numbers for the next few months.

Mark your calendars for an October Hope Center drive! Stay tuned for upcoming information on the Ernie Glenn Toy Store and the Christmas Clearing House.

Through these acts of service, we reflect Christ's invitation to love and support one another with grace and humility. We are sincerely grateful for the compassion, generosity, and uplifting spirit shared by our church community.

If you or someone you know could use a helping hand, please feel free to connect with us. With heartfelt gratitude, The Deacon Team



Food for the Journey “A Pizza Party For A Cause”

Food for the Journey is hosting a pizza and music in the garden night on **Friday, September 12, beginning at 5:30 p.m.** and is open to the entire Milwaukee Presbytery. There, you'll be able to build your own personal-sized pizza and top it with fresh veggies right out of the garden! These pizzas will be cooked outside with grills, and musicians from various churches will share musical pieces in the garden setting. This event will be open-house style, so everyone can come when they're able. There is no cost for this event, but a free-will offering will be collected to benefit Food for the Journey. The location of this event is Food for the Journey's flagship garden, located at Kettle Moraine United Presbyterian Church N66W32690 County Trunk Highway K in Hartland.



The original goal was to feed our neighbors are who served by the weekly food pantry at Apostle on 76th. JPC has increased its participation from one to four and now to eight families in 2025.

The week of September 22-27 will be the last opportunity for JPC to support this important ministry. New volunteers will be matched with experienced mentors.

Is this your time to get involved with the Journey garden?

Say “Yes! I will take a step forward in my faith.”



*Food for
the Journey*

A PIZZA PARTY FOR A CAUSE

Kettle Moraine Presbyterian
N66W32690 County Trunk Hwy K,
Hartland, WI 53029

*free will donations accepted
outside rain or shine*

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2025
BEGINNING AT 5:30PM**

*we'll provide the ingredients,
you build a pizza and we'll fire it up!!*

*are you a musician?
bring your instrument or your voice and
we'll have an open mic!*

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:
re-
vandrewholmes@gmail.com

Office Admin. Bruce Parker:
jpcoffice207@gmail.com

Church Office Hours

Pastor Andrew Holmes: Wednesday's 9am-12 noon and Thursdays 10am-1pm
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](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=jerusalem+presbyterian+church)



207 W. Main St.
Wales, WI 53183

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE