

Jerusalem Presbyterian Church

June 2026 Newsletter



A Message from Pastor Andy

Dear JPC members and friends,

With the PCUSA's General Assembly set to convene in Milwaukee later this month, I thought now would be a good time to explore our heritage and history. What makes us Presbyterian versus other forms of Protestants? This question is rooted more in polity and church governance than in theology. The founding of the Presbyterian church in North America is often said to be 1706. This is not when the oldest congregations were established, however, as the earliest Scottish and Scotch Irish settlers arrived in the 1640's.

1706 is important as it was the year that eight ministers and church leaders came together to form the first presbytery, the Presbytery of Philadelphia, that included congregations in the colonies of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware. Our denomination's identity is historically linked to being a connectional church. Congregations were congregationalist until they agreed to be held in the fellowship and discipline of the larger church. That is what it means to be Presbyterian.

After the American Revolution, Presbyterians in the newly formed United States believed they needed to have a national gathering. They called together representatives of the various synods, presbyteries, and congregations. The first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church was held in Philadelphia in 1789. John Witherspoon, the president of the College of New Jersey (now known as Princeton University) was elected as the first moderator of the General Assembly. Witherspoon also holds the distinction of being the only minister amongst the signers of the declaration of independence.

This summer is the 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church. It is also the 250th anniversary of the signing of the declaration of independence. If we take out the 13 years between the signing of the declaration of independence and the first General Assembly, that leaves only 11 years of American history without a General Assembly. Next Pg.>

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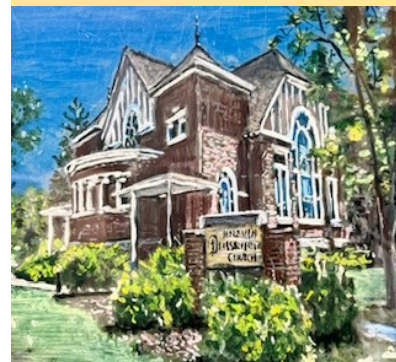
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Weekly Happenings

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

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

Sundays: 9:30am Worship Service



A Message from Pastor Andy continued

The discrepancy comes from the decision for General Assembly to start meeting every other year in 2004. 2005 was the first year without a General Assembly, and now the assembly only meets in even numbered years.

This is just a basic timeline of Presbyterianism in North America. The real story is full of twists and turns, of schism and reunification. Though our country, our church, and our world has changed greatly in over two centuries, I like to think of the common connection between us and those who have come before. The issues raised this summer in Milwaukee are both radically different and surprising familiar to the many assemblies that have come before.

I invite each of us to pray for the General Assembly this June. For the safe travel of all commissioners, delegates, and leaders coming to southeast Wisconsin. For the Holy Spirit to be present in the committee meeting, the plenary, and all other events. And I pray, as always, for God's will to be done.

Enjoy the summer months,

Pastor Andy

Session Update

Here is a summary of the business items discussed at the May 13 session meeting.

May 13 motions:

- ◆ To approve the minutes of the April 8 session meeting. **Approved.**
- ◆ To reclassify fifteen members as inactive. **Approved.**
- ◆ To adopt an anti-racism policy as required by the Book of Order. **Approved.**
- ◆ To adopt a revised version of the Expectation Guidelines for the Policy on Safeguarding Children. **Approved** (with one abstention).

May 13 other business:

- ◆ Roof replacement is expected to be completed in May.
- ◆ The JPC/Donna Lexa Memorial Art Fair committee has selected the scholarship recipient. There will be one \$1,000 scholarship rather than two \$500 scholarships as done in the past.
- ◆ A significant amount of negative feedback was received concerning the listening session May 3, 2026, following Sunday service.

Next session meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2026.

The Annual JPC Chicken BBQ

Fire Up the Grills — It's Barbecue Time!

Our **Annual Chicken Barbecue** is right around the corner, and we're gearing up for one of the biggest, tastiest traditions of the year!

For just **\$18**, guests will enjoy a hearty plate featuring $\frac{1}{2}$ **chicken**, **homemade potato salad**, **fresh coleslaw**, **a dinner roll**, and a **slice of homemade pie**. It's comfort, community, and classic JPC hospitality in one meal.

But to make this event shine, **we need volunteers** — and lots of them!

Here's where you can jump in:

- **Grillers & Chicken Crew** — Early risers unite! Fire-up begins **Saturday, June 20 at 6 AM**
- **Potato Salad Team** — Chopping, mixing, assembling on **Friday, June 19**
- **Coleslaw Makers** — Help prep one of our signature sides **Saturday June 20th at 9am**
- **Pie Bakers** — Homemade pies are the heart of this meal
- **Pie Slicers & Packers** — Bring pies to church **Friday, June 19** for slicing & container prep
- **Cleanup Crew** — The unsung heroes who help us finish strong

Serving Day: Saturday, June 20 • 11:00 AM – 5:00pm (Rain or shine!) Come for an hour or stay for the day — every pair of hands makes a difference.

This barbecue is more than a fundraiser; it's a celebration of fellowship, teamwork, and the joy of serving our community. If you can lend your time, your recipe, your grill skills, or your elbow grease, we'd be grateful to have you on the team.

Let's make this year's barbecue our best (and most delicious) yet!



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General Assembly Luncheon at JPC

The 227th Presbyterian General Assembly will be in Milwaukee June 22 through July 2, 2026. The members of JPC will be hosting a luncheon for Presbyterian Church USA on Sunday June 28th.



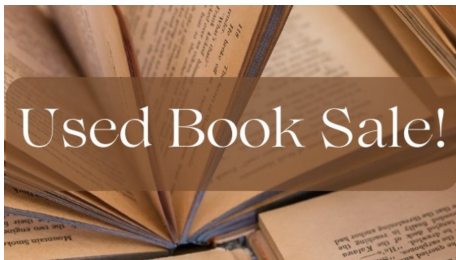
H4H ReStore Happenings

Come join in the fun, and meet the community!
ReStore Center: Saturday May 9th 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. To sign up and volunteer, go to the site below or speak with Jerry Gapinski.



Calling All Readers



We are now accepting donations for the 2026 JPC Used Book Sale. Books can be dropped off at the church, or contact Kelly Parsons (kkparsons13@gmail.com, 919-824-6624) for assistance. Thank you!

June Birthdays

- 6th Chris Schultz
- 11th Ken Alderden
- 16th Jerry Gapinski
- 20th Don Badgley
- 23rd George Conway



Summer Garden Party

You're Invited to our first Church Garden Party!

June 24, 2026 • 5–7pm at the home of Dave & Dawn Carr



Come enjoy a summer evening surrounded by friends, flowers, and good times! Bring your own food, drinks and chairs and settle in for a couple of hours of easy conversation, laughter, and community. It's a simple gathering with a simple goal: to enjoy God's creation and one another.

We'd love to see you there and hope you'll join us for this lovely night in the garden.

Sydney Parsons Graduates

Kettle Moraine High School graduate Sydney Parsons will be recognized during worship on Sunday, May 31st. The Deacons presented Sydney with a personalized special gift on behalf of the entire church and hosted a gathering for her family after the service.

Sydney's commitment to athletics and academic excellence was awarded with five scholarships at the KMHS Awards program in May. She also received the Jinelle Siergiej Scholarship Award from the Arrowhead girls hockey program for being a scholar athlete with a high GPA and the KM Laser's Fastpitch Club Scholarship from the KM Softball Club.

Sydney will enter the University of Iowa's exercise science program this fall and hopes to continue playing hockey and softball in addition to possibly to continue lessons with piano and clarinet. The University of Iowa also awarded Sydney the National Scholar Award and Wisconsin Access Award.

Congratulations Sydney and the best of luck following your dreams. JPC celebrates all your accomplishments and graduation along with you and your loving family.



Life Begins with a Tiny Seed

The journey of life has many chapters to tell. One of my favorite childhood memories was caring for my family garden. I still ponder the miracle of how a tiny seed can help feed the world.

You are invited to relive your memories too by helping out at the Journey Garden this summer. Enjoy the peace and beauty of creation that abounds by helping plant, weed and water realizing the satisfaction that comes by sharing the bounty of our harvest with our Milwaukee neighbors at Apostle PC on 76th St.

“So, do not fear. I will provide for you and your little ones.” [Genesis 50:21](#)

Hope Center Breakfast & Dinner in June



Monthly we are looking for volunteers to help out with the Hope Center Breakfast that is the first Thursday of every month. This also includes two evening events that we supply homemade desserts and beverages.

We have two opportunities in June where you can help serve those less fortunate who live in our communities: The Hope Center Breakfast on Thur., Jun. 4th at 8:30am and The Hope Center Dinner on Wed., Jun. 10 at 5pm.

Please sign up on both sign sheets located in the narthex to help out. Thank you.

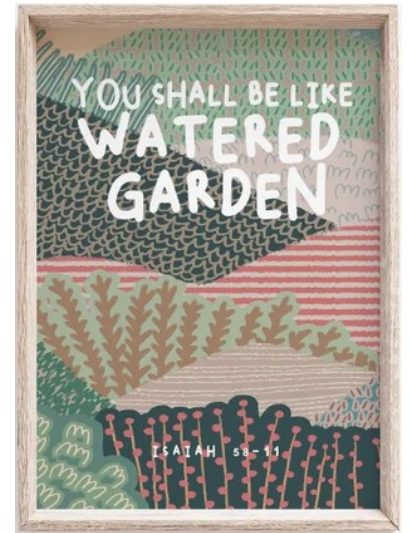
JPC Garden Gossip

How are gardeners and artists alike? What do chefs and musicians have in common? Could runners and weeders experience that same physical “high”?

Each human being needs food for the body and soul. People discover and develop their unique gifts through trial and error.

Does gardening “feed” you and does exercise bring you joy?

Green Thumb volunteers gather just once a week, each Thursday from 9am-10:30am to water, feed and weed our church flower gardens. Please consider joining us in becoming co-creators with God.



Delafield Presbyterian Church Event



June 18-20
Sept. 24-26
9:00 AM—3:00 PM

Discover hidden treasures & one-of-a-kind finds at this year's DPC Annual Rummage Sale!

From household gems to a wide variety of clothing for all ages, there is something for everyone. Do not miss great deals and a fun community event!

Delafield Presbyterian Church Rummage
1851 North Genesee Street ~ Delafield, WI 53018
608-618-5821 ~ DPC123.org
DPC-Event@hotmail.com

Our Location Address:

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

Our Mailing Address:

Jerusalem Presbyterian Church
PO Box 88, 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 Administrator:

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-Noon

JPC Website & YouTube

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

YouTube Steaming Live Church Services:

Every Sunday morning starting at 9:30am with a posting every Monday.

[https://www.youtube.com/results?](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=jerusalem+presbyterian+church)

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