

Jerusalem Presbyterian Church

October 2026 Newsletter



A Message from Pastor Andy

Dear JPC members and friends,

Last week I flew to California to visit friends. Travelling home was challenging in many ways, beginning with experiencing LAX for the first time. I got hooked by a salesperson to sign up for a free trial of Clear+, the fast-pass system through airport security. All I had to do was cancel the trial within 10 days or my credit card would be charged. Making matters more challenging, I eventually discovered that I had typed in an error on my email address, so there was no easy way to cancel the service. All of the Clear+ customer support was through AI, no matter whether I was chatting through their website, or calling the support phone number. After many frustrating minutes arguing with computers, I eventually was able to talk to a real person. She fixed my email address and I was able to cancel the service within five minutes.

This experience with Clear+ and AI customer support was my latest reminder that technology is great, if it works. But that is a big *if*. Technology can make life easier when it is smooth, like my Delta app telling my watch that my section of the plane is boarding. But technology can cause rage-inducing frustration when it doesn't work like it's supposed to.

Technology is great, when it works. That's true for many things in the world, not just technology. We can describe faith and religion in similar terms. Having faith is great, if it brings comfort, peace, or purpose. But having faith isn't great if it leads to guilt, judgment of others, hatred, or distress. Religion is great if it makes the world a more loving place, but it's not great if it leads to division, violence, and war.

The same is true for the church. JPC is great, when it works in worship, nurture, fellowship, and mission. When JPC doesn't work correctly, it can be a stumbling block. As we go through fall, I am wondering: is our congregation working? If it is, that's great! But if it's not, what do we need to do to make it work?

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Weekly Happenings

Mondays:

9am Women's Coffee at Black Canyon in Wales

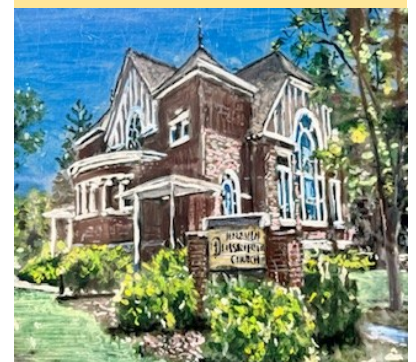
Wednesdays:

8am Men's Breakfast at Sunnyside Up in Dousman

5:30pm Bible Study at Three Pillars in the activity center

Sundays:

9:30am Worship Service



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A Message From Pastor Andy continued

I would love to hear your answers to this question, along with any suggestions you might have to make our church more faithful, more energetic, or more loving.

May the Peace of Christ be with you,

Pastor Andy

October Birthdays

2 Manford Morris	15 Dan Lancour
2 Marilyn Morris	15 Cindy Freer
3 Sue Woggon	19 Mary Peterson
7 Bob Cullen	28 Kris Parker
9 Sue Snyder	31 Jane Bauer
12 Paul McEwing	31 Cindy Galloway



Hope Center Breakfast in November



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 an opportunity in September where you can help serve those less fortunate who live in our communities: The Hope Center Breakfast on Thursday, November 5th at 8:30am.

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

Deacon's Report



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Fill the Barrel summer food collection drive. Throughout the rest of the year, we will continue to collect food donations every Sunday to continue helping our neighbors facing food insecurity.

With grateful hearts, we share the ways our Deacon Ministry was blessed to serve throughout the past couple of months. Your kindness, prayers, and steady encouragement strengthen the care we offer to our congregation and our community.

- -We sent 33 cards of support, encouragement and congratulations to members of our church family, reminding them that they are held in love, prayer, and community.
- -Delivered 2 comfort care baskets one each to Carol & Dan Lancour and the Parker family.
- -Visited 2 members of the congregation in need of support.
- -Called twice to one of our members who is no longer able to attend our church.

-Gave rides to church twice a month for one of our members.

Each month, we continue to serve a hot breakfast at the Hope Center, feeding between 72 and 79 people. The demand for this ministry continues to grow, and its future depends on the generosity and involvement of our congregation. We need additional volunteers and support to help sustain this vital outreach and continue serving those who rely on it.

As always, we are profoundly grateful for the compassion, faithfulness, and joyful spirit that shine so brightly in our church family. If you or someone you know is in need of care, prayer, or support, please reach out — we are here to serve.

With heartfelt appreciation, The Deacon Team

H4H ReStore Happenings

Come join in the fun, and meet the community!

ReStore Center: Saturday, October 10th from 10:00am-1:00pm

Jerusalem has signed up to work at the Habitat for Humanity Restore Center in Waukesha 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. <https://vhub.at/jpc>



Session Update for September

Here is a summary of the business items discussed at the September 9, 2026, session meeting.

September 9 motions:

To approve the minutes of the August 12, 2026, session meeting. **Approved**

To approve membership transfer for Manford and Marilyn Morris. **Approved**

To adopt the Congregational Life committee description. **Affirmed**

September 9 other business / discussion points:

Personnel evaluations should be completed in October.

Christmas in Wales format is expected to change significantly this year which may impact on the lunch activities held at JPC.

Discussion of pledging trends.

Current committee organizational chart:

Committee	Chairperson	Session liaison	Members
Building & Grounds	Dave Christiansen	David Christiansen	Dave Christiansen
Congregational Life			Cindy Barder
Finance	Margaret Wieland	Margaret Wieland	Margaret Wieland
Personnel	Pat Bjorgaard &	Cindy Barder	Cindy Barder
Worship	Nathan Zywicki	Margaret Wieland	Margaret Wieland

Next session meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2026.

New Congregational Life Committee

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE

Purpose: The Congregational Life Committee is a ministry group focused on fostering a welcoming, connected, and supportive church family. It plans fellowship events and educational opportunities, welcomes new visitors, integrates new members, and promotes involvement in the larger community (mission).

Responsibilities

- **Fellowship Events:** Plan potlucks, coffee hours, picnics, seasonal dinners, and receptions.
- **Hospitality:** Welcome members and visitors during Sunday services and special gatherings.
- **Membership Integration:** Help new attendees transition into active church members and connect with small groups. Maintains the Church Directory.

Mission: Promote engagement in the larger community, support PCUSA mission / special offerings.

Accountability and Reports:

The committee shall report to the Session monthly through the committee chairperson or the session elder liaison.

The committee shall prepare a report for the annual congregational meeting.

The committee shall maintain records of its activities and meetings.

Membership

One or more session members (at least two preferred) appointed by session to serve on the committee, one of whom may be the chairperson or the session liaison.

One or more other church members appointed by session to serve on the committee.

The Pastor ex-officio.

Meetings: The committee shall meet regularly and when deemed necessary.

Procedures, Policies, and other Documentation:

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)

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

Jerusalem Presbyterian Church
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