


Family Ministries Update

Wayside Unites for 2024 Lancaster County Crop Walk

The largest participating church congregation in the County
We raised over \$1500!

23 Walkers were led by Rachel Holsey, the Youth coordinator of our Family Ministries Team, who walked with her family, including Chuck Holsey (who champions our online Wednesday night Bible Study), and three children, Drew, Luke, and Lorelei; Sonja Eckert, our Youth Ministries Director and her husband, Ken, and 5 children, Kullen, Mackenzie, Conner, Cody, and Kaleb; Pastor Steve and Meg Fritz; Kim Crothamel, Wanda Pabon, D'Yani, and Daniel plus Aunt Jackie; Judy Wright; Shawn & Keith Hershey, and Deb Kereczman.

Opportunities to help out- look for the icon: 



Trunk 'n Treat Recap So much more than candy!

We were blessed with great weather as our grateful neighboring families visited our campus for Trunk 'n Treat. -Pastor Steve greeted every family personally upon entry. What a great opportunity to meet the Pastor 1:1. No other time during the year is this possible for so many local families. -Our friendly Welcome team gathered over 100 names for our database, which is used to continue communications with visitors about things they've told us they're interested in with the goal of getting them connected at Wayside. -Many thanks to our 15 Trunk hosts. Your conversations with our guests showing Wayside's Christian love and caring was beyond amazing. -It was so fun watching the kids waving to the band, our celebrity music makers, as they danced, snapped, and sang along. Such a festive addition to the overall environment from Grace Notes, showing off their talents amidst a sign inviting guests back to hear them at 10:30 worship on Sundays. -Our Family Ministries Team had the unique idea to use the tent framework to define their area! Out teens ran games for the guests and ran the show, with their leaders cheering them on. Volunteers rarely get to see other event areas because they're so busy for that fast 90 minutes, but you all would have been so proud to see our kids in action. -Our Food Team served hot dogs and chips galore along with water and lemonade, using up our complete inventory. -There was definitely "Magic In the Air" with Erick Hershey sharing his unique skills with visitors in the Pavilion.

Thanks to all who made this such a special night, showing hospitality to our neighbors. When they're looking for a church home, please pray that they will remember their positive experience at Wayside!

Upcoming Youth Ministry Events



Parents' Night Out -Friday, Dec 6, 5:30-8:30 pm


Dinner followed by crafts and "reindeer games."
At least 5 adults (with clearances) are needed to help.

Giving Tree Project



Take a tag from the tree in the narthex to buy a gift for a Hempfield School District Student whose family might be experiencing financial hardship. Please sign out any tags you take. Gifts should be new, unused and unwrapped (gift bags are okay). Please drop off gifts by Dec 9 at 10 am.

Thank you!



**Presbyterian
Youth Triennium
July 28-31, 2025**

In July 2025, the Presbyterian Church (USA) will welcome thousands of its high school age youth and their adult youth workers to Louisville, Kentucky for four days of worship, recreation, bible study, outreach, and faith formation all around the theme of "As if We Were Dreaming".

Most programming and meals will be held at the Kentucky International Convention Center (KICC) with all participants housed at nearby Triennium hotels.

If you are interested in more information, please contact Rachel Holsey:
waysidepcyouth@gmail.com

Pre-registration has already started. If you're interested in participating in any way, please let Rachel Hosley know promptly. Thanks!

Staff Update

Pastor Steve, Head of Staff, completed the annual review process and reported to HR that all employees are serving the church well. Wayside has a faithful and active Family Ministry, an excellent music staff, and a fully functioning office and support team.

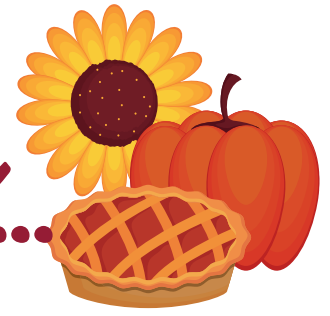
Pastor's Corner

Colossians 3:16

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

As our country and church move away from an intermidably long political season and into the long-awaited holy days of giving thanks and celebrating the Birth of Christ, I thank God for the privilege of worshiping and serving with this increasingly diverse congregation. The Apostle Paul reminds us in his Letter to the Colossians to keep our focus on God's Word, our conversations encouraging, and our church culture open to a variety of worship styles that inspire the Christian journey of life and faith. May God be the unseen Guest at your holiday tables, and a loving and powerful presence at Wayside as we pursue What's Next. Shalom!

By the Way...



Monthly Ministry Highlights - November 2024

Session Highlights



- The November 12 stated Session meeting opened with a devotion on thankfulness.
- Minutes and reports were received, with some clarification.
- Trunk 'n Treat was reviewed with high praise, and as a party that kept neighbors gathered rather than a quick in and out.
- The Nominating Team will present its report at the Congregational Meeting Nov 17.
- HR reviewed the Pastor and reflected on the past year with other staff.
- Finance gave an encouraging report, and a positive outlook for 2025. Some pledges are still outstanding.
- Tech purchased two new speakers for the sanctuary, and received some professional calibration of our sound system.
- Welcome Team spoke about the new Desk in the narthex, and the recent Seekers Class. Session received five new members: Anne and Fred Boyle; Darlene Diffenderfer; Mary Muma; and Theresia Tekang, with public reception date to be determined.
- Worship Team is set for the holidays, and will be hosting a special Bell Concert in the new year open to the community.
- Two mission projects have been chosen for the season, a hoodie collection for our Tree of Warmth and a Giving Tree for Needy Hempfield families.
- Clerk announced the resignation of Donegal Stated Clerk Michael Wilson, joining the staff of the PCUSA Board of Pensions.
- Closing Reflection of the meeting was positive, and focused on thankfulness.

Wayside... Helping Change the World. For Good.

Thanks to everyone who submitted pledge cards for 2025. (And if you forgot, cards may still be submitted- available on the hallway table. No worries!) We hope each team's "Minute for Mission," presented in the weeks prior to Commitment Sunday, helped create understanding of how your tithes & offerings are put to use at Wayside. Here are 6 creative giving ideas from the Finance team:

1. If you're at least 70.5 years, and have an IRA, you're required to withdraw an RMD each year, which is taxable income. You can instead send that amount (or more, or less) directly to Wayside as a QCD. If you do that, IT'S NOT TAXED, actually giving more to Wayside and paying less tax. 12 families are currently using this strategy, equaling \$134,000 (38% of the 2024 stewardship budget.)
2. If you have a 401k, strategy #1 isn't available, BUT you can easily convert a 401k to an IRA.
3. If you're younger than 70.5, you can give 2 years of pledges at the beginning and end of one year, which may allow you to itemize your deductions one year then take standard deduction the next. BONUS: Since these donations are normally made once a year and are sizable, Finance works to augment your stewardship, gaining additional interest through a money market account. In the past year, we've been able to generate over \$5000 in interest.
5. Consider a charitable remainder trust, creating an endowment fund.
6. Put Wayside in your will, smartly. When you decide to give Wayside 10% of your estate, make sure to tap your IRA first for that, reducing tax burdens for beneficiaries.

Advent at Wayside

As we approach the Advent Season, here's what's happening at Wayside:

- **By Nov 21-** Order **Poinsettias** to decorate the church for Christmas Eve Services. Forms on the table in the hallway.
- **Nov. 30 9:30 a.m.- Presbyterian Women Greening of the Church**
- **Dec. 1- First Sunday in Advent and Visitor's Sunday.** Bring your welcome smile with you! Pick up a copy of your Advent and/or Daily Bread devotional for December.
- **Dec. 8- 4:00 p.m.- Special service of Comfort & Peace.,** created to bring hope to those entering this holiday season with the many challenges life brings. When all around you are joyous and you are not, or you have friends and neighbors who might be comforted by such a service, please bring them to Wayside.
- **Dec. 24 Christmas Eve: 5:30 Contemporary; 7:00 Traditional Worship**
- **Nursery available** at all services throughout the Advent season.
- **Dec. 29- 10:00 am One Service (No Nursery)**

On a Mission....

The Tree of Warmth- A Change This Year
As we head into Advent and the New Year, we have several Mission Projects in which you may choose to participate!

- Warmth is provided in many ways! This year, Hands Across the Street has requested new hoodie sweatshirts. You may bring them in and fold them under the Tree of Warmth at the end of the hall. If you have already made or shopped for hats, gloves, or scarves, you are also welcome to bring them in. They will be put to good use!
- The "Giving Tree" supports families in the Hempfield School District- Wayside is sponsoring 8 families with 15 children. See gift requests on the Giving Tree in the Narthex beginning this week.
- Our Christmas Eve offering will be split between Wayside and Hands Across The Street Ministries.



- **The Advent season is upon us. Set aside time for devotions, prayer, family, seasonal activities, and Wayside worship & mission opportunities. Don't lose sight of the real "reason for the season."**
- **Volunteers are appreciated for December Family Ministry events. Clearances are required. - Please see Sonja Eckert**