

# WEST ALEXANDER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Monthly Newsletter-June 2026

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## Greetings Corner

### Psalm 57 - Devotional

#### Safe Beneath His Wings

“Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast.” — Psalm 57:1 (KJV)

David wrote Psalm 57 while hiding in a cave, running for his life from King Saul. Though afraid and overwhelmed, David chose to trust God rather than surrender to despair. He cried out for mercy, believing God would shelter him “under the shadow” of His wings.

This image reminds us of a bird protecting its young during a storm. The storm may still rage, but there is safety near the One who protects us. Many of us experience “cave seasons” in life — times of illness, grief, uncertainty, or fear. Psalm 57 reminds us that refuge is not found in perfect circumstances, but in God’s presence.

What is especially powerful is that David begins the psalm with fear, but ends it with praise:

“Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens.” (v.5)

His situation had not yet changed, but his focus had. Worship lifted his eyes from his troubles to the faithfulness of God.

Sometimes faith is not escaping the cave immediately — it is learning to worship while still inside it.



#### Prayer

*Lord, when fear and uncertainty surround me, help me rest beneath Your wings. Teach me to trust You in every storm and to praise You even before circumstances change. Be my refuge, my strength, and my peace. Amen.*

**As the school year winds down**, we congratulate all our students for their hard work and diligence to complete another year. Especially to those graduates of high school and/or college!

Brody Wagner



**Prayer for our graduates**

*Heavenly Father, surround our graduates with Your grace. Bless them with hope as they step into the future with eagerness and open hearts. Guide them to use the knowledge, skills, and insights they've gained through their education for the good of all humanity. Amen.*

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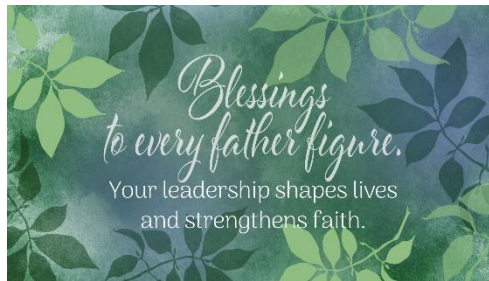
**Events Corner**

June 2	Session Meeting 7:30 pm
June 8	Trustee Meeting 6:30 pm

**Flag Day-June 14**

Let's all proudly display our American Flag!

**Father's Day—June 21<sup>st</sup>**



**Reflecting the Father's Name**

Renowned actor Sidney Poitier once said, "I decided in my life that I would do nothing that did not reflect positively on my father's life." For those blessed with a father they admire and respect, such a decision can be deeply shaping. How might it influence the way you set priorities, live with integrity, or serve as a positive example to the young people watching your life?

For all of us — children of the only perfect Father — may this be our prayer and intention: God, while earthly fathers are a blend of strengths and flaws, you give yourself to us as our heavenly Father, wholly loving, kind and deeply invested in our good. Help me seek to reflect positively on you. May my life spread your love, kindness and care far and wide, and may others see you in me. Amen.

“A God wise enough to create me and the world I live in is wise enough to watch out for me.”  
—Philip Yancey

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## Birthdays and Announcement Corner

June 1	Caroline Greathouse
June 2	Isabella Arnold
June 2	Amari Teagarden
June 8	John Hunter
June 17	Anita McNinch
June 18	Donna Hunter
June 18	Ian Roup
June 20	Abigail Noble
June 25	Bob Caldwell
June 29	Catherine Winters



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## Missions/Outreach Corner

10% GIVING REPORT FOR 2026:



As a Church, through the Mission/Evangelism Committee, we give 10% of our monthly tithes to various missions. Listed below are the charities we have supported for 2026:

**January 2026:** Coalition of Christian Outreach (Jubilee) benefiting local college students.

**February 2026:** McGuffey Community Bible Program (Bible Release).

**March 2026:** Bryan Brown Fundraiser as assistance for medical expenses.

**April 2026:** Resurrection Power. Resurrection Power is a Washington County, PA-based non-profit (founded 2001) providing Christian-based recovery housing and support for men and women battling drug and alcohol addiction.

**May 2026:** Bedillion Pizza; This local business provides free pizza and drinks to children during summer recess when they do not have access to school lunches.

**June 2026:** Rev. Dr. Jim Kirk, Pastor from Waynesburg for his mission trip to Kenya. He and his family minister at Tenwek Missionary Hospital where his daughter, will be working in surgery teaching surgical residents there. His Son-in-law is an Anglican Priest and will be working with the local churches. This amazing hospital expresses the Gospel of Jesus Christ to every patient admitted. Their hospital motto is "We Treat, Jesus Heals!"

*“It becomes us to spend this life only as a journey toward heaven ..... why should we labor for or set our hearts on anything else, but that which is our proper end and true happiness?” Jonathan Edwards*

### **DID YOU KNOW? Christian Symbol**



**SAND DOLLAR** — These delicate shells, found in shades of white, tan and soft purple, come from sea urchins related to starfish and sea cucumbers. Their unique markings have long been associated with the story of Christ’s birth and death. The faint images resemble a poinsettia and a lily, symbols often connected to Christmas and Easter. Five small openings are said to represent the four nails and the spear used at the crucifixion. Inside the shell are tiny shapes that look like doves, a reminder of the Holy Spirit.

### **Called Friends by Christ**

According to John’s Gospel, Jesus said to those who knew him best, “No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends. ... You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit” (John 15:15–16, ESV).

The depth of Christ’s friendship is seen in his willingness to give his life for his friends — and for us as well. “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you” (John 15:13–14, ESV).



By obeying our Lord and showing love to others, we demonstrate our friendship with Christ. Friendship with Christ and with one another is, according to the Christian layman and president Woodrow Wilson, “the only cement that will hold the world together.”

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### **Connections Corner**

Sunday Morning Worship—11:00 am

Sunday Morning Adult Friendship Class-Choir Room 9:30 am

Sunday Morning Adult Praying Hearts Group-Fellowship Hall 9:30 am

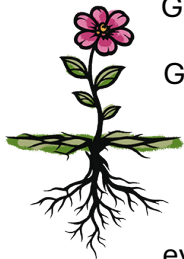
Sunday Morning Children’s Time-Youth Room 9:30 am

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## Prayer Corner

To request prayer by the church, call or email the church office. Praying Hearts Group will receive your request and honor it. Also, Elder Jane Noble, Clerk of Session, 304.639.9148 welcomes your prayer requests. Please tell us if your request is to be held in confidence or included in the Prayers for the People in morning worship.

### From Gratitude to Faithful Praise



Gratitude is the beginning of faith; faith leads us to the ultimate gratitude.

Gratitude is often the first quiet step of faith. Before answers come, before circumstances change, gratitude teaches the heart to notice God's presence and provision. Scripture reminds us, "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18, KJV). Giving thanks, even in uncertain moments, opens our eyes to God's faithfulness already at work.

As gratitude grows, it naturally leads us into deeper trust. When we remember what God has done, faith finds solid ground. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1, KJV). Gratitude strengthens that hope by anchoring it in God's past mercies. Each thankful prayer becomes a reminder that the same God who carried us before will carry us again.

Faith, in turn, leads us to ultimate gratitude, not just for blessings received, but for God himself. "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15, KJV). This gratitude reaches beyond circumstances and rests in Christ, the greatest gift of all. When gratitude begins our journey and faith guides our steps, our hearts learn lasting praise, thankful not only for what God gives, but for who he is.

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## Church Information

### Church Officers

<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	<u>2028</u>
<u>Session:</u> Mary Lea Dutton	Patty Johnson	
Lynne Glessner	Jodi Noble	
Jane Noble, Clerk	Bob Morgan	
<u>Deacons:</u> Gino Delbert	Peggy McCuen	Dianna Smith
Lee Ann Delbert	Beverly Philabaum	
Kathy Strawn	Regina Wood	
<u>Trustees:</u>	Doug Teagarden	Will Noble
Barb Rodgers	Bob Wagner	
Lee Rodgers, Pres.	Tiffany Wagner	



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Facebook group: West Alexander Presbyterian Church Family and Friends

Church Email: [wapc-admin@comcast.net](mailto:wapc-admin@comcast.net)