

4834 South Point Road
Washington, MO 63090
Phone 636-239-3178
presbywashmo.org



Connect Newsletter

Friends:

Jesus called his followers to love their enemies. I cannot think of a more radical political statement than that. It is difficult for us to imagine how to organize communities on the foundation of love.

One step we can make towards faithfulness to the call of Christ is to understand more about how nonviolence works as a tool for love and justice. One place to start is a scientific study by Chenoweth and Stephan called “Why Civil Resistance Works.” For those of us bound up in what Walter Wink called the “Myth of Redemptive Violence,” it is eye opening. In the summer, when I have more time, I hope to put together a workshop on nonviolence that I can lead in the fall. I hope some folk from PCW will participate. In the meantime, I am happy to refer you to other books about nonviolence.

Rev. Rich Gamble

Pastor



Easter Giving Tree Ornaments Available Throughout March for Giving Opportunity

The Mission Committee is pleased to announce the Second Annual Easter Giving Tree Project. You can participate in this special collection for the Other Mother Pregnancy Assistance Center in Union, Missouri.

The Other Mother Pregnancy Assistance Center is a non-profit organization established in 2017. It provides testing, counseling, referrals, classes, and other services to pregnant women in Franklin and Gasconade counties. As a means of helping this very worthy project, we will be collecting baby supplies and household products during the first four weeks of Lent.



Similar to our Christmas Giving Tree (for the Pregnancy Assistance Center of Washington), we will have “ornaments” on the tree indicating individual needed supply items. Pick one or more egg ornaments, shop for the item, and return it unwrapped to church by Sunday, March 30. We will have a “Pack and Play” to store the collected items. Donors do not need to attach the paper ornament to the

gift item or record their donation in a registry book.

Mission Committee members are Debbie Bandy, Laura Carder, Christy Eckert, Gretchen Farrell, Lois Kempf, Kathy Rogers, and Sarah Spear.

Easter 2025

Ash Wednesday Worship Service
Wednesday, March 5, at 6:00 p.m.
in the sanctuary

**Maundy Thursday Potluck Supper
and Worship Service**
Thursday, April 17, at 5:30 p.m.
in Fellowship Hall

Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 19, for ages 0-12
in our backyard

Free for our members and their families. (This year we are not hosting this event for the public.) Registration at 11:00 a.m. and egg hunt at 11:30. Bring your own basket.

Easter – Christ Is Risen!
Sunday, April 20
One worship service for all ages
in the sanctuary at 10:15 a.m.

*Rev. Rich Gamble will officiate
at all worship services.*





Community Book Sale

Books of every kind!



Our 2024 Community Book Sale featured 21,000 books in 30 categories. This is one of Washington's largest events of new and used book sales for all ages of readers.

The Community Book sale is sponsored and hosted by the Presbyterian Church in Washington, Missouri.

**Friday, April 11, and Saturday, April 12,
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day at
The Presbyterian Church of Washington
Fellowship Hall**

**The Church is visible from Highway 100 and is located at
4834 South Point Road.**

Please call (636) 239-3178 for more information.

- ◆ Book donations are welcome March 30 to April 9.
- ◆ Teacher's Night is Thursday, April 10, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- ◆ All teachers with ID get free classroom books on Teacher Night and throughout the book sale.
- ◆ We'll have a \$4 bag sale on Saturday, April 12. We hand out bags for you to fill.

*A portion of all proceeds will be donated to the
Four Rivers YMCA Literacy Program in Washington.*

Church Life Committee Touches Almost Everyone in Congregation

Our church operations are handled primarily by staff, elected elders, and eight committees. The Church Life Committee—with 12 members—is the largest. Much of their work begins and ends inside our commercial kitchen, which is so spacious that the entire committee can fit into its 610 square feet.

The committee has no mission statement, but its purpose is to connect members. “We want the congregation to do things together and get acquainted,” said co-chair Sarah Spear. “About 10 years ago, Jan Hardin invited me to visit this church. I felt welcome and liked what the church was doing, so I joined. A couple years later I volunteered to be on the Church Life Committee.”

A smile or a handshake are fine, Sarah says, but people linger longer when they are offered free food. Church Life knows how to prepare it, serve it, transport it, and share it. Every Sunday morning after the worship service, Church Life hosts the fellowship table in the narthex. Committee co-chair Linda Booher’s been supervising this hospitality event for the past six years. “We are always asking for volunteers to provide some treats for the table, but if no one has signed up, one of our committee members will handle that Sunday. I arrive early to train new volunteers on where to find supplies and carts in the kitchen, help them arrange the food if needed, and stay afterwards to help clean up. For years, Anna Mae Boehmer has made coffee for fellowship table, and we really appreciate her.”



Above: Vivian Marshall enjoyed sharing her homemade pies with the congregation at the fellowship table in November 2024.

Left: Beth Bonney (right) sweet-talked her sisters into helping her host a festive patriotic fellowship table near July 4, 2024. From left are Carolyn Kluesner, Jill Stallmann, and Beth.

The narthex is perfect for small groups and small amounts of food, but large groups eating meals need Fellowship Hall or the outdoor patio. Potluck meals are the most popular dining events, and require the most committee labor. “Even though much of the food is donated by guests, our committee still needs a few members working five to six hours for every potluck dinner,” said Sarah. “The Property Committee usually sets up chairs and tables for us, and we decorate the tables with a theme. Jane Bugele bought several patterns of fabric for us to decorate the seasons. The buffet tables need plates, napkins, and silverware, and the kitchen crew prepares drinks for another table. After guests leave, we clean up the kitchen, carry out the trash, and lock up. We arrive early and leave late, standing on concrete the whole time.”



Church Life Committee Co-Chairs Sarah Spear (left) and Linda Booher.

Several years ago, our pastor had a suggestion for Church Life. “He knew we were all working hard. We were even hosting a potluck supper once a month and Anna Mae prepared the entrée. But our committee structure seemed chaotic to him,” recalled former chairman Barb Hagan. “When he had a request for something he sometimes had to contact more than one person to get a timely answer. He suggested that we divide our duties into subcommittees. We tried it and the system works really well. We now have four subcommittees: Fellowship Table, Events and Bereavement Meals, Kitchen and Pantry, and Member Care. Our committee always wonders if we will have enough people to work at an event, but it seems like we always do. People who aren’t on our committee often volunteer for special events, and we really appreciate that.”

Vivian Marshall makes sure the kitchen pantry is stocked for every event involving food. She shops for paper goods and keeps the pantry shelves in order. A few months ago, Vivian and Linda cleaned and rearranged the pantry shelves and found five griddles. “We don’t serve breakfast in Fellowship Hall anymore, so five griddles was a waste of space,” said Vivian. “We kept two griddles and donated the others to Goodwill.” Vivian also reports any equipment problems to the Property Committee and picks a date each fall for deep cleaning in the kitchen. “Our kitchen is an official commercial kitchen, so Franklin County Health Department inspects it once a year,” Vivian added. “Because so many people use our kitchen, keeping the floor clean is a big job. We are very grateful that our Property Committee mops and waxes the floor throughout the year. It’s always in good shape when the inspectors come.”



Some of the 2024 Church Life members had lunch together in December. From left are Jane Bugele, Francie Turnure, Nancy Sebastian, Jean Weekley, Linda Booher, Barb Hagan, Sarah Spear, Karen Ladd, Vivian Marshall, Beth Bonney, and Julia Brown.

Nancy Sebastian, who served as Church Life chairman for about four years, remembers a scene that would make health inspectors flinch. Fellowship Hall was being rented for a dinner, and Nancy was near the sanctuary involved in one of our own events. When she walked into the kitchen to get some ice, she saw three women sprawled out on the floor under the gas stove. “Oh my, the sight!” Nancy laughed. “They were trying to figure out how to light the stove. Thank goodness no one had fallen. Property Committee to the rescue. I asked my husband Steve to light the pilot light, and he did, so now it remains on all the time.”

One of Nancy’s biggest challenges on Church Life was planning an all-church picnic for our outdoor patio immediately after a worship service in 2021. “We decided to order fried chicken from Droege’s, so of course, they needed an accurate number. We also hoped the weather would cooperate. The chicken was very good and the weather was beautiful. On many occasions, my husband’s vast experience in club management was extremely helpful in determining table setup and layout. I feel one of my greatest accomplishments on this committee was encouraging Beth Bonney to join Church Life. Her broad experience in catering, food preparation, and proper cleaning procedures has really benefited this committee. Food layout is so important for crowd control, and Beth is very helpful in this area.”



For several months during 2020 and 2021, the federal government and our Presbytery cancelled in-person worship services due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In September 2021, when this photo was taken, we celebrated the return to worship with a fried chicken luncheon on our patio. Top photo: Church Life Committee serves the food near the patio entrance.

Beth attended the Culinary Arts program at East Central College 10 years ago. “I’ve always liked cooking and the time was right,” she said. “I loved it. My background includes working as a private chef for a family in St. Louis and being a chef at the Arbors Senior Living in Washington. When my sister Jill and I plan to host fellowship table, we come up with a theme or color scheme and go from there. After thinking about the theme for a few days, we go digging in the basement. We don’t hide our decorations in a closet. We have them proudly displayed in Rubbermaid totes on shelves!”

Beth’s enthusiasm radiates to everyone who serves on the committee and prompts them to suggest new ways to keep our church members connected. Last year Church Life established the Care Box project for members who are confined at home or returning home from surgery or having other difficulties. The snacks in the Care Box are a reminder that the church family cares about them. The committee also established a consignment account at Jake’s Legacy Resale Shop (900 Don Avenue in Washington). Church members can donate household items to Jake’s, and when the items are sold, we receive a percentage of the proceeds. The committee tested its food transportation methods by preparing and delivering a breakfast and dinner to a work group at the Bethel Hills Community in Dutzow. Several of our members were volunteering that day to paint, install cabinets, and do other jobs.

Other church committees frequently request services from Church Life. When custodian Ken Roetheli retired last year, our Personnel Committee wanted to host a farewell luncheon for him but needed the expertise of Church Life to plan the large event. The two committees successfully collaborated. A few years ago, when the Session wanted to have a Maundy Thursday Soup Supper in the sanctuary—not in Fellowship Hall—Church Life handled all the food details and serving logistics. “The event was very meaningful to those who attended, but it was a very challenging meal to serve,” remembered Sarah. “We made two kinds of soup in the large kitchen, transported everything to the small kitchen by the sanctuary, and served each bowl from a cart. All the chairs in the sanctuary had to be rearranged or moved out, and then returned to their original places. I think some of us were at the church until 11 o’clock that night before everything was restored.”

2025 Church Life Members

Linda Booher, Co-Chair
Sarah Spear, Co-Chair
Beth Bonney
Julia Brown
Jane Bugele
Shirley Coulter
Barb Hagan
Karen Ladd
Vivian Marshall
Francie Turnure
Jean Weekley
Lee Westerhoff

Co-chair Linda Booher remembers the most unusual request that came to Church Life. “Someone on Session thought we should have a church picnic in our church cemetery. I said, ‘*You’re kidding!*’ I think everyone on our committee either laughed or shook our heads, but we made it work. Hauling the food and tables and chairs was a huge job for Property and for us, but we had a beautiful summer day, a pretty good turnout, and everyone seemed to enjoy the event. I heard later that some members who were there had never been to our cemetery before, and they were glad they had attended.”

Whether Church Life is serving a meal to our members or serving a glimmer of hope to someone at home, they are following the words of Jesus. “Feed my sheep.”



Clerk's Corner

By Nancy Sebastian

The Presbyterian Church of Washington will celebrate its 175th anniversary on June 24, 2025! To honor this milestone, the Presbyterian Giddings Lovejoy History Team will present a framed anniversary proclamation and a donation to support the planting of a flower, tree, or bush in commemoration. We also look forward to a special church celebration to mark this joyous occasion.

As required by the Presbytery, background checks must be completed by all employees, anyone working with children, individuals using church charge cards, or anyone handling money. Please see Ann for the quick form to complete this process

Building Usage Approvals

Session has approved two upcoming events:

- Wedding – Thursday, May 13, 2025 (Sanctuary)
- P.E.O. Salad Supper – Monday, June 16, 2025 (Fellowship Hall)

Church Membership

Every member of our church family is treasured! If you are not yet a member and would like to join, information on a new member opportunity will be available soon. We encourage you to consider becoming part of our church membership.

Personnel Updates

* The Personnel Committee has reviewed and updated the Personnel Policies, which have been approved by Session.

* New Office Hours (at Ann's request): Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday: 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

* Should you need assistance, please call the church office, and Rich will get back to you.

A Grateful Heart

This beautiful weather is a reminder of the many blessings we have! What are you grateful for today?

Blessings,
Nancy



Dozens Enjoy Delicious and Beautiful Valentine Dinner in Fellowship Hall



THANK YOU to Tom, Gretchen, and Katie Farrell for planning and hosting this grand event on February 8, and to the many volunteers who helped with set-up, food prep, serving, and clean-up.





**Party Prep on
Saturday
Morning**



Presby Scrip Program – 2024 Annual Report

The program profits for 2024 were \$3,421.52. Three thousand five hundred dollars were transferred to the church budget from the Presby Scrip Program account. Three hundred fifty dollars of that was designated to Meals on Wheels for our mission. We just completed our ninth full year of the program raising \$24,946.90 in the nine years (plus two months in 2015). The program will continue receiving orders on the first Sunday of each month. Thank you to everyone who ordered gift cards/certificates throughout the last nine plus years!



The Presby Scrip Program enables members & friends to raise money for The Presbyterian Church of Washington. This program is available to non-profit organizations through RaiseRight (formerly Shopwithscrip). Their website is raiseright.com. It is another way to pay for everyday purchases and gifts using gift cards or certificates in place of cash, checks, and credit cards.

We are pleased to include many local merchants who are participating in our Presby Scrip Program. You can find those merchants listed on the church order form and the church website. There is also an expanded list of National Merchants available to order from. All of which can be ordered through the Presby Scrip Program.

It's as easy as this:

- 1.) You fill out an order form to order gift cards or certificates.
- 2.) Place the order form in the Presby Scrip basket in the church office along with a check for the face value of the cards or certificates you're ordering. Or you can give to the coordinator on the first Sunday.
- 3.) The gift cards or certificates will be available for pickup at the church the following Sunday.

By ordering gift cards or certificates through this program you help the church raise funds by obtaining an immediate 'rebate' (or payment to our church) from merchants. Each retailer designates the percentage the church receives (see the order form on page 16 for details).



Continued on page 13

The Presby Scrip Program earnings are much greater than the earnings you personally receive with your credit card rewards. Many merchants, especially restaurants, give 10% of what you purchase with Scrip, directly to the church.

By using the Scrip Program, each year in December you will receive a credit on your contribution statement for the amount of earnings you made for the church.

Anyone has the opportunity to do the entire Scrip purchase process digitally, either online at www.raiseright.com, or with the mobile Raise Right app, and both are very easy to navigate. If you shop either site, you will need to register an account online by obtaining a “Family Enrollment Code” from one of our coordinators. You can choose to purchase physical gift cards, electronic gift cards or reloads from over 700 merchants nationwide. There are four different payment options: by CHECK as you deliver it to the church and your order will be released and complete by the following Sunday; by PrestoPay (like PayPal) as you use a CREDIT CARD (with a 3%) fee; or a DEBIT card (with a 1% fee); or you can securely link a bank account for an ELECTRONIC DEBIT (with a small fee of 29 cents). Your physical gift cards will be available the following Sunday OR you can choose to receive electronic gift cards right away to either print out or use directly from a smart phone OR you can reload current Scrip gift cards, all electronically and for use immediately upon release from the coordinator on the Sunday order day.

**Our
Mission**

Ten percent of the program’s profits are given to a designated mission. This year’s mission group was the Meals On Wheels program through our Church.

The coordinators for your Presby Scrip Program are: Becky Vogt, Gretchen Farrell, and Kathy Froning. Please direct questions about the program to them.

*Thank you for supporting
this very worthwhile fundraiser program
for our church*



MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE

Presbyterian Women

Spring Gathering

Saturday, April 5th

Registration: 9:00am

Program: 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

HOSTED BY the WOMEN OF PACIFIC PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LOCATION: 410 W. ST. LOUIS ST.
PACIFIC, MO 63069

REGISTER BY: **MARCH 30th** to Deanna Vincent by:

email at: vincentdeanna83@gmail.com

or by mail to: 1101 West 5th Street
Washington, MO 63090

The cost is: \$15 for lunch, which can be paid at the door in cash or checks made payable to PWGL, no credit cards.

Please note any dietary restrictions when registering.

SPEAKER- The Rev. Linda Maconochie sharing reflections on her visit to the Iona Community, *The Iona Community is an international, ecumenical Christian movement working for justice and peace, the rebuilding of community and the renewal of worship based on an island off the coast of Scotland.*

OFFERING- Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services

Aleisha Mulnix, Development Officer will talk about their programs

Bring a donated item for PCHS to enter a gift basket drawing.

Requested items: *children's socks and/or underwear (new) *toothbrush/paste *deodorant

*hand/face wipes *diapers and wipes

*snack items i.e. apple sauce, peanut butter crackers, goldfish, microwave mac and cheese

WORSHIP SERVICE led by the Rev. Emily Rosencrans, Chaplain at St Luke's Hospital



The ***Connect Newsletter*** is published monthly by the Presbyterian Church of Washington (PCUSA). Articles are due the 20th day of each month. Please deliver to the church office or email to:

Aneeta Brown, Editor

missouriwriter@yahoo.com

Editorial Review Board: Rev. Rich Gamble,

Phyllis McElhinney, Nancy Sebastian, and Mauri Truesdell.

2025 PCW Committee Members

Christian Ed. Committee

Gerry Urban, Chair*
Beth Brehe
Micki Brehe
Craig Matzes
Ian McCracken
Heather Miller

Church Life Committee

Linda Booher, Co-Chair*
Sarah Spear, Co-Chair*
Beth Bonney
Julia Brown
Jane Bugele
Shirley Coulter
Barb Hagan
Karen Ladd
Vivian Marshall
Francie Turnure
Jean Weekley
Lee Westerhoff

Finance Committee

Tom Farrell, Chair*
Linda Booher, Treasurer*
Gary Brehe
Ann Hart
Karen Ladd
Phyllis McElhinney
Elda Seener*

Mission Committee

Debbie Bandy
Laura Carder
Christy Eckert
Gretchen Farrell
Lois Kempf
Kathy Rogers
Sarah Spear*

Outreach Committee

Tom Farrell, Chair*
Aaron Bounds
Alicia Brehe
Katie Farrell
Ian McCracken
Heather Miller
Nancy Sebastian*

Personnel Committee

Mauri Truesdell, Chair*
Mary Ellenberger
Gretchen Farrell
Joe Hagan
Nancy Sebastian*
Elda Seener*
Tim Urban

Property Committee

David Brunworth, Chair*
John Bugele
Mary Ellenberger
Jim Glamann*
Joe Hagan
Barbara Schofield
Steve Sebastian
Roger Westerhoff

MEETING TIMES:

Christian Ed.	2nd Sunday	11:30 AM
Church Life	2nd Tuesday	9:30 AM
Finance	2nd Thursday	11:30 AM
Mission	1st Tuesday	10:00 AM
Outreach	2nd Thursday	6:30 PM
Personnel	2nd Tuesday	6:00 PM
Property	2nd Sunday	11:30 AM
Session	4th Thursday	6:30 PM
Worship	Every other 1st Tuesday	7:00 PM

Worship Committee

Tom Ellenberger, Chair*
Mike Becker*
Aaron Bounds
Emily Bounds
John Bugele
Katie Collins
Tom Kempf
Scott Marcus*
Vivian Marshall

*Session Members

Nancy Sebastian, Clerk
Mike Becker
Linda Booher
David Brunworth
Tom Ellenberger
Tom Farrell
Jim Glamann
Scott Marcus
Elda Seener
Sarah Spear
Mauri Truesdell
Gerry Urban

Updated 2/27/2025

PRESBY SCRIP PROGRAM ORDER FORM

Customer NAME: _____ Email (if new customer only): _____ Date: _____
 Customer PHONE: _____ *****All Sales are Final ** No Returns ** No Refunds**

Merchant terms and conditions as well as additional forms are available at The Presbyterian Church of Washington.

Vendor	%	QTY	\$ Total
AUTOMOTIVE			
• BP \$50, \$100, (\$250, 2.5%)	1.5		
• Fischer's Phillips66 \$25, \$50, \$100	2		
• Casey's General Store and Gas \$25	3		
CLOTHING/DEPT.STORES			
• JCPenny \$25, \$100	5		
• Kohl's \$25, \$100	4		
• Marshall's \$25, \$100	7		
• Macy's \$25, \$100	10		
• Maurice's \$20	7		
• Ross Dress for Less \$25	8		
• Sam's Club \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250	2.5		
• Shoe Carnival \$25	5		
• Target \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250	2.5		
• Walmart \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250	2.5		
DRUG STORES			
Schroeder Drug \$5, \$10, \$25, \$30	5		
• Walgreens \$25, \$100	5		
GROCERY STORES			
Williams Bros.Meat Mkt. \$25	5		
• Honey-Baked Ham \$25	12		
HOME IMPROVEMENTS			
• Ace Hardware \$25, \$100	4		
• Lowe's \$20, \$25, \$100, \$500, \$1000	4		
MAIL ORDER-ONLINE			
• Amazon \$25, \$100	1.7		
• Apple/iTunes \$15, \$25, \$100, \$500	5		
• Barnes & Noble \$10, \$25, \$100	8		
• Lands End \$25, \$100	15		
• Overstock.com \$25	8		
• LLBean \$25, \$100	16		
SPECIALTY STORES			
• Bass Pro Shop \$25, \$100	10		
• Bath & Body Works \$10, \$25	12		
• Big Lots \$25, \$100	4		
• Cabela's \$25, \$100	10		
Cinema One Plus \$20	5		
Designer Threads \$25	15		
• Dicks Sporting Goods \$25, \$100	8		
• Five Below \$25	2.5		
Fricke Photography \$20	5		
Great 8 Cine \$10	10		
Hillermann Nursery \$25, \$50	5		
I.B.Nuts & Fruit Too \$20	10		
• Jo-Ann Fabric \$25	6		
• Michael's \$25, \$100	4		
• Ulta Beauty \$25	7		
Wolf Hollow \$20	5		

Vendor	%	QTY	\$ Total
RESTAURANTS			
Aldo's \$10, \$20	5		
• Applebee's \$25	8		
• Arby's \$10	8		
Big Boy's Subs & Wings \$10	5		
• Bob Evans \$10, \$25	10		
• Burger King \$10, \$25	6		
Cafe Mosaic \$10	10		
Colton's \$25	5		
Cowan's \$25	5		
Dairy Delight \$10, \$20	5		
• Dairy Queen \$10	6.5		
• Domino's \$10, \$25	8		
• Dunkin' Donuts \$10, \$25	3.5		
• Hardees \$10	5		
Hawthorne Restaurant \$25	5		
Imo's Pizza \$20	10		
• Jack in the Box \$10	4		
Joe's Bakery & Deli \$10	5		
Johnny's-Union \$10	15		
Lion's Choice \$10	10		
Los Cabos \$20	10		
Marquart's Landing \$10	10		
• McDonald's \$10, \$25	2		
Millers Grill \$10, \$20, \$50	10		
Orange Leaf \$5, \$10	10		
• Panda Express \$25	8		
• Panera Bread \$10, \$25, \$50	8		
• Papa John's \$10	8		
• Papa Murphy's \$10	8		
Pasta House \$25	10		
• Pizza Hut \$10	8		
Saucy's Pizzeria \$10, \$20	10		
• Starbucks \$10, \$25, \$50	4.5		
• Steak'n Shake \$10 (Ecards ONLY!)	8		
• Subway \$10, \$50	4.5		
Sugarfire BBQ \$25	10		
• Taco Bell \$10, \$25	5		
The Creek Grill & Bar \$25	10		
• Wendy's \$25	6		
ADD-ON ORDERS			

PAYMENT METHOD _____
 If Cash, Amount _____
 If Check, Amount _____
 If Check, check number _____
 Make checks payable to The Presbyterian Church

TOTAL ORDER AMOUNT = \$ _____
 • (This DOT indicates a National Brand, no DOT indicates a Local Merchant.)

Sign when Receiving Order:
 Filled by: _____
 Date Received: _____
 Scrip Order Form 11-3-2024