



Mission Study
Wayside Presbyterian Church
Hamburg, NY
March 1, 2016



Wayside Presbyterian Church
88 Years in Ministry
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Wayside Mission Study 2016

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Theological Statement

The Core Values of Wayside Presbyterian Church

- The basic acceptance of each person as he or she is
- Living out the inner peace in each person's life
- Expressing love and joy in all our actions
- Sharing laughter and humor as a part of our activities
- Tending to our spiritual life development as basic to our faith development
- Caring for others and ourselves as central to our mission
- Provide ecumenical opportunities

The Basic Beliefs of Wayside

- We believe in Jesus as our mediator to God, that he came as God's unique son, loving, dying and being raised again.
- We believe the Bible to be our basic book of study and revelation of God's word to us.
- We believe that personal and group prayer and study are basic to our growth, both as individuals and as a congregation.
- We believe each person to be gifted with skills to be shared with others. These gifts become our passion and purpose to live.
- We believe God works through each of us as individually, as well as through our community.

The Motivating Vision of Wayside

- Worship services full each week with life-changing, spirited worship, drawing in members of our community.
- The illuminated church at night.
- The song: "Lord You Have Come to the Lakeshore" by Cesáreo Gabaráin.

Statement of purpose from 1928 through today:

"Try to answer the crying need for a reunited Christian Church and the need of unselfish devotion to the one church of Christ. We welcome, therefore, into our fellowship people from all denominations". This statement still expresses the purpose and spirit of Wayside Church.



What are your congregation's Mission Statements?

1. What is the congregation's vision for ministry?

Our Mission Statement:

- "Reach out and bring people to meet, to know, and to follow Jesus."
- "A Broad Inclusive Faith Church."

2. How do you feel called to reach out to address the emerging needs of your community / constituency / congregation?

- Wayside aspires to be a safe place that changes with the times and circumstances of the church and the community, accepting of each person as he or she is, and affirming that each person is gifted with skills to be shared with others. Wayside is open to support and nurture people at all stages of their life-long faith journeys.

3. How will this position help you to reach your vision and mission goals?

- It is Wayside's goal to find a strong and compassionate leader who will guide our congregation through this transitional period. Our hope is that with this leader, Wayside can begin to treasure and learn from the past, accept the present, and establish a realistic approach for our future.

4. Provide a description of the characteristics needed by the person who is open to being called to this congregation.

- We expect the pastor to be spiritual, compassionate, empathetic, tolerant, and professional. We expect the Pastor to be the head of staff, and lead staff meetings and other meetings as needed. Moderate Session meetings, attend Deacons and committee meetings as needed, work well with others in a team environment, and maintain respect and dignity for all.

5. For what specific tasks, assignments, and program area will this person have responsibility?

- The Pastor will have the responsibilities of reaching out into the community, involving the youth in service, being strong in stewardship and fundraising, being involved in church activities (Bible Study, weddings, funerals, social), creating a safe environment in the church and community, being open to all types of music, and preaching a meaningful message each service.



History of Wayside Presbyterian Church

In January, 1928, fourteen people of vision felt the need for a Protestant Church in our community. They met in the old Wanakah School, and to them Mrs. John T. Roberts offered land for the construction of a church. In May, 1928, ground was broken and the first unit of the building (Room 110) was erected, equipped, named the Community Wayside Chapel and was dedicated on February 24, 1929

Money was very scarce during the depression years from 1928 to 1938 and the young church struggled to survive. In 1938 the United Presbyterian denomination agreed to take over both assets and liabilities on the Chapel, to give some financial assistance, and to locate a minister. The United Presbyterian Board of American Missions gave \$600.00 per year rent allowance for several years, and \$8,000 toward the completion of the building. The present sanctuary was completed at a cost of \$36,000, and was dedicated in May, 1942.

The first manse was purchased by the church in 1944 and was used as a free parsonage until a manse was willed to the church by Mr. F.W. Thiele. Mr. Thiele was also instrumental in acquiring the present bell in our tower which was brought over the Erie Canal to a church near Westfield over 150 years ago. The manse was sold in the 1980's and the money put into a fund with the interest to be used for the pastor's housing allowance.

Expansion continued as the need arose, additional parking space became necessary so the creek that ran through the property was tiled and the entire property filled and graded. The lots between the church and Wayside drive were purchased as they became available and the house at the corner of Amsdell and Wayside was acquired in 1951 and remodeled for use as the Parish House, small group meetings, and some church school classes. It became the home for our custodian and his family in 1954.

In 1953, we celebrated our 25th anniversary with the dedication of Wayside Church Hall. This facility was used for Sunday School, weekday Bible School, elementary school, Cub Scouts, Brownies, Girl and Boy Scouts, Sea Scouts, dance lessons, and numerous other community activities. From this time on, rapid growth occurred. Crowding became critical and the expansion fund campaign was launched and was over-subscribed. Ground was broken in 1958 and the education building was dedicated in 1959.

In 1967, an organ study group was formed, and soon an order was placed with Schlicker Pipe Organ Company for \$31,500. The organ was dedicated debt-free in 1972 as a result of many projects, pledges, and memorial gifts.

The Parish House and Wayside Church Hall were no longer needed and were sold. The Labyrinth in memory of Jo Osborne was built behind the church building. A steeple was added as memory to Ballard and Minnie Crooker. An elevator was dedicated and helped to make our building handicapped accessible. Lakeshore Nursery School was taken into our education building. In 2000 a renovation campaign resulted in updating the education facilities, bathrooms, parlor, library, and Memorial Room. Our sanctuary was renovated in 2012. At present, our building is used by many church and community groups.



Pastors Serving Wayside

Pre 1939: (6) Part-time Traveling Pastors

1939-1974: Reverend Doctor Walker S. Brownlee

- 1956-1965: Associate Pastor Reverend Frank Wright
- 1966-1969: Associate Pastor Reverend Dean Young
- 1969-1974: Associate Pastor Reverend Thomas Hedges

1976-2009: Reverend Doctor David Persons

2009-2010: Reverend James Brazell (Interim Pastor)

2010-2012: Reverend Amy Keiter Jelensperger (Temporary Pastor)

2012-2013: Reverend Geri Lyons (Temporary Pastor)

2014 to 2015: Reverend Bryan J. Powell (Interim Pastor)

2015 to Present: Reverend Doctor Carol Evans LeBlanc (Temporary Pastor)



Small Groups

Small Groups

Bible Study

Book Club

Adult Choir

Worship and Praise Band (Volunteer)

Handbells

We Care- Following Wayside's mission "Reach out and bring people to meet and know Jesus," we pray for, send cards, visit, telephone those who are home bound, ill or need comfort.

Presbyterian Women of Wayside

Quilt for the Lord

Stitchin' II

Mission & Outreach:

- Mitten Tree
- Big Brother/Big Sister Christmas giving
- Jelensperger Food Pantry, Food collection for local food pantries
- Special focus on the needs of refugees coming to Western New York

Homebound Communion

Crop Walk

Character Council of Western New York

Friends of Night People

Free Food Events Open to the Community (Spaghetti dinner, Chili, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, etc.)

Outside Groups

AA and Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA)

Girl Scouts; Cub Scouts

Recovery Group (Support Group)

Lakeshore Cooperative Pre-School

Frontier Continuing Education Play Group

Emergency Location for Frontier Middle School

Course in Miracles

Buffalo Bluegrass Youth Ensemble

Yoga and Meditation

Social Gatherings

Coffee hour after Sunday Worship

Church Picnic

Lenten Series

Quilting Field Trips

Calendar Luncheon

Fund Raising Activities

Spring Flower Sale

Soup Fest; Food Cone Mixes; Drive-through dinners

Holiday Shopping Spree

Music Events (Concerts, Dances)

Seasonal flowers & candles



Standing Committees

Personnel and Administration – Reviews all personnel annually and recommends salary and job descriptions to session. They also monitor the administration of church activities.

Finance – Reviews and monitors all finances, prepares and makes budget recommendations to session. They work directly with the treasurer and the pastor. They also oversee the counting of the collections and donations and preparation for deposit in our accounts.

Stewardship – This committee places special emphasis on the annual financial stewardship program, helps the pastor and session plan for and discern the intersection of financial and spiritual health of the congregation.

Deacons – Members of Wayside Church who provide service to God and community. They help provide pastoral care to homebound members, provide “communion to the furthest pew” (home communion), and serve as outreach to college students and military personnel. They work closely with the pastor to offer support to those who are able and willing to receive it.

Property – Works closely with the custodian and recommends repairs and maintenance needs for the church property to session for approval.

Worship & Music – Coordinates the worship and music for Sunday and special services in an effort to provide meaningful worship experiences for our congregation.

Christian Education – Provides education and inspiration for children, youth, and adults through Sunday School, Confirmation Classes, Adult Bible Study, and other adult studies.

Membership – This committee guides the membership recruitment and retention programs.

Mission & Outreach – Works with other associations, churches, and in the community to help respond to the needs in the local community and the world community.

Nominating – Seek out members to serve as elders and deacons and recommends them to the congregation for a vote.

Memorial – Receives all bequests and special memorials, determining where and how the funds will be used.



3-Mile Radius Study from the Ministry Area Profile

1. **How many people live in the area?**
 - a. 39,725.
2. **What is the projected growth?**
 - a. 10%
3. **How much lifestyle diversity is represented?**
 - a. White 97%, Hispanic 2%, Native American 1%, Black, Asian, other 3%
4. **How do racial or ethnic groups contribute to diversity in this area?**
 - a. The population of racial or ethnic groups is a very small percentage of the population. However, there is great melting pot of diverse backgrounds in the local area.
5. **What are the major generational groups?**
 - a. 1-14 Years (16%), 15-25 (12%), 25-34 (11%), 35-54 (27%), 55-64 (15%), 65+ (19%)
6. **How traditional are the family structures?**
 - a. Family Households (65%), Other Family (No Spouse Present) (15%), Unmarried Partner Households (5%), Same-sex Households (<1%)
Non-family Households (5.4%)
7. **How educated are the adults?**
 - a. High School Graduates (28%), Some College, No Degree (19%), Associate's Degree (14%), Bachelor's Degree (17%), Graduate/Professional Degree (14%)
8. **Which household concerns are unusually high?**
 - a. The Wayside family and the surrounding neighborhoods are primarily concerned with maintaining employment and maintaining our quality school systems.
9. **What is the likely faith receptivity?**
 - a. The local area is primarily Christian with a large Catholic presence.
10. **What is the likely giving potential?**
 - a. Stewardship and tithing require attention. Growing membership and participation in the church will be a priority when a permanent pastor is in place.



Statistical Report

(Based on 2015 Annual Report)

52 Sunday Worship Services	
Average in Attendance	67
Total Attendance Easter Sunday	185
Funerals	4
Baptisms	3
Weekly Bible Study Attendance	8
Sunday School Enrollment	32

Who We Are

Current Active Members	266
Male	108
Female	169
Shut-ins	20
Age Range of Members	
< 26	46
26-45	47
46-55	49
56-65	30
65 >	94
Family Units	120
Family units giving financial support	75
Family units making a pledge	40
Family units giving little or none	30
% of our annual operating budget comes from family units	90%
% of our annual operating budget is used to maintain our building and pastor	60%
Average weekly worship attendance	67
Yearly High	185
Church School Membership Today	32
3 Years Ago	60
5 Years Ago	85



Wayside Church Survey / Interview Form

Church Assessment Questions

The Wayside Mission Study group is requesting the congregation and staff to participate in this survey so that we may ascertain a clear and concise vision of Wayside's aspirations and directions for the future. This will help in our search for, and eventual calling of, a permanent Pastor. Please thoughtfully and prayerfully provide your input. Thank you and God bless.

1. Why do you choose Wayside as your spiritual home?

2. Who does Wayside say Jesus is?

3. What do you believe God is calling Wayside to be? Where is God leading Wayside?

4. Describe what elements of worship at Wayside are meaningful to you. What could be enhanced? What could or should be changed?

5. What is your vision for the Christian Education program at Wayside?

6. Complete the following:

"The best/most satisfying reason for belonging to Wayside Church is..."

"Wayside Church's greatest opportunity for growth or change is..."



Wayside Church Survey and Interview Form

“Summary of Survey Responses”

1. Why do you choose Wayside as your spiritual home?

While this question engendered a wide range of responses, the overwhelming top response (>60%) centered on people, fellowship and interpersonal relationships. The next largest group of responses focused on a history with Wayside (7), followed by music (4), message (3), location, a demonstration of Presbyterian values, and the notion that Wayside constitutes a non-judgmental, inclusive place to participate in worship.

2. Who does Wayside say Jesus is?

The most common responses to this question were that we believe that Jesus is our Lord and Savior who is a source of comfort and is ever-present in our lives. We recognize Jesus as the presence of love and forgiveness, and is the one to follow.

3. Where do you believe God is calling Wayside to be? Where is God leading Wayside?

To be a caring, inclusive, and community-oriented faith community with a mission that reaches both inwardly and outwardly while providing Christian education for young and old.

4. What parts of worship are most meaningful to you?

The overwhelming responses expressed the feeling that services during the past several months have demonstrated all of what is most meaningful to us.

Sermon: Particularly when it relates scripture to and provides an inspirational message for our daily lives.

Music: Including the choir, the band, and the bell choir.

Children: Children's story; enjoy having our children involved in the service.

Prayers and Anointing: Prayers and expressions of joys and concerns; and the anointing.

5. What do you envision for the Christian Education at Wayside?

Overall those surveyed are pleased with the various programs that are in place now. Many expressed satisfaction that the acolytes have returned to Sunday service. The continuation of our summer program (FUNDAY School) was also mentioned as a positive experience. Most of those surveyed expressed an interest in more adult education programs. One area of concern was how to retain the confirmands after they have been confirmed. The survey also conveyed an interest in having more participation from the children during worship service. There is a greater desire to involve more youth from the community and develop a more tolerance-based curriculum.



6. Complete the following:

- **“The best/most satisfying reason for belonging to Wayside Church is...**
...love the people; comfort, the people; developing relationships and friendships; wonderful church; kindest congregation; the music, fellowship, the congregation; their friendliness and interest in each other; inner felling of being at home; loving the church for what it has stood for and all the good done; people and music, fellowship; being a part of something rewarding; the message; consistent service to attend; presence of the Lord; joy of quilting and the people; uplifting message, many friendships, attending worship, great music, socializing with friends, comfort for my soul, and friends made.”

- **“Wayside Church’s greatest opportunity for growth or change is...**
...accommodating the needs of all, our children are the future, more young families and keeping them, bringing in more folks – love a great crowd; calling in the younger generation; new pastor; calling a new pastor who will stay for at least ten years; evangelism, advertising; welcoming past pastor and family; Pastor Carol’s leadership and management of progress; not to become too fundamentalist; new minister; feels like home spiritually; warm and welcoming to past members, new, and returning members; recognizing everyone’s gifts, involving them, all are needed in our church family; presence of the Lord; joy quilting and the people; getting a dynamic pastor; a young, dynamic Pastor; getting everyone back [who has left in recent years], reaching out to the community, utilizing our sign out front; young families; Sunday School; permanent pastor; uplifting sermons; outreach – personal calls, choose the right pastor; liberal Presbyterian church.”



Pastor Profile Survey

A Pastor needs many qualities and strengths in order to develop and lead a thriving church. While no one person can be all things to all people, there may be several pastoral attributes which you feel are of particular importance. With that thought in mind, please complete the following:

“As a congregant (church member or attending non-member) of Wayside Presbyterian Church, I expect the Pastor to....”

Please check all groups below that you belong to or that apply to you:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wayside Church Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Wayside Attendee Non- Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Session Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Deacon Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Staff Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Music Group Participant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday School Teacher | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Group Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Committee Member/Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Member Attendee (age 5-18) |

If you are a member of any of the above church groups, committees, or staff, please provide additional input as to your specific expectations regarding Pastoral input/leadership for your particular situation:

“As a member of the _____, I would expect the Pastor to...”



Pastor Profile Survey

Summary of Survey Responses

A Pastor needs many qualities and strengths in order to develop and lead a thriving church. While no one person can be all things to all people, there may be several pastoral attributes which you feel are of particular importance. With that thought in mind, please complete the following:

- **“As a congregant (church member or attending non-member) of Wayside Presbyterian Church, I expect the Pastor to....”**

Qualities (The following are summaries of answers, with the most frequently mentioned at the top.)

- Strong leadership skills, able to excel in conflict resolution
- Be a welcoming presence
- Believe in Jesus and the church creeds; true to the Gospel
- Be accessible for congregational personal emergencies
- Possess the desire to understand our past while remaining open to the future
- Be real, enthusiastic, energetic, a good leader, spiritual leader and guide, friendly, counselor, interesting, flexible, good speaker, happy, love the Lord, intelligent, caring, live nearby, family-oriented, honest, supportive, compassionate, loving, strong, dynamic, traditional, liberal, joyful, sense of humor, flexible, uplifting, knowledgeable
- Appreciative of all the hard work of volunteers
- Involved in committee decisions, have an open mind and open heart, share ideas, decision-maker
- Engaged with the people
- Teacher in the way of the Lord

Skills

- Craft sermons for today's world, relevance of message, bring the Bible to life
- Preach in an understanding way
- Translate scripture to lessons for current times
- Understand the congregation
- Develop new ideas and turn them into enhancements to a better future
- Ability to build up the church
- Provider of quality pastoral care
- Christian Education leader



Wayside Presbyterian Church

Statement of Financial Position

January 1, 2016

ASSETS:

Current Assets

Checking Account ⁽¹⁾	\$ 150,797
Thiele Investment Fund ⁽²⁾	\$ 67,989
Maintenance Investment Fund ⁽³⁾	\$ 42,352
Memorial Savings Account ⁽⁴⁾	<u>\$ 12,241</u>
Total Assets	\$ 273,379

⁽¹⁾ Balance augmented from (4) non-pledge related contributions:

2013 Gain on Sale of Investment Shares in New Covenant Fund	\$ 8,997
2014 Gain on sale of investment shares in New Covenant Fund	\$ 23,709
2014 Receipt of gift from Buffalo South Park congregation	\$ 50,000
2015 Receipt of gift from Estate of Robert Young	<u>\$ 118,885</u>
Total non-pledged contributions 2013-2015	\$ 201,591

⁽²⁾ Fund is restricted to use for housing costs of Pastor.

⁽³⁾ Fund is restricted to maintenance and property improvements.

⁽⁴⁾ Memorial Fund contributions for special uses.

LIABILITIES:

Wayside Presbyterian Church has no loans or leases.



Wayside Presbyterian Church

2015 Financial Summary

(January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015)

Revenue:

Weekly Offering	\$	109,098
Special Offerings	\$	1,310
Interest Income (New Covenant Investment Acct.)	\$	2,095
Mission & Outreach	\$	1,116
Fundraisers	\$	11,567
Christian Ed.	\$	431
Building	\$	363
Membership and Evangelism	\$	500
Memorial	\$	2,792
Rent	\$	<u>6,656</u>

Total Revenue \$ **135,926**

Expenses:

Church Office: Postage, Software, Supplies, Copier,	\$	2,544
Equipment, Copier, Phone and Internet	\$	10,603
Office Administrator & Treasurer	\$	28,250
Accounting	\$	250
Staff Gifts	\$	950
Pledge Envelopes	\$	471
Coffee Hour	\$	376
Deacon Expenses	\$	130
Membership and Evangelism Expenses	\$	334
Fundraisers	\$	4,170
Session: Supplies, Clerk Stipend, other	\$	923
Per Capita	\$	6,600
Communications: Advertising, Wayside, Web, other	\$	1,846
Christian Education: Supplies, Funday, Recognition	\$	2,262
Nursery Care	\$	2,040
Sunday School Coordinator	\$	200
Music & Worship: Supplies	\$	1,596
Pulpit Supply	\$	1,125
Pianist	\$	4,950
Drummer	\$	2,769
Coordinator	\$	2,400
Compensation & Payroll Expenses	\$	-
Interim Pastor Salary	\$	28,012
Pension and Medical	\$	11,475
Housing	\$	15,802
Study Leave, Expenses, & Mileage	\$	1,277
Pastoral Assistant	\$	6,500
State Payroll Expenses	\$	8,331
Operations & Maintenance: Misc.,	\$	-
Utilities	\$	10,723
Insurance	\$	7,992
Property/Sewer Tax	\$	957
New Equipment	\$	879
Supplies	\$	853
Maintenance	\$	6,071
Snow Plowing & Lawn Service	\$	3,600
Sanctuary Remodel	\$	2,400
Property Maintenance Staff	\$	13,246
Mission & Outreach Expenses	\$	<u>2,312</u>
Total Budgeted Expenses	\$	195,218.79

2015 Operational Deficit \$ (59,593)



Wayside Presbyterian Church

Approved 2016 Budget

Revenue Projected:

Weekly Offering	\$	144,000
Special Offerings	\$	1,900
Rent	\$	<u>6,500</u>
Total Revenue Forecasted ⁽¹⁾	\$	152,400

⁽¹⁾ Fundraisers not included in Budget

Expenses Projected:

Church Office: Postage, Software, & Supplies,	\$	2,050
Equipment, Copier, Phone and Internet	\$	9,800
Office Administrator & Treasurer	\$	28,250
Accounting	\$	250
Staff Gifts	\$	900
Pledge Envelopes	\$	500
Coffee Hour	\$	600
Deacon Expenses	\$	500
Membership and Evangelism Expenses	\$	500
Session: Supplies, Clerk Stipend, other	\$	999
Per Capita	\$	6,600
Training	\$	300
Pastor Nominating Committee Expense	\$	2,000
Communications: Advertising, Wayside, Web, other	\$	2,184
Christian Education: Supplies, Funday, Recognition	\$	2,675
Nursery Care	\$	1,680
Sunday School Coordinator	\$	2,400
Music & Worship: Supplies	\$	2,595
Pulpit Supply	\$	500
Pianist	\$	6,000
Drummer	\$	3,100
Coordinator	\$	2,400
Compensation & Payroll Expenses	\$	-
Interim Pastor Salary	\$	16,666
Pension and Medical	\$	4,160
SECA (Social Security)	\$	2,652
Housing	\$	18,000
Study Leave, Expenses, & Mileage	\$	3,500
Pastoral Assistant	\$	6,500
Travel Expense - Assistant	\$	500
State Payroll Expenses	\$	8,450
Operations & Maintenance: Misc.,	\$	50
Utilities	\$	13,000
Insurance	\$	8,400
Property/Sewer Tax	\$	1,200
New Equipment	\$	500
Supplies	\$	1,500
Maintenance	\$	4,500
Snow Plowing & Lawn Service	\$	5,800
Property Maintenance Staff	\$	13,252
Mission & Outreach Expenses	\$	<u>1,000</u>
Total Budgeted Expenses	\$	186,412
Budgeted Annual Shortfall	\$	(34,012)



Wayside Vision Statement

Vision for Wayside, compiled from members of the 2016 Session:

We envision Wayside Presbyterian Church to be a faith community that strives to create a spiritually rich environment. Through our worship, fellowship, and mission, we will welcome all people of all ages to journey with us as we seek daily to understand what it means to be a Christian in today's world. We value worship services that are relevant, full of dynamic music and the arts, both traditional and contemporary, and that inspire and challenge people to leave refreshed and spiritually enriched for all life's joys and challenges in the week ahead. We visualize a growing, vibrant church filled to capacity that shows Christ to the community in all we do – in worship, prayer, and action. In our newly found mission to assist refugees in the Western New York community, we are already actively carrying out the purpose and love of Jesus, and see ourselves continuing this ministry in the years ahead. We seek a time when people are invigorated and inspired to want to live fully our stated goal of "reaching out and bringing people to meet, to know, to love, and to follow Jesus"

