

THIS TENDER LAND BY WILLIAM KENT KRUEGER ONE BOOK, ONE CHURCH

Since 2014 our church community has enthusiastically embraced the One Book, One Church (OBOC) program. This year the committee has chosen This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger for our all church read. It begins in the summer of 1932 and chronicles the story of four orphans who flee abuse at their Indian training school. They travel along the fictional Gilead River in southern Minnesota, ultimately following the Mississippi River to St. Louis in search of a safe haven. They encounter loss and challenges and come to experience revealing lessons in faith, grace and forgiveness

We are excited to welcome folks back for in person and/or virtually for all the classes. It will help us to plan if you can reply to the survey about how you would like to attend. Please go to the One Book, One Church page on the web site, waynepres.org

September 12 - Book Club Discussions, 9:00am and 10:30am. Fireside Room or by Zoom

Join a small group for a lively discussion of this popular and thought-provoking book. In person and virtual are both options, just sign up!

The next three Sunday classes will be in person in the Fireside Room with the ability to Zoom in if you prefer.

September 19 - Carlisle Indian School Project, 9:00am

This Tender Land, begins with the main characters orphaned and living in Minnesota at the fictional Lincoln Indian Training School. The Carlisle Indian Industrial School, of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, was the first government-run Native American boarding school in the country. Learn more about this piece of history when Dickinson College Library Archivist Jim Gerencser joins us by Zoom to share information from the college's research materials and answers your questions. http://carlisleindian.dickinson.edu

September 26 - Author Kent Krueger, 9:00am

We are excited to welcome back author Kent Krueger for a Zoom conversation. A celebrated novelist, whose work includes Christian themes, Krueger is also known for his award-winning Cork O'Connor mystery series. He last joined us in 2016 for our OBOC read of Ordinary Grace.

October 3 - Rev Katy Shevel, 9:00am

Our own Rev. Katy Shevel closes our discussions. She will take ideas from the novel - a Tornado-God, a tent revival, snakes, miracles, and love - and will weave them together to give us a deeper understanding of faith, forgiveness, grace, and God's presence.



LOCAL MISSION: WPC AND BAKER INDUSTRIES SUPPORT GEMMA SERVICES

Gemma Services' (formerly the Village and Presbyterian Children's Village) Faith-In-Action Council of supporting churches, which includes Wayne Presbyterian, learned that Gemma needed "stress relief putty" for the children and youth in all their programs. It just so happened that another of WPC's local mission partners, Baker Industries (a non-profit work force development program founded by members Charles and Louise Baker for the sake of their son Justin), has had a client relationship since 2011 with Aaron Muderick, CEO of a Norristown firm that makes "Crazy Aaron's Thinking Putty". They make Thinking Putty® and "other creative, innovative products to inspire curiosity and wonder and to educate and delight our customers all over the world."

Our local mission committee arranged to supply Gemma Services with 300 small tins of Thinking Putty. The putty was purchased at a discount and we arranged for Baker Industries to print labels saying "Gemma Services" and apply heat seals on all the tins. This is the type of service Baker has provided Putty World in the past. The putty was delivered in July—in time for the start of classes at the Martin Luther School in Plymouth Meeting as well as for use in programs at the Preheim Center in southwest Philadelphia. The staff at Gemma especially liked the smaller tins because they are pocket-sized and the putty can be squeezed without being obvious and interfering with their concentration to the important tasks at hand.

For more information:

- About Local Mission: contact Lindsay Belzer or Scott Laird.
- About Baker Industries: https://www.bakerindustries.org
- · About Gemma Services: https://www.gemmaservices.org
- · About Crazy Aaron's Puttyworld: crazyaarons.com





Erin Christiansen at Crazy Aaron's Putty World supplied the stress relief putty. / Rich Bevan, President of Baker Industries with Kim.





Tins labeled & sealed by Kim of Baker Industries. / Amanda Bryant of Gemma Services receives the stress relief putty.

WAYNE LENDS A HELPING WHEEL

"God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform; He plants his footsteps in the sea, And rides upon the storm." Risks of urban flooding from Nature's storms are perilous for our brothers and sisters in Southwest Philadelphia (where Darby Creek meets the Schuylkill). Our CityLights partner, Southwest Community Development Corp (SWCDC)works diligently to improve the quality of life for families in one of Philadelphia's poorest areas. An original CityLights member since the 1990s, SWCDC staff counsel homeowners on avoiding foreclosure, advise first-time homebuyers, nurture hundreds of children in afternoon and summer camp programs, initiates economic development projects, and publish the local newspaper, the Southwest Globe Times.

Another of their vital contributions is maintaining a number of stormwater containment plots to reduce the risk of flooding to which the low-lying Southwest is particularly vulnerable. A member of the SWCDC team, Mr. Maurice, runs this Philadelphia Water Department program, but the battered 27-year-old Ford pickup truck he needs for his tools and materials finally wheezed its last in July.

A plaintive call for help from Donna Henry, the Executive Director of Southwest CDC, quickly reached our WPC CityLights committee. Members Susan Aggarwal and Buzz Mossholder examined some scenarios – but none of them appeared to be within our means – given the cost of even a used vehicle... and that Southwest CDC had to act immediately or risk losing the PWD contract.

Presumably through the agency of the Holy Spirit, Susan remembered Jim Logue of Thermo-Omega-Tech, a manufacturing company in Blue Bell with trucks and fleet of vans. Susan and her husband Vijay had met Jim when they were all volunteering at Broad Street Ministries. A quick phone call revealed that wonder of wonders, Jim did have a used, but well-maintained Ford cargo van with only about 50,000 on the odometer - which he was willing to donate!

"It's a gift from God!" Donna Henry exclaimed when she heard the news. "We're thrilled!" added her Southwest operations manager, Lorraine Thomas. "Quite frankly, I was in fear of my life when I would ride with Maurice in that old truck!" (Lorraine coordinates Southwest's distribution of our annual Easter Egg and Christmas Angel Tree food drives and the Thanksgiving meals program at the Presbytery Homes - all of which involved using the SWCDC truck.) We are overjoyed to have found a solution for SWCDC. Praise God.

¹William Cowper "Light Shining out of Darkness" 1773 (Ted Behr helped prepare this article)

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Donna Henry and Lorraine Thomas of Southwest CDC with the "new" van donated by a friend of Susan and Vijay Aggarwal for the flooding abatement program in Southwest Philadelphia.

144 YEARS OF HOPE AND HEALING PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN'S VILLAGE COMES OF AGE – 1930 TO 1960 BY JANE BEATTY

The Great Depression left its mark on the Village, creating large deficits during the mid-30s. Some of the women managers and male advisors questioned whether that kind of organizational structure could meet increasing management needs. Despite some resistance, in 1943, the managers eventually agreed to the formation of a new setup as proposed by the three-presbytery Synod of Pennsylvania.



Life went on for the children of the Village during the turbulent 1930s as the management dealt with the financial challenges of the depression. These pressures fostered a major reorganization and greater focus on fundraising, and the name was changed to Presbyterian Children's Village. But the caring nurture of the children continued unabated.

The changes were dramatic: The new name, Presbyterian Children's Village; a combined Board of Directors as the ruling entity with nine Presbyterian men and 15 women from the erstwhile Board of Managers; and a Board of Church Representatives (all women) as the fundraising auxiliary. A plan was adopted to erase the debt by soliciting unrestricted legacies, selling part of the property, closing one cottage, and launching concerted donation drives. In 1945, the first federal funds were received through the National School Lunch Program.



On the open East porch of the dormitory, Orphanage children enjoy playtime away from their studies at Mitchell Elementary School a few blocks north on Kingsessing Avenue. This porch was recently enclosed and transformed into the new Cornerstone Christian Academy library by the Hammers with Hearts team from Wayne Presbyterian and other hardy volunteers

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In 1953, the Village celebrated its 75th anniversary. About that time, Southwest Philadelphia was beginning to experience massive economic, social, and racial changes. The industrial infrastructure which had burgeoned throughout the two World Wars was rapidly disappearing. Consequently, a "White Flight" occurred and African American families began to move into previously stable neighborhoods. This transition was accompanied by much racial violence. Consequently, a "White Flight" occurred and African American families began to move into previously stable neighborhoods. This transition was accompanied by much racial violence.

The social changes affected the Village in both small ways and major directions. It had to hire a night watchman, enclose the property with chain link fencing, and escort children to school. Coincidentally, while the new social environment imposed much tension and anxiety for children and youth, fewer and fewer of them were being referred to the Village for orphan care.

On the positive side, in 1960, Samuel Robinson, ACME Groceries' co-founder and strong supporter of the Village left his 43-acre estate in Rosemont to the Village. Without hesitating, its Directors accepted it as an escape for the children from the city's noise, pollution, and dangers. A new chapter began for the Village.



In 1960, a new chapter begins with the donation of Glencoe. the Rosemont estate of Samuel Robinson, founder of the ACME stores. To the 43-acre campus were quickly added cottages, an infirmary, chapel,

gymnasium, and kitchen. The mansion was converted to administrative offices and the superintendent's residence.



We are late starting sign ups and hope you will join us. IF YOU ALREADY SIGNED UP, PLEASE SIGN UP AGAIN. The Red Cross had to reset its website so all sign ups were lost. We are very sorry for your inconvenience. We had to shorten the drive due to Covid precautions.

We have 58 slots to fill in one month and the need is so great as many corporate drives are still not being held. Please help by donating and passing this email along to five people (think old fashion chain letter....for a life sustaining cause. Thank you.

BAKER INDUSTRIES CELEBRATES WAYNE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Baker Industries will be honoring WPC and Susan and Vijay Aggarwal at their annual Gala on September 11, 2021 at the Merion Cricket Club. Weezie and Charlie Baker, long time WPC members, started Baker Industries in their garage 40 years ago to support their son, Justin, who has learning disabilities. WPC has supported Baker for many years in their quest to provide jobs for mentally and physically handicapped individuals as well as returning citizens. During this time, hundreds of people have found employment, job skills training, and have transitioned to good paying jobs in the Philadelphia area. WPC shares many connections to this vital mission partner. Susan began volunteering there as part of a Wednesday Women's Bible study and Vijay has been on Baker's Board of Directors for ten years. WPC members Glenn Dever and Elizabeth Castleman also serve on the Board and many of our members have volunteered there.

Please consider supporting Baker and WPC with your presence at the Gala. For more information or to register go to the Baker website - https://www.bakerindustries.org

WINGS WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY FALL SEMESTER

BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Word Before Work:

7:00 – 8:00 AM, Bi-Weekly Class, Fireside Room

PSALMS

Led by the Rev. Katy Shevel

We will discuss the theological issues of the entire Book of Psalms together. Feel free to participate in every session or as many as you are able. No matter where you are on the road of your faith journey, come as you are! There will be something for everyone in our class discussions. **BYOB!** (Bring your own Bible; no additional book or Study Guide needed.) **Contact Rev. Katy** at katy@waynepress.org for a ZOOM invitation.

Women In the Word:

9:30 – 11:30 AM, Weekly Class, Fireside Room **Women After Work:**

7:00 – 8:30 PM, Weekly Class, Fireside Room

INTO THE LIGHT, Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament by P. Lynn Miller | Led by Angela Tait

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This 9-week study mines both the Old and New Testament and provides unique works of art for illustration and discussion on the shape of human prayers to God. We will examine the concept of lament from both a societal and a Biblical perspective. We will define lament, what happens when there is an absence of lament in your life and finally discover how scriptural lament changes our perspective from anguish to hope.

Contact Angela at taitmaryangela333@gmail.com for Study Materials or a ZOOM invitation.

BEGINNING THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 MOMs Bible Study:

9:30 – 11:30 AM; Bi-Weekly; (Fire Side Room)

THE BETTER MOM: Growing In Grace Between Perfection and the Mess by Ruth Schwenk

Led by Pam Clark

Motherhood is messy. Our joy and hope in raising children don't change the reality being a mom can be frustrating, stressful, and tiring. But just as God is using us to shape our children, God is using our children and motherhood to shape us.

Contact Pam at pammyclark@gmail.com for books or a ZOOM invitation.







PSALMS

2021-2022 Nominating Committee Candidate Referral

The Nominating Committee encourages members and friends of Wayne Presby-terian to assist in nominating our officers each year by submitting names for consideration to the committee.

Our congregation is called on to annually elect members who are compassionate in spirit and demonstrate leadership to three-year terms as Elders (7) and Dea-cons (14 + two youth), six members to a one-year term on a Nominating Com-mittee representative of the congregation, and Stewards, also to three-year terms, who are responsible for the counting of our weekly offering.

More detail about these roles are available in the Leadership section of www.waynepres.org

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MITCHELL SCHOOL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Do you have half a day each week to sit with 2 or 3 children, one at a time, sharing the joy of reading a story? Many of us would quickly say "yes" but might think twice upon learning that the children are students at Mitchell Elementary School, Wayne's longtime CityLights partner in Southwest Philadelphia, a 30-40 minute ride from WPC.

Mitchell School, more than ever, needs caring adults to read with its students who, like students everywhere, have lost a learning year. Think about joining the 50 or so Wayne members who, over the 21-year partnership, have driven to Mitchell weekly to help students needing additional practice. It is helpful to the children and their teachers – and just plain fun!

Mitchell has not set a definite date for "Reading Partners" to begin this fall but is hoping it will be in October. Currently we have only four Wayne "Reading Partners" for this year, far less than the 14 we had at one time during the past 21 years – and the need is greater than ever! Most "Partners" carpool, some drive by themselves. The school has a parking lot behind it.

We would love to tell you stories about our experiences with Mitchell children, answer any questions you might have and, of course, welcome a "yes" to becoming a "Reading Partner". Please contact Jane Beatty (jnbeatty@verizon.net, 610-688-7529), Rita Fisk (ritahfisk@gmail.com, 484-744-9535 or Wendy Norman (wnormanpa@yahoo.com, 610-608-2572),

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY AT WPC

In February 2017, a group of women began a Prayer Shawl Ministry at Wayne Presbyterian, gathering twice a month to knit and crochet together. Their purpose as they gathered was to create prayer shawls to be shared with members of our congregation and the community. Shawls that are knit or crocheted in a Prayer Shawl Ministry are symbolic of an embracing and unconditionally loving God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover and give solace to one who is in need. Our hope is that those who receive the shawls will feel uplifted, affirmed, loved and prayed for.

To date, these women have created around 100 shawls. The shawls have been shared with people who are going through difficult medical treatments, who are grieving

the loss of a loved one, who are aging or who are hurting in some other way. If you know someone you feel would benefit from receiving a prayer shawl, you can speak with Lynne Eckman in the church office.

Also knit/crocheted by this group are baby blankets that are used to wrap stillborn babies in the Labor and Delivery department at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, neck balaclavas for the Chinese seamen and car seat blankets for new babies in our own congregation.

This group of needlewomen will begin meeting again on September 20th. They will gather regularly on the first and third Monday of each month from 1:00-3:00 in the afternoon in the church library. If you have an interest in learning to knit, there are women in the group who are happy to help you do so.

Please consider joining us in this worthwhile outreach to those who are hurting. For more information contact Linda Teets at LST833@aol.com.

THURSDAY MORNING MEN'S MINISTRY SEPTEMBER 2021 7:00 AM



Dr. Darrell Pearson

September 2nd

Our Thursday sessions will focus on discussing the previous week's Pastoral sermon.

September 9th and the three remaining Thursdays of the month - Darrell Pearson, D. Min. Professor of Youth Ministry and Director of the Online Youth Ministry Leadership Program. Topic to be announced shortly.

Thursday Morning Men's Ministry is an informal group of Wayne Presbyterian Church that meets at 7:00 am each Thursday. It is a wonderful opportunity for relationships, prayer, and learning. The program year runs from September through June.

Please note: Starting with Dr. Pearson on September 9th we hope to be using a hybrid-format meeting including live in the Fireside Room as well as access via Zoom. Please see the WPC weekly News & Views email blast to stay up to date on details.

For more information or to get on the email Zoom invite list please contact Tim Pretz at tpretz@eastern.edu or Sal Ambrosio at sambrosio55@gmail.com

HISTORY OF INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK OF THE MAIN LINE AT WAYNE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



A baby born at Christmas time to family staying at WPC



WPC Women's Christmas Tea with supplies donated for IHN. L to R, IHN's Allegra Cressman, WPC coordinators Leslie Dudt and Susan Hirshman, Elizabeth Bertolet of IHN, and Marty Laird.

A hallmark of the past 25 years at Wayne Presbyterian Church has been the expansion of our mission outreach commitments and, notably, the engagement of our members with those mission partners. Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Mainline (IHN) is an excellent example of that engagement.

As homelessness became a national issue, a network of churches in our area decided to address the homelessness of families with children. A group met with Karen Olsen, the founder of the first Interfaith Hospitality Network in New Jersey, in 1989, and met and organized for two years before it started hosting as Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line in 1992. Our network of the Main Line has always been affiliated with the national organization, which has changed its name from the national Interfaith Hospitality Network to Family Promise. IHN-ML has also always been "interfaith" - its hosting and its supporting congregations coming from different faith traditions. Though WPC was not part of the initial group in 1989, by the mid-1990s our Senior pastor, John T. Galloway, Jr., and the Session felt strongly that WPC should be a part of this network. Thus, discussions began. IHN-ML became a mission partner through the Local Mission sub-committee of our Mission Committee and its annual mission budget.

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Sometime between 1996 and 1998, WPC joined the Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Mainline as a hosting congregation. This means that our church pledged financial support to the program, and we committed to a week-long overnight hosting of 2 to 4 families with children in our education building. With a rotation of 10 other hosting churches in the network, our turn to host would come up about 5 times a year. Church deacon Sally Thompson took on the monumental task of being our church's first IHN coordinator. She organized volunteers, schedules, and supplies for an endeavor that had not been done before in our congregation's life – having people live in our church facility, as our guests, for a week at a time.

Then, as now, a hosting week needs about 50 to 60 volunteers from our church: to set up the living spaces; to welcome the families; to provide a nutritious dinner each evening, as well as basic foods for a self-help breakfast and packed lunches; to be a hosting presence throughout the evening, which includes engagement with the ever-energetic children; to be present as overnight supervision; and then to close down the living space at the end of the week, and clean all the linens used by the families. Some of our church's members have been volunteering for IHN for over 20 years; and each hosting week has included new volunteers that want to be a part of this ministry.

Then, as now, our mission has been to provide temporary shelter for families experiencing a housing crisis in such a manner that the families feel welcomed into a safe and caring environment and feel supported in their work toward moving into their own long-term housing situation. In short, our mission has been to welcome the stranger, to feed the hungry, to comfort the afflicted, and to care for the children.

Then, as now, our participation in the IHN program makes use of our financial giving, our physical facility, and our church volunteers. All three elements are necessary – it's a holistic response of our church to the call to address this need of homeless families in our area.

Sally Thompson's initial coordinating leadership was followed by Liz Precious as solo coordinator for several years. It took a team of two coordinators to fill Liz' shoes! Martha (Marty) Laird and Susan Kensill took over from Liz, followed by Marty Laird and Ann Sieger.

Susan Wright filled in for Marty and Ann when each of them had a family crisis, and then Rhonda Mordy took on solo coordinating responsibilities for 2 years until Marty returned to be a coordinating team with Rhonda. Currently, the team has expanded to three new coordinators: Nancy Monahan, Susan Hirshman, and Leslie Dudt. Over the years, Tom Bang, Liz Precious, Rhonda Mordy, and Susan Kersch have served as IHN board members.

The memorable moments of hosting IHN at WPC are many and varied; some have left indelible marks on our volunteers. Getting "snowed in" has happened at least twice. A singular memory is when a baby was born the week WPC was hosting – at Christmas time! WPC as a modern-day stable to a family in need.

As with any vibrant program, changes and improvements happened through time and through a change in leadership. Each coordinator at WPC, during her approximate 5-year term, brought ideas and styles that improved our hosting, both in substance and appearance. In the first years, bedroom cubicles for the families would be set up in the common space of Room 208-209. These cubicles were made of wood panels pieced together. Over time, there was a transition to nice looking and sound absorbing modular office panels. Finally, the appeal was made to the church to use different rooms on the second floor so that each family could have its own private space which was a marked improvement for the families' comfort. The network made the change from using metal spring cots with mattresses that had to be trucked from church to church to each church owning its own set of air beds for the guest families. The weekend schedule was changed so that families could remain in the Norristown area on Saturday and have some "free time". Likewise, each change in leadership of the Executive Director of our IHN network brought improvement to the Norristown-based day program that is such an important part of families' enrollment in IHN. The program has evolved from merely providing some contact info for social service support and providing computer access so that parents could look for employment and housing to providing classes on budgeting and parenting; and then to direct guidance toward educational and work skill development for the parents; and now to an on-site social worker who helps meld all available services into steps that help the parents to set weekly goals in their quest for more sustained independent housing. New additional services at Family Promise now includes support to graduate families, and an outreach program to families in crisis to prevent them from becoming homeless.

History should note that during the pandemic shutdown of 2020 and into 2021, when churches could not welcome

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people into their buildings for worship or for any other reason, the current executive director and the social worker had the determination and the skill experience to keep the IHN program open for families in need. The office apartment was used for one family while other families were placed in motels; churches were encouraged to still "host" by providing meals brought to the day center, or meal "gift" cards for nearby takeout. Families were provided shelter, and churches were kept involved, in a necessarily limited way. We can thank God for their resourcefulness in this most unusual time.

A final recent change is a name change. IHN going forward will use the name FAMILY PROMISE, which, as noted at the beginning of this history, is the name of the national affiliation. However, churches may, and probably will, still refer to" IHN" for a long time to come! There is always good current information on the website at www.ihncares.org

TO MALACHI AND BEYOND* FALL SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Have you ever wondered about the four-century period between the Old and New Testaments? This interactive, semester-long class will explore the historical events and writings of the intertestamental period, namely the time between the Prophet Malachi and the Gospel of Matthew. Some have called this period "The 400 Silent Years," yet there was much going on in preparation for the arrival of Jesus of Nazareth.

The course instructor is Wayne Presbyterian's long time Scholar-In-Residence, Eastern University Professor Joseph Modica. With his deep scriptural knowledge and engaging teaching style, Professor Modica will help you look at both Testaments from a new perspective.

The book for the course will be Mind the Gap: How the Jewish Writings between the Old and New Testament Help Us Understand Jesus by Mattias Henze. Copies will be available through the class and also on Amazon.

Come join us starting Sunday, September 12 at 9:00am in the Knox Room. This class will also be offered via Zoom. For information about joining via Zoom, email Todd Cameron at wtoddcameron@gmail.com.

*With much appreciation to Buzz Lightyear from *Toy Story*.



Weddings

We celebrate the weddings of...

Bethany Dever and Tyler Bray July 17, 2021

Deaths

We give thanks for the life and the ministry of...

J. Martin Myers July 20, 2021

John H. (Jack) Swope August 15, 2021

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If you have any questions about these roles or are interested in getting involved at Wayne Presbyterian but are uncertain how, please reach out to any member of our 2021-2022 Nominating Committee: Meg Rosecky, Chair, Chad Slate, Co-Chair, Lindsay Belzer, Hans Coetzee, Terry Jarman, Lisa Packer, Ron Race, Chuck Rueger, Mike Sieger and Debby Vogel

I suggest

for nomination to the office of: o Elder Class of 2025:

Committee)

- o Deacon Class of 2025
- o Steward Class of 2025 (Counting Team)
- o 2022-2023 Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee appreciates additional information to help us consider this person's qualifications. On another sheet of paper please attach relevant comments regarding the candidate and their:

- o Christian Living in Daily Life within the family & in the community
- o Church Involvement participation in church activities & committees
- o Personal Characteristics, Skills, and Interests
- o Professional Experiences
- o And, yes, you may self-nominate!

Thank you for returning this form to our mail slot outside the office, emailing Meg Rosecky at jmrosecky@verizon.net or giving it to one of our committee members by October 3, 2021

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8:30 am-4:30 pm

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org/publications.