Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church

I want to share a article I read from an old Focus on the Family magazine. It was written by Dean and Grace Merrill. It is entitled "The Creche vrs. The Crush."

Have you noticed the incredible packing job most families do at Christmas time? Not boxes and cartons... we're talking about the calendar. In most households a time chart of December activities, tasks, parties, school events, trips and dinners would look as complex as Gen. Eisenhower's plan for the invasion of Normandy.

We actually try to fit 60 days of Christmas tradition and busyness into 30 days. It won't fit. We would all do well to sit down and make a list of our Christmas traditions. List everything your family wants to accomplish/enjoy/experience in December. By the time you reach the bottom of the second page you will be discouraged. So much to do... so little time.

Next, go back over the list and put a "C" alongside all the activities that contain some kind of overt Christian principle. Which of the things will enhance the true meaning of Christmas for us and for our children? In light of the time crunch start making decisions based on the following scripture; "Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but be a new and different person with a fresh newness in all you do and think. Then you will learn from your own experience how His ways will really satisfy you" (Romans 12:2 TLB). The Phillips translation says: "Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its mold."

In December that takes work. Not only we but our children are bombarded by expectations from the past plus commercialism from the present. Everybody else has thousands of ideas on how to fill our time. That is why we parents must step in a guide our children.

Modern living has turned Christmas into a time of too many options, too many voices calling for our time and money. If the Child in the manger is to be appreciated at all we will have to say no to other distractions.... many of them good... in order to concentrate on the best, to "come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord."

This is so true. It is so easy to forget that the "Christmas feeling and spirit of giving" is not the meaning of Christmas. Christ is the meaning. Christ must be kept in the center. This we must teach our children.

The Runyan family would like to wish each and every one of you a blessed, Christ centered Christmas.

In Him
Doug

I would like to thank the Woman's Association for the wonderful gift given to Kim and I for Pastor's Appreciation. On the 10th of December Kim and I will enjoy the 10 Tenors at Westminister College. I would also like to thank the Lydia Circle for their gift of a subscription to the Decision magazine. I will enjoy reading the magazine every time it arrives.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

1. Administration Committee removed the kitchen cabinets from the manse. At the time of this newsletter the kitchen is an empty shell. The one wall has been removed, extensive rewiring is done, old flooring from kitchen and dining room has been removed, lighting has been updated, new drywall is done and painting is beginning. It is expected that the new cabinets will arrive on or about December 8th and the counters two weeks later. It is hoped the project will be completed by Christmas. Doug has stated that an Open House will be scheduled early next year.

2. Investigation is beginning to see about the possibility of purchasing a van. It has been very difficult for the Youth Group and other groups to arrange transportation.

3. Yard is ready to receive grass seed in the Spring. After new grass has grown a landscaper will be consulted about planting new trees.

4. Approved a bid from A & L Lawn Care for snow plowing.

5. Approved the 2018 budget. Sent it to the congregation to be received.

6. Chair of Christian Ed gave a report about Sunday School, Children at Worship, MOPS, and Youth Group. Reported that the Christmas Pageant will be December 17th.

7. Chair of the Evangelism committee reported that Name tag Sunday will be the first Sunday of every month. Also reported that all families non-NBPC attending Breakfast in Bethlehem will receive a postcard inviting them to our Christmas Eve services.

8. Session conducted a review of membership and transferred a number of members from the Active Roll to the Inactive Roll.

9. As recommended by the Mission Committee, $7000.00 was approved from the Mission Fund balance to be spent on the Haiti Mission Trip. Also reported that $3,420.00 is in Mission Trip Fund from previous fund raisers and designated giving. In addition over $1300.00 was donated during the luncheon. About an additional $4000.00 needs to be raised to pay for the February Trip.

10. Food donated for the City Rescue Center was delivered.

11. Approved a thank you Christmas restaurant gift certificate to be given to our staff. Also approved the annual Christmas party to be held for our staff.

12. Personnel Committee has scheduled the annual review of all church staff.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee would like to thank our new officers.

Elders

Diane Bell
Jim Emery
Brad Marshall – 1 yr. extension

Deacons

Terri Emery
Jane Eppinger
Beth Kendall
Darlene Robison

2018 Nominating Committee

Mary Beckman
Collin Fulkman
Doug Houk
***one Elder & one Deacon will be added**

Thank you to the Nominating Committee for their hard work!

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Please remember in prayer the following persons who are hospitalized, receiving treatments, recuperating at home and those who have requested prayer.

Nancy Templeton----------Overlook Medical Clinic
Dot Jones----------Avalon Nursing Home
Marie Snyder----------Home
Gladys Barnhart----------Home
Jo Ruby----------Home
Pearl Reed----------Overlook Nursing Home
Carl Black----------Clen-Moore Place (Greer House)
Shirley Tremba----------Home



Birthdays in December

12/01 – Adam Marshall
12/02 – Diana Halt
12/04 – Alexis Lambert
12/05 – Betty Komar
12/07 – Kyle Jones
12/09 – Chuck Bell
12/09 – Bob Bell
12/09 – Alexis Jones
12/10 – Bob Miller
12/11 – Caroletta Doverspike
12/13 – Katee Paglia
12/14 – Evelyn Exley
12/14 – Jo Ruby
12/16 – Wanda Boyles
12/17 – Angela Houk
12/17 – Addie Moore
12/19 – Rebecca Halt
12/20 – Eric Keller
12/21 – Ruth Hunt
12/21 – Lavon Rogers
12/24 – Florence Allison
12/28 – Darlene Robison
12/29 – Christa Matthews

Birthdays in January

1/01 – Jakki Gardner
1/03 – Bud Freeman
1/04 – Corigan Quinn
1/05 – Lois Adams
1/05 – Philip Book
1/05 – Ashley Fox
1/05 – Shirley Janoski
1/06 – Nancy Bretz
1/06 – Joel Phillips
1/09 – Brenda Miller
1/11 – Marshall Whiting
1/12 – Linda Feil
1/12 – Diane McConnell
1/14 – Gary Geisinger
1/14 – Allen Jones
1/17 – Terri Quinn
1/19 – Rosie Moore
1/19 – Willie Moore
1/20 – Mikayln Duffy
1/20 – Amanda Miller
1/24 – Lori Smith
1/26 – Michael Duffy
1/26 – Mackenzie McCarthy
1/26 – Julie Whiting
1/27 – Joyce Goist
1/27 – Morgan Whiting
1/28 – Taylor Allison

DECEMBER GREETERS

12/3 ~ Debbie Pogozelec & Linda Punneo

12/10 ~ Shawn & Beth Kendall

12/17 ~ Ray & Shirley Janoski

12/24 ~ Brad & Marti Marshall

12/24 (evening) ~ Lori Smith

12/31 ~ Steve Fox & Sunday School Class

HEAD USHER ~ Glenda Fulkman

New Bedford Church Shut-In's/Nursing Home Addresses

Bea Brinza
c/o Darla Braun
6463 Merchim St.
Ravenna, OH 44266

Carl Black
Clen-Moore Place
22 W. Clen Moore Blvd.
New Castle, PA 16105

Bob Miller
3691 Marr Rd.
Pulaski, PA 16143

Pearl Reed
Overlook Nursing Home
520 New Castle St.
New Wilmington, PA 16142

Nancy Templeton
Overlook Nursing Home
520 New Castle St.
New Wilmington, PA 16142

Lavon Rogers
234 High St. #2
New Wilmington, PA 16142

Dot Jones
Avalon Nursing Home
3410 W. Pittsburgh Rd.
New Castle, PA 16101

Kay Kessel
Avalon Nursing Home
3410 W. Pittsburgh Rd.
New Castle, PA 16101

Jean Frye
107 Shawee Dr.
Butler, PA 16001

Bob Bretz
272 Willowbrook Dr.
Pulaski, PA 16143

Marie Snyder
968 Pine Glenn Rd.
Pulaski, PA 16143

Marge Divens
Emeritens at Chestnut Hill
5055 Thompson Rd. Apt. 112
Columbus, OH 43230

Jo Ruby
1046 Pine Glenn Rd.
Pulaski, PA 16143

Erma Gorley
85 Roman Dr.
Mercer, PA 16137

Gladys Barnhart
3324 Evergreen Rd.
Pulaski, PA 16143

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Thanking all my church family and my minister, Doug Runyan for all the kindnesses shown to me this past year. I can't find words to express how much I appreciated each and everyone.

Lavon Rogers

I would like to thank Pastor Doug and all of my friends for all the Birthday cards and visits!

Violet Hilliard

Congratulations to Jim & Terri Emery on the birth of their new granddaughter, Lucy Juliette Petro! Lucy was born on November 12th in Minnesota. Jim & Terri's daughter Jamie and her husband Ben are the proud parents and Jude & Titus are Lucy's big brothers!!





The Deacons are once again selling Poinsettia's. You may purchase one "In Honor" or "In Memory" of a loved one. The cost is $8.25 each. Linda Canami and Lori Jones will be taking orders until December 17th.

The Deacons are collecting non-perishable food items for their Christmas food baskets. There is a box in the narthex for your donations.



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Haiti Supply Collection

I am excited to share that for the first time ever I will have unlimited space for collected items to take to Haiti. As you know a small group from the church is coming down for 2 weeks in February. They will each be able to carry 2 suitcases of supplies (16 total!). My parents are driving down to Miami to put supplies on a boat. Below are the items needed. There will be a black tub at the church for you to place donation items in. Thank you for your support and generosity!! *Autumn*

Items needed for Miriam Center

***new backpacks**
***towels**
***lotion**
***bar soap**
***medial gloves (all sizes)**
***peanut butter**
***baby wipes**
***pedialite (powder)**
***ensure (powder or liquid)**
***protein powder**
***children's vitamins**
***crib sheets**
***baby powder**
***toothpaste**
***boys & girls deodorant**
***Children's liquid Tylenol**
***garbage bags – 13 gallon**
***pediasure (powder)**
***baby formula**
***toddler formula**
***melatonin**
***triple antibiotic cream**
***fungal cream** ***regular sheet sets (mainly fitted sheets but packages with both will work)**
***boys new or gently used shorts 5T to Adult Small**
***boys t-shirts new or gently used 5T to Adult Small**
***girls dresses Girls Small to Adult Small**

Therapy Items Needed

***medical gloves** ***hand sanitizer** ***Clorox wipes**
***icy hot cream** ***pvc pipe cutters** ***pvc glue**
***colored ductape** ***patterned ductape**
***2" caster wheels (sets of 4 matching)**
***various size screws & bolts for building projects**
***cause & effect light up music toys**
***calcium vitamins (for Rickets Vitamin Prog.)**
***vitamin D3 pills – 1,000mg (for Rickets Vitamin Prog.)**
***gently used and new shoes – Toddler & Children sizes that can fit therapy braces in**



Women's News

December Circle Meetings

Deborah **~ Tuesday 12/12 at 9:30AM**

Ruth **~ Monday 12/18 at 11:30AM at The Crane Room**

Lydia **~ Tuesday 12/19 at 1:00PM**

Elizabeth **~ Thursday 12/21 at 6:30PM**

Rebecca **~ No meeting in December**

****The Ruth Circle will be having their December meeting & luncheon on Monday, December 18th at 11:30 at the Crane Room on Wilmington Rd. If you would like to share some "Sweet Joy" with others, please remember to bring two dozen cookies with you to the meeting. Please RSVP to Nancy by December 12th.**

Bazaar 2017 – Thank you to everyone that had a part in helping with the Bazaar! We all pulled together for a day of work, fellowship and shopping. It was a wonderful day ending up with $6,057.50 profit.

Thank you for serving with a Christian spirit, ladies and men!

2017 Bazaar Committee ~ Nancy Bretz, Beth Kendall & Cindy Bell

Upcoming Dates

Next meeting – January 13, 2018 @ 9:00AM

Women's Retreat – April 20-April 21, 2018

National Day of Prayer – May 3, 2018

Bazaar – November 3, 2018

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Church Christmas Dinner & Children's Program



Join us on December 17 for our annual Christmas Program & Dinner. The Children's Program will begin at 4pm with a delicious meal following at 5pm in the Fellowship Hall. The Worship Committee will be providing turkey, ham, potatoes, green beans, and rolls. If you are able to bring a dish to share, please follow this breakdown:

Last Name Beginning with

A-F ~ Hot Dish
G-P ~ Dessert
Q-Z ~ Salad

New Bedford Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Awana Clubs-----Wednesdays
Age 2 - Grades 6 5:00-7:00

AWANA MISSION UPDATE Awana Clubbers collected items for the Thanksgiving Baskets that get distributed during the holiday to families in need. Thank you for the generous donation of food…..we collected 102 items for the City Rescue Mission.

Thank you for helping to provide this ministry with food for families in need.

Now we will continue to support 2 missions……

1) The CITY RESCUE MISSION

Needed Items:

Jelly	Cereal	Canned Fruit	Syrup
Boxed Rice	Pancake Mix	Crackers	Mac n Cheese

2) Autumn Marshall and the HAITI Supplies—items due by Jan. 10th

Needed Items:

New Backpacks	Crib Sheets	Fitted Sheets	Towels	Baby Powder	Lotion
Medical Gloves	Garbage Bags	Baby Wipes	Peanut Butter	Bar Soap	Toothpaste
Baby Formula	Protein Powder	Child's Vitamin	Fungal Cream	Melatonin	Duct Tape
Icy/Hot Cream	Clorox Wipes	Hand Sanitizer	Powder: Pediasure, Pedialite, & Ensure		

New/Gently Used: Boy's Shorts & T-Shirts--size 5T-Adult Small & Girl's dresses size Small-Adult Small

Our goal is to collect 300 pounds of items!

Coach Lee has made a challenge that if the goal is met he'll provide a pizza party!!

AWANA Schedule for December

December 6th – Double Point Night

Clubbers will get double the points for attendance, bringing their Bible and Handbook, and completing sections.

December 13th – Regular Club Night

December 20th – Happy Birthday Jesus Party

Clubbers can wear Christmas colors, red and green, as we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.
We will have pizza, chips, drink, and cake.

December 27th & January 3rd — NO AWANA – Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Awana will resume on Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Awana Leaders & Listeners Appreciation Dinner & Mid-Year Meeting
January 3rd at 5:00

All Awana helpers mark your calendars for this important meeting. You are invited to come to dinner and a meeting to share concerns, praises, & suggestions as we head into the 2nd half of the Awana year.



Children's Christmas Play

Join us as we celebrate the birth of our savior.....It's a Party!
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17th 4:00

Play practice is December 9th at 11:00 AM(after Breakfast in Bethlehem)
December 16th at 9:30 AM

Please save the 'fronts' of your Christmas cards. A collection box will be in the vestibule in January.



Parenting Bible Study

beginning in January at 9:30 AM (starting date TBA)



Lee Harris will lead the Dr. Tony Evans video series Raising Kingdom Kids. This study will challenge and equip parents to fully understand their position under God, helping them fulfill their role in parenting the children God has given them. There are 6 sessions: This Isn't the Magic Kingdom, "But Daniel...", Transfer the Kingdom Baton, Cultivating a Kingdom Atmosphere, Set a High Standard, and Raising Royal Kids

Please sign up in the vestibule so participant guides can be ordered.
If you have any questions please contact Lee at 330-881-8114.

Children At Worship Leaders for December

3-Dawn Harris
10-Erika Taylor
17-Jane Eppinger
24-Dawn Harris

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Breakfast In Bethlehem

Saturday, December 9th

8:30 – 11:30am

(Breakfast will be served until 10)

PLEASE INVITE YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY AND NEIGHBORS TO THIS AMAZING EVENT!!



It's the most wonderful time of the year! Hopefully all of you had a great Thanksgiving. The Youth served a meal at the City Rescue Mission for their Thanksgiving Project, and I was so grateful for the help they had! Special thanks to parents, Amanda Amalong and Sharlee Thomas for stepping up and leading the group for the day; you were a huge help!

This month the Youth will be having their annual Christmas party at my house, December 22nd from 6-8pm. Please remember to bring your Secret Santa Gift! There is a $10 spending limit on gifts; please honor this rule! It would be pretty disheartening for one kid to receive a $10 gift, only to find out someone else got a $30 gift. At the end of the month the Youth will load up into cars on December 28th and visit the Cascade drive-through light show! Make sure you bring money for Taco Bell afterwards. Also, Breakfast In Bethlehem is December 9th at the church from 8:30-11:30am! This would not be an event the kids attended, it's something they would help work. Brad Marshall is in need of helpers to do face painting, puppet show, and Mary's kitchen. Please come and help if you can! Don't forget, the last night of afO is December 17, 2017. We will start back up on Sunday night January 7, 2018.

Young Adult Study continues to be on Monday nights at my house at 6pm. December 20th we're going to see the lights at Oglebay in Wheeling, WV. This huge display of drive through lights is 6 miles long! It's $15 per car so we'd split the cost between everyone inside. Hopefully you can make it out! I hope everyone has a happy holiday and blessed New Year!

-Jocilyn



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Please join us on Sunday, December 24th from 7-8pm for our Christmas Eve Family Worship Service and Choral Cantata

The New Beford Choir will present a cantata entitle

"Comfort and Joy"

Please join us for the wonderful musical celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus

The cantata will be followed by our traditional Candle Lighting Service

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LOOKING AHEAD……Annual Reports: All committee and board secretaries or chairmen should start thinking about getting their Annual Reports ready to be turned in. ALL REPORTS MUST BE TURNED IN NO LATER THEN SUNDAY, JANUARY 14 to be included in the 2017 Annual Report. There is a folder on my desk or you an email your reports to me at newbedfordchurch@verizon.net or addietwinstrips@gmail.com Thank You!! Addie



NEW AT NBEPC!!!

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)
December 2017-February 2018 Schedule
All Meetings 9:30-11:00 A.M.

December 5 **Clutter Free Lives**

Consider why we buy and hold onto things that create chaos in our homes and lives. Discuss practical steps to living with meaning.

December 19 **MOPS Swap Meet**

January 9 **Why Worry**

Discover what is at the root of your worry, name the things that cause stress, and invite others to come alongside you. Don't allow worry to paralyze you and keep you from enjoying life!

January 23 **Coloring Books and Hot Cocoa Bar**

February 6 **20 Seconds of Insane Courage**

Discuss how to courageously take ownership of your entire story and speak, act, and live in freedom.

February 20 **Mosaic Picture Frames**

HELP NEEDED!

In order to provide this ministry to mothers of preschoolers in our area, we are in need of volunteers to help with childcare during the meetings. A curriculum and activities will be provided for children 2+ while younger children can enjoy free play and a snack in the nursery. You do NOT have to work every meeting, but any and all assistance would be greatly appreciated!

****Copies of the full 2017-2018 MOPS Schedule can be picked up in the church entry****

Please contact Erika Taylor for more information at 724-674-1840 or emtaylor1978@aol.com.

NEW BEDFORD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
151 Woodland Drive
Pulaski, PA 16143
Phone: 724-964-8055

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #147
New Castle, PA
16101



Redeeming Times Newsletter
DECEMBER 2017

Church website: www.newbedfordepchurch.org
Church e-mail: newbedfordchurch@verizon.net



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

Sunday Schedule:

8:30a.m. – Contemporary Worship Service
9:30a.m. – Sunday School for all ages
10:40a.m. – Traditional Worship Service

HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR!