JULY 26, 2026 **10:30A.M.**

The mission, vision, and purpose of New Bedford Evangelical Presbyterian Church is to love, know and serve the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
We* Love God *through worship,* Know God *through Growth Groups, and* Serve God *by using our gifts both outside and inside the church.

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE-

***CALL TO WORSHIP - Adapted from Psalm 47 & 95**
Leader: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy!

Congregation: For, the LORD, the Most High, is awesome—a great king over all the earth!

Leader: Sing praises to our God! Sing praises to our King!

All: Let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! Let us shout aloud to the rock of our salvation!

***A HYMN OF PRAISE # 517 What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

PASTORAL PRAYER & SILENT PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER-
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC- "Let It Be A Hallelujah" Jocilyn Csernyik and Amy Geisinger

***DOXOLOGY**
Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen
***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***A HYMN OF PREPARATION # 272 Nearer, My God, to Thee**
(Children dismissed for J.A.M. kids – meet leader at sanctuary door)

HOLY SCRIPTURE LESSON – Matthew 6: 5-8

SERMON- "How Not To Pray"

***THE CLOSING HYMN # 388 Take My Life, and Let It Be**

***THE BENEDICTION**

***THE CONGREGATIONAL CLOSING**
In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In my life, Lord, be glorified today

POSTLUDE

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Pastor: Elija Bombeck
Head Usher: Gary Geisinger
Director of Music Ministry: Donna Fox
Praise Team Director: Jocilyn Csernyik
Director/Family Ministry: Lee Harris
Director/Children's Ministry: Dawn Harris
Sound/Video Technician: Nathan Book
Nursery Attendant: Brenda Miller
Church Secretary: Jaime McCarthy
Church Phone: 724-964-8055
Church email: newbedfordepchurch@gmail.com
Church Website: newbedfordepchurch.org

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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.
Doris Spence----------Ridgecrest of McCandless

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****J.A.M. (Jesus And Me) Kids during the 10:30 service……Children in PreK – Gr. 3 are invited for a Bible lesson, craft, games. Parents can pick up their child after the service in the education wing.***

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Please contact Taylor Velez, Clerk of Session if you have any correspondence or business for the Session. Her contact information is: phone 724-651-2429, email taylorskelding@gmail.com

WORSHIP OF PRAYER AND PRAISE 8:30A.M.

WORSHIP TEAM PRELUDE

You Are God Alone (Not A God)

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP – Adapted from Psalm 47 & 95**

Leader: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy!

Congregation: For, the LORD, the Most High, is awesome—a great king over all the earth!

Leader: Sing praises to our God! Sing praises to our King!

All: Let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! Let us shout aloud to the rock of our salvation!

***SONGS OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE**

Come Now is the Time to Worship
Open the Eyes of My Heart
Great Are You Lord

PASTORAL PRAYER & SILENT PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER-

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

HOLY SCRIPTURE LESSON – Matthew 6: 5-8

SERMON- "How Not To Pray"

***CLOSING SONG- You Are God Alone (Not A God)**

***BENEDICTION**

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2026

8:30A.M. Contemporary Service
9:30A.M. Sunday School for all ages
10:30A.M. Traditional Worship Service

MONDAY, JULY 27,2026

6:30P.M. Deacons meet

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026

9:00A.M. The Weight group meets

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2026

6:30P.M. Veterans Bible study

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2026

11AM-3PM Community Days

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Welcome, Pastor Elija and Leah!

Today, we joyfully welcome Pastor Elija Bombeck to the pulpit for the first time as our Senior Pastor at New Bedford EPC. We are also delighted to welcome his wife, Leah, as they become part of our church family.

Please keep Pastor Elija and Leah in your prayers as they begin this new season of ministry among us. Let us surround them with encouragement, kindness, and genuine Christian hospitality. So make sure you give them a big and warm New Bedford EPC welcome today!

We look forward with gratitude and anticipation to all that God will do in and through our church family in the days ahead.

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Please fill out a yellow Welcome slip located in the pews or on the Welcome Cart in the Narthex. Place it in the offering plate on the Welcome Cart.

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There is a kid's table in the vestibule with coloring/activity papers and fidget items that can be used during the service. Please return items following the service.

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Reminder next Sunday August 2nd we will be having Communion. We invite you to the Lord's table to celebrate Communion in remembrance.

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There will be Outdoor Worship Services on Sunday, August 9th at 8:30AM and 10:30AM. There will not be Sunday School instead in between services (9:30-10:15) there will be a Pot-Luck brunch. If you are able to, please bring a breakfast dish to share. The Worship Committee will supply drinks.

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You are invited to attend the wedding of Nathan Book and Joy Antoniazzi on August 15th at 2:00P.M. here at New Bedford Church. Reception at 6:00P.M. at River Valley Community Center. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Please indicate number of people attending on the sheet. Please RSVP no later than July 28th if you plan on attending.

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August Redeeming Times Newsletter.

All information and/or articles need to be submitted by Noon on Tuesday, July 28th to be included in the August newsletter.

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Serve Sunday - Next Sunday at 9:30-10:30 AM the children's Sunday School classes will meet in the Fellowship Hall for singing and to complete a service project. Any adult interested in assisting the kids with the project contact Dawn Harris.

How Not to Pray — Message Notes

Text: Matthew 6:5-8

I. Facebook: 'Move Fast and Break Things'

Our Motto: _____ _____ and _____

II. Hypocrisy & Audience

'And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.' Matt 6:5-6

First Warning: Pretending to pray to _____ when you really pray for _____

Is Public Prayer Biblical?

- John 17 'High Priestly Prayer'
- John 6:11 'Feeding the 5,000'
- Deuteronomy 4:7 'God is near in prayer'

When someone else is praying in church remember:

III. Pagan Babbling

Absalom, Absalom! – William Faulkner: 1,288-word sentence

'And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.' Matt 6: 7-8

Pagan prayer is not _____, it's _____.

Biblical Example: 1 Kings 18:26

Modern Examples:

1. Overly _____
2. We have not _____ _____

Why Pray when God Knows?

1. Strengthens _____ _____
2. For our _____
3. God _____ in hearing our prayer

Move Slow and Pursue _____ and _____ Prayer

Elija Bombeck Bio

My name is Elija Bombeck. I was born and raised in Hermitage PA, where my parents still reside. My father is the director of the Shenango Valley Chamber of Commerce, and my mother is a retired 5th grade teacher from the Hermitage School District. I was baptized in the Roman Catholic Church, but my family changed to Covenant Presbyterian Church in Sharon where everyone except me remains. To be honest, my résumé is quite odd at first glance as God has taken me on a wild ride to get to my call to ministry. After graduating from Hickory High School in 2014, I attended Grove City College to study Chemistry in preparation for Medical School. I was miserable and felt very unfulfilled. When I graduated in 2018, I obtained my EMT license and took a year off to study for my MCATs while becoming more disillusioned with my career choice and more involved with my Church. In the midst of this, I finally understood my call to ministry and attended Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia in 2019 to go into the Army as a chaplain. During the summer between my third and fourth year 2022, I worked a night shift at the front desk of a hotel where I met my now wife, Leah. She lived there due to a house fire. It was awesome to see God beautifully work in our lives through such tragic circumstances. She works at Taylor Winfield in Youngstown as a Mechanical Engineer and Project Manager. We married in August of 2025. Upon graduation from Seminary, I was in a pickle with the Army. They require two years of experience post seminary, but I did not want to deceive a church into working there full time with intentions of leaving shortly thereafter.



To mediate this tension, Bob Stauffer recommended a role as a Transitional Pastor for two years and then going into the military. God then took Leah and I to Mountville Presbyterian Church in Portersville PA. Through our time there, we both discerned that we do not feel called to full time military service and instead love ministry in the local church. I still plan to serve as a reserve chaplain in the future but am dedicated to God's Church for our lives' ministry. My time as a Transition Pastor at Mountville concludes this July and Leah and I plan to plant permanent roots closer to home and serve God and the Community to which he calls us.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR COMMUNITY DAYS

The Mission Committee is in need of the following items for Community Days:

Cookies ☺

Raffle basket or any new/unused item, (that you have around your house and planning on getting rid of), that can be used for raffle gifts such as a toaster, comforter, toys, etc. ☺

Your time to help volunteer ☺

Cookies and raffle items can be dropped off Friday evening or Saturday morning. Volunteers are welcome both Friday evening (July 31, 2026) and the day of the event, (Saturday, August 1, 2026)

