

Psalm 100:4-5

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving

and his courts with praise;

give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;

his faithfulness continues through all generations.”

You know what I love about Thanksgiving? It makes absolutely no sense in a modern, godless, secular world. None at all! Every aspect is built upon and upheld by Christ our head; and the modern decapitation of thankfulness from its religious roots, completely unwinds the whole concept. Here is what I mean: it is pretty standard to ask someone what they are thankful for, but have you ever asked someone, ‘Whom are you Thanking and Why?’

Let’s say you give a present to your child on Christmas. They open the box to pull out a new toy, and then stare off into space, robotically reciting that they are ‘thankful.’ Now, you would intuitively assume that was directed towards you, the giver, and that they liked their gift. But just imagine the child responding that they are not specifically thanking anyone, and they have no real reason to be thankful. How would that make sense?

And yet, this is exactly how so many people treat Thanksgiving. ‘Whom are you Thanking and Why?’ If there is no God, then I have no one to give thanks to, and nothing to really be thankful for. Life is difficult, full of sin, suffering, and death; why would I be blindly thankful for that? This is where Psalm 100 comes in. A command to give thanks *to God*. Not blindly, but *because* he is good and *because* his love endures forever!

This season, I encourage you all to be thankful for the many blessings of God. However, we must never forget whom we are thanking and why he deserves our thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving is ultimately only understood in response to the God who loves us and saves us from sin, suffering, and death. And only by faith can we boldly ‘enter his gates with thanksgiving!’

Pastor Elija

Birthdays in November

11/04 – Anna Taylor
11/05 – Butch Edwards
11/05 – Taylor Velez
11/06 – Deneen Greene
11/06 – Duane Bicek jr.
11/08 – Kelly Smith
11/09 - Janice Davis

11/12 – Alivia Adamo
11/13 – Daniel Hanna
11/14 – Aubrey Fulkman
11/16 – Brenda Hostetler
11/21 - Colin Fulkman
11/21 - Chrissy Buckwalter
11/21 – Jenn Horodyski

11/22 – Jacob Lockhart
11/24 – Shel Persky
11/24 – Cheryl Powers
11/25 – Doug Hanna
11/27 – Lee Harris
11/29 – Curtis Bretz

Birthdays in December

12/01 – Adam Marshall
12/02 – Diana Halt
12/03 – Titus Marshall
12/03 – Wyatt Rayner
12/04 – Gay Ann Miller
12/05 – Brinn Buly
12/05 – Betty Komar
12/07 – Kyle Jones
12/09 – Bob Bell
12/09 – Chuck Bell

12/09 – Alexis Lockhart
12/11 – Leslie Rayner
12/14 – Logan Jones
12/14 – Evelyn Exley
12/15 – Carter Foy
12/16 – Wanda Boyles
12/17 – Angela Houk
12/17 – Ken Hanna
12/17 – Addie Moore
12/22 – Ed Ammeen

12/22 – Gary Greene
12/23 – Kinley Williams
12/23 – Jim Paris
12/24 – Florence Allison
12/24 – Lauri Buly
12/25 – Erin Ankney
12/25 – Carla Krisuk
12/28 – Darlene Robison
12/29 – Alan Speer



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
Shirley Sikora-----Quality of Life Services



Session Highlights

Congregational Meeting:

- o The meeting will be held on November 22nd in between services.
- o A motion was made and duly seconded to approve November 22nd for our congregational meeting.

● Installation Service

- o We do have to have a service.
- o A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the installation service for October 25th, 2026 or on another date based on commission availability.

● Event Expense Report

- o A motion was made and duly seconded to approve that Nancy can develop a similar fundraising and expense report.

● Colin Fulkman: New Young Men's Bible Study

- o We need more information on this before moving forward.

Clerk's Report

- Reported - Ordinations – 0, Weddings – 1, Baptisms – 0, Deaths – 0, Births – 1 o A motion was made and duly seconded to record the wedding of Nate and Joy Book on August 15th, 2026. The motion was approved.
- o A motion was made and duly seconded to record the birth of Benson Moore to the parents of Sam and Grace Moore on June 26th, 2026. The motion was approved.

Christian Education

- J.A.M. Kids is now being offered during both services. Dawn is taking this on until she gets the ball rolling.
- Awana has 48 kids/27 families and is doing well. Looking for a good Co Leader for games.

Ministry Reports

- Men's Ministry – no report
- Women's Association – Having a time of fellowship on November 1st from 5pm-7pm. o A motion was made and duly seconded to approve for the daily devotional for advent.



There will be a Congregational meeting on Sunday, November 22nd in between Worship services. The purpose of this meeting is for electing new officers and for receiving the budget.

2026 Thank Offering Sunday is November 22nd. Promises of Life Network is who that we will be collecting the Thank Offering. There will be special offering envelopes included in the bulletin for Sunday morning services.



Carols, Cookies & Cakes, Oh My!



An evening of Christmas music and more.

What is your family's favorite Christmas time dessert? Your specialty?

Bring it to share with your church family.



December 20th at 6pm

BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM will be on Saturday, December 12th 8:30A.M.-11:30A.M. Please invite your friends and neighbors. This event is FUN for children and adults of all ages! Breakfast will be served until 10:00AM. If you have never come, please try to come this year! The church is transformed into the streets of Bethlehem. There are live animals for petting, a Christmas movie, two craft rooms, face painting, and much more! If you are able to help set up, please see Brad Marshall. Any and all help is needed & welcome.



Women's Christmas Dinner

All women of the church are invited to a Christmas dinner at the Gatherings on Thursday, Dec. 10 from 5:30-8:30 pm. Cost is \$25; for those over 80 cost is \$20. We hope you will join us for an evening of fun, food and fellowship! Please bring a wrapped \$10 gift for a gift exchange game. Sign-up in the Narthex on November 8, 15, 22 and 29. Please pay when registering.



What is the Serve Group up to?

For more information on our group and how you can help/join-please visit our bookshelf in the Narthex!

Scarf Bombardier Project

Keep those scarves coming! In November, we will gather all the scarves that have been donated and distribute throughout our community for those in need this winter season!

Thank you to everyone who has donated or made a scarf for this project! There is still material on our Serve shelf for anyone who wants to make a scarf!

Give a Book/Take a Book

If you appreciate a good book, take a look at our Serve shelf-you never know what you might find! And if you've read something that you'd like to share, bring it in for all to enjoy!

Blessing Jar Ministry

Keep saving that change! We have been distributing the jars to those in need throughout the year. If you know of someone in need, please give them a jar or you can keep one in your car and if you see a stranger in need, you'll be able to bless them on the spot!



Donations are still being taken for new or gently used baby clothing or any baby items (diapers, wipes, bottles, etc.) are being taken for a Community Pay It Forward campaign. There will be a box in the Narthex to place the items in. Any questions please contact Beth Kendall at 724-714-7642. A very special Thank You to everyone who has donated so far!

Deacons will be assembling food boxes to those in need for Christmas. If you'd like to help with this outreach, there is a blue decorated box in the Narthex for all non-perishable donations. Thank you!



Food Donations



Dear Church Family, Thank you for the calls, texts, cards, and most importantly the prayers during my recent hip surgery and recovery. Thank you Deacons for the delicious meals that were provided for us. Blessings, Dawn Harris

*There is Sunday School for all ages...you are invited to check out a class.
All classes are held in the education wing.*

Sunday School for Children

Preschool & K - Mrs. Glenda Fulkman
Grades 1-2 - Mrs. Ginny Zinza & Mrs. Dawn Harris
Grades 3-5 – Miss Lori Smith & Mrs. Geniene Jones
Grades 6-8 – Mr. Steve Fox
Grades 9-12 – Mr. Lee Harris

Sunday School for Adults

Young Adults – Mrs. Taylor Velez
The Pioneers – Dan & Gisela Dieter
The Seekers & Ambassadors – Mrs. Sandy Courson,
Mrs. Shirley Janoski, Mr. Don Dougherty

SERVE SUNDAYS – THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH 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. IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR A SERVICE PROJECT THE CHILDREN COULD DO OR INTERESTED IN ASSISTING THE KIDS, CONTACT DAWN

J.A.M. Kids!! (Jesus And Me Kids)

J.A.M. Kids is a time during the service for the young children during the 8:30 & 10:30 Sunday Services. Children will do Bible memory work through song, games, and activities. There is a need for people to lead the J.A.M. Kids time for either service. There is a sign up in the church vestibule or contact Dawn for more information.

Awana Happenings - November 2026

ADULTS: Awana is off to a great start of training kids to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ. **There is still need for adult helpers with Awana.** Please prayerfully consider serving in this ministry, areas needing help is, listener,(6:25-6:55) and Game Leader (5:25-6:30).

KIDS: Are you age 2 to Grade 5? It's not too late to join this year's Awana Club! Come and join in the fun games and Bible stories to learn more about God and His Son, Jesus Christ.

Awana is Wednesdays 5:00-7:00

Want to help but can't be at Awana on Wednesdays? Help is needed with copying, cutting, preparing the award banners, and record keeping. If you can assist in this area contact Dawn.

Awana CAN make a difference for the CITY RESCUE MISSION

This year's Mission Project **The New Castle City Rescue Mission**. It is a Christian ministry providing spiritual and physical care to the hurting, hunger and homeless of our community. Visit www.cityrescuemission.org for more information. Awana Club is collecting items for the Thanksgiving Baskets that get distributed during the holiday. This collection will start today and continue till November 11th. Our goal is to collect 150 items for the Thanksgiving Baskets! There has been 65 items donated so far!! Items can be put in the shopping cart for the City Rescue Mission.

The Items Needed for the Thanksgiving Baskets:

Evaporated Milk Canned Gravy
Pumpkin Pie Filling Canned Yams

Pie Crust Mix
Stuffing Mix

Cranberry Sauce
Vegetables

The City Rescue Mission cannot accept food that is expired. Please check the 'Best by' or 'Use By' Dates. Thank you!

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

November 4th – Dots & Stripes Night

Wear something with polka dots or stripes. Also, 'dot your leader' night for every section that is completed.....it's a great night to work on any missed sections from prior weeks.

November 11th – Double Double Points Night

Clubbers will get double the points for attendance, bringing their Bible and Handbook, and completing sections. Points accumulate through the year to shop at the marketplace in March

November 18th – Count Your Blessings Night

Wear a crazy, mismatched fashion!

November 25th – NO CLUB NIGHT – Thanksgiving break

Contact Dawn Harris with any questions about the above info... 330-881-8110/dawnhnbpc@aol.com



**Office
Hours**

Church office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
9:00am-2:00pm, unless otherwise indicated in the bulletin.

WEEKLY BULLETIN – Please have all bulletin information and/or announcements submitted **no later than 1:00P.M. on Thursday afternoon** to be printed in that Sunday's bulletin.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS – Please have all newsletter articles and/or information/announcements submitted **no later than noon on the 25TH of every month** unless otherwise indicated in the bulletin to be included in the upcoming month's newsletter.



****All bulletin and newsletter submissions can be sent to newbedfordepchurch@gmail.com or left on Jaime's desk.**

IMPORTANT: Our mailing address is –

[New Bedford EPC, 151 Woodland Dr., PULASKI, PA 16143](#)

Even though our church is located in New Bedford, all mail must be sent to the above mailing address or it will be returned to you by the Post Office.

Thank You! Church website: www.newbedfordepchurch.org Church e-mail: newbedfordepchurch@gmail.com



YOUTH GROUP



Youth group will meet every Sunday in the month of October. Sr high meets from 1-3pm and is for kids in grades 9-12. We are continuing our study called "Thinking Biblically". This study takes a biblical look at cultural issues ranging from politics to race relations and many other topics that teens need to navigate. Jr high meets from 2:30-4:30 and is for kids in grades 6-8. We will be continuing our study of the book of James with the help of a video series by Francis Chan.

Join us for EPIC on November 5th & 19th as we continue our study of the Gospels. Bible study starts at 11am with lunch to follow. The lunch menu for November includes:

Nov. 5th: Oven Sandwiches, Pretzel Salad, Chips, and Dessert

Nov. 19th: In preparation for Thanksgiving, it has been deemed "salad day."



There is a sign-up sheet on the EPIC bulletin board if you would like to bring something to share.

Also, Pastor Elija is set to lead Bible study at the meeting on the 19th as I will be in West Virginia for our fall mission trip.



Our upcoming **Dunlow Mission Trip** is only a few weeks away! This year's fall trip will take place from **November 17-21**. It has been a blessing to see first-hand God working through the week and we can't wait to see how God will work through us again.

Participants Grades 6 to Adult are welcome to join the trip. Participants Grade 5 and younger may attend accompanied by a parent/guardian.

The deadline to register is November 8th!

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

Non-Profit Org.
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Redeeming Times Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2026

Church website: www.newbedfordepchurch.org
Church e-mail: newbedfordepchurch@gmail.com



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

Sunday Schedule:

8:30a.m. – Contemporary Worship Service

9:30a.m. – Sunday School for all ages

10:30a.m. – Traditional Worship Service