Dear NBEPC Family:

I have relatives through marriage that are big fans of horror movies. I guess it is the adrenaline rush of the unexpected suddenly appearing on the screen that makes them such fans of the genre.

But when it comes to real life, well, something that comes up unexpected, out of the blue, with regard to health or relationships or a job is the exact opposite of an adrenaline rush. It is disheartening, discouraging and can lead to a loss of hope.

But for the believer and follower of Jesus, there can still be hope in the midst of the most dire of circumstances. That's because the Advent of Jesus, celebrated this season, tells us this world is not all there is, and therefore any difficult circumstances you might be going through doesn't define who you are. There is, indeed, hope.

This Christmas season our theme is hope. It will begin with the Women's Ministry Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, December 3; continue with the Haiti Fundraiser on Sunday, December 8; reach out to the community with "Breakfast in Bethlehem" on Saturday, December 14; and take on a musical flavor with "Carols, Cookies and Cakes, Oh My" on Sunday, December 15.

Along the way, I will also be preaching an Advent sermon series called "The Following Preview Has Been Approved for All Audiences" in which we look at the many predictions of Jesus' arrival found in the Old Testament, the impact He was to have on the world, and the impact He can have on your life, if you are looking for a little hope. This will culminate in our 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service and a message through words and music called, "The Hopes and Fears of All the Years…"

True hope is found in Jesus, and we are thrilled to share that here, there, and everywhere.
Blessings,
Pastor Dan and Joanna

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CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP: On Tuesday, December 24th at 7:00P.M., please plan on joining us for our Christmas Eve Worship Service. There will be Christmas Carols, music from our amazing Choir and a Message of Hope and Joy.

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Attention Deacons - we will not be having a Deacon's meeting on December 23rd.

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If anyone would like to send a get-well card to Jim Weise, his address is
P.O. Box 527
New Bedford, PA 16140

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

November 24, 2024

- **Approved the election of Elders, Deacons and the 2024 Nominating Committee for**

  Elders

  1. **Nathan Book**
  2. **Taylor Valez**
  3. **Christian Fulkman**

  Deacons

  1. **Bobbi Anderson**
  2. **Gary Anderson**
  3. **Retta Dutton**
  4. **Diana Halt**

  2024 Nominating Committee

  1. **Evelyn Exely**
  2. **Helen Ruby**
  3. **Collin Fulkman**
  4. **Chuck Bell**

- **Received the 2025 Church budget**

****

Session Highlights from November

Administration

- **Numerous improvements were made on church property as listed in the Administration Committee minutes of Nov. 11.**
- **Noted that Gary Greene will keep running list of items that need attention.**
- **A motion was made from committee to upgrade the audio in the parlor for people with hearing impairment to spend $300 from the Memorial Fund. The motion passed.**
- **A motion was made from committee to give $1000 to Deacons for expenses from the General Fund. The motion was approved.**

Christian Education

- **Sunday School for children is growing in size and might need to be split into smaller groups.**
- **Awana now has 67 registered children, growth due to Trunk or Treat. 188 people participated.**
- **EPIC Christmas party on Dec. 19. The group has been averaging 20+ attendees a month.**

Mission

- **Prayer Walk and Christmas Caroling have potential dates of Dec. 7, 21, or 22.**
- **Haitian Sensation fundraiser for Autumn on Sun., Dec. 8, from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Worship

- **Carols, Cookies, and Cakes – Oh My! On Sun., Dec. 15 at 6 p.m. Various musical performances.**
  Hanging of the Greens, Nov. 30 at 9 a.m. and change to red hymnals.

Birthdays in December

12/01 – Adam Marshall
12/02 – Diana Halt
12/03 – Titus Marshall
12/07 – Kyle Jones
12/09 – Chuck Bell
12/09 – Bob Bell
12/09 – Alexis Jones
12/11 – Caroletta Doverspike
12/13 – Grace Fenati
12/14 – Evelyn Exley
12/16 – Wanda Boyles
12/17 – Angela Houk
12/17 – Addie Moore
12/17 – Ken Hanna
12/19 – Rebecca Halt
12/20 – Eric Keller
12/21 – Lavon Rogers
12/24 – Florence Allison
12/28 – Darlene Robison

Birthdays in January

01/04 - Olivia Eppinger
01/05 – Lois Adams
01/05 – Phillip Book
01/05 – Edie Dougherty
01/05 – Ashley Fox
01/05 – Shirley Janoski
01/05 – Jacob Taylor
01/06 – Nancy Bretz
01/09 – Brenda Miller
01/11 – Marshall Whiting
01/12 – Linda Feil
01/12 – Diane McConnell
01/14 – Gary Geisinger
01/14 – Allen Jones
01/18 – Amelia Hanna
01/19 – Rosie Moore
01/19 – Willie Moore
01/24 – Lori Smith
01/24 – Bennett Whiting
01/26 – Mackenzie McCarthy
01/26 – Julie Whiting
01/27 – Joyce Goist
01/27 – Morgan Whiting



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



Lavon Rogers----------John XXIII Nursing Home
Jim Weise----------Home



BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM will be on Saturday, December 14th 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!

On Saturday Dec 7th at 8:30am we will be setting up and Wed Dec. 11th at 6pm We will be bringing items in from storage for decorating. Please see Brad Marshall.

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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 15th at 6pm

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ANGEL TREE: Once again, this year we have the opportunity to help local families with Christmas gifts. If you would like to help with this mission, please take an *Angel Tag* from the tree in the entryway, and please mark on the paper your name and what number your tag is so that we can make sure that all tags are accounted for. Please return the wrapped gift with the *Angel Tag* attached no later than Sunday, December15th. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

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The Deacons will be collecting non-perishable food items to be given to those in need for Christmas. The box will be in the Narthex and items may be received until Friday, December 20th. Please be sure that items have not expired. We are so thankful for the generosity of our church family.

December 21st, Saturday 9am - Deacons will be meeting at the church to package and distribute food boxes. A short meeting will follow.

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Serving Growth Group will be hosting a Cookies and Cocoa in the Fellowship Hall on December 17th from 5-7p.m. This is a community event everyone is invited to join us in fellowship and enjoying some cookies and cocoa.



We are busy preparing for our annual fundraiser dinner and Chinese Auction. The Chinese Auction launches on Tuesday November 26 at The Haitian Sensation. The Chinese Auction will run through the luncheon/dinner on December 8th. If you would like to donate a basket, we would be grateful! We are still in need of baskets.

We will also have a variety of Metal Art, Haitian Vanilla, and Haitian Coffee available for sale from November 26- December 8 at the restaurant.

Sunday December 8 is our luncheon/Dinner. We would be delighted if you would join us. Tickets will be for sale the next 2 Sundays after each service. You do not have to have to be present at the luncheon to win a Chinese Auction basket though. So, if you are unable to attend the event December 8 you can come any day in the 2 weeks prior.

All proceeds from the fundraiser will be matched and All donations given to 5 STAR Global Ministry till December 31st will be matched as well up to $50,000.

We extend our Deepest Sympathy to Ron Tremba and family on the passing of his wife Shirley who went to be with the Lord on Nov 7th. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

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We extend our Deepest Sympathy to Doris Spence and family on the passing of her son Jeff who went to be with the Lord on Nov 7th. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him.



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We extend our Deepest Sympathy to Darlene Robinson and family on the passing of her brother-in-law who went to be with the Lord. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

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We extend our Deepest Sympathy to Phillis family on the passing of Nancy Phillis. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

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Congratulations on the Baptism of Owen Anthony Ammeen. Owen is the son of Nick & Molly Ammeen and the grandson of Ed & Debbie Ammeen and Gary & Terri Stephens. He was baptized on Nov 10th.

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<u>WEEKLY BULLETIN</u> – Please have all bulletin information and/or announcements submitted no later than 1:00P.M. on Thursday afternoon to be printed in that Sundays bulletin.

<u>MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS</u> – 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 months newsletter.



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

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

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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



Sunday School for Children

PreSchool – Mrs. Dawn Harris
Kindergarten - Mrs. Glenda Fulkman
Grades 1-2 - Mrs. Geniene Jones
Grades 3-6 – Mr. Steve Fox
Jr & Sr High – Mr. Lee Harris

Sunday School for Adults

The Pioneers – Dan & Gisela Sieter
The Seekers – Mrs Janice Davis
Ambassadors – Mrs. Sandy Courson - Bible-In-Life Series

The 1st Sunday of the Month is Serve Sunday. All kid classes will meet in the Fellowship Hall for a time of singing and to work on a project.

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J.A.M. Kids!! (Jesus And Me Kids)
J.A.M. Kids is a time during the service for the young children to have a lesson time of their own. Lessons and materials are provided. Leaders are needed to disciple these young children. Sign up in the Vestibule for a day and service ☺

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Regular Club Night
Wednesdays 5:00-7:00
Ages 2 – Grade 6

Please lift the faithful servants in prayer as they serve the children of our church and community. Also keep in prayer for God to move in the hearts for more people to serve in the Awana Ministry as substitutes, listeners, and helpers. Please see Dawn if you have any questions about the responsibilities. *Prayerfully consider being a disciple maker at Awana.*

****UPCOMING CLUB NIGHTS****

December 4th – Double Double Point Night
December 11th – Crazy Christmas - wear ugly sweater, mismatch red/green
December 18th – Happy Birthday Jesus Party - wear red & greeen
December 25th – NO Awana – Merry Christmas
January 1st – NO Awana – Happy New Year!!



Inclement Weather Notification

Awana does not always follow Wilmington Area School District closing schedule. A decision will be made *by 3:00 on Wednesday* if Awana will be cancelled for the evening. I will send a text message to families and leaders by 3:00 for any decisions for Club Night.



Save the Dates….

Sunday, December 8th – children will sing during 8:30 Worship Service
Sunday, December 15th -children will participate in the 'Carols, Cakes, & Cookies Oh My'

Dawn Harris dawnhnbpc@aol.com 330-881-8110



Youth Group

Thank you to everyone that supported our fall trip to West Virginia! We could not do it without your continued generosity.

Wednesday meetings continue on December 4th, 11th, & 18th.



E.P.I.C

Come join us on December 5th & 19th as we continue to study the post-exile books of the Old Testament. Study starts at 11am with lunch to follow. Please see Nancy Cummings if you would like to bring something to the Christmas party on December 19th.

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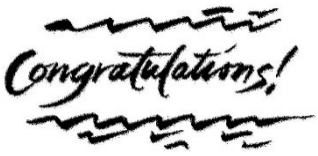
OFFICER TRAINING 2024 – On Saturday, January 11th from 9:00A.M. until NOON. All Officers, Elders and Deacons, returning and new, are encouraged to attend this training. This training is required by our Book of Order and is also a great time of fellowship and for making goals for the upcoming year.

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IMPORTANT - 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 THAN WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15th to be included in the 2024 Annual Report. There is a folder on my desk or you can email your reports to me at newbedfordepchurch@gmail.com Thank You!!

****There will be a Congregational meeting on Sunday, January 26, 2025 during the Sunday School hour at 9:30. The purpose of this meeting is for reviewing the Annual Report.**

****



Congratulations to the newest members of New Bedford EPC. They took their vows and were received by the congregation on November 24th. They are Erin Dawson, Clint & Chrissy Buckwalter, Joanne & Richard Defreshia, Joanna Muttart, Mackenzie McCarthy, Paden McCarthy, Sharon Devite, Emil Ozzy Velez, and Mike Costanell.

BELIEVE IN THE MIRACLE



Believe like Mary
Hope like Shepherd's

Trust like Joseph
Seek like Wisemen

Worship like Angels
Love like JESUS

BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM 2024

DECEMBER 14, 2024 – 8:30 TO 11:30
AT NEW BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CORNER WOODLAND DRIVE & MARR ROAD
BREAKFAST – CRAFTS – VILLAGE – MOVIE
FACE PAINTING – PUPPET SHOW-
LIVE ANIMALS

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! THERE IS NO COST!
BREAKFAST IS SERVED UNTIL 10:00

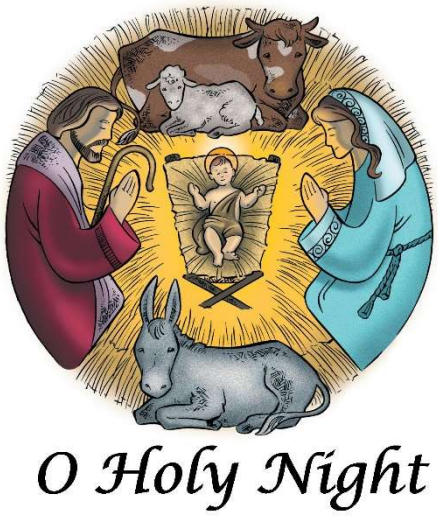
NEW BEDFORD EVANGELICAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
151 Woodland Drive
Pulaski, PA 16143
Phone: 724-964-8055

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



Redeeming Times Newsletter
DECEMBER 2024

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

Join us Christmas Eve at 7PM for our Candlelight Worship Service!
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!