Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church,

I want to use this Newsletter to share reflections on the Mission Trip to Haiti that I took with 7 others from the church.

First, I want to comment on the privilege we have to support the mission work of Autumn Marshall and Matt and Stacey Ayars. Autumn is a tireless servant of God who makes an incredible impact on the special needs children throughout Haiti. She is based at Northwest ministries in St Louis de Nord (every person on the Mission Team will tell you this is not a comfortable place to live)..... but also she travels throughout Haiti (I can tell you this is not an easy process) and serves at many, many different ministries to special needs children. She trains and financially supports a staff of Haitian therapists located at many different places. She oversees an outreach program that touches many, many families who care for special needs children. She never stops. She led us to many ministry opportunities throughout Haiti.

Matt and Stacey are touching thousands of Haitians with the Gospel of Christ. They train Haitians to be pastors and church planters and teachers and leaders in their community. Matt, as the Director of Emmaus Bible School, guides the school and directly teaches the students. Stacey balances raising 3 (and soon to be 4) children with teaching the students and directing the finances of the school. The students are touching the entire area with the love of our Lord. Emmaus has just begun a new Master of Education program that has all the secondary principals in Northern Haiti and also high level officials in the central government enrolled. The potential for Christian impact is unbelievable. The Ayars will be with us this June

I will tell three stories that impacted me. First, market day. Our group divided into 4 groups of four people plus a translator. Each group was given $80.00 U.S. dollars (exchanged into Haitian currency). Each group walked down the hill to the seaside market. We stopped at booth after booth to purchase food and necessities for four different families. The market was very congested with narrow walkways and food and meat open in the booths. Each group filled 4 canvas bags with food and charcoal (the source of cooking for all families in Haiti). Each group then walked to 4 different homes of families with special needs children. We had the opportunity to visit with and pray with these families. We were able to meet and play with the children. We provided enough food to last more than a week.

Second, I want to share the opportunity we had to take the 16 Senior Citizens who lived at Northwest, to dinner at a local restaurant. They had never been taken out before. We also took the 8 staff women who cared for the residents and our entire team. We had about 50 people in the restaurant. We walked or wheeled the residents about ½ mile out of the compound and down the street. We had a great meal... the goat and chicken was good. But what moved me was seeing the staff taking all the chicken bones off our plates, wrapping them in napkins and giving them to the 2 or 3 staff women that had the greatest need for the food.

Third, at Emmaus one evening we sat down with all the students. We broke down into groups of 4 or 5 with one American per group. All Emmaus students learn to speak English... third year students are O.K...first year students have a ways to go. We spoke of our families. We spoke of our churches. We spoke of our impression of Haiti. We spoke of our faith. We spoke of our dreams of service to Christ. It was a rich time of interaction and discovery.

There are so many other stories that could be told... and others on the trip will have different highlights. Stories of the time with the children at the Miriam Center... The worship services... both at the Miriam Center and in Cap Hatia, the different orphanages we visited, the building projects we were part of, the roads, the litter, the tap tap journeys, the 5 or 9 passenger plane trips, the food, the people, the chapel services and on and on and on.

Finally, I want to say thank you. Your financial gifts allowed this trip to take place. The Christmas offering paid for all the ministry costs in the country. Your participation in the fund raisers and your donations to individuals paid for much of the trip costs.

Please keep autumn and Matt and Stacey in your prayers.

In Christ,
Doug

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Meeting began by expressing thanks to Lee for leading our worship services during the absence of Pastor Doug

1. Received the Financial Report for the church and the mission trip
2. Passed guidelines for use of the Van. If use of the van is desired contact the office to reserve the date. Youth and Children will be given priority in scheduling.
3. Reviewed the use of the Fellowship Hall and kitchen policy
4. Added doorbells to both front doors of the church. Doors will often be locked for safety.
5. Received reports on MOPS, Sunday School, Awana, and Youth Groups
6. Approved dates of July 15-17 for our evening VBS
7. Noted that Puppet Ministry has been restarted.
8. Noted start of new Boy's Bible Studies on Sat. Mornings in march led by Lee and Jocilyn
9. Received reports of Haiti Mission Trip and Idora visit
10. Approved Lenten Suppers for March 4 and 18th and approved use of Tim Keller's *"The Freedom of Self forgetfulness"* as our Lenten study
11. Approved March 31st as the Easter Egg Hunt
12. Approved use of Easter Offering for the new building in the Idora Ministry.
13. Vision Team has reported concluding their ministry
14. Due to Pastors Doug's busy schedule it was decided to not have a Couple's retreat this year
15. Decided to place a password on churches Wifi

Birthdays in March

3/03 – Gene Bicehouse
3/03 – Steve Fox
3/04 – Sally Withers
3/05 – Emily Withers
3/08 – Sue Bluedorn
3/13 – Doug Houk
3/15 – Larry Bluedorn
3/17 – James Allison
3/17 – Jim Emery
3/17 – Sandra Saulpaugh
3/19 – Dan Dieter
3/20 – Ed Rudzik
3/22 – Beth Kendall
3/24 – Jennifer Saulpaugh
3/25 – John Book
3/25 – Jackie Hall
3/26 – Jamie Phillips
3/27 – Robert Bretz
3/27 – Ryan Morse
3/29 – Judy Stuhlmann
3/30 – Helen Bicehouse

Birthdays in April

4/02 – Jane Clingan
4/02 – Ashley Cooper
4/04 – Evan Lambert
4/04 – Marcie Lambert
4/04 – Barbara Pence
4/05 – Peggy Hilliard
4/06 – Bill Harshbarger
4/07 – Andy Hostetler
4/08 – Jodi Allison
4/08 – Jamie McCarthy
4/09 – David Magee
4/13 – Leo Krisuk
4/19 – David Carr
4/19 – Ty Phillips
4/22 – Collin Duffy
4/22 – Donna Fox
4/23 – Bonnie Glogowski
4/26 – Patty Wade
4/27 – Edward F. Rudzik
4/28 – Madeline Whiting
4/29 – Sabrina DeVite



MARCH GREETERS

3/4 - Linda Punneo
3/11 - Tim & Debbie Pogozelec
3/18 - Judy Stuhlmann
3/25 - Sheila & Olivia Eppinger

HEAD USHER – Diane Bell

APRIL GREETERS

4/1 – Jason Clark
4/8 – Shawn & Beth Kendall
4/15 – GayAnn M. & Linda C.
4/22 – Lexi & Kyle Jones
4/29 – Ted & Jean Chrobak

HEAD USHER – Lee Harris



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)

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TOPS/Take Off Pounds Sensibly

TOPS meets every Tuesday morning 9:30-11AM in the church parlor. Make this the year to get healthy. Stop in to visit or call Renee Persky at 330-534-2909 or Doris Spence at 724-654-1067 for more information.

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The Ladies Sewing Group has just started back up! They meet every Wednesday from 9AM until Noon. They would love to have you join them for Sewing and Fellowship this Wednesday! Please talk to Shirley Snyder or Helen Bicehouse for more information.

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The April Redeeming Times Newsletter Deadline is Monday, March 26th. All articles and/or announcements can be left on my desk or sent to addietwinstrips@gmail.com or newbedfordchurch@verizon.net . Thank You – Addie

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We extend our deepest sympathy to Eric Keller on the passing of his wife Lorna on February 12th also to their family and friends.

"The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold." **Psalm 18:2**

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There will be an *Outside Clean-Up Day* on Saturday, March 17th to rid up the outdoors before our Easter activities. If it is raining or snowing we will plan on rescheduling for Saturday, March 24th.

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There will be "Disciple" practice for those in the Last Supper Drama on Sunday March 11th & 25th at 1pm.

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Beginning Sunday, April 15th during the Sunday School hour, we will begin an Adult New Members Class for anyone interested in becoming a member of New Bedford E.P.C. Please see Pastor Doug with any questions or to let him know that you will be attending the class.



The Worship Committee will be hosting two Lenten Dinners on March 4th & 18th. Dinner will begin at 5pm on both of these evenings, followed by a Lenten Study hosted by the Evangelism Committee. We will be studying "The Freedom of Self-Forgetfulness" by Timothy Keller. Members of the Youth will be serving the Lenten Dinners in efforts to raise money for their ticket to the Alive Festival this summer.



The Evangelism Committee will be hosting the annual Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday 3/31 from 10am until Noon. There will be many children from the community attending this event which is why they are in need of your help with candy donations! Please consider donating bags of individually wrapped candy to fit in the plastic eggs. There will be a box in the Narthex for candy donations. The Evangelism Committee thanks you in advance for your help with this community event!



The Deacons will begin taking orders for Easter Flowers this Sunday and continuing for the next several weeks. This year they will be offering Tulips. We invite you to honor or remember a loved one, which will then be printed and placed in the bulletins on Easter Sunday. The cost of the tulips is $9.00, please fill out the card in your bulletin or see Linda Canami or Tim Pogozelec to place your order. The last day to order will be Sunday the 18th.

This year the special Easter Offering will go towards helping the Idora Ministry. This local ministry recently purchased a building where they will be able to hold many community events and gatherings. Much work is still needed before they can open the "Idora Hope Center". There will be special envelopes in the bulletins on Palm Sunday and Easter morning if you would like to give a gift to this ministry.

Holy Week Worship Services & Activities

Sunday 3/25 – Palm Sunday Worship Services at 8:30am & 10:40am

Thursday 3/29 – Maundy Thursday Last Supper Drama at 7pm

Friday 3/30 – Good Friday Worship Service at 7pm

Saturday 3/31 – Community Easter Egg Hunt 10am-Noon

Sunday 4/1 – Celebration of Resurrection Worship Services at 8:30am & 10:40am. During the Sunday School hour at 9:30 there will be a continental breakfast.

Beginning Thursday evening following the Drama continuing until Sunday morning will be a continual Prayer Vigil. Please sign-up to spend an hour in prayer.

Awana Clubs-----Wednesdays
Ages 2 - Grades 6 5:00-7:00

Dawn Harris, Awana Commander
dawnhnbpc@aol.com 330-881-8110

March 7th – Regular Club Night
March 14th – Double, Double Points Night
March 21st – Hats Off to your Leaders and Director Night
Show some love for your Leaders, Coach Lee, Director Shirley (Grades K-2), with a handmade card or note **AND wear your favorite hat!!**
March 28th – No Awana Club – Easter Break
Looking Ahead……April 4th 5:00-7:00 4th Annual AWARDS NIGHT
EVERYONE is invited to join us in recognizing this year's Awana Clubbers. We are excited about their accomplishments and this will be a special ending to our year. A dinner will be served after the Awards Ceremony. If you are able, please bring a side dish or salad to share *Please sign up in the Vestibule so we can plan accordingly.* Thank you.

Awana CAN make a difference for the CITY RESCUE MISSION
Our goal is to collect 300 pounds of food for the City Rescue Mission! To date there is 258 lbs collected!
Needed Items:

Canned Soup	Cereal	Mac N Cheese	Syrup
Boxed Rice	Pancake Mix	Crackers	Jelly

Any of the above items can be donated at any time. However, there is a 'Most Wanted Item of the Month'.

MOST WANTED ITEM FOR MARCH – CANNED FRUIT

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

Donation Opportunity----On Wednesday, March 21st the AWANA Clubbers will have the opportunity to go shopping in our 'church' marketplace. They get to buy items with the points they earned. They can earn points each week for; attendance, bringing a Bible, bringing their Handbook, completing sections, wearing uniform, and attending church. Many kids have earned a lot of points and they look forward to shopping with them at the end of Awana. *If you would be able to donate items for the marketplace please leave them in the box in the vestibule by* ***Sunday, March 18th***. Many great items could be purchased from a dollar store. If you have any questions please let me know. Thanks for your help in rewarding the kids for their commitment in Awana and earning points.



LOOKING AHEAD-SAVE THE DATES…..VBS will be July 15-19, 2018!

BOWLING PARTY



Who? All kids in Age 2 - Grade 6
(A parent/guardian needs to accompany Preschool children)
When? Saturday, March 17, 2018 1:00-3:00 PM
Car Pool leaves the church at 5:00 and returns approx. 8:00
Where? Ten Pin Alley 3825 E State St. Hermitage, PA 16148
Cost? $6.00 Church/Awana Kids--$7.00 all other Kids
Includes bowling, shoe rental, pizza, chips, pop, dessert
Come and Have some Fun!!!!!!
Permission Slips are in the vestibule or by Dawn's office.
Permission Slips need to be returned by Wednesday, March 14th



Some may not know that there is a treasure tucked away on the fellowship hall stage. A treasure of foam bodies, sticks, props, and lots of fuzzy hair waiting to be used to share the good news of Jesus Christ through skits and songs. The treasure is a closet full of PUPPETS!!! All that is needed are dedicated puppeteers to help these puppets come to life! Below are dates of upcoming practices and performances:
March 11th – 6:00-7:00 PM Puppets 101 – anyone that is interested in being a puppeteer is welcome to come to learn about puppetry and some basic puppet manipulation.
March 25th – 6:00-7:00 PM Puppet practice
March 31st – Puppet Performance for the Easter Egg Hunt

For any questions about the above happenings contact Dawn Harris
Call/Text: 330-881-8110 Email: Dawnhnbpc@aol.com

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MARCH CIRCLE MEETINGS

Deborah Circle – Tuesday, March 13th at 9:30am at Bedford Trails Rest.

Elizabeth Circle – Thursday, March 15th at 6:30pm at the church.

Rebecca Circle – Saturday, March 17th at 9am at Bedford Trails Rest.

Ruth Circle – Monday, March 19th at 9:30am at the church.

Lydia Circle – Tuesday, March 20th at 1pm at the church.

Reminder – there is a quarterly Women's Association meeting on Saturday, March 10th at 9am.

On the following page you will find information along with a registration form for this years Annual Women's Retreat! Mark your calendars ladies!

SeaSide Escape WOMEN'S RETREAT!

Ladies,

Are you in need of a day at the beach, a day to slow down, wiggle your toes in the sand and just bask in the warmth of the sun? Every woman longs for a day like this- even those who live hundreds of miles from the nearest coastline! Come to SEASIDE ESCAPE! It is a retreat where women slow down and enjoy time with other women and with God. It's an in-depth Bible study, an unforgettable worship experience, and lots of fun, too! This is an open invitation for ALL WOMEN to draw closer together, to be still in God's presence, and to sun themselves in His love! We hope you will join us!

WHEN: April 20-21, Friday evening 6:30 pm to Saturday 4:30 pm

(OPTIONAL additional day: Thurs, April 19 -meals not provided)

WHERE: The Castle-Life Ministries in Franklin, Pa.

COST: $55.00 includes three delicious meals, fun activities and comfortable lodging.

Scholarships are available.

Make check payable to : New Bedford EPC Women's Association

151 Woodland Drive, Pulaski PA 16143

Registration deadline is : APRIL 1

REGISTRATION FORM

Name:_____

Mailing address:_____

Home phone:_____ Cell phone:_____

Email address:_____

_____$ 55.00 registration fee (non-refundable after APRIL 1)

_____$ 11.00 Optional Thursday night

_____$ optional donation toward the Scholarship fund

$_____ TOTAL ENCLOSED



February was packed full of fellowship at the retreat and worship at Winter Jam; March is even more busy! afO is moving forward with a more serving mentality this month, as they are serving at both Lenten Suppers on March 4th and March 18that 5pm. The youth will be serving dinner in efforts to raise money for their ticket to the Alive Festival this summer. Donations are welcome! No afO on these dates, due to the dinners. Speaking of Alive… Alive deposits of $50 are due Sunday, March 25th! Tickets are $120. Please note; DEPOSITS ARE NONREFUNDABLE AND GO TOWARDS YOUR TICKET COST. You are essentially going to Alive for $50 if you fundraise the remaining $70!! If you are a youth member, please make it a priority to attend and help with fundraisers for afO. Friday, March 16th Jocilyn will be going to see the movie "I Can Only Imagine" at Westgate Cinemas. If anyone is interested in going please text her or let her know in church, and we can arrange carpools (or just meet me there ☺). I will look up show times when it gets closer to the 16th and announce in church what time I'm going to Westgate. Also this month, the youth will be serving lunch at the City Rescue Mission on Saturday, March 24th. We served last year in November and had a great willingness to help, so I've scheduled us to go back again! Because of the Mission's limited kitchen space, there is a 10-person limit for this event. The first 10 people to sign up will be going on the 24th. Sign-ups open Monday, March 5th! Please do not text me prior to March 5th to reserve your spot! I am thrilled that you want to help, but there is an opening date for a reason; I want everyone to have a fair chance! All who attend will be given a waiver to sign and complete closer to the event date. Breakfast club continues to meet every Tuesday of the month; Junior High will meet on March 6th and 20th, and Senior High will meet on March 13th and 27th. Lastly, Easter is early this year, so the Easter Egg Hunt is this month! Friday, March 30th (prior to Good Friday service), meet at the church at 5 pm to help stuff eggs. Just like last year, there will be pizza for those who help stuff eggs! The following morning, Saturday March 31st, is the Easter Egg Hunt. Meet at the church at 9:15 am to help hide the eggs. Other areas in need of help that morning are the craft center, the puppet show, and leaders to guide the groups of children from activity to activity.

Senior High Boys Study – Lee Harris & Jocilyn are co-teaching this study beginning at 9am on Saturday, March 3rd. The study is about David and the struggles he had with his faith and the temptations he dealt with.



The young adults continue to meet at Jocilyn's house for study every Thursday night at 6pm. This month's activity is March 31st: Cosmic Bowling at 10 Pin Alley! Bowling is from 11pm-2am and is $15 for admission and shoe rental. We can carpool or meet at 10 Pin in Hermitage. Watch the group text for more info!

Please visit our website at www.newbedfordepchurch.org to view all Redeeming Times Newsletters and also to listen to Audio Sermons!

NEW BEDFORD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Pulaski, PA 16143
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Redeeming Times Newsletter
MARCH 2018

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Church e-mail: newbedfordchurch@verizon.net



Holy Week Schedule

3/25 – Palm Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 & 10:40
3/29 – Maundy Thursday Worship Service – Last Supper Re-enactment at 7pm
3/30 – Good Friday Worship Service at 7pm
3/31 – Community Easter Egg Hunt & Activities 10-Noon
4/1 – Resurrection Morning Worship Services at 8:30 & 10:40