Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church,

Once again we are celebrating Easter. Let me share with you an article I read written by Michael Jones in the magazine Grace and Glory. It reminds us of the meaning of Easter.

It was a dark, desperate day. The Man who had fed the hungry, healed the sick, and even claimed to be the Son of God was hanging on a cross dying as a common criminal among other criminals. He had claimed to be the way to God but one of His own had betrayed him; the highest religious court had convicted Him; and the common people had chosen a murderer instead of Him. Even nature had seemed to turn her back on Him as dankness covered the sun and the earth trembled and shook. No wonder he cried out to God asking why He was forsaken.

What a terrible way to die. Forsaken by His friends, railed upon by His enemies, without help or (seemingly) without hope, and even with God's face turned away. What could bring a man to such a death? Why would Jesus willingly walk to Calvary? How could He face such an inglorious end to His life and ministry? The answers are the heart of the Christian message.

1. What could bring a man to such a death? SIN. Not His own (for He was sinless) but yours and mine. "All have sinned and come up short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23) and "the wages of sin is death." (Romans 6:23) so "God made him to be sin for us who knew no sin that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." (2 Corinthians 5:21) The next time you think your sin is small and matters not you need to look to Calvary and see how much of a penalty was paid for it.

2. Why would Jesus willingly walk to Calvary? LOVE. "God commandeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8). Such love overwhelms me. God did not wait for me to get better or even to stoop sinning. Jesus loved me in spite of my sin and offered to pardon me it I would just accept by faith His payment of my sin debt. How can He love us so much when we serve Him so little? How can we serve Him so little when He loves us so much.

3. How could he face such an inglorious end to His life and ministry? HOPE. He knew the tomb could not hold Him. He looked beyond the momentary to the permanent. He knew that the end was the beginning. He knew God had a plan and He was doing His part of it. He knew that the defeat of his death would become the victory of his life. And death would be swallowed up in victory. "O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 14: 54-57)

Let us praise God for the victory of Jesus Christ on the cross. Let us worship our Lord for the forgiveness and the path of righteousness He has provided for us. Have a blessed Easter.

In Christ,
Doug

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Scheduled Spring yard clean up day for April 13th beginning at 8:00**
- **Received bids for the remodeling of the present bathrooms making them handicap friendly. Administration committee is receiving and reviewing the bids.**
- **Approved a "Family VBS" for June 10-14th. Using curriculum entitled "What's in the Bible." The curriculum is written by Phil Vischer the creator of Veggie Tales. This will include classes for pre-school to 6th grade (using Junior High and Senior High helpers) and adults. All ages are included**
- **Report of plans to start "MOPS Next" in the Fall. This is a ministry for mothers who have elementary age children. Presently this is planned to run in conjunction with AWANA.**
- **Reported that 26 kids and 3 adults attended Winter Jam**
- **Reported that $1580 was raised at the spaghetti dinner. This will be used to help pay for the mission trip the youth will be taking this summer. The mission trip will be with "The Pittsburgh Project." Every day the youth will help with building projects for low income seniors in the city of Pittsburgh. Housing, meals, and evening worship is provided in a school the Pittsburgh Project has purchased. For more information of this wonderful ministry go to "The Pittsburgh Project" website.**
- **New outside banners are being purchased.**
- **Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 20th**
- **Purchasing drawstring bags for the "Care Packages." to be given to the area's homeless and families in need.**
- **Approved designated Special Easter Offering to help purchase a motorcycle for the Pastor Abraham in Fintonia, Sierra Leon. The motorcycle will be one of the few vehicles in this village and will be used to minister to the people of the village including transporting sick people to the hospital. The total cost of the motorcycle is $3200. $1400 has already been donated by other churches.**
- **Special Easter Worship (Thursday and Friday) services have been planned. Continental Breakfast will be served between early service and later service on Easter Sunday.**
- **Approved new Prayer vigil plans including distribution of prayer requests on Palm Sunday.**
- **Approved updated job descriptions for Organist/pianist, Choir Director, Handbell Director. Former job descriptions were over 20 years old.**

Birthdays in April

4/01 – Clay Fulkman
4/01 – Lillian Wood
4/02 – Jane Clingan
4/04 – Evan Lambert
4/04 – Marcie Lambert
4/04 – Barb Pence
4/05 – Peggy Hilliard
4/06 – Bill Harshbarger
4/07 – Andy Hostetler
4/08 – Jodi Allison
4/08 – Jamie McCarthy
4/09 – Richard Harris
4/09 – David Magee
4/12 – Rhys Harris
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 – Ed Rudzik
4/28 – Madeline Whiting
4/29 – Sabrina DeVite

Birthdays in May

5/02 – Debi Fynes
5/05 – Grant Dieter
5/05 – Zoey Janoski
5/06 – Jason Clark
5/08 – Ed Miller
5/08 – Maelee Whiting
5/09 – Kim Runyan
5/12 – Doris Spence
5/14 – Duane Boyles
5/15 – Ryan Withers
5/16 – Julie O'Brien
5/19 – Isabella DeVite
5/19 – Ashley Shaffer
5/22 – Brandilyn Buxton
5/22 – Owyn Harris
5/24 – Nancy Templeton
5/25 – Shirley Tremba
5/26 – Linda Punneo
5/27 – Roy Komar
5/29 – Ron Tremba



Greeters in April

April 7th ~ Ed & Debbie Ammeen

April 14th ~ Barb Carr

April 21st ~ Evelyn Exley

April 28th ~ Larry & Sue Bluedorn

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
Gladys Barnhart----------Home
Jo Ruby----------Home
Pearl Reed----------Overlook Nursing Home
Art Spence----------Home
Lavon Rogers----------John XXIII Nursing Home
Larry Pence----------Shenango Home

****



Thanks for all the cards, prayers and food for me in my recent fall. Thank you so much for all the prayers of caring friends! God Bless All! - Helen & Gene Bicehouse

I want to thank my church family for all your prayers, cards, visits and the most delicious meals during my recent illness. I am so blessed! -Gay Ann Miller

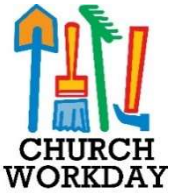
I want to thank my church family for all of the prayers, food, cards, texts and visits during my recent recovery from my auto accident. Thank You! -Linda Punneo

Thank you to my family and church family and friends for the kindness sent my way following my knee surgery. For all the cards, food sent in, phone calls, and especially the prayers I thank you! -June Smith

Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers during the last couple of months in my time of surgery and ongoing healing. Also thanks for the cards, food, calls and visits. It is such a comfort to know we have a caring church family! -Carol Madden

Dear New Bedford EPC, I have been overwhelmed by everyone's out pouring of love, kindness and thoughtfulness; cards from different members, a lovely grief booklet from Stephen Ministries, and I know an army of prayer warriors lifting me up in prayer. I have found an EPC close to me and have been going Sundays and Wednesdays. I walked into the building and could feel love and Gods presence. Love to you all! -Sandy Ruby Russell

****



On Saturday, April 13th there will be a Church Clean-up Day! This will begin at 8A.M. This will include church grounds and anything that may need fixed or replaced inside the church. Please come and help prepare the church for our upcoming Easter activities.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday Worship Services – Sunday, April 14th at 8:30am and 10:40am.

Lenten Bible Study and Supper – Sunday, April 14th, Dinner will begin at 5pm with a Bible Study to follow.

Maundy Thursday Worship Service – April 18th at 7pm.

Good Friday Worship Service – April 19th at 7pm.

Community Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, April 20th 10am – Noon.

Resurrection Morning Worship Services – April 21st at 8:30am and 10:40am. A light breakfast will be served in between worship services at 9:30am.



The last of the Lenten Gatherings will be on Sunday, April 14th. A soup dinner will begin at 5pm with a Lenten Bible Study following.



The Evangelism Committee will be hosting the annual Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 20th 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 last day to bring in candy will be April 14th. The Evangelism Committee thanks you in advance for your help with this community event!



The Deacons will once again be taking orders for Easter Tulips this year. We invite you to honor or remember a loved one, these will be printed and placed in the bulletins on Easter Sunday. The cost is $9.00 each. Later this month we will have Easter Tulip cards in your bulletins to place your order.

This year's Special Easter Offering will go towards a special gift of a motorcycle for the new pastor of the church plant we sponsor in Fintonia, Sierra Leone. Motorcycle is the only viable way of transportation there and it will be a great asset to help spread the Word of God. Look for the special envelopes in your bulletins on Palm Sunday and on Easter Sunday.





April Circle Meetings

Ruth – Monday 4/15 at 9:00am at the church.

Deborah – Tuesday 4/16 at 9:30am at Bedford Trails.

Lydia – *This circle will not be meeting in April.*

Elizabeth – *This circle will not be meeting in April.*

Rebecca – Saturday 4/27 at 9:00am at Bedford Trails.

Important Dates in 2019

April 5-6 – Women's Retreat at the Castle in Franklin, PA.
May 18th – Women's Association meeting at 1:00p.m.
September 14th – Women's Association meeting at 9:00a.m.
September 2019 – Ladies 'Love & Laughter' Breakfast – date TBA
November 2nd – BAZAAR
November 9th – Women's Association meeting at 9:00a.m.
November 24th – Thank Offering Service
December 2019 – Women's Christmas Dinner – date TBA

BAZAAR Notes……
Think spring, think Fall BAZAAR! Once again we will have the *Plant Room* and would appreciate any greenery from the green thumbs among you!

****

Local Missions Donation Opportunity

The Mission Committee is collecting small personal hygiene items and small non-perishable food items to put in "care packs" to hand out to the homeless. There will be a box located in the narthex for all donations. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

****

The May Redeeming Times Newsletter Deadline is Monday, April 29th . All articles and/or announcements can be left on my desk or sent to addietwinstrips@gmail.com or newbedfordchurch@verizon.net . Thank You – Addie

****

The Pulaski Township Volunteer Fire Company's Auxiliary is hosting its annual Ham Dinner on Saturday, April 27th at Pulaski Station #2 on Evergreen Rd. in New Bedford. The Ham Dinner will be from 4 until 7, adult meals are $10 and children's meals are $5.

****

Awana has concluded for the 2018-19 year. It was a blessing to be able to serve the children of NBEPC and the community. It would not be possible without the faithful servants who serve the Awana ministry. Thank you is so little to say for how much you do! THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!!

Erika Taylor	**Roberta Moorehead**	**Julie Harris**	**Jane Reimers**
Julie Fulkman	**Beth Kendall**	**Randy Pope**	**Helen Bicehouse**
Gay Ann Miller	**Lori Jones**	**Mary Beckman**	**Gunner Morris**
Kaylee Kelley	**Darlene Robison**	**Lee Harris**	**Shirley Janoski**
Diana Halt	**Casey Lukacs**	**Sheila Epper-Eppinger**	**Kaity Reimers**
Retta Dutton	**Jane Eppinger**	**Karah Deal**	**Hannah O'Brien**
Martha Marshall	**Subs: Diane Bell, Julie Whiting, Erin O'Brien, Carrie Jones, Brad**		
Ava McManis	**Marshall, Debbie & Tim Pogozelec**		

Awana made a difference for the CITY RESCUE MISSION

Our goal was to collect 300 pounds of food for the City Rescue Mission! The final collection weight was 214 pounds of food. Although we didn't reach our goal, we still helped provide this ministry with food for families in need. *Thank you for your generosity.*

J.A.M. Kids Leader Schedule – J.A.M. Kids meet during 2nd worship service

April 7 – Dawn Harris
April 14 – Jane Eppinger
April 21 – Dawn Harris
April 28 – Erika Taylor



PUPPET PRACTICES & PERFORMANCES

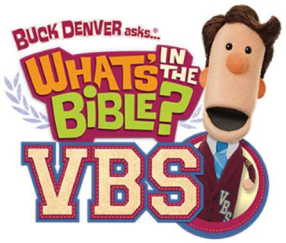
April 7th – 5:30-6:15
April 14th – 3:30-4:00

April 20th - Puppet Performance for the Easter Egg Hunt – be there at 9:30

First Sunday~Sunday School Celebrations are the first Sunday of every month for the Children's Sunday School Classes. The children meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10:15 for a time of singing and recognition. If your child has taken their Sunday School necklace home with them, please make sure they wear it on the First Sunday of each month. Thank you ☺

Contact Info: Dawn Harris Call/Text: 330-881-8110 Email: Dawnhnbpc@aol.com

Join Us For Family VBS
June 10-14, 2019
5:30 Dinner 6:00-8:00 Family VBS



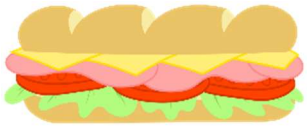
Learn the WHOLE story of the Bible – from Genesis to Revelation – with Buck Denver and Friends at the *What's in the Bible?* Family VBS!

Kids (Preschool-Grade 6) will learn and experience the Bible through videos, games, crafts and small group discussion. Grade 7-12 can be Youth Helpers.

Parents will enjoy exclusive teaching videos from VeggieTales® and *What's in the Bible?* creator Phil Vischer about engaging your family in the Bible and in God's redemptive mission in the world. Parent Session will be led by Lee Harris.

More info and registration will be coming soon….but SAVE THE DATES today!!!

****

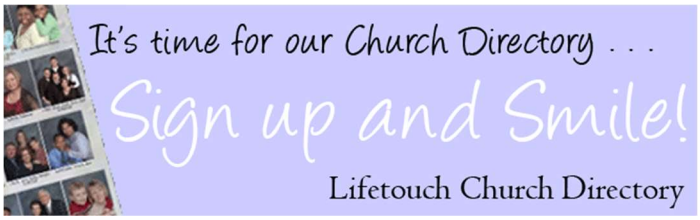


The NBEPC YOUTH GROUP HOAGIE FUNDRAISER

All Proceeds go to the Youth attending the Alive Festival & Summer Activities for the Youth Group

Order Forms & Money Taken Till: MAY 5
Sandwich Pick-Up: Sunday, MAY 19
Orders can be made in the Vestibule on Sunday mornings
or see any Jr & Sr High Youth Group Member
Choose from: Build Your Own Hoagie, The Club, or The Italian
Thank you for your prayers & support ☺

****



Lifetouch will be here taking pictures next month!

May 1st – May 3rd from 2pm until 9pm

May 4th from 10am until 5pm

Look on our church website at www.newbedfordepchurch.org for the link to register for your photo session or call the church office!

Family Ministries Events Calendar

April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	**2** E.P.I.C. meeting 11am	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6** Girls 9-10:30 Boys 10:30-12
7 Jr high 4-5:30 Sr high 5-7 Snack: McManis Puppets 5:30-6:15	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13** Boys 9-10:30 Girls 10:30-12 Passion play (van leaves at 6pm will return around 10pm)
14 Puppets 3:30-4 Egg filling 4-5 Lenten dinner 5-6 (we will be serving) Sr high 6:30-8:30	**15**	**16** E.P.I.C. meeting 11am	**17**	**18**	**19** Good Friday Girls 9-10:30 Boys 10:30-12	**20** Easter egg hunt 10-12 (helpers and puppeteers be here at 9)
21 Easter	**22** Jr high 4-5:30 Sr high 5-7 No Puppets	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26**	**27** Boys 9-10:30 Girls 10:30-12
28 Jr high 4-5:30 Sr high 5-7 Snack: Reimers Puppets 5:30-6:15	**29**	**30**				

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



Redeeming Times Newsletter
APRIL 2019

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

Holy Week Schedule inside along with details on how to register for your photo session for our updated Church Directory!