

Deuteronomy 18:10-11 'Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead.'

This month is well colored and dominated by the special holiday which falls on the last day, Oct. 31st. This is a special time to gather and celebrate. Obviously, this date is most famous as Reformation Day, to commemorate the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, when Luther tacked the 95 theses to Wittenberg door. Or, perhaps *more* famously, it is Halloween, a time where we all pretend that monsters and witches are real and get free candy. But, with verses like Deut. 18, is it right to celebrate this holiday, to indulge in darker aesthetics and occult practices, in light of this explicit prohibition?

There are two errant positions I often see in Christian circles when approaching this question. 1. People will dismiss this prohibition as something in the Old Testament that no longer applies. 2. People will take this too woodenly and disallow their families even the slightest participation. Between radical rejection of the Old Testament and radical rejection of a harmless holiday, is there room for a genuine gospel approach? First of all, we have to remember that Jesus came to fulfill the Law, not overthrow the Old Testament. Now, we should not *actually* participate in the dark spiritual arts and we definitely should not practice child sacrifice, nor attempt to interpret omens or practice witchcraft. But this is not what *most* people are doing in the modern holiday. Halloween may contain the external trappings of paganism, but it is not necessarily contrary to the Gospel.

This is a time of the year when the days are getting dark, Autumn is waning, and the desire for something supernatural to emerge from the impending deadness of winter. This manifests in the décor of harmless skeletons and fake cobwebs, but it yearns for an enchanted world. It screams for a spiritual reality, beyond the mundane. It longs for the presence of God to reanimate a cruel world of boredom, regularity, and sin. In an odd way, a refusal to participate in Halloween is to ignore the cries of our neighbors for the presence of God. We ought to listen, not indulge in a way that lends credence to the dark spirits, but that leads to rightly seeing the presence of a Holy and loving God, intimately involved in the world he created. This Halloween, pass out candy in costume, enjoy the spooky elements, and allow it to remind you that our world is not dead and mechanical, but alive with the Spirit of God!

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Elija Bombeck
Soli Deo Gloria

Birthdays in October

10/01 – Cindy Bell
10/04 – Don Hartzell
10/05 – Connie Shick
10/08 – Jean Chrobak
10/08 – Ed Horodyski
10/09 – Don Dougherty
10/10 – Amanda Rudzik
10/11 – Ruthie Emery
10/13 – Royce Buckwalter

10/15 – James Maloney
10/18 – Emily Bretz
10/18 – Kristi Kaufman
10/19 – Brock Janoski
10/19 – Celann Edwards
10/21 – Jocilyn Csernyik
10/22 – Justin Rayner
10/22 – Dylan Dieter
10/22 – Elaine Hepler

10/23 – Kathy Japak
10/25 – Debbie Pogozelec
10/25 – Deann Davis
10/27 – Owen Helms
10/30 – Shawn Kendall
10/31 – Bob Exley

Birthdays in November

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

11/11 – Dana Gardner
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



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

Please keep in prayer... and they would appreciate cards too: Doris Spence at Ridgecrest of McCandless, 8870 Duncan Ave, Apt # 404, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.

Shirley Sikora at Quality of Life Services, Room #17, 8221 Lamor Rd, Mercer, PA 16137.





ANNUAL EVERGREEN SALE!

***THE NEW BEDFORD GARDEN CLUB IS TAKING ORDERS
FOR ITS EVERGREEN SALE.***

***CHOICES ARE: 22" WREATH, 30" X 19" DOOR SWAG
10' GARLAND***

***ALL ITEMS ARE \$30 EACH. ORDERS ARE DUE BY OCTOBER 25TH AND WILL BE
DELIVERED BEFORE THANKSGIVING. SEE DIANE BELL 724-651-2598 OR ANY
GARDEN CLUB MEMBER (SHIRLEY SNYDER, NANCY RUDZIK, SHARON DEVITE OR
JUANITA CORNMAN).***

***THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR GARDEN CLUB, A VOLUNTEER GROUP THAT
SUPPORTS MANY TOWNSHIP ACTIVITIES SUCH AS SHOP-WITH-A-COP, TROUT
STOCKING, DONATIONS TO PULASKI FIRE DEPARTMENT, PURCHASING FLAGS,
PLANTING MEMORIAL DAY FLOWERS AT THE POINT, AND AT THE TOWNSHIP
BLESSING BOX***



An Evening of Fall Flavors, Fellowship & Faith

✨ Women's Ministry Gathering ✨

All women are warmly invited to join us for a special fall evening of **delicious food, meaningful fellowship, and encouragement in our faith** as we celebrate the many ways God has abundantly blessed us.



Sunday, November 1



5:00–7:00 p.m.



**New Bedford Evangelical
Presbyterian Church**

Signups starting on Sunday, September 27th in the Narthex.



Signup in the Narthex. There is no charge, but please bring an item for the Blessing Box if you can.

We will be enjoying hot beverages, so bring along your favorite mug!



Bring a friend — all women are welcome!



"Taste and see that the Lord is good." Psalm 34:8



Harvest Party at Miracle Mountain Ranch

Date: October 10th, 2026

Join us for a day of fall activities for the whole family! We will have a variety of harvest games, activities, Message from the Mount, snacks, Cowboy Campfire (wood branding and peach cobbler), wagon rides, trail rides (pony rides for ages 7 and under), concessions, a pie baking contest that includes a silent auction, and more! This event is free. For more information and schedule of events please see website

<https://mmrm.org/retreats-and-events/harvest-party/>





Do you enjoy camping? Would you like to get to know other members of the congregation that also enjoy camping? Planning is underway for one camping trip on October 16-18 at Pymatuning State Park, Tuttle Campground. You can get a campsite for the weekend or even join us for the day on Saturday. Campsites fill up quickly, so we recommend you get this on your calendar soon. For more

information, call Judy Riethmiller at 724-730-6495 or Cindy Bell at 724-674-5160.

So thankful and appreciative of our church family for your prayers, nourishing food, encouraging words, cards, calls and visits during my knee surgery and continued recovery. It was humbling thinking about the pain our Jesus suffered, compared to mine. His love for mankind, no comparison. Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts. Len & Diana Halt



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



WEEKLY BULLETIN – Please have all bulletin information and/or announcements submitted **no later than 12:00P.M. on Thursday afternoon** to be printed in that Sundays bulletin.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS – Please have all newsletter articles and/or information/announcements submitted **no later than Noon on the 25TH of every month** 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.**



Office Hours

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

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!

hundredx[®]
PEOPLE ■ INSIGHTS ■ IMPACT

HundredX Causes Program
October 5th - November 3rd, 2026



Share Your Opinions.
MAKE A BIGGER IMPACT!

Your feedback helps brands, businesses,
and nonprofits make better decisions —
and helps us raise funds for
5 STAR Global Ministry!

EARN
\$1.60
FOR EVERY SURVEY
YOU FILL OUT!



IT'S EASY TO PARTICIPATE!



WE CAN EARN UP TO \$10,000!

Together, our voices make a difference!

*Message and data rates may apply. By texting "90412" you agree to receive SMS messages from HundredX Causes (HXC). Even though HXC makes no sales to you, the law requires HXC to disclose that your consent is not a condition of purchase.



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 will soon be wrapping up our study of 1 Corinthians and moving onto a study called "Thinking Biblically". This study looks at cultural issues and teaches how Christians should view them through the lens of the Bible. Jr high meets from 2:30-4:30 and is for kids in grades 6-8. We will be spending a couple more weeks in Daniel, after which we will begin our study in the book of James.

Join us for EPIC on October 1st & 15th as we continue our study of the Gospels. Bible study starts at 11am with lunch to follow. The lunch menu for October includes:

Hot Dogs with baked beans, potato salad, and chips on October 1st.

Pulled pork with mac & cheese and coleslaw on October 15th.

There are openings for people to make dessert for either of these meetings. If you are interested, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway.



*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.



SAVE the DATE: Trunk or Treat

When: Wednesday, October 28th 5:00-7:00 PM

Where: Church Parking Lot

Decorated cars are needed for kids to visit for Trunk or Treat. Decorate with a Bible story, Bible verse, Christian Theme. Sign up in the Vestibule beginning Sunday, Oct 4th.

Donations of treats (candy and non-edible treats) to pass out to the kids will be collected until Sunday Oct. 25th.

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

Awana Happenings - October 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!

The Items Needed for the Thanksgiving Baskets:

Evaporated Milk	Canned Gravy	Pie Crust Mix	Cranberry Sauce
Pumpkin Pie Filling	Canned Yams	Stuffing Mix	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.

October 7th - School Spirit or Favorite Team Night

Show your school spirit or shirt, jersey, uniform of your Favorite Sports Team!

October 2nd - Double Double Points Night

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

October 7th - Fashion Disaster Night

Wear a crazy, mismatched fashion!

October 28th - NO CLUB NIGHT

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

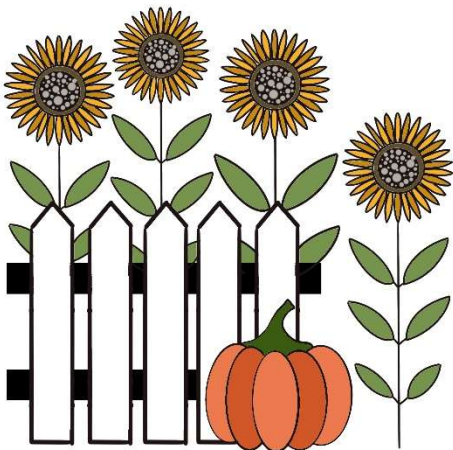
**NEW BEDFORD EVANGELICAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
151 Woodland Drive
Pulaski, PA 16143
Phone: 724-964-8055

**Non-Profit Org.
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New Castle, PA 16101**



**Redeeming Times Newsletter
OCTOBER 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