Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church,

I want to begin by highlighting a number of events that members of our church have participated in the past month or so. First, nine of us traveled to Bethany EPC in Mercer to hear about the church we, along with fourteen other EPC churches in our area, are planting in Fintonia, Sierra Leone. Dominic and his wife Ruth (with their three daughters) have been sharing the message of Christ in the town in this remote corner of Sierra Leon for the past three years. Fintonia was a 100% Moslem town before the arrival of this family. Dominic and Ruth have been leading a Christian school in this village and leading a worship service. The Lord is blessing their efforts. Many people (especially children) have been receiving Christ. Many baptisms are taking place.

Now there is a need for a church building. We are building on land donated by the village. They have been meeting in the school and for adults in this society it is not seen as a holy place. The total cost to build this church is about $32,000.00. Last year we had a golf outing and raised about $7,000.00. A cement foundation and floor have been poured. At this meeting in Mercer an additional $9,300.00 was raised! We are about half way toward or goal. This money will be used to build a thatched roof to protect the people from rain and the sun. Walls will be added when the money is available. This building will serve as the church and as a trade center during the week. Ruth teaches women to sew (churches in our area have purchased nine trundle driven sewing machines for this ministry) and make a living avoiding extreme poverty or possibly prostitution. Our church continues to support the salary of Dominic and Ruth and these special projects as the message of Christ is shared in this village. This Spring we tried to have Dominic travel to our area but his Visa Application was denied.

The second project we were able to support is in Idora. Idora is a neighborhood in Youngstown. It is about ten miles from our church. There is no church in this neighborhood. Once again the EPC churches located in the Pa counties surrounding our church are planting a church in this neighborhood. Gary Koerth has been hired to serve this neighborhood. Gary has been a long term Associate Pastor at Tabernacle EPC located in Austintown. They have freed up ½ of his time to plant this church. Gary, his wife Cindy and their daughter have purchased and moved into a house in Idora. It had been abandoned for a year and a half (two winters) and is in need of a great deal of work. For example there is still no water to their bathroom. All they have is a half bath and a tent shower in their basement. They now have one mostly completed bedroom (before they were sleeping in the living room). The kitchen is only partially functioning. Last Saturday fourteen of us were able to go to this home for a work day. Some did dry wall work. Others scraped wallpaper for many hours. Others did some plumbing. Others did major yard work. It will take a number of more workdays to complete this house. Tabernacle and our church are the closest EPC churches to this neighborhood.

Also we have heard that a movie theater on Glenwood Ave is for sale. Presently this is a XXX movie theater. We have begun discussions about buying this property to convert into a community center and a church. Please pray for these discussions. This building will also require a great deal of work.

It is a privilege and a joy to see the message of Christ spread... whether it is ten miles away or thousands of miles away. Praise be to God!

This summer we opportunities to meet with the missionaries that we partner with. Gary Koerth will be leading our worship on June 25th. Lindon Fowler, the Executive Director of Seneca Hills, will be leading our worship on July 3rd. Matt and Stacy Ayers, missionaries in Haiti, will be with us on July 24th. A breakfast will be held on the 24th.

I also ask for your prayers as Brad Marshall (as a Ruling Elder) and I (as a Teaching Elder) travel to the Detroit area for the EPC General Assembly this month. This is the highest level of government in our denomination. One major topic of this meeting will be to discuss how to remain true to God's Word in a society that is growing more and more hostile to this Truth. Practical issues, evangelistic issues and legal issues will be discussed. Also final details on moving our national offices from the Detroit area to the Orlando area will be discussed. This move is being made to significantly save money. Travel to Orlando is both more available and much cheaper than travel to Detroit (thank you Mickey Mouse). This will be a wonderful time to worship with representatives of the other 570 EPC churches in the EPC.

Also allow me to share this exciting news. Dean Weaver, pastor of Memorial Park Church located north of Pittsburgh, will be elected as Moderator-Elect of the General Assembly. Dean previously served a Moderator of our Presbytery. Beginning in 2017 Dean will serve as the Moderator of our denomination. This is a great honor for Dean and our Presbytery. Again, Please keep us in your prayers.

It is a joy to see the hand of the Lord at work... in our church, in our area, and in the world

Faithfully Yours,
Doug

SESSION NOTES

Session met in May and the following actions were taken and reports received….

- **Heard the Testimonies of the nine Confirmation young people. It was a joy to hear their love and faith in our Lord. Voted to receive these young people as members of our church**
- **Administration committee reported that the doors to the stalls in the Woman's bathroom were reversed providing more room in the stalls and making them more accessible. New locks were added to the doors. (Stated that this should have been done years ago)**
- **Plans were heard to remodel the stage area in the Fellowship Hall to create a storage place for the tables and chairs. Bob Exley is leading this project**
- **Discussed the salary for the Director of Youth and Young Adults. Salary will be based on experience and other factors.**
- **Heard a report on the search for the new staff person. Interviews have been completed and final steps are being taken**
- **Received report of trip to 9/11 Memorial this summer**
- **Heard report on the opportunities to meet our Missionaries this summer (see Doug's letter).**
- **Heard report that about 35 people attended our service for National Day of Prayer**
- **Heard a report from Gary Greene and Brenda on the Presbytery meeting**
- **Discussed formalizing our policies for Child Protection. This is upon recommendation of the EPC to safeguard the children, to safeguard our paid and volunteer staff, and to safeguard the church from possible litigation. Personal Committee along with Pastor Doug will form these policies and present them to Session**

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Carl Black.....04
Pearl Reed.....06
Lisa Craig.....07
Dennis Jones.....07
Autumn Marshall.....07
Marissa Carr.....12
Ray Janoski.....12
June Smith.....12
Sam Varano.....18
Christian Fulkman.....19
Geniene Jones.....22
Carrie Bretz Kaufman.....22
Margie Matthews.....24
Shirley Sikora.....25
Amy Geisinger.....26
Tim Smith.....27
Ashlynn McAllen.....28
John Anderson.....29
Dorothy Rishell.....29



Linda Canami.....02
Brandon Harris.....04
Ethan Harris.....04
Mary Beckman.....05
Tim Pogozelec.....05
Tracy Duffy.....06
Nathan Book.....07
Amber Morse.....08
Scott Phillips.....09
Jane Eppinger.....11
Gary Greene.....12
Matthew Miller.....12
Gail Phillips.....17
Sharon Book.....18
Barb Carr.....18
Maverick Whiting.....18
Isaac Duffy.....19
Jessica Halt.....19
Alyson Boyer.....21
Aryn Boyer.....21
Diane Bell.....26
Natalie Carr.....26
BillyRay Moore.....27
Jacob Moore.....27
Nicholas Moore.....27
Samuel Moore.....27
Richard Pence.....27
Art Spence.....27
Sheala McCarthy.....29

June Welcome Warrior

Ted Chrobak

June Head Ushers

6/5 & 6/12 – Nancy Cummings

6/19 & 6/26 – Dennis Jones

June Greeters

6/5 – Florence Allison & Melvin Kaufmann

6/12 – James & Elizabeth DeHaven

6/19 – Mary Hartzell

6/26 – Jason Clark & Katie Reed

July Welcome Warrior

Mary Beckman

July Head Ushers

7/3 & 7/10 – Jessica Halt

7/17 & 7/24 – Gary Greene

7/31 – Gary Geisinger

July Greeters

7/3 – Diane & Gerry McConnell

7/10 & 7/17 – Bob & Cindy Bell

7/24 – Renee Burrows Persky

7/31 – Helen Ruby

****If you would like your Newsletter in color and receive it approximately 3 days earlier, please give us your email address!!**

MISSION NEWS

The Mission Committee had a great turn out on June 4th as we traveled to the home of Gary and Cindy Koerth (pastor of our EPC plant in the Idora area of Youngstown). There was major work landscaping/weeding to the sidewalks and yard; dirt was moved and spread in the back yard area, much wallpaper was scraped and removed in the kitchen and bathroom. Great progress was made! We appreciate so many who joined in doing God's work, Pastor Doug and Kim; Shawn and Beth Kendall; Angela Houk; Sharon Book; Tim Pogozelec; Brenda Hostetler; Jim & Terry Emery; Lori Jones; Lori Smith; Debi Fynes and Jason Clark, thank you each and every one!

***Keep watching the bulletin and newsletters for future projects at this home**



CONFIRMED IN CHRIST

Congratulations to the young ladies and men from the Confirmation Class that joined the church on Sunday, May 22nd. Pictured L-R front row: Brandi Buxton, Emily Withers, Ashlynn McAllen and Alexis Lambert. Pictured L-R top row: Morgan Whiting, Samuel Moore, Nicholas Moore, Isaac Duffy and Jacob Moore.

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Celebrating
OUR GRADUATES

Last Sunday, June 5th was Graduate Recognition. We celebrated 4 ladies that just graduated from Wilmington Area High School. Pictured L-R: Madeline Whiting, Aryn Boyer, Alyson Boyer and Ciarra McAllen. Congratulations girls!!

May God bless you all in your future endeavors!



With Deepest Sympathy

We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Esther Bruce, Esther passed away this past month. She will be greatly missed by all that had the pleasure of knowing her.

We would also like to extend our condolences to Gretchen and Sheris Haines and their families on the loss of their father last week. Clint Haines was a former member of this church.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God." **2 Corinthians 1:3-4**

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"Pull Yourself Together!"

You've heard it a million times. Others may have said it to you, or you may have said it to yourself. But things just aren't coming together. You're still hurting. You still feel like it's all falling apart. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers who will walk with you, listen to you, and provide confidential one-to-one care, as you search through the pieces and find what is truly in your heart. To learn more about what Stephen Ministry can do for you, talk to one of our Stephen Leaders, Judy Riethmiller or Diana Halt. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!

Judy Riethmiller 724-730-6495 or Diana Halt 724-977-8268

Women's Association
By Judy Riethmiller

Much has happened since the beginning of the year. The Retreat, the National Day of Prayer Service and the Ladies' Love and Laughter Breakfast were all coordinated by women of this association. Thank you to all the ladies who put in many hours to make all three of these events meaningful and memorable for those who were fortunate enough to attend. Your heart for the Lord is evident and I thank God for each of you.

It has also been a time of joy as I watch women with a heart for the Lord deepen their relationships with each other. These bonds are important as we face the trials of this world. We are blessed at New Bedford Church to have women who are willing to reach out that hand to help another in distress or to bring someone new into the fellowship. I urge each of you to continue to reach out to other women sharing freely the love of Christ that you have so freely received.

It is difficult to believe that 5 months have passed since I stepped into the position of Moderator. It has been a time of learning for me as I assumed that responsibility. I thank the officers of the Women's Association for being patient and loving as I continue to transition into this new time of ministry.

Thank you to all who provided your email address so association business and news could be disseminated quickly. I hope that has been helpful to you. The Women's Association Handbook: Policies and General Information has just been updated and is available to any women who are interested. Emails have been sent out with a file of the handbook however, Addie has a copy in the church office so if you would like a hard copy please see her. She will make a copy for you.

The Women's Association takes a bit of a respite for the summer however a few dates I would like to share with you include:

- **Our next meeting is Saturday, September 10 at 1:00 pm**
- **Women's Association will coordinate the quarterly breakfast on September 11**
- **Bazaar is November 5**

Please continue to pray for the Women's Association as we seek to serve, lead and glorify God.

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Upcoming Circle Meetings

Ruth Circle **~ will meet at 9:30a.m. at the church on Monday, June 13th.**

Deborah Circle **~ will meet at 9:30a.m. at the church on Tuesday, June 14th.**

Elizabeth Circle **~ will meet at 6:30p.m. at the church on Thursday, June 16th.**

Rebecca Circle **~ will meet at the church at 9:00a.m. on Saturday, June 18th to leave for their "field trip". Their next meeting will be at Glenda Fulkman's house on Saturday, July 16th at 9:00a.m. for breakfast.**

Lydia Circle **~ will meet at the church at 1:00p.m. on Monday, June 20th.**

Vision Team

By Judy Riethmiller

Jesus gave to the churches their vision. He answered the question, "What are we to do?" You can read that vision in Matthew 28:18-20. Go, make, baptize and teach were the verbs He used to give us direction and purpose.

Your vision team and their prayer teams have faithfully studied these words and prayed over how to lead this congregation to live out that vision in the world. This vision has been articulated many times to the leadership and their committees. Beautiful banners have been placed in the sanctuary through the hard work of the worship committee and the vision team for the purpose of keeping that Great Commission Vision in the forefront of our minds.

Those are all important steps to becoming a vision driven congregation however we have reached a place where it is time to go beyond our walls and put that vision into practice. During the next couple of months, the vision team and their prayer teams will be praying and seeking God's direction regarding the specific ministry that God would have us do in our community. In a quote from Ken Priddy's G.O.1 material the question to be asked is, "How does God want to express Himself through our church in our community at this time?" God is already working in our community. We are called to join with Him. Who is He leading us to minister to?

Please be in prayer for the vision team and their prayer teams during this time of discernment. Help us to flood the heavens with our prayers as we seek the leading of the Lord. We believe that God is faithful and will provide direction for us according to His will.

Thank you for your prayers and support. May God's blessings rain down upon us as we align our will to His and may we experience the Holy Spirit working anew within our congregation. Grace and peace to all of you!

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A BOATLOAD OF FUN

CHURCH BOATING & PICNIC

Mark your calendars the Church Picnic & Boating day at the Shenango Lake will be on Sunday, July 17th beginning at 1:00p.m. A shelter has been reserved in the same area we are normally in. Please come and enjoy a nice day of boating, food and fellowship. More details will be in the upcoming bulletins!

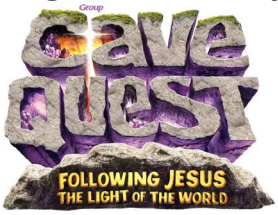
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YOUTH BOATING TRIP

On Friday, June 17th, the Youth will be meeting at the church at 9:00a.m. to go boating on Shenango Lake with Pastor Doug. Cost is $5, and you will also need to bring money for a stop at Dairy Queen on the ride home.

Come spelunking through dark caves with Jesus as your light at the Cave Quest VBS! We will learn Jesus is the one who lights our way and gives us hope for each new day. His love illuminates when the path is dark. Cave Quest VBS will encourage us to follow Jesus where ever He will lead!

Gear up for an over-the-top underground adventure at
New Bedford Evangelical Presbyterian Church!!!



Cave Quest Vacation Bible School

June 20-24, 2016 9:00-12:00

All children Preschool-Grade 6 are invited to attend! REGISTER TODAY!!!

All are invited to attend the VBS CLOSING PROGRAM & LUNCH:
Friday, June 24th 11:45 in the Fellowship Hall

VBS Kids will be singing at the beginning of the 10:30 service June 26th.
Kids meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10:15.

ATTENTION: Adults, Jr./Sr. High & College Students……..

Don't miss out on this expedition with God!!!

Join now for the satisfaction of leading kids to discover the rock solid foundation of God's love…….

Volunteers are needed in the following areas:

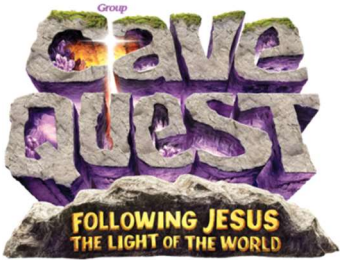
Crew Leaders Game Center Decorating (June 14-16)
Prayer Partners

Please let me know what you can do to help with this ministry!

VBS Decorations & Props: We will be transforming the church into the Cave. Please place the decorations on the Fellowship Hall stage marked with your name, by June 12th. Items needed are: miners hats, lanterns, headlights.

Swimming Pool needed: If you would be willing to host a swimming party for Grades K-6 kids let me know. I'll bring the kids and snacks you just need to provide the pool. Check your calendar and let me know dates and times that work best for you. Thanks!

New Bedford Evangelical Presbyterian Church
151 Woodland Dr. Pulaski PA 16143



June 20-24, 2016
9:00-12:00

All children Preschool-Grade 6 are invited to attend!

VBS REGISTRATION FORM

Child's Name_____Grade Completed:_____ Age:_____
Allergies: Y / N List:_____
Medical Conditions: Y / N List:_____

Child's Name_____Grade Completed:_____ Age:_____
Allergies: Y / N List:_____
Medical Conditions: Y / N List:_____

Child's Name_____Grade Completed:_____ Age:_____
Allergies: Y / N List:_____
Medical Conditions: Y / N List:_____

Parent's Name _____
Address_____
Phone Number _____ Email Address_____
Name of Home Church, if any_____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO While Child Is At VBS:
Name_____ Phone Number_____
Name_____ Phone Number_____

Parents/Guardians…..are you able to help with VBS in some way if necessary? Yes( ) No( )
If you answered yes, we will contact you if we need your help. Thank you!

Get ready for an over-the-top underground adventure about God's love!!!

Complete form and mail to church or drop it off at the church office.

Register by June 12th to get a special prize!!

For more info contact Dawn Harris at 330-881-8110 or dawnhnbpc@aol.com