Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church,

We are beginning a new year together as a church. The end of December and early January is often a time to reflect back at the past year and a time to look forward to the new year. As I think of our church and go through this process a text comes to my mind. It is Ecclesiastes 3: 1-14. It states...

**There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:**
**2 a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,**
**3 a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build,**
**4 a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,**
**5 a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,**
**a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,**
**6 a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away,**
**7 a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak,**
**8 a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.**
**9 What do workers gain from their toil? 10 I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. 11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. 12 I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. 13 That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God. 14 I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him.**

As I think back to 2018 I see the truth of this text. In the life of a congregation we see the different seasons. There has certainly been a time to be born and time to die. I have rejoiced at the births of a number of babies in our congregation. At times our worship services we can hear the cries of babies and toddlers... isn't that a great, great joy! I have the joy baptizing babies and we as a congregation rejoice as parents dedicate their children to the Lord and the child enters into the covenant community. We have the joy of ministering to our children as we see children in our Sunday School and in our Awana ministry.

At the same time in a congregation we see that it is a time to die. I had the privilege of officiating at eight funerals or memorial Services in 2018. Also, many families in our church lost loved ones in the past year. These of course are times of both mourning and rejoicing. We mourn the loss of loved ones. We will miss them. We rejoice in the promise of eternal life for those who love the Lord.

There have also been many other opportunities to dance and laugh and rejoice in the Lord. A few of the reasons to rejoice in the past year were... the mission trip to Haiti.... the joining of 14 new adult members....the shared meals and opportunities of fellowship... the wonderful opportunities to worship every Sunday... a couple of weddings... sharing of food and gifts with our community. I could go on and on and on. We truly see the blessing of the Lord in our midst and we give praise to His name.

In looking over my 2018 calendar I see that I had about 85 opportunities in the past year to visit our shut ins or individuals in the hospitals. For me personally this is always an honor and a joy to have these times of sharing and prayer. Our Deacons and many individuals in our congregation also were very active in visiting the sick and the shut ins. We are a family caring for each other.

Last year was indeed a time of many seasons. 2019 will be the same. There will be times of great joy and times of great tears. We face these seasons together as a body of believers...as a family in Christ. Together we will praise the Lord in all seasons.

In Christ,
Doug

# SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

1. Report was received on the completion of the Bell tower project. Masonry work was completed and the bells were refurbished.
2. The architect is completing work for the remodeling of our bathrooms to make them handicap accessible.
3. Thanks were given to Steve Fox for the making of the wooden stand that holds the Bible on our communion table and Bob and Cindy Bell for having two wooden chairs re-caned.
4. Also a thank you is given to the woman's Association for the purchase of ten additional lightweight tables.
5. Permission was given to our Treasurer to reinvest our savings (approx. $100,000.00 in a higher yield CD.
6. Received a verbal report from our Director of Family Ministries and a written report from our director of Children's ministry
7. Thank you to the Ruth circle for providing a breakfast for our MOPS moms
8. Received a report of the success once again of Breakfast in Bethlehem. It was estimated that about 200 people participated in the outreach event. As always thank you to Brad and Marti for spearheading this ministry.
9. Thanked the Nominating committee for their very hard work filling a larger than normal number of openings
10. Received report on very successful Christmas dinner and Children's puppet show and pageant. Approximately 130 to 140 people attended. Thank you to the worship Committee for preparing the meal and to Dawn for lading the children's program.
11. Continuing to produce "This is my Story" videos that will be shared on Sunday Mornings.
12. Approved election of all officers
13. Approved the 2019 Mission Budget as submitted by the Mission committee
14. Received Report from the Personnel Committee on the Year End interviews of staff
15. Approved purchase of new computer for the sound room
16. Increased the pay of the Sound/Video Technician for 2019
17. Called a congregational Meeting for January 27th for the purpose of reviewing the Annual report

**********



## Birthdays in January

1/01 – Jakki Gardner
1/03 – Bud Freeman
1/04 – Corigan Quinn
1/05 – Lois Adams
1/05 – Phillip Book
1/05 – Ashley Fox
1/05 – Shirley Janoski
1/05 – Jacob Taylor
1/06 – Nancy Bretz
1/06 – Joel Phillips
1/09 – Brenda Miller
1/11 – Marshall Whiting
1/12 – Linda Feil
1/12 – Diane McConnell
1/14 – Gary Geisinger
1/14 – Allen Jones
1/17 – Terri Quinn
1/19 – Rosie Moore
1/19 – Willie Moore
1/20 – Mikayln Duffy
1/21 – Amanda Miller
1/24 – Lori Smith
1/26 – Mike Duffy
1/26 – Mackenzie McCarthy
1/26 – Julie Whiting
1/27 – Joyce Goist
1/27 – Morgan Whiting
1/28 – Taylor Allison

## Birthdays in February

2/02 – Paul Cummings
2/02 – Aleah Deal
2/02 – Nancy Phillis
2/03 – Megan Allison
2/03 – Dawn Harris
2/03 – Bobbie Morehead
2/04 – Harry Cornman
2/04 – Shirley Freeman
2/04 – Alexandra Lambert
2/04 – Austin Whiting
2/05 – Pam Liddell
2/07 – Marty Marshall
2/07 – Martha Miller
2/07 – Nancy Rudzik
2/08 – Len Halt
2/08 – Laura Harshbarger
2/09 – Barbara Sander
2/15 – Bowen Fulkman
2/15 – Sis Hartzell
2/15 – Shirley Snyder
2/22 – Lisa Magee
2/22 – Amanda Quinn
2/26 – Donald Pence
2/27 – Don Craig




## January Greeters

1/6 – Gene & Helen Bicehouse

1/13 – Brad & Marty Marshall

1/20 – Jessica Halt

1/27 – Gary Geisinger




*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**

**********




**We would like to Thank the Deacons for our Fruit Baskets and visits and Thank Pastor Doug for his many visits. We truly are grateful and appreciate all of you!**
**Violet Hilliard & Connie Shick**

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!! To everyone that generously purchased gifts for our Angel Tree! -Terri Emery**

**We would like to thank everyone who helped with Breakfast in Bethlehem this year! It would NOT be possible without EVERYONE!! -Brad & Marty Marshall**

**********




**The 2019 Offering Envelopes are ready and on a table by the office. If you cannot find your box or have any questions, please talk to Bonnie. Thank You!**

**********

**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 THEN SUNDAY, JANUARY 13 to be included in the 2018 Annual Report. There is a folder on my desk or you can email your reports to me at newbedfordchurch@verizon.net or addietwinstrips@gmail.com Thank You!! Addie**

**********

**OFFICER TRAINING 2019 ~ On Saturday, January 12th from 8:30AM 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.**




**********

**2019 Church Committees are currently being formed. If anyone is interested in volunteering to be on a committee, please contact Pastor Doug.**

**********




**On Sunday, January 27th there will be a Congregational Meeting. The purpose of this meeting is for receiving the Annual Report. This meeting will be during the Sunday School hour in between Church Services.**




**Please note that the Women's Association meeting scheduled for Saturday, January 12th will now be at 1:00PM due to the Elder/Deacon Officer Training scheduled for that morning**

## January Circle Meetings

***Deborah*** ~ **Tuesday 1/8 at 9:30AM**

***Lydia*** ~ **Tuesday 1/15 at 1:00PM**

***Elizabeth*** ~ **Thursday 1/17 at 6:30PM**

***Rebecca*** ~ **Saturday 1/19 at 9:00AM at Bedford Trails Restaurant**

***Ruth*** ~ **Monday 1/21 at 9:30AM**

Thank you ladies of New Bedford EPC. It has been my privilege to serve the Lord and each of you as the Moderator of the Women's Association over the last three years. Please continue to pray with me for the Women's Association and its leaders as we move into this new year. Judy Riethmiller

## Cozy Mountain Lodge Women's Retreat!

**When: April 5-6, Friday evening 6:30pm to Saturday 4:30pm**

**Where: The Castle – Life Ministries in Franklin, PA**

**Cost: Rates range from $55 to $85, depending on the room occupancy you select. Details are below. If you have room questions, please see a member of the Retreat Lodging Committee: Shirley Janoski, Margie Matthews or Debbie Pogozelec. Total cost includes three delicious meals, fun activities, and comfortable lodging.**

**Registration: Registration begins Sunday, February 24 and ends Sunday, March 3. There will be opportunities to register before and after the early and late church services. Final Registration Date is March 3.**

**Please prayerfully consider attending this wonderful event. It is a retreat where women slow down and enjoy time with other women and God. It's an in-depth Bible study, an unforgettable workshop 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 relax in His love! We hope you will join us!**

**Sincerely,**

**The Elizabeth Circle**

# Castle Lodging



**Imagine arriving at the women's retreat without having to ask the question, "Where do I sleep?" That question will already be answered because we are using a "Hotel-Room Reservation System."**

**How will this system work?**

1) **Rooms are available on a first come, first reserved basis.**
2) **We will be taking reservations before and after the early and late church services on <u>Sunday, Feb. 24 & Sunday? March 3</u>**

**What do I need to complete a reservation?**

1) **You will need your completed registration and lodging form along with full payment.**
2) **If you are booking as roommates, we must have all roommate forms and payments to reserve a room.**

**How much will my room cost?**

1) **Room rates will vary depending on the type of room you reserve.**
2) **If you are mailing your reservation form and payment, please contact Margie Matthews at 724-699-7736 to make sure your selection is still available before sending your payment. Registration form and payment may be mailed to:**

**Women's Retreat**
**N.B.E.P.C.**
**151 Woodland Drive**
**Pulaski, PA 16143**

***Mailed registration forms and payment will be addressed after Sunday, Feb. 24.**

**IMPORTANT NOTES:**

**Payments are non-refundable.**

**The final day to reserve your spot at the women's retreat is <u>Sunday, March 3</u>.**

***Registration:*** The final day to register for the retreat is Sun., March 3.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code_____

Email: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____ (Circle: Cell Home)

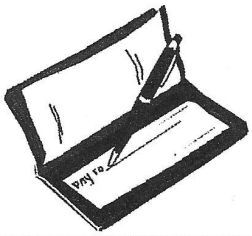
**Roommate Requests:** (Please confirm with roommates before completing this section.)

1. _____ 5. _____
2. _____ 6. _____
3. _____ 7. _____
4. _____ 8. _____

**Payments are non-refundable.**

Checks are to be written to:

N.B.E.P.C. Women's Association




**Suggestion: Do not complete check amount until room choice is confirmed.**

***Lodging Choices:***

| No. in a Room | Room Options | Retreat Fee |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Double Bed | $85.00 |
| 2 | Double Bed<br>Bunk Bed<br>Queen Bed<br>Queen Bed (1st floor) | $65.00 |
| 3 | Double & Bunk Bed<br>Queen & Single Bed<br>Queen & Bunk Bed | $60.00 |
| 4<br>or more | Queen & Bunk Beds<br>Basement Dorm<br>Second Floor Dorm | $55.00 |

***Payment***:

Retreat Fee (Includes meals & lodging) _____

Optional Thursday Evening Lodging ($12.00 a person) _____

Optional: Scholarship Fund _____

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:** _____

New Bedford Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Awana Clubs-----Wednesdays
Age 2 - Grades 6  5:00-7:00

# AWANA Schedule for January

**January 9th–Celebrate the New Year with a Fiesta…Let's 'TACO' about Jesus!!**
We will have 'Walking Tacos' for dinner at 5:00

**January 16th – Regular Club Night**

**January 23rd – PJ Night Snuggle up to learn about God…Wear your Pajamas!**
*Please wear appropriate footwear for game time……tennis shoes.*

**January 30th — Double, Double Points Night**
Clubbers will get double the points for attendance, bringing their Bible & Handbook, and completing sections

***Awana has 53 kids registered from ages 2 to grade 6. There is a need for listeners from 6:00-7:00. If you are available during that time to come and listen to Clubbers recite memory verses. Another adult is needed to help with the Sparks (Grades K-2), please contact Dawn if you are interesting serving in this ministry.***

**********

***New Ministry Program***: Beginning Sunday, January 6th there is a new program for kids during the 10:30 Worship Service. **J.A.M. Kids** (Jesus And Me Kids) is for children in Kindergarten to Grade 3 will be dismissed after the 2nd hymn. Parents can pick up their child from the Sunday School room after service. J.A.M. Kids will meet every Sunday.

**The God Squad** is for kids Grades 4-6 and will be dismissed after the 2nd hymn. The God Squad will meet 2 Sundays a month, beginning January 13th. On the Sundays The God Squad does not meet kids are encouraged to complete a Sermon Notes form found on the table at the Sanctuary doors.

There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule for teachers for the J.A.M. Kids & The God Squad.

A Nursery is available for younger children during both services.



Thank you to Madison S, Kaity, Casey, Karah, Hannah, Maelee, Ava, Gunner, Ethan, Brandon, Rosie for being a puppeteer during the Christmas season! Thanks for all your hard work!

**Puppet practice will begin again on Sunday, February 10th at 5:30-6:30.**

**Dawn Harris, Director of Children's Ministry** dawnhnbpc@aol.com **330-881-8110**

# Youth January Events Calendar

| ~ January 2019 ~ | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Sun** | **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6<br>Jr High 4-5:30<br>Sr High 5-7 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13<br>Jr High 4-5:30<br>Sr High 5-7 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18<br>Jr high retreat<br>Van leaves at 5pm | 19<br>Jr High retreat |
| 20<br>Jr high retreat<br>Van returns around 1pm<br>Sr High 5-7 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25<br>Sr high retreat<br>Van leaves at 5pm | 26<br>Sr high retreat |
| 27<br>Sr high retreat<br>Van returns around 1pm<br>Jr high 4-5:30 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | **Notes: There will be no puppet practice until Sunday February 10** | |

Created using the unLicensed version of WinCalendar.

**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
## JANUARY 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**