JUNE 8, 2025 **10:30A.M.**

The mission, vision, and purpose of New Bedford Evangelical Presbyterian Church is to love, know and serve the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
We* Love God *through worship,* Know God *through Growth Groups, and* Serve God *by using our gifts both outside and inside the church.

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE- "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"

***CALL TO WORSHIP- Adapted from Psalm 18**
I love you o LORD, my strength.
You, LORD are my rock,
My fortress and my deliverer.
To the faithful you show yourself faithful,
You, O LORD, keep my lamp burning;
You turn my darkness into light.
The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock!
Exalted be you, God my Savior!

***A HYMN OF PRAISE # 203 Burdens are Lifted at Calvary**

PASTORAL PRAYER & SILENT PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER-
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC – Praise Team "I Trust Jesus"

***DOXOLOGY**
Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen
***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***A HYMN OF PREPARATION # 320 Break Thou the Bread of Life**
(Children dismissed for J.A.M. kids – meet leader at sanctuary door)

HOLY SCRIPTURE LESSON – 1 Corinthians 11: 23-34

SERMON- "Why Do We Do What We Do?"

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

***THE CLOSING HYMN # 326 Wonderful Words of Life**

***THE BENEDICTION-**

***THE CONGREGATIONAL CLOSING**
I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God
I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His blood!
Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod,
For I'm part of the family, the family of God.

THE POSTLUDE- "Shine, Jesus, Shine"
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WORSHIP OF PRAYER AND PRAISE 8:30A.M.

WORSHIP TEAM PRELUDE

Refiner's Fire

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP - Adapted from Psalm 18**

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You, LORD are my rock,
My fortress and my deliverer.
To the faithful you show yourself faithful,
You, O LORD, keep my lamp burning;
You turn my darkness into light.
The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock!
Exalted be you, God my Savior!

***SONGS OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE**

Come Now Is the Time to Worship

Jesus Loves Me

God of Wonders

PASTORAL PRAYER & SILENT PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER-

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

HOLY SCRIPTURE LESSON – 1 Corinthians 11: 23-34

SERMON- "Why Do We Do What We Do?"

THE SACREMENT OF COMMUNION

CLOSING SONG- *Refiner's Fire

***BENEDICTION -**

His journey included four years as a church planter at Carmel Valley EPC in San Diego, California, followed by an impressive 26 years as pastor at Tabernacle EPC in Youngstown, Ohio. Bob later served as a regional director for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, overseeing ministry efforts across five states. He then took on the role of National Outreach Director for the EPC, focusing on church health, planting, and crisis assistance.

Bob's path continued as he became the church planter for Gateway EPC in Slippery Rock, PA, and Church Development Coordinator for the newly formed Presbytery of the Alleghenies. After dedicating nine years to the Presbytery, he contributed to Covenant EPC in Sharon, PA, alongside his brother, focusing on enhancing church vitality. He also served as Transitional Pastor at Bethany EPC in Mercer, PA, marking his third transitional pastorate in recent years. On September 1, 2021, Bob assumed the role of National Director of Church Health at the EPC General Assembly offices.

Throughout his extensive career, Bob has held diverse positions within the EPC, serving across seven presbyteries—transferring four times without relocating as the denomination expanded.

In addition to his ecclesiastical roles, Bob has been a high school baseball and strength and conditioning coach for over 34 years, actively engaging in various sports opportunities. However, his greatest joys come from his family: his beloved wife, Debbie, of 48 years, their three children—Nathan, Serah, and Jeremiah—all involved in ministry, and their nine grandchildren. Bob and Debbie are also thrilled to soon welcome their first great-grandchild, expected to arrive in April 2025.

SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2025

8:30A.M. Contemporary Service
9:30A.M. Sunday School for all ages
10:30A.M. Traditional Worship Service

MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2025

8:00P.M. Administrative Committee meets

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2025

9:15A.M. The Weight Group

THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2025

11:00A.M. E.P.I.C. meets

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025

8:00A.M. Men's Bible study

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Please fill out a yellow welcome slip located the pew if you have prayer requests or visitors liking more information about our church, and place it in the offering plate located at the back of the sanctuary.

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There is a kid's table in the vestibule with coloring/activity papers and fidget items that can be used during the service.



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VBS is starting tomorrow Monday June 9th- Fri June 13th, 5:15-8P.M. Kitchen help needed for VBS, 4-6PM. Contact Edie Chrobak or Dawn, if you can help out.

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E.P.I.C. Boating Trip at Moraine State Park and lunch on June 26th. Boat capacity is 40 people.... reserve your spot today in the vestibule. Reservation and money due June 15th





Bows & Donuts: June 26, from 6-7pm. join us for teaching kids and adults the sport of archery and share the Gospel. Followed by food and fellowship around a campfire. Archery is for ages 5 years & up. This event is for the community and the church. Church members are needed to help with safety during the event. You do not have to register to attend, walk-ins are welcome.

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<u>Save the Date:</u> July 26th our playground dedication with Pastor Dan officiating. Coffee, tea, juice and donuts at 9:30 with the dedication starting at 10:00. This is the Dedication of the James D. Emery playground, the Sam Jones swing and the dedication of 4 benches inside the playground fence for Jason Clark, Tiffany Bell, Chad Taylor and Lillian Fulkman.

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Graduation Party for Mackenzie McCarthy join us in celebrating Mackenzie's High School Graduation on June 21st from 3-6 P.M. here at the church in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP by June 14th to Jaime at 724-301-4626 call or text

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Pulaski Village Church is hosting a Revival. Join us on June 21st at The River Valley Community Resource Center (former Pulaski Elementary School) located at 320 Shenango St. Pulaski at 2p.m. As we see God move, we will be worshiping, praying and hearing God's Holy Word powerfully throughout the valley. Bring a lawn chair. Please call 724-652-5462 with any questions



We will be doing a combined Summer Newsletter for June and July. All information and/or articles need to be submitted by Friday, June 20th to be included in this summer newsletter. Thanks!!

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Pastor Dan is officially 'off the clock'……it's time to share a memory, a story, a message of appreciation for the time he's been with us. Index cards are located in the vestibule to write your message and place it in the basket. Cards will be collected until June 15th then mailed to Pastor Dan.

Help send him off with a pocket full of memories and a heart full of love.

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<u>Meet Bob Stauffer: A Legacy of Leadership and Faith</u>

Bob Stauffer is a proud native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and grew up in the charming town of Gibsonia. His athletic talents shone brightly during his years at Pine Richland High School, where he excelled in football, basketball, track, and baseball. Bob's musical abilities were also recognized, as he was selected for the Pennsylvania All-State Chorus.

After graduating from Pine Richland, Bob pursued higher education at Westminster College, where he played baseball and earned a double major: a B.S. in Psychology and a B.A. in Religion. His theological journey continued at Princeton Theological Seminary for one year, followed by two years at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, where he graduated with a Master of Divinity degree. In 1994, he furthered his studies by earning a Doctor of Divinity degree from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi.

Bob's commitment to youth ministry began with his work at Youth Guidance, a ministry dedicated to assisting young people who had encountered legal challenges. He was then called to serve as Associate Pastor at Mellwood Presbytery Church in Pittsburgh, which later became North Park EPC—one of the first churches in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) denomination. Bob was ordained in the inaugural class of the EPC, marking the beginning of a distinguished ministry career.

Why Do We Do What We Do?

***1 Corinthians 11: 23-34**
There are four reasons why we practice and take Communion.

1. **We Commune to _____.**
   - **A. This is a lord's supper that the disciples would _____ _____.**
   - **B. The early church celebrated communion to _____.**
   - **C. And so should we.**
   - **D. Jesus changed the relationship that we could have with God.**

   ***Exodus 24 :3-8 tells us about a _____ _____ with God.**

   E. Seeing the victorious, risen Christ, the disciples immediately _____ _____ _____.

***Hebrews 9: 26**
***Hebrews 7: 27**

   - **F. We are called to remember His _____ with us.**

2. **We take communion to _____ _____.**
   - **A. Communion was later called "_____ _____ from the Greek word "eucharis" or Thanksgiving.**
   - **B. In Communion I acknowledge Christ's gift ____ _____.**
3. **We Commune to _____.**
   - **A. That is why we use the word "communion" We hold something _____ _____ in common or this table.**
   - **B. Communion is _____ with one another.**
4. **We Communion to _____. We celebrate the _____, the _____ and the _____.**

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

WHY DO WE DO WHAT WE DO?

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Pentecost, Feast of Weeks, SHAVUOT is one of the SEVEN FEASTS of the LORD. SHAVUOT takes place 50 days after PASSOVER.

SHAVUOT is the second FIRSTFRUITS occasion focused more heavily on the first grain harvest.

> You shall count seven full weeks from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering. You shall count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath. Then you shall present a grain offering of new grain to the LORD.
>
> (Leviticus 23:15–16).

The first of the harvest was to be placed in baskets and taken to the Tent of Meeting, later, the temple, given to the priests as an act of gratitude to God for the land given. Refer to Deuteronomy 26:1-11 for more detail with the ceremony presenting the offering.

The giving of the Law, TORAH (Law of Moses) was given on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover, the exodus from Egypt.

Fulfillment of the Covenant Gathered in the Upper Room for the observance of PASSOVER, Jesus with his disciples instituted what is observed as HOLY COMMUNION within the church today. The same room was used for the observance of SHAVUOT for the teaching, prayer and of course the meal.

At the ascension of Christ on Mount Olivet the disciples were instructed to gather in the Upper Room and await the Holy Spirit. This would be the first FEAST of the LORD the disciples would observe after the ascension. Although the room was reserved for the observance of SHAVUOT something else took place:

> Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James *the son* of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas *the son* of James. **14** These all continued with one [d]accord in *prayer* [e]and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers. (Acts 1:13-14)

With the scriptures **side by side**, **compare** the Exodus 19&20 with Acts 2.

GIVING of the LAW of MOSES

On the morning of the third day there were **thunders and lightnings** and a thick cloud on the mountain and a **very loud trumpet blast**, so that all the people in the camp trembled. Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke because the LORD had descended on it **in fire**. The smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain trembled greatly. And as the **sound of the trumpet** grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in **thunder**. The LORD came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain. And the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

(Exodus 19:16—20)

Now when all the people saw **the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking**, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die." Moses said to the people, "Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin." The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

(Exodus 20:18—21)

RECEIVING the HOLY SPIRIT

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven **a sound like a mighty rushing wind**, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And **divided tongues as of fire** appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and **began to speak in other tongues** as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came

together, and they were bewildered, because **each one was hearing them speak in his own language**. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" (Acts 2:1–8)

The events from Exodus 19 and 20 would have been at the forefront of the minds of the people present for the SHAVUOT Feast of the Lord. The events surrounding the giving of the Torah, Law of Moses, would have been recited at the family table within the households. MANY WERE AMAZED! Visitors to the city during the Feast were perplexed and asked one another "What does this mean?" Satan got a few punches in with some mocking them saying, "They are filled with new wine." Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd.

> **5** And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. **6** And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. (Acts 2:5-6)

An Interesting teaching:
How many languages were understood during the sermon given by Peter?

> From the Mishnah: "on the stones of the altar on Mount Ebal (Deuteronomy 27) were inscribed all the words of the Torah in seventy tongues." (Sotah 7:5)