Dear NBPC Family:

For many people in Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio, the month of May is a favorite time of year. And why wouldn't it be? Temperatures start to climb, flowers bloom, the leaves come out on the trees, and you start to get those first wonderful hints of summer and time together with family. Thankfully, with the Covid vaccine now being rapidly distributed, that goal of getting together with family, and maybe even a real Memorial Day this year, looks like it might happen.

Here at New Bedford Church, the transitional process is also entering the month of May. The goal from February through April was to complete as many SWOT interviews with you as possible, and to distribute and receive back the Missional Posture Surveys. Thank you to the 71 church members and staff who agreed to be interviewed. Your answers will help the SWOT Analysis Team, which I will form during May, to get an accurate snapshot as to the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to your church. Thank you, too, to all of you who turned in the surveys. In my role to prayerfully position you as a Great Commission Church, to help the future Vision Team develop a Church Life and Ministry Vision, and to ascertain whether the church is "pre-missional, missional or post-missional," — all necessary ingredients before a Pastoral Search Team is formed, the input you provided is essential.

Also as of this writing, Connie and I look forward to being a little closer to you geographically during this transitional period. Right now, it looks like we will be able to get our townhome rented and to move temporarily into the manse as of June 1. It will be great to walk across the parking lot to the church rather than drive 56 miles!

I am also excited that the month of May is going to introduce a sermon series that I am looking forward to researching and preaching. Called "The Present of His Presence," the series will look back at some important moments in biblical history when the presence of God was especially powerful, and relate it to the lives of you and me today. For those of you who like to read ahead, I will be preaching the first message in the series from Exodus 13:20-22, 14:19-20, 24-25 and 40:36-38.

May the marvelous month of May, which will also include the celebration of Pentecost, be a time to warm you to the promise and presence of the triune God in your life!

Blessings,

Pastor Dan and Connie

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Heard a report from Pastor Dan regarding SWOT interviews and missional surveys.**
- **Moved the oversight of the Community Food Bank from the Pastor to the Mission Committee.**
- **Approved a bid from Royalty Lawn and Tree LLC for yard maintenance.**
- **Approved the installation of a propane furnace and air conditioning system in the manse.**
- **Noted that Sunday School teachers are still needed for Grades 3-6 (bi-weekly) and the Seekers Class (full time).**
- **AWANA leader appreciation and evaluation meeting will be May 3.**
- **Approved the 2nd annual Church Yard Battle (Nerf Night) for June 25.**
- **Approved Vacation Bible School for June 14-18.**
    - **Dinner will be served from 5:30-5:55 pm and VBS will run from 6:00-8:00 pm.**
    - **Children's VBS for those currently enrolled in preschool through grade 6. Using the curriculum "Torchbearers…Taking the Gospel Global…"**
    - **Adult option using the book "Turning Everyday Conversations into Gospel Conversations".**
    - **Van transportation will be available.**
- **Approved a Youth Mission Trip to Dunlow, West Virginia from July 18-24.**
- **Approved a Youth Game Night for May 22.**
- **EPIC will resume on May 6.**
- **Approved the request by Mission Committee to stop supporting Bethany Christian Services because of their drift away from following the Christian principles and Biblical truths that the EPC follows.**
- **Mission Committees current project is collecting men and women's underwear and socks.**
- **Approved placing the hymnals and Bibles back in the pews.**
- **Approved recognizing first responders on Memorial Day.**
- **Approved opening the church up for the Community Memorial Day Service if the weather is inclement.**
- **Approved Sam Jones and Collin Fulkman as our Ruling Elder delegates to General Assembly June 22-25 in Memphis, TN.**

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Thank you all for your prayers and encouraging cards through my weekly chemo and stem cell transplant. I am so blessed to have a loving supportive church family. Please continue to pray that the cancer will be in remission as I get stronger every day.

-Renee Burrows Persky

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 – Ashley Shaffer
5/22 – Brandilyn Buxton
5/22 – Owyn Harris
5/25 – Shirley Tremba
5/26 – Linda Punneo
5/27 – Roy Komar
5/29 – Ron Tremba

Birthdays in June

6/01 – Karah Deal
6/07 – Lisa Craig
6/07 – Dennis Jones
6/07 – Autumn Marshall
6/12 –Marissa Carr
6/12 – Ray Janoski
6/12 – June Smith
6/18 – Sam Varano
6/19 – Christian Fulkman
6/22 – Geniene Jones
6/22 – Carrie Kaufman
6/24 – Margie Matthews
6/25 – Shirley Sikora
6/26 – Amy Geisinger
6/27 – Tim Smith
6/28 – Ashlynn McAllen
6/29 – John Anderson
6/29 – Dorothy Rishell



Please remember in prayer the following persons who are hospitalized, receiving treatments, recuperating at home and those who have requested prayer.



Lavon Rogers----------John XXIII Nursing Home
Larry Pence----------Shenango Home
Nancy Phillis----------Home
Erma Gorley----------Nugent's Nursing Home
Renee Burrows Persky……..Home
Elizabeth Dehaven……..Home

Women's Association News

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Women's Association is in need of ladies to fill several offices. Below are the offices and their descriptions. All ladies interested should contact Barb Carr.

MODERATOR (1 position/2 year term)

- **Presides at all association meetings**
- **Appoints person to conduct installation service in Dec.**
- **Notifies all officers and circle chairs of all association meetings**
- **Keeps Moderator Handbook up-to-date and gives handbook to succeeding moderator**

MISSION (3 positions/3 year term) – 1 position open

- **Organizes Thank Offering service to be held in November**
- **Secures speaker and women to participate in Thank Offering Serv.**
- **Provides Thank Offering report to be placed in Mission Handbook and gives handbook to succeeding chairman**
- **Gives suggestions for missions**
- **Update the Women's Association bulletin board**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (3 positions/3 year term) – 2 positions open

- **Begins search for new officers in September**
- **Obtains Women's Association Slate of Officers and presents new slate of officers to the moderator by the end of November**
- **Chairman places new slate of officers in Nominating Committee Handbook to succeeding chairman**

PROGRAM COMMITTEE (3 positions/3 year term) – 1 position open

- **Plans and takes reservations for Ladies Love & Laughter Breakfast and Christmas Dinner**
- **Places a copy of yearly Women's Association Booklet in handbook**
- **Chairman places a report of each function in Program Committee Handbook and gives handbook to succeeding chairman**

****Please note there will be NO Women's Association meeting in May****

On Sunday, May 2nd the Women's Association will be promoting Circle Sign-Ups before and after Worship Services. If you are not already in a Circle, please think about joining one!

Awana has concluded for the 2020-2021 year. It was a blessing to be able to serve the children of NBEPC and the community be it in-person, sending home lesson packs, or via Zoom. 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!!

Mary Beckman	Sandra Ruby	Youth Helpers:
Julie Fulkman	Lori Jones	Gunner Morris
Sheila Epper-Eppinger	Beth Kendall	Ethan Harris
Janice Davis	Lee Harris	Brandon Harris
GayAnn Miller		Ava McManis

SAVE THE DATE FOR……

Church Yard Battle/Nerf Night

Friday, June 25th *Come to the church at any time between* ***4:00-7:00 PM***

VBS Planning Meeting- Monday, May 3rd at 7:00 PM
In person or via Zoom Meeting ID 849 3775 4925

Everyone has skills, talents, and gifts that can be used for the Torchbearers VBS this summer. This is the initial planning meeting to discuss theme, decorations, station activities, and more. Please be in prayer for VBS and those that will be serving in this ministry to our church and community.

VBS Wednesday Work Days

Wednesdays, May 26th, June 2nd & 9th from 10:00am-12:00pm will be VBS work days. I will be preparing decorations, nametags, craft items, and anything & everything VBS. If you are able to come and help for 1 week, 2 weeks, or all the weeks let me know. All skills are needed, from cutting to coloring to creating. Come together with a friend and enjoy time together while we prepare for the VBS ministry. Sign up in the vestibule for the day that you plan on helping.

VBS

TORCHBEARERS
TAKING THE GOSPEL GLOBAL

June 14-18, 2021
5:30 Dinner 6:00-8:00 VBS

VBS 2021 is headed to the Olympics & we're excited for you to join the team

FOR KIDS (PreK-Grade 6) will follow the path of one of the first torchbearers, Paul, and see what it takes to take the gospel global. Torchbearers VBS will challenge the kids to carry the torch of the gospel to the nations in fulfillment of Jesus' command in Matthew 28:19.

fOR ADULTS A study of how to easily and with confidence share the gospel with others. This will be led by Lee Harris.

Complete the Registration Form (next page) or register at www.myvbs.org/NewBedfordEPC
Sign up to Volunteer up at www.myvbs.org/NewBedfordEPC

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If you or your child/children are graduating from High School, Trade School, or College please contact the Church Office so that all graduates can be recognized. We will be having Graduate Recognition/Youth Sunday on Sunday, June 13th.

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<u>TIME OF PRAYER</u> – Following the second worship service every Sunday, there will be a Special Prayer Time in the vestibule. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!



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

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – Register by May 30th for a special prize



June 14-18, 2021 5:30-5:55 Dinner 6:00-8:00 VBS

VBS REGISTRATION FORM – CHILDREN PREK-GR. 6

Child's Name_____Grade Completed:_____ /Age:_____
Allergies/Medical Needs:_____

Child's Name_____Grade Completed:_____ /Age:_____
Allergies/Medical Needs:_____

Child's Name_____Grade Completed:_____/Age:_____
Allergies/Medical Needs:_____

Child's Name_____Grade Completed:_____/Age:_____
Allergies/Medical Needs:_____

Adult's Name(s) that will be attending: _____
_____

How many will be attending dinner each night? Please write the number in the blank.
This is to assist with our planning. All are welcome to come even if you don't know at time of registering.
_____Monday _____Tuesday _____Wednesday _____Thursday _____Friday

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

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO
Name_____ Phone Number_____

Van Transportation Available: Heritage Hills pick up at 5:20
New Bedford Laundry Mat Parking Lot pick up at 5:30
Call the church office 724-964-8055 to sign up for Van Transportation
For more info contact Dawn Harris at 330-881-8110 or dawnhnbpc@aol.com

Family Ministries Calendar
May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Jr high 12:30-2 Sr high 2:30-4:30	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6** E.P.I.C. Meeting 11am-1pm	**7**	**8**
9 No Youth Group **Happy Mother's Day!**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14**	**15**
16 Jr high 12:30-2 Sr high 2:30-4:30	**17**	**18**	**19**	**20** E.P.I.C. Meeting 11am-1pm	**21**	**22** Among-us Night Jr & Sr high 5-8pm
23 Jr high 12:30-2 Sr high 2:30-4:30	**24**	**25**	**26**	**27**	**28**	**29**
30 Jr high 12:30-2 Sr high 2:30-4:30	**31**	**Thank you to everyone that help make the Youth pasta fundraiser such a big success! We appreciate all of the love and support from our church famiy and the community of New Bedford. You make us feel so blessed and we thank God for you always.** 				



The Among-Us night will be outside as long as the weather permits so please dress accordingly. There will also be a fire with hot dogs and s'mores for everyone!
(If there is rain everything but the fire will be indoors)



- **<u>Looking ahead</u>: Youth Sunday will be June 13. Please email me if your child would like to participate in the service. (leehnbpc@aol.com)**
- **The Youth Mission Trip will be returning to West Virginia. The dates are July 18-24.**



Great News!! E.P.I.C. is resuming in-person meetings! Our first meeting will be May 6th in the pavilion at the church and we will be serving lunch as well. Meals will be individual servings to remain as safe as possible. For those that might not be comfortable with being served please feel free bring your own lunch and enjoy a time of fellowship.

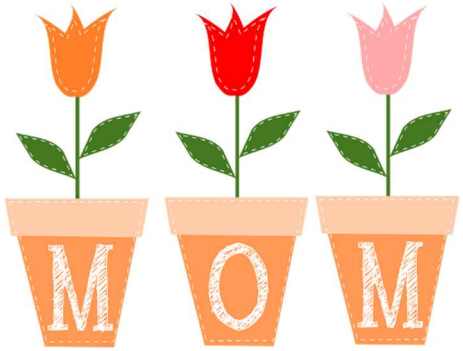
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Redeeming Times Newsletter
MAY 2021

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