Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church,

November is the month that we celebrate Thanksgiving. Allow me to share with you one of the great Psalms of praise and thanks giving. Psalm 105: 1-5 states....

Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has done.
2 Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.
3 Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
4 Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.
5 Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,

I want to share with you a number of important lessons on thanks giving in this Psalm. First, our thanks giving and I believe our Thanksgiving needs to be focused primarily on the Lord. Thanksgiving Day can have a number of primary focuses. The primary focus could be on food. It takes a tremendous amount of effort to produce, eat, and clean up after a Thanksgiving Dinner. This often consumes the focus of the day. Thanksgiving could be all about football. There are always two pro, a number of college and even High School football games on Thanksgiving. I know of some families that plan their meal around the games. Thanksgiving could be all about family. Of course family is important and the get together of family is wonderful..... but even this should not be the primary focus. Our primary focus as Christians, needs to be on the wonderful blessings the Lord has in the past and continues in the present to give us.

Thanksgiving is the opportunity to teach our children and our grandchildren the joy of being a follower for the Lord. Thanksgiving is an opportunity to, in a loving and non- judgmental way, to share our faith with family members who are not active in faith.

Don't just have a brief "blessing" before the meal. Expand that to a time of sharing. Share the blessing the Lord has given to you in the past year. "Remember the wonders he has done." Allow all the children (and possibly all the adults) to pray and thank God for one thing they are thankful for. You can even prompt this time by saying each person will simply pray one sentence... "Lord, I thank you for_____Amen. This will not take long... the food will not get cold... it is a way to focus on the Lord for a few minutes.

Second, notice Psalm 105 teaches us that joy and thanks giving is a natural by-product of seeking the Lord. We were created to be in relationship with God. Nothing else will bring joy and contentment. Praise God that the Holy Spirit is with us. Praise God that jour lives as followers of the Lord has meaning. Praise God for the death and resurrection of our Lord that brings us forgiveness and eternal life.

I pray that all of you will have a blessed Thanksgiving. I pray that all of us will keep our focus on the Lord in this holiday season.

In Christ
Doug

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

1. Noted that the new roof has been paid for. $20,000 was taken from the General Fund and $11,150 was taken from the Building Fund.
2. Approved up to $500.00 for the Cross repair. The bottom of the cross (erected in 1967) was rotting and was deemed unsafe. The cross was cut off above the rot and an excavator was hired to lower the cross. The base of the cross was cleaned of the old wood (about 4 feet deep), the cross was repaired (a number of holes from bees) and re-stained and the excavator reinstalled the cross.
3. Approved $2,200 to repair bell tower. Mortar was repaired, support beams and bells were cleaned and re-painted.
4. Approved purchase and installation of new emergency lights in the sanctuary, the sound room and the kitchen hallway. During a recent power failure it was noticed that old lights were not working.
5. Received reports from Sunday School and Awana and MOPS.
6. Worship Committee is completing a card, welcoming children to our worship services to be placed in the pews.
7. Approved Autumn Marshall as our Thank Offering speaker.
8. Received budget requests form Administration committee and Worship Committee for 2019.
9. Two new Christmas trees were purchased for the Sanctuary.
10. Received Brandon Miller as a member of the church. Brandon and Kelly (Craig) are presently living in Germany but Brandon desires to be part of an EPC church.
11. Evangelism announced launch of "this is my Story" ministry. Members of the church will be asked to share a brief (one to two minutes) story of their faith walk and their joy of being part of New Bedford Church. These stories will be shared in our worship services.
12. Christmas dates were announced. Breakfast in Bethlehem will be December 8th and Church Christmas dinner will be December 16th .
13. Approved Christmas Offering. Gifts will be used for Hurricane relief. ½ will be for the Carolina's and Florida the other ½ will be for Haiti. Samaritans Purse will be the receiving agency.
14. Discussed next years budget.
15. Continued discussion of Operating Manuel (it had not been updated since 1996). Changes to bring it into compliance with the EPC Book of Order, our church bylaws and our common practices were discussed. All the Committees will add their input in November and an updated Manuel will be passed in November or December.
16. Deacons reported 2 funeral dinners. (Carl Black and Jim DeHaven)

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MUCH THANKS & APPRECIATION TO…..

- **Chuck Bell for overseeing and refurbishing the Cross.**
- **Chuck & Bob Bell for installing new Emergency lighting.**
- **Bob & Cindy Bell for stripping and refinishing our outdoor signs.**
- **The ladies that have been helping out with the kids during MOPS meetings.**

Birthdays in November

11/03 – Violet Hilliard
11/04 – Anna Taylor
11/06 – Deneen Greene
11/08 – James Emery
11/11 – Dana Gardner
11/14 – Aubrey Fulkman
11/16 – Brenda Hostetler
11/25 – Bernice Boyer
11/27 – Lee Harris
11/29 – Alyssa Boyer
11/29 – Curtis Bretz
11/29 – Barrett Craig

Birthdays in December

12/01 – Adam Marshall
12/02 – Diana Halt
12/04 – Alexis Lambert
12/05 – Betty Komar
12/07 – Kyle Jones
12/09 – Chuck Bell
12/09 – Bob Bell
12/09 – Alexis Jones
12/11 – Carletta Doverspike
12/13 – Katee Paglia
12/14 – Evelyn Exley
12/14 – Jo Ruby
12/16 – Wanda Boyles
12/17 – Angela Houk
12/17 – Addie Moore
12/19 – Rebecca Halt
12/20 – Eric Keller
12/21 – Ruth Hunt
12/21 – LaVon Rogers
12/24 – Florence Allison
12/28 – Darlene Robison



November Greeters

11/4 ~ Jason Clark

11/11 ~ Gary & Bobbi Anderson

11/18 ~ Renee Burrows Persky

11/25 ~ Duane & Wanda Boyles

Head Usher ~ Brad Marshall



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

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Please take note of our correct mailing address

New Bedford EPC no longer carries a PO Box at the Post Office. Please send all correspondence to *151 WOODLAND DRIVE, PULASKI, PA 16143.*

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We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Carl Black. Carl passed away on September 29th.

We extend our condolences to the DeHaven family on the death of Jim this past month.

***"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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MARK YOUR CALENDARS……



BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM will be on Saturday, December 8th, 8:30AM – 11:30AM. Please invite your friends and neighbors. This event is FUN for children and adults of all ages! Breakfast will be served until 10:00AM. If you have never come, please try to come this year! The church is transformed into the streets of Bethlehem. There are live animals for petting, a Christmas movie, two craft rooms, face painting, and much more!

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There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 25th following the second Worship Service. The purpose of this meeting is for electing officers and receiving the budget.

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This years Special Christmas Offering will go to Hurricane Relief. The offering will be donated one half to domestic hurricane relief (Carolina's and Florida) and one half will go to hurricane relief in Haiti.





November Circle Meetings

Ruth ~ Monday 11/12 at 9:00AM
****please note date change for Ruth Circle****

Deborah ~ Tuesday 11/13 at 9:30AM

Elizabeth ~ Thursday 11/15 at 6:30PM

Rebecca ~ Saturday 11/17 at 9:00AM @Bedford Trails Rest.

Lydia ~ Tuesday 11/20 at 1:00PM

Thank Offering Sunday is on Sunday, November 18th. The women of the church will lead our worship. Autumn Marshall will be our guest speaker, she will be here speaking of her ministry in Haiti.



The Women's Association Christmas Dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 4th at The Gatherings. More details about this dinner will be coming in the upcoming bulletins this month.

Please note that the November Women's Association meeting has been moved from 11/10 to 11/17 at 9:00AM.

THE BAZAAR IS THIS SATURDAY!!

NOVEMBER 3RD

9:00A.M. UNTIL 2:00P.M.

INVITE YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS!!



Awana Clubs-----Wednesdays
Age 2 - Grades 6 5:00-7:00

AWANA MISSION UPDATE

Awana Clubbers collected items for the Thanksgiving Baskets that get distributed during the holiday to families in need. Our goal was to collect 150 items. Thank you for the donation of food…..we collected 55 items for the City Rescue Mission. The deadline to donate for the Thanksgiving baskets is November 14th. If you would like to participate please place all items in the grocery cart.

Items needed for the Thanksgiving Baskets:

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

October 31st – NO AWANA CLUB

November 7th – Red, White, & Blue Night

Let's celebrate our Veterans by showing our patriotic style of red, white, & blue.

November 14th – 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.

November 21st – NO CLUB - Happy Thanksgiving

November 28th - Regular Awana Club Night

Awana has 45 kids registered from ages 2 to grade 6. There is a need for listeners from 5:45-6:50. If you are available during that time to come and listen to Clubbers recite memory verses, please contact Dawn.



Puppet Practice - Sunday Nov. 18, 25 & Dec. 2 – 5:30-6:15

Performances - November 28th – 5:00 @ Awana
December 8th – 8:30 @ Breakfast in Bethlehem

FIND YOUR FIRE

Below is a list of the upcoming November and December MOPS meetings. You can pick up a full list of meetings in the church entranceway or on our church website at newbedfordepchurch.org

November 14 Gratitude Challenge

Worry is an absence of something, while gratitude is the presence of something. If you worry, you give up being happy. We will take the Three Good Things Gratitude Challenge and embrace the phrase, "don't worry, be happy"!

November 28 Fire Starter – Christmas-Themed Craft

December 12 The Nativity

Have you had Christmases that left you waiting for a more peaceful, joyful season than the one you were living? We will re-examine the Nativity story in a way that inspires us to face this season with courage and joy, knowing that Jesus didn't choose to love us from a distance.

there is only 1 MOPS meeting in December

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Youth Group Important dates for November 2018

November 4- Youth hayride at the Whitings 5-7 pm
(Meet at the church at 4:30 if you need a ride or meet us at the Whitings at 5)

November 11, 18, 25: Regular youth group. Jr high 4-5:30 Sr high 5-7

November 10: Jr high breakfast club at Ryder's 9 am.

November 17: Sr high breakfast club at Ryder's 9 am.
Please let me know if you need a ride to or from breakfast. Phone # 330-881-8114

PIE PICK-UP REMINDER for November Orders

Pies need to be picked up on Wednesday, November 14th. Time for pick up to be announced. Thank you for supporting the Youth Group!

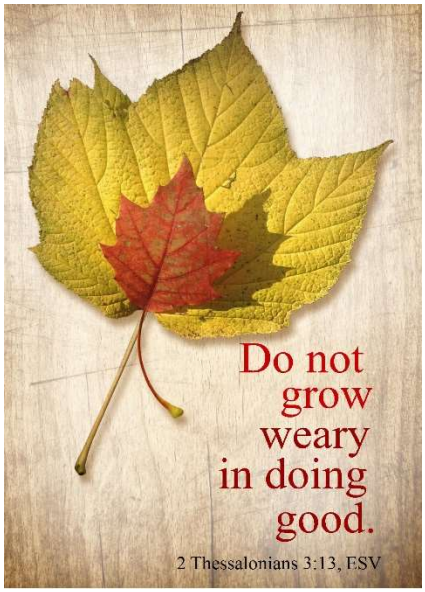
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Redeeming Times Newsletter
NOVEMBER 2018

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

Office Hours are Tuesday thru Friday

9A.M. – 2P.M.