Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church

As you have probably already heard, I am planning on retiring. I made this announcement to the Staff on September 23rd, to the Session on September 24th, and to the Congregation on September 27th.

My official retirement date will be February 6th when the Presbytery of the Alleghenies meets. My last Sunday here will be January 31st.

When I retire I will be in my 50th year of ministry. Allow me to share with you my places of ministry.

- 1971 to 1978 Young Life Staff Part time during college and seminary.
- 1978 to 1981 Young Life Staff in Pittsburgh
- 1981 to 1984 Young Life Staff in Buffalo
- 1982 to 1984 Pastor Hyde Park Presbyterian Church in Niagara Falls NY Part Time
- 1984 to 1992 Pastor Mountville Presbyterian Church in Portersville, PA
- 1992 to 1997 Pastor Mt Nebo Presbyterian Church in Mt Nebo, PA (north of Pittsburgh)
- 1997 to present Pastor New Bedford Presbyterian Church

My time in ministry has been, and continues to be, a rich, rich time in my life and in the life of my family. For almost 50 years I have loved seeing the hand of the Lord in the lives of others. For almost 40 years I have loved pastoring churches. I love the opportunity to study God's Word and share that Word with you. I love equipping the Saints for ministry in the church. I love building friendships with wonderful brothers and sisters in Christ. I love sharing times of joy and times of struggle with others in the church. Truthfully, I do love ministry and will miss it a great deal. Being a Pastor has never primarily been a job for me…. It is the joy of ministry. A congregation has never been just a gathering of people for me… it has always been an extended family for me, for Kim, and when my children were at home, for them. Thank you. The good news is I will continue to minister in this place for the next four months.

A brief word of my future plans. Kim and I will be moving back to the Mt Nebo area next June. We own a home there and will return to this home in June (our house is rented to a young family that I did not want to force to move in the middle of this crazy school year). I have a number of home remodeling plans that I plan on doing. Before that, Kim and I will travel. Joining our close friends, we will travel to Florida and then cross the country to California in our camper. Many of these State Park Campground reservation are already in place. Upon return I will see if the Lord will possibly open a door for part time Pastoral Ministry.

Let me share with you the immediate future of our church. The Session has begun a search for a Transitional Pastor (formerly called an Interim Pastor). This person will be hired by the Session to serve under a one- year contract that can be renewed. During this time a Search Committee will be formed to search for a Called Pastor hired by the congregation. It is the plan of the Session to have the Transitional Pastor in place upon my departure. I will have no part of this process other than to answer process questions. Please keep this process in your prayers.

I am looking forward to the next four months. I plan on finishing my series in Romans and having a wonderful Christmas season together. Please keep Kim and I in your prayers as we make this transition.

Yours in Christ,

Doug

Session Highlights

- Session received the August Financial Repot. It was noted that income for this year is only $200.00 less than last year. Finances are looking very good
- Discussed start-up of all ministries in September and October. Youth Group has started. Sunday School and Awana will start in the next couple of weeks.
- Approved plan to start up MOPS under leadership of Erika
- Discussed modification necessary for Breakfast in Bethlehem. Final decision and plans will be presented in October
- Approved Special Christmas offering to go to Autumn Marshall for the upgrades to her solar electrical system.
- Approved purchase of new projector for the Sanctuary
- Approved new Position Description for our Director of Music Ministry. This position provides organization and leadership for both the Choir and the Worship Team. For the past eight years all service, except Pastor, to the early service was by volunteers.
- Approved hiring of Ashley Graziani to the Position of Director of Music Ministry beginning October 1st. This is a twelve month position (Choir Director was a nine month position) with vacation approved. Ashley's annual salary will increase from $5,980.00 to $10,000.00
- Approved modification of Organist/Pianist Position Description. Responsibilities for the early service were added (previously Donna was a volunteer for the early service)
- Increased Donna's Organist/Pianist salary from $9,000.00 to $13,000.00 beginning October 1st . She will also continue as the Bell Choir Director.
- Received a report from Diane Bell and Pastor Doug on their virtual attendance of the two day EPC General Assembly.
- Pastor Doug announced his upcoming retirement
- Discussed process of hiring a Transitional Pastor. Session will serve as a "Committee of the Whole" for this search. Scott Phillips was elected as Coordinator of the Search Committee (the Session). A tentative timeline and process was discussed. Presbytery has been notified of the opening and will inform potential pastors of the opening. Pastor Information Forms (Pastoral resume's) will be received through October. Interviews will be scheduled as PIF'S are received through Thanksgiving. Second interviews and contractual details will be done in late November and early December. Motion to approve the contract and hire the individual will be at the December Session meeting. Depending on the new pastor's situation (he may have to notify his current congregation) announcement may not take place until January. Beginning date will be February 1st. Of course, this timeline may change.

Birthdays in October

10/01 – Cindy Bell
10/04 – Donald Hartzell
10/05 – Katie Magee
10/05 – Connie Shick
10/08 – Jean Chrobak
10/08 – Connor O'Brien
10/08 – Marilyn Pelles
10/10 – Amanda Rudzik
10/12 – Sam Jones
10/15 – Jack Keesey
10/15 – James Maloney
10/16 – Brandy McAllen
10/17 – Ariana Carr
10/18 – Emily Bretz
10/18 – Kristi Jones
10/19 – Brock Janoski
10/21 – Jocilyn Csernyik
10/22 – Dylan Dieter
10/22 – Elaine Hepler
10/25 – Kelly (Craig) Miller
10/25 – Tyler Craig
10/25 – Debbie Pogozelec
10/26 – Bev Varano
10/30 – Shawn Kendall
10/31 – Bob Exley
10/31 – Marilyn McConahy

Birthdays in November

11/04 – Anna Taylor
11/06 – Deneen Greene
11/08 – Jim 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



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

Jo Ruby----------Avalon Nursing Home
Pearl Reed----------Overlook Nursing Home
Lavon Rogers----------John XXIII Nursing Home
Larry Pence----------Shenango Home
Dot Shillingburg----------Home
Erma Gorley----------Nugent's Nursing Home



We extend our Deepest Sympathy to the family and friends of Linda Canami. Linda passed away on August 27th.



We extend our Deepest Sympathy to the Book and Hepler families. Glenn passed away on September 18th.

"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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I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, concerns, cards, visits, food and gifts during my resent illness. I also thank God for giving me a second chance and for all the doctors and health care providers that helped me through this. -Bob Bell

Many Sundays when Dad was hurting from his back and leg pain, he would still attend church. What an example to all of us of his faithfulness.

The family of Glenn Hepler thanks you for each card you sent, the prayers for us during Dad's illness, and the phone calls to encourage us.

Thank you, everyone – from the Pastors, Deacons, Debi, Donna, friends to the cleaning crew – for making this special church service memorable in so many ways for each of us.

-Elaine Hepler, Sharon & John Book, Nathan and Philip

The Deacons would like to thank everyone for all of the donations that were collected over the past two months for the Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County!

The Youth would like to thank everyone for your participation in collecting all of the plastic caps and lids!! They are now finished collecting.

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Adult Choir and Handbell Choir are starting back up! If you would like more information about Adult Choir, please contact Ashley Graziani and for Handbell Choir, Donna Fox. Rehearsals will start up Wednesday, October 7th. Choir will rehearse at 6:30P.M. followed by Handbells at 7:15P.M.

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MOPS is beginning on Wednesday, October 7th! MOPS will be every 1st & 3rd Wednesday 5:00P.M.-6:30P.M. All moms of any school aged children are welcome! Please contact Erika Taylor for more information.

Awana begins in OCTOBER!!

We are opening with the Half Club Plan

Club will meet 5:00-6:45 PM

Drop off is at the Main Doors for kids to go to the Sanctuary

Doors will open at 5:00

If you want more information about Awana please contact Dawn

Puggles-Ages 2 & 3 Cubbies–Preschool Sparks–Gr. K-2 T&T-Gr. 3-6

Schedule for which Clubs meet on the given Wednesday.
T&T will begin on October 14th

October 7th – Puggles, Cubbies, & Sparks
October 14th – T & T
October 21st – Puggles, Cubbies, & Sparks
October 28th – T & T

WELCOME BACK BASH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES AT 9:30 AM

Classes will be held in the education wing.
Please wear a mask when entering/exiting the church and for Sunday School.

Dawn Harris
Director of Children's Ministry
330-881-8110 cell
Dawnhnbpc@aol.com

	Family Ministries Calendar October 2020					
Sun	**Mon**	**Tue**	**Wed**	**Thu**	**Fri**	**Sat**
				1	**2**	**3**
4 Jr high 12:30-2 Sr high 2:30-4:30	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**
11 Jr high 12:30-2 Sr high 2:30-4:30	**12**	**13**	**14**	**15**	**16**	**17**
18 Jr high 12:30-2 Sr high 2:30-4:30	**19**	**20**	**21**	**22** **Medicare Meeting 10am**	**23**	**24**
25 Jr high 12:30-2 Sr high 2:30-4:30	**26**	**27**	**28**	**29** Fall Family Night	**30** Fall Family Night	**31**

- To register for the Medicare Meeting you can either sign-up in the church vestibule or call the church office. **If you would like to attend you must be registered by <u>October 18</u>.**
- The Thanksgiving Pie Sale will be taking place as soon as pricing information is available.
- Due to the constant changes of fall sports, a date will be chosen and more detailed information about Fall Family Fun Night will be given later in October.
- Thank you to everyone who made it possible for youth group to re-open. It has been a wonderful few weeks and we can't wait to see what God has in store for us next.

NEW BEDFORD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Pulaski, PA 16143
Phone: 724-964-8055

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #147
New Castle, PA 16101



Redeeming Times Newsletter
OCTOBER 2020

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

****Please remember to social distance and wear a mask****