Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church,

What are the characteristics of a healthy church? When people are visiting a church what do they want to see? Robert Newbold, a number of years ago wrote an article entitled, “Journeying Toward a New Church.” He listed these characteristics of a healthy church.

- A church known for biblical preaching
- A church where emphasis is upon discipleship and not membership
- A church where worship occurs in the family home, and not just in the building called church
- A church whose members regularly study the Word of God
- A church where stewardship is an expression of gratitude to God and His blessings
- A church where ethnic minorities, singles, and young people are included in the total life of the church
- A church where there is reliance on the guidance, teaching and empowerment of the Holy Spirit

I would agree with these characteristics as listed by Newbold…but I would add a few additional characteristics…..

- A church where joy is evident
- A church that minsters to those who are suffering from loss or ongoing struggles
- A church centered in prayer
- A worship service that bring people into the presence of God…irregardless of the “style” of worship
- A church that makes visitors feel welcome and moves quickly to assimilate new people into the church family

As we look at this list, I invite you to look at New Bedford Church and see the strengths (we have many) and the weaknesses (yes, there are some) from this list. Let us be a church that serves and honors our Lord.

In Christ,
Doug

FEBRUARY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Reviewed the Financial Report**
- **Organized all church committees**
- **Investigating online giving**
- **Approved the EPC Annual Report**
- **Received report (through CE minutes) on ministry of Lee and Dawn with our children and youth. Youth Sunday will be May 31st. The Youth Group will be going to a Mission trip in West Virginia in July. They also will attend the Creation Festival (near Hershey PA) in June. A spaghetti dinner fundraiser for these trips will be March 21st. Sunday School and AWANA children will be going bowling on March 28th as the AWANA year wraps up.**
- **Evangelism Committee shared details of the two Lenten Dinners. The first on March 8th will serve sloppy joes and ham bbq sandwiches. Doug will lead a bible study following the dinner. The second will be on March 29th. Baked potatoes will be served. The choir will lead us in an evening of song following dinner.**
- **Easter Egg hunt will be Saturday, April 11th**

****

The youth of the church are going to collect plastic bottle caps and lids to have a bench built for the playground area by the parking lot. There will be a container in the narthex the last Sunday of each month for you to place your caps and lids. Please make sure they are clean. Below is a list of ACCEPTABLE plastic caps and lids.

ACCEPTABLE CAPS & LIDS – Recycle #2, 4 or 5

Medicine bottle caps (info packet removed)	Drink bottle caps (soda, water, juice, sport drinks)	Shampoo & conditioner caps
Milk jug caps	Flip-top caps (ketchup)	Spout caps (mustard)
Detergent caps	Hair spray caps	Spray paint caps
Toothpaste caps	Ointment caps	Deodorant caps
Baby food caps	Apple sauce pouch caps	Coffee can lids
Cool whip cont. lids	Cottage cheese cont. lids	Mayonnaise jar lids
Yogurt lids	Cream cheese cont. lids	Peanut butter jar lids
Butter cont. lids	Ice cream bucket lids (under 8")	Pringle cont. lids

these items listed above are the ONLY ACCEPTABLE Lids & Caps – please DO NOT donate any other items

Reminder: *Collection* is the last Sunday of every month

On the first Saturday of every month, the Youth will meet at 10:00A.M. to sort and weigh the caps and lids

Birthdays in March

3/03 – Gene Bicehouse
3/03 – Steve Fox
3/04 – Sally Withers
3/05 – Emily Withers
3/08 – Sue Bluedorn
3/12 – Mira Fulkman
3/13 – Doug Houk
3/15 – Larry Bluedorn
3/16 – Dakota Boyer
3/17 – Jake Emery
3/17 – Sandra Saulpaugh
3/19 – Dan Dieter
3/20 – Ed Rudzik
3/22 – Beth Kendall
3/24 – Jennifer Saulpaugh
3/25 – John Book
3/25 – Jackie Hall Buntman
3/26 – Jamie Phillips
3/27 – Robert Bretz
3/27 – Ryan Morse
3/29 – Judy Stuhlmann
3/30 – Helen Bicehouse

Birthdays in April

4/01 – Lillian Emery
4/01 – Clay Fulkman
4/04 – Barb Pence
4/05 – Peggy Hilliard
4/06 – Bill Harshbarger
4/07 – Andy Hostetler
4/08 – Jamie McCarthy
4/09 – Richard Harris
4/09 – David Magee
4/12 – Rhys Harris
4/13 – Leo Krisuk
4/19 – David Carr
4/19 – Ty Phillips
4/22 – Donna Fox
4/23 – Bonnie Glogowski
4/26 – Patty Wade
4/27 – Ed Rudzik
4/28 – Madeline Whiting



March Greeters

3/1 – Tim & Debbie Pogozelec

3/8 – Janice Davis

3/15 – Brad & Marty Marshall

3/22 – Barb Carr

3/29 – Robert & Joyce Shafer

Head Usher – Jim Emery



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

Dot Jones----------Avalon Nursing Home
Jo Ruby----------Avalon Nursing Home
Pearl Reed----------Overlook Nursing Home
Larry Pence----------Shenango Home
Dot Shillingburg----------Beeghly Oaks Rehab.
Lavon Rogers----------John XXIII Nursing Home

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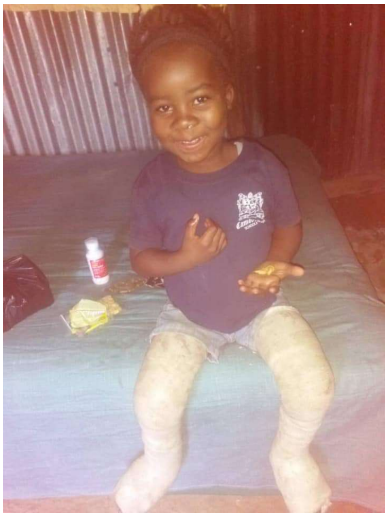


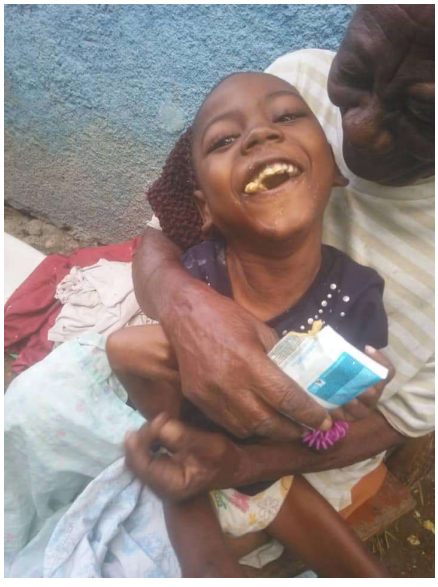
To my church family,
I would like to thank my church family for all the cards, calls, support, love and prayers when my husband passed away. It was greatly appreciated and I am truly grateful to all. Also for all the prayers for my daughter-in-law, Holly Wojtowicz, during her recent surgeries. She is now cancer free. -Theresa Wojtowicz

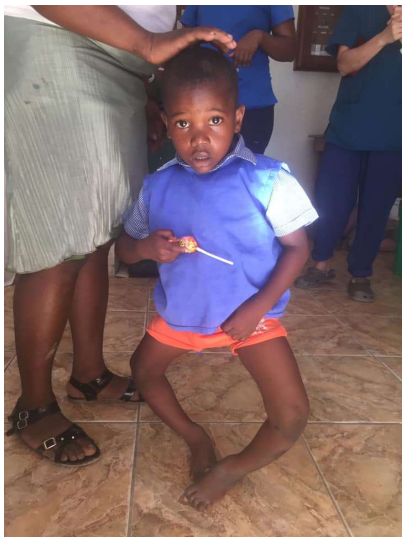
Thank you for the out pouring of concern, visits, cards, food and especially the prayers at the passing of my mom, Elizabeth Heaney this past week. Your love shown was a great comfort to us.
-Diane & Chuck Bell and family

Dear New Bedford Church Family,
We cannot thank you enough for the time and energy you put into making the cookies! I pray that the personal delivery of each bag will reach every student's heart as God redefines their vision of the Body of Christ to see just how much we truly care for each and every individual.
Only in God's Grace-Loving Abundantly, Giving Thanks ~ Westminster Ministry Groups

Thank You!!!!! The Christmas offering is blessing so many. We were able to buy 72 cases of Vitamumba (vitamin enhanced peanut butter) which is enough for 50 of our kids to have 1 a day for a year. Life changing for these special needs kiddos who struggle to get enough nutrition. We have already entered 35 of the kids most in need and will continue to fill slots as needs arrive. We also plan to purchase 4 cases of special peanut butter formulated to pull kids out of acute malnutrition, we have 4 of those kiddos right now.
The rest of the money has gone towards our Ricket Vitamin Program. We have 75 kids receiving Calcium, Vitamin D, and Moringa Vitamins daily. This is the only cure outside of surgery for these kids. These vitamins will help straighten their legs.
Thank you for impacting and changing so many lives by meeting their nutritional needs!
-Autumn Marshall









Lenten Dinner & Bible Study – Sunday, March 8TH , Dinner will begin at 5pm with a Bible Study following.

Lenten Dinner & – Sunday, March 29TH , Dinner will begin at 5pm with a Bible Study to follow.

Palm Sunday Worship Services – Sunday, April 5TH at 8:30am and 10:40am.

Maundy Thursday Last Supper Drama – April 9TH at 7pm.

Good Friday Worship Service – April 10TH at 7pm.

Community Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, April 11TH 10am – Noon.

Resurrection Morning Worship Services – April 12TH at 8:30am and 10:40am. A light breakfast will be served in between worship services at 9:30am.

The Evangelism Committee is planning two dinners during this Lenten season. This Sunday, March 8th, will be the first Lenten Dinner. Dinner will begin at 5:00P.M., this will be a ham bbq and sloppy joe sandwich dinner. If you are able, please bring a dessert to share. Following dinner there will be a Lenten Bible Study. The next Lenten Dinner will be on Sunday, March 29th, this will be a baked potato dinner.



The Evangelism Committee will be hosting the annual Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 11th from 10am until Noon. There will be many children from the community attending this event which is why they are in need of your help with candy donations! Please consider donating bags of individually wrapped candy to fit in the plastic eggs. There will be a box in the Narthex for candy donations. The last day to bring in candy will be March 29th. The Evangelism Committee thanks you in advance for your help with this community event!



The Deacons will once again be taking orders for Easter Tulips this year. We invite you to honor or remember a loved one, these will be printed and placed in the bulletins on Easter Sunday. The cost is $9.00 each. There will be Easter Tulip cards in the bulletins on 3/1, 3/8 and 3/15. Please see Larry or Sue Bluedorn for any questions or to place your orders.

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Van drivers and helpers needed! Sign up sheet located in the narthex. Please consider helping with this need in our church. We have members who no longer drive or they have no transportation to Sunday morning worship. This is a mission that we locally as a congregation can do. Please prayerfully consider helping with this mission. Thank you – The Deacons



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

Dawn Harris, Awana Commander
dawnhnbpc@aol.com 330-881-8110

MOPS MomsNext meets in the Parlor during Awana
All Moms are Invited to Check It Out!
Erika Taylor, MOPS Leader 724-674-1840

March 4th – Regular Club Night
March 11th – Double, Double Points Night
March 18th – Regular Club Night
March 25th – Hats Off to your Leaders and Director Night
Show some love for your Leaders by **wearing your favorite hat!! AND** shower them with handmade cards and notes. Awana wouldn't be possible without all the Awesome Leaders!!!

Secretary – Miss Mary	Games – Coach Lee, Mr Don, Mr Dennis
Puggles – Miss Julie & Miss Carla	Cubbies – Miss Sheila & Miss Janice
Sparks – Mrs. Shirley, Miss GayAnn, Miss Edie, Miss Marty, Miss Terri, Miss Diana, Miss Shanin	
T & T – Miss Lori, Miss Julie, & Miss Beth	

Looking Ahead……April 1st 6th Annual AWARDS NIGHT
EVERYONE is invited to join us in recognizing this year's Awana Clubbers. We are excited about their accomplishments and this will be a special ending to our year. A dinner will be served after the Awards Ceremony. If you are able, please bring a side dish or salad to share *Please sign up in the Vestibule so we can plan accordingly.* Thank you.

Awana CAN make a difference for the CITY RESCUE MISSION
Our goal is to collect 300 pounds of food for the City Rescue Mission! To date there is 74 pounds of food.
Needed Items:

Canned Soup	Cereal	Mac N Cheese	Syrup
Boxed Rice	Pancake Mix	Crackers	Jelly

Thank you for helping to provide this ministry with food for families in need.

Donation Opportunity----On Wednesday, March 25th the AWANA Clubbers will have the opportunity to go shopping in our 'church' marketplace. They get to buy items with the points they earned. They can earn points each week for; attendance, bringing a Bible, bringing their Handbook, completing sections, wearing uniform, and attending church. Many kids have earned a lot of points and they look forward to shopping with them at the end of Awana. *If you would be able to donate items for the marketplace please leave them in the box in the vestibule by* ***Sunday, March 22nd.*** Many great items could be purchased from a dollar store. If you have any questions please let me know. Thanks for your help in rewarding the kids for their commitment in Awana and earning points.

SPRING CLEANING THE TOY CHEST…….consider donating the gently used/like new toys appropriate for 3 months to 2 years old. Please contact Dawn if you have anything to donate to the nursery.



LOOKING AHEAD-SAVE THE DATES.....VBS week of June 14, 2020

BOWLING PARTY

Who? All kids in Age 2 - Grade 6
(A parent/guardian needs to accompany Preschool children)

When? Saturday, March 28, 2020 12:00-2:00 PM
Church Van leaves the church at 11:30 and returns approx. 2:30

Where? Ten Pin Alley 3825 E State St. Hermitage, PA 16148

Cost? $9.00 Church/Awana Kids-----$10.00 all other Kids
Includes bowling, shoe rental, pizza, chips, pop, dessert

Come and Have some Fun!!!!!!

Permission Slips are in the vestibule or by Dawn's office.

Permission Slips need to be returned by Wednesday, March 25th

J.A.M. & God Squad meets during the 10:40 service Sunday morning.
J.A.M. Leader Schedule (Grades K-3)
March 1 – Jane Eppinger
8 – Dawn Harris
15 – Erika Taylor
22 – Dawn Harris
29 -
God Squad (Grades 4+) will meet March 15 & 29

? ? ? ? ? ? DID YOU KNOW ? ? ? ? ? ?

(each month I will share an interesting tibit of info that I come across in the 'KidMin world')

Children are getting more screen time.
In a 2018 survey, the Statista found that 43% of children spend 2-4 hours of screen time per day.

PRAYER NEED**.....*pray that God's love will filter out the world's negative voices that attacks our children through social media, Instagram, Snapchat, texts, and entertainment.***

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."
1 Thessalonians 5:11

All young adults in Lawrence, Mercer, Allegheny, Beaver, Trumbull and Mahoning Counties are invited!
Young Adult SUMMIT March 27th 7:00-9:30 Cost $5.00
at New Life Baptist Church - New Wilmington
Speakers: Brian & Amanda Crow - *Spiritual Growth and Financial Peach as a Young Adult*
Register online @ nlbc.church/events by March 20
Text Missy Gion for more info (724) 462-6253

For any questions about the above happenings contact Dawn Harris
Call/Text: 330-881-8110 Email: Dawnhnbpc@aol.com



March Circle Meetings

Deborah – Tuesday 3/10 at 9:30A.M. at Bedford Trails Restaurant

Ruth – Monday 3/16 at 9:30A.M.

Elizabeth – Thursday 3/19 at 6:30P.M.

Rebecca – Saturday 3/16 at 9:00A.M. at Bedford Trails Restaurant

Important Dates in 2020

March 14th – WA Meeting at 9:00AM
April 17-18 – Women's Retreat *please see info at bottom of this page*
May 9th – WA Meeting at 1:00PM
Spring/Fall 2020 – Ladies 'Love & Laughter' Breakfast – date TBA
September 12th – WA Meeting at 9:00AM
November 7th – BAZAAR
November 14th – WA Meeting at 1:00PM
November 22nd – Thank Offering Service
December 2020 – Women's Christmas Dinner – date TBA

Please join us at the Women's Retreat for a weekend of Love, Laughter and Tears. The "Royal Encounter" will take place April 17 and 18 at the Castle. Please also consider staying Saturday night for fellowship and worship Sunday morning in the chapel. As always we are spending Thursday night too!
Sign up will take place March 15, 22 and 29 in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour. Costs are on the registration form and must be paid at the time of sign-up. Any questions, please see Darlene Robison, Gay Ann Miller or any Ruth Circle member.

****The registration dates that were listed in the bulletin last week were not correct. Registration will take place March 15, 22 and 29 in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour****

Our Mission:
We will be collecting donations for a mission that serves as a safe passage for human trafficking victims. (Checks should be written to NBEPC Women's Association.)

A Royal Encounter

Join us the weekend of Fri., April 17 (6:30 PM) - Sat., Apr. 18 4:00 PM for our women's retreat where we will take a journey to discover the personal qualities of a Godly woman.

Life Ministries – The Castle
870 River Ridge Road
Franklin, PA

What to Bring:

Sheets &
Pillowcase
Towels
Toiletries
Bible
Bag to carry your Bible and journal.

Registration:
Registration forms will be taken on Sunday,

Mar. 15
Mar. 22
Mar. 29

between first and second services. Payment is due at registration. Checks should be written to NBEPC Women's Association.

Meals:

You are invited to the King's Banquet on Friday night. All food, which includes dinner and snacks, will be provided by the Ruth Circle. The castle will serve breakfast and lunch on Saturday.

© Can Stock Photo

Additional nights of lodging are available on Thurs., Apr. 16 + Sat., April 18 at the rate of $11.00 per night.

Please bring a photo to share of a place that you have visited that left you humbled and in awe.

(Photographs will be returned.)

Registration: * **The final day to register for the retreat is Sunday, March 29.** (Late registrations will only by accepted if there has been a cancelation.)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email: _____

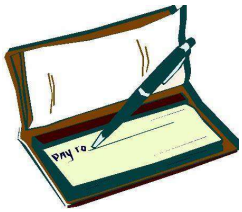
Roommate Requests: Please confirm with roommates before completing this section.

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 Bunk Bed Queen Bed Queen Bed (First Floor)	$65.00
3	Double & Bunk Bed Queen & Single Bed Queen & Bunk Bed	$60.00
4 or more	Queen & Bunk Bed Basement Dorm Second Floor Dorm	$55.00

Payment:

Retreat Fee (Includes meals & Lodging) _____

Optional Thursday Evening Lodging ($12.00 a person) _____

Optional Saturday Evening Lodging ($12.00 a person) _____

Optional Scholarship Fund Donation _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: _____

	Family Ministries Calendar March 2020					
Sun	**Mon**	**Tue**	**Wed**	**Thu**	**Fri**	**Sat**
1 Youth winter retreat **No youth group**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5** E.P.I.C Meeting 11am	**6**	**7**
8 Jr high 12:30-2 Sr high 1:30-3:30	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14**
15 Jr high 12:30-1:30 **!!Mandatory!!** **Parent Meeting** **1:30-2:30** Sr high 2:30-4:00	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19** E.P.I.C Meeting 11am	**20**	**21** Youth Spaghetti dinner 4-7pm
22 Jr high 12:30-2 Sr high 1:30-3:30	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26**	**27**	**28** Girls Study 9-10:30am Boys study 10:30-12 **(Both Sr high only)**
29 Jr high 12:30-2 Sr high 1:30-3:30	**30**	**31**	**Please Note: At the parent meeting we will be discussing spaghetti dinner volunteer changes, Creation music festival, and mission trip. Please plan on attending as there will be lot of information given at this meeting.**			

SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

Saturday, March 21, 2020

4:00-7:00 PM

Menu: Pasta, Meatballs, Salad, Bread, Dessert, & Drink

Ticket Prices: Large - $10 Small - $5 Kids under 3 – Free

Where: New Bedford EPC

All Proceeds will support the NBEPC Youth

Dine in or stay in your car!

Carry-out will be available drive-thru style at the main entrance of the church

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
MARCH 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

****Look inside for the 2020 Lenten schedule****