Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May has a number of celebrations. Sunday May 8th is Mothers Day. Monday May 29th is Memorial Day. We will, of course honor our nation and our veterans on Sunday May 29th. Also, on May 22nd we will have a special service of welcoming our nine Confirmation young people into membership. But, at least as far as the church calendar is concerned, the most important celebration in the month of May occurs on May 15th. May 15th is Pentecost Sunday. This is the celebration I want to stress in the Newsletter.

Pentecost is the third great holiday in the Christian calendar. Truthfully, I believe it is the second greatest holiday. Easter is number one. Christmas is number three. Pentecost is number two. The sad truth is that many Christians, even those active in church, do not understand or recognize the Day of Pentecost.

The "Day of Pentecost" is recorded in Acts chapter 2. It states….

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them."

Pentecost Sunday is considered the birthday of the church. This is the day the Holy Spirit came and dwelled in men and women who have surrendered to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Before this day, as seen throughout the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit was present in only a select number of men and women and often only for a limited time. On the Day of Pentecost this changed.

This change was promised by Jesus just a few days before his crucifixion. In John 14 Jesus states this…

5 "If you love me, keep my commands. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19 Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20 On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.

The promise and the reality is this…. All men and women, who have a surrendered relationship with Jesus , have the presence of God with them. The Lord is with us. From the time of our conversation to the day of our death… no that is not correct…. For all eternity, God is with us. The Holy Spirit is our comforter. The Holy Spirit empowers us. The Holy Spirit convicts us. The Holy Spirit teaches us. The Holy Spirit points us to Jesus Christ.

In the month of May let us indeed honor and love our mothers and the other women God has placed in our lives. In the month of May let us celebrate our new members from the Confirmation Class. Certainly in the month of May we will honor and share our appreciation of our men and women who have served in the past or are currently serving in the Armed Forces defending our freedom. But above all, let us praise God for His presence. Let us celebrate the Day of Pentecost.

In Christ,

Doug

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Elders of the Church met on April 28th. Here are some highlights of the meeting

- **Received the financial report from the Church Treasurer. Noted that our income exceeds our expenses by $7,716 for the year. Also noted that our income first quarter income is $5792 greater than the income for the first quarter of last year.**
- **Received an update on the process of receiving bids to upgrade the manse upstairs bathroom**
- **Expressed thanks to the men who picked up the yard. A special thanks to those who spent many hours removing the five large trees that had been cut down by the power company.**
- **Christian Ed committee is seeking men and women to be "Spiritual Partners" with our Confirmation class. We need five men and four women to keep our kids in their prayers and "touch base" with them over the next few years as they grow in stature and in faith. If you would like to serve in this capacity please contact Pastor Doug.**
- **Received a detailed report on the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries. Approximately fifteen resumes and follow up questionnaires were received. Five telephone or video chat interviews were conducted. Four face to face interviews are being conducted (they are in the middle of these interviews). In late May or early June the committee will recommend a person to the Session. The Elders will interview this person. It is hoped to have a starting date between August 1st and September 1st. There is a great deal of excitement in the Committee for all the potential candidates. Please keep this process in your daily prayers.**
- **Evangelism committee reported on the very successful Easter Egg outreach event. They also are planning a bus trip on July 21st to Falling Waters and the 9/11 Memorial.**
- **Mission committee is inviting the congregation to an informational dinner meeting on May 22nd at 6:00 at Bethany Church in Mercer. The cost of the meal is $10.00 per person but the Mission committee is paying this cost. The dinner is free.**
- **Received an update on the EPC Church Plant in Idora. Gary Koerth and his wife have purchased and moved into Idora. They are also in the process of purchasing a store front that will serve as a Community Center and a church. Both Gary's home and the store front are in need of a great deal of work. Gary and his wife are living in the living room of his house. There is one functioning toilet and one functioning sink in the house. The Mission committee is organizing work days to help this ministry.**
- **Received reports from the Deacons, the Vision Team, and the Woman's Association.**
- **Special Session meeting has been called for Tuesday, May 10th at 7:30p.m.**
- **The next Session meeting will be on Thursday, May 19th at 6:30p.m. to hear the Confirmation Class students testimonies.**



Debi Fynes……..02
Grant Dieter……..05
Zoey Janoski……..05
Ed Miller……..08
Maelee Whiting……..08
Kim Runyan……..09
Doris Spence……..12
Duane Boyles……..14
Vern Eppinger……14
Ryan Withers……15
Isabella DeVite……19
Ashley Shaffer……19
Brandi Buxton……..22
Nancy Templeton……24
Shirley Tremba……25
Linda Punneo……26
Roy Komar……..27
Ron Tremba……..29

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Thank you for your phone calls, many cards, thoughts and prayers. Thank you sewing group for the beautiful lap quilt. We are thankful for answered prayers and for Pastor Doug visiting and praying for Glenn.

Blessings,

Glenn Heplers Family

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

Nancy Templeton……Overlook
Dot Jones……Avalon Nursing Home
Marie Snyder……Home
Gladys Barnhart……Home
Jo Ruby……Home
Henry & Pearl Reed……Overlook
Don Jones….Avalon Nursing Home-Rehab
Carl Black……Clen-Moore Place
Ruth McClanahan……Nugent's CCRC



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We extend our deepest sympathy to the families that lost loved ones this past month.

The Fulkman Family for the loss of Glenda's father.

The Marshall Family for the loss of Marty's brother, William.

The Jones Family for the loss of Jeff's mom.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." **Romans 6:23**

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As many of you know Gretchen and Sheris Haines dad, Clint Haines has been battling cancer for some time. Clint is a past member of our church and if you would like to drop him a card his address is: Clint Haines, 238 Kingsport, TN 37665

WOMEN'S NEWS

MAY CIRCLE MEETINGS

Deborah Circle ~ will meet at Judy Stuhlmann's home on Tuesday, May 10th at 9:30a.m.

Ruth Circle ~ will meet at the church on Monday, May 16th at 9:30a.m.

Lydia Circle ~ will meet at the church on Monday, May 16th at 1:00p.m.

Elizabeth Circle ~ will meet at the church on Thursday, May 19th at 6:30p.m.

***The Rebecca Circle will not have a meeting in May.**

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WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION MEETING

A Women's Association Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 14th at 9:00a.m. All women of our congregation are considered members of the association, therefore, you are welcome to come and participate in this meeting. If you have any questions, you can contact Judy Riethmiller at 724-730-6495.

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HELP NEEDED

Once again we need the help of the ladies in our church. We are going to be making 3 Christmas tree skirts. The skirts will be used under the 2 trees in the sanctuary and the one in the fellowship hall. These will be made doing counted cross stitch on waste canvas on 7 inch blocks. The designs are very simple Christian symbols. Anyone interested, please see Retta (Morehead) Dutton or Helen Ruby. Thanks!

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LADIES' LOVE & LAUGHTER BREAKFAST



On Saturday, May 21st at 9:30a.m., All Women, Ladies and Girls (of any age) are invited to *The Ladies' Love & Laughter Breakfast*. This event was formerly known as The Mother & Daughter/Spring Gathering Event. The theme is "Fashion through the Eras". You are encouraged to dress in your favorite era! Please invite your family, friends and neighbors for a great morning of food and fellowship! (The men of the church will be serving us breakfast)!

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MISSION NEWS



Come join us Sunday, May 22nd at Bethany EP Church in Mercer, PA at 6:00p.m. for a fundraising and informational dinner. This will be a time to support and learn about our International Mission in Fintonia, Sierra Leone, Africa. The donations received will be used to build a church. The $80 per table cost is being covered by the Mission Committee Fund. There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule. Please attend for an evening of fellowship. Come support Fintonia and their Love for Jesus Christ. Help spread the Word.

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MEMORIAL DAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



The 120th annual New Bedford Day program will be held on Saturday, May 28th at 11:00a.m. at the Memorial Park near Hopewell Cemetery in New Bedford. A parade will precede the program. All veterans in the area are welcome to ride on the float in the Memorial Day Parade. Anyone who has a vintage/classic car is also encouraged to join the parade. Parade participants will be meeting in the parking lot of the old New Bedford School near the Lion's Park by 10:15a.m. The parade should start by 10:30a.m. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to come honor our veterans at the parade and to stay for the heart warming service at Memorial Park. Please call Evelyn Exley if you plan on riding on the float at 724-964-8568. Thank You!

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The Worship Committee is putting together a Memorial Day slide presentation for Sunday, May 29th. They would like you to submit a photo for any family member you have that is currently serving in the military or is a veteran. Photos can be submitted online at newbedfordchurch@verizon.net or you can bring in a photo to the church office to be scanned. Thank You.



BUS TRIP!!!



The Evangelism Committee is sponsoring a BUS TRIP on Thursday, July 21st. The trip will be to the 9/11 Memorial near Shanksville, PA, Frank Lloyd Wright's Falling Water and Kentuk Knob Houses. Cost will be approximately $125/person, a deposit of $25 is required and must be paid by the last day of sign-ups on Sunday, May 29th. There will be someone in the Narthex taking sign-ups for the next several weeks. Please invite a friend! For additional information please see Kim Runyan or Nancy Cummings. Thanks!

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On Saturday, May 7th from 9:00a.m. to 2:30p.m. Mahoning Presbyterian Church is having a Blood Drive for American Red Cross. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

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MUSIC NEWS



A Hymn Festival Presented by Simple Gifts Interfaith Choir on Sunday, May 15th at 3:00p.m. at Hubbard First Presbyterian Church. There will be a free will offering to benefit the Hubbard Food Bank and a Reception will follow the performance in their hall.

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There will be a free concert at St. James the Apostle Parish on May 22nd at 3:00p.m. The concert is featuring the Pittsburgh Trombone Project. A free will offering will be taken and refreshments will follow in the social hall.

A Great Way You Can Help a Hurting Friend

Do you have a friend, neighbor, coworker, or relative who has suffered a loss or is going through a difficult time? Here's a great way you can help them – tell them about our Stephen Ministry! Stephen Ministers are members of New Bedford Evangelical Presbyterian Church who have received special training to provide high-quality, confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to hurting people. Stephen Ministers meet weekly with their care receivers to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support. (Males are matched with males, and females are matched with females.) The caring relationship lasts for as long as the person needs care. It's free, and it's a powerful way you can help a hurting friend.

To learn how to connect someone you know with a Stephen Minister, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: Judy Riethmiller 724-730-6495 or Diana Halt 724-977-8268. Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!

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BUTTERFLY MESSAGES UPDATE



Again, a big thank you to ALL that have been faithfully supporting the Butterfly Messages outreach and a special thank you to Addie Moore for all of her awesome work on the Butterfly Messages webpage link ☺ Please continue to be a blessing by continuing to share God's Word to others. Don't forget to check out the Butterfly Messages link within the church website at www.newbedfordepchurch.org and/or the Butterfly Messages display located in the church narthex.

Blessings ~ The Evangelism Committee Members

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May Welcome Warrior
Diana Halt

May Head Usher
Dennis Jones

May Greeters
5/1 ~ Terri & Jim Emery
5/8 ~ Doug Houk & Family
5/15 ~ Steve Fox & Harry Riethmiller
5/22 ~ Gary Geisinger & Evelyn Exley
5/29 ~ Paul & Nancy Cummings

June Welcome Warrior
Ted Chrobak

June Head Ushers
6/5&6/12 – Nancy Cummings
6/19&6/26 – Dennis Jones

June Greeters
6/5 ~ Florence Allison & Melvin Kaufmann
6/12 ~ James & Elizabeth DeHaven
6/19 ~ Mary Hartzell
6/26 ~ Diane & Gerry McConnell



Sunday, May 15th is Pentecost Sunday.

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On Sunday, May 22nd, the Confirmation Class students will be joining the church! Different students will be joining during both Worship services, and there will be 3 baptisms. There will be a reception in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School Hour, in between Worship Services.



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If you or your 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 on Sunday, June 5th. There will be a reception with cake and punch following the second worship service.

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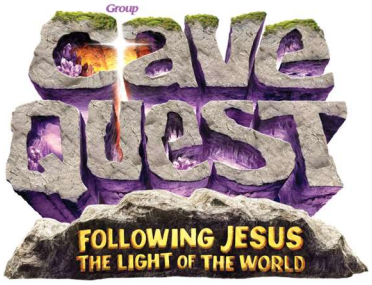
YOUTH GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Thursday, May 5th, is National Day of Prayer. The youth will have breakfast at Ryder's Restaurant in New Wilmington before school and have a time of prayer for their nation and school. The last Sunday in May will be the last Sunday night youth group meeting until fall. The youth will have their summer kick-off on June 8th. Preview for July – our annual summer trip to the Alive Festival!

Sunday School Teacher Needed: Christian Education Committee is praying for God to touch the heart of His servant who will be called to fulfill the positions Sunday School Teacher. If you feel that God is calling you to help with this ministry please let any CE Committee member know. We'd be happy to talk with you.
CE members are: Christian Fulkman, Shirley Janoski, Gay Ann Miller, Dawn Harris, Jocilyn Houk, Kyle Jones, Tracy Duffy, Collin Fulkman, Jessica Halt, and Jackie Hall.

Come spelunking through dark caves with Jesus as your light at the Cave Quest VBS! We will learn Jesus is the one who lights our way and gives us hope for each new day. His love illuminates when the path is dark. Cave Quest VBS will encourage us to follow Jesus where ever He will lead!

Gear up for an over-the-top underground adventure at
New Bedford Evangelical Presbyterian Church!!!



Cave Quest Vacation Bible School

June 22-24, 2016 9:00-12:00

All children Preschool-Grade 6 are invited to attend! REGISTER TODAY!!!

ATTENTION: Adults, Jr./Sr. High & College Students……..

Don't miss out on this expedition with God!!!

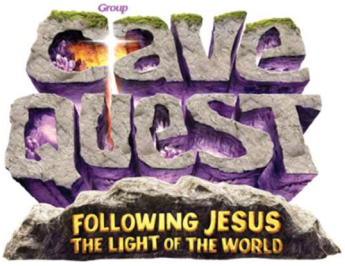
Join now for the satisfaction of leading kids to discover the rock solid foundation of God's love…….
Volunteers are needed in the following areas:

Crew Leaders	Snack Center
Imagination Center	Games Center
Decorating (weekend before VBS)	Bible Quest Center
Music Leader	Prayer partners

Please let me know what you can do to help with this ministry!

VBS Decorations & Props: We will be transforming the church into the Cav. Please place the decorations on the Fellowship Hall stage marked with your name, by June 12th. Items needed are: miners hats, lanterns, rolls of brown craft paper (found at Dollar Tree).
Dawn Harris - call or text: 330-881-8110 email: dawnhnbpc@aol.com

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



June 20-24, 2016
9:00-12:00

All children Preschool-Grade 6 are invited to attend!

VBS REGISTRATION FORM

Child's Name_____Grade Completed:_____ Age:_____
Allergies: Y / N List:_____
Medical Conditions: Y / N List:_____

Child's Name_____Grade Completed:_____ Age:_____
Allergies: Y / N List:_____
Medical Conditions: Y / N List:_____

Child's Name_____Grade Completed:_____ Age:_____
Allergies: Y / N List:_____
Medical Conditions: Y / N List:_____

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

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO While Child Is At VBS:
Name_____ Phone Number_____
Name_____ Phone Number_____

Parents/Guardians…..are you able to help with VBS in some way if necessary? Yes( ) No( )
If you answered yes, we will contact you if we need your help. Thank you!

Get ready for an over-the-top underground adventure about God's love!!!

Complete form and mail to church or drop it off at the church office.

Register by June 12th to get a special prize!!

For more info contact Dawn Harris at 330-881-8110 or dawnhnbpc@aol.com