Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church,

I want to begin with the words of Scripture from Colossians 2:7

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness

This is the question I pose in this newsletter... are you in obedience to this scripture text? Are you growing in your faith? It does not matter if you have been walking with Christ for 2 years or 92 years... we are called to continually grow in our faith.

Truthfully, I find it very easy to become stagnant in my faith. I find it very easy to shift my attention to my schedule and my priorities... away from Christ. Let me share with you some steps I need to take when I slip into stagnance and self absorption.

First, I get back to God's Word. God's word is sometime called the "Sword." It cuts into our consciences. It convicts us of sin. It guides us into obedience. It comforts us. It teaches us. To overcome stagnancy I need to spend consistent, daily time in God's Word. Truthfully for me.... sermon prep time is not enough. I need to spend time reading and asking the Lord to speak to me

Second, I believe we all need to be part of a fellowship, bible study group. This could be Sunday School. It could be a weekly bible study. It could be a woman's circle. It could be a discipleship group. We need each other. It is very tough to walk close to Christ in this day and age. Truthfully, it is getting more difficult every year. We need each other.

Third, we need consistent worship. We need both corporate worship (yes, what we do every Sunday morning) and individual worship. Worship is a time to praise God and listen to God.... in prayer... in song.... in His Word. A walk with Christ is a faith relationship. Like all relationships this takes time and communication. We need to spend time with our Lord. We need to learn to listen as He speaks.

Fourth, we need to serve the Lord. Our neighbors need to hear the Word of God. We as a church and as individuals need to minister to those in need. Ministry and service is the only way to reach Christian maturity. It is the only way to truly discover the power of the Holy Spirit that is offered to all of God's children.

These are steps I need to take in order to grow in my faith. Our church is dedicated to offering opportunities for every single person to grow in their faith. Please, this Fall, join us. Be part of our bible studies. Be part of our worship services. Be part of our times of service and ministry.

Praise be to God we have a Lord who wants to be close to His children. Praise be to God we have a Lord who has given us steps to take in order to be close to Him. Let us act in obedience. Let us together discover the intimacy we can have with our Lord.

In Christ,

Doug

Session meeting report from July 30th

- Received Financial report. Noted that income for this year exceeds income at this time last year by over $6000.00 and expenses are $15000.00 lower (much of the savings are timing of major expenses...e.g. oil, insurance
- approved a bid of $3800.00 to repair, reseal and reline the parking lot
- reported that landscape work will be completed in the next couple of weeks.
- received report on a very successful V.B.S.
- noted that all Staff, Sunday School teachers, Awana staff, Nursery staff will need to have clearances completed by September 1st
- Approved Butterfly Kisses outreach from Evangelism Committee
- Approved hiring Erin O'Brien as church custodian. Mike (previous custodian) was unable to continue for health reasons.

Approved the following dates

- Clearance info night.. August 18th 6:30
- Outdoor worship service and picnic August 16th at 10:45...THERE WILL BE NO EARLY SERVICE
- Boating and picnic at Shenango Lake August 23rd at 1:00
- Elder, Deacon, Staff and families picnic lunch at home of Doug and Kim on August 30th at 12:00
- Promotion Sunday and teacher recognition and 9:30 September 13th
- Awana begins September 16th

A word of thanks is given to

- Cindy Bell and Nancy Bretz for spending many hours maintaining the gardens around the church
- Steve Fox, Tim Smith, Dennis Jones and Sam Jones for spending many hours restoring the lawns around the church
- The many people who helped clean the church the past couple of months. To mention a few ....Nancy Cummings, Addie Moore, Cindy Bell, Kim Runyan, Doug Runyan
- The Personal Committee for their diligence in the search for a new custodian
- All the volunteers who help in the food give-away... especially Mary Beckman who leads this ministry
- Judy Riethmiller for attending and representing our church at General Assembly
- For the staff of our VBS. For Dawn for her excellent organizing and leading this ministry

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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
Marie Snyder----------Home
Gladys Barnhart----------Home
Jo Ruby----------Home
Henry and Pearl Reed----------Overlook
Don Jones----------Avalon Nursing Home-Rehab
Carl Black-----Clen-Moore Place (Greer House)
Ruth McClanahan---------Nugent's Ret. Community
Sandy Ruby----------Home
Rachel Whiting----------Home

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Thank you for all the cards, visits, food sent in and especially the prayers during my hospital stay and recuperation at home. I still have a ways to go but I'm improving everyday.

June Smith

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Thank you very much for the children's bible for Zoey. I really appreciate it!

Brock Janoski

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER
Birthday's

Pete Carlisle.....8/04
Ted Chrobak.....8/05
Dave Hunt.....8/05
Mary Stoughton..8/05
Erma Gorley.....8/07
Paden McCarthy.8/08
Emma Duffy.....8/08
Gisela Dieter.....8/10
Terri Emery.....8/13
Tammy Anderson.8/13
Melvin Kauffman..8/13
Mary Miller.....8/14
Ciarra McAllen....8/14
Bob Bretz Sr.....8/15
Ursula Pence.....8/15
Mary Hartzell....8/16
Sandy Courson...8/16
Shirley Goist.....8/16
Renee Persky.....8/19
Lena Showman....8/19
Meadow Whiting.8/21
Dot Jones.....8/22
Mitchell Whiting.8/25
Kelly Fox.....8/26
Jacob Smith.....8/27
James Matthews..8/31

Bobby Liddell.....9/03
Juanita Cornman.9/03
Aaron Ealy.....9/04
Autumn Hall Ealy.9/04
Sam Jones.....9/07
Marie Snyder.....9/07
Sandy Ruby.....9/08
Nancy Cummings..9/10
Rosalie Black.....9/13
Brad Marshall.....9/13
Doug Runyan.....9/14
Ted Hilliard.....9/15
James Buxton.....9/15
Larry Pence.....9/16
Carol Madden....9/17
Erin Teachy.....9/18
Madison Liddell.9/22
Henry Sikora.....9/27
Lori Jones.....9/28
Wes Jones.....9/29
Helen Ruby.....9/29



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Congratulations to Christian and Julie Fulkman on the birth of their son, Eli James, on August 3rd. Gary and Glenda are the proud grandparents!

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Congratulations to Autumn and Aaron Ealy on the birth of their first baby, Summer Jade, born August 9th. She was 8 lbs. 15 oz. and 23 inches long! Jackie Hall is the proud grandmother!!



We extend our deepest sympathy to all the family and friends of Al Belgie who entered his eternal rest this past week. Al was such a sweet man who made everyone smile! I'm sure he is rejoicing in heaven with Jesus and Norma. ***" The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."*** **Psalm 18:2**

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2015 FORE FINTONIA GOLF OUTING



WHERE: YANKEE RUN GOLF COURSE
BROOKFIELD, OHIO
http://www.yankeerun.com

WHEN: AUGUST 22ND 7:15 Registration
8:00 Shotgun Start

COST: $100 per player includes car/green fees, entry to all skill prizes, food and beverages. Entry fees will be collected the day of the golf outing.

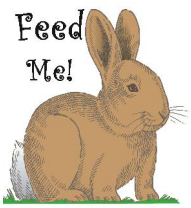
PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR DOUG IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GOING.

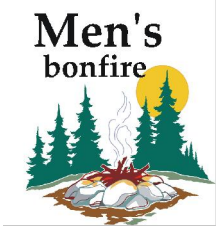
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From the Sunday School Classroom of Bobby.....

- **If you happen to see Hannah O'Brien, Willie Moore or Rosie Moore, please stop them and ask them to tell you the 10 Commandments and the 12 Disciples. They should know!**

- **There was a bunny rabbit sitting in my Sunday School class with a little note, "I'm lost, do you know my owner?". I do not know the owner, but I will take care of this little bunny until the owner is found!**





The Men's Ministry is hosting a bonfire for ALL men and boys. This will take place at Billyray & Addie Moore's (just up the drive from Tim & Debbie Pogozelec) on Friday, August 28th beginning at sundown (approx. 8pm). There will be people meeting at the church at 8pm to carpool. Please invite a friend!! We will be look at a Scripture passage for about 20 minutes worth of conversation. The passage will be, I Cor. 13:11 ~ *"When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man I put childish ways behind me."* This is our kickoff event for our monthly meetings beginning in September. The first scheduled monthly meeting of the Men's Ministry will be on the second Saturday of September at 7 or 8am. Come prepared to make other suggestions if that time will not work for you. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Dave at 724-854-8022. If you need directions to the bonfire, please contact the church office.

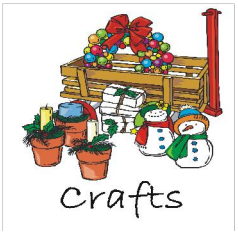
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GUESS WHAT?

It's almost that time again! Bazaar Time!! Saturday, November 7th! Please get to work on your craft projects. And don't forget to look thru your house for "Trash & Treasure" goodies! You can start bringing items to the garage September 1st. Please box them up and label them "Bazaar".









EVANGELISM COMMITTEE HAPPENINGS

On Sunday, August 23rd we will be having a church picnic/boating day at the Shenango Reservoir Campground beginning at 2:00PM. Please bring a side, salad or dessert to share, a chair to sit on and family & friends to share the fun with! Hope to see you there!

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Butterfly Kisses Blast! **We are starting a cell phone challenge. We need your help to text or email your friends and family scripture & quotes to encourage and brighten their day. If you are willing to be a "sender" please take a presentation & instructions packet located in the Narthex or just ask an Evangelism Committee member. This is a way for our church to touch those outside our church with the Word of God. Please sign up and help us to fulfill the Great Commission - Matthew 28:19-20.**

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Anyone wanting to donate backpacks, lunch bags, and school supplies, please put in a box in the Narthex. We have community members calling and asking for help and supplies. Girl backpacks for all ages are the most requested at this time.



Thank you for your participation in all events!!



Blessings for the new

School Year!

stephen MINISTRY®

Dear Members of New Bedford Evangelical Presbyterian Church:

Our congregation has a group of people skilled in caring for those facing challenges in their lives. These people, called Stephen Ministers, have undergone extensive training to develop and nurture their skills. Following a commissioning service on June 14, they began their caring ministries in our congregation and community. Now our Stephen Ministers are praying and seeking for care receivers that need care.

Who might receive care from a Stephen Minister? Care receivers may be hospitalized, grieving the death of a loved one, separated for divorcing, homebound, unemployed, adjusting to the birth of a child, or otherwise experiencing difficulties.

Each of us has times when we are lonely, grieving, hurt, or in need of care. In his second letter to the Corinthians, Paul tells us that such troubles can bring spiritual growth to the suffer. But when we who are in Christ suffer, we also find comfort through Christ, and one of the ways we find this comfort is through other's who have found Christ's care and comfort in their sufferings. (2 Corinthians 1:4-6). Our Stephen Ministers offer this Christlike care to those in need.

Think about your life and the lives of the people around you. Are you going through a time of crisis or challenge? Do you know someone who is suffering from grief or loneliness? Is one of your friends struggling to find meaning in life after he or she has retired or after all the children have gone? Could you or someone you know benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister?

If you have any questions about the work of the Stephen Ministers in and around New Bedford Church, feel free to call one of the Stephen Leaders or Stephen Ministers. The people who are so generously giving of their time and talents as Stephen Leaders and Stephen Ministers are Judy Riethmiller, Diana Halt, Debi Fynes, Hank Glogowski, and Todd Ambrosia. Please consider whether you know of someone who needs care. And I ask you to remember us and our ministries in your thoughts and prayers.

In Christ,

Diana Halt
Referrals Coordinator
724-977-8268 cell

A Rewarding Experience ~ An Awana Listener

When I think of my involvement in the activities of our church over the last thirty some years, none have been more rewarding than being a listener for the Awana program. Listening to a child recite a verse, discussing the meaning of the verse, and having a one-on-one discussion about the joy of being a believer - WHAT A BLESSING!! Having the opportunity to see a child's face smiling from ear to ear when they have learned a memory verse or receive encouragement - - - it just doesn't get much better. Ask yourself, how many times a week do I get to share the message of Jesus with someone? It could happen every Wednesday if you decide to be an Awana listener.

What does being an Awana listener involve? 1) 30 minutes of your time a week or every other week or once a month. 2) Listening to a child as he/she recites a memory verse. 3) Making a connection as you encourage the child.

Please pray about being a much needed listener. It is such a privilege to be a part of a child's spiritual development. You'll be surprised at how much you learn about God's word. If you are interested in being a listener, contact Dawn Harris.

Shirley J.

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The youth have kept busy this month (and also have gotten some exercise) with the different activities they did! Between boating for the day and biking at Moraine trails, New Bedford's kids had some fun in the sun! August 5th the kids had a bonfire which included a surprise team race where the kids were challenged to work as a team to accomplish each task. Needless to say the girl's team took the prize! The boys came in a close second, though ☺ August 19th the kids are headed to a Scrappers game in Niles, Ohio. The game starts at 7:05 and is $9 for admission. The kids are also receiving a voucher for a free hotdog, bag of chips, and 12 oz. drink! It should be a fun time of baseball and fellowship, so we hope to see you there! That wraps up August's activities and leads us into September! The youth kick-off will be September 6th, the first Sunday of the month. It will be at Kyle's house from 6:30-8:30; we'll be having fun, fellowship, and food so please make sure to come out! After this event, the youth group begins meeting on Sunday nights from 6:30-8:30 every week until May. This year the group is kicking off bible studies with a men's study prepared by Kyle and a women's study by Jocilyn, both of which discuss the importance of finding practical and personal ways to apply the truths we see in each reading. Later this month, the church softball game will also be held on Sunday the 13th. Stay tuned for October's events and be listening for announcements about the winter retreat, which is approaching fast!! As always, Kyle and Jocilyn welcome any newcomers and encourage young adults to be bold and join us in our time of fellowship and worship! God bless and good luck with preparing for the new school year!



A HUGE Thank You to all the Adult & Youth Mateys that helped with SonTreasure Island Vacation Bible School!! It was a blessed week with 45 kids attending. The week would not have been possible without the faithful servants helping in this ministry!

Mary Beckman	Brian Haddox	Helen Bicehouse	Brandi Buxton
Sally Withers	Lee Harris	Terri Emery	Emily Withers
Erin O'Brien	Judy Stuhlmann	Ashley Houk	Alissa Haddox
Julie Whiting	GayAnn Miller	Evelyn Exley	Cameron Trott
Madeline Whiting	Linda Feil	Cindy Bell	Meadow Whiting
Tim Pogozelec	Shirley Tremba	Nicholas Moore	Madison Liddell
Shirley Janoski	Bobby Morehead	Jacob Moore	
Sherry Haddox	Mary Hartzell	Gabe Velez	

Child Protection Policy

All volunteers (ages 14 and older) that will have direct contact with children are required to obtain the following clearances:

- **PA Criminal History**---http://epatch.state.pa.us/home.jsp
- **Child Abuse Clearance**---http://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis

If you don't live in PA or have not lived in PA for the last 10 years please see Dawn for additional information.

You can obtain these clearances the following ways:

- Go to the above websites, complete the form online, print out the results and give it to Dawn or Pastor Doug.
- Schedule a day and time to come to the church for Dawn or Pastor Doug to assist you with the completion of the online forms.

The fee for volunteers to complete these clearances has been waivered and it is now FREE. Clearances must be completed before helping in any ministry involving children.

ALL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEER MEETING—A very important meeting about Child Protection Policy and Mandating Reporting Laws will be *Tuesday, August 18th at 6:30* in the Parlor. Anyone from the congregation may attend this meeting, most importantly people helping in the following ministries need to attend: Sunday School, Awana, Children At Worship, & Youth. Dawn and Pastor Doug are willing to do clearances online at the church before or after the meeting. Please let them know if you would like to do your clearances at this time.

New Bedford EP Church is excited to announce another year of.....



begins Wednesday, September 16th

Q: What is Awana? A: Awana is an international, non-denominational ministry to help churches and parents to raise children and youth to know, love, and serve Christ.

Q: Who can come to Awana? Awana is an afterschool program for students in grades K-6 in the New Wilmington Area School District and surrounding areas.

Q: When is Awana? A: Awana begins September 16th and continues every Wednesday till March30th. However, there is no Awana on days the school is not in session.

Q: What do the kids do at Awana? A: The schedule includes a time for snack. *Handbook Time*-this is the time dedicated to Bible verse memorization and application using age-appropriate handbooks. All Bible verses are taken word-for-word from the Bible.

Large Group Time-this is the time of music, prayer and an age-appropriate Bible message is presented. Also, awards will be presented to recognize the Clubbers who complete sections in their handbooks.

Game Time-this is a time for the Clubbers to practice teamwork and good sportsmanship by competing in fun, organized games.

Q: How can I be involved with Awana? A: The ministry of Awana can only exist with the support of the congregation and community. Please be in prayer to discover how God can use you in this children's ministry.

Following is a list and brief description of areas where you could make an eternal difference.

Director- The Club Director will assist in leading Large Group Time.

Leader- Leaders will guide there group of Clubbers to the Game Time and Large Group Time. Leaders will build relationships with their Clubbers and encourage their walk with the Lord. Leaders will assist the Clubbers during Handbook Time, helping them to work through their handbook and understand what they are learning.

Listener- Listeners are needed during Handbook Time to listen to a Clubber recite the Bible verses.

Secretary-Keeps track of Clubbers progress, marks record cards, distributes award jewels and emblems, and collect dues.

Prayer Partner- partner with a Clubber to lift in prayer during the months of Awana.

There is a place for you to be a life changer through Awana.

Please be in prayer for this ministry.

If you love the Lord, are energetic and like being with kids, please call me!!
Do not fear, there is training for all the positions listed above.

I look forward to hearing from you and working together we can encourage children to know, love, and serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

Dawn Harris, Awana Commander



AWANA TRAINING
2015 AWANA WORKERS RECHARGE
Monday, August 24 6:15-9:30
At Calvary Independent Church,
424 East Moody Ave, New Castle

You DO NOT want to miss this training that is so close to us in New Castle! This will be a wonderful time for returning or new leaders to get CHARGED UP for the upcoming year of Awana! I'd love to have you go with me! Sign up TODAY by calling Dawn, 330-881-8110 or at the Awana table in the vestibule at church.

PROMOTION SUNDAY
Sunday, September 13th

Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 for Continental Breakfast & Promotion.
After Promotion children will go to their Sunday School with the teacher.
Adult Sunday Classes may stay in the Fellowship Hall for a social time or return to their classrooms for a lesson

IRONS MILL FARMSTEAD **Church Family Day Out**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3rd at 11:00-??
Irons Mill Farmstead, 252 Greenfield Rd, New Wilmington, PA 16142
Join us for some Fall Fun on the Farm!
Hop-hop on Jumpin'Jackdaws**Cornfield Maze**Cackleberry Bounce
Photo Ops**Corncob Beach**Rubber Duck Races**Pumpkin Slingshot
Climb Mt. Arthur**Super Slides**Hayrides**Fun Farm Animals

We have the Campfire Pit reserved from 1:00-3:00. Come roast hot dogs & s'mores for lunch and fellowship! This is for the entire congregation!
FREE for Seniors 60+ and 2 yrs & under
Prices for families TBA in September. Keep watching for more info.

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