Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church,

The purpose of the newsletter is to touch base with you. Many of you have been in touch on a regular basis through electronic connections. Others have been in less frequent contact.

I want to begin with the truth given to us in the Word of God. Psalm 91: 1-2, 14-15 states

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
Will rest in the Shadow of the Almighty
I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress
My God, in whom I trust....

"Because he loves me, " says the Lord
"I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he
acknowledges my name.
He will call upon me, and I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble,
I will deliver him and honor him.

In this time of uncertainty...in this time of "social distancing," we have this promise. Our Lord is with us. Our Lord protects us. We trust in Him.

I want to share with you the ministry that continues to take place in our church and community

- We worship every week. At this time we (myself, Donna, Ashley, Gary Greene, Kim, Gary Geisinger, and Nathan) are recording the services on Saturday morning. This gives us time to upload the service (with our internet service this takes a couple of hours) to You Tube and be sure there are no problems. (One time we have to come back and redo the entire service). The services are then ready Sunday morning and I send an e mail when they are ready. The Session is looking at the possibility of upgrading our internet service. This would give us the opportunity to "live stream" the service Sunday mornings. More on that if it happens.
- Adult Sunday School. Kim is leading our Adult Sunday School. This takes place live on Sunday morning from 9:30 to 10:30. We are meeting via Zoom. It is a great time to see people, learn from the Word of God, praying, and "catching up." Appropriately the title of the Bible study is "Living Victoriously in Difficult Times." There are over 20 people signed up as of now from all three Adult classes. Please join us... just e mail the church and we will put you on the Zoom invitation list.

- Our Deacons are staying in touch with all our members by phone and by mail
- The Elders are in frequent contact with each other via e mails and had a Zoom meeting last week.
- Dawn continues to have Zoom meetings with the Awana and Sunday School children and their parents. The kids love these times together.
- Lee is having "regular" Youth Group meetings, again, via Zoom. During Holy Week Lee met daily with the kids. A number of parents have expressed appreciation of these meetings.
- We continue to minister to those in need of food. In April and later this week on May 1st we will receive and distribute food from the Pittsburgh Food Bank. We have begun a practice where we have no contact with the recipients as we maintain our "social distance." Pittsburgh Food Bank has made sorting easier and safer.
- We have hand delivered food to those in need. Food is dropped off at the doors
- Addie and I have maintained the office. One or the other of us is in and we receive calls and conduct the business of the church at our regular hours. Jon has been waxing the floors. When you come back you will see how beautiful they are.

Indeed ministry is different. I greatly miss seeing all of you. I miss seeing our shut ins. I miss the personal interaction. I have been asked is it strange preaching to an empty sanctuary. The answer is yes and no. Yes, I miss you... but I have always practiced my sermon to an empty sanctuary and truthfully now the spotlights are so bright (to improve the quality of the recording) I can barely see the pews.

I have been in contact with many ministers in the past month. We have an EPC Presbytery Minister meeting with over 40 ministers on Zoom. I have had a number of Presbytery Committee meetings. We share "best practices" in our churches, we encourage each other and we share how our churches can use this time to reach out to our communities.

In this unique time neighbors, friends, co workers (if you are still at work) are possibly more open to the love and message of Christ. We are not living in fear! We are in the hands of a loving, sovereign God. Here are some suggestions....

- make a point of communicating with neighbors. By phone... by distant conversations check in on them... engage them and share your trust in the Lord.
- Especially be aware of these who are lonely or most fearful. If you need to go to the store call others and ask if they need anything.
- Invite others to our You tube worship. I have had a number of people (including my own family members) who say they are participating in worship for the first time in their life electronically. Make a point of inviting others.
- Invite others to our Zoom meetings. Kids are looking for things to do. Teens are in need of activities. Invite others and contact Dawn and/or Lee and invite them to join. Dawn just shared with me the story of an Awana family that has been watching our

You Tube worship and may want to join our Zoom Sunday School. Invite others to join!

Finally, I have been asked when we will be worshiping together again. Of course the answer is... I don't know. At our Session meeting we discussed ways of making our service as safe as possible when we do begin meeting together. We spoke about the desire for communion and how that will work. When the Governor allows meetings to take place the Elders will meet and I will share with you our meeting plans. Again, I am in contact with many other churches and we are sharing different ideas.

"Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding. In al you ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct all your paths."

"See" you soon

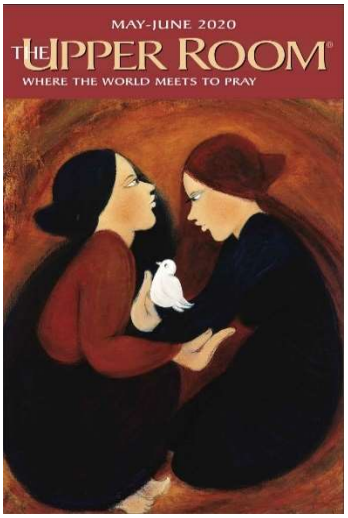
In Christ
Doug

Session Highlights

- Heard from Nathan and received report on video up grades and possible future upgrades including upgrading our internet. Approved the expenditures needed to record our services and upload onto You Tube
- Approved a contract for lawn care at the church and cemeteries.
- Approved the online giving platform (Tithely).
- Received financial reports for February and March. Our giving and our expenses were "normal" for those months.
- Approved Brad and Nancy C. as Auditors.
- Received income report for the first 3 weeks of April. Between envelopes mailed to the church (and picked up by Bonnie) and online giving our income for April (as of the 19th) was $18,287. Thank you for your faithful giving to the church. Again, either send your envelopes to the church or go to our website (newbedfordepchurch.org) to give on line.
- Approved an on line Sunday school curriculum entitled "Go" for Dawn to use with the children. This will be used primarily when school is over. The kids are already spending a great deal of time on their computers.
- received reports on all our Missionaries. Autumn, Matt and Stacey we evacuated from Haiti. Autumn is now home... Matt and Stacey are now in Jackson Mississippi where Matt will serve as the President of Wesley Seminary. Laura are Edgar are at the

Orphanage with all the kids and the staff and the staff families (over 50 people) not allowed to leave the orphanage (except Edgar can for food). Laura is providing home schooling for all the kids. Kim and I had a Zoom meeting with Laura and her Spanish students.

- Presbytery has been postponed to August and General Assembly has been moved to September.



During this time of anxiety and isolation The Upper Room wants to make it as easy as possible for people to find resources to support spiritual health. We are providing the May/June 2020 issue of *The Upper Room* magazine, both in English and Spanish, for download at no cost. In addition, four short prayer resources that address specific needs are also available below. Please download and share as you wish, at https://www.upperroom.org/news/1155. Peace be with you.

Pray FOR *Healing*

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
Lavon Rogers----------John XXIII Nursing Home
Larry Pence----------Shenango Home
Dot Shillingburg----------Beeghly Oaks Rehab.

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

Birthdays in May

5/02 – Debi Fynes
5/05 – Grant Dieter
5/05 – Zoey Janoski
5/06 – Jason Clark
5/08 – Ed Miller
5/08 – Maelee Whiting
5/09 – Kim Runyan
5/12 – Doris Spence
5/14 – Duane Boyles
5/16 – Julie O'Brien
5/19 – Ashley Shaffer
5/22 – Brandilyn Buxton
5/22 – Owyn Harris
5/25 – Shirley Tremba
5/26 – Linda Punneo
5/27 – Roy Komar
5/29 – Ron Tremba

Birthdays in June

6/01 – Karah Deal
6/06 – Pearl Reed
6/07 – Lisa Craig
6/07 – Dennis Jones
6/07 – Autumn Marshall
6/12 – Marissa Carr
6/12 – Ray Janoski
6/12 – June Smith
6/18 – Sam Varano
6/19 – Christian Fulkman
6/22 – Geniene Jones
6/22 – Carrie Kaufman
6/24 – Margie Matthews
6/25 – Shirley Sikora
6/26 – Amy Geisinger
6/27 – Tim Smith
6/28 – Ashlynn McAllen
6/29 – John Anderson
6/29 – Dorothy Rishell





SAVE T…..VBS week of June 14, 2020

POSTPONED

MORE INFO TO COME AT A LATER DATE

NBEPC KIDS Get-Togethers on zoom

Grades 3-6 Wednesdays 4:00
Grades Preschool Thursdays 11 AM
Grades K-2 Thursdays 3:00

Email Dawnhnbpc@aol.com for the ZOOM code!

Join in for a time of games, devotion, prayer, and to visit with your friends.

Awana is cancelled till further notice. I want to encourage the Cubbies, Sparks, and T&T Clubbers to work on any missed sections in their handbook. To get credit for the memorization Clubbers can call me to recite their verse over the phone or take a video of them reciting the verse and send it to me at 330-881-8110 or through FB Messenger! I am excited that many will have an opportunity to be able to complete their handbook this year during this time!! If you have any questions please send me an email or call me.

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



NBEPC FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Friday May 8th at 7:00 PM
Hosted by Lee & Dawn Harris on Zoom
EVERYONE is welcome to join in for a fun time of Family Feud
Email Dawn at Dawnhnbpc@aol.com for the Zoom Code.
It will be emailed out Thursday May 7th to anyone that wants to join in!

For any questions contact Dawn Harris, Director of Children's Ministry
Call/Text: 330-881-8110 Email: Dawnhnbpc@aol.com

Youth Group: The youth have been meeting on Sundays via Zoom. Jr high is at 1pm and Sr high is at 3pm. We will continue to meet this way for the foreseeable future due to social distancing practices. As of now, the mission trip has NOT been cancelled. I have been in contact with our host in West Virginia and they have assured me that any changes to our trip will be passed along ASAP. In addition, they have also informed me that because of our current economic situation their demand to supply food has almost doubled in the recent months. If we have the opportunity to make this trip, our services will be needed now more than ever. Thank you for all of your prayers and donations to this cause.

Card Shower for the Seniors of 2020:

Originally, NBEPC was going to recognize the graduating seniors on Sunday, May 31st. However, with so much unknown at this time, we are unsure when and how it will occur so we are planning a card shower for them. This is where we are seeking your help with this special blessing….you can send a note of congratulations and encouragement to the seniors of the Class of 2020.

You can do that one of three ways:

(1) Send the cards to the church address in care of (c/o) the seniors name on the envelope
151Woodland Dr. Pulaski PA 16143
(2) Drop off the cards to the church office
(3) Send e-cards or a note in an email to Leehnbpc@aol.com. I will print them to be included in the box. Please put 'Graduate Card Shower' on the subject line of the email.

We are going to put together a card box **AS A SUPRISE** for each senior to be delivered to them on what would have been their commencement day. **We need to receive *all card*s by May 24th to be prepared for delivery**. Thank you so much for showering these young people with your kind words, love, and prayers!

If you have any questions please contact Lee, 330-881-8114 or Dawn, 330-881-8110.

Seniors of 2020:	Phoebe Wood	Grant Dieter
Jacob Moore	Samuel Moore	Nicholas Moore
Brandi Buxton	Ashlynn McAllen	Lizzie Christie

E.P.I.C. - We are currently on the fourth lesson of our study of the book of Jeremiah with the expectation that we will discuss it in its entirety when it is safe to meet in person. If you are a senior member of our congregation and would like to be included in the study please contact me, and I will gladly mail/email the study to you.

Call/text: 330-881-8110

Email: Leehnbpc@aol.com

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
MAY 2020

Church website: www.newbedfordepchurch.org
Church e-mail: newbedfordchurch@verizon.net



JOIN US FOR VIRTUAL WORSHIP!

If you want to receive the bulletin via email and the link every week for the Sunday Worship Service on YouTube, contact the church office with your email address.