Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church,

I want to share a word with busy people. I am sure that is the vast majority of people reading this newsletter. I strongly believe in spending time with the Lord everyday. This time is necessary for a growing relationship with the Lord. At the same time, I realize this is a very difficult discipline to maintain. Time is so difficult to find.

The magazine Focus On The Family by James Dobson had an article, written about 20 years ago on finding time for devotions. The article is addressed to busy mothers, but I believe the principles apply to everyone with busy schedules. The author, Margaret Nyman, states: **Finding Time**

> **I started looking for ways to acknowledge Jesus and share some time with Him every single day. I tucked a Bible in a bathroom drawer and read verses one by one as I rolled my hair with curlers one by one. If I was interrupted (which was often the case), the Lord understood. Nor was He offended when I stopped to tie a shoe, answer a math question or bandage a hurting finger. He was still waiting when I returned to my curls and His Word.**
>
> **I took a spare Bible on errands with me. If I was waiting for a child outside the dentist's office and happened to be alone in the car, I turned to Proverbs. If the children dozed off in their car seats while I waited for a long freight train to pass, I popped open Philippians.**
>
> **Next, I borrowed my son's radio, put it on the kitchen counted and tuned in a Christian station. God met me on the air waves, not just through sermons, interviews and five-minute devotionals, but through glorious music, too.**
>
> **When I took my prayer requests into the shower, I could pray candidly and openly before the Lord as I washed my hair. I'm sure He didn't mind the running water.**

The principles are this: First, prioritize the need. In a busy schedule if the need is not remembered, the time with the Lord will be eliminated. Next be creative in your approach. Do you drive a lot? The Bible is now available on CD and driving offers a great time for prayer or Scripture memory. How about a prayer list taped to your bathroom mirror? Look at your routine (we all have one) and discover times to be with the Lord. Finally, have your eyes open for the workings of the Lord. He works in small ways and our awareness of Him is critically important to praise Him.

As we enter this new year let us all prioritize our life according to God's Will. It begins with daily time with Him!

Faithfully yours,

Doug Runyan

DECEMBER SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Received final report on completion of remodeling of manse bathroom. Final cost was the bid of $21,000.00**
- **Reviewed Financial Report. At the end of November, in the General Fund, income exceeds expenditures by $43,500.00**
- **Reported on purchase of 72 new dessert plates for kitchen at request of Women's Association.**
- **Cameras have been purchased and have been installed in the nursery. This is to protect our Nursery Worker and the Children. Sound Technician will monitor all activity in the nursery.**
- **Hired Jocilyn Houk as our ½ time Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries. Approved the Position Description for this Position.**
- **Modified the Budget to reflect this new position (this was a significant decrease in our Budget and will be printed in the Annual Report).**
- **Heard report on success of lawn signs distributed to our members.**
- **Heard report on new outside Banners that are now on display. Thank You to Paul Cummings for building the frames for the new signs. More Seasonal banners will be purchased.**
- **Heard report on very successful Butterfly Messages Ministry…both electronically and with printed books.**
- **Adopted the 2017 Mission Budget (this will be printed in the Annual Report).**
- **Approved year end gifts to our Missionaries. $500.00 to the Cojon's, Ayers, Marshall's (both Autumn and Adam), and Moody Radio. $1,000.00 to complete the building of the new church in Fintonia, Sierra Leon. These gifts were given to lessen the year end balance of the Mission Fund.**
- **Approved a gift of $1,200.00 from the Emerging Needs Fund for Isabella Wright. Isabella is a middle school student at Mohawk battling leukemia and the granddaughter of Jack Keesey.**
- **Personnel Committee met with a number of staff for year end annual review.**
- **Approved election of all officers.**
- **Reminded all Elders and Deacons that there will be an Officer Training Time on January 14th from 8:30A.M. until noon.**
- **Approved calling a Congregational Meeting on January 29th during the Sunday School hour for the purpose of reviewing 2016 and any new business that may come before the congregation.**

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 Nursing Home
Don Jones----------Avalon Nursing Home-Rehab
Carl Black----------Clen-Moore Place (Greer House)





We would like to thank the New Bedford Garden Club for taking care of the point at the Hopewell Cemetery. The holiday decorations throughout the year have been appreciated.

How do we thank our church family? How do we count the "100+" ways? Only the good Lord knows who was involved with my Birthday celebration. Thank you all for sharing my special day!
Glen Hepler & family

I want to thank this wonderful, caring congregation for your prayers and cards during my recent hospitalization and recovery. The most comforting thing for me over the years is knowing that people are lifting me and my family in prayer to our great God. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ with me and my family. May you have a New Year and may you experience the peace of Christ in your life.
Judy Riethmiller

We would like to thank everyone who helped with Breakfast in Bethlehem this year. It would NOT be possible without EVERYONE!!
Brad & Marty Marshall

We would like to thank you for the prayers, calls, visits, cards & generous gifts during LJ's recent cranial surgery and hospital stay. He is recovering and soon will be back to pre-school. He has been a real brave little boy during all the doctor visits leading up to surgery, then the surgery, then all the pinching, poking & prodding. Once he was home he was able to say "It's over!", with a smile on his face and all his stuffed animals surrounding him. God is performing miracles all of the time ~ we just need to open our eyes to them and be grateful!
The Matthews & The Plotts Families



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jakki Gardner.....01
Bud Freeman.....03
Corigan Quinn.....04
Lois Adams.....05
Phillip Book.....05
Ashley Fox.....05
Shirley Janoski.....05
Nancy Bretz.....06
Joel (Swiger) Phillips.....06
Brenda Miller.....09
Bob Slagle.....10
Marshall Whiting.....11
Linda Feil.....12
Diane McConnell.....12
Gary Geisinger.....14
Allen Jones.....14
Terri Quinn.....17
Rosie Moore.....19
Willie Moore.....19
Mikayln Duffy.....20
Amanda Miller.....20
Lori Smith.....24
Michael Duffy.....26
Mackenzie McCarthy.....26
Julie Whiting.....26
Joyce Goist.....27
Morgan Whiting.....27
Taylor Allison.....28



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Paul Cummings.....02
Nancy Phillis.....02
Megan Allison.....03
Dawn Harris.....03
Roberta Morehead.....03
Harry Cornman.....04
Shirley Freeman.....04
Alexandra Lambert.....04
Austin Whiting.....04
Pam Liddell.....05
Marty Marshall.....07
Martha Miller.....07
Nancy Rudzik.....07
Len Halt.....08
Laura Harshbarger.....08
Barbara Sander.....09
Wilhemina (Sis) Hartzell.....15
Shirley Snyder.....15
Lisa Magee.....22
Amanda Quinn.....22
Donald Pence.....26
Don Craig.....27

MONDAY FUN GROUP

Join us for the Monday Fun Group which will begin on Monday, January 16, 2017 from 1:00P.M. to 4:00P.M. here at N.B.E.P.C. The group is for anyone 50 and over and open to anyone in the community. A variety of games/activities are planned. If you have any questions, please see Martha Miller or Shirley Goist.

LADIES SEWING GROUP

The Ladies Sewing Group will start back up this month on Wednesday's from 9:00A.M. till 12:00P.M. We are in need of Helpers and Sewers. Please call Shirley Snyder or Helen Bicehouse for more information.

ANNUAL REPORTS & CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

IMPORTANT: All committee and board secretaries or chairmen should be working on reports to be included in the Annual Report. REPORTS MUST BE TURNED IN NO LATER THEN SUNDAY, JANUARY 15TH to be included in the 2016 Annual Report. There will be a folder on my desk marked "Annual Report" or you can email your report to newbedfordchurch@verizon.net **Thank You – Addie**

On Sunday, January 29th there will be a Congregational Meeting. The purpose of this meeting is for receiving the Annual Report.

OFFERING ENEVELOPES

The 2017 Offering Envelopes are on a table in front of the Church Office. If you cannot find your name or would like a box of envelopes, please see Bonnie Glogowski. Thank You!

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday Evening Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, January 11th at 7:40P.M. It is never too late to start attending!

WOMEN'S NEWS

Deborah Circle ~ meeting on Tuesday, January 10th @ 9:30A.M.
Ruth Circle ~ meeting on Monday, January 16th @ 9:30A.M.
Lydia Circle ~ meeting on Tuesday, January 17th @ 1:00P.M.
Elizabeth Circle ~ meeting on Thursday, January 19th @ 6:30P.M.
Rebecca Circle ~ meeting on Saturday, January 21st @ 9:00A.M. at Bedford Trails.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION MEETING ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 14TH AT 1:00P.M.

NBEPC Women's Association TELEGRAM





Please Mark Your Calendars & Save The Date

My Heart will be Blessed with the Sound of Music Women's Retreat

All Women are invited to join us at the Women's Retreat -STOP-

Dates & Times: Friday, March 31, 2017 begin 6:30 PM
till Saturday, April 1, 2017 ending at 5:00 PM -STOP-

Additional Days options:

*Thursday, March 30th Join us for a MAJOR time of fun & fellowship with Sisters in Christ (meals not provided)

*Friday, March 31st Tour of the Tiffany Stained Glass windows at St. John's Church in the Franklin Time-TBA

*Sunday, April 2nd Breakfast followed by Sunday Service in the Chapel located on the hill of the Castle grounds-STOP-

Location: The Castle in Franklin PA -STOP-

Cost: $55.00 Scholarships are available -STOP-

Theme: My Heart will be Blessed with the Sound of Music

A special guest speaker, Kim McCormick, will be leading the sessions. Kim is a Reading Specialist & Music Teacher, Author, and Cancer Survivor who will be sharing her faith journey with us and guiding us deeper into Scripture-STOP-

More information will be posted on the Women's Association bulletin board in the hallway and included in the February Redeeming Times -STOP-

Women's Association

As 2016 came to a close, the Women's Association of New Bedford Church was busy.

Once again the bazaar in November was a great success. A special thank you to Nancy Bretz, Beth Kendall and Cindy Bell for their hours of work to bring this bazaar to fruition. Many others, in fact too many to name, were also involved in this year's bazaar. We thank you for your hard work and assistance.

A special thank you to Kim Runyan for coordinating Thank Offering Sunday. Also, thanks goes out to the women who willingly participated in that service.

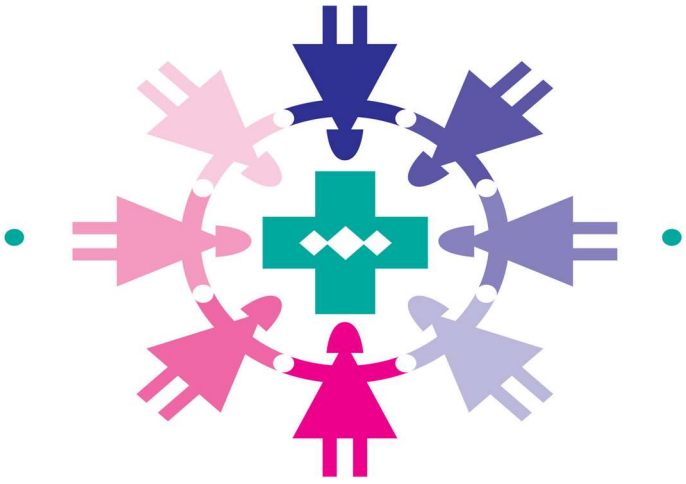
December 1 the Women's Association held their Christmas dinner and installation of officers. Thank you to Amy Geisinger, Geniene Jones and Deneen Greene for their dedication to making this a wonderful time for the women who attended. Also, thanks to all those behind the scenes men and women who assisted them. If you were unable to attend, you missed a great evening of fellowship and entertainment! Thanks to our special entertainment, we enjoyed a great time of laughter!

The women of this association have made my job as moderator quite enjoyable and dare I say quite easy. Their dedication to this association and its purpose shines through in all they do. Thank you for a great year!

The next meeting of the Women's Association will be January 14, 2017 at 1:00 pm. These meetings are open for all women of the church. Hope to see you there!

In His Service,

Judy Riethmiller



January 4th – Ring in the New Year! Night

Clubbers will get to tie a bell onto their Leader for every section completed.

January 11th – Regular Club Night

January 18th — Let Your Light Shine for Jesus Night – ***GLOW*** Night

January 25th – Double Double Points Night

Clubbers will get double the points for attendance, completing sections, uniform, bringing their Bible and Handbook.

Remember if school is cancelled because of weather then Awana will not meet that day**

Awana CAN make a difference for the CITY RESCUE MISSION

For the remainder of the year we will continue to collect food for **The New Castle City Rescue Mission**. It is a Christian ministry providing spiritual and physical care to the hurting, hunger and homeless of our community. Visit www.cityrescuemission.org for more information. Awana Clubs are collecting can goods/non-perishable food for the Family Care Ministry at the City Rescue Mission.

Our goal is to collect 300 pounds of food!

Needed Items:

Canned Soup	Cereal	Canned Fruit	Syrup
Boxed Rice	Pancake Mix	Crackers	Mac n Cheese

Any of the above items can be donated at any time. However, there is a 'Most Wanted Item of the Month'.

MOST WANTED ITEM FOR JANUARY --JELLY

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

ALL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEER MEETINGS—

The NBEPC Session recently adopted a Child Protection Policy for the church. All volunteers (ages 14 and older) that will have direct contact with children are required to be familiar with the policy and obtain their clearances. Anyone from the congregation may attend a meeting, most importantly people helping in the following ministries need to attend: Sunday School, Awana, Children At Worship, & Youth Group. There are multiple meeting dates & times to try to accommodate everyone's schedule. Please select which one is most convenient for you. You only need to attend one of the meetings. Please sign-up on sheet in the Vestibule or on Dawn's Office Door.

Meeting Dates & Times: Sunday, January 15th at 12:00 PM (following the 10: 30 Worship Service)
Tuesday, January 17th at 10:00 AM
Wednesday, January 18th at 7:15 PM

*****WANTED*****Children At Worship Leaders*****WANTED*****

Interested in helping with Children At Worship? Not sure what is involved or what to do? Contact Dawn Harris to discuss this ministry and how you can be part of this ministry.

Please continue to save the empty wrapping paper tubes. Thank you

Contact Info: Dawn Harris Call/Text: 330-881-8110 Email: Dawnhnbpc@aol.com

Happy New Year! I am so excited to see how God's hands bless 2017. This year I have revamped our youth title to afO; all for One. With a group of kids as awesome as ours, merely saying our "youth group" will be meeting or doing an event isn't enough! We needed our own name to represent who we are and what we do. AfO will begin their first of every Sunday night on January 15th, 2017 from 6:30-8:30 pm. Please come out and enjoy our time of discipleship and fellowship with another! A few other reminders for afO; Sunday, January 8th is the parent meeting following the second service. Be sure to stay after for this as parents will be provided with a list of scheduled events for the next few months as well as a packing list for our retreat. Speaking of retreat, our annual winter get-away is February 24th-26th at Beulah Beach, Vermillion OH! The cost is $47.50 per person and deposits are due Sunday, January 15th (which is conveniently afO's first night of youth group). Lastly, this month our youth will be attending a nationwide concert known as Winter Jam.
Friday, January 20th meet at the church at 4:15 pm with your ticket money ($10) and food money (around $20).

The Lord has also been leading me to start up a college bible study and time of fellowship, so every other Wednesday of the month this age group meets at my house from 5:30-7:30 pm. On our off weeks we will be doing some fun activities, so make sure you stay tuned to the text chain and Instagram account for updates! Again, I am so happy and grateful to be the youth director of such an amazing ministry and I'm so excited to start off the year with awesome friends and fellowship!

Follow afO's Instagram account @EPiC_Youth Director and follow the college group's account @EPiC_CollegeKids for event updates! You can also search New Bedford EPC Youth Group on Facebook and follow our page on there!

