Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church,

November is the month of Thanksgiving. As I look at my family, I realize how much I have to be thankful for. As I look at our church, I see God's many blessings and once again I go to my knees in thanksgiving. I want to share with you an article written by Edwin Anderson on the history of, and the true meaning of Thanksgiving. It is entitled –

THANKSGIVING DAY: MORE THAN "TURKEY AND TRIMMINGS"

Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday in the United States commemorating the harvest of the Plymouth Colony in 1621. The event followed a winter of great hardship.

When it was first inaugurated, only a few eastern states participated. However, through the effort of Sarah Hale, a change was affected. She was fired with the determination of having the whole nation join together in setting apart a national day of giving thanks "unto Him from whom all blessings flow".

To this end, she resolutely engaged the press with an endless flow of letters and articles to the various newspapers and journals of her time. In addition, she pleaded long and earnestly with three Presidents: Fillmore, Pierce and Buchanan during the period of 1846 through 1856. A small measure of triumph was granted in the year of 1852, when her campaign succeeded in uniting 29 states in marking the last Thursday of November as "Thanksgiving Day".

Then came the dark days of the Civil War. Who would listen to a lone woman with her persistent plea for "just one day of peace amidst the blood and the strife?" One man did. Her entreaty won the ear of a great American; and in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln officially proclaimed the last Thursday of November as a day set apart for the national giving of thanks unto Almighty God. Lincoln lived to see only two such occasions, but Sarah Hale lived well on into her late 90s, content that her long-cherished hope had at last become a reality.

For the real meaning of the word, Thanksgiving, Christians look to one Person, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Because of Him, Thanksgiving is more than a day with "turkey and trimmings". Because of Him we cry out with praise and worship, "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15).

Thanksgiving Day owes much to the love, grace and mercy of Him who gave Himself on Calvary. He gave up heaven for earth. He gave Himself into the hands of sinful men that He might give out His unfathomable love to all. He gave Himself for us, that there might be forgiveness for sin. He gave, and gave, and gave, and finally on the Cross He cried out, "It is finished" (John 19:30).

On this day of remembrance, do you know Him personally? His has been the "giving". Through repentance and faith in Christ's work on the Cross, you may become God's child and thereby be able to offer true thanks….giving. He is waiting for your word of thanks by your heartfelt confession, "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13).

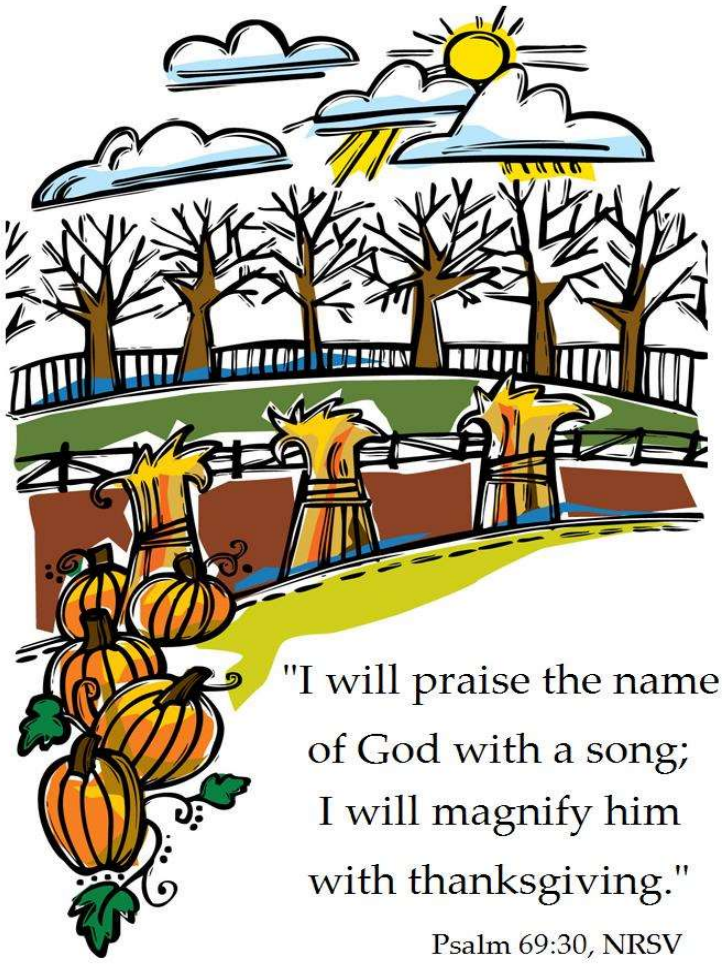
Real Thanksgiving is to experience His salvation throughout all the days whatever be their substance or fortune.

IT IS THE PERSON TRANSFORMED BY GRACE DIVINE-WHO CAN BE TRULY THANKFUL.

Are you Thankful for the Salvation you have received from Jesus Christ?

In Him,

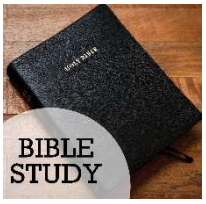
Doug Runyan



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Received Financial Report – current year to date balance is $33,750**
- **Accepted bid from Warren Construction to remodel two bathrooms at manse. Bid was $21,000. Work will begin next week.**
- **Administration Committee reported that new lights by handicap parking spots have been installed.**
- **Approved purchase of back curtain and curtain rod for stage. This will complete the remodeling of the stage area.**
- **Thank you to Jake McMillan for painting the picnic tables under the shelter.**
- **Began preliminary work on 2017 budget. Recommended raises for staff.**
- **Evangelism Committee requested $300.00 to purchase additional banners for outside of the church to advertise a number of ministries of the church.**
- **Breakfast in Bethlehem is scheduled for December 10th.**
- **Approved the Child Protection Policy for our church. All volunteers and staff will be required to read and accept this policy.**
- **A congregation meeting was called for November 27th to approve and receive the budget and elect new officers.**

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Wednesday Evening Bible Study started back up last month. Pastor Doug is leading this Bible Study on the book of Ephesians. If you are interested in this bible study, please join them on Wednesday evenings at 7:35p.m.

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THE BAZAAR IS THIS SATURDAY!!

NOVEMBER 5TH

9:00A.M. UNTIL 2:00P.M.

INVITE YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS!!





Violet Hilliard.....03
Deneen Greene.....06
James Emery.....08
Dana Gardner.....11
Brenda Hostetler.....16
Bernice Boyer.....25
Lee Harris.....27
Alyssa Boyer.....29
Curtis Bretz.....29
Barrett Craig.....29



Adam Marshall.....01
Diana Halt.....02
Alexis Lambert.....04
Betty Komar.....05
Kyle Jones.....07
Chuck Bell.....09
Bob Bell.....09
Alexis Jones.....09
Bob Miller.....10
Caroletta Doverspike.....11
Katee Paglia.....13
Evelyn Exley.....14
Jo Ruby.....14
Wanda Boyles.....16
Angela Houk.....17
Addie Moore.....17
Rebecca Halt.....19
Eric Keller.....20
Ruth Hunt.....21
LaVon Rogers.....21
Florence Allison.....24
Darlene Robison.....28
Christa Matthews.....29



MARK YOUR CALENDARS.....

BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM will be on Saturday, December 10th, 8:30a.m. – 11:30a.m. Please invite your friends and neighbors. It is FUN for children and adults of all ages!! Breakfast will be served until 10:00a.m. If you have never come, please try to come this year! The church is transformed into the streets of Bethlehem. There are live animals for petting, a Christmas movie, two craft rooms, face painting, and much more!

November & December Greeters

November 6 ~ Chuck & Diane Bell

November 13 ~ Ed & Nancy Rudzik

November 20 ~ Women's Association

November 27 ~ Barb Carr

December 4 ~ Shirley Snyder

December 11 ~ Carrie Kaufman

December 18 ~ GayAnn Miller

December 24 ~ Billyray & Addie Moore

December 25 ~

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)



WOMEN'S NEWS

November Circle Meetings

Deborah Circle ~ meeting on Tuesday, November 8th at 9:30a.m.

Lydia Circle ~ meeting on Tuesday, November 15th at 1:00p.m.

Elizabeth Circle ~ meeting on Thursday, November 17th at 6:30p.m.

Rebecca Circle ~ meeting on Saturday, November 19th at 9:00a.m. at Bedford Trails Restaurant

Ruth Circle ~ meeting on Monday, November 21st at 9:30a.m.



Mark Your Calendar…….the Women's Association Christmas Dinner will be on Thursday, December 1st. Dinner will begin at 6:00p.m. at Chuck Tanner's Restaurant in New Castle. All women of the church are welcome and encouraged to come!! Bring a White Elephant Gift (if you would like to be in the gift exchange) with a limit of $5-$7. More details will be coming in the bulletins later this month along with sign-up dates and meal choices.

Thank Offering Sunday is on Sunday, November 20th. The women of the church will lead our worship. Teri Perry from Habitat For Humanity will be our guest speaker for this special service.



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES……

Thank Offering Service – November 20th
Christmas Dinner – December 1st @ 6:00p.m. @ Chuck Tanner's Restaurant
Women's Association meetings – 1/14 @ 1:00p.m. and 3/11 @ 9:00a.m.
Women's Retreat – March 31 and April 1, 2017
National Day of Prayer – May 4, 2017



We extend our deepest sympathy to Darlene Robison and the many family members of the Robison and Jones families along with the many friends of Dick Robison. Dick entered his eternal rest on October 16th. He will be missed by so many.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of long time member Kathy Hanna Quinn who went into her eternal rest on October 19th.

Prayers and sympathy goes out to the Hostetler family on the passing of Brenda's Aunt Norma. She also went to be with the Lord last month.

"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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Pastor Doug, Dawn & Church Family,
Thanks to all for your well wishes as I retire from teaching Sunday School. Thank you for the "Hope" figurine that I will treasure!
My love to all in Christ ~ Jane Eppinger



Thank you to all who participated in the painting class. We had 21 people. Hope all of you had fun! I plan to offer another class in the spring. ~ Jackie

Thank you to Pastor Doug, the Deacons, my church family and friends for all the prayers, visits, calls and many kindnesses shown to me during my recent illness and rehab.
~ LaVon Rogers & family

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There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 27th following the second worship service. The purpose of this meeting is for electing officers and receiving the budget.

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There will be a quarterly breakfast on Sunday, November 13th between the early and late service, during the Sunday School hour. This will be a "Pot Luck Breakfast". The Evangelism Committee is asking that you please bring your favorite breakfast dish to share. Beverages will be provided. Hope to see you there!



AWANA MISSION UPDATE

Awana Clubbers collected items for the Thanksgiving Baskets that get distributed during the holiday to families in need. Our goal was to collect 150 items. Thank you for the donation of food…..we collected 43 items for the City Rescue Mission. The deadline to donate for the Thanksgiving baskets is November 16th. If you would like to participate please place all items in the grocery cart located in the Fellowship Hall.

Items needed for the Thanksgiving Baskets:

Evaporated Milk	Canned Gravy	Pie Crust Mix	Cranberry Sauce
Pumpkin Pie Filling	Canned Yams	Stuffing Mix	Vegetables

November 2nd – Regular Awana Club Night

November 9th – Double Double Points Night

November 16th – Parent Appreciation Night

Parents are invited to attend Awana with their child. Refreshements will be provided during Handbook Time, 6:30-7:00.

November 23rd – No Awana Club Happy Thanksgiving

November 30th – Regular Awana Club Night

*****Remember if school is cancelled because of weather then Awana will not meet in the evening.****

Children's Christmas Program & Church Dinner
Sunday, December 11th at 4:00

All children are invited to participate in the Children's Christmas Program and be part of sharing the real message of Christmas. The Christmas Program will be before the dinner on December 11th. Please let Dawn know if you are interested in participating 330-881-8110. The practice times will be announced later.

Attention Youth: If you are available to help during the Christmas Program let Dawn know.

Needed Sunday School Teachers:

The Christian Education Committee has decided to try something new. We know that attending Sunday School is important in a person's spiritual journey and many adults do not like to miss their own class to be a teacher for the children's class. Therefore, this year we are asking for people to commit to teach for one quarter. The winter quarter will be December/January/February and there is a need for teachers for the following Sunday School classes: PreSchool/Kindergarden class, Grades 3 & 4 class, and Grades 5 & 6 class. Please be in prayer for this ministry. Pray for the children who come to learn more about God and salvation through Jesus. Pray for the teachers of the Fall quarter. Pray for the teachers for the Winter quarter that God will touch their hearts to be part of this ministry. If you have any questions or need more information please contact Pastor Doug or Dawn Harris.

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH (rescheduled due to rain last weekend) ~ Bonfire & Hay ride at Whiting's farm (3110 Garner Rd. Edinburg, PA 16116) 6:00p.m. – 8:00p.m. Hotdogs & S'more's will be provided, please bring a snack or drink to share. Questions – contact Julie at 724-730-5195





SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH ~ Dinner & trip to *Extreme Air Trampoline Park* – We will meet at the church at 4:00p.m. Cost is $16 per person for 1 hour at the Trampoline park plus you will need additional money for dinner expenses. Please R.S.V.P. for transportation purposes to the church office at 724-964-8055 or text to 724-6747-2581.



