

**Dear NBPC Family:**

**I am writing this in the midst of digging out from our first significant snowfall of winter, as each of us woke up on a Monday morning with a foot of snow on the ground!**

**Writing this article also marks one year I have been with you as your Transitional Pastor. I interviewed for this position on a snowy day, and I come up on one year with you on an even snowier day!**

**On this one year anniversary, I think it will good to share where we have been, where we are, and where we are going with the transitional process.**

**I began my time with you conducting over 70 SWOT interviews, asking people to identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats regarding New Bedford Church. This led to the formation of a SWOT analysis team, consisting of Lori Smith, Greg McMillan and Nancy Cummings. They took all my raw data and created a SWOT Analysis Report, which was reviewed and approved by Session, and then released to the congregation.**

**As this was going on, we had many of you fill out a Missional Posture Survey, which gauged where this congregation is at in terms of missional outreach. This resulted in a Missional Posture Survey Report, which was also reviewed by Session and released to the congregation.**

**With those two important data points complete, I appointed a Vision Team, an important part of the EPC transitional process. Your Vision Team members are Sam Jones, Doug Houk, Lee Harris, Debi Fynes, Erika Taylor and Cindy Bell. They also each have three to four prayer team members with which they are reviewing discussions and praying through decisions.**

**The Vision Team began meeting in December and are continuing in this new year, meeting every two weeks. They have read an important book in the transitional process, called "Simple Church," and in addition have read a book on one's relationship with God, called simply "With." At this point, the team is working on identifying a simple process for spiritual growth in church members. This will eventually become their recommended, vision, mission and purpose for New Bedford Church.**

**Once details of this are in place, the team will design preliminary action strategies based on the church vision, the SWOT Report and the Missional Posture Survey Report; they will also develop a Preliminary Pastor Profile and then will present to Session for Session edits and final approval.**

**In discussions with the Vision Team, this new vision for the church will then be presented to the congregation in a series of informational meetings. This will be followed by the creation of an Implementation Team, to help execute the strategies contained in the vision; and, at the same time as this, a Pastor Search Team will be formed as well.**

Things are progressing in the time frame expected. As I explained to the Session when interviewing for the role, a typical transitional pastorate and transitional process takes 18 to 24 months. We are on track for that.

In the mean time, it is also a privilege to share God's word with you. Our February sermon series will focus on the New Testament book of Titus, with a sermon series called "CON-crete Living."

May God richly bless each of you in this new year.

Blessings, Pastor Dan and Connie

The church has a new email address: [newbedfordchurch@gmail.com](mailto:newbedfordchurch@gmail.com)  
We have discontinued use of [newbedfordchurch@verizon.net](mailto:newbedfordchurch@verizon.net)



The 2022 Offering Envelopes are ready and on a table by the office. If you cannot find your box or would like a box, please see Bonnie. Thank You!

Are your cupboards bare? Please check out the church kitchen. We have plenty of dishes looking for their former home.



Calling all kids (big kids too). We are once again trying to do a drive-in movie. The only difference this time is that it will be in the Fellowship Hall. Decorate a box, a laundry basket or any contained that you are able to sit in to look like a car. We will have S'mores starting at 6pm with the movie, Mr. Popper's Penguins beginning at 6:30pm on Friday, January 28. If there's a blizzard this time instead of a tornado, we'll reschedule! Come join us for laughs and a sticky good time. You'll know what I mean if you have ever eaten a S'more.

The Mission Committee will be collecting Kleenex tissues, hand soap and laundry soap for the Women's Ministry of the City Rescue Mission. We will be collecting these items through the end of February. There will be a box in the foyer to place your donation. Thank You.



### Birthdays in January

1/01 – Jakki Gardner  
1/03 – Bud Freeman  
1/04 – Olivia Eppinger  
1/04 – Corigan Quinn  
1/05 – Lois Adams  
1/05 – Phillip Book  
1/05 – Edie Dougherty  
1/05 – Ashley Fox  
1/05 – Shirley Janoski  
1/05 – Jacob Taylor

1/06 – Nancy Bretz  
1/06 – Joel Phillips  
1/09 – Brenda Miller  
1/11 – Marshall Whiting  
1/12 – Linda Feil  
1/12 – Diane McConnell  
1/14 – Gary Geisinger  
1/14 – Allen Jones  
1/17 – Terri Quinn  
1/19 – Rosie Moore

1/19 – Willie Moore  
1/20 – Amanda Miller  
1/24 – Lori Smith  
1/24 – Bennett Whiting  
1/26 – Mike Duffy  
1/26 – Mackenzie McCarthy  
1/26 – Julie Whiting  
1/27 – Joyce Goist  
1/27 – Morgan Whiting  
1/28 – Taylor Allison

### Birthdays in February

2/02 – Paul Cummings  
2/02 – Aleah Deal  
2/02 – Nancy Phillis  
2/03 – Dawn Harris  
2/03 – Bobbie Morehead  
2/04 – Harry Cornman  
2/04 – Shirley Freeman

2/04 – Alexandra Lambert  
2/04 – Austin Whiting  
2/05 – Pam Liddell  
2/07 – Marty Marshall  
2/07 – Martha Miller  
2/07 – Nancy Rudzik  
2/08 – Len Halt

2/08 – Laura Harshbarger  
2/09 – Barbara Sander  
2/15 – Bowen Fulkman  
2/15 – Shirley Snyder  
2/22 – Lisa Magee  
2/26 – Don Pence  
2/27 – Don Craig



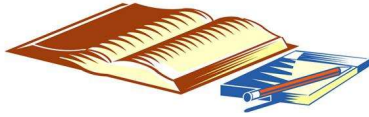
BLESSINGS  
ON YOUR  
BIRTHDAY

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



Lavon Rogers-----John XXIII Nursing Home  
Larry Pence-----Shenango Home  
Nancy Phillis-----Home  
Erma Gorley-----Nugent's Nursing Home  
Elizabeth Dehaven-----Home  
Renee Persky-----Home

# Confirmation Class



The New Bedford EPC will be beginning a Confirmation Class in March. The Confirmation Class is open to any student, 7<sup>th</sup> grade and higher, who is interested in exploring and discovering more in his/her faith walk. This “short course” in Christianity looks at redemptive history,

sacraments, and what it means to be a member of NBEPC. At the conclusion of the class there will be an opportunity to decide to become a member of New Bedford EPC. More information will be forthcoming closer to the beginning of the class. If you would like more information for your child to be included, please call the church office and leave your name and address.

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The Session will hold a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 30 between the early service and the late service at 10:00A.M. The purpose of this meeting is for reviewing the annual report, comprised of committee reports and financial reports.



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**THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!** To everyone that helped out with this years Angel Tree!! Your generosity is so much appreciated!!



The Dougherty Family would like to thank everyone for all the prayers and support. Our church has been such a blessing! Sincerely – Don & Edie, Sean & Amy and Brian

Our family would like to extend our appreciation for the love, kindness, and compassion shown through phone calls, visits, food, cards, and mostly prayers during our difficult time of Jim’s illness and transition from this world. LOVE NEVER ENDS.

-Margie Matthews & Family

New Bedford EPC,

Thank you so much for your prayers and financial support for my ministry in Haiti. Your prayers do make a difference in my life and work. And your faithful support is so helpful and encouraging. I am truly blessed to have such an amazing home church supporting me. Isn’t it good to know God is producing lasting fruit through our mutual partnership. Love – Autumn Marshall

We would like to THANK everyone that helped with Breakfast In Bethlehem this year! Whether you helped with hauling everything into the church, or the many nights of setting up, helped the day of BIB, with bringing animals in, or with the tear down and put away! THANK YOU! This Community outreach is not possible without your help!

Blessings – Brad & Marty Marshall

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**UPCOMING PITTSBURGH FOOD BANK DISTRIBUTION DATES....**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup> & FRIDAY, MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>**

**3:00PM UNTIL 4:15PM**

**Donation Opportunity**----In March, the AWANA Clubbers will have the opportunity to go shopping in our 'church' marketplace. They get to buy items with the points they earned. They can earn points each week for; attendance, bringing a Bible, bringing their Handbook, completing sections, wearing uniform, and attending church. Many kids have earned a lot of points and they look forward to shopping with them at the end of Awana. *If you would be able to donate items for the marketplace please leave them in the box in the vestibule.* Many great items could be purchased from a dollar store or in the clearance section. If you have any questions please let me know. Thanks for your help in rewarding the kids for their commitment in Awana and earning points.



**Regular Club Night**  
**Wednesdays 5:00-7:00**  
**Ages 2 - Grade 6**

Please lift the faithful servants in prayer as they serve the children of our church and community. Also keep in prayer for God to move in the hearts for more people to serve in the Awana Ministry as substitutes and helpers. Please see Dawn if you have any questions on what the responsibilities are for these positions. *Prayerfully consider being a life changer at Awana.*

You are welcome to stop in and visit any Wednesday evening, 5:00-7:00.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER REMINDER for Awana:** we are in January and we might have to deal with inclement weather...I will send an email by 3:00 PM on Wednesday to inform you of Club being cancelled for the evening. We do not always follow what the school district does for the day.

**\*\*\*\*\*UPCOMING CLUB NIGHTS\*\*\*\*\***

**January 19<sup>th</sup> - Double Points Night**

**January 26<sup>th</sup> - Regular Awana Club Night**

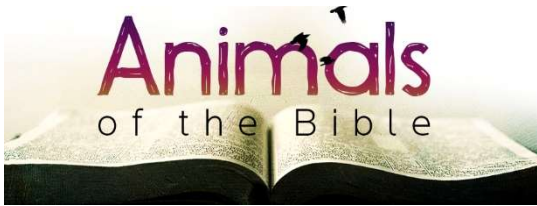
**February 2<sup>nd</sup> - Double Points Night**

**February 9<sup>th</sup> - Red/Love Night**

**February 16<sup>th</sup> - Regular Club Night**

**February 23<sup>rd</sup> - Regular Club Night**

**Mark your calendars—SUNDAY FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup> - kids will be singing during the 10:30 worship service**



**J.A.M. Kids!!** (Jesus And Me Kids)  
for children during 10:40 Service

for children during 8:30 Service based on  
volunteer availability

J.A.M. Kids is a time during the service for the young children to have a lesson time of their own. Lessons and materials are provided....the serie they are studying is about the Animals of the Bible. Leaders are needed to disciple these young children. Sign up in the Vestibule for the day and service of your preference. ☺ Feel free to volunteer for the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> service. *For Sundays that there are no volunteers, J.A.M. Kids will only be offered during the 10:30 service.*

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

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**College Care Packages:** As a way to encourage the college students returning to school this semester care packages are being put together for Grace Fenati, Taylor Skelding, Grant Dieter, & Olivia Eppinger. Beginning January 30<sup>th</sup>, there will be tags listing items to purchase for the care packages on the table in the vestibule. Stop by the church to get a tag or pick one up on Sunday morning. Purchase the item on the tag and return it to the church by February 13<sup>th</sup>. As well as items we would love to include notes of encouragement there are some blank note cards located in the vestibule for you to use. A box will be in the vestibule for the collection. Please bring items by Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup> so boxes can be shipped that week. Thank you for showing love and helping to brighten the day of the college students.

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**Looking ahead....**

**There will be an Ash Wednesday Worship Service on  
Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00P.M.**



# E P I C

*We have missed seeing you. Please join us for all or part of the day.*

**11:00 BIBLE STUDY - Leader - Lee Harris - CURRENT STUDY : John**

Jan 20 - John 19: 17-42

Feb 03 - John 20: 1-30

Feb 17 - John 21: 1- 25

New Study Starting in March



**12:00 LUNCH**

Jan 20 - Lunch Provided

Feb 03 - Lunch Provided

Feb 17 - Soup, Sandwiches and Dessert

**1:00 GAMES AND FELLOWSHIP TIME – Starting on February 17**

If you wish you may bring a favorite game to play. Games also will be provided.

**\*\*\*\*\* LOOKING AHEAD – EPIC SPONSORED BUS TRIP \*\*\*\*\***

**DATE: May 24-25**

**COST: \$380.00 per person**

**2 Day 1 Night**

**Double Occupancy**

**SIGHT AND SOUND THEATRES' LANCASTER/"DAVID" and  
Mennonite Life Center (Tabernacle), Choo Choo Miniature Train Museum and more**



Please consider joining us. Invite a friend  
Watch the Bulletin and Redeeming Times for further details

# Youth Group



Youth Group dates for January  
are 23 & 30

Regular meeting dates for  
February are: 6, 13, & 27

Youth group is from 1-3pm

Youth Super Bowl party will be Sunday,  
February 13<sup>th</sup> from 5pm until the game is  
over. Come join us for a fun evening of  
pizza, snacks and games. Most snacks and  
side dishes are pot-luck. Please let me  
know if you would like to bring something.



This year's youth retreat is February 18-20.

The cost will be \$60 and the deadline to  
RSVP is Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>.



New Bedford couples retreat is  
February 25 & 26.  
For more information please  
see the sign-up sheet  
in the church vestibule.





**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  
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022**

Church website: [www.newbedfordepchurch.org](http://www.newbedfordepchurch.org)  
Church e-mail: [newbedfordchurch@verizon.net](mailto:newbedfordchurch@verizon.net)



**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!**

**Sunday Schedule:**

**8:30a.m. – Contemporary Worship Service**

**9:30a.m. – Children's Sunday School**

**10:40a.m. – Traditional Worship Service**