

Dear NBEPC Family:

Merry Christmas everyone! As I write this Thanksgiving week is upon us and after that, the blessed countdown to Christmas. I know for many of you this is going to be a time of joy and family and traditions.

But this year, maybe because of my own reality of a first Christmas without Connie, I ask that you say a prayer for and perhaps find a way to have fellowship with someone for whom this time of year can actually be painful.

One of the privileges we have as Christians is to be the hands and feet of Jesus. A kind word, a note, an invitation, a hug — there are so many ways to share the love of Christ at any time of year, but especially this one.

What I just described are what you could call life lessons, and that is going to be the basis of our Advent sermon series for this year, called “Life Lessons from Coach Christ.” In this series, we will be looking at the early chapters of the Gospel of Matthew. Though Jesus had not been born yet, and later on was only an infant, His planned arrival provided important teachings for the people of that time, and for you and me today.

May God bless all of you with peace, hope and joy this Advent. I know that by being a part of this wonderful church family, in an official capacity now, He has certainly done that for me.

Blessings,

Pastor Dan

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

November 26, 2023

- Approved the election of Elders, Deacons and the 2024 Nominating Committee for

Elders

- Brad Marshall
- Gary Geisinger
- Scott Philips

Deacons

- Tim Pogozelec
- Janice Davis
- Chuck Bell
- Diane Bell

2024 Nominating Committee

- Darlene Robinson
- Helen Ruby
- Collin Fulkman

- Received the 2024 Church budget

OFFICER TRAINING 2024 – On Saturday, January 6th from 9:00A.M. until NOON. All Officers, Elders and Deacons, returning and new, are encouraged to attend this training. This training is required by our Book of Order and is also a great time of fellowship and for making goals for the upcoming year.

IMPORTANT - Annual Reports: All committee and board secretaries or chairmen should start thinking about getting their Annual Reports ready to be turned in. ALL REPORTS MUST BE TURNED IN NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15th to be included in the 2023 Annual Report. There is a folder on my desk or you can email your reports to me at newbedfordepchurch@gmail.com Thank You!!

****There will be a Congregational meeting on Sunday, January 28, 2023 during the Sunday School hour at 9:30. The purpose of this meeting is for reviewing the Annual Report.**

Birthdays in December

12/01 – Adam Marshall
12/02 – Diana Halt
12/03 – Titus Marshall
12/05 – Betty Komar
12/07 – Kyle Jones
12/09 – Chuck Bell
12/09 – Bob Bell

12/09 – Alexis Jones
12/11 – Caroletta Doverspike
12/13 – Grace Fenati
12/14 – Evelyn Exley
12/16 – Wanda Boyles
12/16 – Hannah O'Brien
12/17 – Angela Houk

12/17 – Addie Moore
12/19 – Rebecca Halt
12/20 – Eric Keller
12/21 – Ruth Hunt
12/21 – Lavon Rogers
12/24 – Florence Allison
12/28 – Darlene Robison

Birthdays in January

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

01/06 – Nancy Bretz
01/06 – Joel Phillips
01/09 – Brenda Miller
01/11 – Marshall Whiting
01/12 – Linda Feil
01/12 – Diane McConnell
01/14 – Gary Geisinger
01/14 – Allen Jones
01/17 – Terri Quinn
01/19 – Rosie Moore

01/19 – Willie Moore
01/20 – Amanda Miller
01/24 – Lori Smith
01/24 – Bennett Whiting
01/26 – Mackenzie McCarthy
01/26 – Julie Whiting
01/27 – Joyce Goist
01/27 – Morgan Whiting
01/28 – Taylor Allison



*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
Pete Carlisle-----Home
Gene Bicehouse-----Garden Way Place



BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM will be on Saturday, December 9th 8:30A.M.-11:30A.M. Please invite your friends and neighbors. This event is FUN for children and adults of all ages! Breakfast will be served until 10:00AM. 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!



Carols, Cookies & Cakes, Oh My!



An evening of Christmas music and more.

What is your family's favorite Christmas time dessert? Your specialty?

Bring it to share with your church family.

December 17 at 6pm

- Worship Team
- Hand Bell Choir
- Instrumentalists

- Children's Choir
- Men's Chorus
- Choir



The Deacons will be collecting non-perishable food items for boxes to be given to those with a need at Christmas. There is a box in the narthex until December 10th for you to place your donations.

Deacons would like to know if you or someone you know has turned 80 in the past year or two. We would like to give a little treat to them around Christmas.

If you know of anyone 80 or over not receiving anything from deacons at Christmas, please notify a deacon.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING – The Christmas Offering collection for 2023 will be directed to 5 Star Global Ministry for Autumn Marshall serving in Haiti we appreciate your support. There will be special offering envelopes in your bulletins on 12/10, 12/17 and 12/24.



Dear NBEPC Family,

Thank you for the outpouring of love through prayers, cards, texts, and visiting during my mother's illness and passing through this life to life eternal. We are grateful for you and how you have walked alongside us in this journey. God bless you,

Dawn Harris and Family

ANGEL TREE: Once again this year we have the opportunity to help local families with Christmas gifts. If you would like to help with this mission, please take an Angel Tag from the tree in the entryway, and please mark on the paper your name and what number your tag is so that we can make sure that all tags are accounted for. Please return the wrapped gift with the Angel Tag attached no later than Sunday, December 10th. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP: On Sunday, December 24th at 7:00P.M., please plan on joining us for our Christmas Eve Worship Service. There will be Christmas Carols, music from our amazing Choir and a Message of Hope and Joy.

There will be a Worship Service Sunday morning, December 24th at 8:30A.M. & 10:30A.M.

The Handbell Choir has openings for 2 ringers. If you would be interested in being a part of this ministry, please contact Donna Fox or any member of the handbell choir. Knowing hoe to read music is not a requirement. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7:15 and we play during Sunday morning worship once a month.

New Members Class

Pastor Dan will host the class for all those interested in becoming members of NBEPC on Sunday, January 14 beginning at 12:15 p.m. A pizza lunch will be served. The class will include details about our faith; our mission, vision and purpose; and the opportunity to discover your spiritual gifts. Sign up for the class by emailing Jaime McCarthy in the church office — newbedfordepchurch@gmail.com or calling 724-964-8055.



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

Awana is in 'full swing'....it is such a blessing to be in the hustle and bustle of this ministry and to see children learning about Almighty God! Please lift the faithful servants in prayer as they serve the children of our church and community. AWANA GAME LEADER needed January thru March. A game leader is needed at Awana on Wednesdays from 5:20 to 6:25. Responsibilities will be leading games for the kindergarten to 2nd grade group and the grade 3-6 group. Contact Dawn Harris if you have any questions or are interested in helping. *Prayerfully consider being a life changer at Awana.* You are welcome to stop in and visit any Wednesday evening, 5:00-7:00.

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

December 6th - Regular Club Night

December 13th - Crazy Christmas Night!

Wear the Christmas Colors...Red or Green.....or both colors!!

December 20st -Happy Birthday Jesus Party. Wear Red/Green clothing

December 27th & Jan. 3rd -NO Awana Club -Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Awana Club will resume on JANUARY 10th - Pajama Night

Inclement Weather Notification



Awana does not always follow Wilmington Area School District closing schedule. A decision will be made *by 3:00 on Wednesday* if Awana will be cancelled for the evening. I will send email to the email address that was given on the registration form. Leaders will receive a text message.



EPIC NEWS

Please join us at eleven o'clock on **December 14th** for our Bible Study time. Please note, we will be meeting once in the month of December. No Bible Study on Dec. 7th or 21st. Following our Bible study, our Christmas luncheon will begin at 12:15. Please see Nancy Cummings if you would be willing to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

When making your New Year's plans, please pencil us in to find out what EPIC has in store for 2024. We are looking at a new Bible study, a trip back to Lancaster and new friendships.

Many thanks to Lee for a great and highly informative 2023 Bible Study on the book of Revelation. Our thanks also to Dawn Harris and Debbie Ammeen, for the tasty meals that were planned and enjoyed by the EPIC group this year.

Wishing you all the Blessings and Joys this Christmas



WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

**RESTRUCTURED!
REFRESHED!
RENEWED!**

**WE NEED A MODERATOR AND
SECRETARY TO HELP LEAD OUR
RESTRUCTURED WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION IN 2024.**

ONLY TWO MEETINGS PER YEAR!

**MODERATOR: ACT AS LIAISON TO
THE WOMEN'S CIRCLES TO
COORDINATE IDEAS FOR EVENTS.**

**SECRETARY: TAKE MINUTES AT
THE MEETINGS TO KEEP THE
WOMEN INFORMED OF WHAT'S
HAPPENING WITHIN THE
ASSOCIATION.**

**NEXT MEETING DATE —
JAN. 9, 2024 AT 6:30PM**

***PLEASE PRAYERFULLY
CONSIDER SERVING AS
MODERATOR or SECRETARY.***
**If any questions, or if you're
willing to volunteer, please
contact Darlene Robison.**

**NEW BEDFORD EVANGELICAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
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Pulaski, PA 16143
Phone: 724-964-8055

**Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
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New Castle, PA 16101**



**Redeeming Times Newsletter
DECEMBER 2023**

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



O Holy Night

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

Sunday Schedule:

8:30a.m. – Contemporary Worship Service

9:30a.m. – Sunday School for all ages

10:30a.m. – Traditional Worship Service

**Join us Christmas Eve at 7PM for our
Candlelight Worship Service!
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**