

Dear NBEPC Family:

For this combined summer newsletter, I am going to lay aside reporting on the transitional process and previews of upcoming sermon series, and simply speak to you from my heart.

These past years, months and weeks leading to Connie's going to be with the Lord on Saturday, May 20 has been one in which I experienced so many emotions, emotions you may have experienced in your own life when someone you love is very ill; or when you yourself have been very ill; or when you have experienced some other situation that has you or someone you love in physical or emotional pain.

There is sadness, sadness at watching someone you love suffer and knowing that you can do surface things to help, but you can't crawl inside their bodies and give them relief. There is weariness. You do this and that and the other thing and it still doesn't seem to be good enough. The needs are still there, and becomes enhanced as the person you love becomes weaker and more needy. There is a feeling of being privileged, privileged to have been called by God to be at someone's side as they go through a difficult journey and you are there to show Christ's love to them. There is questioning. Why, Lord, are you not answering my prayers for healing, or for a resolution to the situation? There can be impatience, or a feeling that you just want to escape the hurt. And there can be a feeling of tremendous Holy Spirit-filled resolution. You are going to see this through; you are going to walk this journey with the one you love, or through that situation, right through to the end. There is a sense of feeling God's love through the prayers and caring of others, even if little hints of doubts about God's love creep into your mind from time to time.

But through it all, there is God. I can't begin to tell you the numerous times God ministered to me, gave me perspective, gave me words to say, gave me a sense of his love, or just gave me comfort and a sense of His presence, as I opened His word every morning. As I did, there were cries from my heart, prayers of appreciation, prayers for Connie, prayers for others, and a sense of assurance and trust in Him. He was in control. He loved Connie more than I ever could, or her daughters ever could, or her family could. And He was working in her too. The smiles and the jokes in the midst of this journey, especially in these last months, was evidence of His working in her. He is working in you, too. As the Bible constantly says, He will not abandon you or forsake you. He will walk with you through the valley of the shadow of death, or uncertainty, or fear, and He will most definitely give you moments of peace that truly does pass all understanding.

And He will show you the value of honest, heartfelt tears —like the tears Jesus shed when He heard Lazarus died, or when He looked over Jerusalem as He rode into it for the last time on His earthly ministry. Tears are welling up in me now, even as I write this. But it is okay. And it is okay and necessary for you, too. I am learning that God is especially close to us when we are honest with Him, when we let our feelings flow out, when from the depths of our souls we weep. He meets us in our tears, He loves us with an almost imperceptible hug when we cry. And so cry, cry from the pain, or the hurt, or the loss, or the assurance of eternal restoration and love. God gave us this gift, this emotion, too, and He will use it to help your mind and your heart process, and heal.

Finally, this thought. God loves you so much. You know how some people, certainly not the majority, but how some people will avoid you like the plague when they know you are going through something? Who knows why - maybe it's fear of not knowing what to say, or saying the wrong thing, or because they want to avoid being around pain or suffering or emotion that because it's too difficult to handle. But God is not like that. He comes right in; He walks into the depths of sorrow and pain and questions and anger and fear and doubts, and He makes His presence known. Oh, does He make His presence known.

The Bible tells us to love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and mind and strength. Now I know more deeply, and pray that you might know it too, about why God inspired those words. Because that is how He loves us. That is how He loves my Connie. That is how He loves you, too.

To God be the glory forever.

Pastor Dan

We extend our Deepest Sympathy to the Eppinger family for the passing of Jane on May 12th. Jane will be dearly missed by all who knew her, she was a bright light to everyone that she met.



We extend our Deepest Sympathy to Pastor Dan, Katie and Danielle & Kirk and to their extended families and friends for the passing of Connie on May 20th. Connie will be dearly missed by all who knew her!

We extend our Deepest Sympathy to the family and friends of Bea Brindza. Bea also passed away on May 20th. Bea was living out of town with her daughter for the last several years. Bea was a long time member of this church and was very active in choir and other ministries here.

We extend our Deepest Sympathy to Tim Smith and the entire Smith family on the sudden passing of Tim's son, Jake. Jake passed away on May 29th.

We extend our Deepest Sympathy to the Riethmiller family on the passing of Harry's father, Frank. Frank passed away on June 5th.

Please keep all of these families in your prayers as they mourn the loss of their loved ones.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God."

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Birthdays in June

6/01 – Karah Deal
6/07 – Lisa Craig
6/07 – Dennis Jones
6/07 – Autumn Marshall
6/10 – Edison Horodyski
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 – Rori Fulkman

6/25 – Shirley Sikora
6/26 – Amy Geisinger
6/27 – Tim Smith
6/28 – Ashlynn McAllen
6/29 – John Anderson
6/29 – Dorothy Rishell

Birthdays in July

7/03 – Linda Harris
7/04 – Brandon Harris
7/04 – Ethan Harris
7/05 – Mary Beckman
7/05 – Tim Pogozelec
7/07 – Nathan Book
7/09 – Scott Phillips
7/11 – Jane Eppinger
7/12 – Gary Greene

7/17 – Gail Phillips
7/18 – Sharon Book
7/18 – Barb Carr
7/18 – Maverick Whiting
7/19 – Jessica Piccola
7/21 – Alyson Boyer
7/21 – Aryn Boyer
7/26 – Diane Bell

7/26 – Natalie Carr
7/27 – Billy Ray Moore
7/27 – Jacob Moore
7/27 – Nicholas Moore
7/27 – Samuel Moore
7/27 – Richard Pence
7/29 – Sheala McCarthy
7/30 – Pam Maloney

Birthdays in August

8/03 – Eli Fulkman
8/04 – Pete Carlisle
8/05 – Ted Chrobak
8/05 – Dave Hunt
8/07 – Erma Gorley
8/08 – Paden McCarthy
8/10 – Gisela Dieter
8/10 – Ronan Kaufman
8/13 – Tammy Anderson

8/13 – Terri Emery
8/14 – Ciarra McAllen
8/15 – Nichol Fenati
8/15 – Ursula Pence
8/16 – Sandy Courson
8/16 – Shirley Goist
8/16 – Mary Hartzell

8/19 – Renee Persky
8/20 – Macie Whiting
8/21 – Meadow Whiting
8/25 – Mitchell Whiting
8/26 – Kelly Fox
8/29 – Emily Pence

Have a Blessed 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
Gene Bicehouse-----Garden Way Place

Pray
FOR *Healing* 



Congratulations to Shane & Carrie Kaufman on the birth of their son, Noah Michael Kaufman. Noah was born on May 15th, Noah weighed 7 lbs. and was 20 inches long! Ronan is a big brother and Rob & Nancy Bretz are the proud grandparents of this precious baby boy!

Congratulations to Jared & Kristi Kaufman on the birth of their daughter, Makenna Ann! Makenna was born on May 25th, she weighed 7lbs 10oz and is 21 inches long. Dennis & Lori Jones are the proud grandparents and Ted & Mary Jane Hilliard are the proud great grandparents!!



Thank you all for the consideration shown to our family following our mother's passing. The meal was delicious and much appreciated! Mom would have loved the day!

-Bill Gorley, Karen Reinhart, Bob Gorley, Bruce Gorley and Susan McFarland

Thank you to everyone for your calls, cards, visits, and prayers during our family's loss. We're so blessed to have such a wonderful church family and truly appreciate everything that everyone did for grandma.

Blessings - The Eppinger Family

Words cannot express adequately my gratitude and heartfelt love for all of you, for the way you prayed for my Connie in the last months of her journey to heaven, and for the way you have loved and supported me since God called her home. Thank you to the deacons for the incredible luncheon you put together. Thank you to Donna and Ashley for making the service so special with that lovely music. Thank you for the cards, the notes, the meals and the continued caring as family members and friends came to stay with me. For the rest of my life, I will never forget and will cherish always the love of God that you so beautifully demonstrated. This is a very special place and a very special church family. - Pastor Dan

Special thank you to Dennis and Sam Jones for making the 9 hour trip to Indiana to pick up the benches that were made with all our saved plastic bottle caps!!

The Deacons would like to give a big thank you to everyone who helped with the recent funeral luncheons we've had. We are truly blessed to have so many people offer to help with set up, food, and clean up. It is all greatly appreciated!!

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!



Just a Note: The Deacons will be taking a little break this summer and will not be providing "Coffee Time". We will resume again the first Sunday in October.

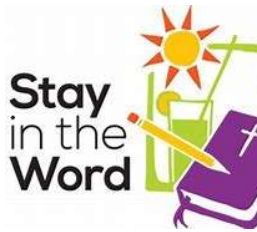
EPIC



EPIC

EXPERIENCED PEOPLE IN CHRIST

Summer has arrived! We are making our summer plans and would like to invite you to join us as we continue our journey through the book of Revelation. Learn more about the seven seals, trumpets, and bowls and oh yes, the judgements too. Interested? Our Bible study begins at eleven o'clock the first and third Thursday of each month. We have had twenty to twenty-five people attend each study and I know Lee Harris always has room for more. We also have some special outings planned for this summer, so please consider being a part of the EPIC group.



JUNE 11th -- Last day to sign up and payment for Erie outing.

15th -- Lunch will be a picnic potluck. Epic will provide hotdogs and fixin's. Please bring a favorite summer picnic food to share. See sign-up sheet in the hallway.

22nd -- EPIC is off on an adventure to Hartville Kitchen for lunch and an afternoon matinee. We will leave the church parking lot at 9:00 a.m.

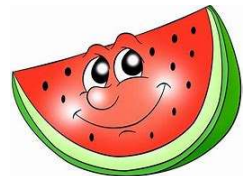
JULY 6th - Lunch will be pizza, salad and dessert.

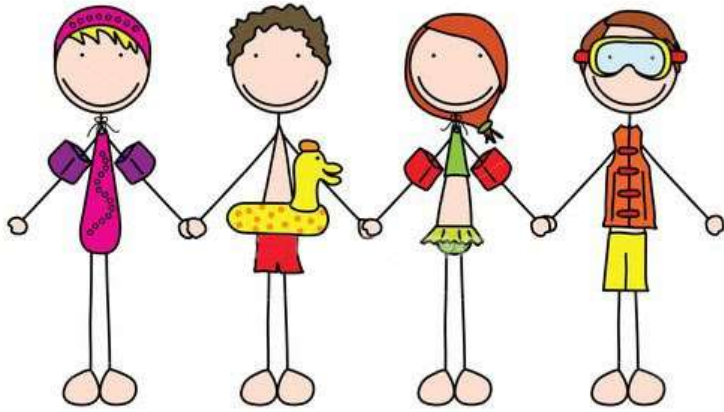
19th -- We are off on another adventure. This time EPIC heads north to Lake Erie. Lunch, on your own, will be at a local restaurant in Erie before our ride on a paddle wheel boat, The Victorian Princess. We will depart from the church parking lot at 8:00 a.m.

20th - Lunch will be "TACO Thursday" -- "Have it your way" -- plus dessert.

***We will also be selecting mission trip prayer partners during lunch.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer.





Upcoming Youth meetings:

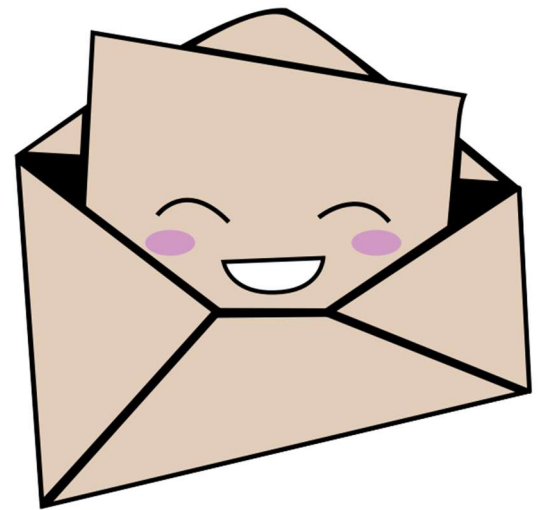
June 11th

July 9th & 30th

Sunday meetings are from 1-3 pm

In addition, we will also be attending the Alive festival from July 13-16 and returning to West Virginia to serve at the Dunlow Community center from July 23-29.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the envelope fundraiser. Many of the envelopes have been taken but there are still some left so please prayerfully consider picking one up in the church vestibule and supporting the youth of New Bedford.





Office Hours

Church office hours are Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00am-2:00pm, unless otherwise indicated in the bulletin.

IMPORTANT: Our mailing address is –

New Bedford EPC, 151 Woodland Dr., PULASKI, PA 16143

Even though our church is located in New Bedford, all mail must be sent to the above mailing address or it will be returned to you by the Post Office. Thank You!

**NEW BEDFORD EVANGELICAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
151 Woodland Drive
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
SUMMER JUNE/JULY 2023**

Church website: www.newbedfordepchurch.org
Church e-mail: newbedfordepchurch@gmail.com

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

