

Dear NBEPC Family:

Usually in this space, I will take the opportunity to tell you of upcoming sermon series or to encourage you about some outstanding initiative the church has undertaken.

However, this month, in light of the sudden and shocking news of our beloved Sam Jones going to be with the Lord, I feel led to just speak from the heart with the prayer that it minister to you.

I have heard a number of you express that the church has been through a whole lot these past couple of years with the number of saints in this church who have passed on their heavenly reward. It has been a lot. Grieving is one thing, but when grief follows grief and then more grief, it can sometimes feel like it is more than the body can bear.

The best advice I can give you is the advice that I prayerfully follow myself: maintain a continued relationship with God through reading His word and praying, every single day. I have at times in my life felt like the word is the cliff I hang onto with my fingernails, while it seems like other parts of life are falling all around me. I have always wondered how a person can get through a day without hearing the voice of God as expressed through His special revelation, the Scriptures. That goes doubly so when life deals one blow after another after another. The Bible reminds you of the bigger picture; the longer-range plan of God. It is a comfort to you when you grieve; and helps provide answers to the question *why*.

It was through the Bible that I came to the peace of understanding that God will indeed protect us as Christians, until all the assignments He has for us are done. Then He will call us home. For some this is sooner than any of us would expect. And sometimes there is, as was the case with Sam, a suddenness with which God calls us home. Sam went to be with the Lord so quickly that I have likened it in my own mind God sending the chariot for Elijah in the Old Testament.

What I have just written is to in no way negate the sense of sorrow or loss when someone like Sam, or Jim, or Jake, or Bobbi, or Jane, or Mel, or Jason are called home. I love you so much that as your under-shepherd, I feel those losses intensely with you. For days, I could not stop weeping at the suddenness of Sam's passing. But it does give us perspective, and solace. Each of those individuals I mentioned are more alive now than they have ever been.

May you keep praying, keep in His word, and keep your perspective as we journey through the highs and lows of this life together.

Blessings,

Pastor Dan

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Replacement of parking lot lights and flood lights on corner of education wing.
- Clean up brush & dead trees in new property, brush piles at Hopewell Cemetery need burned. Planned for church clean-up day March 23.
- New back boards & hoops will be installed for the youth.
- A playground memorial fund was approved by Session. The committee members are looking into insurance ramifications.
- Royalty Lawn Care will do our lawn care this year at the same rate as last year.
- Brad Marshall and Gregg McMillan audited the church's financial books.
- The Administration Committee invites help for the church's Annual Spring-Cleaning Day on March 23.
- The Evangelism Committee has reviewed the church roll and has sent letters out to inactive members to re-engage at the church.
- A Couple's Retreat will be held on March 8-9 at the Hampton Inn in West Middlesex.
- The AWANA Award Ceremony takes place on March 27.
- Mission Committee will continue to pursue the prayer walk in the local community in 2024.
- Lenten Supper will be held at 5:30 p.m. on March 17 (soup). A Bible Study/Devotion will be led by Pastor Dan prior to the light meal.
- A motion was made and approved by the Worship Committee to livestream the second service sermon on Facebook Live
- Christian Education Committee noted an interest in growth group initiatives is increasing.
- The next Session Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 28.

We extend our deepest sympathies to Geniene Jones and the entire Jones family on the passing of Sam Jones. He went to be with the Lord. He was greatly loved and will be greatly missed by the entire church family.



The Deacons would like to give a very heartfelt thank you to all those who helped in any way with the funeral luncheon for Sam Jones. Over 235 people were served. Without your help it would have been very difficult. THANK YOU for your donations of food, help with set-up and clean up and many prayers. New Bedford EPC is such a blessing to all when there is a need.



Thank you again and God bless you,
The Deacons

Birthdays in March

03/03 – Gene Bicehouse
03/03 – Steve Fox
03/07 – Vinnie Fenati
03/08 – Sue Bluedorn
03/12 – Mira Fulkman
03/13 – Doug Houk

03/15 – Larry Bluedorn
03/17 – Jake Emery
03/19 – Dan Dieter
03/20 – Ed Rudzik
03/21 – Sheila Eppinger-Epper

03/22 – Beth Kendall
03/24 – Jennifer Saulpaugh
03/25 – John Book
03/27 – Robert Bretz
03/29 – Judy Stuhlmann

Birthdays in April

04/01 – Lillian Emery
04/01 – Clay Fulkman
04/04 – Barbara Pence
04/06 – Bill Harshbarger
04/07 – Andy Hostetler
04/08 – Liz Fraley
04/08 – Jaime McCarthy

04/09 - David Magee
04/11 – Julian Krisuk
04/13 – Leo Krisuk
04/19 – Dave Carr
04/19 – Ty Phillips
04/22 – Donna Fox
04/23 – Bonnie Glogowski

04/26 – Patty Wade
04/27 – Edward Rudzik
04/28 – Madeline Whiting



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
Shirley Tremba-----Nursing Home
Gene Bicehouse-----Garden Way Place
Ted Chrobak-----Home



**MAN CAMP- March 8-10 2024 at
Seneca Hills Bible Camp & Retreat Center
276 Damascus Rd. Polk, PA 16342
For more information, visit our website at SenecaHills.org**



Do you enjoy camping? Would you like to get to know other members of the congregation that also enjoy camping? Planning is underway for a camping trip on August 16-18 at Pymatuning State Park, Jamestown Campground. You can get a campsite for the weekend or even join us for the day on Saturday. Campsites fill up quickly so we recommend you get this on your calendar soon. For more information call Judy Riethmiller at 724-730-6495 or Cindy Bell at 724-674-5160.



The Evangelism Committee is collecting bags of individually wrapped candy for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 30th. There will be a tote in the narthex until 3/24 for donations. Thank You!!



Evangelism Committee will be hosting Family Fun Day April 27th 1-3:30 P.M. Veggie trays and drinks will be provided. Bring your favorite dessert to share and favorite game(s) to play.

CPR Class has been rescheduled for March 11 6-8:30 P.M.





Gene Bicehouse will be celebrating his 91st Birthday on March 3rd! Let's shower him with cards! Gene's address is – 2400 Garden Way Apt. 121, Hermitage, PA 16148. Have a very Blessed Birthday, Gene!

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On Saturday, March 23rd there will be a Church Clean-up Day! This will begin at 8A.M. This will include church grounds and anything that may need fixed or replaced inside the church. Please come and help prepare the church for our upcoming Easter activities.

******EPIC – Lancaster TRIP******



Reminder: If you have signed up for the EPIC trip to Lancaster in May, we will need you deposit of \$100.00 by Sunday, March 10th. Balance will be due by Sunday, April 14th. If you have any questions, please see Nancy or Lee. Looking forward to having you join us. Thank you



Lenten devotions & supper – Sunday, March 17TH, devotions will begin at 5:00 with a soup supper following at 5:30.

LENTEN CALENDAR

Palm Sunday Worship Services – Sunday, March 24th at 8:30am and 10:30am.

Maundy Thursday Worship Service – March 28th at 7:00pm.

Good Friday Worship Service – March 29th at 7:00pm.

Community Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, March 30th 10:00am – Noon.

Resurrection Morning Worship Services – March 31st at 8:30am and 10:30am. A light breakfast will be served in between worship services at 9:30am.

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!



Office Hours

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

Take Out Fish Fry



March 8th & 15th

5:30 - 7:00pm or until sold out

Small \$10 Large \$14

Includes: Fish, Mac & Cheese, Coleslaw, Roll & Brownie

New Bedford EP Church

151 Woodland Dr. Pulaski, PA

Proceeds go to NBEP Church Missions



Join us on Wednesdays from 5-7pm as we continue our DVD study BASIC by Francis Chan.

E.P.I.C. will be meeting on March 7th & 21st to continue our study of Daniel in preparation for our trip to Sight and Sound theater in May. Please join us for Bible study at 11am followed by lunch at 12pm. Our menu will be:

March 7: Retta's fajitas, chips & salsa, rice and dessert

March 21: Bring a green dish to share for our Saint Patrick day themed pot luck.

epic!



This years couples retreat is **March 8th – 9th**.

There is a sign up sheet in the church vestibule with all of the details. Couples must be registered by March 3rd. We would love for you to join us for this time of rest, reconnection and as always plenty of laughter.

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, and wearing uniform. 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. Items can be donated until Sunday March 24th.*** 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.



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.

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

March 6th - Double Point Night



March 13th - Aloha Night

March 20th - Marketplace shopping night

March 27th - Awards Night & Dinner 5:00 Awards followed by Potluck Dinner
ALL are welcome to come and celebrate the year of Awana!

Congratulations to Violet Horodyski, Kassidy Embree, and Jacob Taylor for competing in the Western PA Awana Bible Quizzing on February 24th. Jacob and Kassidy got second place in the team section. Well done for hiding God's Word in their heart!!!



J.A.M. Kids is a time during the 10:30 service for the young children to have a lesson time of their own. Lessons and materials are provided.....the series they are studying is God's Big Picture, drawing lessons through the Bible. Leaders are needed to disciple these young children Sign up is in the Vestibule.



SAVE THE DATES... VBS WILL BE JUNE 10-14

All firefighters, prepare for duty! Join the staff at Station 316, where kids will be trained to extinguish the fires of their own sin, and also how to help rescue others from the fire!

Wednesday, April 10th at 7:00 PM - Planning meeting for Fire Fighters VBS

It takes many people to come together to make Vacation Bible School happen.....many people using the different gifts that God has given them! Be in prayer for how you can serve in this ministry. Looking forward to seeing you on April 3rd!

**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
MARCH 2024**

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

****Look inside for the 2024 Lenten schedule****