

Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church,

In May we celebrate Mothers Day. In June we celebrate Father's Day. The theme of this letter will be on parenting. I recently read these statistics. By the age of thirteen the majority of boys in America have lost their virginity. For girls the age is fifteen. These statistics were from the early 2000's. I am sure they are worse today.

It is not easy being a parent in this day and age. The influences away from godly behavior are stronger today than ever before. Not too long ago, in the majority of American homes, Christian values were taught by the parents. The parents were supported by the extended family, supported by the media, supported by the community, supported by the school and supported by the church. This is no longer true today. Even when we as parents teach godly values the support system, almost at every level, teaches the opposite. Kids have never been perfect (we certainly were not when we were young). Wrong decisions have always been made. The difference today is that the decisions are made at an earlier age and often are not seen as being wrong.

Do not despair. Our God is sovereign and forgiving. But we must recognize the need for a directed plan of parenting. Without a well thought out faith based plan the values of the world will overwhelm our children. The plan must begin very early in life. Adolescence is way too late. Even late elementary school is too late.

Proverbs 22: 6 states, "Train a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not turn from it." This is a Proverb which means it is not a guarantee. But it does command us as Christian parents to have a "training plan." Let me share five critical areas that must be part of every Christian families training plan.

First, have a Christ centered marriage. Parents who concentrate "on the kids" and ignore each other will ultimately do great harm to the children. Modeling Christ centered love and relationship for the children is the most important task of parents. Kids grow up and move away... husbands and wives remain.

Second, establish visual habits of love. Demonstrate your love for your spouse and your love for your children and your love for Jesus Christ. Never assume love is known. Daily affirmation is needed. Family devotions and prayers are needed. Even when correction is needed (and it often is) correct in love not anger.

Third, plan special "memory events" with the children. Think what you remember as a child. Trips to the zoo, vacations, family picnics, going to the playground are all memory events.

Fourth, control the input of negative electronic influences. Even many of the "children's shows" on T.V. today do not support Christian values. The internet can consume time and minds. Music can have a very negative affect on children. This is a battle every parent will face today from childhood to young adult age.

Fifth, allow the church to be a support institution. Allow church to be a "second home" for your children. Sunday school, youth groups, worship, retreats, summer camp, church events should be important parts of a child's life. Church cannot replace the family... but it can supplement the family. It is even more important as children become teenagers.

Our children will make wrong decisions. Some will be serious. Our Lord is a god of forgiveness. We must be parents of love and forgiveness. We as parents (and now grandparents) must build a foundation of love and faith for our children. The foundation must be strong enough to overcome the attacks of the world. Have a "training plan" to guide your children in the ways of the Lord. Happy Mothers Day and Fathers Day

In Christ,

Doug

**SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**

**Administration Committee**

- reported an end of March balance of \$2,857
- awarded the mowing contract to Joe Adams
- reported purchase of a new vacuum cleaner
- reported replacement of all light bulbs in the sanctuary. This will eliminate the “dark spots” in the sanctuary
- recommended the addition of new handicap parking spots. This will eliminate the handicap parking along the curb. A bid of \$13,600.00 was received and approved. The contract also includes the landscaping of the new sidewalk area in the back of the church. Also the dead ash trees will be removed. The five parking spots will be in cement.

**Christian Education**

- received a closing report on Awana. The report was very positive for this new program
- approved a the Adult membership class for May
- Approved the dates for VBS

**Evangelism Committee**

- reported on a very successful Easter Egg hunt
- Planning a picnic for the “Welcome Warriors”.... the individuals manning the welcome station on Sundays.
- reported on the Lenten Bible Studies
- Reported on a renewed emphases on evangelism and not primarily fellowship events.

**Mission Committee**

- Reported that Caring hearts was in need of new tools to replace stolen tools. This years donation will be sent to help this need
- Reported that around \$3120.00 was received for the Easter offering. This will be sent to the Cojon’s in their orphanage ministry in Guatemala.
- Spoke of plans to work with Habitat for Humanity on the build in New Castle.
- The Ayers will be with us on July 19<sup>th</sup> to report on their ministry in Haiti. Matt will lead the worship and an all church get together will be planned

**Worship Committee**

- approved vacation request of pastor Doug and arranged for Dave and Judy to lead the worship

Session also received reports form the Men’s Ministry, the Woman’s ministry and the Vision team  
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**Debi Fynes.....02**  
**Grant Dieter.....05**  
**Zoey Rae Janoski.....05**  
**Ed Miller.....08**  
**Maelee Whiting.....08**  
**Kim Runyan.....09**  
**Doris Spence.....12**  
**Vern Eppinger..... 14**  
**Duane Boyles.....14**  
**Doug Wallace.....16**  
**Ashley Shaffer.....19**  
**Isabella Devite.....19**  
**Brandi Buxton.....22**  
**Nancy Templeton.....24**  
**Shirley Tremba.....25**  
**Linda Punneo.....26**  
**Roy Komar.....27**  
**Ron Tremba.....29**

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**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**
- Don Jones-----Avalon Nursing Home-Rehab**
- Carl Black-----Clen-Moore Place (Greer House)**
- Ruth McClanahan-----Nugent’s Cont. Care**
- Bea Brinza-----Home**
- Larry Pence-----Home**

WOMEN'S NEWS

May Circle Meetings

Deborah Circle ~ Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:30a.m.

Ruth Circle ~ Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:30a.m.

Lydia Circle ~ Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:00p.m.

Rebecca Circle ~ Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30p.m.

Elizabeth Circle ~ Thurs., May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30p.m.

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Ladies "Love & Laughter" Breakfast:

All ladies and girls are invited to join us at the church on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30a.m. We will share in a time of Love, Laughter & Learning with our sisters in Christ. Please bring a "helpful hint" or a "new use for an old thing" as we explore ways to make our lives easier. The men will be serving breakfast. There is no cost for this event, however we do request that you sign up in advance in the narthex.



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ADULT NEW MEMBER CLASS

This month we will have a class for adults who desire to be a member of our church. We will meet during the Sunday School hour (beginning at 9:30a.m.) In the Pastors Office. We will meet May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and the 31<sup>st</sup> (Memorial Day Sunday on the 24<sup>th</sup> will be skipped). On May 31<sup>st</sup> we will receive the new members into our church. Please let the church office know if you are planning to attend so we know how many will be joining us. If you are not available all of the dates we will make alternative arrangements. Please come and join us!



Congratulations to Bobby Liddell and Natalie Carr, they attended the FBLA State competition in

Hershey, PA earlier this month. In order to compete in the state competition they had to place within the top three at a regional competition at Laurel High School this past December. Bobby placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Regional competition in Computer Problem Solving and Natalie placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Introduction to Business Communication at the Regional event!

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New Wilmington Presbyterian Church asked us to share this job posting in our bulletin and Newsletter. They will be accepting applications/resumes through mid May.

New Wilmington Presbyterian Church Preschool in New Wilmington, PA, is seeking a part-time Assistant Teacher in their program for three to five year olds. The Assistant Teacher will assist with lesson and activity planning and preparation; work with children in these activities; and assist the Director as needed. Candidate must have a high school diploma; a bachelor's degree in education or a related field is preferred; and experience working with young children. The preschool program runs five mornings a week September through May and follows the New Wilmington Area School District Calendar. Refer to the church website at [www.nwpresby.org](http://www.nwpresby.org) for more information about the position and application process. Cover letter, resume and the contact information of three references may be sent to the NWPC Preschool at 229 South Market Street, New Wilmington, PA 16142.

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National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. We will be having a service at the church at 7:00p.m. There will be a prayer vigil for the 24 hours leading up to the service. There is a sign up sheet for the prayer vigil in the Narthex.



We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Helen Groce. Helen was called Home this past week. Helen was a wonderful woman of God and will be missed by all.  
*“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”*  
 John 14:1-4

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We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Janice Woodside. Janice was a former member of our church. She passed away last month.

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We extend our sympathy to the McMillan family on the death of Shari’s dad this past month. Mollie Fulkman is his granddaughter.  
*“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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We would like to thank the Wednesday morning sewing ladies and Cindy Bell for the lovely bed quilts. Henry and I are really enjoying them and they’re beautiful. We appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Pearl and Henry Reed



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Thank you to the New Bedford Soup Group and Christian Ed. Committee for providing dinner for the Awana Awards Night. The meal was delicious and was a time of fellowship enjoyed by all that were able to attend. Thank you for your planning, preparation, and serving the families of Awana.

## Stephen Ministry

Check out our bulletin board:

What kind of a man or woman would receive the care of a Stephen Minister?

A man like you..... A woman like you.....

### **We All Know Someone.....**

Someone in crisis who doesn’t know where to turn.

Someone who is tense, upset, worn out.....  
 Needing someone to talk with, someone to care.

You’d like to help. But how?

There are three easy steps.

1. **Listen and care for your friend in your own relationship together.**
2. **Ask your friend for permission to share his or her need with someone who can help. Be sure to tell your friend that all information will be kept confidential.**
3. **Once permission is given, report his or her need as promptly as possible. You can do this by contacting the Referrals Coordinator, Diana Halt at 724-977-8268.**

***Sunday School Teacher Needed:*** Christian Education Committee is praying for God to touch the heart of His servant who will be called to fulfill the position of 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday School Teacher. If you feel that God is calling you to help with this ministry please let any CE Committee member know. We'd be happy to talk with you.

CE members are: Christian Fulkman, Shirley Janoski, Gay Ann Miller, Dawn Harris, Jocilyn Houk, Kyle Jones, Tracy Duffy, Collin Fulkman, Julie Whiting, and Jackie Hall.

## IT'S TIME FOR A TROPICAL ESCAPE!

Who wouldn't want to explore a tropical island, with its glittering turquoise waters, warm white sands and cool ocean breezes? Treasure Seekers to **SonTreasure Island VBS** are welcomed by the scent of exotic flowers, the taste of tropical fruits and the captivating sound of island music. But this is no ordinary tropical escape! There is treasure to be found here. More precious than gold, more lasting than diamonds, it is the greatest treasure of all—God's love!

At **SonTreasure Island VBS**, treasure seekers will play island games, create colorful crafts and enjoy tropical snacks. But more importantly, they will discover the rich treasure of God's love through the life of Jesus. So set your sails to arrive at New Bedford Evangelical Presbyterian Church for.....

## **SonTreasure Island Vacation Bible School**

June 22-26, 2015      9:00-12:00

**ATTENTION:** Adults, Jr./Sr. High & College Students.....

**Don't miss out on this tropical escape with God!!!**

Join now for the satisfaction of leading kids to discover the rich treasure of God's love!!

Volunteers are needed in the following areas:

Teachers	Craft Center
Teacher helpers	Bible Game Center
Registration	Recreation Center
Decorating (weekend before VBS)	Prayer partners.

Please let me know what you can do to help with this ministry!

**VBS Decorations & Props:** We will be transforming the church into the Tropical Island. Please place the decorations on the Fellowship Hall stage marked with your name, by June 14<sup>th</sup>. Items needed are: beach chairs, beach umbrellas, palm trees, tiki lights, treasure chest, stuffed sea animals, blow-up sea animals, or anything island themed.

Dawn Harris call or text: 330-881-8110 email: [dawnhnbpc@aol.com](mailto:dawnhnbpc@aol.com)

NEW BEDFORD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
151 WOODLAND DR. PULASKI PA 16143



JUNE 22-26, 2015  
9:00-12:00

All children Preschool-Grade 6 are invited to attend!  
**VBS REGISTRATION FORM**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies: Y / N List: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Conditions Y / N List: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies: Y / N List: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Conditions Y / N List: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies: Y / N List: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Conditions Y / N List: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Home Church, if any \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Guardians...are you able to help with VBS in some way if necessary? Yes ( ) No ( )

If you answered yes, we will contact you if we need your help. Thank you!

**Get ready to discover the rich treasure of God's love!!!**

*Register by June 7<sup>th</sup> to get a special prize!!*

**For more info contact Dawn Harris at 330-881-8110 or dawnhnbpc@aol.com**

