

Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church

The Vision Team, at my request, has been helping us as a church look at our ministries and more effectively serve our Lord for the past year and a half. The central task of the Team is to bring us into greater obedience to the Great Commission of the Lord. We are called to “Go into the world and make disciples...”

Part of their training was to look at the life cycle of a church and apply the lessons learned to our church. The life cycle involves three stages.... Incline.... Recline (or Plateau) Decline. Here is a chart describing these stages (This is quoted from Ken Priddy’s Vision Team Training Booklet)

INCLINE	RECLINE	DECLINE
Future oriented	Present Oriented	Past Oriented
Vision Driven	Program Driven	Structure Driven
Community Focused	Congregation Focused	Core Focused
New Leadership	Established leadership	Incumbent Leadership
Conversion Growth	Transfer Growth	No Growth

This life cycle is not inevitable... but it is common. The key is to remain, in the Incline Stage as a church. The key is to move into the Incline Stage when you are in the Recline Stage. Moving into the Incline Stage when you are in the Decline Stage is very, very difficult.

Where is our church? There is no “correct answer.” I believe we see elements of both the Incline Stage and the Recline (Plateau) Stage in our church. In many ways we are a very healthy church. In the past few years we have seen a good many new ministries start in our church and have seen a fairly large number of new members. In other ways we see areas that should be addressed. Truthfully, as you look at other churches you can see how easy it is to slip into a declining church.

The Elders for the past few months has been discussing and praying about a perceived need in our church to better minister to our church and to our community. We are now asking for your prayers and your input for this perceived need. We see the need for a more concerted ministry to our teens, our young adults and our young married couples. Right now our two part time youth leaders (Jocilyn and Kyle) are doing a good job ministering to our teens. They are able to spend three to five hours per week leading our youth group. They are balancing school (Jocilyn commutes from Edinboro to lead our youth ministry) and work (Kyle works every day) with the church. Jocilyn will be graduating from college in 2016 with a degree in Elementary Ed.

As a Session we want our Young Adult Ministries to have all the characteristics of an Inclining church. We know the key to young adult ministry is relationship building. Here is what the Elders have been discussing and praying about... is it time in 2016 for our church to hire a full time Director Of Young Adult Ministry? The need is great. The potential is great. The questions are: do we have the resources to make this move? Can we find the right person for this job?

We realize we are looking at an expenditure of around \$50,000. This would increase our expenses by around \$40,000. At this time our finances are very good. Our income this year is \$10,000 over our income at this point last year. We have a great deal of money in reserve. But there is no doubt.. adding this position would financially stretch us.

We are now in the process of putting together the 2016 Budget. We believe the search for the right person will take a good number of months. In the next month or two the Session will make this decision. Please pray. Please share your questions and discuss your thoughts with the Elders and with me. Let us together grow as individuals in Christ and as a church serving our Lord.

In Him
Doug

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



- Received a presentation from the Vision Team
- Received the Financial Report showing a \$16500.00 balance of income over expenditures
- Decided to scrap the old bus and continue looking for a mini bus to purchase (the inspection cost for the bus was \$5000.00)
- Received report on Awana, Sunday school and Youth Group. The new evening Awana is doing very well with a good attendance. We are still in need of Children at Worship volunteers.
- Discussed possibility of full time Director of Young Adult Ministry
- Received into membership by transfer Chad and Erica Taylor
- Discussed funding for our missionaries. Reiterated our policy. Designated giving from our members will go toward budgeted amount for our missionaries. Designated giving from non-members will be given over and above budgeted amount. If Designated money from members is over and above budget, full designated giving will, of course, go to the mission agency
- Received report on Butterfly Messages ministry
- Evangelism Committee will host a breakfast on Sunday October 18th. Vision Team will make a presentation

Cindy Bell.....	01
Rachel Hostetler.....	02
Donald Hartzell.....	04
Connie Shick.....	05
Katie Magee.....	05
Tom Madden.....	05
Connor O'Brien.....	08
Jean Chrobak.....	08
Marilyn Pelles.....	08
Amanda Rudzik.....	10
Don Jones.....	12
Jack Keesey.....	15
Brandy McAllen.....	16
Ariana Carr.....	17
Emily Bretz.....	18
Kristi Jones.....	18
Brock Janoski.....	19
Gladys Barnhart.....	21
Jocilyn Houk.....	21
Elaine Hepler.....	22
Dylan Dieter.....	22
Jeremiah Withers.....	24
Debbie Pogozelec.....	25
Wyatt Dean.....	25
Tyler Craig.....	25
Kelly Craig.....	25
Bev Varano.....	26
Shawn Kendall.....	30
Marilyn McConahy.....	31
Robert Exley.....	31

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 Ret. Community
- Sandy Ruby-----Home
- Jack Keesey-----Golden Hills Rehab

The church will be giving away some of the old tables. If you are interested in any of these, please contact Pastor Doug.



Congratulations to Madeline Whiting on being elected as the 2015 Homecoming Queen at Wilmington Area High School!!

WOMEN'S NEWS



CIRCLE MEETINGS

Deborah ~ Tuesday, October 13th at 9:30a.m.

Elizabeth ~ Thursday, October 15th at 6:30p.m.

Rebecca ~ Saturday, October 17th at 9:00a.m.,
at Bedford Trails Restaurant.

Ruth ~ Monday, October 19th at 9:30a.m.

Lydia ~ Monday, October 19th at 1:00p.m.

CHURCH BAZAAR

**THE BAZAAR IS COMING.....
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH!!!!**

With the Bazaar nearing,
we are once again going to
ask all of our bakers to
help us out in the *Cookie
Room*. Amy and Helen
will have a sign up sheet
like we did last year. The room was a huge
success last year and now that people know we
exist, we are hoping for bigger and better things
to benefit the church and our missions.



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Please be working on your craft projects for the
Bazaar. And don't forget to look thru your
house for "Trash & Treasure" goodies! You can
start bringing items to the garage, please box
them up and label them "Bazaar". Thank You!



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We need volunteers to make soup for the Bazaar,
please see Cindy or Nancy if you are interested!!
Thank You!

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family
and friends of Marty Kollar III who passed away
on August 24, 2015. Marty enjoyed
participating in Sunday School and Bible Study
here at the church.

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We extend our deepest sympathy to Phil and
Diane Whiting and their family on the passing of
Phil's mom, Rachel Whiting last month. Rachel
was a long time member of this church and will
be deeply missed by many friends here.
Gretchen Perline is Rachel's granddaughter.

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The congregation extends sincere sympathy to
Marsha Adams and family at the passing of her
friend, Brian Maguire, last month. Brian sand
at our church on several occasions and also at
the "get-togethers" at the Adams home. Brian
was a wonderful Christian man and we were
blessed by his music and his gentle spirit for the
Lord. He will be missed.

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We extend our deepest sympathy to the family
and friends of Susan Caltrider. She was called
Home this past month.

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One of our former members, Harry Ripley
passed away on August 12th. He and his wife,
Grace attended our church for many years.
Harry was 100 years old. Grace now lives with
her son in Austintown. Her address is
2601 Ardenwood Pl., Youngstown, OH 44515,
C/O Charles R. Hunter. She is very lonely and
would love to hear from you.

YOUTH GROUP OUTING
The Youth Group will be
going to The Silver Ring
Thing this coming Sunday,
October 11TH.
This event is at a church
in Cranberry, the youth
will be meeting at the church at 4:45p.m. The
cost of the event is \$8 and they will be stopping
at Wendy's to eat on the way home. Please be
sure to bring money.



You Can Play an Important Role in Our Stephen Ministry. . .

. . . Because you may know of a friend, neighbor, co-worker, or relative who is going through a difficult time and who could benefit from the focused care, encouragement, and support of a Stephen Minister. If you know of someone who is hurting, **get their permission before** talking with one of our Stephen Leaders or Pastor Doug about that persons' needs. This step is very important! Your Referrals Coordinator (Diana Halt) **cannot contact anyone without their permission FIRST!**

By reporting all potential care receivers directly to a Stephen Leader or Pastor Doug, **NOT** a Stephen Minister or other congregational member this will ensure confidentiality. You can explain to the potential care receivers that all information shared with a Stephen Minister is confidential. This will alleviate anxieties that some care receivers may have. Confidentiality will create and preserve the trust necessary for a caring relationship.

There are 3 situations in which a Stephen Minister may break confidentiality: suicidal behavior, homicidal behavior and abuse. On the other hand, the **care receiver may tell anyone they wish.** We as Stephen Ministers cannot deny nor confirm that we are someone's Stephen Minister.

We are looking for care receivers!! **You** can help Stephen Ministry!

When you see people who are sad, lonely or grief stricken.....don't just tell them you care ~ show them you care. **ASK** how they are, **LISTEN** to what they have to say, **SHARE** the love of Jesus. And if their need is great, **encourage them to consider Stephen Ministry** as a way to receive the transforming love and care of Jesus. **SHOW** them you care. You can make a real difference in their life!

Referrals Coordinator ~ Diana Halt 724-977-8268

VISION TEAM

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Ministering THROUGH the congregation rather than TO the congregation ---- people will grow much further in their faith when they are *giving* ministry rather than *receiving* ministry.

Come to the breakfast on October 18 and find out what the Vision Team is all about.



Awana kicked off on September 16th with 27 Clubbers registered for Wednesday evenings. Thank you seems so little to say for how much these people have done to make the Awana ministry possible: Pastor Doug Runyan, Shirley Janoski, Pastor David Hunt, Erin O'Brien, Jane Reimers, Diana Halt, Helen Bicehouse, Gay Ann Miller, Shirley Tremba, Brenda Hostetler, Beth Kendall, Tim & Debbie Pogozelec, Terri Emery, Susan Bertolino, Jackie Hall, Jane Eppinger, Mary Beckman, Angela Houk, Lori Jones, Lee Harris.

Please lift these faithful servants in prayer as they serve the children of our church and community. There is still a need for listeners and substitutes. *Prayerfully consider being a life changer at Awana.* You are welcome to stop in and visit any Wednesday evening, 5:15-7:00.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR AWANA

October 7th - KICK OFF for the Thanksgiving Basket FOOD DRIVE

Awana CAN make a difference for the CITY RESCUE MISSION

This year's Mission Project **The New Castle City Rescue Mission**. It is a Christian ministry providing spiritual and physical care to the hurting, hunger and homeless of our community. Visit www.cityrescuemission.org for more information. Awana Club is collecting items for the Thanksgiving Baskets that get distributed during the holiday. This collection will start today and continue till November 11th. Our goal is to collect 150 items!

The Items Needed for the Thanksgiving Baskets:

Evaporated Milk	Canned Gravy	Pie Crust Mix	Cranberry Sauce
Pumpkin Pie Filling	Canned Yams	Stuffing Mix	Vegetables

Thank you for helping to provide this ministry with food for families in need.

October 14th - Regular Club Meeting

October 21st - Double, Double Point Night

Clubbers will get double the pints for ttenadace, bringing their Bible and Handbook, and completing sections.

October 28th - Regular Club Night

Please contact Commander Dawn at 330-881-8110/dawnhnbpc@aol.com for more information

URGENT NEED: Children At Worship Leaders

During the 10:30 Service a time of lesson, crafts, games, and fellowship is offered to children in Grades K-4. This ministry is in need of leaders so the children can have this time to worship and learn about God. My prayer is that 7 leaders would answer the call to serve in this ministry so that there would be a rotating schedule. That would mean each leader would lead every other month! Please be in prayer for this ministry.

Looking Ahead: City Rescue Mission Fall Food Drive at Giant Eagle. More information will be in the bulletin as soon as it is available.



Church Family Day Out

**DUE TO RAIN on Oct.3 THIS EVENT IS RESCHEDULED FOR
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10th at 11:00-??**

Irons Mill Farmstead, 252 Greenfield Rd, New Wilmington, PA 16142

Join us for some Fall Fun on the Farm!

Hop-hop on Jumpin' Jackdaws**Cornfield Maze**Cackleberry Bounce
Photo Ops**Corncob Beach**Rubber Duck Races**Pumpkin Slingshot
Climb Mt. Arthur**Super Slides**Hayrides**Fun Farm Animals

We have the Campfire Pit reserved from 1:00-3:00. Come roast hot dogs
& s'mores for lunch and fellowship! This is for the entire congregation!

FREE for Seniors 60+ and 2 yrs & under / Everyone Else \$8.00

Contact Dawn Harris by Thursday, October 8th if you would like to go.

The tickets have to be preordered to get the discounted price.

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