

Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church,

I am writing this just a couple days after Easter. What a wonderful Easter Season we just experienced ! Let me begin at the start of Holy Week. What a magnificent Cantata our Choir shared with us on Palm Sunday. It was such a joy to sit and praise God as the choir sang. That evening we experienced a great time of fellowship and Bible Study in our Soup Supper. Thank you to the Worship committee of preparing the meal. But that was just the beginning of the week. Thursday was memorable. The Seder Supper lead by Dave and the Wednesday Evening Bible Study Group was a time we will not forget. Remembering the Passover. Remembering the fulfillment of the Passover in our Lord Jesus. This moved us to our celebration of communion in Worship. Friday was also a time of great worship. I have had many people comment on how meaningful this service was. We experienced the darkness of the betrayal and death of our Lord on this Good Friday. On Saturday we had the opportunity to share the message of Christ with children from our community in our Easter Egg hunt. Through the puppets and the message shared by Geniene the children heard the story of Christ's death and resurrection. For some this was the only exposure to the Christian message this Easter. Thank you to the Youth Group for preparing for and leading this time. And then Easter came! We will again always remember our early service on Easter Sunday. Led by our youth and our expanded Worship Team we experienced the joy of the resurrection. A special thanks to Lucas, Mitchell and Bobby for sharing their testimonies. They literally moved us to tears... and then more tears. The later service was again led by our choir and was a great time of celebration and praise. What a week! Praise be to God

The Good News is this...we continue to celebrate the resurrection of the Lord. Every Sunday is the Day of Resurrection Celebration for Christians. Every week we are led into the presence of God in our times of worship. I am reminded of Isaiah 40:31

*But they that will wait upon the Lord shall renew
Their strength: they shall mount up with wings
as eagles; they shall run and not be weary;
And they shall walk and not faint*

Worship is waiting on the Lord. It is in worship that we regain our strength. It is in worship that we experience the presence of the Lord. Worship isn't a "spectator sport." We must never be passive in worship. Worship is an active time. We actively sing. We actively pray. We actively listen as the Word is shared. We actively offer ourselves to the Lord. We expect the Holy Spirit to speak to us. We expect to be renewed. We expect to discover the strength of the Lord. We expect to encounter the living present Savior.

This is what Easter is all about. Christ is Alive! Christ has promised His presence when we gather together "in His Name." He fulfills His promise every time we gather together. Every Sunday we gather and we encounter our Savior. It may not be an emotional high every week (although sometime it is). But it is a real encounter. In many ways it is like an encounter with a spouse. Every meeting I have with Kim is not an emotion high (although sometimes it is)... but I love being with her. Whether it is talking or sitting in the same room reading it is a joy to be together. I love being with the Lord. Sometimes we talk. Other times I worship. Other times I just sit in His presence

Again, have a blessed Day of Resurrection.... it is taking place this Sunday

In Christ,

Doug

ADULT NEW MEMBERS CLASS

This May we will have a class for adults who desire to me a member of our church. It will meet in the Sunday School hour (beginning at 9:30) in the Pastors Office. We will meet May 3rd 10th 17th and the 31st (Memorial Day Sunday on the 24th will be skipped). On May 31st 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 the dates we will make alternative arrangements.

Please come and join us!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Administration Committee

- Reported that our balance for the year was \$596 in the red. This includes very large oil purchases in January and in March
- A new vacuum cleaner was purchased
- New LED bulbs have been installed in the Sanctuary. This will increase the lighting and eliminate shadows
- Landscaping of back yard is planned
- New handicap parking spots are being planned for the area past the mail box. This will eliminate the curb side handicap parking
- Sewer backup in the nursery bathroom was repaired by digging up the pipe and clearing the blockage

Worship Committee:

- Organized the soup supper and the Easter Breakfast
- arranged all the special worship services
- arranged all the flowers for the services
- organized the prayer Vigil

Mission Committee;

- set up special Easter offering to go to Laura and Edgar Cohon in Guatamala to assist in the orphanage they lead.
- arranged purchase of mini refrigerator for one of our shut ins.
- received report on Jess's trip to Mexico and

Caring Hearts... one of the Mission agencies we support

Christian Education Committee

- Gave report on Awana. Final "Awards Ceremony will be from 4:30 to 5:30 on April 15th Dinner will be served
- Agreed to give ½ scholarships to children who attend a Christian camp this summer
- Received notice of retirement of Bobbi Morehead as a Sunday School teacher this June
- Youth Group planning Easter events including the Early worship service
- VBS will be June 22nd to June 26th

Evangelism Committee

- Arranged the Lenten Bible Studies
- Arranged the Easter Egg hunt
- Received a presentation from the Vision Team
- Planned the next Breakfast for April 26th

New/Old Business

- elected Judy Reithmiller as a delegate to G.A. that will be held this June in Orlando
- Elected Christian Fulkman as a delegate to Presbytery this April at Tabernacle Church in Austintown
- Received report from men's ministry on plans to attend an Iron Sharpens Iron conference
- Approved vacation request for Doug the first two weeks in July.
- Received report from Stephen's Ministry on their training of Stephen Ministers.

THANK YOUS

Thank you to the Choir, the Bell Choir and the Worship Team for their many hours of practice to enrich our Easter Celebrations

Thank you to all the men of the church who helped clean the church grounds

Thank you to the Wednesday Bible Study for planning and preparing the Seder Supper

WOMEN'S NEWS

April Circle Meetings

Deborah Circle ~ Tuesday, April 14th at 9:30a.m.

Elizabeth Circle ~ Thurs., April 16th at 6:30p.m.

Ruth Circle ~ Monday, April 20th at 9:30a.m.

Rebecca Circle ~ Monday, April 20th at 6:30p.m.

Lydia Circle ~ Monday, April 20th at 7:00p.m.

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This year's Annual Women's Retreat is April 17 - 18 at 'The Castle' in Franklin. The theme is "Garden Getaway". If you haven't already signed up please do so immediately. You will not want to miss out on this!

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Pulaski United Methodist Church has invited the women of our church to a Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, April 11th at 9:30a.m. The guest speaker is Kimberly McCormick and the topic is "When Unwelcome Changes Come Knocking". All women are welcome to attend and to bring a friend.



Congratulations to Collin and Mollie Fulkman on the birth of their first baby, Mira Jane Fulkman. She was born on March 12th, weighing 8 lb 4 oz and is 22" long. Gary & Glenda Fulkman and Gregg &

Shari McMillan are the happy grandparents!

The Pulaski Twp. Volunteer Fire Company will be having their Annual Ham Dinner in New Bedford on Saturday, April 25th from 4p.m. - 7p.m. Cost for Adults is \$8 and Children are \$4. Take-outs are also available.

Stephen Ministry

Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Evangelical Presbyterian Church:

On April 13 your Stephen Minister trainees will have reached 10 weeks of training, which means 10 more to go. We are learning many new skills and growing closer as a group.

Stephen Ministers are compassionate, full of faith, skilled, and trustworthy. They know that their calling to care comes from Jesus and that he is the power behind all that they do as Stephen Ministers. They are learning how important it is to stay connected to Jesus so that they will be prepared to bring His love to others.

Debi Fynes, Todd Ambrosia, Hank Glogowski, Judy Riethmiller and Diana Halt. Please keep these people in your thoughts and prayers as they receive this training for caring ministry. Also, please pray for future care receivers to be willing to accept a Stephen Minister.

If you have any questions about Stephen Ministry training and caregiving, please feel free to call either of us.

In Christ,

Judy Riethmiller 724-730-6495

Diana Halt 724-977-8268

Thank you to the young men who gave their testimony on Easter Sunday. It was so heartfelt by all. Now we have to buy more tissues for the pews. May God direct your paths.





SAVE THE DATE.....

VBS will be June 22-26!!!!

Dear Friends,

Thursday, May 7, 2015, marks the sixty-fourth annual National Day of Prayer. We will be observing the Day by gathering together at 7:00p.m. for a time of prayer for our nation and our leaders. The theme for this year is “Lord, Hear Our Cry”, based on I Kings 8:28, “*Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day.*” We want to invite you to join us for our concert of prayer and for dessert to follow the service.

We would also like to invite you to join us for a 24 hour prayer vigil, which will take place from 7:00p.m., May 6, until 7:00p.m., May 7. We invite you to set aside one hour to draw near to God, and intercede for our church, our community, our schools and our state, local and federal leadership and government. We will make the church library available for those who desire to come into the church, but we want to encourage you to pray in your homes as well. We will have a sign-up sheet in the Narthex beginning Sunday, April 19.

Sincerely,

Helen Ruby, Judy Stuhlmann and Kim Runyan
Chairmen of the 2015 National Day of Prayer



APRIL Birthday's

Jane Clingan.....	02
Ashley Houk.....	02
Esther Bruce.....	03
Katee Paglia.....	04
Barbara Pence.....	04
Peg Hilliard.....	05
Bill Harshbarger.....	06
Andy Hostetler.....	07
Jodi Allison.....	08
Jamie McCarthy.....	08
David Magee.....	09
Ty Phillips.....	19
David Carr.....	19
Henry Reed.....	21
Donna Fox.....	22
Colin Duffy.....	22
Bonnie Glogowski.....	23
Patty Wade.....	26
Ed Rudzik.....	27
Jean Frye.....	28
Madeline Whiting.....	28
Sabrina DeVite.....	29

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
- Helen Groce-----Home
- Carl Black-----Clen-Moore Place (Greer House)
- Ruth McClanahan----Nugent’s Continuing Care
- Bea Brinza-----Home
- Larry Pence-----Jameson Health Cntr.-Rehab



