

From the Pastor's Desk...

September Worship Schedule:

September 3rd

~ 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study

10:00 a.m. Worship with
Communion

*"Work: A Spiritual
Responsibility"*

Genesis 1:27-2:3

2 Thessalonians 3:6-15

following service:

Home Communion

Visitation team departs

September 10th

~ 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Community Worship @

Vine Street Park

8:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study –
McKee Room

10:30 a.m. Worship

Galatians 3:26-29

following service:

Coffee Hour ~ Social Room

September 17th

~ 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Annual Church Picnic @

Cedar Creek Park –

Pavilion #3

10:00 a.m. Worship

September 24th

~ 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study

10:00 a.m. Worship

*"The Glory of Christian
Suffering"*

Job 5:8-16

1 Peter 5:6-11

The Three Things People Need At Church

If you're like me, whenever I see a title about the three things, the five things, etc., I begin to shut down, have an automatic rejection, or become weary of another list of someone's opinions. If you're still reading my article, THANKS!

I recently participated in an on-line conference/presentation about current church functioning in society. The presenter was Bob D'Ambrosio. He was a wonderful presenter, who had a rather simply, yet profound, concept of what people need every time they attend church. I strongly agree with his message and feel as though we (WNUPC) do a pretty good job according to what he presented.

Above all else, people need a very quick experience of "you belong." According to Mr. D'Ambrosio, a church and its' prevailing culture has approximately 5 minutes for such awareness to occur, especially, with a first-time visitor. Basically, it's a "thanks for being here" feeling/experience for people. No pressure. No guilt. No shame. Just a genuine thankfulness for each and every person who gathered to worship Jesus.

The second thing people need is the assurance that everyone understands, "we've all messed up." Mr. D'Ambrosio was quick to point out that this includes the pastor! It brings to mind what Jesus told the "righteous" crowd when they confronted the woman caught in adultery, "Let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone" (John 8:7). In a somewhat ironic way, it's a unifying thought to know that sin is a great equalizer.

The third thing people need is to realize God's grace is for everyone. When you know you've messed up, you need to hear, be assured of, grace. To really understand that "you belong" a person must grasp that God's grace is for them and for everyone in attendance.

So, I've thought a lot about these three things, and I've done a sort of inventory about how we do things to see how we measure up, if you will. I keep thinking of this question, "Wouldn't it be great if people felt as comfortable and at home walking into a church as their favorite place?" And a couple follow up questions, "What would happen if the church (our church?) was known as the place people always felt respected, accepted, safe? A place where they are truly welcome just as they are?"

Grace and Peace,
Pastor John

Sunday School Class in the McKee room continues...

Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible Study meets in the McKee Room every Sunday morning at 8:45 a.m.

WE HAVE ROOM FOR YOU!

If you have any questions, please see Janice Curry.





September 10, 2017

Last winter, I challenged the pastors to encourage their congregations to DO something about Christian Unity. We pastors spent a great deal of time discussing and debating what unity meant. At the heart of our discussion was 1 Corinthians 1:10, “I appeal to you brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no division among you, but that you be united in mind and thought.”

Obviously, each church worships in their own way, but there is a foundational truth that unites us all – our trust, faith, and belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. So, my challenge to all pastors in the community was to go beyond agreement in this truth in principle, but to DO IT! As a result, the Community Worship Service idea began and will occur on September 10th at 10:30 a.m. at Vine Street Park.

This has been approved by Session. This community service will be in place of our normal worship. This is important: “What will be do about the offering?” A question that I have been asked many times. The following answers this question:

- All offerings that are clearly marked for a specific church will go to that church.
- All offerings without a clear designation with go to the WN Association of Churches for community assistance
- Our Session encourages you to give your offering for September 10th (the community service) along with your normal offering on either the week before or after the community service.

I believe strongly in the truth of the “Family of God” for our congregation but also what that means for the wider church. I hope you will join us (WNUPC, Church of God, First Baptist) as we worship TOGETHER, praising our God.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor John and WNUPC Session

WN Community Worship Service
Vine Street Park
10:30 a.m.

(in the event of inclement weather, the service will be held at the First Baptist Church)



Mark your
calendars!

The next
Apple
Dumpling
Day is

Oct. 5th



PW Sewing

We will meet on September 27 from 9:00 a.m. to noon, in the McKee Room, to prepare items for local and overseas missions. A variety of sewing projects are ready to be completed. No skill is needed to participate in the sewing group, so please join us.

PW United Circle

We will resume on Wednesday, September 20th at noon, when we will begin the new **Horizons Bible Study: "Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews"** let by Dot Come. All women are welcome to attend the Circle on the third Wed of each month. Bring a sandwich to share for lunch and enjoy the fellowship as we celebrate the birthdays of each month. Hostesses are Rita Clendenning, Vi Pore, and Cathy Hall.

PW Hygiene Kits

31 total kits were donated by the congregation. We will assemble the School kits at the beginning of September and all the hygiene kits and school kits will be taken to the Church World Service in New Windsor, MD in September. Thank you for your wonderful support.



Willing Workers

We will meet on September 13th at 9:00 a.m. to tidy up the kitchen cupboards and pantry. Anyone willing to help is invited to participate.

Apple Dumpling Day

Thursday, Oct. 5th is apple dumpling day! We begin at 7:00 a.m. You can support PW's mission programs by helping to prepare the dumplings or purchasing some at \$4.00 each – or both!!! Ask your neighbors and friends if you would like to order some delicious apple dumplings. Watch your bulletins for the order forms or contact Linda Blick.

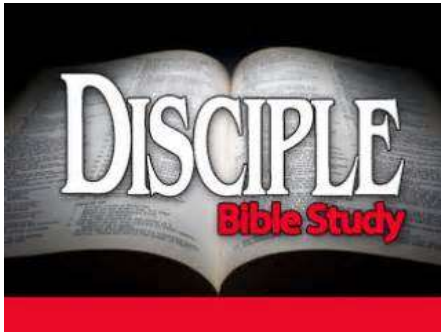
Redstone PW Gathering

All women are invited to attend the gathering at Community Presbyterian Church in New Alexandria on Saturday, October 21 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Programming and lunch are \$10. Reservations are due Friday, October 13th. The Mission Focus is Rise Against Hunger, a group combating hunger by providing meal packets. Donations can be given to Dot Upperman, Treasurer. Please see the flyer in this newsletter for details on programming. Contact Linda Blick if you are interested in attending. A car pool may be available from our church if enough women are interested.

Shoe Collection

Redstone PW will collect good reusable shoes in Sept. and Oct. to raise money for the Rise Against Hunger meal-packing event planned for Oct. 2018. Shoes are accepted in all sizes. **No flip-flops, crocs, slippers, winter boots, dress boots, or metal cleats.** A deposit box will be placed inside the 3rd Street door.

BIBLE STUDY CLASS



Disciple Bible Study

Begins Sept. 6th at 6:00 p.m.

Sept. 6th – “The Battle for Holiness”
1 Peter 1:13-16

Sept. 13th – “When I Don’t Feel Like Being Good”
1 Peter 1:17-25

Sept. 20th – “An Appetite for Being Good”
“1 Peter 2:1-12

Sept. 27th – “Refuse to Get Revenge”
1 Peter 2:19-25

As we start off this year’s study, we begin with the Christian process of transformation. For believers this is the process of becoming more holy – making our choices, decisions, and actions live up with what we proclaim to believe. We will be using the book of 1 Peter to see and learn how to think differently – renewing our mind – and as a result be more obedient to God’s word.

Come and join us! Expand your knowledge of the Bible and grow your faith!



Meals-on-Wheels

Our church participates in delivery duties, every 5 to 6 weeks, on a rotating schedule, organized by the West Newton Association of Churches and the West Newton Senior Center.

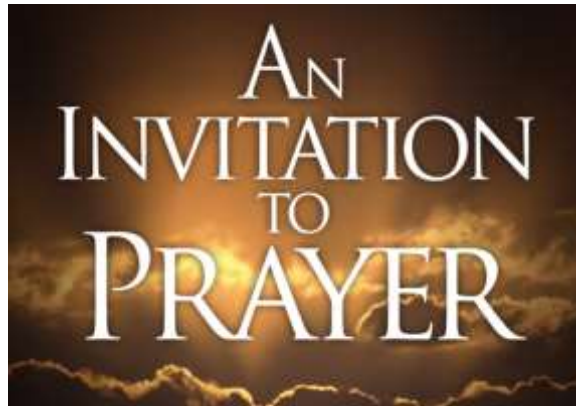
Future weeks to note on your calendar: **Sept 11, Oct 30, Dec 18**

Thank you for your willingness to take part in this ministry.
The sign-up sheets are in the church office hallway.



Coffee Fellowship Hour usually takes place following worship, on the second Sunday of every month, in our social room.

Hosts and Hostesses are needed sign up in the Church Kitchen for future months or Please see Anne Hustwit or Karen Murray



Need a quiet moment to get away and pray?

The prayer room, under the bell tower, off the narthex, is available. Do you need someone to pray with?
Contact Pastor John or an Elder of the church.



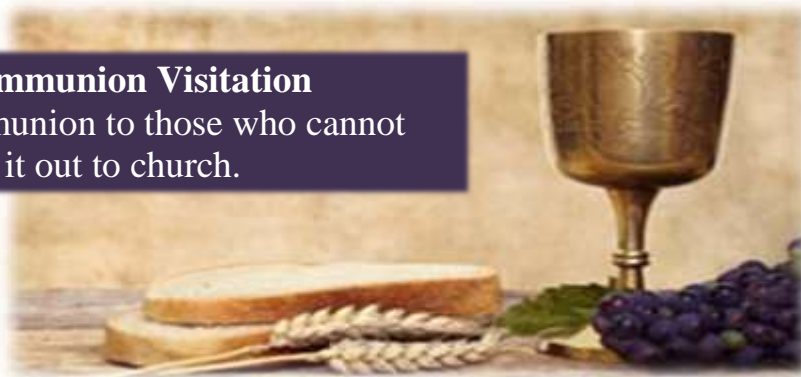
Would you like a visit from Pastor John?

Or, do you know someone who would?

Please contact him at 724-872-7414 (office) or 606-261-0232 (cell).



Home Communion Visitation
teams take communion to those who cannot
make it out to church.



Chancel Choir

meet on Thursday evenings,
during the school year,
and participate in Sunday morning
worship services at 10:00.

Contact Jim Sykes to get involved.

Thursday mornings at 11:00 a.m.
in the McKee Room, taught by Janice Curry



Believe
BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO
HAVE NOT SEEN, YET BELIEVE

OUR SESSION

Clerk of Session: Kris Edwards

Class of 2017

Bob Bojarski
Anne Hustwit
Linda Shoaf
Meri Beth Wees

Class of 2018

Mark Barnes
Jo Lynn Lowanse
Diane Ozegovich
Chuck Yelich

Class of 2019

Greg Franks
Marcia Harris
Amanda McMinn
Karen Murray

*Please support them
with your prayers and participation.*



WNUPC
@WestNewtonUPC



<u>August</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u> <u>adults</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u> <u>children</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u> <u>total</u>	<u>OFFERING</u>
6th	95	6	101	\$4,713.00
13th	86	9	95	\$2,582.07
20th	77	8	85	\$2,559.70
27th	90	12	102	\$2,172.00

4 week Total \$12,026.77

Unified Budget
Total

\$ _____
\$ _____
\$ _____
\$ _____

West Newton United Presbyterian Church

West Newton, Pennsylvania

Name _____

Contribution Envelopes are available to anyone regularly attending our services, even if you are not a member. Contact Linda Blick, our Financial Secretary, and she will be glad to fill your request.

If you have a Contribution number, you will receive a 6 month statement soon and a year-end statement in January showing your contributions to WNUPC. This statement can be used to show charitable giving on your income tax form.

August 6, 2017 Session Highlights

- Opened with Scripture reading, followed by Prayer.
- Moderator: Rev. John Manon
- Present: Amanda McMinn Jo Lynn Lowanse Marica Harris Linda Shoaf
 Robert Bojarski Greg Franks Diane Ozegovich Mark Barnes
 Karen Murray Kris Edwards Anne Hustwit
- Absent: Chuck Yelich, Meri Beth Wees

Highlights:

- ❖ Approved us of the sanctuary for SN Community singers for Christmas concert in December. Dates are to be determined.
Approved date for next Session meeting to be scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 24th due to church picnic falling on the third Sunday of the month.
- ❖ Approved Emily Fisher, Joseph Woleslagle, and Susan Catullo for membership. This will be done in worship on August 27th.
- ❖ Approved dumpster to be placed in our parking lot during the WN Festival.
- ❖ Approved participation in parade for WN Festival. Ed and Anne Hustwit will be coordinating this.
- ❖ Approved use of Social Room and kitchen on August 20th for Joyce Pawlik and family.
- ❖ Approved use of church on Sept. 22nd by Pittsburgh Historical Society for student architectural day.
- ❖ Approved Sudan relief offering to be done on August 27th.
- ❖ Approved First Fruits Offering to be done on Sept. 24th.
- ❖ Approved Consecration Sunday to be held on Oct. 22nd.
- Next Session Meeting will be September 24, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.
- Closed with prayer



September 17, 2017

RSVP slips are in your bulletin. Please return them in the offering plate or call the office to place a reservation.

Hot dogs, sauerkraut, hot sausage, cowboy beans, haulski, buns, plates, napkins, silverware, cups, drinks, and condiments will all be provided by the committee. No other hot meats will be necessary as it was too much last year.

We request you bring an item, as per the first letter of your last name:

A through F - dessert

G through L - veggies

M through R- salads

S through Z - snacks

If bringing cold food, please provide something to keep it cold. Hot foods also need to be kept hot.

In the event of bad weather (rain, soggy, cold), the picnic will be at the church. It will be on facebook or you can call:

Anne Hustwit
724-887-7971

Karen Murray
724-446-7931

Pastor John
606-261-0232

Cedar Creek Park
Pavilion #3
10:00 a.m.



School Kit Items

- 1 – pair of blunt scissors (rounded tip)
- 3 – 70 count spiral notebooks or notebooks
total 200-210 pages/no loose leaf or filler paper)
- 1 – 30 centimeter ruler (12")
- 1 – hand held pencil sharpener
- 1 – box of 24 crayons

PW and The Mission Committee is asking the congregation to bring in items needed to fill bags with school supplies until Sept. 15th. These kits will be taken to New Windsor, MD to the Church World Service center to be stored until they are in demand somewhere in the world when a disaster strikes. Thank you in advance!



Our congregation will celebrate the missional and connectional ministry that is the Presbytery of Redstone on Sunday, September 24, 2017. You will receive in the mail a letter asking for your support through a special offering. Please plan to attend service that Sunday to participate in the giving of our "First Fruits".

To Whom It May Concern:

Hello, my name is Renah and I am 13 years old. I have a passion to help people in my community. One way is helping men and women in recovery. Addiction hits home for me. I have loved ones fighting for sobriety and regret to say that I lost my Uncle Mike while he was in recovery.

My family and I call ourselves "Mikes Soldiers." We have been organizing collection drives this year for men and women going into recovery. We have collected toiletries from local community groups, schools, fire halls, and the Pittsburgh Pirates have joined our cause! I see the need for an organization such as this "Operation Recovery Compassion."

Operation Recovery compassion extends compassion to those in need during their recovery. Some in recovery have wonderful support while others are left helpless.

We will be organizing collections of toiletries and donating book bags filled of personal items to men and women in recovery. So many just have the shirt on their backs and are very hopeless so I want to give them "Hope in a bag." Our goal is to bring a glimmer of hope and love to those in need.

Here are some items we are collecting

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Any Basic toiletries (no mouthwash) | Shampoo |
| • Body Wash / Bar Soap | Conditioner |
| • Toothpaste | Tooth Brushes |
| • Floss | Deodorant |
| • Razors | Cologne |
| • Laundry Soap | Feminine Hygiene Products |
| • Hardtack Candy | Gum |
| • Deck of Cards | Notebook and Pens |
| • Bibles | |



Operation Compassion Recovery
"Hope in a Bag"
724-328-4448

"The King will reply, "Truly I tell you,
whatever you did for one of the least of
these brothers and sisters of mine,
you did for me."

Visit us on FB
Operation Recovery
Compassion

West Newton United Presbyterian Church
Income and Expense Statement – June 2017
1st and 2nd Quarters
 (This was corrected due to subtraction issues)

Anticipated Budget <u>Income</u>	85,426.02
Actual <u>Income</u>	<u>84,089.89</u>
	-1,336.13
Planned Budget <u>Expenses</u>	85,426.02
Actual <u>Expenses</u>	<u>81,892.08</u>
	3,533.94
	3,533.94
	<u>-1,336.13</u>
Current Amount under Budget	2,197.81
Checking Account	68,423.14
Savings Accounts	112,289.81

The contributions to the Annual Budget at the end of June are behind the anticipated total. The expenses are under budget.

The Finance Committee urges you to continue your level of giving on a **regular basis** (even in the summer or anytime when you may be away) in order for us to keep up with the day to day expenses.

Reminder: All purchases to be submitted to the church for re-imbursement must be pre-approved by a Session committee and the voucher form signed by the Session committee member.



Redstone Presbyterian Women need your help!

All revenue generated will be used to support our drive to bring a "Stop Hunger Now" project to the Presbytery!

For more information, contact PW Mission Coordinator: Judy Koontz, 724-668-2843, judykoontz@windstream.net

Scour your closets. Find all the shoes you have but no longer wear. Fill a box. Write a SoleMate Note. The shipping is on us. **It's really THAT SIMPLE!**

Shoes we accept: All gently worn, paired men's, women's and kids shoes that are still *reusable and re-wearable!* That means no holes in the soles, nothing wet, mildewed or torn. This includes athletic shoes, dress shoes, casual shoes, timberland type work boots, sandals, heels, flats.



Shoes we do not accept: Ski boots, winter boots, roller skates, ice skates, roller blades, flip flops, crocs, bedroom slippers or single shoes.



Look for me and fill me up!

I should weigh 40 pounds before you ship me!



ShoeBox Recycling collects shoes for reuse. All shoes collected will be sold domestically or internationally, where affordable options are needed. This helps local economies and creates jobs, while helping the environment. Thank you for making the world a little smaller, better, healthier and a little greener.



Redstone Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering Saturday, October 21, 2017 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Community United Presbyterian Church
1640 Keystone Park Road, New Alexandria, PA

Directions on the back of this flyer



2017-2018 *Horizons* Bible Study

Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews

By Melissa Bane Sevier

with the Rev. Donna Havrisko, Westminster Church,
Greensburg



Intro to the Light: Addiction Ministry

Members of the Redstone Addictions Ministry Network



Update on the Advocacy Work of the Blackburn Center: Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Blackburn Center Staff

The Mission Project selected by the Community PW will be contributions to
RISE AGAINST HUNGER, formerly known as STOP HUNGER NOW



Wearable shoes will also be collected



Pre-paid Reservations are important so that the women of Community can prepare for our event.
Please use the tear-off form below.

Make check payable to: PW of Redstone Presbytery; must be mailed by Friday, October 13

Mail check and reservation slip to: Susan Blank, PW Treasurer
4068 Bushy Run Road, Jeannette, PA 15644 724-523-6460

2017 Redstone PW Fall Gathering,

Community United Presbyterian Church, New Alexandria, PA

Church Name _____

Number of persons attending: _____ @ \$10.00 each = _____ amount enclosed

Contact Person: _____ Phone No. _____

List of Attendees: _____

_____ Please use
the back if necessary

Directions to Community United Presbyterian Church
1640 Keystone Park Road, New Alexandria, PA
(724) 668-7752



From Greensburg and points south and west:

- Take Route 119 or Route 66 (toll or free) north to Route 22 East to New Alexandria (Sheetz gas station on the Southeast corner)
- Turn right onto Route 981 south
- In ¼ mile, turn left onto Keystone Park Rd.
- Then left up the grade into the Community United Presbyterian Church parking lot

From the North:

- Take either route 66 or 819 south to Route 22 East
- Continue as above

From the East:

- Take route 22 west to the traffic light in New Alexandria (Sheetz gas station on the Southeast corner)
- Turn left onto Route 981 South
- Continue as above



A total of the donations given for the South Sudan project will be listed in the October newsletter. If you didn't give on August 27th, envelopes are available in the pews. Deadline for donations will be September 17th. Synod of the Trinity is matching donations up to \$4,000.



2017

**Chancel Flowers
can now be ordered**

**Please sign up on the bulletin board
across from the office.**

**All orders must be paid in advance (\$35)
or your flowers will not be ordered.**



In addition to the many ministries that are available here at WNUPC; like Sunday school, Bible study, and PW functions, we wish for you to continue your daily walk with the Lord in a time of prayer. To that end, we offer these free daily devotionals. Look for them on the table near the church office or in the racks in the main-entrance narthex of the church.



**Mobility issues
holding you back???**

Wheelchairs and Walkers are available, on both levels of the church, as well as a **chair-lift** on the hall stairs. There is also a **ramp entryway** on 4th Street, through the chapel.



With much of our attention focused on the disaster created by Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath, you may be wondering how you might respond. Consistently, the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has served a critical role in responding to events and continuing to stand with people through rebuilding not only structures, but their lives.

As is always the case, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is in touch with presbyteries affected areas of Texas to offer assistance. Through the use of shared resources and the personal engagement of National Response Team members, our collective mission and commitment to one another is lived out.

We are encouraged to give, to act, to pray in order that out of chaos, hope emerges. If you wish to support PDA's emergency response and recovery efforts, you can either send checks made out to Redstone Presbytery with PDA/Hurricane Harvey (memo line) or you if you prefer, you may send it to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
PO Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA, 15264-3700
Gifts can be designated to **DR000169-Harvey**.

You may also call us Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EST), at 1-800-872-3283 and donate by phone.

For ongoing updates, please go to pda.pcusa.org.

As it continues to rain and rivers and dams threaten to spillover, there will be ongoing needs fulfilled by a variety of government and private agencies. Thank you for your support for those who are vulnerable and in need at this time.

Blessings.
Skip Noftzger
Executive Presbyter



BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

Andrew Mesiarik	2nd
Bob Bojarski	9th
Amanda Hoak	11th
Amanda McMinn	11th
Helen Gara	12th
Dawn Martini	12th
Michael Martini	15th
Landon Franks	16th
Faylynna Lewis	17th
Diane Koget	19th
Amy Kuiphoff	19th
Wayne Overand	20th
Mary Greenawalt	21st
Amanda Berg	22nd
Janis O'Bryon	25th
Sally Chew	27rd
Jennifer Hoak	27th
Jonathan Vargo	27th
Jim Sykes	27th
Leah Burkett	28th
Tiana Martinelli	29th



ANNIVERSARIES IN SEPTEMBER

Adam & Amanda McMinn	1st
Harry & Dorothy Upperman	2nd
Elmer & Bea Bassler	13th
Ryan & Amy Ulander	23rd

We would love to
announce and celebrate
your wedding anniversary...
but, we need to know when it is...

Deadline for updates and notices for the July publication of
The Higher Ground Herald will be **Friday, Sept. 22**
Contact the church office
by phone at 724-872-7414 or email at wnupc@verizon.net

**Our summer office hours have ended and we are now back to regular working hours:
Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

Looking Forward at WNUPC

Friday	Sept. 1	All day	Office Closed (summer hours)
Sunday	Sept. 3	8:45 a.m.	Adult Bible Study ~ McKee Room
		10:00 a.m.	Worship w/communion ~ Sanctuary
		Following worship	Home Communion Team departs
Monday	Sept. 4	All day	Office Closed (Labor Day)
Wednesday	Sept. 6	6:00 p.m.	Disciple Bible Study ~ Social Room
Thursday	Sept. 7	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Saturday	Sept. 9	12:00 p.m.	WN Festival Parade (line up at 11 AM @ WN Elementary)
Sunday	Sept. 10	8:45 a.m.	Adult Bible Study ~ McKee Room
		10:30 a.m.	Community Worship @ Vine Street Park
Monday	Sept. 11	10:00 a.m.	Meals on Wheels @ WN Senior Center
Monday	Sept. 12	10:00 a.m.	Meals on Wheels @ WN Senior Center
Wednesday	Sept. 13	6:00 p.m.	Disciple Bible Study ~ Social Room
Thursday	Sept. 14	9:30 a.m.	WNAC Meeting @ Gary's Chuckwagon
		10:00 a.m.	Meals on Wheels @ WN Senior Center
		7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday	Sept. 15	10:00 a.m.	Meals on Wheels @ WN Senior Center
Sunday	Sept. 17	10:00 a.m.	Church Picnic & Worship @ Cedar Creek Park – Pavilion #3
Wednesday	Sept. 20	12:00 p.m.	PW United Circle ~ Social Room
		6:00 p.m.	Disciple Bible Study ~ Social Room
Thursday	Sept. 21	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Saturday	Sept. 23	10:00 am- 2:00 pm	Redstone Presbytery Meeting @ Pine Springs Camp
Sunday	Sept. 24	8:45 a.m.	Adult Bible Study ~ McKee Room
		10:00 a.m.	Worship ~ Sanctuary
		5:00 p.m.	Session Meeting ~ McKee Room
Wednesday	Sept. 27	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	PW Sewing ~ McKee Room
		6:00 p.m.	Disciple Bible Study ~ Social Room
Thursday	Sept. 28	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal