

West Newton United Presbyterian Church at 300 S. Third and E. Main Streets in West Newton, PA.

From the Pastor's Desk...

June

Worship Schedule:

June 3rd

Communion

Honor HS Graduates

10:00 a.m. Worship

"Eternally Repeated"

Psalm 98

following service:

Home Communion

Visitation team

departs

Reception for HS

Graduates

June 10th

10:00 a.m. Worship

"Misquoted"

Matthew 7:1-6

Bell Choir

following service

Coffee Hour

June 17th

10:00 a.m. Worship

"Simple, But Not Easy"

Philippians 4:13

following service

Session meeting

June 24th

~ Rev. John Tirpak

pulpit supply

"What If..."

What would you do if you weren't afraid? Have you ever thought of or pondered that question? Fear has a way of stopping us in our tracks. For some it can derail everything and be simply too much to handle. For most of us, it is more of a hurdle than it is a mountain before us. Fear has a way of keeping us in our boxes (comfort zone) because that unknown place outside of our comfort zones is just a little too wild, somewhat unpredictable, and scary.

One of the most frequent requests that God gives to us in Scripture is to "fear not." Fear is one of those things that gets in the way on our faith journeys, it is one of those things that keeps us from experiencing the fullness of who God is, how he is moving in the world, and who he is calling us to be individually and collectively as a church. When God called Moses out of his comfort zone at the burning bush (Exodus 3:1-17), Moses' first responses are fear: fear of failure, fear of not being enough, fear of how people will respond, fear of the unknown. Out of his fear, Moses begs with God to please just send someone else and let Moses keep living his comfortable and mostly predictable life. Well, as it turns out, God calls Moses beyond his fear, recognizing that these are indeed scary things but that he will be with Moses through it all.

When the Israelites heard from Moses what God was going to do, they too responded with fear. Because as much as they wanted freedom, the risk and uncertainty were frightening and so time and again they remain where they are. These are countless stories from Scripture of people experiencing fear and God calling them beyond that fear. Fear is a reality of life and something that we all have in common. We all meet and experience fear on a regular basis, whether we are aware of it or not. And that fear we meet impacts our decisions whether we realize it or not. Sometimes this is really helpful. A healthy fear of heights, for example, can keep us from an accident. But often our fears impact our actions and thoughts in less than constructive ways. Often our fears cause us to box ourselves in or to become stagnate, they cause us to respond in anxious ways with others rather than with the love we should.

Maybe in those hundreds of times God asks us to "fear not" in the Bible, he isn't asking us to do the impossible. Maybe God is asking us to decide what we will do with our fears, to decide if we will let them hold us back or if we will hear the call of God to follow Jesus into that unknown, wild place of God's love. So, what would you do if you weren't afraid? It's a question I have been talking about with some of you, with Session, with our youth, as we discern how God might be calling us to serve in our community. There will be, in the near future, several announcements made about new mission projects, new programs, new ways to experience God. We will outline a few ideas on making this already great church even greater!

Consider this: Maybe if we weren't afraid we would reach out to that person we haven't talked to in a while. Maybe if we weren't afraid we would tell someone we love them. Maybe if we weren't afraid we would talk about our faith more openly with those we encounter daily. Maybe if we weren't afraid we would try something new that we might fail at. Maybe if we weren't afraid we might use that failure to try again and succeed.

What would you do if you weren't afraid?

Grace and Peace,
Pastor John

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Presbyterian Women invite you to participate in preparing **Hygiene Kits** to be sent to New Windsor, MD. In the face of natural disasters, violence, or grinding poverty, Hygiene Kits can mean the difference between sickness and health for struggling families.

- You can prepare your own complete kit or donate individual items and we will assemble them.
- Please do not add any item that is not on the list.
- Boxes will be available in the Chapel, Narthex and at the 3rd St. Hallway until the end of July.
- Monetary donations may be given to Linda Blick; make checks payable to WNPW.

Hygiene Kit

1 — hand towel (approximately 16" x 28", no fingertip, bath towels, dish towels or microfiber towels)

1 — washcloth

1 — wide-tooth comb (remove from package)

1 — finger or toe nail clipper (no metal files or emery boards; remove from package)

1 — bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)

1 — toothbrush (in original packaging)

10 — Band-Aids® or other adhesive bandage strips

Please do not add toothpaste to the Hygiene Kit. Toothpaste which has an extended expiration date will be added to international Hygiene Kit shipments just prior to shipment. **Seal all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure.**





**REDSTONE MISSION TEA
“PRETTY in PINK”**

Saturday, July 21, 2018

**Congruity Presbyterian Church
New Alexandria, PA**

1PM

Donation \$20 per person

Gift Baskets, Fleece Blankets and Gifts for sale

Honor breast cancer survivors

Fundraiser for





PW Hygiene Kits are being collected through June and July. Collection boxes are in the Narthex, the Chapel and at the 3rd Street entrance. Specific items needed for the Hygiene Kits are listed on the flyer in this newsletter.

PW will honor the high school graduates on Sunday, June 3. They are Michael Martini, Rachel Ozegovich, Morgan Fisher, Catherine Harris, Aleya McMinn, Kaelin Hoak, and Emily Vargo. Celebrate with the graduates at the Coffee Hour after the morning service.

PW United Circle will not meet during the summer. Our next meeting will be September 19. We will use the **Horizons Bible Study – “God’s Promise”**. Cost is \$10. Place your order with Linda Blick by August 19. All women are welcome to join the Circle meeting each month.

PW Sewing will not meet until September. If you would like to sew at home this summer, please see Jo Lynn Lowanse for supplies for some of our projects.

Redstone PW Retreat at Pine Springs Camp was Tuesday, May 29. Women at the United Circle in May donated **\$94.77** for the Retreat’s mission focus: ingredients for S’mores. Of the **40** attendees, Susan Nesti, Carolee Ackinclose and Linda Blick represented our PW.

PW Birthday Offering, collected on Sunday, May 6, received a total of **\$525..** Thank you for your generous contributions.

Shoe Collection - Redstone PW will collect good reusable shoes thru June 2018 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 is inside the 3rd Street door.

Redstone PW Mission Tea – Save the date – **Saturday, July 21, 2018, 1:00 p.m.** Will be held at the Congruity PC, near New Alexandria. “Pretty in Pink” will honor breast cancer survivors and the proceeds will go the Rise Against Hunger meal-packing event in October. Tickets are \$20. Gift Baskets, Fleece Blankets and other gifts will be available. Attendees are encouraged to wear pink. A \$5.00 donation can be made for a candle that will honor a breast cancer survivor, even if you don’t plan to attend. If you would like to volunteer to serve in the kitchen, you do not have to buy a ticket. See Linda Blick for tickets and further information. Ticket deadline is **July 9th**.



The Bell Choir, directed by Joyce Pawlik, will perform on Sunday, June 10 during the worship service.

Margaret Edwards will celebrate her 101th birthday on June 17. Help her enjoy this special day with a “card shower”. Her address is Westmoreland Manor, 2480 S. Grande Blvd., Unit A., Room 320, Greensburg, PA 15601.

Financial News

1. Contribution Envelopes are available to anyone regularly attending our services, even if you are not a member. Linda Blick, Financial Secretary, will be glad to fill your request. If you have a Contribution number, you will receive a 6 month statement in July 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.

2. The Finance Committee urges you to give your contributions “regularly”. Please don’t skip giving your contribution just because you were away on vacation. The financial obligations of the church don’t take “vacations”.



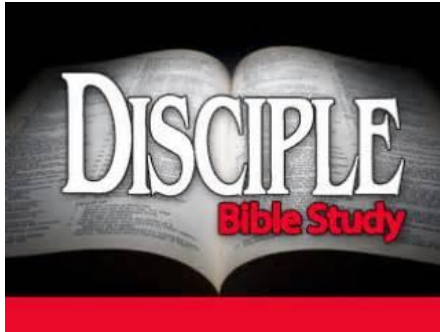
Take Me Out to the Ballgame!

We will be making our annual trip to see the Washington Wild Things on July 14, 2018. The game begins at 7:05. Tickets are \$8.00. The sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board outside the office. Money for the tickets is due on July 8.



Our annual Church picnic will be held at Cedar Creek Park- Pavilion #3, on Sunday, **September 16**. Join us for food, fellowship fun and games. More info to follow.

BIBLE STUDY CLASS



Disciple Bible Study

Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

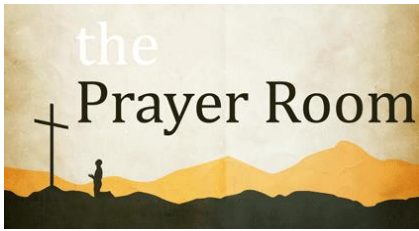
***Disciples Bible Study does not meet during the Summer. We will begin our study again on Wednesday, August 8 at 6 PM**



Fellowship Opportunity

Join us at Bill's Golfland for a fun time to socialize after worship on July 1. We will meet for lunch followed by mini golf. Everyone is welcome!

**Bill's Golfland (across from Shop N Save on Rt 51)
210 Bill's Lane
Belle Vernon, PA 15012**



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.



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 week to note on your calendar: **Jun 4, Jul 23, Sept 10, Oct 29, Dec 17**

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

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**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



**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**to our 2018 High School Graduates!**  
**Michael Martini, Kaelin Hoak, Rachel**  
**Ozegovich, Catherine Harris, Aleya**  
**McMinn, Morgan Fisher, Emily Vargo.**

**We wish you the best in your future endeavors!**



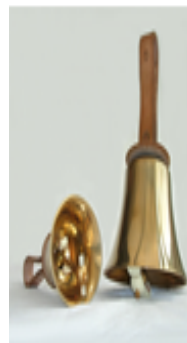
**Home Communion Visitation**  
teams take communion to those who cannot make it out to church.

3 members were served home communion in May



## **Chancel Choir**

The choir is off for the summer but will resume again in the fall.  
*Contact Jim Sykes to get involved.*



## **Bell Choir**

The bell choir is off for the summer but will resume in the fall.  
*Joyce Pawlik to get involved.*

| 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.





## **Kick off the summer cookout at the Murrays**

Saturday June 2, Swimming starts at 3. Covered dish dinner at 5.  
Hamburger sliders and drinks provided.

### **Directions to 127 Boss Row, Darragh**

From West Newton: Follow 136 East to Madison Red Light.

Turn left go to 3 way stop, Bear Right to stay On 136.

Continue to "T" in Darragh. Turn Right for 136.

After passing little white church on left you will be on a downgrade then going up. (about 1/4 mile)

On the Left will be Boss Row Turn here. We are in the log house on left side of road.

If using GPS it may come up New Stanton.

## **Adopt a Camper**

Thank you to everyone that donated to our Camp Scholarship fund. Donations are still being accepted. Attending camp this year are: Brook Moran, Chloe Fisher, Rose Kochman, Danyel Hall, Sookie and Lexie Oblak, Zoey Heaton and Ava Ohler



## **Feeding the Community**

The second Sunday of every month we will be collecting money or gift cards for families in our community that are having difficulty providing food for their families. There will be labeled envelopes in the bulletins the weeks that we are collecting. Thank you in advance for your generosity. The next collection will be on June 10.

## OUR SESSION

Clerk of Session: Kris Edwards

### Class of 2018

Mark Barnes  
Jo Lynn Lowanse  
Diane Ozegovich  
Chuck Yelich

### Class of 2019

Greg Franks  
Marcia Harris  
Amanda McMinn  
Karen Murray

### Class of 2020

Annetta Carney  
Michele Coleman  
Anne Hustwit  
Becky Moran

***Please support them  
with your prayers and participation.***



Email [WNUPC@verizon.net](mailto:WNUPC@verizon.net)

Website [WNUPC.com](http://WNUPC.com)

|                  | ATTENDANCE    | ATTENDANCE      | ATTENDANCE   |                 |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| <u>May</u>       | <u>adults</u> | <u>children</u> | <u>total</u> | <u>OFFERING</u> |
| 6 <sup>st</sup>  | 94            | 9               | <b>103</b>   | \$4413.91       |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | 107           | 11              | <b>118</b>   | \$2689.00       |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | 97            | 14              | <b>111</b>   | \$3087.00       |
| 27th             | 91            | 9               | 100          | \$2453.30       |
|                  |               |                 | 4 week total | \$12,643.21     |

### **May Session Highlights**

- Approved church fellowship event: Bill's for lunch/mini golf immediately after worship on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Approved garbage dumpster to be placed in church parking lot during WN Festival.
- Discussed and ultimately tabled idea of having a booth for games at this year's WN Festival.
- Discussed and ultimately tabled the issue of switching church financial software to Quickbooks with the understanding that a final decision will be made in June.
- Approved the purchase of a smart TV (capable of internet connection and with USB ports) for use with Young Disciples.
- Approved a program, "Kid of the Week," to highlight our youth. Becky Moran will be organizing this, to begin in July.
- Approved vacation requests for Pastor John. The week of June 18-24 with Rev. John Tirpak preaching. The week of July 8-13 with Elder Bob Bojarski preaching.
- Approved donation of \$100 to WN Volunteer Fire Department.
- Approved Rev. John Tirpak to officiate over communion during worship on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Approved John and Patty Medsger to be removed from membership at their request.
- Began the discussion of a capital campaign both for building renovations/repairs and for new future programs/missions.
- Approved moving forward with initial application and process of developing a food pantry in conjunction with Westmoreland County Food Bank.



**2018**

**We still have several weeks available for Chancel Flowers.**

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

**All orders must be paid in advance (\$35).  
If you have not yet paid for your flowers please do so as soon as possible.**



**Summer editions are now available..**

*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 4<sup>th</sup> Street, through the chapel.



## **Shipwrecked**

VBS 2018

June 25-June 29, 2018

6:00-8:30 p.m.

For more information see Kerri Bojarski  
or Diane Ozegovich

**There are still many areas that we need volunteers for.** Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the social room. Registration forms will be coming soon.



## **Youth Night**

Thursdays

6:00 – 7:30 pm

Bible lesson, music, craft and snack  
The last one of the school year will be  
June 7. Thank you to all that have  
attended.

**Join us again in the fall!**





## BIRTHDAYS IN June

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Alyssa Manon     | 2 <sup>nd</sup>  |
| Shayna McMinn    | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  |
| Diane Ozegovich  | 5 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Ester Hanna      | 6 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Jim Martini      | 8 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Michele Coleman  | 8 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Charles Medsger  | 9 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Noah Burkett     | 12 <sup>th</sup> |
| Linda Sparico    | 12 <sup>th</sup> |
| Khrysta Mesariak | 16 <sup>th</sup> |
| Margaret Edwards | 17 <sup>th</sup> |
| Elly Bojarski    | 27 <sup>th</sup> |



## ANNIVERSARIES IN June

|                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Bill & Judy Lash       | 1 <sup>st</sup>  |
| Ed & Anne Hustwit      | 6 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Dave & Rainey Craig    | 10 <sup>th</sup> |
| Wally & Fran Ritchie   | 16 <sup>th</sup> |
| Rick & Michele Coleman | 25 <sup>th</sup> |
| Richard & Susan Sahar  | 27 <sup>th</sup> |
| Bob & Dee Dee Dave     | 21 <sup>st</sup> |

We would love to announce and celebrate your birthday and wedding anniversary Please let us know when it is....

## 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).**

## 1 Do we have your email address?

**We can email the prayer list, newsletters, weather closings and other important church news but we need your email address.**

**Call or email the church office to be added to our email list.**

## Looking Forward at WNUPC

|           |               |                   |                                                  |
|-----------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday    | June 3, 2018  | 8:45 A.M.         | Adult Sunday School- McKee Room                  |
|           |               | 10:00 A.M.        | Worship with Communion (PW honors graduates)     |
|           |               | Following worship | Home Communion team departs                      |
|           |               | Following worship | Reception honoring graduates                     |
| Monday    | June 4, 2018  | 10:00 A.M.        | Meals on Wheels                                  |
| Tuesday   | June 5, 2018  | 10:00 A.M.        | Meals on Wheels                                  |
| Thursday  | June 7, 2018  | 10:00 A.M.        | Meals on Wheels                                  |
|           |               | 6:00 P.M.         | Bell Choir Rehearsal                             |
|           |               | 6:00 P.M.         | Youth Night                                      |
| Friday    | June 8, 2018  | 10:00 A.M.        | Meals on Wheels                                  |
|           |               | 10:30 A.M.        | Pastor @ Filburn Manor                           |
| Sunday    | June 10, 2018 | 8:45 A.M.         | Adult Sunday School- McKee Room                  |
|           |               | 10:00 A.M.        | Worship (Special offering for Hunger Assistance) |
|           |               |                   | Bell Choir performs                              |
| Sunday    | June 17, 2018 | 8:45 A.M.         | Adult Sunday School- McKee Room                  |
|           |               | 10:00 A.M.        | Worship                                          |
|           |               | Following worship | Session Meeting                                  |
| Monday    | June 18, 2018 | All Day           | Pastor John on vacation                          |
| Tuesday   | June 19, 2018 | All Day           | Pastor John on vacation                          |
| Wednesday | June 20, 2018 | All Day           | Pastor John on vacation                          |
| Thursday  | June 21, 2018 | All Day           | Pastor John on vacation                          |
| Friday    | June 22, 2018 | All Day           | Pastor John on vacation                          |
| Sunday    | June 24, 2018 | 8:45 A.M.         | Adult Sunday School- McKee Room                  |
|           |               | 10:00 A.M.        | Worship                                          |
| Monday    | June 25, 2018 | 6:00 P.M.         | VBS                                              |
| Tuesday   | June 26, 2018 | 6:00 P.M.         | VBS                                              |
| Wednesday | June 27, 2018 | 6:00 P.M.         | VBS                                              |
| Thursday  | June 28, 2018 | 6:00 P.M.         | VBS                                              |
| Friday    | June 29, 2018 | 6:00 P.M.         | VBS                                              |

**Deadline for updates and notices for the June publication of**  
***The Higher Ground Herald* will be Monday, June 25**  
**Contact the church office**  
**by phone at 724-872-7414 or email at [wnupc@verizon.net](mailto:wnupc@verizon.net)**