



WEST HEMPFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Hello to all the newsletter readers of
West Hempfield Presbyterian Church!

After successful congregational votes, West Hempfield Presbyterian Church and 1st United Church of Christ in Irwin have announced that Rev. Andrew Wirt will now serve both churches. Rev. Wirt, who has been full-time pastor of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church since 2018, will continue three-quarters time at WHPC, while also giving one-quarter of his time to 1st United Church of Christ in Irwin. In exchange, 1st UCC Irwin will provide one-quarter of Rev. Wirt's salary and benefits.

While the new arrangement is designed to help with the budget, it will also provide strong, steady leadership for both churches and may provide opportunities for the churches to work together and/or support one another in other ways.

While they will be sharing a pastor, both churches maintain their own independence and unique personality.

This new shared ministry agreement begins November 30, 2025 with the start of the Advent season.

Blessings, Rev. Andrew Wirt

The Office will be closed on
Friday, November 28 for the
Thanksgiving holiday.

Pastor Andrew Recommends:

With by Skye Jethani

I have a couple of Skye's books, including *With* and regularly listen to his podcast *Holy Post*.

With is available in RightNow: Religion offers



people particular ways of relating with God, but are we approaching him with the right perspective? To what extent do fear and a desire for control skew our attitude toward God? Join author Skye Jethani in this five-session study as he explores four popular but flawed postures—Life Under God, Over God, From God, and For God—then offers a more freeing and hopeful option for relating with the God who loves us. What does Life With God look like?

Sign up for FREE:

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/westhempfieldpc>



Daylight saving time is coming to a close!

This year's time change happens on Sunday, Nov. 2 at 2 a.m., shifting back to 1 a.m.

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COMMUNION



We will be celebrating communion together as a part of our worship service on Sunday, November 2, 2025, at 10:00am

We will also be honoring All Saints' Day at this service.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE



NOVEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Starting November 30 we will be changing our Sunday morning schedule to Sunday School at 9:30am and worship at 10:45am.

Office Hours are not changing.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Saturday, November 1, 2025

from 4:00-6:30 PM



COST: Adults.... \$12
Children (age 8 and under)...\$6

MENU: spaghetti with homemade meatballs, bread, salad, drink and dessert

PROCEEDS: WHPC Building Repair Fund

If you are able to help with any part of the event, please contact the office. Please come and enjoy some fun and fellowship while helping make this dinner a success.

ANNUAL FELLOWSHIP THANKSGIVING LUNCH

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for a wonderful time of fellowship around table together at our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner after our worship service on November 23.

To help us plan appropriately, please RSVP by Monday, November 10 by signing up at the Welcome Center in the lobby or contact the church office. This is just so we can make sure we have enough food. Sign up isn't required to attend, but it is very helpful for planning.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

(Take out available for those who let us know ahead of time.)

Donations will be accepted to help cover the costs, but there is no fee to attend.

WE LOVE HAVING YOUTH IN WORSHIP

We are providing tables in the back of the sanctuary with quiet activities for children who are able to join us during services.

Students may sit at the tables or take things into the pews. Please feel free to use anything you find there. Coloring pages are yours to take home. Please leave everything else on the tables before heading home after worship.

The lobby and the nursery (unstaffed) is also available with more books, toys, and coloring for the little ones who need a little more space.

We love having kids in the sanctuary with us during worship! This can mean a little extra noise and distraction for the adults, but it is more than worth it to welcome the next generation and to be blessed by their company in worship.

SEPTEMBER SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on September 30, 2025

We gathered to cover our church, congregation, and community with prayer and review all that has been going on with the church and the world.

- Reflected on Scripture, with a RightNow Media video from The Bible Project
- Approved minutes from August Session meeting
- Approved continued support of our neighbor, West Hempfield Elementary School, allowing them access to the Fellowship Hall in the case of an emergency for their "Emergency Operation Plan"
- Reviewed reports from WHPC staff and committees
- Confirmed dates for upcoming events
- Discussed continuing budget issues and possible solutions
- Discussed the potential plans for sharing Pastor Andrew's ministry with First UCC Irwin - Congregational Meeting to approve the plan on Sunday, October 26
- Designated the proceeds from the fall spaghetti dinner to the Building Fund
- Thank you to Pam Siegel for trying the communion bread recipe - great job!
- Set plans for Christmas Eve Service
- Reviewed calendar of upcoming events and rentals
- Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next Scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, October 28, 2025.

OCTOBER SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on October 28, 2025

We gathered to cover our church, congregation, and community with prayer and review all that has been going on with the church and the world.

- Reflected on Scripture using *Our Daily Bread* devotional - Matthew 7:24-27
- Approved Session minutes from September
- Approved minutes from special congregational meeting on October 26
- Discussed reschedule of worship time and acknowledged the congregations concerns, ultimately deciding to go with Sunday School at 9:30am and worship at 10:45am starting November 30
- Reviewed reports from WHPC staff and committees
- Discussed the draft of the 2026 General Budget
- Discussed rentals
- Reviewed calendar of upcoming events
- Closed with prayer

Next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, November 25, 2025.

OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER WITH WORSHIP COMMITTEE

We are thankful to have Thomas playing for us each Sunday. We would also love to hear our other musicians.

We are seeking some special music to help fill that wish for live music.

If you, or someone you know, would like to share the gift of music, contact the church office.

We will be decorating for Christmas the week of **November 23** in small groups. If your family, committee, or friends would like to help with decorating, please contact the office, sign up at the Welcome center, or talk with Worship Elder Richard Forsyth.

We will contact you with details.



The season of Advent also brings the lighting of the Advent candles. If an individual, family, or group would like to volunteer to do a little reading and light the candles during the worship service some Sunday in Advent or for Christmas Eve, please sign up in the lobby and/or talk with Pastor Andrew.

Scheduling is first come, first served.

DON'T FORGET ...

Starting with the season of Advent on November 30, the Sunday morning schedule is changing to Sunday School at 9:30am and worship at 10:45am.

DEACON CHRISTMAS BASKETS

The collection of food items will begin Sunday, Nov. 16

Below is a list of suggested items for each week. You may donate as much or as many times as you'd like. The Deacons and Mission Committee thank you for helping them help others in need in our community.

11/16 – Breakfast Items (cereal, oatmeal, juices, cereal bars, dried milk)

11/23 – Lunch Items (peanut butter, jelly, soups, mac-n-cheese, canned fruit)

11/30 – Dinner Items (pasta, sauces, canned vegetables, cookies, cake mixes, puddings, rice mix, drinks)

12/7 – Paper Products/ Toiletries (paper towels, tissues, toilet paper, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, floss)

Of course, these are just suggestions. Any gift, any Sunday, is appreciated.

(All items should be non-perishable.)

If you have a name of a family who could benefit from this ministry, please call the church office.

If you can help packaging the baskets on Thursday, December 18, talk with Pastor Andrew.

GINGERBREAD TREE—COMING SOON

Each year a Christmas tree in the lobby will be filled with gingerbread men, representing a local child in need of a “Santa” for Christmas. Each gingerbread man has information about the child and a number which represents the family they belong to. When you take a gingerbread man, please sign the paper so we know which one you have. Once you have finished shopping and wrapped your gift(s), please attach the gingerbread man to the outside of the wrapped gift and return it to the Christmas tree in the lobby. If there is more than one package, using the same wrapping paper or placing them all in a gift bag helps to keep everything together.

Due back by December 14

POINSETTIA ORDERS

Each year we decorate the sanctuary with poinsettias as part of our Christmas Eve celebration of the birth of Jesus. WHPC would like to invite you to purchase a poinsettia to help bring beauty and color to our Christmas Eve celebrations.



If you would like to order a flower (or flowers), orders must be given to the office no later than Wed., Dec. 3. Order forms have been in bulletins or you could cut off this portion of the page and drop it in the offering plate with payment. You can also call or email the church office to give your name, how many Poinsettias you would like, and information if the plant is in Honor or Memory of a loved one.

Flower pot size 6 ½” Red

How many? _____

Cost \$ 12.00 each

Total \$ _____

Poinsettias can be picked up after the Christmas Eve services. If you cannot pick up your flowers on Christmas Eve, contact the church office to make other arrangements.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Andrea Tuttoilmondo	Nov 2
Richard Forsyth	Nov 2
Janson Hrico	Nov 3
Genevieve Wirt	Nov 4
Alan Bookheimer	Nov 5
Janice Mihalko	Nov 11
Hope Aston	Nov 14
Sean Immel	Nov 17

*If you have an November birthday,
and we've missed you –
PLEASE let the office know!*

MISSION COMMITTEE MEETING

We will have a Mission Committee meeting on Tuesday, November 11, at 6:30PM in the lobby, followed by the Deacons Meeting. Anyone interested is invited to join us.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

As the weather outside turns colder, WHPC will be turning on the furnaces. This means (other than Sunday morning) lots of interior doors will be closed to isolate the heating zones and help keep the heating costs down. Please help us by making sure to leave doors the way you found them.



Thank you to everyone who supports the Coat Drive. Coats were purchased and delivered to the school on October 22.

West Hempfield Presbyterian Church extends a huge “Congratulations!” to the new Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lalor who were married in our sanctuary on October 18!

Continued thanks to those who have contributed to the Food2Go program.

The first bags went out to students on October 10.

Thank you for the Pastor Appreciation Day encouragement and support.

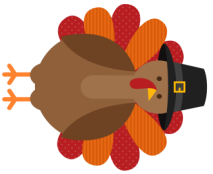
~Pastor Andrew~

Thank you so very much to all of the committee heads for providing Halloween treats for our kids and being there to hand them out. They had a great time and there were a lot of cute costumes. A special thank you to all the helpers who came into help with set up to make our party a success.

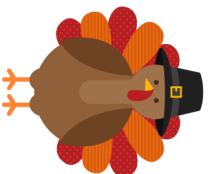
Thank you again!

~Mary Esther DeTesta, CE Chair~

If you have a thank you or praise you'd like to share with your WHPC family, please call the church office to put in the next newsletter.



November 2025



1
Spaghetti Dinner
4-6:30pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Daylight Saving Time ends 9am Sunday School 10am Worship w/Communion	3 Dartball(H) Upstairs—Rental	4 Election Day Voting in FH	5 Senior Cards 11am FH—Rental	6	7 FH—Rental	8
9 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	10 Dartball(A) Upstairs—Rental	11  VETERANS DAY Mission/Deacons Meeting 6:30pm FH—Rental	12 Senior Cards 11am FH—Rental	13	14 FH—Rental	15
16 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	17 Dartball(H) Upstairs—Rental	18 Stewardship Mtg. 6:30pm (Zoom) FH—Rental	19 Senior Cards 11am FH—Rental	20	21 FH—Rental	22
23 9am Sunday School 10am Worship Thanksgiving Lunch in FH after worship	24 Dartball(H) Upstairs—Rental	25 Session Mtg. 6:30pm FH—Rental	26 Senior Cards 11am FH—Rental	27 	28 Office Closed FH—Rental	29
30 (1 st Sunday of Advent) 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship					<u>Church Office Hours</u> Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10am — 2pm	