



## WEST HEMPFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CELEBRATING  
*60 Years*  
AS A PART OF  
THIS COMMUNITY

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Irwin, PA 15642

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[www.westhempfieldpc.org](http://www.westhempfieldpc.org)

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

On Sunday, May 7 we will be starting our sermon series to promote Vacation Bible School.

At **Hero Hotline VBS** our “heroes” will learn important lessons about how we all can work together and join God in helping others.

Our main Bible verse will be Romans 14:19  
*So let's strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up.*

Peace comes from God, and as God's people we are called to share that peace with the world.

We work together, help one another, and encourage one another because God has called us to live in community and fellowship with one another.

We all can strive, in both expected and unexpected ways, to bring peace, love, and justice to the world.

We will learn about the ways God calls us to be heroic by exploring some great stories from the Bible.

These daily “Hotline Tips” will tie our sermons together as we prepare to answer the **Hero Hotline**.

Here's how each lesson will highlight the ways we can work together as a team to strive for peace and build each other up



### Hotline Tips

**John 1:35-51**

Jesus Builds the Team

*Heroes are called to ...*

*Follow Jesus!*



**Exodus 1:8-2:10**

Shiphrah, Puah, and Miriam:

God's Wonder Women

*Heroes are called to ... Help Others!*

**Exodus 18**

Jethro Mentors Moses

*Heroes are called to ... Work Together!*

**Matthew 2:1-12**

The Magnificent Magi

*Heroes are called to ... Listen to God!*

**Acts 9:1-25**

Unexpected Heroes Give Paul a Basket Ride

*Heroes are called to ... Show Grace!*

Blessings,

Rev. Andrew Wirt



## MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**May 7** – Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM, Communion, Sunday School 9:45am

**May 14** – Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM, Sunday School 9:45am

**\*\* Last day for Sunday School - Glory Gold and Party**

**May 21** – Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM,

**May 28** - Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM



## SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Outdoor Services (like the last few years) will be held on the last Sunday of June, July, and August at 11AM in the parking circle by the Preschool entrance.

(8:30am service will continue as normal in the sanctuary on these dates)

For the months of July and August there will be one indoor worship service at 8:30am. With the exception of the Outdoor Services mentioned above, the 11AM service will be on hiatus for these two months and will return on September 3.

## ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Our next meeting will be on May 7 after the 11am worship service.

Anyone interested helping is welcome and invited to attend.

**Can you help?** On July 29 we will be kicking off our 60th Anniversary Celebration by hosting a Car Cruise / Open House. The committee is looking for volunteers to help. If you are interested in helping that day, please contact one of the members of the committee, or call the church office. A sign-up sheet in the lobby will be coming soon.

## MISSION COMMITTEE

A BIG “THANK YOU!” to everyone who participated in the **Haiti Spaghetti Dinner!** We served over 250 meals and raised over \$3,000!

**One Great Hour of Sharing Update:** The church donated \$537 to OGHS this Lent/Easter season! Thank you for all of those little blue envelopes and the awesome fish banks!

Thank you to everyone who supported **the Deacons with the Blackburn walk**. We will be donating at least \$500 from the Deacons to support those effected by domestic violence.

## APRIL SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

### *The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on April 25, 2023*

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 - Matthew 6:26 by listening to a Nat Theo podcast by Eryn Lynum.
- Approved Session minutes from March 23, 2023.
- Reviewed reports from WHPC committees.
- Discussed plans for Sanctuary Refresh and 60th Anniversary.
- T-shirt sale was a success, raising over \$500. Shirts should be available at the church on May 7.
- Talked about an insulated cup (keeping things cool) as another direct fundraiser and/or reward for donation.
- Approved Confirmation Class students to be installed as members, after the completion of the class
- Deacons: successful walk for Blackburn Center on April 15
- Discussion of Arona Road sign property, regarding maintenance and upkeep
- Christian Ed is planning VBS for June 12-16, 2023.
- Discussed supporting Pine Springs Camp Traveling Day Camp at New Hope Presbyterian Church, week of June 19 - more information to follow
- Personnel is beginning to review resumes for our Preschool Teacher position that will be open in the fall
- Stewardship reported another transfer from church savings to cover regular monthly budgeted expenses
- Summer worship plans
- Outdoor Services (like the last few years) will be held on the last Sunday of June, July, and August at 11AM in the parking circle by the Preschool entrance. (8:30am service will continue as normal in the sanctuary on these dates)
- For the months of July and August there will be one indoor worship service at 8:30am. With the exception of the Outdoor Services mentioned above, the 11AM service will be on hiatus for these two months and will return on September 3.
- Reviewed calendar of upcoming events
- Closed with prayer

Next meeting will be May 23, 2023

## PINE SPRINGS CAMP

### VITAL ENCOUNTERS WITH CHRIST SINCE 1948

If you (or someone you know) are planning activities for kids on summer break, Pine Springs Camp is a great place to Explore, Grow, Belong, Learn God's Word, and Have Fun.

Scholarships are available from the church! Contact the church office or talk with Pastor Andrew.

Also, watch for information about **Pine Springs Traveling Day Camp - Norwin** - June 19-23, 9am to 3pm.

[www.pinesprings.org/travelingdaycamps](http://www.pinesprings.org/travelingdaycamps)

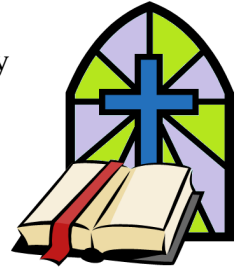


## CHRISTIAN ED

**THANK YOU!** We held our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sat. April 1, the rain held off and the sun came out! Our theme this year was the butterfly. We told the Easter story with all the beautiful colors of butterflies to 56 kids. They had a wonderful time collecting eggs and getting a treat bag and coloring book.

**GLORY GOLD:** The last day for Sunday school will be *May 14* and we will celebrate by letting the children turn in their Glory Gold.

**BIBLES FOR CHILDREN:** If your child will be moving up from 4th to 5th grade, We would like to gift them a Bible from the church. Please let the office know or any Christian Ed Committee member. Pass the word!



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 12-16 (6:00PM-8:00PM)



**This year's VBS will be *June 12-16 from 6 to 8PM* and our theme will be *Superheroes!***

The CE Committee is in search of volunteers who would like to participate in Vacation Bible School. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, please contact Mary Esther DeTesta or the church office.

## WEST HEMPFIELD PRESCHOOL

Congratulations to all our students ... Preschool graduation will be May 17!

As many of you know, this year's graduation also marks the retirement of beloved congregation member and long-time Preschool Teacher, Linda Simpson. Linda has requested that the church not make a big formal recognition on a Sunday morning, but you may still individually congratulate, thank, and wish her well.

From many years of grateful students and parents: *Thank you, Mrs. Simpson!*

If you have a child who will be 3 or 4 years old this fall, both morning and afternoon classes still have openings. For more information, visit their website [westhempfieldpreschool.org](http://westhempfieldpreschool.org) or call the church office between 9am – 2pm. Thank you!

## WEST HEMPFIELD SENIOR CITIZENS

The West Hempfield Senior Citizens are looking for some card players. They meet at the church on Wednesdays, from 11-2:30. Everyone brings their own lunch and then they play 500 Bidding.

For more information, please call Virgie Smith at 724-713-4372.

## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

We will have a special gift for all mothers, grandmothers, and motherly women of the church on Sunday, May 14.



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATES

### HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES



Please supply the church office with information if you/your child is graduating from high school, college, vocational school, graduate school or any other continued education program. The congregation would like to recognize and celebrate your accomplishment during worship. **Submit your name, from where you are graduating, & your immediate future plans to the office.**

### WATSON SCHOLARSHIP

West Hempfield Presbyterian Church is pleased to announce the availability of scholarships offered in memory of the Bill and Delphine Watson.



- Each high school graduate who will be furthering their education is eligible for a one-time scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00. Student or parent(s) of student should be a member of the church.
- Applications are available at the Welcome Center in the lobby or in the church office.
- Please return the application along with the student's acceptance letter for their school to the office.
- Once the application is approved by Session, a check will be mailed directly to the school address you provided on the application form.
- You will receive a letter of confirmation.



**PC(USA) 2023-2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS** - Applications for the 2023-24 scholarships through the Presbyterian Mission Agency are now open. The scholarships are for full-time undergraduate and seminary students belonging to Presbyterian churches. The final deadline for the need-based aid scholarship program is May 15, 2023.

[www.presbyterianmission.org/story/pcusa-2023-24-scholarship-applications-are-now](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/pcusa-2023-24-scholarship-applications-are-now)

## MAY BIRTHDAYS



Ann Randolph	May 4
Ainsley Pritz	May 5
Rachael Pritz	May 6
Katie Wirt	May 6
Bob Lore	May 8
John Bankosh	May 12
Amy Graham	May 13
Nikki Mackenzie	May 19

Bob Mihalko	May 23
Sarah Immel	May 23
Noah Mackenzie	May 24
Gavin Hladek	May 27
Connie Mertz	May 27
Gillian Mihalko	May 29
Judy Sturdevant	May 30

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





**Administrative Professionals' Day was  
Wednesday, April 26!**

Thank you Lisa for being part of the WHPC team . Your hard work and friendly greetings do not go unnoticed. Thanks for all you do!

**Music Ministry Appreciation Day  
was Sunday, April 30**

Thank you Cheryl for your gift of music, both on the pianos and the organ. You are such a wonderful blessing each Sunday. Thanks for all you do!

Thank you to everyone who provided flowers for Easter worship! Flower donations were acknowledged in a bulletin insert Easter Sunday.

Thank you for the candy donations and to the Confirmation Class who helped fill the eggs, put them outside and helped with the activities outside on the day of the Hunt!

Thank you also to all my committee members - Robin, Andrew, Heather, and also to Cheryl for stuffing bags. Thank you to Lisa, Rachel and John Bankosh for behind the scenes help. And finally, a special thank you to the Easter Bunny for their appearance with the kids.

Thank you to the readers and screen operators that participated in the 2nd Sunday of Easter services.

Worship Committee

**SUNDAY  
SCHOOL  
TEACHERS!!**

Thank you Sunday School Teachers for helping us grow in our faith.

A BIG Thank You to everyone from Ainsley Pritz for all the well wishes and cards. She is doing well and walking without her boot!

Thank you  
Linda Simpson &  
Andrea Tuttoilmondo  
for your dedication to  
the children of West  
Hempfield Preschool.

**CONGRATULATIONS to the WHPC Dart Ball team! They won the championship!**

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

# May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 H.E.L.P. 4:30	2	3 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	4	5	6
7 Communion 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Sunday School 9:45am	8 H.E.L.P. 4:30 Girl Scouts, 6-7pm	9 Deacons Meeting, 6:30pm	10 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	11 Harriett's Group 1:00pm	12	13
14 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Sunday School 9:45am 	15 H.E.L.P. 4:30	16 Voting 7am-8pm Stewardship & Finance Meeting, 6:30pm	17 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm Preschool Graduation 11:00am 	18 Session Reports Due	19	20
21 8:30 & 11:00am Worship	22 H.E.L.P. 4:30 Girl Scouts, 6-7pm	23 Session Meeting 6:30pm	24 Newsletter Deadline Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	25	26	27
28 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Pentecost Sunday	29 Office Closed Happy Memorial Day!	30	31			