



August



West Hempfield
Presbyterian Church

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

Since this is the August newsletter, you are probably reading it in August. However, as I am working on it, I am attending the New Wilmington Mission Conference, on the campus of Westminster College, New Wilmington, PA.

The theme for this year's conference is "*Be strong and courageous*" from Joshua 1:9.

If we continue reading verse 9, it goes on to say "*Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.*"

"*Do not be afraid*" is the most common command in all of Scripture and, according to our keynote speaker Nana Yaw Offei Awuku, it is also the easiest command to fail.

When God saves us, God does not take away our emotions. Just because we have decided to follow Jesus, that does not mean we will never be afraid again.

The Lord knows that we need to be encouraged everyday. That is why Scripture repeats it so often.

To an audience of over 300 people from all generations, our speaker Nana also encouraged us all by reminding us "What makes you afraid, does not scare God."

Over and over again, when Scriptures says "*Do not be afraid*," God follows it with some version of "*because I am with you.*"

Nana said it this way, "God is the *I-am-with-you* God."

Our strength and courage comes from the Lord.

Through Scripture God tells us that life is and will be difficult, even if we choose to follow God — sometimes life is difficult because we chose to follow God.

And through it all, God is with us.

In the midst of the storms of life, it makes perfect sense to be afraid.

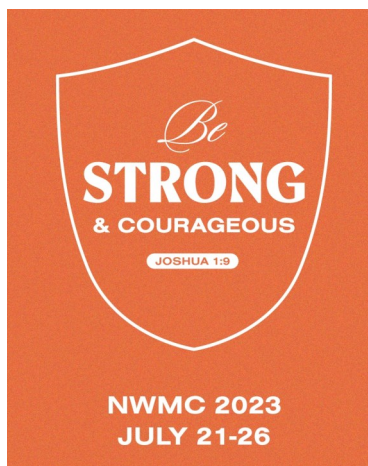
But we are not alone. We are in the presence of God. God will be with us wherever we go.

Do you need strength today? Are you in the midst of the storms of life? Feeling tossed about and out of control? Overwhelmed? Tired?

Strength comes from the Lord.

Are you standing at a crossroad? Uncertain what comes next? Hesitant to take the next step? Be courageous to follow Jesus, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Blessings, Rev. Andrew Wirt



BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSINGS SERVICE

Saturday, August 19, 2023
10:00am

We will gather in the sanctuary to bless the new school year and then move to the lobby for some refreshments and fellowship.



AUGUST WORSHIP SCHEDULE

AUGUST 6 - 8:30AM, Communion Sunday

AUGUST 13 - 8:30 AM

AUGUST 20 - 8:30 AM

AUGUST 27 - 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM Outdoor Worship
(weather permitting)



OUTDOOR WORSHIP

Thank you to those who joined us for
Outdoor Worship in June & July

***Join us for our last Outdoor Worship on
Sunday August 27 at 11:00am.***



Bring your own chair
and join us!

The 8:30 service will be
indoors as usual.



8/6 - 8:30AM Worship
w/ Communion

8/13 - 8:30AM Worship

8/20 - 8:30AM Worship

8/27 - 8:30AM Worship
11AM Outdoor Worship

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF

Summer break has been fun, but we miss Sunday School!

Our Sunday School teachers are excited to welcome students back this fall. Mark your calendars. Sunday School kick-off will be September 10, 2023, with fun, games, and snacks. Regular Sunday School classes will begin September 17th!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING & BREAKFAST

Whether your child or grandchild is going to preschool or off to college, we want to lift them up and ask for their protection, your wisdom, and patience for all.

Join us on ***Saturday, August 19 at 10:00AM*** in the Sanctuary with Scripture and prayer.

WEST HEMPFIELD PRESCHOOL



WHPC Preschool is currently accepting registrations for the school year 2023-2024. This program is designed for 3- & 4-year-old children. The child must be 3 and potty trained by August 31. The registration fee is \$40 and monthly tuition is \$120. If you would like more information, visit the preschool website at westhempfieldpreschool.org or call the church office.

Thank you. ***School starts Monday, September 11th!***

JULY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met the week of July 25, 2023

Due to busy summer schedules and vacations, the July Session meeting happened through email via submitted reports.

Though not meeting in person, all elders participated in the email and we were still able to

- pray together
- reflect on 1 Kings 3:10-12 with d365.org
- review committee reports
- approve applying for debit card for Church Treasurer Bob Lore (in some cases using a debit card rather than a credit card reduces fees)
- approve reducing the size of our dumpster to reduce our bill
- the call in line is not currently available for 8:30 only Sundays due to lack of interest. It will continue for 11am services, or upon request.
- review upcoming events
- close with prayer

The next regularly scheduled Session meeting will be August 22, 2023.

New Wilmington Mission Conference Online

The New Wilmington Mission Conference is now a “hybrid conference” — in person and online.

This means for those who were not able to attend the conference there is still an opportunity to experience the fun, listen to the music, and learn from the amazing speakers!

Many of the main stage meetings were live streamed to YouTube and are still available on the NWMC YouTube channel. You can open the

YouTube app or head over to YouTube.com and search for NWMC. From their channel, select “Live” to view videos from this year (and previous years).

You can also visit nwmcmission.org/2023-speakers-schedule

to see the list of speakers and click “Watch Online” under each one.

DART BALL

Join your church friends for a fun night out! Dart Ball will begin around the end of August. They play every Monday at 7:00pm. If you have an interest in playing, please call Gil Sekely at 724-446-7321



CONFIRMATION CLASS



CONFIRMATION!!

If you have a child in middle school or high school who is interested in joining the church, exploring their faith, and participating in a WHPC confirmation class, please contact the church office. We had an awesome group last year with 4 students joining the church in the spring. Let us know your availability, any questions you may have, and your hopes for the program.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Anthony Hladek	Aug 2	Ruth Moore	Aug 25
Arleen Sekely	Aug 8	Carol Williamson	Aug 28
Jacob Iwinski	Aug 14	Robert Mihalko	Aug 30
Bob Randolph	Aug 17	Mia Randolph	Aug 30
Laurie Bartko	Aug 24	Linda Simpson	Aug 31

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



Thank you to the readers and
screen operators for helping to
make another successful
Christmas in July service.
~ Worship Committee

Thank you to the many
people who were involved
with making our 60th
Anniversary Open House
and Car Cruise a success!

Thank you to
Christian Ed, Deacons,
Mission Committee,
and the congregation for your support and
financial aid so that our entire family was able to
attend the New Wilmington Mission Conference
together!
~the Wirt family

Dear W.H.P.C. Family,
Your thoughtfulness during my recovery was
greatly appreciated. The beautiful get well
words, the texts, the phone calls and visits to
the hospital and above all the prayers. God
has blessed me with good health once again.

Love and blessing,
Carol Williamson

We cannot thank you enough for
all of your love, support, and
prayers for this week of
Traveling Day Camp! We have
had a blast working with
campers and showing them the
love of the Lord! Thank you for
all that you do!
~ PSC Day Camp Staff

Church Picnic... The Deacons thank all who attended, helped with set-up, clean-up and we
hope you enjoyed some Fellowship time with your WHPC family.

Looking forward to more fun fellowship time!



August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	3	4	5
6 8:30am Worship	7 H.E.L.P Group 4:30pm	8 Deacons Meeting, 6:30pm	19 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	10 Harriett's Group 1:00pm	11	12
13 8:30am Worship	14 H.E.L.P Group 4:30pm	15 S & F Meeting, 6:30pm	16 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	17	18	19 Back-to-school Blessings Service 10:00am
20 8:30am Worship	21 H.E.L.P Group 4:30pm	22 Session Meeting, 6:30pm	23 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm Newsletter Deadline	24 Session Reports Due	25	26
27 8:30am Indoor Worship 11:00am Outdoor Worship	28 H.E.L.P Group 4:30pm	29	30 Senior Cards 11-2:30pm	31		