



WEST HEMPFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8 West Hempfield Drive

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724-863-1260

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

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

Ash Wednesday, February 17, begins the season of Lent – 40 days (not counting Sundays) until Easter.

Lent is a season of preparation, sacrifice, reflection, and humility. Just as Jesus spent 40 days fasting in the wilderness after his baptism and before the official start of his public ministry, we set aside these 40 days to prepare for Easter.

As we look forward to Easter, we think about the great sacrifice Jesus was willing to make for us in dying on the cross, the great power of God to overcome even death with the resurrection, the great promise “I will never leave you nor forsake,” that is fulfilled in gift of the Holy Spirit freely given to all believers.

How are we to prepare for such wonder?

Well, Presbyterians are not required or expected to do anything for the season of lent, but many will choose to participate in one way or another.

Whatever we may choose to do (or not do) this season, I encourage us to remember the advice of Scripture.

Joel 2:12 says *Even now, declares the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.* But the very next verse says ***Rend your heart and not your garments.*** *Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.*

Psalms 51:16-17 says *You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.*

No matter how we might choose to prepare for Easter this year, may it be our hearts that are changed. May we all be more like our compassionate, self-sacrificing Savior each and every day.

Blessings, Rev. Andrew Wirt

## Pastor Andrew Recommends:

Many people like to do something special for the season of Lent. Some will give something up until Easter; some might take something on that they don't normally do. Blessings to anyone who is making such commitments this season.

I want to encourage us all in our time spent with God – all year, but especially in this time as we prepare for Easter.

To help us with that, the church is offering copies of a special lent devotional at no charge to you!

You can pick up a copy in the church lobby or we can send you one by mail or email.

## Where Your Heart Is

*This unique intergenerational resource is a hybrid devotional/coloring book which includes seven weekly devotions for all ages, as well as illustrations that*



*are meant to be colored in and many opportunities to doodle and engage with the content in fun and creative ways.*

*Our theme's inspiration comes from Jesus' teaching about storing treasures in his Sermon on the Mount. By exploring Gospel passages about treasures and matters of the heart, we invite you to wonder more deeply about what kinds of treasure matter, why we store treasures, and the power these treasures have in our lives.*

## FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**February 7** – Regular Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM,  
Communion, Sunday School 9:45 am  
**February 14** – Regular Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM,  
Sunday School 9:45am  
**February 17** – Ash Wednesday Service 7:00PM  
**February 21** – Regular Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM,  
Sunday School 9:45 am  
**February 28** – Regular Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM,  
Sunday School 9:45 am



### SANCTUARY FLOWERS

If you'd like to provide flowers for Sunday morning in honor or memory of someone, please sign up or call the church office. The 2021 flower chart can be found in the lobby at the welcome center.

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE



**We will have worship on the evening of February 17** for Ash Wednesday, join us in the Sanctuary at 7:00pm. Pastor Andrew will lead us in a service of repentance and reflection. All are welcome.

## AT HOME WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*There are several ways to worship with WHPC ...*

- You can listen to the service over the phone at 11:00am (for instructions, please call the church office)
- You can watch the service on Facebook – [www.facebook.com/westhempfieldpresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/westhempfieldpresbyterian)

**The same video will be also be available on the church website** [www.westhempfieldpc.org](http://www.westhempfieldpc.org)  
After the video on Facebook has finished, it will continue to be available on Facebook as well to watch any time, at your convenience.

**Reminder:** Anyone can join us for **at-home communion** by calling in at 11am on the first Sunday of the month

## MUSIC UPDATE

- Handbell practice will resume on Thursday nights from 6:30pm-7:30pm.
- February 4, 2021 will be the first rehearsal of 2021.
- We will also resume our 3rd Sunday of the month performances. As well, we will attempt to get a recording for each 3rd Sunday during the practice prior.
- More details to follow in regards to recording.
- Any questions please email tony at [gre0151@gmail.com](mailto:gre0151@gmail.com)
- ALL ARE WELCOME!!!!!!!
- In addition, all special music is welcome, you can even submit your music recording online in the event you feel it best to stay at home.

## JANUARY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

### *The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on January 26, 2021*

Together we covered our church and congregation with prayer, studied the Bible, discussed upcoming events, and reviewed the submitted reports.

For our Bible study we read Philippians 1:3-11.

We approved the December session minutes, January 5 session minutes, and the Congregational meeting minutes.

We received and reviewed staff and committee reports.

Ash Wednesday service was approved.

Discussion of the possibility of help with video editing for the at-home worship services.

Building emergency lights were replaced and outdoor lighting near circle was installed in honor of John Reed

Painting in sanctuary is underway and almost complete

## ORDINATION/INSTALLATION OF NEW CHURCH OFFICERS

**SAVE THE DATE:** Tentatively we will ordain and/or install new church officers on *February 14* during both worship services. The church offers its gratitude to those who have served for 2020 and a commitment to pray for those who will be serving in 2021.



## DEACONS

**FEBRUARY MEETING:** Newly elected officers are asked to attend the *February 9* Deacons meeting, we will meet at 6:30 pm in person at the church. Please contact Larry DeTesta if you are unable to attend.

## HOMEBOUND & NURSING HOME FRIENDS



Remember those who can't be with us physically with a card or phone call. The winters are long, especially for them.

## STEWARDSHIP

### **GIVING STATEMENTS & PER CAPITA:**

2020 giving statements have been emailed and/or mailed. Giving envelopes and calendars are on the glass table in the lobby. **The per capita for 2021 is 42.50 per member.** Thank you for your financial support of the ministry & mission of WHPC.

## VALENTINE'S DAY WORSHIP KITS

It has been a tough year, but WHPC is still looking for ways to keep kids and families connected and engaged. The Christmas activity kits went over well, so we are trying it again. Valentine activity kits for the youth of the church will be available in the lobby on **Sunday, February 14**. Even if you worship at home, you can stop by to pick one up, or contact the church office to make other arrangements. **GOD LOVES YOU !!**



## CHRISTIAN ED

**CONFIRMATION CLASS:** 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 are gauging interest in a class for this year.

## FOOD2GO4KIDS, WITH LOVE — MISSION COMMITTEE FUNDRAISER



The Mission Committee will be organizing a fundraiser for Food2Go4Kids. Hopefully, around Valentine's Day. Keep an eye out for more information.

## HAITI MISSION—DRIVE THRU SPAGHETTI DINNER

**Save the date! March 20th is our next spaghetti dinner!**

We are very excited to resume these as they are enjoyed by all. The meal will still include spaghetti and meatballs, drink and a salad. Things will be a bit different this year and we thank you in advance for being patient with us until things can return to normal.

We will also be making meatballs at 6:00 on the evening before (March 19th). Everyone is welcome to help...it would be much appreciated.

We hope that you will come out and support us because it is only through your help that we can continue our monthly support to the children's school in Haiti.

Please stay tuned for more details in the upcoming bulletins & newsletters.

WHPC gives monthly support to a children's school in Haiti. The annual spaghetti dinner is an important fundraiser so that we can continue our giving.

Everyone is welcome to help.



## WEST HEMPFIELD PRESCHOOL

**REGISTRATION:** We are currently accepting registration for the school year 2020-2021. This program is designed for 3 & 4 year old children. The child must be 3 by August 31, 2020 and potty trained. The registration fee is \$30. If you would like more information, visit their website at

[www.westhempfieldpreschool.org](http://www.westhempfieldpreschool.org), call the church office

**PRESCHOOL SNACKS:** The preschool is in need of snacks, they have been enjoying all of the donations, but are beginning to run low. Some requests are Little Debbie's, Chips, Pretzels, Oreos (does not have to be individually wrapped, they use gloves to distribute).



**MEMORIAL FUND PRESCHOOL CHAIRS:** The West Hempfield Preschool has new chairs! What a joy it is to be able to support the Preschool and its students! It has been a difficult year and the Preschool has been forced to close a few times in response to the threat of the virus, but they keep going. We are proud to support them in any way we can. When the request came to the Session that they were interested in new chairs to replace old ones that were wearing out, the elders all agreed that this would be a wonderful use for the church Memorial Fund. Thank you to everyone who has supported the Memorial Fund over the years in memory of loved ones! Your gifts are a blessing to WHPC and to every student who comes through our Preschool!

*Mark 9:37 "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."*

## WORSHIP AT HOME HELP

If you have experience in creating videos, audio and video hardware set up, sound production, video editing software, etc., we could use your help. As we look to the future, many churches are predicting that the worship-at-home option will not be going away. Winter weather, illness, travel, and more can prevent us from being in person for worship and the at-home service provides an opportunity to stay connected. Online worship also provides a low pressure way for new people to check out a church ahead of time before making the decision to attend in person. If you have the kind of experience that would be helpful as we plan for the future of the at-home service, either to volunteer on a regular basis or even just to sit down and have a conversation about some tips, tricks, and best practices, please contact the church office. We could use a helping hand.

Office hours Monday-Friday 9am-1pm, 724-863-1260.





Thank you to those involved in the purchase of the new preschool chairs - a very big Thank you! The children noticed them right away. It is nice to have a nice new, shiny model.  
~Linda & Andrea

Thank you to our Church family for the cards and letters sent to us when my beloved husband, Ivan, passed. Your support, prayers, and remembrances of him were so uplifting to me then and continue to give me strength in the days to come. Love and God's blessing to each of you!  
~Betty Baughman & family

Thanks for online services. Walking is a challenge at 85 so I enjoy service via web. Hard work & spinal stenosis taking a toll on my body. Still able to taste and smell, wear a mask among others. Excited for birth of #8 great grandchild end of March!  
Nancy Logan



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 3 – Keeley Mackenzie,  
Karen Reed

February 8 – Bob Edmonds

February 9 – Ken Primus  
Thomas Wybiral

February 12 – Birdie Grinder

February 13 – Caroline Ray

February 24 – Doris Forsyth,  
Janet Errett

February 26 – Betty Greenawalt,  
Phil Weaver

February 27 – Jen MacIntosh

February 28 – Meredith MacIntosh

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

# February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Hand bell Practice 6:30pm-7:30pm	5	6
7 Communion Sunday 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Sunday School 9:45am		9 Deacons Meeting, 6:30pm NAMI 7:00pm	10 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	11 Hand bell Practice 6:30pm-7:30pm	12	13
14  8:30 & 11:00 Worship Sunday School 9:45am Valentine Kits available	15	16 Stewardship & Finance 6:30pm	17 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	18 Hand bell Practice 6:30pm-7:30pm <b>SESSION REPORTS DUE</b>	19	20
21 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Sunday School 9:45am	22 <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	23 Session Meeting, 6:30pm	24 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	25 Hand bell Practice 6:30pm-7:30pm	26	27
28 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Sunday School 9:45am						