



## WEST HEMPFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

October is the month of Halloween.

The hot summer days turn cooler and a chill runs up your spine. Each day the sun shines just a little bit shorter and the darkness grows. Decorations of skeletons, witches, and ghosts abound.

October is a month of Fear.

October is also the month of Stewardship.

We don't want to wait until the last minute, so the plan is always to approve next year's budget in November. That means presenting the first draft at the October Session meeting. Inevitably this always leads to a lot of conversations about budgets and stewardship in October.

October is a month of Generosity.

But Fear and Generosity really do not go together.

Fear can be a good thing. Fear can protect us from danger. Fear can alert us to risks and encourage caution. Fear can bring focus and sharpen our senses.

But fear also makes us put our defenses up. When we are afraid, we withdraw or hide. We lock the doors. We build walls, literally or metaphorically. We plan, we prepare, we stockpile. Fear is isolating, suspicious of others, and self-focused.

Generosity, on the other hand, requires openness and vulnerability. Generosity builds bridges with others. We risk personal security and safety when we offer what we have to others. Generosity is uniting, compassionate, and other-focused.

On the night that Jesus was arrested, he knew what

was happening. He knew what was going to happen. It was terrifying. There was plenty to be afraid of, but he chose generosity. He gave all that he had, even his life, so that we might be saved.

On the night that Jesus was arrested, his followers were scared. Mostly, they ran away. One man turned violent and attacked someone in the crowd. And still Jesus was generous. He immediately put a stop to the violence and healed the man who had come to arrest him.

Fear can prevent us from being generous.

But generosity can help us to overcome our fears.

Generosity can connect us to the needs of others. It can help us to get our minds off of ourselves and our fears. Helping to meet the needs of others gives us something to do, a sense of direction and purpose when fear makes us feel lost. Sharing what we have helps us to place our trust in the Lord who provides, rather than in the things themselves.

Life is full of things to fear, but God calls us to go beyond our fear and to greet the world with generosity.

### **Blessings, Rev. Andrew Wirt**



## OCTOBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**OCTOBER 2** - 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Communion Sunday, Sunday school  
**OCTOBER 9** - 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Sunday school  
**OCTOBER 16** - 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Sunday school  
**OCTOBER 23** - 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Sunday school  
**OCTOBER 30** - 8:30 AM & 11:00AM, S.S. Costume Party between services



*You can listen to the 11:00am service LIVE over the phone  
(for instructions, please call the church office)  
You can view sermons on YouTube (scan the code on the left)  
or visit the church website [www.westhempfieldpc.org](http://www.westhempfieldpc.org)*

### SAVE THESE DATES:

- Haiti Spaghetti Dinner - Saturday, October 22
- Sunday School Costume Party - Sunday, October 30
- Thanksgiving Sunday - November 20
- First Sunday of Advent - November 27
- Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24



## NOMINATING

I want to encourage you to think about the gifts, interests, and skills that God has given you. Do you have something in mind?

Are you good at cooking? Can you swing a hammer? Do you like meeting new people? Does bookkeeping and accounting come naturally to you? Or teaching? Or music? Do you paint or knit or sew? Do you like decorating? Or figuring out computers?

All of these things (and more) can be used to help at the church!

I know being asked to serve as a Deacon or Elder can seem like a big deal. In a way, it is, because I truly believe that God blesses us when we serve Him and I have seen people grow in many ways as they have served on boards of the church. But really, it is just being yourself and using the gifts God has given you ... and attending one or two meetings a month.

If you, or someone you know, would be willing to share your gifts with the church (and attend a few meetings), please contact Pastor Andrew or Deb Immel to talk about Nominating Committee.

Not every gift is needed every year. Keeping track of all that is what the Nominating Committee is for. But even if we don't have an official Elder or Deacon seat for you this year, we have ways that you can help. And there may be a seat for you in the future.

## MISSION - FOOD2GO4KIDS

Mac'N'Cheese cup donations will be celebrated and blessed during worship on October 2, 2022.

## SESSION SUMMARY

The September Session meeting was postponed one week and will be held on October 4th, 2022. As such, we don't have a session report for this newsletter. Next month we should have two for you. Thank you for understanding.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TRICK-OR-TREAT



**SUNDAY SCHOOL TRICK-OR-TREAT:** Join your Sunday school friends on Sunday, *October 30 between services*. Come dressed in your *not-so-scary*, church appropriate Halloween costume and enjoy trick-or-treating in the Fellowship Hall. Each church committee will have a table with treats for the kids! If your child(ren) plan to attend, please let your Sunday school teacher know or call the church office. Bring a friend! Treats, prizes and a craft!

## HAITI SPAGHETTI DINNER

**SAVE THE DATE:** Saturday, October 22, 2022 from 4:00-6:30 PM

**TICKETS:** Coming soon! Tickets will be available in the lobby following worship.

**COST:** Adults..... \$9 Children ..... \$5

**MENU:** Spaghetti, meatballs, salad, bread, and a beverage

**PROCEEDS:** We have been able to send \$100 each month to support a school in Haiti, thanks to the fundraising and your on-going generous support. If you are able to help with any event, please contact Arleen Sekely or Jen Mikluscak. Thank you!

### MEATBALL MAKING PARTY:

Join us on *Friday, October at 6:00pm* to help prepare for the Spaghetti Dinner. Please come and enjoy some fun and fellowship while helping make this dinner a success.



## HAITI MISSION SHOEBOXES

We will again be sending Christmas shoe boxes to Haiti. During these unprecedented times, we know that it is difficult to commit to anything. However, we ask that you please remember there are other people that may have even greater needs than ours.

If you do not feel comfortable going shopping for items, please feel free to contact the office, Jen or Arleen with a monetary cash donation and let us know what gender and age that you would like to provide a box for.

We are willing to shop for you. There will be a table in the lobby soon with more information.



## NEW DIRECTORY

Photos will be taken on October 17th from 2 - 8:30pm here at the church. Please sign up online or in the foyer after the service on Sunday. If you are unable to get your picture taken please contact the church office for other arrangements. Also, please fill out the contact information form that was mailed. If you did not receive one, call the office.



## 2022 FIRST FRUITS - OFFERING/ PER CAPITA = \$43

What used to be called the "per capita" has been replaced by the "First Fruits" campaign of Redstone Presbytery. Regardless of what we call it, this is our denominational support. Each of us has the opportunity to support the work of the Presbytery, Synod, and National levels of our church, the PCUSA, in the work they do.

It is a beautiful example of the power of small things in large numbers. Our First Fruits offering isn't much per person, but when combined with all of our fellow brothers and sisters in the PCUSA throughout the nation, we are able to do great things like support for missionaries and pastors and other staff, helping to connect churches with ministers, the Presbyterian Historical Society, providing a Presbyterian presence at ecumenical groups and gatherings in this country, worldwide, and more.

If you are a member of WHPC and you haven't made a First Fruits/Per Capita gift yet this year, please consider doing so. Thank you!

## CONFIRMATION CLASS

**MENTORS.....**We are currently seeking adult mentors to volunteer their time & leadership to our youth.

Mentoring allows adult members of the congregation to share your stories with young people who are in the process of learning to claim their own faith and identity. The passing down of faith from one generation to the next enriches the whole church.

Spiritual behaviors, such as compassion, forgiveness, or devotion, come from seeing those behaviors modeled. This modeling of care for the other, illustrated by mentors, teaches confirmation students that we are not just independent Christians, but part of an interdependent body of Christ.

If you would like more information or to volunteer to be a mentor for our confirmation class starting mid-October, please contact Pastor Andrew or a member of the Christian Education Committee.

Confirmation

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Joseph Iwinski	October 1	Marge Jessen	October 16
Thomas Mihalko	October 4	Helen Toms	October 17
Wesley MacIntosh	October 5	Elsie Barton	October 20
Rev. Andrew Wirt	October 7	Doug Jessen	October 20
MaryEsther DeTesta	October 10	Cindy Bankosh	October 21
James Crust	October 11	Jan Ober	October 28
Lee Ober	October 13	Brian Pritz	October 29

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



Thank you to those who joined us for the Sunday school kick-off. It was great to welcome everyone back to church.

The Mission Committee thanks you for supporting their FOOD2GO program with the donation of Mac -N -Cheese cups.

Thank you to our Worship Committee for providing the beautiful flowers for the weeks that no one has signed up for.

Thank you to our wonderful preschool teachers for starting a new school year with us. We greatly appreciate the service and kindness you provide for the children.

Thank you Linda Simpson for your faithful help setting up communion each month. This month we will be going back to the traditional bread and juice. For those who prefer, we will still have the pre-packaged cups.

*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.*

# October 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Sunday School 9:45 Communion	3 H.E.L.P Group 4:30pm Dart Ball 7:00pm	4 Sept. Session Mtg. 6:30pm	5 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	6	7	8
9 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Sunday School 9:45	10 H.E.L.P Group 4:30pm Dart Ball 7:00pm	11 Deacons Meeting, 6:30pm NAMI 7:00pm	12 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	13	14	15
16 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Sunday School 9:45	17 H.E.L.P Group 4:30pm Dart Ball 7:00pm Church Directory Pictures 2:00-8:30pm	18 S & F Meeting, 6:30pm	19 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm	20 <b>Session Reports Due</b>	21 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> Make Meatballs 6:00pm	22 Spaghetti Dinner 4:00-6:30pm 
23 8:30 & 11am Worship Sunday School 9:45 30 8:30 & 11am Worship S.S. Costume Party	24 H.E.L.P Group 4:30pm Dart Ball 7:00pm 31 H.E.L.P. Group 4:30pm Dart Ball 7:00pm	25 Session Meeting, 6:30pm	26 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	27	28	29