



## WEST HEMPFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Irwin, PA 15642

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

# MAY 2025

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

On Sunday, May 4, we will be starting our sermon series to promote Vacation Bible School.

At **Road Trip VBS** our “travelers” are invited on an exciting journey to discover new places, new friends, and ways that we can discover God’s goodness and presence everywhere.

Road Trip VBS is based on Joshua 1:9  
*The Lord your God is with you wherever you go.*

This verse reminds us that God’s presence is always near, no matter where the journey of life takes us.

We will explore timeless Bible stories that show how people from the Old and New Testaments journeyed with God through many locations and situations and found strength in God’s presence wherever they went.

Each daily “Mile Marker” will tie our sermons together as we prepare for Road Trip VBS.

Here’s how each lesson will help us discover God at work in our lives and experience the love of Jesus.

Register for Road Trip VBS:



[westhempfieldpc.org/vbs-2025](http://westhempfieldpc.org/vbs-2025)

### Mile Markers

#### Genesis 12:1-9

Abraham and Sarah

Follow God

*God is with us on  
the journey.*



#### Exodus 13:17-22

The Israelites Take the Scenic Route

*God is with us when we go off course.*

#### Luke 1:39-56

Mary & Elizabeth’s Family

Reunion

*God is with us when we are joyful.*

#### Luke 19:1-10

Jesus Visits Zacchaeus

*God is with us when we’re lonely.*

#### Acts 18:1-11

On the Road with Paul

*God is with us near and far.*



Blessings,

Rev. Andrew Wirt



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### **SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**

Summer Office Hours will begin  
after Memorial Day

**Mondays, Wednesdays, and  
Fridays  
10am to 1pm**

### **COMMUNION**

We will be celebrating  
communion together as a part of  
our worship service on  
Sunday, May 4, 2025, at 10:00am.



### **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**

We will have a special gift for  
all mothers, grandmothers, and  
motherly women of the church  
on Sunday, May 11.



### **WEST HEMPFIELD PRESCHOOL**

Congratulations to all our  
students!

Preschool graduation will be  
May 14.



Congratulations and THANK YOU!  
to Andrea/Mrs. T for 18 years of teaching.

### **CE / VBS PLANNING MEETING**

The CE / VBS planning meeting will be held on  
Monday, May 19 at 6:30PM in the lobby. Anyone  
interested in helping with VBS this June is  
invited!

**Reminder:** Any adults working with kids need to  
have up-to-date clearances.

## CHRISTIAN ED

**THANK YOU!** We held our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sat. April 12. The rain stopped just in time for our hunt! The students who braved the chance of rain had a wonderful time collecting eggs and received a treat bag with a craft, snacks, and a coloring book.

**GLORY GOLD:** The last Sunday School before Summer Break will be May 18. On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11, the students will have a little party and purchase prizes with their Glory Gold from throughout the school year.

### 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 9-13 (6:00PM—8:00PM)**

**WHPC VBS will be *June 9-13 from 6 to 8PM* and our theme will be *Road Trip!***

Registration is open and available on the church website! [westhempfieldpc.org/vbs-2025](https://westhempfieldpc.org/vbs-2025)



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.

## 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.

**Pine Springs Traveling Day Camp**  
- **Norwin** - June 16-20, 9am to 3pm.

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

For more information on all things Pine Springs Camp

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

### Summer Camp Scholarships

are available from the church!

Contact the church office or talk with Pastor

Andrew.



**Pine Springs Camp**

## DAY CAMP VOLUNTEERS

WHPC is seeking volunteers to help with the Traveling Day Camp sponsored by Pine Springs in collaboration with WHPC, First Presbyterian in Irwin and New Hope Presbyterian. If you can volunteer 2 hours, stay for the day, or volunteer the whole week please prayerfully consider **signing up** to volunteer!

<https://bit.ly/PSCTravelvolunteer>

## APRIL SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

### *The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on Tuesday, April 22, 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.

- discussed recommendation from Building Committee to start thinking about and planning for the eventual replacement of shingles over the fellowship hall
- discussed and approved the replacement of a furnace (Sunday School wing) that is damaged and was leaking fumes
- "Elder Training" on what the Book of Order says about church membership - definitions, categories, responsibilities, etc.
- Reviewed and approved rental requests
- Reviewed calendar of upcoming events
- Closed with prayer

Next scheduled Session meeting will be Tuesday, June 3, 2025.

## MISSION COMMITTEE

We will have a Mission Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 13, at 6:30PM in the lobby, followed by the Deacons Meeting. Anyone interested is invited to join us.

## VOLUNTEER WORK DAY

The Building Committee is organizing a volunteer work day on Saturday, May 24, from 9am to 12 noon. We invite you to roll up your sleeves and join us for a day filled with pulling weeds and planting flowers. Together we will make sure our building reflects the warmth and welcome of our congregation.

Whether you have a green thumb or simply a willingness to lend a hand, there's a place for you at our Volunteer Work Day.

Don't forget your gloves, and bring along any gardening tools you may have.



## BUILDING REMINDERS

Building Committee reminds members and renters alike to turn off lights and lock doors before leaving.

Please, never use permanent hold on thermostats. If you make an adjustment, return to previous setting before you leave.

And finally, never use tape on any surface! Painters tape can be used for the short term. Approved sticky tack is available in the office.

## SENIOR CARD CLUB

The West Hempfield Senior Citizens are always looking for some new card players!

They meet at the church on Wednesdays from 11am-2:30pm. Everyone brings their own lunch, and then they play 500 Bidding.

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





## 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.



**Please 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 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. Student or parent(s) of the 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) SCHOLARSHIP FOR UNDERGRADUATES 2025 —

Applications for the 2025-26 scholarships through Presbyterian Mission are now open. The need-based aid scholarships are for full-time undergraduate students belonging to PCUSA churches. The final deadline for the scholarship program is Tue. May 13, 2025, 2:59 AM .

<https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/scholarships/pcusa2025>

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Thank you for your support of the Annual PCUSA One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, and a special thank you to all the students who participated with their fish banks.

Each gift supports efforts to assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People.

- **\$3.1 million** granted by PDA in the United States and 35 countries
- **Over 55,000** pounds of seeds and seedlings were distributed for farming
- **90 grants** impacting 22 countries given by PHP
- **228,318 Gift of the Heart Kits** and Blankets distributed
- **875 chickens** were distributed in Guatemala and Columbia
- **105 women** became self-employed in Malawi
- **152 people** won their land back in Sri Lanka

Learn more about how your gifts bless God's people around the world:

<https://pcusa.org/special-offerings/one-great-hour-sharing>



## Music Ministry Appreciation Day was Sunday, April 27

Thank you Thomas for your gift of music, both on the pianos and the organ.  
You are such a wonderful blessing each Sunday that you can be with us.  
Thanks for all you do!

## ★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

### 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
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!***

### FOOD2GO4KIDS

#### THANK YOU!!

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered throughout the year for packaging, supporting our fundraisers, making donations of food and/or plastic bags.  
We appreciate you!

### PRESCHOOL

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

### SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS!!

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

Thank you Stewardship Committee for refreshments after worship on 4/6 and Building Committee for 5/4.



*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.*

Congratulations to Virgie Smith on the birth of great-great-grandson Ryder Artman!!!  
Born April 15th



# May 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<u>Church Office Hours</u> Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 9am — 1pm		1	2 <i>FH—Rental</i>	3
4 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	5 <i>Upstairs Rental</i>	6	7 Senior Cards 11am	8	9 <i>FH—Rental</i>	10
11  9am Sunday School 10am Worship	12 <i>Upstairs Rental</i>	13 Mission Committee Mtg Deacons Meeting	14 Senior Cards 11am Preschool Graduation 	15	16 <i>FH—Rental</i>	17
18 9am Sunday School 10am Worship <i>FH Rental</i>	19 CE/VBS Meeting <i>Upstairs Rental</i>	20 Stewardship (Zoom) <i>Primary Elections in Fellowship Hall</i>	21 Senior Cards 11am	22	23 <i>FH—Rental</i>	24 Building Committee Outdoor Work Day <i>FH Rental</i>
25 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	26 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED	27	28 Senior Cards 11am	29	30 <i>FH—Rental</i>	31