



## WEST HEMPFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

We had a great Sunday School Trick or Treat  
Costume Party Sunday, October 27 at the church.  
Thank you to the many people who helped make  
that a fun and successful event!

As the children run around in their costumes  
collecting candy for Halloween, we in the church  
remember that this holiday is also called All  
Hallows Eve.

Like Christmas Eve is the night before Christmas  
Day, All Hallows Eve is the night before All  
Hallows Day or the Feast of All Hallows.

All Hallows Day is November 1, though you may  
be more familiar with it as All Saints' Day!

All Saints' day is the day to honor all the saints of  
the church—past, present, and future —known and  
unknown.

Focus is often placed on the saints of the past, I  
think because the Catholic Church has the tradition  
of “canonizing” particularly virtuous people  
posthumously and granting them the title of  
“Saint.” Also, many churches will hold a moment  
like we did during worship on Sunday, October 27  
and honor those who have entered the heavenly  
kingdom within the last year.

In its most basic definition, however, a “saint” is  
“a holy one” - someone “set apart” for God’s  
special purposes. And that includes all of us! All  
who have been saved, forgiven, cleansed,  
sanctified, and set apart as children of God by the  
life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

On All Saints' Day, I think of Paul’s words that  
we read in worship on Sunday, October 27, from

Hebrews chapter 12:1-2a.

*<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a  
great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off  
everything that hinders and the sin that so easily  
entangles. And let us run with perseverance the  
race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on  
Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.*

All Saints' Day reminds us of our connectedness  
as Christians, throughout all time and space.

Hebrews says it is this great cloud of witnesses/  
saints that surrounds us (and Jesus who unites  
us) that gives us strength and courage to face  
whatever challenges lie before us. Saints, men  
and women who have put their faith in God, are  
a connecting thread reaching throughout history  
(both ancient and recent), today, and long into  
the future!

Happy All Saints' Day!

Blessings, Rev. Andrew Wirt



**Daylight saving time is coming to a close!**

**This year's time change happens on Sunday, Nov. 3 at 2 a.m., shifting back to 1 a.m.**

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## COMMUNION



We will be celebrating communion together as a part of our worship service on Sunday, November 3, 2024, at 10:00am

## NOVEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE



11/3 - 9AM Sunday School  
10AM Worship Service w/ Communion

11/10 - 9AM Sunday School  
10AM Worship Service

11/17 - 9AM Sunday School  
10AM Worship Service

11/24 - 9AM Sunday School  
10AM Worship Service  
Annual Thanksgiving Lunch

## SPAGHETTI DINNER

**Saturday, November 9, 2024**

**from 4:00-6:30 PM**

**COST:** Adults.... \$10 Children (age 4-6)...\$7

**MENU:** spaghetti with homemade meatballs, bread, salad, drink and dessert

**PROCEEDS:** WHPC Building Fund and Sanctuary AC Fund

If you are able to help with any part of the event, please contact the office. Thank you!



**MEATBALL MAKING PARTY:** Join us on **Friday, November 8 at 6PM** to help prepare for the Spaghetti Dinner. Please come and enjoy some fun and fellowship while helping make this dinner a success.

## **ANNUAL FELLOWSHIP THANKSGIVING LUNCH**

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for a wonderful time of fellowship around table together at our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner after our worship service on November 24.

To help us plan appropriately, please RSVP by Monday, November 4 by signing up at the Welcome Center in the lobby or contact the church office. This is just so we can make sure we have enough food. Sign up isn't required to attend, but it is very helpful for planning.

### **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

*(Take out available for those who let us know ahead of time.)*

Donations will be accepted to help cover the costs, but there is no fee to attend.

## **WE LOVE HAVING YOUTH IN WORSHIP**

We are providing tables in the back of the sanctuary with quiet activities for children who are able to join us during services.

Students may sit at the tables or take things into the pews. Please feel free to use anything you find there. Coloring pages are yours to take home. Please leave everything else on the tables before heading home after worship.

The lobby and the nursery (unstaffed) is also available with more books, toys, and coloring for the little ones who need a little more space.

We love having kids in the sanctuary with us during worship! This can mean a little extra noise and distraction for the adults, but it is more than worth it to welcome the next generation and to be blessed by their company in worship.

## **BUILDING COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER WORK DAY— HISTORY ROOM**

### **We are looking for helpers.**

Ever since our 60th Anniversary Celebration last year, we have been looking for a way to keep that excitement alive with a History Room here at the church

Saturday, November 16, starting at 9am, we are going to gather at the church and clean up the old choir room making it into our new History Room.

We have the original communion table and baptismal font as well as lots of other mementos and pictures.

The hope is to have this room all set up and ready in time for Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas this year!

## **FILE CABINETS AND CHAIRS**

### **As we clean up, it's time for some things to go.**

If anyone is interested in an old metal file cabinet (4 or 5 drawer) or a few of the old metal folding chairs (the ones we replaced with the new blue chairs in the Fellowship Hall), let the office know. We would love for them to find a new home and still be useful.



## OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER

Recorded music is fine. However, we all know there is something special about live music.

We are seeking some special music to help fill that wish for live music.

If you, or someone you know, would like to share the gift of music, contact the church office.

We will be decorating for Christmas the week of **November 24** in small groups. If your family, committee, or friends would like to help with decorating, please contact the office, sign up at the Welcome center, or talk with Worship Elder Richard Forsyth.

We will contact you with details.



The season of Advent also brings the lighting of the Advent candles. If an individual, family, or group would like to volunteer to do a little reading and light the candles during the worship service some Sunday in Advent or for Christmas Eve, please sign up in the lobby and/or talk with Pastor Andrew.

*Scheduling is first come, first served.*

## OCTOBER SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

### *The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on October 29, 2024*

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 using *These Days* devotional - Deuteronomy 6:1-46
- Approved Session minutes from August and September
- Reviewed reports from WHPC staff and committees
- Approved membership request for Mike and Denise Nenni
- Set 11/16 date for History Room work day
- Personnel will begin search for new church musician
- Approved treasurer to make a \$10,000 transfer from savings to cover operating expenses (first time this year)
- Approved \$500 additional transfer to Haiti
- Received and discussed the first read of the 2025 General Budget
- Discussed rentals
- Reviewed calendar of upcoming events
- Closed with prayer

Next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, November 26, 2024.

## SUPPORT THE PRESCHOOL

The Rada Cutlery sale in support of our church preschool continues. Have you finished your Christmas shopping yet? They make great presents!

If you are on your computer, [Click here to shop online](#)

Or talk to Jen MacIntosh for details.

## DEACON CHRISTMAS BASKETS

*The collection of food items will begin Sunday, Nov. 17*

Below is a list of suggested items for each week. You may donate as much or as many times as you'd like. The Deacons and Mission Committee thank you for helping them help others in need in our community.

**11/17 – Breakfast Items** (cereal, oatmeal, juices, cereal bars, dried milk)

**11/24 – Lunch Items** (peanut butter, jelly, soups, mac-n-cheese, canned fruit)

**12/1 – Dinner Items** (pasta, sauces, canned vegetables, cookies, cake mixes, puddings, rice mix, drinks)

**12/8 – Paper Products/ Toiletries** (paper towels, tissues, toilet paper, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, floss)

*Of course, these are just suggestions. Any gift, any Sunday, is appreciated.*

*(All items should be non-perishable.)*

If you have a name of a family who could benefit from this ministry, please call the church office.

If you can help packaging the baskets on Thursday, December 19, talk with Pastor Andrew.

## GINGERBREAD TREE—COMING SOON

Each year a Christmas tree in the lobby will be filled with gingerbread men, representing a local child in need of a “Santa” for Christmas. Each gingerbread man has information about the child and a number which represents the family they belong to. When you take a gingerbread man, please sign the paper so we know which one you have. Once you have finished shopping and wrapped your gift(s), please attach the gingerbread man to the outside of the wrapped gift and return it to the Christmas tree in the lobby. If there is more than one package, using the same wrapping paper or placing them all in a gift bag helps to keep everything together.

***Due back by December 15***

## HURRICANE ASSISTANCE

**PDA RESPONSE TO HURRICANES** — Hurricanes Helene and Milton caused widespread destruction which weigh heavily on all of us. Entire neighborhoods have been wiped out, and countless families are without shelter. The Presbyterian Church (USA) is responding through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). Emergency grants have already been distributed, and National Response Team members are on the ground.

It will take years to recover. After initial needs are addressed, PDA will remain—providing emotional spiritual care and long-term recovery to address unmet and ongoing needs.

WHPC is collecting funds that will be sent to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and designated for enabling a significant, ongoing response to hurricanes that affect the United States. PDA's emergency response and specialization in long-term recovery is fueled by your generous gifts.

If you would like to contribute, you can visit the church website to give online, place a financial gift in the designated box on Sunday November 3 or 10, or bring a financial gift to the Spaghetti Dinner on November 9.



**PRESBYTERIAN  
DISASTER  
ASSISTANCE**

**OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE**

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Andrea Tuttoilmondo	Nov 2
Janson Hrico	Nov 3
Genevieve Wirt	Nov 4
Alan Bookheimer	Nov 5
Janice Mihalko	Nov 11
Hope Aston	Nov 14
Sean Immel	Nov 17
Deb Immel	Nov 19
Sandy Young	Nov 26

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



Thank you to everyone who supports the Coat Drive. Coats were purchased and delivered to the school near the end of October.

Thank you for all the prayers for my eyes, and everyone who has offered to pick me up and take me to church and the store.

~Virgie Smith~

Thank you for the Pastor Appreciation Day encouragement and support.

~Pastor Andrew~

Continued thanks to those who have contributed to the Food2Go program.

The first bags are set to go out to students on November 1.

Thank you Mary Esther DeTesta for your kindness and help with the Preschool on busy days, like picture day and party days.

~WHPC Preschool~

Thank you so very much to all of the committee heads for providing Halloween treats for our kids and being there to hand them out. They had a great time and there were a lot of cute costumes. A special thank you to all the helpers who came in on Saturday to help with set up to make our party a success. Also thank you to Mila and Hudson and their parents for the treats to share with all the kids.

Thank you again!

~Mary Esther DeTesta, CE Chair~

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



# November 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>Church Office Hours</u> Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 9am – 1pm			<u>Preschool Hours</u> Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 9:00am – 11:30am		1 <i>FH–Rental</i>	2 <i>Birthday Party FH Rental</i>
3 9am Sunday School 10am Worship w/Communion	4 Dart Ball 7:00pm	5 <i>Election–Voting in FH</i>	6 Senior Cards 11am	7	8 Spaghetti Prep	9 Spaghetti Dinner
10 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	11 Dart Ball 7:00pm <i>Upstairs–Rental</i>	12 Deacons Mtg. 6:30pm <i>FH–Rental</i>	13 Senior Cards 11am	14	15 <i>FH–Rental</i>	16 Building Work Day– History Room
17 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	18 Dart Ball 7:00pm	19 <i>FH–Rental</i>	20 Senior Cards 11am	21 <b>SESSION REPORTS DUE</b>	22 <i>FH–Rental</i> <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	23
24 9am Sunday School 10am Worship Thanksgiving Lunch in FH after worship	25 Dart Ball 7:00pm	26 Session Mtg. 6:30pm <i>FH–Rental</i>	27 Senior Cards 11am	28 	29 <i>FH–Rental</i>	30