



## WEST HEMPFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8 West Hempfield Drive

Irwin, PA 15642

724-863-1260

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

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

I see the "Back to School" sales popping up all over the place already, but it is still summer. For a little longer at least.

Summer is not my favorite season. I complain about the heat and humidity. But it's also the daylight. The days are just too long. My kids notice that it's not dark yet when we are trying to put them to bed. *"I want to see the stars,"* the oldest one said last week. Well, she will have to wait another month.

At least I still get to see the sunsets, even if the kids don't. But I miss the sunrise. I'm not getting up at 6:16am (the time of sunrise on August 1) unless it is absolutely necessary!

If you are one of the brave souls capable of enjoying not only 6:00pm in August, but 6:00am as well, then I hope you will take a moment to enjoy the beauty of God's creation as the sun breaks forth over the horizon, shining its light over what was moments ago hidden in darkness.

This awe-inspiring moment of sunrise is how Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist, chose to describe Jesus, according to the first chapter of Luke.

Luke 1:78-79 "...the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace."

Whether you saw the sunrise this morning or not, may the Son of God shine upon your life today and guide your feet onto the path of peace.

Blessings,

Rev. Andrew Wirt

### **Pastor Andrew Recommends:**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Laurel Region

<http://www.bbbslr.org/>

Big Brothers Big Sisters of America is the nation's largest mentoring networks, pairing children ("Littles") with screened volunteer mentors ("Bigs") to achieve educational success, greater confidence, better relationships, and avoid risky behaviors.

Bigs make a 2 year commitment to meet with their Little 2 times per month.

The Big Brothers Big Sisters program is fully donor and volunteer supported, relying solely on fundraisers and grants.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Laurel Region (office in Greensburg) serves around 200 children in Westmoreland and Fayette Counties.

### **Ways we can support:**

- Volunteer as a "Big" (They are especially in need of Big Brothers)
- Donate school supplies through WHPC's collection program
- Make a financial contribution on their website
- Be aware and participate in one of their events
  - Golf For Kids' Sake, Greensburg Country Club, September 9, 2019
  - The Clarks concert at The Palace Theatre in Greensburg on October 19, 2019
  - The Greensburg Thanksgiving Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning
  - For more info visit their website.

**What does Mission Committee do?**

- Food2Go4Kids
- Yearly VBS mission project
- Food Bank trips
- Coat drive for students at West Hempfield Elementary
- One Great Hour of Sharing
- Christmas Baskets and Gingerbread Tree gifts (with the Deacons)
- Spaghetti Dinner & Christmas Shoeboxes to support mission in Haiti
- Work with local organizations—Big Brothers Big Sisters, Beverly’s Birthdays, Habitat for Humanity, Blackburn Center, etc.



**“MISSION COMMITTEE”**

**What are your favorite things about working with the missions committee?**

- It puts my spiritual gifts to work
- Enjoy helping others and getting out into the community
- Being with fellow church members outside of Sunday morning
- Meet new people and have new experiences
- Working together to come up with new ways to help
- Seeing God at work through the generosity of this congregation



**How could I support the missions committee?**

- Bring us new ideas, charities, places to go, people to help
- Join us for our next meeting or event
- Pray for us
- Pray for people in need in our community and around the world

For more information on how you can be a part of the mission committee, please contact Jen MacIntosh.

## AUGUST WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**August 4** 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Communion Sunday, Sundaes 9:45am – 10:45am

**August 11** 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Coffee Hour hosted by WHPC

**August 18** 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Sundaes 9:45am – 10:45am

**August 25** 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Fellowship Car Cruise following 11:00AM Worship



*Back – to – School Blessing & Breakfast  
August 24<sup>th</sup> 10:00AM*

*Car Cruise August 25<sup>th</sup> 12:00PM -4:00PM*

*Join the Choir, first practice August 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM*

## JULY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on July 30, 2019

- Together we covered our church and congregation with prayer, studied the Bible, and reviewed the submitted reports.
- For our Bible study we talked about setting our eyes on Jesus. We read several verses of Scripture and discussed the importance of holding Christ and his way of love and sacrifice as our goal for the church. We also discussed a hope for more adult Christian education opportunities and the possibility of starting a Prayer Team.
- We received and reviewed staff and committee reports.
- There was a discussion regarding the parents of WHES students using our front parking area/loop around the time school lets out for pickup, busying the lot and making it difficult for others to get in and out when needed. We will be providing a letter to the school and encouraging drivers to use our lower lot and keep the loop clear.
- The date of Saturday, August 24 was approved for a Back to School Blessing & Breakfast and Blessings event like was held last year. More details coming soon.
- Stewardship Committee continues to investigate setting up the ability to receiving online donations through the church website with FNB.
- Work has begun on the front parking area/loop. This will involve new paving, concrete curbs, and new line painting (as well as line painting in our back lot). Estimates are complete and plans are moving forward regarding our sign on Arona Road, but will still likely be over a month before work begins.
- WHPC Golf Outing will be held on Sunday September 22<sup>nd</sup> – more info to follow
- The next Session meeting will be August 27 starting at 6:30pm.

## FROM THE DESK OF TONY,

### Youth Choir

Summer is here and you know what that means. School starts with in a few weeks ☺ Attached you will see the lyrics for the song, JESUS LOVES ME. The children will be learning approximately 9 songs this up coming school year with the help of the Sunday school teachers, myself, and adults who regularly sing in the choir. So, I am asking you all to brush up on these old time, memorable hymns, and sing with the children this school year. Each month will be a differ song that we will work on all month. The children will sing at the 11:00 am service on the last Sunday of the month. This is open to all the youth, ages pre-k to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. We are going to attempt to practice for a given 10 min each Sunday during Sunday school. Adults and older youth, you are more than welcome to come sing with us during this time, or during the regular choir practices. If you want to know more or have questions, please see myself, Heather Ressler or Pastor Andrew.

**Warner, Anna**, daughter of Henry W. Warner, and sister of Sarah Warner, author of *Queechy*, and other novels, was born near New York City about 1822. She is the author of the novel, *Say and Seal*, 1859, and others of a like kind. She also edited *Hymns of the Church Militant*, 1858; and published *Wayfaring Hymns, Original and Translated*, 1869

1 Jesus loves me, this I know,  
for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong;  
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

2 Jesus loves me he who died  
heaven's gate to open wide.  
He will wash away my sin,  
let his little child come in. [Refrain]

3 Jesus loves me, this I know,  
as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee,  
saying, "Let them come to me." [Refrain]

Psalter Hymnal, 1987

### Adult Choir

Also, it is that time again to start thinking about the adult choir. This year, the adult choir, (open to youth, 5<sup>th</sup> grade and up) will meet on Thursdays from 6pm to approximately 7-7:30 pm. (subject to change) The adult choir will be singing every second Sunday of the month, as well as helping to sing on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month with the kids. There will not be a scheduled choir anthem every Sunday this year. The first song the adult choir will sing is, **We Gather Together**. The first choir practice for adults will be held on August 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Theodore Baker** (b. New York, NY, 1851; d. Dresden, Germany, 1934). Baker is well known as the compiler of Baker's Biographical Dictionary of Musicians (first ed. 1900), the first major music reference work that included American composers. Baker studied music in Leipzig, Germany, and wrote a dissertation on the music of the Seneca people of New York State—one of the first studies of the music of American Indians. From 1892 until his retirement in 1926, Baker was a literary editor and translator for G. Schirmer, Inc., in New York City. In 1926, he returned to Germany. *Psalter Hymnal Handbook*, 1987

1 We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;  
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;  
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing:  
sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

2 Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,  
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;  
so from the beginning the fight we were winning:  
thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glory be thine!

3 We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,  
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.  
Let thy congregation endure through tribulation:  
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Musically yours,  
Tony

I would like to thank all the youth who have helped out with providing special music this summer. I look forward to more special music provided by the youth, but also from the adults out there.

## CHRISTIAN ED



### SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF BREAKFAST

Join us for breakfast with your grandchildren on *September 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am* in the fellowship hall as we begin another year of learning. Come and hear what new and exciting things we are doing!

## FELLOWSHIP

### FAMILY FUN & FELLOWSHIP CRUISE:

*Sunday August 25<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-4:00 PM* Join your church family for food, music, Chinese auction and cars!! Entry Fee for cars in the show is \$5. If you'd like to donate a basket or volunteer to help, please sign up outside the sanctuary or call the church office. Looking forward to cruising with all of you!



## MISSION



**FOOD BANK VOLUNTEERS:** West Hempfield 2019 Food Bank Volunteers needed Sign-Up outside the Sanctuary today! *August 17, 2019 9:00AM – 11:30AM*

## OUTREACH

### 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 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM* in the lobby for a continental breakfast followed by prayer.



## LENDING LIBRARY

Have you seen the new teen/adult space by the school side of the building? We are creating a space for teens & adults to take a book, leave a book or sit and read a book. If you have books you would like to donate to start the lending library, please drop them off in the office. Pastor Andrew has started a wish list of books he'd love to have on the shelf as well. Thank you!!



Church Picnic... The deacons thank all who attended, helped with set-up, clean-up and a special thanks to the Logan family for providing the corn. Everything was delicious and the fellowship is what makes WHPC so special. Looking forward to more fun fellowship time!

*Dear Pastor Andrew and the West Hempfield Presbyterian Church,*

On behalf of the West Hempfield Playground committee and PTO, we want to thank you all for being such a blessing to our playground initiative. Your generosity from the VBS children to the congregation means so much.

Truly, you are all the hands and feet in this community!

God Bless,  
Kimberly Pavsek  
Chair, Playground  
Committee

Thank you everyone for the flowers in worship of July 7 and for a fantastic first year with WHPC. We are looking forward to many more!

Rev. Andrew Wirt and family

**THANK YOU Building,  
Mission & Fellowship FOR  
HOSTING COFFEE HOUR  
IN JULY!**

*August Coffee  
Hour is taken  
care of by  
WHPC.*



We wanted to thank the church for supporting us in attending the New Wilmington Mission Conference 2019. We were excited to introduce Everett to the fun this year.

*Hebrews 12:2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith*

Rev. Andrew Wirt and family

Building Committee would like to thank the following

- Brian Pritz – for mounting a monitor on the wall in the church office
- Bruce Bookheimer – for assisting with trimming of bushes and adding mulch to the grounds.
- John Bankosh – for sanding & painting exterior doors
- Tom Toth – for donating 2 VCR's for our time capsule



# August Birthdays

Anthony Hladek	Aug 2	Laurie Bartko	Aug 24
Matt Thomas	Aug 3	Ruth Moore	Aug 25
Arleen Sekely	Aug 8	Carol Williamson	Aug 28
Jennifer Bauer	Aug 8	Robert Mihalko	Aug 30
Tom Polansky	Aug 11	Mia Randolph	Aug 30
Jacob Iwinski	Aug 14	Linda Simpson	Aug 31
Bob Randolph	Aug 17		

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

## DART BALL

The WHPC Dart Ball team is looking for volunteers. This is a great opportunity to get to know some of your fellow church members outside of worship and have fun interacting with other churches. If you are interested, get in touch with Gil Sekely at 724-446-7321.



## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Eric and Courtney Bailey on the birth of their daughter, Etta Rose and to Walter & Dutcheen Cameron on the birth of their granddaughter, born on July 10, 2019, 5lbs. 15oz. and 19" long.

Congratulations to Nathan and Courtney Prenatt on their wedding, July 6, 2019 at Linden Hall, Dawson, Pa

*Congratulations*

# WHPC August 2019

## Summer Office Hours Monday-Friday 9am-12noon

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 <i>Communion Sunday</i> 8:30 & 11 Worship <b>Sundae Sunday</b> 9:45 – 10:45	5  H.E.L.P 5PM	6	7  Senior Cards 11-2:30	8	9	10
11 8:30 & 11 Worship <i>Coffee Hour – hosted by WHPC</i>	12  H.E.L.P 5PM	13  Deacons Meeting 6:30pm  NAMI 7PM	14  Senior Cards 11-2:30	15	16	17  <i>Westmoreland Food Bank Packaging</i> 9:00-11:30AM
18  8:30 & 11 Worship <b>Sundae Sunday</b> 9:45-10:45	19  H.E.L.P 5PM	20 <b>Food Trucks in Rear Parking lot to support Elementary School PTO</b>	21  Senior Cards 11-2:30  CE Meeting 6:30pm	22  <b>SESSION REPORTS DUE</b>	23	24  <i>Back to School Blessing &amp; Breakfast</i> 10:00 AM <i>Lobby/Sanctuary</i>
25 8:30 & 11 Worship <i>Car Cruise 12noon-4:00PM</i>	26  H.E.L.P 5PM	27  Session Meeting 6:30pm – Upstairs Kitchen	28  Senior Cards 11-2:30  <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	29  First Choir Practice 6:00pm	30	31