



WEST HEMPFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8 West Hempfield Drive

Irwin, PA 15642

724-863-1260

www.westhempfieldpc.org

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

Throughout the end of September and the beginning of October my sermons are collected around the themes of Cultivating and Letting Go. I read for the Session at our September meeting Isaiah 40:8 – *The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.* We reflected together on the times we have “let go” of something in the past, either willingly or unwillingly, and how that may have helped us to see that, regardless of what changes in the world or in us, God is always with us, always loves us.

I wanted to invite you to think about these things as well. Think about how the verse from Isaiah above connects to the season of fall. Read it again. How do the words connect to your life? Your faith? What has withered, faded, or fallen over the years? Some things are lost, taken from us, given up, or left behind as we grow and mature.

Where is there new growth? What has taken the place of the things you let go? Have we carefully cultivated new growth, or were weeds and clutter allowed to move in?

Is it time for some new pruning or weeding in our lives? Even beautiful healthy trees need to be pruned from time to time to stay healthy and fruitful.

No matter where you are in your journey – winter, spring, summer, or fall – I hope you take comfort in the promise that God’s love and God’s word are eternal.

Blessings, Rev. Andrew Wirt

Pastor Andrew Recommends:



The Bible Project

thebibleproject.com

If you are reading this on your computer, you can find a video titled “What is the Bible Project?” [here](#). Or search for that title on YouTube.

The Bible Project has been around for several years, making videos and other resources available for free to help people understand the Bible.

I have not viewed all of their videos, but I have been enjoying their videos that give a summary or overview of books of the Bible.

In their own words ...

The Bible Project is a non-profit animation studio that produces short-form, fully animated videos to make the biblical story accessible to everyone, everywhere. We create 100% free videos, podcasts, and resources that explore the Bible’s unified story.

We simply desire to help others understand the scriptures and all their complex themes in a way that is engaging, approachable, and transformative. We are committed followers of Jesus, but are not organizationally a part of any specific Christian denomination or tradition. We hope that people from all backgrounds will find value in this work, regardless of their religious or non-religious convictions.

What does the Worship Committee do?

The Worship committee is to ensure that worship is held on a regular basis and on special occasions. Also, several meetings are held throughout the year to cover the following...

- Provide decor for the seasonal decorations of the sanctuary.
- Change the paraments to follow the liturgical calendar.
- Have Elders and Deacons to serve Communion.
- Arrange Pulpit Supply when needed.
- Have Volunteers to run sound and screens.
- Support the choir and music in Worship.



How could I support the Worship committee?

- PRAY for the worship committee
- Volunteer to serve on our committee
- Volunteer to help with decorating for Christmas & Easter
- Volunteer to run sound or screens
- Join the choir or offer to provide special music
- PRAY for Pastor Andrew and our pulpit supply ministers

What are your favorite things about working with the Worship committee?

- Decorating for the holidays; Christmas & Easter
- Enjoying the music and choir during worship
- The communion servers working together as a team



For more information on how you can be a part of the Worship Committee, please contact Birdie Grinder at 724-863-3884.



OCTOBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- 10/6** – 8:30 & 11AM Worship, World Communion Sunday
10/13 – 8:30 & 11AM Worship, Coffee hour hosted by the
Worship & Stewardship Committees
10/20 – 8:30 & 11AM Worship
10/27 – 8:30 & 11AM Worship, All Saints Sunday/Reformation
Sunday, Trick-Or-Treat luncheon after 11AM worship in
Fellowship Hall



SEPTEMBER SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on September 24, 2019

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 reflected together on the season of autumn and Isaiah 40:8 – *The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.*

We received and reviewed staff and committee reports and Pastor Andrew shared about the recent Presbytery Meeting.

Plans were made for the Halloween luncheon on October 27 and the Thanksgiving luncheon on November 24.

It was decided that a letter would be composed and sent out to church members who have not been with us in a while inviting them back to join us in worship and ministry.

Building Committee discussed removing or replacing a few trees on the property to help keep our property looking beautiful. The paving project has been completed. The rebuild of our sign on Arona Road should be starting soon.

Rampart Security spent several weeks tracking down a problem that was causing our fire alarm system to go off daily; this is finally resolved. Beam Heating/AC completed minor work on one of our air conditioners and a thermostat.

Mission Committee shared plans for a Rummage Sale in the spring (April 25, 9am to noon) to raise funds for the Haiti mission and it was approved by the Session.

The next session meeting is scheduled for October 22 at 6:30pm

Please remember our friends with cards and/or visits...

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Carol Ailes in the recent loss of David, her husband. He was on hospice for some time and is now at home with our Lord. If you'd like to send a card...
383 Wendel Rd, Irwin, Pa 15642



PRAYER TEAM



We are extending an invitation to anyone who is interested in praying for our congregation to meet in the **Prayer Room each Sunday at 9:45AM** (during Sunday school, between worship services)

ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

Monday Nights at 6:00PM

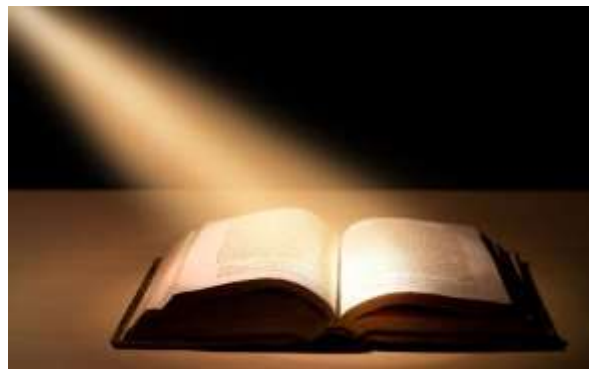
Karen Kifer will be leading a new Bible Study group at the church focusing on learning the important Bible stories, or refreshing our memories. This group will meet every week but is being designed in such a way that even if you are not able to attend every Monday, you will not feel left out. If you are interested, you may contact Karen at 724-309-9059, or just show up for class on Monday evening!

Wednesday Nights at 7:00PM

The Men's Group will continue working their way through *The Story*. If you are interested, contact John Reed at 724-864-2488.

October Bible Study – Date & Time TBD

Jen MacIntosh is interested in leading a 6-week Bible Study titled "Frappe with Philippians" that will dive into the New Testament book of Philippians. Her hope is to have the first meeting at Panera where everyone is welcome to enjoy a "frappe"! If you are interested, please contact Jen at 724-433-1299 and she will work with everyone to find the best day/time.



FELLOWSHIP

TRICK-OR-TREAT LUNCHEON

We will have our regular worship services at 8:30AM & 11AM with Sunday School at 9:45am. Join us for a Trick or Treat luncheon on **October 27 after our 11 am worship service**. Come dressed in your *not-so-scary*, church appropriate Halloween costume to worship or change after and join us for some FUN in the fellowship hall!



Each church committee will have a table with treats for the kids! Lunch will also be provided by the Fellowship committee. Everyone is invited, not just the kids! This is a wonderful opportunity for church fellowship. If you plan to attend, please let us know you are coming and sign up in the lobby so we can be prepared!

OUTREACH



We will be ringing the bells this year! Date and times to follow in upcoming bulletins!

MISSION

FOOD2GO4KIDS SPAGHETTI DINNER

Join the school staff and students for a spaghetti dinner in the fellowship hall. Enjoy the 5th grade band perform and make sure to check out the Chinese Auction too!
October 7 from 4 to 6:30PM. Adults \$8/Children \$5. Take Out available.

HAITI MISSION SPAGHETTI DINNER

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! **November 2 from 4:00-6:30 PM.** Lots of helping hands have made this a huge success in the past. Can you help this year? Contact the church office or sign-up on the volunteer bulletin board outside the sanctuary. The meal includes spaghetti and meatballs, a salad bar, bread, dessert, and a drink. Cost is \$5 for children (3-12), under 3 eat free, \$8 for adults. Take Out too!



KEEP WHPC BEAUTIFUL!

Sons and daughters of God, followers of Jesus Christ, we are the church, the body of Christ at work in the world. We also have a church building where we gather for fellowship and worship. The building is not magical, but it is special. Our church home is not to be a museum – observed but not touched – but it is the place that God has given us, and we are to care for it. A balance must be kept between enjoying and preserving. To that end, we ask that everyone continue to respect a few guidelines.

- Please be careful with food and drink throughout the building, and (aside from communion) only water is to be in the sanctuary.
- Furniture is placed around the building to be functional and look nice. Please, if you find it necessary to move something, do not slide furniture. It can snag and damage carpet and it weakens the legs of the furniture. Lift, carry, and set. And when you are finished, please return everything to where you found it.
- Building security is also important to us. Anyone who still has a church key and is not currently serving on church leadership or hosting a recurring event, please return your key to the church office. Keys can always be checked out for approved usage in the future. It is not necessary to hang onto a key “because I might need it again someday.” Limiting the number of keys that are out in the world is one way for us to maintain our building security.

Thank you for your cooperation and support!



West Hempfield Presbyterian Church



Thank you WHPC for your support during this time in my life with all the cards, calls and prayers. The memorial service held at the church was lovely along with my church friends support. Thank you to the PWA ladies for the delicious luncheon and hospitality.

~ Carol Ailes

THANK YOU!

A big “thank you” to our Sunday School teachers for sharing God’s love with our students ... and to all the parents for sharing your time to show the students that God’s Word is important!

Dear WHPC,
Thank you from the staff, parents & children for the donation of school supplies. The children were so excited to get things for school. And the parents were so grateful. We at the agency appreciate your generosity.
Sincerely,
Laurie – Big Brothers, Big Sisters

**THANK YOU
WHPC STAFF FOR
HOSTING COFFEE
HOUR IN
SEPTEMBER!**

*October
Coffee Hour
will be
hosted by
Worship &
Stewardship
Committee*



Thank you so very much for allowing us to have our Open House food truck event at the church! We truly appreciate your kindness and ongoing support of our school! Blessings, Crystal Longanecker & West Hempfield PTO



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Joseph Iwinski	October 1	Richard Pealstrom	October 11
Brianna Smith	October 1	James Crust	October 11
Thomas Mihalko	October 4	Pat Cloonan	October 13
Wesley MacIntosh	October 5	Lee Ober	October 13
Barbara Langham	October 6	Helen Toms	October 17
Rev. Andrew Wirt	October 7	Elsie Barton	October 20
Ryan Cameron	October 9	Cindy Bankosh	October 21
MaryEsther DeTesta	October 10	Jan Ober	October 28
		Brian Pritz	October 29

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

CHOIR NEWS



From the desk of Tony:

I would like to thank all those who have volunteered to sing last month or provided any special music. The adult choir, though small, is a reminder that we can achieve all things great though Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Coming up in October:

ADULT CHOIR – WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT 10/13/19

We will meet from 10:15 am-10:40am. All are welcome to join.

NO choir rehearsal on the third Thursday of each month (10/17/19)

CYAC (combined youth and adult choir) – THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE 10/27

We will continue to meet at the regular time on Sundays (right at 9:45am after the first service)

The last Sunday of October (10/27/19) will be practice at 9:45 am with the adults in the sanctuary.

Why is music special? It has the power to alter our mood and change the whole feel of a room; but just why is it that this sound is so important to us? ... Many say it causes intense emotion and overwhelming joy within them, influencing mood and actions, thoughts and feelings – which is why the power of music should never be underestimated.

This little Light of mine

www.franzdorfer.com

A musical score for the hymn 'This little Light of mine'. It features four staves of music. The first staff is the vocal line, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics are: 'This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine'. The second staff is a piano accompaniment line, starting with a bass clef. The lyrics are: 'This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine'. The third staff is another vocal line, starting with a treble clef. The lyrics are: 'This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine'. The fourth staff is a piano accompaniment line, starting with a bass clef. The lyrics are: 'Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine'. Chord symbols (F, Bb, F, Dm, C7, F) are placed above the notes in the piano parts.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

WHPC OCTOBER 2019

Pastor Andrew will be on vacation from 10/16 - 10/21

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 PWA 10:00AM Girl Scouts – upstairs kitchen 5:30pm	2 Senior Cards 11-2:30 Men's Group 7:00pm	3 Choir Practice 6:00pm	4	5
6 <i>World Communion Sunday</i> 8:30 & 11 Worship <i>Sunday School 9:45am</i> <i>Haiti meeting 9:45</i>	7 Food2Go4Kids Spaghetti Dinner 4:00PM – 6:30PM Adults \$8, Kids \$5 H.E.L.P 5PM Bible Study – 6:00pm	8 Deacons Meeting 6:30pm NAMI 7PM	9 Senior Cards 11-2:30 Food 2Go4Kids 6:30pm Men's Group 7:00pm	10 Choir Practice 6:00pm Scouts 6:30-8:00pm	11	12
13 8:30 & 11 Worship <i>Sunday School 9:45am</i> <i>Coffee Hour – hosted by Worship & Stewardship Committees</i>	14 H.E.L.P 5PM Dart Ball – 7pm Bible Study – 6:00pm	15 Stewardship & Finance 6:30pm	16 Senior Cards 11-2:30 CE Meeting 6:30pm Men's Group 7:00pm	17 No Choir Practice SESSION REPORTS DUE	18	19
20 8:30 & 11 Worship <i>Sunday School 9:45am</i>	21 H.E.L.P 5PM Dart Ball – 7pm Bible Study – 6:00pm	22 PWA 1:00PM Session Meeting 6:30pm	23 Senior Cards 11-2:30 Food 2Go4Kids 6:30pm Men's Group 7:00pm	24 Choir Practice 6:00pm Scouts 6:30-8:00pm	25 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	26
27 8:30 & 11 Worship <i>Sunday School 9:45am</i> <i>Trick-Or-Treat</i> <i>Luncheon after 11am worship</i>	28 H.E.L.P 5PM Dart Ball – 7pm Bible Study – 6:00pm	29	30	31 Choir Practice 6:00pm		