



## 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!

Matthew 25:1-13

*The foolish ones said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out." "No," they replied.*

Last month's book, *Lent in Plain Sight* by Jill J. Duffield, asked an interesting question in reflection on the meaning of this parable.

"What cannot be shared, borrowed, or even bought?"

The idea seems a little strange. We live in a world of commercialism. Everything has a price tag. It seems like you can buy anything and everything, and probably have it delivered by Friday.

What is the oil meant to represent? What does God want us to cultivate and maintain in our lives that can't be found on Amazon Prime?

And whatever it is, why can't the wise share it? Everywhere else in Scripture Jesus praises generosity, but here are the wise really selfishly hoarding supplies?

The answer may be more clear if we change our focus. Forget the oil for a moment and look to the groom ... Jesus. What do we need to be ready to meet Jesus today? To see him at work in this world, even through the darkness?

What we need (the oil) might not always be the same. Different people, different situations, different seasons in life. But if we keep our focus on Jesus, we will know what we really need to let his light shine in our lives.

The most important things in life (like the Fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control) can't be bought or borrowed, but are gifts from God to be used and cherished.

Blessings, Rev. Andrew Wirt

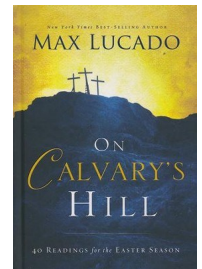
### What is Pastor Andrew Reading?

*On Calvary's Hill:*

*40 Readings for the Easter Season*

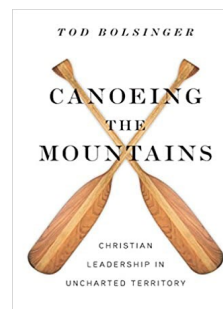
With *On Calvary's Hill* by Max Lucado, you'll embark on a meaningful journey through the Lenten season! These 40 devotional readings feature Scripture verses, prayer prompts, and favorite passages from many of Lucado's best-selling books - including *No Wonder They Call Him the Savior*, *He Chose the Nails*, and *3:16*. A fresh new way for the whole family to anticipate the celebration of Easter!

*(from the book's listing on ChristianBook.com)*



*Canoeing the Mountains:*

*Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*



Explorers Lewis and Clark had to adapt. While they had prepared to find a waterway to the Pacific Ocean, instead they found themselves in the Rocky Mountains. You too may feel that you are leading in a cultural context you were not expecting.

You may even feel that your training holds you back more often than it carries you along. Drawing from his extensive experience as a pastor and consultant, Tod Bolsinger brings decades of expertise in guiding churches and organizations through uncharted territory. He offers a combination of illuminating insights and practical tools to help you reimagine what effective leadership looks like in our rapidly changing world. Reading this book will set you on the right course to lead with confidence and courage.

*(from the book's listing on Amazon.com)*

## APRIL IN PERSON WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**April 4 – Easter Sunday** Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM,  
Communion, *NO Sunday School*

**April 11** – Regular Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM,  
Sunday School 9:45am,

**April 18** – Regular Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM,  
Sunday School 9:45 am

**April 25** - Regular Worship 8:30AM & 11:00AM,  
Sunday School 9:45 am



**April 1** - Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00pm, Communion

**April 2** - Good Friday Service, 7:00pm, Communion

**April 4** - Easter Sunday, 8:30AM & 11AM, *No Sunday school*,  
Communion

## AT HOME WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*There are several ways to worship with WHPC ...*

- You can listen to the service LIVE over the phone at 11:00am (for instructions, please call the church office)
- We mail DVD recordings of full Sunday morning services to anyone who requests one. If you would like one please call the church office
- You can watch a shortened service on Facebook – [www.facebook.com/westhempfieldpresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/westhempfieldpresbyterian)

**The same video will be also be available on the church website [www.westhempfieldpc.org](http://www.westhempfieldpc.org)** (After the video on Facebook has finished, it will continue to be available on Facebook as well to watch any time, at your convenience).

**Reminder:** Anyone can join us for **at-home communion** by calling in at 11am on the first Sunday of the month.

## WORSHIP AT HOME HELP

If you have experience in creating videos, audio and video hardware set up, sound production, video editing software, etc., we could use your help. As we look to the future, many churches are predicting that the worship-at-home option will not be going away. Winter weather, illness, travel, and more can prevent us from being in person for worship and the at-home service provides an opportunity to stay connected. Online worship also provides a low pressure way for new people to check out a church ahead of time before making the decision to attend in person. If you have the kind of experience that would be helpful as we plan for the future of the at-home service, either to volunteer on a regular basis or even just to sit down and have a conversation about some tips, tricks, and best practices, please contact the church office.

We could use a helping hand.

**Office hours Monday-Friday 9am-1pm, 724-863-1260.**



## MARCH SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

### ***The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on March 23, 2021***

- The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on March 23, 2021 with a mixture of Zoom and in-person attendance.
- Together we covered our church and congregation with prayer, studied the Bible, discussed upcoming events, and reviewed the submitted reports.
- For our Bible Study time we read from Max Lucado's book *On Calvary's Hill* and reflected on John 12:1-8.
- We approved the February minutes and received and reviewed staff and committee reports.
- Dates for VBS were approved as June 14-18 in the evening with Sunday, June 20 being "VBS Sunday".
- Conversation about sanctuary microphones getting worse and needing replacement.
- Conversation about continuing to use individually packaged communion elements. We will continue to use these and will attempt passing them out from the trays during worship on May 2.
- Discussed some possible rentals.
- Planning a joint meeting of Elders and Deacons for after Easter.
- Next Session meeting set for April 27 with a plan to be in-person.
- Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

## MARCH DEACONS HIGHLIGHTS

## WALK A MILE IN HER SHOES

### **Support Us As We Walk a Mile in Her Shoes on April 10 at 9am**

The Deacons of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church are participating in this event to raise money for a great cause. Please support us and help make a difference. Together, we can reach our fundraising goal of \$500.

If you'd like to be part of Team "W.H.P.C Onward" walking in the neighborhoods of either Rolling Hills or Greenridge on ***April 10 at 9:00am*** please contact the church office to register or send us an email [office@westhempfieldpc.org](mailto:office@westhempfieldpc.org)

We encourage you to make a donation whether you can walk or not towards our goal to help end domestic abuse.

Follow the link below, text WHPC Blackburn to 73256 or send a check to the church by April 10, 2021. (in memo include Blackburn Walk)

<https://onrealm.org/WestHempfieldPC/-/give/blackburn>



## 2021 COMMITTEES

Below is a list of the (co-)chairs and deacons who are members of each committee. **Any member or regular visitor of the church, who would like to help with the work of any of these, is more than welcome.** Contact the chairperson or deacon to inquire about what the committee is doing and how you can help. Actively participating in the life of Christ goes beyond Sunday worship to the many other ways that we minister, serve, and have fellowship.

**Building** – Krissy Ritson [Elder, chairperson], Brad Collier [Deacon], Larry DeTesta [Deacon], anyone who is interested

**Christian Education** – Tony Greendonner [Elder, Sunday School Teacher, chairperson], Heather Ressler [Elder, Sunday School Teacher], Pam Siegel [Deacon], Mary Ester DeTesta [Sunday School Teacher], anyone else who is interested

**Fellowship** – Krissy Ritson [Elder], Heather Thomas [Deacon], Larry DeTesta [Deacon], anyone who is interested.

**Mission** – Jen MacIntosh [Elder, chairperson], Connie Mertz [Deacon], anyone who is interested

**Nominating** – Heather Ressler [Elder, chairperson], Brad Collier [Deacon], Andrew Wirt [Pastor, ex officio without vote], Dave Collier [Member at Large], Mary Esther DeTesta [Member at Large], Deb Immel [Member at Large], Jen Mikluscak [Member at Large] – This is a closed committee, our only true closed committee. Members are set by Session, Deacons, and at the congregational meeting. These meetings are not open to anyone who is interested.

**Outreach** – Rachael Pritz [Elder, chairperson], Jan Ober [Deacon], anyone who is interested

**Personnel** – Rick Forsyth [Elder, chairperson], Andrew Wirt [Head of Staff], the chairperson of the committee associated with a staff member as needed – this is not technically a closed committee, however, because of the possibility of sensitive information, the meetings are not generally open to anyone who is interested

**Stewardship** – Helen Toms [Elder, chairperson], Allen Immel [Deacon], Andrew Wirt [Pastor], Bob Lore [Treasurer], Heather Manhart [Financial Secretary], Bob MacIntosh [Member at Large] – this is not technically a closed committee, however, because of the possibility of sensitive information, the meetings are not generally open to anyone who is interested

**Worship** – Rick Forsyth [Elder, chairperson], Robbie Potthoff [Deacon], Andrew Wirt [Pastor], Tony Greendonner [Music Director], anyone who is interested

**Clerk of Session** - TBD

**Moderator of Deacons** - Larry DeTesta

**Secretary of Deacons** - TBD

**Treasurer of Deacons** - Allan Immel

**Deacon Card Ministry** - Connie Mertz

### REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS (unless notified)

Deacons – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each month at 6:30 pm

Session – 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month at 6:30 pm

Stewardship & Finance – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month at 6:30 pm

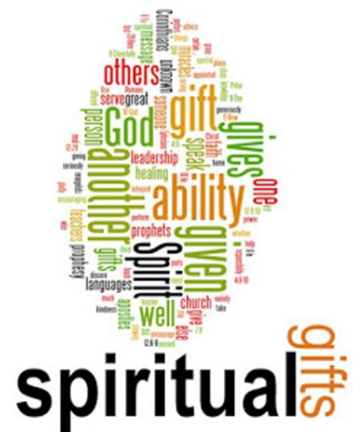
Christian Ed. – following church service on Sunday - contact Tony

Mission, Worship, Nominating, Building, Fellowship Committees – as needed

Presbyterian Women's Association – 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, meet in the upstairs kitchen at 10:00 am

Last Tuesday of each month at 1pm – upstairs kitchen (lunch prior)

*\*please check with each committee to make sure they are meeting in person before attending a meeting.*



## CHRISTIAN ED

**EGG HUNT:** the BIG HUNT is on *April 3 at 10:00am!*  
This will be an entirely outdoor event.

*Please note: No Sunday school on Easter*



**SAVE THE DATE: VBS:** This year VBS is scheduled for the week of *June 14-18 from 6 to 8pm*. The Christian Education Committee is also in search of volunteers who would like to participate in vacation bible study. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, please contact Tony Greendonner.

*Please note: Clearances are now updated every five years/60 months bringing us into compliance with the State's regulations. Contact the church office to update clearances.*

## OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Let the Outreach committee help you get the word out about your committee event! We can be sure all event information is posted on the church Facebook page, added to the morning announcements screens, put in the Newsletter and we can also organize the use of the Arona Road sign.

Please email all event details to - [outreachwhpc@gmail.com](mailto:outreachwhpc@gmail.com)



## FLOWERS

*If you ordered Easter flowers, we will have them available for pick-up after Easter services or call the church office to make arrangements, 724-863-1260.*

*Office hours are M-F from 9am-1pm*

*Thank you!*

## WEST HEMPFIELD PRESCHOOL



We are currently accepting registration for the school year 2021-2022.

This program is designed for 3 & 4 year old children.

The child must be 3 by August 31, 2021 and potty trained.

The registration fee is \$30.

If you would like more information, visit their website at

[www.westhempfieldpreschool.org](http://www.westhempfieldpreschool.org), call the church office between

9am & 1pm or see Linda Simpson. Thank you!



Thank you to everyone who helped in any way at this years' spaghetti dinner! We were a bit apprehensive about the outcome because we have never done a drive thru only fundraiser but, due to your overwhelming support as well as that of the local community, we were able to raise over \$1,700 for Haiti! Please know that we appreciate each and every one of you! We hope to be able to serve you again in the fall! Please stay tuned for details!

Blessings,

Jen and Arleen

*I would like to thank everyone for the cards and especially prayers during my recent illness.*

*My church is a blessing to me and I'm grateful for your support.*

*Love,  
Lenole Gross*

*Thank you for all the cards and prayers for my brother, David's recent passing.*

*~ Jon Grinder*



### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Everett Wirt	April 1	Vivian Wirt	April 8
Rachael Hazlett	April 4	Marian Fowler	April 20
Jason Ray	April 5	Barb Hazlett	April 20
Carol Ailes	April 5	John Hilewick	April 27
Ted Mertz	April 7	Twana Maturkanic	April 28

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

# April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00pm, Communion No Food2Go4kids Distribution	2 Good Friday Service, 7:00pm, Communion	3 Easter Egg Hunt—10am Outside Event
4 Easter Sunday 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Communion No Sunday school	5 <b>Office Closed</b>	6 Girl Scouts, 5:00pm	7 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm Men's Group, 7:00pm	8 Food2Go4kids Distribution 3-5pm	9	10 Deacons Walk-a-Mile for Blackburn Center 9am - Greentidge & Rolling Hills
11 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Sunday School 9:45am	12	13 Deacons Meeting, 6:30pm NAMI 7:00pm	14 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm Men's Group, 7:00pm	15 Food2Go4kids Distribution 3-5pm	16	17
18 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Sunday School 9:45am	19	20 Stewardship & Finance 6:30pm	21 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm Men's Group, 7:00pm	22 <b>Newsletter Deadline Session Reports Due Food2Go4kids distribution 3-5</b>	23	24
25 8:30 & 11:00am Worship Sunday School 9:45am	26	27 Session Meeting 6:30pm	28 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm Men's Group, 7:00pm	29 Food2Go4kids Distribution 3-5pm	30	