



## WEST HEMPFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8 West Hempfield Drive

Irwin, PA 15642

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

On August 2, one of our Scripture readings will be the story of the feeding of the 5,000. (Matthew 14:13-21) In the story, everyone is tired. It's been a long day. The disciples just want everyone to go away. But Jesus takes a small amount of food and shares with everyone without running out.

There is a similar story in the Old Testament (I Kings 17:7-16) where Elijah encounters a widow who is about to run out of food, but because she shows kindness and faithfulness in feeding Elijah, her small amount of flour and olive oil never ran out.

Some people think that most things in life are a "Zero Sum Game." In a Zero Sum Game there is a fixed number of resources. Therefore, if someone gains or advances, it is necessarily at the loss of someone else.

But I believe the Bible tells us about the abundance of God, blessings that do not run out, that do not divide or subtract, but multiply.

I personally have never seen one small loaf of bread feed thousands or a small bit of flour last for days, but I have seen one act of kindness spread and grow to have great impact. I have seen the faith of one person inspire many.

God's Kingdom is not a Zero Sum Game. God's blessings are not limited. When we sacrifice, we also receive.

Many people are struggling right now, in many different ways. And that might include you. As we pray and seek God's presence and blessings, may we not forget the needs of others either, and be generous where we can.

It was in sharing what little they had and serving others that the disciples, and the widow, were able to see the amazing power of God and were themselves fed too.

**Blessings, Rev. Andrew Wirt**

### **Pastor Andrew Recommends: Pray for students and schools**

If you have kids or family in the school system or if you work in education, you are already paying attention and praying over your students, school, and the difficult decisions that lay ahead.

But if you don't have kids in the school system anymore, or yet, or maybe never will, with all that is going on right now, why is this something that should take your attention?

Today's students will one day be our neighbors, coworkers, doctors, and leaders. Even if they aren't "our kids," just from a very practical standpoint, we all have something to gain from their success.

Jesus said, "Love your neighbor" and "Let the little children come to me." As this back-to-school season brings new pandemic challenges along with all the regular old challenges, it is my hope that we can all come together and pray for the students and school system, and then offer our support, encouragement, and donations wherever possible.

Yes, in school they will learn history, grammar and mathematics. But I hope they also learn that they are loved and supported, that neighbors look out for one another, and that a community stands tall together.

WHPC will once again be hosting a Back to School Prayer Service on Saturday, August 22, 2020.

Anyone who is interested is invited to join us in the sanctuary to start things off with some Scripture and prayer, and then we will move outside to an actual school bus for us to focus on as we bless the buses, the students, the faculty, staff, and more. See the announcement on page 3 for more information and opportunities to donate.

## AUGUST WORSHIP SCHEDULE



**August 2** 8:30 & 11:00 AM WORSHIP  
W/ COMMUNION

**August 9** One Service 11:00 AM Piano Dedication

**August 16** 8:30 & 11:00 AM WORSHIP

**August 23** 8:30 & 11:00 AM WORSHIP

**August 30** 8:30 & 11:00 AM WORSHIP

\*at-home worship continues to be available on the church website, Facebook, and YouTube

\*Call in to listen to live service at 11:00am every Sunday (please call the church office for the number)

## COMMUNION

*We will celebrate with Communion Sunday, August 2 at the 8:30AM & 11:00AM Worship Service.*

We will be using single-serve, pre-packaged communion cups that will be handed out as you enter the sanctuary.



## JULY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

*The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on July 21, 2020*

- Together we covered our church and congregation with prayer, read Scripture, and reviewed all that has been going on with the church and the world.
- Building will remain open, in-person worship has changed to 8:30am & 11:00am on Sunday mornings with physical distancing limiting the pews, at-home worship (call in, online, and DVDs) will continue.
- Approved Session minutes from June 2020.
- The Building Facility Agreement was updated
- August 9 will be one service at 11:00am to dedicate the new piano
- The building committee is offering the retired chairs for \$5 each in the Fellowship Hall
- Back to School Blessings Service is still scheduled for Saturday, August 22.
- The church is in need of sanitizing sprays, wipes, etc. (such as Clorox and Lysol)

## MUSIC BY TONY

**PIANO DEDICATION- Aug 9 will be one service at 11 am.**

The new piano is a gift from the estate of Carolyn Lenhart Weiss. It is an ESSEX made by the famous piano company, Steinway & Sons of New York! The service will be full of special music, and of course lots of piano music by a few of Tony's students and his own selections. The stories behind two popular hymns will provide the sermon as we serve God with All Five Senses—this Sunday, hearing.



## BACK-TO-SCHOOL



WHPC will once again be hosting a Back to School Prayer Service on **Saturday, August 22, 2020 at 10:00am.** Anyone who is interested is invited to join us in the sanctuary to start things off with some Scripture and prayer, and then we will move outside to an actual school bus for us to focus on as we bless the buses, the students, the faculty, staff, and more.

In lieu of an offering, we encourage you to bring a gift for West Hempfield Elementary School. They have asked for tissues, hand sanitizer, and small disposable cups.

## MISSION

The Food2Go4Kids Program will begin soon to provide food for children over the weekends who qualify. The program has been initiated in response to the high percentage of students with no access to the free school breakfast and/or lunch they receive during the week. Caring volunteers organize and pack the bags twice a month through the school year. ***If you would like to donate to this program, text WHPC food2go to 73256, go to [www.westhempfieldpc.org](http://www.westhempfieldpc.org) and visit the mission page or you may write a check to WHPC memo line Food2Go***



## WEST HEMPFIELD PRESCHOOL



WHPC Preschool is currently accepting registration for the school year 2020-2021. This program is designed for 3- & 4-year-old children. The child must be 3 and potty trained by August 31. The registration fee is \$30. If you would like more information, visit the preschool website at [www.westhempfieldpreschool.org](http://www.westhempfieldpreschool.org) or call the church office between 9am - 1pm. Thank you.



**Thank You to those who are responsible for our church sign on Arona Road  
The signs are beautiful!!**

**Thank you Building  
Committee for getting  
the air conditioner in  
the offices fixed  
We appreciate it!  
Love, Heather and  
Pastor Andrew**

**Thank you to those that  
helped moving the Preschool  
Sunday School room with  
the other classrooms in the  
hallway adjacent to the  
school. It will be so nice to  
have all the students  
together in that hallway.  
The PWA now has their own  
room which is located where  
the preschool Sunday class  
was.**

**Thank you for  
continued work  
around the garden  
and building.  
Mulch has been layed,  
painted arch way,  
shrubs trimmed, trees  
trimmed  
It looks beautiful!**



### **AUGUST BIRTHDAY'S**

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

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

# August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Pastor Andrew Vacation August 4-10						1
Heather Vacation August 13-19						
2 8:30AM & 11:00AM Worship Communion	3	4	5 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	6	7	8
9 One Service 11:00AM Worship Piano Dedication	10	11 Deacons Meeting, 6:30pm	12 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	13	14	15
16 8:30AM & 11:00AM Worship	17	18 Stewardship & Finance 6:30pm	19 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm *Office Closed*	20 <b>SESSION REPORTS DUE</b>	21	22 <i>Back to School Blessing 10:00 AM</i>
23 8:30AM & 11:00AM Worship	24 <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	25 Session Meeting, 6:30pm	29 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	30	31	