



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!

As a pastor there are many responsibilities, and countless surprises, that can keep my life and schedule ever changing from day to day, week to week, month to month. But there is one thing that grounds every week. One unchanging rhythm.

Worship has to be ready to go every Sunday. The sermon must be delivered on Sunday morning, whether I feel ready or not.

Most of you who are reading this article aren't facing a sermon deadline each week, but many of us are busy with one thing or another. Especially now. Back to school. Back to routines. Homework is due. The dog needs to go out. Dinner doesn't cook itself. There are meetings to attend. The dog needs to come back in. Friends to call. Did the kids brush their teeth? ... and on and on it goes.

We want to spend time with God in prayer and reading Scripture. We know we should. But there often doesn't seem to be the same urgency compared with everything else we have to do.

Even when we try to sit down and find quiet, the busyness of life is always right there, trying to distract.

We might assume we need a "special time" or a "special place" to make it perfect. And when that doesn't present itself ... well ... maybe I'll try tomorrow instead.

But time with God is what our hearts truly need. It is how we find peace in the midst of the busy. We have to learn how to incorporate time with God into our routines, or it just won't happen.

Your way might be different than my way. There isn't one right answer here. But make sure you have room for God in your day. When you invite God in, God will show up.

Blessings, Rev. Andrew Wirt

Pastor Andrew Recommends:

Supporting PDA (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance)

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance enables congregations and mission partners of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crises and catastrophic events.

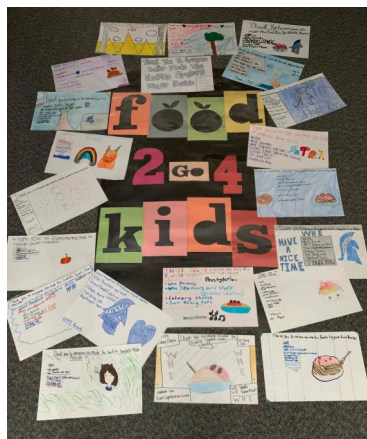
You might be used to hearing about PDA as one of the organizations supported by the One Great Hour of Sharing donations that we make during Easter, but their work is year round, and they need support year round—especially in a year like this one.

Your donation to PDA, of any amount, would allow them to continue their important work of helping others, such as:

- PDA is working with the Presbyteries of North Central Iowa, Des Moines, Prospect Hill and East Iowa to respond to severe thunderstorms that struck on August 10 with long track damaging winds (derecho) which devastated Iowa, causing widespread power outages for more than 150,000 people for several days.
- PDA is working with our international partners where Hurricane Laura impacted Haiti and the Dominican Republic, in addition to affected U.S. presbyteries. Hurricane Laura, the strong category 4 storm, made landfall in the early hours of August 27 on the coast of Louisiana, about 30 miles from the Texas border, bringing lashing rain and sustained winds of 130 miles per hour.

Visit pda.pcusa.org to find out more about what Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is doing and to donate to PDA generally or to donate specially to one of the funds mentioned above.

“WHPC LOVES OUR NEIGHBORS”



What does the Food2Go4Kids Program Do?

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.



How could I support the Food2Go4Kids Program?

- Volunteer packing weekly items
- Donate plastic bags and/or food items (list to come soon)
- Donate by texting **WHPC food2go** to **73256**, go to westhempfieldpc.org and visit the mission page or you may write a check to WHPC memo line Food2Go

"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."

Matthew 25:35



"let the little children come unto me"
Luke 18:16

"whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."
Matthew 25:40

For more information on how you can be a part of the Food2Go4Kids Program contact Pastor Andrew, Jen MacIntosh, Larry DeTesta, or Heather Manhart.

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE



September 6	8:30 & 11:00 AM WORSHIP W/ COMMUNION
September 13	8:30 & 11:00 AM WORSHIP
September 20	8:30 & 11:00 AM WORSHIP
September 27	8:30 & 11:00 AM WORSHIP

*at-home worship continues to be available on the church website, Facebook, and YouTube — hopefully available by 11:00am on Sunday mornings

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

COMMUNION

We will celebrate Communion on Sunday, September 6 at the 8:30AM & 11:00AM Worship Services.

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

If you would like to celebrate communion with us, but are not able to join us in-person, you can still participate at home on the call-in with your own bread and juice.



AUGUST SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on August 25, 2020

- Together we covered our church and congregation with prayer, reviewed all that has been going on with the church and the world.
- Pews restrictions have been mostly removed. Please maintain safe distancing between families before, during, and after the service.
- Approved Session minutes from July 2020.
- Approved Sara, a baker, to rent space and use ovens a few days each week.
- September 6, 2020—communion
- Discussion of what the church can do to aid the Food2Go4Kids program through this school year. More details to follow.
- Session will be providing the Preschool with individually packed snacks through September and asking for donations from the congregation starting in October.

MUSIC

From the desk of Tony,

Special “*Thank you!*” to all of you who helped this past month with the piano dedication. I can not express in words how much of an awesome gift it is and that WHPC was asked to become its new forever home. To those who read, played a song, or were there to worship with us, THANK YOU!!!!

With schools starting back, Sunday school will be as well. This fall, we will be doing children’s music ministry a little bit differently. The church purchased color coated hand bells last year with the expectation of using them for a children’s hand bell choir. Since we can not sing, the children (of all ages) are being invited to play in the hand bell choir instead of a singing choir. The kids will come together in the sanctuary for approximately 10-15 min of practice each week.

My focus this fall will be to have a small group of adult hand bell ringers. I’d like to meet on a regular basis during the week. The idea will be to have the adult hand bell choir perform at least once a month; possibly twice a month. This is in lieu of the adult singing choir, as long as singing is frowned upon by the CDC. Please let me know if you have any interest. All are welcome. I am asking for a minimum of 4 people. Once I know who all is interested, I will plan to have a small meeting to discuss details in person.

As always, please let me or the office know if you have any interest in providing special music for a Sunday morning. All are welcome.

Musically yours, Tony!

gre0151@gmail.com

Facebook Messenger- Anthony Liberace Greendonor

Text or voicemail- (814)-553-9043



SUNDAY SCHOOL

It’s time for Sunday school!

Our Sunday school teachers are excited to welcome students back to church this fall! Mary-Esther, Tony, and Heather will be teaching from the Deep Blue Kids curriculum again, and this year students will be starting each class in the sanctuary practicing in a brand new youth bell choir.

Kickoff on Sept 13 at 9:45am: Students will enjoy pre-packaged snacks, an introduction to the youth bell choir, and an opportunity to do some Glory Gold shopping!

The following precautions will be in place to ensure a fun but safe environment for our students to start the Sunday school year:

- Masks are welcomed; not required. We will maintain social distancing within classes.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided and encouraged at the beginning and end of class, as well as when needed throughout.
- The Christian Education committee will provide each student with their own pencil case and supplies.



If you have youth in pre-K through grade 6, please fill out the Sunday school form in the back of the sanctuary or call the church office by September 4 with the following information. Does your child plan to attend Sunday school? Child(ren) name? Guardian Name? Email and Phone number?

FELLOWSHIP GOLF OUTING



Join your church family & friends on **September 20 at 2:00 PM** for a golf outing at the Madison Club. Cost per person is \$20 for 9 holes. Please contact Judy Sturdevant at 724-863-1188 if you are interested in attending this Fun Annual get together!

PRESCHOOL

2020/2021 SCHOOL YEAR begins on September 14.

The morning and afternoon sessions will continue on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays until May 19, 2021. We look forward to lots of fun!

Thanks to Linda Simpson and Andrea Tuttoilmondo for their continued service to the children of our community and their families.

We WILL NOT have an in-person Open House this year, but everyone will be able to see a video tour of the preschool on our website starting **September 9** at westhempfieldpreschool.org

We are also collecting individually packaged snacks for the am & pm classes. (30 count) Rice Krispy treats, apple sauce pouches, Little Debbie's, individually wrapped cookies, pretzels, etc., any store-bought, kid-friendly, individually wrapped snack would be very appreciated. Unfortunately, we cannot accept homemade items at this time.



STEWARDSHIP

We apologize for not sending 2nd quarter statements out in July. We will be sending 3rd quarter statements in early October. If you would like a mid-year statement, please call the church office and Heather will get you one. Thank you for your continued financial support of WHPC.





THANK YOU! to everyone who gathered for the Back to School Prayer Service held late August to pray over our schools, children, and adults. Blessings to all on a new school year!

Thank you building committee and help from Bruce Bookheimer for trimming hedges on the church grounds and to all who helped with the garden area makeover. It is beautiful!

Thank you for the donations of hand sanitizer, cleaning spray and masks for the church

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers for our great grand daughter Teagan who was in West Penn Hospital NICU since May 8, 2020. She was released from the hospital August 13, 2020 and is at home with her parents. ~ Jon & Birdie

I would like to send out a special thank you to all of you who helped this past month with the piano dedication. I can not express in words how much of an awesome gift it is, and that WHPC was asked to become its new forever home. To those who read, played a song, or were there to worship with us, **THANK YOU!!!!**
Musically yours, Tony



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Carole Hinkelman	Sept. 1	Shawn Weaver	Sept. 20
Diana Irwin	Sept. 1	Laurie Bookhemier	Sept. 24
Megan Weaver	Sept. 11	Heather Thomas	Sept. 26
Paula Stewart	Sept. 14	Connie Primus	Sept. 28
Jim Toms	Sept. 15	Pat Neill	Sept. 29

If you have a SEPTEMBER birthday and we've missed you – PLEASE let the office know!

September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Girl Scouts, 5:00pm	2	3	4	5
6 8:30AM & 11:00AM Worship Communion	7 Labor Day Office Closed	8	9 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm Virtual Preschool Orientation NAMI, 7PM	10	11	12
13 8:30AM & 11:00AM Worship Sunday school kick-off 9:45am	14 First Day of West Hempfield Preschool	15 Stewardship & Finance 6:30pm	16 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm CE Meeting, 6:30pm	17 SESSION REPORTS DUE Scouts 5:30-7:30	18	19
20 8:30AM & 11:00AM Worship Sunday school 9:45am Fellowship Golf Outing, 2:00pm	21	22 Session Meeting, 6:30pm	23 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm	24 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	25	26
27 8:30AM & 11:00AM Worship Sunday school 9:45am	28	29	30 Senior Cards, 11-2:30pm			