



JUNE

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!

In Acts chapter 10, disciple of Jesus and early church leader Peter meets a Gentile named Cornelius, and both of their lives are changed forever.

Scripture tells us that Cornelius and his family were good people, generous, and “God-fearing,” but they weren’t Jewish and they weren’t Christian. In fact, until this meeting, it was assumed that you had to be the former before you could be the later.

But when Peter and Cornelius meet, it changes everything.

God orchestrates their meeting through several dreams/visions—a meeting that would not have happened without God’s intervening.

When they meet, Peter tells Cornelius about Jesus. As he does, it is like Pentecost all over again!

Acts 10:44 the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. Acts 10:46 they heard them speaking in tongues/other languages and praising God.

Seeing this, Peter has them baptized immediately. He acknowledges that, even without becoming Jewish like him, they have received the Holy Spirit and are now Christians too.

In this story, Peter’s world got bigger. Peter’s family got bigger. Peter’s home got bigger. Peter’s heart got bigger.

Peter received the opportunity to worship and work with Christian brothers and sisters who were different than himself, and he grew in his faith and as a person.

This summer, WHPC and myself will have opportunities to worship and work with other Christian brothers and sisters, just like Peter did.

VBS (June 10-14) is a great opportunity as we often have children enrolled in the program who are from families that are not a part of our church.

Through Pine Springs Traveling Day Camp (June 17-21) WHPC will be working with Pine Springs Camp, First Presbyterian Church of Irwin, and New Hope Presbyterian Church to bring PSC “vital encounters with Christ” to the Irwin area.

In the last week of June and the first week of July, I (Pastor Andrew) will have to opportunity to participate in the PCUSA General Assembly as a commissioner of Redstone Presbytery. Once every two years PCUSA commissioners from all over the country come together to pray, worship, and discern together where God is leading our denomination.

July 19-24, the Wirt family will attend the New Wilmington Mission Conference (you can too! nwmcmmission.org to find out more) where, among other things, we will hear updates from missionaries serving all over the world.

The church, followers of the Way of Jesus Christ, the family of God, is bigger than we could ever imagine.

When we open ourselves up to that and welcome the brother/sister who at first seems different, it changes everything. We grow in faith and as people.

Blessings, Rev. Andrew Wirt

VBS June 10-14 6-8PM

Register for Camp Firelight:



westhempfieldpc.org/vbs-2024



Summer Office Hours

The church office is open
Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday
10:00AM — 1:00PM
*except for holidays

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COMMUNION



We will be celebrating communion together as a part of our worship service on Sunday, June 2, 2024 at 10:00am

WHPC WORSHIP AT HOME

Sunday morning call-in line and YouTube sermon videos are still available. Please contact church office with any questions.



OUTDOOR WORSHIP

**Bring your own chair and join us for
Worship under the trees at 10AM!
(Weather Permitting)**

Outdoor Services will be held on the last Sunday of July and August at 10AM in the parking circle by the Preschool entrance

In the case of bad weather we will have the service in the sanctuary as usual.

Some things will be different this year:

- First, there will not be an outdoor service in June because of Pastor Andrew's commitments to General Assembly this year.
- Second, because we only have one service on Sunday mornings now, the outdoor service will be the only service those Sundays. (We do still use the sound system, even when we are outdoors, so it is possible to hear everything while seated in the sanctuary.)

Dates for the outdoor services will be:
July 28 and August 25

JUNE 9—GRADS AND BIBLES

The congregation will recognize and celebrate our graduates during worship on June 9.



We would love to congratulate you on your accomplishment. If you (or your child) is graduating from high school, college, vocational school, graduate

school or any other continued education program, please share your name, from where you are graduating, and your immediate future plans to the office by June 5.

Also, on Sunday June 9, WHPC will be gifting a Bible to each student moving up from 4th to 5th grade. We don't want to miss anyone. If that is your child, please let the office know or any Christian Ed Committee member.

WEST HEMPFIELD PRESCHOOL

The 2023/2024 Preschool Year concluded on May 15, 2024, with our Spring Show and Graduation.

We had a wonderful school year!

We cooked, had a Thanksgiving feast, PJ party, field trip, danced and sang, all while learning the basics of the preschool year.

See you in September for the 2024/2025 school year! There is still room in both classes. Find out more about registration on our website -

westhempfieldpreschool.org



CHURCH OFFICE

Due to decreased activities over the summer and preschool summer break, we are reducing the office hours over the summer.

We are also hoping to keep building use to a minimum to reduce the cleaning time and costs as well.

For June, July, and August, office hours will be Monday through Wednesday from 10am to 1pm.

We are looking for some volunteers who would be willing to help in the office this summer. If you are interested in helping with some jobs like answering the phones, making copies, or folding newsletters, talk with Pastor Andrew about good days and times for coming in.

CAR CRUISE

Mark your calendar!

Car Cruise

Saturday, July 27, 2024

11am-4pm

**West Hempfield Elementary
Parking Lot**

Music — Food —

Chinese Auction — Dash Plaques

Supporting West Hempfield Presbyterian Church and the Food2Go4Kids program at West Hempfield Elementary School

**Indoor and Outdoor Vendor
Spaces Available!**

MAY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church met on Sunday, June 2, 2024

We gathered in the upstairs kitchen to cover our church, congregation, and community with prayer and review all that has been going on with the church and the world.

- Approved minutes from April Session meeting
- Reviewed reports from WHPC staff and committees
- Discussed at-home worship still being provided by WHPC, but not really being used
- Discussed reducing office hours in response to lack of preschool and general activity over the summer
- Discussed some issues with rentals
- Closed with prayer

Next scheduled Session meeting will be Sunday, June 23, 2024.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Outreach Committee will have a quick meeting in the upstairs kitchen after the church service on June 9, 2024. If you are interested in joining us as we talk about communication strategies, membership, and engagement, talk with Pastor Andrew and join us June 9 after service.

SANCTUARY AC FUND UPDATE

The new sanctuary air conditioners were installed the first week of May 2023.

Coming in at nearly \$36,000, this was a big project that we did not take lightly.

With a year of donations, fundraising, and some additional funds designated by Session at our last meeting, the sanctuary AC replacement campaign is currently at about \$24,000 raised, putting us right around 67%, or two thirds of the way there.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this campaign!

If you would like to help us finish strong, you can use the “Building Repair” envelopes in the sanctuary, note “AC Fund” on your check or envelope, or donate online here:

<https://onrealm.org/WestHempfieldPC/give/sanctuary>

BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee reminds members and renters that to help keep our building safe, secure, and clean we kindly ask everyone to respect agreed upon and published times for building use and stay within designated rooms/areas.

To that end, we will be locking a few more doors going forward.

Starting after VBS, we will be locking the doors at the top of the Fellowship Hall stairs when the office is not open. It will always be possible to exit, going from the upstairs to the downstairs. However, the locked doors will prevent renters/users of the hall from accessing the rest of the church building when it is unoccupied.

We are also considering limiting the use of elevator when the office is not open.

VBS—CAMP FIRELIGHT
JUNE 10-14 (6:00PM—8:00PM)

VBS REGISTRATION: It's that time!
Registration is open! To register a child to attend VBS *June 10-14, 6-8pm*, please visit the church website and click on "VBS 2024" at the top of the page, or go straight to <https://westhempfieldpc.org/vbs-2024> and then look for the button that says "Register".

VBS VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEER FOR FUN: We can't have a great Vacation Bible School without our great volunteers. Consider how you can help – the kids will learn, play, sing, craft, and snack. No prior experience necessary. One day or all week. Varying commitment levels available. Please talk to Mary Esther DeTesta to see where you might be needed.

Volunteers please note: Clearances now need to be updated every five years/60 months to bring us into compliance with the State's regulations. Contact the church office if you need to update clearances. We can help you with that.

VBS WORSHIP SERVICE
JUNE 16 10AM

This year's VBS will be taking over the 10AM service on June 16!

Everyone is invited to join us June 16 at 10AM for a special VBS presentation to review all that we learned at Camp Firelight VBS!

Because we only have one service on Sunday mornings now, the VBS service will be the only service on June 16.

PINE SPRINGS CAMP
TRAVELING DAY CAMP

WHPC is once again participating in a Traveling Day Camp sponsored by Pine Springs in collaboration with First Presbyterian Christ of Irwin and New Hope Presbyterian Church.

The camp will be held June 17-21 at New Hope church from 9am - 3pm each day.

A full camp experience while sleeping in your own bed !

Register online at www.pinesprings.org/travelingdaycamps

DAY CAMP VOLUNTEERS

WHPC is seeking volunteers to help with the Traveling Day Camp sponsored by Pine Springs in collaboration with WHPC, First Presbyterian in Irwin and New Hope Presbyterian. If you can volunteer 2 hours, stay for the day, or volunteer the whole week please prayerfully consider **signing up** to volunteer! <https://bit.ly/NorwinPSCvolunteer>

CHRISTIAN SUMMER CAMP
SCHOLARSHIPS

WHPC offers scholarships for students to attend a wide variety of Christian summer camps.

If camp is part of your summer plans, talk with Pastor Andrew about applying for a scholarship to help make it a little more affordable.

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Lester Smith	June 3
Larry DeTesta	June 6
Allan Immel	June 6
Janet Lore	June 9
Marianne Balister	June 21
Bill Sturdevant	June 22
Austin Hladek	June 24
Debbie Hilewick	June 25
Tom Iwinski	June 26

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

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



We will have a special gift for all fathers, grandfathers, and fatherly men of the church on Sunday, June 16.

PLEASE PRAY FOR VBS

Together let's pray for all our students, that they may meet God here and draw close to Him. Pray for energy, strength, and health for our volunteers. And may our VBS be a blessing and make an impact, not just on our church, but throughout our community



**Thank you to
all of the
people who
joined us on
May 25 for
our Volunteer
Work Day.**

Pulling weeds,
planting flowers,
trimming trees, and
more. Thank you for
keeping our church home
beautiful!

Thank you Nominating
Committee for
refreshments after
worship on 5/5.

FOOD 2 GO 4 KIDS THANK YOU!!

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered throughout the year for packaging, supporting our fundraisers, making donations of food and/or plastic bags. We appreciate you!

Thank you all so very much for the cards and prayers related to Debbie Eckrich's stem cell transplant and recovery. Our family is grateful for your support!

VBS MISSION PROJECT:

WESTMORELAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT

To go along with our camping theme, we chose a mission opportunity that will help to care for God's creation. Westmoreland Conservation District "helping people use resources wisely for stable soils, clean streams, productive farms, healthy forests and sustainable communities."

westmorelandconservation.org



June 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Church Office Hours</u> Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 10am – 1pm</p> 						1
2 10am Worship w/Communion Session Mtg.	3 <i>Upstairs—Rental</i>	4 Deacons Mtg. 6:30pm	5 Senior Cards 11am	6	7	8
9 10am Worship Outreach Mtg.	10 VBS 6-8pm	11 VBS 6-8pm	12 Senior Cards 11am VBS 6-8pm	13 VBS 6-8pm	14 VBS 6-8pm	15
16 <i>Happy Father's Day!</i> 10am Worship VBS Sunday	17 <i>Upstairs—Rental</i> PSC Travelling Camp	18 PSC Travelling Camp Stewardship Mtg.	19 PSC Travelling Camp Senior Cards 11am	20 PSC Travelling Camp	21 PSC Travelling Camp	22
23 10am Worship Session Mtg.	24 <i>Upstairs—Rental</i>	25	26 Senior Cards 11am	27	28	29
30 10am Worship						