



West Hempfield Presbyterian Church  
8 West Hempfield Drive  
Irwin, PA 15642  
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www.westhempfieldpc.org

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

April 5, 2026 will be Easter Sunday!  
All around the world followers of Jesus will be celebrating His Resurrection!  
Nearly all Christians will be united in this act, regardless of nationality, language, culture, race, denomination, gender, economic status — you name it.  
What an amazing and beautiful display of God's Kingdom!

Paul says in Galatians 3 ...

*<sup>26</sup> So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, <sup>27</sup> for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

For one (brief) shining moment we can see a glimpse of the future reality here and now!  
Of course, it has never really, fully been this way. We struggle with unity. Divisions arise. That's why New Testament writers are talking about it so much.

What Jesus started - the world he gave us a vision for - is unheard of in our world and contrary to virtually every human society. God's love and the unity of Holy Spirit is an attractive alternative. One worth striving for. One worth celebrating. Happy Easter!

**Blessings,  
Rev. Andrew Wirt**

## **Pastor Andrew Recommends**

Our Sunday School is excited to return to the Treehouse with Tinley for an all new season 2!

**Tinley's Treehouse**  
**Season 2** available in  
RightNow Media



Description: *It's time for another season of Tinley's Treehouse. Join Tinley and Max as they document their adventures in nature while learning important truths from God's Word. Engaging enough for the whole family, Tinley's Treehouse will have you laughing and learning right alongside this delightful duo. Come and explore God's world with Tinley's Treehouse!*

### **Holy Thursday.**

April 2 @ 1<sup>st</sup> UCC Irwin

Worship w/ Communion 7:00PM



### **Good Friday.**

April 3

Worship 7:00PM



### **Easter Sunday.**

April 5

Worship 10:45AM

Sunday School 9:30AM



## WORSHIP

4/3 - Good Friday  
7PM Worship

4/5 - Easter  
10:45 AM Worship  
w/ Communion  
(9:30AM Sunday School)

4/12 - 10:45 AM Worship  
(9:30AM Sunday School)

4/19 - 10:45 AM Worship  
(9:30AM Sunday School)

4/26 - 10:45 AM Worship  
(9:30AM Sunday School)

## EASTER SUNDAY

This year Easter is  
April 5, 2026.  
We invite you to join  
us for the celebration  
of the resurrection!



## COMMUNION

We will also be celebrating communion  
together as a part of our worship  
service on Easter Sunday,  
April 5, 2026, and we would love for you  
to join us!  
All are welcome at the Lord's Table!

## MARCH DEACON SUMMARY

We held our meeting on March 10 in the  
church lobby.

- Opened with prayer
- Reviewed One Great Hour of Sharing
- Approved annual donation to  
Adamsburg Fire Department
- Discussed the Blackburn Center -  
decided on two Sunday collection  
events
  - Sunday, April 12 - Food items : boxes  
of cereal, mac and cheese, canned  
goods, granola bars
  - Sunday, April 19 - Non-food items :  
paper towels, toilet paper,  
toothbrush, toothpaste
- Also approved up to \$250 (reimburse)  
worth of items to be added to whatever  
the church collects as a gift from the  
Deacons
- Talked about Pine Springs Camp  
Travelling Day Camp and Youth Summer  
Camp Scholarships. Affirmed our  
financial support of these programs.
- Talked about Coat Drive.
- Closed with prayer

Next Deacon Meeting - Tuesday, April 14 at  
6:30pm (*Next Mission Committee Meeting  
- Tuesday May 12*)

## MARCH SESSION SUMMARY

***The Session of West Hempfield  
Presbyterian Church will meet  
on Tuesday, March 31, 2026***

look for report in a future newsletter

## DEACON BLACKBURN

This Easter Season, we would like to share information about an important organization serving our community — **Blackburn Center** provides free and confidential services to individuals and families affected by domestic violence and sexual assault in Westmoreland County. Their services include a 24-hour hotline, emergency shelter, counseling and therapy, legal and medical advocacy, and prevention education in local schools. Every service they provide is offered at no cost so that anyone who needs help can access support, safety, and healing.

This April, the Deacons invite you to help support Blackburn Center by donating needed household and food items.

On April 12, we will be collecting specific food items:

Their shelter and housing programs are always in need of nonperishable food such as **boxes of cereal, macaroni and cheese, canned goods, and granola bars.**

On April 19, we will be collecting specific non-food items:

They also welcome donations of household essentials that help individuals and families moving into new apartments after leaving unsafe situations. Items such as **paper towels, toilet paper, toothbrushes, and toothpaste** are especially helpful.

These donated items provide direct support to survivors and their families and help Blackburn Center use more of their funding for critical programs and services.

## BLACKBURN WALK A MILE

In the past, WHPC Deacons have walked a mile in our own community. While we will not be sending out a team of walkers this year, Blackburn Center hosts their annual community event, **Walk a Mile in Her Shoes**, on **Saturday, April 18 at St. Clair Park in Greensburg**. This meaningful and fun event brings community members together to raise awareness about domestic violence and sexual assault while supporting services for survivors in Westmoreland County. Participants walk a one-mile route through the park, and many choose to wear red high-heeled shoes to show solidarity with survivors and take a visible stand against gender-based violence. **Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.**, followed by speakers and activities before the walk begins. Everyone is welcome to attend, form a team, or volunteer. More information about the event and how to get involved can be found at [www.blackburncenter.org](http://www.blackburncenter.org).



## VBS

**WHPC VBS will be June 15-19  
from 6 to 8PM**

and our theme will be

Snowball Mountain Challenge

A winter sports theme!

Registration is open and available on  
the church website

[westhempfieldpc.org/vbs-2026](http://westhempfieldpc.org/vbs-2026)



The CE Committee is in search of  
volunteers who would like to participate  
in Vacation Bible School.

If you or someone you know is  
interested in volunteering, please  
contact Mary Esther DeTesta or the  
church office.



## PINE SPRINGS GOLF

The 26th annual **Pine Springs Camp  
Scholarship Golf Outing** will be held

**MONDAY, May 18, 2026**

at Arnold Palmer's Latrobe Country Club

9:00 a.m. Registration

10:30 a.m. Start

For more information or to register:

[www.pinesprings.org/golf](http://www.pinesprings.org/golf)



**Pine Springs Camp**

## PINE SPRINGS CAMP

As you are making your plans for this summer,  
don't forget about Pine Springs Camp!

The Pine Springs Camp summer  
program seeks to help each camper  
have **vital encounters with Christ**.  
PSC does this by...

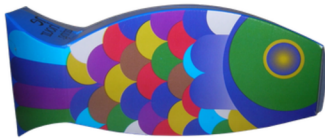
1. Teaching about the unconditional  
love of Christ.
2. Emphasizing that each camper has  
unique and creative gifts that God  
has given them. We offer a variety of  
camps so that each participant can  
explore and develop their gifts and  
grow in their relationship to God.
3. Modeling a proper way to celebrate  
and play in God's creation. We  
believe that camp should be fun!
4. Experiencing the importance of  
being involved in Christian  
community.

Pine Springs Camp brochures are  
available at the church, or check out  
their website [www.pinesprings.org](http://www.pinesprings.org)

And this year will be the fourth year for  
**Pine Springs Traveling Day Camp** at  
New Hope Presbyterian Church  
(sponsored by West Hempfield  
Presbyterian Church, First Presbyterian  
Church of Irwin, and New Hope  
Presbyterian Church) June 15-19,  
brochures and fliers in the lobby.

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The work done in support of the causes supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) — disaster, hunger, poverty, climate change, and immigration/migration and refugees — serves individuals and communities in need. This work provides people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Typically received during the season of Lent, this Offering helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations.



**Fish Banks & One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** will be collected on Palm Sunday, April 13 and Easter Sunday, April 20 (but the main attention will be given on Palm Sunday).

OGHS envelopes are in the pews and will be available in the bulletins on March 22 and 29 along with bulletin inserts with more information.

You can also find “One Great Hour” in the drop down menu of the online offering available from the church website until after Easter Sunday.

Learn more about how your gifts bless God’s people around the world:  
<https://pcusa.org/special-offerings/one-great-hour-sharing>

## OUR FRIENDS AT 1<sup>ST</sup> UCC IRWIN

WHPC will not have a Holy Thursday service this year. Instead, anyone who is interested is invited to attend the Holy Thursday service at 1<sup>st</sup> UCC Irwin starting at 7pm. The service will end with communion.

Everyone is welcome!



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## Spaghetti Dinner

First United Church of Christ

400 Main Street, Irwin

Thursday, April 16

4:00-7:00pm

Adult - \$12 Children - \$6

Spaghetti, Salad, Bread,  
Beverage, and Dessert



## THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you Stewardship Committee for the wonderful refreshments after worship on April 5.

Worship Committee wants to thank everyone who placed orders for flowers this Easter. Join us Easter Sunday, April 5 to see all the beautiful flowers and celebrate the Resurrection!



Thank you to everyone who came to and helped with the CE PJ Party and Movie Night February 28! A big thank you to our movie night chefs Larry and Jeff who grilled hotdogs and served fresh popcorn (which was a huge hit!).

THANK YOU Everyone who helped with or attended the Spaghetti Dinner on March 14 - Fellowship Committee and Deacons

We would like to thank all the members of WHPC for all the help for our Easter Egg Hunt March 28. Everyone had a wonderful time. We can always depend on all our members to come through.  
~The members of the Christian Education Committee

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Everett Wirt	April 1
Rachael Hazlett	April 4
Carol Ailes	April 5
Ted Mertz	April 7
Vivian Wirt	April 8
Barb Hazlett	April 20
John Hilewick	April 27

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

## EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS

The church sends out an email prayer list\* each Tuesday, a weekly newsletter email each Friday (this monthly newsletter chopped up into four parts), occasion special event news, and committee reminders.

Are you on the list?

Click/Scan the QR code




or visit [westhempfieldpc.org/subscribe](http://westhempfieldpc.org/subscribe) to sign up or to make any changes to which emails you receive.

\*Anyone can submit a prayer request by contacting the church office. However, please respect privacy and do not submit requests for others without their permission.



# APRIL 2026



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 11 am Senior Cards Upstairs Rental Choir Rehearsal	2	3 7pm Good Friday Service <i>FH - Rental</i>	4
5 EASTER 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship with communion	6 <b>HAPPY EASTER</b> Office Closed <i>FH - Dartball (A)</i>	7	8 11 am Senior Cards Upstairs Rental Choir Rehearsal	9	10 <i>FH - Rental</i>	11
12 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship	13 <i>Upstairs Rental</i>	14 6:30pm Deacons	15 11 am Senior Cards Upstairs Rental Choir Rehearsal	16	17 <i>FH - Rental</i>	18
19 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship	20	21 6:30pm Stewardship (Zoom)	22 11 am Senior Cards Upstairs Rental Choir Rehearsal	23	24 <i>FH - Rental</i>	25
26 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship	27 <i>Upstairs Rental</i>	28	29 11 am Senior Cards Upstairs Rental Choir Rehearsal	30	<b><u>Church Office Hours</u></b> Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10am — 2pm	