



## West Hempfield Presbyterian Church

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## July-August Newsletter

### “I Believe”

“My faith life, like that of everyone else, fluctuates. There are ups and downs and hot spots and cold spots and boredom and ennui and all the rest can be there. And so I’m not asked on a Sunday morning, ‘As of 9:20, what do you believe?’ And then you sit down with a three-by-five index card saying, ‘Now let’s see. What do I believe today?’ No, that’s not what they’re asking me. They’re asking me, ‘Are you a member of a community which now, for a millennium and a half, has said, we believe in one God?’” ~ *from an interview with Jaroslav Pelikan, a scholar of the history of Christianity, Christian Theology and Medieval Intellectual History at Yale.*

The Apostles’ Creed, a basic understanding of the Christian faith, is recited regularly in the church, with slight variations between traditions. It was not written, as legend would have us believe, by Jesus’ apostles, although it was written during the apostolic age of the church. The Creed was meant to be a guide, a teaching tool, to help believers in Christ apprehend the foundational beliefs of the early church. You will not find it in your Bibles. The statements of this brief Creed were culled over time and through study of what the Scriptures said. The Creed addresses God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

You’ve said the Creed in church. You may even have it memorized. But, do you believe what you say, when you begin with “I believe...”? Do you understand what you are saying when you begin, “I believe...”? Friends, you can believe anything – whether it be real or not, true or not. The things that we say we believe in, according to the historical church doctrine can change. Many heretics burned at the stake in the beginning of the church, were later found not to be heretics at all! Our beliefs deserve careful consideration. Over the summer months, the church will learn together how to think about “what we believe.” See you in church ~ Peggy

## Session Highlights from June

- Elders met with and approved the transfer of membership of Jeff & Pam Siegel
- The building committee is dealing with several issues: water leaking into the lower level, camera security, improved outdoor lighting, and young people climbing up on the roof of the church
- Christian Education will be meeting to discuss Sunday School curriculum, recruitment of teachers, and a Superintendent
- Fellowship is planning future events
- Mission continues to bake for Beverly's Cupcakes, work with the elementary school for the food in a backpack program, providing for the Blackburn Center, discussed the difficulty of getting funds to the Haiti mission program
- Outreach continues to provide happy greeters for Sunday mornings; work continues on the new computer software – to make use of the questionnaires that the congregation completed during Holy Week
- Received a report from the PNC, Deacons
- The Stewardship & Finance Committee reports a healthy financial outlook
- The Nominating Committee will begin its work soon – please be prayerful about the opportunity to serve the congregation

## JULY WORSHIP:

**July 2** – Communion Sunday, 10am

**July 9** – One Service 10am, Coffee Hour provided by the Building, Missions & Fellowship Committee

**July 16** – One Service, 10am

**July 23** – One Service 10am

**July 30** – One Service 10am

## AUGUST WORSHIP:

**August 6** – Communion Sunday, 10am

**August 13** – One Service 10am, Coffee Hour provided by the Nominating Committee & Personnel

**August 20** – One Service, 10am

**August 27** – One Service, 10am



**PNC UPDATE:** The PNC would like to explain a little about the work we have been doing and provide everyone with a better understanding about the process. The process is always ongoing and we usually have applicants in all stages of the process at all times. The PNC reviews resumes, listens to and watches sermons, votes on moving candidates forward to the interview phase and from there the interview can progress to a second and or even third interview (Interviews being conducted via Skype). When appropriate candidates are invited to meet in person and tour our facilities. The PNC has not developed pass this stage in the process but once we do the candidate would interview with members of our presbytery. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

## **CHOIR NEWS & MUSIC LESSONS**

For our summertime worship hour at 10:00 AM, if you can sing or play an instrument or if you want to get together a duo or quartet, please share your talents to praise God this summer! We'd love to offer a variety of musical options. You can choose the parts that you'd like to lead – prelude, anthem, hymns, offertory, etc. If interested, please speak to Tony Greendon, Music Director. We don't take the summer off from worshipping our Lord! You may reach Tony by email at [gre0151@gmail.com](mailto:gre0151@gmail.com) and he will need a week's notice of your intent. Tony also offers summer music lessons – instrument or voice.



**“MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE, ALL THE EARTH!” ~Ps. 98:4a**

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Christian Education is looking for a **Sunday School Teacher for grades 1-3**. If you would be interested in teaching Sunday School, starting in September please let a member of Christian Education know or call the church office.

We are currently looking for a volunteer to fulfill the role of Sunday School Superintendent. The Sunday School Superintendent coordinates and facilitates the running of the Sunday School program, which seeks to ensure that children who attend come to know the Biblical faith in a friendly, welcoming environment and where all may experience the love of God. Responsibilities included assisting in the selection of Sunday School curriculum, collecting offering and maintaining attendance records. If you would like to volunteer your time for this role please contact a member of Christian Education or call the church office.

Christin Education committee is seeking new members! The CE committee assists with Sunday School teachers and curriculum, plan the kickoff breakfast for Sunday School, coordinate the Easter Egg Hunt, host a Family PJ party & movie night in the winter, contribute to organizing Vacation Bible School and more! We meet once a month to plan our activities. We are always eager to have those with a heart for service join us. Those who are eager to coordinate the teaching of our children, youth and adults the Word of God. **We invite you to join us for our next meeting July 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the upstairs kitchen.**

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

A sincere thanks to all the volunteers and everyone who made donations to make VBS possible!

A big thanks to the PWA for keeping us cool on registration night with Kona Ice snow cones. Thank you to Missions for assisting with the pajama drive. Thank you to Fellowship for hosting our VBS final evening cookout!

We had over 40 children in attendance at VBS this year. We were able to surpass our mission goal of donating 50 pairs of Pajamas for the Blackburn Center!!!

What a blessing to be part of such a wonderful event - Rachael Pritz

*Dear Members of West Hempfield Presbyterian Church,*

Thank you for your thoughts, cards, and prayers during Al's sickness. We appreciate your concern. Thank you for the beautiful flowers at Al's Memorial – Twana, Marcus & Karen



Thanks to Jon Grinder, John Bankosh and Bob Randolph for the new security lights in the front of the building.

**AUGUST 17: FAITH NIGHT AT PNC PARK**

Summer youth outing, which include The Tide and Hibachi

**FELLOWSHIP:** The Car Cruise will be rescheduled. Date TBD



**Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at  
West Hempfield Presbyterian  
Church following 10:00  
Worship**

The annual church picnic will be held at the church. Our facilities are more accessible to all members; being on-site is easier for set-up and clean-up; and we are not at the mercy of the weather. Mark your calendars – it's always great fun to be together.

**EVERYONE IS INVITED.**

**There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby:**

- You can volunteer to help - see Judy Sturdevant (Fellowship Committee) or Jen Mackintosh (Deacons)
- Bring a dish to share, a folding chair for outdoor seating
- Church provides hot dogs, fried chicken, drinks, and table settings.

**Games for kids - Bocce ball tournament –  
Bingo**

**Last Name: Deserts -- I-P, Sides -- Q-Z,  
Salads -- A-H.**



## Pirates vs. Padres

**Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30pm**

First base side, tickets \$24 if we have minimum of 15 for group rate. ***Deadline July 16th.***

Sign - up sheet outside sanctuary or call the church office.

# July 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 COMMUNION SUNDAY One service 10am	3 PNC MEETING	4 4 <sup>th</sup> of July	5 SENIOR CARDS MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7pm	6 STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE MEETING 7PM	7	8
9 ONE SERVICE 10AM Coffee Hour provided by Building, Mission & Fellowship Comm.	10 PNC MEETING	11 DEACONS' MTG 6:30PM NAMI 7PM	12 SENIOR CARDS MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7pm	13	14	15
16 ONE SERVICE 10AM  CHURCH PICNIC FOLLOWING WORSHIP	17 PNC MEETING	18  NO SESSION MEETING	19 SENIOR CARDS MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7pm Christian Ed Meeting 6:30pm	20 Beverly's Birthday's 10am – upstairs kitchen Contact Janet Lore or Jen MacIntosh	21	22
23 ONE SERVICE 10AM  _____	24 PNC MEETING  _____	25	26 SENIOR CARDS  MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7pm	27	28	29
30  ONE SERVICE 10AM	31  PNC MEETING					

# August 2017

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		1	2 SENIOR CARDS MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7pm	3 STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE MEETING 7PM	4	5
6 COMMUNION SUNDAY One service 10am Pirates vs. Padres @ 1:30pm	7 PNC MEETING	8 DEACONS' MTG 6:30PM NAMI 7PM	9 SENIOR CARDS MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7pm	10 <b>SESSION REPORTS DUE!!</b>	11	12
13 ONE SERVICE 10AM Coffee Hour provided by Nominating & Personnel Committee	14 PNC MEETING	15 SESSION MEETING 6:30PM	16 SENIOR CARDS MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7pm Christian Ed Meeting 6:30pm	17	18	19
20 ONE SERVICE 10AM	21 PNC MEETING	22	23 SENIOR CARDS MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7pm	24 <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!!</b>	25	26
27 ONE SERVICE 10AM	28 PNC MEETING	29	30 SENIOR CARDS MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7pm	31		