



**WEST HEMPFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**8 West Hempfield Drive**

**Irwin, PA 15642**

**724-863-1260**

**www.westhempfieldpc.org**

**February 2018**

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***“Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.”***

*~ Luke 4:1-2*

These two verses begin the Bible story we have come to know as the “Temptation of Jesus” – and this story is a fitting place to begin our journey of Lent. Beginning with Ash Wednesday (February 14<sup>th</sup>), the Christian church prepares itself for what’s coming. And what’s coming is the week that Jesus spends in Jerusalem; the final events that lead to his death on a cross. It is a journey we must make before we can arrive at Easter – Resurrection Sunday, when life is possible after death, and the devil of death is defeated. The weeks that lie before us now, as the church, are a season meant for self-examination and reflection; a period of confession and humbling existence. Lent is the tunnel before the dawn of new life. It is a time to realize how we have strayed from and strained against the Lordship of Christ in our daily thoughts, actions, words.

In Luke’s gospel, chapter 4, Jesus leaves the Jordan River where he was just baptized – in the river along with everyone else. He immediately finds himself in the desert – fasting and hungry for forty days. And for forty days, tempted by the enemy. The devil waits for every opportunity cast the net of sin over Jesus. The evil one looks for weakness. Jesus did not falter.

If Christ is hounded every day for forty days, what makes us think that our temptations will not be so relentless? Unlike our Lord, we will falter. Jesus arrived at the Cross as perfect...the flawless Lamb of God. We arrive the Cross of Good Friday – oh so imperfect. However, if we take time to self-examine, confess, and begin again, and again to trust the Lord in these days of Lent, we also arrive at the Cross worthy to be saved. Jesus, who goes before us in all things, even battling temptation daily, has made the way past the darkness of the tomb. You are God’s beloved children. Brothers and sisters to the heir of heaven’s throne. Do not be afraid to look at your life, and know that the One who loved you enough to die for you, loves you enough to make room for you, not just at the Cross, but in His Father’s House. We may falter, here in the desert, but we will not fail for all time by following Jesus Christ.

See you in church ~ Peggy



## FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

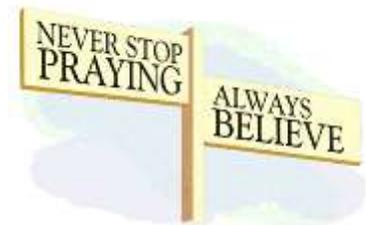
February 4 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 & 11:00 AM	Worship Sunday School
February 11 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 & 11:00 AM	Worship Sunday School Coffee hour
February 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Worship
February 18 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 & 11:00 AM	Worship Sunday School
February 25 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 AM 11:15 AM	One Worship Service Pancake Breakfast

**CAN YOU SAY “YES?”** We all like to be greeted when entering the sanctuary. It is especially important for those who visit our church. If you can be at church a little early to welcome folks in or make sure they have a bulletin and any directions that they need, we have an easy way for you to “Yes!” to serving the Lord. New greeters and ushers are always welcome. Please call the church office if are willing to welcome! Thank you.

**THE CHOIR IS HAPPY TO WELCOME NEW MEMBERS IN 2018.** If you like to sing, good or bad, help the choir lead worship and make a joyful noise to the Lord. Choral singing adds significantly to our worship experience. See Tony Greendonner on Sunday morning if you’d like an introduction to the choir life!

### PASTOR NOMINATING UPDATE

The PNC is moving along and had a productive January. The committee held multiple first-round Skype interviews, scheduled two-second Skype interviews, and hosted one visiting pastor. Please continue to pray for the PNC as we thoughtfully and carefully discern the process.



### JANUARY SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Reviewed & approved minutes of November Session meeting and the Annual Congregational Meeting
- Welcomed new elders and made committee assignments; elected a Clerk of Session
- Received reports from Redstone Presbytery; Stewardship & Finance; Worship; Building; Christian Education; the Clerk; the Deacon’s financial report, Fellowship, Mission, the Interim Pastor, Pastor Nominating Committee
- Approved dates for a variety of events; declined one request for building use



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR HELPING:



**Beverly's Birthdays** is an organization that hosts birthday parties for children who would otherwise NOT have a celebration. Can you imagine, as a child, that your birthday is not an event? Our church volunteers to bake cupcakes and decorate them. We also provide items for goody bags. The next birthday to prepare for is an Olympic theme. Three dozen cupcakes are needed and will be decorated on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. What a way to serve and make a very special child happy!

**Food 2 Go 4 Kids** is our partnership with West Hempfield Elementary School. We help them provide bags of food for around 70 children to take home with them on the weekend. This assures that no child will go hungry without the safety net of school breakfasts and lunches. Food items are donated. Volunteers at church gather in the upstairs kitchen to separate and count the food, and pack the bags. Counters are needed (those pesky Pop Tarts come in all size packages).

- Food packing is February 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30
- Caring volunteers do this every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month
- Contact Janet Lore or Jen MacIntosh to find out more about either program. Their contact information is in the directory



## HAITI MISSION ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER

WHPC gives monthly support to a children's school in Haiti.

The annual spaghetti dinner is an important fundraiser so that we can continue our giving. Everyone is welcome to help. Meatball making will be March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. The dinner is March 10<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-6:30 PM. Lots of helping hands have made this a huge success in the past. Can you help this year? Contact the church office or sign-up on the volunteer bulletin board outside the sanctuary.

The meal includes spaghetti and meatballs, a salad bar, bread, dessert, and a drink

Cost is \$5 for children (3-12), under 3 eat free, \$8 for adults

Carry-out will be available.

**March 10<sup>th</sup> – 4:00-6:30 in Fellowship Hall**

Chinese Auction of Gift Baskets



West Hempfield 2018 Food Bank Dates

**FOOD BANK VOLUNTEERS!**

**May 19, 2018 and August 18, 2018 from 9:00-11:30 AM**

**“The Gift of Love” FAMILY NIGHT at WHPC**  
**Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.**  
All are invited to jump into their jammies and bring their families to church for fun, food, and fellowship. Dinner is provided; a lesson about love will be taught; a craft will be created by each child (or adult); then we’ll turn on the popcorn machine and watch the movie “The Star.” This has become a wonderful annual event to break up the winter doldrums. Please RSVP to the office or sign-up at church on Sundays, so that we can plan for you and your family.



**PREPARATIONS FOR THE EGG HUNT:** Donations of bags of candy are being accepted. Please drop your goodies off at the church office. And thanks for being so sweet!

Speaking of sweet...**The PWA VALENTINE LUNCHEON** is nearly here! The ladies invite everyone to join then on Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at Abruzzi’s Italian Restaurant in Irwin at 11:30 AM. Please make your reservation by contacting the office or on the sign-up bulletin board outside the sanctuary.

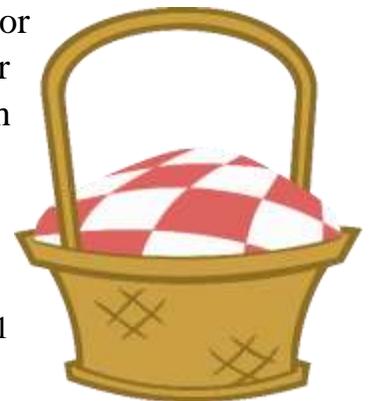
There are still a few **PWA PIES** left from their sale. Call the church office to put your name on your choice.



**February 11<sup>th</sup> Coffee Hour following both worship services is provided by the Deacons**

**GET CREATIVE:** Once again we will have a **Chinese Auction** during the spaghetti dinner. Tickets are purchased as guests enter and winning tickets will be drawn at 6:15. If you would like to donate a basket, Heather Manhart is the contact person at 412-508-1967 or in the office during work hours. In the past there have been pasta dinner baskets, kid friendly baskets, movie night baskets, gardening baskets, bath & body baskets, etc. What would YOU like to win?

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. ~ Ephesians 3:20-21



**PER CAPITA PAYMENTS:** The church is responsible to make the per capita payment to the denomination of \$41 per member. If you have giving envelopes, your per capita envelope is included. The incorrect amount was printed on these. The correct amount is \$41 instead of \$39. You can write a check with “per capita” in the memo if you do not have a regular giving envelope. Many members make the payment. The Stewardship & Finance Committee greatly appreciate it. Otherwise, the payment comes out of the general operating funds of the church. The per capita payments cover a great many missions and ministries in the larger church. Supporting our brothers and sisters across the world is our calling.

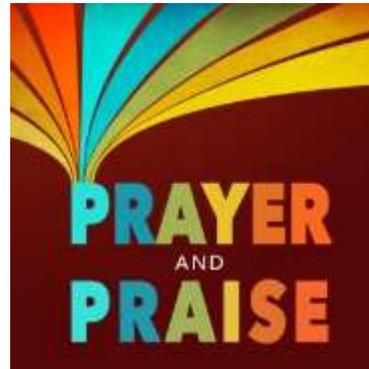


### February Birthdays

February 3 – Keeley Mackenzie, Karen Reed  
February 8 – Bob Edmonds  
February 9 – Susan Crust, Ken Primus  
February 12 – Birdie Grinder  
February 13 – Caroline Ray  
February 24 – Doris Forsyth, Janet Errett  
February 26 – Betty Greenawalt, Phil Weaver  
February 27 – Jen MacIntosh  
February 28 – Meredith MacIntosh  
If you have a February birthday, and we’ve missed you – PLEASE, let the office know!

### LOOK FORWARD TO...

News about discovering your spiritual gifts and knowing what that means for your life. Classes forming soon! If you’re interested NOW, contact Pastor Shannon at 724-554-4555 or [peggy.scott.shannon@outlook.com](mailto:peggy.scott.shannon@outlook.com)



Praying & Praising are not new in the life of the church. But we have a new way of doing it – one that everybody can easily share in. On the bulletin boards across from the Prayer Room, please feel free to write your prayer requests on the white dry erase board. And while there, find the requests of others to pray for. You can even take a picture of requests with your smart phone! We will keep the board cleaned each week. If you want to praise someone in the congregation, fill out a card on the “Kudos” board and pin it up!

# February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 8:30 & 11 Worship Sunday School 9:45am Communion Worship Meeting 12:15	5 PNC MTG.	6 PWA Meeting 10am – upstairs kitchen	7 Senior Cards 11-2:30 FOOD 2 GO 4 KIDS 6:30PM Men's Bible Study 7pm	8 Stewardship & Finance Meeting 6:30pm  SCOUTS 6PM	9	10
11 8:30 & 11 Worship Sunday School 9:45am  Coffee Hour provided by Deacons	12 PNC MTG.  DART BALL @ WHPC	13 Deacons Meeting 6:30pm  NAMI 7PM	14 Senior Cards 11-2:30  Ash Wednesday Service 7pm	15 PWA Valentine Luncheon 11:30am – Abruzzi's in Irwin Fellowship Hall in Use 4:30pm	16  Fellowship Hall in Use All Day	17
18  8:30 & 11 Worship Sunday School 9:45am	19 PNC MTG.  DART BALL @ WHPC	20  <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	21 Senior Cards 11-2:30 FOOD 2 GO 4 KIDS 6:30PM Christian Ed Meeting 6:30pm Men's Bible Study 7pm	22 Beverly's Birthday Decorating, 10am  SCOUTS 6PM	23 PJ Party – Fellowship Hall 6pm  <b>SESSION REPORTS DUE</b>	24
25 One Service 10am No Sunday School Pancake Breakfast following worship 11:15am	26 PNC MTG.  DART BALL @ WHPC	27 PWA Charity Circle 1pm – Upstairs Kitchen  Session 6:30pm – Upstairs Kitchen	28			