

REDEEMING TIMES

The Newsletter of
New Bedford Presbyterian Church
November, 2006

Happy Thanksgiving

Dear Members and Friends of New Bedford Church:



In my last sermon on Ephesians we looked at this verse, **“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”** We saw the clear truth that we are 100% the creation of God...His workmanship. But we also saw that because God has adopted us, our desires and our actions have changed. I stated that the desired actions of Christians are, first and foremost, to worship our Lord. It is our desire to be in His presence. Second, I stated that we desire to grow our faith. It is a joy to read His Word... it is a joy to be in fellowship with other Christians... it is a joy to be in prayer with the Lord. Third, I stated that the work we are called to do is to love our neighbors. In the past couple of months we have seen the wonderful joy of being in a surrendered relationship with Christ. We have also seen the terrible consequences of not being in a surrendered relationship. Therefore, naturally, we desire to share the Good News of Christ with our neighbors.... neighbors around the world...and neighbors next door. The command of Christ is to **“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”** This is the command of Christ. This is our desire as children of God.

In this newsletter we are highlighting a number of the Missions of our church both locally and globally. The first we want to highlight is a new missionary we have added to our support list. With your donations to the Mission Fund we have begun to support Laura Scott, a Missionary to Guatemala. Laura is the daughter of Walt and Wilma Scott. Walt and Wilma introduced our church to the orphanage in San Luis, Mexico. We have made numerous trips to San Luis and continue to support the orphanage. The Scotts have also adopted two children from the orphanage. Laura attended Geneva College and did her student teaching at a school in Guatemala. She fell in love with the children. Upon graduation, with a degree in Math Education and a minor in Spanish, she returned to Guatemala. She is now in her third year in the school. She teaches in the school, coaches the girls’ basketball team, advises the classes and actively ministers in her church. Her sending agency is Commission to Every Nation. It is a joy for us to support the ministry of Laura.

We are also announcing a new special Christmas offering. For the past number of years we have supported the denominational “Joy Offering.” The receipts were for retired ministers and racial ethnic colleges. The response has been very limited. This year (and for the next few years) we will be having a special Christmas offering to support the Heifer Project. The Heifer Project purchases animals for individuals in need in the third world. We have committed our church over the next few years to purchase an “ark” (a total of \$5000.00). These are enough live animals to support an entire village in need. We ask you to please generously give to this offering so we can give of our wealth to people in need.

You will also see in this newsletter information about the Mission Team we are sending to Louisiana in a couple of weeks. Twenty-seven people from our church have chosen to celebrate Thanksgiving together, away from extended family, helping rebuild homes for victims of Hurricane Katrina. Thank you to each person who is going on this trip. A special thanks is given to Lori Jones who felt led to organize this trip, planned all the details of this trip, and is leading this trip.

Finally, we continue to minister locally. I want to highlight two missions we share with the children of our community. Last week we had our first Harvest Festival Trunk or Treat. We invited children in our community to come to the church to “trick or treat,” at our church. We had eighty-five to ninety kids plus their parents come last Friday. Because it was raining (very hard,) it was held inside. Three goals were accomplished. First, we provided a safe place for our community children. Second, we presented the Gospel of Christ to the children and their parents with a puppet presentation and the sharing of Christian literature in their candy bags. Third, we opened the doors of our church to many who rarely come to church: possibly a small step of involvement. It is our hope that we can use this Halloween Holiday for the glory of Christ. For the second mission, we are planning our annual Breakfast in Bethlehem celebration for December 16th. We have the same goals for this event. Unfortunately, Christmas also needs to be recovered for the glory of God. We usually have over one hundred kids and their parents come to our church to celebrate the truth of Christ’s birth. Through these two programs and many others, we are missionaries in our own community.

Praise God! We are His children. We are His workmanship created to do good works...to worship Him...to grow in our faith... and to share the truth of His love. Please continue to pray for and support the missionary work of our church.

In Christ,
Doug

COURAGEOUS GIVING HONORS THE LORD

We are continuing our 2007 Stewardship Campaign. In the first week of the campaign 45 families returned the blue card making a faith promise for next year. **THANK YOU!!** We are continuing to receive the cards in this second week. Please continue to prayerfully consider making a faith promise for next year. Because we are children of God, we desire His truth to spread to the world. We desire to worship Him. We desire to grow in our own faith. Your gifts allow the ministries and mission works of the church to continue and to grow. Thank you.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

1. Approved Philip Book as Temporary Secretary
2. Approved the Budget and recommended it for Congregational approval (It will be available in the entranceway in November.)
3. Discussed The New Wineskin Association of Churches
4. Approved "Trunk or Treat"
5. Discussed Heifer Project Special Offering
6. Called Congregational Meeting on November 26th following our Worship Service for the purpose of Electing 2007 officers and acting on the budget.
7. Discussed the Directory. Reminder: the next date for pictures is December 7th.

CHILDREN AT WORSHIP

Please make an attempt to visit "Young Children at Worship" during any Sunday morning Worship Service. The children are learning how to worship and they need you to help conduct these worship services. It takes very little effort and time. ALL the stories and material are ready and waiting. Please see Margie Matthews to schedule YOUR Sunday or you may go ahead and sign up on the list located in the vestibule. Thank you.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who came out and gave blood for the Red Cross. We appreciate you!

BIRTHDAYS FOR NOVEMBER

Alivia Carna	9
Bob Adams	10
Kyle Bable	12
Tara Underwood	13
Eric Stuhlmann	5
Bob Rishel	16
Elizabeth Fox	18
Colin Fulkman	21
Chuck Snyder	22
Rachel Whiting	23
Bernice Boyer	25
Linda Travers	26
John Reynolds, Sr.	27
Alyssa Boyer	29
Curtis Bretz	29

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Glenn and Verda Hepler will be celebrating their 66th Wedding Anniversary on November 16th.

BAPTISM

On Sunday, October 22, 2006, Dylan Carlos Dieter was baptized during our morning Worship Service. He is the son of Daniel and Gisela Dieter. Following the Service, there was a time of fellowship and refreshments to celebrate his baptism and first birthday. Congratulations to the family and we look forward to the day when he will confess that Jesus Christ is his Lord and Savior! Amen!

OCTOBER's "Trunk or Treat"

On Friday, October 28th, from 6-8:00 P.M., the church hosted its first annual "Trunk or Treat" chaired by Scott and Gail Phillips. All activities took place indoors since the weather was unfavorable. Even with the rain, we had a turnout of approximately 85-90 kids. This night was our night to share the good news of Jesus Christ to children in the community. Thank you to all who came out and gave your support. We look forward to next year's!

Please remember the following people who are hospitalized, receiving treatments, recuperating at home, and those who have asked for prayer:

June Smith	Home
Janet Twigg	Jameson
Justin Dillon	Home
Donna Ealy	Home
Katharine Bell	Cedar Manor
Shirley Ruby	Home
Ed Beckman	Home
Verda Hepler	Home
Dee Haines	Home at Harvey Jr.'s
Wally Huber	Waiting for liver transplant
Jane Walker	(Living in Florida) Has cracked vertebrae & pinched nerve
George Singer	(Jane Walker's grandson) Diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis
Bill Evans	(Formerly from New Bedford now living in Elizabethtown) Stroke

FALL BAZAAR

Just a reminder that this Saturday, November 4, 2006, the New Bedford Church will be hosting its annual Fall Bazaar from 9am to 2pm. We need people to make special items for all our different rooms:

1. Christmas and Craft Room
Ornaments, wreaths, crochet and knitted items, etc...
2. Plant Room
Flowers, bulbs, plants, Indian corn, etc...
3. Candy Room
The SWEETest room for just what you are looking for!
4. Trash and Treasure Room
The number one destination where there is always a "ton" of great things.
5. Country Store
Cookies, cakes, pies, muffins, etc... Also, canned jellies and jams along with freshly baked bread are big sellers!

Tell your family, friends and neighbors about the bazaar. Lunch will be available and homemade soup will be sold by the quart (\$4.50 per quart.) Thank you for all your support and we hope to see you this coming Saturday!!!

Women's Association

Evelyn Exley and Renee Burrows, Co-Chairwomen

HELP – HELP – HELP

People are needed on Friday, November 3rd and December 8th, at 2:00 P.M. to distribute Food Bank items.

WILMINGTON AREA H.S. DRAMA

Thursday, November 2nd, at 7:30 P.M., and on Saturday, November 4th, at 2:00 P.M. and 7:30 P.M., the Wilmington Area H.S. Drama Department will be presenting the classic comedy, Arsenic and Old Lace. Over 20 of our local H.S. students are involved in the production, which is suitable for all ages. We are hoping that, by offering a matinee, we will be able to reach community members not able to attend an evening performance. Tickets are \$3.00 for Adults and \$2.00 for Students and are available at the door. Thanks so much from the cast and crew!

ELECTION DAY

November 7, 2006 is Election Day. Breakfast begins at 7:00 A.M. prepared and sold by our Kitchen Committee and lunch will be served up to 2:00 P.M.

DID YOU KNOW

1. The church has a new, infamous website which was created by our Sound and Video Technician, Nathan Book. You may read or hear Doug's sermons on the site along with much more pertinent information such as the Redeeming Times at www.newbedfordchurch.org.
2. A coyote came and laid down to take a nap right underneath John Reynolds, while he was in his tree stand waiting on a deer!
3. Frank and Shirley Davidson's family were here to help Frank celebrate his 80th birthday. Happy Birthday, Frank!
4. The fuel gauge on the church bus does not work. Pastor Doug found out the hard way!
5. "Max" the puppet drives fire engine...just ask Patti.

FROM THE LIBRARY

New Books:

Kids' Devotional Bible published by Zondervan; devotions written by Joanne E. DeJonge et al. – Illustrated.

Fiction books written by Karen Kingsbury:

1. Waiting for Morning (Book 1)
2. A Moment of Weakness (Book 2)
3. Halfway to Forever (Book 3)

PICTORAL DIRECTORY

It is our desire that the entire Church Family be in our new directory. The next date for pictures will be Thursday, December 7th, from 3-9:30 P.M. so there is still time to sign up. If you have not signed up, please call the church office. If you absolutely cannot make it in to have your picture taken, you may submit a picture (snapshot) no larger than a 4x6. If a professional photographer took the picture you are submitting, you will need to get a copyright release.

BUS TRIP

A Night with Pastor Joel Osteen: Cleveland, OH
If anyone is interested in a trip to "Q" Arena located in Cleveland, OH to see Joel Osteen, the church bus will be going Friday, February 23, 2006 if enough people sign up. Joel Osteen is Pastor and Televangelist of Lakewood Church in Houston, TX. He can be seen Sunday mornings at 8:00 A.M. on KDKA. Approximate time is 7:30 P.M. and approximate price of the trip is \$10.00 plus the cost of fuel. Joel is a motivational speaker and has written a bestselling book entitled, "Your Best Life, Now." For more information about Pastor Joel, go to www.JoelOsteen.com. This trip will be an A.O.L. event and everyone is invited to go. If you are interested, sign up on the sheet in the vestibule or call the church office. You will not be disappointed!!!

WOMEN'S CIRCLE MEETINGS

1. The Hannah Circle will meet at the church on Monday, November 6th at 10:00 A.M.
2. The Elizabeth Circle will meet at the church on Tuesday, November 7th at 7:00 P.M.
3. The Deborah Circle will meet at the church on Tuesday, November 14th at 9:00 A.M.
4. The Rebecca Circle will meet at the church on Monday, November 20th at 7:00 P.M.
5. The Lydia Circle will meet at the church on Monday, November 20th at 7:30 P.M.

MISSION I & S COMMITTEE NOTES

The next I & S meeting will be November 11th at 9:00 A.M.

Mission & Stewardship Committee News:

Our committee will be collecting jars of gravy, boxes of instant mashed potatoes and cans of corn for the City Rescue Mission. You may drop off your donations in the marked basket in the vestibule.

The Session approved for the Committee to sponsor the ARK project. This comes under the Heifer International. Heifer has programs that provide more than 20 different kinds of food—and income-producing animals in dozens of countries on five continents. They have supplied animals and the opportunity to become self-reliant for food and income to families in 125 countries and 40 states in the United States. A heifer Gift Ark launches a boatload of help and hope for hungry people around the world. A whole ark includes: 2 pigs, 2 camels, 2 water buffalo, 2 guinea pigs, 2 trios of ducks, 2 flocks of chickens, 2 oxen, 2 cows, 2 trios of rabbits, 2 donkeys, 2 beehives, 2 sheep, 2 llamas, 2 flocks of geese and 2 goats. The Heifer Gift Ark costs \$5,000. The young children on Wednesday afternoon made this their project, the Christmas Offering will go toward the Ark and anyone may make donations to this project if they choose to do so. The price of the Gift Ark includes both the cost of purchasing and transporting quality animals and the training and support services. Come on board with help for this project.

Gift Ark \$5,000 Challenge

Also available are Honor Cards, beautiful foldout cards about all the animals, for honoring friends and family with a gift of Heifer animals given in their name. Some families forgo gift exchanges to donate to a worthy organization. This offers an excellent way to do that. Cards are available now.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CANTATA

On Saturday, November 11th, at 10:00 A.M., children are to meet at the church to begin practicing for their Christmas Cantata.

DEDICATION

On Sunday, November 12th, there will be a time of two dedications. During Worship Service, we will dedicate our commitment to our Faith Promise. Also, we will dedicate the mission team on their upcoming trip to Louisiana to help victims of Hurricane Katrina.

MISSION TRIP

Excitement is building, as we are almost ready to leave on our mission trip to Louisiana to help those who were devastated by Hurricane Katrina. 23 people are flying down and will be leaving at 6:00 A.M., November 18th. Scott, Gail, and their two children will be driving down. We will return on November 24th. It looks like we will be working on three or four houses in New Iberia, Louisiana, together with the homeowners. The mission team will be painting and working on exterior portions of the houses. Our accommodations are a one-room bunkhouse. **THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT THUS FAR FINANCIALLY AND ESPECIALLY IN PRAYER.** Please continue to keep the team in your prayers during our trip. Pray for safety, and that by helping these people to rebuild their homes and lives, that this will open doors to witness to them in their time of need.

Mission Team Members:

Scott, Gail, Jamie, and Joel Phillips
Harry Cornman
Larry Bluedorn
Brock Janoski
Amanda Miller
Margie, Christa, and Maggie Matthews
Brenda and Rachel Hostetler
Bob and Cindy Bell
Joe and Linda Feil
Ted Hilliard
Samantha Smith
Margaret Miron
Matt Kovalcik
Kylee Tarasyuk
Dennis, Lori, Wesley, Kristi, and Kyle Jones

Harvester's Meeting

The next Harvester's Meeting will be on November 14th, here at the church at 12:00 P.M.

Thanksgiving Eve Service

A community Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held at St. James Catholic Church on November 22nd at 7:00 P.M. Participants in this service will be St. James Catholic Church, Barnstone Ministries, Mahoning Presbyterian Church and, of course, our own church.

THANKOFFERING SUNDAY SERVICE

During this time of Thanksgiving, a Thankoffering Sunday Service will be on November 26th. In morning Worship, the mission team will share their experiences while they were in Louisiana.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A special Congregational Meeting has been called for November 26, 2006 following Worship Service for the purpose of electing new officers for the coming year and to approve the 2007 Church Budget. The budget for 2007 has been printed and is on the table in the vestibule. You may pick up a copy if you would like to have one before the meeting.

THE MESSIAH

The New Castle Music Club will be presenting their annual performance of Handel's Messiah on November 26th at 3:00 P.M. The performance will be held this year at Mary, Mother of Hope Catholic Church in downtown New Castle. Please come out for an afternoon of song!

DRIVE-THRU NATIVITY

On Saturday and Sunday, December 2nd and 3rd respectively, King's Chapel United Methodist Church will be presenting their 13th Annual Drive-Thru Nativity. The time is from 6-9:00 P.M. both nights. Ten scenes depict the events leading up to the birth of Christ. You simply "drive-thru" and recall the Christmas story. They are located at the corner of Old Pulaski Road and Wallace Drive. There is no charge. This is their Christmas gift to the community! For more information, call 724.658.7569 or visit www.kiweumcharge.org.

BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM

On Saturday, December 16th, our church is transformed into the Village of Bethlehem. All children are invited to come and see the sights and sounds of this village as you travel back in time to experience the wonder of the first Christmas Day. After breakfast, you may move from room to room to experience both visually and hands-on the meaning of Christmas. More details will be forthcoming about this exciting day.

Christmas Dinners

Women's Association

The Women's Association will be having their annual Christmas Dinner on Thursday, December 7th, at 6:30 P.M at the Village Inn located in Harlansburg, PA. The church bus will be used for transportation for anyone needing a ride. There will be a Christmas ornament gift exchange, so please bring something either bought or hand-made. The four choices of entrée, each is \$10.99, are listed below:

- Stuffed Chicken
- Stuffed Pork Chops
- Roasted Turkey Breast
- Braised Steak

Each entrée comes with salad, bread, vegetable, and beverage. More details will be forthcoming. Please sign up as soon as possible in the vestibule.

All Church Dinner

Please mark Sunday, December 10th, at 6:00 P.M. on your calendar for our All Church Christmas Dinner, sponsored by the Worship Committee. More details will be forthcoming. Come out and make this a family time here at the church as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

*Wishing you
and your family a
Happy Thanksgiving!*



