

Fall 2023

Rev. Burfoot S.
(Buddy) Ward, III
Pastor



Chris McClellan
Qadosh Bells
Director



Kathy Whittemore
Treasurer



Anne Ward
Youth Coordinator



Gloria Lindell
Clerk of Session



Bill Gross
President of
Deacons



Gary Olson
President of
Trustees



The Congregation
Ministers of
The Gospel



Pastor's Corner

“For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that God has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction.” 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5

Friends, how do you know that you are loved, really loved by God? Do you measure the quality of your life before and after becoming a Christian, measuring your good experiences against the bad? Do you count on being a success, now that you have given your life into God's hands? Or do you imagine that living the Christian life will somehow make you a more likable person, who can get along with anybody? Well, some of these things may happen to you and encourage you, but they are not the measure of God's love! In fact, if circumstances change and things don't go as expected, many people are tempted to doubt God's love!

However, Paul's letter to the Thessalonians, a group of believers who were renowned for their constant faith in the face of persecution, gives us some rock-solid assurances of God's love. First is the simple fact that God has chosen us to receive new birth and the gift of the Holy Spirit (v.4). And elsewhere in this letter, we learn that the Holy Spirit makes it absolutely clear to us that God is our Heavenly Father – our Daddy (Romans 8:15, Galatians 4:6). Paul reminds us that our hearts are now open to God, where before they were unresponsive and closed.

Secondly, verse 5 tells us, that not only was God's Word given to us and made understandable, but along with God's Word, God's power was made obvious to us. Indeed, spiritual power can be expressed in many ways, from miracles, to just opening up the Scriptures for us to see more fully God's plan, and sometimes God's power is nothing more than the realization that ordinary circumstances have come together in a particular way to help us do the things we need to do!

Third is the inner sense of conviction that God's Word is true, and that Jesus, the Living Word of God, makes our lives whole and meaningful (v. 5). Conviction, though sometimes difficult to face when it causes us to see our sin, is one of the strongest evidences of God's love. If God didn't care about us that much, God wouldn't correct and guide us!

So when we doubt God's love, especially when bad things happen, as they do to everyone at one time or another, we must go back to the basics and rediscover that God is with us, and consistently loves us, no matter what comes our way!

In the Name of Christ,

Buddy 

Sunday Fall Schedule

(Starting September 10th)

9:30 am
Sunday School
for all ages

11:00 am
WORSHIP



Turn Your Clocks Back

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 5 at 2:00 am. Remember to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday evening.



Women's Bible Study September - November

Good News for a Divided Culture

We don't have to look far to see division in our world. And in many ways, we are confused, angry and disillusioned by all the chaos we're experiencing. How should Christians respond to the chaos? What does it look like to live faithfully in these strange and challenging times? Join bestselling author Bob Goff in this six-session series as he helps us answer these questions. Learn what it looks like to follow Jesus and obey his commands even in a time of chaos.

- Sept 11 – A Divided Culture
- Sept 25 – God Loves You and Everyone Else too
- Oct 9 – Kind Words
- Oct 23 – Love Your Neighbor
- Nov 6 – Love Your Enemy
- Nov 20 – Love Without End

Sunday School

September 10 our Sunday school year will resume with classes for all ages from preschool through adult beginning at 9:30 am each Sunday.

Sheryl Ash and Nancy Bullock- Nursery Class; Marian Hartman and Sally Clark – (grades K-2); Sarah Nickerson & Beth Watts (grades 3-5); Ruth Morrison - middle school and high school; and Buddy Ward – adult class.

These classes are great opportunities to interact in a smaller group while learning more about the Bible and our faith. Consider inviting friends and/or family to these classes or attending yourself if you aren't currently involved.

Penny Sunday Offering

On the first Sunday of each month, we ask that you bring in your pennies, quarters, and/or dollars for our Penny Sunday Offering to help support the Missions Fund.



Please place these offerings in the bowls/offering plates located at both doors. Thank you for your support and generosity.



Matt Megill Family

On Saturday, July 29, our church had the pleasure of welcoming Dr. Matt Megill back to NWPC to tell us about his experiences working in Niger, West Africa. Matt and his family have been there since 2008. Matt works as a physician, director of HIV and TB programs, and regional director. Tara provides educational support to their four children, Irene, Emmett, Alethea, and John, as well as serving the larger team.

In a region where less than 0.3% of the population is Christian, their work seeks to strengthen every step of the journey from darkness to light. The ministry delivers life-sustaining medications to over 1,200 HIV-positive beneficiaries, as well as critical medical care for cases as diverse as malaria and cancer.

As most patients come from villages with no Christian witnesses, Matt and Tara have the opportunity to share with many who have never heard the Good News. They also work with local pastors to strengthen follow-up and strengthen the country's vernacular Bible schools. This nation is one of the

world's 20 least-reached nations, and yet the light is breaking in.

Unfortunately, on July 26, the democratically-elected president was overthrown in a military coup by his own presidential guard. Since that time, international efforts have been made, through diplomatic means, to restore the nation and its 25 million people to its democratic government led by President Bazoum. The situation is still very tenuous and Matt asks for your prayers as the family is scheduled to return to Niger in mid-September.

Thanksgiving Food Boxes

The Deacons will once again be providing boxes of food for Thanksgiving dinner to those in need. If you, or a family you know, would like to receive a Thanksgiving Food Box, please contact the church office or one of the Deacons. Donations of turkeys for the boxes will be greatly appreciated.





Mission Committee Update

~John Linda Wagner, who have worked with Wycliffe Bible Translators in Mexico for nearly 30 years translating the Word in the Zapotec language

~Matt Megill and family, who have worked in Niger, West Africa for 15 years, with Mission to the World

~Locally we support the release-time religious education, where children are taught bible stories in the schools, once a week during the school year.

~Family Life Network (Christian Radio station) in Bath, NY is one of our long time missions

~Impact Christian Fellowship is a student-led interdenominational club started by high school students in nearby Jamestown, NY and meet during students' lunch hour. There is a group meeting at WAHS.

~Lastly, we give funds to the Blue Star Mothers who send Christmas Care packages to servicemen and women, to help with shipping costs.

If you want to learn more about the missionaries and groups we support, check out the bulletin board in the hallway outside the Nursery Room.

Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be offered again this Christmas season to be placed in the Sanctuary. These can be done in honor of or in memory of a loved one. The cost this year will be \$12.00 each. Order forms will be included in the bulletin in November and a form is also included in this newsletter.



Christmas Angel Gifts

The Angel gift ministry coordinated by the Salvation Army offers you the opportunity to help make a child's Christmas brighter. The names and gift requests will be available in November.

Church World Service

Enclosed in the newsletter is an envelope for the Church World Service Blanket Fund. We normally collect these funds in October but are giving all those who receive this newsletter a chance to contribute to this very worthwhile program that NWPC has supported for many years.

Just \$10.00 will purchase a blanket for someone in need, in the U.S. and around the world. Please consider supporting Church World Service in this important ministry.



Sharing Place

The Sharing Place is still here and serving hot meals every Thursday. From March 12, 2020 until July 6, 2023 we served only takeout meals. **Since March 12, 2020 we have served 10,340 meals including 35 sit down dinners in July!** We have not missed a single Thursday (other than holidays) in that period of time! But, we have missed that shared time of fellowship and community and we've missed working with the volunteers from the congregations.

If you recall, last year at this time I wrote and asked if you would provide desserts on a rotating bases. Our first "baby step" towards where we were in the "before days".

At the beginning of July 2023 we took a few more "baby steps". We began offering "hybrid" sit down dinners. Folks now have the option of sitting down and eating their meal in the company of others. The meal is still a takeout meal but we provide plastic ware and a beverage (we aren't quite ready to have volunteer servers and cleanup crews). To be honest, it hasn't caught on as quickly as we have

hoped but each week the number who choose to stay is increasing.

We continue to appreciate the desserts that you provide. Folks have been quite generous with their time and delicious baked goods so we are beginning to have enough to freeze for the occasional situation when a congregation forgets to bring desserts (thankfully North Warren ALWAYS delivers)! If you find yourself unable to bake something, don't feel compelled to go out and purchase desserts, we've got some in reserve and folks really appreciate the "home made" desserts.

Just to be clear, we are very happy for you to provide desserts. We just don't want folks to feel obligated to purchase something if they are unable to make something.

If you have questions, you can reach me at (814) 688-4911 or dwsnyder@westpa.net.

Thanks again for your support and generosity.

David Snyder
Sharing Place



Day Camp

It may take a village to raise a child but it takes a good Church to have a successful day camp. This year we had 44 campers learn about how **Great Are the Works of the Lord** through crafts, song and classroom lessons.

Monday, we learned about Elisha. Nancy Evertson taught us about making bread, letting each camper sample them along with flavored oils.

Tuesday, Susan Slater from the Warren Public Library read stories that connected in the the Feeding the 5000. She finished with a hot potato game.

Wednesday, Alex Watkins and Peyton Reist talked about first aid as we learned about the paralyzed man at the pool.

Thursday, Roger Sullivan talked about how he deals with being blind since the bible story was Bartemius. He even read to the campers.

Friday, we talked about Elijah and how he challenged the prophets before we had fun on Water Day.

Of course, who could forget our ice cream social? What a great time we had listening to the campers play the hand bells or chimes followed by a creamy dish of ice cream.

The Christian Ed committee would like to thank the following people for their help at day camp.

Coordinators Buddy Ward & Donna Caito

Pre-K teacher Gloria Lindell & assistant Becky Husson

Grade 1-2 teacher Marian Hartman & assistant Nancy Bullock

Grade 3-6 teacher Lynn Bricker & assistant Kayla Smith

Hand Bells Celia Gross & Sara Nickerson

Crafts Donna Caito, Denise Cederquist, Melani Decker, Philip Nickerson, Lynn Waepler, & Kaylynn Rickerson

Registration Mary Putnam & Lynn Collins

Snacks Dawn Thayer, Judy McElhatten, & Lois Marshall

Sound Booth Philip Nickerson, Kaylynn Rickerson & Drake Lawson

Check Out Chris McClellan

Recreation Ruth Morrison, Kaylynn Rickerson & Philip Nickerson

Lunch Judy Sweet & Lois Marshall

Playground Ken Bakewell

Helpers Anne Ward, Sara Nickerson, Jamie Caito, Drake Lawson, Brian Wood & Philip Nickerson

North Warren Presbyterian Church

200 S. State Street • Warren, Pennsylvania • 16365-4645 phone (814) 723-5060

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
<i>Penny Sunday 3</i> 10:00 AM Worship	<i>Labor Day 4</i> No School 6:00 PM Christian Ed	5	6	7 6:00 PM Deacons	8	9
<i>Regular Schedule 10</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	11 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:00 PM Community House	12	13	14 12:30 PM Ladies Luncheon Prayer Group	15	16
17 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee	18	19	20 First Day of Autumn	21 Sharing Place	22	23
24 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	25 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study	26	27	28	29	30

For a complete up-to-date view, visit our website at <http://www.nwpcchurch.org/events-news-and-lists>

September 2023

September Events 2023

Anniversaries

- Sept 02 Matthew & Lisa Such
03 Rick & Teresa Blumquist
03 Tim & Ashley Swanson
04 Kim & Kathy Wenzel
08 Rob & Melissa Port
12 Jim & Cynthia LaRusch
15 Paul & Lynne Goodwill (45)
24 Michael & Emma Jones
24 Tim & Bonnie Reynolds (35)
28 Patrick & Emily Emmett

Lay Leaders

- Sept 03 Heidi DeWald
10 Bill Gross
17 Gloria Lindell
24 Anne Ward

Sound Booth

- Sept 03 Philip Nickerson
10 Rick Blumquist
17 Drake Lawson
24 Kelley Wood

Sanctuary Flowers

- Sept 03 Mary Putnam
10 Rudy & Judy Rudolph
17 Beth, David & Suzie Neal
24 Sandy Billman family

Ushers/Greeters

Darrell & Carol Pusateri

After Church Coffee

- Sept 17 Ruth Morrison

Nursery Workers

- Sept 03 Gloria Lindell
10 Nancy Bullock
17 Amanda Knopf
24 Nancy Bullock

Birthdays

- Sept 05 Zariah Gardiner
05 Roxy VanOrd
07 Denise Bullock
07 Charlene Swanson
09 Carissa Smith
10 Daniel Jones (5)
11 Pete Engman
13 Barb Cook
14 Lynn Bricker
14 Cory Hockensmith
15 Sandy Billman
15 Natalie Lucks
16 Olivia Ashbaugh
17 Audrey Bakewell
18 Carol Hamilton
19 Rachael Lucks
20 Mark Ash
23 Riley Zaffino
24 Hobson McKown
27 Tricia Poston
28 Tara Hockensmith
28 Leyna Lawson
29 William Mahan

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
World Wide Communion I Penny Sunday 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Communion Worship Service	2 6:00 PM Christian Ed	3	4	5 6:00 PM Deacons	6	7
8 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee	No School 9 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 7:00 PM PFIE	10	11	12 12:30 PM Ladies Luncheon Prayer Group	13	14
15 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM Session	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee	23 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study	24	25	26	27	28
29 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	30 Halloween 31 Halloween in the Park & Trunk or Treat					

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October 2023

October Events 2023

Birthdays

Oct 02 Casey Ferry
02 Kendra Fuller
05 Nancy Grinnen
07 Marcy Engman
07 Akaruh Gardiner
07 Andrew Jones
11 David Zaffino
12 Amanda McElhatten
12 Anne Ward
13 Jordan Bullock
15 Keziah Port
16 John Cook
19 Sally Clark
19 Aldyn Poston
20 Chris Case
22 Michael Fiscus
22 Cole Johnson
27 Lynn Collins
29 Jim Swartz
30 Kris Soderberg

Anniversaries

Oct 05 Ron & Cathy Davies
10 Jim & Karen Ashbaugh
13 Dave & Danell Sowers
20 Gary & Dixie Brumagin
22 Jim & Cindy Fiscus (40)
22 Cade & Brea Poston
23 Bob & Sandy Goodwill
28 Jim & Ruth Morrison

Ushers/Greeters

Lois Marshall
Lynn Olsen

Sanctuary Flowers

Oct 01 Mark & Sheryl Ash
08 Kathy Whittemore
15 Marcia McKown
22 John & Donna Caito
29 Jean Swartz

Sound Booth

Oct 01 Teresa Blumquist
08 Philip Nickerson
15 Darrell Pusateri
22 Drake Lawson
29 Philip Nickerson

Nursery Workers

Oct 01 Susan Stout
08 Nancy Bullock
15 Amanda Knopf
22 Sooyje Gustafson
29 Nancy Bullock

After Church Coffee

Oct 08 Shirley Betts & Judy McElhatten
22 Nancy Bullock

Lay Leaders

Oct 01 Marcia McKown
08 Ruth Morrison
15 Celia Gross
22 Susan Stout
29 Bill Gross

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 6:00 PM Deacons	3	4
<i>Penny Sunday 5</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship After Church Coffee	<i>No School 6</i> 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:00 PM Christian Ed	7 <i>Election Day</i>	8	9 12:30 PM Ladies Luncheon Prayer Group	<i>Veterans Day 10</i>	11
<i>12</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	<i>13</i> 6:00 PM Community House	14	15	16 Sharing Place	17	18
<i>19</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM Session After Church Coffee	<i>20</i> 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study	21	22 <i>No School</i>	<i>Thanksgiving 23</i>	<i>No School 24</i>	25
<i>Christ the King Sunday 26</i> 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM COMMUNION Worship Service	<i>No School 27</i>	28	29	30		

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November 2023

November Events 2023

Lay Leaders

Nov 05 Gloria Lindell
12 Ruth Morrison
19 Celia Gross
26 Anne Ward

Sound Booth

Nov 05 Kelley Wood
12 Rick Blumquist
19 Drake Lawson
26 Philip Nickerson

Sanctuary Flowers

Nov 05 Caroline Bensen
12 Thanksgiving Table
19 Thanksgiving Table
26 Thanksgiving Table

Ushers/Greeters

Nancy Bullock
Marcia McKown

After Church Coffee

Nov 05 Bill & Celia Gross
19 Dennis & Chris McClellan

Nursery Workers

Nov 05 Nancy Bullock
12 Susan Stout
19 Nancy Bullock
26 Amanda Knopf

Anniversaries

Nov 03 Ian & Soojye Gustafson

Birthdays

Nov 01 Joann Stevenson
06 Karen Ashbaugh
06 Kelley Wood
07 Mary Mahan
08 Jim Morrison
09 John Dyke
11 Melissa Turner
17 Anna Parkinson
17 Melissa Port
17 Julie Ransom
18 Linda Swanson
19 Bryan Olsen
20 Judy Rimer Sweet
21 Brian Ferry
25 Sarah Wilson
25 Michelle Gray
26 Sandra Lee
26 Robert Swartz
29 Judy Grosch-Rudolph

World Wide Communion October 1

Christ the King Communion Service November 26

We will serve communion following
social distancing practices.



News from the Pews

Fall 2023



Halloween in the Park



You are invited to join us at the Dave Clark Pavilion to help pass out hotdogs and candy on Tuesday, October 31 from 5-8 pm or whatever day/time Conewango Township has trick or treating.

In this way, we can reach out in person to community members and share Jesus' love and encouragement.

In that spirit, we invite you to decorate your vehicle and participate in our Trunk or Treat in the parking lot.

Donations of candy are appreciated, so plan now to bring candy to the church. Please consider coming out that evening, perhaps in costume to help share with our neighbors!

Ladies Luncheon Prayer Group

This group of women from the church meets at 12:30 on the second Thursday of each month for prayer, a meal and fellowship.

Luncheon will be held on September 14, (hosts Shirley Betts & Judy McElhatten) October 12 (host Marcia McKown) and November 9. Please bring a sandwich. Dessert and coffee will be provided.

All women are invited to join us.

Adult Sunday School Class

Join us for a new adult bible study class, "The Discipleship Pathway", that starts September 10 at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall.

As every nation endures changes, crises, and catastrophes in uncertain times, we don't just need people to go to church. We need the church to go to the world.

Jesus sent His disciples – and He's sending us – to make disciples of others. But where, and how, do we begin? Join Anthony Delaney, ex-cop turned pastor, on a –week journey of discovery, deliverance, devotion, development, and deployment. No matter where you are, you can invite others to join you in walking the pathway as followers of Jesus.

Sharing Place Bakers

September 21. Donna Caito, Nancy Bullock, Susan Stout, Ellen Nelson, Ruth Morrison, Lynn Collins, Sheryl Ash

November 16. Lovena Rulander, Lynn Olsen, Lois Marshall, Mary Putnam, Sheryl Ash, Susan Stout, Ellen Nelson

Address Service Requested



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Published Quarterly

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Church Office Hours are limited.
Please call for an appointment

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U.S. POSTAGE
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WARREN, PA
16365
PERMIT NO. 67

Help Me Thanksgiving Day Prayer



*O God, when I have food, help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work, help me to remember the jobless;
When I have a home, help me to remember those who have no home at all;
When I am without pain, help me to remember those who suffer,
And remembering, help me to destroy my complacency;
Bestir my compassion, and be concerned enough to help;
By word and deed, those who cry out for what we take for granted.*

Amen!

Samuel F. Pugh