



**Minister**  
 Johnny Shirey  
 570-360-0085  
 jshirey@nccwmpt.org

**PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW YOUTH MINISTER AND HIS FAMILY, NATHAN BIERLY. NATHAN WILL BE STARTING TO SERVE MARCH 10TH!!!**

**Elders**  
 Jim Smithgall  
 570-777-0348  
 jsmithgall@nccwmpt.org

Fred Thomas  
 570-337-9438  
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**Deacons**  
 Jeff Ward  
 272-230-3513  
 jlward60@protonmail.com

**NEWBERRY CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWS  
 MARCH/APRIL 2024**

**EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE**

Son Rise Service 7:30 a.m. followed by breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at 8:30 a.m.  
 Worship Service 9:30 a.m.  
 No Sunday School or Junior Church 3/31

**BE SURE TO ORDER YOUR EASTER FLOWERS!!**



ENVELOPES ARE ON THE BACK TABLE AND ORDERS MUST BE PLACED IN THE OFFERNG BY **MARCH 3RD.**

**Sunday Worship Schedule**

8:30 a.m. Sunday School  
 9:30 a.m. Worship Service

**Worship Center**

2101 Linn Street,  
 Williamsport

**Education/Fellowship**

**Building/Offices**  
 2100 Linn Street  
 Williamsport

570-326-0731

**Office Secretaries**

Cheryl Lose M-T-W  
 Michelle Paulhamus W-Th-F

**Email**

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**DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD 1 HOUR BEFORE YOUR HEADS HIT THE PILLOW SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 9TH**

## MARCH/APRIL SERVICE SCHEDULES

### Nursery 9:30 am

Week 1—Merlyn Sawyer  
 Week 2—Anna Monks  
 Week 3—Diane Schlee  
 Week 4—Cindy Thomas  
 Week 5—Michelle Paulhamus

### Men at the Table

March—Ken Sawyer and John Shirey, Jr.  
 April—Daniel Lehman and Johnny Shirey

### Communion Preparation

March—Carolyn Savits  
 April—Liz Ward

### Serving Communion

March—David Craver and Fred Thomas  
 April—Jeff Ward and Brent Smithgall

### Greeters

March—Fred and Cindy Thomas  
 April—Bridget Lingle and Breona

## STATS

Date	Morning Worship	Children's Church	Sunday School	Offering
01/07	Church Closure	Weather Event		
01/14	90	11	22/4	\$5,158.57
01/21	98	10	17/3	\$3,057.00
01/28	98	8	23/3	\$5,368.20
02/04	90	9	16/3	\$3,467.00
02/11	110	9	21/4	\$3,028.00
02/18	104	8	19	\$2,894.00
02/25	102	9	4/10	\$4,444.00

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY 70+ YEARS

### March/April

Harry Miller	March 10
Robert Heller	March 17
Vernon Pettengill	March 17
Linda Engel	March 21
Chuck Libby	March 31

Carolyn Swartz	April 05
Rhoda Kiess-Long	April 18

## MARCH/APRIL EVENT SCHEDULE

### WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

#### Tuesday Morning

9:30 am-Bible Study-Ed/Fellowship Hall

#### Wednesday Evening (3 CLASSES)

7 pm-T2 Women's Group

Band of Brothers, and Wednesday Night

Group -Ed/Fellowship Hall

### PRAYER IN THE SANCTUARY

#### Saturday's

7 am

### MARCH SCHEDULE

#### Monday, March 4th

6 pm-Board Meeting- Ed/Fellowship Hall

#### Thursday, March 7th

Fresh Express 3 p.m.—5 p.m.

Ed/Fellowship Hall

#### Wednesday, March 13th

Quilting Club 10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Ed/Fellowship Hall

#### Thursday, March 21st

4H Club Meeting 6 p.m.— Ed/Fellowship Hall

### APRIL SCHEDULE

#### Monday, April 1st

6 pm-Board Meeting- Ed/Fellowship Hall

#### Thursday, April 4th

Fresh Express 3 p.m.—5 p.m.

Ed/Fellowship Hall

#### Wednesday, April 10th

Quilting Club 10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Ed/Fellowship Hall

#### Thursday, April 18th

4H Club Meeting 6 p.m.— Ed/Fellowship Hall

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

### 40+ YEARS

### March/April



John & Paulette Shirey	March 13	53 Yrs.
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Ken & Merlyn Sawyer	March 18	57 Yrs.
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Jeff and Liz Ward	April 24	42 Yrs.
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According to Johnny...  
by John Shirey

In our Band of Brothers bible study on Wednesday nights we have been going through Henry Blackaby's study "Experiencing God" which is a study on "knowing and doing the will of God." Certainly, discerning and obeying the Will of God in our lives is a vitally important aspect of the relationship we have with the Lord.

But what about those times when God's will seems to be leading us in a direction we aren't so sure we want to go? We all know **Jeremiah 29:11** which says, "**For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."**

And we have all read **Romans 12:2** "**Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is— *his good, pleasing and perfect will.***" Do we believe that? Do we really believe that God's plans for us are plans to prosper us? Do we believe that God's will is "***good, pleasing, and perfect***"? Do we believe that God's plans for us are better than any plans we might make for ourselves? What if the future that God's plan leads me into isn't one that I ever envisioned for myself, and frankly isn't one I am sure I want for myself? Can I still trust Him and be obedient?

When Janette and I lived in Kentucky I was driving one day as a huge thunderstorm was rolling in. It was a massive storm; the wind was blowing so hard it looked like it was bending the trees almost in half. As I was driving, I could see ahead of me, suspended right over the middle of the road, a black bird that was trying with all its might to fly against the wind in an attempt to reach the safety of a power line on the left-hand side of the road. But no matter how hard it flapped its wings it couldn't make any headway against the wind! What struck me as ironic was that there was another set of power lines running along the right side of the road, and if that bird had just stopped fighting, the wind would have carried the bird to exactly where it needed to go.

Immediately the thought struck me, "*Isn't that like us when the Holy Spirit is trying to take us in a direction that we're not sure we want to go?*" Several places in scripture the Holy Spirit is spoken of in connection with wind, (**John 3:8, Acts 2:1-4**) but there are times when we can be like that bird...we struggle and resist the Spirit's conviction and leading and we end up getting nowhere! However, if we would just stop resisting, and submit to the Lord, allowing His Spirit to direct us, He will take us where we truly need to go...even if we didn't know we needed to go there!

Obviously, I don't know where or how the Holy Spirit might be leading you... However, what I do know is that His will is "***good, pleasing, and perfect.***" His plans for you are "*plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*" Yes, following the leading and conviction of the Spirit may require sacrifice, but those sacrifices will be worth it! God's promises are absolutely certain, and he promises us in **Psalms 37:4-5** **4 "Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this"**

So let me encourage each of us not to resist the Spirit's leading in our life. The direction He is taking you might not be where you would have chosen to go but, in the end, you will find that He is taking you exactly where you needed to be!

In Christ, Johnny

“Nothing is certain except death and taxes” is a phrase that is usually attributed to Benjamin Franklin from a 1789 letter. In the world, nothing can be a certainty, except possibly death and taxes as we can attest to. We know however, that there is more to be certain about because we are citizens of a heavenly kingdom. (Refer to \*Psalm 23:1 and Romans 8:38-39)

Soon we will be celebrating Jesus’ resurrection. Consider this certainty, that we know Jesus left Heaven and all His glory to come to live among men. He came specifically to taste death willingly. He did this in our place as a sacrifice to redeem us by paying the price for our sins, covering them by His shed blood. We know also because He defeated death, that when we are obedient to Him, He lives in us by His Spirit who helps us live empowered daily for Him. \*Acts 2:38 “Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”

\*John 16:13 – “But when He, the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.” (Refer to \*John 14:26 and \*Romans 8:26 as well) What “good news” we have!

Think too, on a second certainty, that Satan is always working to pull us from our redemptive state. \*1 Peter 5:8 “Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.” Remember he even went after Jesus! (See \*Matthew 4:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13) Jesus was tempted by Satan in every way that we are tempted. (\*Hebrews 4:14-16) When you are battling Satan take heart brothers and sisters, for you know that each and every battle with your obedience belongs to the LORD! Psalm 46:10\* “Cease striving and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.” (See also \*2 Chronicles 20:17; \*Psalm 3:3, 8; and \*Proverbs 21:29-31) Do you see it? There is an extraordinary, wonderfully beautiful promise our Heavenly Father gives to us when we abide in Him! Ponder the great news and promises we have been given by Jesus’ victory as you approach this Easter holiday.

Fred Thomas

\*All verses quoted from New America Standard 1995



## Easter Week Devotional

There will be a devotional available for each church family to share during the Easter Week holiday. They include a daily scripture and commentary about the events surrounding Easter, written by various members of our congregation. Please remember to pick one up starting March 10th from the greeters or at the 1st floor elevator entrance.



## UPCOMING EVENTS AND REMINDERS

**ATTENTION LADIES!!!! SAVE THE DATE!**  
SISTER TO SISTER DAY RETREAT WITH JULIE NEVEL. A SPECIAL DAY OF  
WORSHIP, TEACHING AND FELLOWSHIP FOR THE WOMEN OF NCC.  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO MARCH 3RD !!!!!**



### **EASTER SCAVENGER HUNT—PALM SUNDAY—MARCH 24TH**

There will be a Scavenger Hunt for the Junior Church children (K–4th) and Junior Church (5th–8th) immediately following morning worship in the Ed/Fellowship Hall. Please plan to have your children attend this fun event.

### **SON RISE BREAKFAST**

A breakfast is planned in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the Sunrise service on Easter morning. Please plan to attend and celebrate the Good News of Christ's resurrection with your church family!

**HE IS ALIVE!!!!**

### **SECURITY / REPAIRS**

- Please check all external doors when leaving our buildings to be sure they have locked or been locked when you exit.
- If you have any maintenance requests, please fill out a work order form and drop it at the church office or to Jeff Ward.

### **WORSHIP TEAM**

If you can sing or play an instrument and would be interested in being part of the worship team, please contact Steve Lingle at 717-513-7245

### **DIRECTORY INFORMATION UPDATE**

If you haven't yet filled out the form to update your church records, please do so at your earliest convenience. This information is necessary for us to update our Servant Keeper System. Even if you feel you haven't changed anything we'd still like to have a form from you to confirm our current entries. Place your form (located on the back table) in the collection basket at the rear of the sanctuary or drop them at the church office.

**LINN STREET KEY INVENTORY.....**we are asking any members of our congregation who possess keys to any of our Linn Street facilities to fill out the Key ID form on the back table and place it in the collection basket or drop it at the office. An inventory of all keys is being constructed currently. The safety and security of our congregation and our buildings is imperative. Thank you for your cooperation!

### **WINTER WEAR PROJECT**

The youth of NCC are continuing to collect new scarves, hats and gloves of all sizes to distribute to those in need for the cold weather that lies ahead.

A collection bin will be located in the coffee café area.

We appreciate your support in spreading the warmth of our Christian love this winter season to those in need.

Now is the perfect time to catch the sales to get great buys on winter clearance items.

### **GREAT EXPECTATIONS MINISTRY**

**SAINTS ALIVE** group is collecting baby items for the Expectations Ministry of Williamsport again. The collection bin will be in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor coffee area. A list of items required will be on the sign up table in the vestibule. Please do not wrap.

**NEWSLETTER CHANGES.....**Our Newsletter is now available for viewing on our website. There will also be limited copies available in the back of the church. If you do not have access to a computer and would still like a printed copy, please advise either Michelle or Cheryl in the office.

**CHECK US OUT.....**

**ON FACEBOOK.....** at Newberry Church of Christ

**OUR WEBSITE.....**[WWW.NCCWMPT.ORG](http://WWW.NCCWMPT.ORG)

**YOU TUBE....**[NEWBERRY CHURCH OF CHRIST](http://NEWBERRYCHURCHOFCHRIST)

## **Sunday School Classes**

TWO ADULT CLASSES ARE AVAILABLE EACH SUNDAY MORNING IN THE ED/FELLOWSHIP BUILDING BEGINNING AT 8:30 A.M.

**FIRST FLOOR “MUSTARD SEED CLASS”** IS STUDYING THE BOOK OF JAMES WITH DAN LEHMAN LEADING THE STUDY. THIS STUDY IS EXPECTED TO WRAP UP END OF MARCH.

**SECOND FLOOR “PAIRS AND SPARES CLASS”** JOHN SHIREY IS LEADING THE CLASS IN A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION. IT WILL BE A CHAPTER BY CHAPTER STUDY WITH STUDY MATERIAL HANDOUTS. THERE WILL BE READING AND STUDY QUESTIONS TO BE COMPLETED DURING THE WEEK BY PARTICIPANTS WITH DISCUSSION THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY. THIS STUDY WILL LAST 13 WEEKS. ESTIMATED DATE OF COMPLETION IS APRIL 14TH (WITH A PAUSE FOR EASTER SUNDAY)

## **JUNIOR CHURCH WINTER SESSIONS\***

The Elementary class (Grades 1-4) will be studying the Old Testament story of God's chosen people, Moses and the Ten Commandments.

A Tween class (Grades 5-8) will begin a Bible Quest program, learning bible skills, timelines and Old Testament history.

## **JUNIOR CHURCH SPRING SESSIONS\***

Classes (K-4th) will be celebrating New Testament Heroes of faith.

Introducing the brave characters that followed Jesus' examples and continued His mission of telling others of the coming kingdom as well as studying what makes someone a true hero.

*\*Junior Worship classes meet downstairs in the church during the worship hour and children are dismissed from their families following communion. Please consider inviting the children, grandchildren and family friends in your life for these interesting and intriguing new programs.*

## **WINTER CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS\***

A children's Sunday School program for kids in Grades 1-8 is being held at 8:30 a.m.

The children participate in a construction study of Jerusalem during the time of Christ, forming a 3D model of the city. They have been learning about Christ's ministry and how important Jerusalem is to God and his people. Each week they have been adding a new section to the display.

***The Unveiling*** of this 3D model for public viewing will occur Easter Sunday in the lower entry hall outside the elevator. We hope the church family enjoys this representation and it adds to your Easter holiday experience.

## **SPRING CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS\***

A new program will begin for children ages K-8th grade in April and May. The "**THIS IS YOUR LIFE**" class will introduce the children to several of the adults in their church family and the many services they perform for the Newberry Church of Christ. The young people will also be studying how they can become involved in serving the church and the community around us as well.

*\*Sunday School begins at 8:30 a.m. until 9:20 a.m. These are in the church downstairs classroom.*

MARCH FRESH  
EXPRESS

THURSDAY

MARCH 7TH  
3-5 PM



APRIL FRESH  
EXPRESS

THURSDAY

APRIL 4TH  
3-5 PM

**Fresh Express/Food Pantry???** There have been questions about the difference?

The **Fresh Express** is just once a month on the first Thursday. The **Food Pantry** is considered emergency food and is available Monday-Friday. Both are no cost to the public. Both are available to anyone in the congregation and the public. There are no income requirements. **Fresh Express** does not cost the Church anything. Food is donated by Pa. Food Bank. The **Food Pantry** is a minimal cost to the Church through the PA Food Bank, we also can use the extra food from the Fresh Express. The **Food Pantry** also gets donations from you, the Congregation. If you have any questions about these programs, please feel free to ask Mary Miles, Pat Bryan, Michelle Paulhamus, Cheryl Lose, or one of the Elders....

**We are in need of non-perishable items for our food pantry.**

Peanut Butter  
Jelly  
Hamburger Helper  
Macaroni and Cheese  
Canned Vegetables  
Canned Soups  
Snack Size Puddings, Fruits and Jellos

**Please contact the office if you have items you'd like to drop off.**