



PRAY
FOR
OUR
CHILDREN



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

Youth Minister
Nathan Bierly
505-879-0518
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Elders
Jim Smithgall
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Fred Thomas
570-337-9438
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Deacons
Jeff Ward
272-230-3513
jlward60@protonmail.com

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 T-W
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**NEWBERRY CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWS
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2025**

DATES TO REMEMBER

WORK DAY

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH
8 A.M.— ??????**

If you have noticed something in need of repair, please fill out a work order and submit it to one of the elders/deacons prior to the work day. This will insure the materials are made available.

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

SEPTEMBER-Johnny Shirey & Jason Pettengill
OCTOBER-Fred Thomas & Nate Bierly

Communion Preparation

SEPTEMBER-Carmen Fischer
 OCTOBER-Diane Schlee

Serving Communion

SEPTEMBER-Steve Fischer & Brent Smithgall
 OCTOBER-Jason Pettengill & Scott Lose

Greeter(s)

SEPTEMBER-Scott and Cheryl Lose
 OCTOBER-Bonnie Lane

STATS

Date	Morning Worship	Junior Church	Sunday School/ Youth Group	Offering
07/06/25	77	7	8	\$2,768.00
07/13/25	78	11	5	\$3,612.00
07/20/25	62	7	9	\$1,832.00
07/27/25	77	9	7	\$4,449.00
08/03/25	57	Youth Sunday	7	\$2,829.00
08/10/25	67	N/A	9	\$1,993.00
08/17/25	82	9	7	\$3,212.00
08/24/25	82	8	9	\$2,963.00

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

Tuesday, Mornings AND Wednesday Evenings

Ken will be starting a Wednesday evening study on Ephesians.

Johnny will also be starting the Tuesday morning bible study, no topic has been selected.

**START DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED.
 WATCH YOUR BULLETIN FOR UPDATES!**

PRAYER IN THE COFFEE CAFE

Every Saturday
 7 a.m.

NEW!!!!

Every Sunday

Beginning September 7th
 5 p.m.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY 70+ YEARS
 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER**

Richard Luse September 21st

Robert Schlidt October 12th
 David Craver October 15th
 Carmen Fischer October 15th
 Diane Schlee October 22nd

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY 40+ YEARS
 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER**

No September Anniversaries

Dan and Diane Schlee October 20th

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER SCHEDULE

**MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 8th
OCTOBER 6th**

6 p.m. Board Meeting, Ed/Fellowship Hall

**THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER, 4th
OCTOBER, 2nd
1:30—4:30 P.M.**

**COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY
VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED**

**SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 21ST
OCTOBER 19TH**

**DIRECTLY FOLLOWING SERVICE FOR ONE HOUR
CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY FOOD PANTRY**

**WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 10th
OCTOBER 8th**

10 a.m.—2 p.m. Quilting Club, Ed/Fellowship Hall, 2nd Floor

NOTICE

THE OFFICE WILL BE **CLOSED** ON MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS
TUESDAY HOURS WILL BE 8 A.M. TO NOON
WEDNESDAY HOURS WILL BE 8 A.M. TO 3 P.M.
THURSDAY HOURS WILL BE 8 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

OCC DONATION SCHEDULE FOR 2025

For the year 2025 every two months will focus on one category of items for the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. This in no way limits what you can get from the other categories, this is only to serve as a guide for donating items for the next church packing party to be held in November of 2025. Then as items are bought they can be held at home and brought in all at once, or they can be dropped off at the church downstairs with a *clearly* written label stating it is for “OCC SHOEBOXES”. I will then collect them and put them in storage until November. **As always, a family can decide to do their own shoeboxes at home and bring them in finished and ready to go in November. Thanks for being part of this amazing ministry to children around the world.NATE**

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Foam Ball
Kickball with Pump
Costume Items
Plastic Toys/Figures
Yo-Yo
Small Frisbee
Small Kite
Etch-A-Sketch
Doll with Accessories
Stuffed Animal
Small Musical Instrument

According to Johnny... by John Shirey

This Newsletter article is not new, I wrote it for a Newsletter several years ago, but after reading it again recently I felt like we as a church could benefit from hearing this message another time as well.

We are small-minded people. I'm not trying to be critical, and I'm certainly not wanting to be insulting to anyone, but we are small minded. We have too small a view of God. We have too small a view of who we are in Christ. and we have too small a view of how significant an impact our obedience to God and our service to His kingdom can have.

God called Abraham to come follow Him, and out of one man's faithfulness the Lord established a people through whom He would communicate to the world and eventually provide a Savior. When God called Gideon "mighty warrior" in Judges chapter 6, Gideon challenged that title. He did not see himself as God saw Him. However, through Gideon and just 300 other men God delivered Israel from the Midianite army.

Through one teenage peasant girl who was willing to be obedient to the Lord's call on her life the Lord brought into the world a Savior who defeated sin and death and now stands at the right Hand of God, interceding for us, and offering us salvation.

We have too small a view of God. And too small a view of what God can and WILL do through our faith and obedient service. Jesus said in John 14:12 "I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." Do we really believe that, or is our view of what the Lord can do through us by His Spirit just not that big?

Paul writes in Ephesians 3:20-21 "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, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." Do we really believe that the Lord can ...and WILL do "immeasurably more" than all we ask, or can even imagine according to His power that is at work within us?

If we really believe the word of God from Ephesians 3:20-21, then we need to believe that even the smallest acts of obedience, faithfulness, and service can and WILL have an impact of far greater significance than we often imagine.

In the grand scheme of the universe, adopting a child is not such a huge event. Yet, I have observed in my cousin's family that the lives of the children they have adopted, my cousins' lives, and the lives of many others around them are being transformed by this faith journey God has set them on and that they are being obedient to.

In the grand scheme of things, the Food Pantry ministry might not seem earth shattering, but every first Thursday hungry people are fed and experience the love of God through the Newberry Church of Christ, and the service of the volunteers working Fresh Express.

In the grand scheme of things teaching a Sunday school class, an act of Christian service, a financial gift to someone who is in need, 30 minutes spent in studying the word and seeking Christ, might not seem monumental... But we are small-minded people. We have too small a view of God. We have too small a view of who we are in Christ. And we have too small a view of the awesome impact we can have for the kingdom of God through "His power at work within us". Most often the impact we have on the world and the kingdom of God comes through small, seemingly insignificant acts of faith, obedience, and service. And while these things may appear inconsequential to us, through these small acts of faith and obedience and service, the Lord will use us to do "immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine."

So, what seemingly small (or big) act of service is the Lord placing on your heart? What act of faithfulness is He calling you to? What command or calling does He want you to be obedient to? How much of an impact will your acts of obedience have? I'm not sure. How big is your view of God?

In Christ,
Johnny

From the Elders

Let's learn from the Israelites! We know that God told them He would fight for them. We are told many times that God told the Israelites that if they would seek after Him first, they would be victorious in the battles they would be in. Joshua 10 teaches us exactly that. When God was put first and trusted by His people, they won the battles they fought. However, 1 Samuel 4 shows us that when they put their trust in themselves and chose not to believe Him, {not to believe in, but to just believe God} they would lose the battles they were in. The outcome: they did lose those battles. Our lesson? We must do likewise. We must believe God, not just believe in, but believe and our faith must have our added trust in Him.

Our enemy is the same as the Israelites had. While their enemies came in the framework of other nations, Satan was in the mix of all of that, and he is in the mix of every battle we face, even though he attacks each one differently and in ways he knows he can hurt us. We are told in I Peter 5:8 that the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

I have seen how a lion will seek out his prey to kill. They look for an animal which is alone and weak. Then the lion will attack that one who is alone and weak, and the lion usually gets his prey. However, if the animal that the lion is hunting stays with the herd and is not alone or seen as weak, it is much harder for the lion to get at him.

Our position against our enemy, Satan, is the same. When we are among God's kingdom family we are protected, but when we alone, Satan will see us as weak, on our own and he will attack to kill us. Remember who Satan is! He is the father of lies (John 8:44) and he comes to steal, kill, and destroy. (John 10:10)

Our armor (Ephesians 6: 10-18) must be worn not only in our personal relationship with Jesus as an individual but also as part of the community of God's Kingdom. This is how we make each other strong. Then by praying for one another and being together we are much stronger in the battles Satan tries to devour us with. We also need to always be aware that God is present with us daily. He will fight the battles against Satan for us, but we need to be with him and with the community of Kingdom believers. As the community of Kingdom believers we need to fight these battles together.

Other verses to study are: Romans 8:31; Philippians 4:10-14; Galatians 6: 1-2; 1 Thessalonians 5:11-18; Hebrews 10: 23-25. Be encouraged to read these verses.

Fred Thomas

HEY
KIDS !!!!!!!

A MESSAGE
FROM
NATE



Deep Thoughts for Younger Minds...

Change is in the air. You can feel it, smell it, and even taste it. Summer is winding down. Fall is around the corner. Pumpkin spice drinks anyone? Or maybe Christmas decorations at Hobby Lobby? Yes, life at this time of year feels like a rush, and there is no way to escape it. The vacations, the lazy days are now behind us. And whether they were last week, or last month, there is no getting them back.

But...

Yes, I said “but.” You see, while I will always reject the rush of the seasonal decoration isles at Walmart, and deny the cooling temps until the snow makes me change from my flipflops to shoes, there is a very real “but.” For six thousand years, time has moved steadily on. Except for a few miraculous events in the Old Testament, nothing has changed the ticking clock. We cannot stop it no matter how much we might wish for one more day on the beach.

“But.” Romans 8:28 – “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.” Purpose. Such a simple word and easy to miss. But this word in Greek can also mean to exhibit, like the shew bread in the temple. Or to be exposed before God. The shew bread was a continual presence in the temple, placed on a golden table, as a reminder of God’s presence among his people. It also served as a reminder of his power to always sustain those he called. It also laid, unadorned, or exposed before God as a continual sacrifice.

It can be easy to get distracted or even overwhelmed by Christmas decorations going on sale before the Halloween candy has even been handed out, or the Thanksgiving turkey bought. It can make us feel like time is flying, and we are always behind. There is no catching up because right when we finally get to Christmas, or reach our midterm exams, stores have put up Easter decorations, and teachers are talking about the next semester.

“But” we were made for a purpose. Our plans are laid bare before God. As the shew bread we are a perpetual sacrifice, pleasing and acceptable to the one who made us. And from the womb we were made with a purpose. An exhibition to the world as a reminder of the God who is always with us and will never leave us. As you head back to the halls and classrooms, or the store always three seasons ahead, remember to slow down. Time will not leave you behind, it has always moved at the same pace. And you are right where you are supposed to be.

So, what is my “but” all about? This. In the rush of our day-to-day lives, never forget you were made with a purpose. You are to live each day as if that day was to have some special significance to God’s eternal plan. Because it does. Will you save a thousand people from Hell? Maybe not. Will you ace that exam and eventually wind up in the White House? Probably not. But God’s purpose for your life is no less important to his eternal plan than that of Donald Trump or Elon Musk. “But” you must trust in his plan and be obedient to his word. For as the Teacher tells us in Ecclesiastes 12:13, “Fear God, and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.”

Sunday School /Junior Church/Youth Classes

PAIRS AND SPARES ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS will be continuing in the Ed/
Fellowship Hall first floor classroom beginning at 8:30 a.m.
The class is beginning the study of Romans.

YOUNG ADULTS SUNDAY SCHOOL
TBD. Watch the bulletin for updates.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS GRADES 1-8*

Sunday School will begin Sunday, September 7th at 8:30 a.m. until 9:20 a.m.

Children will meet in the downstairs classroom in the church.

We will be starting a new book series titled 13 Mistakes.....

JUNIOR CHURCH/JUNIOR WORSHIP **

Children will continue the Answers in Bible Curriculum series of lessons but with a more in depth focus on apologetics and a big picture overview of biblical history from Genesis to Revelation. This curriculum will teach children the truth of God's word as it relates to all parts of life and how we can trust its message for our day to day lives.

****Junior Church classes meet 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.**

NATE WILL BE TEACHING DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS

HIGH SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS***

We will be using the book series, The Most Important Thing You'll Ever Study. This will be a survey of the Bible starting in the Old Testament and working through the entire Bible. This will teach students to see how the Bible comes together into one overarching story. It is the Bible, the most important book they will every study. This class will be held in the Ed/Fellowship Hall, second floor left side at the back of the hall, the youth activity room.

*****Sunday School begins at 8:30 a.m. until 9:20 a.m.**

YOUTH GROUP

Sunday evenings 5 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

Senior Youth (High School Age) will start back Sunday September 7th, meeting at 5:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m., every Sunday evening for the duration of the school year.

Junior Youth (Middle School Age) will start back Sunday, September 14th, meeting at 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m, meeting **the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month** for the duration of the school year.

All will be meeting in the Ed/Fellowship Hall, 2nd Floor Youth Activity room.
Please come out and join us for fun, food and fellowship and bring a friend!

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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. 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.

Even if you are just visiting occasionally or a regular attender but not a member, please fill out a form. This will allow us to include you on mailing lists of special events upcoming.

BE SURE TO HAVE UPDATED EMAILS AND CELL PHONES LISTED FOR AUTOMATED NOTIFICATIONS OF CHURCH CLOSINGS AS THE WINTER WEATHER IS STILL A FACTOR.

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!

SECURITY / REPAIRS

—**PLEASE** check all external doors when leaving our buildings to be sure they have been locked when you exit. **ALL MEMBERS ENTERING THE FELLOWSHIP HALL SHOULD DO SO THROUGH THE LINN STREET FRONT DOOR. THE FUNSTON STREET DOORS SHOULD NOT BE USED PER THE ELDERS. THANK YOU!**

If you have any **MAINTENANCE REQUESTS**, please fill out a work order form and drop it at the church office or to Jeff Ward.

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
YOU TUBE....NEWBERRY CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**NEWBERRY CHURCH OF CHRIST
FOOD PANTRY**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH
AND
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2ND
1:30 P.M. TO 4:30 P.M.**

**THIS FOOD PANTRY IS REPLACING OUR FRESH
EXPRESS.**

**FOLKS WILL PARK IN THE PARKING LOT ADJACENT TO THE
CHURCH ON LINN STREET. THEY WILL ENTER THE
FELLOWSHIP HALL LOBBY TO REGISTER. ONCE REGISTERED
THEY WILL CONTINUE THROUGH THE HALLWAY TO THE
PREVIOUS FRESH EXPRESS PACKAGE PREP AREA IN THE REAR
OF THE BUILDING. THERE THEY WILL BE ABLE TO SELECT
THEIR FOOD ITEMS AND WILL EXIT BACK OUT INTO THE
HALLWAY TO THE LOBBY ONTO LINN STREET TO THEIR CARS.**

****ALL SHOPPERS MUST BRING THEIR OWN REUSABLE
SHOPPING BAGS.****

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING THIS PANTRY, YOUR
MONETARY DONATIONS WILL BE APPRECIATED. THEY WILL BE
UTILIZED TO PURCHASE FOOD ITEMS FROM THE PA FOOD
BANK. SPECIFY VIA NOTATION ON YOUR CHECK MEMO SPACE
OR A SEPARATE ENVELOPE MARKED "FOOD PANTRY".**
