

## NEWS FROM THE PEW

As I was reading the history the NPC and in particular the first few worship service in the “new” building. Several events stand out to me about our history and our future as the church of Christ.

First is the cost of the building. The estimated cost for the building was \$8,891. That did not include excavations, grading, hauling, plumbing, seating or the glazing of principal windows... ( I am fascinated that several of you told about your grandfathers helping with the excavations etc). The actual cost ended up being \$15,024.18. At the dedication service on June 6 and 7th, 1900, \$7,500 had been raised. By the end of the meetings the congregation was “encouraged” to raise the rest. Not only where there enough pledges to cover the full amount, but it exceeded it goal by a \$1000.

Second and maybe most importantly is something one has to read between the lines. Listen to these quotes from the first Sunday in the new building. *“The pastor and elders, therefore, assembled in the church at an early hour on that day and prepared themselves for the task of receiving the people and of **relieving embarrassments**.”* And *“ At the close of this service, everybody knew that **a long contest had terminated**, and had become history.”* (p 346)

*“Relieving embarrassments”, “a long contest had terminated”?* What in the world was going on? It seems that while many folks were in favor of this building and supported it through their pledges and hard work. There were at least four factions against it. We don’t know what was the oppositions were, but the good news is that it appears that folks were brought together with joy and enthusiasm.

What I get from these readings, is that even in the midst of division among God’s people, unity can occur. Jesus prayed this in John 17:23 “... so that they may be brought to **complete unity**. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.” Jesus prays for our unity. Not for our growth, not for our power in society. Not for financial security, Not even for a good pastor, But UNITY.

Even after erection of a new building the pastor and session in 1900 knew that the building would be nothing, if there wasn’t unity among the congregation. Unity in a church is key. But what kind of Unity? One where everyone agrees because you know you should or that you are told to do so? Nope. It is a unity of purpose that is higher than your own wants and needs. A unity that sees the bigger picture than brick and mortar.

CONTINUE ON PAGE 2



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Deacon Update .....	2
Our House Campaign.....	3
Life and Ministry .....	4
God Has a Plan .....	4
Brain Teaser .....	5
VBS .....	5
Youth Activities .....	6
Our Second Pastor.....	7
Heifer Kickoff .....	7
Mark Your Calendar .....	8

*So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

*Isaiah 41:10*

## CONTINUE FROM PAGE 1: NEWS FROM THE PEW

Jesus prayed for our unity in our hearts and focus on the will of God for our church. When a church focuses on this, no conflict can overcome it. We live in a very divisive time. It either I am right and you are wrong. Not matter the issue or project. We know that doesn't get us anywhere. I am glad that at NPC there is a sense and desire for unity. Yes, we all have our opinions about how the mission of church should be, but I have witnessed the desire for all of us to see beyond our wants to the calling of our Lord Jesus for the future of our church.

It is great to be part of a church that has been able to raise above divisions over the years to fulfill Jesus prayer for unity among each other. This is how the world will know Jesus' love for them.

In Christ

Pastor Howard

## UPDATE FROM THE DEACONS



Summer is flying by, but our work is never done. We are always here for the needs of our Church Family and Community. If you or someone you know is in need please reach out to one of the Deacons so we can help to fulfill that need. We are hoping to plan a soup fundraiser this fall. The Deacons initiated a new project this year by selling parking lot spaces for the annual Route 208 Garage Sale day that is held the second Saturday in August each year. They sold 9 spots. Our Special Projects group was also there to sell their crafts. Special thank you to the Hill family for all their help.

~Neshannock Presbyterian Deacons

---

*"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)*

---



# OUR HOUSE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



We have started a capital campaign to raise monies to make sure that “Our House” will continue to be a very fine house and to continue the call of John C. Bell to be a sign of unfailing help for the future, we are asking you to support. We have plans to update and replace several of the needs of our building. Projects will begin as needed. For example, the roof will begin shortly since it is a priority as will the stain glass windows.

Our goal is based on the bids we gathered for the projects. So we need to raise \$125,000. The “Our House” Campaign

will run until January 2022. The exciting news is that through memorial money and two estate monies, and other gifts, we already have enough to get the roof done and work on the stain glass windows. We need to raise \$62,500 to finish all the projects.

Here is a list of the projects:

1. Replacing the roof and carpet: The present roof has been repaired several times in the past few years and there is presently a leak towards the front of the building. It was last replaced in 1993. The carpet throughout the halls and fellowship hall is worn, stained and wrinkled. We are not sure when it was installed.
2. Repairing the stain glass windows and updating the landscaping: Several of our stain glass windows need repaired. The outer protective glass has fallen out and the lead in the stain glass is bending. The landscaping needs some TLC.
3. Updating the lighting in the halls and painting the sanctuary: The lighting in the rooms and hallways need updated to LEDs. The sanctuary was last painted in the 1970s and will match the changes that are upcoming in the Annex.

Please remember that the work renovating the Annex is a donation from Cynthia Magyary’s estate to be used for the annex project.

Please remember that your giving to “Our House” is giving above and beyond your normal tithe. You can give to the “Our House” Campaign several different ways:

1. Ear mark your check towards “Our House.”
2. Special envelope available at the church.
3. Go to [neshpresby.org](http://neshpresby.org) and click on the Presbyterian Foundation logo and follow the instructions. Ear mark your gift to “Our House.”
4. You can remember Neshannock Church in your will. Check with your lawyer or the Presbyterian Foundation for more details.



## LIFE AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

**PRAYER CHAIN:** If you would like to place a prayer request for the prayer chain, you are invited to do so by calling Sally Means at 724-657-3641.

**PACKING BACKPACKS & JOY:** The PB&J ministry to children in need within the Wilmington Area School District has resumed. **Our packing dates is October 26th and December 14th.** The packing takes about half an hour at the New Wilmington United Methodist Church. If you are interested please discuss with Pastor Howard.

**KIWANIS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:** If you want to give back to our community in exchange for all the blessings you have been given, please consider joining the Kiwanis. We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays each month at 6:30 in the dining room area of the church. Please contact Jim Schneider at 946.8733 if you are interested or you would like additional information.

**PER CAPITA:** The 2021 per capita is due to the General Assembly at the end of the year. It is based upon our active membership of 220. This breaks down to \$40.41 per member: \$29.06 to the ministries and personnel of Shenango Presbytery, \$2.40 to the Synod of the Trinity, and \$8.95 to the General Assembly ministries. Please identify your per capita contribution as your intention that it goes towards paying "per capita" on your giving envelope.

**BAPTISM:** We will be baptizing some children on October 24th. If you are interested in joining the celebration please contact Pastor Howard.

**BIBLE STUDY:** Pastor Howard will be starting up a Bible Study on the book of Acts. Look for more details about the study in the weekly bulletin starting in September.

## GOD HAS A PLAN

God has a plan for every man, each woman and child too.  
Believe me when I tell you, god has a plan for you.  
We may not understand it, or like the path it takes,  
But loving wisdom guides all decisions that God makes.  
Our human journey has joy and strife,  
That's just a part of earthly life.  
We should do the best we can,  
To love and serve the race of man.  
And pray to God when it's not clear,  
Or from our path we're ought to veer.  
Then God will help us stay the course  
Through Fatherly love not hellish force.  
So, when our time on Earth is through,  
And we've accomplished what we're born to do,  
He'll take us home with him to be,  
In heavenly bliss for eternity.

An original poem by Judith E. Both (October 2020) submitted by Sally Means

## BIBLE BRAIN TEASER

Submitted by Sally Means

In no particular order the answers can be found in the following books of the Bible: Exodus 19, Judges 4, Ester 2, Ruth 4, Genesis 25, 2 Kings 21, Luke 2, Genesis 37, Matthew 16

1. Who was the Jewish orphan girl who later became the queen of Persia?
2. This man became a wicked king of Judah at the age of 12.
3. This elderly prophetess, the daughter of Phaniel, spoke about Jesus in the temple.
4. Who was Boaz and Ruth's royal great-grandson?
5. Where was Jacob's son, Joseph taken when he was sold as a slave by his jealous brothers?
6. On which mountain did Moses receive the Ten Commandments from God?
7. To which Apostle did Jesus give the keys to the kingdom of heaven?
8. From what country was Hagar, Sarah's maid?
9. Who did Deborah command to defeat the army of King Jabin?
10. Who was the Israel's only female judge?

Answers will appear in the September 12th bulletin.

# KNIGHTS STORM THE CHURCH FOR VBS



Neshannock Church Family,

Despite the warm weather, we had an extremely “cool” week at Knights of North Castle, with approximately 35 Little Knights who spent the week in an icy wonderland learning what it means to Put on the Armor of God.

Each day, our Little Knights learned how Bible stories apply to their daily lives:

Day 1: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego Stand True—Armor Up with **Truth!**

VBS would not be possible without the love and support of our church family.

It is because of your

prayers, encouragement, labor, and donations that we can offer such an amazing experience for our children.

**Truth** be told, we could not provide this experience for our children if it weren't for you.

Day 2: David Defeats Goliath—Armor Up with **Justice!**

The Castle Guides and Station Leaders who guided our students provided a snowstorm of enriching experiences. They helped to defrost the Little Knights' minds, bodies, and creativity! These volunteers' love and generosity are never frozen, and they constantly provide an example of what it means to be a **just** and righteous person. I cannot thank them enough.

Day 3: Mary's Journey to Bethlehem—Armor Up with **Peace!**

Our Little Knights generously donated food to the City Rescue Mission as well as money to the Packing Backpacks and Joy outreach. The Knights learned that whenever they go out into the world, they can put on their Shoes of **Peace** and share the peace, love, and kindness of Jesus with others.

Day 4: Jesus Walks on Water—Armor Up with **Faith!**

Regardless of the theme, each year our goal at VBS is to help children deepen their faith in God, and nothing could freeze this mission.

Thank you for showing the children that having **faith** in God ex-

tends far beyond the week of VBS.

On behalf of the Little Knights, Castle Guides, and Station Leaders, thank you for your support of Knights of North Castle VBS 2021. In all that we do, we will remember to “Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power.” ~ Ephesians 6:10

Amy White, VBS Director





## YOUTH GROUP BACK IN ACTION

The youth group has jumped back into the swing of things this August by participating in a couple different activities. On August 8th they had lunch after church and then went to the borough park for activities and swimming.

On August 21st they volunteered for the Tour De Donut hosted by the Apple Castle. They handed out drinks, snacks, and donuts at two separate rest stops for bicyclists. The girls' handed out donuts at the Farmer's Market route with Hannah, while the boys were at Cox's Corner with Daisy and Mark. Amy and Dave White visited them at Cox's Corner because they participated in the 21 mile route. The routes explored the back roads surrounding areas of New Wilmington ranging from 10 miles to 43 miles.

Hannah and Daisy plan to have a fall party after the kids adjust to being back to school for a week or two.



*Youth Group Advisor Hannah Fulkerson with volunteers from left to right: Belle Roberts, Lily Coulter, and Kate Campbell*



*Youth Group Advisor Daisy Bowersox sits with volunteers from left to right: Jake Coulter, Garrett Campbell, and Shawn Hoffman*



*On the left: Church members from left to right: Kelly Hoffman, Amy White, Dave White, and Kelly's friend Terri Hessmann participated in the Tour De Donut.*

*On the right: This tree sat in the front of the church. Over the last couple years several large limbs fall down. The session decided to Richardson Tree Service cut it down for safety.*



## THE SECOND PASTOR OF NESHANNOCK

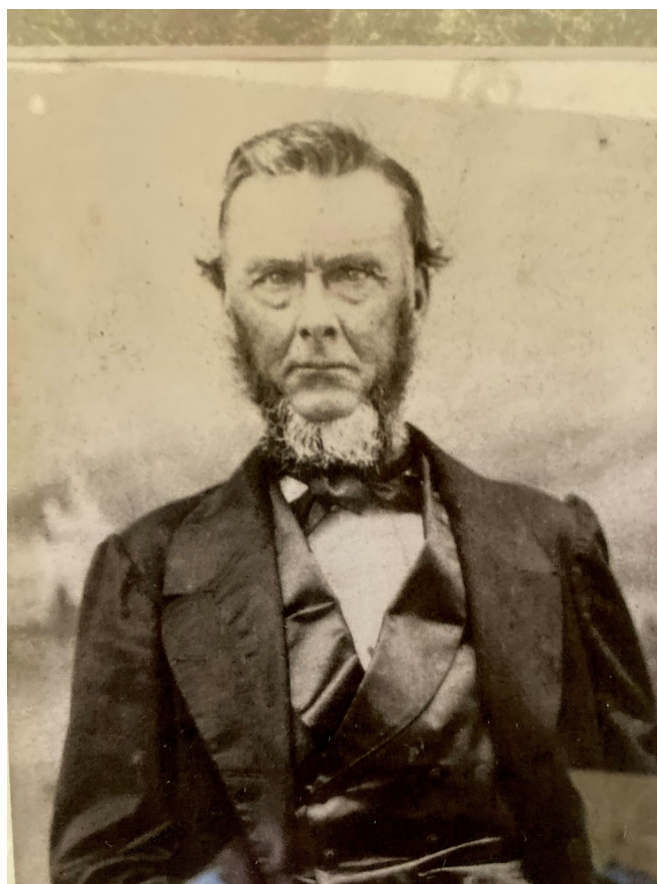
Rev. James Satterfield, 1769 – 1852, was our second pastor. He served here for 10 years from 1802 to 1812. He had a very full life as a pastor and farmer and family man. He was the fifth child of James and Margaret (Meed) Satterfield in Queen Anne County, Maryland. His father died and his mother remarried and moved to Washington County, PA.

James left home in 1790. (21 years old!) He exported provisions to New Orleans on a flatbed that he built. He made enough money to sail back to Baltimore where he visited family and friends. He walked back to Pennsylvania. He had time to wonder about his life and decided to go to school. He recalls that *“I felt something pressing on me that I should take the money that I earned and go to learning.”*

Like our first pastor, he studied under Dr. John McMillan and studied to be a minister. In 1800 he was licensed by the Presbytery of Ohio. After his time at Neshannock, he started different churches; one was Unity Church in Mercer, PA. He also bought 200 acres on the Shenango River outside of Wheatland.

There are two interesting facts about Rev. Satterfield’s pastorate at Neshannock, the first being that Neshannock and Moorfield *“almost forgot that they had ever promised him a salary.”* They thought that he was so good as a farmer that he didn’t need one?!? And then his theological views were a bit broad for certain members. He came under trial of the Presbytery for his convictions. It is known as Neshannock’s first heresy trial. Rev. Satterfield was released on January 14, 1812.

He outlived three wives. Polly died July 23, 1802. Ann Gibson, who was from Neshannock Church, died September 12, 1815. They had 7 children. His third wife, Sarah Mead, was born in 178. She is believed to be the first white child born in Pennsylvania west of the Allegheny River. He married Sarah on September 3, 1816. Sarah died May 22, 1823. They had two children.



Rev. Satterfield also started the Moorefield Church. When it was merging with a church in Sharon, he went to the service in November 1857. At 90 years old he rode his horse to Sharon for the service in bad weather and developed pneumonia. On November 20 he spoke his last word. He had hoped his work was trimmed and burning, like the virgins’ lamps in Matthew 25, and ready to meet the Lord.

Rev. James Satterfield is buried in the Moorefield Cemetery.

## BRUCE CAMPBELL MEMORIAL HEIFER FUND CAMPAIGN

It’s that time of year again! Beginning Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> and lasting through Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup> the Heifer Campaign will be in progress. Each year, Neshannock strives to fill the Ark by raising \$5,000, and most years our church has accomplished this goal. Please look in the bulletin, Facebook, or online during church for information regarding the campaign and how you can give your time and monetary donations.

If you have any further questions or suggestions please feel free to reach out to Bobbie Myers.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS: UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 12th at 10:30 AM: Outdoor Worship Service:** at Marti Park. Enjoy the fresh air as we praise the Lord. A catered picnic will be provided after the service.

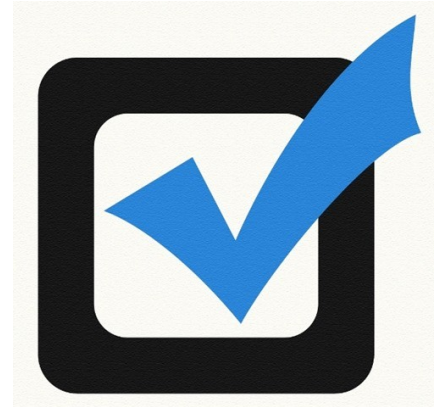
**September 19th after Worship Service:** Youth Group begins

**September 19th:** Tentative kick-off for Junior Church. More details will follow.

**September 22nd:** Anniversary of laying the cornerstone of the church in 1899.

**September 22nd:** Annual **See You at the Pole** at your local school. This event happens locally every year where students and parents meet at the flag pole of their church to pray for their schools.

**September 26th:** Celebration of 50 year members and dedicating of the new cross on outside of the church



Neshannock Presbyterian Church  
330 West Neshannock Avenue  
New Wilmington, PA 16142

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Phone: 724-946-2081  
E-mail: [admin@neshpresby.org](mailto:admin@neshpresby.org)

Church Office Hours:  
Tuesday-Friday: 8:00 AM-1:00 PM

August 2021

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE PAID  
NEW CASTLE, PA  
PERMIT NO. 168