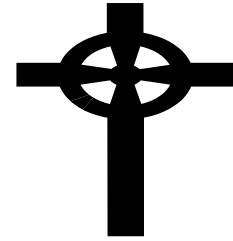
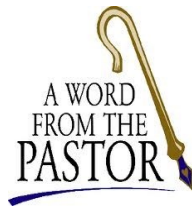


# The Fellowship

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Ebensburg Presbyterian Church  
June 2021



**Ebensburg  
Presbyterian Church**  
200 N. Center Street  
Ebensburg, PA 15931

Mission Statement:

*“Ebensburg Presbyterians are  
Christians giving help and hope to all  
by sharing God’s love.”*

Church Office Hours  
9:am-1: pm  
Monday-Thursday  
ebgpresby@gmail.com  
814-472-6920

**Worship Service**  
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM

#### Church Staff

Pastor  
Rev. Owar Ojulu  
ojh3o@yahoo.com

Office Manager  
Sally Kruley

Church Treasurer  
Kristine Segear

Clerk of Session  
Jim Stratton

Custodian  
Don Buterbaugh

Organist  
Melissa Douglas

#### Web page:

[www.ebgpresby.org](http://www.ebgpresby.org)

#### Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/Ebensburg  
PresbyterianChurch](https://www.facebook.com/EbensburgPresbyterianChurch)

*Jesus said to those Jews who believed in him, when you continue to embrace all that I teach, you prove that you are my true followers. For if you embrace the truth, it will release true freedom into your lives. If the Son sets you free from sin, then become a true son and be unquestionably free! Even though you are descendants of Abraham, you desire to kill me because the message I bring has not found a home in your hearts. Yet the truths I speak I’ve seen and received in my Father’s presence!” (John 8:31-38TPT)*

When he was in Jerusalem for the Feast of Booths, Jesus encountered the Jews and talked about the true meaning and lasting freedom. The crowd had mixed feelings about him. While some said he was a good man, others criticized him as if he was only deceiving them (John 7). They were looking for him at the festival and wanted him to perform miracles. When the festival was near the end, Jesus began teaching them and claiming the true meaning of the Feast of Booths—the Messiah! Rather the waters from the pool, which priests pour on the last day of the festival, Jesus promised an unyielding running water from the river of life. He invites everyone to come to him and he would supply running waters springing up to eternity—the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Also, Jesus warned the Jews of their inability to transform to a new reality and accept him as the promised Messiah. The Jews had held the law strictly and perceived Moses as their liberator. In doing so, they failed to see the new reality of God's salvific intervention through Christ Jesus.

In his teaching, Jesus encouraged the Jews who believed in him to abide in his teachings for freedom. That, true freedom, comes from embracing the teaching about the love of God for the world and his means to save sinners by faith through Christ. This is because the Old Testament only presented freedom from the point of view of social affliction but lacked theological concept. It was understood to be independence from domination and slavery. It is always physical and political.

For Jesus, freedom is more than being a descendant of Abraham or liberation from Egypt, or communal, but personal and theological. It originates from God and God's correlation effort to redeem humanity from destruction. It is freedom from sin, from obligations of the Jewish laws and from death. The essence of freedom is liberty, the spirit of liberty is a total ease of endurance.

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free (Galatian 5:1) and if the Son sets you free, you are free indeed! Truly, we are set free in Christ and continue to obey his teachings. We are separated, liberated, and saved by and through the work of Christ on the cross. Our salvation is guaranteed; there is nothing else we could do to obtain our freedom or secure salvation.

I thought about mask mandates and the recent announcement from the CDC. It looks as if the CDC has not set us free from wearing masks. The announcement itself was skewed as it gives partial freedom and is selective. They stated that you do not need to wear a mask if you are fully vaccinated but must continue wear your mask if not vaccinated. It lacks detail and is confusing.

But the truth remains. This limited freedom is intended to encourage everyone to get vaccinated to secure personal freedom from wearing a mask. They are saying that vaccinations are available, and nurses are ready to give shots should you wish to get one. It's an offer, like grace. God stretched his loving arms, but our decision to accept the offer is important. Even if it's far from the freedom Christ brought to our lives, our choice reflects our will. Like Jesus' crowd I am aware that we have many mixed feelings about this vaccine.

However, as your friend and your pastor, I encourage all of us to choose to be vaccinated (if you do not have any medical problem that prevents you from getting the vaccine). When we are all vaccinated, we will be set free from confinement and the inconvenience of masks. We will come back and sing our hymns openly without fear of the virus invading our sanctuaries. May this message find home in your hearts and mercy from God!

With Love!  
*Pastor Owar*

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## *Silver and Gold Honorees*

*On Sunday, May 30, 2021 we will be honoring these individuals on their milestones of membership in the Ebensburg Presbyterian Church.*

<i>Susan Makosy</i>	<i>55 years</i>
<i>Mary Lou Carlisle</i>	<i>55 years</i>
<i>R. Scott Magley</i>	<i>50 years</i>
<i>Aric Bracken</i>	<i>25 years</i>
<i>Clifton Harris</i>	<i>25 years</i>
<i>Kevin McKenrick</i>	<i>25 years</i>
<i>Douglas Weber</i>	<i>25 years</i>
<i>Jenelle Weber</i>	<i>25 years</i>
<i>Philip Brulia</i>	<i>1 year</i>

# *Pentecost Sunday*

## *May 23, 2021*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Pentecost, the birthday of the church, was celebrated with a joint service of the Colver and Ebensburg congregations on Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Communion was conducted. The combined choir sang Family of Faith and other music was provided by Melissa Douglas, Judy Carl, Sarah Kirsch and Meerjwok Ojulu. Readings from Acts in English and French and a video of sayings in many different languages about the Spirit of the Lord helped to tell the story. Many attendees wore red and brought red geraniums to add to the festive celebration.

Dear Church Family,

As we all know due to the uncertainty of the Covid-19 virus and everything it has brought on our community and our congregation, we were not able to conduct any youth program last year.

However, we are planning a summer Youth Group Program which will be meeting twice a month for now and will begin in July. The program will be for youth of our congregation and their friends, (who might be interested in participating), from Middle School to High School ages. The program will mostly be outdoor activities and Bible lessons.

Our first planning and brainstorming meeting will be on Thursday, July 1<sup>st</sup> at the Ebensburg Presbyterian Church at 6pm. This will be a welcoming evening with some activities, and will be serving pizza. Parents could come for pick up at 8 pm.

Please forward any input or suggestions to the church or send email to [ojh3o@yahoo.com](mailto:ojh3o@yahoo.com) and/or [mdouglas3144@gmail.com](mailto:mdouglas3144@gmail.com) text or call 507-304-5958.

*Owar O. Ojulu*

*Pastor, Ebensburg/Colver Presbyterian Churches*

*200 N. Center Street*

*Ebensburg, PA 15931*

*79 Reese Avenue,*

*Colver, 15927*

*Cell : 507- 304- 5958*

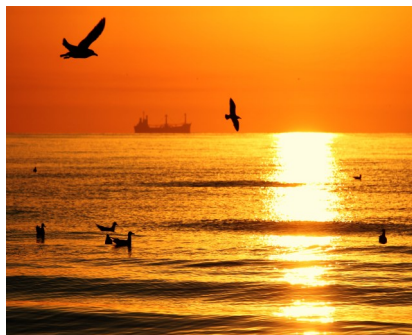
*"I have complete confidence in the gospel;  
it is God's power to save all who believe..."*

*Romans 1:16*

## **Reminder:**

**All orders and money for the Hoagies and Pizzas for the Organ Restoration fundraiser are due on Sunday, May 30th. Thank you for your continued support!**

# What's Happening...



## What's Happening

Session met by Zoom on May 12, 2021. After opening with prayer, the agenda was approved, and Book of Order training addressed Christian Education.

The Treasurer's report was presented and approved. We are currently operating under a deficit.

Committee reports included the following:

Budget, Finance and Stewardship reported that the church received forgiveness for the Payroll Protection loan. It was credited to 2020.

The Mission Committee sent \$400 to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for covid relief in India.

The Organ Restoration Committee reminded Session about the Applebee's and Hoagie/Pizza fundraisers.

Parish/Pastor Relations held a meeting and decided to hold a joint Pentecost service at Ebensburg and a picnic in August at Colver.

The Property Management Committee reported that they are setting up a laptop and camcorder system to improve the online worship services. They also mentioned accessing the outside water faucet for plantings. They also reported that the window frames need to be scraped and painted and they will get quotes for the work.

The Worship Committee reported that plans are being finalized for the joint Pentecost service and communion will be held.

All the reports were approved.

In Old Business the joint meeting for Ebensburg and Colver will be held in person and on Zoom October 7<sup>th</sup> at Colver.

In New Business, the summer schedule for Session meetings was discussed. No meeting will be held in June, but we will meet in July. Any urgent business in June will be conducted by email.

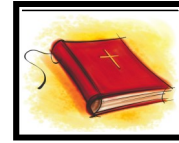
Rev. Ojulu presented the Moderator's report. While he is away pastoral needs will be covered by Rev. Alice Tondora (June 1-14 and 21-30) and Pastor Dave O'Hara (June 15-20). Health concerns with prayer requests for members of the congregation were mentioned. A meeting of the Ethiopia Mission Network was held on Zoom in May.

The Deacons organized a basket with gifts for Jamie and Matt Mazarella and their new baby Lena.

All the reports were received.

The next Session meeting is scheduled for July 14, 2021.

# Sunday Scripture Readings



## June 6, 2021

1 Samuel 8:4–11 (12–15)      The people demand a king; reluctantly, Samuel anoints Saul.  
16–20 (11:14–15)  
Psalm 138      I give you thanks, O Lord; all the rulers of the earth will praise you.  
2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1      If our earthly dwelling is destroyed, we have a home in the heavens.  
Mark 3:20–35      Jesus is accused of having an unclean spirit; he warns of blasphemy.

## June 13, 2021

1 Samuel 15:34—16:13      Samuel visits Jesse's sons and anoints the youngest, David.  
Psalm 20      The Lord will help the anointed one; God will fulfill your plans.  
2 Corinthians 5:6–10      We walk by faith, not by sight; in Christ there is a new creation.  
(11–13) 14–17  
Mark 4:26–34      Jesus uses parables about seeds to describe the kingdom of God.

## June 20, 2021

1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4–11, 19–23) 32–49      Armed with only a sling, young David defeats the giant Goliath.  
Psalm 9:9–20      The Lord helps the oppressed; the poor will not be forgotten.  
2 Corinthians 6:1–13      Do not accept God's grace in vain; now is the day of salvation.  
Mark 4:35–41      Caught in a storm at sea, Jesus calms the wind and waves.

## June 27, 2021

2 Samuel 1:1, 17–27      David laments the deaths of Jonathan and Saul, killed in battle.  
Psalm 130      Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; in your word I hope.  
2 Corinthians 8:7–15      Give generously to those in need; for our sake, Jesus became poor.  
Mark 5:21–43      Jesus heals a long-suffering woman and raises a girl from the dead.



If you need to contact Rev. Owar Ojulu for any pastoral needs below is his contact information:

Email: ojh3o@yahoo.com

Phone: 507-304-5958 (cell phone)

Ebensburg Presbyterian Church: 814-472-6920



#### EBENSBURG FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Year to Date as of April, 2021

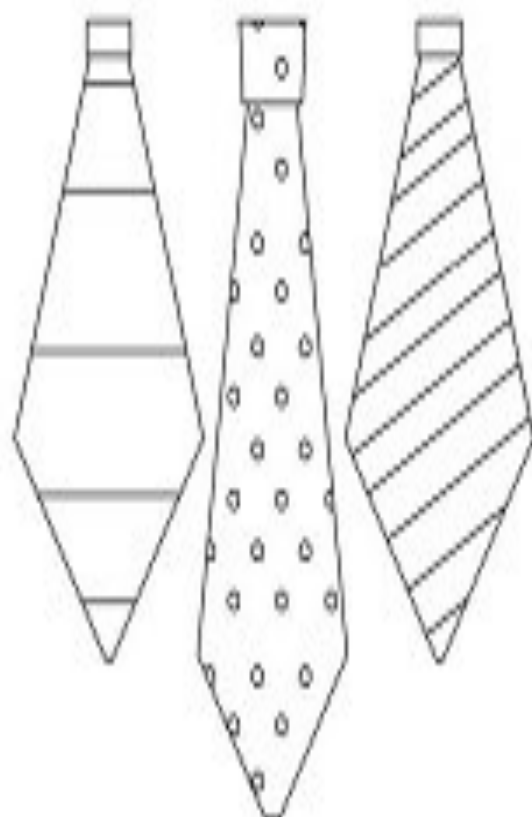
Actual Operating Income:	\$25,017.47
Actual Operating Expenses:	\$28,659.13
Gain/Loss:	(3,641.66)



#### 2021 Per Capita

**2021 Per Capita** - Our Per Capita offering, which supports the work of the presbytery, synod and general assembly, has been set at \$42.50. We are a connectional church, and we encourage you to submit your per capita as soon as possible! Just mark your envelope or the memo line on your check. We are then responsible for sending this full amount to the Redstone Presbytery. Thank you!

# MY DAD IS GREAT!







# Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

## June 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	2 <i>Voice Lessons— 2:30—3:00 PM</i>	3 <i>Voice Lessons - 3:00—3:30 PM</i>	4	5
6 <i>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i>  <i>Worship 11:00 AM Facebook</i>	7	8 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	9 <i>Happy Anniv. Bill and “R” McKim, and Duane &amp; Pat Mohney</i>	10	11	12
13 <i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</i>  <i>Worship 11:00 AM Facebook</i>	14 <b>Flag Day</b> <i>Happy Birthday, Claudia Gironda</i>	15 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	16	17 <i>Happy Birth- day, Rebecca Bracken, Kristy Forb- erger</i>	18	19 <i>NA Business Mtg.—9:45 AM</i>
20 <i>4th Sunday after Pentecost</i>  <i>Worship 11:00 AM Facebook</i> <b>COMMUNION</b>  <b>Father’s Day</b>  <i>Summer Begins</i>	21 <i>Happy Birthday, Dr. Scott Magley, &amp; Mary Lou Carlisle</i>	22 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>  <i>Happy Birthday, James Lyons III</i>  <i>Happy Anniv. Jim &amp; Jani Stratton</i>	23 <i>Happy Birthday Magdalene Bracken, Brooke Lyons</i>	24	25 <i>Happy Anniv. Jim &amp; Shirley Cassidy</i>	26
27  <i>Worship 11:00 AM Facebook</i>	28	29 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>  <i>Happy Birthday, June Fedora, Doug Weber</i>	30			

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