

The Fellowship

May 2024

The Monthly Newsletter of the Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

**Ebensburg**

**Presbyterian Church**  
**PO Box 327**  
**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  
Danielle Kendig

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:**

Ebensburg Presbyterian  
Church

All are invited!  
**PLANTING  
FELLOWSHIP**

Youth are invited to plant the Pentecost red geraniums on the church property and all are welcome to enjoy fellowship together outside in the church garden. Bring your favorite watering can and a hankering for cookies!

**MAY  
19TH**  
Immediately  
following  
the Sunday  
service



Many thanks to the volunteers who showed up on a rainy, windy April 17th to help with Spring Cleanup.

Both the grounds and inside are sparkling. ☺



# From Pastor Danielle's Desk

Grace and peace be with you!

I have so enjoyed getting to know many of you already! I look forward to getting the chance to get to know more of you as time goes on. From the bottom of my heart, thank you! Thank you for welcoming me and my family so warmly here at Ebensburg Presbyterian Church. Thank you to those who have helped me immensely to find my footing and learn the 'ins and outs'. I am settling in well and it has been a wonderful experience thus far! As we embark on this new month together, may we be reminded of God's faithfulness and abiding presence in our lives. Let us continue to lift one another up in prayer, encourage one another in love, and serve one another with humility and grace.

Pentecost is approaching us this month. I am filled with a profound sense of awe and wonder at the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in the life of the Church. It is with great joy that I extend to you this letter of reflection and anticipation as we prepare to commemorate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and the birth of the Christian Church.

Pentecost holds a special significance in the Christian calendar, marking the moment when the disciples were empowered by the Holy Spirit to boldly proclaim the Gospel message to people of every nation and tongue. It is a reminder of God's faithfulness, His promise to never leave us nor forsake us, and His desire to equip and empower us for the work of His kingdom.

As your pastor, I am deeply grateful for the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst, guiding, comforting, and empowering us in our journey of faith. Pentecost serves as a timely reminder of the transformative power of the Spirit in our lives and in the life of the Church.

This month I will be preaching a three part sermon series on the beginning of the book of Acts. It will begin with the ascension of the Lord and will conclude as we celebrate Pentecost together. We will learn about how the disciples reacted to Christ's ascension. We will discover how they worked together to bring about God's glory in the land by preaching and healing. We will hear how they gathered together in unity, fervently praying for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit, in which God provided and thus began the birth of the church.

As we prepare to celebrate Pentecost, let us pause to reflect on the significance of this momentous occasion. Let us open our hearts to the transforming power of the Holy Spirit, inviting Him to move in our midst with renewed vigor and vitality. May we be empowered to bear witness to the love and truth of Christ in our homes, our communities, and beyond. I invite you to join me in prayerful anticipation as we approach Pentecost. Let us seek the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, asking Him to fill us afresh with His power and anointing. May we be renewed in our commitment to live lives that glorify God and reflect His love to the world around us.

As we celebrate together, may we be reminded of the ongoing work of the Spirit in our lives and in the life of the Church. Let us rejoice in the unity and diversity of the body of Christ, empowered by the same Spirit who continues to move and breathe among us.

We have so many wonderful things coming up. Be on the lookout for new happenings, such as the Planting Fellowship where our youth will help to plant the Pentecost flowers in our beautiful church Garden. We will also be gathering together to begin the workings of the Potato Patch outreach. I personally will be reaching out to the congregation members that are shut in or unable to make it to the services in person. It is of great importance to me to have the opportunity to meet all of those who have truly been a blessing in the life of Ebensburg Presbyterian Church. There are many things to be excited about, God is busy at work here!

Thank you for trusting me with the privilege of walking alongside you in faith. May we all continue to be a beacon of hope and a glimpse of God's glory as we journey together as one body in Christ.

With love and blessings,  
Pastor Danielle Kendig  
Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

## *What's Happening...*

The Session meeting, moderated by Bob Sheehan CRE, on April 8, 24 opened with prayer and a reading of Acts 20:22-24. Book of Order training was about ordered ministries: deacons, ministers and elders. The government of the Presbyterian Church is representative.

The Treasurer's report was discussed and it was voted to use funds designated as the Ardath Morgan Memorial, balance: \$2,248.56, to decrease the balance owed to the Capital Improvement Fund of \$9,213.90. (This is the amount remaining from the storm window project.)

Committee reports included the following:

The Discipleship Committee reported that 10 children enjoyed the Eggstravaganza on March 30. Thanks are extended to Kristy Forberger for all she did to make this a success.

Family Life scheduled a coffee conversation for April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Mission reported donations to One Great Hour of Sharing \$400 and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance \$200.

Communication reported that a letter was sent to all members and friends of the church affected by inadvertent disclosure of physical addresses.

Property Management is receiving bids for tree trimming. It was voted to conduct a Marianna's fundraiser for the general fund. A work day for church grounds is scheduled for April 27<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM.

The Worship Committee reported that Bob Sheehan will continue to moderate session meetings and serve communion as Danielle, a not-installed pastor, is not eligible. The next communion will be May 19<sup>th</sup>, Pentecost.

In Old Business, a contract will be provided for the position of Office Manager/Secretary to Martha O'Brien. We will welcome her in mid-May.

In New Business there were two items: A change of meeting date to Saturday May 11 for the Laurel Highlands NA business meeting was approved. Pastor Danielle Kendig will be invited to attend Session Meetings.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2024 7 PM.



## Kid's Potato Patch Project

Have you seen the famous potato bead necklaces from the Kid's Potato Patch held at our church during the Ebensburg Potato Fest? Well, those beads need to be molded.

We plan to meet at about 1:00-2:00 Wednesday afternoons in May until enough are made.

Please join us in the church basement if you have time. It requires getting your fingers dirty! :)

## A REMINDER ABOUT ONLINE DONATIONS

Our church accepts online payments through the Presbyterian Foundation in addition to gifts through regular donations either through direct donations in the offering plate or mailed donations. A give now



button is on the Church's website (<https://www.ebgpresby.org/>) at the bottom of the main page. When you click on the button, you will be taken to our donations page. From this page, you can create a profile or just make an online payment.

The screenshot shows a web interface for online donations. On the left, under the heading "Donations", there is a list of categories with input fields: General Fund (0.00), Benevolence (Missions) (0.00), Major Improvement (0.00), Organ Fund (0.00), and First Fruits (Per Capita) (0.00). Below these is a "Total:" field showing \$0.00. There is also a "Donation Frequency" dropdown menu set to "Choose One" and a "Donation Start Date" field set to 01/19/21. A "Continue" button is at the bottom of this section. On the right, under the heading "Log In", there are input fields for "Email address" and "Password". Below these is a link "Forgot your Email Address or Password?". At the bottom of the log in section are two buttons: "Log In" and "Create Profile".

If you click “create profile”, you will enter your email address twice and click “Create Profile”. You will be directed to the “Profile” page. Enter your personal information and a password you would like to use. Click the Create Profile button.

The screenshot shows the "Create Profile" page. On the left, under the heading "Create Profile", there is a text prompt: "Enter a valid email address below. This will be used as your User ID." Below this are two input fields for "Email Address:" and "Confirm Email Address:". A red asterisk and the word "required" are next to the second field. A blue "Create Profile" button is at the bottom. On the right, under the heading "Privacy Notice", there is a paragraph of text explaining that the page is hosted by Vanco Services, LLC, and that the information provided will be used to process transactions and will be safeguarded. At the bottom left of the page, there is a link for "Privacy & Security".

The screenshot shows the "Profile" page. It contains several input fields for personal information: "First Name:", "Last Name:", "Address 1:", "Address 2:", "City:", "Country:" (with a dropdown menu set to "UNITED STATES - US"), "State:", "Zip:", "Phone Number:", "Email Address:", and "Confirm Email Address:". Below these are two more input fields for "Enter Password" and "Re-Enter Password". A blue "Create Profile" button is at the bottom right.

Once logged into your personal page, you can click on  to add a donation. You will select which fund or funds you want to give towards. We currently have 5 funds:

General Fund – this fund is used to pay our day-to-day expenses for running the church including paying the Pastor, Secretary, Custodian and all the normal utility bills and general maintenance of the church.

Benevolence (Missions) – this fund is used to provide money toward local mission work (e.g. Salvation Army, Food Pantry, helping families in need, etc.) or domestic and international missions through either the Presbyterian sanctioned Missions or other related organizations (e.g. One Great Hour of Sharing, Christmas Joy Offering, Presbyterian Disaster Relief, etc.)

Major Improvement – this fund is used to make more substantial repairs or improvements to Church property. A recent repair was the replacement of the roof on the back section of the Church over the offices and Sunday school rooms.

Organ Fund – this fund is used to continue to support the process paying off the purchase of the new Organ and its future proposed enhancements.

First Fruits (Per Capita): this fund is given to the Redstone Presbytery since churches are encouraged to make a First Fruits Pledge based upon stewardship and our commitment to the larger church. Our 2024 suggested donation is approximately \$44.00 per member.

Your donation frequency can be set up to automatically pay this designated amount: one time; weekly; monthly; quarterly; or annually. You select your donation start date and then click continue. You now designate how your donation will be made: Checking account; Savings Account; or Credit/Debit Card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express). This information will be securely saved so it can be used for future transactions.

You can adjust your donations or how they are paid at any time by logging back into the system and changing how much you are donating, how often your donations are made, what account or credit card is being used, or even deleting a scheduled donation. You are in control of how and when your donations are made to the Church.

All donations made through this online system are forwarded from the Presbyterian Foundation to our church at least monthly minus a 2% administration fee.

If you are interested in seeing a YouTube video showing this process a little more, please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PAjqUxK8YRk>.

If you prefer using an app on your smartphone, you can download the GivePlus Church app from either the App Store or Google Play Store – look for **GIVEPLUS<sup>+</sup>**. The app will request the church's zip code (15931) and then you just select our church name (Ebensburg Presbyterian Church). Now you can access your account through the app in addition to the above donation site.

At the end of the calendar year, you will receive 2 giving statements – one directly from our church for those donations made directly to the Church and a second statement for all donations made through the online system.

Thank you for your continued gifts to our ministry.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to our Treasurer, Kristine Segear.

## From the Mission Committee:

The Mission Committee has answered the call to sponsor a staff member at Pine Springs Camp, as we have been doing for many years. This year we are glad to again sponsor counselor Ellyse Betler. We will send a note of encouragement to Ellyse and add her to our Prayer List.

If you wish to participate in this outreach, please consider donating something during May or June to be included in a shoebox of small gifts that we will be sending in early July. Possible items to be included in the box are listed below. **Please note that some staff members are allergic to nuts, so we should refrain from sending anything containing tree nuts or peanuts or that is made with peanut oil.**

Possible items include:

Cards and notes, small quantities of candy bars, snacks, or “fun items” **(Avoiding nuts, peanuts, and peanut oil)**

A \$25.00 gas gift card (Giant Eagle Get-Go is recommended, but another type would be fine.)

A \$25.00 restaurant gift card (Ruby Tuesdays, Eat and Park, Sub-way, Applebee’s, and Chili’s are all nearby)

Small devotional book or other spiritual encouragement items

We are all invited to send additional notes of thanks and encouragement through the end of the camp season, which is August 7<sup>th</sup>. Please address any direct correspondence to:

Ellyse Betler

Pine Springs Camp

C/O Maddy Duffield

P.O Box 186

371 Pine Springs Camp Road

Jennerstown, PA 15547

Thank you for your support!



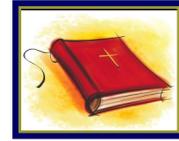
### S'mores fixings for Pine Springs Camp

We are collecting graham crackers, marshmallows and chocolate bars. The baskets are in the front of the sanctuary. We will take them to the camp on May 7th.



May 2	Matthew Feath
May 7	Lucas Taylor
May 11	Kayt Makosy Williamson
May 14	Owar Ojha Ojulu
May 18	Alec Bracken
May 21	Ojha Owar Ojha
May 23	Kevin McKenrick, Chase Forberger
May 24	Neil McKenrick
May 26	David Sowers
May 29	Sarah Elizabeth Segear
May 31	Jim Stratton

# Sunday Scripture Readings



**May 5, 2024**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Colors: White and Gold

Acts 10:44–48

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1–6

John 15:9–17

Gentiles receive the gift of the Spirit; they should be baptized too. Make a joyful noise to the Lord; give thanks for God's victory. Trust in Jesus, who came by water and blood, and be born of God. Jesus says: This is my commandment, that you love one another.

**May 9, 2024**

**Ascension of the Lord**

Acts 1:1–11

Psalm 47

or Psalm 93

Ephesians 1:15–23

Luke 24:44–53

Forty days after his resurrection, Jesus ascends into heaven. Clap, shout, and sing with joy: the Lord reigns over all the earth. The Lord reigns in majesty, high above the mighty waters. Christ is seated at God's right hand, above every earthly power. Jesus interprets the Scriptures; then he is carried up into heaven.

**May 12, 2024**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Colors: White and Gold

Acts 1:15–17, 21–26

Psalm 1

1 John 5:9–13

John 17:6–19

Matthias is chosen as one of the twelve apostles, replacing Judas. Happy are those who delight in the law of the Lord. Whoever believes in the Son of God has the gift of eternal life. Jesus prays for the protection and sanctification of his followers.

**May 19, 2024**

**Day of Pentecost**

Color: Red

Acts 2:1–21

or Ezekiel 37:1–14

Psalm 104:24–34, 35b

Romans 8:22–27

or Acts 2:1–21

John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15

On the day of Pentecost, God pours out the Spirit upon the earth. In a valley of dry bones, Ezekiel has a vision of hope for Israel. The Lord of creation sends forth the Spirit to renew the earth. Creation groans in labor pains; the Spirit intercedes for us. On the day of Pentecost, God pours out the Spirit upon the earth. Jesus promises: I will send you an Advocate, the Spirit of truth.

**May 26, 2024**

**Trinity Sunday**

Color: White

Isaiah 6:1–8

Psalm 29

Romans 8:12–17

John 3:1–17

Isaiah has a vision of the Lord and cries: Here I am; send me! In the wilderness and in the temple, give glory to the Lord. By the Spirit we are children of God and joint heirs with Christ. We must be born of the Spirit; God sent the Son to save the world.

## Preaching Plan for May 2024

May 5<sup>th</sup>- Sixth Sunday of Easter: Sermon Title- “The One Who Conquered the World’

Psalm 98  
1 John 5:1–6

May 9<sup>th</sup>- Ascension of the Lord: Sermon Series Part 1- “It is Not for You to Know”

Psalm 47  
Acts 1:1–11

May 12<sup>th</sup>- Seventh Sunday of Easter: Sermon Series Part 2- “Working Behind the Scenes”

Psalm 1  
Acts 1:15–17, 21–26

May 19<sup>th</sup>- ***Day of Pentecost***: Sermon Series Part 3- “Did That *Really* Happen?”

Psalm 51:10-17  
Acts 2:1–21

May 26<sup>th</sup>- Trinity Sunday: Sermon- “Total VIP Access”)

Psalm 29  
Romans 5:1-5

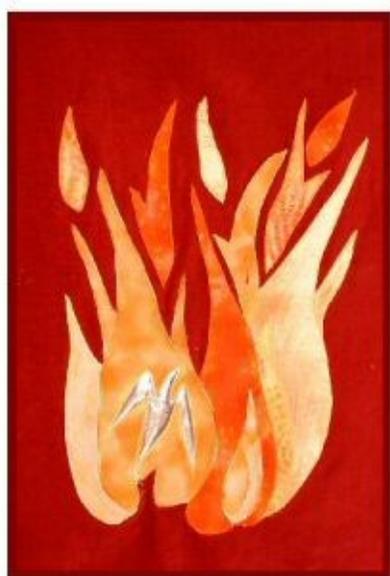
*If you would like to help us celebrate Pentecost, please bring a red geranium, with you on Sunday May 19 th. Then stay after church to plant the flowers and enjoy cookies and a beverage.*



If you need to contact Pastor Danielle Kendig for any pastoral needs below is her contact information: For anyone on social media, Pastor Danielle Kendig can be found online on Facebook and Instagram. Feel free to “Add” or “follow” her.

Email : [danielleakendig@gmail.com](mailto:danielleakendig@gmail.com)

Ebensburg Presbyterian Church: 814-472-6920



## ***Pentecost***

### **New Office Hours:**

**Monday 9:30-3:00**

**Wednesday 9:30—3:00**

### **EBENSBURG FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

**Year to Date as of April 6, 2024**

**Actual Operating Income: \$ 17,775.46**

**Actual Operating Expenses: \$ 22,116.59**

**Gain/Loss: (\$ 4,341.13)**



#### **2024 Per Capita**

**2024 Per Capita** - Our Per Capita offering, which supports the work of the presbytery, synod and general assembly, has been set at **\$44.00**. 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!

# May 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2	3	4
			Potato Patch Prep 1-2 pm	National Day of Prayer <i>Happy Birthday,</i> Matthew Feath		
5 <i>Worship 11:00 AM &amp; Facebook</i> <i>Boy Scouts - 6:00 - 8:00 pm</i>	6	7 <i>Happy Birthday, Lucas Taylor</i> <b>Redstone PW Spring Retreat</b> <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	8 <i>Happy Anniv. Becky Carlin &amp; Ralph Shuey</i>  <i>Potato Patch Prep 1-2 pm</i>	9 <b>Ascension of the Lord</b>	10	11 <i>Happy Birthday, Kayt Makosy Williamson</i>  <i>NA Business Meeting - 9:45 AM</i>
12 <i>Worship 11:00 AM &amp; Facebook</i> <b>Mother's Day</b> <i>Boy Scouts - 6:00 - 8:00 pm</i>	13 <b>Session—7 PM</b>	14 <i>Happy Birthday, Owar Ojha</i> <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	15  <i>Potato Patch Prep 1-2 pm</i>	16	17	18  <i>Happy Birthday Alec Bracken</i>
19 <i>Worship 11:00 AM &amp; Facebook</i> <b>PENTECOST Communion</b> Planting Fellowship <i>Boy Scouts - 6:00 - 8:00 pm</i>	20	21 <i>Happy Birthday, Ojha Owar Ojha</i>  <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	22  <i>Potato Patch Prep 1-2 pm</i>	23 <i>Happy Birthday, Kevin McKerrick, Chase Forberger</i>	24 <i>Happy Birthday, Neil McKerrick</i>	25
26 <i>Worship 11:00 AM &amp; Facebook</i>  <i>Happy Birthday, David Sowers</i>  <i>Boy Scouts - 6:00 - 8:00 pm</i>	27	28 <i>Happy Anniv. Roger &amp; Laura McGill</i> <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	29 <i>Happy Birthday, Sarah Elizabeth Segear</i>  <i>Potato Patch Prep 1-2 pm (if needed)</i>	30  <i>Happy Anniv. Barry &amp; Kris Segear</i>	31  <i>Happy Birthday, Jim Stratton</i>	

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