

The Fellowship

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

June 2023

**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
Rev. Owar Ojulu
ojh3o@yahoo.com

Church Treasurer
Kristine Segear

Clerk of Session
Jim Stratton

Custodian
Don Buterbaugh

Organist
Melissa Douglas

Web page:

www.ebgpresby.org

Facebook page:

www.ebgpresby.org

Friends, summer is here finally after that long winter with snow and cold. Early spring the weather wasn't great either. It kept swinging back and forth. As always, summer is a season of enjoyable times with families; a season for vacations, and a moment where we resume our favorite hobbies. A season we take on new tasks where we challenge ourselves or travel to new locations.

Personally, I am challenging myself this summer. I have been wanting to have my own vegetable garden since I came to America. I couldn't wait for the day when I'd have a plot of land and could start growing vegetables, and perhaps raise some sheep, goats and chickens—which is totally different level of commitment than what we have in Africa. Therefore, I am taking on my first garden in America. Before I started digging the soil, I had to ask my amazing neighbor about what comes next and what tools to use etc. I had to buy soil and fertilizer, which is a new experience for me. In Gambella, the area I came from, we never used fertilizer or anything else to help enrich the soil because since we live on a riverbank that floods our farms every rainy season, the river brings new soil to the farmland from the high mountains in the east. I was talking to Apay and laughing about my new, yet inspiring experience of America's farming or gardening method. We will see how my garden turns out!

Moreover, my gardening experience—whether in America or back in Gambella—whether the soil is enriched by fertilizer or by new soil from the river, brings to mind some spiritual lessons—the need to enrich our faith with the word of God and fellowship with Christian family. “Do your best to improve your faith by adding goodness, understanding, self-control, patience, devotion to God, concern for others, and love.” says Peter (2 Peter 1:5-7). Here, scripture encourages us to make every effort to supplement our faith in every season with knowledge and understanding.

This Spring season, our Bible Study group boldly took on the Book of Revelation in an effort to enrich our faith and understanding. This is a book that many of us ignore or find difficult to understand because of all of the allegories and those mystic creatures. Yet, in Revelation we encounter Jesus who is quite different from the Jesus of the gospels and Epistles. The Jesus of Revelations is the conquering Jesus; Jesus that challenges and cautions his church, yet presents rewards to those who are brave enough to rededicate and recommit to His following and fellowship.

Whether to the sleeping church of Sardis, the church that had abandoned its first love for Christ of Ephesus, or the lukewarm faith church of Laodicea or the Pergamum church that needed to repent, etc. the Jesus of revelation, is the Jesus who presents both the law and grace for his church. He encourages Christian followers to “Fight the good fight of the faith” and keep the faith (1 Timothy 6:12). Therefore, I encourage you to challenge yourself with Bible reading, devotions and prayer, as individuals or as a group. I also invite you to come join our Bible study and be part of that challenge.

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 will be sponsoring a counselor, Ellyse Betler. By the time you read this, we will have sent an initial note of encouragement to Ellyse and added her to our Prayer List.

If you wish to participate in this outreach, please consider donating something during 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 9th. Please address any direct correspondence to:

Ellyse Betler

Pine Springs Camp

C/O Maddy Duffield

P.O Box 186

371 Pine Springs Camp Road

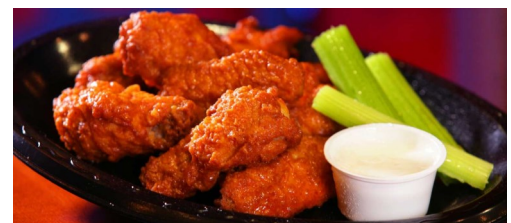
Jennerstown, PA 15547

Thank you for your support!



Wheels & Wings

June 22nd 5-9 pm



We will have baked goods and beverages available for a donation in our parking lot area. You can help by providing baked goods (2 cookies/bag), or beverages, or helping at the booth. A sign-up sheet for beverages, baked goods, or helping at the booth will be available at the back of the sanctuary. You can also call and leave a message at the church office.

Cambria-Gambella Collaboration

17 May 2023

Meeting Report

Present:

Ebensburg Presbyterian Church:

Pastor Owar Ojulu, Judy Carl, Martha O'Brien

Cresson and Patton Presbyterian Churches:

Pastor Alice Tondora

Ebensburg Methodist Church:

Pastor Ashley Weyant

Ebensburg United Church of Christ:

Pastor Andy Jones

Ebensburg Borough:

Mayor Randy Datsko

Gambella:

Pastor Omod Amulu (via Zoom)

Having received an estimate of the cost of drilling a well and realizing that such a project was well beyond our means, Pastor Owar set up a Zoom meeting with our partner in Gambella, Pastor Omod, so that we could discuss more viable projects to support. Being able to put a face to the name "Pastor Omod" was most helpful. It would be even more helpful in establishing a relationship with the community in Gambella if someone from our local area could accompany Pastor Owar when he goes to the Gambella region in August. Please prayerfully consider joining Pastor Owar yourself or suggesting the trip to someone in your church community.

Based on Pastor Omod's comments on other needs in his community and further questions for clarification posed by members of the local Cambria County group, we decided the following:

Look into the purchase of bucket filters, suggested by Pastor Ashley. She had first-hand information on the use of these filters and has contacted the company for further information.

<https://www.sawyer.com/products/international-bucket-system>

Because school uniforms are required in Ethiopia, many very poor and/or orphaned children are unable to attend school because they cannot afford to purchase uniforms. The group expressed interest in providing uniforms for needy children and has asked Pastor Owar to explore cost, etc. with an eye to making a final decision about supporting this effort.

Pastor Omod spoke of the need to support women's small businesses such as crafts. Pastor Owar is going to purchase some items when he is in Ethiopia in August with an eye to re-sale at the Potato Fest. Tentatively, the seed money for purchase of the items would come from Ebensburg Presbyterian Mission funds, pending approval by the Mission Committee. Any profit would then be used to further support women's initiatives in Gambella. (Details to be decided.)

Our next meeting is set for Tuesday, 27 June at 1:00 at the Ebensburg Presbyterian Church. Please join us if you want to help.

This collaboration is headed by our Mission Committee and is part of our Matthew 25 initiative.

-Afternoon Tea-



The ladies of your church are warmly invited to join us for afternoon tea on
MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2023 AT 12:00 P.M.

Hats and gloves are optional.

Please RSVP by June 12 to Caroline,
Church secretary, at 814-536-8141.

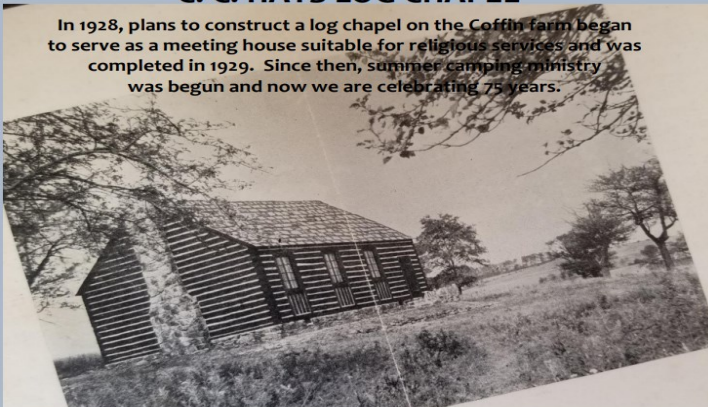
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

309 Lincoln Street
Johnstown, PA 15901

REDSTONE @ PSC

**JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE AND
FELLOWSHIP PICNIC
JULY 16; 10:00 A.M.
C. C. HAYS LOG CHAPEL**

In 1928, plans to construct a log chapel on the Coffin farm began to serve as a meeting house suitable for religious services and was completed in 1929. Since then, summer camping ministry was begun and now we are celebrating 75 years.



**JOIN US AS A CONGREGATION OR FAMILIES OR AS
INDIVIDUALS IN THIS CELEBRATION IN THE STYLE OF
THE EARLIEST MINISTRY AT CAMP.**

(bring your lawn chairs for outdoor seating)

RSVP—PRESBYTERY CENTER

724.837.6737 or secretary@redstonepresbytery.org





What's Happening...

The May 8th monthly Session meeting opened with prayer and a reading from Ephesians 4:1. As we are those who are chosen, we are to act in a way that is worthy. The Book of Order training was on the responsibilities of ruling elders. The May agenda and minutes from the April meeting were approved. The treasurer's report was presented and accepted.

Committee Reports included the following:

Budget, Finance, & Stewardship gave a report about gas and electricity usage for the past two years, accounting for the average temperature.

Discipleship - Confirmation for the communicant class will be scheduled soon.

Family Life— The committee reported on plans for the Pentecost service and breakfast.

Mission— A thank you note was received from a \$100 donation that was sent to the St Francis University Physicians' Assistant group for their recent mission trip.

Pastor/Parish/Personnel/Communication/Nomination—The joint Pentecost service was held at Ebensburg on May 28th.

Property Management: We will attempt to determine the condition of all of the window frames to decide if all need to be replaced. If some are in usable condition, we will approach ServPro to see if the contract can be re-negotiated.

Worship: Plans proceed for the worship service at Presbytery meeting.

In New Business, five items were addressed:

1. Church Growth.: Several ideas were discussed. A Suggestion box will be placed in the church for submission of ideas.
2. Confirmation. Session voted to schedule confirmation for June 4th, and move communion to June 11.
3. Session voted to excuse Amy Brulia for a period and continue to keep her engaged.
4. A vote approved study leave for Pastor Owar for July 16-21, and to grant him a four-week vacation beginning July 23 and continuing for the first three weeks of August. He plans to travel to his birthplace in Ethiopia.
5. Kevin McKenrick will be the representative to the next Presbytery Meeting.

In the Moderator's Report, Rev. Owar thanked the elders for service and leadership. One new member, Eric Schell, was added on Easter. Rev. Owar plans to take communion to our housebound members. He reported on visits and member's health issues. Four young people will be confirmed. Rev. Owar continues to chair the Mission Committee for Redstone Presbytery and is part of the Ethiopian Mission Network.

From the Mission Committee:

Cambria-Gambella Collaboration

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Cresson and Patton Presbyterian Churches: Pastor Alice Tondora

Ebensburg Methodist Church: Pastor Ashley Weyant

Ebensburg United Church of Christ: Pastor Andy Jones

Ebensburg Borough: Mayor Randy Datsko Gambella: Pastor Omod Amulu (via Zoom)

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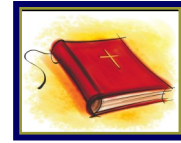
From the Youth Group:

Youth Service and confirmation is TBD due to conflict of schedules with actives and vacations throughout June and July



June 14	Claudia Gironda
June 17	Rebecca Bracken Kristy Forberger
June 21	Scott Magley Mary Lou Carlisle
June 22	James Lyons III
June 23	Magdalene Bracken Brooke Lyons
June 29	June Fedora Doug Weber

Sunday Scripture Readings



June 4, 2023

Trinity Sunday

Lectionary Readings

Genesis 1:1—2:4a

The Word and Spirit of God are present at the dawn of creation.

Psalm 8

O Lord our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

2 Corinthians 13:11–13

A letter concludes with a blessing in the name of the triune God.

Matthew 28:16–20

Jesus' Great Commission: Go, make disciples, baptize, and teach.

June 11, 2023

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary Readings

Semicontinuous

Genesis 12:1–9

The Lord will bless Abram and Sarai and make them a blessing.

Psalm 33:1–12

Rejoice in the Lord; happy are those who are chosen as God's own.

Complementary

Hosea 5:15–6:6

On the third day God will raise us up; God desires steadfast love.

Psalm 50:7–15

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving; call on God in trouble.

Romans 4:13–25

The example of Abraham; righteousness comes from faith.

Matthew 9:9–13, 18–26

Jesus calls sinners; he heals a woman and raises a dead girl to life.

June 18, 2023

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary Readings

Semicontinuous

Genesis 18:1–15 (21:1–7)

Three visitors promise Abraham and Sarah they will have a son.

Psalm 116:1–2, 12–19

What shall I return to the Lord? I will lift the cup of salvation.

Complementary

Exodus 19:2–8a

The Lord says: Keep my covenant and you will be my holy people.

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord; we are the sheep of God's pasture.

Romans 5:1–8

We are justified by faith; while we were sinners Christ died for us.

Matthew 9:35—10:8 (9–23)

The harvest is plentiful; Jesus instructs and sends the twelve apostles.

June 25, 2023

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary Readings

Semicontinuous

Genesis 21:8–21

Hagar and Ishmael are sent away, but God remains with them.

Psalm 86:1–10,

Be gracious to me, O God; save the child of your servant.

16–17

Complementary

Jeremiah 20:7–13

Jeremiah laments the terror all around, but must speak God's word.

Psalm 69:7–10

Zeal for your house consumes me; save me from my enemies.

(11–15) 16–18

Romans 6:1b–11

Crucified with Jesus, we are dead to sin and alive to God in Christ.

Matthew 10:24–39

Jesus says: Do not fear for your life; take up your cross and follow.

Presbytery of Redstone

Please pray for...

District 1 Churches ~ ~ United Presbyterian Church,
New Kensington, Rebecca Siddle, Covenant Pastor
~ ~ Poke Run Presbyterian Church, Pete Goetschius,
Pastor

District 2 Churches ~ ~ Westminster Presbyterian
Church, Greensburg, Jenn Frayer Griggs, Pastor ~ ~ First
Presbyterian Church, Irwin, Doug Rehberg, Interim Pas-
tor

District 3 Churches ~ ~ Palmer Community Presbyterian
Church, Adah, Nicholas Beatty, Temporary Supply
~ ~ First Presbyterian Church, Belle Vernon, Mary Kay
Glunt, Pastor

District 4 Churches ~ ~ Ebensburg Presbyterian Church,
Owar Ojulu, Pastor ~ ~ Bethany Presbyterian Church,
Johnstown, Denise Toderro, Commissioned Pastor



If you need to contact Rev. Dr. 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 May 8, 2023

Actual Operating Income: \$ 24,765.52

Actual Operating Expenses: \$ 31,856.73

Gain/Loss: (\$ 7,091.21)



2023 Per Capita

2023 Per Capita - Our Per Capita offering, which supports the work of the presbytery, synod and general assembly, has been set at **\$43.50**. 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!

Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

June 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4 Worship 11:00 AM & Facebook	5	6 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	7 Bible Study - 7:00 PM	8	9 <i>Happy Anniv. Bill & “R” McKim, Duane & Pat Mohney</i>	10
11 Worship 11:00 AM & Facebook	12 Session—7 PM	13 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	14 Bible Study - 7:00 PM Flag Day <i>Happy Birthday, Claudia Gironda</i>	15	16	17 <i>Happy Birthday, Rebecca Bracken, Kristy Forberger</i> <i>NA Business Meeting - 9:45 AM</i>
18 Worship 11:00 AM & Facebook Father’s Day	19	20 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	21 Bible Study - 7:00 PM <i>Happy Birthday, Scott Magley, Mary Lou Carlisle First Day Summer</i>	22 <i>Wheels & Wings 5-9 pm Happy Birthday, James Lyons III Happy Anniv. Jim & Jani Stratton</i>	23 <i>Happy Birthday, Magdalene Brack- en, Brooke Lyons</i>	24
25 Worship 11:00 AM & Facebook <i>Happy Anniv. Jim & Shirley Cassidy</i>	26	27 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	28 Bible Study - 7:00 PM	29 <i>Happy Birthday, June Fedora & Doug Weber</i>	30	

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