

Ebensburg Presbyterian Church
200 North Center Street
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Join Us Each Week!

Worship @ 11:00 AM

Bible Study Tuesday at 7 PM

“O Lord, how long must I call for help before You will hear? I cry out to You, “We are being hurt!” But You do not save us.” Habakkuk 1:2

Dear Church family,

As we start the month of August and continue with this unusual summer of year 2020, we reflect on a story of a crying prophet—Habakkuk. Habakkuk had seen continued crisis and the suffering of his people. *“We are being hurt!”* he said, referring to the devastation caused by the calamity of his time. He witnessed endless suffering but saw no one able to stop it. Habakkuk cried to the one who can hear, help, and bring change. Yet, his prayers lasted long and seems to evoke no interruption of God. Habakkuk felt helpless, frustrated, and seemed to losing hope in whom he had expected help could arrive—God All-mighty. *“...how long must I call for help before You will hear?”* he said.

This message reflects our current situation and speaks to our feelings. Our frustration is real, and the feeling of helplessness is not less compared to Habakkuk’s. Since February, we have seen Coronavirus crisis worsening and the virus is taking lives by numbers. We wake up to the news of rising numbers and each day we hope for a miracle. Coronavirus keeps lurking at the doors of our public gatherings and in our own places. Fear and death have engulfed us, and facemasks become our new normal etc.

During this tribulation, the world feels defeated, we are frustrated, and our prayers seems to have no value to persuade God. At this point, like Habakkuk, it sounds like God is not paying attention to our suffering and ignores to incline to our cry for help. But isn’t this God’s custom? In the scriptures we hear stories where God seems to be slow to act in crisis. However, the truth is that God acts even if His response seems to linger (Habakkuk 2:3). God hears the cry of His people and does not ignore their sufferings (Exodus 3:7). His reaction to our miseries may seem delayed because God works on His own time. As for Habakkuk’s frustration, God encouraged him to wait patiently. The Lord is going to act and do something unbelievable, not too long but in his lifetime. God’s action will be extraordinary where Habakkuk may

not believe even when he is told about it (Habakkuk 1:3).

This is a great message for us today. God cares for us. Let us be encouraged to continue and remain POSITIVE, be PATIENT, and WAIT for God during this trying time. Even if the virus is threatening us, and death is close to our doors, let us believe in tomorrow. Let us pay attention to the inspiring word of God as we hear His loving voice. Like Habakkuk, *“We are being hurt,”* but we shall be healed, restored, transformed and we shall rise stronger! Trust in the Lord and his promise.

As God was able to rescue Israel from all their miseries and renew their circumstances, the Lord is faithful to His Promises to us. He will release fear and calm us from emotional and psychological effects the virus brought to us.

Therefore, may God renew your hope, strengthen your faith, and may you remain faithful to the Lord as you continue praying for others and the world. **MARANATHA LORD!**

Also thank you to everyone for your doing part in the ministry of our church. So far, the virus did not hold us back from doing what we love to do. We have been worshipping, reaching out and lifting others in our prayers. We will continue to have fun and do exciting things as usual. We will be holding our annual picnic, spaghetti dinner, etc. and we will continue to enjoy and celebrate our fellowship as a community of believers.

Pastor Owar



Presbytery Meeting Recap

May Gathering Highlights

In a first of its kind, we met in distributed mode through videoconferencing. One side benefit of gathering through this medium was the inclusion of Redstone presbyters who now live in another part of the country.

- The Presbytery recognized those elected to serve as commissioners to the upcoming General Assembly (Rev. Laura Blank, Bobbi Jo Huebner, Joshua Scully, Rev. Susan Blank). Moderator led the Presbytery in a service of commissioning of them for this calling.
- Even before the pandemic, the Board of Pensions approved new options within the BOP offerings that include both short term disability and options for non-installed Ministers of Word and Sacrament. Additionally, he reviewed the option for requesting dues deferment as the result of financial hardship.

EP Skip Noftzger emphasized the need for wise and gracious decision making by leadership during this “blinking yellow” phase (“Pandemic Context Planning and Decision Making”). [A tribute](#) was presented giving thanks for all those pastors who have adapted so quickly to alternatives from in-person worship.

- The Presbytery examined Rev. Brian Kilbert and approved his call to serve as Pastor of the Puckety Presbyterian Church, effective June 21.
- Sadly, Pine Springs Camp Executive Greg Davis announced that the Board of Directors has suspended the summer camp program for 2020. Additional decision for the fall will be made at a later date.

THE FELLOWSHIP

A NEWSLETTER OF THE EBENSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 2020

SESSION NOTICE

There was no Session Meeting in July.

The next Session Meeting will be held on

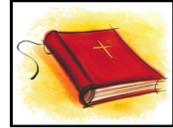
Wednesday, August 5, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

Organ Committee Update

The Organ Restoration Committee met on July 13, 2020. The committee discussed two fundraisers that will be held in August and October. In August, the committee will sell Marianna's Hoagies and Pizzas. The cost will be \$8 for hoagies and \$9 for pizzas. The profit for the organ fund for each hoagie sold is \$2 and \$2.50 for pizzas. Members are encouraged to purchase or help by selling. Order forms will be available beginning on August 2 at the church and via e-mail by request. Money and orders are due August 18. Pick-up will be 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on August 28. If you need a different time for pick-up, please arrange it with the church office.

A curbside pick-up spaghetti dinner will be held on October 20th, 2020. The meal with cost \$8 and will include spaghetti, salad, roll and dessert. Pick-up times will be 11 a.m. -1 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. The spaghetti and meatballs will be purchased from DelGrosso and prepared by Rick Ardini, owner of Rik-n-Niks.

Sunday Scripture Readings



August 2, 2020

Genesis 32:22–31

Jacob wrestles with a man from God, and receives a blessing.

Psalms 17:1–7, 15

Visit and test me in the night, O Lord; I will behold your face.

Romans 9:1–5

Paul struggles with the issue of Israel's relationship to the church.

Matthew 14:13–21

With five loaves and two fish, Jesus feeds a great multitude.

August 9, 2020

Genesis 37:1–4, 12–28

Out of jealousy, Joseph's brothers sell him into slavery in Egypt.

Psalms 105:1–6,

God sent Joseph to Egypt to save the people in a time of famine.

16–22, 45b

Romans 10:5–15

Proclaim the word of faith: confess Jesus as Lord, and be saved.

Matthew 14:22–33

Jesus walks on the water to meet his disciples, and calms a storm.

August 16, 2020

Genesis 45:1–15

Joseph is reunited with his brothers; the family will move to Egypt.

Psalms 133

How good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity.

Romans 11:1–2a, 29–32

God has not rejected Israel, but desires to show mercy to all.

Matthew 15:(10–20) 21–28

Debate about what defiles; a Canaanite woman shows great faith.

August 23, 2020

Genesis 45:1–15

Joseph is reunited with his brothers; the family will move to Egypt.

Psalms 133

How good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity.

Romans 11:1–2a, 29–32

God has not rejected Israel, but desires to show mercy to all.

Matthew 15:(10–20) 21–28

Debate about what defiles; a Canaanite woman shows great faith.

August 30, 2020

Exodus 3:1–15

Moses meets the Lord in a burning bush, and learns God's name.

Psalms 105:1–6,

Give thanks to the Lord, who sent Moses to set the people free.

23–26, 45b

Romans 12:9–21

Love one another; seek what is good; live peaceably with all.

Matthew 16:21–28

Jesus says: If any wish to follow me, they must take up their cross.

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

Pine Springs Camp — Updated Information

The Pine Springs Camp will be closed for the 2020 Season. The Mission Committee will continue to support Pine Springs. Any additional donations received from the congregation designated for Pine Springs Camp will be sent through the Mission Committee.



EBENSBURG FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Year to Date as of June, 2020

Actual Operating Income: \$31,834.44

Actual Operating Expenses: \$37,539.96

Gain/Loss: (\$5,705.52)



2019 Per Capita

2020 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!

Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

August 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 <i>9th Sunday after Pentecost</i> <i>Worship 11:00 AM Facebook and Zoom</i>	3 <i>Happy Anniv., Jack & Sue Makosy</i>	4 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	5 Session-7 PM <i>Happy Birthday, Robert Carl, Jack Makosy</i>	6	7 <i>Happy Anniv. Ed, Baker & Carol Carlisle</i>	8 <i>Happy Birthday, Philip Rice</i>
9 <i>10th Sunday after Pentecost</i> <i>Worship 11:00 AM Facebook and Zoom Happy Birthday, Michael Pizur</i>	10	11 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	12	13	14	15 <i>NA Business Mtg.— 9:45 AM</i> <i>Happy Birthday, Kris Segear</i>
16 <i>11th Sunday after Pentecost</i> <i>Worship 11:00 AM Facebook and Zoom</i>	17	18 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i> <i>Orders Due for hoagies/pizza</i>	19 <i>Happy Birthday Dylan Burbee</i>	20	21 <i>Happy Birthday, Erika Pizur</i> <i>Hoagie Sale</i>	22
23 <i>12th Sunday after Pentecost</i> <i>Worship 11:00 AM Facebook and Zoom</i>	24 <i>Happy Birthday, Phil Brulia</i>	25 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i> <i>Happy Birthday, Duane Mohney</i>	26	27 <i>Happy Birthday, Mackenzie Magley</i>	28 <i>Hoagie Pick-up</i>	29
30 <i>12th Sunday after Pentecost</i> <i>Worship 11:00 AM Facebook and Zoom</i> ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC	31 <i>Happy Anniv. Susan & Matt Wolfe</i>					

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