

The Fellowship

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

August 2022

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

Facebook page:

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

Rejoice always!
Pray **constantly**.

Always be joyful.

Never stop praying.

Be joyful always,
pray **at all times**,

Rejoice evermore.

Pray **without ceasing** (1 Thessalonians 5:16-17).

I read these short verses of Thessalonians over and over and compared four translations to see if they all mean one thing. All of them express the "state" of continual joy and of prayer. Many Christians are overwhelmed by these verses. It seems impossible to be joyful and to be in prayer always. That is true. We find ourselves more often worrying because we have bucket lists of things that burden our souls. Many things around us and around the world occupy our thoughts and make us worry and be dismayed. We are uneasy and burdened with trials and troubles. Excitement, let alone joy, sometimes seems to exist only in a rearview mirror, and we are thirsty for peace and calm. That tells us about the need for prayer.

Paul's purpose was encouragement. He did not mean to burden his friends in Thessalonica by telling them to occupy their time with prayer. What he meant was for the Thessalonians to be in a prayerful state and continually talk to God. "Pray continually" does not specify a time in the day, number of hours to pray, or how to pray. Rather, Paul encourages the Thessalonians, and all of us Christians in the 21st century, to be conscious of the importance of praying and the call to do so. Some people pray all day long, some for six hours, some for thirty minutes, some for only a minute. Some pray in the morning, some at noon, bedtime or over meals. We can pray while walking, driving, with our eyes open or closed. These verses encourage us to undertake prayer without limitation: to pray and to be joyful even if perplexed. This is because our prayer and joy both accompany us and support us in our faith journey.

You wonder why the disciples asked of Jesus ONE thing for themselves and their ministries? The disciples did not ask Jesus to teach them how to drive out demons, how to be masters of preaching, or whether they can eat vanilla or avoid chocolate. Rather they asked Him to teach them how to pray— Luke 11:1. Jesus also advised His disciples that "the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak..." (Matthew 26:41). Jesus wants us to be in constant conversation with our creator, to be comforted, encouraged, renewed, and restored. He is the only source of our comfort and the giver of joy, springing from the throne above.

Prayer is the resource by which we talk to God, tell him how and what we feel, the need to participate in His mission. We take Jesus as the example. He prayed often, anytime of the day, in private and in public. He prayed when at peace but also from the cross when he was in agony (Luke 23:34). He wept and sweated, speaking his heart to his Father. Paul also prayed and asked people to pray for him.

Today if you are wondering how you can pray more effectively, know that you have a great desire, but the effectiveness of your prayer remains with Christ. Your heart is in the right place. Only build the desire for prayer and be conscious of your need to speak to God. Build a relationship with Him—He hears your voice (Psalm 55:16-17).

As we conclude our sermon series on Galatians, we will be touching on the most asked question: "Why are some prayers not answered?" Then in September we will start a new sermon series centered on "Kingdom Principles."

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Pastor Owar

Family Life Committee

Worship and Picnic



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is

Our Annual Joint Colver and Ebensburg Presbyterian Worship Service is scheduled for August 14th at 11 am. Weather permitting, it will be held on the patio area behind the Ebensburg church. The picnic will follow immediately after the service. The Family Life Committee will provide pulled pork, buns, condiments, beverages, and plates, napkins, cups, and utensils. You are welcome to bring a side dish if you like. Please fill out the following so we know how much food to prepare.

I will join you for the picnic. _____

Number attending _____

Please call the church office at 814-472-6920 or email the church - [ebgpsby@gmail](mailto:ebgpsby@gmail.com) to sign up for the picnic.

Mission Committee

During July, the Mission Committee donated to the local food pantry and a family in need. The committee also provided 1/2 camperships to youth attending Pine Springs Camp.

Youth Group



The Youth Group will be going to DelGrosso's Park in Tipton, PA on Thursday, August 4th for a day of summer fun!

SUMMER

What's Happening...



There was no Session Meeting held in July. Below is an article submitted by Judy Carl who was nominated and appointed as a commissioner from the Redstone Presbytery for General Assembly.

Reflections on General Assembly 225

General Assembly is the meeting held every two years by the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA) to conduct all the business of our denomination. It includes policy, financial business, and addressing issues in the world and in our congregations, presbyteries, and synods. I was nominated and appointed as a commissioner from the Redstone Presbytery. Every commissioner is assigned to a committee, and they consider resolutions from Presbyteries, Synods, and Committees of Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) and the Office of General Assembly (OGA).

When I learned that I was on the committee Addressing Violence in the USA, I had a rush of mixed emotions. Anxiety, fear, excitement, humility, sense of purpose, and strangely – joy and peace all raced through me. Even before going to Louisville, as I participated in training and read materials about the resolutions that we would discuss, I began to view the world around me a little bit differently. What does God want for us?

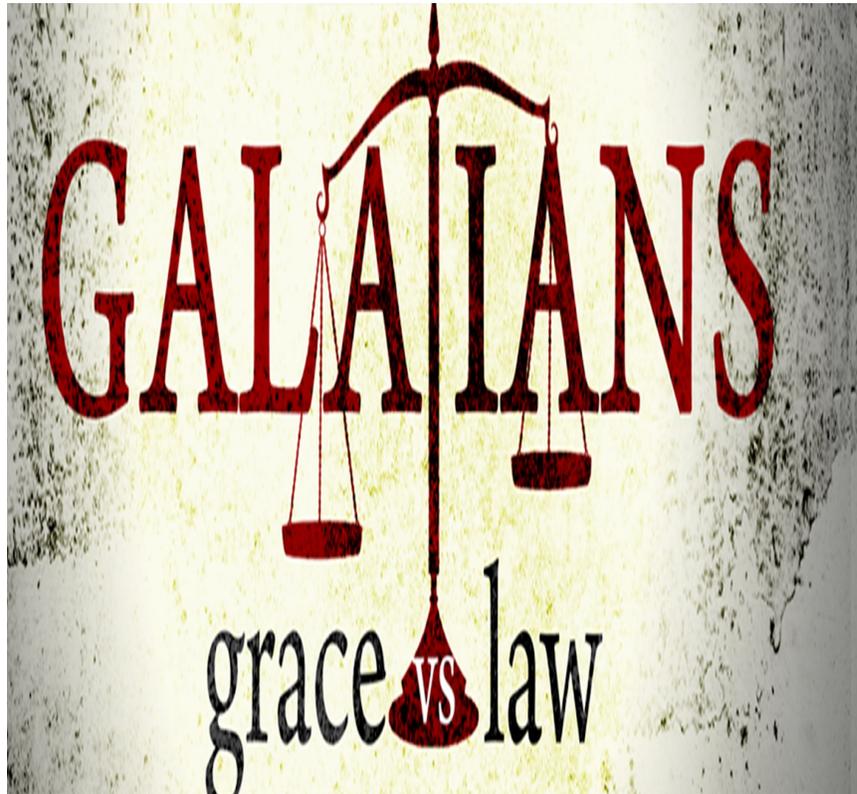
Every day we see stories of gun violence: Buffalo, NY, Uvalde, TX, Philadelphia, Johnstown, and Altoona. What can we do? The resolutions that we worked on in committee and that were eventually passed by the full General Assembly include a 10-year campaign titled “The Decade to End Gun Violence (2022-2032)”. This incorporates actions at all levels of the PCUSA church, from congregations, presbyteries, synods to the PMA and OGA. We also commended and recommended the Guns to Gardens Movement. Other resolutions from this committee by the full General Assembly included the following:

- On Preventing, Reporting, and Responding to Bullying, Harassment, and Assault
- On Encouraging Our Churches to Counter Polarization in Our Society
- Lift Every Voice: Democracy, Voting Rights, and Electoral Reform
- On Living in Healthy Relationships Free of Violence and Coercion

The full General Assembly met on Zoom from July 5-9 to consider and vote on resolutions from the nineteen committees of GA 225. If you want to see information about the other resolutions passed and what else was happening at GA, check out the link: [Homepage-225th General Assembly](#)

The daily worship services streamed online are particularly inspiring.

As the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, stated clerk of the PCUSA, said, “Stop worrying and put your mind on the work. God will take care of you, God will take care of us, and God will take care of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Dare to be different, dare to struggle, and yes, dare to believe that all we go through, there’s still a God who never fails, who never forsakes, who never leaves us alone.”



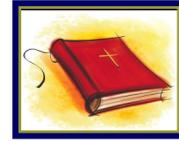
Journeying through the BOOK OF GALATIANS: Law and Grace

Galatians	1:1-12	Paul and the Church of Galatia
Galatians	1:13-24	Chosen For Change
Galatians	2:1-10	One Gospel FOR all People
Galatians	2:11-21	“Never Give In”
Galatians	3:1-14	“Are You All-right?”
Galatians	3:15-29	“Why, then, was the LAW given?”
Galatians	4: 1-20	“Religious Ensnarement”
Galatians	4: 21-31	“FREEDOM—Your Spiritual Identity”
Galatians	5:1-15	“A Yoke of Slavery”
Galatians	5:16-26	“The Battlefield”
Galatians	6:1-10	“Lifting up each other”
Galatians	6:11-18	“A New Creation in Christ”



August 5	Jack Makosy
August 8	Philip Rice
August 9	Michael Pizur
August 15	Kristine Segear
August 21	Erika Pizur
August 24	Phil Brulia
August 25	Duane Mohny
August 27	Mackenzie Magley DeYulis

Sunday Scripture Readings



August 7, 2022

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 Wash yourselves clean; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice.
Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23 God speaks and summons the earth: Gather to me my faithful ones!
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Faith is the assurance of things hoped for; Abraham is an example.
Luke 12:32—40 Where your treasure is, there is your heart also; be alert and ready.

August 14, 2022

Isaiah 5:1-7 My vineyard has yielded wild grapes; now I will break down its wall.
Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19 Have regard for the vine you planted, O Lord; save and restore us!
Hebrews 11:29-12:2 We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses; Jesus perfects our faith.
Luke 12:49-56 Jesus warns of division and trouble to come: I came to bring fire.

August 21, 2022

Jeremiah 1:4-10 The Lord calls young Jeremiah: Before you were born, I knew you.
Psalm 71:1-6 In you, O Lord, I take refuge; upon you I have leaned from my birth. Hebrews
12:18-29 Worship with reverence and awe; our God is a consuming fire.
Luke 13:10-17 Jesus heals a woman on the Sabbath; a synagogue leader objects.

August 28, 2022

Jeremiah 2:4-13 The people are cracked cisterns; they forsake the fountain of life.
Psalm 81:1, 10-16 God laments: I deliver and feed you, but you do not listen to me.
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 Show hospitality and share what you have; praise God through Jesus.
Luke 14:1, 7-14 Jesus teaches lessons at a banquet: the humble will be exalted.

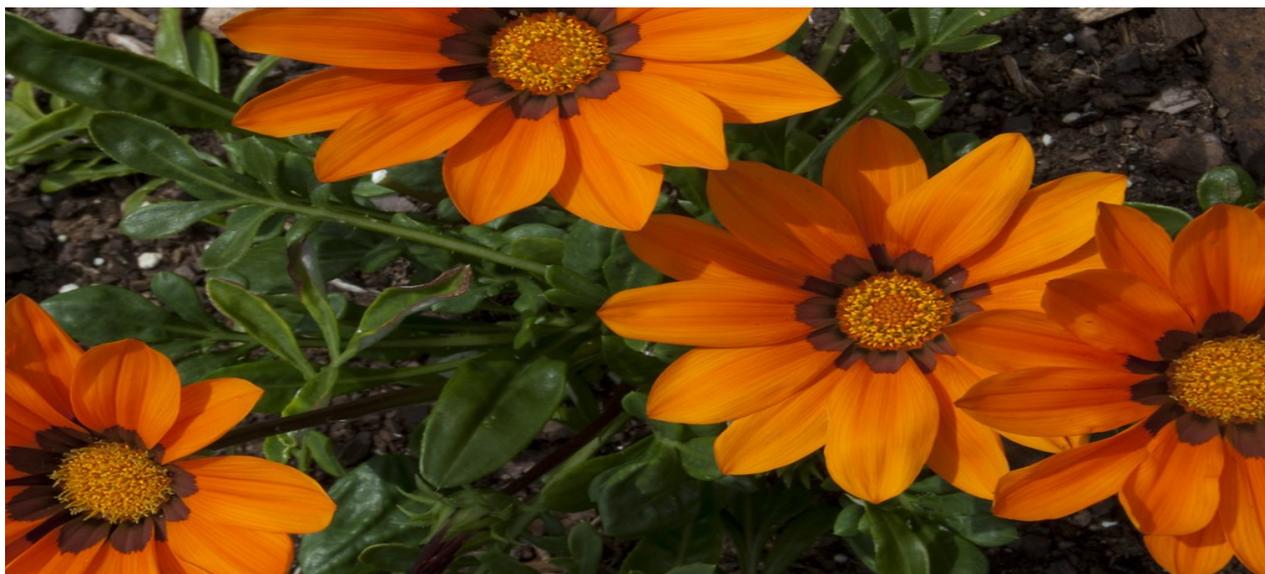


If you need to contact Rev. Owar Ojulu for any pastoral needs below is his contact information:

Email: ojh3o@yahoo.com

Phone: 507-304-5958 (cell phone)

Ebensburg Presbyterian Church: 814-472-6920



EBENSBURG FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Year to Date as of June, 2022

Actual Operating Income: \$33,910.02

Actual Operating Expenses: \$43,342.17

Gain/Loss: (\$9,432.15)



2022 Per Capita

2022 Per Capita - Our Per Capita offering, which supports the work of the presbytery, synod and general assembly, has been set at **\$43.00**. 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!

Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

August 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	3 <i>Happy Anniv. Jack & Sue Makosy</i> <i>Voice Lessons 4:30—6:30</i>	4	5 <i>Happy Birth- day, Jack Mo- kosy</i>	6
7 <i>Worship 11:00 AM & Facebook</i> Communion <i>Happy Anniv. Ed Baker & Carol Carlisle</i>	8 <i>Happy Birth- day, Phillip Rice</i>	9 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i> <i>Happy Birthday, Michael Pizur, Ajalc Oman</i>	10 Session—7 PM <i>Voice Lessons 4:30—6:30</i>	11	12	13
14 <i>Worship 11:00 AM & Facebook</i> Joint Service w/Colver at Ebg. Joint picnic following service	15 <i>Happy Birthday, Kristine Segear</i>	16 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	17 <i>Voice Lessons 4:30—6:30</i>	18	19	20 <i>NA Business Meeting - 9:45 AM</i>
21 <i>Worship 11:00 AM & Facebook</i> <i>Happy Birthday, Erika Pizur</i>	22	23 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	24 <i>Happy Birth- day, Phil Brulia</i> <i>Voice Lessons 4:30—6:30</i>	25 <i>Happy Birth- day, Duane Mohney</i>	26	27 <i>Happy Birth- day, Mackenzie Magley DeYulis</i>
28 <i>Worship 11:00 AM & Facebook</i>	29	30 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	31 <i>Happy Anniv. Susan & Matt Wolfe</i> <i>Voice Lessons 4:30—6:30</i>			

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