

The Fellowship

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

July 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)

"For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save what was lost." Luke 19:10

As many of us have heard in the news, the world is shocked by a mass shooting in Uvalde, Texas where nineteen elementary students and two teachers were killed by a gunman. In early June 2022, fifty church goers were gunned down while in a Sunday worship in the southwestern part of Nigeria by Boko Haram militants. Also, twenty-one teens were found dead in a South African nightclub, and the cause remains unknown. And in the last week of June, fifty people died after being abandoned in a trailer in the scorching Texas heat. The war in Ukraine lingers and the world is helpless in the face of the actions of one man. The list goes on, crisis after crisis and we feel trapped and stuck in an endless tumultuous world.

Luke states the purpose of Jesus and the need for our rescue from fear, miseries, and death. In his book "Why I am a Christian" John Stott upholds the truth of his calling. The book is an awakening to the realization of true self and the need to put our trust in Jesus as ones needing to be rescued, liberated, and set free. Seeking out the lost, the fainthearted, the fearful and hopeless is the heart of the Christian message. Luke's claim points us away from the distractions around us but guides us to Jesus Christ our savior, healer, rescuer, comforter, that we are assured of God's presence in the midst of chaos in the world.

With everything around us, including sudden losses of our loved ones, it feels as if we are far away from resounding hope. Yet, being a Christian is a life of hope where we keep our eyes fixed on the cross. We have faith that in our hardships, storms, winds, waves of life, and heart-breaking news, the Lord whispers words of his presence in an unexpected approach—in a "gentle whisper" 1 Kings 19:11-13.

In such an encouraging voice, we claim victory over forces that snip our joy, snatch our attention from Christ, and threaten our wellbeing. For that we give God praise! "Why I am a Christian" affirms our trust, our faith, and the calling to worship God victoriously. Similarly, July 4th reminds us of a kind of victory over oppression and the power that aimed to suppress freedom of Americans.

Happy 4th of July!

Pastor Owar Ojulu

Stewardship Committee

Wheels and Wings

A profit of over \$500 was made at the baked goods and beverage sale during Wheels and Wings on June 23, 2022.



Mission Committee

Pine Springs Summer Camp



Many of you or your family members and friends attended Pine Springs, a camp with the goal of ensuring vital encounters with Christ. The Mission Committee is again offering ½ camperships for members and friends of Ebensburg Presbyterian Church. Also, this summer we are supporting Haley Vaughn, a counselor from Grove City. Please pray for Haley and all the Pine Springs staff and campers. If you can, please send a note of encouragement to:

Haley Vaughn
Pine Springs Camp
c/o Maddy Duffield
PO Box 186
371 Pine Springs Camp Road
Jennerstown, PA 15547

We will also be sending a shoe box with some goodies. If you would like to help, check



Discipleship Committee



**The Youth Group
enjoyed an afternoon
of bowling in John-
stown on Saturday,
June 11.**



THE EBENSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ORGAN

Ever since moving to California in the 80s, I keep meaning to get Back East to visit more often than it ever seems to work out. When I was little, seventy-odd years ago, it was every year – the common practice of a family starting out: F. Homer Miller, his young wife Eleanor, myself, F.H. Junior, and younger brother Ivan J. McKenrick Miller (a hint of where this story is headed).

Every summer we would visit dad's family in Hagerstown and mom's in Ebensburg, all of which was a pretty exciting getaway from our New Jersey apartment. In our blue '50 Chevy, windows open in August heat, we drove curved mountain roads from the Turnpike exit at Breezewood – even then with nothing but gas stations and diners – up the road from Cresson into Ebensburg. We would look ahead at each turn to see who would first spot the dome of the courthouse that marked a coming end to the trip; then pull up to the Sample Street curb, just south of the corner, unload and run across the brick walk and in the side kitchen door of 202 North Center Street.

I remember that Italianate gingerbread brick house, the oldest front section probably dating from the 1830s, additions and porches coming later, stretching from the main thoroughfare down the hill, over a long yard with vegetable garden to a garage for Granddaddy's Chrysler. In August the garden would give us tomatoes and rhubarb.

I remember the front living room with a grand piano, front door held open with a doorstep made of an old Civil War cannonball, sitting room with fireplace, soft couches and a complete set of Encyclopedia Britannica. It was an older set, the twentieth century having a lengthy description of The Great War, 1914-18.

After dinner we would sit on the front porch, my brother and myself, mom and dad, Grandmere and Granddaddy. People would walk by and if they recognized mom, say, "Hello Eleanor," and with a nod to Granddaddy Ivan McKenrick, "Good evening Judge."

Across Center behind castle-like walls was the stone of Cambria County Jail, where they once hanged some men, next to Veterans Park. Kitty-corner was the Post Office and across Sample on the corner the State Liquor Store. All this just a block from the main downtown intersection of Center and High, noisy all night as semi-trailer trucks pulled away from the stoplight. We had visited at Christmas, but it was the hot August days and nights I remember most.

Beside the slim side yard of 202, separated by an old wire fence with green wooden posts was the Presbyterian Church, its blond brick walls on the other side of a narrow concrete walk to the church side door. Granddaddy and later his son Fremont, played the organ on Sunday, and on one or more evenings week went over to practice. They had keys to allow them to enter as they had time. I loved going along to sit behind and watch not just the hands on keys, but feet moving from pedal to pedal, player's body rocking gently back and forth as long notes rang out in the otherwise empty volume under the domed ceiling, notes seemingly made long and deeper by knobs pulled out overtop the keys. This was an instrument much more grand than any piano I'd known, and would later (unsuccessfully) attempt to play. The organ looked huge, the controls intriguing, their touch alluring. The sound was magic.

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One day while alone I noticed the church door unlocked, not uncommon but here in combination with the idea that I could look around inside at my own pace, my own ideas of what to find, to investigate, my own curiosity to satisfy. I crossed our gate in the side yard fence, stepped onto the quiet concrete walk and went through the door to the silent church interior. There was no movement or sound of anyone there. I was alone.

I walked quiet pews, soft carpeted floors I think, to the altar area past the rail and then the steps up to choir and organ levels. I was past the last benches to the alcove where sat the organ, now still, abandoned save glimmer on some keys, light on shiny pulls and reflection from the bright wood cabinetry that shaped it all.

Knowing what I had seen watching Granddaddy and Uncle Fre play, I felt confident I too might sit there at the source of magical sounds, and slid over onto the bench where organ players sat to create their music. It was a sense of power, of having arrived at the place where I too could make such entrancing sound.

I reached to the right and pulled out a knob from above the keyboard. Then to the left and another. Then back to the right, and one more. Then one more. I slid my foot down to the pedals but had to slip off the bench to reach them. I pushed a pedal. Then another. I was mastering the moves I had seen.

It was time.

I pressed an ivory key...

THE CHURCH FILLED WITH ORGAN MUSIC AT FULL VOLUME! IT WAS LOUD!

There was no doubt it could be heard not just inside the room, but outside the building, perhaps next door at 202, maybe on the street, maybe down the street. I had to stop it, but letting up on the key did not. I pressed another, and the sound went higher. Then another. Higher still. Resetting the pulls did not help. Stepping on other pedals did not, just seeming to make it louder. The massive organ notes rang on. And on! I touched other keys and other pedals and other pulls, then other keys and other pedals and other pulls. The sound went on! And on!

After the longest time there appeared Uncle Fre and with a few deft moves on keys or controls it was silent. Looking up I faced frowning faces of my mother and father, but Fre was there to say that it was all right. It was over. The church was again quiet.

No more was said. We stepped away and left the again quiet, mid-week church. It could never be said at the time, but other than the dread surrounding my accidental creating of those magnificent notes, it was a wonderful sensation to have the organ bring about such powerful reverberation at my touch. I secretly smiled.

I was six (or seven) years old and had played the Ebensburg Presbyterian Church organ.

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Frank H. Miller

What's Happening...



The Session opened the June 8th meeting with prayer and a brief study of Philippians 2:1-4. As Christians, we are called to live and work together in harmony and unity.

The agenda was approved. Book of Order training was about worship. Prayers of intercession should include world-wide and local concerns. They can be led by the pastor, an elder, a deacon, or another member of the congregation.

The May minutes were approved by vote. The Treasurer's report was received.

Committee reports included the following:

Communications reported about the live streaming of the worship service. The audio quality for the pastor is good, but music at the piano is difficult to hear. Possible solutions were discussed.

Discipleship— The Youth Group trip to the food pantry was postponed to June 11. A trip to Del Grosso Park will be scheduled for sometime in July. A thank you note was received from the food pantry for the offering received during the youth service.

Family Life – the joint worship and picnic with Colver Presbyterian is scheduled for August 14th at our patio area, weather permitting.

Mission—A donation of \$250 was sent for One Great Hour of Sharing. After discussion, it was voted to approve spending up to \$500 to pay for airfare to bring missionary Paul Both to speak about his work in Sudan at a service when he is available in June or July.

Organ Restoration— It was voted to apply funds from the Bruce McKenrick, Josie McKenrick and Karen Wheeler Memorials for handbell refurbishment. The families were consulted and they approved this use of the funds.

Property Management—The committee will present costs to replace some nonworking fluorescent light fixtures with LED lights. Work is scheduled to begin soon on the exterior windowsills.

Worship—The committee will prepare a form to keep track of all music used in worship so that a proper record can be submitted to the licensing company to pay proper royalties.

It was MSP to receive the committee reports.

In New Business:

A discussion about Wheels & Wings led to a decision to again have a baked goods and beverage booth adjacent to the parking lot. Donations of baked goods and beverages will be accepted from the congregation and all funds collected will go to the General Fund.

Reverend Owar provided information and asked the mission committee to consider supporting the Ethiopian Mission Partnership.

A link to information about becoming a Matthew 25 Church was given and a vote was conducted by email the next week. The vote approved it with a focus on congregational vitality. If you want to see the information, follow this link. [Presbyterian Mission Agency Become a Matthew 25 church | Matthew 25 in the PC\(USA\): A bold vision and invitation | Presbyterian Mission Agency.](#)

Martha O'Brien reported highlights of the May Presbytery meeting.

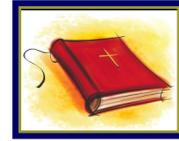
MODERATOR'S REPORT: Pastor Owar thanked the session for helping with the dinner and celebration and for supporting his education as he received his diploma for his doctor's degree. He continues to call or visit our home-bound members and those with health issues. He continues to work with the Presbytery Mission Committee and the Ethiopian Mission Network. The ACRP has returned a set of church keys as they are not using the building at this time.

The next stated session meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 10.



July 1	Bill Carlisle, Sr.
July 5	Justin Jeffers
July 7	Bennett Vaughn
July 8	Walter Feath, Jim Dixon
July 13	Marcus Magley
July 16	Luke Vietmeir
July 26	Richard "Nik" Nikolishen
July 28	Judy Carl
July 29	Pat Mohny
July 30	Aric Bracken

Sunday Scripture Readings



July 3, 2022

2 Kings 5:1-14 Elisha tells Naaman to wash in the Jordan; he is cured of leprosy.
Psalm 30 O Lord, you brought me up from the grave; my soul praises you.
Galatians 6: (1-6) 7-16 Bear one another's burdens; in this way you fulfill the law of Christ.
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20 Jesus appoints seventy, sending them out as laborers into the harvest.

July 10, 2022

Amos 7:7-17 Amos has a vision of the Lord standing by a wall with a plumb line.
Psalm 82 God stands in judgment, giving justice to the poor, weak, and lowly.
Colossians 1:1-14 To the Colossians: we pray that you lead lives worthy of the Lord.
Luke 10:25-37 The great commandment and a good Samaritan: who is my neighbor?

July 17, 2022

Amos 8:1-12 The end has come; the Lord condemns those who prey on the needy.
Psalm 52 Why do you boast of your evil? God will uproot and destroy you.
Colossians 1:15-28 Christ is the image of the invisible God; now the mystery is revealed.
Luke 10:38-42 Mary sits and listens to Jesus, while Martha is busy with many tasks.

July 24, 2022

Hosea 1:2-10 The Lord commands Hosea to take a wife and bear children.
Psalm 85 Will you be angry with us forever, O Lord? Show your steadfast love.
Colossians 2:6-15 Live your lives in the faith of Christ; do not let anyone condemn you.
(16-19)
Luke 11:1-13 Jesus teaches the disciples to pray, and teaches them about prayer.

July 31, 2022

Hosea 11:1-11 When Israel was a child, I loved him; how could I give him up now?
Psalm 107:1-9, 43 Give thanks to the Lord, who gathers up and redeems the lost.
Colossians 3:1-11 If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above.
Luke 12:13-21 Be on guard against greed; life does not come from your possessions.

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 , 2022

Actual Operating Income:	\$21,129.82
Actual Operating Expenses:	\$30,285.42
Gain/Loss:	(\$9,155.59)



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

July 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 <i>Happy Birthday, Bill Carlisle, Sr.</i>	2
3 <i>Worship 11:00 AM & Facebook</i> Communion	4 Independence Day 	5 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i> <i>Happy Birthday, Justin Jeffers</i>	6 <i>Voice Lessons 1:30—3:30</i>	7 <i>Happy Birthday, Bennett Vaughn</i>	8 <i>Happy Birthday, Walter Feath, Jim Dixon</i>	9 <i>Happy Anniv. Herman & Judy Carl</i>
10 <i>Worship 11:00 AM & Facebook</i>	11	12 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	13 <i>Happy Birthday, Marcus Magley</i>	14	15 <i>Happy Anniv. Tim & Kristy Forberger</i>	16 <i>NA Business Meeting - 9:45 AM</i> <i>Happy Birthday, Luke Vietmeir</i>
17 <i>Worship 11:00 AM & Facebook</i> <i>Happy Anniv. Tim & Debra Sham- ble, Owar & Apay Ojulu</i>	18	19 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	20 <i>Voice Lessons 1:30—3:30</i>	21	22	23
24 <i>Worship 11:00 AM & Facebook</i> 31 <i>Worship 11:00 AM & Facebook</i>	25	26 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i> <i>Happy Birthday, “Nik” Nikolishen</i>	27 <i>Voice Lessons 1:30—3:30</i>	28 <i>Happy Birthday, Judy Carl</i>	29 <i>Happy Birthday, Pat Mohny</i>	30 <i>Happy Birthday, Aric Bracken</i>

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