

## The Fellowship

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

June 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

ebgpsesby@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](http://www.ebgpresby.org)

#### Facebook page:

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

*“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” Galatians 2:20*

Hello, church friends! Summer is here! Summer—a season of enjoyable times with families; a season for vacations, and a moment where we resume our favorite hobbies. I hope you enjoy summer and absorb its blessings.

Recently, I came across of a story by Nicky Gumbel in “Bible in One Year 2022” during my morning devotional and want to share with you. Nicky shares a story of a water-bearer in India who had two larger pots, both hung on the ends of a pole, which he carried across his neck when he fetched water. “One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water. At the end of the long walk from the stream to the house, the cracked pot always arrived half full. The poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do. After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water-bearer one day by the stream: ‘I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you. I have been able to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don’t get full value from your efforts.’ The bearer said to the pot, ‘did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path, but not on the other pot’s side? That’s because I have always known about your flaw, and I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you’ve watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house.’ Thankfully, God uses cracked pots! ...”

This story is relevant and applicable to our Christian life and the journey of our faith with God and our call to different ministries. It echoes Paul’s assertion that he was crucified with Jesus and his faith in Jesus Christ makes him worthy and purposeful. In his weakness and through countless challenges, Paul strongly believes that God is able to accomplish His divine purpose through the indwelling of Christ Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit. As such, in our brokenness and flaws, God uses us and our gifts for different purposes in the Kingdom. This is the core message of Paul’s epistle to the Galatians.

This month we will study and walk through the book of Galatians and unpack its treasure. We will explore Paul’s mind, heart, and soul for the Galatians and the gospel of Christ. The purpose of the letter to the Galatian Christians was to help the new believers resist false teachings and hold on to the truth of the gospel, that salvation is received not through human merit or obedience to the law, but that we are justified only and solely through faith in Christ Jesus. Paul argues from the Biblical standpoint that the message of the gospel of salvation is taught throughout scriptures, in that when we are free from legalism, we have the freedom to live for Christ and our faith is not futile but fruitful.

Like the water-bearer and his flawed pot, in our commitments to the truth of the gospel, our gifts are revealed, and the Lord uses us to enrich the faith of the community of believers despite our circumstances or weaknesses. Therefore, as you enjoy and adore nature in the summer and when you water your garden and sip water to quench your thirst, I encourage you to continue filling your soul with the springs of scriptures in your devotionals, meditations, and prayers.

Happy Father’s Day!

*Pastor Owar Ojulu*

**Pentecost Sunday**  
**June 5, 2022**

Our Pentecost Service will be on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM in Colver. You are invited to wear Red and if you would like, take a red flower (live or artificial). Communion will be served as this is the first Sunday of June.

**Handbell Refurbishment Update**

Kevin delivered our handbells to Schulmerich Bells in Hatfield, PA for refurbishment. Our original estimate was \$2,606.80 which covered cleaning, replacement of minor parts, tuning, and reassembly. Once they were able to inspect our handbell set they made recommendations for replacement of additional parts. The three octaves of handbells purchased in 1985 are close to 40 years old and we added an additional octave + more than 20 years ago. The clappers are hard and rusted with age and many of the discs between the handle and bell are thin and brittle. The disc style that we have is no longer available so they will need to replace all. These additional repairs will add \$2,914.00 to the original estimate. Schulmerich is also recommending that sometime in the future we consider replacing the handles (\$1,356.00 if purchased today).

We have decided to wait on replacing the handles and buying new table pads.

The new total for the handbell set refurbishment is \$5,520.80 and with the money raised so far thru hoagie and pizza sale profits and direct donation we will still need to raise \$1,610.00. We expect to pick up the hand bells by the end of the summer. We gratefully accept any donations to help us complete the refurbishment.

**Handbell Refurbishment at A Glance**

\$5,520.80 Estimate for Parts and Repairs

\$3,910.50 Money Raised

\$1,610.30 Still need



On Sunday May 29<sup>th</sup> the choir shared patriotic themed music beginning with “Give me your tired your poor” and “Battle Hymn of the Republic” with an incredibly challenging accompaniment on piano by Tina. The benediction response ‘Mansions of the Lord’ was written by Nick Glennie-Smith, with words by Randall Wallace for the 2002 film We Were Soldiers. Our choir was gifted a rehearsal copy of the song and given permission to use it after Pat Magley contacted the composer when she could not locate a published version. Mansions of the Lord was later performed at the end of the memorial service for President Ronald Reagan at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. by the U.S. Armed Forces Chorus and the U.S. Marine Chamber Orchestra. (There is a recording of “Mansions of the Lord” performed by the Cadet Glee Cub of West Point on you tube).

Below are Randall Wallace’s Lyrics

**The Mansions of the Lord**

*To Fallen Soldiers let us sing  
Where no rockets fly nor bullets wing  
Our broken brothers let us bring  
To the Mansions of the Lord  
No more bleeding, no more fight  
No prayers pleading through the night  
Just divine embrace, eternal light  
To the Mansions of the Lord.  
Where no mothers cry and no children weep  
We will stand and guard though the angels sleep  
Through the ages safely keep  
The Mansions of the Lord.*

**Hoagie and Pizza Fund Raiser**

**May 25, 2022**

**for**

**Hand Bell Refurbishment**



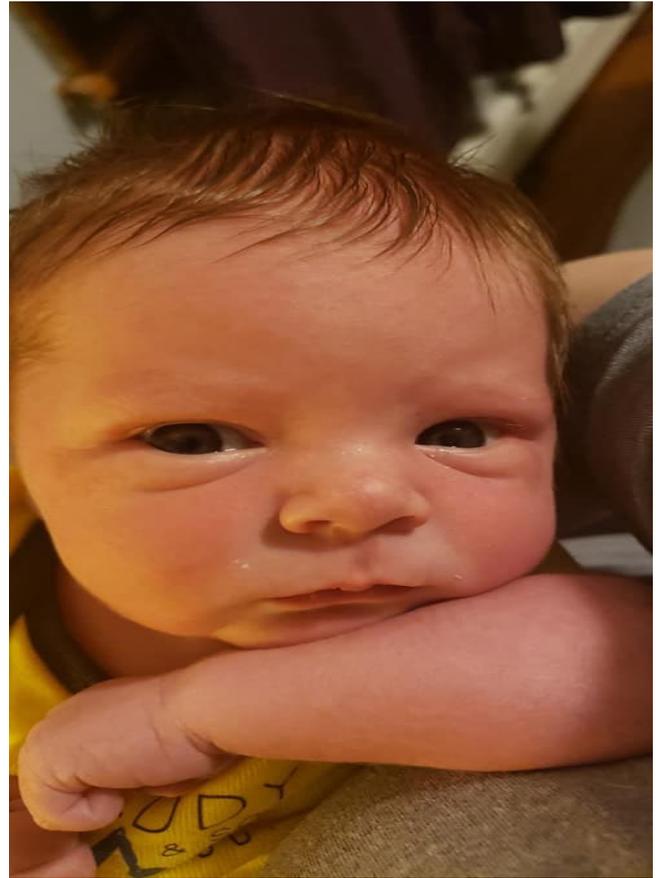
## CONGRATULATIONS!



CONGRATULATIONS to Dr. Micah Scott Magley for his great achievement.  
Dr. Micah S. Magley is NOW a fully certified Medical Doctor.

# *Congratulations!*

The Bracken's family has welcomed Alec Robert Bracken, born on 5/18. Please let's warmly welcome this blessing to our church family and congratulate Alyssa and Aric and the girls for the newest addition to their family.



**THANK YOU FOR CELEBRATING WITH OUR FAMILY**

## **African Drum**



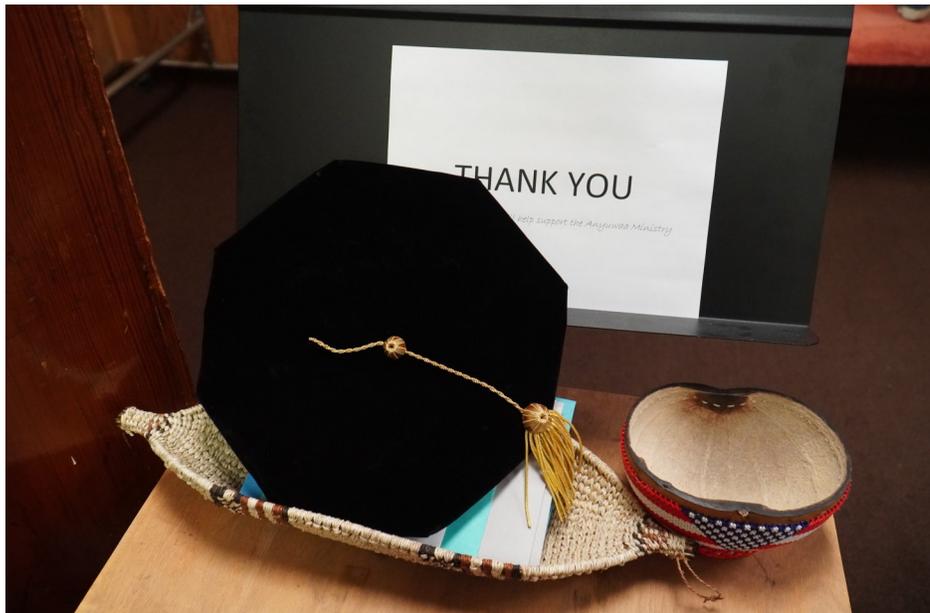
The African Drum is used in celebrations, dancing,  
and for victory.

The Baptism of BeenyJwok Ojulu  
May 22, 2022



## Congratulations to Rev. Owar Ojulu for attaining his Doctorate of Ministry degree

A celebration was held on Sunday, May 22nd honoring Rev. Ojulu for completing his Doctorate of Ministry Degree program. Church family members and friends joined for an evening of fellowship, listening to the remarkable stories of mission work in Africa by Rev. Carl and Pat Templin, sampling Ethiopian Food, and listening to Ethiopian music. Congratulations to Rev. Owar!



## What's Happening...



The Session of Ebensburg Presbyterian Church met May 11 and opened with prayer and a study on Jeremiah 18: 1-6. God sent Jeremiah to the Potter's house. God warns Israel that he can reform them as the potter reformed the clay.

The agenda and April Session minutes were approved, and the Treasurer's Report was received.

Committee Reports included the following:

Budget, Finance and Stewardship reported notification about two bequests. There was a short discussion about applying memorial funds to some of our special projects.

Discipleship reported the Youth Group will be going to the food pantry on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.

Family Life will help set up for the celebration on Sunday, May 22.

The Organ Restoration Committee continues to work on memorial plaques. After inspecting the handbells, the company who is refurbishing them recommended work on the clappers. The full estimate for repairs is now \$5,520.80 and the increase in cost was approved.

Pastor/Parish Relations reminded us that the joint Pentecost worship will be held at Colver Presbyterian Church on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. The service will include communion.

Property Management discussed the windowsill repairs and outside painting.

Worship Committee asked for clarification on who can serve communion. A member or the child of a member can help to serve it.

In New Business:

A new vacuum was delivered. Spring cleanup of the grounds should be scheduled.

Changing light fixtures was tabled until the next meeting.

A request by the borough to use the church for Memorial Day in case of rain was approved.

A letter about the use of music on Facebook and the license that we have was read and discussed. It requires keeping a record of music used and then submitting the information.

It will cost approximately \$350 to grind edges of uneven sidewalks in front of the church.

Martha O'Brien was appointed representative to the Presbytery for the May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Rev. Owar reported that he served communion to some homebound members and called or visited with several church members and friends. He also told us about the Presbytery Mission committee and a conference.

The next Session meeting will be June 8, 2022.



June 14

Claudia Gironda

June 17

Rebecca Bracken  
Kristy Forberger

June 21

Scott Magley  
Mary Lou Carlisle

June 22

James Lyons III

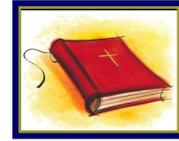
June 23

Magdalene Bracken  
Brooke Lyons

June 29

June Fedora  
Doug Weber

# Sunday Scripture Readings



## June 5, 2022—Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21                      On the day of Pentecost, God pours out the Spirit upon the earth  
Psalm 104:24—34, 35b        The Lord of creation sends forth the Spirit to renew the earth.  
Romans 8:14-17                In the Spirit, we are children of God and joint heirs with Christ.  
John 14:8-17 (25-27)        Jesus and the Father are one; the Father will send the Holy Spirit.

## June 12, 2022

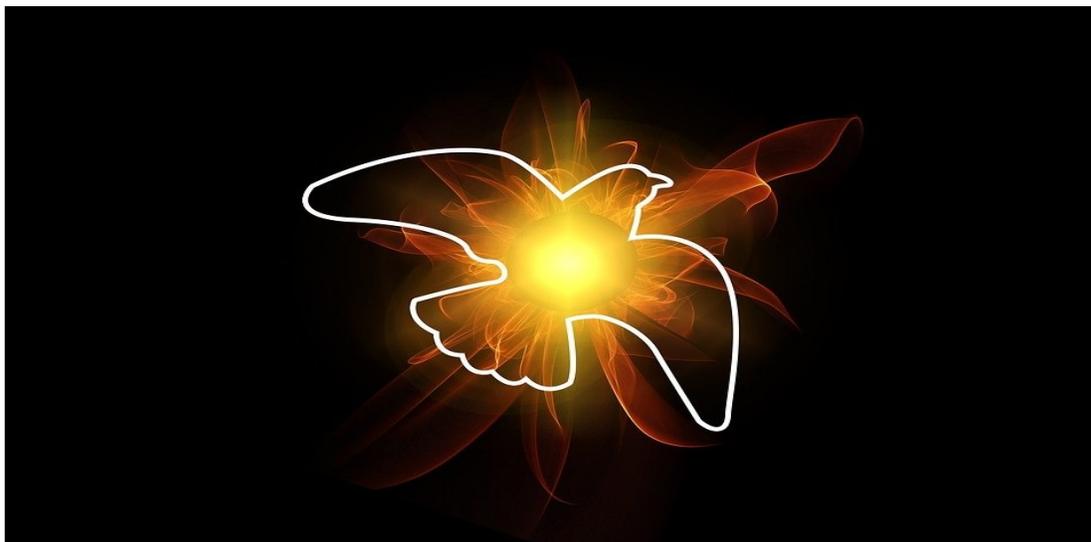
Proverbs 8:1, 22-31        Does not wisdom call? I was present at the beginning of creation.  
Psalm 8                         O Sovereign Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
Romans 5:1-5                 God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.  
John 16:12-15                Jesus says: The Spirit will guide you; all that the Father has is mine.

## June 19, 2022

1 Kings 19:1-4 (5-7)        Elijah meets God — not in wind, earthquake, or fire—but in silence.  
Psalms 2 and 43              My soul longs for you, O God; where are you? My hope is in you.  
Galatians 3:23-29            In Christ there is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female.  
Luke 8:26-39                 Jesus casts out a man's demons and they enter a herd of swine.

## June 26, 2022

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14        Elijah is taken to heaven in a whirlwind; Elisha picks up his mantle.  
Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20        You work wonders, O God; you make a path through the waters.  
Galatians 5:1, 13-25        Christ has set us free; live by the Spirit, not the desires of the flesh.  
Luke 9:51-62                 Jesus turns toward Jerusalem and warns those who would follow him.



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 March, 2022

Actual Operating Income:	\$15,425.08
Actual Operating Expenses:	\$22,671.83
Gain/Loss:	(\$7,246.75)



#### 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!

# Presbytery of Redstone

Communicate the Word...

Carry on the Work...

Change the World...Together!

## *May Gathering Highlights*

- Crossing the barriers of location, the Presbytery came together at First, Belle Vernon. Together, we worshipped our God and reaffirmed God's claim upon our lives in baptism. The Word was proclaimed through the use of the story, "Christmas Baptism."
- Representatives of the Harmony and First congregations of Belle Vernon shared testimonies of their mission activities and the ways their congregations (however small) have responded. Rev. Ojulu commended Redstone congregations for the number who participated in special offerings in 2021. We received video greetings from Rev. Thomas Tut and Rev. Madut Tong, new leaders of SSPEC.
- The Committee on Ministry recommended, and the Presbytery commissioned Bob Sheehan to serve as the newest Commissioned Pastor. After many years as an Authorized Preacher, now Bob will be serving temporary pastoral roles as needed within the bounds of District IV.
- With summer camp season upon us, the exciting ministry of Pine Springs Camp was shared. We were asked to have our congregations bless and support a summer staff person. We also heard from Dan Duffield with a firsthand account of how God has used this ministry through the years to impact young adults who serve on the staff.
- Reports were provided by Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley on resources like stewardship navigator and the financial literacy academy through the Presbytery Foundation. Additionally, Executive Presbyter shared his written report, encouragement and a prayer for the church.

# Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

## June 2022

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

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