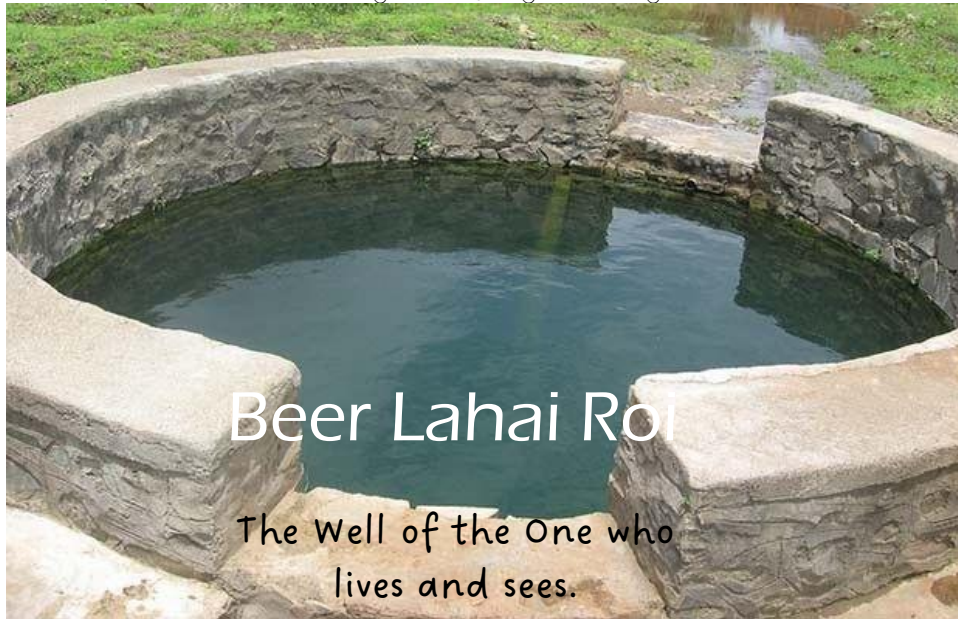


"This is from the Lord; we can say nothing to you one way or the other." Gen. 24:50



Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 9, 2023

EBENSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
200 North Center Street, P.O. Box 327
Ebensburg, Pennsylvania 15931

www.ebgpresby.org
[Ebensburg Presbyterian Church | Facebook](#)
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[Phone Number:814-472-6920](tel:814-472-6920)

Mission Statement

"Ebensburg Presbyterians
are Christians giving help
and hope to all by sharing God's love."

GATHERING

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

THE CALL TO WORSHIP¹ (*Responsively*)

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all who are weary,
and I will give you rest."

All of us know what it is like to be weary.

All of us carry heavy burdens.

Let us accept Christ's invitation.

We long to rest in God.

We come to worship the Lord!

* HYMN# 281 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CALL TO CONFESSIONS:

God is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
Knowing that God is compassionate to all,
Let us confess our sins.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (*Responsively*)

Faithful God,

despite our best efforts,

**we have not lived up to what we can do
or who we can be.**

**Even when our intentions are good,
our actions cause harm.**

**Even when we want to follow you more closely,
we ended up turning away.**

**We are at war with ourselves,
and only you can bring peace.**

Still our souls, order our steps,

guide our feet back to your way. Amen (*silent Prayer*)

¹ CTW 561A

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: *(Responsibly)*
God upholds all who are falling,
and raises up those who are bowed down.
**Jesus Christ rescues us from sin and death;
thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

*GLORIA PATRI

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST *(responsively)*
The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also, with you.**
(Please share the peace of Christ with those around.)

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(In unison)*
O God,
**your Word is more precious than fine gold, and
sweeter than purest honey. As we turn to your Scripture,
send your Holy Spirit to infuse your Word with truth and
grace — so that the good news of your love would shine
before our eyes and delight our senses, so that we cannot
help but respond with wonder, faith and trust. Amen.**

SCRIPTURES

FIRST READING: Genesis 24: 42–49 Page 18

SECOND READING: Psalm 45:10–17 Page 449

The Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God!

SERMON God of Surprises

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMNS#376 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (vs 1&4)

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy
kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as
we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but
deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

INVITATION & PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
Father God, Christ our Redeemer, divine Spirit our comforter, you
are infinitely wise and loving. Our gifts to you are the outpouring of
joy and gladness of our hearts. We give according to what we have
but not out of compulsion or in comparison with others. You love a
cheerful giver, and our gifts are acceptable to you. May we find
comfort in giving and the desire to bless others. We ask your
blessings in our worship through offerings and eager hearts that
desire in your presence always, through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

SENDING

*HYMNS#356 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION *Psalm 72:18-19*
Blessed be the LORD God,
the God of Israel,
Who alone works wonders.
And blessed be His glorious name forever;
And may the whole earth be filled with His glory.
Amen, and Amen.

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

****Please stand as you are able.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Major Repair Project

The Session leadership agreed on restoring storm windows of our church to help preserve stained-glass windows. We need your prayers and prayerfully, please consider donating to the Major Repair Fund. Contact pastor Owar or one of our leaders.

Worship at Pines Spring: We will be closed on Sunday, July 16th to join worship service with Redstone Presbytery for the rededication of the Log chapel. Service starts at 10:00AM. If you plan to go, please contact Becky Bracken or Rev. Ojulu. The presbytery needs to know the number of attendants.

Sponsoring a Counselor: 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. If you wish to participate in this outreach, please consider donating something 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:

- 1) Cards and notes
- 2) Small quantities of candy bars, snacks, or “fun items” (**Avoiding nuts, peanuts, and peanut oil**)
- 3) A \$25.00 gas gift card (Giant Eagle Get-Go is recommended, but another type would be fine.)
- 4) A \$25.00 restaurant gift card (Ruby Tuesdays, Eat and Park, Subway, Applebee’s, and Chili’s are all nearby)
- 5) 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!

Bible2020 Program—Bible Study Program, Wednesdays @7pm

Food Pantry- The Mission Committee is collecting funds for our local St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry during July. Please give generously!

31-August 31, 2023. Pastor Dave O’Hara and Rev. Alice Tondora will be available for any emergency spiritual needs. Please contact Jim Stratton or one of our church leaders with any question or concern. 3

July Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday

July 1 Bill Carlisle, Sr.

July 7 Bennett Vaughn

July 8 Walter Feath

July 13 Marcus Magley

July 16 Luke Vietmeir

July 26 Richard “Nik” Nikolishen

July 28 Judy Carl

July 29 Pat Mohney

July 30 Aric Bracken

Happy Anniversary

July 9 Herman & Judy Carl

July 15 Tim & Kristy Forberger

July 17 Tim & Debra Shamble

July 17 Owar & Apay Ojulu

You may join our church in one of three ways: **Transfer** from another congregation; **Reaffirm** your faith if you have not been an active church member recently; **Profess** Jesus as Savior and Lord. *Please talk to the pastor or one of the leaders*

PRAYER LIST

If you have any names, you would like added to the Prayer List, please call the church office at 472-6920 or place the names in the Offering Baskets near each of the front entrances. Thank you.

Eva Tomb

Ray McKim

Jim Estep

Ramona McKim

Candi Elam

Ben & Patricia Tuchi

Peter & Margaret Funch

Albie

Claudette Segear

John Fedora

Ruthan Noderer

Father Pat Kirsch

Bob & Mary Clare Stofko

Family of Richard McKim

Phil Brulia

Tom R.

Joe P

Erin M.

Marty F