

# West Berlin Presbyterian Church

## The MESSENGER October 2024



The mission of West Berlin Presbyterian Church is to follow God's law and act in true faith by being a welcoming place where community members come to learn, take part in worship, find fellowship, and serve those in need, for the glory of God.

**The Small Strong Church with a Big Heart**



### **From the Pulpit –**

I am very much looking forward to the return of the Hyssongs Gospel group for a concert at the church Thursday, October 17 at 7:00 PM. I hope you are too and that you will invite friends as well. I have been asked questions about this performance: "What really is gospel music anyway and why should we be interested in it?" And "Who is the group, the Hyssongs?" Both questions are worth addressing.

Extracting from Wikipedia is a place to start with the first question.

([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gospel\\_music](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gospel_music))

**Gospel music** is a traditional genre of Christian music and a cornerstone of Christian media. Gospel music is characterized by dominant vocals and strong use of harmony with Christian lyrics. Gospel music can be traced to the early 17th century. Hymns and sacred songs were often performed in a call and response fashion, heavily influenced by ancestral African music. Most of the churches relied on hand-clapping and foot-stomping as rhythmic accompaniment. Most of the singing was done a cappella. The first published use of the term "gospel song" appeared in 1874.

According to Yale University music professor Willie Ruff, the singing of psalms in Scottish Gaelic by Presbyterians of the Scottish Hebrides evolved from "lining out"—where one person sang a solo, and others followed—into the call and response of gospel music of the American South. Moreover, the genre arose during a time when literacy was not a guarantee, utilizing a great deal of repetition (which, unlike more traditional hymns, allowed those who could not read the opportunity to participate). The most famous gospel-based hymns were composed in the 1760s and 1770s by English writers John Newton ("Amazing Grace") and Augustus Toplady ("Rock of Ages"), members of the Anglican Church.

The revival movement employed popular singers and song leaders, the most famous of them being Ira D. Sankey. The original "gospel" songs were written and composed by authors such as George F. Root, Philip Bliss, Charles H. Gabriel, William Howard Doane, and Fanny Crosby. [Lest you think Gospel music does not continue to influence us, forty-seven (47) hymns in our hymnal are attributed to just these five authors.]



## Meet The Hyssongs (<https://thehyssongs.com/>)

Dell, Susan, and Richard Hyssong travel full-time as the award-winning Hyssongs. Their energetic ministry combines family vocal harmony, humor, and brass instruments (trumpet and trombone) to delight audiences with their Christ-centered message, shared through the powerful medium of music. The family's classical music background, along with their harmony and specific chord structures, lend them a unique sound that has made quite an impact on audiences.

The group has been singing together as a family for more than 27 years. The Hyssongs have received many accolades for their quality, inspirational Southern Gospel sound. They were awarded the Singing News Fan Award for Favorite New Trio 2014 at the National Quartet Convention, Pigeon Forge, TN.

You can hear them regularly on Southern Gospel radio stations and Sirius XM EnLighten. Their radio songs consistently chart in the top 10 each month. The Hyssongs perform at more than 225 events each year throughout the United States and Canada. They minister in churches, auditoriums and on Gospel singing cruises, as well as on television and radio. They have had the opportunity to sing to an audience of over 12,000 people on the Main Stage at the National Quartet Convention, perform at Renfro Valley's All-Night Sing, Dollywood, and Silver Dollar City. Through Compassion International, the group has also been privileged to sing in El Salvador, Central America.

Pastor Bob

## Gospel Music Concert 2024



We welcome back The Hyssong Gospel group to do a concert at our church Thursday, October 17 at 7:00 PM. This family group that covers three generations travels the country doing about 250 concerts per year. You will not want to miss their wonderful combination of vocal harmony, brass instruments and testimony that fills the sanctuary.

The concert is free (free-will donations accepted). Make sure to invite friends and neighbors to join you for this concert.

## Important Dates: October 2024

October 1  
Session Meeting, 7 PM

October 6  
Hybrid Worship\*  
World Communion  
Worship in Shelter  
House  
Fall Church Picnic

October 7  
Adult Education  
Philippians Study  
7:00 PM

October 8  
Administrative  
Committee  
7:00 PM

October 13  
Hybrid Worship\*

October 14  
Adult Education  
7:00 PM

October 15  
Education Committee  
7:00 PM

October 17  
Gospel Music Concert  
7:00 PM

October 20  
Hybrid Worship\*

October 21  
Adult Class  
7:00 PM

October 23  
Deacon & Mission Bd  
12:00 PM (noon)

October 27  
Hybrid Worship  
All Saints Sunday  
Program on Probate  
Judge Hejmanowski

12:00 PM  
October 28  
Adult Education  
7:00 PM

**\*Weekly Bulletins  
Available**

## Family Fun Fest – October 6, 2024

Family Fall Fun Fest, sponsored by the Women’s Society, will be held after worship service on the above Sunday. Please bring your favorite fall dish to share! Hot dogs, hamburgers, paper products and drinks will be provided.

Service that day will be held in the Shelter House and include Communion. The service will be moved to the sanctuary if the weather is inclement.

Come for the worship, fun and fellowship!!

## Adult Education Opportunities

Our Monday evening (7:00 PM) Adult Education opportunities have resumed on a regular basis! Through the month of October, we continue a study entitled “Joy Even on Your Worst Days – Wisdom from Philippians” by Tom Are Jr. Dates, Chapter titles and Texts are:

- October 7 – Some Days Are Like That – Philippians 1:18b - 26.
- October 14 – Seeing the Good – Philippians 1:27- 2:11
- October 21 – For Example – Philippians 2:12 – 3:1
- October 28 – Heading Home – Philippians 3:2 – 3:21

For all classes, come to church or through Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6145951009>  
Or Voice only Dial 929 436 2866 or 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 614 595 1009

## Good Deeds Program

The above program will be held on Sunday October 27, 2024, following the worship service and include a light lunch provided by the Deacon and Mission Board. The Delaware County “Good Deeds” Program is a collaborative legal information and public awareness effort lead by Judge David Hejmanowski, Melissa Jordan (Country Recorder) and Natalie Fravel (Clerk of Courts).

Preparing now to avoid the probate process later is the goal of the program. If something happens to you, your loved ones could face unnecessary costs and delays in receiving the assets and property you want them to own.

You are encouraged to come and invite others from the community for the lunch (11:30 AM) and the program at 12:00 PM.

## 2024 Delaware County CROP Hunger Walk - Sunday October 13, 2024



We join over 500 communities across the country to help eradicate hunger in our communities and the world. This year again we will be walking from the Ohio Wesleyan University Hamilton-Williams Campus Center, 40 Rowland Ave, Delaware, OH starting at 2:00 p.m. with a planned 3 mile or 1 mile walk (or anything in-between!) to show our solidarity with those who must walk miles just to find safe water supplies and food sources.

This is the 55th Annual CROP Hunger Walk affiliated with Church World Service to fight hunger worldwide with 25% of the proceeds staying right here in Delaware County with the People In Need, Inc. organization. For more information, please go to the following website: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/event/delawareoh>

## October

### Birthdays:

- 1-Jennifer Jordan, Joshua Glenn
- 2-Jeff Jordan, Beth Schanck Ball
- 4-Rodger Glenn
- 12- Scott McGraw, Amy Martindale
- 13 – Ryan Cox
- 16 – Lou Ann Shy
- 17 – Scott Fisher
- 24- Joan Jordan
- 26– Micah Sparks



### Anniversaries

- 3 – Paul & Amy Martindale
- 20 – Tom & Julia Roll
- 25 – Hunter and Bailey Szuch
- 29 – Travis and Corrie Martindale

**PRAYER LIST:** Rodger Glenn, Dan Cottrill, Gene & Penny Ford, John & Debbie Rucker, April Hardt, Bill & Ellie Philput, Bill Philput Jr., Nick Gallaher, Jack Smith (father & son), Julia Roll, Terry Stein

## People in Need (PIN) of Delaware County

PIN is holding its annual fund raiser Thursday, October 3, 2024, at Henmick Farm and Brewery Fall Fest 2024! This celebration of community and our supporters is PIN's largest gathering of the year and a true "cannot miss" event.

Every dollar raised directly benefits our programs, from Food Insecurity to Eviction Prevention. Your \$70 admission includes live music, hors d'oeuvres, dessert, a silent auction, and two drink tickets redeemable at Henmick.

Tickets on sale at [Tickets are on sale now!](#)



## Toddler Time

Spaces is still available for the Wednesday morning (10:00 – 11:30) Toddler Time. This program gives toddlers time to learn to play together, parents (or grandparents or care givers) a time to socialize and interact with others and receive coaching on child development.

If you know of any families with toddlers, please have them either come on Wednesday or have them contact Yvonne Gustafson for more information ([ygustafson3@gmail.com](mailto:ygustafson3@gmail.com), 614 595 1069).

## October Soup Supper Cancelled

The decision has been made to focus our community dinners events on the Ice Cream Social (July) and the Chicken Noodle Dinner (April). We will not have the Soup Supper at the end of October.

## All Saints' Day for 2024

All Saints' Day recognition will be on Sunday, October 27th this year. It has been our tradition to recognize members and friends of the congregation who have died in the past year during our service that day. To assure that we do not miss persons you would like to have recognized, please refer names to Pastor Bob ([gustafson15@gmail.com](mailto:gustafson15@gmail.com) or 614 595 1009) by Wednesday, October 23, 2024.

## Peace and Global Witness Offering September 8 - October 6, 2024

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to confronting hopelessness, thwarting division by empowering congregations and individuals to become peacemakers themselves. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.

Peace is doing, not waiting. Peace begins with each of us. To learn more about the Peace and Global Witness Offering visit:

<https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/peace-global-witness>



## Berlin Bears Football Team at WBPC

Again, this year the Berlin Bears Football team is having their Friday pre-game meal at our church. The meal is prepared by parents from the team. It is wonderful to have this group of young men using our facility. Depending on if they make the playoffs, this goes on for ten weeks or more in the fall. We were also the sight for a pre-season meeting of field hockey team and parents. "Claws Up" for the Berlin Bears.



## Scout Troop 4390 Recruitment Event

We were able to host a recruitment night for Scout Pack 4390 on Friday evening August 30, 2024. This allowed the troop to have a fun event for the kids and get information to the families about scouting. Most of the Scouts for this troop come from the Chesire Elementary School area. We may have opportunity to work with the troop in the future.

If you have interest in being our liaison to the troop, please let Bob Gustafson know.



From the Treasurer

September Stats:

Attendance:

September 1 – 29  
19 on-site  
10 on-line

September 8 - 30  
20 on-site  
10 on-line

September 15 - 35  
26 on-site  
9 on-line

September 22 - 33  
on-site 21  
on-line 12

September 29 - TBD  
on-site  
on-line

Giving

Sept 1 \$1,596  
Sept 8 \$759  
Sept 15 \$1,169  
Sept 22 \$764  
Sept 29 \$TBD

Please make your contributions via mail to Church Treasurer Edmund Cox, 257 Pennsylvania Av, Delaware, OH 43015. On-line giving through westberlinpc.info

Peace & Global Witness offering will be accepted through mid-October before reporting them to Presbytery. Thank you for your continued support of the Church's special offerings.

## Wedding

The wedding and reception of Corey Sperling (Son of Kathleen Sperling) and Jhenie Thimot was held at WBPC on Saturday, September 21, 2024. The couple donated beautiful chair covers and table clothes for our use at the church.



## WBPC Pastoral Review – 2024

The Personnel Committee is charged with reviewing performance of the pastor and annually making recommendations regarding pastor performance and compensation to Session and to the Pastor. You as a WBPC member or friend are being asked to make input to this process by answering a few open-ended questions.

Please thoughtfully fill out the form included with this newsletter and return by either:

- 1) place completed form in an envelope that will be on the Information Table in the Sanctuary,
- 2) email Susan Fisher [14.Fisher@gmail.com](mailto:14.Fisher@gmail.com) or.
- 3) mail to Attn: Susan Fisher, 269 N. Franklin St., Delaware, OH 43015.

Blank forms will also be available on the information table. Confidentiality of persons submitting will be protected.

Susan Fisher, Chair, Personnel Committee