



West Berlin Presbyterian Church

The MESSENGER - October 2026

The Small Strong Church with a Big Heart

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.

From the Pulpit

I am sure the neighbors have become accustomed to hearing our lovely bell on Sunday mornings. A church bell traditionally serves to:

- Call people to worship and announce church services.
- Mark important times, such as the hour or prayer times.
- Announce special events, such as weddings, funerals, or festivals.
- Bring the community together by providing a shared public signal.
- Historically, bells could also warn of emergencies such as fires or other dangers.

Although no one can see it, today, our bell calls people to worship every Sunday morning.

Ed Cox determined, that the bell in the WBPC steeple was purchased from the Menelly Bell Foundry, West Troy N. Y. in 1892. It is a bronze bell (78% copper / 22% tin). It weighed 402 lbs. We have no record of what it cost or how 'they' got it up there !!! But after 134 years it is still ringing clearly.

Ever wonder what the bell or the inside of the belfry looks like? Thanks to Roy Cottrill for the following pictures of the inside of our belfry and our bell. Roy has volunteered, as his time allows, to do some restoration in the belfry itself, maintenance on the bell to make sure it stays secure and functioning properly. He will keep us posted on progress. Be sure and thank Roy for this project. (And if you ask, he may even let you help ring the bell on a Sunday morning.)

Our Church Bell



Part of the

Ladder to the belfry.



Upper right looks out over attic of our sanctuary.



I am sure you have noticed a different format for our The Messenger this month. After many years of doing a wonderful and creative job of as editor of our newsletter Lou Ann Shy asked to be relieved of that duty. We all need to express thanks to Lou Ann for this service to the church. This brings up the need to find someone to work with me on the monthly editing of the newsletter. If you have interest (or suggestions), please let me know.

Pastor Bob

Family Fun Fest – October 11, 2026

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

Come for the worship, stay for the fun and fellowship!!

September Women's Society Meeting



At its September 2nd meeting the Women's Society collected contributions pictured to support the Delaware Humane Society. An excellent presentation from a representative of Common Ground in Delaware was heard. Next luncheon meeting for the group will be Wednesday November 5 with the giving focus being hats and gloves. Hostesses: Becky Donovan, Eileen Doucher, Kathy McCreary; Spiritual Nugget: Amy Martindale; Giving Cause: Hats and Gloves.

All Saints' Day for 2026

All Saints' Day recognition will be on Sunday, November 1st 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 or 614 595 1009) by Wednesday, October 28, 2026.

Toddler Time

Space is still available for the Wednesday morning (10:00 – 11:15) 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, 614 595 1069).

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 to study book entitled “Being Presbyterian in a Dysvangelical America – A Guide to Reclaiming the Good News of God’s Grace” by Ted Foote Jr and Alex Thornburg, Chapter titles and Texts are:

October 5 – Chap. 2 Faith and Salvation Are Gifts, Not Transactions

October 12 – Chap. 3 Discipleship Is a Lifelong Conversion, Not a Rulebook

October 19 – Chap. 4 Shaped for Community, Not for Individuality

October 26 – Chap. 5 The Future Is Hopeful, Not Something to Fear

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

Peace and Global Witness Offering - October 4



A gift to the Peace and Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world.

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 to support peacemaking, reconciliation, and global witness. The Offering is usually received on **World Communion Sunday**, this year on **October 4**

Gospel Music Concert 2025



If you missed The Hyssongs' Gospel concert September 10, you missed a great experience. 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. Mark September 9, 2027 for their next concert with us.

Horse Parade This Year

On a beautiful September Sunday afternoon, a group of us enjoyed the Delaware Horse Parade from the comfort of Ed and Diane Cox's front yard. Followed by a wonderful picnic in the backyard. Plenty of horses, bands and people.



Prayer List: Rodger Glenn, John & Debbie Rucker, William Nierman, Linda Fields, Alice Coy, Michael Jordan, Eloise Eschbaugh, Debbie & Carl Gustafson, Joyce Harmen, Greer Family, Tiffani, Arlene Thompson, Terry Bischoff, Dana Carmack, Pam Evener, Kent Brooks, Lily Metzler, Claybon Family, Mary Grace Byrns, Tim Smith Family, Matt & Jennifer Furer

Important October 2026 Dates

October 4	Hybrid Worship* with World Communion	
October 5	Adult Education - Dysvangelicalism	7:00 PM
October 6	Session Meeting	7:00 PM
October 11	Hybrid Worship* & Church Picnic	
October 12	Adult Education	7:00 PM
October 18	Hybrid Worship* & OSU Kirk Meal & Worship	5:45 PM on campus
October 19	Adult Education	7:00 PM
October 25	Hybrid Worship	
October 26	Adult Education	7:00 PM
October 28	Deacon & Mission Bd	12:00 PM

* Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6145951009> Or Voice only Dial 929 436 2866 or 312 626 6799
Meeting ID: 614 595 1009

October Birthdays

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

October Anniversaries

3 – Paul & Amy Martindale, 20 – Tom & Julia Roll, 29 – Travis and Corrie Martindale

From the Treasurer September Stats: Attendance and Giving

September 6 – 29 (20 on-site, 7 on-line)	\$632
September 13 – 18 (13 on-site, 4 on-line)	\$1,804
September 20 – 32 (22 on-site, 10 on-line)	\$920
September 27 - 30 (22 on-site, 8 on-line)	\$497

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.