

# WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH

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**God Help Me To Know And Speak Your Truth**



*May the peace of God be yours this day.*

Greetings to the Church of Jesus Christ that is in West Henrietta. How would you know that your opinion on an issue is incorrect? How do you know that someone's opinion is questionable?

Have you ever been a member of an after-school's debate club? As a former member of such a club, I join many who have credited their debate club for teaching them speaking and listening skills, for helping them to exhibit grace under pressure, perform critical thinking and foster empathy. However, whether or not we have been a member of a debate club cable, television and social media have brought the debate to you.

The topics that are assigned to us range from personal to national, religious to secular, political to apolitical, and the simple to the complicated. COVID-19 vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson Janssen), civil rights, censorship and freedom of speech, abortion rights, voting rights, social welfare programs, health insurance, climate change, the right to own a gun, death penalty/capital punishment, and artificial intelligence are all on the table. Let me encourage you to include the person of JESUS on the table. In short, include JESUS in your daily conversation with everyone, but especially non-Christians. Discuss the challenges of living the Christian life and why JESUS should be LORD of our lives.

Disagreement is rarely considered as something positive in some cultures or subcultures. It is rather viewed as an annoying obstacle to people receiving the truth. On the other hand, there are those who argue that disagreement can lead to several fruitful results. I personally believe that it's human to have reasonable disagreement, and a healthy debate can have fruitful results among God's people. You may agree with me that not all the debates we are exposed to on cable television and social media involved reasonable people or people exhibiting grace or much critical thinking.

As Christians, we should not shy away from the debates of our time, but we must strive for truthfulness and decency. We should strive for curiosity rather than a clash with others who disagree with us. Conversations based on curiosity are efforts to understand and to find common ground. Instead of trying to win an argument regardless of the consequences, you should strive to cultivate understanding.

I believe Christians should strive daily to become more informed about the world around us. According to Occam Barber, "You are completely entitled to opinions that are not supported by evidence. But the moment you spread those opinions as fact you are a liar..." As a result, we have a responsibility to be honest consumers of that information. I implore you in your striving to get your information from different sides of the political spectrum that will expand your minds and increase your understanding of multiple sides of important issues. However, our primary source of truth must be the word of God and every philosophy, ideology, and school of thought must be weighed on that scale.

In closing, strive always to choose curiosity and empathy over conflict in your conversation with people with whom you have a disagreement. Listen to everyone's stories and experiences since those are the platforms on which their convictions are usually based. Then and only then, you will have a true sense of how much we are all in need of God's grace.

May the strength of God sustain you;  
May the love of God go with you this day and forever. Amen!  
Rev. Dr. Peter E. Grinion



### Mark your calendars & join us!

- Choir Practice @ 9:15 AM
- **Sunday Worship** at 10

AM; Fellowship follows.

- Bible Study - Wednesdays at 10 AM
- Prayer Time - Saturdays at 9 AM

For the above, if fully vaccinated, masks aren't required, but socially distance as much as possible. Gloves, masks, & sanitizer are available. The area is sanitized before each event. Please don't attend if you have COVID symptoms.

- Nov. 5, Financial Task Force, 6:30 pm

**Nov. 7 - Daylight Saving Time Ends**  
(Set your clock back before retiring Nov. 6).

- Nov. 7 Holiday Pie Orders due
- Nov. 8, Deacon's Mtg., 10 am @ Church
- Nov. 8, Trustee's Mtg., 1 pm @ Church

**November 11 - Take time to thank & honor our veterans.**

- Dec. Link Inputs due to Sharon Scurlock Nov. 18
- Nov. 23 Pie(s) pickup at WHBC, 1:30 pm
- **Thanksgiving - November 25**



- Nov. 27, 10 AM "The Hanging of the Greens (decorate the church). Many hands will make less time spent.

Help me with the Prayer List on the bulletin. Let me know please when I should add or delete a request. Joyce

### **Servants for November:**

- 07th ~ Greeter - Leanna Shirley  
Invocation & Call to Worship - Rev. Dr. Grinion  
Offeratory Prayer - Loretta Hirschman  
Scripture Reader - Annette Eney  
Communion - Kathy Gosnell/Laurie Wenthe  
Fellowship - Kathy Gosnell/Josina McCarroll
- 14th ~ Greeter - Leanna Shirley  
Invocation & Call to Worship - Kathy Gosnell  
Offeratory Prayer - Connie Necaster  
Scripture Reader - Mike Shirley  
Fellowship - Dan & Sharon Scurlock
- 21st ~ Greeter - Leanna Shirley  
Invocation & Call to Worship - Rev. Dr. Grinion  
Offeratory Prayer - Laurie Wenthe  
Scripture Reader - Laurel Heisig  
Fellowship - Leanna Shirley
- 28th ~ Greeter - Leanna Shirley  
Invocation & Call to Worship - Loretta Hirschman  
Offeratory Prayer - Val Bandemer  
Scripture Reader - Connie Necaster  
Fellowship - Gretchen Young

### A Recap of the Craft & Vendor Sale

The sale was a great success. Thank you, Joanne Wilbert and all who helped out in any way. The weather cleared up and it was a nice day so the customer traffic was good.

Thank you, Gretchen for organizing the "NothingBundt Cake" sale.

While we don't know how the Vendors did, we finally achieved Joanne's goal of \$1,000. The final accounting is as follows:

• Table Fees	\$380
• Raffle	133
• "New-To-You" (Basement)	351
• Pizza/Sodas	78
• Bundt Cake Sale	120
• Grand Total	\$ 1,062

As you can see, Laurie Wenthe did a great job pricing the items in the basement, and she and her team watched over the sale.

**Thank you everyone. This puts us ~ \$1,000 closer to our Capital Fund Goal.**



Keep the **GofundMe** in mind.

Each donation, big or small, will make a difference. It is growing (\$1710 now) albeit slowly so we need to continue to share it on our Social media, and by emailing family, friends, and neighbors.

**Glowing Glory**

*Morning sunrise glowed  
Painting the sky with Majesty  
Exciting to See!*

*We give thanks each day  
For such a gracious array  
Of God's gifts which stay.*

*Father saw our joy  
With the praise songs we employ,  
Hymns for girls and boys.*

*When we come to earth,  
We are held in Father's Hands  
Under Angel Guard.*

*We never end thanks  
For appreciation banks  
Throughout every day.*

*From first landing time,  
We held on with thankful hearts  
Where inspiration starts.*

**Evelyn "Evy" Shoots  
10/2021**



*Grove of Grace  
By Evelyn Marie Shoots*

**Looking Back:** Jan Towsley held an Art Sale of her mother's (Shirley Hewitt's) artistry, and Jan brought a picture of her Mom having an art sale in the late 60's here at the church. She is sitting, and Barbara Cross is standing.

Shirley M. Bunker Hewitt was one tal-

ented Lady: a rug maker, painter/print maker, basket maker, sculptor, lace maker & seamstress. They were members of our church along with the Cross Family.

Jan is talented as well with her fiber art. In fact she wove the red altar cloths which have been here for years. How wonderful to know more about the dedicated, talented people who came before us.

Thank you, Leanna for arranging Jan's visit.



**Trustee's Report** -The chimney work is done for the year. The roof sections have been rebuilt and a temporary plywood enclosure built to keep snow out. The scrap masonry rubble has been disposed of. Work will resume in the Spring.

The parsonage had some work done, but more work needs to be done.

**An Organist was hired.**

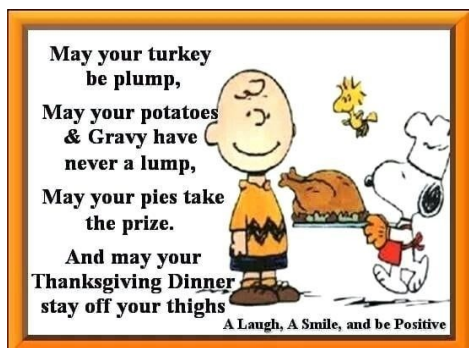
They met with the Fire Dept. and discussed **parking**. Clarification came out as follows:

**Please park either in our spaces on Erie Station Rd. or in the lot behind the fire hall, accessed from West Henrietta Rd. The post office needs their spaces left open for customers during business hours Monday through Saturday (Sundays we can use them), and the fire hall needs their spaces on Erie Station left open all the time.**

**Thank you for your cooperation in helping us be good neighbors!**



1 - Darnell Ashford	20 - Rick Pires
5 - Leanna Shirley	24 - Debbie Covill
8 - Lonnie Schultz	26 - Ian Gress
10 - Laurie Wenthe	
17 - Michael Young	



**We all enjoyed Dr. Len Smith singing "The Love of God". Here are the lyrics & story behind the song.**  
**Submitted by Annette Enedy**

"The Love of God", Chris-Mallonee

"The Love of God" is an incredibly powerful song, and certainly one of my favorites on the *Anchored* album. When our worship team met together a few weeks ago to preview the album together, hearing the final version of "The Love of God" for the first time was one of the "wow" moments of the night, where we felt the beauty of the lyrics and music coming together in an amazing way.

To give some context to the song, I'm going to walk through the story of the original song as well as Tyler Daniel's vision for rewriting the song for Redeemer.

"The Love of God" was written by Frederick M. Lehman in 1917. Lehman was a California businessman who had recently lost everything in some business deals gone wrong at the time he wrote the song. He was working long days of manual labor in a Pasadena packing house packing oranges and lemons into wooden crates trying to get back on his feet. One Sunday he was so moved by a Sunday sermon on the love of God that he had trouble going to sleep. The next morning, he began jotting down lyrics on scrap pieces of paper and broken crates while he was working. When he got

home that evening, he began putting together the melody on his piano.

Lehman quickly penned two verses, but songs in those days were considered incomplete without at least three stanzas. As he struggled to find a third verse, he remembered a poem someone had given him years before. He had kept the poem on a card used as a bookmark. At the bottom of the card, Lehman found this written:

"These words were found written on a cell wall in a prison some 200 years ago. It is not known why the prisoner was incarcerated; neither is it known if the words were original or if he had heard them somewhere and had decided to put them in a place where he could be reminded of the greatness of God's love – whatever the circumstances, he wrote them on the wall of his prison cell. In due time, he died and the men who had the job of repainting his cell were impressed by the words. Before their paint brushes had obliterated them, one of the men jotted them down and thus they were preserved."

Amazingly, the poem Lehman found fit the melody he had just written, and he had found his third verse!

*The love of God is greater far  
 Than tongue or pen can ever tell;  
 It goes beyond the highest star,  
 And reaches to the lowest hell;  
 The guilty pair, bowed down with*

*care,  
 God gave His Son to win;  
 His erring child He reconciled,  
 And pardoned from his sin.*

*Oh, love of God, how rich and pure!  
 How measureless and strong!  
 It shall forevermore endure—  
 The saints' and angels' song.*

*When hoary time shall pass away,  
 And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,  
 When men who here refuse to pray,  
 On rocks and hills and mountains call,  
 God's love so sure, shall still endure,  
 All measureless and strong;  
 Redeeming grace to Adam's race—  
 The saints' and angels' song.*

*Could we with ink the ocean fill,  
 And were the skies of parchment made,  
 Were every stalk on earth a quill,  
 And every man a scribe by trade;  
 To write the love of God above  
 Would drain the ocean dry;  
 Nor could the scroll contain the whole,  
 Though stretched from sky to sky.*

Below are thoughts Tyler shared with me about why he rewrote the "Love of God". When I started to rewrite the Love of God I wanted to take a hymn that expresses some of the most weighty and beautiful truths about God's love that were felt through the instrumentation as well as the singing. The chord pro-

Continued on Page 5

Cont. From Pg. 4, "The Love of God" progression is a weighty one that feels heavy with a Chorus that lifts to this beautiful release when speaking of how pure & strong & deep His love is. At the time I was personally wrestling through what it means to experience God's love in this weighty of a way.

*The love of God is greater far  
Than tongue or pen can ever tell;  
It goes beyond the highest star,  
It reaches to the lowest hell;*

*The guilty pair, bowed down with  
care,  
God gave His Son to win;  
His erring child He reconciled,  
And pardoned from his sin.*

*Oh, love of God, how rich and  
pure!  
How measureless and strong!  
It shall forevermore endure—  
From age to age will be our song.*

*Though time and treasures pass  
away,  
And earthly kings and kingdoms  
fall,*

*God's love so sure, shall still en-  
dure,  
All measureless and strong;  
Could we with ink the ocean fill,  
And were the skies of parchment  
made,  
Were every stalk on earth a quill,  
And every man a scribe by trade;  
To write the love of God above  
Would drain the ocean dry;  
Nor could the scroll contain the  
whole,  
Though stretched from sky to sky.*

<https://www.redeemerrr.org/blog/2016/10/26/anchored-song-stories-pt2-by-chris-mallonee>

**We are thrilled to Welcome & introduce you to our new Organist, Violet (Vi) Oliphant.**



She holds a dual NYS Teacher Certification in K-12 Music & N-6, and has been an Instrumental Teacher & Band Director, grades 4-12 plus a Music Director in a private K-12 school. She taught individual and group instrument instruction: wind, percussion & piano. Directed all bands & K-12 choirs as well as introduced marching band experience. Taught 5 years at Lima Christian, 7 years at North Chili Christian School, and presently at Rochester Christian School, starting in 1998. She also works now for RH Central Schools as an accompanist, and at UR Thompson Hospital as a Recreational Music Therapist. When are you not busy, Vi?

She was a Clarinetist in Roberts Wesleyan's Wind Ensemble, Finger Lakes Concert Band & Accompanist for Roberts College Singers (traveling ministry). She can play all band instruments, has been a church pianist/accompanist, member of choirs & vocal ensembles.

Her education comprises the following: Assoc. in Arts, Auburn Community; Teacher Certification N-6, SUNY Potsdam; Bachelor of Arts Ed. Ed./Psyc., SUNY Potsdam; Teacher Certification K-12 Music, Roberts Wesleyan; and Master of Education, Roberts Wesleyan College where she was an instrumental music student of Dr. Paul Shewan and where she received her music education degree. I heard her say "the piano is my first love," but she is accomplished on the organ as we can attest to. She studied with Mrs. Ada Yury from Auburn, NY for organ and piano. Vi credits Mrs. Yury for making her the musician she is today, and her husband John for helping make her education and experience so complete.

She lives in Lima NY, and like many of us is a widow. She was married to John Oliphant for 60 years, and has three children, six grandchildren & two great grandchildren. Husband John worked at Roberts Wesleyan. Son, John is a Professor @ RIT teaching Physician's Assistants. Daughter Amy is a preschool teacher at the YMCA & Arrowhead Camp. Daughter Christy is a baker & is opening a new bakery in Lima. They are a family who goes on Missions Trips to other countries. Vi & her husband went to Costa Rica in 2001 & to Uganda to teach them how to build water cisterns for clean water. Amy has made trips to Mexico, Liberia, Haiti & Dominican Republic.

Vi's hobbies are reading and discovering through exploring the beautiful places in nature. She loves to drive, loves people, and had Christian parents.

We can't wait to really get to know you. So glad you are here.



Due to the upcoming holidays, the RHAFT food terminal is experiencing increased needs & food shortages. Laurie & Steve Wenthe's food drive is continuing.

Please leave your food items on the island in the kitchen. They will collect and deliver them as they accumulate.

If you prefer, small donations can be taken to the Senior Center, 515 Calkins Rd, Henrietta NY 14623. There is a container in front of the Center. Large donations need to go to the Food Cupboard on Mondays between 9 & noon.

Suggested items in need:

**Tuna/Hamburger Helper**  
**Hearty Soups**  
 Sm. instant rice cups/meals  
 Canned meats (Ham, chicken)  
 Plastic jars sauce  
 Puddings/jellos  
 Personal care items



Do you know a Vet? Buy them lunch or send a thank you card. If you have candy leftover from Halloween, send it to a local VA Hospital for them to share & enjoy.

We will be participating in The RHAFT/Rotary Christmas Family Program this year.

We have a mother with a 14 mo. old daughter. As usual, we will provide their meal & gifts at least for the little girl. More details will be announced soon.

## Please support the Pie Sale which helps fund our Faith Coalition building homes for & with qualified families.

Orders are being taken with payment by: Gretchen Young, 359-4182, email: [stac-star79@aim.com](mailto:stac-star79@aim.com); Joyce Shutts, 334-0114; email: [rjshutts@gmail.com](mailto:rjshutts@gmail.com) by Nov. 7, at 2 PM with Check/Cash. Checks to West Henrietta Baptist; mark Habitat Pie Sale on Memo line.

### HOLIDAY PIES

TO BENEFIT



West Henrietta Baptist is selling pies to support The Harvest Home/Thrivent Coalition (Faith Build) of Habitat for Humanity (one of our missions.)

**Pick Up Date: Nov. 23, 1:30 PM @ WHBC Erie Station Rd. Door.** Pies are \$17 ea. & flavors are: Apple

Crumb, Strawberry-Rhubarb, Rumbleberry, Pecan & Pumpkin. Fruit pies arrive frozen & boxed (allow 24 hrs. for thawing); baked Pecan & Pumpkin arrive in plastic containers, and can be frozen for later. They are 10", 3.2 lb. pies. Please consider a donation in lieu of or in addition to support finishing the 100th Habitat home (757 Jay Street) in the Josanna area of Rochester.



### MISSIONS



#### Spreading God's Love

Our "World Mission Offering" was taken up in September. We thank you for supporting this worthy mission by donating \$275.

The next and last of our four main Missions Offerings will be taken up in December. It is the "Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering." Please consider setting aside what you can and wish to donate. We sincerely thank you for your faithfulness.

From the Mission Field: We had an outstanding seminar for all 80 of our program leaders and teachers. All the leaders gave testimonies of how God has led many to Christ through each of the children's programs. It was cool to hear that even some of the teachers themselves came to Christ through the kids' programs and they are now teaching the children. Muslim families are getting saved and baptized, fathers are leaving a lifestyle of drunkenness, and the next generation is on fire for the Lord.



We also had several sessions of teaching to challenge the leaders to make space for children to deepen their relationship with Jesus.

David & Michelle Heed

**Please don't bring items for a Rummage Sale to the church until the Sale is pending. We hope to have a sale in the Spring. Thank you for your cooperation.**

*Thank you, John Miller & Steve Wenthe for all you do to maintain and repair our Church building.*

*Thanks also to Mike Shirley for faithfully cleaning the church each week.*