

# WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH

1815-2017

## THE LINK



JUNE 2017, LINK

### *Growing Our Church*

Greetings in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

At its origin, the Church was a place where people deeply engaged with one another's stories, shared life and food, prayed, and invited new people to be a part of the journey. No doubt, the church has evolved over the centuries, but it continues to move towards what God intends it to be. My questions for you are as follows: 1) What is it that you like best about your church? 2) What would you like to see change? What can we do to grow our congregation?

It is an undeniable fact that churches that celebrate, embrace and embody diversity in their communities will thrive, while those that resist diversity and cling to their ethnocentric privilege will falter. Churches cannot freely conduct their affairs according to traditional beliefs on issues of church growth without some negative consequences. A significant number of research among young people show that they are attracted to a

church that is welcoming, accepting, authentic, hospitable and caring. In essence, they are seeking out a church that will become like a family to them.

I am very concerned about our ministry to everyone--people of all races, socio-economic classes, and cultures, but in particular children and youth, who constitute a significant part of our community and whom I consider the "future" of any church. Our children and youth are born into a fast paced culture. They are not easily attracted to a culture of routine, tradition and stability that define so many churches. They have short attention spans and get bored easily, and this poses a huge challenge to the church. Many children and youth have left churches because of boredom. Children and youth of today and even some adults do not enjoy a church that provides only a sermon and corporate singing. The truth is that the church is not a place where all people of all learning styles can easily engage. There is need for ministries that are tailor made

for people with different needs.

I believe that our Church needs to intentionally direct part of its budget to facilitate programs that children and youth perceive to be welcoming, accepting, authentic, hospitable and caring to them. We owe them a ministry that they can identify with and call their own. We should all want to attract a good number of children and youth to our church. That being said, we should all want to help them land smoothly in our church to enjoy every moment and look forward to returning the next Sunday.

My hope is that the Sunday service is more than a scripted hour, but rather a celebration of our experiences with God Monday through Saturday for adults as well as children and youth.

## Worship Servants

### June 4

**Invocation:** Betty Heiseg  
**Scripture:** Annette Eney  
**Offering:** Betty Heiseg  
**Kids' Moment:** Marti Spaker  
**Greeter:** Bonnie Healy  
**Nursery:** BOCE  
**Fellowship:** Roberta Miller

### June 11

**Invocation:** Joyce Shutts  
**Scripture:** Patti Hock  
**Offering:** Kathy Gosnell  
**Kids' Moment:** Evie Scott  
**Greeter:** Debbie Covill  
**Nursery:** BOCE  
**Fellowship:** Annette Eney

### June 18

**Invocation:** John Miller  
**Scripture:** TBD  
**Offering:** Dan Gress  
**Kids' Moment:** TBD  
**Greeter:** Patti Hock  
**Nursery:** BOCE  
**Fellowship:** Mary Bailey

### June 25

**Invocation:** Clara White  
**Scripture:** Sharon Scurlock  
**Offering:** Clara White  
**Kids' Moment:** Marti Spaker  
**Greeter:** Gretchen Young  
**Nursery:** BOCE  
**Fellowship:** Potluck

*During the Summer, there will be no formal schedule for refreshment volunteers. If you would like to share a snack, please sign up on the list posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. The regular volunteer schedule will resume in September.*

-- Barbara Zima

## Special Sunday Services:

June 4 - "Uniform" Sunday

June 11 - Women's Sunday

June 18 - Men's Sunday  
(Happy Father's Day)

June 25 - Family Sunday

**Invite Someone (or many Someones)**



Grove of Grace

### Tribute to Our Beloved Emily Keyes

#### "A Mother to Many"

The music of her soul will sing  
 Uplifting, cheering, loving all  
 Through dangers she would face;

Emily desired to serve  
 The mission field afar  
 She conquered fears with faith  
 In God, though trials  
 Tried to mar!

Her teachings helped souls  
 Learn new ways, with  
 Helping hands, in distant tropic  
 Lands.

Good health was a  
 Great issue there – where  
 Cleanliness commands.

Above it all, she taught  
 How God would give them  
 Life to last – Eternal Life  
 Was theirs to keep, for Christ  
 Would hold them fast!

Praise His Name!  
 By: Evy Shoots, Poet



**Men's Breakfast**  
 7 a.m. Tuesdays at  
 Peppermints

**Prayer Meeting**  
 9 a.m. Saturdays

**Choir Practice**  
 6 p.m. Thursdays

**Bible Study**  
 7:00 p.m. Thursdays

**Deacons' Meeting**  
 Thurs., June 8, 10 AM

**Deacons' Retreat**  
 Thurs., July 6,  
 Mercy Prayer Center



**June 6** - Carol Dubois

**June 11** - Elizabeth Hirschman, Chris Pires

**June 12** - Sally Kubica

**June 15** - Stan Eney

**June 20** - Bonnie Healy

**June 25** - Justin van der Meid

**June 28** - Ashley Marie Dubois

**June 30** - Betty Wynne

## Missions Update

The mission giving of WHBC continues to generously respond to local & world needs through four main offerings of ABC/USA:

- The Retired Ministers & Missionary Offering (RMMO) taken in January received \$349.00.
- The America for Christ Offering in March was \$303.00.

These were both more than last year, but short of our goal of \$500.00.

MINISTRY MADE  
POSSIBLE BY  
**One Great  
HOUR**  
OF SHARING

**AMERICAN BAPTIST**  
WORLD RELIEF OFFICE

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be received throughout June with envelopes available in the bulletin each week. (OGHS supports disaster relief, development projects, and refugee ministries of the American Baptist Churches and its partners). We will dedicate it on June 24th.

Information will be shared with you each week concerning the OGHS in the bulletin, and by members of the Mission Committee. Also watch for posters and a one-minute video during Fellowship time. Please give generously to the One Great Hour of sharing. Our goal is \$500.00.  
-Rev. Clara White

June's Noisy Offering will go to RHAFT for the Summer Kickin' Hunger Program.

July will be "Leave Something Behind" month. Bring hygiene, paper products, and things not covered by Food Stamps.



David & Michelle Heed,  
Olivia

The Heeds, Missionaries in Tanzania will be given the Noisy Offering from May to further their work.

"As we continue to pour out God's love on the people of Kigomo, Tanzania, we thank all of you who have continued to faithfully partner with us in prayer, in finances, and in encouragement." Quote from their Newsletter, March 2017.

"We love because He first loved us."  
1 John 4:19

Pictures and the Newsletter are posted in the Fellowship Hall.

Keep them in your prayers:

- That the paperwork to adopt Olivia will proceed rapidly. It has been slow to date.
- That they will remain healthy (they both had Malaria).
- That their work with children, teaching Pastors, Evangelists, students, and solving special needs will continue to bear fruit.

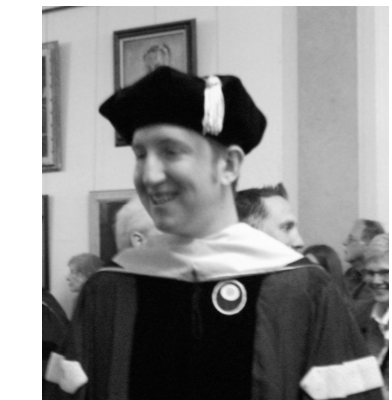
While we have had lots of water, they were without water when the pump broke and the well went dry.

Classrooms are being built, students tutored by Michelle, and parents giving back by working a farm at their suggestion from which the proceeds will go to help the poor of the village.

May God Bless Them & their ministry.

"He said to them, Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." Mark 16:15

## Celebrations



Congratulations Dr. Oliver Hagen,  
PHD, Music Arts, Conducting  
Eastman School of Music, May

Happy Birthday, John  
We'll miss you over the Summer.  
Enjoy your school break!!



### Thanks

Debbie for the clever cake & refreshments.



## May Happenings

*It was a busy month, indeed. We even Spring cleaned.*

### CROP Walk, Sunday, May 7

Gretchen Young organized WHBC's dedicated team of seven who walked courageously on a cold, dank, rainy day. They walked for their pledges which will contribute to ~\$4800 so far for the local walk. The money goes worldwide to fight hunger, but approximately 14% of the monies stay locally and are donated to RHAFT. Thank you Valerie Bandemer & daughter, Connie Necaster, Mike Shirley, Marti Spaker, Gretchen & Michael Young.



They're smiling & ready to GO....



And away they GO.....



Still smiling..... Still walking.....

### Mother's Day Luncheon, Sat., May 6



Pat Floyd and her dedicated helpers planned & executed a wonderful luncheon to honor our mothers. Fifty-four ladies attended: about 25 were from our Church and the balance from the community.



Virginia Bliss, our eldest Mother was able to be with us.

The most recent new Mother was Rachael & son, P.J.

Several Moms there have great, great, grandchildren.

Miss Tina and Evie attended, and talked with us. Their thoughts were inspirational, and they sang too!!

Mom, Evy Shoots brought and recited her wonderful poetry. Blessings abounded at this event.

