



July/August 2026 Newsletter

*The Evangelical Pietist Church
of Chatfield*

*3535 Chatfield Center Road
Bloomville, Ohio 44818*

419-988-0204

Jason DeZurik, Pastor epcpastor.1@gmail.com

Church office: pietistsecretary@gmail.com



From The Pastor's Desk

Discipleship: It's What The Church Needs To Do, Now!

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. - **Romans 12:2**

When I was still living in Seattle, Washington, in the 1990s and living my own way, God brought an amazing man into my life who challenged me greatly, both in the way I was living and the way I thought about things connected to life. I was not a follower of Jesus Christ by any stroke of the imagination, but he sure was. Even while my friends and I would be hanging out at the clubs, living our lives the way we wanted, there he was hanging out with us, drinking his Coca-Cola. Even though we were flat-out heathens, he chose to work and live with us, "godless heathens." Little did I realize how God was going to use this man in my life to help draw me closer to Him.

For about four months, Danny disciplined me in the strangest way. He not only lived with us, but he also challenged me in my thoughts and beliefs with a lot of questions. He would always ask me questions like, Why do you think that's true? Or, how do you know you are being told the truth? Then he would give me something to read up on and dig into. We would then talk about that, and he would keep leading me to Jesus Christ, the Author and Creator of life. In and through that time, I grew in the Lord immensely; I just didn't know it. I made a decision that I was going to go wherever truth took me, and that journey to truth led me to Jesus Christ. I realized, I needed to change, and that ultimately, changing my mindset and actions was my responsibility.

I have also been blessed to be disciplined by many incredible men of God over my lifetime. Their biblical beliefs and convictions have impacted me greatly as a follower of Jesus Christ. At the time, I really had no idea how much this would impact not only me but my family as well. Consciously choosing to take the "narrow path" Jesus Christ teaches on is an amazing journey, but it can also be a very difficult journey. (As I believe, and have discussed with many of you over my time here at Pietist.) Now that I am an older man, I make certain that when I am about to begin discipling someone, I try to warn them about the cost that this journey will have, not only on their own life, but with human relationships they have as well.

As many of you know, choosing to follow Christ is not for the faint of heart. I believe, He is the strongest man to ever walk this planet. If you don't agree with my assessment, please consider that He took on all of the sin of the world for all time onto Himself. He did this while all of His earthly friends deserted Him, and His Father in heaven left Him. I am in awe of what the Savior of the world did for us.

For about 2 years, I have been meeting weekly with not only a small group of young men in a discipleship group, but also meeting weekly with a small group of men from Pietist for our weekly men's prayer time. These not only have been very powerful times together but wonderful times of discussion, learning, and encouragement for us all. Not only are we called To Know Christ and To Make Him Known, but it's even more clear to me about what the Church is supposed to do. My friends, discipleship is where it is at! In Matthew 28, The Great Commission given by Jesus Christ is clear that we are

to **make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.** My friends, we all need to seriously take our responsibility of sinking into the younger generations with not only the Good News of Jesus Christ but to challenge them to live for Christ in all they do, truly following the example of Jesus Christ. For those of you volunteering to teach children in Lifewise. Thank you! For ALL of you that helped and volunteered during VBS this summer. Thank you!!! What a huge blessing not just for those children but for their parents as well. Thank you and I hope you were blessed too. For those of you that might be thinking or saying what can I do? I would ask, how are you encouraging your children, your grandchildren, or even great grandchildren? Please call them, write to them or be willing to take them out for a soda and be bold in asking them how they are doing or how they are in knowing or learning about God. The older generations need to see that many in the younger generations desire to seek and serve the Lord and the younger generations truly have much to offer, too.

With all of that said, we are planning to start our home group ministry up again in the fall. Please already be praying and seeking the Lord on who might be able to join you in your home group, that didn't join you in the past. Start praying for the Lord to put people on your heart that you can ask, inside and outside of the congregation. Discipleship is not only incredibly important; it's what Jesus Christ has commanded each and everyone of us to do. It's not a suggestion. It's a command from the Lord.

*

*

*

The Gift of Self-Governance

by Jason DeZurik

On this year, the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America, I believe, it is incredibly important for us to understand the great responsibility that Almighty God has given to We The People in this nation. This idea and responsibility is built upon the importance of the local church, embracing our God-given responsibility to build disciples of Jesus Christ that are willing to live out our faith in action and in word, in the world we are finding ourselves in. We have been given the responsibility to govern (self-govern) and to make sure we are electing people of good character and integrity to offices that are meant to serve We the People. Even more importantly, I would encourage all believers in Jesus Christ to highly consider, through seeking the Lord's will in prayer, voting for men and women who are followers of Almighty God and understand the importance of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, of which I will share more on later.



In Romans 13, Paul tells us that subjects in a society are to submit to the governing authorities, and that the governing authorities are put in place by God Himself. If you've read previous writings from me or have heard me speak on this text in the past, and have looked at it in light of our form of government in the United States of America, you know that the definition of terms is very important.

We The People = God Ordained Earthly Governing Authorities
Elected officials and those who work for them = God Ordained Subjects



With this in mind, let's take a look at one of the earliest written documents which emphasized and encouraged our country to establish God as the one in charge, as scripture states in Romans 13. I will not go into the history of those who put the *Mayflower Compact* together but suffice it to say, it is very important history to study on our own. Below are the words of the Mayflower Compact, written in 1620. Please notice in this document that their journey was, **"for the glory of God and advancement of the Christian faith."** These people understood that God Almighty was in charge of it all.

You and I have been given an incredible responsibility with the gift of self-governance. This is just one very important reason we need to hear God's voice and obey His leading, first on an individual level and then on a larger scale and people; our immediate families,

and even our local church family. I encourage you to check out this link on the Mayflower Compact:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3P-NairsEc>

Please understand that I am not trying to force anyone to do anything. All I am attempting to do with this and many other writings and teachings is to give people the opportunity to pray, ponder, and meditate on these writings as well as scripture and then I pray to act. Are we willing to do what it takes and act together here at Evangelical Pietist Church?

#

Mayflower Compact (1620)

The brief Mayflower Compact was signed by the Pilgrim voyagers aboard the Mayflower before their arrival at Plymouth, Massachusetts, which began the settlement of New England in 1620.

In the name of God, Amen. We whose names are under-written, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign Lord, King James, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, etc.

Having undertaken, **for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian faith**, and honor of our King and Country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia, do by these presents solemnly and mutually, in the presence of God, and one of another, covenant and combine our selves together into a civil body politic, for our better ordering and preservation and furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the Colony, unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cape Cod, the eleventh of November, in the year of the reign of our sovereign lord, King James, of England, France, and Ireland, the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth. Anno Dom. 1620.

#

New Youth and Young Adult Worship Band

We are extremely blessed to have so much talent and giving in our congregation. God is so good and we are so thankful that people are willing to share their gifts and talents with us. Praise God!! God is on the move! What a blessing! Holy Spirit you are welcome here!



GET IN THE BOAT

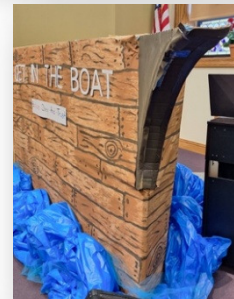
VBS – June 8, 9, & 10

Vacation Bible School was based on the acronym B.O.A.T. – Believe Obey And Trust.

Monday was based on the historical account of Noah and his family.

Tuesday focused in on the historical account of Jonah and the VBS wrapped up with the account with Jesus and His disciples and the miraculous catch of fish.

We are thankful to all of our volunteers and well as Jaya DeZurik and all of her leadership for the week and planning of Bible School. We also are thankful to Pam Morten for the incredible story telling for the week.





Volleyball starting Monday, July 27

If you or someone you know is interested in participating on a competitive volleyball team, the Senedot Stripes might be for you.

The Senedot Stripes started as a ministry in 2018 and belong to the ICSO Athletic Conference. The Volleyball program began in 2022 and serves girls 11 years old – 18 years old. We plan to have 2 teams this season. One Junior High team for girls in 6th – 9th grades and a High School Varsity team for girls in 9th – 12th grades.

If you have any questions or you'd like more information, please contact the church at 419-988-0204. You can also find more information on our Facebook Page, Stripes Sports or on line at www.pieitstchurch.org. You can also contact Coach Marita Harer at 419-618-3714



LifeWise

Buckeye Central LifeWise Academy may be looking at some big changes for next fall. As you know we are planning to add fourth grade. We have many details to work out. The school administration had a meeting with the two Buckeye Central LifeWise teachers, the county director and the site coordinator, Linda Schulze the morning of June 16th. We felt we had a very positive, productive meeting. Unfortunately, since that date the middle school principal took a job in Ontario and some changes for class days and times have been suggested. We will be working out details after the new principal is hired. Pray God will bless us with wisdom as we work on the details with our school administrators. Pray for God's will in all of the planning for this coming year.

Our bus has been purchased! The New Washington Methodist Church generously gifted money to our program to purchase one. Now it needs to be prepared for our use. That includes painting it with the LifeWise branding. Hopefully this will go smoothly and we will have our bus ready to go by August.

We are thankful for every opportunity to share Christ with the precious children at Buckeye Central. We pray every one of them comes to know Jesus as their personal Savior.

Thank you so much for all you do to support this vital ministry.

~ Ladies Tea ~

Floral hats, coloring books and Diamond Art! What fantastic evening! On May 2nd, Evangelical Pietist Church in Chatfield hosted a formal Ladies Tea complete with beautiful antique tea cups and tea pots.

What fun to pick out a lovely hat from a large assortment of styles and colors before starting the evening with prayers and praise songs. Heading to the gym we were greeted with elegantly decorated tables and men of the church waiting to serve us hot water from gorgeous tea pots so we could enjoy an array of flavorful teas with our delicious meal. We received a Christian coloring book (adult or child) as a favor before heading to the sanctuary.

To conclude the program we watched an encouraging Priscilla Shirer video on how to prepare to hear and respond to God. It gave us much to think about and hopefully apply to our daily time with our Lord. Then, back to the gym! We crafted Diamond Art. We decorated crosses with colorful "jewels." It was a challenge, all of us helping each other, but the results were spectacular!

Thank you so much for such a festive evening of Christian fellowship.



God & Country Car Show 2026

It's almost here!!! The 7th annual **God & Country Car Show!** **It is the 250th birthday of America! Keep the Celebration going!** Posters, sponsorships, and registrations, are still available to share with the community. Many have gone out. We have had quite a few registrations come in already! Ask Randy for forms if you are going to an event where they can be distributed. We are publicizing on social media and in newspaper articles. Please share the word. This is our final push! We would love to have over 100 cars this year.

Date: August 8th

Time: 9 am - 3:15 awards ceremony

Free lunch 11 - 1

Free registration - register by noon to have your car judged.

25 trophies

A variety of door prizes

Music:

The New Washington Band, Ben Ramirez, Pietist Praise Teams, Rayah Cavin, The Inskeeps

Faith Tent

Kids activities including face painting

Proceeds benefit **BORN, Crawford County LifeWise Academy, & Sleep in Heavenly Peace**
We do ask for generous donations.



Help us out!

1. We need door prizes and items for the goodie bags. If you want to provide either of these or know businesses you could ask please help us out. We have door prize forms you can take to those you contact. Sponsors of trophies and/or door prizes/goodie bag items will be promoted on large signs by the stage, fliers on the tables and in the goodie bags, and announcements from the stage.
2. If you have ideas on how to better share the love of Christ let us know. We also need fresh ideas for items in the goodie bags.
3. Pray for favorable weather and thank God for the privilege of doing this work. Most importantly, pray we honor and glorify God in all we do.
4. The signup sheets are already in the Welcome Center. As always we need everyone's help. You never fail to come through. **Let's get it done!!!**
5. On the day of the show, if possible, please wear a Pietist staff shirt, your LifeWise shirt or a shirt from BORN or Sleep in Heavenly Peace. (Not sure the latter two have them. 🤔)

THANK YOU!

July Birthdays:

Ava Cundiff 2
Ruth Ann Hanes 2
Lynn Utz 3
Sharon Clady 8
Joyce Schimpf 11
Roger Kehres 11
Josiah Bertsch 15
Linda Temple 15
Norma Gebhardt 23
James Bertsch 25
Allan Clady 25



August Birthdays:

Greg Steiger 2
John Ambrose 4
Jason Ratiff 8
Rita Kalb 11
Ken Rothhaar 14
Mary Ann Cooper 16
Cyndy Bertsch 18
Glen Blackford 21
Ty Garrett 22
Mikki Markley 25
Telia Bertsch 29

July Anniversaries

Mark & Carol Hepner 16



August Anniversaries

Roy & Cindy Vercruysse 6
Joshua & Lily Bertsch 11
Jason & Jaya DeZurik 23
Tyler & Kerri Pope 27
Rick & Jenny Burton 27

Greeters:

July 5: Jim & Donna Betts

July 12: _____

July 19: Al & Becky Schimpf
July 26: Patti Garrett
August 2: Glen & Sue Blackford
August 9: Roger & Juleen Marquart
August 16: Bill & Ruth Ann Hanes
August 23: Al & Becky Schimpf
August 30: Wayne & Ruth Leuthold



Junior Church Roster

July 5: Sue Blackford and helper
July 12: n/a, Communion
July 19: Jaya DeZurik and helper
July 26: Norma Gebhardt and helper
August 2: Jaya DeZurik and helper
August 9: Sue Blackford and helper
August 16: Jaya DeZurik and helper
August 23: Norma Gebhardt and helper
August 30: Jaya DeZurik and helper

Nursery Supervision:

July 5: Wayne & Ruth Leuthold
July 12: Sarah Johnson; Eva DeZurik
July 19: Alita Phillips; Cindy Richards
July 26: Mary Ann Cooper; Theresa DeZurik
August 2: Wayne & Ruth Leuthold
August 9: Sarah Johnson; Eva DeZurik
August 16: Alita Phillips; Cindy Richards
August 23: Mary Ann Cooper; Theresa DeZurik
August 30: Wayne & Ruth Leuthold

If you cannot serve the day you are scheduled, please ask someone else on the roster to trade with you. If you cannot make that happen, call Randy Kalb 419-988-0204.

Thank you so much for blessing us with this valuable gift of love and time!



◀ Jun 2026		July 2026					Aug 2026 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1 Prayer meeting 9:00AM Prayer meeting 7:00PM	2 Praise Team 7:30pm	3	4 Indep. Day Men's Prayer 9-10am	
5 (Pastor on Vacation)	6	7	8 Elijah Presentation Trip to Sugar Creek Prayer meeting 7:00PM	9 Volleyball Practice 4-6pm Praise Team 7:30pm	10	11 Men's Prayer 9-10am Local Food Pantry Distribution 1:00 - 2:30pm	
12 Holy Communion	13	14 Gideons (Womens Auxillary) in Welcome Center at 2:00pm	15 Prayer meeting 9:00AM Prayer meeting 7:00PM	16 Praise Team 7:30pm	17	18 Men's Prayer 9-10am	
19	20	21 Council Meeting 9:00am	22 Prayer meeting 9:00AM Prayer meeting 7:00PM	23 Praise Team 7:30pm	24	25 Men's Prayer 9-10am	
26	27 Gideons in Meeting Room 6:30pm & in Sanctuary from 7:30 until 8:30pm Volleyball Practice 4-6pm	28 Volleyball Practice 4-6pm	29 Prayer meeting 9:00AM Prayer meeting 7:00PM Car Show Meeting 5:30 Last prior to the Show Volleyball Practice 4-6pm	30 Praise Team 7:30pm Volleyball Practice 4-6pm	31 Volleyball Practice 4-6pm		

◀ Jul 2026		August 2026					Sep 2026 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1 Men's Prayer 9-10am Local Food Pantry Distribution 1:00 - 2:30pm	
2	3 Volleyball Practice 4-6pm	4 Volleyball Practice 4-6pm	5 Prayer meeting 9:00AM Prayer meeting 7:00PM Volleyball Practice 4-6pm	6 Volleyball Practice 4-6pm Praise Team 7:30pm	7 CAR SHOW PREP DAY	8 Men's Prayer 9-10am (CAR SHOW)	
9	10	11 Gideons (Womens Auxillary) in Welcome Center at 2:00pm	12 Prayer meeting 9:00AM Prayer meeting 7:00PM	13 Praise Team 7:30pm	14	15 Men's Prayer 9-10am	
16	17	18	19 Prayer meeting 9:00AM Prayer meeting 7:00PM	20 Praise Team 7:30pm	21	22 Men's Prayer 9-10am	
23	24 Gideons in Meeting Room 6:30pm & in Sanctuary from 7:30 until 8:30pm	25	26 Prayer meeting 9:00AM Prayer meeting 7:00PM	27 Praise Team 7:30pm	28	29 Men's Prayer 9-10am	RK Vac
30	31						



July 2026 Bible Readings

Date	Morning Reading	Evening Reading	Proverbs
1-Jul	Leviticus 1	Acts 8	1
2-Jul	Leviticus 2	Acts 9	2
3-Jul	Leviticus 3	Acts 10	3
4-Jul	Leviticus 4	Acts 11	4
5-Jul	Leviticus 5	Acts 12	5
6-Jul	Leviticus 6	Acts 13	6
7-Jul	Leviticus 7	Acts 14	7
8-Jul	Leviticus 8	Acts 15	8
9-Jul	Leviticus 9	Acts 16	9
10-Jul	Leviticus 10	Acts 17	10
11-Jul	Leviticus 11	Acts 18	11
12-Jul	Leviticus 12	Acts 19	12
13-Jul	Leviticus 13	Acts 20	13
14-Jul	Leviticus 14	Acts 21	14
15-Jul	Leviticus 15	Acts 22	15
16-Jul	Leviticus 16	Acts 23	16
17-Jul	Leviticus 17	Acts 24	17
18-Jul	Leviticus 18	Acts 25	18
19-Jul	Leviticus 19	Acts 26	19
20-Jul	Leviticus 20	Acts 27	20
21-Jul	Leviticus 21	Acts 28	21
22-Jul	Leviticus 22	Ephesians 1	22
23-Jul	Leviticus 23	Ephesians 2	23
24-Jul	Leviticus 24	Ephesians 3	24
25-Jul	Leviticus 25	Ephesians 4	25
26-Jul	Leviticus 26	Ephesians 5	26
27-Jul	Leviticus 27	Ephesians 6	27
28-Jul	Numbers 1	Philippians 1	28
29-Jul	Numbers 2	Philippians 2	29
30-Jul	Numbers 3	Philippians 3	30
31-Jul	Numbers 4	Philippians 4	31



August 2026 Bible Readings

Date	Morning Reading	Evening Reading	Psalms
1-Aug	Numbers 5	Revelation 1	1
2-Aug	Numbers 6	Revelation 2	2
3-Aug	Numbers 7	Revelation 3	3
4-Aug	Numbers 8	Revelation 4	4
5-Aug	Numbers 9	Revelation 5	5
6-Aug	Numbers 10	Revelation 6	6
7-Aug	Numbers 11	Revelation 7	7
8-Aug	Numbers 12	Revelation 8	8
9-Aug	Numbers 13	Revelation 9	9
10-Aug	Numbers 14	Revelation 10	10
11-Aug	Numbers 15	Revelation 11	11
12-Aug	Numbers 16	Revelation 12	12
13-Aug	Numbers 17	Revelation 13	13
14-Aug	Numbers 18	Revelation 14	14
15-Aug	Numbers 19	Revelation 15	15
16-Aug	Numbers 20	Revelation 16	16
17-Aug	Numbers 21	Revelation 17	17
18-Aug	Numbers 22	Revelation 18	18
19-Aug	Numbers 23	Revelation 19	19
20-Aug	Numbers 24	Revelation 20	20
21-Aug	Numbers 25	Revelation 21	21
22-Aug	Numbers 26	Revelation 22	22
23-Aug	Numbers 27	Jude 1	23
24-Aug	Numbers 28	1 John 1	24
25-Aug	Numbers 29	1 John 2	25
26-Aug	Numbers 30	1 John 3	26
27-Aug	Numbers 31	1 John 4	27
28-Aug	Numbers 32	1 John 5	28
29-Aug	Numbers 33	2 John 1	29
30-Aug	Numbers 34	2 John 2	30