PENNSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
601 Main Street Pennsboro, WV 26415
October 18, 2026
Laity Sunday

Instrumental Prelude Kathy McCullough
&Altar Candle Lighting

Worship Leader
Debbie Richards Announcements:
Anniversaries & Birthdays
Joys & Concerns

Opening Prayer: Loving, living God, be among us now. Show us Your way. Guide our steps. Live in us, that we may be people of steadfast hope and powerful giving. Help us hear Your words, challenging us to surrender our will to Yours. Holy One among us, help us to be holy people who receive Your word with joy and live Your message with love. Amen.

Opening Hymn "Blessed Assurance" No. 369

L: We are chosen children of God, bound together by the Holy Spirit.
P: We belong to God, and through God, *we belong to one another.*
L: The Spirit empowers us to live as imitators of Christ in love of God, neighbor, self, and all creation.
P: We belong to God, and through God, *we learn to love one another*.
L: The Spirit inspires us to receive God's Word with joy in a world that rejects the good news.
P: We belong to God, and through God, *we live in joy with one another.*
L: Come, let us worship in the assurance of God's love that chooses us, empowers us, and inspires us to live as the family of Christ.
ALL: We come to worship God in the assurance that we belong to God, and through God, we belong to one another. Amen.

Hymn "Spirit of the Living God" No. 393

Scripture Reading Debbie Richards
Epistle *1 Thessalonians 1:1-10* **New Testament** *Matthew 22:15-22*

Pastoral Prayer: Lord, open our ears to hear Your word, our minds to receive guidance, and our Spirit to powerfully live a life with joy and thanksgiving. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Sermon "Chosen" *Pastor Anna*
Always Give Thanks

Collection of His Tithes & Our Offering
Passing of the Plate/Hymn/Prayer

Prayer of Confession: God of Grace, we know that You have chosen us, but we often forget that You have also chosen others. You call us to imitate Christ, yet we often imitate the world.
You challenge us to turn from our idols, but we are tempted to turn back to them again and again. Rescue us, Lord, from ourselves.
Show us Your way. Guide our every action, that we may live as You call us to live.

Beloved children of God, receive this good news: God loves us, chooses us, forgives us, and renews us to live in love and service of God and neighbor. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

Closing Hymn "How Firm a Foundation" No. 529

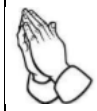
Benediction: May God bless you with the assurance that you are chosen children of God, empowered and equipped by the Spirit to live as the Family of God in a world in desperate need of the Good News. Amen



"Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's"

"Growing Within, Reaching Out, Making a Difference"

ANNOUNCEMENTS			
Thanks to all who took part in Charge Conference. Extra booklets hanging on Billboard outside the Pastor's office.			
Tues	10/20	Pine View Visit	2-3 pm
Wed	10/21	Bible Study	6-7:30 pm
Sun	10/25	Fourth Sunday Fellowship	10:45 am
Sat	10/31	Trick or Treat at Rail Trail	5:30-7:30 pm



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reasons to Rejoice: Everyday Blessings

For God's Guidance with these concerns:
Beanie & Evelyn Hayhurst, Jeanette Tingler, Joe Morris & family, Firefighters & First Responders, Our Nation, Our Leaders, Discerning Leadership, Victims of Recent Storms, Fires, David Efaw, Unspoken, Kay Young (cousin of Sherri Jett), Combating Illiteracy, Sheryl Jameson, Bill Wilson, Mental Health Awareness, Baby Brock Jones, Ashley Efaw (tonsillectomy)

The family of Jimmy McCullough

Pastor Anna Efaw 681-302-0955 pastoraefaw@gmail.com
District Superintendent Greg Markins
gmarkins@wvumc.org