

The Pastor's Pen...



April 2020

I am grateful

Six weeks ago I had a sudden and quite unexpected brain bleed that necessitated me to be flown via helicopter to Hershey Medical Center where I had emergency brain surgery. After six weeks of recovery I am back to work without – praise God – any side effects or lingering complications. I know my miraculous progress can be attributed to a loving and merciful God and the prayers offered by many of you on my behalf. I am grateful.

During my six weeks of recovery at home I received well over one hundred cards (I didn't count) – many with personal notes and prayers inside. While the majority of those cards came from the family and friends here at 4th Street, I also received cards and notes from persons in all of the congregations Kathie and I have served. I am grateful.

Some of you were able to visit us in our home; some of you sent over food and flowers and a few get-well gifts. Your caring and your generosity in a myriad of expressions truly humbled me and I am grateful.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention my 4th Street colleagues and team who made the visits and telephone calls, planned both worship services and supplied the pulpit with Christ-centered preaching during my convalescence. I certainly want to give a shout to Carol Wingert, Kendal Trader, and Pastors Liz Thorpe, Tim Monn, Leon Yoder, Jamie Rhodes and Ali Toms for “coming out of the bullpen” to bring us the Word of God. I am grateful.

And then, when the church board had to make the painful yet necessary decision to suspend our meeting together, Cody and Ali Toms and our Praise Band found a way through technology for our church and our services to be an online presence each Sunday morning at 9 a.m. via Facebook. In so doing, we have not missed a Sunday of meeting together to praise the Lord and I am grateful.

Since I've come back in the office, some of you have asked me how I am feeling. In the words of our dear brother Jerry Moore, I'm feeling a whole lot better than I deserve. I am so blessed. I know people who had the same condition I had – it's called an AVM – and who STILL are not able to return to work, even after as many as three years in recovery. I am grateful.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, “How can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead?” (1 Corinthians 15:12) In my hospital bed it was Good Friday BUT Sunday was still a-comin’! And I am living, walking proof of a resurrection. Even more, whether we’re back in church or sitting in our homes in front of a computer or cell phone, we will praise God and celebrate the miraculous resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus. He is the resurrection and the life; whoever lives and believes in Him will also not perish but live for all eternity. And for that, we can ALL be grateful!

Easter blessings to all...
Joel

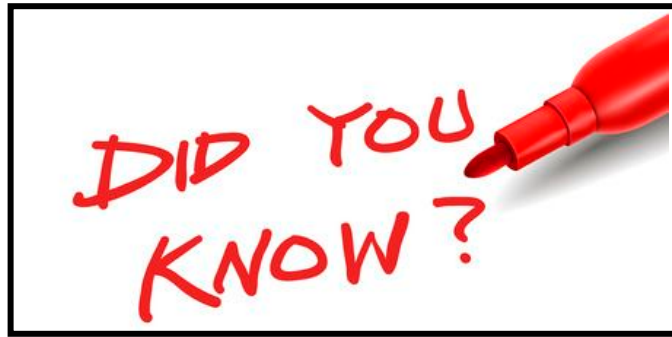


Brethren Bits

In Rwanda, the fledgling Brethren movement has hosted a Pennsylvania family, Josiah and Christine Ludwick and their children. The family’s assignment was simply to walk alongside the Rwandan Brethren. They were to be mutually encouraged, as they offered the gospel of peace in a country that knows too much violence.

Whether in the Great Lakes region of Africa, or South Sudan, or anywhere in the world, the Brethren seek to embody the whole gospel, nurturing both spiritual and physical wholeness.

From the 2020 Annual Report of the Church of the Brethren



Church Kitchen Is Now Licensed

Due to some confusion and concern as to whether the church kitchen should be licensed or is exempt; a team of interested people contacted the Chambersburg Borough for information. On the Borough's recommendation, this team took a proposal to the Board for approval to proceed with the steps necessary to become licensed. The Board approved and the kitchen is now licensed and we passed the health inspection. The license is posted on the wall in the kitchen by the phone and the results of the inspection are filed in the kitchen.

This means there are a few changes to using the kitchen so we stay in compliance and continue to pass health inspections. Checklists have been developed and shared with groups who use the kitchen regularly. New signage has also been posted in the kitchen.

The team, consisting of Cinda Frey, Margie Diller, Mabel Diller, Linda Hawbaker and Robin Hockenberry, plan to hold a series of meetings to review the new guidelines. These meetings will be announced later.

Thanks to those who helped get the kitchen ready for inspection and to make the minor changes to comply.



This event is still happening as of the date of this newsletter.



2020 District Women's Spring Luncheon

Saturday – April 25, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Hanover Church of the Brethren
601 Wilson Avenue
Hanover, PA 17331

Isaiah 43:18-19
God Is Doing a New Thing!

Guest Speaker is Leah J. Hileman

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Registration/Refreshments

9:30 – 9:45 Worship and Welcome

9:45 – 10:45 Session One will focus on what God is doing to revitalize, renew, restore, redeem and renovate ME.

10:45-11:00 Break

11:00 – 11:45 Session Two will focus on celebrating the ways God is renewing the CHURCH.

11:45 – 12:00 Roll Call and Prayer

12 Noon - Lunch

\$10.00 per person

Brochures with registration information available in the Narthex and Brethren Life Center Lobby



Serving Our Neighbor (S.O.N.)

Many thanks to everyone who has been supporting our S.O.N. collections. The recipients continue to express their gratitude for the help. In April and May we are collecting boxed meals and canned meats to give away in May and June. We suggest non-frozen or refrigerated boxed meals, tuna or other canned meats, hearty stews, mac and cheese, hamburger or tuna helper, etc.

**Attention Ladies.....We are hoping to still be able to hold our
Women's Retreat so.....**

Save the Date!!

A photograph of a wooden sign for Camp Eder, Church of the Brethren, set against a background of green trees. The sign is mounted on a stone wall. The text on the sign reads "CAMP EDER" and "CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN". There is a small logo of a tree and a building on the sign.

MAY 15TH - 17TH

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Theme: "Legacy of Love"

AT CAMP EDER

Speakers are a
mother/daughter
team:
Ruth West and
Moye Stouffer

*Cost for 2-night stay - \$185.00
Day – 3 meals - \$65.00
Day – 2 meals - \$60.00 (Lunch & Dinner)*

Brochures are available in the Narthex and Brethren Life Center Lobby



SMART COOKIES PRESCHOOL NEWS

March 2020

March has been a very short month for us. We had Dr. Seuss week and enjoyed parents/grandparents coming in to read to us. We celebrated St. Patrick's day on Friday, March 13th.

On March 11th, we went to Weis Supermarket. The children got to decorate cookies and cupcakes, make pizza, learned about the rainbow of colors in the produce section, touched a lobster, stacked milk onto the shelf, and ran a register. They also enjoyed their pizza and goodies for lunch. Everyone had a great time.

All other activities we planned have either been postponed to a later date or cancelled due to CO-VID 19.

For the month of April (If school reopens), we have fun activities planned, and a class field trip scheduled. We will be planting flowers, learning about butterflies and bugs, and spending time outside.

Upcoming April Events

April 10-13th – Easter Vacation
April 22nd- Trip to Burk-lea Farms

Chambersburg Church of the Brethren Invites you to Vacation Bible School:



Save the Date!!

June 15^h thru 19th, 2020
9:00AM till 11:30AM

Ages 4 thru 5th Grade

260 South Fourth Street
Chambersburg, PA 17201
717-264-6957

*Pre-Registration Appreciated

With Deepest Sympathy

Our sympathy to:

Jean Wengert and Family following the death of her husband, J. Nelson Wengert on Thursday, February 20, 2020.

Ralph Wadel and Family following the death of his wife, Mary C. Wadel on Sunday, February 23, 2020.

Mary Grace and Richard Brown and Family; Rick and Vicki Shreiner and Family, following the death of Mary's son and Rick's brother, Dean Alan Shreiner on Monday, March 9, 2020.

The Family of Jayne V. Bard following her death on Thursday, March 12, 2020.

Linda Brandt and Family; Mindy and Vernon Bayer and Family following the death of Linda's mother and Mindy's grandmother, Ruth I. Decker, on Monday, March 16, 2020.

Norma Cherry and Family following the death of her father, Norman Clawson, on Sunday, March 22, 2020.

Vicki and Dennis Kiser and Family following the death of Vicki's father, Ronald E. Beachley, on Monday, March 23, 2020.



The Loving Hearts Committee has decided to cancel all events for the remainder of the year. The Committee cares very deeply for this group and feel this would be in their best interest. The risk is too high and we are not taking any chances.



19th Annual Don Gordon Memorial Golf Outing Saturday, June 13th, 2020

There will be a shotgun start at 8:30 am
Caledonia Golf Club,
9515 Golf Course Road
Fayetteville, PA 17222
(Please note new location this year)

The cost is \$40 per person
payable that day.

Lunch will be served following golf.
Please sign up in the narthex.



***Wednesday, April 1, 2020
Meal served at 5:30 p.m.***



Come join us for:

Al Good and his Carousal Organ

2607 Sunnyside Street
Chambersburg, PA 17201
Tel: 717-64-6957

*Mid-Week Connection's purpose is connecting our
Brethren family to the community through fellowship
and service.*

**The Church Library has the following
new books for the month of April**

Non - Fiction

Through the Eyes of a Lion by Levi Lusko
Unshakable Hope by Max Lucado
9 Common Lies Christians Believe
by Shane Pruitt

Fiction

The Edge of Lost by Kristina McMorris
Bridge of Scarlet Leaves by Kristina McMorris



For the Kids of Chambersburg

For the Kids of Chambersburg Taste of the Valley will be rescheduled due to the social restrictions currently in place. All restaurants have been contacted and are willing to go with another date as they will be wanting everyone to know they are still available.

Please, watch for the new date. Tickets are available from Lora Bucher or Stacy Gray.

--Lora Bucher

The Lehman Center Auxiliary
Presents

29th Annual Auction
Benefitting
Children's Aid Society
The Lehman Center

Tuesday, April 28th 2020

Auction Preview & Food
12:00 p.m.

Live Auction
5:00 p.m.

Silent Auction including
Art Collectibles
Theme Baskets
Gift Certificates

Live Auction Featuring
Art Collectibles
Sports Items
New Merchandise



Location
York County 4-H Center
771 Stoverstown Road, York, PA, 17408

Kitchen Will Be Open & Serving:
Homemade Soup
Bar-B-Que
Homemade Pies

For More Information

Call 717-845-5771
www.cassd.org



A United Way Member Agency

Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry, Inc.

2020 Spring Dinner Concert

Featuring - Guilford Station Bluegrass Gospel Band



Date: Saturday, May 2, 2020
Time: 5:30 P.M.

Where: First Church of God
2089 Newville Rd. (Rte. 641)
Plainfield, PA 17081



Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry, Inc.
P.O. Box 851
Carlisle, PA 17013

carlisletruckstopministry.org

Cost: \$15.00 / Ticket

Ticket Deadline: April 24, 2020

For Tickets and Information:

Ministry Office 717-385-7932
Chaplain Dave Braithwaite 717-249-5140
Chaplain Craig Shambaugh 717-448-7785
Dave Bell 717-776-7191
Anna Mae Zinn 717-386-1527
Paul Miller 717-243-9573
Frank Calaman 717-249-7322
Harry Cleaver 717-428-2673
John Kahley 717-609-6503
Glenn & Anna Miller 717-845-3066
Pat Thornton 717-512-0068
Linda Sipe 717-624-5342
Jay Sensenig 717-816-7795

Please consider bringing your good used clothing for our CommunityAid bin.
We will have boxes available for collection.

Meat Canning Project



5 Days
April 13, 14, 15
16 & 20

Processed at:
Christian Aid Ministries
Ephrata, PA

Sponsored by:
Southern PA &
Mid-Atlantic Districts COB

VOLUNTEER TODAY!

- Help with canning and labeling, there are 2 shifts each day, 6:45 a.m. to noon and 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Sign-up early to secure your preferred day and time.
- Volunteers are also needed to provide meals or finances to help cover the cost of meals.
- See Meat Canning brochure or District website for more details.
- Contact your District Office to **VOLUNTEER!**

THE U IN JESUS

Before U were thought of or time had begun,
God stuck U in the name of His Son.

And each time U pray, you'll see it's true,
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.

You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,

For U, He was born; that's why He came.

And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crUcified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand
He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?

The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew,
and this word resUrrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His Upward ascension,
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.

"Go into the world and tell them it's true
That I love them all - Just like I love U."

So many great people are spelled with a U,
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do,
He'd like them to know,
But it all starts with U.