



June 2020

The Pastor's Pen...

*I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."
Psalm 122:2 ESV*

How are you? Over the last 8 weeks, I have been making random telephone calls to our church family as my time permits. I always begin my call with this question – “How are you?” And after that subject is addressed, I generally get a question: “Do you have any idea when our church will reopen for worship and connection?”

Like the rest of you, I’m quite ready for us to get back to a new normal. I appreciate our online services and feel our worship planners and leaders are doing an excellent ministry. But there is something about being together that cannot be replaced.

The simple truth is, due to the CDC recommendations/regulations that have been imposed upon us, we are very much limited as to what we can and cannot do at this time. But that hasn’t prevented your staff and church board from being proactive, asking the questions that need to be asked as we prepare to reopen our doors.

Quite recently our board had a special meeting devoted to the questions of when we shall reopen and what it will look like. The following statement from the church board received a unanimous endorsement:

“The church leadership will monitor the CDC guidelines with regard to church openings; however, the church will remain closed until procedures are in place to ensure the safety and well-being of our church family and guests.”

What exactly does that mean? Last week, Lifeway Book Store published an article, *24 Questions Your Church Should Answer Before People Return*. One of the things the article makes clear is that, given the unprecedented circumstances in which we find ourselves, we will not be able to return to church at the present time and resume doing all the things in all the ways we have been accustomed to doing them.

Whether our county is red, yellow or green, for everyone’s safety some thoughtful and intentional planning must happen first. To that end, a special committee has been appointed to begin envisioning how our reopening can happen most effectively. The committee consists of your staff, Kendal Trader, Linda Burkholder, Jerry Moore and Rick Shreiner.

A local church close to my home is encouraging its church family to pray, be patient, and stay positive. That sounds like good counsel for all of us. I've never had any doubt that the Lord is going to use this emergency to draw us closer to him and to one another. I've never had any doubt that we will not only survive together, we can and will thrive together. And I surely have never doubted that the day is coming in the not-so-distant future when – like the church of the Book of Acts –

[We will] devote ourselves once again to meeting together in God's house and breaking bread with joyful and sincere hearts. **Acts 2:46 CSB**

Until then, keep looking up!

Pastor Joel

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Psalm 119:105 ESV

Pastor Joel's sermon series on the one anothers of the New Testament wraps up in the next two weeks.

May 31 – *Accept One Another*

Romans 15:1-7

June 7 – *Carry One Another's Burdens*

Galatians 6:1-5



New Sermon Series Coming Soon

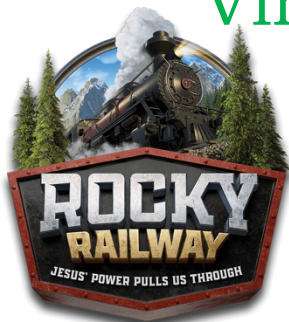
Beginning Sunday, June 21st Pastor Joel will begin a six-week series –
The You Have Heard...But I Tell Yous of Jesus



June

- **Virtual Youth Group: Wednesday, June 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th at 8:00pm.** Come and join us for a game, a youth devotional, small groups, and great connection! Jamie sends out a new Zoom-link each week to invite youth to this meeting. If you would like to participate, please reach out to Jamie by Wednesday, 1-Hour prior to the start of youth group OR sooner!
- Events for this summer will be determined when church is back in session.

Chambersburg Church of the Brethren Invites you to our **Virtual** Vacation Bible School!



With the uncertainty of the events of today, we are excited to continue our Ministry of Vacation Bible School. Our church would love to invite your children to our Virtual VBS.

Let me tell you about it!

Our Theme:

“Rocky Railway” - Through life’s ups and downs,
Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through.

Date:

June 15-19, 2020

Location:

Visit our Facebook Live page at 10:00am **OR** you
can watch it on our website.
Each video will have an opening, songs, bible story,
Imagination station, and a closing.



Ages:

4 year olds to 5th graders

Take Home Bible Packs:

Children who are registered will receive a Take
Home Bible Pack!

Packs include: Bible buddies, Imagination
station activities, Tracking with Jesus Bible
Books, 3 crafts, and 2 snacks!

After registering, you will receive an e-mail with
a date and time to pick up your packs!



Any Questions:

Please call Jamie at 717-264-6957 or check out our website at
www.chambcob.org/events/vbs

Hope To See You There!



For the month of April, our board established a **COVID-19 Relief Fund**. We accepted your special offerings for Coronavirus relief and that amounted to \$7,650.00. Missions and Service Commission designated the following organizations to receive these monies to aid in providing relief and service to others during this 2020 Coronavirus pandemic.

- 1) Salvation Army
- 2) Maranatha
- 3) Meals on Wheels
- 4) Franklin County Homeless Shelter
- 5) Building Our Pride in Chambersburg (BOPIC)
- 6) Noah's House
- 7) Candleheart Ministries
- 8.) Chambersburg Hispanic American Center
- 9.) South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP)

A BIG Thank You from the Church Board for all your generous donations to this fund!



New Pastor's Bible Study is Starting

Let's Connect!

A study of Philippians

When: June 3, June 10, June 17,
June 24, and July 1

6:30 – 7:20 p.m.

You will need to download a ZOOM app on your tablet, laptop, or smart phone. Each Wednesday morning a link will be sent to your email inbox.

If you want to participate, you may reserve your spot by calling Carol at the church office before June 2nd. **717-264-6957**



Brethren Bits

For Brethren, a commitment to community means a lot. The church has taken seriously a plan to gather at tables in settings both large and small to discern a vision that compels us for this time. Worship knits us together, whether it's Sunday morning in sanctuaries across the denomination, or devotions during meetings, or services with thousands of people at Annual Conference.

We also share community through activities as varied as repairing a roof or stitching a quilt or responding to a prayer request on social media. Community is a hundred different writers in *Messenger* magazine, and it's a small group at a district meeting. Being together is basic to the way we understand our calling as Christians.



*To My Church Family,
Thank you for all of the cards, phone
calls and prayers while recuperating
from hip surgery. Thanks to Pastor Liz
for her many visits and Linda Steck for
bringing church bulletins, etc.
God Bless all of you, I appreciate each
one of you.*

---Vivian Fisher

*Thank you to our church family for the
prayers, calls, flowers, and cards
following the death of son and brother,
Dean Shreiner on March 9.
We are greatly appreciative of your
uplifting and supportive words.*

---The Shreiner and Brown families

*Church of the Brethren,
We would like to thank Pastor Joel and
Staff for their help during our son's
death. It's hard to lose parents, but a
son has left a hole in our heart.*

---Galen and Nancy Yeager

*Dear Sisters and Brothers of the
Chambersburg Church of the Brethren,
We humbly thank you for your recent
donation in memory of J. Nelson
Wengert. Mr. Wengert was a very
welcome member of the Brethren
Disaster Ministries Volunteer family and
he will be missed. Thank you very much
for honoring his memory through this
generous donation.*

---Blessings, Sharon Franzén, BDM



Our sympathy to:

*Galen and Nancy Yeager and Family;
Harold and LaVerne Yeager and Family
following the death of their son and
nephew Shane Dean Yeager on Friday,
May 15, 2020.*

*Jere and Carol Wingert and Family
following the death of Jere's mother,
Betty P. Wingert, on Saturday,
May 16, 2020.*



*Please join us in celebrating our parents,
Terry and Carol Koons, on their 50th
Wedding Anniversary on June 7th.*

*Mom and Dad- thank you for being such
wonderful role models!*

---Love, Lori Ann and Tricia

*Church of the Brethren,
Thank you so much for allowing us to
use your Church for our CIA (Christians
In Action) program. Thank you for
partnering with Joy El, so that we as a
community are able to bring Christ to our
youth. They may not have been able to
have this opportunity without you
allowing us to do so. Thank you and
God Bless.*

---Erike McDowell, CAMS



CROSS KEYS VILLAGE
The Brethren Home Community

Dear Friends,

It is with deep regret that we must announce the 60th Annual Chicken BBQ, Car Show, and Auction, scheduled on August 8th at Cross Keys Village The Brethren Home Community, has been canceled to reduce the risk of bringing illness to our campus.

Cross Keys Village leadership and the Friends of Cross Keys Village considered several options to modify the popular family event, but no option was found that would guarantee a risk-free day for the family and a successful fundraiser for the Friends.

We thank all the volunteers that had started planning, and we look forward to the best Chicken BBQ ever in 2021.

--The Friends of Cross Keys Village



CAMP EDER (along with Camp Swartara) is so sorry to tell you, due to COVID 19, we must cancel our traditional summer camp for 2020. There will however, be other opportunities for you to enjoy our wonderful outdoor experiences. Please look for these as they come available.

We are also sorry that our May Senior Day needed to be cancelled. Look for the milk man in August. Johnny Appleseed will be here in the fall.

Thank you for your amazing support, both financially and with prayers. We ask that they will continue.

We pray that you and your family are well and tolerating the quarantine.
---Camp Eder Board and staff



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

There will be a shotgun start at 8:30 am

Postponed until a later date
at the 18th hole Club,
1515 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.