



## October 2020

### *The Pastor's Pen...*

***There is a season for everything, and a time for every activity under heaven...*** Ecclesiastes 3:1

The seasons are changing. I'm writing this Pastor's Pen on the first day of fall. Last night I slept with the bedroom window open and I was chilled. This morning there was frost on my lawn and rooftop. Yesterday I passed a maple with hints of orange and gold.

Look at a power line at dusk; the birds are gathering enmasse preparing to migrate. On my way to church Sunday I saw a squirrel gathering nuts. The other day the first sweater came out of my closet. And I haven't said a word about the encroaching darkness.

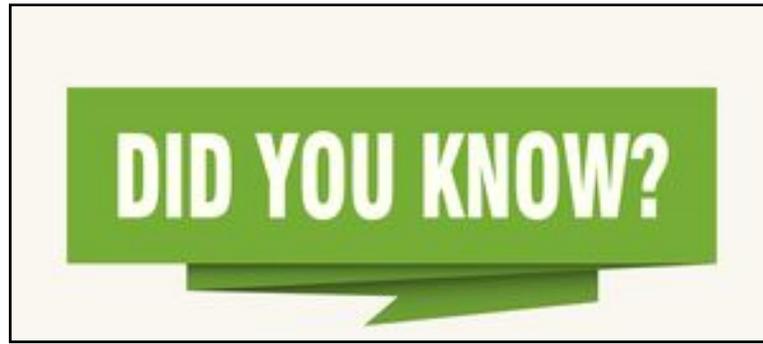
I've lived in Pennsylvania all my life so my worldview is a bit biased. But I have always appreciated that I live in a state that enjoys all four of God's seasons. I can truly say I appreciate and accept each of them.

Life has seasons too. Kathie and I used to spend a few days at Cape May every September when our children were in strollers and the only people on the beach were families our age and retired people. This year we returned to Cape May after a decades-long absence. Coming into town I reminded Kathie of the way it used to be. "Remember when the only ones here were families with very young children and retired people? Look at us now." In a blink of an eye, the two of us have become the retired generation! How did that happen?

Seasons. The teacher of Ecclesiastes reminds us that there is a season for birth and one for death; a season to plant and a season to harvest; a season for laughter and a season when there is nothing to laugh about; a season for speaking up and being counted and a season for holding and keeping our peace.

In which season are you? At some point you'll experience all of them. You and I may not always appreciate the seasons we are dealt but we can experience a sense of peace if and when we can accept that – as we tend to say in Franklin County – "It is what it is." But with all these changes, there is one thing we can count on. The Word says that God *never* changes. He is the great stabilizer no matter what season we are in. I don't know about you, but in this season of uncertainty, I take comfort in that.

In His grasp, Pastor Joel



**The Black and Blush Boutique fundraiser** held September 11, 2020 for our Smart Cookies Preschool amounted to \$227.00 in proceeds. Thank you all for shopping that day and helping the Smart Cookies Preschool.

**The Helping Hands Circle** met on Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> and regrets to inform the church that no Christmas candy will be made this year due to COVID. We hope to be able to return to candy making in 2021; so save your orders until then!



**On Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> the Chambersburg Church of the Brethren staff** held a Meet-n-Greet in the parking lot and asked members to bring food donations for the local food pantry. We had a wonderful turn-out that evening and collected over 900 lbs. of food with approximately 800 items including Macaroni and Cheese, Canned Meats, Breakfast Foods, Snack Items, Pasta, Drinks, Baking Items, Rice and Potatoes, Peanut Butter, Jelly and Condiments, Spaghetti Sauce and Tomatoes.

Thank you to all who donated and to Don and Diane Berger, James and Mabel Diller, Kendal Trader, Liz Thorpe and Pastor Joel who delivered the food to SCCAP, Inc. (South Central Community Action Program) on September 1, 2020.



**October 4 Fall Love Feast and Communion Service will NOT be held.**

At their October 15 meeting, our deacon body unanimously voted to cancel (or postpone) our fall Love Feast due to COVID restrictions.

**However, we WILL have bread and cup communion at both of our regular services of worship, 8:30 in the sanctuary and 10:45 in the BLC.**

Come and let us remember our Lord's death and life together!



**Pastor Joel and Kathie will be on vacation October 8<sup>th</sup> thru 11<sup>th</sup>.** Pastor Leon Yoder will be bringing the message at both services on Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. In the event of an emergency while Joel is away, please call Pastor Liz Thorpe, 717-360-5881. Thank you.

**Pastor Joel will be on his annual spiritual/Advent planning retreat October 19<sup>th</sup> through October 22<sup>nd</sup>.** He WILL be bringing the messages at both services on October 18 & 25. If there is a pastoral emergency while he is away, please contact Pastor Liz Thorpe at 717-360-5881. Thank you!



**What's coming from the pulpit in October and November?**

**Mighty Men and Women of Valor in These Uncertain Times**

The biblical story of how a man named, Gideon, rose to the occasion in the midst of great adversity is relevant to those of us who need a little backbone to face the tumult of COVID, elections, China and just about everything that unnerves us.

Discover how the LORD literally reinvented one man's faith and helped him become victorious in life.

**October 18**

**October 25**

**November 4**

**November 11**



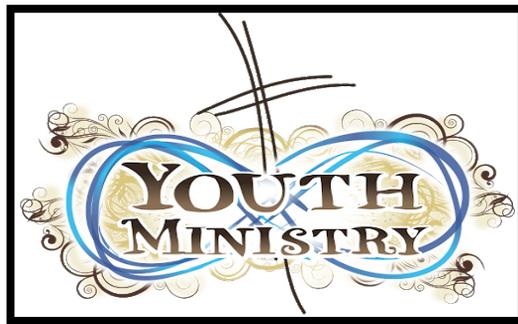
On Sunday, September 20th the following members joined the COB Family:

**Vivian Statler** comes with a 64-year membership at King Street Church in Chambersburg. Her passions are Native American jewelry and artifacts to that end she and her husband had a store in Harrisburg for a number of years. She has two children.

**Linda Ross** comes from Spring Lake Presbyterian Church in Sebring Florida. She first began attending the church with her good friend Marsha Smith last year. Linda is building a home in the Scotland area. She has 2 step-daughters and five grandchildren.

**Robert and Laura Shank** are bringing their membership from Otterbein Church in Waynesboro. They moved to Chambersburg from Waynesboro about a year ago and began attending 4<sup>th</sup> Street. They have two sons. Laura is a learning support instructor for the Waynesboro School District. Bob holds a security position at Menno Haven.

**Donna Russell and her sister Loretta Funk** received the Lord through baptism. Donna and Loretta both attend the 10:45 PERK service. Donna is married to Gary Russell and they two sons and one grandchild. Loretta and her husband just live a block away from the church on Elm Avenue. She collects nativity scenes and is head custodian for Andrew Buchanan Elementary School.



## October

- **Youth Group October 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>.** This year youth group will be looking a lot different due the changes around us. We will continue to meet in person on Wednesday nights from 6-8pm.



This October we will be heading to The Nicodemus Center for Ceramic Studies to learn about and make some pottery! We will be going 2 times this month and only 10 students are allowed to attend each session. The first 10 students to sign up for October 7<sup>th</sup> will be allowed to attend. All other students who were not able to attend the first session will be able to have the opportunity on October 28<sup>th</sup>. We will be using the Church Vans for transportation. There will only be 5 students and 1-2 adults in our 15 passenger vans. All adults and students are required to wear their masks while traveling and also while in the pottery studio. We will leave the church at 6pm and the students who will be attending will be back at the church by 8:30pm.

Those who are not able to attend on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at the pottery studio, they will be able to continue our current youth group format. We will continue our **study hall format** which will include pizza, a short group game and small groups. Please bring homework and study materials during this time as well.

- Jamie will be planning other events in October and November. These events will be posted in the Monthly Parent Letters.



## *Fall Sunday School Classes*

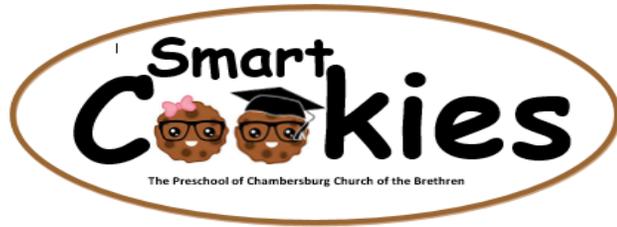
It is time for us to regather our Adult Sunday School Class. We will continue to meet at 9:30-10:30am in the Sanctuary. There will only be one class at this time. We ask you to keep the current guidelines that are in place during our normal worship services. This is a time for us to deepen our relationship and knowledge of

Jesus! We hope you will join us!

Currently, we will only have our Adult Sunday School Class at this time. We will open our Youth and Children's Church as we see more families joining us on Sunday Morning.

If you have any questions, please contact Jamie Rhodes in the church office.

Thank you!



## SMART COOKIES PRESCHOOL NEWS

Welcome back to school! Smart Cookies Preschool reopened on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> for in person instruction! We are so excited to have 14 students enrolled in our program for the 2020-2021 school year. We are expecting to have a fun and exciting year. The past few weeks of school have been interesting due to Covid-19 guidelines being in place. So far we have learned about Creation during Bible Time. We have been learning also about respect, friendship, sharing, and more. Over the next few weeks, we will start to learn our letters and numbers, more exciting Bible stories, all

about autumn, apples, pumpkins, and fire safety.

We have had some special events as well. Coach Tom, from Soccer Shots, has been teaching our students basic soccer skills like control, toe touches, dribbling, change of speed, and kicking the ball into the goal. Soccer Shots is held on Friday afternoons on our playground. Every Wednesday morning, Liz Thorpe teaches music to the class. She has taught them how to use their hands as instruments, singing Jesus Loves Me (learning it in sign language), and much more. On Wednesday afternoons, Linda Remson has a library time with the class. I am so thankful for all of these activities and the time that the teachers and coach are putting into their lessons.

We could use more volunteers, so if you can help us, please see Carol Wingert in the church office.

### October Events

**5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Fire Safety Week**

**12<sup>th</sup>- No School- Columbus Day**

**17<sup>th</sup>- Mrs. Amy's Birthday**

**23<sup>rd</sup>- National Pumpkin Day**

**30<sup>th</sup>- Halloween Party**





*Smart Cookies Preschool is sincerely grateful for all the contributions we receive which enable us to provide quality education for our children.*

*Thank you to Lehman Construction for their generous donation to our program. We are especially blessed to have them share our passion for our preschool.*  
**---Smart Cookies Committee**



*The Family of Bertha Snyder would like to invite you to help celebrate her 99<sup>th</sup> Birthday on October 16, 2020.*

*Cards can be addressed to:  
Bertha Snyder  
The Quarters at Shook  
Room 1058  
55 South Second Street  
Chambersburg, PA 17201*

### ***Change of Phone Number***

*Please take note that Cinda Frey has a new telephone number. It is 510-417-8293. Mark it in your church 2020 Directory.*



### **Our sympathy to:**

*Robert and Laura Shank and Family following the death of Bob's father, William (Bill) Shank on Sunday, September 13, 2020.*

*Faye Heckman and Family following the death of her sister-in-law, Carol Kramer Slimmer on Sunday, August 30, 2020.*



### **Congratulations to:**

*Khris and Ashlynn Horst who were married on Saturday, September 12 at Centrebrook Farm in Willow Hill. Khris is the son of Dennis and Tina Horst and the grandson on Don and Louise Blattenberger.*



**Deadline for November Pastor's Pen** is Sunday, October 18, 2020. Please submit all information to the church office.

### **Words of Appreciation:**

*LaVerne and I have learned much during the last six plus months about being sick. But we have hardly ever been on the receiving end. For the last six months, we have been the recipients of calls, cards – about 150 – and tangible gifts like:*

- *Delivery of my magazine Farmshine weekly*
- *Money gifts given*
- *Doing our corn for freezing*
- *Expressions of prayer for us*
- *Offers of help with lawn mowing, gardening, etc.*
- *Food gifts*
- *Taking time and providing transportation to and from Fox Chase Hospital in Philadelphia*
- *Being publically and privately prayed for by our church staff*

*Harold's health for now is improving, and he has a positive outlook. However, we do approach October 2020 with some trepidation. Another battery of medical tests will take us back to Fox Chase for further diagnosis.*

*LaVerne's facial cancer surgery is healing well, and she is not nearly as self-conscious as she was initially.*

*Both of us rejoice in and are thankful for the care you have extended. Our prayer is that God has and will continue to bless you each and all for your ministry to us—"the least of these".*

***---With great Christian love and thanks,  
Harold & LaVerne Yeager***



## *Chambersburg Area CROP Walk*

CROP Walk is the main hunger relief fundraiser of Church World Service. Its mission is to help feed the millions upon millions of hungry people throughout the world.

However, because of COVID, there will be NO Chambersburg community CROP Walk this year. Instead, we will be collecting donations to help CROP in their time-tested efforts to feed the hungry. Please be an advocate of CROP because it is so vital in the fight against hunger.

Donations can be made directly online [webwalk@crophungerwalk.org](mailto:webwalk@crophungerwalk.org) or by making checks payable to CWS/CROP and dropping it by the church office, dropping it in the offering plate, or mailing to Solomon's UCC, 1594 Swamp Fox Road, Chambersburg, 17202.



## Brethren Bits

**For the Global Food Initiative**, financial gifts are truly “seed money” to feed people all around the world. Since its beginning in 1983, GFI has raised more than \$8 million for community development projects.

In Ecuador there is mutual joy in reestablishing ties by partnering with Fundacion Brethren y Unida which the Brethren helped found in 1953. Other overseas grants went to Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, Nigeria, Rwanda, Spain, and Tanzania.

In the US, grants went to community gardening projects in Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, New Mexico, Ohio, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C. Total allocations in 2018 Totaled \$177,874.

From the 2020 Annual Report of the Church of the Brethren



## New Books for October

### Fiction

*Carolina Cousins* by Michael Phillips  
*A Perilous Proposal*  
*The Soldier's Lady*

### Non-Fiction

*The Four Pillars of Christianity*  
by Wade Smith

**2020 Camp Eder Fall Festival**

**Join us for a day of safe family fun!**

- Outdoor Event (Outdoor seating for meal)
- Pork Meal cooked overnight inground brick pits
- Hay Rides -Live Auction -Kid's Activities
- Craft Vendors -Yard Sale Vendors
- Eder-made Apple butter

October 17th  
10AM-3PM  
Meal Ticket Cost:\$12  
Meal served 11-2  
Auction 10:30 Start



Mark Your Calendars for  
Camp Eder's Annual Fall Fest!

October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020

10:00am – 3:00pm

914 Mt Hope Rd, Fairfield, PA 17320

<https://www.campeder.org/fall-festival>

Fall Festival is a celebration designed for the whole family. Fun and fundraising for Camp Eder's programs include a benefit auction, food, local craft vendors, and children's games. Pit-Roasted Pork or Turkey highlights the food offerings with eat in or take out available. Sandwiches, soup, and wonderful baked goods are also available. Apple butter crafted from the camp's apple orchard is a special treat.

**THINGS TO DO:**

Pit Roasted Pork & Turkey Meal.

\$12 adults, \$8 kids (12 + under) under 4 free

- Live Auction with Larry Schwartz
- Live Music by Werner Family Bluegrass Band
- Silent Auction.
- Apple Butter Making
- Strawberry Hill Nature Center
- Craft Vendors
- Eder's French Fries & Delicious Sandwiches
- Kid's Games and prize
- CANDY TREASURE HUNT
- Bounce House
- Food Court & Bake Sale
- Live Demos all day: Bee Keeping, Jewelry Making, Knitting, Trout fishing, Outdoor Skills, Fiber Crafts



**HELP NEEDED**

**Camp Eder needs the following items:  
Please see sign-up sheet in the BLC Lobby**

- 10 Baked Pies
- Bake Sale Items
- Money Donations to help with Food Expenses.