



The Pastor's Pen...

March 2024

Greetings to the Chambersburg Church of the Brethren family!!

As I sit down to write this, it is hard to believe that exactly three months have passed since that Sunday in November when Reba and I were with you and worshiped with you... three months since we discerned that God was indeed leading us on a journey together—a journey of walking, serving, learning, loving, and growing together as followers of Christ.

It is hard to believe that yesterday was my final Sunday, my final sermon, and my final time of worship as pastor of the Indian Creek Church of the Brethren. It is hard to believe that next week at this time we will actually be in Chambersburg, unpacking boxes, settling into our rented duplex, and preparing to begin this new chapter in our lives and in the life of the Chambersburg Church of the Brethren.

As you might imagine, I feel many different emotions. Yet beneath and above and in the midst of them all, I feel such deep, deep gratitude.

I am so grateful for the years of being part of the Indian Creek church family. I am grateful for the privilege of being their pastor. I am grateful for so many people who became such important parts of our lives and the lives of our children. I am grateful that the past weeks have been accompanied by deep affirmations of how God has used us for good in each other's lives. I am grateful that the "Good-byes" have indeed been deep longings and prayers of "God be with you," accompanied by deep hopes of sustaining relationships and meeting again.

And today, as I sit in this brief "space in between," and as I prepare to join Reba in the marathon homestretch of all that still needs to happen between now and Saturday morning when we will point the moving truck west and make our way to 189 Tucker Dr..., I am grateful for the Chambersburg Church of the Brethren. I am grateful for God's blessing in and through your congregation for all these years. I am grateful for God's faithfulness to you through times of plenty and times of pain. I am grateful for those who have served over the years—both in the pulpit and in the pew.

Specifically, as you prepare Sunday to thank and honor those who have carried the ministry of preaching these past 18 or so months, I am extremely grateful for their ministry among you, and—over the past 6 months—their ministry to us. Thank you, Pastor Liz. Thank you, Pastor Gretchen. Thank you, Pastor Ali. Thank you, Pastor Ian. You each brought your whole self, your life experiences, your individual and unique personality and style of preaching, your love for God, and your love for people. You each have been a blessing and an encouragement to so many. You each have been an encouragement and blessing to us. May God continue to bless you and bless others through you as you continue to use your gifts and to live out your calling in whatever capacities God gives you to serve.

And now, as we all prepare for this next chapter, I am grateful and excited and eager for the journey ahead, together. I am grateful for the opportunity to imagine together and to pursue, as a community of Jesus-followers, the vision and possibility of being so filled with the light and love of Jesus that our neighbors throughout Chambersburg would see the unmistakable glow of our “porch light” and would deeply feel the welcome and love of Jesus radiating from our midst.

Your new partner in the journey,
Pastor Mark

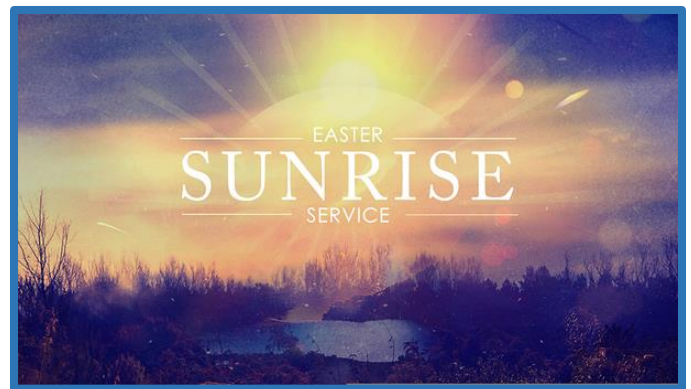


Easter Food Drive

Missions and Service Commission will be conducting an Easter Food Drive during the Sunday mornings of March 17th and March 24th. The drive will be for Easter dinner related non-perishable items.

Items needed include canned hams, Stove Top stuffing, scalloped or au gratin potatoes, granola bars, single pudding cups, single fruit cups, cake and brownie mixes.

All donations will be taken to SCCAP following the collection. Items will be collected in the Brethren Life Center Lobby.



You are Invited.....

Easter Sunrise Service for the United Churches of Chambersburg will be held at John Wesley AME Zion Church, 155 West Catherine Street, Chambersburg, PA on Easter Sunday (March 31, 2024) at 6:30 am.

All are invited to attend this service prior to our Easter Service at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.



A WORD FROM PASTOR GRETCHEN

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart for everything. I could never express the joy of learning to know all of you and working for this church. These have been some of the greatest times of my life. Take care of each other and move forward in love. It's the answer to every problem. Cast away your doubts and have faith in what you ask for. God is listening. May you all be filled with good health, happiness, and prosperity.

I hope to see you all again real soon.

With the deepest of Loves,
Pastor Gretchen

A WORD FROM CHRISITIAN EDUCATION

The Christian Education department is responsible for one of the most important things in our church, our children and youth. While our adults are volunteering for our services and attending adult classes our children and youth need teachers and volunteers they can count on. The shortage of volunteers for our childcare and children's classrooms can create a great burden on the church as a whole.

To continue the great programs, we have and to expand our programs to new heights and grow, WE NEED YOU!

How can I volunteer to help?

Contact Donna Meyers as soon as you can. There are volunteer positions available from helpers to teachers. We will work with you to find the best schedule and fit for you.

How complicated is the clearance process?

Not at all. It only takes some basic information and a few signatures, and you'll be ready to go in a few weeks. The process is extremely simple.

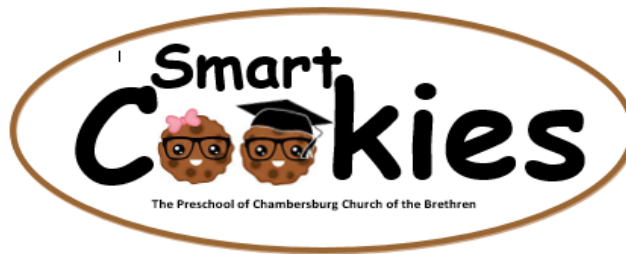
Do I have to commit?

No one must commit long term, but we sure wish you would! Volunteers can do one Sunday, four Sundays, more or less. There are so many ways to serve God by serving our students.

Is there a way to help without being hands on?

Most of what we need in our programs is hands on volunteers but that doesn't mean there aren't other ways to support Christian Education. We are currently building a new classroom and there are many other things to keep up on week to week. If you'd like to help in other ways, please let Donna Meyers know.

In Love,
Christian Education



Smart Cookies News

March 2024

February has been a very exciting month at Smart Cookies. We are learning about winter animals, groundhogs, Valentine's Day, Dental Health, letters, the numbers 7 and 8, and many Old Testament stories. Some of the class has been learning sight words, beginning addition, and have been on their Chromebooks on a frequent basis.

On February 13th, we had our Valentine's Day party and had some fun activities. On February 21st, we celebrated the 100th day of school. We dressed up as 100-year-olds and did lots of exciting activities. We had our last day of Karate on February 21st. The children earned their white belts. On February 28th, we had a visit from Dr. James Barra, a local orthodontist, to teach about keeping our teeth healthy.

For the month of March, we have fun activities planned, such as our Dr. Seuss celebration, St. Patrick's Day activities, the beginning of Spring, Easter activities Egg Hunt, and much more.

Upcoming March Events

February 26th- March 8th- Dr. Seuss Activities and Celebration

March 13th- St. Patrick's Day Celebration- Wear green to school

March 13th-15th- Yard Sale

March 15th - No School- Spring Break

March 20th- First Day of Spring

March 22nd- Visit to Brookview Senior Center

March 29th-April 1st- Easter Break



I would like to thank all who sent cards, and for the many prayers following this sad time. Also thank you to the group that prepared and served the meal afterwards. It was very delicious, and we appreciated it.

---Daphney Martin and Family

Thanks to all who have delivered Mid-Week meals to me the past several months, and to those that have provided rides, and help. I appreciate you so much.

---God Bless, Gail Appenzellar

Thanks to everyone who remembered me with phone calls and beautiful cards when my sister Thelma Statler passed.

---Doris Demuth

Thanks to all those that volunteered this year to cover a day of ringing the bell as part of Salvation Army's Red Kettle Project at the Butcher Shoppe on December 8th. We covered the bell ringing from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. that day. The amount raised during our time was \$807.65.

---Missions and Service Commission

Thank you to the congregation and our Sunday School class for your prayers, telephone calls, cards, and the Sunshine gift basket. We enjoyed each of these, they brightened our day. We miss coming to church and hope to get back soon.

---Diane and Don Berger

The unexpected journey my life took last year was made easier by the love, support, and prayers I received from all of you.

I greatly appreciated the cards, phone calls, messages, food, and visits – And understanding when I was unable to visit.

Your prayers have carried me through this process and have positively influenced my current situation.

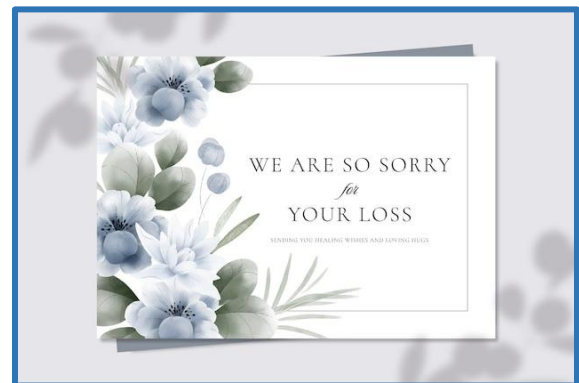
---My Love and thanks to each of you.

Linda Remson

And the victor of The "Soup"er Bowl 2024 for Chambersburg COB is....the Kansas City Chiefs (the actual winner of the Super Bowl)!

With 274 food items donated the Chiefs won over the San Fransico 49ers 146 items to 128 items. Thank you to all those that played along and donated, making the SCCAP Food Bank the real winner!

---Missions and Service Commission



Our Sympathy to:

Deborah Austin and Family following the death of her father, Francis G. Austin Jr., on Monday, January 29, 2024.

Cathy Funk and Family following the death of her mother, Jenine L. Turner on Monday, January 22, 2024.

Doris Demuth and Family following the death of her sister, Thelma W. Statler on Saturday, January 6, 2024.



Congratulations to:

Ray and Kelly Frazer on the birth of a son, Micah Thomas Frazer on Saturday, February 17, 2024. He weighed 8lbs. 14 oz. and was 21 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Kim and Bo Frazer.



***Easter Parade
Saturday, March 23, 2024***

10 AM – 11 AM

Drive thru for a bag of Easter goodies including Candy, Candy, Candy, & enjoy our Easter Scavenger Hunt!

We also need small, wrapped candy donations from the congregation for our Easter Parade.

There is a box located in the Brethren Life Center Lobby for drop-off.

Thank you for your candy donation.



WHAT: Mid-Week to Go.....

WHEN: Wednesday, March 6th
5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

WHERE: Chambersburg COB

Meal delivered to your car!
First come-first served basis.

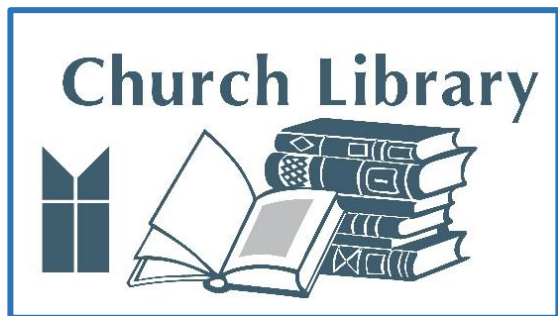
*260 South Fourth Street
Chambersburg, PA 17201
717-264-6957*

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



*Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 a.m.
on Sunday, March 10th, 2024*

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead an hour!



Women's History is the theme for the month of March

Some books you may consider:

Woman I was Before
The Women with Silver Wings
American Women
All My Knotted-up Life
The First Ladies
Questions Women Ask in Private



FOR THE KIDS NEWS

The Hoss's fundraiser came to \$161.20.
 Thank you to those who supported us.

Next fundraiser is the big one, Taste of the Valley. It will be on April 9 at the Lifepoint Church. Cost is still \$30.00. See Lora Bucher for tickets. Fifteen restaurants will be around the room for you to sample from. There is also a silent and oral auction. All monies raised will go to non-profits that help children in the area.

If you have items to donate, please inform Lora Bucher. Hope to see you there!

---Lora Bucher



Southern PA District Women's Spring Luncheon – Saturday, April 20, 2024

The Southern PA District Women's Spring Luncheon will be held at West Shore Church of the Brethren, 6921 Wertzville Road, Enola, PA on Saturday, April 20, 2024 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

The Speaker is Kirsten Harris Keys, Public Relations Coordinator for the Harrisburg City School District. She attends Solid Rock Missionary Baptist Church of Harrisburg where she gladly serves God and others. She is married to Pastor Thomas Keys. She is active in health and wellness ministry, community outreach, women's ministry initiatives, and the ministry of encouragement.

Cost is \$10 per person and Registration deadline is April 13th. Brochures with registration forms and more information are available in the Narthex and Brethren Life Center Lobby.

**NewsLetter
DEADLine**

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for April Pastor's Pen
 Sunday, March 24, 2024

Please submit all information to the church office.

SAVE THE DATE! - MARCH 14TH -16TH

DONATIONS ACCEPTED STARTING MONDAY MARCH 11TH

Chambersburg's Biggest Yard Sale!

supporting Smart Cookies Preschool & other community ministries. Includes clothes, books, recordings, small appliances, furniture, dishes, kitchen goods, craft supplies, antiques, bikes, toys, baby supplies, etc.

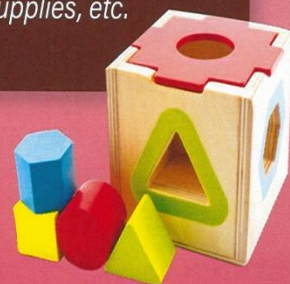
Lunch & Refreshments will be available

WHERE?

CHAMBERSBURG CHURCH
OF THE BRETHREN
260 S. FOURTH ST. CHAMBERSBURG, PA

WHEN?

THURSDAY, MARCH 14TH 1PM - 7PM
FRIDAY, MARCH 15TH 8AM -5PM
SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH 8AM - 1PM





Day 1	Luke 17:5	Day 17	2 Timothy 4:7
Day 2	Romans 10:17	Day 18	Matthew 14:29-31
Day 3	Galatians 5:6	Day 19	John 20:19
Day 4	Hebrews 11:1	Day 20	1 John 5:13
Day 5	James 2:17	Day 21	John 14:17
Day 6	1 John 5:4-5	Day 22	John 1:12
Day 7	John 6:29	Day 23	Mark 10:52
Day 8	Hebrews 11:6	Day 24	Romans 1:17
Day 9	James 1:6	Day 25	1 Peter 1:21
Day 10	Psalms 37:5	Day 26	Titus 1:2
Day 11	Proverbs 3:5	Day 27	1 Corinthians 16:15
Day 12	Matthew 6:30	Day 28	Mark 11:24
Day 13	Matthew 17:20	Day 29	1 Timothy 6:11
Day 14	2 Corinthians 5:7	Day 30	1 Thessalonians 1:3
Day 15	Acts 26:18	Day 31	1 Peter 1:7
Day 16	Ephesians 6:16		



Become a Friend in 2024!

The purpose of the Friends of Cross Keys Village is to benefit the lives of residents and team members of Cross Keys Village—the Brethren Home Community.

To accomplish this objective, funds are raised through an **Annual Membership Drive**, donations, and various fundraising events throughout the year. Membership in the Friends of Cross Keys Village is open to all residents and friends of Cross Keys Village.

Funds raised by the Friends are principally used to support:

- The **Good Samaritan Fund**, assisting residents whose finances are exhausted
- The **Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)**, offering support to our team members who wish to further their education.
- The **Professional Artist Series**, bringing professional entertainment to our campus for the enjoyment of villagers and neighbors from the greater community

Becoming a member or renewing your membership gives you the satisfaction of helping others!

Please return the completed form with your check.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____ Email: _____

Congregation (if affiliated with Church of the Brethren): _____

☐ Please contact me about volunteering for The Friends

Please check
box(es) that apply

☐ **\$10 Bronze-one person** ☐ **\$20 Bronze-two persons**

☐ **\$50 Silver-one person** ☐ **\$100 Silver-two persons**

☐ **\$100 Gold-one person** ☐ **\$200 Gold-two persons**

☐ **Additional Donation \$** _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____ ☐ I would like a tax-deductible receipt

The completed form and your check made out to **The Friends of CKV** can be placed in the Campus Mail, addressed to Membership Chair Deborah McBeth, 1754 Shoemaker Drive, or mailed to Deborah McBeth, 1754 Shoemaker Drive, New Oxford, PA 17350.

Questions can be addressed to **Deborah McBeth:** dlmamsts@aol.com | 978-979-2270

Online membership and credit card payment: www.crosskeysvillage.org/donate/friends

