



The Pastor's Pen... **March 2025**

Lent is observed within many Christian traditions as the forty-day period between Ash Wednesday and Easter. It is a time devoted to deeper spiritual reflection of our need for the gift of salvation provided through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. It is a time when many people identify something that they usually enjoy and choose to “fast” from it, or give it up, as a reminder of Jesus' sacrifice for us.

A few years ago, I came across this meditation for Lent based on the teachings of Pope Francis. It calls us to consider a variety of “fasts” during Lent. It calls us not only to say “no” to certain actions of attitudes, but to say “yes” to new ways of living and being.

*Fast from hurting words, and say kind words.
Fast from sadness, and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger, and be filled with patience.
Fast from pessimism, and be filled with hope.
Fast from worries, and have trust in God.
Fast from bitterness, and fill your hearts with joy.
Fast from selfishness, and be compassionate to others.
Fast from grudges, and be reconciled.
Fast from words, and be silent so you can listen.*

As I reflected, I wondered what a similar list might look like based on Jesus' words from the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount.

*Jesus said, “Blessed are the poor in spirit,” so fast from spiritual pride.
Jesus said, “Blessed are they that mourn,” so fast from things that dull your senses to the pain and sorrow all around you.
Jesus said, “Blessed are the meek,” so fast from actions and attitudes that promote yourself above others.
Jesus said, “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,” so fast from things that indulge your hunger for lesser things.
Jesus said, “Blessed are the merciful,” so fast from judging others.
Jesus said, “Blessed are the pure in heart,” so fast from pretending and get real with God.
Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers,” so fast from trying so hard to win and try even harder to understand.
Jesus said, “Blessed are the persecuted for His sake,” so fast from living in fear and let His light shine through you!*

I invite each of you to prayerfully choose at least one of the above and ask God to help you make it a spiritual commitment to God and to others these 40 days of Lent, and beyond.

- Pastor Mark (your partner in the journey)



INDOOR YARD SALE March 20, 21, 22, 2025

Smart Cookies Preschool will sponsor one of our favorite events, and you can all play an important role in Smart Cookies ongoing funding.

Donations cannot come to the Church building until Monday, March 17th!

We will have volunteers at the church from 11:30 AM until 1:30 PM on Monday through Wednesday (March 17-19) to help carry in any donations. If you have heavy or bulky items and need help getting them to the church, we will have a crew available to help.

Please contact Tim Monn in advance if you need help.

Thursday March 20th 1:00 PM-7:00 PM

Friday March 21st 8:00 AM-7:00 PM

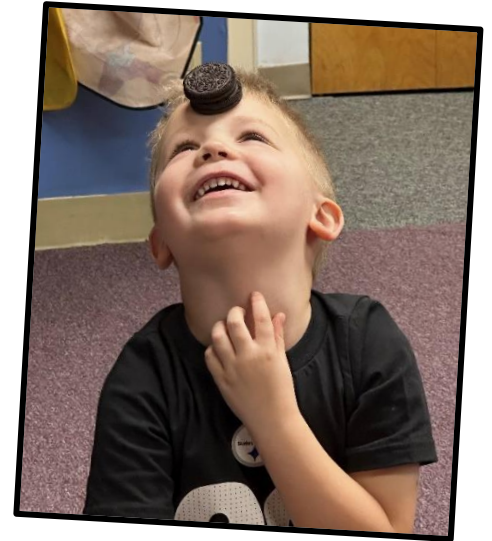
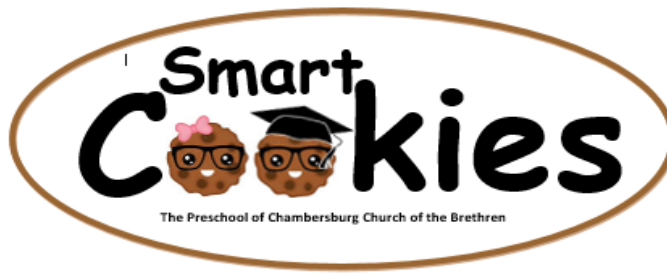
Saturday March 22nd 8:00 AM-1:00 PM

We are asking for donations of anything **still useable** that you are willing to donate. Clothes, books, CDs & DVDs, furniture (No large furniture), appliances, kitchen items, dishes and cookware, musical instruments, electronics (still working well), cameras (digital and film), toys, collectables, etc. **Please no junk!**

Volunteers are needed for many jobs. Food donations are also needed.

Sign-up sheets are available in the Brethren Life Center Lobby and Narthex.





SMART COOKIES PRESCHOOL NEWS

Ms. Amy's 4/5-year-old class

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. We are learning sight words, beginning addition, and have worked on their Chromebooks on a frequent basis.

On February 14th, we celebrated the 100th day of school. We dressed up as 100-year-olds and did lots of exciting activities. On February 17th we had our Valentine's Day party and completed a lot of fun activities.

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, and much more.

Ms. Kobie's 3-year-old class

March, where has the time gone. As I sit here and think about the exciting events happening in the preschool class, I cannot help but think our time is almost over with a little over three months left in the 2024-2025 school year.

As for the upcoming events in the preschool room we will be discussing Zaccheaus, the Good Samaritan, and Jesus Feeds Five Thousand. In honor of Read Across America our little learners will celebrate Dr. Seuss birthday by bringing in their favorite book to share with their friend's. We will celebrate the rainbow with God's promise, St. Patrick's Day and reading about the Holy Trinity. While we say goodbye to winter and hello to spring, (March 20th) our little learners will explore the new life spring brings.

As February comes to a close, I can't help but think about all the smiling faces and fun we had as we celebrated our Super Bowl party, 100th day of school and Valentines Day.

Thank you for letting me share the exciting things happening in our preschool room.

Sincerely,
Ms. Amy and
Ms. Kobie

Smart Cookies Preschool Upcoming March Events

March 3-March 14th- Dr. Seuss Activities and Celebration

March 3- Visit from Dr. Barra for a Dental presentation

March 17th- St. Patrick's Day Celebration- Wear green to school

March 20-22nd - Yard Sale

March 20th- First Day of Spring

March 21st- Visit to Brookview Senior Center





And the Champion of The "Soup"er Bowl 2025 for Chambersburg Church of the Brethren is...
the Philadelphia Eagles (the actual winner of the Super Bowl)!

With 214 food items donated the Philadelphia Eagles won over the Kansas City Chiefs 167 items to 47 items. Thank you to all those that played along and donated, making the SCCAP Food Bank the real winner!
---**Missions and Service Commission**

Dear Friends,

Since 1865, The Salvation Army has served and shown compassion to those in need. It is through donations that we are successful in helping some of our neediest neighbors throughout the year with a wide variety of services and programs for all ages! We would like to express our appreciation to you for your support of this Mission. We seek to enable growth and self-sufficiency for those who seek our assistance. Your organization raised **\$671.80** while standing for our Red Kettle Campaign, and this will help assure that these needs are met with skill and compassion! Thank you and God bless!
---**Majors Ashley & Christopher Mauk**
The Salvation Army of Chambersburg

We would like to thank our church family for the many cards, prayers, and expressions of sympathy following the death of our father, Dean W. Bricker.
---**Larry and Lana Bricker**

Thank you to the Helping Hands Circle for purchasing the two new trash cans in our church kitchen with their funds. We appreciate your kindness!



Our Sympathy to:

Larry and Lana Bricker and Family following the death of Larry's father, Dean W. Bricker on Wednesday, February 5, 2025.



Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 9th, 2025

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



Deadline

Deadline for April Pastor's Pen
Sunday, March 23, 2025

Please submit all information to the church office.



Smart Cookies Fundraiser “Gertrude Hawk” Chocolates

Candy Sales run through March 9, 2025. Catalog, order form, and information is provided in your church mailbox and on the church’s website. Please place completed order forms and checks payable to *Chambersburg Church of the Brethren* in the box marked “Candy Sales” in the church library and lobby of the Brethren Life Center. You can also order online by entering Chambersburg Church of the Brethren as the organization.

Orders will arrive in time for Easter! If you have any questions, please contact Mimi Kelly.

Your support for our “Smart Cookies” program is greatly appreciated. Thank You.



Camp Eder Senior Day- April 9

Craig Caltagione brings his one-man song and dance program to entertain “seniors”. Audience members enjoy “senior-friendly” musical selections ranging from the 1920s through the 1970s including classic Broadway tunes and standards from the Great American Songbook.

Cost is \$20. Please RSVP by calling 717-642-8256 or e-mail whilliard@campeder.org. For more information check the website at <https://www.campeder.org/senior-meeting>



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

WHEN: Wednesday, March 5th
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.



Library News for March

The following books were donated to the library for you to read:

The Doctor's Bride by Patt Marr

Looking for a Miracle by Wanda E. Brunstetter

Village Affairs by Miss Read

The Oracle by Jonathan Cahn

The Dragon’s Prophecy by Jonathan Cahn



Become a Friend in 2025!

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 **Memory Care Education Program**, which offers support to individuals living with Alzheimer's disease or another neurocognitive disorder, and to their care partners, whether they live on campus or in 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 \$10 Bronze-one person \$20 Bronze-two persons

box(es) that apply \$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, New Oxford, PA 17350, 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**



Taste of the Valley is coming Soon!

Greetings!

For the Kids of Chambersburg, is a non-profit group of ladies and gentlemen that will be holding their 20th year of "Taste of the Valley." We ask 14-16 restaurants/caterers to participate by donating a "taste" of their specialty food(s). We will be holding this event at Lifepoint Church, 339 LWE on Tuesday, April 8, 2025. Doors open at 5:00 pm., we eat at the largest buffet in Chambersburg at 6:00 pm, live auction starts at 7:00 p.m. Silent auction starts at 5:00 pm and goes throughout dinner. We sell 168 tickets at \$30 each.

The money that is raised at this fundraiser stays in Chambersburg. We contribute to 12 non-profit agencies that help children in need. They include: NETwork Ministry, Frances Leiter Center, Women In Need, B.O.P.I.C., Franklin County Homeless Shelter, YMCA Sam's Club, Boys and Girls Club of Chambersburg & Shippensburg, Rhodes Grove Camp, Camp Joy-EI, Circles, Franklin County Children's Advocacy Center and Pregnancy Ministry.

If you are interested in getting tickets, please call Lynn Rotz at 717-816-1510. If you are interested in donating to the live and silent auction, you can call Lynn as well.

Blessings to you all!
----Lynn Rotz

Carlisle First Church of the Brethren Summer Concert Series

Carlisle First Church of the Brethren, 1340 Forge Road, Carlisle, announces their second series of concerts with Celtic, Gospel, Country, and Acoustic Rock from March through June of 2025.

- March 22nd – Celtic – *Fire In The Glen*
- April 26th – Gospel – *The Fisher Girls*
- May 24th – Country Gospel – *Elly Cooke*
- June 21st – Acoustic Classic Rock – *Frank N' Bob*

Admission is free and refreshments and fellowship following the concerts.

Concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. All are invited!



Escape Room Party

YOUTH GROUP !

WEDNESDAY MARCH 12TH

5:30PM -DINNER IN BLC

7:00 PM- ESCAPE ROOM

STEEL KEY ESCAPE

2613 PHILADELPHIA AVE / SUITE #12

CHAMBERSBURG PA 17201



*Let's get locked in -
and party our way out!*



Easter Flower Orders

Orders must be returned **by Wednesday, March 12, 2025**
Please place your order in the baskets provided in the narthex and the lobby.
Payment in full is expected when you place your order.

Please check which flower you would like to purchase:

___ Tulips \$11.00 ___ Hyacinths \$11.00 ___ Easter Lily \$13.00 ___ Mini-Daffodils \$11.00.

Name _____

Phone # _____

In Honor _____

In Memory of _____

Given by _____

All flowers will be placed in the Sanctuary.



Southern PA District Women's Spring Luncheon

Southern PA District Women's Spring Luncheon will be held at Huntsdale Church of the Brethren, 170 Church Rd, Carlisle, PA on Saturday, April 12, 2025.

Speaker is Dava Hensly, Annual Conference Moderator. She will reflect on our faith in God when we are grieving along with the various reasons for grief.

Watch the bulletin for registration information and deadline.



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		