



The Pastor's Pen... May 2026

Connecting Some Dots...

(as We Seek Our Path Forward as a Family of God, Growing in Christ, Empowered to Serve)

In my Pastor's Pen article last month, I wrote about the arrival of spring and how that before we ever saw the first signs of new life, things were already happening beneath the sod and within the trunk and branches of trees that would lead directly to the renewal of nature that followed. I wrote also that in the resurrection of Jesus, God was similarly working behind the scenes with a plan and purpose beyond what his disciples could see or imagine. I then applied this to our journey as a church, asserting that ***"this is only one of many examples of how God is often working behind the scenes to prepare new life within us, among us and through us to the world around us."***

There are similar ways that our Church Board has been working behind the scenes over the past months.

We have not been able to say in advance exactly what will happen in the future in the way that Jesus plainly told his disciples that he would be betrayed, and killed, and would rise again on the third day. We do not know what God will bring about. But neither have we been working in secret. We have shared ways we have seen God at work, opening doors to new ways to have meaningful impact in our neighborhood. We have shared about the teams the Board has formed and what those teams are working on.

And if you have listened closely to Sunday sermons over the past weeks and months, you have heard themes and guidance related directly to this entire process and to this chapter in our life together as a follower of Jesus. Those themes include ***the nature and role of vision*** as essential to our faith. Those themes include the importance of each of us ***doing what is within our power to do*** as we continue to step into our future, ***trusting*** that in God's perfect time and way, ***God will continue to move the stones*** and open more doors and do for us those things that are beyond our ability and imagination. And just last week, we were challenged that ***as we move forward, doing what we can, we need to be creative, be willing to think outside the box, and be open to God's unexpected answers.***

And also, just last week, Marsha announced plans for a special **Congregational Meeting** to be held **Sunday, May 17th**, immediately after the 9:30 worship service. The purpose of this meeting will be to share and discuss and vote on a proposal (or proposals) that the Board expects to have ready for us all to consider together. What is that proposal? Well, we have some pieces, but it is not fully formed. And details are still changing as we fine tune and finish our plan and vision for this next portion of how we believe God is leading us forward as a church. What I can tell you is that whatever proposal(s) the Board brings will likely be connected to many of the dots we have already shared. They will also likely be connected to whatever news or "impact moments" or sermon themes that are shared over the next few Sundays.

So, I strongly encourage each of you to stay engaged, show up as often as you can, continue to support, be prayerful, and join us as we seek to be open to what God has for us. And please make every effort to be present at our special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 17th!

Your partner in this journey, Pastor Mark

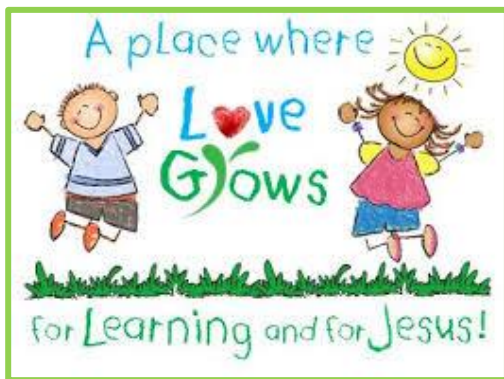
SMART COOKIES PRESCHOOL CHICKEN BBQ



Smart Cookies Preschool Chicken BBQ, Saturday, May 30, 2026 at Super Shoes Parking Lot on Lincoln Way East from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Tickets will be on sale before and after worship. Menu is 1/2 Chicken, Baked Beans, Applesauce, and a Martins Roll for \$14.

Prepaid meals must be picked up by 1 p.m. This is a fundraiser for Smart Cookies to make the preschool an affordable option.



Children's Program Volunteers Needed

We need committed teachers for the children who attend our church on a regular basis. We only have a few, but we need to provide childcare and Sunday school EVERY Sunday for those children who do attend with their parents.

If we want to attract families we have to have a robust children's program and at this point we do not. **Please** consider the church's needs as follows:

- Nursery (0-2 yrs.) 2 people each Sunday to provide childcare for 2 hours.
- Pre-K (3-5 yrs.) 2 people each Sunday to provide a short lesson and supervise play time and snack time for 2 hours.
- Children's church (6 yrs. +) 1-2 people to assist the Director of Youth Ministry each Sunday for 2 hours.

The Christian Education Committee will do the scheduling and provide the lesson plans, snacks and some training. All you need to do is volunteer!

Contact Linda Hawbaker, Megan Carbaugh or Reba Baliles.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL RAINFOREST FALLS

Embark on the wildest rainforest escapade ever at the Chambersburg Church of the Brethren Vacation Bible School. (VBS) is a community-centered program designed to provide children with a safe, engaging, and faith-filled environment during the summer. Throughout the week, children participate in hands-on activities, music, crafts, games, and lessons that encourage personal growth and positive values..

JUNE 15TH - 19TH
9:00 AM - 11:30AM

Register Now - www.chambcob.org

FREE!!

Preschool - 5th Grade
(4 year olds +)

(717) 264-6957 | 260 S. Fourth St Chambersburg PA



4th Street Youth Group

END OF THE YEAR YOUTH GROUP COOKOUT





May 20th | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Tangela & Terry Gibbons Home
74 St.Thomas-Edenville Road
St. Thomas, PA 17252



**YOU'RE INVITED - FRIENDS &
FAMILIES OF OUR YOUTH GROUP!**



Join us as we reflect on our
year together & Pray over our
Youth this summer !
Enjoy Fellowship, Food & Fun.



Please be advised there will be two family friendly dogs present.



SMART COOKIES PRESCHOOL NEWS

Ms. Amy's Pre-k Classroom

April was a beautiful month of growth, discovery, and hands-on learning for our Smart Cookies scholars. We are grateful for every opportunity to explore God's world together.

Ballet Visit with Ms. Brena, We were blessed to welcome Ms. Brena from the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet. She spent time with our young learners demonstrating simple dance movements and sharing the joy of creative expression. The children loved moving, stretching, and trying new steps.

Wilson College Horse Visit

Our trip to Wilson College was a huge success. God gave us a beautiful, warm farm day, and our students were able to pet and feed the horse. Their smiles said it all. It was a memorable experience for everyone.

Art Outdoors

To celebrate the warm weather, we took our creativity outside. The students made flowers, and painted the flowers outside to enjoy the sunshine while exploring spring colors and textures. It was a fun way to welcome the new season.

Looking Ahead to May

As we enter our final month with our scholars, we have exciting celebrations planned.

End-of-Year Celebration at Norlo Park

We will be heading to Norlo Park for a fun-filled day that includes:

- Face painting
- Planting flowers
- Friendly sports competitions with the K-4 class

It will be a wonderful way to celebrate all the growth and accomplishments of this year.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. It is a privilege to guide our scholars each day, and we remain grateful for the trust you place in our program. We look forward to a meaningful and joy-filled month ahead.

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

The month of April is flying by. We have been very busy in our Pre-K program. We are continuing to learn our letters, numbers, sight words, addition, and subtraction. For Science we have been learning about the life cycle of butterflies, spiders, plants, ocean animals, zoo animals, and farm animals. We currently have caterpillars in our classroom and are enjoying watching them.

On April 2nd, we had our Easter Party and Easter Egg Hunt. The students had a lot of fun. On April 15th, we went on a field trip to Wilson College's Equestrian Center. The kids had a lot of fun learning about horses, feeding the horses, and petting the horses.

On April 22nd we met with the seniors from Menno Haven and watching a movie and sharing lunch together. This was our last get together for the 2025-2026 school year.

We are getting ready to begin working on our Graduation Program. We have a lot of fun events planned for the month of May.

We will continue to be busy throughout the month of May. Our last day of school is May 21st. We thank you for your continuous support to our program.

May Events

13th- Field Day at Norlo Park

15th - End of School Year Breakfast

20th - Spaghetti Ice

21st - Last Day of School/Graduation for the Pre-K students.



Thank you

Dear Church Family,
Thanks so much for the beautiful bouquet of red roses. It surely was a surprise! I felt it was time for someone else to learn bread making and counting offering. It's been fun.

---Thanks again, Mabel Diller

Once again, thank you all for your prayers, concerns, and visits during my recent hospitalization. God put each of you in my life for a reason and I believe it was for support through these rough times as well as great friendships in serving God.

---Thanks again, Robert Shank

Dear Nancy and Galen Yeager,
We want to thank you for all the applesauce you have donated over the years and continue to donate. We use it mostly for the Mid-Week Meal but on occasion we will use it for an activity we are having at the Church. This donation has saved us so much money over the years. Thank you for picking it up and delivering it to the Church. It sure is appreciated.

**---With Sincere Gratitude,
Missions and Service Commission
Mid-Week Connection Planning
Committee**



You're Invited!



Doris's 100th
Birthday Party

MAY 16TH, 2026 FROM 1:00 - 4:00

MENNO HAVEN LIFE CENTER
300 RIDGEVIEW, CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17201

HOOR D'OEUVRES WILL BE SERVED
BEER WINE & NONALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WILL BE
AVAILABLE

YOUR PRESENCE IS THE ONLY PRESENT DESIRED.
(ACTUALLY, IF YOU CAN VISIT DORIS, THAT'S THE
BEST PRESENT YOU CAN GIVE).

RSVP to barstmom@comcast.net,
jbdemuth@hotmail.com, or
call Doris at 717-264-6880 by May 7.



David Meyers has moved to:
Leaman Memory Home, Room 203
702 North Penn Hall Drive
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Church
News

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for June Pastor's Pen
Sunday, May 24, 2026

Please submit all information to the
church office.

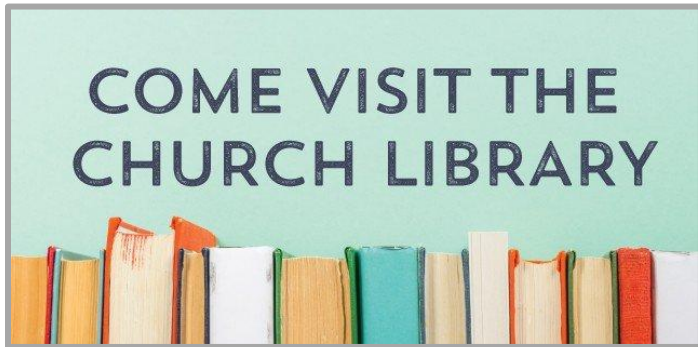


Schedule of Events for Loving Hearts – May - July

May 21st- Harpist Lauren Swain will play following lunch at the Church in the Brethren Life Center

June 18th- Stoner's Family Restaurant
Speaker Wayne Myers from Norland Pharmacy

July 16th- Michael Peluso glass blowing following lunch at the Church in the Brethren Life Center.



Add to your reading list for May:

A Calamity of Souls by David Baldacci

Boom, Bang, & A Body by Misty Lynn

A Short Guide To A Happy Life
by Anna Quindlen

Trace Elements by Donna Leon



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

WHEN: Wednesday, May 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.



LIFE LINE SCREENING
The Power of Prevention

You're invited to a Life Line Screening event!

Where: Chambersburg Church of the Brethren

When: Monday, May 4th, 2026

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk Screenings.**

Trusted by over 11 million customers.


Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

Who should attend: Anyone age of 40+

Special Pricing for \$129

- Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

4 ways to book your appointment...

Scan here:  Call 800-324-9458 and use promo code: HABC001

Visit [LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC](https://www.llsa.org/social/habc)

Text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607

These tests cannot detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease.
Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefits of any additional testing or procedures.

The church office has a few Complimentary Screening Packages available. Please contact Carol in the church office (717-264-6957) if you are interested.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

May 20, 2026

7:00 am Registration & Light Breakfast
8:00 am Shotgun Start (Four Player Scramble Format)
12:00 Noon Lunch at Camp Eder

CARROLL VALLEY GOLF COURSE
at
LIBERTY MOUNTAIN

Camp Eder
Play with Purpose

JOIN US FOR A DAY ON THE GREENS

Support Camp Eder ministries while enjoying a fun round of golf with friends and family.

REGISTER EARLY – ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!

CAMP Eder 914 Mt hope Rd. Fairfield PA 17320

Where:
Carroll Valley Golf Course at Liberty Mountain
78 Country Club Trail, Fairfield, PA 17320

When:
7:00 am Registration & Continental Breakfast
8:00 am Shotgun Start (Four Player Scramble Format)
12:00 Noon Lunch at Camp Eder

Why:
The Annual Camp Eder Golf Outing plays a crucial role in sustaining Camp Eder's mission of providing a space where individuals can encounter the presence of Christ in the beauty of God's Creation.

Thanks to events like the Golf Outing and our scholarship program, we've been able to extend the opportunity for numerous families to participate in our enriching camp experiences.

Would you consider lending your support to further the mission of Camp Eder? Your contribution could make a significant difference in the lives of those we serve.

Want to be a hole sponsor? Click the link on our website under "Sponsorship Form"!

How:
To register follow the link on our website. for more information contact Camp Eder
717-642-8256
campeder@campeder.org
914 Mt Hope Rd
Fairfield, Pa 17320

Tee time waits for no one!



Day 1	Matthew 11:28-30	Day 17	Hebrews 12:12-13
Day 2	Psalms 73:26	Day 18	Colossians 1:29
Day 3	John 14:27	Day 19	Galatians 6:9
Day 4	Psalms 55:22	Day 20	Proverbs 3:24
Day 5	1 Peter 4:19	Day 21	Psalms 147:3
Day 6	2 Corinthians 5:6-7	Day 22	John 16:24
Day 7	Psalms 147:3	Day 23	Isaiah 26:3
Day 8	1 Peter 5:7	Day 24	Hebrews 4:16
Day 9	Isaiah 40:31	Day 25	Psalms 55:6
Day 10	Luke 10:41-42	Day 26	Proverbs 23:23-24
Day 11	Nehemiah 8:10	Day 27	Psalms 18:31-32
Day 12	John 16:33	Day 28	James 1:12
Day 13	Psalms 4:8	Day 29	Revelation 2:3
Day 14	Exodus 33:14	Day 30	Hebrews 6:10
Day 15	Psalms 121:1-3	Day 31	Isaiah 55:11
Day 16	Jeremiah 31:25		