

Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren
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Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
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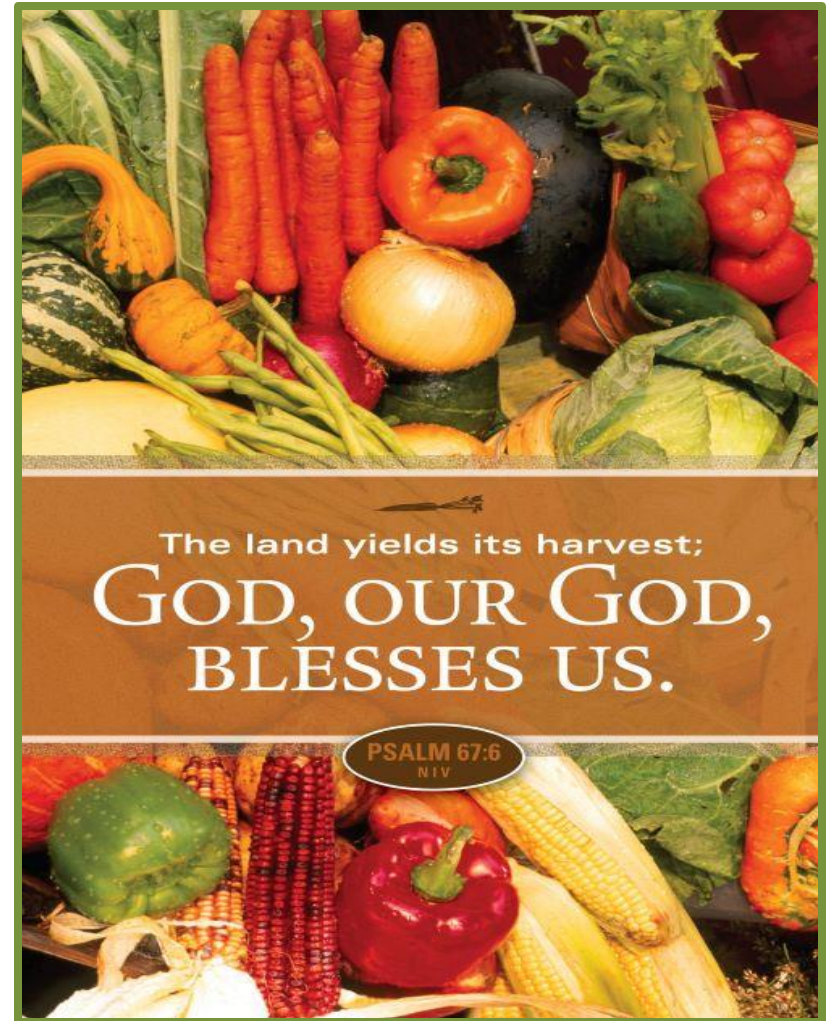
The NOVEMBER 2024

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Published Monthly (except August) by

Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren
301 Gale Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
717-766-8880
www.MechanicsburgCOB.org

**Volume 24
Number 11**



NOVEMBER WORSHIP THEMES

November 3: - Eric Seibert
"I Love the Church Because...Community Happens Here" (1 of 3)

Worship Theme: When people in a congregation share their gifts with one another, and care for each other, beautiful expressions of Christian community emerge.

Scripture: Acts 2:43-47; 1 Corinthians 11:4-12

November 10: - Eric Seibert
"I Love the Church Because...Faith Grows Here (2 of 3)

Worship Theme: Through its worship services, programs, and practices, the church provides a unique space to develop faith in God and to learn what it means to follow Jesus.

Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:4-9; 2 Timothy 3:14-15

November 17: - Eric Seibert
"I Love the Church Because...Outreach Flows from Here" (3 of 3)

Worship Theme: Part of the church's mission is to engage in acts of service and witness to the world, and local congregations provide many opportunities to do this.

Scripture: Genesis 12:1-3; James 2:14-17

November 24: - Guest Speaker

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.
Colossians 3:15 (NRSVue)

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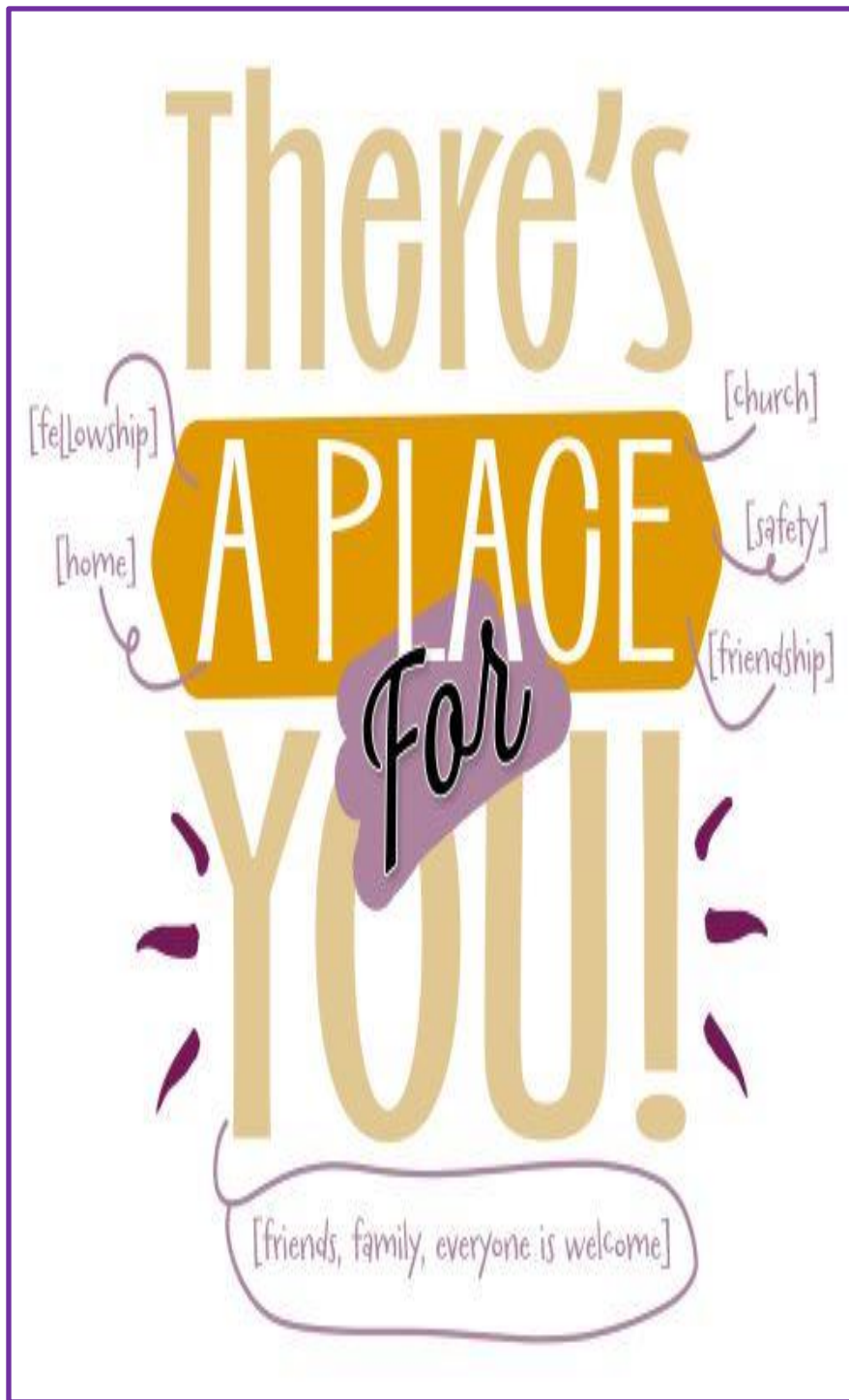
The Thanksgiving holiday provides us with a wonderful opportunity to give thanks for the many good things we enjoy in life: friends, family, health, meaningful work, the beauty of nature, the love of God—the list goes on! Words of thanks and gratitude are appropriate throughout the year and can be expressed around the dinner table, in conversations with friends, on written notes and cards, during our worship services, and in many other contexts.

One simple ritual my family practices as Thanksgiving draws near involves the use of a small wooden box we call the "blessing box." Each family member writes what they are thankful for on small white pieces of paper and places these in the box. After Thanksgiving, we take these handwritten notes out of the blessing box and take turns reading them around the table. There are always many things to be thankful for.

This year, one thing I am especially thankful for is Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren! I am grateful for each of you and am thankful for the opportunity you have given me to serve as your pastor. I look forward to working with you and worshipping together, and I am grateful for the chance I will have to get to know you better in the weeks and months to come.

May this season of Thanksgiving remind us of all we have to be thankful for, and may words of thanks be often on our lips.

-Pastor Eric



MCOB News & Activities



Sunday, November 3rd

**Turn your clocks back
1 hour on
Saturday night.**



Memorial to the Lost October 20 – November 2

Raising awareness and support advocacy against gun violence.

Look for an article in upcoming issues of Messenger and Brethren Newsline by Cheryl Noll.



Our church now has a new sign in the front yard. The sign was made possible by an endowment received from Shirley Zimmerman a few years ago. The idea for the sign came during a

leadership meeting in January of 2024. The subject was discussed of being able to better announce the events and special services our church holds throughout the year, and better invite the community to our fellowship. The Stewards were commissioned to research and bring to the leadership team, the different options available. After many months of research and unfortunately delay due to reasons undisclosed here, the Stewards proposed the purchase of a LED Digital sign from the Stewart Sign Company out of Florida. The sign was ordered the 3rd week of July and arrived the 1st week of August. Then came the real work. It was decided that we had in house, the skills necessary to install the sign. Once installation plans arrived from Stewart Sign Company, the planning started to execute the necessary steps to complete the installation. Then Mother Nature decided to bring the rain we needed in mid-July. This deluge of rain made the ground too soft for the heavy equipment that would be used to do the installation. When the weather cleared, and the ground dried, work started and was completed in a short amount of time.

Through the dedication and support of Keith Thornton, Harvey Cassel, Ron Kiehl, Keith Hawk and Stan Goodwin, the job was completed, and the sign went live on October 11th.

You see today after a long-committed effort by many in our congregation and many blessings from the Lord, a communication avenue, that we hope will bring many to know that the Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren is here and welcomes all, regardless of who they are to come, share our fellowship, worship with us and celebrate the love of our Living Savior the Lord Jesus Christ.



Family Promise

56 Erford Road
Camp Hill, PA 17011
717-737-1100

www.familypromisehcr.org

"A community response for homeless families"

Day Center Needs

Printer Paper	Trash Bags (not Good Sense)
Laundry Detergent	Swiffer Mop Pads
Swiffer Wet Jet Solution	Febreze
Women's Razors	Dish Soap
Baby Wipes	Shampoo
Shaving Cream	AA and AAA Batteries
Zip Loc Bags, Foil, Plastic Wrap	
Paper Plates	Queen Inflatable Mattress

Gift cards to Sheetz, Giant, Walmart – These help families with gas to go to work, food beyond what we provide here, and medicine. Many items families need can be bought with these cards, allowing families to save their money towards housing while they are here. Another great thing about gift cards...they take up very little space!



**JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE KING
December 13 & 14, 2024
5 p.m. – 9 p.m.**

- **Christmas Lights & Music**
- **Hay Rides Friday & Sat. 5 – 8 p.m.**
- **Tree Decorating Contest (you vote)**
- **Delicious Turkey Dinner & Soup (per donation)**
- **Luminary Garden (honoring our loved ones)**
- **Decorated Trees**
- **Warm Drinks and Lots of Cookies (free)**
- **Bake Sale**
- **Kid's Activities**
- **Cozy Fires**

**Lunch & Learn Fellowship
November 20, 2024
11:30 a.m.**



Our Guest Speaker is Geraldine Dolan.

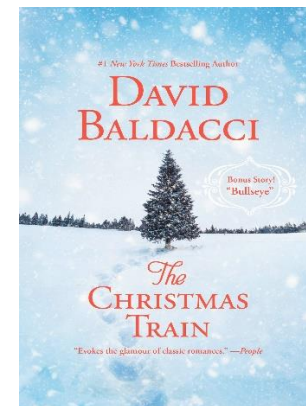
Geraldine is a member of the Lost Voices of Fentanyl Facebook Group (LVOF), a grassroots nonprofit organization comprised of bereaved families and concerned citizens devoted to raising Fentanyl Poisoning Awareness and Prevention, focusing mainly on supply.

The **Church Book Club** will meet on Monday, November 25, 2024 at 7 p.m. on Zoom.

This month's selection is *The Christmas Train* by David Baldacci.

Our Discussion Leader is Kathy Reynolds.

No Book Club in December.



Our next **Family Promise Host Week** is **November 24th – November 30th.**

Please watch for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to see how you can help.

We will need folks to drive the van, provide meals, and spend the night at the church.

POINSETTIA ORDERS DUE DECEMBER 1ST.

It's time to think about ordering your poinsettia plants for Advent. **Poinsettia Sunday is December 22nd**, when the flowers will be displayed as we honor and/or to remember our loved ones. Pick up arrangements will be announced.



If you would like to order one or more poinsettias, place your completed order form in a brown envelope **w/payment** in the box provided in the **NARTHEX** by the office window.

CONTACT Drinda Hock with any questions.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

(Order Deadline: **Sunday, DECEMBER 1st**)

The Poinsettias are **RED** or **WHITE** – 6 ½" pots – 5+ blooms
Cost is **\$10.00** each (Circle Color Choice below)

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Your Name _____

Please use the Envelopes provided for payment and mark "For Poinsettias" on it. Place your order form With Payment in the basket provided.

Number ordered _____ **RED** or **WHITE** Amount Paid _____
(Circle One)

New Hope Christmas Blessing Express . . .

where the guests were able to shop for unwrapped gifts for the whole family.

This season, we are only accepting new clothing for children through tweens. No adult clothing, except what is listed on the Wish List.

Thank you for your generosity and love to our neighbors in need especially during this challenging time. With your support, we can make this Season filled with Hope and Love.

Please pick up a copy of the Christmas Wish List, available in the narthex and place your unwrapped items in the designated box by **Thursday, December 5th**.



West Shore Interfaith Thanksgiving Service



Sunday, November 24, 2024 - 6 p.m.
Shiremanstown United Methodist Church
125 E Main Street, Shiremanstown PA 17011
Fellowship Hall (behind the church)

*Attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food
donations to be distributed to our community
through New Hope Ministries.*

A time of fellowship will follow the service.

Sponsored by Mechanicsburg Area Council of Churches,
Temple Beth Shalom, B&H Islamic Center,
and representatives from Messiah University.

Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry 2024 Cookie Collection



Carlisle
TRUCK STOP
MINISTRY
— ★ ★ ★ —

Calling All Bakers!

Mechanicsburg COB will provide cookies for this event. Bakers should prepare cookies to distribute by packing 5-6 cookies in zip-loc bags and then put into brown lunch bags (which may be decorated) for distribution. (Colorful Christmas card fronts stapled to the bag are great!)

We encourage you to enclose a friendly note, Bible verse or tract.

**Cookies should be at the church by
December 1st** and then will be delivered to
Carlisle on December 2nd.

Note: Due to ongoing COVID concerns, we are asking you to wear masks and gloves while preparing and packaging cookies, and that you seal the bags with staples, bows, etc.

Each bag should have either your church information or the Truck Stop Ministry contact information:

Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry, Inc.
P.O. Box 851
Carlisle, PA 17013-0851
717-385-7932

Thank you for making this a great success!



The Nurture Team invites you to come and help decorate the Christmas Trees at church on **Sunday, November 24th** after the morning worship service. A pizza lunch will be provided.

**MCOB Christmas Luncheon
(after worship)
Sunday, December 15th**

Please join us after worship on Sunday, December 15th for our Annual Christmas Luncheon. If attending, please sign the sheet in the Narthex as we need an accurate count, because due to popular demand, we are bringing back the spiral cut hams. We ask attendees to consider bringing a side dish and/or Christmas cookies. Cookies will be served for dessert and also bagged to distribute during our neighborhood caroling following the meal.

**Third Annual MCOB Neighborhood
Caroling (after the meal)**

We hope many of you can stay after the meal to sing Christmas carols along with the MCOB Ensemble in the neighborhood around our church. This event, and the cookies we deliver each year are a well-received part of our outreach efforts. Note that this event is weather dependent.

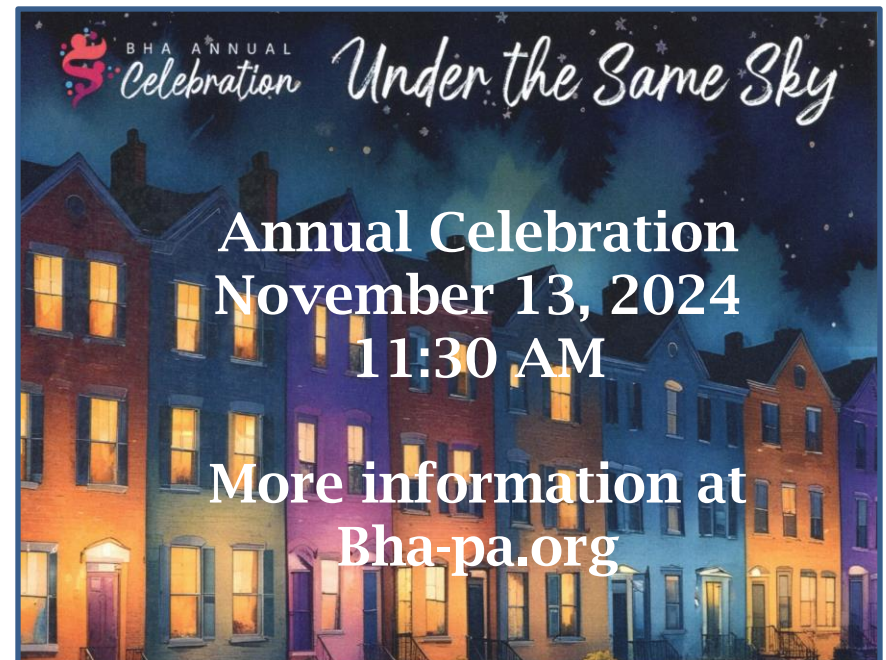


District & Community News

New Hope Thanksgiving Blessing Basket

The following items are some suggestions: turkey, gravy, canned corn, canned green beans, canned yams, boxed potatoes, canned fruit cocktail, cranberry sauce, boxed stuffing, and dry beans.

Please place your items in the designated box by **November 7th**.





Sock & Mitten Tree

MCOB will once again have the Sock & Mitten Tree up in the back-gathering area.

Please consider helping our neighbors in need by placing socks, mittens, hats, gloves or scarves to help keep little ones and their families warm during the winter months.

All items will be donated to "Operation Wildcat" for their Christmas baskets to be given to needful families within the Mechanicsburg Area School District.

Deadline for items is Sunday, December 1st, as volunteers will be packing the Christmas baskets that week.

You have all been generous in the past. Let us continue this tradition of helping others so everyone may have a warm and joyous Christmas holiday!



November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Library Reserved 11/01-11/06 (Cumberland County)	2 Fellowship Hall Reserved 2/4 p.m. (Executive Com.) Library Reserved (Cumb. County)
3 Food for New Hope Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Library Reserved (Cumb. County)	4 Library & Fellowship Hall Reserved (Cumberland County)	5 Election Day Fellowship Hall Reserved (Cumberland County) Bake Sale	6 Library Reserved (Cumberland County) Senior Day at Camp Eder Quilting 9 a.m. Choir 7:30 p.m.	7 Grief Support Group 1 p.m. (Library) Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (St. Joseph BB) Anniversary Comm. 7 p.m. (Library)	8	9 Fellowship Hall Reserved 4/9 p.m. (B & H Islamic)
10 Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	11 Knitting Group 1 p.m. (Library) Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (St. Joseph BB)	12 Men's Breakfast 9 a.m. (Brother's Restaurant) Fellowship Hall Reserved 6/8 p.m. (John)	13 Quilting 9 a.m. Ladies Luncheon 11:30 a.m. (L.A.Diner) Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (St. Joseph BB) Choir 7:30 p.m.	14 Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (St. Joseph BB)	15 December Newsletter Deadline	16
17 Donations for Family Promise Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	18 Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (St. Joseph BB)	19 Caregivers Support Group 1 p.m. (Library) Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (St. Joseph BB) Leadership Mtg. 7 p.m.	20 Quilting 9 a.m. Lunch & Learn Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (St. Joseph BB) Choir 7:30 p.m.	21 Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (St. Joseph BB)	22	23
24 Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Interfaith Thanksgiving Service Decorate Church Family Promise	25 Knitting Group 1 p.m. (Library) St. Joseph BB 5/9 p.m. (Fellowship Hall) Church Book Club 7 p.m. (Zoom) Family Promise	26 Family Promise	27 Church Office Closed Family Promise	28 Church Office Closed Fellowship Hall Reserved 10 a.m./5 p. m. (Keeney) Family Promise	29 Family Promise	30 Family Promise

2024