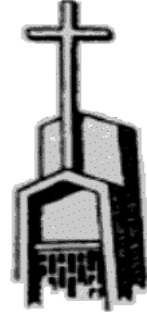


Church of the Brethren  
301 Gale Street  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
Address Service Requested



Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Mechanicsburg, PA  
Permit No. 112



The MAY 2026

# CARILLON

Published Monthly (except August) by

Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren  
301 Gale Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
717-766-8880

[www.MechanicsburgCOB.org](http://www.MechanicsburgCOB.org)

**Volume 26  
Number 05**



He has made  
everything beautiful  
in its time.

*Ecclesiastes 3:11*

# May Worship Themes

## May 3: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

- Rev. Dr. Jeff Carter

## May 10: "God Moments" (3 of 5)

- Eric Seibert

**Worship Theme:** There are times when something happens in our lives that seems too providential to be merely coincidental. Some people refer to these as "God moments." Ruth has a moment like this in Ruth 2. Have you ever experienced something like this?

**Scripture:** Psalm 91:1-16; Ruth 2:1-22

## May 17: "Risk-taking" (4 of 5)

- Eric Seibert

**Worship Theme:** Ruth takes a real risk going to Boaz at night while he is sleeping on the threshing floor. How do we decide which risks are worth taking and which are not?

**Scripture:** Ruth 3:1-18

## May 24: "The Parable of the Good Moabite" (5 of 5)

- Eric Seibert

**Worship Theme:** The writer of Ruth never lets us forget that Ruth is a Moabite, a foreigner. Yet Ruth's character is virtuous throughout the story. What might this suggest about the way we should view "outsiders"?

**Scripture:** Ruth 4:1-22

## May 31: TBD

**Worship Theme:** The theme of Annual Conference this year is "Imagine" (Acts 2:17-18), and I have been asked to give a devotional/Bible study at the beginning of five of the six business sessions taking place during AC. In preparation for this, I will be preaching a series of four sermons on this theme, the first of which will be delivered this Sunday.

I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.

-Philippians 1:6 (NRSVue)

By the time you receive this newsletter, Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren will be just about ready to celebrate one hundred years as a congregation. That is quite a milestone! I hope you are planning to join us for some (or all!) of the special events that are planned: Love Feast on April 26<sup>th</sup>, a concert with Anita Stapleton on May 2, and a special Sunday school class, Sunday morning worship service, and meal to follow (reservations required) on May 3.

This congregation has experienced God's goodness and grace time and time again over the years and countless people have benefitted from the ministries and outreach of MCOB. We have much to give thanks for!

As we approach our centennial celebration, I would encourage you to take a few moments to reflect on what this church has meant to you. In what ways has MCOB been a source of inspiration for you in the past? What is it about the church that is most meaningful to you at present? How do you see yourself continuing to contribute to the mission of the church and to serve Christ in the years ahead?

I am confident that there are good things in store for us as we remember where we have come from and look forward to what lies ahead. It is wonderful to be part of this congregation, and I am grateful to be able to celebrate this special moment in the life of our congregation together with you.

Pastor Eric



**Anniversary  
Celebration  
May 2-3**

The weekend of May 2–3, our church will mark its centennial.

The celebration kicks off with a free concert **Saturday, May 2**, with a 7 p.m. performance by Anita Stapleton Anderson and her brother Brent Stapleton. The Nashville recording artist began her career singing in our children’s choir. Enjoy light refreshments after the performance.

Morning worship on **Sunday, May 3** will center on our anniversary theme "*Yesterday’s Vision: Today’s Strength, Tomorrow’s Hope*".

Jeff Carter, President of Bethany Theological Seminary, will deliver a keynote sermon on the theme. Pastor Eric Seibert will serve as worship leader.

During Sunday school, Jeff Bach, Director Emeritus of the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies at Elizabethtown College, also will offer remarks related to the congregation’s 100th anniversary.



## **Annual Conference 2026**

**Sunday, June 28 – Thursday, July 2**

**Fort Wayne, Indiana**

**Grand Wayne Convention Center**

## Graduate Recognition

Stephen Vinson is coordinating our annual graduate recognition in June (date to be determined).

If you know of a high school, college, or other program graduate who should be recognized this year, please let Stephen know where they are graduating from, any special honors/programs they were involved with, and future plans.

Note, this event is also meant to celebrate Fall Semester 2025 graduates.

Please report this information to Stephen by Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>.

If you are interested in joining the church and/or being baptized, please contact Pastor Eric or the church office. A new membership class is forming and will be held during select Sundays in May/June during the Sunday School hour. Specific dates yet to be determined.



May offers many reasons to celebrate, but also opportunities to serve. Look for simple ways to encourage others through kindness, prayer and generosity. Together, let us live out our faith with thankful hearts and open hands.

**Saturday, May 30, 2026**  
10:00 am

**Cross Keys Village Pond**  
2990 Carlisle Pike  
New Oxford, PA 17350  
717-624-5208

19<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Butterfly  
Release**

**Saturday, May 30, 2026**



**CROSS KEYS VILLAGE**  
The Brethren Home Community



[crosskeysvillage.org/butterfly](https://crosskeysvillage.org/butterfly)





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)

Swiffer Mop Pads

#### **Swiffer Wet Jet Solution**

Febreze  
Dish soap  
Baby Wipes  
Shampoo  
Shaving Cream  
AA and AAA Batteries  
Zip Loc Bags, Foil, Plastic wrap  
Queen Inflatable Mattress  
Clorox Wipes

**Gift cards to Sheetz, Giant, Walmart-** These help families with gas to go to work, food beyond what we provide here, and medicine.

*For our updated immediate needs go to our Amazon Wish List.*



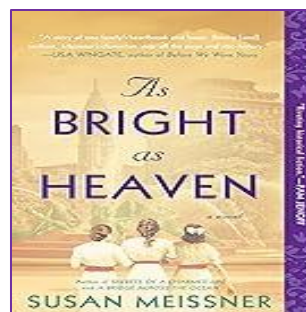
**Lunch & Learn Fellowship  
Wednesday,  
May 20, 2026  
at 11:30 am**

**Making the World a Little Bit Warmer**

Coats of Friendship started when Tristan saw a YouTube video about a homeless little boy without a jacket, in 5-degree weather. He had stood on the streets for 2 hours and no one helped him. Finally, another homeless person gave him his jacket and some money. That made Tristan so sad that he started the coat drive so that everyone could have a jacket.

We got our first donation of coats in 2015 and hung them throughout two parks in York, PA, so people who live on the streets, with no jackets, could just walk up and grab a jacket. While we were hanging the jackets, we met a teenage girl and her mom. They had just moved from Florida, where they did not need jackets, and they did not have enough money for jackets. So we got her, her family, and her neighbors jackets.

It has now adapted into an organization run by elementary students who are inspired to collect warm clothing for people in need in York County, PA.



The **Church Book Club** will meet on **Monday, May 18, 2026,** at **7:00 pm on Zoom.**

This month's selection is *As Bright as Heaven* by Susan Meissner.



Our next **Family Promise Host Week** begins **Sunday, May 24** and runs through Saturday, May 30. New to volunteering for Family Promise? Team up with another volunteer. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.



**Adults:** Beginning on June 7, the Living Letters and Willing Learners Sunday School classes will be combining and will be using the *Nooma Video Series* for study.

*Nooma* is a series of short films that explore our world from a perspective of Jesus. *Nooma* is an invitation to search, question, and join the discussion.

**Children:** There will be six sessions taught through out the summer on the following dates:

June 14 and June 28            July 12 and July 26

August 9 and August 23

Question may be directed to the Christian ED Team.



Josh (right) started at New Hope a year ago, and he continues to serve with dedication. He finds joy in giving back, knowing that even small tasks can make a meaningful difference.

After retiring, Jeff (left) felt called to serve with Josh in the warehouse. He has quickly become a reliable presence, helping behind the scenes and making a real difference with each task he takes on.

Together, Josh and Jeff reflect the heart of our volunteer community. Their service shows love behind the scenes, reminding us of the incredible work of our volunteers and all who give to New Hope.



**And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. James 3:18**

**Thank you MCOB for your donation of 257 pounds of pantry goods!**

## Mechanicsburg Area Ecumenical Choir Concert



Sunday, May 17, 2026 at 3:00 pm  
St Joseph Catholic Church  
410 E. Simpson Street  
Mechanicsburg

Free will offering – Proceeds to benefit New  
Hope Ministries, Inc.

### **Volunteers Needed!**

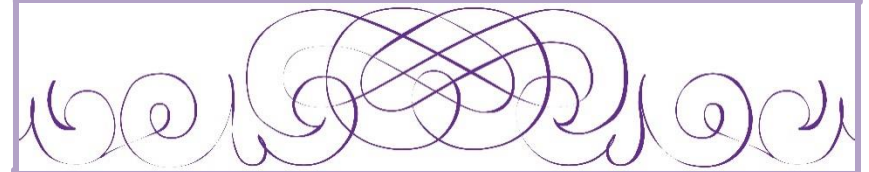
THRIFT ON PURPOSE at 5218 E. Trindle Road, Mechanicsburg

THRIFT ON PURPOSE, The Mennonite Central Committee thrift store in Mechanicsburg needs volunteers.

Various jobs are available, such as: First Sort, which involves accepting and sorting items donated by those stopping by; Cleaning & Tagging dishes, housewares and decorative items; Sorting and Tagging clothing and shoes, purses and bags, books and fabric; Helping the Cashier wrap and bag customer purchases and restocking shelves.

Regular shifts are from 9 am – 1 pm and 1 pm – 5 pm, but can be flexible to fit your schedule.

For more information, call Willow or Erin at 717-795-4384





## Bus Trip to Sight and Sound Theater June 23, 2026

Leaving Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren parking lot at **8:45 a.m.** for Sight and Sound show at 11:00 a.m.

Following show, late lunch/early dinner (family style) at Hershey Farm Restaurant before returning home about 5 p.m.

**Cost: \$173.00/person** (Bus driver tip not included in cost.)

Wheelchair seating available on bus as well as theater. Seats are all in a non-step area of theater, but a lift is on the bus. Max seating on bus is 48. The first people to sign-up will go.

**NO REFUNDS.** However, you may sell or give your ticket to someone of your choice if after April 26<sup>th</sup>.

**There are still about 10 seats available.**

**Payment due at sign-up.**

**Cash or Check payable to Arlene Justice.**

Questions to Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren at  
717-766-8880 or [mcob-secretary@verizon.net](mailto:mcob-secretary@verizon.net)



## CAMP EDER OUTDOORSMAN DAY

MAY 2, 2026 - 8:30 AM - 3 PM

Devotional Theme: JOB 12:7-9

Clay Shoot, Fishing and Axe Throwing!

Join us on May 2<sup>nd</sup> for a day filled with adventure! Together, we'll delve into the world of clay shooting, mastering gun safety protocols and honing our skills to become proficient clay target shooters. We will also have fishing, hiking and axe throwing. Secure your spot by registering at [campeder.org/registration](http://campeder.org/registration). Lodging available at additional cost. \$50 Lunch included!



Camp Eder  
914 Mt. Hope Road  
Fairfield, PA 17320  
717-642-8256

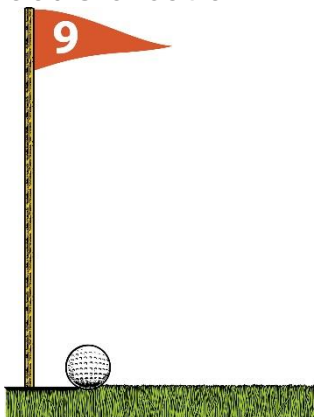


**CAMP EDER  
GOLF OUTING  
MAY 20, 2026**

**Carroll Valley Golf Course at Liberty Mountain**

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

**Grab your golf bag and join us for a relaxing morning of golf and fellowship at the Annual Camp Eder Golf Outing which 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.**



**After the play has concluded, players and family members are invited to a delicious meal at Camp Eder. All proceeds go to furthering the summer camp program at Camp Eder.**

**To register, call 717-642-8256 or visit our website**

**[www.campeder.org](http://www.campeder.org)**

# May

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					<b>1</b>	<b>2 MCOB 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration</b> <b>Men's Outdoor Day</b>
<b>3 Food for New Hope</b> <b>MCOB 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration</b> Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:30 am	<b>4</b> Library Reserved 7 pm (CROP Walk)	<b>5</b> Fellowship Hall Reserved 7/8:30 pm (Mid Penn Motion)	<b>6</b> Quilting 9 am Bible Study 9 am (Zoom) Fellowship Hall Reserved 7/8:30 pm (Mid Penn Motion)	<b>7</b> Grief Support Group 1 pm (Library)	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Fellowship Hall & Kitchen Reserved 8 am/9 pm (Baker)  <b>Clean Up Day at Camp Eder</b>
<b>10 Mother's Day</b> Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:30 am	<b>11</b> Knitting Group 1 pm (Library)	<b>12</b> Men's Breakfast 9 am (Brothers' Rest.) Leadership Team 6:30 pm Fellowship Hall Reserved 7/8:30 pm (Mid Penn Motion)	<b>13</b> Quilting 9 am Bible Study 9 am (Zoom) Ladies Lunch 11:30 am (Lower Allen Diner) Fellowship Hall Reserved 7/8:30 pm (Mid Penn Motion)	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>June Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>16</b> Fellowship Hall Reserved 12 Noon/4 pm (Rasika School of Dance)
<b>17 Donations for Family Promise</b> Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:30 am <b>Ecumenical Choir 3 pm</b>	<b>18</b> Church Book Club 7 pm (Zoom) Willing Learners Reserved 6/9 pm (MACC) Fellowship Hall Reserved 7/8:30 pm (Mid Penn Motion)	<b>19</b> Fellowship Hall Reserved (Cumberland County) Caregivers Support Group 1 pm (Library)	<b>20</b> <b>Camp Eder Golf Tournament</b> Quilting 9 am <b>Lunch &amp; Learn Fellowship 11:30 am</b> Fellowship Hall Reserved 7/8:30 pm (Mid Penn Motion)	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Fellowship Hall Reserved 7/8:30 pm (Mid Penn Motion)	<b>23</b> Fellowship Hall Reserved 1 pm/11 pm (Piedy)
<b>24 COB Pentecost Offering</b> Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:30 am <b>Family Promise</b>	<b>25 Church Office Closed</b>  <b>Family Promise Memorial Day</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Family Promise</b>	<b>27</b> Quilting 9 am Bible Study 9 am (Zoom)  <b>Family Promise</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Family Promise</b>	<b>29</b> <b>Family Promise</b>	<b>30</b> <b>Cross Keys Village Butterfly Release</b>  <b>Family Promise</b>
<b>31</b> Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:30 am						

# 2026