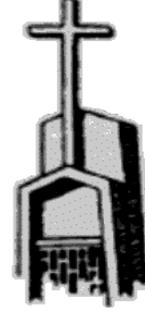


Church of the Brethren
301 Gale Street
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Address Service Requested



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

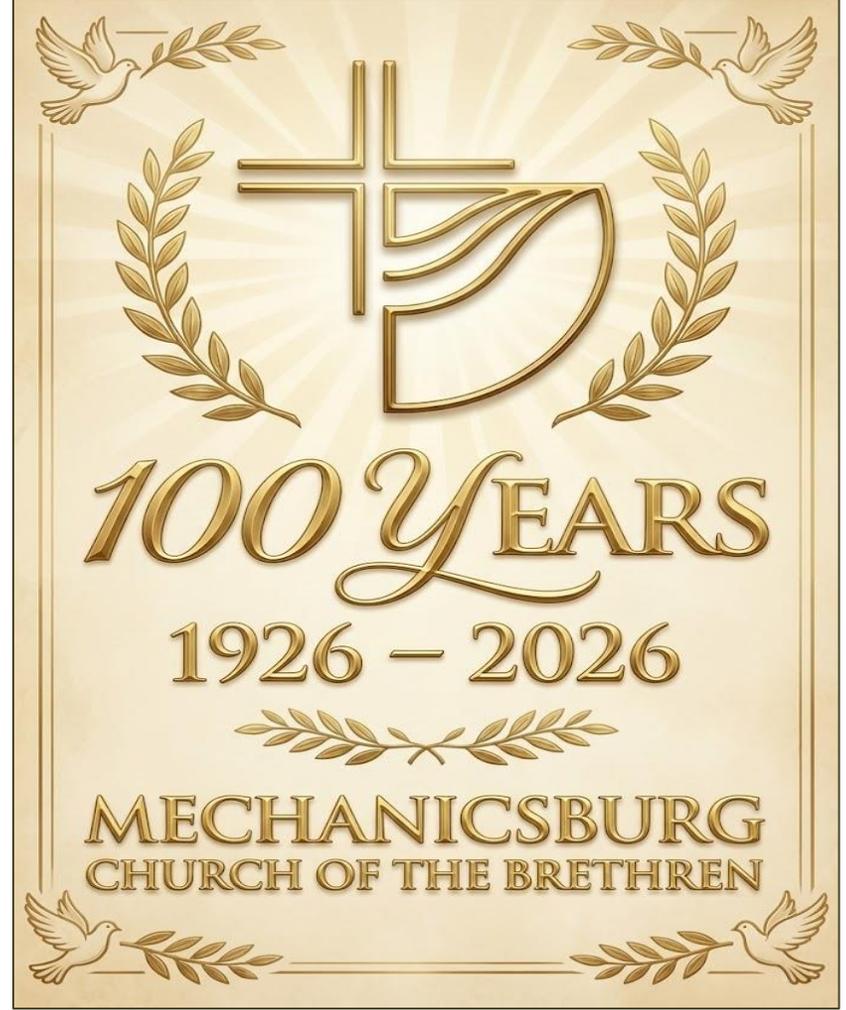


The JANUARY 2026
CARILLON

Published Monthly (except August) by

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

**Volume 26
Number 01**



JANUARY WORSHIP THEMES

Parables in the Gospel of Luke A Seven Week Sermon Series

January 4: "The Parable of the Sower" (1 of 7)

– Eric Seibert

Worship Theme: Jesus uses agricultural imagery to illustrate different ways people respond when they hear the word of God.

Scripture: Luke 8:4-15

January 11: *Pew Communion*

"The Parable of the Great Feast" (2 of 7) – Eric Seibert

Worship Theme: God's welcome is expansive and extends to all, even those whose presence at the table may seem most unlikely.

Scripture: Luke 14:15-24

January 18: "The Parable of the Rich Fool" (3 of 7)

– Eric Seibert

Worship Theme: In this parable, Jesus exposes the folly of thinking our security lies in our wealth

Scripture: Luke 12:13-21

January 25: *Remembrance Sunday*

"The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector" (4 of 7)

- Eric Seibert

Worship Theme: This parable offers a lesson in genuine piety by contrasting the tax-collector's humble and honest prayer to the Pharisee's self-righteous prayer and dim view of others.

Scripture: Luke 18:9-14

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:6 (NRSVue)

What did you ask for this Christmas? A newly released book by one of your favorite authors? A pair of tickets to Sight and Sound? A gift card to Kohl's? A new iPhone? Maybe your Christmas list included a tool you need, or a special item of clothing you would like, or money to pay for an upcoming trip you are taking. At Christmas we ask for things we want, hoping to find some of them under the tree.

In a similar way – though obviously at a deeper level – the apostle Paul told the people at Phillipi to ask God for what they needed. "Let your requests be made known to God," Paul wrote. And while Paul obviously didn't have things like gift cards and iPhones in mind, he recognized the importance of letting God know our needs. Praying about what we need is much better than worrying and being anxious.

As you look toward the new year, what do you want most from God in 2026? What will you ask for? Physical healing? Guidance about a difficult decision you need to make? New friendships? The ability to trust God more? Strength to do all that needs to be done? We do well to take Paul's advice and to make those requests known to God. When we do, Paul says that "the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:7, NRSVue). May that peace be yours in abundance in the coming year.

Happy New Year!

Pastor Eric

THIS
COULD
CHANGE
YOUR
LIFE
Forever.

We Saved a
seat for you



YOU
BELONG
here.

Mechanicsburg
Church of the
Brethren

"A Living Peace Church"

Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

In the event that weather conditions require a cancellation of services or activities at the church, an effort will be made to communicate that to members and friends through the email list, on the church's Facebook page, and through local media (television and radio). If you do not receive information from any of those sources and still have questions, you may contact Pastor Eric by email at pastor@mechanicsburgcob.org or call 717-585-5994. Of course, even if services or activities are not cancelled, please do not attempt to come if you do not feel safe.





**Please join us for
Communion Sunday**

January 11, 2026

**During the 10:30
a.m. Worship Service**



Remembrance Sunday

**Sunday,
January 25, 2026**

A time of remembrance and lighting of candles during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. We remember loved ones we have lost in the past year and other who are dear to our hearts.

**Our next Family Promise week
begins on Sunday, January 25th and
runs through Saturday, January 31st.**

A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board. Please consider helping by being a van driver (AM/PM), providing a meal for the families, or sleeping overnight at the church. See Margie Fultz with any questions.

Puzzle!

HOW'S THE WEATHER?

Use the code below to fill in these forecasts in places where Jesus traveled:

CODE:

A = ☺	D = ❄	H = ☁	M = ☆	P = ◆	T = ■	W = ☂
B = ♠	E = ✦	I = ✨	N = ↑	R = ●	U = □	Y = 🌬
C = ☼	G = ⚡	L = ★	O = ↓	S = ○	V = ☒	Z = 🌧

Mt. Hermon ○ ↑ ↓ ☒

Jericho ❄ ↓ ■

Jerusalem ☆ ✨ ★ ❄

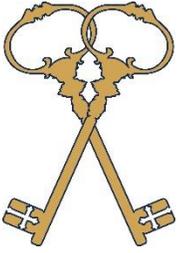
Dead Sea Area ■ ● ↓ ◆ ✨ ☼ ☺ ★ ❄ ✦ ☺ ■

Sea of Galilee ⚡ □ ○ ■ 🌬 ☒ ✨ ↑ ❄ ○

Mediterranean Coast ♠ ● ✦ ✦ 🌬 🌬



Answers: snow, hot, mild, tropical heat, gusty winds, breezy



Scripture Keys to a Joyful New Year

- H**old fast to your faith (Hebrews 4:14)
- A**ssemble with the saints (Hebrews 10:25)
- P**ray earnestly every day (1 Thessalonians 5:17, 18)
- P**ray for great blessings (Malachi 3:10)
- Y**ield not to temptation (1 Thessalonians 5:22)

- N**eglect not your talents and opportunities (Galatians 6:10)
- E**xamine yourself daily (2 Corinthians 13:5)
- W**ork diligently for the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58)

- Y**ield your members to righteousness (Romans 6:11, 16)
- E**xercise yourself in godliness (1 Timothy 4:7)
- A**im at sinless perfection (Hebrews 6:1)
- R**edeem the time (Ephesians 5:15, 16)



2026 Fellowship Directory Information Updates



Please check your current directory listing:

Has any of your personal information changed?
New Address? New Phone Number? New Email Address?

We would like the new directory to be as accurate as possible. Please contact the church office **by January 20, 2026** with any new or changed information. 717-766-8880 or mcob-secretary@verizon.net.

Upon completion of the 2026 Fellowship Directory in January, the Church Mailboxes will be reorganized. Please check your mailbox and remove materials to make this process easier. Thank you!



Do you receive the "Messenger"?

The Messenger Magazine is the official magazine of the Church of the Brethren. MCOB covers the cost of a subscription for each member, if they would like to receive the Messenger magazine.

If you would like to help with the costs, the Renewal Rate is \$14.50. Place your check marked "Messenger" in the offering box in the narthex or mail to the church by January 31st.

If you would like to be added or removed from the list, please contact the church office by January 31st.



With Thanks.....

The **Sock & Mitten** box was again overflowing with your generosity this Christmas season. Many families will be kept warm with socks, mittens and gloves, hats, and scarves.

Our collection of items for this year is as follows: 5 headbands, 7 scarves, 35 hats, 1 small blanket, 2 pair slippers, 13 hat/glove sets, 8 hat/scarf sets, 7 pair socks, 3 10-pack socks, 8 6-pack socks, 3 3-pack socks, 1 2-pack socks, 2 cozy socks, 21 pair gloves, 12 scarf/glove sets, 1 10-pack underwear, and 2 3-pack T-shirts.

These items were distributed in the annual Christmas baskets to needy families within the Mechanicsburg School District by the Operation Wildcat organization.

This has been an out pouring of love from all of you who donate items. May God richly bless you.

New Hope Ministries serves many families, especially during the holiday season. With your contributions during December, they were able to spread even more Christmas cheer.

- The Christmas Blessing Express totaled 95 pounds!
- A turkey was donated at 19 pounds!
- Pantry donations totaled 66 pounds!

Thank you for your continued support!



CAMP EDER WINTER CAMP JANUARY 23 – 25, 2026

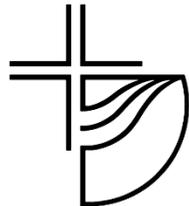
FOR GRADES 1ST THROUGH 12TH

THINGS TO BRING:

- * warm clothes
- * extra socks
- * personal toiletry items
- * Bible, notebook, and pen
- * snow pants
- * gloves and hat
- * extra pair of shoes
- * sled(s) (optional)
- * signed policy agreement
- * pillow & sleeping bag
- * towel and wash cloth
- * winter jacket
- * boots
- * health form

Register at:

www.campeder.org/winter-camp



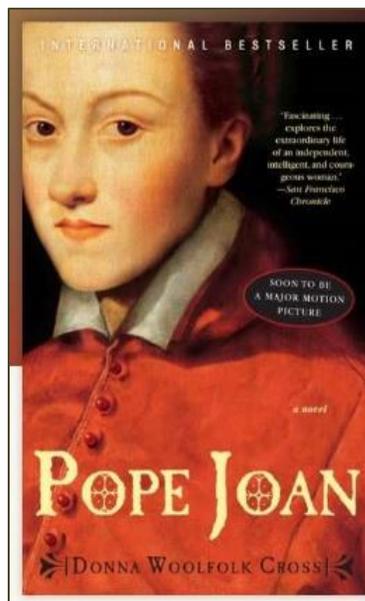
Pastors Who Have Served The Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren

Charles Steerman	1926-1928
Jesse Whitacre	1928-1931
Joseph Rittenhouse	1931-1933
John Rowland	1933-1940
W. C. Group	1940-1941
J. Lloyd Nedrow	1941-1946
Harvey Emmert	1946-1949
J. Vernon Grimm	1949-1950
Howard Whitacre	1950-1959
D. Luke Bowser	1959-1962
Ronald A. Beverlin	1962-1964
J. Stanley Earhart	1964-1970
William L. Gould	1970-1984
J. Gerald Greiner	1984-2004
John Layman (Interim)	2005-2006
Judith Gible (Interim)	2006
Delmas Keeney	2007-2021
James Benedict (Interim)	2022-2024
Eric A. Seibert	2024-

Lunch & Learn Fellowship Wednesday, January 21, 2026 11:30 a.m.

Pat Putz will be exhibiting her
free flowing musical talent.

Please join us by
using the sign-up sheet
near the office window.

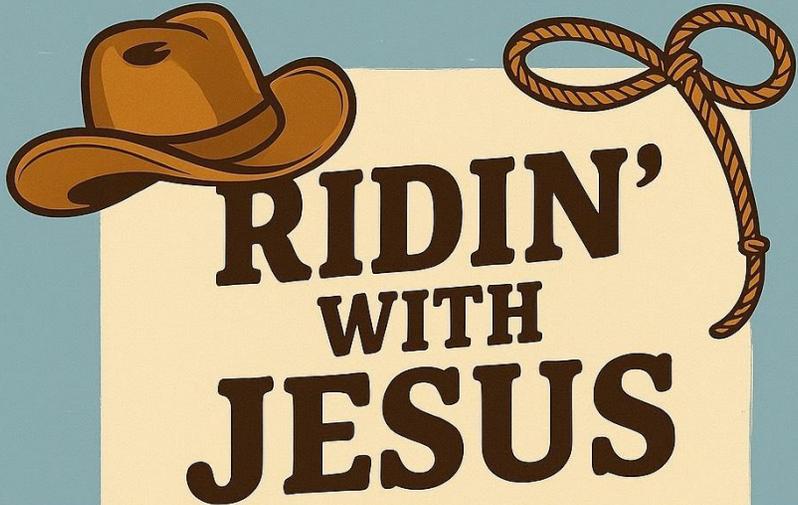


The **Church Book Club** will meet
on **Monday, January 26, 2026**,
on Zoom.

We will discuss *Pope Joan* by
Donna Woolfolk Cross.

"For a thousand years her existence has been denied. She is the legend that will not die—Pope Joan, the ninth-century woman who disguised herself as a man and rose to become the only female ever to sit on the throne of St. Peter. Now in this riveting novel, Cross paints a sweeping portrait of an unforgettable heroine who struggles against restrictions her soul cannot accept."

FAITH-FUELED WEDNESDAYS



RIDIN' WITH JESUS

**MECHANICSBURG CHURCH
OF THE BRETHREN**

301 Gale St, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Wednesdays, February 4–March 4

Grades K–8 Welcome

6–8 PM



June

- 14 Pew Communion
- 23 Bus Trip to Sight & Sound
- 28-30 COB Annual Conference

July

- 01-02 COB Annual Conference

August

- 22 Annual Yard Sale

September

- 06-12 Family Promise Host Week
- 16 Lunch & Learn Fellowship
- 18-19 SOPA District Conference
- 25-26 Brethren Disaster Relief Auction

October

- 04 Love Feast
- 21 Lunch & Learn Fellowship
- 17 Camp Eder Fall Fest
- 25 Fall Congregational Forum

November

- 04 Senior Day at Camp Eder
- 18 Lunch & Learn Fellowship

December

- 11-12 Camp Eder Christmas Tree Festival
- 16 Lunch & Learn Fellowship
- 16 Blue Christmas Service
- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- 27-01/02 Family Promise Host Week



Up Coming Events 2026

*Dates are accurate at time of printing. Please check the monthly newsletters for any changes/updates.

January

- 11 Pew Communion
- 21 Lunch & Learn Fellowship
- 23-25 Camp Eder Winter Camp
- 25 Remembrance Sunday
- 25-31 Family Promise Host Week

February

- 04 Faith Fueled Wednesdays
- 11 Faith Fueled Wednesdays
- 18 Lunch & Learn Fellowship
- 18 Faith Fueled Wednesdays
- 25 Faith Fueled Wednesdays

March

- 04 Faith Fueled Wednesdays
- 18 Lenten Lunch at MCOB

April

- 08 Senior Day at Camp Eder
- 06-09 SOPA District Meat Canning
- 15 Lunch & Learn Fellowship
- 19 Spring Congregational Forum
- 26 Love Feast

May

- 02 MCOB 100th Anniversary Celebration
- 03 MCOB 100th Anniversary Celebration
- 20 Lunch & Learn Fellowship
- 24-30 Family Promise Host Week

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Church Office Closed Grief Support Group 1 p.m. (Library)	2	3 Fellowship Hall Reserved 3/10 p.m. (Susquehanna Mayalee Assoc.)
4 Food for New Hope Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	5 Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (SJS Basketball)	6	7 Quilting 9 a.m. Bible Study 9 a.m. (Zoom) Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (SJS Basketball)	8 Youth Rooms Reserved 5:30/9 p.m. (Thrive) Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (SJS Basketball)	9	10 Fellowship Hall Reserved 2/11 p.m. (Ayela)
11 Pew Communion Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	12 Knitting Group 1 p.m. (Library) Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (SJS Basketball)	13 Men's Breakfast 9 a.m. (Brothers Restaurant) Fellowship Hall Reserved 7/8 p.m. (Special Olympics) Leadership Team Meeting 7 p.m.	14 Quilting 9 a.m. Bible Study 9 a.m. (Zoom) Ladies Lunch 11:30 a.m. (Lower Allen Diner) Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (SJS Basketball)	15 February Newsletter Deadline Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (SJS Basketball)	16	17 Fellowship Hall Reserved 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. (Baker)
18 Donations for Family Promise Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	19 Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (SJS Basketball)	20 Caregivers Support Group 1 p.m. (Library) Fellowship Hall Reserved 7/8 p.m. (Special Olympics)	21 Quilting 9 a.m. NO Bible Study Lunch & Learn Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (SJS Basketball)	22 Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (SJS Basketball)	23	24 
25 Remembrance Sunday Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	26 Knitting Group 1 p.m. (Library) Fellowship Hall Reserved 5/9 p.m. (SJS Basketball) Church Book Club 7 p.m. (Zoom)	27	28 Quilting 9 a.m. Bible Study 9 a.m. (Zoom)	29	30 Family Promise	31 Family Promise
Family Promise	Family Promise	Family Promise	Family Promise	Family Promise		

2026