

Church of the Brethren
301 Gale Street
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
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The MAY 2022
CARILLON

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Fellowship Opportunities Inside!



WORSHIP THEMES FOR MAY

(Our worship services are available in person, concurrently on Zoom or Live Stream, and posted to YouTube and our Website on Sunday afternoons. Go to www.mechanicsburgcob.org and click on "messages".

May 1: "Do You Love Me?" - Pastor Jim Benedict
Worship Theme: It took Peter a while to realize that the answer to Jesus' question required action, not mere words. How will you answer Jesus' question?
Scripture Texts: John 21:9-17

May 8: "That They May Be One" - Pastor Jim Benedict
Worship Theme: Gift giving can be tough if you don't have any idea what the person might want. In John's gospel, Jesus leaves no doubt about what he wants from his followers – that they all be one.
Scripture Texts: John 17:20-26

May 15: "Joining the Choir" - Pastor Jim Benedict
Worship Theme: Solitary praise has its place, but the psalmist invites us to join the mighty chorus praising the God who creates, sustains and redeems. Lift up your voices!
Scripture Texts: Psalm 148

May 22: "What's Next?" - Pastor Jim Benedict
Worship Theme: Peter was hesitant at first, but finally realized that in order to follow where God was leading he would have to accept change. So will we.
Scripture Texts: Acts 11:1-18

May 29: "Surprised By Joy" - Pastor Jim Benedict
Worship Theme: Jail is among the last places most of us would anticipate finding joy. Paul and Silas surprised their jailers and fellow inmates by singing songs filled with joy and praise for God.
Scripture Texts: Acts 16:16-34

The early years of the church, described in the Book of Acts, were hopeful times marked by much growth and success. There were plenty of occasions to celebrate what God was doing for the followers of Jesus. But there were also challenges and setbacks. They met resistance. Paul was harassed, arrested and jailed. Stephen was stoned to death. As great as things often were, unexpected disasters could strike with little warning and set the Christian movement back on its heels.

We do ourselves a disservice when we read the Book of Acts as if it describes an era of easy and uninterrupted progress. It is really the story of the resilience and repeated recovery of the church. It is the story of people who would not be dissuaded from sharing the message that God has shown his love for us all in the life, teachings, death and resurrection of Jesus. It is the story of people who kept reaching out, even when others frequently ignored them and sometimes pushed them away (or worse).

We honor our spiritual ancestors best when we strive to be as resilient as they were. In these times, when well over 90% of all Christian congregations in the United States are shrinking and increasing numbers of people are declaring they are "done" with all forms of religion, we are called to keep caring, keep reaching out, keep proclaiming God's love in Jesus, and keep our doors and hearts open to others who may want to become a part of our faith community. If we do, perhaps in another decade or so we will be able to look out across the congregation in worship and see evidence of our resilience and recovery in all the new faces scattered among the old.

Peace,

Pastor Jim

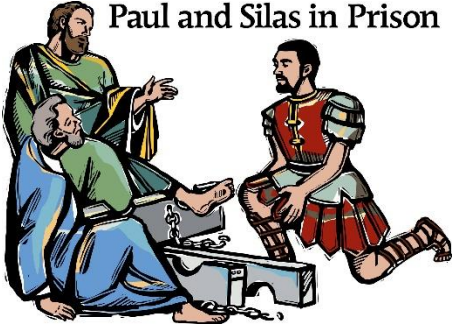
Resilience

Read Acts 16:16-34

"About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God."

Acts 16:25

Paul and Silas in Prison



May is the peak of the spring season. Temperatures are becoming dependably warm, flowers are blooming, and trees are filling out their branches with new green leaves. There is so

much to celebrate – graduations, proms, often weddings, and of course Mothers' Day. May is a bright and hopeful month.

Yet out in the Midwest, where I come from, it is also a season that sparks fear. Traditionally, it is recognized as the beginning of "tornado season." Warmth and moisture rolling up from the Gulf of Mexico fuel the development of powerful storms which bring rain the farmers need, but can also bring destructive winds that destroy property and sometimes kill.

Eleven years ago, a major tornado flattened 60% of the town of Mapleton, Iowa, near where my daughter now lives. When we visit, we see evidence that is hard to miss. In the older part of town, where most houses were built in the early to mid-20th century, there is a surprising number of newly built homes. The path that the tornado took is marked by these homes that seem out of place. Mapleton still faces the struggles common to most small rural towns, especially the tendency of its best and brightest young people to move away in search of bigger opportunities. But it has proven itself resilient and has recovered dramatically in the last decade.

MCOB NEWS & ACTIVITIES

The **CHURCH BOOK CLUB** will meet on Monday, May 23rd at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom.

This month's selection is *The Guardian* by John Grisham. Discussion leader is Trish DuBois.

The **KNITTING GROUP** will meet in the library on Mondays, May 9th and 23rd at 1:00 p.m. All who knit or crochet are welcome. Patterns and yarn are also available.

The **LADIES MONTHLY LUNCHEON** will be held on the second Wednesday of every month at 11:30 a.m.

Lower Allen Diner on Simpson Ferry Road. For more information, please contact Janie Dull at 717-691-6786. Everyone is welcome and we hope to see you there!

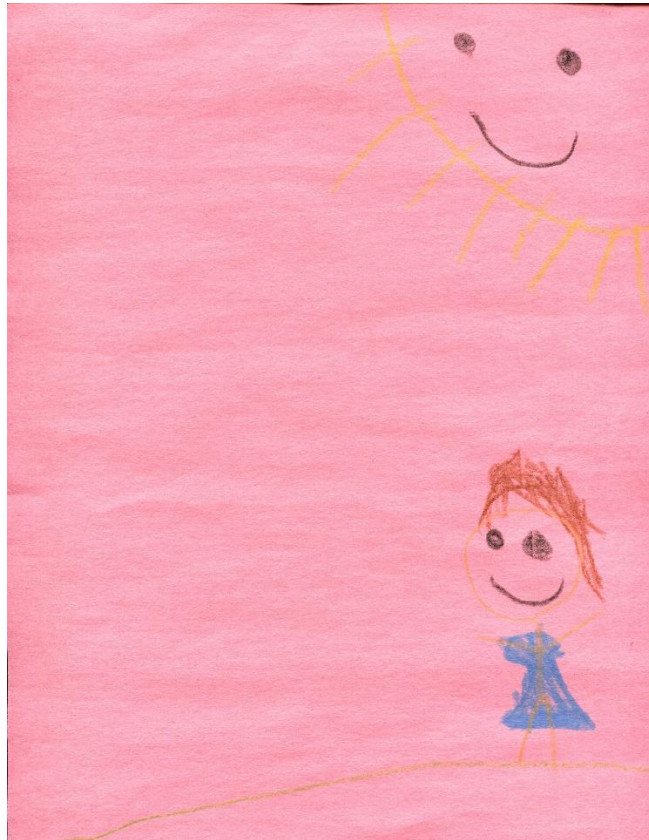
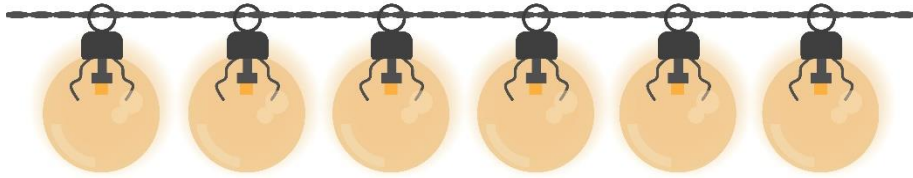


HERSHEYPARK FUNDRAISER

In past years MCOB has participated in the HERSHEY PARK VOLUNTEER PROGRAM as a fundraiser and a great way to obtain tickets to the park. If you are interested in possibly participating as a volunteer, please contact Janet Zeiters at 717-439-2346 or jzk0424@gmail.com. Please also indicate whether you might be interested in coordinating this program. Thanks to Jill Risser who has been our coordinator for the past number of years!

**JUNE 2022
NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE IS
FRIDAY,
MAY 20TH.**

Featured Artist!



Title: "Happy Day"

By: Lizzy D., age 6



The Bridge

WPFG 91.3 FM
Cumberland Valley Christian Radio
Dedication & Open House
New Studio at 1 Old Mill Road, Carlisle
Sunday, May 22, 2022
from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Followed by a Concert at West Pennsboro Fire Hall
20 Park Road, Plainfield from 3:00-5:00 p.m.
RSVP by May 9th to 717-241-9734 or
wpfgmail@wpfgfm.org

Church of the Brethren
Annual Conference 2022
Embracing One Another, as Christ Embraces Us
July 10-14, 2022 (Sunday-Thursday)
Omaha, Nebraska
www.brethren.org/ac



Church of the Brethren, SOPA District Conference

September 16-17, 2022 at
Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren

The

Love

of Jesus Christ
Romans 8:35, 39

John Shelly
District Moderator

DISTRICT & COMMUNITY NEWS

2022 Camp Eder Golf Outing Friday, May 6, 2022

Carroll Valley Golf Course at Liberty Mountain
To register or for more information contact
Camp Eder 717-642-8256 or
campeder@campeder.org



Mechanicsburg Area Ecumenical Choir Concert

Featuring 52 voices from 23 area churches
Sunday, May 15, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

St. Joseph Catholic Church
410 E. Simpson St., Mechanicsburg

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

MCOB Voices: Glen Daughtry, Margie Fultz, Aleshia Hock,
Arlene Justice, Del Keeney, and Deb Wakefield.

USHERS NEEDED!

If interested, please call 717-761-3656.



After two years, we held our Love Feast (with minor adaptations) on Sunday, April 10, 2022. The evening began in the sanctuary with scripture, song, and prayer. Upon invitation, brothers and sisters processed to the Fellowship Hall to the ringing of chimes.

The Love Feast service was attended by 41 participants.



UPCOMING GRADUATES

If you are graduating from High School or College, please send your graduation information to Stephen Vinson at Stephen.vinson1@verizon.net.

Please include your name, your school's name, date expected to graduate, any designated honors, and your plans after graduation.

Thank you in advance.

– Nurture Team

Regular monthly **PRAYER MEETINGS** will be held on the first Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. and the third Thursday at 6:00 p.m. While the emphasis of these is on our transition as a congregation, all prayer concerns are welcome. If you are unable to join in person, please consider joining in prayer at these set apart times.

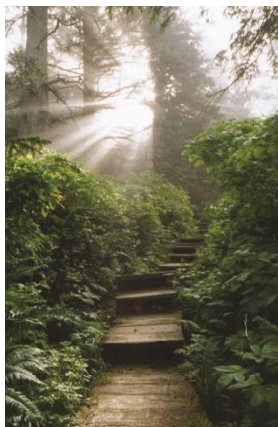
The **CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP** will meet at 1:00 p.m. in the library on the third Tuesday of each month.
Contact Janie Dull or Jean Richwine.



CALLING ALL MUSICIANS-VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL

We would like to identify all the many talented musicians in our church. We have been blessed by the talents of many of you during worship, at special church services, and during various activities in our church. We would like to compile a list of names, but we don't want to miss anyone who could contribute beautiful music to our worship experience. Please contact Reta Mundwiler at retamund@gmail.com, 717-766-9163 or put a note in her church mailbox. We will contact you to ask your willingness to contribute your talents in future worship experiences. Thank you so much.

Your Music and Worship Team



SOPA District 73rd Women's Camp Retreat June 13-14, 2022 at Camp Eder

Guest Speaker: Roni Gingrich

Register by Friday, May 27th.

(late registrations will not be accepted)

Hosted by: West York Church of the Brethren

See bulletin board for brochures and registration form, or you may register online at www.cob-net.org/church/sopa.

Under MENU, select Women's Activities.



ATTENTION

Children and Youth of all ages!

The Christian Ed committee is bringing back the Bible-A-Thon Event!

This is a chance to crack open your Bible and use it to test your knowledge!

There will be study packs available for kids

and youth of all ages starting Sunday, April 24th. Kids ages Pre-K through first grade will be looking at the story of Creation in Genesis. Children grades 2nd-4th will study the book of Exodus.

Junior High Youth (5th-7th) will focus on the book of 1 & 2 Corinthians, and Senior High Youth (8th-12th) will dive into the book of Revelations. Using their Bibles, kids will answer a series of questions and prepare to be quizzed! Quizzing will take place on Sunday, June 5th from 12-2 p.m. All participants will be rewarded with a pizza party immediately after quizzing and have the opportunity to enter their names for several fun raffle prizes.

Christian Ed is also looking for adult volunteers to act as quizzers for the Bible-A-Thon. This is a great opportunity to interact with the children and youth here at MCOB in a relaxed, fun setting! All supplies are provided to quizzers and they may also take part in the pizza party. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex beginning Sunday, April 24th. Please contact Kristy Richmond, Bill Creps, or Morgan Scott Espenshade with any question.



Would you like to be the "Featured Artist" in our monthly newsletter?

Submission Requirements:

*Open to children and youth ages 3 to 18 years.

*Must be your own original art. *Must be submitted by the monthly Newsletter deadline for each issue. *Art content must be Brethren / Biblical / Christian. Submissions may be made by emailing a copy of your art in jpeg format to mcob-secretary@verizon.net. Please include your name, age, title of art piece. You may include a sentence or two describing the piece. Contact the church office with any questions.

An Invitation

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ, you are invited to join us to pray on

National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 5, 2022, 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

West Shore Church of the Brethren
6921 Wertzville Road, Enola, PA 17025

We will focus praying for the nation and world, silently or aloud as people feel led. More info: 717-795-8573

- Keith & Beth Nonemaker, Co-Pastors



Thank you to all who came out to help make the Rummage Sale a success. As of today, we have deposited \$3303.99. Half of this went to outreach. \$1000 to COB Ukrainian Relief Fund, \$400 to the Afghani family we are sponsoring, and \$250 to Brethren Community Ministries at Harrisburg First COB. The remaining balance went to Capital Reserve. The clothing not sold was given to Bethesda Mission and Capital Area Pregnancy Center via Diane Schmidt, and Community Aid via New Kingston Church.

We want to thank everyone who participated in the Bake Sale during the Spring Fling Rummage Sale. The baked goods received rave reviews; so, to the bakers "Kudos" for a job well done. The Bake Sale crew is absolutely faithful; so, to Jean, Rita, Pearl, and Nancy, heartfelt gratitude. To the "buyers", Happy Eating, and our appreciation, and to those who prayed for a great sale, thank you for supporting us.

It's all necessary to make the days a success.



Dear Church Family,
Thank you for the treat box that I received at college. I love the Gerald's Mix! It is my favorite snack. Groceries are expensive. I usually don't buy myself treats so this was a nice surprise. Please keep me in your prayers as I prepare to go overseas to study international politics abroad.

- Thank you, Dan Graci

Thanks to our wonderful church family for all of the calls, cards, prayers, flowers, and food brought to the house following Art's passing. Thank you also for the nice luncheon that was provided after the service. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

- Phyllis Lewellen, Drinda, Keith and Aleshia Hock



A powerful CALLING

Before his ascension, Jesus tells the disciples they will receive a gift and carry out a job.

Directions: Use the code to fill in the blanks and complete Acts 1:8, NIV.

	□	○	△
✝	R	H	L
☎	S	P	W
🔥	O	A	I
🌀	T	N	E



“But you will receive _____ when the
 Holy _____ comes on you; and you
 will be my _____ in Jerusalem,
 and in all Judea and Samaria,
 and to the ends of the _____.”
 ACTS 1:8, NIV

Answer: power, Spirit, witnesses, earth



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Michaela Altland; Noah Mumma
- 2 – Stephen Carlis
- 3 – Amber King; Todd Stoner
- 4 – Chuck Grew; Abigail Small; Emma Jane Hundertmark
- 5 – Rosalie Fike; Janelle Shaw
- 7 – Carole Cunningham
- 9 – Brian Case; Rachel Sieke
- 10 – William Ballhorst; Brady Williamson
- 12 – Ella Thornton; Maria Seebold
- 13 – Ethan Thatcher; Diane Wert; Ryan Altland; Courtney LaRose
- 15 – Doug Miller; Andrew Ranck
- 17 – Andrew Justice
- 19 – Kevin Shaffer; Christine Walter
- 20 – Rita Ranck
- 24 – Brittney Jackson
- 25 – Colby Lee John; Jackson Richmond
- 26 – Karen Martin; Nevin Wevodau
- 27 – April Enders
- 28 – Ed Neuhart



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 – George & Starr Akens (03)
- 4 – Joe & Sue Mc Corkel (84)
- 6 – Paul & Ann Reisinger (89)
- 8 – David & Kristy Ziegler (04)
- 14 – Rodney & Lillian Ort (94)
- 15 – Howard & Deb Werner (71)
- 23 – Russ & Brenda Rhoads (80)
- 27 – Robert & Anita Arbogast (89)
- 28 – Robert & Diane Wert (66)

May

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 Food for New Hope 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	2	3 11:00 Prayer Meeting	4	5 National Day of Prayer	6 Camp Eder Golf Outing	7
8 Mother's Day 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm B&H Islamic (FH)	9 1 pm Knitting (Lib.)	10	11 11:30 am Ladies Monthly Luncheon	12	13	14
15 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship <u>3:00 pm Ecumenical Choir Concert at St. Joe's Catholic Church</u> 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm B&H Islamic (FH)	16	17 1 pm Caregiver Group (Lib.) 7 pm Executive Mtg.	18	19 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting	20 June Newsletter Deadline	21
22 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm B&H Islamic (FH)	23 1 pm Knitting Mech. Council of Churches (L. Letters) 7 pm Book Club (Zoom)	24	25	26 Ascension Day	27	28
29 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm B&H Islamic (FH)	30 Memorial Day Church Office CLOSED	31				

2022