



Brethren Highlights

For members and friends of the Lancaster Church of the Brethren

January , 2011

PRAYER BREAKFAST 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ON JANUARY 15

The Wednesday Morning Prayer Breakfast at Lancaster Church of the Brethren began January 15, 1986 with 16 worshipers on an 8 degree morning. This initiative was the inspiration of David Hosler and T. Norwood (Woody) Herr.

On Saturday morning, January 15, 2011 there will be a 25th Anniversary Prayer Breakfast held in the Family Life Center at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast \ 8:30 a.m. for prayers and meditations. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. While midweek, early mornings may not be possible for some, a Saturday morning is usually suitable for everyone. The program is expected to last about 50 minutes.

The hot breakfast will be catered, so we need to have a fairly accurate count for planning and caterer guarantee purposes. Please contact the Church Office and simply give your name and the number of people expected to attend with you.

SHANE CLAIBORNE TO SPEAK AT LCOB

Shane Claiborne, an engaging voice for radical Christianity who has been speaking at youth conventions across America such as the National Youth Conference this past summer, will be featured at a public meeting in our sanctuary at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 4, 2011.

“Another way of Doing Life” will be the subject of his presentation. “Christians are meant to be radical non-conformists, interrupting the patterns of our world with prophetic imagination,” says Claiborne. During a time when the public mood is soured by unemployment, endless war, environmental disaster and political corruption, we urgently need Claiborne’s message.

Claiborne’s appearance in Lancaster is sponsored by the Taxes for Peace Interest Group of the Lancaster Interchurch Peace Witness.

All are welcome, including parents and grandparents. A free will offering will be taken. This is a unique community event happening at our church that you should not miss.

THINKING OF COLLEGE? TAKE A LOOK AT ELIZABETHTOWN COLLEGE!

If you are a high school junior or senior member of this church and thinking of college, there are several important reasons to take a close look at Elizabethtown College. Yes, it is nearby, but this gives the opportunity to consider either residential or commuting options. Many area students have discovered that the residential experience at even a local college can be “a world away”.

As a member of the Church of the Brethren, there are thousands of dollars of financial aid awaiting you annually at Elizabethtown College (financial aid to Brethren students is also available at the other colleges founded by the Church of the Brethren).

In addition, there is currently a Scholarship available only to students from Lancaster Church of the Brethren attending Elizabethtown College. This Scholarship is worth up to \$2,000 annually and is administered by the College’s Financial Aid Office. The Lancaster Church of the Brethren Scholarship at Elizabethtown College was made possible by the generous contributions from alumni of the College who are members at this Church and interested in supporting our youth when attending Etown College.

For questions or assistance with the application contact – David Hosler – 575-5382 – dave@hoslerfamily.net

Lancaster Church of the Brethren is a working, worshiping, learning Christian community, open and accepting without discrimination or force in matters of belief and practice.

SERVING THIS MONTH

GREETERS

7:40 AM Kathy and Gene Mummau
 8:40 AM Sue and John Groff
 8:40 AM Penny and Joel Kettering
 9:50 AM Carlene and Scott Hufford
 9:50 AM Barb and Russ Morrow
 11:15 AM Billie and Jack Forsha

USHERS

CHAPEL SERVICE 8:00 A.M.

Jerry Brown John Graham

SANCTUARY SERVICE 10:15 A.M.

*Mike Hess David Creighton Shirley Gish
 Courtney Hartman Steve Holsinger
 Robert Mackey Lin Moyer Jeff Putt

CHURCH LIBRARY

Staffed Sunday 9:45-10:15 A.M.

Wilma Garland

VAN INFORMATION

Anyone wishing transportation to Sunday morning worship services, please contact:

Bill Evans – 560-6502

Acolytes

Week 1: Drew Smith
 Week 2: Grant Turkki
 Week 3: Andrew Lines
 Week 4: Eric Snyder
 Week 5: Cory Betz

HOW TO GET PUBLISHED!

If you are interested in submitting an article or letter, here's how to do it!

1. The deadline is the 10th of every month.
2. If submissions are emailed, the deadline is the 11th. ***Electronically submitted is best!***
3. Email to **both** the editor and the church office for safety. csgraham618@comcast.net
4. Please do not extensively format emailed submissions. Simple paragraph form is best. No bullet points, graphics, etc. An attached file must be in a *Word* document.
5. Mail any submissions to the church office, attention Peggy Bush, **NOT** to the editor's home.
6. Use the newsletter folder in the office to submit any written or typed submissions.

ATTENDANCE

November 28	420
December 5	364
December 12	348

Brethren Highlights is published monthly by the Lancaster Church of the Brethren. The absolute deadline for the February issue is January 10, 2011.



How is seminary going for you?

As many of you probably already know, I am attending Lancaster Theological Seminary part time. I have just finished my third semester. I am on the track to obtain a Masters of Divinity for ordination purposes. Seminary has been quite the stretching experience. One of my greatest hopes of attending seminary was that I would be able to own my theology a little more. I am sure many of you are like me in a way, you grew up in the church and the church did its job. The church taught you or me how to live and especially how to live in the likeness of Christ. Some of you may have experienced this though and asked these questions, "Are my beliefs actually what I believe or are they something that I have been simply taught to believe? Do I believe them or do I just not know what to believe otherwise?" These are the sorts of questions I asked myself before seminary.

Seminary produced exactly, if not greater, what I had hoped. Surely, I believed in Christ, but what about everything else in life? Seminary has given me the room to explore what others believe in order to more greatly define what I believe. I have gained a greater flexibility and confidence within my faith. This has been especially useful in my interaction with youth. Before seminary, if a youth questioned what I was teaching I would often think I had to have the right answer for them. Sure, there are right answers at times, but I am more capable of exploring their thinking and feel much more competent and confident to do so. Sometimes the youth teach or challenge me to think or believe differently. Because of my exploration of theology, biblical studies and different people, my faith has expanded and grown in ways that I would not have expected from the seminary experience. The richness of my relationship with Christ has been enhanced because of seminary.

J. Curtis Dehney

TRANSITIONS

We express our sympathy to the family of Esther Gibble. Esther passed away on November 27.

We express our sympathy to the family of Sara (Sally) Sherr. Sally passed away on December 1.

In 2010, LCOB adopted a new statement of Basic Beliefs and Core Values. The featured Beliefs and Values for this month are:
Free-Church; Non-creedal (John 14:12:17)
-We may see truth in new ways

Truthfulness (Matt. 5:33-37)
-Non-oath swearing

LANCASTER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

VISION STATEMENT

To be and make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world.

MISSION STATEMENT

To be the heart, hands, feet, voice, and mind of Christ locally and globally.

GOALS

Radical Hospitality
Passionate Worship
Intentional Faith Development
Risk-Taking Mission and Service
Extravagant Generosity

(Adopted by the Lancaster Church of the Brethren, 10/07)

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

The Hunger and Poverty Team met on November 30, and selected leaders for 2011:

Otto Schaudel—Chair

Chuck Denlinger—Assistant Chair & Secretary

Lois and Al Hansell—Monthly Newsletter Articles

Joyce Bohn—Coordinator of *2-Cents-a-Meal* offerings, and *Food Collection*

Jack Bryer & Lois Hansell—Coordinators of *Be An Angel* next July & August

Please mark your 2011 calendars. We plan to collect food for the Lancaster County Council of Churches **Food Bank** five times next year. The church in the early centuries always brought food for the needy every time they ate the Bread and drank from the Cup at the Lord's Table. We are to remember Jesus when we celebrate the Eucharist or participate in the Love Feast, especially His teaching in Matthew 25:31-46.

March 13—Bread and Cup Communion

April 21—Love Feast

June 12—Bread and Cup Communion

October 2—Love Feast

November 27—Bread and Cup Communion

In 2011, we will present our *2-Cents-a-Meal* offerings on four Sundays. As in the past, 2/3s of each offering will go to the Church of the Brethren *Global Food Crisis Fund*, and 1/3 will go to the Lancaster County Council of Churches. The dates are:

January 9

May 1

September 11

November 20

Our next meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2011, 7:00 p.m. Our planning meetings are always open to all interested persons of the congregation.

“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me” (Matthew 25:40).

--Hunger and Poverty Team

CONGREGATIONAL MESSAGES

I wish to thank my church family for all the prayers, cards, and best wishes during my stay in the hospital. A special thanks to Pastors Rill and Shreckhise, and Rev. Wenger for their visits and calls.

Jack Forsha

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, visits, and phone calls during my recent hospitalization, surgery and recuperation. It is so wonderful to have the support and love of our church family.

Shirely Frey

Thank you to the carolers who came and sang for me. Your kindness added to my holidays. My spirits were lifted due to your visit and I appreciated hearing you sing some of my favorite carols. So nice to see many familiar faces from the church. Blessings to all!

Helen Thatcher

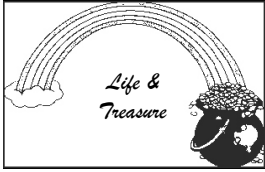


LIBRARY LINES

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL
AND TO ALL GOOD READING IN 2011!

The Library is challenging all the members of the church - young and not so young - to start reading more books! Your New Year's Resolution for 2011 should be to read at least one book from the Library each month! Any book that appeals to you - any category. Winter is such a good time for reading- curl up with a good book, relax and let the snow fall gently outside! And you are not required to make any reports on the books you read to anyone! This is purely for your pleasure and a wonderful way to increase your interest in many topics.

But you do have an assignment --- check out the book with your name and date and leave the card - then return the book when you have finished your reading journey! HAPPY NEW YEAR - HAPPY READING!



Take the Leap!

One night a house caught fire and a young boy was forced to flee flames by jumping to the ground from the roof. His father stood on the ground below with outstretched arms, calling to his son, "Jump! I'll catch you." But the boy was afraid — he couldn't see his father — all he could see were flames, smoke, and blackness. He was afraid. Still, his father kept yelling: "Jump son! I will catch you!" But the boy refused, crying, "Daddy, I can't see you!" His father replied, "It's ok son — I can see you — and that's all that matters!"

Sometimes we find ourselves in the midst of the fiery trials of life and all we can see is the smoke and the flames. But faith is knowing who will catch us when we take that leap. In Hebrews, the word 'truth' in this verse, is em-oo-nah, which is also translated faith. God delights in responding to our faith. He wants us to jump into His arms — especially when we can't see Him.

George Mueller said, "Faith does not operate in the realm of the possible. There is no glory for God in that which is humanly possible. Faith begins where man's power ends."

Let's practice some faith today. Our Father's arms are biggest and strongest as they come!

Psalms 33:4 For the word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth.

<http://www.worthydevotions.com/christian/stewardship> SMT

CLIMBERS' CORNER

Sunday, January 16, we will meet at Loxleys at 11:45 a.m., for brunch or lunch - your choice. Order from the menu or buffet.

This is our first event of the New Year, and your support would be appreciated. Guests are most welcome! Contact Jim and Jeanne Heck with any questions. Please bring canned fruit and/or tuna for the LCCC Food Bank. See You There!!



SENIOR ADULTS

THINK SPRING! The Lancaster Area Senior Adult Spring Banquet is planned for April 14 at Middle Creek COB. Mark your calendars now.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Charles Denlinger	16	Carl Gish
	Del Akech Del		Barry Wilson
	Phillip Deng		Danette Greiner
	James Kongor	17	Ryan Brubaker
	Chol Mading Deng		Luke Brandt
	Deng Kudior Bol	22	Stanford Cox
	Jacob Kongor		J. Ervin Martin
2	Donald Dotterer		Jessica Dunbar
4	Madeleine Miller	23	Sara Shearer
	Carly Deihm	24	Eric Snyder
5	Mary Snyder		Donna Bowman
6	James Fahnestock	25	Melissa Heck
	Paul Herr	26	Craig Husted
	Theresa Herr	27	Kathy Brinkman
	Shawn Smith	28	Norma Hollinger
7	Brad Snyder		Joel Kettering
10	Alaina Bridgeman		David Braksator
	Shirley Gish	30	Gloria Denlinger
	Brian Shotzberger		Glenn Shultz
11	Joy Montgomery		
	Marie Rhoades		
12	Grant Husted		
14	Mike Snyder		
15	Terry Shearer		
	William Brinkman		



ADULT EDUCATION OPORTUNITIES

January 2011

The following classes are open to everyone. All are invited.

Even though these groups are "ongoing," they are always looking for new members!

9:00 – 9:45 Sunday Mornings

The Chapel Bible Study Group, led by Calvin Wenger and John Snader, meets in the Chapel. They are currently immersed in an intensive study of the New Testament. In January, they will be continuing their study of the Gospel of *John*.

The Thoughtful Life Class, meeting in Rooms 162-163, features stimulating resource persons who lead discussions in a variety of topics. Topics for January are:

January 2 – *The Problem of Evil: Why Bad Things Happen to Good People, Part 1.*

Speaker, **Dr. Lee Barrett.**

January 9 – *The Problem of Evil: Why Bad Things Happen to Good People, Part 2.*

Speaker, **Dr. Lee Barrett.**

January 16 – *The Problem of Evil: Why Bad Things Happen to Good People, Part 3.*

Speaker, **Dr. Lee Barrett.**

January 23 – *Consumer Religion, Part 1.* Speaker, **John Snader.**

January 30 – *Consumer Religion, Part 2.* Speaker, **John Snader.**

This group likes to start early, about 8:55 a.m., so plan to arrive on time.

The One Another Class, coordinated by Linda Husted, meets in Pastor Rill's office. In January, they will be discussing the "Corporate Disciplines" as outlined in Richard Foster's book, *Celebration of Disciplines*. Although the group is small, they welcome anyone interested in joining their discussions.

The Nesters Bible Study Group, meeting in Room 170, explores the basics of faith through Bible study. In January, the class will be continuing their study of Corinthians using a study guide. No materials are required, but you are encouraged to bring your Bible. Discussions are casual and leisurely, and anyone is free to join in at any point. Contact Todd Bookman at bookert@gmail.com if you have any questions or concerns.

Various Times

The young adult group "J.U.M.P." (Jesus, use me please!) meets at various times. At 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 4 we will attend Shane Claiborne's *Another Way of Doing Life*, at LCOB, and meet afterwards for coffee and conversation about the presentation. During January, we'll be taking a closer look at our own spiritual gifts. Save Saturday, January 15 at 10:00 a.m. to be led through the survey by a representative from the Lancaster Parish Resource Center. More details to follow via email at megan.eldredge@gmail.com, or call Megan at 717-250-6713.

6:30 Wednesday Evenings

Wednesday Night Live will resume in January. A simple meal is served at 5:15 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Classes on a variety of topics are offered at 6:30 p.m. Watch for news from the WNL leadership.

COME TO THE STARLIGHT TEA EPIPHANY CONCERT!

In the harsh winter of 2009, our popular Starlight Tea Christmas Concert had a "snow delay" until early January, and we found that both the audience and musicians seemed to like that better! So, we're trying that date again, for our new **Starlight Tea Epiphany Concert**. Please mark your calendar – the concert is **Sunday, January 9 at 7:00 p.m.!**

We'll take one last look at favorites from Advent and Christmas, and then move into the season of Epiphany. The concert will feature our Chancel Choir, Carillon Bell Choir, soloists and instrumentalists in works by Paul Manz, Simon Andrews, John Rutter and more. Featured will be the stunning opening chorus from J. S. Bach's cantata, *How Brightly Shines the Morning Star* - the "Epiphany Chorale."

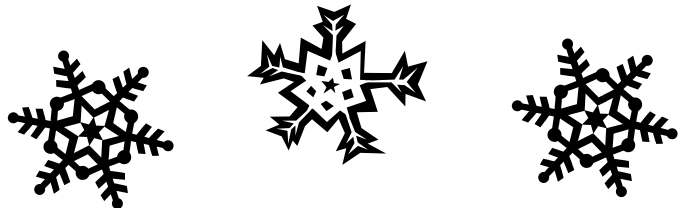
The concert will also feature two anthems with a multicultural flavor: *Hope for Resolution*, arranged by Paul Caldwell and Sean Ivory, combines the Advent chant *Of the Father's Love Begotten* with a Zulu freedom song proclaiming God's presence with us, and *The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy*, a West Indian carol, is set in a toe-tapping arrangement by Stephen Hatfield.

As always, our holiday concert will end with the **Starlight Tea**, with homemade cookies by the baking members of our congregation. Be sure to join us for this event, which ends the Christmas season and begins the New Year!

A World Premiere, Featuring LCOB Kids!

On December 24, The Christmas Eve Family Service focused on the story of the Nativity and showcased some of the characters we don't often think about...the animals! The children's music groups performed a new song written by Jamie Nace based on a children's book found in our church library titled, "Who is Coming to Our House?". What an exciting prospect for our children - to participate in bringing a brand new work to life!

The song was titled, "Someone is Coming to Our House" and was written to show what would have happened in Bethlehem as the animals were getting ready for the newborn King. The children had a great time performing the song as they prepared for baby Jesus!



PMT ENERGY TIP OF THE MONTH –

Heating and cooling systems can waste a lot of energy if they aren't maintained properly. Dirty and clogged air filters slow down air flow and make these systems work harder. They make your system more expensive to operate and also could lead to expensive repairs. To increase the efficiency of your heating and cooling system, check your air filters monthly. If a filter looks dirty, replace it.

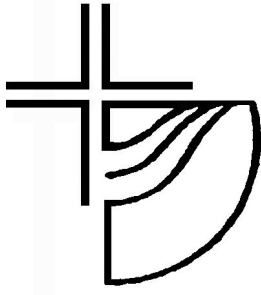


LCOB KITCHEN TIP OF THE MONTH

Attention: When using the Church kitchen for cooking or reheating food for your group's events, a ServSafe (food safety) person must be present as per the LCOB facility use policy.

If you are a certified ServSafe person, or if interested in taking the course, please contact Deb Chillas or Robin Baker.





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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**LANCASTER CHURCH
OF
THE BRETHREN**

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To be and make disciples of Christ for
the transformation of the world.

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Passionate Worship
Intentional Faith Development
Risk-Taking Mission and Service
Extravagant Generosity

(Adopted by the Lancaster Church of the Brethren, 10/07)

**SUNDAY
WORSHIP SERVICES**

8:00 a.m. Chapel
9:00 a.m. Family Life Center
10:15 a.m. Family Life Center
10:15 a.m. Sanctuary
10:15 a.m. Maranatha

Sunday School

9:00 a.m.

The deadline for the February
issue
is January 10, 2011.

**Brethren Highlights
2011**

Jeffrey B. Rill
Senior Pastor

Richard F. Shreckhise
Associate Pastor

J. Curtis Dehmey
Associate Pastor of Children and Youth

Emery A. DeWitt
Director of Music

Jamie Nace
Director of Children's/Youth Music

Carol S. Graham
Brethren Highlights Editor