

# BRETHREN HIGHLIGHTS

Lancaster Church of the Brethren

December 2014

## REJOICE!

On Sunday, December 14, all Worship Services will join together during the last 1/3 of the 10:15 p.m. worship time to celebrate 3 baptisms as **ONE Church Family**. The candidates for baptism will lead the Morning Psalm worshipers and Praise Kidz to the sanctuary. Let us all anticipate this exciting event in the life of the church and in the lives of our newest members.



## CHRISTMAS RECITAL & CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

On Christmas Eve in the Sanctuary, we continue our annual tradition of the gentle, contemplative service known as the "Festival of Lessons and Carols." This service combines readings from scripture with choral anthems, congregational carols and an appearance by the Holy Family. This year, the Chancel Choir will present three anthems:

*A Carol* by Roland E. Martin, *Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine* by Howard Helvey, and *The First Noel* / *Pachelbel's Canon* arranged by Michael Clawson.

It is a time to set aside the hectic pace of our lives during this busy season and meditate on the true meaning of Christmas. Again continuing an annual tradition, the service concludes with the congregational singing of *Silent Night*, as each person raises his or her candle to symbolize the light of Christ spreading throughout the world.

The service begins at 6:30 p.m. with the Christmas Recital, in which the talented musicians of our congregation present music celebrating Christmas and the Christ Child. We are so blessed by the musical talent in our church - come let them bless you with their gifts during this holy season! The Candlelight Lessons and Carols will follow at 7:00 p.m. Childcare is available. This popular service always fills the Sanctuary, so be sure to arrive early to begin celebrating the birth of Jesus! --Emery DeWitt

CHRISTMAS

EVE

## LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS

*A Light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it. John 1:5* For many at Christmas, the darkness seems more powerful than the light. If in the midst of strings of Christmas lights, warm fires, and advent candles, you find yourself more aware of your pain, sadness, grief, hopelessness, or fear - you are not alone. The holidays can be a time of remembering that is just not happy for many people. We will gather in worship paying attention to that reality on the longest night of the year. Please join us for our Blue Christmas service, Sunday, December 21, at 4:30 p.m. in the chapel. The service will be simple and reflective in format with the prayer that God's light still shines, even in our darkness. --Pastor Cindy



## FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

If your family is made up of just you (or there are 10 of you) come Wednesday, December 24, for the Family Christmas Eve service. This service will be lead by Pastor Cindy Lattimer and Jamie Nace at 5:00 p.m. in the Family Live Center. This is a family-friendly service for us to celebrate the birth of our Savior and a wonderful opportunity to teach our children the true meaning of Christmas. There will be childcare available for those who need it. If you have any questions regarding this service, contact Jamie Nace at 397-4751 ext. 106. --Jamie Nace

## DECEMBER AT A GLANCE

- 6<sup>th</sup> - 9:00am Women's Fellowship Christmas Breakfast
- 4:30pm Starlight Tea Meal
- 7:00pm Starlight Tea Concert
- 13<sup>th</sup> - 9:00am Family Christmas Breakfast & Caroling
- 21<sup>st</sup> - 4:30pm Blue Christmas Service
- 24<sup>th</sup> - 5:00pm Family Christmas Service
- 6:30pm Christmas Recital
- 7:00pm Candlelight Lessons & Carols

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

# SERVING THIS DECEMBER

## GREETERS

7:40 a.m. Charles Guyer & Chuck Neslund  
 8:40 a.m. Ruth & Glenn Shultz  
 8:40 a.m. Gay & Steve Polanskey  
 9:50 a.m. Donna & Doug Lungert  
 9:50 a.m. Shirley & Calvin Wenger  
 10:15 a.m. Melode & Mark Forsha



## USHERS

**CHAPEL SERVICE 8:00 a.m.**

Jerry Brown & Jere Tankesley

**SANCTUARY SERVICE 10:15 a.m.**

Ken Harnish\* James Bridgeman Jere Bridgeman  
 Jon Bridgeman Linda Harnish George Murray  
 Bill Evans Pat Vesper  
*\*Head Usher*

## CHURCH LIBRARY

**Staffed Sunday 9:45—10:15 a.m.**



Committee Member

## ACOLYTES

Week 1: Maria Ramirez  
 Week 2: Jack Smith  
 Week 3: Luke Wenger  
 Week 4: Sadie Bowser  
 Week 5: Drew Smith



## VAN INFORMATION

Bob Gish  
 560-6767



## ATTENDANCE

October 19 - 307  
 October 26 - 312  
 November 2 - 348  
 November 9 - 361

## DIRECTORY CHANGES

2015 Church Directories  
 Anticipating arrival at end of the month.

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- |                                |                     |                  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. Renea Snyder                | 14 Doug Deihm       | 27 Ryan Bookman  |
| Leah Mae Biemiller             | 17 Jean Deemer      | 28 Alex Truit    |
| 2 Alaina Snyder (Mark- father) | 18 Floyd Montgomery | 29 George Murray |
| 3 Clair Greiner                | Ashley Wenger       |                  |
| 4 Ellen Weaver                 | Carol Graham        | 30 Mark Frace    |
| Tom Wolf                       | Marvin Harnish      | Allen Mellinger  |
| 5 Amy Wiggins                  | 21 Sarah Shreckise  |                  |
| Carol Kramer                   | Deb Neslund         |                  |
| 8 Peggy Bates                  | 23 Pat Shreckhise   |                  |
| 10 Nicole Putt                 | 25 Fred Kreider     |                  |
|                                | Diana Wiker         |                  |
| 11 Shane Heck                  | 26 Ray Leckrone     |                  |
| Jack Wilson                    | Logan Wenger        |                  |



## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES

It's the time of year when we look back. We get to month 12 and we are about to begin again at 1. Our camera's, digital files and emails all include this automatic dating system so we don't have to figure out when we did this or that – it's part of the data. Now we can scroll over the photo memories and see the progress from beginning to end.

Before I exit my directorship with youth ministry, I wanted to be sure to archive the multitude of photos I have taken over the last few years that I've been working with the youth. I found in 2013 alone I had over 800 photos. It took the computer over an hour to upload them to the church's server.

Looking back in these photos, I can see the change in the youth. I can see their faces maturing and their growing taller. When I took on this task to help in leading them I didn't know what impact they would have on me and how I would grow. Each youth, as I have gotten to know them and spent time with them over the years, has now become part of the data of my life. I have lots of files and memories from activities, conversations, and life events. As I took on this journey they fueled my desire to build files in their lives too. I wanted to help them grow their data to understand the church, Jesus forgiveness when we mess up, and the joy of finding and growing in relationship with the God of the Universe. We can't measure these things in the photos I have taken.

I have also found there are not many photos of me with the youth, mostly because I'm behind the camera. I'm not present in the picture – but I hope my joy is evident in the photos I have taken. The photos are a record of the times we have spent together in the work of Christ and in the love of God.

Many people in their careers need to know a job is

complete. They are driven to do jobs from start to finish to know and feel accomplishment. Youth work will never be that way. While you are doing the work you don't know how deep will be the impact or if a youth will stay on course with their faith.

There are so many factors which will be added once youth leave your care.

I may no longer be in the pictures of the youth ministry, but I pray I have helped to form a foundation for the ministry to continue to grow into a great future. An impactful foundation scripture in my life has been 2 Timothy 2:19-21 (from the Living Bible). *But God's truth stands firm like a great rock, and nothing can shake it. It is a foundation stone with these words written on it: "The Lord knows those who are really his," and "A person who calls himself a Christian should not be doing things that are wrong."*

*In a wealthy home there are dishes made of gold and silver as well as some made from wood and clay. The expensive dishes are used for guests, and the cheap ones are used in the kitchen or to put garbage in. If you stay away from sin you will be like one of these dishes made of purest gold—the very best in the house—so that Christ himself can use you for his highest purposes.*

To me this verse is a call to know God as our foundation and how our lives as Christians' are representing Him. If we want to be used by God to do great things, we have to live like we know Him and who He calls us to be. It's a high call to strive to live out what Jesus taught.

Continue to love our youth, be a part of creating great photos and memories so you can see them grow in Christ. I pray we all continue to grow deeper in love with following God's call so we can be used for His highest purpose.

--Linda Byers

## CAROLING WITH THE CLIMBERS

The Climbers will be caroling Saturday, December 13, at Brethren Village Fieldcrest Apartment Building Entrance "C." Plan to arrive at 3:30 p.m. A BV bus will transport us to various locations around the BV campus for Christmas caroling. The group will then gather at the Fieldcrest Great Room for food, fun and fellowship following the caroling trip. The LCCC food bank items for the month of December are oranges, apples and candy. --Gene Mummau





## WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS

Women's Christmas is an Irish tradition where women gather together - leaving hearth and home to the men for a while - in order to celebrate, re-center, and- perhaps in our case- recover from the Christmas season. The women of our church are all invited to gather for a Women's Christmas Retreat sponsored by the Women's Fellowship on Saturday, January 11. Pastor Cindy will lead us in some time of fellowship, reflection on the year past, and spiritual renewal for the year to come. She will use some retreat resources put together by Jan Richardson. If you are interested, please contact either Pastor Cindy or Myrl Greiner by December 21 so that we can plan based on the size of our group. We look forward to spending the day together!

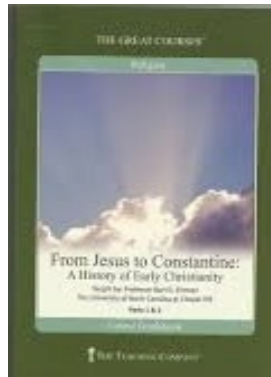


## WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

**Wednesday Night Live (WNL)** will not meet in December. The (volunteer) meal preparation team takes a much-deserved break. WNL will resume January 7 and continue for twelve weeks, each Wednesday evening through March 25. We anticipate a very informative class based on a video series, *From Jesus to Constantine: A History of Early Christianity*. You will not want to miss this educational experience.

--Suzanne Schaudel, meal coordinator

--Class Steering Committee: Chuck Denlinger, Beverly Angle, Megan and Tim Lester



## SERRV

An opportunity to volunteer at SERRV is on Thursday, December 18. Join us as we go to New Windsor to process crafts and gift items. We will leave the church at 7:00 a.m. and return about 5:00 p.m. Lunch and a time for shopping in the international mall will be provided. You will even receive a discount! **To RSVP** or for more information, contact Rus Adsitt by December 11 at 569-0278.



## FAMILY CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST & CAROLING

Looking for a wonderful way to celebrate the Christmas season? Come and enjoy some family time around the breakfast table on Saturday, December 13, at 9:00 a.m. Pancakes, sausage, fruit and drinks will be provided. There will be cookie decorating and a small craft for the kids. Afterward, we will take a short walk over to Calvary Homes and carol around their cottages. What a great way to share the Christmas spirit! There is no fee. However, if you would like to make a small donation, it would be appreciated. Questions? Contact Jamie Nace: [jnace77@gmail.com](mailto:jnace77@gmail.com)



## STARLIGHT TEA CONCERT

### ~ RIZZETTA'S TONES

On Saturday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m., the Starlight Tea Concert Series will welcome back some old friends with a new name! **Rizzetta's Tones** is an American Celtic World band, whose members have previously performed in our series with *Gladly Playe With Stryngs* and *From The Well*. Long-time attenders of the Starlight Tea series will certainly recognize the group's leader, Bill Stine, and will also recognize a familiar face in Randy Kochel.

Comprised of 'fraternal twin' hammer dulcimers, silver flute, high and low whistles, and guitars, the group often spices up the sound with button accordion, bowed psaltery, Greek bouzouki, ukulele, as well as bodhran, djembe, and other percussion instruments (yes, even two frogs!) All members take turns singing lead and background vocals on songs, both poignant and humorous.



The repertoire includes music from Ireland, Scotland, and the United States, drawing as well from the traditions of Sweden, Brazil, France, Hungary, and many other lands. Forging new arrangements and writing our own material, Rizzetta's Tones presents audiences with a pleasing twist while respecting musical traditions.

The concert is free, with a free-will offering taken. Come prepared to tap your toes and wear a huge smile while listening to this infectious fun music! And stay afterwards for our Starlight Tea reception and meet the artists! --Emery Dewitt

## COBYS KIDS' CLOSET

COBYS has one big closet for all of their kids. Each foster child coming into care receives a backpack filled with toys, games, personal care items, a Bible, and more. In addition, they visit their closet to find gifts for special occasions, supplies for caseworkers to use for therapeutic activities, car seats to transport children to appointments, and items to meet emergency needs.

The Outreach Ministry Team is going to collect items to fill the COBYS Kids Closet in the month of December. They use these items to support children and families served by their education programs, and they are also used for child-care and children's learning activities, and to encourage families to spend time together.



Here are some items that they need in order to keep their closet well-stocked:

- \* Baby items like diapers, baby shampoo, etc....
- \* sensory toys
- \* girl colors backpacks
- \* board books
- \* disposable cameras
- \* and more...
- \* craft supplies
- \* small games
- \* outdoor toys
- \* puzzles

There will be a Christmas tree in the Gathering Place with tags that will have suggestions for you to donate and there will also be complete lists available for you for more ideas. There is no need to wrap these items, just place them in the boxes below the tree.

Thank you for your participation. For any questions, call Ellen Weaver at 290-1715.

### 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 **December 10**.
2. **Electronically submitted is best!**
3. Please keep your article to 400 words or less.
4. Email to the church office at [lancob@comcast.net](mailto:lancob@comcast.net).
5. Please do not extensively format emailed submissions. Simple paragraph form is best. An attached file should be in a *Word* document.
6. Mail any submissions to the church office, attention Tiffany Dickel, or place them in the "Newsletter" folder in the church office.

## LIBRARY NEWS

Strangers At My Door: A True Story of Finding Jesus In Unexpected Guests by Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove is a book that I stumbled on while I was thinking of writing about Advent. Advent has become a time of the year that I look forward to more and more each year. It is a time of looking inward, quiet listening, and peaceful preparation for Christ to come and bring light and joy into life. Suddenly,



here is this book, a true story about a couple who are practicing radical hos-

pitality, inviting strangers to come in where they live and work. So much for the peace and looking inward. I know that I wouldn't be able to do what they are doing, but I look forward to reading the book hoping to gain insight into ways I can open my door. You will find this book, along with Christmas books and movies, in the gathering place. A copy of Awake: 2014 Devotional for Advent Through Epiphany will also be on our library table for your use while visiting the library.

May you find peace and joy in Christ this season -  
Deborah Hall, Library Chairperson

## THANK YOU, CONGREGATION

A very special 'thank you' to Matt Kramer and Lenny Lambert for the service on November 2, 2014 given for the 8:00 service in the Chapel. Matt did an outstanding job on interconnecting the biblical verse of the day to experiences of our everyday life. It is always a treat and a good lesson when we learn how that connection can be made in our everyday challenges. Lenny did a fabulous job of organizing the overall service for Matt in Jeff's absence. Kathy and I would want that team to do so again in the future. --Kathy & Gene Mummau

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We would like to thank the congregation, the Wednesday Morning Prayer Group, and the Deacon Body for their prayers and cards. We would especially like to thank Calvin Wenger for his many calls and visits during my recent illness. It is heart warming to know so many people care and are praying for my recovery. Thank you to all who offered prayers, sent cards and called. --Joe & Judi Peffley

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Many thanks to our church family for the many prayers and well wishes during my recent surgery and recovery. Thanks also to the Wednesday Morning Prayer Group for the many prayers, cards and well wishes. Thanks also to the Climbers Class for their prayers, cards and meals provided. --Sincerely, Fred Kreider

## HEIFER INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATES 70<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY AT LCOB!

For the twelfth year in a row, the LCOB would like to invite you to take part in a tradition of giving that has touched the lives of more than 20.7 million families or 105.1 million men, women, and children around the world! Throughout the month of December, our church will once again sponsor a "Living Gift Table" each Sunday. Through the Living Gift Table, you will have the opportunity to work with Heifer International to provide a meaningful gift-giving alternative for the holidays, and - in the process - help to put an end to hunger, poverty, lack of education, and environmental destruction in our own country and around the world.



**This year, Heifer International celebrates its 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, a milestone that was made possible as a result of almost 7,000 young men, and a few women, too, who crossed oceans in 1945 and 1946 to transport and safely deliver livestock after World War II. These initial Church of the Brethren "seagoing cowboys" worked in partnership with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) to lay the foundation for what is today a global nonprofit organization that touches the lives of individuals in more than 125 different countries.**

Over the past eleven years, our church has participated in three Living Gift Markets. In addition, our youth have traveled to Rutland, Massachusetts and/or Sharpsburg, Maryland several times to participate in a variety of educational experiences and service projects in an effort to specifically learn more about Heifer International. The overarching goal of these trips has been to immerse our youth in the challenges of hunger and poverty, as they generate an understanding and appreciation for how we can individually and collectively support sustainable solutions. However, a wonderful byproduct of these trips is that it provides the youth with an authentic opportunity to view the world from a new perspective. Without a doubt, caring for the animals and spending time in the "Global Village" are always cherished memories that are long-remembered from these expeditions. Yet, it is also important to note that the youth who once so excitedly raised money, led Sunday school lessons, dressed up as cows and chickens, and worked the stands at our

Living Gift Market are now the young adults who are self-selecting to continue to support service-oriented projects on a variety of different levels, both locally and globally. Our church congregation's investment in the spiritual development and education of our youth has provided returns that will certainly provoke powerful change in the years to come.

While there are members of our church who have faithfully supported the goals of Heifer from its inception back in 1944, it is incredible to also note that in the past eleven years, the monetary gifts that have so lovingly been donated through our Living Gift Market and Table have reached a total of nearly \$90,000! When the Jr. High began this journey back in 2002, we never imagined that this initiative would have such a tremendous impact.



For many families, the purchase of animals has become a tradition that is shared and passed down through the generations, and it is always such a joy to hear the stories of how excited friends, colleagues, and family members get when they receive a gift card denoting the purchase of an animal made in their name. Heifer believes in the idea that change is made possible through the actions and gifts of one person, and that is why each family who receives livestock from Heifer passes on the gift of the first female offspring to another family in need. Our congregation has played a huge role in supporting this goal, as we have not only donated our money, but our time, stories, traditions, and passion for change on to our loved ones, friends, and brothers and sisters in other countries. Simply by raising an awareness of this organization, you are igniting change within our world!

This year, as you celebrate the joy of Christmas, I want to thank you for your incredible support and leave you with one final thought. Several years ago, I had the opportunity to work with the granddaughter of one of the first families in Thailand to receive an animal from Heifer International. With a beaming smile she recounted the way that singular gift transformed her small village over the course of three generations. At the time of our meeting, this talented young woman was attending college in the United States and sharing her love for Heifer by working as a volunteer at one of their ranches in Massachusetts. As I listened to her story, I could not help but recognize the way God had shaped, nurtured, and molded millions of moments so that we could share a traditional



Thai meal together, prepared over an open fire, with only the most rudimentary tools and ingredients. What a miraculous gift!

The power of a gift, when entrusted to God, inspires change that we could never imagine, yet it requires the presence of our very human hands, feet, choices, time, and prayers. The Bible encourages us to, *"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."* (Luke 6:38) **Thank you** for responding to the call to give, for your support of neighbors in need, and for your prayers that touch the world!

For more information about Heifer International, you may go to [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org). --Susan Adsitt

## CROP WALK WORKS TO END HUNGER

Every year for the past 40 years, folks from Lancaster have been supporting the CROP Walk to raise funds to feed the hungry. One member of our congregation has participated in most of those walks. Carlos Schaudel participated in the CROP Walk the first time in 1981 when he was just 6 years old, raising more than \$30. **This year Carlos raised \$2,100 for CROP with donations coming from 84 families of the Lancaster COB.** Since we started keeping a spreadsheet of donations pledged from our congregation, more than \$11,000 has been raised to feed the hungry over the past six years.

This year's goal of the Lancaster CROP Walk was to raise \$125,000. Approximately 125 area churches participate in this fundraiser on the third Sunday of October. A program of Church World Service, the CROP Walk gives 25% of the total donations to the Lancaster County Council of Churches Food Bank, with the rest of the money going to aid hungry people around the world. Church World Service uses CROP donations to provide seeds and tools, to dig wells and create water systems. Some of the money goes to micro-loans, helping people to find their own development priorities to overcome hunger in their community.

The Lancaster Church of the Brethren can be proud of its continuing support of the CROP Walk. Thank you, Carlos, for helping to make this happen each year!

-- Suzanne Schaudel, record keeper of CROP donations



## HUNGER, POVERTY, VIOLENCE AND DEATH IN OUR CHURCH

"Hunger and Poverty" is our usual theme for this column. Sadly, recent events in Nigeria compel us to expand the theme this month to include violence and death.

Brothers and sisters in the Church of the Brethren are a global community. For example, the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria has grown from modest beginnings 91 years ago to an indigenous church, the EYN (Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria) that has had an estimated one million persons in attendance. Now many are suffering in horrific ways.

In addition to the kidnapping last April of more than 200 girls--many of them EYN members--from a school in Chibok, approximately 96,000 EYN members have been displaced and perhaps **thousands** -- yes, **thousands** killed. The EYN headquarters have been overrun and many of the church's districts have been closed.

What can we do to help? We can support our denominational response. The Mission and Ministry Board recently allocated up to \$1.5 million to a new expanded Nigeria Crisis Fund. Included will be funds for shelter for displaced families and emergency food rations.

The new Nigeria Crisis Fund, part of the Emergency Disaster Fund, is now receiving gifts. This expanded response, requiring about \$2,559,900 in the first year, will include funds to help build 300 family shelters and provide emergency food rations for 10,000 families.

The apostle Paul wrote in I Corinthians *"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. . . . Now you are the body of Christ. . . . If one member suffers, all suffer together with it."*

Our brothers and sisters in Christ are suffering greatly. **We** are suffering greatly. Let us do our part to help relieve that suffering. -- Hunger and Poverty Group

## DECEMBER PMT ENERGY TIP

Before the mercury heads south, make sure your home is prepared for cold north winds. The Department of Energy advises you to caulk, seal and weather strip cracks and large openings to the outside. Hit the large gaps first.



## GOLD AWARD TO SARAH SHEARER

The Gold Award in Girl Scouting is an honor and achievement which takes both time and dedication to strive to reach. It is exciting for our congregation to celebrate with Sarah Shearer in her earning this honor. Sarah is the daughter of Terry and Carol Shearer. She is a part of our Sr. High youth group and their family attends the 9:00 Morning Psalm worship. Sarah is a member of troop # 70755 and she is also a senior at Hempfield High School.



The Gold Award required a scout to complete several goals over the course of membership. The last goal is to create, plan and complete a project to make a difference in the community. The process covers 7 basic steps:

1. Choose an Issue: Use your values and skills to identify a community issue you care about.
2. Investigate: Research everything you can about the issue.
3. Get help: Invite others to support and take action with you.
4. Create a plan: Create a project plan that achieves sustainable and measurable impact.
5. Present your plan and get feedback: Sum up your project plan for your Girl Scout council.
6. Take Action: Take the lead to carry out your plan.
7. Educate and inspire: Share what you have experienced with others. *(taken from the Go Gold guidelines)*

All of these steps help to form many important leadership qualities and Sarah has certainly developed these characteristics in her work to reach this goal.

Sarah worked with the Boys and Girl's Club of Lancaster to create "The Music Circle". The 3 month program of classes combined Sarah's love for music and introduced creative music to the kids. As part of the project, Sarah created several musical instruments using simple and recycled materials. She designed music lessons to teach rhythm and music appreciation to kids at the club ranging in age from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> grades. One a week for three months, Sarah and a group of her friends, visited the Boy's and Girl's Club to lead the program. All of the instruments she created were shared with the club so they can continue to use them in their program.

Congratulations Sarah on reaching your goal! We look forward to see how God directs you next in our community and in the world.

--Linda Dows-Byers, Director of Youth Ministries

## "AN OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS,"

### - A MUSICAL

The Servant Stage Company, a local drama and musical group, will present a program in the **Lampeter Church of the Brethren** on Tuesday, December 9, at 7:00 p.m. Coordinated by Jonathan Bauer, the group headquarters are in Strasburg. The program entitled, "An Old Fashioned Christmas" will feature singers with harp and guitar accompaniment. Enjoy the beautiful songs and dancing of yesteryear, as we celebrate with classic Christmas songs and arrangements of beautiful carols.

Some of the featured songs include: "I'll be Home for Christmas," "Jingle Bells," "Most Wonderful Time of the Year," "O come, All Ye Faithful," "O Holy Night," "Silent Night" and many more favorite carols.

Servant Stage Company was organized in 2011. This year of 2014 they have performed for over 7,000 people in more than 20 venues across Lancaster County. No tickets are needed to attend. Opportunity to support their ministry will be given at the door following the concert. Please consider this your invitation to attend this unique Christmas musical experience.

## BV's Volunteer Services Department

Volunteers at Brethren Village are needed in the following areas:

- ◇ grocery stores
- ◇ Gift & Thrift Shops
- ◇ transporting residents to the beauty shop & therapy
- ◇ helping with activities in:
  - \*healthcare center
  - \*visiting residents
  - \*quilting
  - \*doing mini manicures.
- ◇ Annual Easter Candy Sale & Craft Bazaar: Friday, March 27, Wolfe Aud. 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
*Homemade candy donations and buyers are always welcome!*
- ◇ Thrift Shop: Tues-Fri, 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. & 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
*Donations of new or gently used clothing, household items, and furniture are appreciated.*
- ◇ The Village Center Gift Shop: Mon-Fri, 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. & 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m..

Please contact Holly at 581-4251 for more information.

--Holly Began, BV Coordinator



## ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

December 2014

*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

**Please note that on December 21 our annual Meet-and-Greet will be held in the Gathering Area. Regular adult classes will not be held that morning. Instead, please stop by the Gathering Area to enjoy some special Christmas treats and a chance to meet friends and greet new people.**

**The Chapel Bible Study Group**, led by Calvin Wenger, John Snader, Bob Frick, and Al Cott, meets in the Chapel. In the winter quarter they will focus on the themes of **the awesomeness of God, prayer, and stewardship**. They will study New Testament selections from *Matthew, Luke, Ephesians, Hebrews and James* using A Guide for Biblical Studies, by Brethren writer Ed Poling. Written from a Church of the Brethren perspective, this quarterly *Guide* follows the International Sunday School Lessons and includes daily scripture lessons and questions for both individual preparation and class discussion.

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

**Dec. 7** – *The Music of Advent*. Presented by **Emery and Mary Ellen DeWitt**.

**Dec. 14** – *The Water and the Word*, a video of Brethren origins in Europe.

**Dec. 21** – no class; come to **Meet-and-Greet** in the Gathering Area.

**Dec. 28** – *Why are People Dropping out of Church?* **Clem Rosenberger** will lead a discussion of the article by Martin Marty.

**Connections** is a casual conversation group meeting in Room 200 for coffee and conversation. It is open to everyone interested in connecting with other people on a more personal level. Loosely organized discussions each month are focused as follows:

First Sunday: Alternates between scripture study and a service project.

Second Sunday: Hot topics within the church.

Third Sunday: Game Day. Word games to stimulate thinking and conversation.

Fourth Sunday: God at the Movies – our take on a Pastor Shreckhise favorite topic.

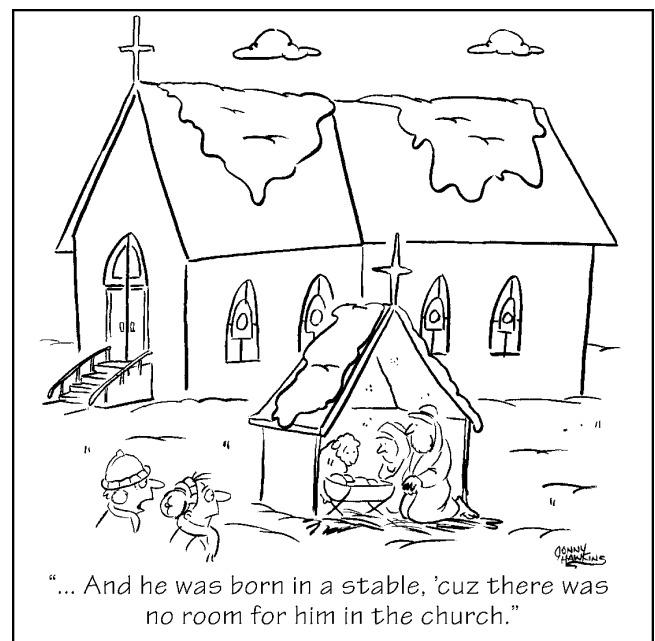
Fifth Sunday: Guest speakers addressing Brethren Beliefs.

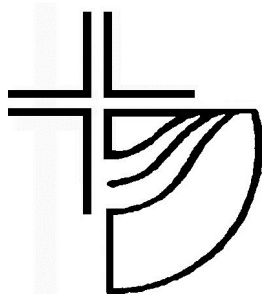
Follow the **Connections** sign to Room 200 on the second floor. For details, contact Rich Bowser at 201-8734 or [rbowser4@yahoo.com](mailto:rbowser4@yahoo.com).

## PRAYERS FOR LCOB

If you believe that the power of prayer influences the future of the LCOB, please consider being a part of a Thursday 11:30 to noon prayer group. Our chapel is the site for this fervent prayer effort. Arrive and/or leave any time in the 30 minute time span and attend regularly or occasionally. Silent or spoken prayers are optional. For those who are unable to attend these sessions, please consider joining us during that time wherever you are.

This communication with the Lord is focused entirely on the future, ministries, purposes and leadership of our church. This is designed especially for those who care deeply about the future of LCOB, especially by the year 2020. Please consider this an opportunity to approach the throne of grace in a united ministry. Questions may be directed to Frank Fox (872-9118) or Calvin Wenger (664-6324).





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**LANCASTER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**  
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(717)-397-4751 lancob@comcast.net  
www.lancob.org

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**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)

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Mon - Thur 8:00am—4:00pm  
Friday 8:00am—1:00pm

**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

**WORSHIP FOR  
CHILDREN**

10:15 a.m. Praise Kidz  
(Age 4—3<sup>rd</sup> grade)  
10:15 a.m. SALT  
(4<sup>th</sup>—6<sup>th</sup> grade)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

9:00a.m. Children & Adults

The deadline for every issue  
is the 10th of the previous month.

**Our Staff**

**Jeffrey B. Rill**  
Senior Pastor  
**Cindy E. L. Lattimer**  
Associate Pastor  
**J. Calvin Wenger**  
Pastor of Caregiving

**Emery A. DeWitt**  
Director of Music  
**Margaret Marsch**  
**Jeanne Heck**  
Organists

**Jamie Nace**  
Director of Children's Music  
Director of Children's Ministry  
**Linda Byers**

Director of Youth Ministries  
**Tiffany L. Dickel**  
Church Administrator  
Newsletter Editor  
**Linda Harnish**  
Secretary  
**Troy Nace**  
Custodian