



# BRETHREN HIGHLIGHTS

Lancaster Church of the Brethren

September 2016

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MEPA Thank You



@ Lancaster Church of the Brethren

Email: lancob@comcast.net

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## CELEBRATE WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY WITH COMBINED WORSHIP AND LOVE FEAST!

On October 2, the Lancaster Church of the Brethren will join together with congregations all around the world to celebrate and remember our common connection to the Body of Jesus that has become for us bread and drink. The purpose of World Communion Sunday is to remind us that in a world where there is much evil and darkness, the light of Jesus shines inextinguishably and that he has positioned the church to be a city on a hill—a lamp on a stand. His dream for the church is that it be visibly united in a way that validates the truth of his Good News to those who are not yet his followers.

In that spirit, there will be one combined worship service at 10:15 in the Sanctuary. The service will reflect the rich diversity as the body of Christ at LCOB, as well as recognize each person's place in the Body that is reflected around the entire world. What a wonderful way to remember that LCOB is part of something so much bigger and that God's love and work goes out beyond anyone's dreams.

Worship will continue with the Fall Love Feast in the Family Life Center. In the Church of the Brethren, Love Feast is one of the most sacred and meaningful times of worship. The tone of this Love Feast will be one of celebration and community building. As with all Love Feasts, the service will include: examination and preparation, an agape fellowship meal, feetwashing, communion, prayer, and singing. Families will sit together, which allows for children to participate in the fellowship meal. A simple meal will be provided by the deacons.

*Continued on page 4.*

## SEEKING FIRST THE KINGDOM

Spiritual Renewal Conference

The theme for the first Spiritual Renewal Conference at LCOB is *Seeking First the Kingdom as Brethren*. The keynote speaker for this conference, which is scheduled for November 12 and 13, is the Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Carter, President of Bethany Theological Seminary. A complete conference schedule and session presenters for this event will be in the October newsletter.



Having an annual spiritual renewal event is part of the 20/20 Vision & Mission of the Lancaster Church of the Brethren. A financial support form is included in this newsletter. (See page 10.) Each member is encouraged to give at any level. The amount is not as important as knowing that everyone is in support of such an event. Having 50 people give \$10 is more important than having one person give \$500.

Save the date, mark it on your calendar and plan to attend the Saturday and Sunday morning conference. In addition, plan to **give your support verbally, prayerfully and financially.**

--Jay V. Wenger, Chairperson

*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 SEPTEMBER

## GREETERS

7:40 a.m. Pam & Craig Kinderwater  
 8:40 a.m. Donna & Scott Brubaker  
 8:40 a.m. Barbara & Alvin Cott  
 9:50 a.m. Troy Nace  
 9:50 a.m. Leah & Jay Wenger  
 10:15 a.m. Gloria & Chuck Denlinger



## USHERS

**CHAPEL SERVICE 8:00 a.m.**  
 Warren Evans & John Graham

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

Jay Wenger\*    Scott Brubaker    Shane Burkholder  
 Carol Kramer    Dick Kramer    Joan Miley  
 Madelynn Riedel    Dory Voulopos  
 \*Head Usher

## CHURCH LIBRARY

Staffed Sunday 9:45—10:15 a.m.



Grace Cox

## ACOLYTES

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



## VAN INFORMATION

Doug Lunger  
 464-4966



## **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

1 Gerald Snyder	18 Gay Polanskey
3 Friedlinde Ebersole	Alix Sable
4 Andrew Gish	19 Hazel Huffman
Lin Moyer	20 Joshua Bashore-Steury
John Snader	21 Thelma Herr
6 Jim Bridgeman	Courtney Dueck
Caroline Hagen	Lois Nolt
8 Matt Kramer	22 Gregg Shulenberger
Carl Shull	Dean Thomas
11 Jen Smith	Olivia Bashore-Steury
12 Jayson Gardner	24 Carl Denlinger
13 Colin Betz	Rose Marie Marzolf
Jere Tankesley	Paul Groff ( <i>husband of Janet</i> )
Susan Adsitt	25 Rich Bohn
14 Ezra Lattimer	26 Christine Turkki
Cyrus Lattimer	27 Ella Mae Murray
15 Edison Rodriguez ( <i>son</i> )	Linda Ross
Dean Peffley	28 Marilyn Hummel
16 Jeff Rill	Tami White
17 John Breidenstine	30 Jacqui Hostetter
Judy Coble	
Drew Smith	

## ATTENDANCE

July 17—290  
 July 24—287  
 July 31—316  
 August 7—330  
 August 14—278

## **KIDS' NIGHT—FALL CARNIVAL**

On **Saturday, October 15**, drop off your kids for a night of fun activities while you enjoy some time for yourself. Children ages 3 years–5th grade will have a night packed with activities including, a moon bounce, lots of carnival games and prizes. A hot dog dinner will be provided. There is also childcare available for children ages 6 months – 2 years. (Parents must supply all food and snacks for this age group.) This fun activity starts at 4:00 p.m. and ends at 7:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center.



**All children must be pre-registered for this event by Sunday, October 9.** Our last event met capacity by the RSVP date. Don't wait too long to register your kids! You can register online at: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeIzARgL9NB1IOxSiXjwp9fJ2lwyV\\_wGpcvQdnA0UAZ\\_eRJYQ/viewform?c=0&w=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeIzARgL9NB1IOxSiXjwp9fJ2lwyV_wGpcvQdnA0UAZ_eRJYQ/viewform?c=0&w=1). Questions? Contact Lisa Miley or Jamie Nace.

**YOUTH** – Youth in 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and older are eligible to help at the event. There is a space on the registration form to sign up as a helper.

# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*Don't be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you can figure out what God's will is—what is good and pleasing and mature. Romans 12:2 (CEB)*

I have always loved Fall. I love the crispness in the air, the chance to linger by a campfire, the changing of the leaves, and the beginning of college football season. (Go Hokies!) I also love the fresh start that a new school year brings. More than the New Year that happens in January, September has always felt like a fresh slate. New classes and teachers offer new opportunities for learning and for the renewing of my mind. What an exciting thing it is to begin something new!

Even though I no longer start school in September and don't have kids who do either, the season of fall still feels like a time where the opportunity to influence and shape the rhythms of life is upon me. I find myself longing to buy a new calendar and insert a stricter schedule than summer often follows.



How about you? What patterns might God be calling you to break open? What transformation awaits you in this new season of life? What new thing does your mind need to ponder? How can we discern God's will as a community of faith?

Without a bit of intention, possibly without a bit of scheduling, we may never answer those questions. Without some intention, the patterns of this world – patterns of apathy, fear, complaining, and cynicism may shape you. But as this new season begins, as nature reveals that transformation is a necessary part of life, consider how you might insert some practices to help renew and change you. Let yourself linger in silence more often, read a new book and discuss it with others, get to know someone different than yourself—learn to listen to their life—and expand your exposure to things that are outside your comfort zone.

Let's pray together for transformation – for a patterning and rhythm to our lives that are shaped by God. Let's pray together for change inside each of us. Let's pray together for a season of renewal and hope according to God's good will. I'll pray for you and I hope you'll pray for me, too.

--Pastor Cindy Lattimer

Carry the cross and follow me. Luke 14:27, NRSV

## UPCOMING WORSHIP SERIES: WHAT DISCIPLES *BELIEVE THINK* DO!

We have all said, "YES!" to Jesus' invitation to "Come Follow Me," but often we stay stuck in the same patterns of belief and thinking as we have always had. The invitation to discipleship has always been an invitation to DO. "Come Follow Me" is an action! But it is a decidedly difficult action – even if we've been disciples for a long time! **Beginning September 4, we will explore four passages about discipleship that are tough; they require a lot from us.** We will have to wrestle with how we are living our lives and living out our faith. We will have to support one another as we are all challenged. But if we dare to risk; if we dare to DO, we may just find our believing and thinking are enriched as well! May we all follow well!

--Pastor Cindy Lattimer

## CROP WALK TO END HUNGER

Every year on the third Sunday of October (*October 16 this year*) volunteers gather at the Barnstormers Stadium to begin the CROP Walk to aid hungry people around the world.

Some facts about hunger:

- **795 million** people worldwide do not have enough food to lead a healthy, active life.
- **66 million** primary school-age children attend classes hungry across the developing world.
- **Hunger kills** more people every year than AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined.

A program of Church World Service, 25% of the money raised by the annual CROP Walk goes to support the Lancaster County Council of Churches Food Bank. Once again, **Carlos Schaudel will be walking and asking for your sponsorship. Sign up with Carlos in the Gathering Area.**



*Continued from front page:* **World Communion Sunday**

There will be stations for footwashing so a variety of needs may be met, including the ability for couples and families to wash feet together (opening the door for teaching with children) and for same-gendered footwashing. Handwashing is also available.

Combining worship and then moving directly from morning worship into Love Feast is a new format for LCOB. The pastors and deacons are excited and hopeful that it will make it possible for all worshippers to attend.

Here are a few details to help you navigate and prepare for the day:

**\*If you would like to wash feet but are unable to kneel** to do so, please contact Judi Hess (392-0549), so that the deacons can help you participate in this important ritual.

**\*If you are a parent of small children**, as worship transitions from the sanctuary to the FLC, you will be able to pick up your children and immediately move together into the next phase of worship, which will be the meal. After the footwashing portion, children ages 3 and up may go to a special educational worship time all their own. Childcare will be available for children under 3. (Our hope is to be finished in time to get your whole family home in time for naps!)

**\*If you have never attended a Love Feast** or if it has been a long time since you have, please hear our sincerest invitation to you and your family to join us. If you would like more information on why we celebrate in this unique way or about the format (ex. How do you actually wash someone's feet or hands? Can you show me?), please do not hesitate to contact one of the pastors or a deacon. We are happy to help you make this truly meaningful.

We cannot wait to join with you and the global Body of Christ on this special day!

Savor gather  
beautiful  
experience Life  
Love Feast  
invite conversation  
Table journey  
serve explore  
Inspire

**CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS!**

I am looking for a variety of photos that showcase the glory of God's creation to use in worship. Have you snapped a gorgeous shot in your garden, on vacation, or while you are out and about? I want to use it! **Please email your pictures by September 25 to me at cindy.lattimer@gmail.com.** Keep in mind that God's creation is vast – and includes animals and humans as well!



Thank you in advance! – Pastor Cindy

**CELTIC DUO 'SIMPLE GIFTS' PERFORMS**

Two women plus ten instruments equals one good time when **Simple Gifts** takes the stage. Linda Littleton and Karen Hirshon will be our guests at the Starlight Tea Concert on **Saturday, September 17, at 7:00 p.m.**

Drawing on an impressive variety of ethnic folk styles, this award-winning duo plays everything from lively Irish jigs and down-home American reels to hard-driving Klezmer freilachs and haunting Gypsy melodies— spicing the mix with the distinctive rhythms of Balkan dance music, the lush sounds of Scandinavian twin fiddling, and original compositions written in a traditional style. Combining tradition with innovation, Simple Gifts creates some of the finest arrangements in folk music today: swing fiddle creeps into a Romanian dance, spoons show up in an Irish reel, and a traditional West Virginia tune is enhanced by a Turkish drum and Indian shruti box.



Based in the hills of central Pennsylvania, these women play an amazing array of instruments. They switch with ease among fiddle, mandolin, banjo, recorders, bowed psaltery, hammered dulcimer, baritone fiddle, guitar, and percussion.

Simple Gifts is well-known for their outgoing stage presence, which is warm, personal, and accented with humor. These women deliver their music with rare intensity and contagious enthusiasm. It's obvious that Simple Gifts loves the music they play and knows how to share their excitement with the audience.

As with all Starlight Tea concerts, admission is free with a free-will offering taken. Bring a friend—or several!

--Emery DeWitt

**PATHFINDERS' NEWS**

Pathfinders Group activity for September is a **movie & pizza on Sunday, September 25, at 3:00 p.m.** in the Family Life Center. Come enjoy *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* starring Judi Dench, Maggie Smith, Dev Patel and featuring Richard Gere. Following the movie there will be pizza delivered from *A Slice of Brooklyn Pizzeria*. The Pathfinders' treasury will happily accept contributions towards expenses.



## PEACE BEGINS WHERE HUNGER ENDS

What can **2¢ a Meal** do to end hunger? There are two answers to this question – 1) Not much. 2) A great deal.

Every effort to change something needs to start somewhere and usually starts small. In May 2007, a small group of people formed the Hunger and Poverty Group as part of the Outreach Ministry Team and initiated the **2¢ a Meal** program at LCOB. The project, which started out with little cardboard houses where children and adults would deposit 2¢ for every meal they ate, now consists of checks and monetary donations four times a year.

The **2¢ a Meal** money received to date in 2016 is \$4,145.09. One third of that money goes to the Lancaster County Council of Churches Food Bank where \$10.00 will buy 50 pounds of food wholesale from the PA Food Bank. (Our congregation is also supporting the new LCCC Food Hub facility on North Queen Street through a five-year fund drive of \$100,000.)

The LCCC Food Bank is able to provide food for the needy through your generosity and your monetary contributions. You can give of your resources in other ways, too. Every week some volunteers from our congregation gather at the LCCC Food Hub to sort, organize and pack donated food for the many families. According to volunteer Bob Hess, the LCCC Food Bank feeds 100 families per day! Many volunteers are needed to make that possible.

The remaining two thirds of the money from the **2¢ a Meal** project is designated for the Brethren Global Food Crisis Fund. In 2015, LCOB gave \$275,184.00 to the Global Food Crisis Initiative.

Displaced people need a home and need to be fed. They need people who open their hearts and give them a helping hand. Let us move forward together and continue to help those in need. We can make a difference right here in Lancaster County as well as in many areas around the world.

--Otto Schaudel, Hunger and Poverty Group/OMT

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT SERRV

An opportunity to volunteer at SERRV is on **Tuesday, September 20**. 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! Please contact Rus Adsitt at 569-0278 by **September 15** if you plan to attend.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE RESUMES

This fall Lancaster Church of the Brethren celebrates its 12<sup>th</sup> year of **Wednesday Night Live**. **WNL begins on September 14** and continues for ten weeks through November 16. **Everyone gathers in the Family Life Center at 5:00 p.m. for a tasty supper** prepared by a volunteer staff. After the meal, attendees can participate in an interesting **class from 6:15 - 7:15 in Rooms 162-163**.

In the first two weeks, **Chuck Denlinger** will review a provocative new book, **Answering Jihad: A Better Way Forward**, by Nabeel Qureshi, a life-long devout Muslim before becoming a Christian.

**September 14** – Part 1: Historical perspective

**September 21** – Part 2: Contemporary issues

Chuck will provide copies at a low cost to anyone interested. Contact Chuck to secure a copy of the book.

In the next six weeks, **Bob Frick** will present a fascinating series, *Together They Made The Modern American Presidency*, highlighting the contributions of 12 recent presidents:

**September 28** – Introduction & F. D. Roosevelt

**October 5** – H. S. Truman & D. D. Eisenhower

**October 12** – J. F. Kennedy & L. B. Johnson

**October 19** – R. Nixon, G. Ford and J. Carter

**October 26** – R. Reagan & G. H. W. Bush

**November 2** – W. J. Clinton & G. W. Bush

Each week Bob will give a PowerPoint presentation in his unique, lively, and good-humored style.

November 9 and 16 are still in the planning stage.

Wednesday evenings are truly alive at the Lancaster Church of the Brethren. Please come and join in the fun and fellowship.

-- Suzanne Schaudel, meal coordinator

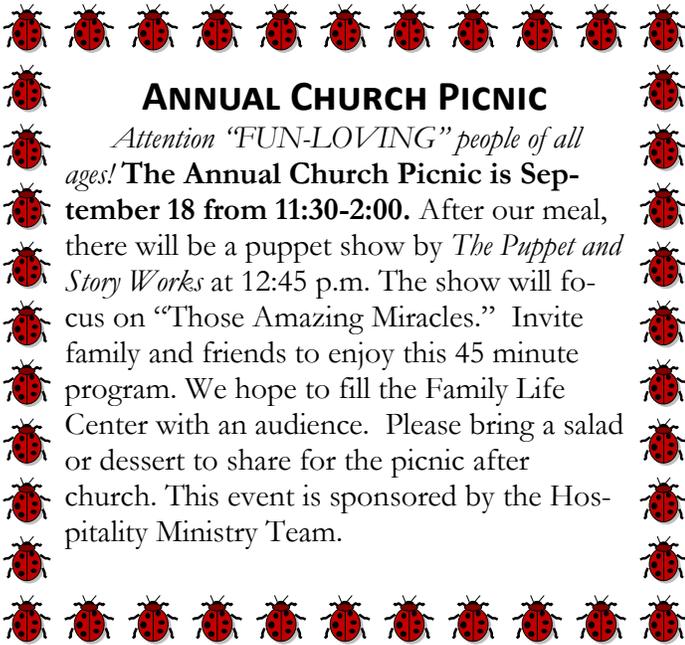
--Chuck Denlinger & Bev Angle, class steering committee

## CLIMBERS' CORNER

Climbers and Homebuilders will gather on **Sunday, September 11, at 4:00 p.m. for a picnic at the Pheasant Ridge Community Building**. Socializing will start at 4:00 p.m. and the picnic at 5:00 p.m.. Please bring your change for the Disaster Relief Auction and a \$1.00 wrapped prize (per person) for bingo.



*Brethren Highlights* is published monthly by the Lancaster Church of the Brethren. The absolute deadline for the October issue is **September 15, 2016**.



## ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

Attention "FUN-LOVING" people of all ages! **The Annual Church Picnic is September 18 from 11:30-2:00.** After our meal, there will be a puppet show by *The Puppet and Story Works* at 12:45 p.m. The show will focus on "Those Amazing Miracles." Invite family and friends to enjoy this 45 minute program. We hope to fill the Family Life Center with an audience. Please bring a salad or dessert to share for the picnic after church. This event is sponsored by the Hospitality Ministry Team.

## CALLING ALL...EVERYONE!

The children's ministry is a growing, thriving, wonderful ministry of LCOB. Being blessed with many such ministries, a lot of hours of prayer, conversations, work, etc. are needed to support and grow them. They can't exist without many, many people joining their talents together. *That's where you come in!* The Children's Ministry of LCOB has a wide variety of places to serve. Some things can be done from home. Some are seasonal. Some take a little time, some a little more. Here is just a sampling of things you can sign up to do:

- Read to the children during the Sunday School hour.
- Sew/Create/Put together *quiet bags* that children can use during worship.
- Greet families as they enter and go over the children's program for the morning.
- Check-in on the Faith Kingdom Sunday School teachers on Sunday mornings.
- Highlight scripts for the Praise Kidz program.
- Help families as they sign in to the nurseries.
- Purchase supplies/food for children's ministry events. (You will be reimbursed.)
- Pray for the children of our congregation and those who visit or will visit.

If you have a desire to help, contact Jamie Nace. She will go over the details and find the right task for you. Thanks for taking the time to consider serving!



## DISASTER RELIEF AUCTION CELEBRATES 40<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

The 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY BRETHREN DISASTER RELIEF AUCTION is being held at the Lebanon Valley Expo Center on **Friday, September 23** and **Saturday, September 24**. All proceeds go to the Glory of God to help fund the Brethren Disaster Relief Ministries. The auction, which is sponsored by the Atlantic Northeast and Southern PA Districts, provides funding for people who have suffered severe damage from storms and flooding this past year.

A great way to support a very worthy cause is to spend a day at the relief auction. You can enjoy good food, renew old acquaintances, volunteer a few hours of your time, and help make a difference in many people's lives.

Check out the auction booklet, which has been placed in your mailbox for the varied events and times. Don't miss the auction in the main hall, which will feature many antiques, paintings and two clocks made and donated by Linford Moyer. These clocks are on display in the LCOB Gathering Place.

**You can help with the "Gift of the Heart" kits in the arena building at 1:00 p.m. on Friday.** And, there will be a special quilt sale and a children's auction on Saturday. More details on all of these events are in your booklet.

**"Run for Relief,"** a 5K Race and Family Fun Run, will be held on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>. See your booklet for registration and information details.

Save the dates and don't miss out on this opportunity to serve and help those that have suffered a hardship.

--Outreach Ministry Team

## UPCOMING WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

**Mark your calendars:**

- ◇ **September 22** – Pie Baking for Disaster Relief Auction – Contact Donna Lunger at 464-4966 if you are able to help.
- ◇ **September 23/24** – Volunteer this year to help at the Disaster Relief Auction – watch bulletins for a list of areas in need of volunteers and contact information. Let's give of our time for a worthy cause.
- ◇ **October 22** – Women's Breakfast with speaker, Sheri Weaver, who was our Interim Pastor last Fall. She will be sharing with us a topic entitled: "Beyond Worry: Embracing God's *More*." Come and enjoy a simple breakfast together and be spiritually enriched.

## FROM THE MODERATOR'S CORNER

Greetings Friends and Associates:

I am penning this brief note to provide a progress update and share some of the highlights on the first half of 2016.

- The ministry teams are coordinating efforts with the Church Board by maintaining a key project list to help keep things moving along. I can assure you that you have a strong team serving at the Lancaster Church of the Brethren.
- Calvin Wenger and Ken Harnish are leading a very active team focusing on membership growth activities as one of the phases of our 20/20 program.
- A Spiritual Renewal Retreat is planned for November. (Please indicate your interest in attending to the call issued in the newsletters.)
- A Stewardship Education program is planned for the second half of the year as requested by members at the Spring Congregational meeting.
- A Cross-Cultural Team is working to create and integrate cross-cultural experiences for our total church family.
- Our major achievement this period was the hiring of Michael Howes as Pastor of Youth and Faith Development.
- Our pastoral team is working together creatively and in a way to serve all members and friends.

I encourage you to attend the Maranatha worship hour if you want to have a unique, inspirational experience. English translations are provided.

Finally, I want to thank all of those folks whose pledges for increased contributions have made the new pastoral position possible. As you begin exercising your pledge intent, please designate your increased contributions to the "Youth Pastor Fund."

--Frank Fox, Moderator of LCOB

## BV NEWS

Look for the **Brethren Village (BV) Auxiliary Sponsorship Drive** brochure in this newsletter. The auxiliary is a vital part of funding many projects at BV. For example: expanding library services for the Rehab Center, HD cameras & improved systems for CCTV and Chapel and a 15 passenger van. Please fill out the brochure and give it to Marilyn Hummel (*box #150*) along with your contribution.

The season's final **Outdoor Wheelchair Walk** at BV is on Thursday, September 22, at 10:30 a.m. Come to the Welcome Center by 10:15 a.m. Contact Marilyn at 295-9121 if you plan to attend.

--Marilyn Hummel, BV Key Person LCOB

## IT TAKES A CONGREGATION

Have you ever found yourself wondering who decides to renovate the sanctuary, who plans the Lawn Party, and who decides to raise monies for various projects such as the Lancaster County Council of Churches Food Hub?

The answer to all of these questions and many other questions is **your fellow church members**. Yes, it is everyone who volunteers their gifts of time and talents to serve the mission of the church. In simple terms ***IT TAKES A CONGREGATION!***

The Church is made up of multiple Ministry Teams. These teams meet regularly to discuss issues applicable to their area of responsibility. Each Ministry Team has a Chair and an Assistant Chair who attend Church Board meetings and submit items for action. The Chair and Assistant Chair serve a three-year term with the option of a second-term nomination. All Chairs and Assistant Chairs are approved to be placed on the slate by the Church Board and then voted on by the congregation at the Fall Congregational Business Meeting. The Leadership Search Team's function is to fill all vacant positions for the slate prior to fall meeting.

If you have a talent or gift that you feel would be useful to this congregation, if you are interested in being considered for an available opening, or if you want to recommend someone for a position, please contact a member of the Leadership Search Team. A member of the team can share what responsibilities are involved.

Please give prayerful consideration to what gifts you or someone you know might have to offer. The team would love to see your name on the list of those being considered for nomination.

--Barb Morrow, Acting Chair of the LST

### Leadership Search Team

Jack Bryer	Barb Morrow	Fern Bucher
Grace Cox	Lois Shenk	Clem Rosenberger
Myrl Greiner		

*Many of us have multiple gifts and talents we can use. All of us are busy and have many things that pull us in different directions. But the work of the church is critical and needs each one of us.*

## PMT ENERGY TIP

Heating, ventilating and air-conditioning systems can waste electricity if they aren't properly maintained. Change filters and have your unit serviced on a regular basis.



## THANK YOU, LCOB

We want to thank everyone for all your prayers and concerns during Phil's recent surgery and recovery. Phil has had a smooth recovery for which we are so grateful. We wish to thank the Wednesday prayer group, the deacon body, Calvin for his enjoyable visits and wonderful prayers, and once again, our caring congregation.

--Phil and Gloria Myers

David and I wanted to thank everyone in the congregation for their love, prayers and support over the past year and a half. Although our mission to serve in Eleuthera with Bahamas Methodist Habitat for two years was cut a bit short, we know God has been at work in us and through us during our stay. We left to serve knowing God was in charge and we returned feeling His present and guiding hand. David returned to the US in April at the request of Camp Swatara to fill in as an interim grounds and maintenance manager. I returned at the end of May once our spring crop of sweet corn was harvested and the BMH summer staff was in line to arrive to serve for the summer months. Currently, we are both living and serving with Camp Swatara. The summers here are busy with youth, families and rental groups coming to refresh, grow, play and learn in the wilderness. We hope to share more with the congregation in the future about our experiences. Thank you for your continued prayers as we follow and lead, as we struggle and celebrate, and as we miss those we left and re-embrace those we return home to see. For now, Camp Swatara is providing us with a place to live. Because cell phone service here is spotty, at best, we can be reached in the evening at the Camp Swatara phone number at extension 117. (However, I would suggest not leaving a message there.)

--In Joy and Peace, Linda and David Byers

I would like to thank the church family for all prayers and concerns during my stay in the hospital and rehabilitation especially prayer breakfast deacons especially Calvin, Cindy, and Mo and Rachel.

--Allen Mellinger

We would like to thank all of the dear and wonderful people from the Wednesday Morning Prayer Group, the Undershepherds, the Prayer Line, Calvin, Jeff and many friends for their prayers and concerns during a challenging year. It is and continues to be a long road back for John. The Lyme disease bacteria attacked his auto-immune system so he's now struggling with Lupus. The meds are allowing him to walk at times without a cane, but the neuropathy in his feet, intense pain in his muscles and joints and fatigue remain. He is thankful for a glimmer of hope for brighter tomorrows. We are both thankful for God's gifts to our doctors and for God's gifts to you our church family. Your concern, love and hugs are heartwarming.

--John and Audrey Martin

***Become A Supporter***  
*of this Annual Event sponsored by the*  
***Spiritual Renewal Committee***  
*Seeking First the Kingdom*

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution  
at the following support level:

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Philip the Evangelist** level (\$200 & above)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ **Timothy the Evangelist** level (\$100-\$199)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ **Woman at the Well** level (up to \$99) \*

\*The Samaritan woman at the well is sometimes called "the first evangelist" in the New Testament. ***"Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?"*** John 4:28-29 NIV

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Lancaster Church of the Brethren with *Seeking First the Kingdom* on the memo line.

Mail check, along with this form to:

Lancaster Church of the Brethren  
 1601 Sunset Avenue  
 Lancaster, PA 17601

Or

Put in Mailbox #29

## ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

September 2016

9:00 - 9:45 Sunday Mornings

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

**The Chapel Bible Study Group** meets in the chapel. In September the class will explore the sovereign nature of God as seen in the books of *Isaiah*, *Hebrews*, and *Revelation*. The focus will be on how the prophet Isaiah used the reign of God over the whole world as a peaceful kingdom, a mountain of God, the foundation of the earth, and a sign of everlasting covenant. The Brethren publication, [A Guide for Biblical Studies](#) is used. Teachers will be **Al Cott**, **Bob Frick**, and **Calvin Wenger**.

The **class of young married couples**, led by Linda Husted in Room 170, will resume September 11. The teacher in September will be **John Byers**. The lessons will be guided by Robert Wolgemuth's book, [The Most Important Place on Earth: What a Christian Home Looks Like and How to Build One](#). All are welcome to attend.

The **Connections** class is a casual conversation group meeting in Room 200 for coffee. In September the class will discuss the new book, [Jesus > Religion \(Jesus is Greater Than Religion\)](#) by Jefferson Bethke. This study highlights the difference between teeth-gritting and grace, law and love, performance and peace, despair and hope. In this multi-media study you'll discover the real Jesus, who beckons you beyond the props of false religion.

The **Maranatha** ministry offers an adult Sunday School class in Spanish and English, taught by **Arelis Sable**. Further details are available from her.

The **Thoughtful Life Class**, meeting in rooms 162-163, features resource persons who lead stimulating discussions in a variety of topics. In September:

**September 4** – **Dr. Richard Newton**, Asst. Prof. of Religious Studies at E-town College, will conclude our 3-week series on Racism and the Church. His research focuses on the anthropology of scriptures – sacred and secular, ancient and modern, written and unwritten. He curates *Sowing the Seed: Fruitful Conversations in Religion, Culture, and Teaching*, and hosts the podcast *Broadcast Seeding*.

**September 11 & 18** – **Chuck Denlinger** will review a new book, [Answering Jihad: A Better Way Forward](#) by Nabeel Qureshi. (*Chuck will provide copies at low cost to anyone interested. To secure your copy, contact him.*)  
*September 11* – Part 1: Historical perspectives and *September 18* – Part 2: Contemporary issues.

**September 25** – **Al Hansell** and **Alix Sable**, co-chairs of our Cross Cultural Connections Committee, will begin a 2-week series on this concern. People are often uncomfortable with ethnic, cultural, and racial differences and don't think of them as assets in the church. Yet there are so many gifts that come to us when we accept and appreciate our differences. Al and Alix will make a PowerPoint presentation and review the paper, *On Becoming a Multi-Ethnic Church*, adopted by Annual Conference in 2007. They will explore the results of the 2015 merger of the *Maranatha Fellowship* with the Lancaster church, and ask how we are feeling about that. Scripture reference: *1 Corinthians 15*.

## THANK YOU FROM THE MEPA MISSION TEAM

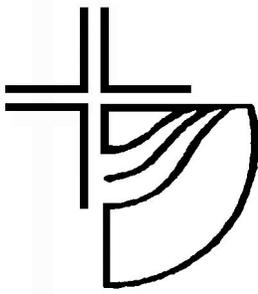
We praise God for the Lancaster Church of the Brethren! THANK YOU for your prayerful concern, generous donations and words of encouragement. The 2016 MEPA Mission was a big success! The MEPA trip to Altamira, Puerto, Dominican Republic was a blessing.

After presenting the VBS with the use of the puppets in six different churches, we ministered to approximately 180 children. We praise God—around 50 children committed their lives to Jesus. During our door to door Evangelism, we had three adults and one adolescent accept Jesus as their Savior.

MEPA distributed 150 hygiene kits and visited a nursing home. This home is run by Pastor Franklyn Royer. There was a volunteer doctor who was preparing one of the residents for the amputation of a foot due to gangrene. These elderly folks have been abandoned by their children, either in hospitals or on the streets. We brought hygiene kits, adult pampers, a pair of crutches, and a walker.

We are in the process of beginning to recruit volunteers for our MEPA trip next year. Even as we do these things to bless others, we in turn come back very blessed after seeing people's response to God's Word. To God be the Glory.

--Pastor Alix Sable, Member of the MEPA Team



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**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**

Monday - Thursday  
8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  
Friday  
8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY  
WORSHIP SERVICES**

8:00 a.m. Chapel  
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)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

9:00 a.m. Children & Adults

The deadline for submitting  
newsletter items is the 15th  
of the previous month.

**OUR STAFF**

**Jeffrey B. Rill**  
Senior Pastor  
**Cindy E. L. Lattimer**  
Associate Pastor  
**J. Calvin Wenger**  
Pastor of Caregiving  
**Alix Sable**  
Associate Pastor  
**Michael Howes**  
Pastor of Youth & Faith Development  
**Emery A. DeWitt**  
Director of Music  
**Margaret Marsch**  
**Jeanne Heck**  
Organists  
**Jamie Nace**  
Director of Children's Ministry  
Director of Children's Music  
**Tiffany L. Dickel**  
Church Administrator  
Newsletter Editor  
**Linda Harnish**  
Secretary  
**Troy Nace**  
Custodian