

Indian Creek Church of the Brethren
821 Main Street, Harleysville, PA 19438

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Sunday Schedule

9:00 am – Sunday School
10:00 am – Worship

Summer Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Church Staff

Mark E. Baliles
Pastor

Linda Furman
Administrative Assistant

Don Ziegler
Custodian

Kathy Moyer
Wee Folk Director/Teacher
Naomi Piatek
Wee Folk Assistant Teacher

Risking Hope—A Personal Story

Two weeks ago, amidst our Sunday teaching series on "Risking Hope," we looked at a somewhat obscure story from the life of the prophet, Jeremiah. The nation of Judah had been invaded by Nebuchadnezzar; young Judean men—the strongest and brightest—had been carried off to Babylon; the capitol city of Jerusalem was surrounded by the enemy army; and Jeremiah was imprisoned inside the city by Judah's "puppet king" for being too negative about the nation's chances to emerge victorious from this conflict.

Confined in the courtyard of the palace guard, Jeremiah was approached by a cousin, offering to sell him a parcel of land outside the city—land which was at that moment under Babylonian occupation. In obedience to God's leading, and as an expression of his confidence in the person and promises of God, Jeremiah did the unthinkable. He bought the land.

At the same time that I was sharing this story, my family was going through its own discernment about buying property. As many of you know, Reba and I have been exploring the possibility of buying a house that would be suitable for having my parents live with us while we personally care for their needs. Throughout this process, we have been diligent in trying to listen to God and to each other. On July 8th, we entered into a contractual agreement to purchase a house in Harleysville. Three days later, dad went into the hospital, severely weakened by a sudden onset of pneumonia.

There were moments in the days that followed in which we didn't know if dad was going to recover. What did this uncertainty about the future mean for purchasing the house? Again we sought God, and listened. Again we talked with each other, and listened. In the end, we risked hope. Our hope was not tied primarily to dad's recovery. Our hope ultimately was in God, who would remain faithful and could see us through whatever the future held.

Now that dad is home from the hospital, need for care has increased, and we often feel that this move can't happen soon enough. We still don't know all that the future holds. We know that the road ahead will not always be easy. But our hope is in God. By His grace, we will trust in Him—no matter what.

- Pastor Mark (your partner in the journey)

Church member SPOTLIGHT



Spotlight on Bryce & Dottie Mininger
by Darlene Ziegler

Please tell us the story of how you started coming to Indian Creek Church of the Brethren:

Bryce & Dottie: We were looking for a new church. My mom (Dottie's) encouraged us to attend Indian Creek for Christmas Eve Service 2014. Our two children, Drew and Corrine, had gone to Wee Folk and attended Vacation Bible School years ago, so we agreed. During that service we felt a sense of love and warmth that drew us back again and again. We loved the music and the people.

What do you like best about Indian Creek Church of the Brethren?

Bryce: I like the ability to harmonize when I sing. The music and the choir gives me the ability to do just that. I appreciate Pastor Mark's encouragement and modeling of sharing each other's burdens.

Dottie: It feels like home. I grew up in a small Brethren Church very similar to Indian Creek. I like being a part of a community that cares about others and gives freely to each other . . . outside its doors to the community and beyond.

What is your occupation and what do you enjoy about it? Or if retired, what was your occupation?

Bryce: I'm a building contractor. I like managing the process of creating new space to help others whether it be at work or at home or at their place of worship . . . to make life better and more comfortable and more efficient.

Dottie: Through the years I have mainly been a stay-at-home mom. I even home schooled Corrine through high school. Besides that, I have been a Dietitian, Food Service Director, and work in the office at home. The greatest joy has been raising my children and watching them grow to love the Lord. I love being a part of bringing people together around the table to enjoy each other and food. I especially enjoy helping those who suffer with challenges when it comes to the most basic need in life; eating and nourishing our bodies.

Who has been the greatest influence on your Christian life and why?

Bryce: I don't really have one person in particular. I have been surrounded by a Christian community all my life and different ways of modeling a Christ following focus have stood out to me as important. The ones I could relate to and made sense for me are the ones that mean the most. Pieces of this model have come from many different persons.

Dottie: Some of the people from my home church were such great role models. They took time out to spend with the youth. They were open and honest in sharing God's word, the rights and wrongs of life. I looked up to them. They were living examples of Christ-like living.

Are you willing to share something about yourself that is a surprise to most folks?

Bryce: My winter time passion is sledding. I have a large collection of vintage sleds, the best ones being Flexible Flyer sleds from before 1950. I don't just collect them. My goal is to have my own iced sledding track for

those rare occasions around here when we have a prolonged period of sub-freezing weather and at least 6" of snow. I share my excitement by inviting others to join me or showing them my sledding Go pro videos of my own adventures.

Dottie: I was a member of my High School Rifle team. We ranked in the top 10 nationally. I won awards in many matches. My average score for 4 positions was 398 out of 400. I had sharp-shooter status. I suppose I could have been a sniper, but couldn't shoot at anything but a bullseye target on paper!

What are some of your hobbies or things you like to do when you have free time?

Bryce: My hobbies include golf, caring for a large vegetable garden and sledding.

Dottie: I love the beach. Cooking for crowds of people. Love photographing God's creation and being with my children.

Who is the most important person in your life?

Bryce: My wife and kids give me the reason to work hard and I enjoy sharing with them the things that that enables us to have.

Dottie: My family.

Name one thing on your bucket list:

Bryce: I would like to travel to Europe at some point to see the architecture and landscape of the "old country."

Dottie: Having Grandchildren to spoil.

What is your favorite food?

Bryce: Fresh seafood caught by my son Drew or my wife's Funny Cake.

Dottie: Anything my Grandmother made.

What do you think the best thing about heaven will be?

Bryce: Heaven for me is a place of togetherness without conflict or stress or pain.

Dottie: Overwhelming beauty, warmth, love, and freedom from suffering.

The following recipe comes from the Zigler Kitchen Sampler, a handmade cookbook of recipes from 1966—2017 put together by Janet Comings from the kitchen of Zigler Hall, located at the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, MD. Janet wanted at least a few of the recipes used there to survive them, now that Zigler Hall has been closed. Special thanks to Pat Bub for donating the sampler to us!

Charlotte's Famous Coleslaw



1 medium head of cabbage, chopped
½ cup chopped carrot (only ½ a larger carrot)
1 T. celery seed, sprinkled over cabbage

Mix together:

3 c. mayonnaise
1 c. white vinegar
½ c. water
2 c. sugar

Pour mixture over cabbage, carrot and celery seed. Stir well. Let sit in refrigerator before serving. This is especially good with fish and pork BBQ.



Put love in the doing

To show great love for God and our neighbor we need not do great things. It is how much love we put in the doing that makes our offering something beautiful for God.

~Mother Teresa





VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

by Donna Parcell

Children and adults were excited to become "galactic starveyors" during this year's Bible school. We learned about God's amazing creation, how "sin messed everything up", and how God restored our relationship with Him through His Son Jesus. We learned about how amazing our solar system is, and how even more amazing the God who created it is. God cares about each and every one of us even when we mess up.



Sarah Parcell did a great job of leading the opening and closing programs, and getting the kids excited about the day. Pastor Mark rocked the music (pun intended), and was even heard rapping. The children loved learning the new songs, and also enjoyed singing old favorites.



Each day's theme was presented through the crazy antics of the energetic yet misguided "Cosmo". Cosmo wore a giant pink flamingo inner tube and carried a pink umbrella in preparation for a meteor shower. Cosmo also frequently used an air horn, which caused much laughter.

Pastor Mark, Jeanette Steward, and Sherry Ziegler did a great job teaching the Bible stories. Space themed crafts were made under the expert guise of Reba Baliles. Our favorite was the preschoolers jet packs! Sarah and Donna Parcell led a science experiment teaching the children how to set off rockets. The last day "Neptune Nick" taught sessions in the Star Lab, showing the children the beauty of the night sky. Recreation is always a blast, especially the last day which uses generous amounts of water! And of course no Bible school would be complete without Jenn Alderfer and her awesome kitchen crew and their amazing snacks!

Special thanks to our many youth and young adult helpers! Tori Detweiler, Issac Houck, Brydon Bateman, Grace Moyer, Helen Spiegel, Caleb Moyer, Emma Kratz, Micah Kratz, Lauren Ziegler, Noah Baliles,

Sarah Parcell, and Trish Smith. (Trish came as a sub one day and had so much fun she kept coming back!) It's great seeing the youth group and youth alumni doing such a great job working with the kids.



There was an average of around 100 in attendance each day, and we collected nearly \$1,000 for Keystone Opportunity Center - almost double our goal! It was a great week and would not be possible without the help of many. Thanks to all who contributed time, supplies, snacks, and especially to those who brought their children! It was an amazing week!



Are You God?

Joe was asked by a neighbor to drive her son to a hospital. Although he had other things planned, Joe didn't know how to say no. So he put the child in the car and started on the 50-mile journey. Suddenly the boy turned to him and shyly asked, "Are you God?" Startled, Joe said no. The boy continued, "I heard Mom asking God for some way to get me to a doctor. If you are not God, do you work for him?" Joe replied, "I guess so, sometimes. And now that you ask, I'll be doing a lot more of it."

~First Church of God
Cambridge Springs, PA

Senior Adult Fellowship

by Bob Lane

Each month Indian Creek Deacons host a one-hour get together at Peter Becker Community (3rd Friday of each month from 2—3:00 p.m.) primarily for Indian Creek members who reside at PBC. Normally the gathering is in the Activity Room, however for July we had to move to the PBC Chapel because of the need for more seating and space for drums and a piano!

Trent Detweiler, as part of his fund-raising for the youth work camp trip, provided a certificate good for a personal concert. The certificate was purchased at the church auction and donated to this use with Trent's agreement. Trent provided an additional treat by bringing his girlfriend Ellie Kohler along.

Trent played and sang a nice selection of music, playing his Ukulele, drums and the grand piano. With each song he provided a little history of the song and his personal thoughts about it. It was obvious he had put a lot of thought and work into preparing the playlist.



Two songs were extra special – the song he chose for and sang to Ellie, and his vocal of "I Did It My Way" (piano accompaniment by Ellie).

Our next gathering is on Friday, August 18th at 2:00 p.m.



THE MISSION SERVICE FUND by Carol-Joyce Anton

This month I am going to talk about the Missions Fund listed on your envelope. Indian Creek does not have a missionary that we regularly sponsor, so the funds designated for this are put in our Mission Service Fund.

The Mission Service Fund was established in 2002 by the Leadership Team (at that time known as the Executive Committee). The fund is intended to provide financial assistance to any member or family of Indian Creek, who becomes involved in a Christian Mission and/or Christian service program, approved by the Executive Committee. The person or persons put in a request to the Leadership Team which then approves the awarding of assistance and the amount to be given. The fund is available for any member whose mission expenses meet its purpose and guidelines.

Tax deductible contributions cannot be made to a specific individual, but may be designated to the Mission Fund on your giving envelopes.

Throughout the years, the funds have helped several individuals at the church. In October of 2013, funds were approved for Sarah Parcell to be used in 2014 for expenses to Southeast Asia and India. In November of 2013 funds were approved for Erin Baliles for travel expenses to China, where she taught English for 6 months in 2014. Donna Parcell was also given funds for trips to Nigeria.

Funds were also provided to Maria Serino for her recent travels for training in counseling victims of human trafficking.

The fund was established to help defray travel expenses so that those wishing to serve the Lord can do so without exhausting their own budgetary requirements.

The fund has not been used lately, so if you know of someone from the church family who is planning to go on a mission trip, please let them know that they can apply for assistance from this fund by making a request to the Leadership Team.



On July 15th, Sunday school children enjoyed a cool time in Don & Darlene's pool. The afternoon was a real splash!



August Birthdays

- 6 Linda Greiner, Helen Schlegel
- 12 Letitia Grande
- 14 Jadon Bateman, Al Leonhardt,
Nancy Scherfel, and Doug Ziegler
- 15 Jeremy Steward
- 20 Esther Kishbaugh, Roy Feiss
- 21 Chuck Kane
- 22 Jazmine May
- 26 Lance Clemmer
- 29 Pat Bub, Grace Moyer
- 30 Joanne Force
- 31 Herb Warriner



Early September Birthdays

- 3 Carol-Joyce Anton
- 4 Art Derstine, Herman Baliles

If we are missing *your* birthday, please let the Church Office know! We want to include everybody in our monthly birthday notice.



Special Dates to Remember!

Saturday, August 5

Youth return from Work Camp

Friday, August 18 @ 2:00 p.m.

Sr. Adult Fellowship in PBC Craft Room

Sunday, August 20 to Tuesday, August 22

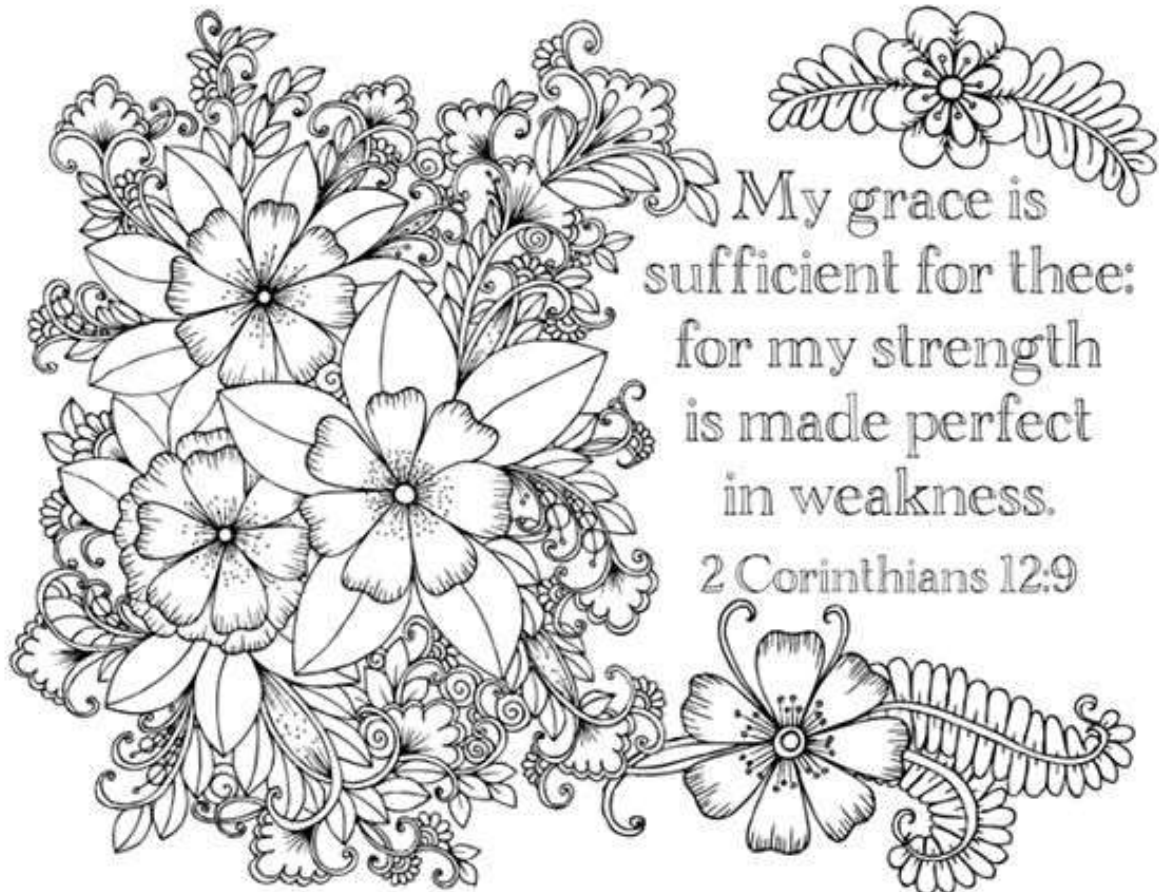
ANE Women's Camp @ Camp Swatara

Women's Fellowship Out-to-Breakfast

O'Grady's in Souderton @ 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, August 29

Jubilee Breakfast @ 8:00 a.m.



My grace is sufficient for thee:
for my strength is made perfect in weakness.

2 Corinthians 12:9