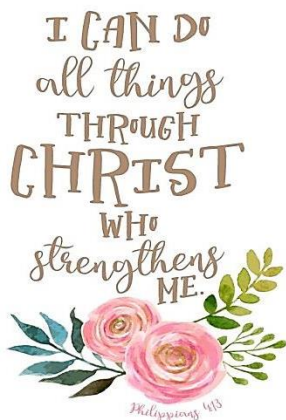


Indian Creek Church of the Brethren
821 Main Street, Harleysville, PA 19438

INSIDE...

Deacon Spotlight
VBS – Babylon Adventures
Birthdays, and More!



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

Toward a Compelling Vision

(from the COB Compelling Vision Working Group and Process Team)

The Church of the Brethren stands at a crossroads. Recent decades have been defined by paralyzing conflict. In response..., at the 2017 Annual Conference, the delegate body affirmed a report from the Leadership Team and the Council of District Executives regarding “The Authority of Annual Conference and Districts regarding the Accountability of Ministers, Congregations, and Districts.” That report concluded with this assertion: “To stay on the journey together, it is also crucial that the church discern the compelling vision that this body of Christ is called to pursue.”

Denominational and district leadership have worked together to call two teams, the Compelling Vision Working Group and the Compelling Vision Process Team, to work collaboratively to guide the denomination through a process of conversation and discernment in an effort to arrive at a compelling vision rooted in our shared commitment to live as Christ’s disciples. It is an invitation to place our trust in God’s Spirit and engage in a visioning process to discern what God is calling us to do together with the fervent hope that our commitment to one another and to serving our God as the body of Christ might be renewed through this shared journey and a sense of shared mission....

Conversations began at Annual Conference this summer, will continue in districts and with various constituency groups through the fall and winter, and culminate at Annual Conference in 2019. We are committed to engaging as many people as possible in the process, providing opportunities for individuals to give voice to their passions and concerns, listen to one another, and work together to identify common threads and themes that might point to a shared and compelling vision.

As we embark on this journey together, it is our prayer that: our relationships with one another will be strengthened and deepened, transcending points of disagreement; we will be able to celebrate the ongoing presence and activity of God’s Spirit at work among us; we will be open to what God is calling us to do together as Christ’s disciples; the vision ultimately articulated will lay claim to our hearts and our minds, our imaginations and our spirits, shaping our identity and inspiring our ministry at the congregational level, the district level, and the denominational level; and we will wholeheartedly embrace the challenge set before us by that vision, affirming contextual creativity as we actively seek to embody that vision.

We hope you will join us on this journey, engaging in the conversations as they occur.

Shared by Pastor Mark (Your partner in the journey)

SPOTLIGHT ON CARL BASKIN

by Gene & Theresa Wampler

Two words which describe Carl Baskin are “cheerful” and “considerate”. In his ninety-first year, widowed and with severe arthritis, he is mostly homebound. So he enjoys contacts with friends and family and the occasional visitor.

Carl is the second generation of Estonian immigrants and is the middle generation of a very musical family. He is the oldest of ten siblings who lived with their grandparents during the depression. For thirty years his grandfather Levy played violin with the Philadelphia Orchestra. Now his own grandson is a semi-professional musician.

Carl did not attend High School. Instead he bought a second hand guitar, enlisted in the navy and served in the submarine corps. It turned out that the guitar was a classic Martin and the company later offered to buy it from him for \$1,300. Instead he has given it to his son who plays it semi-professionally. His musical interests shifted to the country dulcimer and he enjoys old time gospel music. He began hand crafting dulcimers and organized a group of players who still meet in the Indian Creek Church.

After the Navy he attended Temple University High School and completed the program in one year. The summer before entering Eastern College on the GI Bill he married Doris and together they raised three sons. After college he took a job with Eastman Kodak Company which offered to send him to Rochester University for an engineering degree.

That summer he had a conversion moment with an evangelist at a Southern Baptist revival service. Mr. Bartle, then treasurer at Eastern College, encouraged him to attend Eastern Seminary and offered a full

scholarship to pursue a Master’s Degree in Church History. There his classmates included Mennonite Historian John Ruth and popular evangelist Tony Campolo.

Carl’s first pastorate in 1961 was in Honesdale, Pennsylvania where he was hired by two small Baptist churches. It was a lot of work but he loved it. He later served as the Youth pastor for the Catholic Church in Philadelphia. Leaving Philadelphia he was ordained in the Church of the Brethren and served the Skippack Congregation.

Doris and Carl began attending Indian Creek Church after they retired. Carl still lives in the same home in Skippack where they raised their three sons.

Your Gifts of Love

When you share Christ through your gifts of love, not only do you enter the process through which God blesses your life, but you also become the means of grace through which God blesses someone else.

In other words, you allow God to use you to meet someone’s need or answer someone’s prayer. You become a blessing, are blessed in return, and can, therefore, be a blessing again. It’s a cycle that God wants to continue in your life.

First Presbyterian Church
Goshen, IN



Adventures in Babylon

Written By Jen and Samantha Alderfer



Vacation Bible School was a ROARING success this year. We started our program with our annual kick-off on Sunday, July 8th. Hotdogs and yummy sides were served and 108 community and congregation members attended. We opened with a Bible story and introduced one of our main characters for the week - Daniel. We also introduced our service project with Keystone Opportunity Center and planned our spirit days. Monday morning was *crazy sock day* and we continued learning about Daniel and his journey in Babylon. Our play featured our zanny photographer - Ida Know. Tuesday was *tie-dye day*, and our kiddos really got into the spirit. The festivities continued with the favorite snack of the week - Shadrack, Meshack and Abendigo in the fiery furnace (teddy grahams on top of an éclair with gummy flames). Wednesday was *PJ day* and the Rec gang led some super fun games. We wrapped up the week with *crazy hat day* and making some artsy mosaics and planting flowers during craft. By the end of the week, all of the kids were getting into all of our amazing songs and finished the afternoon off with a rousing rendition of "Stand Firm".



Thanks to all of our amazing teachers and helpers that made the week a success!! We had around 80 children in attendance for the week and 25 helpers, bringing our attendance total to 105 attendees. We also were able to create approximately 178 birthday and snack bags for Keystone Opportunity Center. They were super pleased to receive such a fun and necessary resource for our community. We also were able to donate 450 dollars for other outreach projects Keystone provides.

Overall, we had a wonderful week filled with fun, laughter, and most importantly, the story of how God works through us and how he worked through the people in Babylon. He is always with us when things change, when we need help, when we are afraid, when we are lonely, and when we are thankful. Thanks again to everyone for your support and prayers! Weeks like this have such a powerful impact on the lives of children in the church and community!!!





Birthdays This Month

August Birthdays

- 6 Linda Greiner, Helen Schlegel
- 12 Letitia Grande, Eleanor Tanzler
- 14 Jadon Bateman, Al Leonhardt,
Nancy Scherfel, 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
- 9 Tim Force

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

Hidden Treasurers

A young man left home to be on his own. His mother tearfully said goodbye to him and gave him a Bible with the admonition that if he read it every day, it would keep him strong.

After a time, when things had not gone well for the young man and he had run out of money, he returned home.

His mother asked him if he had read his Bible when he was gone. He confessed that he had not.

“Son, if you had read your Bible, you would not have been hungry.” She opened up to Psalm 23, and there was a \$20 bill. She turned to John 3, and there was a \$10 bill. She had placed money throughout the book. If only he had read his bible . . .

That was only money but there are real “hidden treasurers” waiting for us all in God’s treasured Word.



Special Dates to Remember!

Saturday, August 4
Men’s Breakfast, Franconia Heritage

Monday, August 6
Dulcimer Practice at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 11 at 8:30 a.m.
Women’s Breakfast Out @ Roy Ann’s

Friday, August 17 at 2:00 p.m.
Senior Adult Fellowship at PBC

Sunday, August 19 to Tuesday, August 21
Women’s Fellowship at Camp Swatara
Private Use, F. Hall/Kitchen in use 3-8 p.m.

Tuesday, August 28
Jubilee Breakfast

