

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

**INSIDE...**

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- Jewelry Night Highlights
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- Birthdays, Poems 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 an Understanding of Anointing***

*Are you hurting? Pray. Do you feel great? Sing. Are you sick? Call the church leaders together to pray and anoint you with oil in the name of the Master. Believing-prayer will heal you, and Jesus will put you on your feet. And if you've sinned, you'll be forgiven—healed inside and out.*

– James 5:13-15 (The Message)

These words written by James form the basis of our Brethren understanding and practice of anointing. I have always appreciated the way it is framed. Are you suffering? Are you experiencing some difficulty or hardship? Turn to God. Tell him about it through prayer. Are you filled with joy? Are you experiencing the goodness of life? Turn to God. Tell him about it in praise.

Is your burden especially heavy? Is your illness especially serious? Does your circumstance, your need, your broken relationship, or even your own failure seem especially hopeless? Remember, you are not alone. Call for your church family. Together, place yourself and your burden in God's hands. Together, ask that your faith be made stronger. Ask for forgiveness of sin. Ask for healing and wholeness according to God's grace and wisdom.

The Church of the Brethren has taken this Scripture seriously and practiced anointing for many generations. To clarify, anointing is not a substitute for appropriate medical or mental health treatment. It is not a shortcut to bypass personal or relationship counseling or the hard work of personal, spiritual, or relational growth. Nor is it "Last Rites." Rather, we offer anointing as an experience of spiritual renewal, through which God often brings healing, arouses hope, communicates forgiveness, and bestows peace.

Often, anointing is experienced privately, with only the pastor and a few deacons coming alongside of the person requesting it. Sometimes family members are inviting to participate. Occasionally, we offer anointing in the presence of our gathered community of faith, as we plan to do next Sunday.

If you have further questions about anointing, or if you ever feel that God is prompting you to request anointing, please let me know. You can also find further information in a brochure on anointing in the hallway literature rack.

- Pastor Mark (Your partner in the journey)

# Church DEACONS



Spotlight on Lon & Michelle Clemmer  
by Larry May

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

Lon: Well you see some 30 years ago I met this really fine Freed girl.....the rest as they say is “history”.

Michelle: I was born and raised at Indian Creek Church of the Brethren. I have fond memories of Sunday school, Youth Club and Senior High activities.

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

Lon: The welcoming, caring congregation, the rich history we have to share and the fact that we have members that cherish the foundation and heritage we have to offer. And it's a real nice place to worship too!

Michelle: I love the family atmosphere! I look forward to connecting with the many faces each week.

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

Lon: Auctioneer and Real Estate Sales Associate and it is rewarding to assist clients by providing solutions for what is usually a stressful and transitional time in their lives.

Michelle: Administrative Assistant at Merck & Co., Inc. I enjoy the day-to-day surprises that come up that make the job interesting.

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

Lon: Grandparents, Parents, Sunday School Teachers, Camp Counselors, Co-Workers.

Michelle: My grandparents. Both sets of grandparents had a strong faith which I believe is the true foundation of our family today. They truly loved the Lord and I'm so thankful for them.

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

Lon: I really prefer not be above the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of a building when we travel on vacation, I don't really like heights!

Michelle: I don't enjoy shopping (God blessed us with boys that do not prefer to go shopping for a reason) and I do enjoy heights! Reading Lon's response made me giggle since we parasailed on our honeymoon.

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

Lon: I love to bow hunt, spend time up in Susquehanna County with family and friends.

Michelle: I enjoy spending time with our boys, their girlfriends and friends whether it's a weekend away at the mountains or a dinner out.

**Who is the most important person in your life?**

Lon: God, my wife and our children.

Michelle: My husband. I cherish our time together and look forward to growing old with him.

**Name one thing on your bucket list.**

Lon: I would like to see Alaska.

Michelle: I would love to go to Tahiti.

**What is your favorite food?**

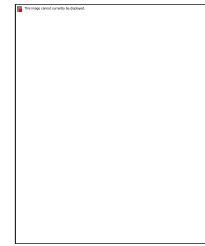
Lon: Beef and Seafood.

Michelle: Seafood (scallops, Chilean sea bass or tuna)

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

Lon: Peace, happiness, comfort and eternal life.

Michelle: Being reunited with the many loved ones that have passed and to see everyone healthy again.



**Church of the Brethren**

May 8, 2017

Dear members of Indian Creek Church of the Brethren,

Three years ago, we sent a letter requesting prayer for the 276 girls and young women abducted by Boko Haram insurgents from their school in Chibok, Nigeria. This group included both Muslim and Christian girls, but the majority was from the Nigerian Church of the Brethren (Ekklesiyar Yan’uwa a Nigeria, known as EYN). Together with these victims’ families and with all our EYN sisters and brothers, we have been mourning and praying for these young women’s fates.

Your congregation was asked to remember in prayer one student by name, Na’omi Yahonna. We can report with thanksgiving that she has been released, together with 81 other Chibok students. We thank God for her release and ask you to continue in prayer for Na’omi, for her physical and emotional healing and for an eventual successful reintegration into her home community.

Let us also lift up to God the hundreds of other victims, from Chibok and elsewhere, of Boko Haram abduction. May we hold these abductees and their families in our hearts.

In the peace and hope of Christ,

Jay Wittmeyer

Executive Director, Global Mission & Service  
Church of the Brethren

## JEWELRY NIGHT

by Kitty Doughty

Our jewelry night was fantastic as usual. We started out with a DVD starring Chonda Pierce, a Christian comedian. She was hilarious and one of the funniest comedians I have ever heard. Prior to the movie, we made our own snack which consisted of popcorn, nuts, M&M's, raisins, various chocolate products, and much more—too many to list.



After the DVD we moved to another section for our jewelry making. As usual, Inga had every piece of charms, beads and everything else you could think of. Some people couldn't get enough (my daughter being one of them) and just kept making more and more. Some of you will remember I never did well making jewelry; I have no style and I get very frustrated. Well I broke the mold—I actually made a necklace! Except I have to admit, Patti picked out the jewels, so you might say I had a lot of help!



## Library Corner

by Linda Furman



We have several **new books** to highlight for you this month. Please stop in our church library and enjoy the variety of books and DVDs we have to offer!

### For Teens:

10 Things for teen girls by Kate Conner

Teen girl, you hear a lot of negative voices out there, voices telling you that you're not beautiful, sexy, smart, or valuable enough. This book is for you and your friends who are ready to hear a new message—one that points you away from the world's wisdom and toward God instead. You are beautiful. You are valuable. You are enough.

### For Children:

The Plans I Have For You by Amy Parker

This book will inspire readers of all ages to dream about their future and to trust that God has great plans for each and every one of us.

Heaven, God's Promise for Me by Anne Lotz

Heaven is a real place where Jesus lives and waits for those He loves to come to Him.

Goodnight Ark by Laura Sassi

It's bedtime on Noah's ark, but the animals can't sleep because of the storm. Two by two, they crowd into Noah's bed, creating a tippy situation! Very sweet story!

Gigi: God's Little Princess by Sheila Walsh

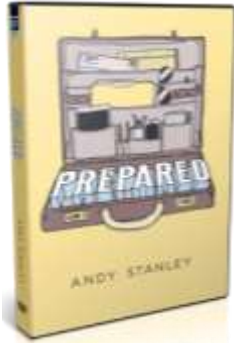
A wonderful discovery for little princesses everywhere, this story will subtly teach girls of their importance and belonging to the King of all kings. (Also see Gigi's stories animated on RightNow Media!)

The Donut Repair Club Helps Out by David Shipp and Laura Shipp Clarke

The Shady Pines Nursing Home needs helpers for their picnic. Drew learns that everyone can be a helper, no matter how young—or old!

## ANDY STANLEY'S SERIES

by Mike Coleman



During the past several weeks, the Sunday school class that meets in the library has been viewing videos by Andy Stanley on the subject of being “PREPARED.” This is a very insightful series on being able to provide an answer when confronted on why I/you believe in God.

For me it has been a very interesting series. Andy is an interesting person and has a compelling manner that draws you into the subject of this as well as his other conference and training series.

It has given me a new insight on how to engage others in broaching the subjects about belief in God. I recommend that you take a look at [RIGHTNOW MEDIA](http://RIGHTNOW MEDIA), an internet Christian resource site offered free through our church. Here you will find Stanley’s messages, as well as many other topics by other authors that are filled with answers to many of today’s question regarding God and church related subjects.

Once you have signed up in the Narthex and followed the email instructions to set up your free account, simply go to your web browser and type, [RIGHTNOW MEDIA.COM](http://RIGHTNOW MEDIA.COM). Then search for Andy Stanley’s series called PREPARED.

**Try it**, you’ll enjoy this site!

## Our Dad

God took the strength of a mountain,  
The majesty of a tree,  
The warmth of a summer sun,  
The calm of a quiet sea,  
The generous soul of nature,  
The comforting arm of night,  
The wisdom of the ages,  
The power of the eagle’s flight,  
The joy of a morning in spring,  
The faith of a mustard seed,  
The patience of eternity,  
The depth of a family need,  
Then God combined these qualities,  
When there was nothing more to add,  
He knew His masterpiece was complete,  
And so, He called it . . .  
Dad.

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### A father’s calming words

~*The Speaker’s Digest*



As a young Frenchman pushed his son’s carriage down the street, the youngster howled with rage. “Please, Bernard, control yourself,” the father said quietly. “Easy there, Bernard, keep calm!”

“Congratulations, monsieur,” said a woman who had been watching. “You know just how to speak to infants—calmly and gently.” Then leaning over the carriage, she said, “So the little fellow’s named Bernard?”

“No, Madame,” corrected the father. “He’s named André. I’m Bernard.”



## **The Importance of Offering Envelopes** by C-J Anton

Last month I explained the use of the line on the offering envelopes “For Building Fund” which is actually used for Capital Improvements and what that meant. This month, I would like to explain the importance of using the offering envelopes for your giving purposes.

There are two main reasons to use the envelopes. The first one is for the benefit of the giver. It allows us to keep an accurate record of each person’s giving so that we can issue a receipt at the end of the year, which is acceptable by the IRS as proof of charitable donations to the church.

Secondly, it also makes sure that your donation is used for the purposes that you, the giver, intends: operating expenses, missionary service (the “For Missions” line), capital improvements (“For Building Fund”), or some other special expense. This is why it is important to complete the envelope information. Once we have issued you envelopes, the number on the envelope is unique for your use and it is not necessary to write your name on the envelope. However, it is important that you put the amount of money you have enclosed in the envelope (be it by check or cash) on the appropriate lines on the envelope. Part of the counter’s job is to double check that the amount inside actually matches the amount listed on the envelope, or to put that amount on the outside if it is not listed. If no line is indicated, any money would be automatically put under church expenses (General Operating Fund). If the counter misses the fact that no number is

listed, I have to call the member and ask them how much was in the envelope. (Not one of my favorite jobs!) All loose money in the offering plates is automatically allocated to the Operating Fund.

The Operating Fund covers all of our general expenses which are listed on page two of the monthly financial report. This includes utilities, denominational donations, salaries of church employees (pastor, administrative assistant, and custodian), and other necessary expenses.

Periodically, during the year, we have special offerings for which we use special offering envelopes, such as the Advent Offering, One Great Hour, etc. For these offerings, you will need to put your envelope number or name on the envelope to get it added to your individual giving list for the year.

However, there are several special funds which we have that people like to donate to throughout the year that are not listed on the weekly offering envelopes, because they come pre-printed and are used by many various churches, so they are not listed. In the future months, I will explain some of these funds, which are listed on page one of the monthly financial reports. These include, but are not limited to: CBYF, Community Outreach, Klein Meetinghouse, Wee Folk Nursery School (which covers all expenses for the nursery school, including salaries for the teachers), Nigeria Crisis Fund, etc. These can change from year to year, depending on what we are involved in or for which we wish to collect money.

One reminder, you may request offering envelopes at any time during the year. Also, you do not have to be a member of the church to request envelopes. We want to be sure that everyone who gives to the Lord’s work has their money going to the place they want it to go. Please feel free to request envelopes if you do not have them. Thank you!

## Guest Speaker, Jay Atlas On Human Trafficking

by Bob Lane

On Sunday May 27<sup>th</sup> Indian Creek Church of the Brethren hosted Jay Atlas, one of the founders of [www.Worthwhilego.org](http://www.Worthwhilego.org). Worthwhile Go is an active fundraising effort, benefiting [www.WorthwhileWear.org](http://www.WorthwhileWear.org). Both organizations exist to reach and restore girls from forced prostitution, and more importantly, help prevent girls from ever entering it. Jay told us about human trafficking and the efforts of him and other friends to raise awareness.

Jay explained the alarmingly simple way predators leverage social media to find young people who are vulnerable. As he explained it, they simply look for social media postings that indicate a person who is having problems at home, with friends, feeling unloved or alienated - and then they slowly start to befriend them. Eventually they have gained the trust of their target at which point a simple vulnerability is exploited and they own the target.

Jay and his friends use walks and bicycling trips to gain attention and support for the cause. Jay has completed three tours thus far totaling over 13,000 miles. Between July and November 2013 he walked from Atlantic City to Los Angeles. The following year he cycled from Seattle to Miami. During the summer of 2015 he again cycled, this time from Moorehead, MN to San Antonio, TX.

On May 22, 2017 Jay started another cycling trip from Portland, ME to Ft Lauderdale - a 2,246 mile journey. He will average 60 miles per day and will complete two "century rides". In

cycling terms, a "century" is a ride of 100 miles in 1 day!

Over \$600 was raised to support the cause. Anyone wishing to support either organization may do so at the web addresses above.



Jay Atlas with everything he will take with him on his Portland to Fort Lauderdale bike ride.



Jay Atlas explaining the logistics of a several thousand mile bike ride.

# Interfaith Hospitality Network in June

by Pamela Bedell

(taken from information given to us  
by Keystone Opportunity Center)

The IHN committee is appreciative of everyone's support and willingness to volunteer their time. By hosting guests this month, we are providing safe, temporary housing and support to the families who are on their path to independence. As we welcome our IHN guests this month, here are some thoughts on the value of this ministry.

How can you help?

- By understanding that when we enter church during the month of June, we are entering the participant's temporary home.
- By seeing beyond stereotypes and putting a human face on the tragedy of homelessness.
- By understanding that participants are going through what may be the most severe crisis of their lives. Each guest will be dealing with this trauma in a different way.
- By not judging or criticizing; participants may have different lifestyles and values but they are worthy of trust, respect and courtesy.
- By being a good listener. Good listeners don't assume that others think as they do; they listen more than they talk; they don't need to express an opinion on everything that is said.
- By respecting privacy and taking cues from guests. Introduce yourself and be friendly, but don't pry or hover.
- By focusing on the strengths and capabilities of the participants as we get to know them.

- By remembering our role is "not to solve, but to serve". Our greatest contribution is the kindness we offer.
- By adopting the Hospitality Code (below).



## The Hospitality Code

1. It's nice to hear your name.
2. Labeling people creates invisible barriers.
3. Personal questions can be tough to answer.
4. Never assume that a guest can't hear you.
5. Everyone can use a little privacy.
6. Sometimes we need to spend time alone.
7. We all have bad days.
8. We understand and care for our children.
9. Parents need a break.
10. Adult guests should be treated like adults.



Church Office Hours for the Summer:  
Tuesday thru Friday, 9:00—1:00 pm  
(Closed Mondays)  
Regular Hours return after Labor Day





June Birthdays

- 6 Karlene DeRosa
- 8 Kerry Ziegler
- 9 Lon Clemmer, George Watts
- 12 Noah Baliles, Trent Detweiler
- 13 Ray Furman
- 14 Nancy Seachrist
- 17 Darlene Ziegler
- 18 Ashton Leonhardt
- 24 Matthew Goetter
- 25 Jim Ellinger, Sue Ellinger
- 28 Joe Grau, Sr.
- 29 Wade Bechtel, Donna Mansfield,  
and Don Moyer
- 30 Daniel Moyer



Early July Birthdays

- 1 Bonnie Cassel
- 2 David Whetstone
- 5 Lila Hackman

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!**

Sunday, June 4

Graduation Sunday  
Church Picnic in the Pavilion, 4:00 pm

Thursday, June 15

Congregational Forum, 7:00 pm

Friday, June 16 at 2:00 pm

Sr. Fellowship at PBC

Saturday, June 17 at 8:30 am

Women Out-to-Breakfast @ Mal's Diner

Sunday, June 18

Happy Father's Day!

Wednesday, June 21

Summer begins

Wednesday, June 28—July 2

Annual Conference



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

2 Corinthians 12:9