

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

Office Hours

- Monday-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

Rhythms of the Heart

Recently my dad was discovered to have an arrhythmia or irregular heartbeat. His heart wasn't *significantly* out of rhythm. In fact, we didn't even know the problem existed. Without the suggestion of a physical therapist, it might never have been diagnosed. Even so, we still don't really know what caused it or when it started.

This got me thinking. How many of us have hearts that in a spiritual sense are "out of rhythm"? Is it possible to have spiritual arrhythmia and not even know it? What are the symptoms? What causes it? Is there a cure?

Spiritual arrhythmia could be described as having desires, inclinations or patterns of thinking, choosing and acting that are out of line with the rhythm of God's heart. The degree to which we might be out of rhythm can vary from 1 to 180, and it is quite possible—even likely—for a person to be completely clueless. Detection usually requires some very intentional and honest reflection on our part or intervention from a trusted friend, counselor, or spiritual advisor.

The causes are varied but mostly boil down to these: apathy toward the things of God, greater concern for our wants than for God's will, too much talking and too little listening in prayer, too little time getting to know the rhythm of God's heart.

So, what can be done to restore our heart's rhythm? The first step is to admit that we need help. The second step is to follow a plan that has been shown to help others. With a physical heart, a cardiologist will first prescribe medications that contribute to restoring rhythm. These are successful only about 20 percent of the time without more substantial intervention. A spiritual equivalent might be to develop regular habits of Bible reading and instruction and to surround ourselves with people whose hearts seem to be in closer rhythm to God's heart than our own is.

However, most cases of physical arrhythmia require one or more cardioversion procedures, actually shocking the heart back into its intended rhythm. In my experience, spiritual arrhythmia is no different. Human nature often needs the "wake-up call" of a moral failure, personal crisis, a broken relationship, or some other "shock" to our patterns of thinking, choosing, and acting. In these cases, wise spiritual counsel is invaluable. Even so, the "medications" of God's Word and Christian fellowship are indispensable in maintaining a restored rhythm.

May God help us to guard our hearts with diligence. May we choose heart-healthy "diets" and daily exercises, so that our lives echo the rhythm of God's own heart.

- Pastor Mark (Your partner in the journey)

Church DEACONS



Spotlight on Don & Darlene Ziegler
by Michelle Clemmer

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

Darlene: I started attending Indian Creek's VBS program several years after moving to Vernfield at a young age. My family attended Calvary Mennonite Church at the time as my parents were one of ten charter members that started that church. As I grew, I became friends with a lot of the Vernfield neighborhood kids. Half of us went to Upper Salford and half of us to Lower Salford Elementary School. I came to discover most of these kids attended Indian Creek and I was invited to VBS. I was active at my church too, accepting Christ and being baptized at the age of 13. As I grew older, I became involved in the CBYF due to an invitation by Linda Ziegler Helmick and the Shelly girls who were neighbors around the same age as me. We had lots of fun CBYF adventures. That was when I met Linda's cousin, Don and we began dating. That was just the

beginning... over 50 years ago! We were married in June 1968, and left for 1W service in July for two years, living in Vermont and working at Mary Hitchcock Hospital at Dartmouth College. After we moved home, we settled here at Indian Creek, a small friendly neighborhood church with strong Antibaptist beliefs and folks who lived what they believed.

Don: I grew up at Indian Creek and attended with my parents. I accepted Christ and was baptized by John Moyer at 12 years of age.

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

Darlene: Friendliness and the way we love and care for one another.

Don: Being able to grow in my faith from a young boy to present. Each season of leadership enabled me to grow in my relationship with God.

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

Darlene: I am retired, well kind of! My current part time job as a caregiver for a former neighbor keeps me busy. I formally worked as an Administrative Assistant for Prudential Rittenhouse Realty Group (now Berkshire Hathaway) for almost 20 years. Prior to that I, was church secretary for Indian Creek for eight years. My first job of entering the work force after being a stay at home mom was at Harleysville Savings as a Customer Service Rep. and Teller at both the Sumneytown and Main offices for eight years. In each job, I always enjoyed meeting and serving people. I was very blessed to have wonderful employers and co-workers at each place of employment.

Don: I am custodian here at Indian Creek and enjoy being able to serve in this way. I am a lifetime carpenter by trade.

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

Darlene: The greatest influences in my life came early on as my Sunday school teachers were great examples of Christ's love. They taught me the importance of learning Bible verses and taking time to study God's Word. My mother too, was a great example as she always led our family in daily devotions, teaching me the importance of a relationship with God by praying and reading the Bible. These influences have helped Don and I establish Godly values in our family.

Don: Rev. John Moyer and my Sunday school Teacher, Adele Moyer. Their Christ-like characteristics have helped nurture my relationship with God and my wife.

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

Darlene: I went parasailing over the ocean two years ago and loved it. What a bird's eye view of God's handiwork! I also love to snorkel.

Don: No surprises here...what you see is what you get!! OK, here's one, I was an orderly at Mary Hitchcock Hospital in Hanover NH for two years and worked in the ER and morgue, as well as the hospital.

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

Darlene: What's free time?? Work at the Hatfield food pantry, spend time with grandchildren, read (if I can stay awake)

walk, swim and ride a bike at the beach. I also love to cook and bake.

Don: Hunting – Fishing – Golf. Spend time at the beach with my wife!

Who is the most important person in your life?

Darlene: Jesus, my husband and my family.

Don: Next to God, Dar, my wife.

Name one thing on your bucket list.

Darlene: Go on a mission trip as a couple and travel to Alaska.

Don: Live at the Beach for one month and fish!

What is your favorite food?

Darlene: Favorite Food...hmmm, probably soups and salad but I pretty much like everything!!

Don: Roast Beef and Gravy.

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

Darlene: The singing, colors and the joy of re-uniting with family in the presence of Christ.

Don: No suffering and sickness and being with Christ and family.

Children's Book Collection

by Susan Keiper

I still remember the first book that I ever read on my own and the joy of being able to READ!! The book, about Huey, Dewey, Louie and Donald Duck was in a box of Dad's old toys that my Grandmother Wampler had at her home in Bridgewater, VA. I don't know how old I was, but I do know we always had books around the house and we kids were always reading or being read to.



During the month of May, Indian Creek will have a chance to help bring that same joy to children in the community of Flint, Michigan. As you may remember, Flint was the center of a water crisis in 2014. Our brothers and sisters at Flint COB have, since that time, increased their community outreach ministry to help alleviate the suffering of their neighbors. In addition to distributing bottled water three times a week, and hosting a Tuesday night dinner church, they also offer cooking classes for local children to encourage good nutrition.

This summer, directly following Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, a Brethren workcamp will be held in Flint to continue meeting the needs of the people there. "Every aspect of life has been affected by the water crisis in Flint, Michigan--including literacy," said an announcement. "Because of this, we plan to distribute books during the workcamp July 2-8, and we need your help with collecting them."

The Witness & Evangelism Team is asking Sunday school classes, families and individuals within the church to start collecting new and gently used children's books. Please take some time during the next few weeks to go through books in your home or the local used book store, or even buy a new book for a child. If everyone brought in just one book for each Sunday in May, think how many we could gather! There will be a collection basket in the Narthex. Thank you!

Vera Bradley BINGO

"Ladies Night Out"

by Kitty Doughty

Well our Bingo Evening was a huge success. It was a great "fun"draiser" for our Wee Folk Nursery School. There were 93 ladies in attendance, which included our members, the Wee Folk Mothers, and 20 women from Grace Mennonite. We started off by having a wonderful food table all made by our own ladies under the direction of Jen Alderfer, followed by another table of many yummy desserts.



After all that was cleaned up, the "Bingo" began. Everyone was given a tablet of bingo cards. We played 14 games --"regular", letter "T", "dog bone", letter "X", a "cross", the "outside frame", "filled card" and "4 corners". Special thanks to Naomi for reminding me prior to every game that I had to stamp the middle of the card before she could begin. In addition to all the prizes won, there were also many "door prizes". Needless to say this will be an event every year.



TREASURER'S CORNER

by Carol-Joyce Anton



As a result of this past Sunday's Congregational Forum, I would just like to highlight one of our areas of giving: **Capital Improvements.** On our offering envelopes (which unfortunately come pre-printed with categories) is listed "For Building Fund". As you all know, there is not any building going on in the near future, but this fund is actually for the Capital Improvements Fund.

A capital improvement is an expense where the benefit *continues* over a long period, rather than being exhausted in a short period. Such expenses are of a non-recurring nature and result in the acquisition of permanent assets, rather than a recurring expense. Capital expenses are used to *acquire* or *upgrade* physical assets such as property, buildings or equipment. Our lift was an obvious capital expense a few years ago. Not so obvious are the improvements we have made by replacing doors with more secure, longer lasting metal doors, rather than the old wooden ones. Also included in this category would be the new sound system we installed in the sanctuary and the new computer that was purchased to run the slides for our Praise Team and anyone else that may have need to use it. The software used by the computer would be a regular expense since that is updated on a shorter term basis.

I hope this explanation helps everyone to better understand how the church is using the money you give to improve things around the church. I also hope that this will assist you in making well-informed choices for the way you wish your money to be spent when you fill out your offering envelopes. If anyone has any further questions, please feel free to let me know. Also, if there is any other topic on the budget you would like more information about, please feel free to put a note in my mailbox and I can include it in a future Ripples article.



Mother's Day is less a blessed day for mothers and far more a blessed day for children to remember them, think about them, thank them, and thank God for them.

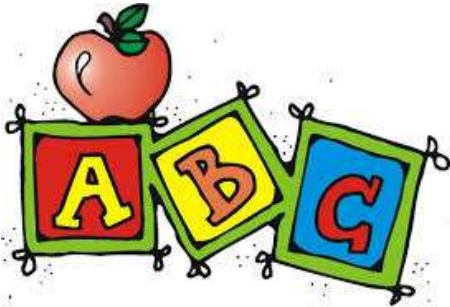
Situation Comedy

My husband, a minister, preached an object lesson where he used potatoes and gave each a name, such as "imitator," "dic-tator," and "agi-tator." Then he likened them to problem people in the church. He summed up by urging us all to be "sweet-tators." On leaving the service, one parishioner shook his hand and said, "I yam what I yam."

Kresha Fields
Hindsboro United Methodist Church
Hindsboro, IL

Small Talk by Kathy Moyer

Our calendar song this month, "May, May, May ... flowers bloom so bright in May," also reminds us of how much our Wee Folk have grown and bloomed through our time together this school year. Once again, we anticipate graduating many of our students to the bigger world of kindergarten! As we say our good-byes to those moving on, we are thankful for the times we've shared and for the relationships we have established with our Wee Folk families.



In May, we will be emphasizing alphabet activities and we will begin our "writing workshop" with the M-W-F Class. Our theme for the month will be a "Potpourri from A to Z," as we have fun learning the alphabet while playing letter games and reading a wide assortment of alphabet books. Show-and-Tell will find us being letter detectives, as we try to guess the items our friends bring to share by the clues they give. We will also honor our mothers on Mother's Day, with some special gifts and surprises, made with little hands.

We anticipate greeting some special visitors to our classroom this month. Lindy Janson will be coming to talk with us about the library, and read some new books to our T-Th Class. Another highlight of the year is sure to be our visit from

Transportation Services, with a lesson about bus safety for our kindergarten bound students.



End of year class picnics will honor the children who celebrate summer birthdays. Weather permitting, we will enjoy class picnics outside, followed by some water fun and games!

On behalf of all of us at Wee Folk, thank you for the support you have given in various ways this year to further the ministry of this outreach to the community. We have much appreciated you partnering with us through fundraising opportunities, welcoming us for Wee Folk Sunday, and for your ongoing prayers for us and the families we serve.

As the school year comes to a close, we look forward to joining you this summer for VBS, and becoming "Galactic Starveyors" with you! It sounds like a wonderful time of learning and growing together!



Vacation Bible School
Sunday – Thursday
July 16-20, 2017
Children age 4 to grade 6.



by Kathy Moyer

THANK YOU to all who came out in support of Wee Folk to share in our third annual Vera Bradley BINGO event. Your presence and fellowship with the mothers, grandmothers, and friends of our school was a witness of your care and concern for them and their children.

We especially want to thank the Women's Fellowship for donating the Vera Bradley prizes again this year; and to Naomi Piatek and her sister, Yvonne, for providing an assortment of additional door prizes. Naomi also served as our enthusiastic and entertaining number caller for the night, assisted by our Wee Folk Committee Chair, Esther Kishbaugh. Because of all our combined efforts, we raised \$2,605.00 to support our budget.

The night was filled with fun and excitement as "BINGO" was called through the evening and lovely bags were won. And our tummies were treated to a smorgasbord of appetizers, followed by a second buffet at intermission of delicious desserts, all thanks to our hostess, Jen Alderfer.

Jen also set up the room to be very welcoming and fun with colorful decorations, and tulips on each table. The overwhelming response from the 88 ladies who attended was, "Let's do it AGAIN next year!" So if you missed it this year, we hope you will consider joining us next year!

When Trouble Comes and Things Go Wrong!

by Helen Stiner Rice



Let us go quietly to God
when troubles come to us,
Let us never stop to whimper
or complain and fret and fuss,
Let us hide "our thorns" in "roses"
and our sighs in "golden song"
And "our crosses" in a "crown of smiles"
whenever things go wrong . . .
For no one can really help us
as our troubles we bemoan,
*For comfort, help and inner peace
must come from God alone . . .*
So do not tell your neighbor,
your companion or your friend
In the hope that they can help you
bring your troubles to an end . . .
For they, too, have their problems,
they are burdened just like you,
*So take your cross to Jesus
and He will see you through . . .*
And waste no time in crying
on the shoulder of a friend
But go directly to the Lord
for on Him you can depend . . .
For there's absolutely *nothing*
that His mighty hand can't do
And He never is too busy
to help and comfort you.





May Birthdays

- 1 Rick Houck, Zach Coale
- 2 Janet May
- 3 Isabella Smalls
- 4 Janette Kirk, Mitchell Ziegler
- 9 Chet Detweiler
- 12 Krista Moyer
- 18 Lorena Eichhoefer
- 22 Ray Keller
- 27 Kebbie Kane
- 29 Dale Galecki, Bria Moyer



Early June Birthdays

- 6 Karlene DeRosa
- 8 Kerry Ziegler
- 9 Lon Clemmer, George Watts

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!

Wednesday, May 3

District Sr. Adult Luncheon at PBC, Noon
Spring Choir Concert at PBC, 7:00 pm

Sunday, May 7

National Youth Sunday
COBYS Family Fun Walk, 4:00 pm
Discussion Forum on Church Issues, 6:30 pm

Monday, May 8

Stewards Spring Clean-up, afternoon to dusk

Thursday, May 11 at 6:00 pm

Women's Fellowship Video & Jewelry Night

Sunday, May 14

Happy Mother's Day!
KIDS Church



Friday, May 19 at 2:00 pm

Sr. Fellowship at PBC

Saturday, May 20

Trip to see *Mennonite Girls Can Cook!*

Sunday, May 21

Dulcimer Concert in PBC Chapel, 2:00 pm
Human Trafficking Awareness, 7:00 pm

Sunday, May 28

KIDS Church

Monday, May 29

Happy Memorial Day!

*She is clothed in strength and dignity and
can laugh at the days to come.*

Proverbs 3:25

