



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

INSIDE...

NOAC 2017

Treasurer's Notes

Small Talk

ICCOB Knitting Group

Youth News

Blood Drive Recap

Birthdays, and More!



Sunday Schedule

9:00 am – Sunday School

10:00 am – Worship

Regular 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

Building Up the Body: Church to Church

If you have heard God's call to follow Jesus Christ and to trust the love, forgiveness and promise of eternal life offered through his death on the cross, and if you have deeply, desperately, humbly and hopefully said "YES," then you are part of something huge and amazing and personal and purposeful. You are part of the Body of Christ!

The Body of Christ encompasses all Christ-followers everywhere, but it has its visible expression in local churches like ours. Just like individual local churches are comprised of different members with different gifts, so local churches are members of larger groups, wherein we seek to work together and support each other. Within the Church of the Brethren in the United States, local churches are organized into 23 districts. We are part of the Atlantic-Northeast District. There are currently 81 Brethren churches in our District.

This Saturday, October 7, 2017, at Elizabethtown College, we have the opportunity to join with brothers and sisters in fellowship and worship and learn what God is doing through our commissions, congregations, fellowships and projects. We will receive reports from various agencies and hear how God's Kingdom is touching people's lives. District Conference is always a great time for renewing acquaintances and meeting new people.

The theme for this year's Conference is ***Transformed Into His Image*** – ***Romans 12:1-2***. District Conference Moderator, Glenn Martin, elaborated on that theme. "Living amidst our families, churches and communities, we face many pressures each day. Our lives are busy and we encounter challenges, therefore we need to be presenting our bodies as a living sacrifice, continually transformed in the image of God. Like the butterfly, we emerge out of our complex struggles and circumstances and choose to commit to Christ's love being empowered by the Holy Spirit to affect our churches, our communities and the world we live in. Our purpose is to promote and share the gospel of Christ using our individual gifts and talents given to us by Our Heavenly Father and thus bringing Him all the praise and honor and glory."

~Pastor Mark (your partner in the journey)

**Inspiration 2017:
NOAC by the numbers**
from Church of the Brethren Newsline
September 21, 2017



Inspiration 2017: National Older Adult Conference (NOAC) brought older adults from across the denomination and across the country together for a week of worship, fellowship, laughter, and learning in early September. From Labor Day on Monday, Sept. 4, through Friday, Sept. 8, the conference was hosted at Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center in western North Carolina, in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains.

Here is a glimpse of NOAC, by the numbers:

14: Number of National Older Adult Conferences held by the Church of the Brethren over 25 years, from the first NOAC held in 1992 to Inspiration 2017

855: Number of people registered

17: Number of people who have attended all 14 NOACs

99 years and 9 months: Age of the oldest participant, Virginia Crim.

237: Total who signed up for afternoon bus trips to Junaluska Elementary, Smoky Mtn. National Park, Asheville's African-American history tour, Biltmore House and Gardens, Hendersonville, and Oconaluftee Indian Village

734: Number of Church World Service "Gift of the Heart" kits assembled and/or donated. This included 432 school kits, 301 health kits, and 1 clean-up bucket. Additionally, more than \$900 was donated to the CWS kit collection.

More than \$5,100 raised for the church's work in South Sudan. About 170 people registered for the fundraiser walk around Lake Junaluska.

\$21,445 received in offerings during the worship. Offerings supported the ministries of the Church of the Brethren, including older adult ministries.

1,268: Number of books donated for Junaluska Elementary. The books will stock small libraries in each classroom.



Photo by Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford

School principal and staff (at right) and NOAC volunteers and staff (at left) pose with hundreds of the books that were collected at NOAC for Junaluska Elementary School.



faith and finances

by Carol-Joyce Anton

Last month, I explained the process we follow to set up a budget for the church. This process has been just about completed for the coming year. The figures have been pinched, worked and re-worked. We have tried to allow for any “unexpected” expenses, which as individuals with budgets, we all know does not always work out the way we planned. Our budget process also allowed for lots of prayer time. Prayer that we are doing the right thing, prayer that our members will be as loyal as they have been in the past, prayer that we are following God’s leading in our plans.

The last and final step will occur on Sunday, October 15 when it is presented to the congregation at our fall Congregational Forum. Just as it is everyone’s privilege and responsibility to vote in our elections for President, congress, and local authorities, it is EVERY member’s privilege and, more importantly, responsibility to be present and vote at our Congregational Forum. We will not only be approving the proposed budget, but also electing new Chairpersons for many of our Teams. We need a quorum to vote but it would be nice if we did not have to worry about that and see that most, if not all of our members are present. There is lots of information dispensed at the meeting, and rather than hearing it second hand, it would be better to hear it live! We all know what happens when stories are passed from one person to another – changes happen. This is your time to voice your opinions and ask any questions you might have!

That being said- please attend our Forum on October 15 – if you don’t come we will miss you but even more, you will have missed us!



The Good Shepherd

The Good Shepherd wants to be intimate with you. He wants you to learn his quiet whisperings. He wants to disclose himself to you. Jesus wants to manifest his life fully to those who follow him and pour out his very life through them. And how do we qualify for this privilege? Simply by making ourselves available to him in childlike faith. God certainly uses [people] trained in theological wisdom and those with communication and leadership skills, but he also uses very ordinary people who trust in a covenant-keeping God and take his word as truth.

Tom White
*In Breaking Strongholds,
How Spiritual Warfare Sets Captives Free*



Small Talk

by Kathy Moyer



The first few weeks of school have passed so quickly, with many accomplishments already! The children are getting acquainted and are learning the daily routines. Our new students have made a smooth, easy adjustment, with minimal tears. What a nice way to begin a new school year!

Our theme for October will find us learning about **people at work** out and about in our community. The work of teachers, firefighters, farmers, grocers, and others, will be highlighted through the month. Our book selections will help answer questions about these professions, and help us think about the importance of the many jobs people do each day that benefit us in so many ways.



As October brings **Fire Prevention Week**, we will discuss the ways that fire can be useful, as well as dangerous. Fire safety will be the focus as we talk about the importance of smoke detectors, exiting a smoky room, and stop-drop-and-roll procedures. We will also highlight the important and brave work of firefighters. For dramatic play, our climber will be transformed into a fire station this month, equipped with fire hats and hoses.

The children are already excited to tell us their costume plans for our **Pumpkin Party Days** at the end of the month. We will welcome the Wee Folk families to come for our parade of friendly characters and then return to our classroom to play games, carve a jack-o-lantern, and share some party snacks!



In October, you can help us by asking a friend or two to sign up for the GIANT A+ Rewards program; buy a KidStuff Coupon book for a family with children; and start your Christmas shopping by ordering some Yankee Candles and Gifts! You will find more information about these fundraisers in the narthex.

As always, we thank you for your ongoing support for Wee Folk, and wish you ALL a Happy Fall!



I can smell AUTUMN dancing
in the breeze.
The sweet chill of PUMPKIN
and
crisp sunburnt LEAVES.



ICCOB "KNITTING" GROUP

by Carol-Joyce Anton

Early last spring, a group of 2-5 ladies began meeting in the library on Friday's at 2 pm. It started as a "knitting/crocheting" group to make blocks (5"x7") to be put together into afghans (adult or children's) for a project that the ANE Women's Fellowship started for our summer camp. The afghans would be forwarded to organizations, groups, or individuals which had a need. Our ladies made more than 50 blocks which were added to the other blocks brought by other congregations to summer camp. We had enough blocks to construct 3 adult blankets and 6 or 7 children's.



What the group has become, as one member put it, is more of a therapy group. While we are knitting or crocheting, we talk – let's face it – that does seem to be what women do best! But the talk is good and has a calming and healing affect. We feel free to discuss anything that is on our mind – what is good in life, what is bad in life, how thankful we all are that God is good all of the time! For this reason, we have decided to continue this group indefinitely – as long as someone wants to come!

The Women's Fellowship project for all intent and purposes is completed as it was started mainly for the summer camp. However, some are still making blocks and have found a new home for them. Grandview Hospital has a cancer treatment center where they use

the small lap afghans for the patients who come in for chemo treatments. The room is intentionally kept cool and the infusions make the patients even colder, so afghans and prayer shawls come in handy for them. There is also a need for cancer caps for the patients, to make them feel better about themselves as their appearances change during treatment.

We have also found out that Lehigh Valley Hospital, and perhaps even Grandview (I have to check it out), have a need for baby blankets. The blankets are used to be wrapped around babies that are stillborn or die shortly after birth and are given to the parents to wrap their little ones in during their time of sorrow.

So you see, we still have a great need to meet everywhere. We would be happy to have anyone interested to join us. No experience is necessary. I am willing to help you learn a hobby that will remain with you for a long time and will help others also. The blocks, blankets and shawls can be simple patterns. The caps would take a little more skill, but still possible for new comers.

Even if you have some project that you are working on other than our chosen ones, but need to talk, feel free to join us. Christmas is coming and it would be a great time to spend 2 hours working on your presents for friends or families! Hope to see you there!



YOUTH NEWS

by Donna Parcell



We are continuing our Sunday school series "Who is my neighbor - seeking to understand those marginalized in society". Our latest guest speaker was Chelsey. She is an amazing young lady of courage. Chelsey is a former drug addict who was convicted of several felonies and served time in prison. She had every excuse to give up on life. But she didn't. Even though her record continues to deny her opportunities, she keeps on fighting. She has been drug free for 8 years, and is committed to staying clean and helping others. Chelsey applied for a Ph.D. Program in the criminal justice system. Over 600 people applied for six positions. Chelsey was awarded one of those six positions. There is always hope, even when you've hit rock bottom.

We learned a lot about how to identify people heading down the wrong road, and things we can do to help them while still protecting ourselves.

October

by Horace A. Roberts



The frosts of October
are white on the grass,
The meadows and fields turning brown,
The leaves of the maples,
in showers of gold,
Drift silently, steadily down.

Against the gray wall
the pale asters are massed
Like clusters of stars, blue and white;
Over all is a shimmering, glimmering haze
Pierced through with gold arrows of light.

Afar on the hill
burn the sumac's deep fires,
And goldenrod waves far and near;
For golden October's abroad in the land—
Most beautiful month of the year.

*I'm so
glad I
live
in a world
where
there are
Octobers*



Blood DRIVE

by Kitty Doughty

Well, we had another successful and rewarding Red Cross Blood Drive on September 19, 2017. We were able to collect 54 donations, and we had 5 Power Reds. These donations will go on to save up to 162 lives.

We had two new donors who have come to all the blood drives, but have never had enough iron to give, but they still kept coming back, so we are making sure they receive the ultimate by having their picture in the Ripples. They are Jen Alderfer and Carol Weiss, from Lederach. We all know Jen, but just a piece about Carol and Ken Weiss. They have been coming since we started our blood drives and she never has been able to give. Their children are grown now, but when they were little they attended our Wee Folk Nursery School. So it just goes to show you that the parents of Wee Folk kids still keep us in the loop.



Brian, Jen and Caleb Alderfer



Carol and Ken Weiss

Isabella and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who was kind enough to come (even if you were unable to give). You are all truly "lifesavers" and I hope to see you again in March, 2018.

PS. We had 5 people who asked us to sign them up in March, so we have a head start!

OCTOBER EQUAL EXCHANGE PICK OF THE MONTH!



LARGE CANDY BARS

Just Treats! No Tricks! For the month of October, all large chocolate candy bars will be 50¢ off. This means your favorite chocolate bar is only \$2.00, just the right price to treat yourself, or to buy for a favorite family member or friend. Check out all the delicious, mouth-watering flavors on the Women's Fellowship Sale table in the hallway off of the Narthex. We also have our many regular and flavorful coffees on display, as well as tea, honey, cocoa, etc.!



by Linda Furman

October seems like just the right time to highlight the many new DVDs we added to our church library! The days are getting shorter and cooler, and we find ourselves inside all the sooner. Why not watch a film that touches the heart and speaks to the spirit!?

The Shack - Mack gets a mysterious invitation to an abandoned shack where God reveals Himself in the form of three strangers. Based on the worldwide best seller. [Pastor Mark recommended!]

Miracles from Heaven - If you don't believe in Miracles, you will after watching this film. Based on the incredible true story of the Beam family. [Pastor Mark recommended!]

Amazing Grace - Based on the true story of William Wilberforce, this movie follows his courageous quest to end the British slave trade. [Pastor Mark recommended!]

Second Chances - A story of understanding, giving, and love. Dove family approved.

The Penny - Fascinating and complex, this movie reveals the importance of faith and family. Dove family approved.

Seven Days in Utopia - An inspirational movie about God's mysterious ways . . . and how significance will always trump success.

The Way Home - a story of Randy's powerful spiritual journey back to love, faith and a Godly understanding of what must always take first priority in a man's life—his family.

The Holy Family - This movie delves into the human side and familial relationship between Mary and Joseph, as they raise the Son of God.

Crossroads - A *Hallmark Hall of Fame* film. A story of forgiveness - based on true events of one family's inspiring journey.

The Encounter - Five strangers are stranded in the middle of nowhere at a roadside diner. They have an encounter with a certain Nazarene who knows all their secrets.

A Letter to Dad - An inspirational movie that demonstrates God's desire for healthy relationships between a father and his son.

The Song - Jed writes a song for his wife which becomes a breakout hit and he is suddenly thrust into the spotlight and a world of temptation. Can he find the strength and the faith to change his path?



Many thanks to the anonymous donation of many fine Christian DVDs to our Library! They are appreciated!



October Birthdays

- 2 Pat Ziegler
- 4 Victoria Bateman
- 8 Lois Bowman, Don Landis
- 10 Barb Coale
- 13 Luke Furbacher
- 14 Carolyn Bechtel, Keith Force
- 17 Marge Landis
- 18 Lamont Edwards
- 19 Carlton Force
- 24 Alicia Bateman
- 25 Rober Bishop
- 27 Gregg DeRosa
- 28 Shawn Smith
- 29 Seth Baliles, Loretta Warriner



Early November Birthdays

- 5 Elaine Seitz
- 6 Charlotte Moyer
- 9 Nash Reynolds
- 10 Susan Keiper

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, October 1 at 6:00 pm
Love Feast & Communion, Fellowship Hall

Saturday, October 7
Men's Fellowship Breakfast at Franconia
at Heritage Restaurant, 8:00–9:15 am
Annual District Conference
Apple Butter Frolic, Menn. Heritage Ctr.

Sunday, October 8
KIDS Church

Sunday, October 15
Carry in lunch after worship service
Fall Congregational Forum, 12:45 pm

Monday to Wednesday, October 16-18
Women's Fellowship Trip
to SERRV in New Windsor

Friday, October 20 at 2:00 pm
Senior Adult Fellowship, PBC Craft Room

Saturday, October 21 at 8:30 am
Women's Out-to-Breakfast @ Apple Orchard

Sunday, October 22
KIDS Church

Wednesday, October 25
Sr. Adult Banquet @ Yoders at Noon

Sunday to Saturday, Oct. 29 to Nov. 4
BDM Trip to Marion, SC

Tuesday, October 31 at 8:00 am
Jubilee Breakfast

