
The Light On The Hill



Monthly Newsletter of the First Church of the Brethren, Carlisle, PA

July 2019

From the Pastor's Desk . . .

Botched Boondocking

Jeremiah 17: 5-6 (NLT) *This is what the Lord says: "Cursed are those who put their trust in mere humans, who rely on human strength and turn their hearts away from the Lord. They are like stunted shrubs in the desert, with no hope for the future. They will live in the barren wilderness in an uninhabited salty land."*

Donna and I delight in our Heavenly Father's creation. One of our hobbies that allows us to enjoy His creative hand is camping in our RV. We had the opportunity to take our RV to the amazing Yellowstone National Park in the summer of 2016. Leaving the park one evening and in route to our campground, we decided to stop for dinner in the town of West Yellowstone. Confused that the traffic lights in town weren't working, we pulled in front of the restaurant where we hoped to eat. Walking into the restaurant and seeing none of their customers eating, we soon learned that the entire town was without electricity. But that wasn't the worst of our problems!

We soon learned that the power failure originated at a substation, and there was NO electricity to be had in a 200 mile radius of Yellowstone (including our RV park). We learned from authorities that the power failure would either last 4 hours or 4 days! That wasn't very comforting! We had a generator in our RV – but that needed gasoline to operate. Guess how many gas stations in the area had generators to pump fuel from their underground tanks? And guess how low my tank was from driving all day in Yellowstone??

With no prior plans to be self-sufficient, Donna and I now had to 'boondock' . . . INSIDE the RV park. We had little fuel to make electricity – which would pump water from our tanks to drink and shower – and would power our lights – and our air conditioning – and keep our cell phones charged – and ... and ... and maybe for FOUR DAYS??? If you haven't read the scripture from Jeremiah printed above – maybe you should read it now.... Maybe I should have read it before taking this trip!

The verses that follow give the answer to the boondocking problem. *"But blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have made the Lord their hope and confidence. They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit."* (vs.7-8)

Our culture and our country were founded on independence, a philosophy of 'doing it yourself'. The credo "In God We Trust" printed on our currency has been removed from our hearts, minds, and government. Instead we trust the strength of that all-mighty dollar. It seems like the only time I put my trust in God is when I can't do something by myself. I'm prone to treat God like an insurance plan, running to Him when all else fails. The sin of pride does that; pride in my ability and experience. And I was totally unprepared and 'powerless' to solve this unexpected electrical problem.

Proverbs 3:5-6 sums it up. *"Trust in the Lord with ALL thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In ALL thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."* (note emphasis) Being self-sufficient dishonors God. 'DIY' is a lie substantiated by Satan. Jesus promised not to leave us as orphans (John 14:18), but promised to give us the Holy Spirit to guide and protect us. In this misguided culture of independence, I would encourage you to join me in denying self, and relying on the Master. Postscript: Power was restored about 5 hours later, praise the Lord!

Pastor Jerry

News Of The Congregation

WITNESS COMMISSION

We spent our June meeting as an informational sharing time with Pastor Jerry as to how we have functioned and how we have worked on outreach events, what our budget looks like, members of the commission, and some of the ways we have attempted to support district events.

Our upcoming events for which helpers are cherished include the Hosting of CARES recipients during every night in July. Could you spend an evening or more to host the overnight guests? A calendar has been placed on the bulletin board in the hallway, and your signing up would make Dale Miller a happy camper. Could you also help by sharing a container or two of Lysol Wipes for the month of July?

A BIG THANK YOU to Richard Miller and Ike Tritt who went to pick up the 22 cases of Meat Canning Soup and delivered them to Project SHARE. Our commission really appreciates the help in this venture.

July 14 is the next collection of Two Cents A Meal coins. This program is also known as the Global Food Initiative.

During July 19 and 20, Project SHARE will be collecting Backpacks and School Supplies. If you would like to contribute any of those supplies, you can either drop them off at the WalMart parking lot between 9am to 6pm or give your materials to Gloria Ramirez who will get your supplies to Project SHARE.

Coming up fast is the Brethren Home Chicken BBQ on Saturday, August 10th. Again, we are being asked for baked goods and help with the Ice Cream & Pie booth. Gloria will be looking for ice cream dippers for 3 to 4 hours, starting at 9am. A schedule will be coming soon in mid-July. Check your datebooks to see if you might be available to help. Thanks!

WITNESS COMMISSION

Come and join the Witness Commission on Sunday, July 14, 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the Carrol J. Warrell Amphitheater. at the Thornwald Park We will be watching REACH a group of young hip-hop dancers and listening to their music. If people and children in the audience want to join in, they can do this on the lawn. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and meet at the entrance and we'll all sit together. Weather permitting. FREE

Parking is available at 850 Bicentennial Drive. Then go down the path through the trees to the amphitheater. You will see Thornwald Mansion up on a hill overlooking the amphitheater. This is a performance put on by young people in the Carlisle Parks and Recreation summer program. They are well-known in the community and perform often for different events, organizations and churches in the community.

For up to date information or cancellations check the Carlisle Parks and Recreation page under events on Facebook or call 717-243-3318.

WOMENS FELLOWSHIP

The Quilting Ladies are pleased to add an extra set of quilting fingers to those of Phyllis Kotzmoyer, Ginny Wilson, and Gloria Ramirez. We welcome Susan Stake to help with our quilts. Thus far this year, Ginny has put together about nine lap quilts, with most of them being knotted before they go to the Brethren Home. We have a large blue quilt that will be donated to the Quilt Auction at the Cross Keys Quilt Auction on August 10th. Hopefully, you will see it before it goes to be auctioned. We have one on the quilt rack that is almost done, except for the border. We are also grateful for Nancy Stuck doing cross-stitch on a set of patches that came from Gloria's cousin who left several embroidered articles before she passed away. We are also grateful to Evelyn Reed, who is completing another set of cross stitch blocks. Both of these sets of blocks could be made into quilts. Hopefully, we will stay in good health so all of them can be turned into quilts. We are anxious to see them in quilted form.

YARD SALE STORIES

We were a trifle concerned not seeing as many bags and boxes to unpack this year. It was nice to have some items already placed on tables, which had previously been labeled. We did however, have A LOT OF NICE ITEMS! Getting tables up and ready in a very short time, however, was a little difficult. We had to plan around some special events. Once the rest of the tables were up and ready, helpers arrived on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday to unpack bags and boxes and place on tables. Thanks to Bernie & Wilma Koontz, Carolyn Madeira, Pat & Ike Tritt, Patti Cook, Pam Wert, Doris Marks, Debbie Meenan, Glenna Trimmer, Rita Young, Gloria Ramirez, Jeanne Bobenage, Shyrl Carothers, Gary, Thomas & Andy Damiter for all the help throughout the sale. THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED IN THIS CAPACITY!!!

A BIG THANK YOU TO DORIS MARKS who had help from Deanna White, Evelyn Reed, Shyrl Carothers, and Pauline Stump, and a lot of bakers. The pies, brownies, coffee, cookies, snacks, drinks, hot dogs, soups, hamburgers were all delicious. Your help made the day more successful...since helpers could eat while they worked. THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR THEIR HARD WORK!!!

AT FIRST COUNT, the Yard Sale brought in \$1,241.41. The Kitchen brought in \$268.65. However, more funds were added to both funds by the end of Sunday. Once it is counted again, we will have a more exact count.

Then came the Chicken Bar-B-Q fund. Fifty chicken dinners were prepared and sold at \$10 each. Somehow, three more barbecued chickens showed up and were sold Sunday morning for \$5.00. Those funds go to the Stewards' Commission. Hats off to Alphonzo White who was in charge of the crew of Dave Marks, Jesse Donnelly, Mike Lebo, and Gary Damiter.

Thanks to everyone who donated items for us to use in the YARD SALE OF 2019! WITHOUT YOUR STUFF, THERE WOULD BE NO YARD SALE!

It turned out to BE A GREAT OUTREACH EVENT! Some stories include:

1. When the helpers arrived at 6:45 on Friday morning, a line had formed at the gym door all the way back through the pavilion. When the doors opened, the line surged in through both doors. We had some quiet moments off and on through the day.
2. Gloria prayed that all shoppers would find something they liked, as well as something they needed.
3. One young man purchased all the cookbooks that came from Gloria's cousin, Julia, who passed away in October.
4. Two people brought Pfaltzcraft Pottery that a young woman really took an interest in. The items were priced separately and she asked for a price for the set and wanted to think about our offer. She didn't purchase it. BUT, THE NEXT DAY, her mother came and bought the set at a few dollars less. Yes, Gloria had prayed someone would come and get a set of that beautiful pottery.
5. A teacher arrived and shared that she and her husband had purchased an RV but her husband had not purchased items to use inside it. She found some kitchen utensils for their RV. She also purchased a box of hangers needed for her art projects.
6. Someone else needed canning jars and we had them for her.
7. More people than ever said: "Keep the change...it's for the church!"

There were a lot more stories to share but I don't want to use the whole newsletter for just this topic.

8. But there is one more story that I must share! On the last day, Gary Damiter sent his boys in to Miss Gloria to see if she could find some ways for them to help. Of course, we found a number of things they could do. Gary was also a big help on the last day with a senior citizen who fell in the pavilion (I do not know how that happened, but it did) and Gary found her and sent someone in to get ice. Upon looking at her wrist, it seemed obvious

that it was more serious and Gary took her to Urgent Care at Geisinger Center. There they learned that she needed to go to the Hospital, so Gary took her. Gloria followed up on her progress over the weekend, and found that she may need surgery. Pray for her recovery! And THANK YOU, GARY AND THE BOYS for caring for her and going the extra distance to help her! A GREAT LESSON FOR ALL OF US!

GUATEMALA TRIP

The Carlisle First Church of the Brethren has received an invitation from the Shippensburg Church of the Brethren to join them on a mission trip to orphanages in Guatemala.

Leaving February 17th and returning February 24th in 2020, we will be working side by side with the agency "Orphan Resources International" while in Guatemala. We distribute food and supplies, lovingly play with the orphan children, and help with renovation projects at multiple orphanages during that week.

The trip is open to adults of all ages (minimum age 15).

The Shippensburg congregation has taken these mission trips biennially to Guatemala beginning in 2012. The trip is well organized, and pre-trip informational meetings are planned. The cost will range from \$1,300-\$1,400 per person—and will be inclusive of all expenses (transportation, lodging, meals, etc.).

Interested? Have any questions? Feel free to talk to Pastor Jerry or contact Larry Weaver from the Shippensburg Church of the Brethren at lweaver605@gmail.com or 717-816-1945 (call or text). YOUR LIFE WILL BE CHANGED!

CARLISLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN SERMON DETAILS

July 7, 2019 Annual Conference Worship Service as streamed from Greensboro, NC

The speaker for this streamed worship service will be Pastor Tim Harvey of the Oak Grove Church of the Brethren in Roanoke, Virginia. More details of the Annual Conference is available at this website: <http://www.brethren.org/ac/2019/>

July 14, 2019 Sermon Title: "Our God: The Creator" Scripture: Isaiah 40: 25-31

We'll be studying several qualities about our God for the next several weeks. This week's message will focus on His creative ability. Believe it or not, proof is all around us. Creation of our world didn't end on the 7th day!

July 21, 2019 Sermon Title: "Our God: BOGT" Scripture: John 14: 15-21

Merchandisers commonly use the acronym BOGO to represent "Buy one, get one" free. Well our God has an even more amazing deal. BOGT!

July 28, 2019 Sermon Title: "Our God: Preeminent Lover" Scripture: John 15: 9-17

The Beatles had no idea what love was when they released the tune "All You Need Is Love". Through scripture, we'll understand how God defines love, and we'll learn that reciprocation is not in the definition.

CAMP EDER SUMMER CAMPS

Week 2—July 7 - 12

Week 3—July 14 - 19

Week 4—July 21 - 26

Week 5—July 28 - Aug. 3

Register Now! www.campeder.org

On the Personal Side...

Joys, Sorrows, & Concerns

FRIENDS OF THE CONGREGATION who have been ill, hospitalized, or needing prayer this past month include: 230+ Nigerian girls kidnapped by Boko Haram. **Dorcas Yakubu** remains in captivity after three years. Her family holds little hope for her return, but we can continue praying that God bless and protect her. Prayers for **Nick Finkenbinder**, Gloria Ramirez's grandson, as he deals with addiction issues and his recent activity of meditation.

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS THIS PAST MONTH TO:

Prayer List: Clair Tritt and Blanche Shenk.

PERSONS FROM THE CONGREGATION who have been ill, hospitalized, or needing prayer this past month include: **Nancy Stuck, Paula Detwiler, Shane Donnelly, and Rita Young.**

Global food initiative thanks Carlisle COB for sharing our Two Cents a Meal Donation in April.

Project SHARE wants to thank us for our generous support of 22 cases of chicken and 15 cans of tuna towards its fight against food insecurity in our area.

Carlisle Area Family Life Center thanks the Women's Fellowship for their donation of Yard Sale leftovers. They were surprised and grateful. The center can always use clothes and shoes & socks, and most of the toys have already found new homes with their clients and children.

Serving You In July . . .

Worship Greeters

Hospitality

Ushers

Head Ushers

July 7 -
July 14 -
July 21 -
July 28 -

Lawn Care

July 7 -
July 14 -
July 21 -
July 28 -

Children's Time

July 7 -
July 14 -
July 21 -
July 28 -

Nursery

July 7 -
July 14 -
July 21 -
July 28 -

Worship Leaders

July 7 -
July 14 -
July 21 -
July 28 -

Sound Room

July 7 -
July 14 - s
July 21 -
July 28 -

Our Record of Faithfulness

July 23, 2019	<u>Y-T-D</u> General Fund	<u>2018</u> General Fund	<u>Y-T-D</u> Building Fund	<u>2018</u> Building Fund	<u>Y-T-D</u> Special Giving
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"From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised."
Psalm 113:3

From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also when you see these things taking place, you know that He is near, at the very gates.
Mark 13:28

RECIPES OF THE MONTH

COMPANY BEEF CASSEROLE

- 1 Lb. Ground Beef
- 1 med. Onion, chopped
- 2 C. Tomatoes
- 1 TBS Ketchup
- 1 TBS Steak Sauce
- 1/4 C. Green Pepper, chopped
- 1 - 5 oz. pkg Macaroni
- 2 TBS Parsley
- Salt & Pepper
- 1—10-1/2 oz. can Cream of Mushroom Soup
- 1 C. shredded Cheddar Cheese

Brown beef in heavy skillet . Add onion, tomatoes, ketchup, steak sauce, green pepper and parsley. Cook macaroni according to directions. Combine macaroni and beef mixture in a 2 quart baking dish. Gently spoon mushroom soup into mixture. Mix lightly, lifting from the bottom over, sprinkle cheese on top. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes or until bubbly.



*Happy
Birthday*

*Happy
Anniversary*

First Church of the Brethren
1340 Forge Road
Carlisle, PA 17013



The Light On The Hill

Address Service Requested



Interim Pastor: Gerald Underkoffler
Secretary: Judy Moore
Church Office: 717-243-4984
A Christian Community Sharing the Love of God

Sunday School: 9:00 AM
Worship 10:15 AM
carlislecob.org
office@carlislecob.org

July 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2 7:00 pm Music & Wor- ship Meeting	3 COB Annual Conf.	4 No Nur- ture Meeting this month	5	6
7 Camp Eder Summer Camp Week 2 (July 7 -12)	8	9 1:00 pm Witness Com. 7:00 pm Stew- ards Com.	10	11	12	13
14 Picnic Luncheon Deacon Mtg Camp Eder Summer Camp Week 3 (14-19)	15 7:00 pm Church Board Meeting	16	17	18	19	20
21 Camp Eder Summer Camp Week 4 (July 21-26)	22	23	24	25 6:30 pm District Ministry Commission	26	27
28 Camp Eder Summer Camp Week 5 (July 28-Aug 3)	29	30	31 9:00 am Birthday Breakfast @ Fairgrounds Diner			