
The Light On The Hill



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

May 2017

From the Pastor's Desk . . .

As I write this the day after Easter I am glad our family members are safely returned to Baltimore and Roanoke. I can't find any more eggs in the back yard. My new shirt I wore yesterday won't be as new the next time it is worn. The early Service and wonderful breakfast seem a time for the past.

And even Easter will soon give way to summer fashions that seem brighter than Easter faith. But is Easter over, or just beginning?

When I see the natural world around me coming forth in its resurrected new-life forms...I wonder if my/our super-natural moments might continue to come forth in wonderful expressions of continuing faith?

Look around us...and maybe even consider the Spirit of the living God within us!

Springtime is my favorite time of year! I thoroughly enjoy the warm breezes that blow with regularity—all creation in bloom—the opportunity to be outside free of heavy clothes.

Spring—for me—is a time of new life—new hope—new opportunities. Maybe that is why springtime is an apt parallel to the Resurrection.

Resurrection proclaims that the old has passed away, and the new is evident.
Resurrection proclaims that the new is a gift from God, worthy of consideration.
Resurrection proclaims that the power that brought Jesus forth from the grave—
that same power—fills us with power to move onward.

What a blessing to go outside on an early spring morning and hear the birds, feel the crisp, warming breeze, see the sun herald a new day, and go forth triumphantly into that day! What a blessing to be moved inside on an early spring day and hear the Spirit say: "Today is the first day of the rest of your life!" To feel the presence of God well up within. To know that the Son heralds us into the new day—and then go forth triumphantly into that day!

Springtime offers us a very real parable of the Christian life. So...

In the name of the God who created—BREATHE DEEPLY THIS DAY!

In the name of the Son who redeemed—BE MOVED DEEPLY THIS DAY!

In the name of the Spirit who sustains—CONTINUE FORWARD!

For the old has passed away, the new has come in the name of the Lord of life!

Springtime is SAVIOR-TIME!

See you on the journey,
Pastor Jim

News Of The Congregation

WITNESS COMMISSION

The Witness Commission will be sponsoring a "Spring Cleaning Yard Sale" in the church parking lot on **May 20th** starting at 9:00 am. The rain date will be **May 27th**. All members of the congregation and local community members are invited to participate by bringing their stuff to sell. Registration will start on **May 6th** and will cost \$5.00. All proceeds will go to the seller. Tables will be available for set-up behind your car. You can help us spread the word by placing posters throughout the community. Posters will be available by mid-April. To register, please call Gloria at 249-2832. Let your family and friends know about the event. We have room for 24 to participate in the sale. The spaces will be first come, first serve. We will need lots of help. Please consider volunteering your time.

We have other projects to plan and are asking if anyone else is interested in helping the commission. We can always use more ad hoc members. If you are interested, please contact Gloria Ramirez.

NURTURE COMMISSION

May 12th at Noon the Mothers & Fathers Banquet will be held at Henri and Naomi's home in Newburg. We will be provided a great Amish dining experience. Gloria Ramirez will provide the activities.

May 20th will be the Parking Lot Yard Sale held The Nurture Commission will provide a lunch stand. They will be selling Hot Dogs, BBQ, Chips, Drink, and Candy. If anyone would like to donate any of these food items, a sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board.

June 4th—Save the date! Strawberry Ice Cream Social, more information to come.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

May 12 - All are invited at Noon to enjoy a meal with Henri and Naomi who share Amish Cuisine at their home in Newburg. Please sign-up by April 30th on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. A maximum of 40 people can be accommodated. Cost is \$10 for women and \$20 for men. Checks can be made payable to Gloria

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP (continued)

Ramirez. There will be devotions, a game, and lots of good food and fellowship.

The Women's Birthday Breakfast will be held on **May 31st** at 9:00 am at the Fairground Diner. Hope to see you there!

STEWARDS

District and Brotherhood Special Offering Sunday, May 14th:

May 14th is Mothers' Day! It is also the second Special Offering Sunday to donate funds to the District and Brotherhood.

During the first quarter, we received \$678 for the District and Brotherhood. The Stewards added \$322 to this amount from the general giving and sent \$1,000 (\$500 each) to these two organizations. This is a great start towards our 2017 goal of \$4,500 each (\$9,000 total).

Chicken BBQ Volunteers Needed:

Stewards are considering holding a Chicken BBQ on Saturday, **June 17th** to coincide with the 2017 Gym Sale. All who want to volunteer to support this community event are asked to add their name to the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board or notify any of the Stewards. Deadline for sign-up is Sunday, **May 7th**.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE BRIEFING

Your standing committee delegates, Brothers Mike Miller and Larry Dentler invite all Annual Conference delegates and others interested in the work of Annual Conference to join us for our Annual Conference Briefing on **May 21st** at 2:00 pm at the Carlisle Church of the Brethren, 1340 Forge Road, Carlisle.

We will share in worship and prayer, then talk a bit about Annual Conference especially for those who may be first time delegates, and we will go over the business items that will be before us this year. We are in a very significant time in the life our Church, so please join us for this important gathering.

CROSS KEYS VILLAGE

Butterfly Release—It has become a spring highlight at Cross Keys Village: hundreds of Monarch butterflies taking flight before an

News Of The Congregation, Community & Letters We Get . . .

CROSS KEYS VILLAGE (continued)

appreciative audience, many of whom have sponsored one of the beautiful and delicate creatures in memory or honor of a loved one. Children's activities include face painting and goody bags. The date is Saturday, **May 13th** next to the pond at 10:00 am. The event itself is free and open to the public. For information about butterfly sponsorships or volunteer opportunities, call the Brethren Home Foundation Office at 717-624-5208.

Concorde Vocal Ensemble – Professional Artists Series—Concorde members represent their schools as some of the best young musicians in York County. More than just a choir, this unique collaboration with choral directors, private music instructors, and families from all over York County gives forty students the opportunity to reach out and share their talents with others who have the same love of music. Concorde was chosen from a nationwide competition as one of two high school choirs to perform in the National High School Choral Festival at Carnegie Hall. The event will be held on Saturday, **May 21st** from 3—4:30 pm. This free event is open to all.

CARLISLE TRUCK STOP MINISTRY, INC. On **May 6th** the 2017 Spring Dinner Concert will be held at the First Church of God, 2089 Newville Road, Plainfield at 5:30 pm. The concert will feature Guilford Station Bluegrass Gospel Band. The cost is \$12. For more information on the concert and tickets, please email carlisletruckstopministry.org or contact the Ministry Office at 385-7932.

SOUTHERN PA DISTRICT

On **June 12th and 13th** the 69th Annual Women's Camp Retreat will be held at Camp Eder, 914 Mount Hope Road, Fairfield. Registration begins at 8:45 am and the retreat will begin at 9:30am. The cost for the meals and lodging is included on the brochure that is posted on the bulletin board. The registration deadline is **May 15th** and checks should be made out to SO PA District COB and mailed to SO PA District Office, P O Box 218, New Oxford, PA 17350. No refunds after **May 24th**.

LET'S BE GRATEFUL

36. SUNSETS

Entertainment gives us a way to relax and enjoy life.

37. YOUR MIND

Being able to think, remember, and solve problems sure makes life easier.

38. EMPLOYMENT

Even if you don't like your job, being employed means someone thought you were special enough to hire.

39. MOON AND STARS

The moon and stars encourage us to dream.

40. ELECTRICITY

Electricity makes most of our chores efficient.

41. AIR CONDITIONING

Staying cool on a hot day is something people wouldn't have dreamed about in the past centuries.

42. HEARING

Being able to hear your loved one's voice is something that not everyone gets to do.

43. CHILDREN

Having children laugh, grow, and dream can keep things in perspective.

44. ABILITY TO LEARN

The ability to learn new things means we have endless potential.

45. MODERN MEDICINE

Without advances in modern medicine, many of us wouldn't be alive.

46. MUSIC

Music brings out new emotions.

47. WARM CLOTHING

On a cold day, there's nothing more important than warm clothing.

48. FREEDOM TO VOTE

Being able to have a say in the laws should never be taken for granted.

49. CHALLENGES

Without challenges in life, we wouldn't be the people we are now.

50. HIKING TRAILS

Hiking trails give us the chance to enjoy mother nature's beauty.

LET'S BE GRATEFUL (continued)

51. VACCINES

Many of us wouldn't be alive without to day's vaccinations.

52. ARMED FORCES

Our lives would likely be very different if we didn't have protection from the armed forces.

NEW COMMUNITY PROJECT

One of the most common (and environmentally damaging) materials we use every day is expanded polystyrene, more commonly known by the trademarked name, Styrofoam.

Styrofoam is a plastic product that is 98% air. That makes it cheap to produce, and extremely useful as an insulator or packing material. It also means that it takes up a massive amount of space in landfills and makes it a nightmare to recycle. On top of that, Styrofoam can break down easily into tiny pieces that are almost impossible to remove, especially from bodies of water. After that, they can break down further into microscopic particles that often absorb toxins.

Due to budget cuts, my school was forced to reduce the kitchen staff several years ago. Since the kitchen has been too shorthanded to wash our reusable trays each day, and we've watched over 200 Styrofoam lunch trays go into the trash daily. Near the end of the last year, a friend inspired me to step up and do something to help. This year, I was able to build a gap into my schedule, and I went to the administration to volunteer to wash dishes every day. I wasn't expecting so much resistance, and it took time to get everyone on board. Apparently, the staff had bad experiences with student aides in the kitchen before.

Still, after about a month of persistent emails, I was able to start. I've been washing dishes every day for almost six months now, and the experience has been extremely rewarding. It's not the most glamorous work ever, but I feel like I'm making a difference. Most of my fellow students find it odd, and at first, I got a lot of questions from kids who saw me walking around in an apron. I like to think that I've made some of them think about the impacts of the things they use. I've also developed a working relationship with the ladies in the

NEW COMMUNITY PROJECT (continued)

kitchen, and even the most skeptical of them admits that she's glad to have me around. It just goes to show how gratifying it can be to step out of your comfort zone and do something good. Besides, sometimes you get free food.

Cameron Clark, senior at Moundridge (KS) High School

PROJECT SHARE

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your donation of tuna and pasta.

As a team, we appreciate your generosity which helps us bring joy to the people in our community who feel desperate. Some of our clients come for food and others just need a listening ear; to hear that they are loved and have not been forgotten.

Thank you for your support of the mission of Project SHARE. It is much needed and appreciated.

God Bless, Debra Hess—Dir. of Development and Major Gifts

NEWS OF OUR CHURCH IN RWANDA

We continue our support for our daughter church in Gisenyi, Rwanda. They have asked to be Brethren after our church's generosity in sharing seed, tools, clothing, sheep, and goats. They have now started three other churches. Thanks to the generosity of many across PA, we have been able to supply all the pastors with a cow to provide an income. Land for a building was purchased, and now we are raising funds for a building. This will cost about \$26,000 to construct and donations are very welcome!

The quality of life for the pygmy (Batwa) in Rwanda is very poor. They need blankets (we will collect money for these on June 4th). They need clean water, as they drink out of mud wells and streams. I saw a little boy fill his water bottle up in a puddle. That project is \$2000, which provides clean water for a year. Another big need is money for education. The pastors have no income until their cows are more profitable. Money to support one student is either \$100 a semester or \$150 a semester. Please contact Marla if interested.

They pray for us all the time, and we joyously return the favor! God is good.

On the Personal Side...

Chemicals can do us a lot of good, but later we find out that they actually have negative effects as well. And “natural” solutions also are chemicals, but ones found naturally in nature. Any natural product can be misused and overused and cause bodily harm. But generally, they have been used by persons for many years and found to be effective.

Pain is a big issue for many of us, and I found this article by Dr. Oz with some natural solutions. I will name a few, and you can go to the website at <http://www.doctoroz.com/article/7-natural-pain-solutions?page=1> to find more.

Gloria Ramirez introduced me to arnica cream years ago, and it really does relieve a lot of muscle aches. Powdered ginger relieves inflammation of the joints. One is to take a half teaspoon several times a day for seven days to help out. It can be added to drinks, or meals. Capsaicin is the chemical in hot peppers that brings out the heat. It will create heat and relieve pain, if you are not super sensitive to that hot spice.

Vitamin B-12 supplement aids in building protection around your nerves. If okayed by your doctor, calcium, and vitamin D also help. Another supplement others use is Glucosamine and Chondroitin Sulfate. Many of us know from experience that gentle movement does help.

I had originally bought tea tree oil to keep ants away from our kitchen counters. It has many other uses. It is a natural antiseptic. I had gotten multiple scratches from trimming bushes, and after one application, about 60% disappeared. It can provide relief from acne, insect bites, sunburn and chicken pox outbreaks. It even can be a deodorant, or to improve one's breathe.

Do try everything, even something “natural” just a bit at a time. It might work for you. I have tried things that didn't work, and some that do. But if it is inexpensive and tried and tested, it is worth the try.

Joys, Sorrows, & Concerns

PERSONS FROM THE CONGREGATION who have been ill, hospitalized, or needing prayer this past month include: Paul Miller, Carol & John George, Sara VanAsdlen, Virginia McCoy, Clair Tritt, Ruth Young, Pete Thumma, Mark Ditmer, Chrissy Wampler, Verna George, Jean Wert

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 has been seen on the latest video release by Boko Haram. William Sullivan, Jasmine Kole and family, church friend from Harrisburg COB, Block Family

SYMPATHIES TO the Sharp family is the passing of Michael and other UN families that had loved ones that were recently killed in DR Congo and to the Goshorn family in the passing of Ida.

Serving You In May . . .

Worship Greeters

Pauline & Elmer Stump

Hospitality

Doris Marks

Ushers

Linda Young
John Pitman
Sue Scott
Pat Tritt

Head Ushers

May 7 Jesse Donnelly
May 14 Dale Miller
May 21 Dave Marks
May 28 Ike Tritt

Children's Time

May 7 Gloria Ramirez
May 14 Doris Marks
May 21 Gloria Ramirez
May 28 Francine Moody

Nursery

May 7 Pat Tritt
May 14 Shyrl Carothers
May 21 Pat Tritt
May 28 Lisa Billman

Worship Leaders

May 7
May 14
May 21
May 28 Dale Miller

Sound Room

May 7 Michael Strickler
May 14 Dave Marks
May 21 Mike Ditmer
May 28 Ike Tritt

Our Record of Faithfulness

	<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>Y-T-D.</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
April 09	General Fund	General Fund	Building Fund	Building Fund	Special Giving
	\$34,363.98	\$33,909.43	\$565.00	\$915.00	\$4,745.64

“Knowledge makes us proud of ourselves, while love makes us helpful to others. ”
1 Corinthians 8:1

“No person was ever honored for what he received. He was honored for what he gave.”
~Calvin Coolidge

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Antipasto Salad

Ingredients

Red Wine Vinaigrette:

1 bunch fresh basil, stemmed and leaves chopped (about 2 cups)
1/4 cup red wine vinegar
1 clove garlic
1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
3/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil

Antipasto Salad:

1 pound fusilli pasta
1/2 cup hard salami, cut into strips (about 3 ounces)
1/2 cup smoked turkey, cut into strips (about 3 ounces)
1/4 cup provolone cheese, cut into strips
1/4 cup grated Asiago cheese
2 tablespoons green olives, halved and pitted
2 tablespoons roasted red peppers, cut into strips
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Directions

Vinaigrette: In a blender, add the basil, vinegar, garlic, mustard, salt and pepper. Blend until the herbs are finely chopped. With the machine running, drizzle in the olive oil until the dressing is smooth.

Pasta: Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil over high heat. Add the pasta and cook until tender but still firm to the bite, stirring occasionally, about 8 to 10 minutes. Drain pasta.

In a large bowl, toss together the cooked pasta with the remaining salad ingredients. Drizzle with dressing and toss to coat. Serve.

~ Food Network

Happy Birthday

- 01 Rita Young
- 03 Glenn Pepper
- 04 Marlene Billman
Glenna Trimmer
- 05 Lisa Zalewski
- 06 Michael Strickler
- 08 Graham Mulholland
- 09 Anna Bixler
- 12 Shane Donnelly
- 21 Marley Billman
- 23 Pearl Ditmer
Elizabeth Gehman
- 24 Carrie Werner
- 25 Marie Maurice
- 26 Brenda Trimmer
- 29 Shirley Pepper

Happy Anniversary

- 16 Carolyn & Steve Riley
- 17 Deanna & Al White
- 19 Coralita & Jeff Wilson
- 30 Robyn & Dave Wampler

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



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Address Service Requested



Pastors: Jim & Marla Abe
Secretary: Linda Shindledecker
Church Office 717-243-4984
A Christian Community Sharing the Love of God

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

Use your voice for kindness,
Your ears for compassion,
Your hands for charity,
Your mind for truth, and
You Heart for Love.

- Pintress