



Mechanic Grove
Church of the Brethren

REVELATIONS

1392 Robert Fulton Hwy Quarryville, PA 17566

Website: www.mgcb.org

Phone: 717-786-2723

Email: church@mgcb.org

March / April 2024

Expectations

I can still remember the tradition of Easter at my home growing up. My brothers and I would wake up Easter morning expectantly, check our Easter baskets, look for eggs that were hidden, have breakfast and then off to church. Then in the afternoon it was off to Grandma's house for more candy and more egg hunting. So Easter became associated with candy, gifts and eggs. My expectation for Easter was candy, eggs and a Sunday morning church service. Somewhere in the midst of all the trappings of Easter was the miracle of the resurrection. Later when I was a young adult, I spoke at an Easter Sunrise service. My first sermon came early on Easter morning outside the New Providence Church of God at a sunrise service. Since then, I have enjoyed Easter Sunday and celebrate it each year with great expectation. Easter is resurrection Sunday and I can hardly wait...

Expectations are important. When our expectations aren't met, we are unhappy. When Jesus died on Good Friday, the expectations that many people had for Jesus died too. So, the women head to the tomb early Sunday morning for one thing—to embalm their friend. They weren't on their way to a sunrise service. They weren't going to worship and sing songs of praise. They weren't real excited about the future. Their world had collapsed before them. With Jesus death, went their expectations and their hope. Now, it was time to complete the task, anoint the body and move on. As they walked in the darkness of the morning, they moved briskly to the tomb. They expected to find the tomb and Jesus body in it. Instead, they found the stone rolled away and Jesus' body nowhere to be found. They didn't expect either. But not only was the stone rolled away but the tomb was empty. Luke 24:3 says clearly that they did not find the body of Jesus. Now I have always tried to wonder what I would have thought that morning if I was there. If my heart was burdened with sorrow and loss and I expected to find a body and there was none, what would my reaction have been? Would I have been disappointed? Someone has moved the body, now I have to find it to complete this task. The women were there to embalm a friend--the last thing on their mind that morning was resurrection. Expectations....

The woman clearly saw the stone rolled away and the empty tomb, but then something more began to happen. As they are wandering about, two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. Angels. In their fright they bowed down and worshiped them, but these angels were there for a purpose, to deliver a message. In Luke 24:5 they speak, "why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen." There it is—the first pronouncement of the resurrection of Jesus! The first declaration of "He is risen!" Unexpected words for these sullen women. They heard the words, but yet did not understand. They weren't expecting to hear from angels and they weren't expecting such news.

And yet isn't that what Easter is all about—Good News! The devil thought he had won on Good Friday, but there was a Sunday morning miracle coming. Jesus' victory is our hope. If Jesus doesn't rise from the grave, our faith is useless. We live without hope. But because He is risen, we know that He alone has won. He has overcome death and through Him we have a way home, a way to heaven.

The Good News, the hope of our faith is that Jesus Christ is risen. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. His victory, our hope. Yes, the tomb is empty. Who would have thought that a grave site would be the symbol of eternal life? I love how God turned everything upside down. The religious leaders of the day who didn't believe in life after death got the shock of their lives. The tomb was empty. Nothing could hold the son of God, no coffin, no tomb, no cross, nothing. This Jesus whom they thought they got rid of had won. He defeated death and had risen. And with His rising there is hope. Expectations....

Friends, what are you expecting this Easter? Is it simply eggs, candy, baskets, and a fancy dinner? Or are you expecting something more? Are you ready to shout the Good News? Are you ready to declare, "HE IS RISEN!" My prayer for you this Easter is that all your expectations would be completely met in the wonderful news of Jesus Christ and His resurrection!

Because He Arose!

Pastor Kevin

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 8:15 & 10:30

Date	Title/Scripture	Speaker
<i>“Changed Lives” (Series from the Gospel of John)</i>		
<i>March 3</i> <i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i>	Sermon Title: “Leaving the Stones Behind” Scripture: John 8:1-11	Pastor Kevin Richardson
<i>March 10</i> <i>4th Sunday in Lent</i>	Sermon Title: “Seeing is Believing” Scripture: John 9:1-41	Pastor Kevin Richardson
<i>March 17</i> <i>5th Sunday in Lent</i>	Sermon Title: “Standing by the Grave” Scripture: John 11:1-44	Pastor Kevin Richardson
<i>March 24</i> <i>Palm Sunday</i>	Sermon Title: “The Triumphal Entry” Scripture: John 12:12-16	Pastor Kevin Richardson
<i>March 31</i> <i>Easter</i>	Sermon Title: “He is Risen!” Scripture: John 20:-1-18	Pastor Kevin Richardson

Great Questions! Sermon Series

<i>April 7</i>	Sermon Title: “Do All Roads Lead to God?” Scripture: Matthew 7:13-14	Pastor Kevin Richardson
<i>April 14</i>	Sermon Title: “Can I Trust the Bible?” Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:16-17	Pastor Kevin Richardson
<i>April 21</i>	Sermon Title: “Do My Prayers Matter?” Scripture: Matthew 6:5-13	Pastor Kevin Richardson
<i>April 28</i>	Sermon Title: “Do I Really Need to Tithe?” Scripture: Malachi 3:6-12	Pastor Kevin Richardson

Feed My Starving Children Willow Street Mennonite Church April 5-7, 2024

Our goal: 300,000 meals with the help of 1500 volunteers!

In 2023 our goal was:

300,000 meals ~ 303,264 packed!

1500 volunteers ~ we had 1,323

To raise \$88,000 ~ \$89,038 raised

This fed 830 children for 1 year! Praise God!!!!

Packed 2.2 million meals over the last 8 events!

273 lbs. of non-perishable items donated to the Lancaster County Food Hub.

For more information or to volunteer visit

<https://www.fmsc.org>



EASTER MEALS 2024

Items needed for this year's meals:

- 2 cans of green beans
- 20 oz can pineapple
- 1 lb bag of carrots (long)
- 5 lb bag of potatoes
- 1 Yellow or White cake mix
- Container of vanilla frosting
- Dozen eggs
- 1 lb of butter or margarine
- 1 bag jelly beans
- 1 bag shredded coconut

Items are needed by Friday, March 22. If donating potatoes or carrots, please do not deliver before March 18.

Thank you for your support.

Our Couples Celebrating Anniversaries



March

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 13 Everett Jr & Donna Kreider | 20 Charles & Edna Wagner |
| 19 Shawn & Jen O'Connell | 29 Bob & Denise Young |

April

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 Vince & Judy Becker | 17 Glenn & Rita Carter | 25 Josh & Jess Bledsoe |
| Sam & Anna Mary Glick | Tom & Linda Hunter | 27 Michael & Paige Herr |
| 3 Greg & Linda Bledsoe | 19 Ken & Fawn Sample | 28 Chuck & Krista Lund |
| Ron & Linda Bolt | 22 Dennis & Glenda Findley | 30 Ed & Rhonda Heidinger |
| 12 Scott & Sheila Mull | 24 Josh & Britni Akers | Dave & Lori Holzhauser |
| 15 Greg & Cindy Schneider | Jared & Deidra Krantz | Josh & Amy Housekeeper |

Celebrating Birthdays...

March

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Dale Bollinger | 13 Lucas Criswell | 18 Lisa Holzhauser |
| Walter Cunningham IV | Gayle Hershberger | Sheila Mull |
| Suzie Hershey | Sherilyn Johnson | 19 Ben Wimer |
| 4 Perrie Holzhauser | 14 Ellie Holzhauser | 20 Anna Mary Glick |
| Donna Kreider (Larry) | Brian Landis | Rilee Hershberger |
| 5 Wyatt Kershner | 15 Emma Housekeeper | 22 Bob Kauffman |
| 6 Tracy Pollock | 16 Rhonda Holloway | 23 Merv Keener |
| 7 Traci Homsher | Karen McComsey | 26 Jacob Holzhauser |
| 10 Kyle Johnson | Ethan Mellott | Tavian McComsey |
| 11 Marion Kipp | 17 Anna Jane Glisson | 27 Sue McDonnell |
| 12 Noelle Schneider | Lucille Wenger | 28 Rachel Johnson |



April

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1 Cohen Krantz | 13 Ed Heidinger II | 21 Brian Berkey | 30 Doris Snyder |
| 2 Ron Bolt | Tracy Mauger | Nancy Wimer | Kay Swarr |
| Denise Young | Veronica Mull | 24 Kerri Kreider | |
| 3 Alexis Davis | Pam Platt | Peggy Osborne | |
| 4 Nancy Frey | 14 Michael Shoemaker | 25 Lori Holzhauser | |
| 8 Noah Wood | 15 Rick Graver | Ethan Kipp | |
| 9 Nora Bollinger | Dave Nichols | Joshua Kreider | |
| 10 June Frey | Janet Smith | Lars Rasmussen | |
| Austin O'Donnell | 20 Claire Hershey | 27 Tara Graver | |
| 11 Wade Davis | Ralph Kreider | | |

If you have a birthday or anniversary and it is not listed, please contact the church office.

CANCELLATION OF SERVICES & WEDNESDAY EVENING ROOTS ACTIVITIES

The decision to cancel Sunday morning services is made by the Board Chair and the Pastor. Any decision will be announced on WDAC 94.5 radio, church website - www.mgcb.org, church Facebook page and the church answering machine. If services are not cancelled and you feel it unsafe to travel, join us for worship online!

Wednesday evening ROOTS will be cancelled if Solanco School District has an early dismissal or is CLOSED. If we need to make a decision before the school, we will do so by 1 pm and a message will be placed on the church answering machine and the website.



Join us this Lenten Season
 A Sermon Based, Small Group Bible Study

Digging Deeper

Mechanic Grove Lenten Schedule

- Personal Bible Study
- Family Grow Groups (Intergenerational Discussion Groups)
- Holy Week Remembrance Gatherings

- **March 3** – Leaving the Stones Behind – John 8:1-11
 - Family Grow Groups Session #1
- **March 10** – Believing is Seeing – John 9:1-41
 - Family Grow Groups Session #2
- **March 17** – Standing by the Grave – John 11:1-44
 - Family Grow Groups Session #3
- **March 24** – Palm Sunday
 The Triumphal Entry - John 12:12-17
 - Family Grow Groups Session #4
- **March 28** - Love Feast, 7pm
- **March 31** – Easter – He is Risen! – John 20:1-18

Attendance & Giving

Date	Worship	Sunday School	General Offering	Online Giving		
December 31	196	106	\$10,720.35	\$2,030.00	Building Maintenance Fund	\$596.00
January 7	203	120	\$6,788.00	\$515.00	2¢ a Meal	\$40.00
January 14	180	111	\$8,969.00	\$115.00	Birthday Offering	\$58.00
January 21	188	98	\$10,403.00	\$115.00	Brethren Housing	\$50.00
January 28	193	112	\$9,644.00	\$815.00	Food Bank/SNM	\$50.00
February 4	217	111	\$12,594.00	\$1,015.00		
February 11	203	116	\$7,580.00	\$90.00	Strategic Vision	
February 18	203	109	\$12,040.00	\$140.00	Total 1.21.24	\$136,640.44
					Contributions thru 2.18	6,840.00
					TOTAL	\$143,480.44



Children's Outreach Ministries Administrator's Update

There's always so much going on in Children's Outreach Ministries. We ended 2023 celebrating the birth of our Savior and started 2024 with a hopeful anticipation of all God will continue to do through our ministries. The beginning of February Wee Friends Preschool and Primary Program opened their registration for the 2024-25 school year. We have been overwhelmed by the response we've had to date, especially from new families in our area. It's always a blessing to see the families that return with each new child, but we are excited to know the reputation of these ministries is growing so much that new families from the community are inquiring about and joining our programs. Over the last few months, the children have been learning about Jonah, The Good Samaritan, John 3:16, and the Miracles of Jesus. We will be covering Daniel, Easter, Zacchaeus and Joseph in March and April. We invite you to look around the hallways as you move through the building on Sundays to see some of the children's work.

In January our CLASP/Summer CLASP Director Allysa Tantala gave her resignation to take another position where she could utilize her degree in Child Psychology more fully. Our staff has been amazing to rally together and help fill in some of the gaps. I'm reminded daily of how blessed I am to work with this group of women. We would appreciate your prayers as we search for a new Director and as we continue to move forward. Right now, we've opened summer registration and we're planning for Summer CLASP. There are many pieces that need to fall into place, and it is an encouragement to me to see how God is providing what is needed right now. The reputation of this program continues to grow as well, and we already have a few new children to add to those returning. CLASP mornings we've been working through a devotional about God and Science. The children hear so much about how science and God can't go together it is exciting to show them otherwise. They have such great questions; it is amazing some of the things they come up with.

Child Care continues to run at full capacity with a waiting list of families. We are praying about and exploring possible options to add another room in that building. There is not much room for growth but there is a huge need in our area for infant care. All the daycares in Quarryville are small, so if we could expand to create a bigger infant room, it would give us a chance to meet the needs of our community. Would you please pray with us as we seek God's direction.

I'd be remiss if I didn't recognize and thank the congregation of MGCOB for their support of Richie and the Metzler family the last several months. It has been quite a "roller coaster ride" for the family as they navigate the ups and downs of Richie's treatment and progress. Through it all you have continued to support them through prayer and tangible means. It has been a tremendous witness to them of the love and faithfulness of God. It again reminds me of how much of a partnership this is. Children's Outreach Ministries could not exist without you, and I can only pray the witness our programs has continues to grow the body of Christ here.

In His Name - Aliza Kraynak, Administrator



ROOTS HAPPENINGS



MAR 6 - Roots Night & Dig 'N Grow
 20 - Roots Night & Dig 'N Grow
 24 - Palm Sunday
 24 - Youth Roots Gathering
 28 - Maundy Thursday Love Feast
 31 - Easter Sunday
 31 - Every Generation Sunday

APR 3 - Roots Night & Dig 'N Grow
 17 - Roots Night & Dig 'N Grow
 28 - Branches Brunch
 28 - Youth Roots Gathering

MAY 1 - Roots Night & Dig N' Grow
 11 - Bible Belles Event
 12 - Mothers Day
 15 - Roots Night & Dig N' Grow Bas
 26 - Youth Roots Gathering

JUN 16 - Fathers Day
 21-30 - Youth Roots Work Camp in Alaska
 30 - Every Generation Sunday

FAM JAM

2024

A FAMILY WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

AUGUST 16-18TH
 MECHANIC GROVE
 CHURCH OF THE BRETTEN

ALL AGES!



^^ Thanks to all who participated in an AWESOME first-ever D6 Jeopardy Sunday
 Congrats to the winners, the Lil' Roots!



BOLD MINISTRY

WINTER EDITION



The past few months have been full of the spirit moving at BOLD. Morgan, Brittney and family took a Thursday evening to fill their cup with much needed worship time at the Winter Jam concert. February 3rd Brittney spoke at a women's event- Dear daughter, giving her testimony. The end of the month Morgan will be extending God's love to Solanco Field hockey girls, hosting them at BOLD for a night of Bikes & Bagels!

UPDATES:

- BOLD has been hosting Southern End Strollers 1-2 times a month. This has been a great way for more women to connect and be in the presence of the Lord together!
- Jacqueline has stepped down from her role as evening instructor to help with a new mission at her church. We wish her all the best and can't wait to see her grow in this new season!
 - Thursday evening classes will continue as normal.



The Promise Players call for auditions for:



SARAH MAE

AND HER KINFOLK

by Gail Blanton

Sarah Mae is a family musical with well-known gospel favorites, from "I'll Fly Away" to "Will the Circle Be Unbroken." The setting is a family reunion in the 1930s that has its joys and challenges, like any family would!

Auditions will be held at Lampeter Church of the Brethren,
1900 Lampeter Road, Lancaster, PA 17602 on
January 6 and 7, 2024 from 2:00 to 6:00 pm.

To schedule an audition appointment or for more information,
please contact director Tim Strawser at timrose85@comcast.net.

Performance dates are March 7-10 and March 14-17, 2024.

This is a large community production with parts for all ages, so please share
this information with anyone you believe would enjoy participating!

We are also looking for crew members. If you're interested in helping as our house manager
or box office manager, please contact us at promiseplayers@gmail.com.

Men's Banquet



March 15, 2024
@ 6:30 pm

We will begin with a delicious ham dinner and then experience an evening with Terry LaSorta, a popular public speaker and illusionist. He is looking forward to spending an exciting evening with us. Come enjoy the evening with family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, etc.!

RESERVATIONS DUE MARCH 3!



Women's Fellowship Spring Luncheon

March 16, 9am-3pm
Lititz Church of the Brethren
\$20/person; lunch included.

The theme is JOY, and the
speaker is Donna Parcell.

Learn more, and register
at: www.ane-cob.org



BOOK GROUP

All are welcome to join us!
If you have questions,
contact Connie Rutt.

March Pick

THE HEAVEN N EARTH GROCERY
STORE BY JAMES MCBRIDE

April Pick ~

The Boys in the Boat by
Daniel James Brown

March 27 @ 9:30 Ellie Holzhauser's home
April 24 @ 9:30 am Pam Platt's home

UPCOMING EVENTS & INFORMATION

OAKS Upcoming Events

MARCH

TUESDAY, MARCH 12TH

- Breakfast & Learn at the Mennonite Resource Center
 - Breakfast at Oregon Dairy at 9am
 - Tour and Talk at 11:00am



APRIL

THURSDAY, APRIL 18TH

- River Hills Drive
 - Enjoy a scenic drive through Lancaster and York Counties
 - Lunch will be at the John Wright Restaurant



See the OAKS Bulletin Board across from the Family Mailboxes for more details and to sign-up!

We are seeking youth and adult volunteers (our branches) to support our Strong Lil' Roots through a series of small notes and gifts beginning on April 7, 2024. It is our hope that both our branches and roots will create new and lasting relationships with members of our church family. We will conclude by hosting a brunch on April 28, 2024. Our bee-themed brunch will focus how "sweet" God's word is!

Please see the bulletin beginning March 3 to sign up to support a child.

This will be organized similar to the traditional MGCBC Secret Angel Tea.

All Lil' Roots parents will receive a letter in late February asking about your child's interest in participating. Please see Janae McMichael or Katherine Tshudy if you have not received a letter. Please kindly respond by March 10.

WIDE
BRANCHES
STRONG LIL' ROOTS
BRUNCH



Join us Easter morning!

Come at 6:15 am for coffee/hot chocolate. Service (which is usually 25-30 minutes) begins at 6:30 in anticipation of a 6:50 sunrise. We meet inside on an unheated enclosed porch at the Platt Home (15 Rush Drive, New Providence). We hope you will join us as we together worship our risen savior early on our Easter morning. A light breakfast will be served afterwards.



ANE@ APRIL 27: 9AM-2PM CAMP SWATARA



Join us for a Spring family adventure!

FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHERS FROM THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT! \$10/PERSON; \$50 MAX/FAMILY
ROCK WALL * MINI GOLF * NATURE AREA * ADVENTURE COURSE * BOARD GAMES/LIBRARY * LUNCH INCLUDED

LEARN MORE AND REGISTER
AT: www.ane-cob.org

It's National Older Adult Month!

YOU ARE INVITED

Annual District-Wide Older Adult Spring Luncheon

A CELEBRATION OF FELLOWSHIP, FOOD AND FUN!

May 1, 2024; 12:00pm

Yoder's Restaurant, New Holland, PA

\$23.00 per person

**Register online at ane-cob.org, call
the ANE Office 717.367.4730 or
contact your church office**

MENU: Broasted Chicken, Ham Balls or Vegetarian Lasagna. Gourmet Au Gratin Potatoes, Green/Yellow Beans and Carrots, Tossed Salad, Dressings and Family Style Rolls, Butter & Jelly, Hot and Cold Beverages, Vanilla or Chocolate Ice Cream

Special Note: Gluten Free Chicken Platter and a Vegan Hot and Cold vegetable Platter are also available.



Vickie Kissinger, mezzo soprano, PA State Senior Idol, is a classically trained singer, pianist, and organist, with a background in jazz piano studies. Vickie has done countless concerts, recitals and other public engagements. She holds a B.S. in Music Education from Millersville University. Vickie studied under the internationally recognized master voice teacher, Dr. Thomas Houser.

Vickie is the Director of Music for St. John Center Lutheran Church, East Earl and Mellingers Lutheran Church, Stevens. She also runs a private voice and piano studio. She is a certified member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, American Federation of Musicians and the American Guild of Organists.

Hey girls!

1st-6th
grade

You are cordially invited to a

bible  belles

girls event

held at:
Mechanic Grove Church of the Brethren

Join us for a day of fellowship, learning, and worshipping in a family atmosphere!

Attendees will learn and experience the stories of five women from the Bible, seeing that they possess qualities that make them a real-life superhero, a **BIBLE BELLE!**

May 11, 2024

10:00 am - 2:00 pm
1392 Robert Fulton Highway
Quarryville, PA 17566

Additional Details

- The maximum registration is 60 girls
- Registration is by 1st come 1st serve
- **Register at our website www.mgcb.org or scan the QR code to visit.**
- Questions may be sent to: bellesmgcb@gmail.com



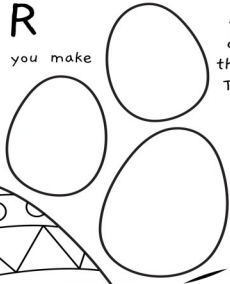
- This event is designed for 1st-6th grade girls to attend with their mother, or another female family member or friend.
 - If you are bringing more than one girl, you are welcome to bring another adult woman (but no more)!



EASTER

How many different words can you make using these letters?

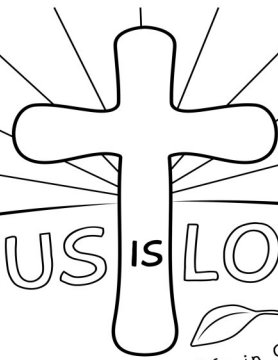
Make your own design on these eggs. Then color them!



DID YOU KNOW?

Eggs are a sign of new life, just like our new life in Christ!

JESUS IS LORD!



HAPPY EASTER!



You can have new life too! Use the alphabet code and your Bible to solve the puzzle and find out how.

Can you find 9 other symbols of new life on this page? Circle each one, then color them!

Use the grid to draw the other side!

"IF YOU C _____ WITH YOUR

3 15 14 6 5 19 19

_____ MOUTH THAT _____ IS LORD AND BELIEVE IN

10 5 19 21 19

YOUR _____ THAT GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE

8 5 1 18 20

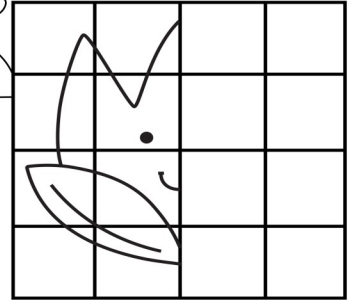
DEAD, YOU WILL BE _____."

ROMANS 10:9, ESV

He is not here, for...

HE IS RISEN!

Matthew 28:6



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