Non-Profit Org U.S. Postage Paid Mechanicsburg, PA Permit No. 112

Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren 301 Gale Street Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Address Service Requested



Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren 301 Gale Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 717-766-8880 www.MechanicsburgCOB.org

Volume 24 Number 10



The Lord hath done

Great things

For us; where of We are glad,

Psalm 126:3, KJV

October Worship Themes

October 6: "The Illuminated Scripture"

– Jim Benedict

Worship Theme: The Bible isn't just a book of ideas and stories to be learned or even memorized. It is a guide for how to live. There will be no written or oral test of our knowledge; the test of whether we really understand it will be how we treat others and care for creation.

Scripture: Acts 8:26-40

October 13: "Widening the Welcome" - Jim Benedict Worship Theme: As God's people, we need to be doing all we can to knock down walls and reach across fences, to show the world another way. Scripture: Acts 10:44-48

October 20: "Cold Water" - Jim Benedict Worship Theme: Let your heart be filled with love and turn loose your imagination. Discover new ways to let others know that they matter to God and to you. Scripture: Matthew 10:40-42

October 27: "Called, Nurtured and Sent"

- Jim Benedict

Worship Theme: We don't have to be Superman. We don't have to be faultless or know all the answers. We just need to be humble and willing to do what we can for the glory of God and our neighbors' good.

Scripture: Mark 6:7-13

Harvest

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Matthew 9:35-38

Falling leaves and falling temperatures signal the arrival of autumn. Pumpkins appear at markets and on porches, and children eagerly await the opportunity to go begging door-to-door on All Hallow's Eve, better known as Halloween. At high schools and colleges, weekends feature football games. But on farms, as the days grow shorter, the pace of work intensifies. Autumn is the time for harvest. Farmers work from dawn to dusk, and often beyond, to bring in the crop. It is a time of urgency.

Jesus, in teaching his disciples, used the metaphor of harvest to point out the urgency of their mission. As Jesus looked around, he saw people struggling – "harassed and helpless" as we read in the gospel. He saw people suffering, hungry, anxious, uncertain. And what he saw inspired compassion in him. He did what he could directly, but he also called on others to respond to the needs.

Through the scriptures and the Holy Spirit, God is still calling. Look around. Do you see people struggling, suffering, harassed and helpless? These are the ones we are called to care for, reach out to, and include in our faith community. For Jesus, true evangelism was not just "winning souls," but gathering in the lost and forsaken, the broken and the oppressed. We welcome all, of course, in Jesus' name. But we place a special emphasis, as Jesus did, on those whom others neglect or even scorn.

The church will flourish and grow if it attends to the mission Jesus set forth. I hope we will here in Mechanicsburg.

Peace,

Pastor Jim





Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 3rd. Remember to turn your clocks <u>back</u> 1 hour.



Join us in person on Sunday mornings!

Stop by the Welcome Center for a cup of coffee, tea, or cocoa before Sunday School at 9 a.m.

Our Worship Service begins in the sanctuary at 10:30 a.m.

You may also join us by Zoom or Live Stream. Search for Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren on You Tube.

For the latest worship and activity information, visit our website. <u>www.mechanicsburgcob.org</u> or follow us on Facebook.

Everyone is welcome!



MCOB News & Activities

Love Feast will be held on Sunday, October 6th at 6:00 p.m.

It's College Student Care Package Time!

We are collecting individually wrapped snacks, treats and other helpful goodies to send to all the college students connected to our congregation. Right now, we know of about a dozen or so who are either on campus or are commuters. Please bring your **donations by Sunday, October 13, 2024** and place them in the designated bin by the coat rack across from the Pastor's Office. We will then pack the boxes and get them in the mail to our students that week.

Just a note for those of you who prefer to donate to the mailing costs and purchase of additional items for the boxes (if necessary) At this time, there are sufficient funds in the budget to cover the costs of anything we may need and the mailing costs.

Thank you, on behalf of our students, for your generous support of this project each spring and fall!

PARENTS: Please check the list on the bulletin board to be sure we have the correct address for your student. If it's correct, just mark "OK". If it's not, please write the correct one. Did we miss anyone???

Lunch & Learn Fellowship Wednesday, October 16th at 11:30 a.m.

Guest Speaker: Mary Bach.

Mary is a long-time nationally recognized, independent Consumer Advocate. As a volunteer, she is also Chair of the AARP Pennsylvania Consumer Issues Task Force.

Are you getting what you paid for? Do you ever feel "ripped off" in the market place? Do you understand Pennsylvania's amusing and confusing sales tax applications? When you pump a gallon of gas, how do you know that that is what you received? Have you noticed that packages are shrinking the amount of product we get for the price we pay?

When selecting merchandise, do you have to hunt for the price? Have you ever been over charged at a scanner check out register? Your shopping trips will never be the same after this entertaining and educational presentation packed with important consumer information.



New Hope Christmas Blessing Express . . .

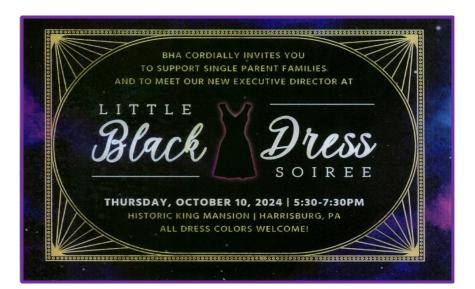
where the guests were able to shop for unwrapped gifts for the whole family.

This season, we are only accepting new clothing for children through tweens. No adult clothing, except what is listed on the Wish List.

Thank you for your generosity and love to our neighbors in need especially during this challenging time. With your support, we can make this Season filled with Hope and Love.

Please pick up a copy of the Christmas Wish List, available in the narthex and place your unwrapped items in the designated box by **Thursday**, **December 5th**.







New Hope Thanksgiving Blessing

We bless our guests with a Thanksgiving basket each year.

The following items are some suggestions: turkey, gravy, canned corn, canned green beans, canned yams, boxed potatoes, canned fruit cocktail, cranberry sauce, boxed stuffing, and dry beans.

Please place your items in the designated box by **November 7**th.

Turkeys should be placed in the freezer.

Memorial to the Lost October 20– November 2

The Harrisburg Chapter of Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence presented a Sunday School session during the Summer. You may recall Gerald Rhoades' class.

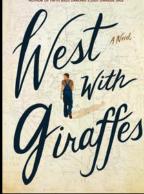
Heeding God's <u>Call</u>

Their 'Memorial to the Lost' will be in our front yard from October 20 – November 2 to raise awareness and support advocacy against gun violence.

The Memorial will consist of tee shirts for local people killed in the past 3 years (approximately 170).

Volunteers are needed to set up on Sunday, October 20th. A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex by the office window.

LYNDA RUTLEDGE



The **Church Book Club** will meet on Monday, October 28, 2024 on Zoom.

This month's selection is "*West with Giraffes*" by Lynda Rutledge.

The Discussion Leader is Jill Risser.

Congregational Forum Sunday, October 27th

A carry-in meal will take place immediately following worship.

Please bring a hot and/or cold dish to share, as well as a place setting for each family member. The business meeting will begin around 12:30 p.m.



Mechanicsburg/West Shore CROP Hunger Walk

Sun., Oct. 20, 2024

5K/1.5-mi. Fun Run/Walk Rain or Shine

Memorial Park, 1 Memorial Park Dr, Mechanicsburg, PA

1:00PM Check-In & New Registrations 1:30PM Team Pictures 1:50PM Kick-Off 2:00PM Walk Begins

T-Shirts to walkers who register on-line by Sept. 27, 2024

Strollers & Leashed Dogs Welcome Live DJ Refreshments This is a 100% volunteer-led effort!

Use the **link below** or **QR code** to register as an individual and/or form a team or register in person on the day of the walk.

https://crophungerwalk.org/mechanicsburgpa

Walkers are invited to generously sponsor themselves and to solicit sponsors. Make checks payable to CWS/CROP.

Facebook: CROP Hunger Walk – Mechanicsburg/West Shore

100% of proceeds benefit New Hope Ministries, Mechanicsburg Area Meals on Wheels and the global relief efforts of Church World Service.



For more info, contact Ulli Klemm, Coordinator ulliklemm@yahoo.com 724.464.8748

Please consider supporting our walkers! Let's help end hunger . . together!





Kickstarting the School Year with Supplies and Smiles!

We are thrilled to reflect on another successful back-to-school event across all our Centers! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated items and volunteered their time to ensure our kids received a fantastic start to their school year. Your support has made a world of difference.

Back-to-school supplies are more than just pencils and notebooks; they are the keys to unlocking each child's potential.

For many families facing financial difficulties, the cost of these supplies can be a significant hurdle. By providing these essential tools, we are empowering every child to embrace learning with confidence and enthusiasm. Our events include games, face painting, and delicious treats, making it a joyful and memorable occasion for all. Together, we've set the stage for a wonderful school year filled with opportunities and hope. Here's to a fantastic start, and to the incredible community that makes it all possible!

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

Need Help?	Wish List:	Volunteer with us!		
If you or someone you know needs help with food or dealing with a financial crisis, please contact us. (717) 432-2087	 Canned meats and peanut butter Canned veggies/fruit Personal care items Cleaning items 	There are many volunteer opportunities available. Please give us a call, or visit our website to see how you can be a part of our ministry!		



Volunteers Needed!

Please see the sign-up sheet by the office window.



District & Community News



Family Promise

56 Erford Road Camp Hill, PA 17011 717-737-1100 www.familypromisehcr.org "A community response for homeless families"

Day Center Needs

Printer Paper	Trash Bags (not Good Sense)			
Laundry Detergent	Swiffer Mop Pads			
Swiffer Wet Jet Solution	Febreze			
Women's Razors	Dish Soap			
Baby Wipes	Shampoo			
Shaving Cream	AA and AAA Batteries			
Zip Loc Bags, Foil, Plastic Wrap				

Paper Plates

Queen Inflatable Mattress

Gift cards to Sheetz, Giant, Walmart – These help families with gas to go to work, food beyond what we provide here, and medicine. Many items families need can be bought with these cards, allowing families to save their money towards housing while they are here. Another great thing about gift cards...they take up very little space!

News from Camp Eder Senior Day: Wednesday, November 6, 2024



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH 10AM-4PM MEAL SERVED 11AM-3PM LIVE AUCTION 10:30AM

-Pork Meal-Barrel Train Rides-Hay Rides -Live Auction-Kid's Activities-Craft Vendors -Eder Made Apple Butter-Yard Sale Vendors -Live Music-

> 914 MOUNT HOPE RD Fairfield, pa 17320



— Oct	tober					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Family Promise	2 Quilting 9 a.m. Bible Study 9 a.m. (Zoom) Choir 7:30 p.m. Church Office Closed Family Promise	3 Grief Support Group 1 p.m. (Library) Handbells 6:30 p.m. Family Promise	4 Family Promise	5 Family Promise
6 Food for New Hope Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Love Feast 6 p.m.	7 CROP Walk Comm. 7 p.m. (Library)	8 Men's Breakfast 9 a.m. (Brother's Restaurant) Executive Comm. Meeting 7 p.m.	9 Quilting 9 a.m. Bible Study 9 a.m. (Zoom) Ladies Luncheon 11:30 a.m. (Lower Allen Diner) Choir 7:30 p.m.	10 BHA Little Black Dress Soiree Handbells 6:30 p.m.	11	12
13 Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. College Care Packages Deadline	14 Knitting Group 1 p.m. (Library) Willing Learners	15 Caregiver Support Group 1 p.m. (Library) Class Reserved	16 Quilting 9 a.m. Bible Study 9 a.m. (Zoom) Lunch & Learn Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Choir 7:30 p.m.	17 Packing College -	18 Fellowship Hall Reserved 2 p.m. – Sat. 10 a.m. (CROP Walk) Care Packages	19 November Newsletter Deadline Camp Eder Fall Fest
20 Family Promise Donations Promotion Bible Sunday Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. CROP Walk	21	22	23 Quilting 9 a.m. Bible Study 9 a.m. (Zoom) Choir 7:30 p.m.	24	25	26 TRUNK OR TREAT – FALL FUN DAY (MCOB Parking Lot)
27 Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Fall Congregational Forum	28 Knitting Group 1 p.m. (Library) Church Book Club 7 p.m. (Zoom)	29	30 Quilting 9 a.m. Bible Study 9 a.m. (Zoom) Choir 7:30 p.m.	31 Fellowship Hall Reserved (Cumberland County)	9	024