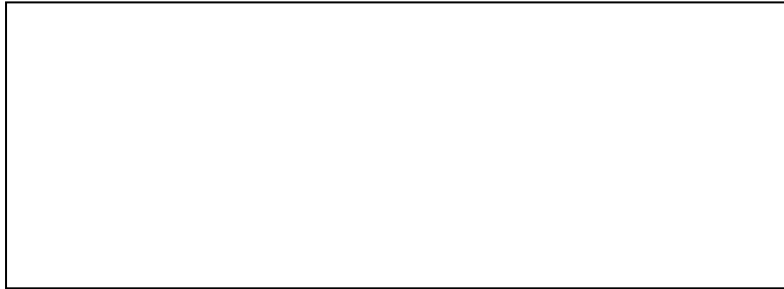


**FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**  
455 Trumbauersville Road  
Quakertown, Pa. 18951  
Phone: 215-536-7510  
Web Site: [www.quakertowncob.org](http://www.quakertowncob.org)  
Email address: [quakertowncob@verizon.net](mailto:quakertowncob@verizon.net)  
Rev. John B. Shaffer, Pastor

Non-Profit  
Organization  
Permit #11  
Quakertown,  
Pennsylvania  
US Postage Paid



## **CELEBRATE JESUS**

DISCOVER WHAT MAKES  
HIM ATTRACTIVE TO SO  
MANY PEOPLE.

**PALM SUNDAY – April 17**  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 21, 7pm**  
Love Feast, Feetwashing & Communion  
**GOOD FRIDAY - April 22**  
Evening Service – 7pm

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
Easter Dawn Service – 6:30am  
Sunday School – 9:30am  
Easter Celebration Worship – 10:00am

**SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00AM**  
(Classes for ALL ages)  
**WORSHIP – 10:00AM**  
(Nursery & Junior Church)

\*\*\*\*\*

**PIONEER CLUBS FOR CHILDREN**  
**KINDERGARTEN – JUNIOR HIGH**  
**WEDNESDAY, 6:45PM – 8:00PM**

\*\*\*\*\*

**TWO WEEKLY**  
**ADULT BIBLE STUDIES**  
**WEDNESDAY – 11AM & 6:45PM**

Please Join Us!

**Saturday – 9:30am**  
**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

Look inside for information on services,  
programs & activities.

# THE BEACON

FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

455 TRUMBAUERSVILLE ROAD \* QUAKERTOWN, PA. 18951

PHONE: 215-536-7510 \* EMAIL: QUAKERTOWNCOB@VERIZON.NET

PASTOR: REV. JOHN B. SHAFFER

April 2011

## **Celebrate Jesus – Celebrate Easter – Celebrate Life**

As we conclude our “Celebrate Jesus” Lenten theme on Easter Sunday, I can’t help but have two conflicting thoughts. First, what can be said about Lent, Good Friday and Easter that has not already been said? And, second, what is the matter with me, for thinking that way, as Christ brings newness of life every day!

First, it is true that much has been said over the past 2,000 (almost) years about Christ and His mighty works in our lives and for our lives. There is no doubt about it, Jesus lived, died and lived again so that we may have eternal life with Him. Any way you say it, it is **Good News!** It is important to Celebrate Easter and to celebrate what Jesus has done for us. It is a lesson that never grows old and bears repeating, no matter how many years, decades, centuries or millennium it will be until He returns. I liken it to communion—Jesus said, “*Do this in remembrance of me.*”

But, and it gets to my second thought, that gift isn’t just a gift from the past, it is a gift that keeps on giving. It is about that newness of life every day. How is that newness revealed? It is revealed in the Easter Lily, springtime, the empty tomb, and the empty cross. But those symbols point to something bigger and better – a faith in our Lord and Savior that lives on for all eternity. The timeless nature of God’s Word – the Bible; the ever-presence of the Holy Spirit to guide our words, thoughts and deeds; and the Body of Christ – the Church – that continues to nurture and strengthen our walk with the Lord. By worshiping a living and loving Lord, Easter isn’t just past tense. Easter is here and now. New life is every day. Jesus didn’t just care 2,000 years ago, He cares, He loves, He moves in our midst today and every day.

Join us on April 24<sup>th</sup> to Celebrate Easter, to Celebrate Jesus. Our Easter Dawn service at 6:30 a.m. (outside, weather permitting) is really a Sunrise service. Our 10:00 a.m. service continues the *CELEBRATION* which never gets old! And don’t forget to get past my first thought and join us every week as the old, old story is new every day!

May the Easter blessing be real and new to you and yours.

*Pastor John*





**PASTOR: Rev. John B. Shaffer**

Pastor John is available **any time** and can be reached at the numbers below; however, he does have weekly office hours. Just to be sure he isn't visiting an area hospital or someone at their home, you may wish to call in advance.

**Monday thru Thursday – 9:30am – 12:30pm**

**Church: 215-536-7510 \* Home: 215-538-2032 \* Cell: 610-413-1997**

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**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| April 4 – Larry Schwartz                                 | April 22 – Justine Musselman                  |
| April 5 – Joan Hangey / Meagan Roth                      | April 23 – Anya Swavely / Wendy Vandegrift    |
| April 8 – Doug Graham                                    | April 24 – Benjamin Patton                    |
| April 14 – Sharon Renninger                              | April 25 – Lisa Gallagher / Karen Uhl         |
| April 16 – Cooper Mapes / April Odor                     | April 27 – Andrea Adams / Kari Sassaman       |
| April 18 – Michael Yorgey                                | April 28 – Ken Troxell                        |
| April 19 – Cindy Hunter                                  | April 29 – Donovan Donnelly / Michael Shubert |
| April 21 – Trey Adams / Patrick Murphy / Shirley Unangst |   |



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

Pat & Jackie Murphy – April 8 – Happy 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary!  
Luke & Anna Brandt – April 21 – Happy 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!



**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

**THREE ADULT CLASSES : 1) “EXCELLENT LIVING”,** led by Juli, **2) “END TIMES”,** led by Helen. This senior adult class has begun this new study by R. Paul Stevens. This study is from both the Old and New Testaments. Do you ever wonder about things like, “What happens when I die?” “Will the world end with a fizzle or a bang?” “Will things get worse or better?” “Does my work have any lasting significance?” “What will heaven be like?” “Will I go there?” Join this class in the chapel to find the answers to these and many more questions. **3) “IF YOU WANT TO WALK ON WATER, YOU’VE GOT TO GET OUT OF THE BOAT”,** led by Keith.

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**PRE-NURSERY (CHILDREN 3 & UNDER) LED BY ERIC DIETERLY & TRACEY SHEARER**

**NURSERY CLASS (AGES 3 & 4) LED BY CONNIE HOLSINGER**

**BEGINNERS CLASS (KDG & GR 1) LED BY TINA DIETERLY & JUDY MENSZAK**

**LITTLE GLEANERS (GR 2 & 3) LED BY SUSAN SHAFFER (SANDY SHEARER, SUBSTITUTE)**

**SUNBEAM CLASS (GR 4 – 6) LED BY AUDREY HOWARD & PAT MURPHY**

**JUNIOR HIGH (GR 7 – 8) LED BY AMANDA & JEFF VANDEGRIFT**

**SENIOR HIGH (GR 9 – 12) – LED BY BRIAN & HOLLY KELLY & LISA & AARON SASSAMAN**

**PIONEER CLUBS! FOR CHILDREN KINDERGARTEN - JUNIOR HIGH**

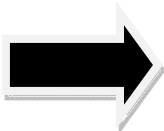
**WEDNESDAY - 6:45PM – 8:00PM IT’S FREE! IT’S FUN!**

**VOYAGERS (led by Karen Steich) – Grades 1 – 3**

**TRAILBLAZERS (led by Juli Thomas & Susan Shaffer) – Grades 4 – 6**

**JUNIOR HIGH (led by Audrey Howard)**

**PIONEER CLUBS DIRECTORS: Audrey Howard & Karen Steich**





**WEDNESDAY MORNING**

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**, “God Heard Their Cry” by Ray

VanderLaan, 11:00am. “In ancient times, nothing was bigger than Egypt, with its powerful pharaohs, strong armies, and multitude of

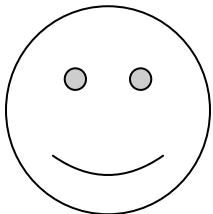
gods. God’s people were no match against the Egyptians. In these lessons, we will discover how God answers the cry of his persecuted people and proclaims himself LORD to them and their oppressors.” Join us. **WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER AND ADULT BIBLE STUDY** - 6:45pm – 8:00pm (same time as the children’s Pioneer Clubs program!). During the final 15 to 20 minutes, joys and concerns are lifted in prayer. The adults are looking at another study from God’s Word by Ray VanderLaan. **SATURDAY MORNING WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY** - 9:30am. Join us beginning April 30th as we begin a new DVD study by Liz Curtis Higgs, “Unveiling Mary Magdalene” – “Discover the truth about a not-so-bad girl of the Bible”. See Juli or Susan if you would like a study guide. Please join us.

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE** ...

*“Bible verses are stars that light our path and help keep us on course.”*

**MEMORY SCRIPTURE FOR APRIL**

*“If my people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” II Chronicles 7:14*



**“SMILE – IT’S YOUR BEST FEATURE”**

The math teacher saw that little Johnny wasn’t paying attention in class. She called on him and said,

“Johnny! What are 2, 4, 28 and 44?” Little Johnny quickly replied, “NBC, CBS, HBO and the Cartoon Network!”

**LOOKING AHEAD: MARK YOUR CALENDAR - 17<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FAMILY FUN WALK** – Sunday, May

1 beginning at 4pm at Peter Becker Community in Harleysville. The Walk supports COBYS.

**“ALL IS WELL”**

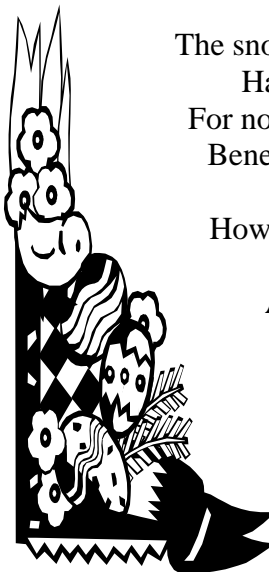
The virgin white of winter  
Now wears a shawl of green  
For all the trees are budding  
And flowers can be seen.

The snow that chilled us yesterday  
Has melted like a dream  
For now the stone is rolled away  
Beneath the sunlight’s gleam.

How sweet the sounds of spring  
As songbirds now return,  
And here below the rainbow  
Each makes another turn.

For spring’s a noble season,  
One of show and tell,  
When God reveals His majesty  
And shows us all is well.

By: Clay Harrison



**“CLEAN-UP DAY AROUND THE CHURCH” -- THE STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION**

is organizing a “clean-up” day on Saturday, April 2. Men and women are invited to meet at the church at 9am. The women are invited to help clean the kitchen. Bring your cleaning supplies and meet in the kitchen. Any questions, please see Juli.



**WOULD LIKE TO ORDER AN EASTER LILY**

to beautify the sanctuary on Easter Sunday? The cost is \$7. Please see Linda. (Deadline is April 11.)



**OUR ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT**

will be held Saturday, April 16 at 10am. Children of ALL ages are invited to bring their baskets and



have fun gathering the colorful eggs filled with “treats”. See Ellie or Brittany and offer to help.

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**

- The Women’s Fellowship is organizing this time of fellowship the first Sunday of the month and they are seeking volunteers to sign-up for a Sunday.

Join us for light refreshments and coffee in the Chapel. Please see Juli if you can help.



**MEMBERS, FRIENDS, AND NEIGHBORS IN OUR COMMUNITY: DO YOU HAVE A NEED OR CONCERN THAT YOU WOULD LIKE US TO LIFT UP IN PRAYER?**

Please call the church office at anytime, send us an email, or drop us a note mentioning your prayer concern or joy. If you feel more comfortable, include only your first name. Our burdens are made much lighter just knowing that we are being lifted in prayer. We will gladly include your need or concern with our own on Wednesday evening during our time of prayer and on Sunday morning during the Worship Service. We also have a Prayer Chain, and we would be glad to place your prayer request on that. It's a great comfort and strength to know that we have a caring God who loves us and responds to the prayers of His people.

CALL FOR PRAYER AT  
215-536-7510

**APRIL BOOK REVIEW BY SANDY ...**

“Home to Briar Mountain” by: Diane Noble ... another great story involving Kate and Paul Hanlon, the minister and his “mystery-solving” wife from Faith Briar Church. On a terribly stormy night, Kate gets a strange phone call from Joe Tucker. Joe tells Kate he’s found something but Kate doesn’t understand. When Kate goes out to find Joe the mystery begins. Little does she know that the mystery may include answers to the church’s secret past. With God’s help, can Kate find the answers before it’s too late? If you would like to borrow this book, please let Sandy know. Give her a call – she’d be glad to share it with you.

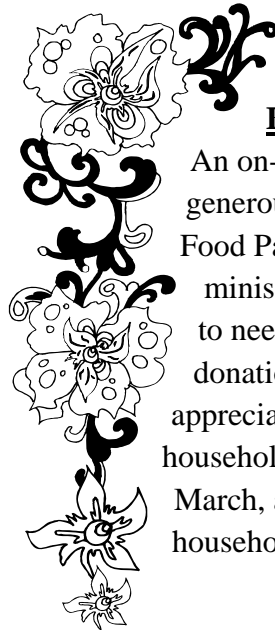


*“I will listen for the Word of God; surely the Lord will proclaim peace to His people, to the faithful, to those who trust in Him.”*

*Psalms 85:9*

**A NOTE FROM HEAVEN’S BOUNTY FOOD PANTRY ...**

An on-going thank you for your generous donations to Heaven’s Bounty Food Pantry and for keeping this ministry in your prayers. We continue to need sweetened cereals, and the donations received thus far are so appreciated. In February we served 54 households for a total of 128 people. In March, as of the 17<sup>th</sup>), we served 36 households for a total of 88 people.



**“SPRING DAWNING”**

*It is Spring – another day is dawning,  
The sky lightens to a paler blue,  
And after the long, dark night,  
A brighter world comes into view.*



*There is hope in the newness of morning  
And faith at the start of a new day  
In an old world that challenges us  
To make it better in some way.*

*We cannot tell just yet  
If the day will bring sunshine or rain,  
But each of us has the power  
To not live life in vain.*

*We are to love one another  
And do all that we can  
To make this world a better place  
To fit our Creator’s plan.*



*So this new Spring day, let’s vow  
We truly live the part,  
For even if the day brings rain,  
We can keep sunshine in our heart!*

*By: Starrlette L. Howard*

***“But the path of the just is like shining light,  
that grows in brilliance till perfect day.***

***Proverbs 4:18***



**CHURCH FAMILY NEWS ...** Kevin participated in a 4 mile race up and down the hills of Spinnerstown in March.

This was his first race and he came in 3<sup>rd</sup>. 135 runners participated in this race, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Bucks County. Out of 135 runners Kevin was the 76<sup>th</sup> runner (third in his class) to cross the finish line. His time was 38 mins.-33 sec. Kevin was award a medal for 3<sup>rd</sup> place in his age bracket. Congratulations Kevin – way to go!

**WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH**

**FAMILY,** Tom and Megan Giuffrida and Beth Moser. Please give them your warmest welcome. They are a special addition to our congregation.

**“WHAT CAN I SAY ABOUT THE BOYS’ SLEEPOVER?”**

Let’s start with “boys will be boys”, no matter what age! There were a total of 9 boys and 3 “adult kids”. We started off the evening with Manhunt. Then we went to capture the flag, and in between we had snacks, and hot dogs cooked over an open flame (outside of course!). Our outdoor activities went ‘til about 10:30pm. Thank God for a wonderful night so we could be outside. That’s when dodge ball came in to play. The kids split into even teams and then the balls started flying. Toward the end of the night we put the boys on one time and us “older aged kids” on the other side. It was a little uneven, but we held our own and it all ended with a tie. “BEDTIME”! Man, that was a pleasant sound, but not for the kids. It seemed like they got a second wind. They watched a movie and had a few pillow fights, then finally settled in at 3:00am. The sleepover ended with a wonderful breakfast made by Karen and Audrey. Our youngest attendee (5 years old) when asked if he had fun couldn’t stretch his arms wide enough to show how much fun he had. Thanks to all who came!!”



From: “The over-aged kids – Keith Donnelly, Eric Dieterly, Aaron Sassaman

**MORE CHURCH FAMILY NEWS ...**

**VOLUNTEER FIREMAN**

**AWARDS ...** On March 12, 2011 Quakertown West End Fire

Company held there awards banquet for 2010. Jason Haring received two awards. The first award was for “Most calls made in 2010” - Jason made 285 calls out of 452. The second award was for “Most active fireman”.

Jason received this award for his work on the new hall entrance, working on the building expansion committee and for helping out around the firehouse. And Dad - Jeff Haring also received an award for 30 years of active service.



**“CELEBRATE JESUS”**  
**SCHEDULE OF EASTER SERVICES**  
**PLEASE JOIN US!**

**Palm Sunday – April 17**

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**Maundy Thursday Evening, April 21, 7pm**  
**Love Feast, Feetwashing & Communion**

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**Good Friday, April 22**

**Evening Service at 7pm**

*“He poured out His soul unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many.” Isaiah 53:12*

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**EASTER DAWN SERVICE – April 24 –**  
**6:30am**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9am**

**EASTER CELEBRATION WORSHIP**  
**SERVICE – 10am**

*“Up from the grave He arose, with a mighty triumph o’er His foes; He arose a Victor from the dark domain, and He lives forever with His saints to reign.*

*He arose, He arose*  
*Alleluia, Christ arose!”*



**BEHOLD,**  
**CHRIST HAS RISEN!**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR HOLY WEEK**  
**AND EASTER SERVICES. BRING A**  
**FRIEND!**

**“THE LEGEND OF THE DOGWOOD”**

The dogwood was the tree that stood  
 On Calvary’s bare hillside,  
 Cut down and carved into the cross  
 On which the Savior died.  
 Each of its cross-shaped blossoms bear  
 Four nail prints stained with red,  
 And the heart of every bloom is like  
 The thorns which crowned His head.  
 And though this tree reminds us  
 Of the sorrow on that hill,  
 Each Spring its life and beauty show  
 That Christ lives with us still.



**“THE U IN JESUS”**

Before U were thought of or time had begun,  
 God even stuck U in the name of His Son.  
 And each time U pray, you’ll see it’s true:  
 You can’t spell out JesUs and not include U.

You’re a pretty big part of His wonderful name.  
 For U, He was born; that’s why He came.  
 And His great love for U is the reason He died.  
 It even takes U to spell crUcified.

When JesUs left earth at His upward ascension,  
 He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.  
 “Go into the world and tell them it’s true.  
 That I love them all – Just like I love U.”

So many great people are spelled with a U;  
 Don’t they have a right to know JesUs too?  
 It all depends now on what U will do,  
 He’d like them to know, but it all starts with U.

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