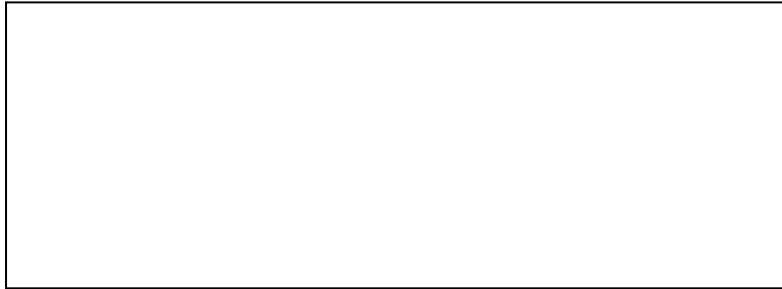


**FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**  
455 Trumbauersville Road  
Quakertown, Pa. 18951  
Phone: 215-536-7510  
Web Site: [www.quakertowncob.org](http://www.quakertowncob.org)  
Email address: [quakertowncob@verizon.net](mailto:quakertowncob@verizon.net)  
Rev. John B. Shaffer, Pastor

Non-Profit  
Organization  
Permit #11  
Quakertown,  
Pennsylvania  
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**OUR SERMON THEME  
FOR THE LENTEN SEASON:**

**CELEBRATE JESUS!**

DISCOVER WHAT MAKES  
HIM ATTRACTIVE TO SO  
MANY PEOPLE.



**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!

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

March 2011

## **“CELEBRATE JESUS”**

In a few short days we will be observing the Season of Lent. The Lenten Season is generally a very spiritual time that begins on Ash Wednesday (March 9<sup>th</sup> this year) and continues until the celebration of Easter on Easter Sunday (April 24<sup>th</sup> this year). Various customs and traditions are observed throughout the Christian Community, including fasting, confession, abstaining from festivities and penance for our sins. Some traditions are merely “business as usual”, including the Church of the Brethren, to some extent. The exception is Holy Week, the period from Palm Sunday to Easter, which is generally filled with special services in virtually all traditions.

Regardless, there is value in acknowledging/celebrating special events and “happenings” in the life of the Church. For starters those celebrations enable us to focus more clearly on the importance of our faith. They also help us get excited about our faith as we reflect on the events and traditions that span hundreds, if not thousands of years, truly passing the test of time. And, finally, celebrating the “seasons” of the faith make us more knowledgeable and, therefore, better equipped to share our faith with others.

This is where our Lenten theme for this year has applicability. We are going to ***“Celebrate Jesus”*** so that we and many more will become even more attracted to Him. Exploring what made Jesus so attractive to many folks some 2,000 years ago will enable us to draw closer to our Lord and Savior as we attempt to emulate Him and learn how to share Him with others. The themes in the life of Jesus we will explore starting with the Sunday before Ash Wednesday include how: (1) **He stayed spiritually connected and directed;** (2) **He shattered the stereotypes of “us” and “them”;** (3) **Much He liked people and drew out the best in them;** (4) **He knew His identity but served with humility;** (5) **He spoke God’s truth in everyday language;** (6) **He cast a vision of a better Kingdom, now and for all eternity;** (7) **He courageously completed His assigned mission; and, (8) He broke the power of darkness so all can live in the light.**

Join us and get excited as we ***“Celebrate Jesus”*** during Lent so that we can truly celebrate Jesus in all aspects of our lives, every day of every year and share Him with others!

*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 & Wednesday – 10:00am – 2:00pm**

**Tuesday & Thursday – 9:30am – 12:30pm**

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

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

March 1 – Karen Steich/Lorraine Swartley

March 2 – Gerald Hangey/Pastor John/Melissa Pistone

March 3 – Sarah Schlicher

March 5 – Anna Brandt/Rocco Shubert

March 7 – Susan Bryant

March 11 – Susan Shaffer

March 17 – David Bedwell / Taylor Vandegrift

March 21 – Larry Gallagher

March 24 – Monica Donnelly /Stephanie Waddell

March 25 – Mark Yorgey

March 26 – Janel Zomberg

March 27 – Madeline Dutterer

March 31 – Benay Forte/John Pfeiffer

**“A New Beginning”** -- It doesn't take a new year to begin our lives anew – God grants us new beginnings each day the whole year through, so never be discouraged for there comes daily to all men the chance to make another start and begin all over again!

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

**THREE ADULT CLASSES :** 1) **“EXCELLENT LIVING”**, led by Juli, 2) **“ANGELS”**, led by Helen. 3) **“IF YOU WANT TO WALK ON WATER, YOU'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF THE BOAT”**, led by Keith. **THERE'S MORE ...**

**A LOVING PRE-NURSERY (FOR CHILDREN UNDER 3 YEARS OF AGE)**

**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**

**BRING YOUR CHILDREN TO JOIN US FOR AN HOUR OF BIBLE STUDY AND ACTIVITIES.**

**IT'S FREE! IT'S FUN! AND YOU DON'T NEED TO BE A MEMBER OF OUR CHURCH TO ATTEND! BRING A FRIEND WITH YOU!**

**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** begins at 11:00am.

**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.

**SATURDAY MORNING WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY** - 9:30am – 10:30am. Join us as we continue the study of “Bad Girls of the Bible”.

**ATTENTION SENIORS (55+)** – The Senior Adult Spring Banquet will be held on Thursday, March 24, 2011, at 12:00 noon, at the Franconia Heritage Banquet and Conference Center. There is a flier and sign-up sheet on the bulletin board near the water fountain. Sign-up for your choice of baked ham or oven-roasted chicken breast. Please note the deadline of **Thursday, March 6**. Any questions? Please see Linda, our Senior Adult Representative.



**ASH WEDNESDAY PRAYER VIGIL – MARCH 9, 7am – 7pm**

See the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board near the Library. Let’s try to fill every slot. You can spend your half hour of prayer time in the sanctuary, in your home, at work, or weather permitting – outside.

*“What Is Prayer? Prayer is the burden of a sigh, the falling of a tear, the upward glancing of an eye when none but God is near.”*

**1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT, MARCH 13 -- Lent Sermon**  
**Theme: “CELEBRATE JESUS”**

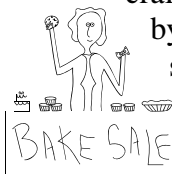


*“You’re not just a number computers can trace; Christ knows your need, your name, your face.”*

**THE 28<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL PETER BECKER COMMUNITY FLOWER SHOW** will be held March 17 – 19.



Their theme this year is “Gulliver’s Travels”. See the posters throughout the church promoting this annual event. There are crafts, (Donna will have a craft table – stop by and see her and the other crafters), a scavenger hunt, antique show, bake sale, good food, plant sale, quilt sale and so much more. There is fun for ALL ages. **CAN YOU HELP WITH**



**THE BAKE SALE** by donating baked goods? Label what you’ve made and please indicate if the item you’re donating contains nuts, PLEASE! The usual cakes, pies, breads, brownies, cookies, etc., will be gratefully appreciated. Tracey has offered to pick-up these items at the church on Wednesday, March 16 at 7pm. Please see Tracey, our Peter Becker Representative, if you have any questions, or if you would like to help with the bake sale or in anyway.

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE ...**

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

**MEMORY SCRIPTURE FOR MARCH**

*“Therefore ... whatever you do, do all to the Glory of God.” I Corinthians 10:31*

**“Anticipating Spring”**

When wintertime seems very long,  
Remember comes the robin’s song;  
As well as flowers in glorious bloom,  
As wiped away is winter’s gloom.

Our lives are as the seasons go,  
A time to rest and time to grow;  
And spring personifies the Christ  
Who broke the bonds of death’s dark strife!

So let us neither weep nor wane,  
Because the skies will smile again;  
And when we feel the weight of care,  
Remember God is always there!

By: Sancier Earman King

*“Thou hast set all the borders of the earth: Thou hast made summer and winter.” Psalm 74:17*

**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

\*\*\*\*\*

**Why not make this your prayer today:**

“Lord, help me to glorify You. I am poor – help me to glorify You through contentment. I am sick – help me to honor You through patience. I have talents – help me to praise You by using them for You. I have time, Lord – help me to redeem it by using it to serve You. I have a heart to feel – let me feel no love but Yours, and let my heart glow with no flame but my affection for You. I have a brain to think – help me to think of You.

Lord, You have put me in this world for a reason – show me what that is and help me work out my life purpose. I can't do much, but as the widow put in her two mites – which was everything she had – I place my time and eternity into Your treasury. Lord, I am Yours – take me and enable me to glorify You now in everything I say, in everything I do, and with all I have.”

From “Look Unto Me” The Devotions of Charles Spurgeon – February 15 Devotional

**THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMISSION IS HOLDING THEIR ANNUAL BREAKFAST** on



**Saturday, March 26 at 9:00am**, at John's Plain & Fancy Restaurant in Quakertown. A sign-up sheet will be placed in the narthex so we have an idea of how many will be attending. This year, the Christian Ed. Commission would like to gear this workshop event to teachers and/or those who have an interest in teaching. Our speaker for the morning will be Sherry Eshelman. We are not restricting this event to just teachers, as all are invited, but the Commission is encouraging ALL teachers to attend this event. We hope it will be helpful in assisting with educating our children and adults in the church. Any questions please speak to Juli, Chair of the Christian Ed. Commission.

**MARCH BOOK REVIEW BY SANDY “The Thorn”** By: Beverly Lewis – The Thorn is the

first book in a new series by Beverly Lewis. Rose and Hen are sisters, both brought up in the old order Amish way. When Hen falls in love with an outsider and marries him, she thinks this is what she wants. Now years later she is longing for the plain life she grew up with. Will she go back to the plain life to find peace? Rose on the other hand has stayed with the community. Does that make her life any less complicated? Not from where she stands. With God's help, will these sisters find the answers? The next book in this series comes out in April: “The Judgment”.

**JOIN US FOR A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENT the first Sunday of the month.**

The Women's Fellowship is organizing this time and seeking volunteers to sign-up for a Sunday (see Juli). We are encouraged to keep the refreshments light (pretzels, crackers, etc.) and of course coffee! Join us in the chapel for a visit.

**CHURCH NEWS: WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY ...**

Jim and Betsy Madison “officially” joined our congregation on Sunday, January 9. Jim and Betsy have been very active in the programs and activities of our church, and we’re so glad they decided to make the commitment to become members. Please give them your warmest welcome.

**READING THE NEWSPAPER** – A father wanted to read the paper but was being bothered by his little daughter, Vanessa. Finally, he tore a sheet out of his magazine, on which was printed the map of the world. Tearing it into pieces, he gave it to Vanessa and said, “Go into the other room and see if you can put this together.” After a few minutes, Vanessa returned and handed him the map correctly fitted together. The father was surprised and asked how she had finished so quickly. “Oh,” she said, “on the other side of the paper was a picture of Jesus. When I got Jesus in His place, then the world came out all right.”

- From The Fishwrapper

**NEWS FROM HEAVEN’S BOUNTY FOOD PANTRY**

– Thanks to the generous donations of so many individuals and organizations, our pantry is currently well supplied. We have been busy too. In January we served 61 households for a total of 167 people. As of February 18, we have served 52 households for a total of 117 people. One item that we have an on-going need for is kid’s cereals. We could also use condensed chicken noodle and vegetable soups. Donated items can be placed in the basket in the hallway. Thank you for your on-going support.



**BEHOLD,  
CHRIST HAS RISEN!**

**“THIS IS JUST A RESTING PLACE”**

Sometimes the road of life seems long  
As we travel through the years.  
And, with a heart that’s broken  
And eyes brimful of tears,  
We falter in our weariness  
And sink beside the way.  
But God leans down and whispers,  
“Child, there’ll be another day”.  
And the road will grow much smoother  
And much easier to face,  
So do not be disheartened  
This is just a “resting place”.

By: Helen Steiner Rice



**GET YOUR WORK CLOTHES AND JOIN US AT THE CHURCH**

on Saturday, April 2, beginning at 9am for an indoor clean-up day. Members of the Stewardship Commission plan to continue their work in the Sunday School classrooms, narthex, and other areas around the church. Everyone is invited to attend. Plan to come and help clean-up God’s house! If you have any questions please see Keith.

**THE ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT**

will be held on Saturday, April 16 (be watching and listening for the time). Donations of wrapped candies are needed and can be placed in the specially marked container in the hallway. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated and can be given to Ellie or Brittney. A special thanks to them for organizing this church and community event for the children. If you have any questions, please see Ellie or Brittney.



**PALM SUNDAY** –April 17  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY - LOVE FEAST & COMMUNION SERVICE** – April 21  
**GOOD FRIDAY** – April 22  
**EASTER SUNDAY** – April 24



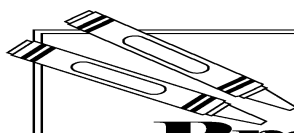
**LENT ...REpent – A WORTHY WORD FOR LENT** – What pops into your mind when you hear the word “repent”? Is it a dark and somber word for you, perhaps reminding you of John the Baptist’s shouting for people to repent and be baptized? What does the word “repent” mean anyway? Literally, it means to stop the way one is going, turn around, and then walk in the opposite direction. It refers to turning away from sin and shallow living and to begin walking through life following God’s direction. Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, March 9, is an opportunity to check our spiritual condition, to repent (if needed) and to walk more faithfully with our Lord. If we take Lent seriously, we can begin to discover a new vision for life – a more joyous way to live. Lent can enable us to discover the immeasurable benefits of living the Christian life passionately.

**“GOD WON’T ASK – HE ALREADY KNOWS”**

1. God won’t ask what kind of car you drove, but He’ll ask how many people you took along who did not have transportation.
2. God won’t ask the square footage of your house, but He’ll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
3. God won’t ask about the clothes you had in your closet, but He’ll ask how many you helped to clothe.
4. God won’t ask your highest salary, but He’ll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.
5. God won’t ask your job title, but He’ll ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.
6. God won’t ask how many friends you had, but He’ll ask how many people you befriended.
7. God won’t ask where you lived, but He’ll ask how you treated your neighbors.
8. God’s won’t ask about the color of your skin, but He’ll ask about the content of your character.
9. God won’t ask why it took you so long to seek salvation, but He’ll lovingly take you in His arms when you do.

From: The Fishwrapper

**CORNER OF INSPIRATION**



**Just for KIDS**

**Pray Today!**

The first Friday in March is World Day of Prayer. God wants us to pray to Him everyday. So start today and never stop!

Write the words from the scrambled jigsaw pieces onto the blank puzzle to discover when Psalm 55:17 (KJV) says we should pray.


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Psalm 55:17

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**Attention Children of ALL Ages:**  
*Pastor John still has treats from last month’s Kids’ Activity Page project. Complete this puzzle and take it to Pastor John for a treat.*  
**NOTE:** Last month Carroll and Anya did the puzzle and claimed a treat!

## FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN \* MARCH 2011 CALENDAR

March 1	Tuesday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm Junior Girl Scout Troop #218 – 6:30pm
March 2	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am * Pioneer Clubs – 6:45pm Adult Bible Study & Prayer – 6:45pm * Adult Bell Choir Practice – 8pm
March 3	Thursday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm
March 4	Friday	<b>WORLD DAY OF PRAYER * Youth leave for their winter retreat</b>
March 5	Saturday	Women's Bible Study – 9:30am
<b>March 6</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP 10:00am</b> <b>Nursing Home Services: Quakertown Manor – 1:30pm; Belle Haven – 2:15pm</b>
March 7	Monday	Daisy Troop #216 Meeting – 6:30pm
March 8	Tuesday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm Junior Girl Scout Troop #218 – 6:30pm
March 9	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>Prayer Vigil – 7am – 7pm</b> * Adult Bible Study – 11am * Pioneer Clubs – 6:45pm Adult Bible Study & Prayer – 6:45pm * Adult Choir Practice – 8pm
March 10	Thursday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm
March 11	Friday	
March 12	Saturday	District Women's Spring Fellowship
<b>March 13</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Of Lent</b>	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP 10:00am *</b> <b>Nursing Home Service: LifeQuest</b>
March 14	Monday	Daisy Troop #216 Meeting – 6:30pm * Women's Fellowship Meeting – 7pm
March 15	Tuesday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm Junior Girl Scout Troop #218 – 6:30pm
March 16	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am * Pioneer Clubs – 6:45pm Adult Bible Study & Prayer – 6:45pm * Adult Bell Choir Practice – 8pm
March 17	Thursday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm *  Peter Becker Flower Show – March 17 – March 19
March 18	Friday	Salisbury Behavioral Health Group – No Meeting in March
March 19	Saturday	Women's Bible Study – 9:30am * Men's Prayer Breakfast – 9am
<b>March 20</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Of Lent</b>	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP 10:00am</b> <b>Nursing Home Service: Phoebe/Richlandtown</b>
March 21	Monday	Daisy Troop #216 Meeting – 6:30pm Christian Ed., Music & Worship & Stewardship Commissions Meet – 7pm
March 22	Tuesday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm Junior Girl Scout Troop #218 – 6:30pm * Witness Commission Meets – 7pm
March 23	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am * Pioneer Clubs – 6:45pm Adult Bible Study & Prayer – 6:45pm * Adult Choir Practice – 8pm
March 24	Thursday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm Senior Adult Banquet at Franconia Heritage Restaurant * Sunshine Stitchers – 7pm
March 25	Friday	
March 26	Saturday	Christian Educ. Breakfast – Guest Speaker: Sherry Eshelman – 9am Women's Bible Study – 9:30am
<b>March 27</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Of Lent</b>	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP 10:00am</b> <b>(Missionary Offering)</b>
March 28	Monday	Church Board Meeting – 7pm
March 29	Tuesday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm Junior Girl Scout Troop #218 – 6:30pm
March 30	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am * Pioneer Clubs – 6:45pm Adult Bible Study & Prayer – 6:45pm * Adult Bell Choir Practice – 8pm
March 31	Thursday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm

