

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

Non-Profit
 Organization
 Permit #11
 Quakertown,
 Pennsylvania
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**Thanksgiving Eve
 Service – 7pm**
(Be watching for more info.)
Happy Thanksgiving!



“We’re Grateful for Our Blessings”

With grateful hearts upon this day
 We bow our heads in prayer
 To thank the Lord of harvest for
 The blessings that we share:
 For golden grain to make our bread;
 For fruits in plenty store.
 For friends and loved ones gathered ‘round,
 For gifts that You outpour.

For days of sunshine and of rain
 And every precious flower,
 For songs of birds and sheltering trees
 And every good hour,
 For health to do our daily tasks,
 For rest and peaceful sleep.
 Our grateful thanks we give to Thee
 For blessings that we reap.

By: Carice Williams

**FAMILY BREAKFAST
 &
 HANGING OF THE
 GREENS
 Saturday, November 26
 at 9am**



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



November 27th

**SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00 AM
 WORSHIP – 10:00AM**

JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY!

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

November 2011

GIVING THANKS...

... for the turkey and all the trimmings...for the farmers who raised the turkey and grew all the other food stuffs ... for the manufacturer of the refrigerator and stove ... trucks and trains that shipped the food to the store ... the car that brought all the food home ... the manufacturer of the containers, cardboard boxes and paper bags that helped with the shipping effort ... the gas and/or electricity that runs our appliances ... the table and chairs that we use to enjoy the meal ... the manufacturer of the pots, pans, “silverware” and dishes that help in the preparation of the meal and in serving and eating ... the miners who mined the raw materials for the dishes, pots, “silverware”, etc ... the timber cutters who harvested the trees and the manufacturer of the paper products for our napkins, paper towels and other wood products ... the fabric mills that made our tablecloths ... the carpenters, plumbers, electricians and others who built the house in which we enjoy not only Thanksgiving dinner, but many meals and many good times with family and friends ... the rain and the water system (public or private) that provides the water we need for life ... and the system that takes away our waste water ... the trash haulers that dispose of our non-liquid wastes ... the manufacturer of our light bulbs ... the provider of the switches and wire to turn those lights off and on ...

... the Creator who is responsible for all of this and a whole lot more, just for one meal, on one day of the week, in one week of the year!

“Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

“...always giving thanks for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Ephesians 5:20)

“But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (1 Corinthians 15:57)

Giving thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ for His life, death and resurrection—the greatest gift for which to be thankful. Happy Thanksgiving.



When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the LORD thy God for the good land which he has given thee.
Deuteronomy 8:10

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

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 – Tina Dieterly	14 – Lee Shubert, James Thomas
3 - Christin Grow, Jane Haring	15 – Makayla Breiner
4 – Tim Faul, Jeremy Holsinger, Shawn Swavely	16 – Tasia Adams, Ashley Stever
5 – Juli Thomas	18 – Linda Fawcett
6 – Betty George, Jennifer Steich	19 – Dustin Rosenberger
7 – Donna Stutzman	23 – Cheryl Faul
8 – Tom Guiffrida, Toni Schwartz	27 – Joyce Klein, Bill Rosenberger, Jeff Vandegrift
9 – Judy Moyer	30 – Mason Roth
10 – Judy Menszak	
12 – Michael Breiner, Jr., Glenn Holsinger	
13 – Julia Kantner, Allison Roth, Sue Zomberg	

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NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

November 3 – Richard & Jeanne Schlicher

November 26 – Tim & Cheryl Faul

November 28 – Dale & Donna Stutzman

THREE ADULT CLASSES TO CHOOSE FROM : 1) A study on the Book of Ephesians (in the Pastor's study) 2) "END TIMES" a study in the senior adult class (in the chapel). 3) "When God's People Pray" a study in the young adult class, (which meets in the Library). All of the classes are open to adults of ALL ages. Try each class, then decide which one best suits your interest.

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

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

"I believe in God, the giver of grain and bread, and in Jesus Christ, the bread of life broken for us, and in the Holy Spirit, God's nourishing power in every grain and loaf. I believe that Christ is to be leaven in us, so that we may offer the bread of life to the hungers of every human heart." (Copied)





**ZION CHORAL SOCIETY –
2011 Concert Schedule**

Zion Choral has already performed three concerts in October. Listed below are the November concerts.

November 6 – Quakertown United Methodist Church – 1875 Freier Road, Quakertown

November 13 – Penn Valley Church – 320 N. 3rd St., Telford

November 20 – Cedar Crest Bible Fellowship Church – 1151 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown

All concerts are at 3pm, with an additional 7pm concert at Cedar Crest Bible Fellowship. For more information visit their website at

www.zionchoral.com.

**TWO BIBLE STUDIES FOR ADULTS
ON WEDNESDAY**

11am – “Fire on the Mountain” – a study of the Hebrew people

6:45pm – “The Life Changing Power of the Holy Spirit”

PIONEER CLUBS is a proven program for children, reinforcing Christian values for pre-school children through grade 6. For older kids in grades 7 – 12, we’ll have a weekly “Tweens & Teens” night that will include prayer, Bible Study, snack and fun activities. Join us – 6:45pm – 8:00pm.

Wednesday, November 16 is “Dress Crazy” night for the Clubs kids!

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

Saturday at 9:30am – We just finished the study of “Unveiling Mary Magdelene”. The women are looking at several Bible Studies and hope to decide on one. Be watching for more information.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE ...

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

MEMORY SCRIPTURE FOR NOVEMBER

“With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the Lord.” Ezra 3:11

“Find out how much God has given you and from it take what you need; the remainder is needed by others.” – St. Augustine



**THINK ABOUT THE 2012
CHURCH DIRECTORY!** We are starting to work on the 2012 Church Directory; yes, it is that time already. Please check your

directory to make sure your personal information is accurate. Now is the time to let us know about any births, marriages and/or new addresses.

Commissions should also check over their section to see if any changes are needed and start thinking about dates and events that should be included in the “Schedule of Special Events.” Please give any changes, additions or deletions to Judy Moyer by the end of November. This year, in addition to our regular paper directory, we can offer the directory on a CD, or we can send it to your email – just let Judy know if you would like one of these options. And, of course, we are still offering large print copies. Thank you. Judy Moyer

**BREAD OF LIFE DINNER AT
EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL
CHURCH** will be held



Monday, November 7, and our church will be providing the meal. We have been involved with this ministry for many years and greatly appreciate your support. The following is a list of items needed for the meal:

- Meatloaf prepared in pan (20 / 2.5 lbs. ea.)
- Scalloped Potatoes – 28 boxes (do not need to be prepared ahead of time)
- Green Beans – 10 - 2 lb. bags,
- Rolls – minimum of 9 – 10 dozen
- Salad – 8 - 2 lb. bags
- French Salad Dressing – 10 large bottles
- Ketchup – 1 large can Milk – 1 gallon
- Iced Tea – 1 large container dry mix
- Ice – 1 large bag
- Cakes for Dessert – 14 in a 9” x 13” pan

VOLUNTEERS are also needed for set-up, serving, and clean-up the day of the dinner. See the yellow sign-up sheet near the water fountain, and see Amanda if you have any questions.

BE WATCHING FOR INFORMATION about



the Senior Luncheon to be held after church on November 20. Mark your calendar!



FROM THE DEACON BOARD –

The book, “The Power of Thanksgiving” provides devotional readings to remind us of the need to

be thankful every day. The following are excerpts from this book –

“Every year we celebrate in abundance – turkey and all the trimmings, decadent slices of pumpkin pie, time spent with family and friends, fellowship, football, and thanks to the One who provides it all. From the breath in our lungs to the beauty of the sunset, we have much to be thankful for. Honoring God with thanksgiving is something that takes more time and effort than one prayer at one meal, one day a year. Thanksgiving is a powerful act of sacrificial worship that should be a part of our daily lives. Scripture says that God’s will is for us to give thanks in every situation (I Thessalonians 5:18). The Bible also tells us that offering thanks to God truly honors Him (Psalm 50:23). He’s worthy of all the thanks we can offer.”

“But giving thanks is a sacrifice that truly honors Me. If you keep to my path, I will reveal to you the salvation of God.” Psalm 50:23

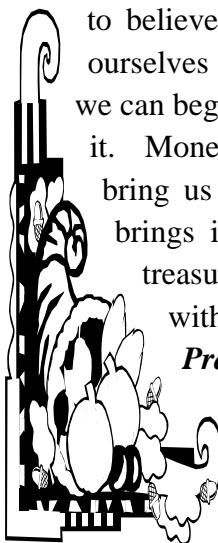
The following excerpt seems particularly pertinent as we approach the Christmas Season and need to reevaluate what our real “treasures” are:

THE REAL TREASURE

“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.” Proverbs 4:23

Jesus said, “Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” (Matthew 6:21) Moral poverty occurs when we place things above relationships. Christ sent His disciples out into the world without possessions, but no one in history has known more wealth than those chosen men who walked with Jesus. It is when we walk with Jesus that we discover what true riches are.

It is easy to get distracted by so many things. The “good life” requires money, good looks, nice clothes, the right car, the right house, and the right mate. At least that’s what we’re led



to believe. But it is only when we can free ourselves from the pursuit of such things that we can begin to enjoy life the way God intended it. Money cannot buy happiness, nor can it bring us life. Christ brings us life, and He brings it most abundantly. He is the real treasure, and as long as our hearts remain with Him, our lives will truly be rich.

Prayer: “Dear Father, forgive me when I lose sight of what is really important in life. Help me to keep my eyes focused on Your truth. Enable me to show others that You are the real treasure in life. Amen.”

From: “The Power of Thanksgiving” published by Barbour Publishing, Inc. Used by permission”
A SPECIAL NOTE OF THANKS to Linda for submitting this month’s “Deacon’s Corner”.

A REPORT ON THE GOOD

SAMARITAN FUND ... Thank

you to everyone who gave so generously to our Good Samaritan *Thanksgiving* Fund. The boxes brought in \$806.50. This money helps us meet the needs of those in our congregation. If you would like to give and have not yet done so, it is not too late. Donations may be given to any of the Deacons. Thank you very much – The Deacon Board



THE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTORS DINNER

AT CAMP SWATARA is November 11 at 6:30pm. A delicious meal is served and the entertainment this year will be provided by The Slabaugh Family – a group of boys/young men who all play instruments – including harp, viola, violin, flute and cello. Tickets are \$25 each. Call Camp to RSVP: 717-933-8510.



PLEASE JOIN US EACH & EVERY SUNDAY! CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE @ www.quakertowncob.org

“A BEAUTIFUL PRAYER”

I asked God to take away my habits.

God said, “No.”

It is not for me to take away,
but for you to give up.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.

God said, “No.” His spirit is whole, his body is
only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience.

God said, “No.” Patience is a byproduct of
tribulations; it isn’t granted, it is learned.

I asked God to give me happiness.

God said, “No.” I give you blessings, happiness is
up to you. I asked God to spare me pain. God
said, “No.” Suffering draws you apart from
worldly cares and brings you closer to me.

I asked God to make my spirit grow. God said,
“No.” You must grow on your own, but I will
prune you to make you fruitful.

I asked God for all of things I might enjoy in life.
God said, “No.” I will give you life, so that you
may enjoy all things.

I asked God to help me LOVE OTHERS, as much
as He loves me. God said ...

“Ahhh, FINALLY YOU HAVE THE IDEA!”

This day is yours – don’t throw it away.

May God Bless you and keep you and those you
love.

May Love bring you health, happiness, prosperity
and may peace reign on earth for all people.

PS: “To the world you are just one person, but to
one person you just may be the world.”

Submitted By: Lorraine

IF YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST, please
call the church at 215-536-7510. We would feel
blessed to lift you in prayer Wednesday evening
when we meet for Bible Study and Prayer. We
also have a prayer chain and we would be happy to
add you to that.

BOOK REVIEW BY SANDY ...

“The Bodine Family Christmas” By: Marta Perry
... How would you feel if you were left at the altar
Christmas Eve? That’s what happened to Annabel
Bodine – so, Christmas isn’t her favorite time of
year. Could God show her the true meaning of the
season and heal her broken heart? “The

Gingerbread Season” By: Betsy



St. Amant ... How would you react if
you needed a job at Christmas and the
only one you can find is working for
your ex-boyfriend? When Allie

James goes home that’s what happens to her. Allie
will see how God works in her life during the most
special time of year. These stories are found in the
“Love Inspired Mistletoe Prayers”.

Sandy faithfully writes these book reviews
each month for The Beacon, and she welcomes
others to help with this project. If you have read a
book that you would like to share with others,
please contact Sandy and let her know you would
like to help.



FOR EVERYONE! Are you

looking for a family-friendly,
memorable way to begin your

Christmas celebration? Why not join us for our
annual Hanging of the Greens on Saturday,
November 26. We begin at 9am with a delicious
breakfast and then “Deck the Halls” of the church
for the Christmas Season. It’s a fun time of good
food and fellowship – and the church looks so
beautiful afterward. Come out and be part of the
fun – whether you’re a family of one or many! If
you’re planning to attend please add your name to
the sign-up sheet in the hallway. “It’s beginning to
look a lot like ...”

AND ... The Women’s

Fellowship is sponsoring a

“Mitten Tree” this year. Your
donations of mittens, gloves, hats,
and scarves will be donated to
those in need. Bring these items to
church and hang them on the tree.



Mitten Tree

Corner of Inspiration

“THANK YOU, GOD, FOR EVERYTHING”

By: Helen Steiner Rice

Thank you, God, for everything – the big things and the small –
 For every good gift comes from God, the Giver of them all,
 And all too often we accept without any thanks or praise
 The gifts God sends as blessings each day in many ways.

First, thank You for the little things that often come our way –
 The things we take for granted and don't mention when we pray –
 The unexpected courtesy, the thoughtful, kindly deed,
 A hand reached out to help us in the time of sudden need.

Oh, make us more aware, dear God, of little daily graces
 That come to us with sweet surprise from never-dreamed-of places.
 Then thank You for the miracles we are much too blind to see,
 And give us new awareness of our many gifts from Thee ...
 And help us to remember that the key to life and living
 Is to make each prayer a prayer of thanks and every day Thanksgiving.

*“The Lord will command the blessing upon you in your bards,
 and in all that you undertake; and He will bless you
 in the land which the Lord your God gives you.”*

Deuteronomy 28:8



“We know now what we should pray for as we ought.” Romans 8:26

I prayed for strength, and then I lost awile
 All sense of nearness, human and divine;
 The love I leaned on failed and pierced my heart,
 The hands I clung to loosed themselves from mine;
 But while I swayed, weak, trembling, and alone,
 The everlasting arms upheld my own.

I prayed for light; the sun went down in clouds,
 The moon was darkened by a misty doubt,
 The stars of heaven were dimmed by earthly fears,
 And all my little candle flames burned out;
 But while I sat in shadow, wrapped in night,
 The face of Christ made all the darkness bright.

I prayed for peace, and dreamed of restful east,
 A slumber drugged from pain, a hushed repose;
 Above my head the skies were black with storm
 And fiercer grew the onslaught of my foes;
 But while the battle raged, and wild winds blew,
 I heard His voice and perfect peace I knew.

I thank Thee, Lord, Thou wert too wise to heed
 My feeble prayers, and answer as I sought,
 Since these rich gifts Thy bounty has bestowed
 Have brought me more than all I asked or thought;
 Giver of good, so answer each request
 With Thine own giving, better than my best.

By: Annie Johnson Flint

FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN * NOVEMBER 2011 CALENDAR

November 1	Tuesday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am – 2pm
November 2	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am * Adult Bible Study & Prayer & Pioneer Clubs for Children & Youth – 6:45pm * Choir – 8:15pm
November 3	Thursday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am – 2pm
November 4	Friday	
November 5	Saturday	Women's Bible Study – 9:30am
November 6	Sunday	<i>SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP - 10:00am followed by Coffee Fellowship & Reception to Honor Bob & Joyce Klein's 50th Wedding Anniversary</i> <i>Nursing Home Services: Quakertown Manor – 1:30pm; Belle Haven – 2:15pm</i>
November 7	Monday	Bread of Life Dinner @ Emmanuel Episcopal Church
November 8	Tuesday	Election Day – our Church is a polling place! Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am – 2pm
November 9	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am * Adult Bible Study & Prayer & Pioneer Clubs for Children & Youth – 6:45pm * Bell Choir – 8:15pm
November 10	Thursday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am – 2pm
November 11	Friday	Contributor's Dinner @ Camp Swatara – 6:30pm
November 12	Saturday	Women's Bible Study – 9:30am
November 13	Sunday	<i>SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP - 10:00am Congregational Business Meeting immediately following Worship</i> <i>Nursing Home Service: Life Quest – 2pm * Youth Group Meets</i>
November 14	Monday	Sunshine Sister's Revealing Fellowship Time – 7pm
November 15	Tuesday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am – 2pm Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting – 7pm
November 16	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am * Adult Bible Study & Prayer & Pioneer Clubs for Children & Youth – 6:45pm (<i>Pioneer Clubs Food Drive & "dress crazy" night</i>) Choir – 8:15pm
November 17	Thursday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am – 2pm * Sunshine Stitchers -7pm
November 18	Friday	Salisbury Health Group Meeting – 9am-3pm
November 19	Saturday	Women's Bible Study – 9:30am
November 20	Sunday	<i>SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP - 10:00am Senior Luncheon sponsored by Witness Commission immediately following Worship * Nursing Home Service: Phoebe-Richlandtown – 2:30pm</i>
November 21	Monday	Commissions: Music & Worship, Stewardship, Christian Ed. – 7pm meeting
November 22	Tuesday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am – 2pm Witness Commission meeting – 7pm
November 23	Wednesday	Thanksgiving Eve Service – 7pm
November 24	Thursday	Happy Thanksgiving!
November 25	Friday	
November 26	Saturday	Family Breakfast & Hanging of the Greens – 9am
November 27	Sunday	<i>1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT * SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP - 10:00am</i>
November 28	Monday	Church Board meeting – 7pm
November 29	Tuesday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am – 2pm
November 30	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am * Adult Bible Study & Prayer & Pioneer Clubs for Children & Youth – 6:45pm * Bell Choir – 8:15pm