

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
US Postage Paid



“MINISTERS OF MUSIC” CONCERT
SUNDAY EVENING – OCTOBER 23 * 7:00PM

A freewill offering will be received.

Refreshments will follow the concert.

(See the article about “The Ministers” inside The Beacon.)

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

October 2011

WORLD-WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY

THE FAMILY OF GOD...TOGETHER



During the week of September 18th, I had the privilege of attending an ecumenical training program outside of Philadelphia. In addition to me, there were in attendance clergy from the United Church of Christ, the Episcopal Church, Lutheran Church and the Brethren in Christ Church. One lady was from Germany and is in the states for a year. Another retired pastor was originally from Gambia, Africa. Men and women in attendance represented three countries, at least five denominations and ranged in age from early 30's to late 70's. There were only ten of us in the class! As we discussed areas of ministry in our respective churches and denominations, two things were made clear. First, we all do things a little differently, even within denominations; and, second, we are one in Christ despite our differences and our diversity.

And that brings us to perhaps one of the most significant celebrations of the year—World-wide Communion Sunday. I say most significant because it brings together Christmas, Good Friday and Easter in a variety of meaningful ways, through a variety of experiences. We are humbled by what Christ has done and continues to do for us. We celebrate His glorious resurrection. We lift up the importance of fellowship and service. We are reminded that we are forever in the presence of the Lord. And like other aspects of the church, the different denominations and even the churches within denominations participate in the Communion Service in a variety of ways. And that is not a bad thing.

At the conclusion of our training on Friday, all of us, including the instructors, celebrated Communion led by one of the students -- an Episcopal priest. As we gathered around the altar in the Lutheran Church, it was clear to me that we were one. We represented the broader Family of God. We were together, united by the greater good and the greater purpose of Christ and the Church. Let's think of Communion in this context, rather than in the type of bread we use, the grape juice or wine, the theological and practical differences even within each local church. Because at the end of the day, we recognize, we appreciate, and we celebrate the fact that God so loved the world...and through Christ we have the abundant life.

PASTOR JOHN

**"In Christ there is no east or west, in Him no south or north;
But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth."**



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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OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| October 2 – Brian Kelly | October 13 – Christopher Baker |
| October 4 – Charles Kantner | October 20 – Ryan Stever, Diane Waud |
| October 6 – Adam Graham, Julie Pistone
Jen Roth | October 22 – Betsy Bean |
| October 7 – Jessica Howard, Hope Donnelly | October 23 – Chris Yorgey |
| October 8 – Julie Detweiler | October 25 – Keith Donnelly |
| October 9 – Keith Dieterly | October 27 – Amanda Vandegrift |
| October 10 – Joseph Shubert | October 28 – Miranda Howard |
| October 12 – Harry Schoellkopf | October 30 – JoAnn Beard |
| | October 31 – Art Steich |

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- October 1 – Gary & Andrea Adams
- October 3 – Steve & Cindy Hunter
- October 4 – Bill & Audrey Howard
- October 16 – Dennis & Judy Menszak
- October 17 – Micah & Justine Musselman
- October 19 – Brian & Holly Kelly
- October 20 – Jeff & Jane Haring

*“My pen is poor, my ink is pale.
My love for you shall never fail.”*



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” is the study focus of 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

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS ... The Harvest Home celebration was one of the highlights of the month of September. Almost every seat was taken at the covered dish luncheon that followed the worship service. Everything was delicious and the area at the front of the fellowship room was covered from end to end with delicious desserts. Here is the recipe for one of them, made by Wendy:

MR. PEANUT'S CARAMEL PECAN CHEESECAKE

- 18 squares Honey Maid graham crackers, finely crushed
- 1/4 c. granulated sugar
- 1/3 c. margarine, melted
- 1 c. Planters pecan halves
- 2 (8 oz.) packages cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 c. packed light brown sugar
- 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 2 eggs
- 1/4 c. prepared caramel topping

Mix graham crumbs, granulated sugar, margarine; press on bottom and side of 9" pie plate. Finely chop and toast 1/2 c. pecans, sprinkle evenly on the bottom of pie crust and set aside. Blend cream cheese, brown sugar and vanilla with mixer until creamy. Blend in eggs until smooth; pour into prepared crust. Place remaining pecan halves in circle around edge. Bake at 325 degrees for 40 - 45 minutes. Cool on wire rack. Chill at least four hours. Carefully drizzle caramel topping over cheesecake before service.



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.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Saturday at 9:30am - "Unveiling Mary Magdelene"

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE ...

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

MEMORY SCRIPTURE FOR OCTOBER

"I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears." Psalm 34:4

WORLD-WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY

October 2 - 6:30pm
Love Feast, Feet Washing & Bread & Cup



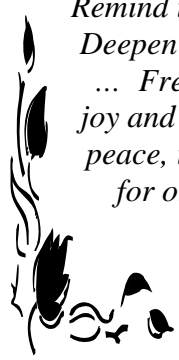
THE ORIGIN OF WORLD-WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY...

In 1933, a Pittsburgh pastor, Rev. Kerr, had a unique idea. What if churches all around the world celebrated Holy Communion on the same Sunday? He contacted leaders of various denominations worldwide. His idea was met with such warm enthusiasm that celebrating the sacrament on the first Sunday of October is now an annual affair. It unites Christians throughout the world.

CROP WALK FOR HUNGER SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9 - 1:30pm
Memorial Park, Quakertown

Several from our congregation are participating in the CROP Walk. Please see Holly if you would like to make a donation in support of one of the walkers.

GRACIOUS GOD, Architect and Creator of all, we thank You for the abundance of good things, spiritual and physical, which surrounds us. Remind us that all we are and possess is yours ... Deepen our relationship of faith and trust in you ... Free us to share our life and resources with joy and discipline ... For it is in faith that we find peace, in discipline we are set free, and in living for others that we find meaning in living ... Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



DEACON WORKSHOP WITH DONNA KLINE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22 - 8:30AM. Sign-up to attend!



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. Our burdens are made much lighter just knowing that we are being lifted in prayer. We will gladly include your prayer request 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.

CALL US FOR PRAYER

CHURCH OFFICE: 215-536-7510

“FIELDS OF FAITH” will be presented on October 12 from 7pm – 8:15pm at the Quakertown High School soccer field. This event is sponsored by the **FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES.**



“GET INTO THE GAME” Fields of Faith is a peer-to-peer ministry movement. On this night students from across the country will unite on their school’s athletic field to hear fellow students share their testimonies, challenge each other to read the Bible and come to faith in Jesus Christ. This event provides a neutral rally point where a community can come together. The vision for Fields of Faith is found in II Chronicles 34 where Josiah, the young king of Judah, gathered around his people in one place and challenged them to read and live by God’s Word. As a result, they changed their culture. Please get involved by taking a stand alongside hundreds of thousands of students across the country who have heard Josiah’s challenge and made a commitment to Jesus Christ and His Word. We have invited our Pioneer Clubs children and their families to join us at QHS soccer field. Why not join us?

BOOK REVIEW BY SANDY ...

“The Mercy” By: Beverly Lewis

This is the last book in the Rose Trilogy. Our main character Rose seems like her life is turning out like she planned. But as events transpire in her life, she sees that it’s not her plan at all. She has seen God work in her sister Hen’s life with her husband, and now she needs to believe God has a plan for hers. In this last book, Ms. Lewis brings closure to these characters with joy, strength, and love from God. This series is an absolute must read even if you’ve never read any of the other Amish stories. This is Ms. Lewis’ best series to date.



SENIOR ADULT FALL FELLOWSHIP

BANQUET, will be held at Yoder’s Family Restaurant on Wednesday, October 19 at noon. The entertainment will be provided by Jeff Raught from Ted & Company TheaterWorks. Music will be led by our own Audrey, and Judy is on the Senior Adult Committee that plans this and other events for senior adults. See the sign-up sheet at the church.

MESSAGE FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

– We have been hard at work seeking people to serve on the various committees of the church. Are you interested in getting involved with the work of 1st Church of the Brethren here in Quakertown? Maybe you’re interested in the goings on at District Conference – or how about a trip to our Annual Conference next year in St. Louis! The most recent update of available positions for next year include Christian Education, Music & Worship, Stewardship, and District & Annual Conference Delegates. If you are already attending 1st Church, why not go one more step by serving on one of these committees. Your questions are important and our committee members can help you understand what the responsibilities are. You can contact any of the members of the Nominating Committee – Michele Balkit, Ann Dieterly, Joan Hangey, Helen Grey, Holly Kellar or Beth Shaffer.



NATIONAL DEACON TRAINING SEMINAR will be held at our church on

Saturday, October 22 from 8:30am – 3pm.

Donna Kline, Director of Deacon Ministries for the Church of the Brethren office in Elgin, Il., will serve as presenter. The cost is \$10 per person and this includes a continental breakfast and catered lunch by “Chik-Fil-A” of Quakertown. This seminar is open to ALL Deacons (current, past, and prospective/future), clergy, and any members of any Church of the Brethren or other denomination in the area. If interested, please see Pastor John for a registration form. If you are not interested in attending, but would like to assist in the morning or afternoon in some aspect, please let us know. Hope to see you there.



MINISTERS OF MUSIC concert will be held on Sunday evening, October 23 at 7pm.

The Ministers of Music is comprised of 5 men who offer a variety of musical styles, including spirituals, hymns, gospel songs, and praise and worship choruses. The group sings many familiar traditional songs in modern arrangements. Selections feature a mellow blend of close harmonies accompanied by piano or sung a cappella. Two of the men in the group are COB Pastors. One member of the group is a social worker with Hospice, one is a carpenter who serves as worship leader in a Presbyterian Church, and the other is a Pastor of Worship. The group, now in its 30th year, was organized in 1979 to sing for a community worship service. They have sung on cruise ships and have been features on the Gospel Tide Hour radio broadcast. Members of the group include Lamar Dourte, Steve Fikkert, John Frye, Bob Kettering (COB) and Ron Ludwick (COB & brother of Judy and Gloria!). Please join us. A free will offering will be received and of course – refreshments will be served after the concert.

EVERENCE

EVERENCE ... Many of you have probably heard of Mennonite Mutual Aid which was primarily known for offering insurance services to those of the Anabaptist faith. Many in our congregation have taken advantage of their products and services. MMA recently became *Everence*. *Everence* helps individuals, organizations, and congregations integrate finances with faith through a national team of advisors and representatives. *Everence* offers banking, insurance and financial services with community benefits and stewardship education. As an example of their stewardship, *Everence* recently donated \$12,700 to Brethren Disaster Services and the Mennonite Mission Network. In addition, each year the credit union tithes a percentage of its income from its VISA credit cards. *Everence* products and services are open to everyone who is interested in practicing Christian stewardship. If you are curious or would like more information regarding *Everence* contact the local office at 215-703-0111 or stop by at the Village Centre Suites, 121 N. Main St., Suite 210, Souderton, Pa. Their web site at www.everence.com is also a good source for information and local contacts to help you become more acquainted with *Everence*. Please see Don, the *Everence* Advocate for our congregation.

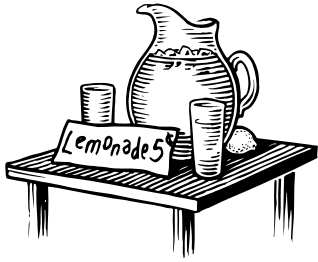


“THANK YOU” FROM HEAVEN’S BOUNTY for all the donations received in conjunction with Harvest Home. The donations were spilling out into the hallway and it was the largest collection we’ve had in recent years. Thank you for all your generous donations.

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

Many people will be pleased and thankful for them.





THE RESULTS ARE IN ...

Alex's Lemonade Stand and Church & Community Yard Sale was quite a success.

We sold \$53 worth of lemonade	\$ 53.00
Food purchases totaled	245.25
The bake sale table netted	262.00
Donation of \$25 was received	<u>25.00</u>
<u>TOTAL SENT TO ALEX'S</u>	\$585.25
The church yard sale table made	\$ 25.40
Table rentals/donations	<u>290.00</u>
<u>TOTAL PROFIT FOR THE CHURCH</u>	\$315.40

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE COORDINATORS: BENAY & LORRAINE – for their fantastic job planning and arranging everything. Also thank you to the many people who helped in any way to make this event a success. It couldn't have been done without the help of so many.

Corner of Inspiration

“BRIGHT OCTOBER”

I know no other season
So filled with warmth and cheer
As on these bright October days
When autumn-time is here.

The hills have turned from Summer's green
To dazzling red and gold;
The flower beds are brighter, too,
So festive to behold!

The harvest yield is gathered in;
God sends His gifts anew.
Each roadside stand, a harvest fair
That warms the heart of you.

A bluish haze on distant hills,
The maple's scarlet flame;
And oak trees dressed in Joseph-coats
Stand guard along the lane.

Of all the seasons of the year,
Each one with beauty blessed,
I hold to Autumn's warmth and cheer –
I like October best!
By: Kay Hoffman

*“The earth has yielded its fruit;
God, our God, has blessed us.”*
Psalm 67:7



FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN * OCTOBER 2011 CALENDAR

October 1	Saturday	Youth Hoagie Sale – 7am * Women’s Bible Study – 9:30am
October 2	Sunday	<i>WORLDWIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY - SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP - 10:00am followed by Coffee Fellowship * Nursing Home Services: Quakertown Manor – 1:30pm; Belle Haven – 2:15pm * Love Feast, FeetWashing & Communion – 6:30pm</i>
October 3	Monday	Deacon Meeting – 7pm
October 4	Tuesday	Heaven’s Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm
October 5	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am * Adult Bible Study & Prayer & Pioneer Clubs for Children & Youth – 6:45pm * Choir – 8:15pm
October 6	Thursday	Heaven’s Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm
October 7	Friday	DISTRICT CONFERENCE - Elizabethtown
October 8	Saturday	DISTRICT CONFERENCE – Elizabethtown * Women’s Bible Study – 9:30am
October 9	Sunday	<i>SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP - 10:00am Baseball Game & Field Dedication – 1pm * CROP Walk for Hunger – 1pm</i>
October 10	Monday	Women’s Fellowship Meeting – 7pm
October 11	Tuesday	Heaven’s Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am – 2pm
October 12	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am * Adult Bible Study & Prayer & Pioneer Clubs for Children & Youth – 6:45pm * Bell Choir – 8:15pm
October 13	Thursday	Heaven’s Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm
October 14	Friday	
October 15	Saturday	Women’s Bible Study – 9:30am
October 16	Sunday	<i>SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP - 10:00am Articles due for the November Beacon</i>
October 17	Monday	Music & Worship, Stewardship, Christian Ed. Commissions Meet – 7pm
October 18	Tuesday	Heaven’s Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm Witness Commission Meets – 7pm
October 19	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am * Adult Bible Study & Prayer & Pioneer Clubs for Children and Youth – 6:45pm * Choir – 8:15pm
October 20	Thursday	Heaven’s Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm * Prepare the Beacon for mailing
October 21	Friday	Salisbury Behavioral Health Group Meeting – 9am-3pm
October 22	Saturday	Deacon Workshop w/Donna Kline – 8:30am- 3pm Women’s Bible Study – 9:30am
October 23	Sunday	<i>SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP - 10:00am Ministers of Music Concert – 7pm - Followed by light refreshments</i>
October 24	Monday	Church Board Meeting – 7pm
October 25	Tuesday	Heaven’s Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm
October 26	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am * Adult Bible Study & Prayer & Pioneer Clubs for Children & Youth – 6:45pm * Bell Choir – 8:15pm
October 27	Thursday	Heaven’s Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm
October 28	Friday	
October 29	Saturday	Women’s Bible Study – 9:30am
October 30	Sunday	<i>SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP - 10:00am</i>
October 31	Monday	



**“MINISTERS OF MUSIC” CONCERT – SUNDAY EVENING,
OCTOBER 23 – 7PM * PLEASE JOIN US!**