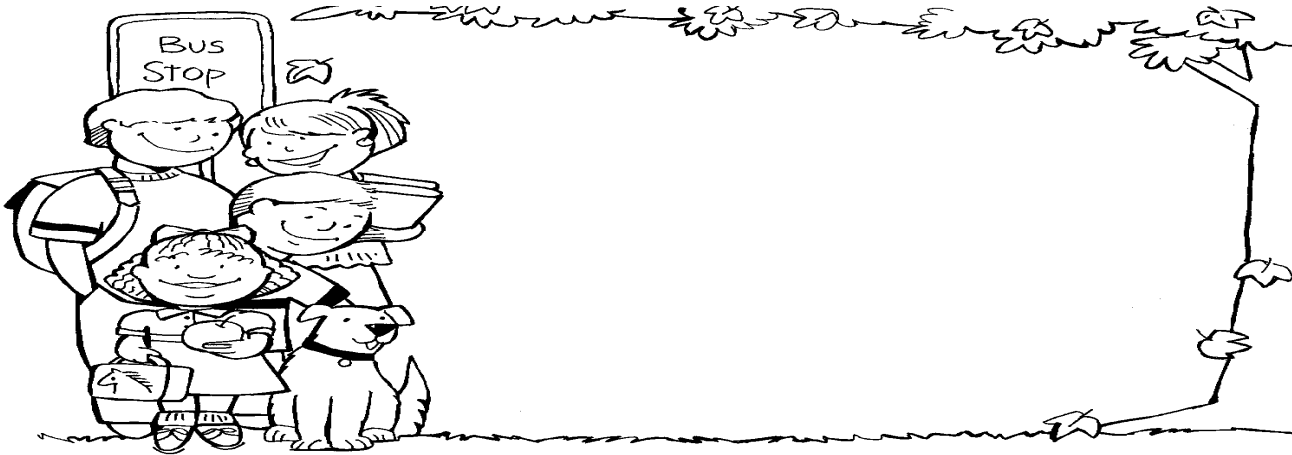
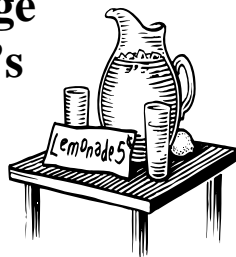


FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
455 Trumbauersville Road
Quakertown, Pa. 18951
Phone: 215-536-7510
Web Site: www.quakertowncob.org
Email address: quakertowncob@verizon.net
Rev. John B. Shaffer, Pastor

Non-Profit
Organization
Permit #11
Quakertown,
Pennsylvania
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**CHURCH & COMMUNITY
YARD SALE – Saturday,
September 17 * 8AM – 2PM**
ALL Food & Beverage
monies support Alex's
Lemonade Stand
Foundation for
Childhood Cancer
Call 215-536-7510 for
more information and to rent a
table.



PIONEER CLUBS
Bible Study & Activities for
children – pre-school - grade 6.
Monthly activities planned for
youth – grade 7 -12.
KICK-OFF PICNIC
Wednesday, Sept. 14

CLASSES BEGIN
September 21
6:45pm – 8pm
Call for information.

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

September 2011

THE SEASONS!!??.##

September is the month that everything seems to happen. Students go back to school, if they haven't started already. Have all the school supplies and clothing been purchased? Vacations are drawing to a close. It's time to think about getting the house ready for fall and winter. Does the lawn or garden need final attention? School taxes are due (or past due!). Should we have that one last yard or garage sale? It's time to bring out the fall and winter clothes and begin to phase out the summer attire. Did you make all those appointments that you put off for the summer—the vet, the doctor, the car inspection? And to think that these are just *some* of the tasks that are done or considered in the month of September!

At least three seasons of the year we deal with lawn and garden chores. House maintenance goes on all year long. And we face death and illness in our families constantly. Some events give us cause for celebration—weddings, births, healing. Some circumstances bring suffering and sorrow. Add to this the world events that seem so distant but yet impact our lives on a daily basis.

Where am I going with all of this? God's Word, from cover to cover, makes it quite clear that we will face trials and tribulation and experience the joys of life as well. Some things are reasonably well known and predictable, while others "happen" in an instant and are quite unexpected. Perhaps it is made most clear in a rather mysterious book of the Bible—Ecclesiastes. While thought to be Solomon, given the wisdom contained in this relatively short book, the human author is admittedly unknown. (We know that the Bible, in its entirety, is divinely inspired, so we could say that the source of the written word is God and the secondary or human author is...). None the less, we get glimpses of life from beginning to end, including many of the mysteries of life for which we still have no definitive answer—except that God is in control and He loves us unconditionally. He loves us so much that He sent His Son to die for our sins. As the psalmist writes, He will be with us in all aspects of our life - and what awaits the believer on the other side of death is pure joy and happiness in the presence of our Lord and Savior.

If you haven't read Ecclesiastes in a while, why not read it again real soon. In some ways, the writer asks some of the questions we still ask today about life and the troubles we face. But he concludes: "**...Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.**" Let's not focus on the chores at hand and the troubles we face. Let's focus on doing the will of our Heavenly Father.

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

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---|---|
| September 3 – Bill Odor | September 21 – Alberta Helveston / Dalton Mapes |
| September 6 – Alison Schlicher | September 23 – Glenna Austin |
| September 7 – Bob Fawcett / Rose Fear | September 26 – Christopher Wilson |
| September 9 – Sandy Shearer | September 27 – Amanda Graham / Anna Jacoby |
| September 11 – Ashley Donnelly / Cory Schwartz | |
| September 18 – Darlena Detweiler / Ellen Yorgey | |

Happy Birthday

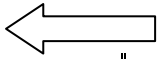
SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- September 4 – Roland & Roxanne White – Happy 1st Anniversary!
- September 6 – Don & Sue Bryant
- September 8 – Keith & Tina Dieterly & Jim & Ellen Yorgey
- September 15 – Larry & Sharon Renninger
- September 17 – Keith & Hope Donnelly
- September 18 – Eric & Brittany Dieterly –Happy 1st Anniversary!
- September 24 – Jim & Betsy Madison
- September 25 – Bob & Linda Fawcett
- September 27 – Tom & Megan Giuffrida
- September 29 – Harold & Ann Dieterly



Sunday School

THREE ADULT CLASSES TO CHOOSE FROM : 1) This adult class is doing a study from the Book of Ephesians (in the Pastor's study) 2) "END TIMES" is the focus of the senior adult study (in the chapel). 3) **A NEW LESSON**: "WHEN GOD'S PEOPLE PRAY". The Young Adult Sunday School class, (which meets in the Library), has just begun a series by Rev. Jim Cymbala on the power of prayer. Using DVDs and a study guide, we will be better able to understand, personalize, and apply the life-changing power of prayer. The sessions include: 1) God's heart for us; 2) the amazing power of prayer; 3) obedience in prayer; 4) the Word of God and prayer; 5) why prayer matters; and, 6) creating a prayer meeting in our church. This class is opened to ALL – young adults and adults young at heart.



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 ...

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Betsy Fear and Harry Bean who were united in marriage in our church on July 30th. They will be living in Pennsburg. We pray God's richest blessing on this special couple.

A NEW BIBLE STUDY FOR ADULTS ...

Join us Wednesday evenings at 7pm as we begin a new Bible Study authored by the Pastor of the Brooklyn Tabernacle. This study includes six sessions on the life-changing power of the Holy Spirit. We learn:

- 1) how to make room for the Spirit's action in your life and in the life of the church
- 2) how God wants to work through your gifts and talents to enable you to do what only He can do
- 3) how to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit in prayer and how to apply God's Word to your life
- 4) how the Holy Spirit can bring healing to your body, your emotions and your relationships
- 5) how a life lived in the presence of the Holy Spirit can transform the church and the world
- 6) how our church can become a place where people regularly experience God's presence and His power.

THIS NEW STUDY BEGAN AUGUST 24. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE ...

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

MEMORY SCRIPTURE FOR SEPTEMBER

Jesus said, "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in You." John 14:16-17



FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP

SERVICE the first Sunday of the month, please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments in the Chapel, sponsored by Women's Fellowship. If you would like to help please and provide the snacks, please see Juli.

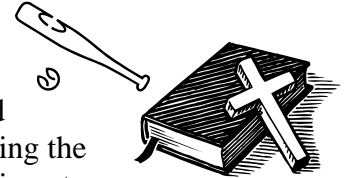
RALLY DAY – "GET BACK TO CHURCH"

SUNDAY will be celebrated

Sunday, September 11. During the Sunday School hour, beginning at 9:00am, our guests will be the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. They will be sharing lessons about Jesus and how we can keep Jesus at the center of our lives – winning the race with Jesus. God is our coach and we are the athletes. We're on God's team; it's our decision to follow Jesus. Like a sports team, we have a position on God's team. Reading God's Word is our daily training to keep in shape. Our challenge is to grow closer to Jesus, share what he's done for us, and lead others to the "God Team". So, come and hear these inspirational "athletes" share their faith.

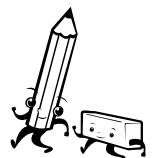
Join us later in the afternoon at 2:00pm, wearing your "comfy" clothes. Bring your hat, baseball glove and bat and let's play ball! If you don't plan to play, come and cheer for the team – bring your lawn chairs.

Karen, Christian Ed. Commission



PIONEER CLUBS will begin with the

kick-off picnic on Wednesday, September 14 at 6:30pm. Bring a salad and/or dessert to share. Meat and beverages will be provided. **PIONEER CLUBS** is a proven program for children, reinforcing Christian values. Clubs will be available 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. For more information go on the Pioneer Club website: www.pioneerclubs.org. Classes begin September 21 – 6:45pm – 8pm. Come to the picnic to sign-up or call the church!



**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 US FOR PRAYER
CHURCH OFFICE: 215-536-7510**

"A MORNING PRAYER"

Let me today do something that will take
A little sadness from the world's vast store,
And may I be so favored as to make
Of joy's too scanty sum a little more.

Let me not hurt, by any selfish deed
Or thoughtless word, the heart of foe or friend.
Nor would I pass unseeing worthy need,
Or sin by silence when I should defend.

However meager be my worldly wealth,
Let me give something that shall aid my kind –
A word of courage, or a thought of health
Dropped as I pass for troubled hearts to find.

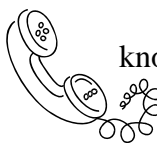
Let me tonight look back across the span
'twixt dawn and dark, and to my conscience say –
Because of some good act to beast or man –
"the world is better that I lived today."

BOOK REVIEW BY SANDY ...

"The Judgment" By: Beverly Lewis



The second in the Rose trilogy has Rose & her sister Hen dealing with unforeseen events and can't imagine what God has in store for them and how to deal with it. As Rose is getting on with her life, her old friend Nick is never far from her mind and is he closer than we know? Hen is still battling her husband Brandon to stay Amish and leave their daughter with her. As she prays to God for help it turns out that Brandon is part of God's plan she never saw coming. The last book in the series is "The Mercy" and will be released this month. I feel this is the best series Beverly Lewis ever wrote.



CALLING ALL READERS:

You know what type of books I read -- I know there are a lot of other great Christian authors out there. I encourage you to write a book review. It's not hard; just write down what you would say to someone if they asked what you are reading. Don't use the book jacket, use your own words, give your author some notice. You can always contact myself or Susan for help. I really want to know what other people read. You may influence me to try a new author.

**GOD HAS BLESSED US WITH A
WONDERFUL CONGREGATION,**

and often new folks join us for worship. When you see a new face in church, give them your friendliest Quakertown COB welcome. We're happy to have several new families worshipping with us. When visitors become "official" members, we truly are blessed.



The Witness Commission has planned a "New Member's Reception" for Sunday, September 18, immediately following the Worship Service. Everyone is invited – please come and enjoy the fellowship.

Amanda, Witness Commission

**ALL CHURCH & COMMUNITY
YARD SALE &
ALEX'S LEMONADE STAND**

Saturday, 9/17 – 8am – 2pm

Call to rent a table – Minimum donation \$10.
(that's cheap!)

(Call the church to reserve a table!)

Bake Sale Table * Coffee

Sausage Sandwiches & Hot Dogs

Monies raised from the sale of food and beverages supports **ALEX'S LEMONADE STAND.**



**DISASTER RELIEF AUCTION -
Lebanon Area Fairgrounds – 9/23-
9/24. ATTENTION BAKERS,**

LABELERS AND WRAPPERS ... The Relief Auction will be here before you know it! And, First Church of the Brethren in Quakertown is going to help! Last year we made mini-loaf specialty breads as our donation and we will be repeating this gift again this year. We donated 250 loaves of banana, blueberry, cranberry, lemon-poppy-seed, zucchini, and carrot breads. This year we would like to make about the same.

Please consider how you can help. You can bake at home, and these breads can be frozen for up to 2 weeks to keep them fresh. OR, some of us are getting together in the church kitchen on Wednesday, 9/21 to have a baking marathon (only one kitchen to clean!). We will start at 9am in the morning and bake until about noon. But don't think you need to be there the entire time – come when you can – any help will be appreciated. We are especially looking for folks who can help wrap and label. This will be done in the Library starting right after morning Bible Study (12 noon). When we are done, all of the breads will be packed, labeled, and ready to deliver on Thursday. Please



see Judy Moyer with any questions or to volunteer.



**HARVEST HOME WILL BE
CELEBRATED ON SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 25th** and we hope

you'll join us. Canned and/or dry goods are needed for our Harvest Home display at the front of the

church. Items may be brought to the church anytime in September, prior to the 25th. There will be a specially marked container in the hallway for the items. These donated items will benefit Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry.

Following the morning Worship Service, there will be a covered dish. Those attending are asked to bring a main dish, vegetable or salad, and a dessert. This is one of the few opportunities throughout the year when we come together as a church body for good food and fellowship.

We ask that you return the Good Samaritan boxes, which benefit the Deacon Fund, on Harvest Home Sunday. These gifts will be collected during the worship service. Your gifts enable the Deacons to help those throughout the year who have a financial need.

Plan to join us for Sunday School at 9am, Harvest Home Sunday Worship at 10am – and plan to stay and enjoy a wonderful time of good food and fellowship.

**MARK YOUR OCTOBER
CALENDAR ...**



Sunday, October 2 –

Worldwide Communion Sunday – Love Feast and Communion Service – 6:30pm

October 7 & 8 - Atlantic Northeast District Conference at Elizabethtown College

Wednesday, October 19 - Senior Adult Fall Fellowship Banquet at Yoder's Family Restaurant in New Holland

Saturday, October 22 – Deacon Training at 1st Church / 8:30am – 2:45pm. Event open to Deacons, clergy and members.

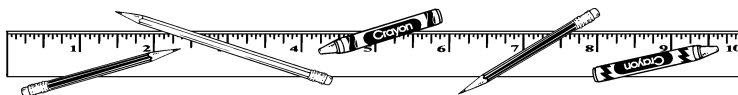
Sunday, October 23 – A special concert at 1st Church by the "Ministers of Music" – 7pm



“TO EACH HIS OWN”

I cannot change the way I am,
 I never really try,
 God made me different and unique,
 I never ask Him why.
 If I appear peculiar,
 There’s nothing I can do,
 You must accept me as I am,
 As I’ve accepted you.
 God made a casting of each life,
 Then threw the mold away,
 Each child is different from the rest,
 Unlike as night from day.
 So often we will criticize,
 The things that others do,
 But, do you know, they do not think,
 The same as me and you.
 So God in all His wisdom,
 Who knows us all by name,
 He didn’t want us to be bored,
 That’s why we’re not the same.

Author Unknown – Submitted by: Sharon



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School is beginning in a few weeks, and we would like to share this poem – “A Teacher’s Prayer”.
 Keep our teachers, school staff, and students in prayer.

“A TEACHER’S PRAYER”

Give me, O God, a soul that feels
 The things of greatest worth;
 Give me, O God, a heart that loves
 All that is good on earth.
 Give to me eyes, O God, that see
 Beauty in tree and flower
 And all your vast supremacy.
 Give me a mind that can express
 All that I see and know;
 Give me a tongue that can portray
 Your powers here below.
 Then give me ears, O God, that hear
 The questions of the child.
 God grant me grace to lead him on.

By: Dorothy C. Harman



“A BOOK”

A book is made of paper,
 A book is made of ink,
 A book is made of words and words,
 That make you think and think.
 Of course you can’t tell what to think
 Until the words you heed
 Until you turn the pages
 And read and read and read.

A RIDDLE

What has a cover but isn’t a bed?
 Sheets but no pillow to hold up its head,
 What can we look at, listen to, touch,
 Open and close but not tear or muss?

ANSWER? A book!

FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN * SEPTEMBER 2011 CALENDAR

September 1	Thursday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm
September 2	Friday	
September 3	Saturday	Women's Bible Study – 9:30am
September 4	Sunday	<i>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</i>
September 5	Monday	<i>Happy Labor Day!</i>
September 6	Tuesday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm
September 7	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am * Adult Bible Study & Prayer – 6:45pm * Choir – 8pm
September 8	Thursday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm
September 9	Friday	
September 10	Saturday	Women's Bible Study – 9:30am
September 11	Sunday	<i>RALLY DAY! SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP - 10:00am</i>
September 12	Monday	Women's Fellowship Meeting – 7pm
September 13	Tuesday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting – 7pm
September 14	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am PIONEER CLUBS KICK-OFF PICNIC – 6:30pm Adult Bible Study & Prayer – 6:45pm * Bell Choir – 8pm
September 15	Thursday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm Sunshine Stitches Meet – 7pm
September 16	Friday	
September 17	Saturday	(RAIN OR SHINE) CHURCH & COMMUNITY YARD SALE & ALEX'S LEMONADE STAND 8am – 2pm
September 18	Sunday	<i>SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP - 10:00am Nursing Home Service at Phoebe/Richlandtown – 2:30pm</i>
September 19	Monday	Music & Worship, Stewardship, Christian Ed. Commissions Meet – 7pm
September 20	Tuesday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm Witness Commission Meets – 7pm
September 21	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am Pioneer Clubs Classes, Adult Bible Study & Prayer – 6:45pm * Choir – 8pm
September 22	Thursday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm
September 23	Friday	Salisbury Behavioral Health Group Meetings – 9am – 3pm BRETHREN DISASTER RELIEF AUCTION SEPTEMBER 23 & 24 – LEBANON VALLEY FAIRGROUNDS
September 24	Saturday	Disaster Relief Auction – Day 2
September 25	Sunday	<i>HARVEST HOME CELEBRATION! SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:00am (Classes for ALL ages) - WORSHIP - 10:00am, followed by a covered dish luncheon</i>
September 26	Monday	Church Board Meeting – 7pm
September 27	Tuesday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm
September 28	Wednesday	Adult Bible Study – 11am Pioneer Clubs Classes, Adult Bible Study & Prayer – 6:45pm * Bell Choir – 8pm
September 29	Thursday	Heaven's Bounty Food Pantry – 9:30am - 2pm
September 30	Friday	
		JOIN US AT THE PIONEER CLUBS "KICK-OFF" PICNIC ON WEDNESDAY, 9/14 AT 6:30PM – REGISTER YOUR CHILDREN (PRE-K THRU SENIOR HIGH) – CLASSES BEGIN 9/21 – 6:45pm-8pm