

Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren

[www.MechanicsburgCOB.org](http://www.MechanicsburgCOB.org)

301 Gale Street  
Tel. 766-8880

May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Mechanicsburg,  
Pennsylvania

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**Worship Theme:** Jesus promises us another Advocate; the one he calls “the Spirit of Truth”. We need that Advocate. None of us wants to be led astray, or to be left alone. We yearn for truth so that we can respond to it. How is it that God’s Spirit reveals the truth at work in us?

**Gathering:** “Bind Us Together/We Are Your Church” (Gillman/Damazio)

**Welcome**

**Sharing the Joy and Peace of Christ** (greeting one another)

**Sharing Joys, Introductions, and Announcements**

(Prayer requests will be collected by our ushers along the center aisle and brought forward during the Prelude.)

**Prelude:** “Gentle Shepherd” (arr. Hughes)

**\*Choral Call to Worship:** “Gentle Shepherd” **No. 352**

*Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us,*

*for we need you to help us find our way.*

*Gentle Shepherd, come and feed us,*

*for we need your strength from day to day.*

*There's no other we can turn to who can help us face another day.*

*Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us,*

*for we need you to help us find our way.*

**\*Gathering Prayer**

**\*Hymn of Praise:** “Holy Spirit, come with power” **No. 26**

**Scripture Reading:** 1 Peter 3:13-22 NT p. 234

**Sharing our Prayer Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Anthem:** “Day by Day” (arr. Shackley) –Chancel Choir

**Offering Invitation**

\*At these points, the Congregation is asked to stand as they are able.

**Offertory Prayer** (in unison)

**All that we have is Yours, O God.**

**Bless us with generous hands and hearts,**

**so that in our giving and in our living, we may show our love for Christ,  
and be faithful to His commands. Amen.**

**Offertory:** "Just a Closer Walk With Thee" (Denton)

**Scripture Reading:** John 14:15-21 NT p. 109

**Time for Children of All Ages**

Children ages 4 to 3<sup>rd</sup> grades are dismissed for Children's Church at this time.

**\*Hymn of Preparation:** "Holy Spirit, Truth divine" (vv. 1 and 2) **No. 508**

**Message:** "Another Advocate... The Spirit of Truth" Pastor Keeney

**\*Hymn of Response:** "Healer of our every ill" **No. 377**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude:** "Lead On, O King Eternal" (Smart/Greer)

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Remembering in prayer:

Remembering others who are navigating recovery or ongoing challenges of health.

**Today, we remember** another of our shut-ins and/or retirement home residents with special thoughts and care. **This week we invite you to remember Gladys K.** You are invited to keep Gladys in prayer, but also to drop a note or card, as you feel led.

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**Deacons on Call: Russ & Janet Z.**  
**April 30th - May 13th**

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**Today: FOOD FOR NEW HOPE MINISTRIES**

8:15am: Early Worship      9:15am: Congregational Conversation  
10:30am: Morning Worship      in Fellowship Hall

**Next Sunday: *Mother's Day!***

8:15am: Early Worship      9:15am: "Messenger"  
10:30am: Morning Worship      Sunday School

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**This Week:**

Mon. 1:00pm: Knitting Group in Library  
Wed. 9:00am: Quilting in Choir Room  
9:00am-11:00am: Card Making in Room #130  
11:30am: Ladies Luncheon @ Lower Allen Diner  
6:15pm: Ensemble Practice  
7:30pm: Chancel Choir Practice  
Fri. 8:00am-10:00am: Library Reserved  
Sat. 10:30am: Room #126 Reserved

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**A SIGN UP SHEET** has been placed by the office window for **Funeral Meal Assistance** in preparation of Fruit Salad and/or Desserts. Please **SIGN UP** if you can help in this capacity.

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**Check the BULLETIN BOARDS/INFO TABLES/NARTHEX AREAS:**

- **MAY New Hope Ministries half sheet** (on podium)
- **Camp Eder's 2017 Activities Booklet & Summer Camp**
- **Brethren Housing Assoc. Golf Tournament (5/12)**

**Check the SIGN UP SHEETS (Sign Up Area/bulletin board) for:**

- **Two spots open - Ecumenical Choir Ushers – May 21<sup>st</sup>**
- **GREETERS for Month of June, July, August, etc.**
- **SIGN UP Assistance for Funeral Desserts, Fruit Salad**

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**The MAY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP GETTYSBURG TRIP is Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> for a tour of the Eisenhower Farm in Gettysburg; home and farm of Ike and Mamie Eisenhower. We will meet at the museum and visitor center of the Gettysburg National Military Park at **10 AM.**, where we will board a **bus leaving at 10:30 AM** to take us to the Eisenhower Farm. We are scheduled to return to the visitor center on the **12 noon** bus for a time to visit the museum book and gift shop before we **leave by 12:40 PM** to head for lunch at the Dobbin House Tavern which is 1-2 PM. (Individual checks) Cost of the Eisenhower Farm tour is \$7/person. **Sign up and pay** was last **Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**. There are no cancellations or refunds. **Directions are located with the SIGN UP SHEET.** Indicate if you need a ride or if you can drive. Carpooling is encouraged. Those carpooling will leave from the church at 9:00 am. See Janet Z or Nancy S if you missed the deadline.**

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**West Shore Church of the Brethren plans Concert:**

You are invited to attend a concert for the benefit of the West Shore Church of the Brethren featuring **Anita Stapleton A. and Brent S. on Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM** at the church on the Wertzville Road, Enola. A Free Will Offering will be taken.

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**Background letter for today's Congregational Conversation is in your mail slots, with extra copies in the narthex.**

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**Preparing for Summer 2017 Children's Church:** Volunteers are needed to lead Children's Church during the summer months of June, July, and August. Please consider volunteering to help our young people continue to grow in their love of Jesus. Any amount of time you can give will be most appreciated. A **SIGN UP SHEET** has been posted on the bulletin board across from the mailboxes. Contact Starr A with any questions.

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**ANNUAL CONFERENCE BRIEFING - Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> – 2pm**

Your Standing Committee delegates, Brothers Mike M & Larry D invite all Annual Conference delegates and others interested in the work of Annual Conference to join us for our **ANNUAL CONFERENCE BRIEFING on May 21 at 2pm** at Carlisle Church of the Brethren. We'll share in worship & prayer, and then talk a bit about Annual Conference especially for those who may be first time delegates. We will also go over the business items that will be before us this year. We are in a very significant time in life of our Church; please join us for this important gathering.

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**Mechanicsburg Area Ecumenical Choir Concert** featuring 102 voices from 29 area churches is **Sunday, May 21, 2017** at 3:00 PM at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 410 E. Simpson Street, Mechanicsburg, PA. Musical Director is Justin M with accompanist, Diane M. Special music by Camp Hill Presbyterian Brass. Free will offering proceeds benefit New Hope Ministries.

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**Preparing for: National Older Adult Conference (NOAC)**

A Week of Inspiration for those 50+ at Lake Junaluska, NC on **September 4 through 8, 2017**. See the poster on the bulletin board for more information. Registration opened February 2017. More in upcoming newsletters.

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**Maker Fun Factory VBS is Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup> through Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 8:15pm.** Registration forms are posted on the bulletin board across from the mailboxes. Return your completed form to Heidi G's mailbox to register or call the church office at 766-8880 – weekdays from 9am to 1pm. Complete information with a registration form is in the May Newsletter.

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**New Hope Ministry's Needs & Summer Youth Lunch Sign-up:**

Go to: [http://www.nhm-pa.org/?page\\_id=18](http://www.nhm-pa.org/?page_id=18)

- **Urgent Need for two (2) Volunteers** to drive a six-speed truck and load and unload deliveries on Thursdays from 9am to 3pm; also, Monday & Friday afternoons and Tuesday & Wednesday mornings.
- **Three (3) Volunteers for pick-ups** on Mondays and Fridays
- **Two (2) Volunteers for Wednesdays.**
- **Now accepting SIGN-UPS** for groups, churches, and families to **PROVIDE LUNCHESES** for our summer youth programs. Learn about this special need and SIGN UP for a day (or two) to put together lunches for about 50 youth by going to:  
<http://www.takethemameal.com/meals.php?t=WKEU4775> .

**Annual Conference** for the Church of the Brethren is coming up again at the end of June. This year the host city is Grand Rapids, Michigan, and we are being invited to participate in **two ongoing projects - Bethany Christian Services & the Refugee Education Center.**

- **The needs for Bethany Christian Services are as follows:** Twin and Full Sheet Sets, Pens, Pencils, Envelopes, Notebooks, and Scotch Tape.
- **The Refugee Education Center** is requesting Back Packs, Peanut-Free Granola Bars, Small Bags of Dried Fruit, Pretzels, Popcorn, and Crackers (i.e. Cheeze-its, Goldfish, Wheat Thins).

If you would like to contribute to these projects, **please place your items in the collection boxes at the entryways by Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>** and Traci R will get the items to Grand Rapids for us.