



Announcements & Upcoming Events

MARCH 30-APRIL 6, 2025

Worship Services

All are welcome to join us every Sunday @ 10:30 am in-person or via [livestream!](#)

- **March 9-April 20**—Lent Series: Everything in Between

Please visit [sanctifiedart.org](#) to learn more about the visuals and some worship elements used for Lent.

Faith Formation Hour

Every Sunday from 9:15-10:15 am

- **Children & Youth Faith Formation**—Ages 0–12th grade
- **Adult Faith Formation**
March 30

- **Discovery Class**, Bill McKibben
Video & Discussion on Hopeful
Climate Initiatives for Us, rm 102 &
Zoom
- **Bible Exploration** with David
Leiter, rm 106 & Zoom
- **Young Adults**, Parlor
- **Chalkboard Chat**, rm 110
- **Sip N' Chat**, Memorial Lobby

Lunch Bunch

All are welcome! Contact Suzanne Taylor with questions.

- **March 30**—Amato's Pizza
- **April 6**—Centerville Diner 2

Calling All Graduates!

We would like to honor and recognize all high school graduates, college graduates, post-grad certifications, PHD's, etc on **Sunday**,

May 25. Please provide a picture and your graduation info to the church office (info@etowncob.org) by **April 14th** for publication in the newsletter.

Special Church Council Meeting

Sun, Mar 30, directly after worship, sanctuary & Zoom. The primary purpose for this meeting is to affirm Amy Karr as Board Chair Elect. The meeting agenda will be available by email and print copies available at the back of the sanctuary. Please join us for this important meeting.

Reception of New Members

Sun, Apr 13 during worship. If you have participated in an Inquirers Class and are interested in being received as a new member by reaffirmation of faith, letter of transfer or by baptism, please contact the church office or speak with a pastor by **March 31.**

Chicken BBQ 2025

Sat, April 5, 3-5 pm, Etown CoB. All proceeds benefit The Haiti Medical Project and CCEPI. No need to purchase a ticket. The meal is by donation and includes half a chicken, baked potato, baked beans, pepper slaw, roll, applesauce and cookies. Pick up meals between 3-5 pm or until sold out under the portico.

Spring is here!

Are you wanting to clean your attic, basement or closets and have items no longer needed? Pack them into a box or storage

Highlights...

- Special Church Council Meeting—
March 30
- Chicken BBQ—April 5
- Handbell Festival Public Concert—
April 5
- Affinity Group Potluck—April 6
- Palm Sunday—April 13
- New Member Reception—April 13
- Graduate Info Due—April 14
- Newsletter Articles Due—April 14
- The Mistake: A Theatrical Production—April 15
- Love Feast—April 17
- Easter Sunday Service & Activities—
April 20
- Welsh Mountain Hike—April 29

container and donate it at a later time to the Holiday Celebration on November 22, 2025. Last year the donated items at our Holiday Celebration were a huge hit and picked up by many community members for free and were very appreciated. Please consider donating your unused household items, clothes, appliances, kids' toys, books, etc. The Witness Commission would like to host this event again. Look for future announcements for more ways to be involved in this worthy activity. Thank you!

WEEKLY/MONTHLY ONGOING EVENTS

Visit our online [events calendar](#) for locations and updates of each event.

CROP Table

Sundays, under the church portico. Donations can be made at time of pick-up with cash or check made out to "Etown CoB" with "CROP" in the memo line or [online giving](#) select "CROP."

Men's Coffee & Conversation

Tues, Apr 1 @ 8 am, Garman's home. All men are invited for coffee and conversation. Questions or transportation, contact Barry Garman, Ben Hoffman, George Snavely or Jim Hoffer.

Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays @ 10 am, Zoom Topics vary. Contact [JulieAnn Keith](#) or [Chris Bucher](#) with questions.

Yoga

Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm, rm 101. Contact [Peggy Shaffer](#) with questions.

Quilters

Wednesdays @ 9:30 am, rm 230. Quilting Coordinator: Peg Over
Contact the [church office](#) with questions.

Memory Loss/Caregivers Support Group

Thur, Apr 3 @ 9:30 am, parlor & Zoom.
Contact [Barb Sweigart](#) with questions.

Chair Yoga

Thursdays @ 10:30 am, rm 101. Contact [Peggy Shaffer](#) with questions.

Memorial Bell Rehearsal

Thursdays @ 6:15 pm, choir rm. Contact [Ron Bellamy](#) with questions.

LGBTQ+ Working Group

Thurs, Apr 3 @ 7pm, Zoom. Contact [Rose Baer](#) with questions.

Prism Youth Group

Fridays @ 6:30 pm, Youth Room 108. All youth grades 6-12. Gatherings are open to everyone—regardless of gender identity or church affiliation. Volunteers, click or scan QR code to sign up.



Knitting/Fiber Arts Group

Last Saturday @ 10 am, Eisenbise home. All are welcome! Contact [Becky Eisenbise](#). Sponsored by the Nurture Commission.

Climate Crisis Action Committee

Thurs, May 1 @ 7 pm, Zoom. All are welcome! Contact [Damon Wagner Fields](#) for info.

Immigration Support Group

Mon, Apr 28 @ 7 pm, Zoom. All are welcome! Contact [Damon Wagner Fields](#) for info.

Racial Justice Working Group

All are welcome! Contact [JulieAnn Keith](#) for date and time and with any questions.

Newsletter Articles Due

May-June 2025 newsletter articles are due to the church office on **Mon, Apr 14**. Please submit all articles to info@etowncob.org.

Anabaptist Community Bible

The church office has extra Anabaptist Community Bibles for sale. We have 5 soft touch and 7 hardcover Bibles. The price for the soft

touch is \$55.99 and the hardcover cost is \$43.99, this is a discounted price from the cost at Brethren Press. If you are interested please contact the church office.

Children's Palm Sunday Song Practice

Sun, Mar 30 & Apr 6 @ 10:10-10:25 am. Children in grades K-4 will practice in the Blaze room. Children ages 2 - 5 years

Jr/Sr High Youth Events

Grades 6-12

- **April 6**—First Sunday Hangout

Grades 6-8

- **June 20-22**—National Youth Junior High Conference

Grades 9-12

- **July 18-23, 2026**—National Youth Conference

will learn the song in the Shine class and are welcome to participate during the Palm Sunday service. All children interested in singing during worship are invited to a rehearsal with the adult choir at **9 am on Palm Sunday, April 13**. Questions? Contact Lynne Hockley (717) 468-2632.

Handbell Festival Public Concert

Sat, April 5 at 6 pm, St Joseph Catholic School, 420 E Simpson St, Mechanicsburg. All are welcome to enjoy this festival closing concert. Etown CoB Memorial Bell members will be attending the all-day festival before the concert begins.

Brethren Disaster Ministry Trip Meeting

Sun, April 6, after worship, Parlor. This planning meeting is for anyone who will be going on the Brethren Disaster Ministry trip in May. Contact Deb or Dale Ziegler with questions.

Affinity Group Potluck

April 6 @ 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall. The Affinity Group is a welcoming space for LGBTQ+ adults and their allies. You are not required to bring a food item to attend. Spon-



sored by the LGBTQ+ Working Group. Click or scan the QR code to sign-up for the potluck.

Welsh Mountain Nature Preserve Hike

Tues, April 29 @ 9:45 am. The Masonic Village hiking club and our own Prime Time committee invites you to join us for a hike at the Lancaster Conservancy's Welsh Mountain Nature Preserve. A rain date is set for Thurs, May 1. This is a guided hike by conservancy staff who will point out the natural beauty of the area and share stories of its history, including its relationship to the underground railroad. The hike is about two miles and considered to be at the easy to moderate skill level. A shorter, fully accessible hike is also available for those who would prefer this. Cost is \$5.00 per person. We will carpool from the church at 8:30 am. Sign-ups will be available in the Memorial Lobby on Sundays in April or by contacting Gina Strouse at 717-341-0712, gastrouse@comcast.net.

Annual Family Camping Weekend

June 13-15, Camp Swatara. We have cabins reserved for Father's Day weekend. Three large cabins are left, \$180, sleeps 9. RSVP's and any questions, contact Pastor Jason at jason@etowncob.org.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

National Jr High Conference

June 20-22, Juniata College, PA. Junior High youth (completed grades 6 - 8) and their adult advisors are invited to this weekend of faith formation, friendship, and fun! Click or scan the QR code for details and registration.



BRETHREN MENNONITE COUNCIL

Fabulous Fierce & Sacred

May 2-4, 2025, West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship and Germantown Mennonite Church, cohosted with Ambler CoB. This retreat is led by and for LGBTQIA+ Anabaptists to celebrate queer & trans joy and belonging. This retreat is open to all ages. Click or scan the QR code for details and registration.



PARISH RESOURCE CENTER (PRC)

Immigration Legal Service Clinic

PRC will host weekly evening clinics to support immigrants who are fighting against deportation. New volunteer training will be held on **Sat, April 19 from 9-10:30 am** at PRC, 2160 Lincoln Hwy E #18, Lancaster. Click or scan QR code for details and registration.



PRC's Housewares Pantry

PRC is in need of gently used or new housewares. Click or scan the QR code for most needed items. Donations can be dropped off at 2160 Lincoln Highway E #18, Lancaster.



ETOWN COLLEGE

Young Center Events

- **Nov-May 16, High Library Idea Lab** is hosting an exhibit *Preserving the Stories of Etown Students and Alumni of Color*.
- **Thurs, April 3 @ 7 pm,** Bucher Meetinghouse. **Brown Book Award**



Worship Attendance

Sunday, March 23

In-Person: 221 Livestream: 55

Gifts Given

Cash, Checks & Square— March 18-24

General Fund: \$9,658.00

Designated Gifts: \$17.50

Tenant R & S: \$983.21

CROP: \$141.00

Lecture: Debating Sustainability.

Guest speaker Royden Loewen, will consider transnational flows of agricultural knowledge and sustainability. Copies of *Mennonite Farmers* will be available for sale and signing after the lecture.

- **Tues, April 15 @ 7 pm,** Bucher Meetinghouse. **Kreider Lecture: Negotiating the Kingdoms.** Corey Colyer's lecture will explore how different Anabaptist affiliations approach ongoing clashes between state authorities and Plain communities in modern America.

Click or scan the QR code for details of these events.

LOOKING AHEAD

- New & Renew Conference—May 14-16
- Ron Bellamy & Linda Lorgus Concert—May 16
- Spring Council Mtg—June 1
- Family Camping Wkd—June 13-15
- CoB Annual Conference—July 2-6

Mark your calendars and watch for details and updates! You can find these events on the online events calendar.

COMMUNITY CORNER

AAPI Exhibit

Sat, Apr 12 @ 3 pm, Stoudt Gallery, Lancaster. In advance of May's Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage month, an exhibit highlighting AAPI is on display in the Stoudt Gallery at Lancaster-History titled "Pathways of Persistence." The AAPI group will host a free open house and reception celebrating the new exhibit. (Etown CoB has hosted AAPI community meals here at the church for the past two years.) Advance registration is requested, and can be made online at LancasterHistory.org or by calling 717-392-4633.

You are Invited!

You are invited to share with the office staff ideas for local and community highlights that feature participants in our congregation. Please submit items to share by 12 noon on Wednesdays to info@etowncob.org. Photos are welcome.

Please join us in praying for the
Green Tree CoB
 congregation for the week of
March 30th

Church Office Holidays:
 Apr 18—Closed - Good Friday

Event Packets can be found under "Forms" on the church website or contact the Church Office for a printed copy. Regular Commission/Group meetings do not need to fill out an event packet.

If help is needed to register for any event please contact the Church Office at info@etowncob.org or call 717-367-1000. Office hours are Mon-Fri, 8:30 am-4:30 pm. Subject to change for holidays, vacation time or inclement weather.

Pastoral Team:

Jason Haldeman | jason@etowncob.org | 717-367-1000 ext. 2
 Naomi Kraenbring | pastornaomi@etowncob.org | 717-367-1000 ext. 3
 Liz Bidgood Enders | pastorliz@etowncob.org | 717-367-1000 ext. 5

Support Staff:

Kim Glass, Music Coordinator/Accompanist | kim@etowncob.org | 717-367-1000 ext. 4
 Rachel Bucher Swank, Music Coordinator | rachel@etowncob.org | 717-367-1000 ext. 4
 Ron Bellamy, Memorial Bells Director | ringinron@gmail.com
 Crystal Crater, Office Administrator and Marketing & Communications Coordinator
crystal@etowncob.org | 717-367-1000 ext. 0 | Mon-Fri, 8:30 am—4:30 pm
 Brooke Bish, Administrative Assistant
brooke@etowncob.org | 717-367-1000 ext. 1 | Mon-Fri, 9 am—2 pm
 Amy Zimmerman, Facilities Manager
amy@etowncob.org | 717-367-1000 ext. 6 | Mon-Fri, 8 am—3 pm

MARCH-APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	April 1	2	3	4	5
Faith Formation Worship Special Church Council Mtg Lunch Bunch		Men's Coffee & Conversation Women's Bible Study Yoga	Quilters	Memory Loss Support Grp Chair Yoga Memorial Bell Rehearsal	Prism	Chicken BBQ Fundraiser
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Faith Formation Worship BDM Mtg 1st Sunday Hangout Lunch Bunch Affinity Grp Potluck	Resources Comm. Mtg C. E. Comm. Mtg Witness Comm. Mtg	Women's Bible Study Yoga	Quilters Choir Rehearsals	Chair Yoga Memorial Bell Rehearsal	Prime Time Mtg Prism	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Faith Formation Worship Lunch Bunch	Church Board Mtg	Women's Bible Study Yoga The Mistake	Quilters Choir Rehearsals	Chair Yoga Love Feast	Church Office Closed Prism	