Announcements & Upcoming Events

AUGUST 16-23, 2026

Worship Services

All are welcome to join us every Sunday at 10:30 am in-person or via livestream!

- **Aug 2-30**—Sermon Series: **Summer Vacation: At the Beach**

Our Sunday worship services are livestreamed to YouTube every Sunday and recorded for later viewing. The front of the sanctuary and the first few rows may be visible on camera. Please see an usher for assistance if you prefer seating that is off camera.

Faith Formation Summer Break

May 31 through August 30 there will be **NO Faith Formation classes** during the **9:15-10:15 am hour. SHINE** and **Nursery** care will be available during the worship hour starting at **10:15 am.** Faith Formation will resume on **September 6!**

Lunch Bunch

All are welcome! Contact Suzanne Taylor with questions.

- **August 16**—Mangia Mangia
- **August 23**—Lucky Ducks

Outdoor Baptism

Sun, Aug 23 at 1 pm, Little Chiques Park, 229 Park Ave, Mount Joy. All are invited to come and support those choosing to join our congregation through baptism.

Food Drive

August 1-31. Lancaster County Chooses Love (LCCL) operates a Resource Center, which includes a Food Pantry and a Gender Affirming Clothing Closet. The Resource Center is open to everyone, with no barriers to entry and no income level restrictions. Anyone in need can access the Food Pantry. LCCL is **seeking donations of non-perishable food items, as well as first aid and hygiene products. Items can be placed on the table in the Narthex.** Monetary donations can be made at lancasterchooseslove.org.

-LGBTQIA+ Working Group

Etown CoB Booth at the Fair

The Witness Commission is organizing a congregational exhibit booth at the Etown Fair from **Mon, Aug 24 through Sat, Aug 29. Volunteers** from the church are needed to serve as hosts to the thousands of visitors who will be passing by the table during fair week. Click or scan the QR code or see the Friday morning all-church email for a link to sign up for a time slot as a volunteer booth host.

Highlights...

Receiving New Members—Aug 23
Outdoor Baptism—Aug 23
Etown Fair—Aug 24-29
Church Picnic—Aug 30
Handbell Workshop—Sept 6
Wednesday Suppers—Sept 9-Oct 7
Bluegrass Lawn Concert—Sept 13
PeaceFest—Sept 19
Pizza with the Pastors—Sept 20
Brethren Disaster Relief Auction—Sept 25-26

Volunteer Training

Sun, Aug 30 from 9:15-10:15 am, Etown CoB, fellowship hall. All volunteers and those interested in volunteering to **work with our children and youth** are encouraged to join this training. The training will include an overview of our Child Protection Policy. Click or scan the QR code to view our policy and fill out the forms needed to volunteer.

Church Picnic

Sun, Aug 30, after worship, Etown CoB grounds. All are welcome to join in this time of fellowship. Feel free to bring along a side, snack or dessert to share, and a place setting, lawn chair and a game to play. Sponsored by the Nurture Commission.

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."

PRISM Youth Group

Summer Break. This group will resume in the fall. All youth grades 6-12.

LGBTQ+ Working Group

Mon, Sept 14 at 7 pm, Zoom. All are welcome! Contact Jim Beckwith with any questions.

Men's Coffee & Conversation

Tues, Sept 1 at 8 am, The Stables, 521 Rutts Rd, Etown. All men are invited! Questions? Contact Barry Garman, Ben Hoffman, George Snavely or Jim Hoffer.

Women's Bible Study

Summer Break. Contact JulieAnn Keith or Chris Bucher with questions.

Yoga

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm. Cost is $7 per session. Contact Peggy Shaffer with questions.

Quilters

Wednesdays at 9:30 am, rm 230. Quilting Coordinator, Peg Over. Contact the church office with questions.

Memory Loss Support Group

Thurs, Sept 3 at 9:30 am, parlor. Contact Barb Sweigart with questions.

Chair Yoga

Thursdays at 10:30 am. Cost is $7 per session. Contact Peggy Shaffer with questions.

Memorial Bells Rehearsal

Summer Break. Rehearsals will resume on **August 27** with a potluck meal. A handbell workshop will be available **Sept 6.** Contact Jeffrey Clouser with questions and to register for the workshop.

Knitting/Fiber Arts Group

Last Saturday at 10 am, Eisenbise home. All are welcome! Contact Becky Eisenbise. Sponsored by the Nurture Commission.

Climate Crisis Action Committee

Thurs, Aug 20 at 7 pm, Zoom. All are welcome! Contact Damon Wagner Fields.

Immigration Support Committee

Mon, Aug 17 at 7 pm, Zoom and rm 106. All are welcome! Contact Damon Wagner Fields.

Racial Justice Working Group

All are welcome! Contact JulieAnn Keith for date and time and with any questions.

TransParent Email Support Group

A confidential email group for parents and adults to support their transgender loved ones of all ages. If you are in need, contact: TransParentSupport@EtownCoB.org.

Faithful Nonviolent Action Email Alert Group

If you would like to be a part of this email group, please send a note of interest to FaithfulAction@etowncob.org.

YOUTH EVENTS

Grades 5-12

- **August 16**–Sickman's Mill Tubing

Grades 11-12

- **September 26**–ANE Youth Service Project at the Brethren Disaster Relief Auction - see Pastor Jason

Handbell Workshop for Inquiring/Inspiring Ringers

Sun, Sept 6, 9 am-10 am, choir room. Whether you are new to handbells or want to strengthen your foundation, this session offers a hands-on exploration of the essential techniques every ringer age 12 and older needs to know. **Class is limited to 15 ringers.** Please email Jeff Clouser at handbells@etowncob.org to reserve your spot and indulge your curiosity.

Bluegrass Lawn Concert

Sun, Sept 13 at 12:30 pm, Etown CoB lawn. Etown CoB is delighted to host FLATpick Earth Society who features the flat-picking guitar duo—Jesse Eisenbise and Gavin Horning. This is a **free** concert, open to the public. **Food trucks** will be available! Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy fine guitar picking and singing! A family friendly event!

PeaceFest: Turning Communities Toward Peace

Sat, Sept 19 from 11 am to 4 pm. Lititz CoB, 300 W Orange St, Lititz. Community members of all ages are invited to attend PeaceFest! This free, family-friendly event will offer a delightful array of attractions, including food trucks, music, face painting, the Tree House playground, and a variety of hands-on activities. The festival will feature Shane Claiborne, co-founder of RAWtools, an organization committed to transforming weapons into symbols of hope. For a list of scheduled events and more information, please click or scan the QR code.

CAMP SWATARA

On Call Hosts Needed

What better way to volunteer than as an On Call Host at our Retreat Center? We're seeking individuals or couples to host retreat groups for a weekend or more throughout the year. Training and housing are provided. If interested, contact info@campswatara.org or 717-933-8510. We need hosts for some weekends in 2026 and plan to expand in 2027.

EVERENCE EVENTS

Your Money and Your Purpose: Made Clear

Wed, Aug 19 at 2 pm, webinar. In this session, you'll explore the various ways to align your finances with purpose and live passionately toward your calling – with money as an ally, not an adversary. Explore the role of financial planning, charitable giving, estate planning, family-owned businesses, and intentional family conversations as tools to be used to pursue God's call. Click or scan the QR code for details and registration.

COBYS FAMILY SERVICES

Bike & Hike

Sun, Sept 13 at 12 pm, Lititz CoB, 300 W Orange St, Lititz. Come participate in the 30th anniversary of COBY's Bike & Hike. Click or scan the QR code for details and registration.

Worship Attendance

Sunday, August 9

In-Person: 157 Livestream: 52

Gifts Given

Cash, Checks & Square– August 4-10

General Fund: $2,888.50
Tenant R & S: $2,276.76
CROP: $319.41

LOOKING AHEAD

- Atlantic Northeast District Conference—Oct 2-3
- Chicken BBQ—Oct 17
- ANE Older Adult Coffee House—Oct 20
- PrimeTime Lunch & Learn—Oct 21
- Spiritual Gifts Seminar—Oct 31
- Remembrance Sunday—Nov 1
- Organ Concert, Abbie Wood—Nov 13
- Fall Church Council Mtg—Nov 15
- Holiday Celebration—Nov 21

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

COMMUNITY CORNER

Congratulations!

Ann Pineda has joined Kraybill Mennonite School as their new Spanish teacher. She has served as a tutor for students requiring additional support in Spanish, Reading, and Writing. Congratulations, Ann, on your new teaching position.

STAFF OUT OF OFFICE

Crystal—August 17 & 28

Please join us in praying for the
Ambler CoB
congregation for the week of
August 16th.

Pastoral Team:

Jason Haldeman | jason@etowncob.org | 717-366-4833
Naomi Kraenbring | pastornaomi@etowncob.org | 717-366-4836
Liz Bidgood Enders | pastorliz@etowncob.org | 717-366-4831

Support Staff:

Rachel Bucher Swank, Music Coordinator/Choir Director | rachel@etowncob.org | 717-673-4909
Jeffrey Clouser, Memorial Bells Director | handbells@etowncob.org | 717-366-4837
Karen Deering, Pianist and Accompanist | karenleedeering@gmail.com
Dr. Bruce Gerlach, Organist and Accompanist | bgmproductionsllc@gmail.com
Beth Dreyer-DeGoede, Choir Accompanist | bddegoede@gmail.com
Crystal Crater, Office Administrator and Marketing & Communications Coordinator
crystal@etowncob.org | 717-366-4832 | Mon-Fri, 8 am—4 pm
Brooke Bish, Administrative Assistant
brooke@etowncob.org | 717-366-4834 | Mon-Fri, 9 am—2 pm
Amy Zimmerman, Facilities Manager
amy@etowncob.org | 717-366-4838 | Mon-Fri, 8 am—3 pm

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs, 8 am—4 pm, Fri, 8 am—2 pm.
Subject to change for holidays, vacation time or inclement weather.

August 16-29

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
16 10 am Online Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fair Volunteer Mtg 11:45 am Lunch Bunch 1 pm Sickman's Mill Tubing	**17** **Church Office Closing at 2 pm** 6:45 pm Church Board Mtg 7 pm Immigration Mtg	**18** ~~6:30 pm Yoga~~ CANCELLED	**19** 9:30 am Quilters 7 pm Finance Mtg	**20** 10:30 am Chair Yoga 7 pm Climate Crisis Mtg	**21**	**22**
23 10 am Online Fellowship 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Lunch Bunch 1 pm Outdoor Baptism	**24** Etown Fair	**25** Etown Fair 6:30 pm Yoga 7 pm Nurture Mtg	**26** Etown Fair 9:30 am Quilters	**27** Etown Fair 10:30 am Chair Yoga 6 pm Memorial Bell Rehearsal and Indoor Picnic	**28** Etown Fair	**29** Etown Fair 10 am Knitting/Fiber Arts Group

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. Thanks to a recent upgrade **Guest Etown CoB** church wifi is now available for use without a password.