



Announcements & Upcoming Events

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 27-OCTOBER 4, 2026

Worship Services

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

- **Sept 6–Oct 4**—Sermon Series:
Come to the Table

Our Sunday worship services are live-streamed 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 Hour

Every Sunday from 9:15-10:15 am

- **Children & Youth**—Ages 0-12th gr
- **Adult—September 27**
 - **Discovery Class, Nate Hosler**, “Brethren House” community housing for BVS volunteers and others near the church building in DC, 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.

- **Sept 27**—Mangia Mangia

World Communion Sunday

Sun, Oct 4, during worship.

Join us for a traditional bread and cup communion and an opportunity for footwashing.



Adult Inquirers Class

We warmly invite everyone to join our **Adult Inquirers Class**! These classes are offered periodically to provide an opportunity to learn more about our congregation’s mission, history, beliefs, and practices. The next class will begin in **October**, with days, times, and location to be coordinated with interested participants. After completing the class, if you wish to join, new members will be welcomed on **Sun, Nov 29**, during our worship service. If you are interested in participating in this class, please contact the church office at info@etowncob.org or speak with a Pastor by **Sun, Sept 27**.

2027 Fellowship Directory

We invite all individuals, families, and newer attendees (both in-person and online) to update their contact information. You can do this by clicking or scanning the QR code, or by emailing your information to info@etowncob.org by **Mon, Nov 2nd**. If you wish to opt



out of the Fellowship Directory, please let us know through the same means. Our goal is to release the updated directory by the **end of December**.

Highlights...

Wednesday Suppers—Now thru Oct 7
Women’s Bible Study—Now thru Nov 17
Fall Salt & Light Biblical Studies Group—Now thru Nov 29
Family Dinner—Sept 27
Newsletter Articles Due—Oct 12
Adult Inquirers Class Begins in October
ANE District Conference—Oct 2-3
Blessing of the Animals—Oct 4
World Communion Sunday—Oct 4
Chicken BBQ—Oct 17
ANE Older Adult Coffee House—Oct 20
Prime Time Lunch & Learn—Oct 21
Spiritual Gifts Seminar—Oct 31
2027 Fellowship Directory Changes Due—Nov 2

Blessing of the Animals

Sun, Oct 4 at 1:30 pm, portico. You are invited to bring **pets** (on leashes or in carriers, aquariums, cages, etc), or pictures of pets you would like to have included in this short and informal service. Please contact Pastor Liz if you have any questions.

Newsletter Articles Due

Nov-Dec 2026 newsletter articles are due to the church office by **Mon, Oct 12**. Please submit all articles to info@etowncob.org.

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

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

Family Dinner

Sun, Sept 27, after worship, in fellowship hall. All are invited to this potluck meal! Pizza and drinks will be provided but you can bring along a dish to share. Hope to see you there!

LGBTQ+ Working Group

Mon, Oct 5 at 7 pm, Zoom. All are welcome! Contact [Jim Beckwith](#) with any questions.

Men's Coffee & Conversation

Tues, Oct 6 at 8 am, The Stables, 521 Rutts Rd, Etown. All men are invited! Questions? Contact Barry Garman, Ben Hoffman, George Snavelly or Jim Hoffer.

Women's Bible Study

Tues, Sept 29 at 10 am, Zoom. 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, Oct 1 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

Thursdays at 6:15 pm, choir room. Contact [Jeffrey Clouser](#) with questions.

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, Oct 1 at 7 pm, Zoom. All are welcome! Contact [Damon Wagner Fields](#).

Immigration Support Committee

Mon, Oct 19 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 6-12

- **October 4**—Backyard Hangout and Camp Fire at the Halde-man's 5:30-7 pm
- **November 30**—Washington DC Service Project Day Trip



Messenger Magazine

If you already receive the *Messenger Magazine* through our **Church Club** subscription, **renewal letters** were sent via email to you with a link to renew your subscription. If you would like to **join our Church Club** subscription, please click or scan the QR code to join by **Mon, Oct 12**. Cost is **\$18** 1-year or **\$34** 2-year subscription. If you prefer the **free** digital magazine, visit www.brethren.org/messenger/digital/.



Etown CoB Chicken BBQ Fundraiser

Sat, Oct 17 from 3-5 pm, pick up under the portico. No tickets necessary. Meal is offered by donation and includes half BBQ chicken prepared by Dennis Peters, a baked potato, baked beans, dinner roll, pepper slaw, applesauce and cookies. Proceeds will help cover church expenses for planned activities, banquet and a service project to celebrate **Etown CoB's 125th Anniversary** in 2027.

Lunch and Learn

Wed, Oct 21 from 12-3 pm, The Gathering Place, Mt Joy. Join **Karl Rhodes** as he shares they story of his great, great grandmother, **Margaret “Peggy” Rhodes**. Special attention will be paid to **Elder John Kline**. Cost is **\$20** per person payable to Etown CoB before the event or at the door. Registration is necessary and sign-up will be available in Memorial Lobby on Sundays now through Oct 4.

ATLANTIC NORTHEAST (ANE) DISTRICT

District Conference

Worship Service

Fri, Oct 2 at 7 pm, in-person or livestream, Living Faith CoB, 2200 State Hill Rd, Wyomissing.



No registration required. The service will feature a message from **Dave Sollenberger** and music led by **Josh Tindall** and others. The offering will support the Deportation Defense Response Legal and Mutual Aid Fund. Click or scan the QR code to join livestream.

5th Annual Older Adult Coffee House

Tues, Oct 20 from 2-3:30 pm, Lancaster CoB, 1601 Sunset Ave, Lancaster. You are invited for coffee, tea, cookies, and music by talented local singer Peggy Keller with friends from all over the district. No registration required.

Community Gifts: Discerning the Spirit Together

Sat, Oct 31 from 9 am-3 pm, Etown CoB Fellowship Hall.



The Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center invites you to join **Josh Brockway**, Director of Discipleship and Identity for the Church of the Brethren, and **Stan Dueck**, Director of Discipleship Ministries for the ANE District for a **workshop** on Discerning Spiritual Gifts. In this workshop, we will explore the scriptures that outline the gifts of the Spirit, practice discernment together, and explore a new denominational resource for gifts discernment. A light lunch is included. Click or scan the QR code for details and registration. Registration Fee: \$55 (\$65 with .5 CEUs).

EVERENCE EVENTS

Financial Planning

Wed, Oct 21 at 2 pm, webinar.



In this webinar, you'll learn how Everence financial planning can provide you with a dedicated decision partner, helping you reach your financial goals and align your financial decisions with your faith and purpose. Click or scan the QR code for details and registration.

ETOWN COLLEGE

Young Center Event

Guest Lecture, Tues, Sept 29 at 7 pm, Bucher Meetinghouse, Etown College.

Why We Need Anabaptism and the Black Church, in this talk, **Dr. Drew Hart** will explore why salvaging a faithful Christian witness benefits from a convergence of the prophetic stream of the Black Church and the radical discipleship wing of the Anabaptist tradition. This event is **FREE** and open to the public.

Worship Attendance

Sunday, September 20

In-Person: 196 Livestream: 56

Gifts Given

Cash, Checks & Square—September 15-21

General Fund: \$3,223.00

Designated Gifts: \$128.40

Tenant R & S: \$800.58

CROP: \$230.51

HOPE WITHIN MINISTRIES

Taste of the Nations

A Cultural Culinary Experience, Thurs, Oct 1 from 5:30 to 8 pm, Elizabethtown



Brethren in Christ Church (EBIC), 996 E High St, Etown. Sample international foods from around the world. Cost is **\$35** per adult, **\$10** per child (12 and under). Click or scan the QR code for details and tickets.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Remembrance Sunday—Nov 1
- Organ Concert, Abbie Wood—Nov 13
- Fall Church Council Mtg—Nov 15
- Holiday Celebration—Nov 21
- Pizza w/Pastors—Dec 6
- Susquehanna Chorale—Dec 20
- The Longest Night Service—Dec 21
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service—Dec 24

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

COMMUNITY CORNER

Threads and Treads Fundraiser

Sat, Oct 3 from 11 am–2 pm, Christ Church UCC, 247 S Market St, Etown. Come out and help Christ Church support disadvantaged students in the Etown Area School District to supply new clothing, sneakers and other school necessities. Food trucks, raffles and more!

STAFF OUT OF OFFICE

Crystal–Sept 26-Oct 11

Naomi–Oct 1-2, 16-19

Liz–Oct 10-16

SPECIAL CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Sept 28-Oct 9, Mon-Thurs 9 am-4 pm

Fri 9 am-2 pm

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.

Please join us in praying for the
Mechanic Grove CoB
congregation for the week of
September 27th.

September 27-OCTOBER 17						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27 9:15 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Lunch Bunch 1 pm Biblical Studies Grp	28 6:30 pm Witness Mtg	29 10 am Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Yoga 7 pm Guest Lecture	30 9:30 am Quilters 5:45 pm Wednesday Suppers 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	OCTOBER 1 9:30 am Memory Loss Support Grp Mtg 10:30 am Chair Yoga 6:15 pm Memorial Bells Rehearsal 7 pm Climate Crisis Mtg	2 7 pm ANE District Conference Worship Night	3 8:15 am ANE District Conference Business Session
4 9:15 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Lunch Bunch 1 pm Biblical Studies Grp	5 7 pm Christian Ed Mtg	6 8 am Men's Coffee 10 am Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Yoga 7 pm Resources Mtg	7 9:30 am Quilters 5:45 pm Wednesday Suppers	8 10:30 am Chair Yoga 6:15 pm Memorial Bells Rehearsal	9	10 1pm Young Center Open House
11 9:15 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Lunch Bunch 1 pm Biblical Studies Grp	12	13 10 am Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Yoga	14 9:30 am Quilters	15 10:30 am Chair Yoga 6:15 pm Memorial Bells Rehearsal 7 pm Finance Mtg	16	17 3 pm Chicken BBQ

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.