



# Announcements & Upcoming Events

**MARCH 15-22, 2026**

## Worship Services

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

- **Feb 22-April 5**—Lenten Sermon Series: The Good News: Tell All About It!

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 Hour

Every Sunday from 9:15-10:15 am

- **Children & Youth**—Ages 0-12th gr.
- **Adult**—March 15th
  - **Discovery Class, *Jesus in Galilee—Medium & Message***, Video Series by John Dominic Crossan, Pt 4 of 4, 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 15th**—Amatos
- **March 22nd**—Mangia Mangia

## Welcome New Music Staff

We would like to welcome **Karen Deering**, Pianist and Accompanist, **Dr. Bruce Gerlach**, Organist and Accompanist, and **Beth DeGoede**, Choir Accompanist. **Rachel Bucher Swank** continues as our Choir Director and Music Coordinator, in an expanded role.

## Church Leadership

### Directories are Available

The 2026 Church Leadership Directories are available at the back of the sanctuary. Contact the church office with questions.

## You are invited to “TELL ALL ABOUT IT!”

During our Lent season worship services, you have been hearing some folks “Tell all about it!” Would you also like to **share** an experience or story or reflection on what “the Good News” means to you? Perhaps you recall an anecdote or a moment during your life where the presence or teachings of Jesus became particularly clear. If you would like to “Tell all about it” in the **May-June newsletter**, submit your written piece to the church office by **Monday, April 13th**.

## Epic Telling of the Book of Esther

On **Mon, March 16th at 7 pm** via Zoom, a group of biblical storytellers will be hosting an online *Epic Telling of the Book of Esther*. All 10 chapters will be told by 14 tellers, including a small part by **Pastor Liz**. It is

## Highlights...

- ANE Women’s Spring Fellowship—March 21st
- Receiving New Members—March 22nd
- Virginia University Concert Choir—March 23rd
- Apollo Chamber Players—March 28th
- Palm Sunday—March 29th
- Love Feast—April 2nd
- Good Friday—April 3rd
- Easter—April 5th
  - Easter Potluck Breakfast
  - Easter Service
  - Easter Egg Hunt
- Shenks Ferry Hike—April 9th
- Chicken BBQ—April 18th
- Ministry Match-Up—April 19th
- Earth Day—April 22nd
- LGBTQIA Book Club—April 24th

free and open to the public. To join the Zoom, click or scan the QR code.



## Family Dinner

**Sun, March 22nd, after worship**, in Fellowship Hall. This potluck meal is an informal opportunity to share in food and conversation and allow children to play together. While created with young families in mind, all are invited! Pizza and drinks will be provided but you can bring along a dish to share. Hope to see you there!

## 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

**Sun, April 12th from 4-6**

**pm**, rm 108. All youth grades 6-12.

Volunteers, click or scan the QR code to sign up.



### LGBTQ+ Working Group

**Tues, March 17th at 7 pm**, Zoom. All

are welcome! Contact [Jim Beckwith](#) with any questions.

### Men's Coffee & Conversation

**Tues, April 7th at 8 am**, The Stables, 521

Rutts Rd, Etown. 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 at 10 am**. 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.

### TransParent Support Group

**1st Wednesday at 7 pm**, Etown CoB.

A confidential, private meeting for parents

and other adults to support their transgender loved ones of all ages. Questions? Contact:

[TransParentSupport@EtownCoB.org](mailto:TransParentSupport@EtownCoB.org).

### Memory Loss/Caregivers

#### Support Group

**Thurs, April 2nd 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**. 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

**Mon, April 6th at 7pm**, Zoom. All are

welcome! Contact [Damon Wagner Fields](#) for info.

### Immigration Support Committee

**Tues, March 31st at 7 pm**, rm 106 &

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.

### Faithful Nonviolent Action Email Alert Group

If you would like to be a part of this new Faithful Nonviolent Action email alert group, please send a note of interest to [FaithfulAction@etowncob.org](mailto:FaithfulAction@etowncob.org).

**7:30 pm**, Etown CoB sanctuary and livestream.

- **Apollo Chamber Players, Sat, March 28th at 7 pm**, Etown CoB sanctuary and livestream.

## Upcoming Musical Concerts

These concerts are free and open to the public.

- **Virginia State University Concert Choir, Mon, March 23rd at**

## YOUTH EVENTS



### Grades 5-8

- **April 12**—Youth Inq Class starts

### Grades 5-12

- **May 3**—1st Sunday Hangout
- **FaithX Trips**—Registration Jan 14th-April 1st, <https://www.brethren.org/faithx/>

### Grades 9-12

- **April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17**—Kingian Nonviolence Training
- **July 12-17, 2026**—NYC Pretrip
- **July 18-23, 2026**—National Youth Conference

## Hike in Shenks Ferry

### Wildflower Preserve

**Thurs, April 9th**, leave from the church parking lot at **9 am**. This hike is sponsored by PrimeTime and open to everyone. There will be hiking options from 1-3 miles along packed dirt paths for easy walking. Register in Memorial Lobby on **Sundays, March 15 through April 5**.

### 6th Annual Chicken BBQ

**Sat, April 18th from 3-5 pm**. All proceeds will benefit **The Haiti Medical Project** and **CCEPI**. Meals may be picked up at **Etown CoB** under the **portico**. The meal includes a half of BBQ chicken, baked potato, pepper slaw, rolls, applesauce and cookies. There are **no tickets**, and the price is by **donation**.

### Ministry Match-Up

**Sun, April 19th** as part of an extended worship service. Come see where your passions and God's calling meet, and find

your next step in serving others with love and purpose. Connect with our church commissions, groups and ministry leaders to find out how you can get involved!

## LGBTQIA Book Club

**Fri, April 24th at 7 pm**, Etown CoB parlor. The group will discuss the book *Life Isn't Binary*. If you would like to join in the discussion, read the entire book and be ready to discuss on **April 24th**. Contact the church office with any questions or for a Zoom link.

## Spring Workday

**Sat, May 2nd at 8 am** until done, Etown CoB grounds. We will be weeding, mulching and trimming. Bring rakes, shovels, hedge trimmers, pitch forks, etc. Donuts and coffee will be provided. Contact the church office to sign up.

## FAITHX 2026

Join FaithX to serve, grow in faith, make friends, and experience something new! There are several trip opportunities for junior high, senior high, adults, and families. Click or scan the QR code for details. **Registration is open through April 1st.**

## ANE DISTRICT EVENTS

**District Youth Kingian Nonviolence Training, Sundays, April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17 from 7-8 pm** via Zoom. Cost **\$10**. This opportunity is limited to 12 youth **gr 9-12**. Participants are expected to attend all **6 sessions**. Click or scan the QR code by **April 8th** to register.

## CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

- **Young Adult Conference (YAC), May 22-24**, Camp Blue Diamond, Petersburg, PA.   
**Theme: Identity in Community**, Romans 12: 4-5 NIV. Ages 18-35. Pastor Naomi is set to be one of the speakers during this event. **Registration is now open.** Click or scan the QR code for details and registration.
- **Annual Conference (AC), June 28-July 2**, Grand Wayne Convention Center, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Online registration is open now through **Sat, June 7th**. Registration for **Non-Delegate Virtual Attendees** is **free**, but must be registered by **Tues, June 23rd**. Click or scan the QR code for details and registration. 

## BRETHREN MENNONITE COUNCIL

**BMC's 50th Anniversary Gathering, May 29-31**, Minneapolis, MN. **Rooting Our Stories: Reveling in 50 years of Queer & Trans Anabaptist Resilience** BMC is planning a weekend rooted in sacred story and joyful revelry! Register by **May 7th**. Click or scan the QR code for details and registration. 

## ETOWN COLLEGE EVENTS

**Annual Social Justice Fair, Fri, March 20th, 9 am-5 pm**, Etown College, The Bowers Center. **Keynote Speaker: Chad Dion Lassiter** from 11 am to 12:20 pm. Questions? Contact The Office of Civil Rights, Opportunity & Access at [civilrights@etown.edu](mailto:civilrights@etown.edu).

## Worship Attendance

### Sunday, March 8th

In-Person: 166 Livestream: 47

## Gifts Given

### Cash, Checks & Square— March 3rd-9th

General Fund: \$14,782.99

Designated Gifts: \$555.20

Tenant R & S: \$7,017.71

CROP: \$92.00

Pavilion Project: \$600.00

## PARISH RESOURCE CENTER

**Pt 2, Disagreeing Better, Mon, March 23rd from 7-8:30 pm**, Parish Resource Center, 2160 Lincoln Highway East #18, Lancaster. Led by Melissa Gizzi and Nita Landis. Click or scan the QR code for details and registration. 

## LOOKING AHEAD

- Spring Workday—May 2nd
- ANE Older Adult Spring Banquet—May 6th
- Mother's Day—May 10th
- Birdwatching w/Paul Brubaker—May 15th-17th
- Spring Church Council Mtg—May 17th
- Young Adult Conference—May 22nd-24th
- Music For Everyone Community Chorus—June 19th
- Etown CoB Camp Swatara Weekend—June 19th-21st
- Father's Day—June 21st
- Annual Conference—June 28th-July 2nd

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

# COMMUNITY CORNER

## Beloved Model Train Display

After 56 years, Jay and Carolyn Buffenmyer, are dismantling their cherished model train display. They plan to donate proceeds to Brittany's Hope, a charity for children living in third-world countries. Click or scan the QR code to view the full WGAL.com article.



Hearst Owned WGAL

## Pastoral Team:

Jason Haldeman | [jason@etowncob.org](mailto:jason@etowncob.org) | 717-366-4833

Naomi Kraenbring | [pastornaomi@etowncob.org](mailto:pastornaomi@etowncob.org) | 717-366-4836

Liz Bidgood Enders | [pastorliz@etowncob.org](mailto:pastorliz@etowncob.org) | 717-366-4831

## Support Staff:

Rachel Bucher Swank, Music Coordinator/Choir Director | [rachel@etowncob.org](mailto:rachel@etowncob.org) | 717-366-4837

Jeffrey Clouser, Memorial Bells Director | [handbells@etowncob.org](mailto:handbells@etowncob.org) | 717-366-4837

Karen Deering, Worship Accompanist, piano | [karendeering@etowncob.org](mailto:karendeering@etowncob.org)

Dr. Bruce Gerlach, Worship Accompanist, organ | [bgmproductionsllc@gmail.com](mailto:bgmproductionsllc@gmail.com)

Beth Dreyer-DeGoede, Choir Accompanist | [bddegoede@gmail.com](mailto:bddegoede@gmail.com)

Crystal Crater, Office Administrator and Marketing & Communications Coordinator

[crystal@etowncob.org](mailto:crystal@etowncob.org) | 717-366-4832 | Mon-Fri, 8 am—4 pm

Brooke Bish, Administrative Assistant

[brooke@etowncob.org](mailto:brooke@etowncob.org) | 717-366-4834 | Mon-Fri, 9 am—2 pm

Amy Zimmerman, Facilities Manager

[amy@etowncob.org](mailto:amy@etowncob.org) | 717-366-4838 | Mon-Fri, 8 am—3 pm

Please join us in praying for the  
**Alpha & Omega CoB**  
congregation for the week of  
**March 15th.**

## March 15th-April 4th

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>15</p> <p>9:15 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Lunch Bunch 1 pm A Guide to Biblical Studies Group</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7 pm Epic Telling of the Book of Esther</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10 am Lenten Book Discussion Grp 6:30 pm Yoga 7 pm LGBTQIA Wkg Grp</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:30 am Quilters 6:30 pm Nurture Mtg 7 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Finance Mtg</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:30 am Chair Yoga 6:15 pm Memorial Bells Rehearsal</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10 am Social Justice Fair</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30 am ANE District Women's Spring Fellowship</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:15 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Lunch Bunch 11:45 am Family Dinner 1 pm A Guide to Biblical Studies Group</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:30 pm The Virginia University Concert Choir</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10 am Lenten Book Discussion Grp 12:30 pm Pastoral Relations Team Mtg 6:30 pm Yoga</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:30 am Quilters 7 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:30 am Chair Yoga 6:15 pm Memorial Bells Rehearsal</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10 am Knitting/Fiber Arts Group 7 pm Apollo Chamber Players</p>
<p>29</p> <p><b>Palm Sunday</b> 9:15 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Lunch Bunch 1 pm A Guide to Biblical Studies Group</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30 pm Witness Mtg</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10 am Lenten Book Discussion Grp 6:30 pm Yoga 7 pm Immigration Support Mtg</p>	<p>April 1</p> <p>9:30 am Quilters 7 pm TransParent Support Group</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:30 am Memory Loss Support Group 10:30 am Chair Yoga 6:30 pm Love Feast</p>	<p>3</p> <p><b>Good Friday Church Office CLOSED</b></p>	<p>4</p>

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](mailto:info@etowncob.org) or call 717-367-1000. Office hours are Mon-Fri, 8 am-4 pm. Subject to change for holidays, vacation time or inclement weather.