



Announcements & Upcoming Events

APRIL 12-19, 2026

Worship Services

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

- **April 12-May 31**—Sermon Series: Many Gifts, Same Spirit

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—April 12**
 - **Discovery Class, *Living Our Song: The Music of Andy and Terry Murray*** with Rachel Bucher Swank & Jesse Eisenbise, 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.

- **April 12**—Centerville Diner 2
- **April 19**—Beans

Newsletter Articles Due

May-June 2026 newsletter articles are due to the church office on **Mon, Apr 13**. Please submit all articles to info@etowncob.org.

Calling All Graduates!

We would like to honor and recognize all high school graduates, college graduates, postgrad certifications, PHD's, etc, on **Sun, June 14**. Please provide a picture and your graduation info to the church office (info@etowncob.org) by **Mon, April 13** for publication in the newsletter.

Spring Church Council Mtg

Sun, May 17 after a **potluck** luncheon in fellowship hall. Commission reports are due **Mon, May 4**, send to info@etowncob.org. All are welcome during this time as the church body gathers to go over corporate business. Packets will be available by **Sun, May 10**. A Zoom option will be available. An email with a Zoom link will be sent the morning of **Sun, May 17 at 10 am**.

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**,

Highlights...

Chicken BBQ—April 18
Central PA Handbell Festival—April 18
Ministry Match-Up—April 19
Earth Day—April 22
LGBTQIA Book Club—April 24
Spring Workday—May 2
Commission Reports Due—May 4
ANE Older Adult Spring Banquet—May 6
Mother's Day—May 10
Spring Birding Trip w/Paul Brubaker—May 16-18
Spring Church Council Mtg—May 17
Young Adult Conference—May 22-24

submit your written piece to the church office by **Monday, April 13**.

6th Annual Chicken BBQ

Sat, April 18 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**.

Central PA Handbell Festival

Sat, April 18 at 4 pm, The Junction Center, Landis Hall, 1875 Junction Rd, Manheim. This event will feature 150+ handbell ringers—including the **Etown CoB Memorial Bells**—under the direction of

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."

Family Dinner

Sun, April 26, 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!

PRISM Youth Group

Sun, April 12 from 4-6 pm, rm 108. All youth grades 6-12.

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



LGBTQ+ Working Group

Mon, April 20 at 7 pm, Zoom. All are welcome! Contact [Jim Beckwith](#) with any questions.

Men's Coffee & Conversation

Tues, May 5 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

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.

Memory Loss Support Group

Thurs, May 7 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

TBA, Zoom. All are welcome! Contact [Damon Wagner Fields](#).

Immigration Support Committee

Mon, May 4 at 7 pm, rm 106 & Zoom. 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.

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.

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!

David M. Harris. A donation of \$5 is suggested to attend and will be greatly appreciated.

Ministry Match-Up

Sun, April 19 as part of an extended worship service. Come see where your passions

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

LGBTQIA Book Club

Fri, April 24 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 24**. Contact the church office with any questions or for a Zoom link.

Native Plant Sale & Earth Day Festival

Sat, April 25 from 8 am-1 pm, Overlook Park, 301 Gold Dr, Lancaster. Celebrate Earth Day, learn how to transition your personal habitat to a more native plant habitat which supports local animals, birds and insects. Visit Etown CoB Climate Crisis Action Committee table at this event.

May is Food Collection Month

May 1-31, Etown CoB Narthex.

The month of May is food collection month for Community Cupboard on Washington St. There will be a table set up in the Narthex (outside the sanctuary) for food donations. A list of most



needed items will be available on the table. Click or scan the QR code for online shopping.

Spring Workday

Sat, May 2 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.

Spring Birding Trip

Sat, May 16-Mon, May 18, Union County near Lewisbury. This birding trip is scheduled through Camp Swatara, and will be led by Paul Brubaker. Housing is at Zeager's Mountain View Cabin. Cost is **\$100** which includes housing and meals. Click or scan the QR code for details and registration.

Living the Experience

Sat, June 6 at 11 am, Bethel AME Church, Lancaster. PrimeTime and the Racial Justice Working Group invites you to join us in "Living the Experience," an interactive historical reenactment of the Underground Railroad. A southern style meal will follow the reenactment. Cost is \$20 per person. Sign up in Memorial Lobby **now through May 3.** Click or scan the QR code to sign up online.

ANE DISTRICT EVENTS

Older Adult Luncheon, **Wed, May 6 at 12 pm,** Yoder's Restaurant, New Holland. The cost of **\$27** includes a meal, a concert by the Ridgeway Brass quintet, and fellowship. Special guest Don Fitzkee, this year's Annual Conference Moderator will be in attendance. Click or scan the QR code for details and registration or call ANE at 717-367-4730. Register by **Sun, April 26.**

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. Click or scan the QR code for details and registration.
- **Annual Conference (AC), June 28-July 2,** Grand Wayne Convention Center, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Register now through **Sat, June 7. Non-Delegate Virtual Attendees are free,** register by **Tues, June 23.** 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.

YOUNG CENTER EVENTS

Thurs, April 30 from 9 am to 3 pm, Young Center, Large Seminar Room. **One-Day Seminar: Reassessing the Missional Element of Early Anabaptism and Its Implications for Today** with Young Center's Visiting Fellow **Nelson Okanya** in examining the core missional aspect of Anabaptism from the perspective of *missio*

Worship Attendance

Sunday, April 5

In-Person: 320 Livestream: 58

Gifts Given

Cash, Checks & Square— March 31-April 6

General Fund: \$6,699
Tenant R & S: \$6,723.14
CROP: \$55.00
Pavilion Project: \$55.00
Hollinger's ACH—March 1-31
General Fund: \$3,494.00
Breeze ACH—March 1-31
General Fund: \$6,723.17
Designated Gifts: \$252.27
Pavilion Project: \$55.00

Dei, the theological idea that mission is an inherent part of God's and the church's nature. No cost. Lunch included. Register by **April 24** by calling the Young Center, 717-361-1470, or emailing youngctr@etown.edu.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Music For Everyone Community Chorus—June 19
 - Etown CoB Camp Swatara Weekend—June 19-21
 - Father's Day—June 21
 - Annual Conference—June 28-July 2
 - Church Office Close—July 3
 - National Youth Conference Pre-Trip—July 12-17
 - National Youth Conference—July 18-23
- Mark your calendars and watch for details and updates! You can find these events on the online events calendar.

COMMUNITY CORNER

Hope When We Feel Helpless

Sat, April 25 from 1-3

pm, Farm and Home Center, 1383 Acadia Rd, Lancaster. Join Lancaster Interfaith Coalition for a short discussion on how they are standing with others and a hands-on service opportunity making sandwiches for the Parish Resource Center's food distribution. Click or scan the QR code to register.



Please join us in praying for the **Light of the Gospel** congregation for the week of **April 12th.**

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 | 717-366-4837

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.

April 12-25						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12 9:15 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Ministry Calling Mtg 11:45 am Lunch Bunch 1 pm A Guide to Biblical Studies Grp 4 pm PRISM	13 6:45 pm Church Board Mtg	14 10 am Lenten Book Discussion Grp 6:30 pm Yoga	15 9:30 am Quilters 7 pm Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Finance Committee Mtg	16 10:30 am Chair Yoga 6:15 pm Memorial Bells Rehearsal	17	18 3 pm Chicken BBQ 4 pm Central PA Handbells Festival
19 9:15 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Lunch Bunch 1 pm A Guide to Biblical Studies Grp	20 7 pm LGBTQIA Working Group Mtg	21 10 am Lenten Book Discussion Grp 6:30 pm Yoga	22 Earth Day 9:30 am Quilters 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	23 10:30 am Chair Yoga 6:15 pm Memorial Bells Rehearsal	24 7 pm LGBTQIA Book Club	25 8 am Native Plant Sale & Earth Day Festival 10 am Knitting/Fiber Arts Grp

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.