



# Announcements & Upcoming Events

**DECEMBER 14-21, 2025**

## Worship Services

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

- **Dec 14**—Advent wk 3: What Do You Fear?
- **Dec 21**—Advent wk 4: What Do You Fear?

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—December 14th**
  - **Discovery Class**, Video Presentation of Dr Jeanne Elberfeld's Etown College's 2025 Peace Fellow Lecture: *Peace Is Not in Our Control*, 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.

- **Dec 14**—Centerville Diner 2
- **Dec 21**—Lucky Ducks

## Pavilion Project Campaign

At a recent **Special Church Council Meeting**, our congregation voted to move forward with building a **multipurpose gathering space**—a new pavilion designed for fellowship events, community meals, children's activities, and other ministries that connect and strengthen us. The project will proceed once we have secured **75%** of the total cost in pledges. We have secured **26.5%** of our goal so far of **\$465,000**.

If you would like a paper campaign packet, contact the **church office** or pick up a copy at the back of the sanctuary. If you prefer a **digital** version of the information and commitment form, visit the church website, [etowncob.org](#). We are deeply grateful for your prayerful consideration and support.

## Vehicle Needed!

**Frédérique Green**, one of our congregational members who lives in the UK, is going to be in Elizabethtown from **Jan 21 to April 19, 2026**, to continue her post-doctoral work at the **Young Center as a Kreider Fellow**. She is in need of a **vehicle to borrow** and use during this time. If anyone has an extra vehicle that they would be willing to lend, that would be very much appreciated. Please contact the church office if you are able to provide a vehicle.

## Volunteer Drivers Needed!

**Emerson**, our Brother in Christ from Haiti, needs volunteers to pick him up and take him home



## Highlights...

The Longest Night Service—Dec 20

Susquehanna Chorale Candlelight Christmas Concert—Dec 21

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service—Dec 24

Intergenerational Xmas Potluck Breakfast—Dec 28

Christmas at the Organ—Dec 28

Church Board Retreat—Jan 10

after work. It would be a short drive from Masonic Village to his home on E Willow St in Etown. If you can help with his transportation need, click or scan the QR code to sign up. Questions? Contact **Paul Brubaker** at 717-598-5190 or [peb26@icloud.com](mailto:peb26@icloud.com).

## Lunch Debt Giving Tree

Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren has launched a **Lunch Debt Giving Tree** to help eliminate over **\$34,000** in student lunch debt affecting **328 students** in the Elizabethtown Area School District. Stars on the tree list individual student balances—some as high as **\$940**. Simply take a star, mark it on the sign-out sheet, and follow the payment instructions provided. There are **56 students** with debts over **\$200**, and your generosity can make a real difference. Businesses can send money through VENMO by clicking or scanning the QR code or write a check out to “**Etown CoB**” with “**EASD**”



## 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, Dec 14th at 4 pm**, rm 108. All youth grades 6-12.

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



### LGBTQ+ Working Group

**Mon, Jan 19th at 7 pm**, Zoom. All are welcome! Contact [Jim Beckwith](#) with any questions.

### Men's Coffee & Conversation

**Tues, Jan 6th 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

**Holiday break. WBS will resume on January 6th.** Contact [JulieAnn Keith](#) or [Chris Bucher](#) with questions.

### Yoga

**Holiday break started Dec 10th, return Jan 6th.** 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/Caregivers Support Group

**Thurs, Jan 8th at 9:30 am**, parlor. Contact [Barb Sweigart](#) with questions.

### Chair Yoga

**Holiday break started Dec 12th, return Jan 8th.** 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 at 7 pm**, Zoom. All are welcome! Contact [Damon Wagner Fields](#) for info.

### Immigration Support Committee

**Mon, Jan 12th 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.

**Lunch Debt** in the memo line and send it to 777 S Mt Joy St, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. All money collected will go towards paying off student debts with large balances. Questions? Email [givingtree@etowncob.org](mailto:givingtree@etowncob.org).

### The Longest Night Service

**Sat, Dec 20th at 6 pm**, sanctuary & livestream. For anyone who has suffered

loss or grief, or for whom Christmastime is challenging or complicated. This simple service provides space for those who enter this season with sorrows or burdens that might not be addressed in other gatherings. It is a time to light candles, to reflect on light that shines in the darkness, and to find hope that endures through times of struggle.

## YOUTH EVENTS

### Grades 6-12

- **Jan 9-10**—District Youth Repeat Retreat



### Grades 9-12

- **July 12-17, 2026**—NYC Pretrip
- **July 18-23, 2026**—National Youth Conference

## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**Wed, Dec 24th at 7 pm**, sanctuary & livestream. All are welcome to join us for our **traditional candlelight service**. Bring some cookies to share. We welcome everyone to enjoy cookies, fellowship and conversation in fellowship hall after the service.

## Intergenerational Xmas Potluck Breakfast

**Sun, Dec 28th at 9:15 am**, fellowship hall. Join us during the Faith Formation hour for a "Fourth Day of Christmas" Celebration. This **Potluck Breakfast** will be a merry time of food, fun, and fellowship. Come as you are in your comfortable slippers or Xmas jammies to build a **candy graham cracker house**, see a **model train** or sip on some **hot cocoa!** Some continental breakfast items will be provided, but you are encouraged to bring along something to share like an egg casserole, fruit tray or even your leftover christmas cookies!

## Christmas at the Organ

**Sun, Dec 28th at 4 pm**, sanctuary. All are welcome to join us for a concert performed by the **Lancaster Chapter, American Guild of Organists**. Local organists will lead carol singing and will then perform organ solos based on the carols.

A **free-will offering** will be taken in support of the Guild (AGO) and its mission of education and performance and funding of scholarships for young organists.

## Church Board Retreat

**Sat, Jan 10th from 8:30 am–12 pm**, Etown CoB fellowship hall. All Church Board members are invited to join us for **Campfire Conversations: Igniting Our Year of Ministry**—a time to gather, connect, and spark fresh vision as we plan for the **2026** year. Together, we'll reflect on where God is leading us, share ideas, and set our course for the months ahead around the warmth of community and conversation.

Please **RSVP** by scanning or clicking on the QR code or contact the church office.



## JOB OPENING

### Congregational Organist/ Pianist

Etown CoB is looking for a **Congregational Organist/Pianist**. **Primary duties** include: prepare, practice, and perform the necessary musical portions of the Sunday morning worship service. In addition, prepare and perform for special services throughout the church year, attend rehearsals as accompanist for the adult choir, accompany ensembles/soloists/etc. as coordinated with music coordinator and/or pastors. Visit [etowncob.org](http://etowncob.org) for full job description and **submit a cover letter and resume to [employment@etowncob.org](mailto:employment@etowncob.org)**. Please share this with anyone who might be interested.

## ANE DISTRICT EVENTS

### District Youth Repeat Retreat

**Jan 9-11**, York First CoB, 2710 Kingston Rd, York. This retreat is for **youth grades 6-12** and will be led by Peacefully, Simply, Together group from Etown College. Come explore Brethren values and lifestyle, enjoy inspiring worship and learning sessions, participate in a service project, games and activities. Meet other CoB youth! **Contact Pastor Jason** if you would like to attend. Space is limited to **50 participants**. Registration is due by **Jan 5th**.

## SUSQUEHANNA CHORALE

### Candlelight Christmas

**Sun, Dec 21st at 4 pm**, sanctuary. All are welcome to join the Susquehanna Chorale for this special **Candlelight Christmas concert**. **Online ticket sales will end at 3 pm on Fri, Dec 19th**. Tickets will be available for purchase at the door. Click or scan the QR code for tickets.



## UNITED CHURCHES ELIZABETHTOWN AREA (UCEA)

### Volunteers Needed

The **Clothing Barn**, 61 East Washington St, Etown, is in need of **volunteer donation sorters**. Schedules are any Mon-Fri, 8:30 to 11:30 or 9:00 to 12. Interested? Contact Dave Fritchman, volunteer coordinator, at [cpowvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:cpowvolunteers@gmail.com).

## Worship Attendance

### Sunday, December 7

In-Person: 210      Livestream: 55

## Gifts Given

### Cash, Checks & Square— December 2-8

General Fund: \$13,304.77

Designated Gifts: \$157.25

Tenant R & S: \$5,426.90

CROP: \$52.00

Pavilion Project: \$1,201.00

## LOOKING AHEAD

- Music For Everyone Community Chorus—Feb 7
- Ash Wednesday—Feb 18
- ANE Women's Spring Fellowship—March 21
- The Virginia University Gospel Chorale—March 23
- The Apollo Chamber Players Classical Concert—March 28
- Palm Sunday—March 29
- Spring Love Feast—April 2
- Good Friday—April 3
- Easter—April 5
- Chicken BBQ—April 18
- Earth Day—April 22

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

### Church Office Holidays:

Dec 25 & 26—Closed - Christmas Break

Dec 31—Closing at 12:30 pm

Jan 1 & 2—Closed - New Year's Break

Please join us in praying for the  
**Ambler CoB**  
congregation for the week of  
**December 14th.**

### 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

Crystal Crater, Office Administrator and Marketing & Communications Coordinator  
[crystal@etowncob.org](mailto:crystal@etowncob.org) | 717-366-4832 | Mon-Fri, 8:30 am—4:30 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

## DEC 14–JAN 3

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
14 9:15 Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Lunch Bunch 1 pm A Guide to Biblical Studies Group 4 pm PRISM	15	16 7 pm Nurture Mtg	17 9:30 am Quilters 7 pm Choir Rehearsals	18 6:15 pm Memorial Bells Rehearsal	19	20 6 pm Longest Night Service
21 9:15 Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Lunch Bunch 1 pm A Guide to Biblical Studies Group 4 pm Susquehanna Chorale Christmas Concert	22	23	24 9:30 am Quilters 7 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 Christmas Day Church Office Closed	26 Church Office Closed	27 10 am Knitting/Fiber Arts Group
28 9:15 am Potluck Breakfast 10:30 am Worship 1 pm A Guide to Biblical Studies Group 4 pm Organ Concert	29	30	31 9:30 am Quilters 12:30 pm Church Office Closing	January 1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed	2 Church Office Closed	3

**Event Packets** can be found under “Forms” on the church [website](http://www.etowncob.org) 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, 8:30 am–4:30 pm. Subject to change for holidays, vacation time or inclement weather.