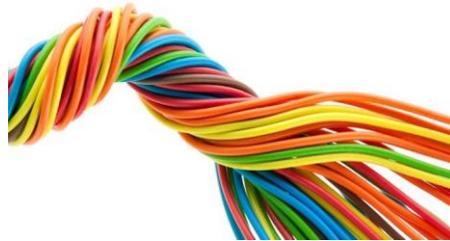




Wyomissing Church of the Brethren - August 2020

Pastor Jan's Corner . . .

"Faithful Flexibility"



--Pastor Jan--

⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:6-7*

My office computer has become saturated with all kinds of articles, data, and predications of how COVID19 has and continues impacting "the church". To be honest, some days I need to take a long walk, pour out my heart to God and clear my head. Truly this is a time in our modern history when there are no tried and true methods, processes or procedures to guide us – most of us are doing the best we can on a daily basis to make good, right, and healthy decisions.

A piece of advice that recently landed in eyesight that helps in keeping me centered is this: *"Blessed are the Flexible"*. That has become a personal mantra and my prayer, most days. To lead churches through to the other side of this pandemic, we

will need to remain nimble, acting decisively but also ready to pivot if the situation changes because not much is known about COVID19 and its residual effects. There are more questions than answers for church re-openings these days. “How long will it be until we can meet again in the sanctuary for worship?”; “how many people will physically return to the church when the doors open again?”; “what will life in general look like and how will that change the level of physical activity and interaction for the short term and long term future?” By and large, the Re-Opening Team in coordination with Leadership Team at WCOTB are making some well informed decisions based on the public health information that is available. The bottom line for congregations is that we will need to continue waiting for a time of low risk for each of our members. Waiting also means remaining faithfully connected to God and to each other in the midst of these days. All of this might sound scary and unsettling, but then we remember: *God is in control.*

The Lord goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.” *Deut. 31:8*

Wear your mask! Limit your social interactions; make good *decisions for yourself and for others.* This season of *faithful flexibility* calls for grace and love in our work together.



Join the excitement for Zoom Vacation Bible School on Monday, August 3, Wednesday, August 5, & Friday, August 7, 6-7:30 pm (Information for Zoom can be found on our website www.wcotb.org.)

Our Mission Project for this year is to make Hygiene Kits. All the items listed on page 3 will be placed in a Gallon Ziploc bag. Please place your donated items in the box labeled for VBS Hygiene Kits in the church lobby under the bulletin Board. Cash is also accepted to buy items to complete kits and to pay \$2.00 processing fee per kit. Please place in an envelope marked for VBS Hygiene kits or designate on check made out to WCOTB.

Please contact neighbors and friends to help with our Mission Project. Any questions please call Sue Blatt or the church office, 610-374-8451.

Mission Project for VBS - materials for a Hygiene Kit



Hand towel 15-16in by 28-32in.

Washcloth

Wide tooth comb

Fingernail clipper

Bath soap bar

Toothbrush in original package

10 Band-Aids



for our August 16 Service!

“Grab your camera” and be a part of the August 16 Zoom service. Send a photo of “You might be a Brethren if...” along with a caption or explanation. For example: I have my grandmother’s communion bread recipe in my recipe file. I could send a photo of the card with the caption: “...if you have your gramma’s communion bread recipe.” Or, a handshake, a hug, a simple meal, a craft, a tree...whatever captures what it means to be Brethren – whether you are a birther, a wanderer, a newcomer...we all belong to the Wyomissing Church of the Brethren. We are all different and as a denomination, that is one of our strengths! It will be fun to see how we describe OUR Brethren church. So take a photo, or two, that finishes this phrase: “You might be Brethren if...” Send it with an explanation (a few words are fine!) to Nancy Dotter nancy.dotter@gmail.com.

Please email your photos (nothing lifted from the internet) by August 12, and see what it means to be Brethren at the service on August 16.



On Sunday when you join Zoom church, you will wait in the waiting room until the service begins. You will then join the service. Please use any time you have in the waiting room to mute your microphone, and leave it muted during church. The social time will begin **after** worship.

The staycation video from Sunday, July 5 is on YouTube.

Below is the link:

<https://youtu.be/UcPW86rD5Uc>

Thanks to Ray & Nancy Dotter for putting this wonderful video together.



Weave the Teachings of Jesus into the Fabric of your Daily Life



Margaret Hildebrand

Bob Keim

Bob Pettit

Rachel Zimmerman

Remember our Home Bound Members

Nancy Custo, Berks Heim

Tom Evans, Amity Place

Joan Hornberger, Lititz

Linda Kauffman, Phoebe

Betty Powell, West Lawn

***Atlantic Northeast District asks for prayers* that we speak less and listen to one another more.**

Deacons for the month of August:

August 2 – Ted & Mary Jo Noble (610-693-3450)

**August 9 – Margaret Hildebrand (610-670-6469)
& Verna Hartman (484-529-6192)**

August 16 – Kirk & Ruth Ann Haas (717-866-3694)

August 23 – Ray & Nancy Dotter (610-927-2175)

**August 30 – Rommie Daughtry (610-921-2659)
& John Robinson (610-670-9600)**



August 2020 Sermon Titles – Zoom Worship

August 2 – *“The Kingdom of God is Like...”* Luke 13:20-21

August 9 – *Vacation Bible School presentation*

August 16 – *“You Might Be Brethren If...”* Matthew 22:37-40

August 23 – *“Take Off Your Sandals”* Exodus 3:1-6

August 30 – *“Count Well the Cost”* The New Testament

August Worship Participants

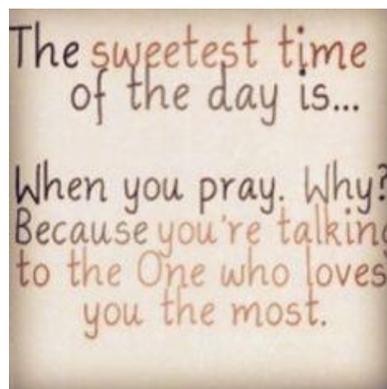
August 2 – Worship Leader – *Brenda Bechtel*; Storyteller – *Scott King*

August 9 – Worship Leader – *Fawn Seifrit*; Storyteller – *Vacation Bible School*

August 16 – Worship Leader – *Don Robinson*; Storyteller – *Vicki Clements*

August 23 – Worship Leader & Storyteller – *Jon Steffy*

August 30 – Worship Leader & Storyteller – *Karen Redner*





Beginning in September, the church would like to offer different small group opportunities via Zoom. Please submit *your idea* of something you would be interested in leading OR attending. For example, do you know how to make a prayer journal? Could you teach us how to build a frame to fit a picture? Who knows how to make jelly?? Do you have an idea or two on simple Christmas gifts for “do it yourselfers”? How do you make homemade noodles? Could you teach children how to make prayer bracelets? Is there a story you would like “tell” in a 45 minute time block? Can you teach us how to make cards with water paints?? Would you like to lead a bible study? How do you make a bird feeder??

You get it! Whatever interest you have, put it out there! If you want to learn a new craft, suggest what that is. If you have a talent to share in teaching others, let us hear from you!

These small group opportunities will take place on the church Zoom account to simplify things. You may choose a once and done class, or maybe a series of two or three classes, depending on the time it takes to teach your craft.

Please contact the church office with your input and ideas. Let’s have some fun!