

News & Events

Nov 23- Dec 6, 2023



CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Monday, Nov 27 | 9:00 am

We will be decorating the sanctuary for Christmas on Monday, Nov 27. Any help is appreciated! Contact Dean if you can help at dean@ecob.church.

ECOB CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Sunday, Dec 3 | 6:00 pm

@ECOB Community Room

We will leave at 6:00 pm. Please bring a small gift to share, your flashlights and jingle bells! Contact Dean if you are planning to attend at dean@ecob.church.

SHERRY MARCH RESIGNS

We are sad to announce that Sherry March, our Cleaning Support person, has resigned from ECOB, effective December 1. She shared that the ECOB congregation and staff have been a tremendous blessing to her. Sherry has been an amazing part of our team and she will be missed terribly. Please pray for her, and this next season of her life.

We will be looking to fill this staff role in the next few months – so please watch out for that opportunity. In the meantime, we have some short-term solutions we are finalizing. Stay tuned!



Sunday, Nov 26 - Series: Close Friends:

Sharing Beyond Your Circles

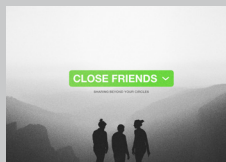
Title: "All Are Welcome. There's No Barrier to Love"

Scripture: [Mark 2:13-17](#)

Focus: Labels. We can get so caught up in labels.

Deciding who is acceptable to engage with and who is not. Jesus led by Example, not by labeling. Everyone had equal access to the table with Him.

(Study Guide [HERE](#)) Pastor Kim Ream, speaking



Sermon Series



Sunday, Dec 3

Series: Advent: The Light Has Come

Title: Prepare the Way

Scripture: [Matthew 3:1-3](#)

Focus: We should prepare our lives to receive from Jesus during this Advent season.

Pastor Brian, speaking

(Study Guide [HERE](#))

connect.

Contact: [Carol Bowman](#)

Updates as of Nov 21, 2023

CARE:

Jeff Lindberg, Ephrata Wellspan
Clara Ruth, now at The Groves, Ephrata

Prayers for healing/health of:

Eric Emrey, foot injury
Erik Zimmerman, leg/blood clot
Lynnaire Foltz, back pain
Delores White, hip replacement
Dennis Hornberger, pain

HOLIDAY ECOB OFFICE CLOSING

The ECOB Office will be closed on Thursday, Nov 23 & Friday, Nov 24 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

ELECTION RESULTS

In our recent Leadership Vote, our ECOB congregation approved the slate for 2024. 138 approved, 4 did not for a 97% approval.

DAILY BREAD DEVOTIONAL

The Daily Bread devotionals for December--February are available to pick up in the Community Room.

ECOB WORK DAY

Saturday, Dec 9 | 8:00 am-12:00 pm
All are welcome to join the Trustees to help with work needed around the church building.

THANK YOU to the 5th and 6th grade ECOBYOUTH who attended the Engage Event on Nov 18 to make Chicken Pot Pie and offer it to the congregation the following day. Proceeds from the donations for the quarts totaled \$655 to be given to Ephrata Area Social Services!

SUNDAY SNACKS

Starting on December 3, snacks will be offered once a month from the kitchen window from 9:30-10:45 while supplies last. More info to come.



radiate.

Contact: [Stacey Coldiron](#)

BLESSING TREE FOR MOUNTAINEERS' TABLE

Sundays, Nov 26-Dec 3

@ECOB Community Room

Help us bless each child in our Mountaineers' Table program with a Christmas gift for them. Please sign out each tag you take on the papers provided by the tree. All gifts must be returned by Dec 10 under the tree.



MITTEN TREE BEGINS

Sundays, Dec 3-31 | @ECOB Community Room

We collect warm hats, gloves, scarves and socks to hang from the trees in the Whistle Stop Plaza for those who may need a warm item this winter. If you would like to help hang items downtown, please contact Peg Schannauer at pschannauer@gmail.com.



CITY GATE LUNCH

Saturday, Dec 2 | 9:30 am-1:30 pm

On Nov 19 & 26, sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Community Room to serve meals or donate food. For more info or questions, contact [Stacey Coldiron](#).



CHRISTMAS CHEER BAGS

Sunday, Dec 3-17 | @Community Room

These bags are given to those in our church family who we want to bless with some extra Christmas cheer. Pick up the list of names at the Welcome Desk starting Sunday, Nov 26 or email Carol for a digital copy at carol@ecob.church.



Place your cards and/or small gift items in the bags located on the shelves in the Community Room between Sunday, Dec 3rd and Dec 17th. Please note, all cards must be in prior to the second service on the 17th as bags are picked up following Life Group for delivery.

Would you deliver one or more of these bags to pass on the Christmas Cheer? Please sign the sheet on the shelf in the Community Room and remember to take your bag to deliver.



ECOBKIDS



kids through grade 4

Contact: [Michelle Nolt](#), Coordinator
Parents: Check in by Kid's Entrance.

SUNDAY MORNING LIFE GROUPS

9:45-10:35 am

Class 1: Preschool walking-PreK | Class 2: grades K-4

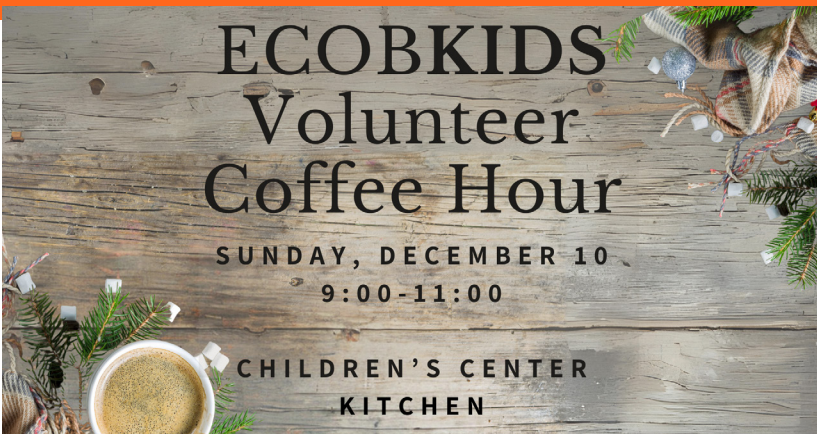
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Infant-2 & Preschool Care during 10:45 Service
Kids Church (K-4 grade) - kids attend
beginning of 10:45 Service with family then are
dismissed before the sermon.

Parents, please check-in kids prior to service.

TOT LOT TUESDAYS

1st & 3rd Tuesdays | 9:30-10:30 am | Community Room
(Volunteers Needed, Contact [Emily](#))



ECOBKIDS Volunteer Coffee Hour

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10
9:00 - 11:00

CHILDREN'S CENTER
KITCHEN

PARENT & CHILD DEDICATION

Sunday, Dec 10, 2023 | Both Services | @ECOB
As Brethren, we believe the choice to be baptized follows a
personal decision and a confession of faith which infants are
too young to make. We dedicate our children to the Lord in a
Parent and Child Dedication service. Parents, extended family,
and the church congregation will promise to nurture and raise
the child to follow Jesus. Parent and Child Dedication may
take place during either the 8:30 Worship service, or the 10:45
Worship service. Sign-up [HERE](#) or contact [Michelle](#) for info.



ECOBYOUTH



students in grades 5-12

Contact: [Chris Reinford](#), Youth and YA Director

SUNDAY MORNING LIFE GROUPS

9:45-10:35am (Teacher must be present before
students go downstairs)

Class 1: grades 5-8 | Class 2: grades 9-12

UPCOMING ECOBYOUTH EVENTS

Nov 28 - Engage (IM/MS), 6:30-8pm @ECOB

Dec 1-2 - All-Nighter with a Purpose (IM/MS/HS), @ECOB
5/6 Grades - 6-10pm, 7-12 Grades 6pm-6am
Sign-up [HERE](#).

Sun, Dec 3 - 412 Event, 6-8:30pm @ECOB

Sun, Dec 10 - HS SNL, 6-8pm @ECOB

Tues, Dec 12 - Engage (IM/MS), 6:30-8pm @ECOB

Sun, Dec 17 - SNL Christmas (IM/MS/HS), 5-8pm @ECOB

Sun, Jan 7 - SNL (IM/MS/HS), 6-8pm @ECOB

Tues, Jan 9 - Engage (IM/MS), 6:30-8pm @ECOB



ECOBYOUNGADULTS



Contact: [Chris Reinford](#), Youth and YA Director

CAFFEINATED CONVERSATIONS

Sunday, Dec 3

@Javateas Pavilion, 9:45-10:30 am



SUNDAY MORNING LIFE GROUP

Join us in Room 101 for this intergenerational Life Group
on Sunday mornings!

YOUNGADULT WOMEN'S LIFE GROUP

2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 7:00 pm

Focus: The Chosen Series

Contact [Brigetta](#) for info and each location in the
Ephrata/Lititz area

MONTHLY EVENTS

Wednesday, Dec 20 - ECOBYOUNGADULT Trivia Night
@ORD, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

CAMP SWATARA
2024 [Calendar](#) of Events

CAMP WOODCREST
[Journey to Bethlehem](#)

grow.



ECOBMEN'S MONTHLY BREAKFASTS

Sat, Dec 2 & 16 |

7:00 am

@Gus's Keystone Family Restaurant

RSVP to ryan@ecob.church

ECOBMEN'S CONFERENCE

Saturday, Jan 20

8:00 am-3:00 pm @ECOB

Guest Speaker: Michael Franzese,

Former mafia boss

More Info [HERE](#).

PRIME TIME OLDER ADULT LUNCHEON

Wednesday, Dec 13

12:00-3:00 pm | @ECOB

Luncheon starts at 12pm with entertainment to follow.

ADVENT DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Coming soon, a new Advent Daily Devotional will be available at no cost with donations welcome. This resource was written by other Church of the Brethren members and will be available starting on Sunday, Dec 3, 2023. Contact [Pastor Ryan](#) with questions.

ECOBWOMEN'S BREAKFAST & OUTREACH

Saturday, Jan 13 | 9:00 am

@ECOB

More Info to Come.

live.

grow.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

October 2023 ended with our Total Giving exceeding our Total Expenses by +\$2,758.48. Year-to-Date, however, has our Total Expenses exceeding Total Giving by \$35,313,74. We are still about \$30,000 under our Total Giving Budget, and our Total Expenses are under budget by \$11,500.

Please direct any questions or comments to Rich Bealer, Treasurer.



ATLANTIC NORTHEAST

DISTRICT (ANE)

BRETHREN VILLAGE'S 2023

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday, Dec 2 | 9:00 am-2:00 pm

Wolfe Auditorium (6 Conestoga

Dr, Lititz), Brethren Villiage

More Bazaar Info [HERE](#)

More Cookie Donation Info [HERE](#)

Cookies are needed for the Bazaar. If you are willing to bake some for the sale, they need to have the packaging marked as those "with nuts" (including nut butters) & cookies "without nuts". Bring them to the ECOB Church kitchen Thursday, Nov 30th from 9:00 am-3:00 pm for them to be delivered. Thank you for your support!

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN CORNER



TITHE.LY

Innovative church giving

Download the Tithe.ly app—a safe and easy way to give any time. (select "Ephrata Church of the Brethren") OR give through the [ECOB website](#).



Sunday Services (in-person and online): 8:30 am Classic | 10:45 am Contemporary
Office hours: Mon - Fri 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

201 Crescent Ave. Ephrata, PA 17522 | 717-733-1229
Website: www.ecob.church | Email: info@ecob.church
Facebook: [ephratacob](https://www.facebook.com/ephratacob) | Instagram: [ephratacob](https://www.instagram.com/ephratacob)