

News & Events

Jan 4-17, 2024

ECOB 125TH ANNIVERSARY REFLECTION: HOW ECOB HAS IMPACTED MY LIFE By La Verne Hyman
The Ephrata Church of the Brethren is the congregation into which I was born in 1935. At age 8 during a week of "Revival Services" with a visiting pastor, I told my mother (Helen Brown) I wanted to go forward at the evening service when the invitation was given to accept Jesus as my Savior. She thought I was too young to understand what that meant. When I told my mother Jesus is my friend, she gave her blessing to me to follow my heart. It was the beginning of my spiritual journey.

The first decades of my church membership were during a simple time in our family and community. My mother never had a driver's license, so we walked to church when my dad wasn't home.

Our Church Avenue building as well as our "new" church (1973) were decorated simply. Mary and Lester Schreiber, an ordained minister in the Church of the Brethren, introduced our church to Advent worship with Christmas trees and wreaths in the Sanctuary. Our church had not emphasized Lent or Advent until that time. We also began to write messages for Lenten booklets.

Some of my Sunday School teachers were Elva Kilhefner, Mildred Miley, John Hiestand, Millie Eisemann and Dolly Miley. Millie and Dolly had Bible studies/prayer meetings in their homes. All these experiences were stepping stones in my faith.

District activities with youth from other churches broadened our understanding of the denomination outside of Ephrata. Roller skating parties, district events, and Camp Swatara were lots of fun. I went to Camp every summer until I was too old. During one of the summers while in college, I worked at Camp Swatara as a lifeguard and swimming instructor. It was a fun summer with many mountain top spiritual experiences.

Bill became a member of our church several years after we were married. The Rev. Dr. J.A. Robinson was the pastor of our church. Bill always supported my work in the church. He also became active working on Commissions and at the request of our moderator, Darvin Boyd, Bill wrote a personnel manual for our congregation. We enjoyed our work as Deacons visiting people who were part of our church.

My college years were spent at Millersville State Teacher's College, now Millersville University. My Church of the Brethren upbringing and family values went with me to college. Our children, John and Susan (Hertzog) were baptized in our church. Both of them went to Church of the Brethren related colleges. John graduated from Juniata College and Susan graduated from Elizabethtown College.

The simplicity of life when I was growing up impacted my spiritual life and continues to be the way I worship and spend time with God. The Ephrata Church of the Brethren gave me roots to grow.

connect.

Contact: [Carol Bowman](#)

Updates as of Jan 3, 2024

CARE:

Casey Weaver, surgery 1.2, now at home
Brady Kyper, surgery 1.2, now at home
David Young, surgery 12.29, now at
Tower Health, Reading

Sympathy to Charlie White and family on the death of his wife, Dolly, who passed away Dec. 31st.

Thank you for all of the Christmas cards and for Bill & Laverne Hyman for delivering them. – Ivan Horning

Thank you for all of the lovely Cheer Bag and for all of the Christmas cards. –Ruth Seppi

BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION SUNDAY

Sunday, Jan 28, Both ECOB Services

CINDY OUT OF THE OFFICE

Cindy Zimmerman, our Coordinator of Operations, will be on medical leave until further notice. When she is back "online" we will be sure to communicate that to the congregation. If you need to reserve the facility, please email her at cindy@ecob.church and she will respond once she returns. If it is a scheduling emergency, please contact Pastor [Brian](#).

DIVORCECARE

Tuesdays, Feb 13-May 7 | 6:30-8:00 pm @ECOB

DivorceCare was created to help people find hope and healing after divorce or separation. Get more information or register [HERE](#). Child care can be provided by request. Contact Jeff Zimmerman at jlz490@aol.com or 717-368-2882.

SAVE THE DATE for Jericho

Tuesdays, Feb 20 - Mar 20

Light supper at 5:45, study from 6:30-7:30. All ages welcome!



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radiate.

Contact: [Stacey Coldiron](#)

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

ECOB follows the Ephrata Area School District schedule for closings or delays of events, office hours, or evening activities due to inclement weather. On the weekends, decisions will be made by the Trustee, LT Chair, and Pastor Brian. Contact your ministry leader concerning ministry team meetings.

Notifications of delays or cancellations will be posted on the ECOB Facebook and Instagram.



TRUSTEE WORK DAY

Saturday, Jan 13 | 8:00 am-12:00 pm @ECOB

All are welcome to join the Trustees to help with work needed in and around the church building.

CITY GATE LUNCH

Saturday, Jan 20 | 9:30 am-1:30 pm

Food prep is for all ages. For serving downtown you must be 13 or older. Sign ups will be in the Community Room on January 7th and 14th. Contact [Stacey](#) with any questions.



RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Sunday, Feb 4 | 3-8pm @ECOB

We will again be packing meals for children worldwide to help eliminate hunger! This event is for all ages 4 and up in four 1-hour shifts. Register in the Community Room on January 21st or 28th. Online registration to come. If you have any questions please contact [Stacey](#).

VICTORY SUNDAY

Sunday, Jan 7 | All Services

This is when we celebrate the ways God moved at ECOB in 2023! A report will be shared highlighting the impact of some of our ministries. Join us in praising God for all He has done in and through us!

HeBrews Hospitality Station will be available from 9:30-10:45 am in the kitchen window while supplies last!





kids through grade 4

Contact: [Michelle Nolt](#), Coordinator

Parents: Check in by Kid's Entrance **PRIOR** to Service

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.



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

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

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

Sun, Jan 14 - HS SNL, 6-8pm @ECOB

Sun, Jan 21 - HS SNL, 6-8pm @ECOB

Tues, Jan 23 - Engage (IM/MS), 6:30-8pm @ECOB

Sun, Jan 28 - Snow Tubing (IM/MS/HS), 1-8pm

Sign-up [HERE!](#)

Sat, Feb 10 - Engage Event (IM), 12-3pm @ECOB

Sun, Feb 11 - HS SNL, 6-8pm @ECOB

Fri-Sun, Feb 16-18 - Winter Retreat (MS/HS) Sign-up [HERE!](#)

ECOBKIDS
TOT LOT
TUESDAYS

1st & 3rd Tuesdays
9:30-10:30 am
@ECOB Community Room
201 Crescent Ave, Ephrata

Free play for babies and preschoolers with an adult present. Coffee and conversation for the adults. Enter building from back parking lot. Open to the community!

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ECOBYOUNGADULTS



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

SUNDAY MORNING LIFE GROUP

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

ECOBYOUNGADULTS 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, Jan 17 - Trivia Night

[@ORD](#), 6:30 - 8:30 pm

ECOBYOUTH SNOW TUBING TRIP

SUNDAY
JANUARY 28TH
FOR GRADES 5-12

SIGN UP NOW!



CAMP SWATARA
2024 [Calendar](#) of Events

CAMP WOODCREST
The Woods [Youth Night](#) Feb 7

grow.



ECOBMEN'S MONTHLY BREAKFASTS

Saturday, Jan 6 & Feb 3
7:00 am

[@Gus's Keystone Family Restaurant](#)

RSVP to ryan@ecob.church

PRIME TIME OLDER ADULT BREAKFAST @GUS'S

Wednesday, Feb 14 | 8:30 am

[@Gus's Keystone Family Restaurant](#)

Register by Feb 12 with Sam Frankhouser (safh@ptd.net or 717-669-5720)

ECOBWOMEN'S BREAKFAST & OUTREACH

Saturday, Jan 13 | 9:00 am
@ECOB

Join us for a delicious breakfast and for fellowship.

We will be collecting items for Journey Bags. Learn more [HERE!](#)

For planning purposes, please **RSVP by Sunday, January 7th** [HERE](#) or at the Welcome Desk.

Any questions - contact Carol@ecob.church

ECOBWOMEN'S GAME NIGHT

Monday, Jan 15 | 6:30 pm
@ECOB

Join us for a fun time of playing games and connection! Bring a friend. Bring your favorite game. Refreshments provided!

No RSVP necessary.

 **FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER:**

2024 MEN'S CONFERENCE

**SATURDAY, JAN 20, 2024
8AM-3PM @ECOB
201 CRESCENT AVE
EPHRATA, PA 17522** Click [HERE](#) to Register!

GUEST SPEAKER, FOOD, GIVEAWAYS, AND OTHER MANLY THINGS!
OPEN FOR ALL GUYS IN GRADES 6 AND UP.




**REGISTER NOW AT THE QR CODE OR AT WWW.ECOB.CHURCH.
FOR GROUP OR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE,
CONTACT RYAN@ECOB.CHURCH OR 717-201-0211.**

live.



ATLANTIC NORTHEAST DISTRICT (ANE)

2025 DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

The ANE Gifts Discernment Team requests your assistance as we prayerfully invite pastors, leaders and church members to serve by volunteering for various 2025 District Leadership positions.

Info [HERE](#).

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN FAITHX 2024 SCHEDULE

Join FaithX (formerly Work Camps) during Summer 2024 to serve, grow in faith, make friends, and experience something new!

Registration for FaithX Summer 2024 opens on January 10, 2024 at 7:00 pm (eastern time), and closes on April 1, 2024.

More info and registration [HERE](#).

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)

