

News & Events

Aug 1-15, 2024

125th ANNIVERSARY ARTICLE By Pastor Rob Eshelman

Happy 125th Anniversary to the ECOB family! It's been quite a ride for my 35 years or so as a member of ECOB. In this time, I met my beautiful wife Joanne, and we were married here at ECOB. We raised our four boys in this church and watched them grow into the men they are today. Growing at ECOB seems to be where this article is leading me to write a few more things about what I have loved at ECOB.

It's the people! Those who have helped shape me into the person/pastor I am today. It's all of you, and those who were my mentors throughout my set-apart ministry journey. I must say I have been blessed to serve with and have as my mentors, Pastor Chris't Arndt, Pastor Charlie Bieber, Pastor Fowler, Pastor Galen Hackman, Pastor Earl Ziegler, and now Pastor Brian.

I must say my call came when working with Pastor Mark Herr who I helped with Youth Club and other youth activities. This grew into a call to the set-apart ministry which led to being licensed to ministry under Pastor Fowler's watch back on June 11, 2000. This was also the Class of 2000, where Kim and Todd Ream and Brian Shumate were licensed as well.

Ordination came in the spring of 2006 under the leadership of Pastor Galen Hackman who I served with for many years as my position changed as I continued to grow. Serving the middle school youth and their families and serving as Pastor of Visitation and the Prime-time group as well. It was an interesting position and I loved it!

Finally, I continue to serve in various volunteer positions since my retirement from full-time ministry on Dec 31, 2019, and love serving beside my brothers and sisters in Christ at ECOB. Happy Anniversary ECOB and to God be the glory!

ONE ALL ECOB

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

Sunday, Sept 1 | 10:00 am
ECOB Grove/Pavilion area

One Service Only

No Life Groups

No ECOBKIDS Ministries

Sunday, Aug 4

Title: Unified in Christ

Scripture: John 17:22-23

Focus: Believers are unified in Christ and can experience God together in fellowship and worship.

Tom Strubel, speaking

Sermon Series



Series Study Guide [HERE](#)
or at Welcome Desk.

Sunday, Aug 11

Title: Values of Christian Living

Scripture: 2 Peter 1:5-8

Focus: Christian community has a life and ethic formed by virtues that Christ wants us to live out.

Pastor Paul Munday, speaking

Contact: [Carol Bowman](#)

Updated as of July 31, 2024

CARE:

None Reported

CONGRATULATIONS to Logan and Emily Weaver and big sister Abigail, on the birth of a baby girl, Kaelyn Ruth, born July 27!

Provide a meal for them through Meal Train [HERE](#).

THANK YOU for the many cards I received for my 95th Birthday. I so appreciated your thoughtfulness! We had a big celebration. Thank you and blessings to all. Mary Belle Graybill

TRUSTEE WORK DAY

Saturday, Aug 10 | 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
@ECOB

Join the Trustees for any amount of time you can give.

HEBREWS HOSPITALITY STATION

Sunday, Aug 11 | 9:30-10:45 am
@ECOB Kitchen Window

HeBrews Hospitality Station will be available in the kitchen window while supplies last! There will also be a sign-up if you can help provide refreshments for future months.

Contact: [Stacey Coldiron](#)

BACKPACKS FOR KIDS

Monday, Aug 5 | 6-7 pm
@ECOB Community Room

Free backpacks for kids in grades K-8. Child must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Volunteer opportunities are available to serve and engage with Ephrata area children and families in need of backpacks to start the school year. To

volunteer the night of the outreach, please contact Carol@ecob.church or Sharon@ecob.church.



DR MISSION TRIP

Sat-Sun, July 27-Aug 4

Join us in prayer for the 40 participants from three churches who are serving on our Global Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic

CITY GATE LUNCH

Saturday, Sept 7 | 9:30 am-1:30 pm

Food prep is for all ages. Volunteers must be 13 or older to serve downtown at City Gate. Sign-ups will be in the Community Room on August 18 & 25. Contact [Stacey](#) with any questions.



SOARING THROUGH SUMMER By Pastor Paul Munday

What a summer we've experienced so far! We sent delegates to the "Big Meeting" of our larger church family, the Church of the Brethren -- been to the Olympics via VBS -- and commissioned missionaries to the Dominican Republic. And that's just the beginning as we anticipate touching scores of families through Backpacks for Kids, the continuing ministry of Mountaineers Table, and other outreach endeavors. So, there's been no "summer slump" at ECOB; we've soared through this season! Soaring is God's intended "flight plan" for the People of God. Prophet Isaiah nets out this trajectory: "...Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint." (Isaiah 40:31, NIV). Charles Wesley echoes this elevated cadence in his classic Easter hymn, "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" π: "Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! Following our exalted Head, Alleluia! Made like him, like him, we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!" So many congregations choose to slump; they view church as routine and uneventful. At ECOB, we view church as transformational, an Easter event -- every season. And so, keep soaring ECOB, for Christ is risen, and so are we! Alleluia!



kids through grade 4



students in grades 5-12

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.

ECOBKIDS TOT LOT

Tuesdays, Aug 6 & 20 | 9:30-10:30 am
@ECOB Community Room
Free play for babies and preschoolers with an adult
present. Coffee and Conversation for the adults.

ECOBKIDS & ECOBYOUTH CHILD PROTECTION VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Saturday, Sept 21 | 8:30am-12pm
@ECOB

ECOB CONNECTION SUNDAY

Sunday, Sept 8
ALL AGES
8:30am Classic Worship
9:30am HeBrews Hospitality Station
10:45am Contemporary Worship
12:00pm All Church Lunch

ECOBKIDS

(Birth-Grade 4), 12-2pm @ECOB

ECOBYOUTH

(IM/MS/HS), @ECOB
Engage (IM/MS) 5-6:30pm, Elevate (HS) 6-8pm

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

Sat, Aug 17 - Guppy Gulch Day (IM/MS/HS), 12-6pm
Sun, Aug 25 - 412 Event (HS)
Sat, Sept 7 - 412 Meetings Start, 9am @ECOB
Sun, Sept 8 - Connection Sunday (IM/MS/HS), @ECOB
Engage (IM/MS) 5-6:30pm, Elevate (HS) 6-8pm



Held @ ECOB Soccer Field

Scan for more info

Tuesday July 30 to Saturday August 3

Rallies start at 7pm

Park at the Ephrata IM/Middle School



ECOBYOUNGADULTS



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

CAFFEINATED CONVERSATIONS

Sunday, Aug 4
@Javateas Pavilion, 9:45-10:30 am



CAFFEINATED
Conversations
ECOB YOUNG ADULTS

SUNDAY MORNING LIFE GROUP

Join us in Room 101 for this intergenerational group.

MONTHLY EVENTS

Wed, Aug 21 - Trivia Night @ORD, 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Open to all ages!

CAMP SWATARA
ANE [Youth Day](#) Sat, Oct 19

CAMP WOODCREST
Family [Fun Fest](#) Sat, Sept 14

grow.



ECOB MEN'S BROS AND BBQ

Saturday, Aug 17
12 pm @ECOB
For info or questions, contact ryan@ecob.church



ECOB PRIMETIME OLDER ADULT CHALK TALK & AMISH DINNER

Friday, Aug 16 | 2:30 pm
Barnyard Art Studio and Gallery
(Meet @ECOB to ride in the ECOBCC School Bus)
Prime Time is sponsoring a trip to Barnyard Art Studio and Gallery for a chalk talk by Elva Hurst "Back to School" and then an Amish Dinner at the home of Rachael King which will include buttered noodles. \$50.00 per person made payable to ECOB and given or sent to Linda Fahnestock. Make reservations as soon as possible but no later than August 4th.



ECOB WOMEN POTLUCK & BOOK EXCHANGE

Monday, Sept 9 | 6-8 pm
@ECOB Community Room
Join us for a Potluck meal and book exchange night!

Bring a covered dish to share and a book to exchange - bring 1 book / take 1 book. (Optional)
For ladies 18 and over.

Please RSVP [HERE](#) or sign up at the Welcome Desk by Sunday, Sept 3. Contact Carol@ecob.church



Financial Report: End of Fiscal Year 2023-2024:

Praise God! We ended our Fiscal Year by exceeding our Revenue (Giving) Budget by \$696.00. [Our Budget was \$730,000] Our expenses were - (\$31,112.53) or -4.3% under budget. Our Total Revenues (Giving) exceeded our Total Expenses by +\$30,154.23. Note that our "Small" Fulton Bank Loan balance has fallen below \$200,000. (Original Amount was \$670,000). However, this loan is to be paid in full by 12/31/2024 - please pray about this. End of Fiscal Year reports are available upon request. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. Blessings - Rich Bealer, Treasurer



ATLANTIC NORTHEAST DISTRICT (ANE) INTRO TO CONFLICT, COMMUNICATION & CULTURE

Wednesday, Sept 18
8:30am-4:30pm
@S. Dale High Leadership Center,
1861 William Penn Way, Lancaster, PA
More details [HERE](#).

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

BDM SHORT-TERM SERVICE

Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) seeks a short-term Office Manager Disaster Project Leader volunteer to work at various domestic disaster recovery projects for two months this fall and then 1-2 weeks at periodic other times of the year. More information can be found [HERE](#).

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](#).

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN CORNER

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



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Website: www.ecob.church | Email: info@ecob.church
Facebook: [ephratacob](https://www.facebook.com/ephratacob) | Instagram: [ephratacob](https://www.instagram.com/ephratacob)