

# News & Events

Jan 16-29, 2025

## **FINAL 125TH ANNIVERSARY ARTICLE** By Warren Heistand

When I was in my 30's, I was married to a good woman and had two children. I knew there was a heaven and a hell but didn't think much past that.

Then an event happened that changed my life. This event led me to, as I put it, go and find a Bible Teaching Church so I could take my family there. This was so they would be saved, but not for myself because of the life I had lived up to that time.

I had a produce stand at Meadow Brook Market and after talking to Wayne Stauffer (owner) about what was happening in my life, he and Esther invited me to come to ECOB. I think that is where I first learned that the church was not the building but the people who believed in God, his Son and the Holy Ghost.

The more I came, the more I learned how little I knew about God's salvation and the more I learned, the more I wanted to learn.

Wayne invited me again to come to Sunday School and Joanie and I found the Homemaker's Class. The more we got involved with the class and got to know the people, I realized that I could have a good time and grow in my faith at the same time. What impressed me was that they had some of the same problems that I had and were willing to share them with others to help them in their walk with Christ.

Some who have made a difference and helped me are Pastors Al Sauls, Charlie Bieber, Galen Hackman, Rob Eshelman and Brian Messler along with Millie Eisemann, Marty Wenger and Sarah Young. In my early Christian Walk, if I had something I didn't understand, I knew I could call them and they would take the time to answer my question. Don't be afraid to call and ask for help. There are many, many others who have helped me in my walk. That's what I like about this church, and I thank God for it.

## **ECOBMEN CONFERENCE: BIBLICAL MANHOOD**

Saturday, Jan 18  
8 am -3 pm | @ECOB  
More Info [HERE](#)

## **BREAD AND CUP COMMUNION SUNDAY**

Sunday, Jan 19  
Both ECOB Services

### **Sunday, Jan 19**

**Title:** The Great Cloud

**Scripture:** [Hebrews 12:1-17](#)

**Focus:** With Jesus as our founder, our sustainer, and our example, let us endure in following him by resisting sin and embracing God's discipline.

Pastor Brian, speaking

### **Sermon Series**

Discipleship: Journeying Toward Sanctification



Study Guide [HERE](#)

### **Sunday, Jan 26**

**Title:** Abide in Christ

**Scripture:** [John 15:1-11](#)

**Focus:** Being a disciple of Jesus means being united with Jesus, and abiding in him.

Tom Strubel, speaking

# connect.

Contact: [Carol Bowman](#)

Updated as of Jan 15, 2025

Ruth Seppi, Wellspan/Ephrata

Beverly Flickinger, now at the Gardens at Stevens

**SYMPATHY** to the family & friends of Lew Bowman, who passed away on January 10th.

**SYMPATHY** to Curt & Jeni Rathman and family, on the death of Jeni's father, Joseph North, on January 2nd.

**THANK YOU** for all of the beautiful cards I received in my Christmas Cheer Bag. Ruth Seppi

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Do you knit or crochet? Prayer shawls and lap blankets are needed for the Prayer Shawl Ministry. The shawls are prayed over by those making the shawls and are then given to people during an illness or recovery, after a loss, etc. to give the recipient comfort. The Deacons are 'renewing' this ministry and are in need of shawls. Shawls can be dropped off at the church office. If you have questions or need more information, please contact [Carol Bowman](#) or [June Summers](#), 717-669-9486.

## 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 and LT Chairs, 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.**



ephrata  
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

radiate.

Contact: [Stacey Coldiron](#)

## ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING



Mon, Jan 27 | 6-8 pm @ECOB  
ZOE International will be coming to teach us about human trafficking and how we can combat against it. This training is open to the community. PG-13 content but all ages welcome with parental permission. Contact [Stacey](#) for info.

## 2025 GLOBAL MISSION TRIPS INFO MEETING

Sun, Feb 9 | 9:45 -10:15 am  
Community Room  
All are welcome to learn more about what the ECOB Global Missions teams will be doing this year, initial timeline and cost, and how to sign-up. Contact [Dean](#) with questions.



Photo Credit (AP) Lexington Herald-Leader/Ryan C

## BDM REBUILDING TRIP

Sunday, Feb 9 - Saturday, Feb, 15  
Letcher County, Kentucky  
The Frederick COB has open spots during this week to join and serve rebuilding homes for survivors of the 2022 flooding in eastern Kentucky with Brethren Disaster Ministries. No cost and no experience needed. Contact [Dean](#) for info.



EPHRATA CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

# MISSIONS BANQUET

SAT, JAN 25 @5:30 PM

ALL ARE WELCOME, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO SERVE, SUPPORT, OR WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL MISSIONS AT ECOB.

RSVP BY JAN 17 HERE:







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, Jan 21 & Feb 4 | 9:30-10:30 am  
@ECOB Community Room  
Free play for babies and preschoolers with an adult present. Coffee and Conversation for the adults.

### CROSSOVER MINISTRIES EVENT: FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Friday, Jan 17 | 6-8 pm  
@ECOB Community Room  
ECOBKIDS, ECOBCC, and Mountaineers' Table families are invited to join us for a fun family game night. We will provide the pizza. You bring your favorite board or card game to share. All children must be accompanied by an adult. **Register [HERE](#).**  
Contact [Michelle](#) Nolt for more info.

### ECOBKIDS & ECOBYOUTH FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, Feb 1 | 6 pm  
@ECOB  
Join us for a FREE movie night at the church with family and friends. We will be watching Inside Out 2. Movie snacks will be available.

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 19 & 26 - ECOBYOUTH  
Engage (IM/MS) 5-6:30pm, Elevate (HS) 6-8pm
- Sat, Feb 1 - ECOBKIDS & ECOBYOUTH Family Movie Night
- Sun, Feb 2 & 16 - ECOBYOUTH  
Engage (IM/MS) 5-6:30pm, Elevate (HS) 6-8pm
- Sat, Feb 8 - Engage (IM) event, 12pm-3pm @ ECOB  
Making chili and corn bread to support Mountaineers' Table and more. More info [HERE](#).
- Sun, Feb 9 - ECOBYOUTH Super Bowl Party (IM/MS/HS), 6-8:30pm @ECOB
- Fri-Sun, Feb 21-23 - Winter Retreat (MS/HS), @Kenbrook Bible Camp | Sign-up [HERE](#).
- Sun, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 - ECOBYOUTH  
Engage (IM/MS) 5-6:30pm, Elevate (HS) 6-8pm
- Fri-Sat, Mar 21-22 - 30 Hr Famine (IM/MS), 6pm-6pm



### ECOB YOUNG ADULTS



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

### CAFFEINATED CONVERSATIONS

Sunday, Feb 2  
@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, Feb 19 - Trivia Night @ORD, 6:30 - 8:30 pm  
Open to all ages!

#### CAMP SWATARA

Mar 7 Pasta Dinner [Fundraiser](#)

#### CAMP WOODCREST

Mar 18 Ephrata [Night of Prayer](#)

grow.



### ECOBMEN MONTHLY BREAKFASTS

Sat, Feb 1 & 15 | 7 am  
@Gus's Keystone Family Restaurant  
RSVP needed to [ryan@ecob.church](mailto:ryan@ecob.church)

### ECOBMEN WORSHIP NIGHT

Tuesday, Feb 4 | 7-8 pm  
@Javateas Pavilion  
Contact [Ryan](#) with questions.

### ECOBPRIMETIME OLDER ADULT BREAKFAST

Wednesday, Feb 12 | 8:30 am  
@Gus's Keystone Family Restaurant  
Contact Sam Frankhouser to sign-up at [safh@ptd.net](mailto:safh@ptd.net) or 717-669-5720.

live.

### ECOBWOMEN GAME NIGHT

Tuesday, Jan 21 | 6:30 pm  
@ECOB  
Light refreshments served. Women ages 14 and up are invited to join us for a fun night of connecting and playing games! Bring a friend and your favorite game!  
Contact [Carol](#) for more info.

### ECOBWOMEN CRAFT NIGHT

Wednesday, Feb 5 | 6:30 pm  
@Art of Recycle  
Join us for a fun night to connect with one another and make your own Jeweled Heart. For ages 12 and up when accompanied by an adult. No child care available. Cost \$5. Register and pay electronically [HERE](#) or at the Welcome Desk on a Sunday morning (cash or check only).

**BETTER LOVE DATE NIGHT**  
\$30/couple includes meal, assessment and relationship enrichment event. Child care for 10 and under available.



### ATLANTIC NORTHEAST DISTRICT (ANE) SHALOM SUMMIT

Sat, Feb 22, 8:30 am- 5:00 pm  
Harrisburg First CoB  
Join a powerful event focused on pursuing racial justice in our neighborhoods. More info [HERE](#).

### CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN (CoB) FAITHX 2025 SCHEDULE

Join FaithX (formerly Work Camps) during 2025 to serve, grow in faith, make friends, and experience something new! Registration for 2025 FaithX opened on Jan 8, 2025 and closes on Apr 1, 2025. More info and registration [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](http://www.ecob.church) | Email: [info@ecob.church](mailto:info@ecob.church)  
Facebook: [ephratacob](https://www.facebook.com/ephratacob) | Instagram: [ephratacob](https://www.instagram.com/ephratacob)