

May 2026

SUMMER POP-UP LIFE GROUPS

YOU'RE INVITED for summer vibes + good company!

Are you new to ECOB or looking to get connected? Join us for a Summer Pop-Up Life Group! This is a low-pressure, outdoor Life Group hangout designed specifically for those ready to take a first step into discipleship and community. No strings attached—just food, summer fun, and a casual intro to growing in faith together. We will meet once a month (June / July / August) on a Sunday after church OR on a Tuesday night, your choice! If you've already been part of a group in the past, we would still love to have you join us to meet new friends and take this summer journey with us for casual study and conversation.



Summer Pop-Up Life Group Focus: Grounded in Faith

June - Finding Peace in Chaos - Philippians 4:6-7

Jul - Seeking Direction in the Midst of Noise - Psalm 119:105, Proverbs 3:4-6

Aug - Nurturing the Now: Presence under Pressure. We often miss God's work now because we are concerned about the future. Psalm 24, Matthew 6:25-34

Where: ECOB Pavilion

When: 2nd Sundays @12:30 pm (Jun 14, Jul 12, Aug 9)

OR 3rd Tuesdays @6pm (Jun 16, Jul 21, Aug 18)

Pick one date each month!

Food: Provided! (Burgers, hotdogs, picnic fare)

Childcare: Provided for Preschool-4th grade

Please sign up / RSVP at the Welcome Desk OR contact Dean Sensenig, 717-314-4318, dean@ecob.church. Can't wait to see you there!

Series: God's Big Story - Updated Study Guide available [HERE](#).

Sun, May 3 | Title: What Jesus Said Was More Powerful Than His Preaching **Scripture:** Luke 8:4-9, 11-15. Tod Bolsinger

Sun, May 10 - Title: Disciples: Ordinary to Extraordinary, **Scripture:** Mark 1:16-20, **Focus:** God uses any people who will surrender their lives and follow him. Pastor Brian

Sun, May 17 - Title: Us: Lowly to Holy, **Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 1:26-31, **Focus:** We must remember that God's extraordinary grace is a free gift given to ordinary people like us so that his kingdom can grow. Pastor Brian

Series: How to Study the Bible

Sun, May 24 - Title: SOAP: **Scripture:** Romans 15:1-13, **Focus:** The Bible is our authority. It is essential to study it, not only to gain academic knowledge but to allow it to guide our lives and give us hope. Pastor Chris

Sun, May 31 - Title: SOAP: **Observation, Scripture:** 2 Timothy 2:16-3:17, **Focus:** Rightly understanding the context and message of Scripture allows us to stand firm in our faith on a foundation of truth and to better understand God's message and purposes. Pastor Brian

connect.

Contact: [Kim Mull](#)

Check your ECOBNOW Email for Care Updates.

THANK YOU for all of the beautiful cards I received for my 102nd birthday.
Ruth Seppi

CONGREGATIONAL FORUM INFO

On May 6, at 7pm we will have our spring Congregational Forum where we hear reports from various ministries, and hear about all the things God is calling us to as a congregation. Also, at that meeting, we will vote on our 2026-2027 budget and some needed changes to our Bylaws. The Bylaws and Narrative Budget are currently available at the Welcome Desk in the Community Room. If you have any questions, please reach out to [Jill Martin](#) or Pastor [Brian](#).

2026 DIRECTORIES

The 2026 Church Directories are completed – pick one up in the Community Room. If your information is incorrect in the directory, please contact [Carol Bowman](#) with your updated information.

BIBLES FOR GRADS

Bibles will be in the Community Room for our 2026 Grads! Write words or notes of encouragements on a provided post-it note, and post it in the Bible.

ECOB OFFICE CLOSURE

The ECOB Office will be closed on Monday, May 25 for the Memorial Day Holiday.

ECOB MISSION

We are a FAMILY of disciples who CONNECT to, GROW in, LIVE out, and RADIATE the transformative power of JESUS in the world.



ephrata
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

radiate.

Contact: [Stacey Coldiron](#)



CITY GATE MEAL

Saturday, May 2 | 10 am-1:15 pm
Food prep is AT CITY GATE for those who are already signed up. For serving downtown you must be 13 or older.
Contact [Stacey](#) with any questions.



TRUSTEE WORK DAY - MULCHING DAY!

Saturday, May 9 | 8 am - 12 pm @ECOB
Join the trustees for any amount of time you can give. Bring rakes, wheelbarrow, shovels, etc.

ECOB YOUTH OFFER TO HELP

Do you need a hand with projects around your house? Our ECOBYOUTH are offering to help with:
Yard Clean-up, Light Organizing Tasks, Seasonal Tasks, Basic Cleaning
Other Small Projects

Donations will support the Radiate Fund, which helps sponsor mission trips. Sign-up [HERE](#) or next to the Welcome Desk.



LISTEN • EQUIP • ADAPT • DISCIPLE

CONFERENCE

May. 1-3, 2026

Ephrata Church of the Brethren
Ephrata, Pennsylvania

The Church of the Brethren L.E.A.D. Conference is a gathering space where congregational leaders, pastors, board members, deacons, Sunday School teachers, and others come together to Listen, Equip, Adapt, and Disciple as we learn side by side.

Rooted in our call to follow Jesus into our neighborhoods, this conference invites leaders to listen deeply to God, one another, and their communities; to be equipped with practical tools and fresh ideas; to adapt faithfully in a changing world; and to disciple others with courage and hope.

Join us for meaningful conversations, hands-on learning, and take-away resources you can put to work right away in your own ministry context as we grow into innovative, adaptable, and fearless disciples of Jesus.

ECOB will again be the host site for the Church of the Brethren L.E.A.D. Conference May 1-3. Pastor Brian will be one of the Breakout Session Presenters during the conference. Keynote Speaker, Tod Bolsinger, will be preaching at both services on Sun, May 3.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Tod Bolsinger, MDiv, PhD, the co-owner and principal of Sloan Leadership, Inc, an executive coaching and consulting firm that works with church, non-profit, and marketplace leaders in leading change.

He is also the Executive Director of the De Pree Center Church Leadership Institute, a Senior Fellow of the De Pree Center for Leadership, and Associate Professor of Leadership Formation at Fuller Theological Seminary, was the founder of the Fuller Leadership Platform, an innovative approach to online formation and leadership development, and served as a Vice President of Fuller Seminary for six years.

Prior to his educational career, he served as a pastor for 27 years.

Tod is the author of five books, including the Outreach Magazine Resource of the Year in pastoral leadership, *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*, the Christian Book Award Finalist, *Tempered Resilience: How Leaders are Formed in the Crucible of Change*, and *The Practicing Change Series*





ECOBKIDS



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.

ECOBKIDS TOT LOT

Tuesdays, May 5 & 19 | 9:30-10:30am
@ECOB
Free play inside for babies and preschoolers with an adult present. Coffee and conversation for the adults. Please check [Facebook](#) for any inclement weather updates.

ECOBKIDS VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY

Sunday, May 17 | 9-10:30 am
@ECOBCC Kitchen
Our ECOBKIDS volunteers are welcome to stop by so we can say thank you for serving our kids so faithfully!

CAN YOU SURVIVE BACKYARD VBS?



VBS HOST/LEADER/HELPER TRAINING
TUESDAY, MAY 12 AT 6:30 PM

CAMP SWATARA
Summer Movie [Nights](#)

CAMP WOODCREST
Father Son/Daughter [Events](#)



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

All Sign-ups are [HERE](#)

Sun, May 3 & 17 - ECOBYOUTH Sunday Nights
Engage (IM/MS) 5-6:30pm, Elevate (HS) 6-8:30pm @ECOB
Sun, May 17 - **Graduation Sunday**, both worship services
Followed by a Graduation luncheon for the graduates and their families. Graduates RSVP [HERE](#).
Fri-Sun, May 29-31 - **HS Guys' & Girls' Outings** (HS), TBD
Sun, May 31 - **Color Wars** (IM/MS/HS), 6-8:30pm @ECOB



WORSHIP (Led by ECOBYOUTH) - ANNOINTING
TESTIMONIES - TEACHING - FOOD & MILKSHAKES



ECOBYOUNGADULTS



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

CAFFEINATED CONVERSATIONS

Sunday, May 3 | 9:45-10:30am
@Pastor Chris's office



grow.



ECOBMEN BREAKFAST

Saturday, May 2 & 16 | 7am

@Gus's RSVP to [Shaun Mendenhall](#)

ECOBMEN THE HELM

Tues, May 5 & 19 | 7pm

@ECOB

For more info contact, Shaun

shaun@ecob.church, 717-333-6869

ECOBPRIMETIME OLDER ADULT BREAKFAST

Wednesday, May 13 | 8:30 am

@Gus's [Keystone Restaurant](#)

Contact Sam Frankhouser to sign-up at safh@ptd.net or 717-669-5720.

ECOBPRIMETIME OLDER ADULT LUNCHEON

Wednesday, Jun 24 | 12-2 pm

@ECOB

More info to come.

ECOBWOMEN WOMEN/ KID'S ICE CREAM FOR BREAKFAST

Saturday, May 30 | 9 am

@ECOB

Join us for a Mother & Child Breakfast for ALL Ladies!

This is a DROP IN event so stop in when you can between 9 & 10 am for an Ice Cream Breakfast. RSVP is required for this event by Tuesday, May 26th [HERE](#). For more info, contact [Carol Bowman](#).

live.

WAYS TO GIVE YOUR TITHE AND OFFERINGS

- 01 Cash in the Offering Boxes in the Comm Room
- 02 Checks made out to ECOB in the Offering Boxes
- 03 One time gifts online at www.ecob.church/give/
- 04 Automatic withdraw using our giving partner Tithe.ly



FINANCIAL UPDATE:

As we ended our third quarter 2025-2026 Fiscal year, our total income exceeds our expenses by +\$93,948.99. Praise God! On the Budget side, Income (Giving) exceeds budget by +5.0% or +\$28,107.97. Expenses are over budget by +6.8% or +\$42,435.71. Detailed financial statements are available upon request. Thank you for your faithfulness to HIS KINGDOM. Blessings- Rich Bealer, Treasurer



ATLANTIC NORTHEAST

DISTRICT (ANE)

HYMN SING

Sunday, May 31 | 3 pm

@Bucher Meeting House

Led by Bob Kettering to celebrate the historic meeting house and cemetery.

More info [HERE](#).

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN (CoB)

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026

Sunday, June 28 - Thursday, July 2


Fort Wayne, Indiana

Grand Wayne Convention Center

Info and registration [HERE](#).

Reserve a spot on the ANE Bus to AC [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](#) | Instagram: [ephratacob](#)

