

CONNEXION

A Monthly Newsletter
of

Peters Creek Church of the Brethren



WORDS OF WISDOM

My ears perk up when I hear people say such things as "I didn't do anything wrong," or "I was ignorant of the law," or even "I didn't know." This is known as "pleading ignorance." And while the old adage says "Ignorance is bliss," ignorance is also the cause of many of our problems.

Oddly enough, we have just ended what was called "the Age of Enlightenment." Science and knowledge were to bring an end to war, to all the social ills of people, to reduce disease, and to bring a fairer distribution of wealth to our world. A cornerstone of the Age of Enlightenment was education for all people. Future historians will have to decide how effective the Age of Enlightenment was in creating a world made better by science and knowledge.

And we have now entered what some are calling the Age of Technology. Some of the marks of this age are artificial intelligence, the internet, digital communications, and robotics. While it is an age in which we are living, it is apparent that for many, the new age does not bring accessibility to their greatest needs. And I believe that one of the problems with the Age of Technology is that it often neglects wisdom, especially true wisdom. We hear the phrase "conventional wisdom," which I think is used to justify the thinking of the few and not the thinking of the majority.

Now all that I have said is leading to my point of this rambling: We need to find and follow the words of wisdom that have lasted and will last for generations. These words come from many generations. And there are many words of wisdom in the Bible.

The Book of Proverbs is filled with advice about living the "good life," or in theological terms living the righteous life and Godly life. One of the

sources of Proverbs is King Solomon. When Solomon became King of Israel, God told him he could ask for one thing from God. Solomon asked God for wisdom, and it helped him to be a noted ruler of his day.

I wonder how many of us would ask God for wisdom if God would grant us one request. I have no scientific sampling to rely on, but I would guess that maybe one in a thousand would ask for wisdom. Most would ask for wealth or power or status. Some would ask for more specific things such as to be the greatest baseball player ever or the greatest singer ever, etc.

Ironically, Solomon asked for wisdom and received wealth and power and status. And he did it by relying on the wisdom of God and not "conventional wisdom."

In addition to Proverbs, there are other books of wisdom in the Bible and many passages, including the teachings of Jesus, which can help us learn to be wise, to be good, and to be righteous.

Beginning in October, the Wednesday Evening Bible Study will be reading and seeking the wisdom of the Book of Proverbs. I want to invite all of you to read the Book of Proverbs and to join in the Wednesday Evening Bible Study. If there is sufficient interest, I will also do a daytime study of Proverbs.

Personally, I feel the Letter of James is filled with wisdom and ways for us to learn wisdom. So during the month of September, my messages will focus on the Letter of James.

Seeking God's wisdom will lead us to live the good life, the righteous and Godly life. It will also change our world and the people of our world. Let's seek God's wisdom together!

OUR SEPTEMBER WORSHIPS

Worship Services



SEPTEMBER 6:

Scripture: The Letter of James 3:1-12

Message: "Putting out the fires"

SEPTEMBER 13:

Scripture: The Letter of James 3:13-18

Message: "Two wisdoms"

SEPTEMBER 20:

Scripture: The Letter of James 4:1-10

Message: "The World? Or GOD?"

SEPTEMBER 27:

Scripture: The Letter of James 4:11-17

Message: "GOD in charge"

PLAN OF ORGANIZATION REVISED

At the August 16, 2009 Council Meeting, revisions to the Peters Creek Church Plan of Organization were adopted by more than the two-thirds majority required. By the November 15, 2009 Council Meeting (at the latest), a new copy of the Plan of Organization as revised will be available for all members. In the interim, any questions can be answered by the Church Office.

We want to thank the members of the Revision Committee for their good and faithful work. The members were Willard Flora (chair), Sandra Carroll, Betty Lou Carter, Dean Mannon, and Richard Wright, with Pastor Jack Lowe as an ex-officio member.

REMEMBER!

FALL LOVE FEAST will be held on **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2009** at **6:00 PM**. This Rite and Ordinance of the Church of the Brethren remembers Jesus Christ's last supper with his followers and offers to all the renewal of God's grace through the symbols of the worship.



"HOW SHALL WE BE KNOWN?"

September 11 & 12

Camp Bethel

This is a retreat sponsored by the Virlina District Spiritual Retreat Development Committee and Commission on Nurture. The cost is \$50 for room, meals (2 on Saturday), and registration. Resource persons are Dana Cassell, a BVS staff member, and Jeff Bach, director of the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies at Elizabethtown College (PA).

Registration forms are available from the Church Office. Space is limited to register now.

"BUILDING PEACE IN THE BODY OF CHRIST"

Sunday, September 20
3:00 PM

Oak Grove Church

This All-District Worship in celebration of the International Day of Prayer for Peace on September 21 will feature messages by Pastors J. Michael Varner (Topeco COB) and Timothy P. Harvey (Central COB). Many lay persons will be leading the worship with readings and prayers. A time of fellowship and refreshments will follow the worship.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT DAY

Saturday, September 26
9 AM to 3 PM

Germantown Brick COB

Carol and Mike Elmore, facilitators with the Association for Couples in Marriage Enrichment will lead this one day of conversation and activities for couples. There is no cost for the day. Lunch will be served for a donation to the Brick Relay for Life Group.

Registration can be made by forms available in the Church Office or by e-mail to virlina2@aol.com. Registrations must be made by September 11, 2009.



The Women's Fellowship is currently planning for our annual **Holiday Bazaar** on **Saturday, November 7, 2009** which can be a great success with your help.

This year we will have a **Christmas Store**; selling used and like new Christmas items such as Christmas rugs, dishes, inside and outside lights, Christmas ornaments, home décor items, etc.

We will have a Country Store to sell baked goods, canned goods, produce, jellies, jams, pickles, apple butter, etc. While you may still be canning using produce from your garden and have an abundant harvest, please remember the "Country Store." Last year, we had quite a demand for many homemade goods than we had available. We need homemade whole and half cakes. Also needed are pies, breads, candy, etc.



All Christmas items donated will need to be at the church **no later than Sunday, October 18th**.

All Country Store items will need to be at the church **no later than Friday, November 6th**.

We will need volunteers to help with the bazaar. A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

We appreciate your participation and donations to make this year's bazaar even a greater success than last year.

What is Stewardship?

Stewardship is not just raising funds;
It's raising Christians.
Stewardship is not a matter of budgets;
It's a matter of faith.

THE BUSY BEES

Our fall quilting will begin on September 9th, with a covered-dish luncheon at 11:30AM.



We have purchased 20 tote bags to be filled with school supplies for Church World Service kits. The supply list is in the June newsletter under Tapestry. Also a list for hygiene kits is found there.

Zucchini Patties

- 1 cup baking mix
- 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- Butter for frying
- 2 eggs beaten
- 2 cups shredded zucchini
- 2 Tablespoons chopped onion

Combine baking mix, cheese, salt, eggs, onions and zucchini, in a mixing bowl. Bend well. Melt butter in a large skillet. Spoon heaping tablespoons of mixture into skillet. Fry 3 – 5 minutes per side or until golden brown. Place patties on a paper towel. Serves 5 – 6 people.



The **Children's Music** will start on **September 13th** downstairs in our music room at **10:00 – 10:15AM**. The children will be performing again on **September 20th**.

Hope you all had a great summer.
The Children's Ministry

The church office will be closed on **Monday, September 7** in observance of Labor Day.



Thought: If we really believe that the God of the Bible is the only true God, we ought to give Him our whole life, follow Him faithfully, and serve Him with all our gifts and abilities.

- 1 – Rita Craft
- 3 – Gladys Stump
- 5 – Ted Spradling, Peter Ammermann, Sonya Spradling
- 6 – Laura Smith, John Noah Kelly
- 7 – Joe Kropff
- 9 – Judson Bowles, Robert Dooley
- 10 – Roni Wilson, Cole Tuck
- 12 – Hilda Graybill
- 13 – Chris Atkins
- 14 – Philip Casteel, Robin Louthen
- 15 – Kathie Bowles, Emily Bailey
- 16 – Virginia Wright, April Atkins, Tim Bailey, Andrea Marasigan
- 18 – Darrell Hungate
- 23 – Rose Heckman
- 24 – Adam Hylton
- 25 – Lena Mitchell
- 30 – Richard Wright



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- 8 – Wayne and Sandra Carroll
 - 15 – Larry and Linda Pulz
 - 16 – Mitch and Doris Mullens
 - 20 – Joel and Cathy Keith
 - 24 – Lee and Sharon Linkous
 - 26 – Pete and Chris Bain



Please notify the church office if you wish to be included in or make corrections to the birthday and anniversary list.

Marion Barger, Dan Bayer, Ogretta Bayer, Royal Bond, Brenda Black, Georgia Coffman, Don Craft, Debbie Case, Kirby Duncan, Jeff Johnson, Don King, Jim King, Nannie King, Mike Lodge, Doug McManus, Ray Owens, Lewis Peters, Cathie Rollison, Dr. Bill Short, Jewell Tyree, Gracie Walker

Please notify the church office if you would like to add or remove a name from the prayer list.



The deadline for the **October newsletter** is **Tuesday, September 15th.**

To see pictures from VBS, go to www.pccob.org.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Counters:

Mabel Naff and Sue Lawrence

Deacons:

Doris Epperly and Kathy Otey

Sound System:

Darrell Hungate

Greeters:

9/06 Jim & Gwen Kropff

9/13 Rick Halverson & Missy Carter

9/20 Ray & Pam Clark

9/27 Merle and Rose Heckman

Ushers:

9/06 Mau, King, Boone, Clark

9/13 Walters, Wright, Wise, Kropff

9/20 Clark, Ammermann, Carter, Graffeo

9/27 Louthen, Cox, Montgomery, Mau

Sunday School Nursery:

9/06 Warren & Denise Ory

9/13 Jeff Graffeo

9/20 Sandi Broughman

9/27 Rick Halverson

Worship Nursery:

9/06 Rose Heckman

9/13 Linda Pulz

9/20 Kathy Otey

9/27 Autumn Quinn & Ben Louthen

Scripture Readers:

9/06 Kelly Otey

9/13 Wanda Atkins

9/20 Sandra Carroll

9/27 Adelia Mau



Our Shut-ins

Children's Story:

9/06 Christi Halverson

Children's Church:

9/06 Melanie and Jeff Graffeo

9/13 Brenda McDonald and Bobby Wilson

9/20 Brenda McDonald and Bobby Wilson

9/27 Linda and Larry Pulz

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-IN MEMBERS:

Ida Bower, Judson and Virginia Bowles, Julia Conner, Katherine Hamblin, Anna Belle Plunkett, Katie Rhodes, Muriel Turner, Charlotte Wilmoth, Mary Yarbrough



**CHANGE IN
CHOIR
PRACTICE!!!**

We will start
Chancel Choir practice on September 3 at 7:00PM. We will start **Bell Choir practice on September 17 at 8:00PM.**



God protects us from things that we cannot even see! When the hand of God is on us, there's nothing that can touch us that we cannot defeat!

If we think about the things God has already brought us through that did not destroy us...

Let's get excited about the promises of God that no weapon formed against us shall prosper! We are more than conquerors!

God has not given us the spirit of fear . . . so go through today knowing that we have victory over every stronghold, every situation, big or small!! God is in control of it all!



**HERITAGE DAY FESTIVAL
At Camp Bethel
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2009
7:30AM – 2:30PM**

Hot Foods, Baked Goods, Crafts, Activities, Candies, Cider, Fish-Rodeo, Ornaments, Soups and Chili, Fried Pies, Woodcraft, Apple Butter, Flowers, Clothing, Holiday Decorations

For more information, please contact Darrell Hungate at 380-2748.

Save the Dates

Executive Committee Meeting - **September 1 at 7:00PM.**

Men's and Women's Fellowship Meeting - **September 7 at 6:30PM.**

Commission Meetings - **September 8 at 7:00PM.**

Church Board Meeting - **September 8 at 8:00PM.**

Mark your calendar because **Apple Butter time** is drawing near. We need everyone's help on **Thursday, October 8th** and **Friday, October 9th.**

**Fall
Women's Bible Study
Beth Moore**

Peters Creek Church of the Brethren
Fellowship Hall
Starting Date: Sunday, September 13, 2009 (10-week study)
Time: Sundays from 5:00PM – 7:00PM



Once again, we are planning a Women's Bible study featuring Beth Moore. If the materials are available, we will be doing the Esther study. But this has not been verified yet. All women are invited to join us for great fellowship and fun.

For more details or if you want to attend, please contact Carol Plunkett at 362-2979 or Linda Pulz at 977-1384.