

GRACE NOTES

Ambler Church of the Brethren

Issue #5

May 2013

Opening Our Church Doors



During the month of May we partner with Inter-Faith Housing Alliance and the Ambler Mennonite Church to provide food and shelter to homeless families. A recent graduate of Hope Gardens (transitional housing in Ambler) tells about her experience and shows her appreciation for what she and her children have received:

Lisa's Story

The story for my family began in a house in Philadelphia, and many days and nights of unhappiness, depression and stress.

By the time we escaped and arrived at Hope Gardens, we had lived in three other homes and a shelter. We were a family that was tired, distraught and broken.

Inter-Faith's staff, congregations and programs helped us to begin the long process that is our healing. There are still days that are difficult and challenging, but I am a better woman and mother because of all that they have supported us through.

I am not where I want to be— but there is great joy in no longer being where we were. This story is being written, because the best part of our journey is yet to come...

I want you to know that your congregation is appreciated and your generosity has made a difference.

"It takes a village" to continue the work of Jesus by housing families. Won't you help, too, by signing up on the calendars in the hallway at church? If you feel a little shy about this, ask to partner with someone else who has done it before. There are lots of workable possibilities here. Speak with Greg, Karen, Ila or Ron.

Youth Sunday— May 5

The Ambler youth invite you to join us for worship May 5 as we participate in the denomination's annual National Youth Sunday. This year's theme "In God's Image," is based on 2 Corinthians 3:18.

Youth will plan and lead the entire worship service, beginning at 10:45 am. We will select the hymns, present a skit, tell the children's time, collect the offering, serve as worship leaders and offer meditations based on the theme.

New for this year, the senior high Sunday school class will also be designing the worship center for that morning. Come and participate in a service often viewed as one of the year's highlights by youth and adults, alike!



COBYS Family Services Family Fun Walk

The COBYS Family Fun Walk will take place on Sunday, May 5, at Peter Becker Community in Harleysville. Those that participate get sponsors, or make a donation or even both! Registration begins at 3:30 that day and the walk begins at 4:00 pm.

There will be an opportunity to win cool prizes, such as caps, beach towels, insulated lunch bags, denim shirts, lawn chairs and windbreaker jackets. Everyone will receive a free t-shirt, refreshments and ice cream. There will be an opportunity to win door prizes.

Sound like a fun time? See the brochures on the bulletin board for more information, or contact Don Fitzkee, Director of Development at (don@cobys.org). This year's goal is 90 participants and \$9,000. Can you help?
(info from COBYs brochure)

All Church Camp Swatara Weekend May 10-12

Good news! The fee for the two night stay at camp has been reduced to \$48.00 (\$28.00 for one night) thanks to a generous contributor—so you have no excuse not to join the fun at Camp Swatara. A great weekend of relaxation and refreshment is being planned. Sandy Miller will coordinate the theme of “Paradoxes”—found in our lives, in nature and even in the Bible. John Mould will coordinate his always delicious meals. And Besty Brycki will cheerfully accept your reservations; help her out by registering as soon as possible. Forms and payment are due May 5. We hope many will join us for the hikes, cook-outs, fellowship and occasional craziness. For more information see one of the above or Betty Lou Nyce, Nurture Chair.

Reminder for Summer Camp

Get your summer camp registrations in by Friday, May 25 (Memorial Day weekend) to avoid the \$25.00 surcharge after the date. See the March *Grace Notes* for more information on camps.

Thank You From Peter Becker Auxiliary

The 30th annual Flower Show in March was a great success. Several ACOB friends volunteered their time, baked goodies and more attended. Thanks for your support. The total amount raised was \$44,000!

Dottie Bucher does the card and stationery work for the Peter Becker Thrift Shop and welcomes the contributions that show up in her church mail box. You might be interested to know that the thrift shop averages \$55,000 income per year for the Auxiliary. Three days of this year's flower show alone brought in \$3900 from thrift shop sales. All proceeds benefit residents of the Peter Becker Community.

Thanks to Dottie Bucher

A special “Thank You” has been expressed to Dottie Bucher for her many hours of embroidering a quilt block for the wall hanging that will be presented at Annual Conference to Moderator Robert Crouse. Bob was first introduced to the Church of the Brethren while attending Temple University as a music major when he came to our church to ask for use of a piano. He later became our choir director and still later, a pastor in the Church of the Brethren.

Germantown Tour

Twenty six people from our congregation were entertained and informed by our first class guide, Ron Lutz, on a trip to the first baptismal site of the Church of the Brethren in the United States the cemetery where our guide was the primary grave digger for many years, and the Germantown meeting house. We viewed the artifacts, pictures and posters in the historic 1770 room in the meeting house. We had a beautiful spring day for our tour. Ron started giving basic tours at Germantown in 1965. In 1976, tours became more developed as demand increased, Ron grew a beard and he became more fascinated with history. Pictures from our trip are posted on the church facebook page, or the facebook link on the ACOB website, amblercob.org.

News & Events from Atlantic Northeast District

3000 Miles for Peace– May 4

This spring and summer, people all over the country will be riding and walking and reaching out to raise funds for the proven and effective violence-prevention programs of On Earth Peace. On Earth Peace works in three program areas: youth and young adult peace education, conflict resolution, and nonviolent social change.

The 3000 Miles for Peace Campaign is in honor of Paul Ziegler, a young man from the Elizabethtown congregation who planned to ride across the country for peace, but never got the chance. Tragically, Paul died in bicycle accident in September 2012. The 3000 Miles for Peace Campaign is a way to forward this young man's vision. Check the website: etowncob.org/3kmp. *(article taken from May/June District Newsletter)*

Junior High Service Project

The Junior High Service Project is scheduled for May 11, 9 am– noon at Mennonite Central Committee Materials Resource Center in Ephrata, PA. There is no cost for this event and the registration deadline is May 7. The form is available in the church office. We realize this is the same weekend as the Camp Swatara retreat, but if you are not participating in that, this is a worthwhile alternative. Contact Jess Ross, jross@ane-cob.org for further information.

Children's Time Schedule for May

May 5– Youth
May 12– Angie Mountain
May 19– Pastor Erv
May 26– John Mould

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Ambler Church of the Brethren



Ambler Church of the Brethren
351 East Butler Avenue
Ambler, Pennsylvania 19002-4320
215-646-1190

Interim Pastor: Rev. Erv Huston
Office Administrator: Lori Hill

Sunday Schedule: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Worship: 10:45 a.m.

Pastor's Office Hours: Mon to Weds.- call office for availability

Secretary's Office Hours: Mon., Weds., Thurs-9-1; Friday 8:30-12:30

**CONTINUING THE WORK OF JESUS.
SIMPLY. PEACEFULLY. TOGETHER.**

Phone: 215-646-1190 • Email: amblercob@verizon.net • Check out our Facebook page

JOY IN SERVING

Responsibilities for May 2013

Worship Leaders

May 5

Youth

May 12

Stuart Suter

May 19

Sue Schlegel

May 26

Greg Dummeldinger

Ushers

May 5

Youth

May 12

Jackie Nyce & Al Nyce

May 19

Kathy & Gary Brechbill

May 26

Sue & Carl Torchio

Greeter

May 5

Youth

May 12

Ruth Stokes

May 19

Dottie Bucher

May 26

Al Nyce

Acolyte

May 5

Shannon Quaile

May 12

Cassidy Taylor

May 19

Tessa Mountain

May 26

Mary Ruth Morgan

Fellowship Hour:

May 5– Sandy & Craig Miller and Caroline Smith

May 12– Sharon & Steve Dummeldinger and Greg Dummeldinger

May 19– Margaret Geiger & John Mould

May 26– Kathy & Gary Brechbill and Marci & Tom McEntire

