

MORNING SCHEDULE
Sunday School – 9:30 am Worship – 10:30 am

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Church Telephone: 724-238-6292
CHURCH WEB PAGE -- LigonierFirstCob.org
E-mail address: LCOB1888@gmail.com

Worship Attendance last Sunday February 20 worship: 52
Pastor John Shaffer – Phone: 610-413-1997 (cell) and 814-255-7838 (home)
To contact Susan Shaffer with information for the BK –
814-255-7838 (home)
To contact Elaine Boyd with information for the Bulletin –
elaineboyd@comcast.net or 724-238-4886 (home) or 724-433-1637 (cell)

First Church of the Brethren
405 Route 271
Ligonier, PA 15658

FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
405 Route 271, Ligonier, PA 15658



FEBRUARY 27, 2022

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

“Ligonier (First) Church of the Brethren Is a community of believers who seek to walk passionately with Christ by reaching out in His name, preaching and sharing His gospel, and teaching all to live like Him.”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP *Responsive Reading*

Leader: The Lord reigns.

People: Let the nations tremble.

Leader: The Lord reigns.

People: Let them praise God's holy name.

Leader: The Lord reigns.

People: Let the peoples rejoice in awe and wonder.

Leader: The Lord reigns.

People: Let them shout in exaltation!

*HYMN "To God Be the Glory" No. 66

INVOCATION PRAYER: *Responsive Prayer*

Leader: Dear God. Please help us as we pray over and intercede for the people of both Ukraine and Russia:

People: We pray for the leaders of both countries to know your truth and peace and be transformed by your Holy Spirit, and that they would seek to lead their countries in the way of peace and not war.

Leader: We ask you God to intervene. We pray for wisdom as world leaders maneuver, strategize and speak out. We pray that you would move in their hearts and guide their steps and plans.

People: We pray for peace, comfort, and protection to cover the people of Russia and Ukraine.

Leader: We ask to see your glory amid this great struggle. We pray that you would be glorified through the people of Russia and Ukraine who are following you.

People: We ask for open doors of opportunities for the Gospel to be shared and received. We pray that you would make your name known across Ukraine and Russia as the result of any conflict. We pray that the people of Ukraine and Russia will still have access to Your Word.

Leader: As we pray for leaders of all nations and for the people who will be affected by this current crisis, [Ephesians 6:12](#) offers a reminder about where the real battle unfolds: "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

People: Please, God, may your will be done; help us to help and not hinder your will. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER: *(Please sign the attendance sheets)*

In days of old, God was seen as far from the people. But we know Christ, and in him we know God. When we share what we have out of love, our hearts grow closer to God, and we shine with Christ's glory. Let us offer our gifts to God today.

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Stacey Knupp

SPECIAL MUSIC Carolyn Roddy

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN "Happy the Home When God Is There" No. 536

MORNING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE 1 Timothy 1:12-16 Roman Simmons

MESSAGE "Right or Wrong"

*CLOSING HYMN "Jesus Saves" No. 306

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: Pastor John Shaffer
Lay Leader: Tracy Black
Chorister: Ed Wedge Pianist: Pam Zimmerman

Greeters for February: Dana Shannon
Counting Steward for February: Dana Shannon

NOTE FROM WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We will be having our first meeting in March; date still has not been decided. We are trying something new. We will be having our meetings on Sundays following church. We will be providing a light lunch and are hoping more women will attend. We want to have a brief business meeting and hopefully focus on more fellowship time. All women are welcome to attend.

JOYS FROM WEEK OF FEBRUARY 20, 2022

- JoAnne McWherter came home yesterday morning
- Becky noted that it was nice that her nephew Aaron's wife Molly had the day off from work and was able to be in church with them today

OUTREACH FOR FEBRUARY

The outreach for February is Heifer Project. It began as a Church of the Brethren program and later became an international program supported by people everywhere. Instead of just providing food for a day, it provides for a lifetime of help, that is also to be passed on to another. Please also remember your gently used shoes, wrapped with a rubber band as this project helps fund the Honduras orphanage we support. Donations for the local Food Pantry are a year-long outreach of our church. This service is provided monthly at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Ligonier and is supported by the Association of Churches. At present approximately 100 families are being served. Please be generous with your donations as the Westmoreland County Food Bank has lessened the amount they are providing.

RITA'S CLOSET

Rita's Closet opens Mondays at the First Church of the Brethren, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. If you are unable to make it on a Monday, please call Darlene Rummel at 814-243-7156 to schedule a time more convenient. All donated clothes were freely given and are free to you. Please come and check us out.

AN UPCOMING BABY DEDICATION

On Sunday, March 6th, Khloe James Rhodes will be dedicated. She was born on January 13, 2022 to Amanda (Knupp) and Kenneth Rhodes. Her grandparents are Paul and Stacey Knupp and her great-grandmother is Sherry Boyd.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Wednesday, 6:30 pm – Bible Study – the book of Acts is subject of our study – refreshments are available

Thursday, 9:00 am -- The Happy Stitchers

Thursday, 9:00 am to Noon – Pastor John's Office Hours

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 6, 2022 – Khloe James Rhodes to be dedicated in our church

Saturday, April 9, 2022 – Women's Fellowship making ham loaves – Orders are due the last Sunday of March

Saturday, April 9, 2022, Camp Harmony – Hogar Enmanuel's Dinner/Theater featuring the play "FLOODED! The First Lockdown"

Saturday, June 11, 2022 – Memorial Service for Charles and Fay Harr

Saturday, October 15, 2022, Camp Harmony – 2022 Western PA District Conference

MESSAGE FROM THE WESTERN PA DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

TO: All Employees, District Executive Ministers and Administrative Staff, Mission & Ministry Board members, Annual Conference Officers, Agencies of the Church of the Brethren including Bethany Theological Seminary, Brethren Benefit Trust, and On Earth Peace
FROM: Western Pennsylvania District
RE: District Representation Announcement
DATE: February 24, 2022

MEMORANDUM

The Western Pennsylvania District Church of the Brethren is being represented, during this time of transition in the district executive minister role, by Pete C. Kaltenbaugh, Jr., recently retired pastor of the Meyersdale COB. Pete has begun a 3-year term as chair of the CORE team of the district (district board). As such he serves as the contact person for the district. Pete's contact information is:
814-521-6177 (cell #)
Email: mdalepastorpete@comcast.net

The Office of Ministry is grateful for the dedication and service of Western Pennsylvania leaders at this time.

*****CHURCH FAMILY*****

We all know that when someone has cancer it not only affects that person, it puts stress on the whole family. Well three families are going through the stress of chemotherapy treatments and we can help with some of that stress. I would like to start a Meal Train in our Church for them. How can I help you ask – Below is a list of the things that you can do.

1. Pick up a Gift Card for a local Restaurant, Giant Eagle, Sheetz, etc. so they will be able to pick up a meal on the way home from treatments, get gas, get snacks for treatments, etc.
2. If you like to cook, a homemade meal would be great: soups and comfort food. Please contact me and we will set up a date and time for the meal. If you cannot deliver the meal, I will pick up the meal and drop it off

I have been in contact with each family and have gotten a treatment schedule. If you would like to help, please contact me. Please call me with any questions at 724-331-2228. I look forward to hearing from you. s/Stacey Knupp

KINGDOM CONCERNS

*Jesus Prayer Requests
The Glory of God (John 17);
Workers for the Harvest (Matthew 9)
Spiritual Renewal in our Congregation
ALSO: Persecuted Christians; Missions; Peace Workers; Service Persons;
National/International Leaders
Missionaries to Poland: Ashley and Corby White (23rd of each month, please uphold in special prayer as they will also be praying for us on this date)*

WESTERN PA DISTRICT

*District Office Staff – Amy Bowman, Tina Lehman
District Office Phone Number – 814-479-2181
District Moderator – Robert Rummel
District Response Team – Herb Ewald
District Leadership Team Chair – Pete Kaltenbaugh
Camp Harmony Executive Director – Jen Vickroy
2022 Prayer Partner Congregation: Arbutus Church of the Brethren, Guy Myers, Minister*

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

*Unchurched in Waterford, Ligonier Valley (Welco
me and Invite them!)
Valley Youth Network – Kip Crumrine, Director; Sandy Crumrine, Assistant;
Chelsea Carpenter and Kylie Weber, Interns
Ligonier Valley Association of Churches – Janet Riordan, President*

ALL OF OUR WORSHIP MINISTRY EXPERIENCES

Future of our church – Please take five minutes at noon every day to pray for ways to encourage the parents, children and young people who could be coming**

LOCAL CHURCH CONCERNS

*Deacon Chairperson – Stacey Knupp
Church Board/Executive Board Chairmen – Richard Jones,
Nurture -- Michelle Black, Stewardship – Becky Kwak, Witness -- Debbie McInchok*

Crisis in Ukraine: Preparing to respond to needs

Church of the Brethren Newsline

February 25, 2022

From Brethren Disaster Ministries

All believers are called to continue praying for the people of Ukraine and all impacted by the invasion of Ukraine by Russia. Please also pray for world leaders and Russian leadership that a miracle will happen, and a road to peace and justice will be found.

Brethren Disaster Ministries is monitoring the needs of response partners and mapping out the Church of the Brethren response. European churches and relief agencies already are addressing immediate needs of refugees traveling to surrounding countries. Churches in Poland and Hungary are receiving, feeding, and housing refugees from Ukraine.

The Church of the Brethren response will support partners such as Church World Service (CWS), the ACT Alliance, European Baptist Churches, or Mennonite groups. The response will focus on people and locations that are underserved and have the greatest need for aid.

To support the Ukraine Crisis Response, make an online donation at www.brethren.org/give-ukraine-crisis or mail a check to the Emergency Disaster Fund, Church of the Brethren, 1451 Dundee Ave., Elgin, IL 60120 and earmark for "Ukraine Crisis."

Quinter Brethren request prayer for partner congregation in Ukraine

Church of the Brethren Newsline

February 24, 2022

Quinter (Kan.) Church of the Brethren, which has a longstanding relationship with a partner congregation in Ukraine, is requesting prayer "for intervention for peace and safety and an end to the escalation of the situation." Quinter pastor Keith Funk shared the request in a telephone interview this afternoon. The partner congregation in the city of Chernigov, Ukraine, identifies as the "Church of the Brethren in Chernigov." It is pastored by Alexander Zazhytko.

Speaking with Zazhytko this morning, Funk learned that the shelling of the city of Chernigov began late last night, Ukraine time, and has continued today. In his last communication, received by Funk this afternoon,

Zazhytko said Russian troops are expected to enter the city within the hour.

"I don't know how much longer we can continue to communicate as Chernigov is being shelled," Funk said.

The Chernigov church was planted by the former Pleasant Hill Church of the Brethren in Pennsylvania, but for almost a decade the Quinter congregation has been maintaining the relationship with the Chernigov Brethren. Funk talks with Zazhytko on at least a weekly basis, after visiting the congregation in Ukraine in 2015 and welcoming their pastor on a visit to Western Plains District in 2016. It has been a relationship of prayer and communication and worshiping together as they are able. "It's been a really rich relationship," Funk said.

Chernigov is "not a good spot" right now, Funk said. It is located about an hour south of the Russia-Belarus border, between the border and the Ukraine capital city Kyiv.

Zazhytko and his family—including his wife, their three teenage/young adult children, and his parents—are taking shelter in their basement, and Funk supposes that most of the Chernigov Brethren are trying to do the same. The congregation numbers some 30 to 35 people.

Up until this crisis, Funk said the Chernigov congregation had been doing well and recently celebrated the purchase of a house that is being renovating into a meetinghouse. Zazhytko has told him that he and his family are not planning to flee: "He said, Keith this is my home, my family is here, my church is here, and I will not leave. I will stay."

Funk is grateful for general secretary David Steele's call to prayer for Ukraine, published on Tuesday, and added to it the request for prayer from the Chernigov Brethren. "Alex is saying, pray for us, please pray for us."

How can Brethren elsewhere in the world be supportive? With prayer, and simply by knowing that there are people in Ukraine who identify as Church of the Brethren and share the same faith and values. "More than anything, they're coveting our prayers right now," Funk said.