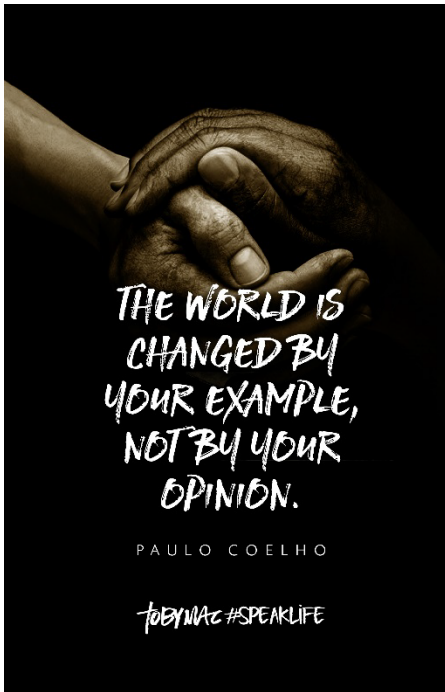




March 6th, 2024 #1,027

Being Witnesses

Acts 1.8, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." The quote "The world is changed by your example, not by your opinion," is a good commentary on the words of Jesus from Acts 1.8



It used to be that you had to have a talk radio or TV show to share your ideas and opinions with many people. In the day when newspapers were more popular and widely read, a person could write to the editor and their opinion might appear on the opinion / editorial page. But in our culture today, there are many platforms available for people to share their opinions. There are websites, Facebook, X, YouTube, TikTok, podcasts and many more. All kinds of people in all walks of life are sharing their opinions.

Sadly, contrary to the quote, there are people who make changes in their lives based upon an athlete or actor or politician's opinion on any given topic. But for the most part, most of us hold to the belief that "words are cheap" and it is "actions that speak louder than words." Opinions are one person's ideas or thoughts.

As Christ followers, we are called by Christ to be witnesses to the world through our example first and then **also** with our words. If our actions do not reflect Christ, we may never get the opportunity to say anything for Him. Our responsibility as Christ followers is to follow Christ's commands

to love God and to love our neighbor, especially those in the household of faith. Our examples of Christ love open the door and even become a catalyst for someone making changes in their lives. But in order to bring about lasting change, we will have to use the words of the Gospel. These words we use are not our opinions, but rather they are words of truth that come from the word of God.

And so, in this season of Lent, let us examine our example as true Christ followers. Are we imitating Christ to the best of our ability so that someone will ask us about the love and hope that we have in us.

In Christ Alone

GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER VIGIL

On Good Friday from 12:00 to 3:00 PM

- the sanctuary will be open for anyone to come and pray. Feel free to come and pray for as long as the Spirit leads you.



Prayer & Praises



- Bob Meck requests prayer for the family of Richard Stober. Richard went to be with the Lord Thursday evening after a long battle with cancer.
- Continue to pray for Victor Riddle's recovery from the blood clot that he has in his leg.
- Please pray for Rylie, 6 years old. Her parents are friends of Bill & Tricia O'Brien. She has been diagnosed with strep, but also has Kawasaki disease, so strep may cause additional side effects, so please keep her and her family in your prayers.
- Please pray for Doris Myer's neighbor Irene and her family and friends. Irene's husband passed away after a lengthy illness.
- Sandy Harlacker requested prayer for Keith Eisenhart. Keith is in the York Hospital and will have tests this week.
- Ellen Krause requested prayer for the family of Ray Neiman. Ray (Neiman's Garage & attended Bethany Church) passed away. Please keep his family in your prayers.
- Joyce Ilgenfritz passed away. (Jim Miller's Sister) Please pray for the family during this time.
- Sandy & Bob Billett requested prayer for the family of a friend, especially his wife. Gerald Waters passed away unexpectedly after a fall. Please pray for his wife and family during this time.
- Please pray for Ruth Cook. She is still struggling to maintain her heart rate, but has also lost her appetite. Please keep her in your prayers.

Ongoing Health Concern Prayers

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| *Kathy McWilliams | *Sarah Sabold (Smeltzer) | *Ken Warren | *Mary Fisher |
| *Alyssa Leakway | *Gloria Gerber | *Missy Braden | *Bryce Baublitz |
| *Julie Waggoner | *Bill Barley | *Brandon Little | *Derek Meck |
| *Josh (Bonnie Tyson's Grandson) | *Ruth Cook | *Victor Riddle | *Mark Lipsitz |

Cancer Special Prayers

- | | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| *Julia McCartney | *Greg & Sandy George | *Butch Warren's brother | *Ted Erb (Traci Kauffman family) |
| *Kathy McWilliams brother-in-law Phillip | *Tom Kimmel | *Bob (Ron Engle, friend) | |
| *Sandy Harlacker | *Ellie Basko | *Mark Yonker | *Keith Kauffman (Kerry Kauffman's brother) |
| *Jean Beck | *Donald Moore | *Butch Warren | |

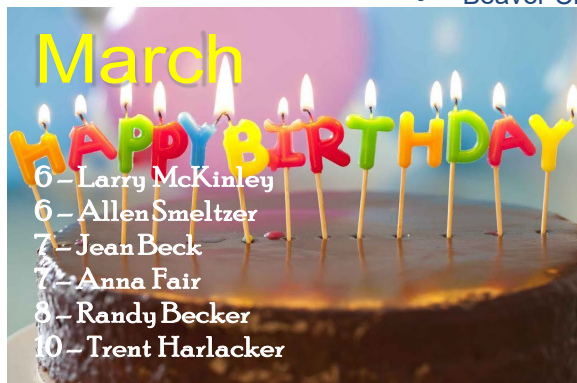
CBC and CBC Region 3 Prayer Requests

Weekly Prayer Point

- Continue to pray for the peace of Jerusalem and all Israel and for the 132 remaining Israeli hostages still held by Hamas from the October 7 attack to be released. Pray for wisdom for Israeli leaders and all world leaders and for all to know and recognize Jesus as Messiah and Savior.
- Pray also for God to provide a generous harvest at the God Loves You Evangelistic Crusade being conducted along the US southern border by Bro Franklin Graham and the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. It will continue through March 9. Pray for the Holy Spirit to move and convict all who have attended and who will attend and that many souls will be saved.

Please pray for the following congregations and pastors:

- Bashan Congregation in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Pastor Buturi Majeru Alphonse
 - Beaver Creek Congregation in Knoxville, TN and Pastor Jeff Jones





This week

Wednesday 3/6

- *Life Group 6:30 pm
- *Men's Vocal Practice 7:45 pm
- *Women's Choir Practice 7:45 pm

Sunday 3/10

- *9 am Come Worship!
- *Widows/Widowers Luncheon Noon

Monday 3/11

- *Open Gym Sports Kickball 6:30 pm

Tuesday 3/12

- *Commissions Meeting 6 pm
- *Board Meeting 7 pm

Next Week

Wednesday 3/13

- *Sisters Bible Study 9 am
- *Life Group 6:30 pm

Saturday 3/16

- *Men's Bible Study Breakfast 7 am

Sunday 3/17

- *9 am Come Worship!

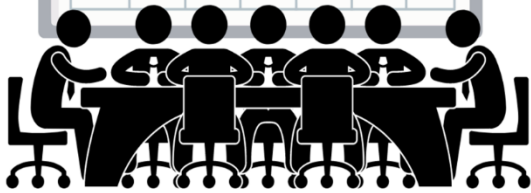
Monday 3/18

- *Open Gym Sports voted on 6:30 pm

Commission Meeting at 6 Pm

Board Meeting at 7 Pm

MARCH 12TH



**FREE OPEN GYM
SPORTS NIGHT OUTREACH**
From 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

March 11th Kickball

March 18th - the last night will be community choice which will be voted for on March 11.

There will be a Kids Zone where young children can play while their parents enjoy the sports activities for that night.

No registration is necessary, just show up. If you would be interested in helping to set up, tear down or help in the Kids Zone, contact Josh Stewart at 717-430-9243.

Joanne Miller will be having a **Bake Sale on Sunday, March 31st** to raise money for her upcoming IMO trip. Order forms are on the bulletin board. Orders can be picked up on Saturday, March 30th from 10:00-2:00. Joanne will be baking in the gathering place kitchen Wednesday, March 27 - Friday, March 29. Wednesday and Thursday from 8:00-4:00. Friday from noon to 4:00. Anyone interested in joining in the fun may stop by at any time for as short or long as they want.

HOLY THURSDAY SERVICE
Thursday, March 28th

Our service this year will be held in the sanctuary beginning at **7:00 PM**. It will be a combination of songs, hymns, scripture readings, a sermon and the celebration of the Lord's supper. The theme for this service is "A Time of Remembering."

IMO cofounders, Bola and Aimee Adebisi, will be visiting with us on Easter Sunday.

They will give a presentation during the Sunday school hour.

There will be NO Sunday school that morning. Come and hear what is happening with IMO!

Women's Fellowship
 is planning a spectacular event to support
Tender Care Pregnancy Center.

This year's event will be a
Baby Shower Tea
 on **April 6, 2024**
 from 11 am - 1:00 pm.

We hope every lady in the church will mark
 their calendars and plan to attend.

EASTER BERLIN:

Saturday, March 23rd: 11:00am
 East Berlin Community Park
 10,000 Easter Eggs, Free Lunches

Bermudian will provide Bibles, Prize Eggs, Games to
 win Prizes, and share "What's Happening" info about
 Bermudian.

*Volunteers will be needed to help set up, operate the
 display, and tear down.*

Age Groups for Eggs: 0 to 2; 3 to 5; 6 to 8; 9 to 12.

RAIN DATE: March 30th.



Widow and Widowers Luncheon

Sunday
March 10th
At Noon
At
Dover Valley
Restaurant

Please See Nancy
Smith to RSVP



Ruth's Harvest
 a cooperative ministry with the Abbottstown-East
 Berlin Food Pantry and Bermudian Springs School

**Furnishing food items for children with
 inadequate nutrition at home. March 20th**



COLLECTING AGAIN
Thank You for your faithful giving!

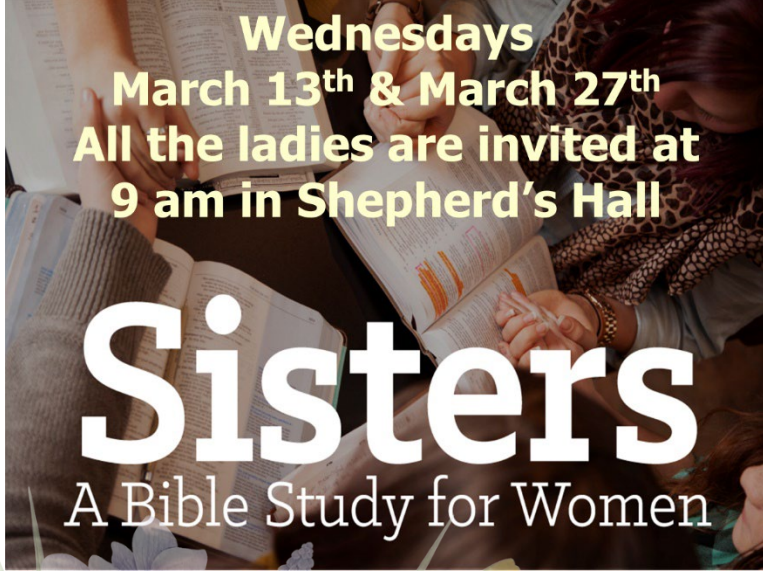
MEN'S
BREAKFAST

3rd Saturday each month
NEXT MEETING
March 16th, 7 am
Dover Valley Restaurant



Wednesdays
March 13th & March 27th
All the ladies are invited at
9 am in Shepherd's Hall

Sisters
 A Bible Study for Women



Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

