



## January 2015

### Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

8:00 am Traditional Service  
 9:15 Sunday School  
 10:30 Contemporary Service (child care provided)



**2015 Winter Semester Small Groups**  
**Beginning the week of January 11th**  
**Sign-up starting December 28th**

#### SUNDAYS

**2 to 4 p.m. 1814 Crazy Horse Drive, Lake Wynonah**

**Fire on the Mountain with Ray Vander Laan** – Hosted and led by the Svenson's. When the Israelites left Egypt, they were finally free. Free from persecution, free from oppression, and free to worship their God. But with that freedom comes a new challenge – learning how to live together the way God intends. Discover how God teaches the Israelites what it means to be part of a community that loves him and what that means for us today.

**6 to 7:30 p.m. 411 Stoney Run Road, Chestnut Hill**

**God Heard Their Cry with Ray Vander Laan** – Hosted and led by the Brooks'. Vander Laan illustrates how God answered the cry of the Israelites as they were persecuted in Egypt, and made himself known to both them and their oppressors. In ancient times, nothing was bigger than Egypt...powerful pharaohs, strong armies, and a multitude of gods. God's people were no match against the Egyptians. In this series discover how God answers the cry of his persecuted people and proclaims himself Lord to them and their oppressors.

#### WEDNESDAYS

**6:30 to 8 p.m. Café Room at church (childcare)**

**FOR WOMEN ONLY – Invisible War** – Led by Norma Minnich. Everyone is vulnerable to temptation but few know how to fight it. Each day we wake to a spiritual war that rages within us. If we expect to win the battle against temptation, it is critical that we know how to fight the predictable ways that Satan tempts us.

**6:30 to 8 p.m. Youth Room at church (childcare)**

**FOR MEN ONLY – 33 The Series: A Man and His Story**– Led by Pastor Jeff. The Series provides men with a biblical perspective of their "story." It equips them to embrace how their past has affected their present and prepares them to deal with whatever the future may hold. In A Man and His Story, both experts and regular guys will help men learn from their past, come alive in their present and enjoy God's best in the future.

#### SATURDAYS

**9 to 10:30 a.m. Bethesda @The Corner (Intersection 443/183)**

**Discovering the Mystery of Heaven - Radio talks by Dr. David Jeremiah** – Hosted and led by Marcia Schlosser. When it comes to heaven, you have questions; the Bible has answers. Heaven is mentioned more than 500 times in Scripture, for God wants us to envision and anticipate the place He's planning for His children. Based on a lifetime of studying the biblical doctrine of heaven, Dr. David Jeremiah provides answers to questions about our heavenly destination.

### FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT November 2014

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
Income	\$315,700.00	\$342,696.00	\$26,996.00
Expenses	\$318,847.00	\$312,800.00	6047.00
Reserves	\$2,291.00	\$20,000.00	\$17,709.00

\*Excludes building fund transfers

### New Adult Sunday School

**Opportunities**  
**Jan 4th - March 29th**  
**Gathering @ 9:15 am;**  
**Starting @ 9:30 am**



**# 1 Be Hopeful** - led by Connie Wright in the Library. A study of First Peter based on a book by Warren Wiersbe and other commentators. We can expect to suffer for our faith, but we can also be hopeful. God's grace is ours for the asking! Suffering in the will of God leads to the glory of God. We can prepare for the best of God's blessings rather than fear the worst of man's hatred.

**# 2 Living For Jesus** by Richard Dickey - led by Dean Boyer in the Café. In this class we will be developing an understanding of a worldview or map to show us how to live in the spiritual journey of life. Without a map we tend to wander and stumble along without a real purpose or sense of destiny. We will attempt to define success God's way using His scriptures for our practical day-to-day lives. Our hope is to examine ways God has provided to get closer to Jesus in our daily walk and to hear the words, "well done my good and faithful servant" is the ultimate success.

**December 7th – February 22nd**

**# 3 Acts of Worship** - led by a rotation of leaders in the sanctuary. Emphasis will be on... Psalms, Daniel, Matthew, Luke, John, Ephesians, Hebrews, and James



**What's For Dinner Wednesday**  
**January 21st**  
**Dinner served: 5:30 - 6:15 pm**

Menu: Pulled pork sandwiches, macaroni & cheese, and salad. Come enjoy the fellowship.  
 Adults \$3.00 Kids \$1.00 (Family cost \$10.00 max)  
 No need to sign-up.



Women's Winter Retreat  
March 27-29, 2015  
Speaker - Jennifer Sands Going  
UNDERCOVER....TO INVESTIGATE

*"Suffering Scripturally: The Motives and the Methods"*

Jennifer's teaching is based on Hebrews 11:1 - "Faith is the substance of things hoped for; the evidence of things not seen." She will talk about several reasons why God allows suffering in our lives ("the Motives") and how to deal with our suffering and trials in a Biblical way ("the Methods").

The retreat is located at Kenbrook Bible Camp in Lebanon, PA. it is approximately 25 minutes from the church. Various participation options are available. For more information please visit the Welcome Counter. Sign-up starting January 4th.

Every Monday 7:00 - 8:00 pm  
Bethesda @ The Corner  
(Rts. 183 & 443)



January 5 - Declutter Your Life  
January 12 - What Your Black Friend Wants You to Know  
January 19 - Breaking the Cycle of Sexual Abuse  
January 26 - Why Men Hate Church



January 11th & 25th  
1:30 - 3:30 pm Library

GriefShare is a support group for those who have lost a spouse, child, family member or friend. Video vignettes, group discussion, personal study, and reflection are part of healing. Call Paul at 570-294-0778 or Marcia Schlosser at 570-739-2889 for more information.

Every Tuesday @ the  
Corner 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Celebrate Recovery® is designed to help those struggling with hurts, hang-ups, and habits by showing them the loving power of Jesus Christ through the recovery process. The program is based on eight principles from the Beatitudes and the Twelve Steps (i.e. AA) and their biblical comparisons. A limitless number of issues can be dealt with through the program such as chemical addictions, overspending; anger; overeating; need to control; fear/anxiety and more! For more information, please call the church office.



Men's Monthly Fellowship Breakfast  
January 10th @ 8 am  
Friedensburg Country Restaurant (Rt 443)  
in Friedensburg. All men are welcome.  
There is no need to sign up.

JOY will NOT meet in January, stay tuned for  
February meeting details.....



Upcoming Events



Jan 4 - Regular Meeting  
Jan 11 - Regular Meeting  
Jan 16 - Encounter Retreat Weekend  
Jan 18 - No Meeting  
Jan 25 - Regular Meeting

Crochet Circle on January 12th & 26th  
at the home of Cheryl Bender.



**ENCOUNTER RETREAT 2015  
DISCERNMENT**

Camp Hebron, Halifax PA Open to Youth 6th Grade - College  
Friday, January 16th thru Sunday, January 18th Cost is  
\$125.00. For more information contact Dawn Koch.

A youth membership class will be starting on  
Saturday, January 24th thru March 21st at 10 am  
in the Library. The class is open to any students  
in 8th grade or above. Please see  
Pastor Jeff for more details.



Open to all students in Age 4 to 5th grade. Meets on  
Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Common  
Ground starting January 14th. Sign-up on-line or at the  
Welcome counter starting December 28th.

We will tentatively be welcoming a new family to  
Family Hope on January 4th. If you are interested  
in volunteering to clean the parsonage before they  
arrive, drive, or provide meals, please **signup at the  
Welcome Counter or online at [ww.bethesdaec.org/hope](http://ww.bethesdaec.org/hope).**  
Questions? Contact Steve Svenson or Pastor Mark.



Thank you for all who donated non-perishable foods for  
our **Sunday School Food Drive!** All items will be  
donated to the Schuylkill Haven Food Bank.

All articles for events held during February 1st through March 4th,  
should be submitted by the **12th of January** in order to be  
included in our **February issue**. Please do your best to  
get your information in on time. Thank you!

A copy of this newsletter can also be found on-line.

Bethesda's **Mommy and Me** time is a weekly  
playdate time where Mommy's (Daddys,  
Grandparents or other Caretakers) can come  
socialize while the little ones have fun playing  
together and burning energy. **Mommy and Me**  
meets every Monday in the Nursery from 10:00-11:00am.



## PRAYER CONCERNS

January 2015

Please Note – All prayer concerns will be listed for one month and then removed. If you would like your prayer concern to be continued longer than a month, you must contact the church office or Pastor Mark. Thank you!

### Personal

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Louie Blankenhorn (cancer)  
Cody Carr (kidneys)  
Emma Chero (nonresponsive)  
Irene Conway (cataracts)  
Alice Corby (recovery)  
Bob Degler (recovery)  
Amber Dewire (eye)  
Mike Diamond (recovery)  
Brian Ditzler (recovery)  
Amanda Ewing (paralysis)  
Amy Hoffman (recovery)  
Heidi Irwin (recovery)  
Eleanor Jamison (recovery)  
Jerry Knauf (treatment)  
Martha Koenig (recovery)  
Dennis Lauffer (shingles)  
Rose Linzell (aneurysm)  
Bill Leymeister (transplant)  
Sandy Long (recovery)  
Manny Lopez (recovery)  
Charlotte McDonald (cancer)  
Mariah Nabholz (recovery)  
Dolly Natale (comfort)  
Amber Pavalko (recovery)  
Mary Rhen (blood pressure)  
Joe Schies (cancer)  
Marcia Schlosser (cancer)  
Alan Veppert (recovery)  
Flo Walton (pain)

### Shut-ins

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Margaret Bender  
Dorothy Blankenhorn  
Bert Heydt  
Virginia Hoover  
Edith Houtz  
Martha Koenig

### Military

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Josh Behler (Air Force)  
Keith Drummer (FBI)  
Tosha Fegley (Air Force)  
Brandon Huntzinger (Army)  
Benjamin Kilmer (National Guard)  
Adam Lawler (Army)  
Luke Long (National Guard)  
Luke Long, Jr. (National Guard)

Patsy Weaver (cancer)  
Hilda Yeager (recovery)

### Family

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Mary Brooks family (loss)  
Tyler Cochran (birth)  
Carol Crum family (loss)  
Perkins family (recovery)  
Bonnie Richards family (loss)  
Maria Stine Family (loss)  
Donna Troutman family (loss)  
Harry Young family (loss)

### Congregational

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Blue Mtn & Sch. Haven School Districts  
Backpack Programs  
Celebrate Recovery  
Family Hope  
Griefshare Ministry  
Lifetree Café  
Prison Ministry  
PSP Troop L - Frackville, Schuylkill  
Haven & Jonestown

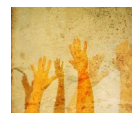
Ardith Luckenbill  
M. Jean Luckenbill  
Hazel Minnich  
Jim Strouse

Jessica Nabholz (Army)  
Nicole Perkins (Army)  
Thomas Perkins (Army)  
Joseph Renninger (Army Reserve)  
Steven J Russell-Rhen (Army)  
Zach Siple (Coast Guard)  
Jake Stoudt (Air Force)  
Joe Sweigart (Army)

### Local, National and Global

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Church Health, Church Planting,  
Leadership, Evangelism, and  
Discipleship  
Connie Wright, CEF, Schuylkill County  
E.C. Church of Liberia, Ebola Outbreak  
President Barack Obama  
Rev. Bruce Hill, Bishop  
US Military Forces



#### Community Prayer Ministry

Sunday, Jan 25th at 6:15 pm  
@ the Corner



#### Prayer Meeting

Join us in the  
Library at  
Wednesdays at  
7:30 pm to pray for  
the needs of our community  
and congregation.



COMMUNION  
do this in  
remembrance of me

January 4th