

# THE BETHLEHEM EXPERIENCE

*From the Fallen to Forgiven*

December 8, 2024

2:00-4:00 Walk Through  
Begins at Berlin Community Building  
700 North St. Berlin, PA

5:30 PM – 8:00 PM Drive Through  
Begins at Berlin Brethren Church

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## **December 6-8 - Locking Arms Men's Retreat** **Camp Peniel - Meyersdale, Pennsylvania**

Theme Verse: "Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves." Romans 12:9-10

**Cost: \$140 for two nights, 5 meals and a camp shirt OR \$110 for one night, 4 meals and a camp shirt.**

Retreat includes: Stu Hayes & the Locking Arms Worship Band, Speakers to be announced later.

**Register at: <https://lockingarmsmen.org/events/locking-arms-mens-retreat-december-6-8/>**

*A portion of registration fee goes to support retreat scholarships for teen men from Pittsburgh area*

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## **LAUREL HIGHLANDS CHORALE CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

under the direction of Jan Burkett and Rick Showers will be presented Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 PM and Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM at the Somerset Church of the Brethren. Tickets are \$5 and available at the door or by contacting Norman Menhorn or Rick Showers.

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## **GLADE ONE-ROOM SCHOOL HOUSE HISTORIC CHRISTMAS TOURS**

Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 PM, 7:15 PM & 8:00 PM

Parking at Unity UCC~ 2074 Huckleberry Highway, Berlin, PA



Pastor Tom Sprowls, Jr.  
Youth Pastor Luke Dowdy  
**December 1, 2024**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**BERLIN BRETHERN CHURCH HAS GONE LIVESTREAM**

**FOR OUR 8:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE**

**Go to [YouTube.Com](https://www.youtube.com) and search**

**"BerlinBrethrenChurch"**

**Webpage is....[berlinbrethren.org](http://berlinbrethren.org)**

Office Hours this week ~ Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday  
8 AM – 1 PM

Office # 267-3863 ~ email ~ [berlinbrethren@comcast.net](mailto:berlinbrethren@comcast.net)

**Please Remember: The Sunday morning Messages**  
**can be found on the Berlin Brethren Facebook page**

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**NURSERY** is located in the basement. There are no attendants in the nursery but please feel free to take you child to the nursery.

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**\*NO KID'S KORNER TODAY!!** (ages 2½ - 5) ~ Kid's Korner is **now upstairs** in the church during our 8:30 AM service. Today's leader is Carol Lehman. No one is signed up for next Sunday. Volunteers needed! **\*Sign-up sheet is posted on the Information Bulletin Board.**

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**WELCOME to The Berlin Brethren Church.** We are honored that you have joined us for worship today. If you would be so kind to take a few minutes and complete the Visitor Card in the back of the pew (or it may be found on our Information Table) and place it in the offering plate it would be appreciated.

**\*Also, included on the card is a space for anyone wishing to submit a prayer request. These too can be placed in the offering plate and will be transferred to the Golden Bowl to be lifted up in prayer.**

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Prayer request cards are in the pew rack or on the Information Table. If you have a prayer concern, please fill out and place in the "Golden Bowl".

**8:30 AM**

**INFORMAL WORSHIP**

Opening Songs

Advent Candle ~ Jason & Jill Peck

Message~ "Why The Christ Child?"

Scripture – Isaiah 7:14; 53:1-12

**GREETERS/USHERS**

Today's 8:30 AM Greeters~ Jodi, Sara Janidlo

Today's 8:30 AM Ushers ~ Darin, Brady, Carson, Ryan Janidlo

Today's 10:30 AM Greeters ~ Diane Landis, Ellis Kimmel

Next Sunday's 8:30 AM Greeters ~ Dee VanGilder, Rita Shaulis

Next Sunday's 8:30 AM Ushers~Keith Hoover, JasonPeck,

Cooper Huston

Next Sunday's 10:30 AM Greeters ~ Greg & Doretta Gardner

**10:30 AM SERVICE**

Prelude..... Variations on "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Advent Candle.....Derek & Jennifer Hoyman, Noah & Micah Gilmore

Hymn #124..... "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Opening Prayer.....Pastor Tom

Choir Anthem..... "Carol for Advent"

Offering..... "The Wexford Carol"

Doxology.....

Message..... "Why The Christ Child?" .....Pastor Tom

Scripture.....Isaiah 7:14; 53:1-12

Closing Hymn #123..... "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Closing Prayer.....Pastor Tom

Postlude.....Fanfare on "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

\*Please stand if able



**Abundance ~ the word the Lord gave to Alisha this year for OCC.** What an abundance we had as our church collected **518 shoeboxes this year!!** Thanks to **YOU** the congregation of the church.

On Monday morning **1,078 shoeboxes** left our church for Kingwood and then on to Baltimore, Maryland. All those boxes equaled 66 shipping cartons!

Thank you to the Deacons, Deb Sprowls and Trail Life for packing 200 boxes and to you the congregation for your donations every month and to those who organized and separated the donations ~ the American Heritage Girls packed 123 shoeboxes from your donations!

Thank you to Rick Showers for assembling all the shoeboxes! Thanks to Mary Ann Showers for making handmade washcloths and hats and Jane Maust for making tote bags! Your talents are greatly appreciated.

Huge thanks to my loading crew ~ Dan & Carter Black, Rick Showers and Jason Huston. Special 'thanks' to my buddy Carter Black☺ Big thank you to Jason Huston for the use of his truck and trailer and for transporting all the shoeboxes to Kingwood!

This week was a little hard for me without Dale but I made it through with lots of prayers.

I know I probably missed someone with a 'thank you' and I apologize. I truly appreciated all the hands that made OCC a success this year!

*God bless you all,  
Mary Margaret Werner*

**Offering 11/17/24**

Regular \$6,637.00

Specials 1,573.50

Capital 1,550.00

**Total \$ 9,760.50**

**Capital \$796,679.79**

**Offering 11/24/24**

Regular \$5,985.00

Specials 1,729.60

Capital 851.00

**Total \$ 8,565.00**

**Capital \$797,530.79**

## PRAYER CONCERN LIST

<i>Name</i>	<i>Request/Concern</i>	<i>Progress/Answer</i>
Ken Baker	Prostate cancer	Chemo treatments ~prayers for healing
Rena Berkey ~friend of Louise Hillegass	Dr. found a mass on her kidney	Prayers for healing and comfort
Travis Black	Chemo treatments	Continued prayers
Mildred Deem	Bone cancer	Chemo shot & pills
Paul Grew	Multiple Myeloma has pain	Home! Continuing treatments ~Prayers for Paul & Dottie
*Fred Hickman	Heart attack and is having gall bladder issues ~Care to send a card: 701 Division St., Berlin	Home!! Continue prayers for strength & healing.
Hazel Hillegas	Fell & broke her hip	Home ~prayers for healing and strength
*Family of Katie Histing	Passing of Katie after a 6 yr. battle of cancer	Please keep the family in prayer
Joann Kimmel	Pneumonia	Home! Continued prayers
*Dave Koontz ~brother of Gary	End stage of his battle with cancer	Being moved to 24 hr care facility
*Gary Koontz	Safe travel to Texas to see his brother Dave	Prayers for strength during his visit
Alexis Lewis ~ daughter of Randy & Wanda Bussard	Breast cancer surgery 6/24	Currently going through series of immunotherapy treatments
Brooks May ~Missi Griffith's father	Larynx cancer ~had his voice box removed	Praise his cancer is gone!!
JoAnne Smith	Cancer has returned	Prayers for Dr.'s wisdom for treatment plan and healing
Kimberly Wicknick- friend of Louise Hillegass	Liver cancer and spot on the lung	Treatments~prayers for complete healing
Rick Work ~friend of Rick Kimmel	Glaucoma	Upcoming procedure to correct the problem

**ADULT BELL CHOIR will practice Wednesday at 6:30 PM.**

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**VOCAL CHOIR will practice Wednesday at 7:30 PM.**

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**YOUTH BELLS will not practice today.**

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**NO YOUTH this evening.**

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**THRIFT SHOPPE will be having a \$5.00 BAG SALE during the month of December. They will close on Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup> and reopen in March!**

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**HEARTS & HANDS MINISTRY will meet Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the church.**

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**BERLIN FOOD PANTRY'S "SANTA'S WORKSHOP" DONATIONS of "NEW" clothing 6 months – 14 yrs, toys,**

**games, books, etc.** may be dropped off at the Food Pantry on Wednesday mornings from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. You may also make a monetary donation ~make your check to *The Berlin Food Pantry* and in the memo line put "*Santa's Workshop*"! Donations may be put in the offering plate or taken to Somerset Trust Company. Contact the church office for additional questions.

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**Trail Life Fruit Basket Fundraiser**

Trail Life is selling Fruit Baskets to help raise money for camp-outs and supplies.

**Fruit Baskets: \$20 each**

Pick-up: Saturday, December 14th at 10AM in the church basement

**Order Form is on the Information Bulletin Board.**

Thank you for your support!

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**2025 FLOWER CALENDAR is posted on the Information Bulletin Board.** Please remember that the church is no longer ordering the flowers. Each person may choose wherever he/she may want to order from as the costs are different with each floral shop. If you have questions, please contact the church office (814-267-3863).

“Why The Christ Child?”

Isaiah 7:14; 53:1-12

December 1, 2024

message notes

### **Student Ministry News**

We are postponing Youth and FaithWeavers on December 8<sup>th</sup>. Both groups will meet again December 15<sup>th</sup>. Also, reminder that our bowling Christmas party is scheduled for December 22<sup>nd</sup> at Terrace Lanes in Somerset, 6-7:30pm! All students are welcome to join. Transportation is on your own, so we'll see you there.



Stay Connected  
with  
Alive Student Ministries

Join the TeamReach Group  
Download the TeamReach App  
Use code: AliveSM