

Whisperings



Contents

Pastor Scott 1-2

Out and About 3

Sermon Series 4

Office Notes 5

Meetings & News 6-7

Hope Events 8-12

Upcoming Events 13-17

Our Saints 18-19

Our Veterans 20

Adult SS Classes 21-22

Hope Preschool 23-24

Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Remembered with Love ... 25

Thank you Notes 26

Wild Church 27

Donations & Assistance... 28

Clyde’s Nature Note 29

Thanksgiving Search 30

■ ■ ■ A Word from Pastor Scott

A Thanksgiving Reflection: The Gift of Community

Dear Beloved Church Family,

As we gather to celebrate this season of Thanksgiving, I am reminded of the words of one of our cherished parishioners: “I have all the tools you will ever need.” This simple yet profound statement came to me after a long night of home repairs, and it echoed the heart of our community—one that is built on generosity, love, and unwavering support.

In those moments of need, when challenges feel overwhelming, it is often our fellow believers who step in, reflecting the love of Christ in tangible ways. Just as Philippians 4:19 assures us, “My God shall supply all of your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus,” we are blessed to have each other, to lift one another up.

I think of the three remarkable men from our church who offered their time, talents, and tools, even amid their own struggles. One of them, battling illness, still found the strength to guide us through a project that felt insurmountable. Their willingness to help reminded me that true friendship is not just about being present during good times; it’s about showing up when it matters most.

— CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Hope United Methodist Church

3474 Rothsville Road, Ephrata, PA 17522 (717) 738-3774

hopeumc@ptd.net ■ www.hopeumcephrata.org ■

www.facebook.com/hopeumcephrata

Worship 10 a.m. ■ Sunday School 11:15 a.m.

Generosity begets generosity. When we give without expectation, we enter into a beautiful cycle of blessings that enriches our lives and the lives of those around us. Our Lord, who owns everything—including “the cattle upon a thousand hills” (Psalm 50:10)—is ever faithful in meeting our needs. Jesus reassures us in Matthew 6:25, 32 that we need not worry; our heavenly Father knows what we need.

As we reflect on the spirit of Thanksgiving, let us remember the call of the Apostle Paul in Galatians 6:2: “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ.” This law is simple yet profound: to love one another as Christ loves us (John 13:34-35). The acts of kindness and service we share create a rich tapestry of fellowship that mirrors the community described in Acts 2, where believers gathered, shared, and supported one another with glad hearts.

I find myself praying, “Lord, do it again in our churches!” May we open the floodgates of heaven and experience blessings beyond measure (Malachi 3:10). My challenge for each of us this Thanksgiving is to exercise our faith, believing in the impossible in our families, our church, our community, and our world.

As one of these wonderful men reminded me, “I want you to spend more time with me.” I believe this is the invitation of our Heavenly Father to each of us. Let us embrace this call to deeper connection, love, and service. Together, we can create a vibrant community that reflects His love in all we say and do.

This Thanksgiving, let us give thanks for each other—the gifts of friendship, support, and love that God has woven into the fabric of our lives. May our hearts be filled with gratitude, and may we continue to carry each other’s burdens with joy.

With heartfelt thanks,



Pastor Scott



► **Out and About:**

Pastor Scott believes, "Opportunity is everywhere for true mission and evangelism." His faith and spirit guides him to get 'out and about' in the community. Each month we highlight some of his recent ministries.

Pastor Scott and Frank Widder - October 24



City Gate - Ephrata - October 29



If you would like to suggest a future 'Out and About' segment for the Whisperings, contact Pastor Scott at (267) 467-4027 or email hopeumcpastorscott@gmail.com.

► **SERMON SERIES:**

“MAINTAINING FOCUS”

November 3 Part 5 - All Saints Sunday - No Loopholes

..... Mark 12:28-34

November 10 Part 6 - Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost - Motivation

..... Mark 12:38-44

November 17 Part 7 - Twenty-Sixth Sunday After Pentecost - Follow The Right Leader

..... Mark 13:1-8

November 24 Part 8 - Reign of Christ Sunday - King Jesus

..... Matthew 6:25-33



Office Notes

Office Closed - November 28 and November 29
Happy Thanksgiving!

FOR A USEFUL CALENDAR

Please fill out the yellow forms on the Administrative Assistant's desk to schedule meetings.

UPDATES

Please inform the church office whenever you set your next meeting date or select your next book or topic for your Sunday school or study. Thank you!

DEADLINES

Please submit all items for the bulletin by **12 p.m. Thursdays** and by the **15th of the month** for the next Whisperings.

FLOWERS & BULLETINS

Contact Sandy Muckle if you want to sponsor altar flowers less than a week in advance.

You may share an altar flower order with a friend, so that each person keeps one bouquet of flowers after the service and the total price still equals \$50. Two dedications may go in the bulletin.

Sponsor Flowers - \$50.00

Available: November 3, 10 and 17

Sponsor Bulletins - \$10.00

Available: November 10, 17 and 24

CAN WE HELP?

For financial assistance, please contact Don Miller at (610) 858-9958

Please notify the office of any changes to your contact information.

Hope UMC Staff and Office Hours

Pastor: Rev. Scott Dorn

Administrative Assistant: Laura Luciano

Director of Music: Lisa Helock ■ Organist: Dave Luck ■ Sexton: Doreen Deamer

Tuesday - Friday ■ 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

News and Meetings

One Great Year of Sharing

Power Packs

We collected a total of **\$849.00**. Thank you!

Offering Envelopes

Envelopes will only be available in the basket in the Sanctuary. Please remember to identify your giving by **writing your name on the envelope**. Using envelopes is a big help for our Financial Secretary, Amy Trella. Thank You!

Praise and Prayer Cards

Praise and prayer cards are now back in the pews. Thank you!

Attendance Registration

Hope has reintroduced attendance registration. Please register your attendance in the booklet placed on a table in the lobby. This will be made available every Sunday. Thank you.

November Dates

- 1 All Saints' Day
- 3 All Saints' Sunday
Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 5 Election Day
- 10 Operation Christmas
Child Deadline
- 11 Veterans Day
- 15 December/January Newsletter
Deadline
- 17 Fellowship Sunday
- 24 Servant Stage Christmas Show
- Christmas Crooners
- 28 Thanksgiving Day - Office Closed**
- 29 Office Closed**

Weekly Events

Bells of Hope

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.
Sanctuary

Senior Choir

Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m.
Choir Room

Women's Book & Bible Study

Thursdays at 10 a.m.
Wide Awake Room 221

Men of Hope

Fellowship Hall
(First Friday of each month is at Gus's restaurant.)

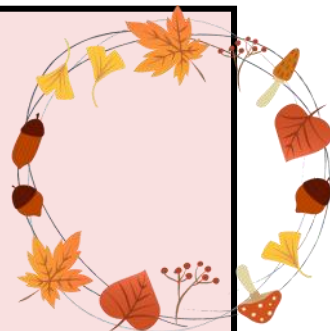
Church Administration Meetings

All meetings are at 6:30 p.m. unless specified.

Trustees - Monday, November 4

Finance - Tuesday, November 12 at 7 p.m.

Church Council - Tuesday, November 19



Notice

The November newsletter deadline will be for a December and January newsletter. Thank you.

Fellowship Sunday

(the 3rd Sunday each month)

Please donate snacks/drinks to share with your fellow worshipers.

November 17

December 15

Announcement from the SPRC Committee

Dear Congregation, The SPRC would like to encourage us all to show appreciation to our staff. We will continue this in the month of November. It is our Sexton, Doreen Deamer's turn. To show our appreciation, there will be a basket in the lobby to collect small tokens for Doreen. These tokens may be notes of thanks or encouragement, small gift cards, small snacks, sunshine gift items and anything else you'd like to put in the basket. Doreen will get the basket at the end of November. Thank you.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox

Wednesday, October 23 - Sunday, November 10

We will be participating in this annual mission project of Samaritan's Purse. Now might be a good time to start shopping for items to fill a box or two. Shoeboxes are now available in the lobby and are due back by **Sunday, November 10**. Any questions, see Sandy Schmid or visit www.samaritanspurse.org.



Hurricane Relief Collection

From November 3 through January 31, we will be collecting donations to support those affected by the hurricanes in Florida, Georgia, and North Carolina. You can contribute by placing your donations in the jar or including them in your weekly or monthly giving. Please remember to mark your envelopes accordingly. Thank you for your generosity and for keeping others in your thoughts.

Election Day

Tuesday, November 5

Hope Church is a Polling Place and the polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Stewardship Campaign Celebratory Lunch - Sept. 29



Harvest Home - October 20



Family Fall Fest - October 19



Family Fall Fest - October 19



Serving Lunch at City Gate - Ephrata - October 26



Serving Lunch at City Gate - Ephrata - October 26





CRAFTS, HOMEMADE ITEMS & BAKED GOODS SALE



November 16 - 10am -12pm

**HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3474 ROTHVILLE ROAD - EPHRATA**

**THIS SALE IS AN INITIATIVE WHERE INDIVIDUALS CAN
SELL THEIR HANDMADE/HOMEMADE ITEMS, SUCH AS
CRAFTS, DESSERTS, AND OTHER CREATIONS.**

**PARTICIPANTS HAVE TWO OPTIONS FOR HANDLING THE
PROCEEDS:**

- 1. COST RECOVERY AND DONATION: SELLERS CAN KEEP
THE AMOUNT THAT COVERS THEIR PRODUCTION
COSTS AND DONATE THE REMAINING PROFITS TO
HOPE.**
- 2. FULL DONATION: SELLERS CAN CHOOSE TO DONATE
ALL THEIR PROFITS DIRECTLY TO HOPE.**

**THIS PROJECT ALLOWS PARTICIPANTS TO SHARE THEIR
TALENTS WHILE SUPPORTING A GOOD CAUSE.**

**A SIGN-UP SHEET IS ON A TABLE IN THE LOBBY IF YOU
WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE.**

ALL PROCEEDS TO GO TOWARD HOPE UMC!

PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH CHICKEN POT PIE



SALE

\$10

 A QUART

PICK UP DATE: SATURDAY, NOV. 16

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

ORDER FORM IS IN THE LOBBY • ORDERS DUE NOV. 10

**PAYMENT SHOULD BE MADE TO EITHER SANDY MUCKLE
OR LAURA LUCIANO ON OR BEFORE NOV. 10**

SPONSORED BY THE FELLOWSHIP EVENT PLANNING COMMITTEE



SERVANT STAGE

PROUDLY PRESENTS



Christmas CROONERS

Get ready to be enchanted by a heartwarming and nostalgic revue show that will transport you to the golden age of holiday classics. From timeless renditions of beloved carols to modern twists on traditional favorites, Christmas Crooners promises an unforgettable journey through the joys and wonders of the holiday season, leaving you with memories to cherish long after the final note fades into the crisp winter night.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 7PM

**HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3474 ROTHSVILLE RD. EPHRATA, PA 17522**



SERVANT
STAGE

ALL SHOWS PAY-WHAT-YOU-WILL
FOR MORE INFORMATION
VISIT SERVANTSTAGE.ORG OR CALL 717-455-0255

CITY GATE GALA

The Gala will be held on Saturday, November 2 from 4-7:30 p.m. at DOVE Westgate Church, 1755 West Main Street, Ephrata.

Visit www.citygatelanaster.com for more information.



Planning Ahead - December

▶ **Poinsettia Sales** - Due Date - TBD



▶ **Hanging of the Greens** - Date and Time - TBD

▶ **Christmas Cards - Homebound** - Date - TBD

▶ **Giving Tree** - Date - TBD

▶ **Savor The Season's Dinner** - Saturday, December 7 at 6 p.m.

▶ **Christmas Eve Service** - Tuesday, December 24 at 7 p.m.

▶ **Candlelight Service** - Tuesday, December 24 at 7 p.m.

REMEMBERING OUR SAINTS

NOV. 2023 ~ NOV. 2024

Jim O'Meara	November 3	Friend of Tim Sumner
Kiev Waterson	November 14	Friend of Sandy Muckle
Elaine Hollenbach	November 18	Aunt of Nicole Dorn
Timothy Myers	December 2	Son in Law of Ray & Gale Martin
Julio Luciano	December 6	Cousin of Tony and Pastor Luciano
Nancy Rodman	December 7	Sister of Dick Rodman
Lorraine Wert	January 4, 2024	† Member
Duane Brickley	January 7, 2024	Father of Karen McNamara
Frank Golden	January 28	Son-in-law of June Kohl
Angela Filer	February 12	Wife of Jack Filer
Clara Ruth	February 12	Aunt of Ivy Texter
Reed Snyder	February 14	Brother-in-law of Donna Snyder
Delores Stover	March 1	Best friend of Marie Lindberg
Carlos Luciano	March 5	Cousin of Tony and Pastor Luciano
Susie	March 24	Marie Lindberg's Sister-in-Laws Friend
Lila Hackman	March 29	† Member
George Dvorscak	March 29	Uncle of Paul Trella
Angus Hachkowski	April 6	Brother of Tony Hachkowski
Shanan Shortuse	April 8	Friend of Judy Hachkowski
Keith Eckert	May 1	Son of Dennis & Cheryl Eckert
Rudolph Scalzetti	May 4	Friend of Laura Luciano
Marge	May 27	Friend of Martha Smith

REMEMBERING OUR SAINTS

NOV. 2023 ~ NOV. 2024

John J. Graberitz	June 17	Grandfather of Nicole Dorn
Peter Schorr	June 21	Owner of the Retreat Behavioral Health Facility in Lancaster County
Dennis Lapp	July 5	Son in Law of Marie Hassell
Bill Ulrich	June 22	Owner of the Udder Choice in Ephrata
Helen Ludke	July 29	Friend of Judy Hachkowski
Dorothy Romig	August 6	† Member
Erin Wenk	August 13	Niece of Janet Wenk
Violetta	August 30	Mother of Viola Pitman
Jean Antoniu	September 27	Aunt of Tony Hachkowski
Beryl Dyer	October 1	Brother-in-Law of Len Fake
Marjorie Westwood	October 1	† Member

Veterans Day - We Thank Our Vets!



ARMY

NATIONAL GUARD

Vernon Bear
Specialist
1955-1963



Larry Bickhart
Corporal 1962-1965



John Boyer
Tec 4 1946-1947



Eli Lapp



Steve Smith
Captain 1985-1995



Scott Dorn
Paratrooper 1994-1996

NAVY



Jack Smith
Machinist Mate 1952-1956



Bill Peters
Fireman 1953-1955



Jerry Gerhart
Radarman 3rd Class
1953-1957



Ron Lindberg
Boiler Technician 3rd Class
1963-1967



Bruce Tucker
Fire Control Technician
1967-1973



John Seifert
Aviation Metal Smith and
Aviation Store Keeper 1975
-1979

Adult Sunday Schools & Studies

Seekers - Bruce Tucker

Sundays 11:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Studying *What Happens Next* by Max Lucado

Think about the end times through eyes of faith - not fear.

What Happens Next Bible Study guides you to view the future with eyes of faith to see history moving closer to a new era that ushers in a heavenly destiny. No matter what we see going on around us economically, politically, socially or otherwise, Jesus has already promised us that The Father has an intentional plan. We can have a deep-seated confidence that he is firmly on his throne and the future is in his hands. Believers can live with the reassurance that whatever happens in this life, the Lord is ultimately sovereign.

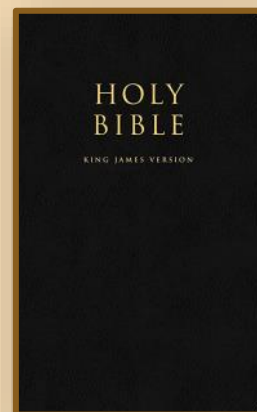


The Way - (a name given to the earliest followers/disciples of Jesus) - Rev. Kevin Readman

Sundays 11:15 a.m. in the Conference Room (Room 226)

Starting October 27, we will begin conversations about Bible Study methodology or "how-to". Our resource will be "Learning to Study The Bible" by LJ Zimmerman.

Questions and request for a book should go to Kevin Readman at kevin_readman@yahoo.com or 717-203-8452 or in person. All are invited and welcome for whatever weeks you are able to participate. Let us grow in spirit and knowledge together.

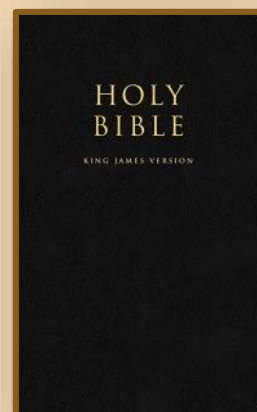


Wide Awake - Melissa Readman

Sundays 11:15 a.m. in Room 221

Studying *Adult Bible Studies - Forming our Identity*.

All are welcome!



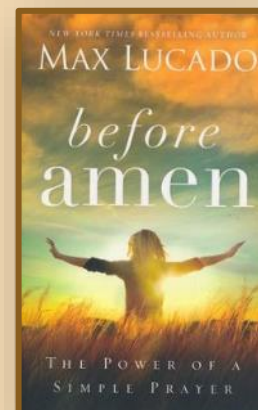
Men of Hope Book & Bible Study

Fridays at 7:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

(First Friday of each month is at Gus's Restaurant)

Studying ***Before Amen*** by Max Lucado.

Do you wish you prayed more---with more fire, faith, and fervency? Embarking on a journey to the very heart of biblical petition, Lucado explores the quotable, repeatable, portable prayer that Jesus gave his first followers when they struggled with this spiritual discipline. Discover how to have a heartfelt dialogue with God---and let the conversation begin!



Monday Night Bible Study - Bruce Tucker

Mondays at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room (Room 226)

Studying ***Recovery Road*** by Andy Stanley

Unemployment is up. Stocks are down. And everybody's pointing fingers. If you are like most Americans, you're wondering what's going on in Washington. And you're probably wondering what you're supposed to do while you wait for somebody to fix things. Well, here's an idea. What if we don't wait around for somebody else? What if we go ahead and start fixing it ourselves? What if *We the People* tried to get this country on the road to recovery? Sound like a good idea? Then you're ready for *Recovery Road*.

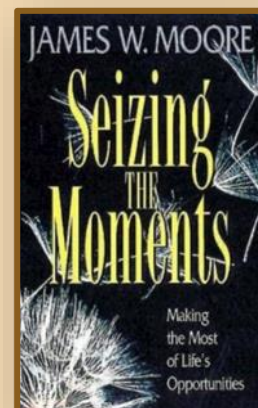


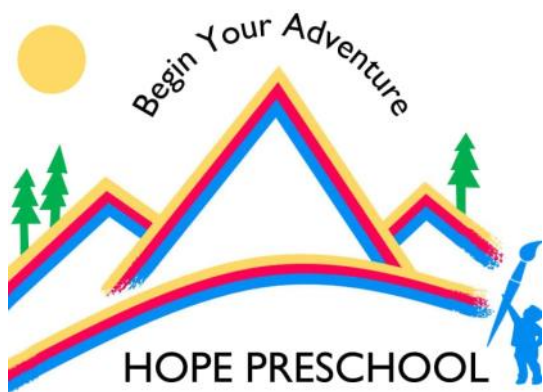
Women's Book & Bible Study - Sandy Schmid

Thursdays at 10 a.m. in Room 221

Studying ***Seizing the Moments*** by James Moore

Readers will appreciate Moore's distinctive style as he relates stories, anecdotes, and examples of people who learned to "seize moments" -- who turned opportunities and treasured moments into realized dreams. Each chapter features a related passage of Scripture. Readers will discover encouragement and guidance for better living as they find themselves becoming more courageous, more willing to "seize the moments", and more aware of God's grace.





► Hope Preschool Prattle

Brrrrr..... There's definitely a chill in the air and Fall has arrived!

The children have been busy making colorful leaves, pumpkins are everywhere and apples have been an exciting unit of study for all of the children. They tasted all the different colors of apples and voted on their favorites, they had apple nachos for snack, and even painted with

apples. The Pre-K classes went on a field trip to Brecknock Orchard where they enjoyed a wagon ride, pumpkin and apple picking and a snack. Later in the month, a pumpkin was purchased for each child in the school and the teachers each came up with fun ways for them to decorate their pumpkin.

October is also Fire Prevention month, and we were blessed to have the Akron Fire Company come out and talk to the classes about fire safety and give them a tour of their firetruck. Of course this was a very exciting day for the children!

On October 30 and 31 we held Trunk or Treat events. We had a huge response from parents with over 20 families participating each day. The children all had a great time, and the cars were all decorated in such fun ways.

November promises to be just as busy but shorter with the start of the holiday season at Thanksgiving. The children and staff will enjoy a well-deserved break.

Our R&K Sub Fundraiser has begun and there is an order form in the lobby. The profits this year will go towards purchasing more mulch for the playground. Delivery is November 6.

Thank you so much for your support.

Blessings!

Mrs. B



Pre School Pictures



November Birthdays

- 1 Evie Shaar
- 3 Brady Hackman
- 4 Polly Spangler
- 5 Craig Beamesderfer
- 7 Dana Deamer
Brad Kreider
- 10 Ainsley Voshell
- 12 Cole Brobst
- 14 Holly Fake
Len Fake
- 16 Judy Hachkowski
- 20 Sue Fisher
- 26 Vernon Bear
- 28 Daniel Deamer
Marilyn Rodman
- 30 Andrew Overly

CARD SHOWER

November Anniversaries

- 14 Len & Holly Fake celebrate 27 years together!
- 21 Terry & Bonnie Seidel celebrate 43 years together!

Early December Anniversaries

- 20 Bruce & Barbara Tucker celebrate 55 years together!

CARD SHOWER

Birthday & Anniversary Card Showers

Birthday milestones are: 16, 21, 80, 90, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, +.

Anniversary milestones are: 25, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, +.

A card shower may also be by special request.

Remembered with Love

September 27

Jean Antoniu - aunt of Tony Hachkowski

October 1

Beryl Dyer - brother-in-law of Len Fake

Marjorie Westwood - Member

Early December Birthdays

- 2 Donna Fetzer
- 3 Terry Seidel
- 6 Clyde McMillan-Gamber
- 7 Eric Trella
- 11 Jill Curley
- 12 Evie Kline
- 26 Kyle Lindberg
- 13 Brad Frisbie
- 14 Lauren Overly



We apologize for ANY errors with your important dates! Please let us know so we can correct them.

THANK YOU NOTES■■■

- ❖ **Thank you** - the total collected during the 5th Sunday giving for Stacey Everline and Bible Church Ministries was **\$435.00** - Sandy Schmid
- ❖ **Thank you** - to everyone for making our 2025 Stewardship Campaign a success! Thank you for supporting Hope Church.
- ❖ **Thank you** - so much for all the warm messages, gifts, gift cards, and treats. I appreciate your kindness and thoughtfulness - Lisa Helock
- ❖ **Thank you** - to the friends at Hope who remembered me with prayers and cards for my 90th birthday - Dick Erisman
- ❖ **Thank you** - to all who came out, donated and volunteered at our Fall Fest held on Saturday, October 19 - Laura Luciano
- ❖ **Thank you** - a total of **\$849.00** was collected towards the power packs.
- ❖ **Thank you** - to all who volunteered, donated, packaged and served 165 lunches at City Gate on Saturday, October 26 - Sandy Muckle
- ❖ **Special Thanks** - to all who donated to Harvest Home. Goods were delivered to EASS on Tuesday, October 29 and an extended thank you to Laura Luciano and Barbara Tucker for their assistance in the organizing and delivering of the goods.
- ❖ **Thank you** - I want to sincerely thank you for the thoughtful gifts and gestures of appreciation during Pastor Appreciation Month. Your kindness and generosity truly touched my heart. Each gift reflects the love and support we share in our ministry, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside you. Thank you for making me feel so valued and loved. Blessings, Pastor Scott.



► **Children's Coats**

Thank you to all who donated funds to buy children's coats. We collected **\$1,400.00** and we were able to buy 73 coats for EASS - Sandy Schmid

Wild Church

Partnership with Hope Meadow

Reflecting on day and night -now in balance of darkness and light -
taking time to feel the wind on my face, letting autumn's crispness whisper sacred rites of
resilience - breathe.

The sycamore trees yellowing leaves offer a blessed reminder that all we hold must also be let go.

In moments like these, we appreciate that we are guided by more than just human mentors.

Sometimes we need wilder wisdom to recognize truth.

Next Gatherings

All will start at Hope Meadow and include a walk on the rail trail.

3474 Rothsville Rd, Ephrata, PA 17522

November 17 at 3pm - We switch to earlier time, grateful for the light

December 8 at 3pm - What does this season hold for you?

Our gatherings include reflections, observations, poetry, and your input!
Wild Church is part of a growing movement in which we seek to recover our natural "roots" and
take worship outside into our first and greatest sanctuary: creation itself. Our gatherings are not
traditional worship services in an outdoor setting, but rather experiences that recognize the
natural environment itself as a participant. We learn to identify God's presence and activity in all
things.

Donations & Assistance

► **City Gate Needs:**

Kitchen size garbage bags, paper towels, napkins, plastic spoons, toilet paper, paper plates and individually wrapped snacks, adult backpacks, winter gloves, warm socks, coats, winter hats, scarves and blankets. Thank you!

► **Ephrata Area Social Services Needs:**

Cereal, canned meat, hearty soups, baking items, spaghetti sauce, pasta side dishes, toilet paper, paper towels, shampoo, conditioner, body wash and laundry soap.

► **Good Samaritan Services Needs:**

Paper towels (high need), twin sheet sets and comforters (high need), pillows, twin/queen winter blankets, cleaning supplies, laundry detergent and gift cards (\$25 gas, groceries, etc.)

Ephrata Area Social Services (EASS)

Please place your donations in the basket under the coat rack in the lobby.

Thank you for your continued support of EASS and the work they do for our local community.

Good Samaritan Services

Please place your donations in the basket under the coat rack in the lobby.

Thank you for your continued support!

Winter Thrushes

by Clyde McMillan-Gamber

Three attractive kinds of thrushes- American robins, eastern bluebirds and hermit thrushes- regularly winter in Lancaster County, and much of the northeastern United States. They can do that because they all ingest berries they find on trees, shrubbery and vines in woodland edges, hedgerow thickets between fields, and suburban areas. And they all go to bird feeders to consume grain.

Being related to each other, these thrushes have similar appearances and habits. They are shaped much the same and the young of each species have spotted chests. Robins and hermit thrushes run and stop, run and stop across the ground while searching for invertebrates to eat.

But thrush species have differences, too, which is what made them distinct species. The familiar, handsome robins are gray on top and rusty-red below, while beautiful male bluebirds are sky-blue above and rusty-red underneath. The attractive hermit thrushes are warm-brown above and white below, with rows of dark spots.

Robins nest in suburban areas, but many of them spend much of the rest of the year in local hedgerows and woodland edges where they feed on invertebrates and berries. Bluebirds nest and live in local, overgrown fields and meadows, and along hedgerows the year around. Hermit thrushes raise young in forests farther north from Lancaster County. But a few of them annually winter in local woods and older suburbs.

Many robins drift south to find food through winter. But some remain north and gather into little flocks. In winter they feed mostly on crab apples, berries, and the blue, berry-like cones of red juniper trees in abandoned fields, and along roadsides. Those gatherings of robins spend winter nights in half-grown, protective coniferous trees planted in suburban areas.

Some bluebirds also meander south. But many stay north through winter, eating berries and spending nights in tree cavities, abandoned woodpecker holes and bird boxes. Several bluebirds might cram into a hollow to share body heat.

Only a few, individual hermit thrushes spend winters in local woods and suburbs. Most migrate to Central and South America to avoid winter. But hermits that stay north eat berries and seek shelter for the night in thickets and evergreen trees.

Beautiful birds created by God, these thrush species are adaptable, and tough enough to stay north in winter, including in Lancaster County. They help make time spent outdoors in winter more enjoyable, and inspiring, particularly when seen on the lawns of older suburban areas and at feeders.

American Robins



Eastern Bluebirds



Eastern Bluebirds



Check out Clyde's nature blog: NaturesWondersByClyde.blogspot.com.
Each short story is like taking a walk with your very own park naturalist!



THANKSGIVING

WORD SEARCH



P	U	C	S	R	E	L	T	T	E	S
U	A	A	S	N	A	T	I	R	U	P
H	E	N	R	C	R	O	P	S	H	R
U	H	A	R	V	E	S	T	E	U	I
N	S	D	Z	O	E	V	I	T	A	N
T	N	A	H	R	E	E	T	A	S	U
R	O	L	Y	A	G	E	R	M	H	N
B	L	E	S	S	I	N	G	S	N	D
I	A	H	F	E	A	S	T	U	A	E
T	H	A	N	K	S	I	T	S	E	F
S	S	W	A	R	M	E	S	T	C	O

Instructions: Find the **bolded** words in the above find-a-word:

Thanksgiving is celebrated every year in the **USA** and **Canada**. It is a day to give **thanks** for general **blessings**. The first Thanksgiving took place in 1621 between early **settlers** called **Puritans**, and **Native** Americans, who enjoyed early peaceful relations and shared in a **harvest feast** together. The Native Americans helped teach the Puritans how to **hunt** and grow **crops**.

