
NEWSLETTER

Isaiah 40:8~ "The grass withers, the flowers fades, but the word of God will stand forever."



As the summer months begin, it's easy to become so busy that we overlook the beauty of God's creation surrounding us. The old saying, "stop and smell the roses," reminds us to pause and appreciate the wonders God has made.

When we take time to be with God in worship and praise, our hearts find peace. Even though the grass withers and the flowers fade, God's Word stands forever. Because of that, we can trust every promise He has made. He will never leave us, and He will never forsake us.

Regional Three Churches

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It has been a while since we have communicated with you, due to some changes in personnel and some technical glitches, but we wanted to be in contact with you once again and continue to try to bring some connection to our region. Now that we are in the summer months it is time when our pastors like to take some much-needed time away to refresh and be renewed, (and if your pastor has not planned any such time away, encourage them to do just that).

One of the concerns in trying to take this needed time away, though, is being able to have someone come and fill the pulpit in our absence. So, I would invite you to possibly share with our regional churches the names of some of those individuals, whether from within your congregation, or locally in your community, who you have found to do a good job preaching while you've been away in the past. Some churches may not have anyone; others might know of two or three individuals who they rely on for this purpose. My reason for asking for this is two-fold. First, so that some of our ministers who have felt that they could take a Sunday off can actually get that much needed respite. Second, it gives these lay speakers some added experience, and perhaps, with that added experience and encouragement from those settings, they may develop a sense of a call to ministry, which we would love to help develop if God should so lead.

Please first ask the permission of those whose names you might share and let us also know of their willingness to drive some distance, as again, we are a bit spread out regionally. Oh, and if you are a church who benefits from this list, make sure that you offer some kind of stipend to the speaker. After all, they have poured some time and effort into the message they will bring, and they have just been a blessing to you so return that and be a blessing to them.

You may email names and contact information to me, Bruce Jacobsen, at bnjacobsen1981@global.net or to our Ministerial Leadership Team Chair, Ernest Dell, at georgelladell@yahoo.com

Bruce Jacobsen
Region Three Exec. Brd. Chair.

Exciting Things That Happened in Region Three



Greetings, Region 3 Covenant Brethren Family!

My name is Matt Moushlian, and it is a privilege to introduce myself to those across our Region 3 District. I currently have the joy of serving as Lead Pastor of Curryville Covenant Brethren Church in Curryville, PA.

I have been in pastoral ministry since 2004 and have been blessed to serve churches in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. Over the years, God has allowed me to minister in a variety of roles, including Youth Pastor, Family Life Pastor, Spiritual Formation Pastor, and now Lead Pastor. Each session of ministry has reinforced my love for the local church and my desire to help people take their next step in following Jesus Christ.

I was born and raised in Buffalo, New York, while my wife, Kelly, is originally from Waynesburg, Pennsylvania. Together, we have three amazing children~JJ, Bayley, and Lincoln~as well as two dogs, Maggie and Livvy, who keep our home lively.

Outside of ministry, I enjoy spending time with my family. We love camping, relaxing at the beach, and discovering great local restaurants wherever we travel. Another passion of mine is baseball. I have the privilege of coaching at Central High School and with the Spring Cove Youth Baseball League. Coaching has become a meaningful avenue for building relationships, investing in young people, and sharing Christ beyond the walls of the church.

Although I am relatively new to the Covenant Brethren Church family, I have already experienced the warmth, authenticity, and shared commitment to the authority of Scripture and the mission of making disciples that characterize our churches. It has been a tremendous blessing to become part of this fellowship.

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce myself. I look forward to serving alongside you and seeing what God has in store for Region 3 in the years ahead.

Exciting Things That Happened in Region Three

ZION HILL CBC

Welcome



My name is Melanie Cresanto, and I have recently been installed as the pastor of Zion Hill CBC in Columbiana, Ohio by Pastor Gover Duling and Pastor Joe Brown. I will be receiving my licensure in one month at the annual meeting.

To introduce myself to you, I live in Salem, Ohio. My husband, Chris and I have been married for 32 years and have 3 grown and married daughters. We also have 4 grandchildren and love every minute of being with them!

Chris and I are a team and love to do ministry together whenever his job allows.

The Lord Jesus became my Savior in my mid-twenties. I have always felt called to ministry. I started out as a Sunday School teacher and VBS Director. I have served on boards and been a Deacon. My heart is very much for international ministry and for 5 years I was a missionary to Uganda, Africa. I attended a mission's school in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2022.

My heart is to lead others to Jesus Christ and see them become free and whole in Him. I have a strong desire to teach others about the power of the Holy Spirit. I am certified in Inner Healing counseling and have been a recipient myself. I am excited to serve alongside of the Covenant Brethren and learn as I serve.

New Administrative Assistant for Region Three

Hello! My name is **Georgella Dell**, and I am blessed to call Mapleton Depot, PA, my home. My husband, Ernie, and I live on our family farm, where we have spent many wonderful years working, serving, and enjoying the life God has given us.

I retired from the Department of Corrections in 2015 after a career in Human Resources. After that, Ernie and I ran our own transportation business, driving school bus together until we both retired and sold our buses in 2025.

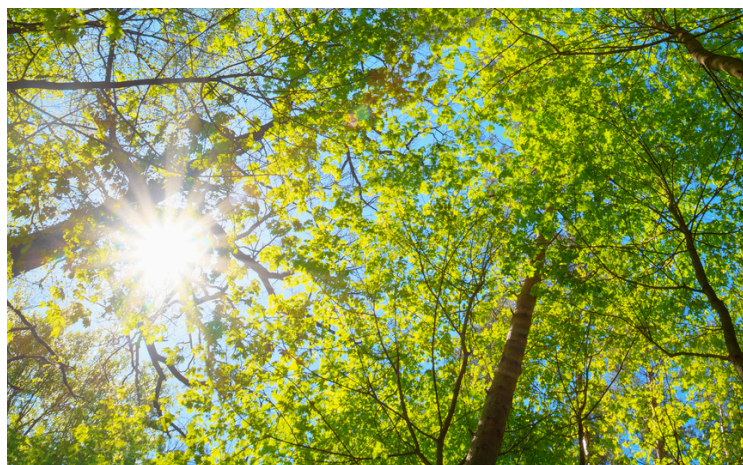
I enjoy cooking, cleaning, tending my flower beds, and—most of all—spending peaceful time on our back porch with my “babies”: Frannie Jo, our three year-old Shihpoo, and Scallop, our seven year-old Shih Tzu. Those quiet moments, surrounded by God’s creation, are some of the sweetest blessings of my day.

During my years with the Department of Corrections, my mornings were filled with thoughts of the tasks ahead. But when I began driving school bus—leaving before dawn and watching the world wake up—I experienced something different. Seeing the sunrise break through the darkness, especially after a long winter, changed my perspective in a powerful way. Watching creation come alive each morning reminded me of God’s renewing work, both in nature and in us.

My encouragement to you is this: reflect, refresh, and take in the beauty God has given us. If this world is so breathtaking, just imagine what Heaven will be like.

There is nothing like God’s handiwork. And with that in mind, if I can be of help to any of you, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at:

regionthree@covenantbrethren.org. I look forward to serving God—and serving you—with joy and gratitude.



Psalm 96:12 “then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD.”



**CBC ANNUAL MEETING
AND WORSHIP CONFERENCE**
will be held July 16th-18th at the
Pasquerilla Conference Center
301 Napoleon Street
Johnstown, PA 15901



****Registration is closed BUT you can attend Thursday
and Friday evenings worship at 6:30 p.m., for FREE!!!**

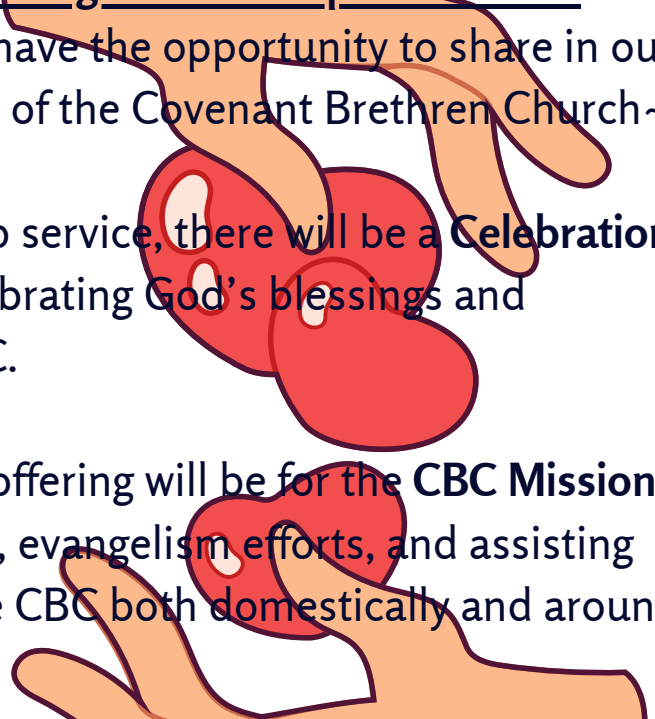
This year's conference theme is:
"Go...Make...Baptize"

Offerings for CBC Annual Meeting and Worship Conference

Congregations and members will have the opportunity to share in our offerings for the work and ministry of the Covenant Brethren Church~

Thursday evening, July 16th, worship service, there will be a **Celebration Offering** for the General Fund- celebrating God's blessings and guidance in the ministry of the CBC.

Friday evening, July 17th, the entire offering will be for the **CBC Mission Fund** to help support mission work, evangelism efforts, and assisting Church building projects within the CBC both domestically and around the world.



"Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your seed for sowing and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness." ~2 Corinthians 9:10



All Correspondence and Checks for
Region Three must be mailed to:

Region Three CBC
P.O. Box 5196
Johnstown, PA 15904

If your church has any exciting news or special events to share in the newsletter,
please email all information to:
regionthree@covenantbrethren.org.

Staying connected helps keep our region united—especially since we are
spread out.

Let's continue encouraging one another and celebrating what God is doing in our
Covenant Brethren family.



**COVENANT
BRETHREN
CHURCH**

UPCOMING EVENTS

MOUNT JOY CBC

494 EAST MAIN STREET

MOUNT PLEASANT, PA 15666

**JULY 18TH @ 7:00 p.m.~ hosting a Southern Country
Gospel father/son music group~**

“The Padgetts”

**The concert is free but a love offering will be taken
for the group. Everyone is welcome to join us as they
minister to us in song.**

FAITH CBC

1337 FOREST HILLS DRIVE

SALIX, PA 15952

**JULY 19TH @ 10:30 a.m. ~ John Swonger
from**

**Knob Creek CBC in Tennessee will be
speaking.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

REGION THREE CBC ANNUAL PICNIC
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH @ 12:00 p.m.

Center Hill CBC
2039 Freeport Road
Kittanning, PA 16201

***DETAILS WILL BE COMING OUT SOON!!**

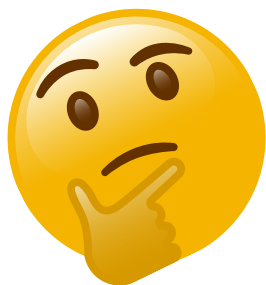
TIRE HILL CBC
665 TIRE HILL ROAD
TIRE HILL, PA 15959
REVIVAL ~ SEPTEMBER
27TH AND 28TH @

7:00 p.m.-Pastor Ernest Dell will be speaking ~
special music by “The Glory Guys”

SCALP LEVEL CBC
270 HOFFMAN AVENUE
PAINT, PA 15963

REGION THREE ANNUAL MEETING
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH from 10:00 a.m. ~ 3:00 p.m.

DETAILS COMING OUT IN AUGUST!



PONDERING THOUGHTS

Do We Really Count Our Blessings?

Do we intentionally discipline ourselves each day to shift our focus away from what we lack and toward what we already possess? Do we deliberately pause, acknowledge, and praise God with gratitude for His grace, His provision, and our salvation — regardless of our hardships or circumstances?

As humans, we naturally drift toward the negative. We compare ourselves with others, measure what we have against what we wish we had, and forget that the gifts in our lives are not earned entitlements. They are expressions of God's goodness. Every good and perfect gift comes from our Creator.

Gratitude doesn't mean ignoring real problems or pretending everything is fine. It isn't toxic positivity. Instead, it is choosing to be thankful in everything — allowing appreciation to soften our hearts, calm our minds, and bring peace and comfort even in difficult seasons.

When we recognize how blessed we truly are, something beautiful happens: we are moved to “pay it forward.” Gratitude inspires generosity — with our time, our resources, our compassion, and our support for others.

So the question becomes: Do we go about our day focusing on what we don't have, or do we intentionally look for God's fingerprints in our daily living?

Choosing gratitude is more than a mindset.

It is an “act of worship”.



NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND TEAMS

The Executive Board has elected to give \$1,000.00 to the Mission Fund Offering during the Friday night worship service at Annual Meeting and Worship Conference this year.

Congrats!

The Executive Board appointed Melanie Cresanto to the Executive Board on June 16, 2026 and she will serve on the Stewardship and Finance Team.

Please **DON'T** forget to pray for your prayer-partner church for 2026. And don't just pray—stay in contact with one another throughout the year. It's a wonderful way to build relationships, share fellowship, and praise the Lord together as a Covenant Brethren Family.

2026 Prayer-Partner Churches

Center CBC / Center Hill CBC
Curryville CBC / Farmington Bethel CBC
Joyful CBC / Mount Joy CBC
Faith CBC / Zion Hill CBC
Tire Hill CBC / Scalp Level CBC

Mount Pleasant CBC / **ALL** churches need to include this church since we lost one of our sister churches to partner with.



NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND TEAMS

*** POSITION VACANCIES**

A letter was sent to all pastors and board chairs on June 18th regarding current openings on the Executive Board and Region Three Teams. We are asking each church to prayerfully consider individuals who may be called to serve in these positions.

Current Position Vacancies

Executive Board

One vacancy~ (serving the remainder of 2026) Executive Board members serve three-year terms and may serve two consecutive terms before taking a one-year break. Authorized by the Annual Regional Meeting, the Board provides overall direction for regional ministry, oversees daily operations, and reports back to the Annual Meeting. The Board meets monthly via Zoom—currently on the third Tuesday at 8:00 p.m., though this may be adjusted based on member availability. Board members also serve as ex-officio liaisons to each regional ministry team, receiving monthly reports, offering oversight, and forwarding recommendations when needed.

Regional Ministry Teams

Team members serve staggered three-year terms, with one member elected each year. Individuals may serve two consecutive terms before becoming ineligible for one year.

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NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND TEAMS

Stewardship & Finance Team

Two vacancies~ This team ensures effective and transparent management of the region's finances. A background in finance is helpful. Responsibilities include developing the annual budget, monitoring the Treasurer's work, overseeing fundraising efforts, supporting congregations in stewardship practices, and communicating regional financial needs to congregational leaders.

Ministerial Leadership Team

Two vacancies~ (both lay positions) This team provides accountability and support for licensed and ordained ministers in accordance with National Covenant Brethren Church requirements. The team consists of three ordained ministers and two lay leaders with strong leadership skills. Responsibilities include facilitating regular gatherings for encouragement, shared ministry experience, prayer, and Continuing Education—such as Ministerial Ethics Training. The team recommends credential renewals, evaluates new credential candidates, and guides individuals exploring a call to ministry through the national training and credentialing process.

Annual Regional Meeting Planning Team

One vacancy~ This team plans and organizes the Annual Regional Meeting, working with the host congregation to set the date, time, and agenda for the event.

A MOMENT IN BRETHREN HISTORY FEETWASHING

by Joe Brown

What I have come to learn from the practice of feet washing in the Covenant Brethren Church is this. There are several statements in John which draw my attention. First read John 13:1~15 then look at these statements.

1. Jesus knows His time is now short and He is giving a lasting mandate~verse 1
2. Jesus removed His garments and wrapped Himself with a towel~verse 4
3. He now lowered Himself both in body and placement to serve those with what would have been considered a task for a slave or servant~verse 5
4. When Jesus says to Peter if I do not wash you, you have no part which is very weighty because if Jesus does not wash you and I, we also have no part in Him. There is work happening in the washing that night for these men, they had to submit to the will of Jesus to teach them the true meaning of humility. Part of that lesson is to allow those who are your brothers and sisters to serve each other even in very low and meaningful ways. ~ verse 8

A MOMENT IN BRETHREN HISTORY FEETWASHING

by Joe Brown (Cont.)

5. Also, we might need to become lowered not to a place of servitude, but to a life of servitude. What garments that cover us need to be stripped away in order for us to serve?
6. Jesus said, you call me Lord and Teacher and rightly so. If then the Lord and Teacher washed your feet how much more should we be willing to be stripped down and wash one another's feet.
7. We practice this in the backrooms and pews of our churches, men with men and women with women. Yet the real test is, do we lose our title and practice this on our streets one to another.
8. The number of new beginnings, so let us strip ourselves of titles and teach what we preach as we reach a world that needs to see the servanthood of "Brethren Beliefs".