



Westgate Witness

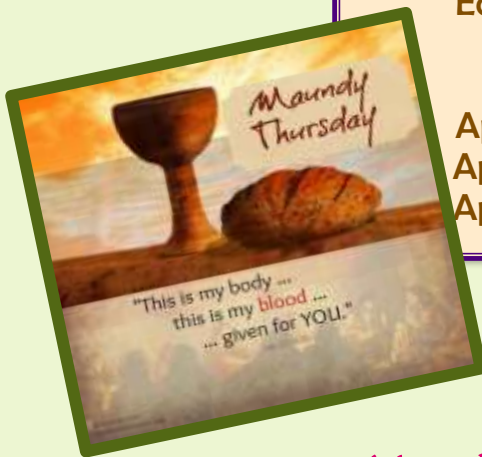
2235 Harrisburg Pike
Lancaster, PA 17601
717-394-1071



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 6 Maundy Thursday Communion Service 7:00 pm
April 9 Sunrise Service, Fellowship Breakfast 6:30 am
Breakfast at Westgate 9:30-10:30 am
Easter Sunday Service 11:00 am

April 6 ABW meeting
April 24 Board Meeting
April 18 AB Men's Breakfast



EASTER SERVICES

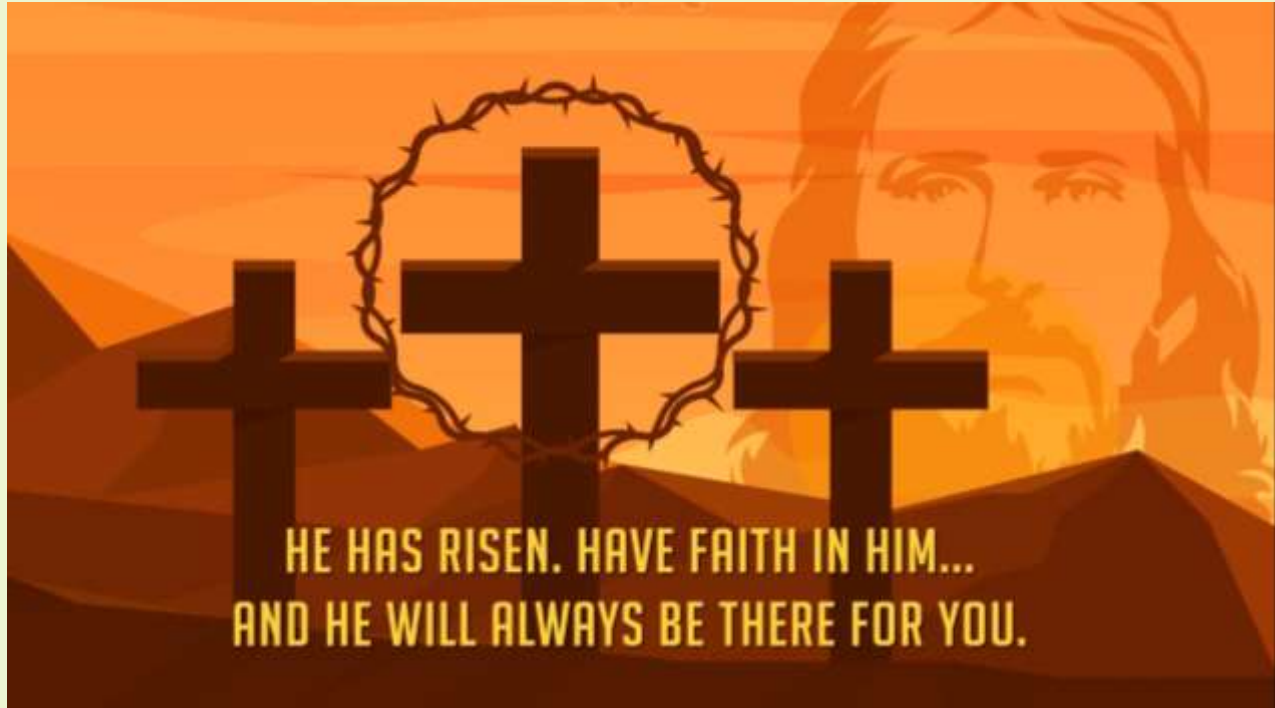
Maundy Thursday Communion Service 7:00 p.m.

Sunrise Service at 6:30a.m. at 106 Fairland Road, Lititz PA. Richard and Nancy Cook's neighbor Dean Zeigler hosts an Ecumenical Outdoor Sunrise Service followed by a breakfast. Bring your own lawn chair or blankets. Having attended this service for several years I can emphasize how utterly beautiful it is to see the sunrise against the backdrop of beautiful Lancaster County hills and farmland.

On Sunday April 9th our Traditional Easter Sunday service will be held **INDOORS** at 11:00a.m. with a breakfast in our fellowship hall preceding the service from 9:30 to 10:30a.m. There will be no Sunday School that Sunday.

Greetings in the Name of our LORD !

“Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” John 16:33



Not enough is said or written today about *finishing well*. There is a lot of material available to us on getting started. There is a lot of material out there on goal setting and time management etc. Starting well is certainly imperative, but what about the virtue of sticking with something until it is completed? Of being just as determined eight minutes into the fourth quarter as at the kickoff?

A young boy was playing left field in a Little League game when a man yelled over the fence *“Hey son, who is winning?”* The little boy replied , *“We are!”* *“What’s the score?”* *“They’re beating us 13-0.”* Confused, the man said *“I thought you said you were winning.”* *“Oh, we are.”* The little boy explained *“you see, we ain’t come to bat yet!”*

It would have been easy for the disciples to quit when it looked as though the opposing forces of evil had their way with Jesus. As Jesus hung on the cross, and as he was laid in the tomb, they must have been very discouraged and felt their world had come to an end. The One in whom they had trusted and chosen to follow was dead and buried. Yes, they certainly may have been tempted to quit after they had understandably scattered.

At times we are also tempted to quit. Jobs don’t go well, or seem like a very steep hill to climb. There is strife or instability in our personal lives. A doctor’s diagnosis is not good. Finances may become a constant worry. Children or parents are not what we’ve dreamed they would or should be.

In the midst of these realities we remember—it may be the eighth inning, but there’s still the ninth ahead. Today may be a dark Saturday, but tomorrow is Easter. As a Christian, it is encouraging to reflect upon the empty tomb of Jesus and know that despite it all, the best is yet to come—even when clouds are dark, through faith and hope in God, a beautiful sunset is on the horizon. Resurrection comes, Easter morning is born! Blessed Easter to each of you my friends in Christ, I look forward to a celebration of victory over death and hope in resurrection this April 9th at 11 a.m.

“Victory”

The strife is o’er the battle done;
The victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun.

Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst,
But Christ their legions hath dispersed;
Let shouts of holy joy outburst.

Alleluia!

By Francis Pott

He told me to tell you! Faithfully,

Pastor Robert Zimmerman



AB Men's Breakfast

Our next Men's Fellowship Breakfast will be on April 18 at 9:00 a.m. We will meet at the Family Fare Restaurant, 5921 Main St., East Petersburg, PA 17520 for a casual Christian Men's fellowship time.



Pastor Robert and fellow church members recommend---

From the Daily Citizen Posted by Jeff Johnston | Mar 1, 2023

“Jesus Revolution” The Movie

When thinking back to the time of hippies and “peace and love,” Jesus Christ doesn’t often come to mind. But Jon Erwin’s *Jesus Revolution* wants to showcase the real-life story of the “Jesus Movement” that took place in the 1970s, as the Vietnam War waged on and kids were searching for truth. The film *Jesus Revolution* has outperformed Hollywood expectations at the box office, and movie audiences are giving the film high ratings. As Focus on the Family’s Plugged In reported: Those who buy the tickets loved the film and gave it high ratings.



The movie has several story lines; one follows Chuck Smith, played by Kelsey Grammar, a struggling pastor in Costa Mesa in 1970. Smith opens his church, Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa, in Southern California, to young people from the “counterculture movement” of that era, including a charismatic, Spirit-filled hippie – Lonnie Frisbee. Their lives intersect with a young Greg Laurie (Joel Courtney) and his girlfriend Cathe Martin (Anna Grace Barlow), and they all become swept up in the Jesus Movement. The Calvary Chapel Association has now grown from Smith’s small church to more than 1,800 fellowships around the world. Greg Laurie has pastored Harvest Christian Fellowship, in Riverside, California, for 50 years and has preached the gospel to millions at Harvest Crusades. Laurie recently stated, “I hope my story can inspire young people in difficult circumstances to know that God can intervene in their life and change their story.”

Director Adam Holz’s commentary about his film:

I think it’s among the best Christian movies I’ve seen; it’s a film with very high production values. Codirector Jon Erwin knows how to tell a story that’s faith-focused, and yet one that also has the ability to connect with viewers who aren’t necessarily in the evangelical fold. I think this film, more than many Christian films, has the ability to tell a story that could potentially draw in viewers who otherwise haven’t given Christianity much of a chance. It’s not preachy, it doesn’t feel like a sermon, and it’s a genuinely well-made film about a hugely important moment in our country’s history.

Perhaps the biggest take-away is how easily we can become hardened and judgmental, even as we try to be effective ambassadors for the Gospel. It’s so easy—it’s very naturally, actually—to get set in our ways and to be unable to see how God is at work in people whose lives and experiences are very different than our own. I think this story reminds us of that and challenges us to be humble, to be receptive and to look for opportunities to love and accept people whom we might otherwise be tempted to judge or exclude in some way.

I think families with mature tweens and teens could see it together. The movie is rated PG-13 primarily due to references to LSD use, an important piece of the countercultural movement in that time. The movie doesn't glorify drug use or really show it directly, but we certainly have a couple of scenes where multiple people are under the influence. In that sense, the filmmakers have sought to tell a true story about that time that doesn't completely sanitize those elements, nor does it focus on them gratuitously or glorify them.



I think *Jesus Revolution* is among the best faith-oriented films I've seen. *Jesus Revolution* is not cheesy or preachy, and the characters here all have flaws that make them relatable. None of them are squeaky-clean "saints" who've never struggled or whose faith magically makes everything work. Instead, we see people with real flaws and issues who meet Jesus and begin to experience his healing power. They're able to "taste and see that the Lord is good" ([Psalm 34:8](#), ESV), even though life sometimes has difficult moments and rough edges to endure. I think this film will encourage Christians, especially, to hang on to their faith and to tell others about Jesus.



ABW Ministries

**Our next ABW meeting is Thursday,
April 6th at 1:00 pm
in the Fellowship Hall.**

We continue to participating in the Regional ABW project. The program, "Fresh Start in Costa Rica," is also affiliated with ABC International Ministries and missionary Sue Hegarty. See the posted flyers for more information.

We are planning a very active Spring with a variety of events and hope that you may join us for one, or all of the projects.

Roman 12:6 "We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully."

ABW is planning another Ladies' Spring Tea Party with guest speaker Sally Perry in May. More information to follow- check your bulletins for flyers.

Sally Perry, Mission and Service Coordinator, encourages women to include missions in their everyday lives. She should be constant in her desire to learn and grow in the area of missions and excited to share what she has learned. Always, to the best of her ability, being available to offer assistance and guidance and to answer or find answers to questions presented to her. A line of contact is to be developed between her and both the International Ministries and the American Baptist Home Mission Societies in order to keep up to date with important information concerning our missionaries both home and abroad. As much as possible, she should be attentive to new mission opportunities (local, regional, national, and global) where the ABWomen could participate. It is also very important that she work closely with the entire ABW board by sharing opinions, ideas, and skills to help keep the ministry running as smoothly as possible. Responsibilities to all ABWomen include such things as keeping missionary information updated, sharing mission opportunities, responding to requests and questions quickly, creating educational displays and/or presentations, and above all, having a contagious enthusiasm and passion for mission and service.

If you have questions about ABW, or our projects, please see Pat Rust.
God Bless & Praise the Lord, Pat Rust and the ABW Ladies

ABW Ministries of PA & DE Annual Thrive Retreat August 18-20



Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will not be held on Tuesday, 4/4 as Lynda will be away.

On April 18, we will start a new topic in Women's Bible Study. We will be looking at the Old Testament books of Ezra and Nehemiah using a guide of the same title. Using "Ezra and Nehemiah" by Kathleen Nielson. We'll incorporate games and activities. If you've been meaning to get involved, now is a great time! Join us for a good time of study, fellowship and prayer. Bring a friend!

Sunday School Studies

Gary Stump will begin a new Sunday School study on April 16th. He will lead us through 1 Peter, the Passionate Fisherman. We will be studying a letter written to people in Asia Minor to encourage them during difficult times. Join us for coffee at 9:30 am then study before our worship service.



St. Peter the Apostle, Peter, a Jewish fisherman original name **Simeon** or **Simon**, disciple of Jesus, recognized in the early Christian church as the leader of the 12 disciples and by the Roman Catholic Church as the first of its unbroken succession of popes. He received from Jesus the name Cephas (from Aramaic Kefa [“Rock”]; hence Peter, from Petros, a Greek translation of Kefa). Peter lived in Capernaum, at the northwest end of the Sea of Galilee, where he and his brother Andrew were in partnership as fishermen with James and John, (Luke 5:10). The New Testament reports that Peter was unlearned in the sense that he was untrained in the Mosaic Law (Acts 4:13), and it is doubtful that he knew Greek. He apparently learned slowly and erred time and time again, but later, when entrusted with responsibility, he demonstrated that he was mature and capable. The first indication of Peter dying by crucifixion comes directly from verses in John. According to historical records, Peter died in Rome in AD 64 under the reign of Emperor Nero. By the time of his death, many of the other apostles, possibly all of them, except for John had been martyred. The purported manner of his crucifixion, the he was crucified upside down, has alternate historical claims.

Birthdays & Anniversaries- April

Birthdays



4/1	Shariyh Lafontant
4/9	Marlena Saylor Wislene Joseph
4/11	Ariel Pate
4/12	Gary Stump
4/13	Joan Williams
4/14	Marie Mohn
4/16	Lloyd Appleby
4/21	Gideon Htoo



Anniversaries



	Christian Saw & Drusilla Wah Wah
4/24/2021	Pawter
4/28/2012	Timothy & Cynthia Ferris
4/30/1949	Daniel & Loretta Chure



Spring Cleaning & Our Local Food & Clothing Banks

For many years Westgate faithfully collected Food and Clothing items which we gave to Lancaster organizations that directly serve those in need.

(Lancaster County Food Hub & Water Street Mission.)

Then Covid hit and we were not able to perform this charitable function. Now that the threat of Covid has been greatly diminished, let's get back to serving our community in this way. As you do your spring cleaning, instead of tossing unwanted items, bag them and bring them to church on Sundays. Collection boxes are located in the foyers- both upstairs and downstairs. Needed items:

Canned, jarred & dry grocery goods
New or used clothing in good condition
Hygiene and baby necessities

DONATION LIST

FOOD

- 100% Fruit juice, 64 oz (no grapefruit)
- Peanut butter
- Breakfast cereal (low sugar)
- Rice (white or brown)
- Pasta (whole wheat preferred)
- Soup (low sodium)
- Canned fruit (in juice/light syrup)
- Canned fruit, individual servings, pull-tab cans or cups
- Tuna/chicken pouches or canned
- Tuna/chicken salad kits with crackers
- Tuna, individual servings, pull-tab cans
- Meals, individual servings, pull-tab cans (spaghetti's, ravioli, beef stew, etc.)
- Canned meals (16-Oz (spaghetti's, ravioli, beef stew, etc.)
- Meal helpers (hamburger helper, rice sides, taco kits, etc.)
- Can Openers

CLOTHING SHELTER

- New socks (men, women, girls, boys)
- New undershirts (men, women)
- Winter coats (men, women, children)
- Shoes, Boots (men, women, children)
- Sleeping bags, bed rolls
- Rain ponchos, umbrellas
- Wheeled suitcases

HYGIENE

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Laundry detergent (2x eco only)
- Dish soap
- Larger Diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6, 7 ONLY)

812 N. QUEEN STREET, LANCASTER, PA
LANCASTERFOODHUB.ORG

SCAN CODE FOR
VIRTUAL DONATION

Invitations to Local Events

Quickbooks 101
April 4th, 7-8:30pm

MANAGE & ORGANIZE YOUR FINANCES

PRC Toolkit Series

Made Possible By
LANCASTER COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Parish Resource Center
2160 Lincoln Hwy E #18
Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 299-1113

Food Bank Panel
April 24th, 7-8:30pm

Community Action Partnership

Hunger Free York
York County Food Bank

2023 Cherry Academy
Food Insecurity

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA FOOD BANK

PRC

Quickbooks 201
May 2nd, 7-8:30pm

MANAGE & ORGANIZE YOUR FINANCES

PRC Toolkit Series

Made Possible By
LANCASTER COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Treasurer's Report

	March
Budget Income	\$8,391.00
Non-budget income	\$1,302.57



Baptist Potpourri

You're invited to join us for our next Everyday ABC Conversation event, "Congregational Innovations" on Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 3:00 PM ET, with presenters Rev. Dr. Greg Mamula and Rev. Travis Norvell. Mamula and Norvell will also be leading workshops at the **2023 Biennial Mission Summit**.

American Baptists Churches USA invites you and your congregation to the 2023 Biennial Mission Summit, June 23-25, 2023, at the Puerto Rico Convention Center in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The Generosity Project is a collaborative effort between ABCUSA, regions, and local congregations. Church leaders recognize that the days of maintenance and preservation of the church are long gone, and we are living in the furnace of adaptation and change with the very future of the church at risk. For many of us, the stewardship of our resources—financial, volunteer, and church buildings— are at the top of the list of concerns. The Generosity Project aims to help pastors and leaders re-frame the conversation around stewardship and generosity. Bi-monthly blogs help support new growth and understanding as we deepen our ministry and discipleship. <https://www.abc-usa.org/generosityproject>

From our Missionaries in the Dominican Republic

Dear Loved Ones,
Greeting. We are starting to enjoy our Spanish classes. Why? Because we are now being tutored by the same professors after they finish with regular classes. We were making fools of ourselves sitting in the same class with those young Haitians who live here and who have been practicing the language on daily basis. We have been using the same route since we started our classes. This morning was different. We

left our house and got to the gate where we met the gate keeper. This guy has seen us go and come back. He never talked to us. We waves hands, that is about it. Interestingly today he started talking to us in Spanish, pointing to our apartment, and talked about the garbage to deposit. We understood what he said because we heard the word "*basura*" means garbage and signs he was using to talk to us. Then he started to talk about a store "La Fuente" that is across our school. Maybe he thought we were going there, he asked us to fellow him. We thought that he was going to show us a short cut to the school. Not understanding what he was saying and what he wanted, we started following him on the same route we always take. We did not know how to tell him in Spanish that we know our way to school. He was about to enter the store but we stopped him, and we showed him the school building across the store. He crossed the street with us, up the stairs to the second floor. We got to the door of our school and he pointed us to the door. To be polite, we had to tip him for being kind and showing us the way we always use to the school.

At the end of the day, we both start laughing at ourselves for following the guy who showed us the route we know well. Please be praying for us so that God can always send us His angels to help when in need.

Yours,

Nzunga & Kihomi



ABCOPAD News

Our Region Board has appointed two new ABCOPAD **Geographic Pastoral Servants**. David Hardin and Tim Schwartz have been called to serve churches in Eastern Pennsylvania. We've got some great leadership in Pennsylvania!

Christian Camping 2023

Why go to camp?

- Camping is Filled with Fun and Friends!
- Camping Helps Make Faith Real!
- Camping Promotes Discipleship!
- Camping Changes Lives!

There are 5 Christian camps across our region. Check out the details... and register for a week this summer!

<https://www.abcopad.org/Camps/>