

The Beacon, published monthly by County Line Church of the Brethren, 4227 N. Hardin Rd., Harrod, Ohio 45850-9421 #419-649-5364



September

- 4 - Labor Day.
- 4 - Office will be CLOSED!
- 5 - Fall Church Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- 9 - Archery Target Shoot at 8:30 a.m. in church woods.
- 10 - National Grandparents Day.
- 11 - Patriot Day.
- 11 - Monday Morning Bible Study starts back up at 10:00 a.m.
- 13 - Family Night starts back up at 7:00 p.m.
(Bible Study, Youth Group, and SLAM)
- 16 - Trap Shoot at Slane's starting at 3:00 p.m.
- 22 - First day of Autumn.
- 24 - Baby Shower for Abby Zimmerman from 2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.
in the multipurpose building.



Weekly Events

- Sunday evenings: Men's & Women's Bible studies
- Monday mornings: Bible study at 10:00 a.m.
- Wednesday evenings: Family Night at 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday evenings: Praise & Worship at 7:00 p.m.

Beatitude in action

After a renowned career in academia, priest and author Henri Nouwen devoted his final years to living in community with and caring for adults with severe developmental disabilities. A friend once asked Nouwen if it might make more sense to spend his remaining time writing.

"I am not giving up anything," Nouwen answered. "It is I, not Adam [the man he helped with the most basic needs], who gets the main benefit from our friendship."

Nouwen didn't merely read Jesus' beatitude "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy" (Matthew 5:7). He lived it.

—Based on *I Am in Here* by Elizabeth Bonker and Virginia Breen

September 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



October 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APPLE SNACKS



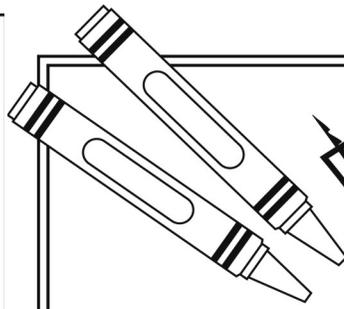
These healthy chips make a yummy back-to-school snack.

What you need:

- 4 apples, cored and cut into 1/8" rings
- Large bowl
- Spoon
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- Baking sheets (sprayed)

What you do:

1. Place apple slices in the bowl. Add cinnamon and sugar. Stir so apples are coated evenly with the mixture.
2. Place apple slices on the sprayed baking sheets in a single layer.
3. Bake at 200 degrees for two to three hours, until chips are dry but still slightly soft.



PUZZLE

APPLE OF HIS EYE

Start each school day by remembering God's loving care for you.

Directions: Starting at the K by the stem and going clockwise, circle each word. Then place the words in the blanks to complete Psalm 17:8.



“ _____
 _____; _____

_____”

PSALM 17:8, NIV

Answer: “Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.” Psalm 17:8, NIV

God's left hand

A 6-year-old and his grandma went for a walk one autumn day. “Look at the gorgeous leaves!” Grandma exclaimed. “Just think, God painted each one of them just for us!”

“Yep,” said her grandson, “and he did it left-handed.”

Perplexed, Grandma asked, “Why do you think God used his left hand to create all this beauty?”

“Because,” said the boy matter-of-factly, “we learned in Sunday school that Jesus sits on God's right one.”

I am always hungry, I must always be fed; the finger I touch, will soon turn red. What am I? The answer is fire! Within several weeks, we will know who the individuals will be on the church board. They will meet on September 12 to determine their responsibilities as they represent you and thus make decisions for you. For those of you who are serving this congregation in any capacity, will you have a hunger for your calling? Are you yourself making sure you are fed spiritually?

We read in Nehemiah of his guidance in rebuilding the temple walls that was left in ruins. I perceive that Nehemiah was a man of God who sought God's guidance and leadership. I perceive he was a people person not trying to be liked by everyone but rather treating the people with respect. By no means does this mean he was wimpy, but I believe him to be stern, energetic, and working with them, not just screaming what he wanted.

Before you come to the council meeting on the 5th, (I hope you do care enough about what goes on that you will be here), each member of the church council should consider what you expect from your representatives on the board and each other's gifts of those represented on the ballot of your choice.

When the board reorganizes on the 12th, each one should consider one another's gifts when considering board and commission leadership. Put God first, the church second, and personal desires last. As we move into this next church year, there will be changes made (whatever they may be), we must be vigilant to keep the important things the important things. May we all embrace our calling, our responsibilities, the unity of the Holy Spirit, and respect and support of each other.

Lord Jesus, baptize us all in the fire of your Holy Spirit that our hunger for the leading of your Spirit in our service to you can not be quenched.

~ Pastor Tom ~

* * * * *

Be yourself for God

Rabbi Joseph Liebermann describes a dream where he dies and goes to stand before God's judgment seat. As he waits, the rabbi fears that the Lord will ask him, "Why weren't you a Moses ... or a David ... or a Solomon?" Instead, God surprises him by simply asking, "Why weren't you Rabbi Liebermann?"

When our lives are over, God won't ask us why

we weren't a Mother Teresa or another saintly soul. He simply wants us to be who he created us to be.

"We are his workmanship," St. Paul writes in Ephesians 2:10. In Greek, *workmanship* means "a piece of art." You are God's masterpiece. Life isn't a game of comparison. It's a journey of discovery of how God has uniquely created you to perform specific tasks in this life.

Your life is God's canvas. Don't hinder the painting process!

—Mike Paulison

* * * * *



- 1 - John Dearth & Robin Harsh
- 2 - Sharon Nichols
- 7 - Rachel Clum, Grace Rall & Stacey Williams
- 8 - Anita Dearth & Kent Mathewson
- 10 - Keith Clum
- 11 - Andy Wanamaker & Sandy Turner
- 12 - Janice Dearth & Isla Gordon-Hancock
- 13 - Amber Clum & Dian Grismore
- 14 - Ethan Lawrence
- 15 - Dennis Garbrecht
- 17 - Lucas Thompson
- 22 - Lance Jackson & Abby Zimmerman
- 26 - Tristin Clum & Paisly Shirk
- 27 - Colt Ballinger & Deb Beer



- 3 - Bob & Brenda Zimmerman 34 years
- 4 - Jim & Marie Forney 41 years
- 7 - Keith & Rachel Clum 49 years
- 8 - Mark & Janice Young 33 years
- 10 - Mike & Dawn Ballinger 23 years
- 11 - Dean & Dolores Searfoss 62 years
- 15 - Keith & Trudi Vermillion 27 years
- 21 - Jerry & Jackie Meeker 26 years
- 24 - Darrel & Dian Grismore 51 years
- 28 - Steve & Sue Hubbell 43 years
- 28 - Dana & Pam Staley 32 years

Over this last week I have approached Scripture differently. Usually when I read through the Bible, I simply say a brief prayer asking the Lord to speak through His word and then I seek out a hidden truth or hope for a revelation that day. However, this last week I have approached Scripture not asking the Lord to speak, but rather to teach and to mold me as He did the apostle Paul. So I opened my Bible to 1 Timothy and began to read and the Lord began to teach.

One verse in chapter one of 1 Timothy just jumped out and continues to resonate with me. 1 Timothy 1, verse 5, the apostle Paul writes to Timothy, *the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith* (NASB).

There are two questions that the Lord has thrown in my mind since reading this: 1. Are my “instructions” bringing forth love? and 2. Am I giving “instructions” from a pure heart, good conscience, and sincere faith (basically what is behind my intent)? Of course I quickly applied this to my position here at the church, but then the Lord began to reveal that it goes further than that. What about my instructions as a father, friend, co-worker, or to complete strangers? Is my goal in these things love?

Through His Holy Spirit, Jesus leads us and teaches us always with the goal of revealing love. Just as Jesus does with us, we too should be revealing love through all of our instructions. For me, this is difficult at times. As a father I get frustrated that my kids do not simply listen the first time and be obedient to do what is asked. Out of my frustration comes anger, instead of instructing out of a pure heart, good conscience, and sincere faith I instruct out of frustration, anger, and selfish desire. No way is love then my goal; rather, an ugly mess becomes the objective.

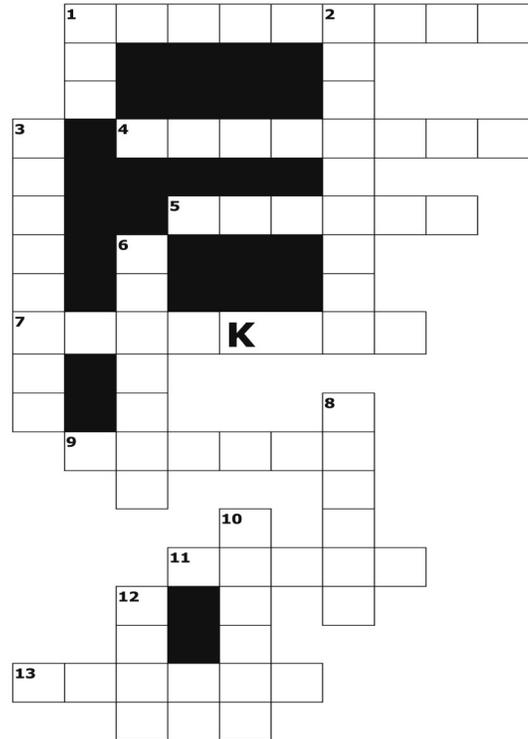
So, I asked to be taught and the Lord is teaching me. To be honest, I was hoping for something a little more profound, but what I got is something that I really needed. This not only teaches me, it also reminds me that the ultimate goal is Jesus Christ who is love. If I cannot reveal Christ (love) to others around me, most of all my family, then I have failed. With the culture as it is today, moving further away from God, it is vital that the goal of all of my instructions is love.

This is what the Lord is currently teaching me. What is it that the Lord is teaching you?

~ PC ~

Puzzle!

Use the clues to complete this crossword about women in the Bible.



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. (across) Cousin of Mary (Luke 1:36) | 7. Mother of Esau (Genesis 25:21, 25) |
| 1. (down) Mother of Abel (Genesis 4:1-2) | 8. The wife Jacob loved (Genesis 29:20) |
| 2. Mother of Solomon (2 Samuel 12:24) | 9. Sister of Mary (John 11:1) |
| 3. Moses' wife (Exodus 2:21) | 10. Sewed clothes (Acts 9:39) |
| 4. Lied about her giving to the church (Acts 5:1) | 11. Hosea's wife (Hosea 1:3) |
| 5. Saved her people from destruction in Persia (also a Bible book name) | 12. Sat at Jesus' feet in conversation (Luke 10:39) |
| 6. A judge in Israel (Judges 4) | 13. Sister of Moses and Aaron (Exodus 15:20) |

Answers: 1. (across) Elizabeth, 1. (down) Eve, 2. Bathsheba, 3. Zipporah, 4. Sapphira, 5. Esther, 6. Deborah, 7. Rebekah, 8. Rachel, 9. Martha, 10. Dorcas, 11. Gomer, 12. Mary, 13. Miriam

* * * * *

Showing some spine

Because of a back injury, a teacher had to wear a plaster cast around his upper body. It fit under his shirt and wasn't noticeable at all. On the first day of school, still wearing the cast, he walked confidently into a classroom full of rowdy students.

After giving a lecture and assignment, the teacher opened the window and busied himself at his desk. When a strong breeze made his tie flap, he grabbed his stapler and stapled the tie to his chest. Needless to say, the teacher had no trouble with discipline that year.

District Conference Report
by Deb Beer

Bob and I substituted as delegates to the Northern Ohio Church of the Brethren District Conference held July 28-29 at Hartville Church of the Brethren near Akron.

The nationally known speaker, Josh McDowell, spoke to packed crowds during the Friday night and Saturday night worship. He also met with the youth on Saturday afternoon.

Of special interest to County Line is the fact that Terry Porter, retired pastor from the Dupont congregation, is the moderator for next year and District Conference will be hosted by Dupont. Terry Porter is well known at County Line having served as our local moderator for years. He was our Homecoming speaker a couple of years ago. Also, Dupont is fairly close to us, so traveling to join in the worship as well as business sessions will be convenient.

On the business end of conference, we closed another church. Water Street Church of the Brethren in Kent voted earlier this year to close its doors. That action was finalized at conference.

Each delegate was encouraged to report back home that financial giving from congregations is not keeping pace with expenses. The district and Camp Inspiration Hills are currently drawing money from the Hottle Fund. While the money is invested wisely, the money being drawn is more than the interest earned. County Line currently contributes \$3,780 per year, but we have not raised that amount in years.

Kris Hawk was installed as District Executive at the conclusion of conference. Kris had been serving as Interim District Executive for the last year or so. Perhaps you met her when she visited County Line for worship or when she attended Alan Patterson's funeral. Bob and I have known Kris since before we were married and feel she is an excellent choice as District Executive.

It was a joy attending District Conference to meet old friends, hear about the business of the wider church and, above all, worship the Lord.

* * * * *

Do something

God wants our work to be meaningful and satisfying. No matter what we do, it should provide a reason to get up each day and use the talents God has given us. As Benjamin Franklin said, "The man who achieves makes many mistakes, but he never makes the biggest mistake of all: doing nothing."

A taste of heaven

When an admirer asked renowned pianist Vladimir Horowitz how he could play so beautifully, he's said to have replied that anyone could play the notes, but the true music lay in the pauses between them. The same can be said of life.

Rabbi Evan Moffic (*Shalom for the Heart*) writes, "It is in the pauses — the rests, the spaces in between — that meaning is made and that holiness is felt." Nowadays we keep so busy there's hardly a pause or space in our day.

"But that's not the way God created us [or] the world," Moffic continues. "God worked, then rested. God created, then paused. ... Thus, our Sabbath is the day when we can marvel at the beauty of the world God created. It is the day we enjoy what the ancient sages called 'a taste of heaven.' It is a day when we stop thinking about the *what* of life and remind ourselves of the *why* of life."

* * * * *

... may we all be
like Apellis ...

...tested and approved
in Christ...!

Rom. 16:10

Joy ©
2005

BACK TO SCHOOL WORD SEARCH

Find and circle all of the words from the word list below.

BOOKS
BUS
CRAYONS
GLUE
GYM

LEARNING
LIBRARY
MUSIC
PAPER
PLAYGROUND

PRINCIPAL
READING
RULER
SCHOOL
SCIENCE

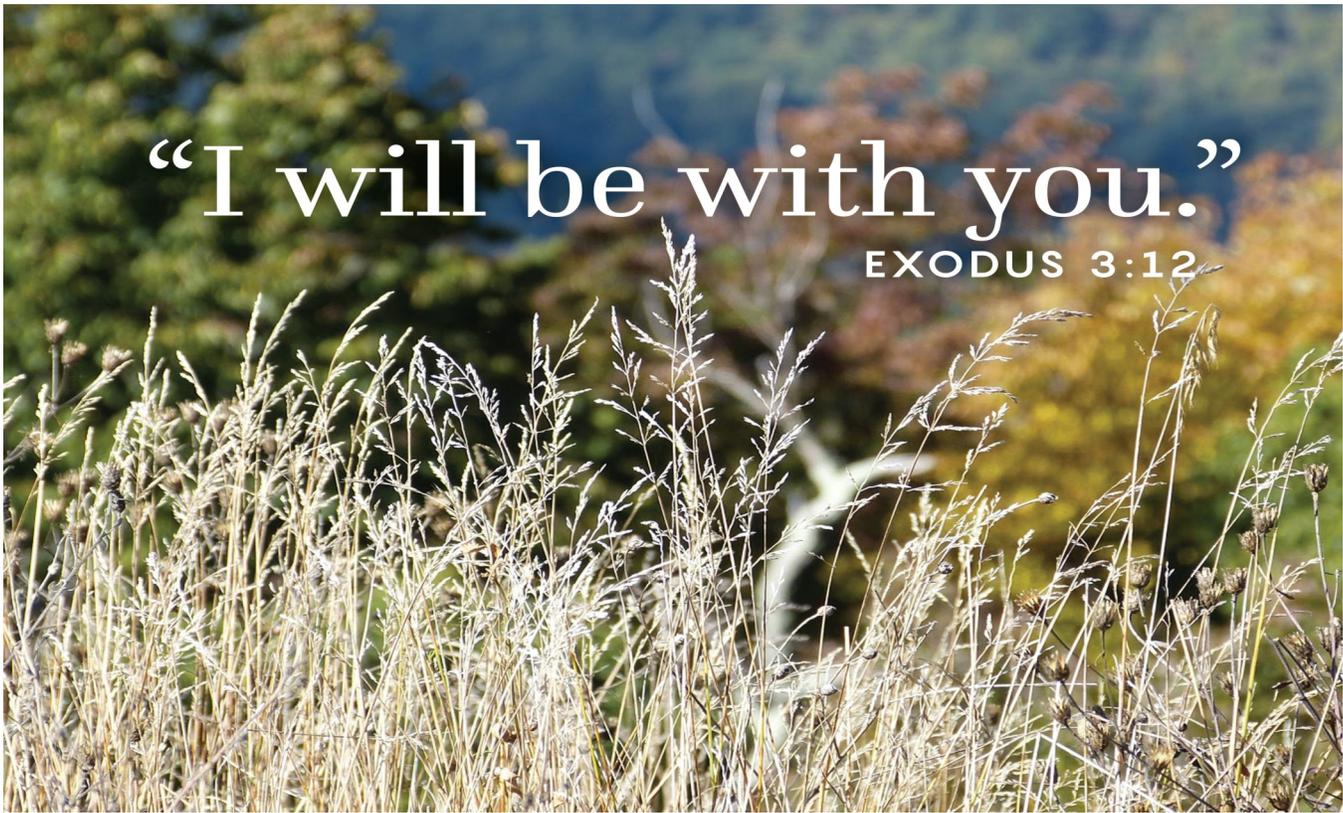
SCISSORS
SPELLING
STUDENT
STUDY
WRITING

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



“I will be with you.”

EXODUS 3:12



Return Service Requested

County Line Church of the Brethren
4227 N. Hardin Rd.
Harrod, OH 45850-9421

