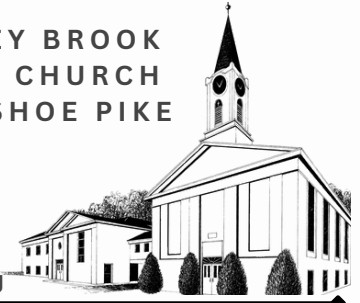


May 2026

NEWSLETTER

HONEY BROOK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4331 HORSESHOE PIKE



PO Box 276, Honey Brook, PA 19344 - 610.273.2848 or 717.994.4614 - www.honeybrookpres.org

From the Pastor's Desk...



In a world where we have drifted and in many ways forgotten the true nature of what it means to love our neighbor as ourselves, I thought I would share the following story as we move into the season that contains holidays such as Mother's Day and Father's Day and as we face a world that seems to be moving farther and farther away from the commands of our Lord to love each other with a quality of love that is befitting the people of God.

There were once two brothers who farmed together. They shared equally in all of the work and split the profits exactly. Each had his own granary. One of the brothers was married and had a large family; the other brother was single. One day the single brother thought to himself, "It is not fair that we divide the grain evenly. My brother has many mouths to feed, while I have but one. I know what I'll do, I will take a sack of grain from my granary each evening and put it in my brother's granary." So, each night when it was dark, he carefully carried a sack of grain, placing it in his brother's barn.

Now the married brother thought to himself, "It is not fair that we divide the grain evenly. I have many children to care for me in my old age, and my brother has none. I know what I'll do, I will take a sack of grain from my granary each evening and put it in my brother's granary." And he did. Each morning the two brothers were amazed to discover that though they had removed a sack of grain the night before, they had just as many.

One night the two brothers met each other halfway between their barns, each carrying a sack of grain. Then they understood the mystery. And they embraced and loved each other deeply.

There is a legend that says God looked down from heaven, saw the two brothers embracing, and said, "I declare this to be a holy place, for I have witnessed extraordinary love here." It is also said that it was on that spot that Solomon built the first temple. (William R. White; Stories For Telling)

Wouldn't it be wonderful if our world was filled with this type of brotherly love - one that is self-giving and full of empathy rather than one that only looks at "what's in it for me?" May it be so and may we be the examples of extravagant love that Jesus teaches by the way he lived his life and interacted with all people, no matter who they were or where they were from.

Shalom,
Pastor Bruce



LECTIONARY READINGS (week of . . .)

May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
Acts 7:55-60	Acts 17:22-31	Acts 1:6-14	Acts 2:1-21	Genesis 1:1-2, 4a
I Peter 2:2-10	1 Peter 3:13-22	1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11	I Corinthians 12:3b-13	2 Corinthians 13:11-13
John 14:1-14	John 14:15-21	John 17:1-11	John 20:19-23	Matthew 28:16-20
Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16	Psalms 66:7-18	Psalms 68:1-10, 33-36	Psalms 104:25-37	Psalms 8

Liturgists		Greeters	
Chris Masterson	May 3	Chris Martin	May 3
Eileen Dillow	May 10	John McDonald	May 10
Beth Ventrone	May 17	Pat Longabaugh	May 17
Bruce and Narda Druckenmiller	May 24	Marie Sole	May 24
Lynn Klumpp	May 31	Bill Klumpp	May 31



During the season of Lent, our mission focus was One Great Hour of Sharing. Thanks to your generosity, we are able to contribute **\$624.60** on behalf of our church.

“What does the Lord require of you? ... to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.” This congregation has truly lived out that call.

Thank you for your faithful giving and for extending compassion to those facing injustice around the world. Your kindness makes a real difference.

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is still moving forward with the process we shared in the last newsletter. Please keep praying with us that God connects our church with the right pastor.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Pastors Bruce and Narda are in Honey Brook on Wednesdays from 10:30 to 2:00. If you would like to connect with them during the week, just call to make sure they will be in the office at the time you would like to visit with them, since they also visit some folks during this time. Narda’s phone number is 717-994-4614 and Bruce’s phone number is 717-830-2515.

FELLOWSHIP HALL CALENDAR

As you enter the Fellowship Hall, you’ll notice a large calendar posted on the bulletin board above the mahogany table. This calendar is our central hub for scheduling and communicating all building use. To help us avoid double-booking, please ensure all your events are added to this calendar, including the times and rooms required. This information will then be included in the newsletter, so everyone knows when spaces are available. Thank you for your cooperation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Adult Sunday School Class is focusing on Bible accounts that show how God treats foreigners. We began with going back into Genesis to learn how God created all people in his image and then moved on to learn how the Jewish nation was formed. We will now take a different Biblical account each week showing God's interaction with those outside of the Jewish nation.

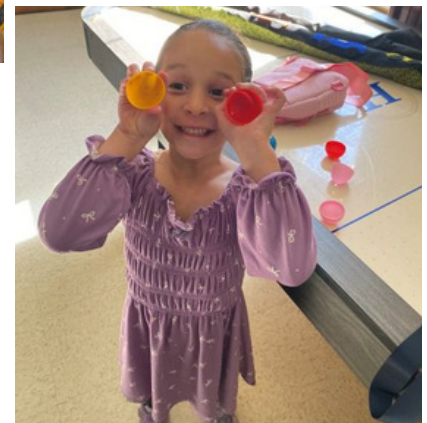
Please join us each Sunday morning from 9-10! Light refreshments are served. All children are welcome to come and take part in our Children's Sunday School Class taught by Ruthann Kistler.

The pictures below are from the story of Doubting Thomas.

Below, the black cross represents our sinful nature and each stroke of the colors shows that Jesus paid the price for many. When we removed the black cross the white (clean) cross remained, showing that our sin is gone.



As part of the Easter lesson, the children had an egg hunt. At their egg hunt, there was an empty egg representing the empty tomb.



THANK YOU TO OUR PASTORS

Pastors Bruce and Narda,

Thank you so much for all that you did to make our celebration of Easter truly special and worshipful. You prepared the sanctuary so beautifully—first with the Lenten cross draped in purple, and then with the white drape for Easter morning. The addition of the tulips arranged around the cross made it even more meaningful. Thank you, Norma, for your help with that lovely display.

Bruce, your trumpet solo of "Were You There?" during our Maundy Thursday service, played in the quiet of the darkened sanctuary, was haunting and deeply moving. It brought some of us to tears. Then, on Easter morning, your joyful trumpet music celebrating the resurrection of Jesus filled the sanctuary with praise and brought glory to the risen Lord.

Both of you have given so much to the ministries of this church and have supported this church family in countless ways. Please know how greatly you are appreciated. Thank you for your love for this congregation.



SHEPHERD'S KITCHEN



April's Shepherd's Kitchen was a little below average night. It was a little windy and cold. We served a Chicken Casserole that would be quick and easy to serve to get cleaned up for Maundy Thursday Service. The Easter desserts were amazing and, as usual, created by Colleen Brown. Carolyn Tate prepared an Easter basket with egg prizes. This added to the fun for diners, too! A few guests and volunteers also stayed for the service.

The meal on May 7 will be Shepherd's Pie, back by request! We are always looking for help and people to sit and mingle with guests. I recently received feedback from 2 guests who appreciated a listening ear! We serve from 4:30-6:30 but can always use volunteers to prepare and serve. Contact Lynn Klumpp (610-761-2606), if you are able to assist.



Colleen Brown's amazing dessert selections

OPEN MIC NIGHT



Seventeen music lovers braved the quickly falling and freezing temperature to enjoy eight performers (1 new) at Open Mic on Monday, April 20! Guitars, keyboard, and a drumming box (Cajon) were instruments that were played during the evening. Many came out to enjoy the refreshments and music!

The next Open Mic Night will be May 18 (3rd Monday) from 7-9:30 p.m. Signups are 6:30 for those who will be playing. Please come out and enjoy the fun! Light refreshments are available. For more information, contact Lynn Klumpp at 610-761-2606.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Strawberry Festival:

The annual Strawberry Festival will be Friday, June 5 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Eileen Dillow will oversee volunteers to help prepare and serve food, and volunteers to donate items. Mark your calendars! We will need lots of help!

The facing page is a flyer advertising the Strawberry Festival. You may print and share it with others!



Environmental and Sustainability Tips for May: Gardening and Landscaping

- **Plant Native Species:** Use plants adapted to your local climate to save water and support local pollinators.
- **Go Pesticide-Free:** Use natural alternatives to pesticides and herbicides to keep chemical runoff out of waterways.
- **Lawn Management:** Keep grass slightly longer to encourage a healthier, more resilient lawn that needs less water.

Strawberry Festival



Friday, June 5, 2026

4:30– 6:30 P.M.

**Honey Brook
Presbyterian Church**

**4331 Horseshoe Pike
Honey Brook, PA
610-273-2848**

www.honeybrookpres.org

Face Painting for Children!

**Hot Dog and Barbecue Sandwiches
plus
Strawberries, Cake and
Ice Cream**

DONATION ONLY!



COMMON CENTS (AND DOLLARS) FINANCIAL REPORT

2026 per capita is \$39.00

- General Assembly—\$9.35 per member
- Synod of the Trinity—\$2.40 per member
- Donegal Presbytery—\$27.25

If you are able, please consider paying your per capita. Thank you!

Honey Brook Presbyterian Church
2026 Statement of Activities

Date Range: Mar 1st 2026 - Mar 31st 2026

Accounts	Actual	Budget	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget	Annual
	Mar 01, 2026 - Mar 31, 2026	Mar 01, 2026 - Mar 31, 2026	Over/Under Mar 01, 2026 - Mar 31, 2026	This Year Year to Date	This Year Year to Date	Over/Under This Year Year to Date	Budget This Year Year
Revenues							
Unrestricted	9,102.13	9,166.67	(64.54)	29,044.86	27,500.01	1,544.85	110,000.00
Designated Funds	255.70	225.00	30.70	475.70	675.00	(199.30)	2,700.00
Donor Restricted	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,600.00
Pass Thru	6,093.00	83.33	6,009.67	6,569.00	249.99	6,319.01	27,000.00
Interest, Dividend, Cap Gains, Redemptions	0.24	0.83	(0.59)	8,743.82	9,024.99	(281.17)	23,500.00
Building Lease	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18,000.00
Miscellaneous	1,565.00	0.00	1,565.00	3,130.00	0.00	3,130.00	14,000.00
	0.00	216.67	(216.67)	350.00	650.01	(300.01)	2,600.00
Total Revenues	\$ 17,016.07	\$ 9,692.50	\$ 7,323.57	\$ 48,313.38	\$ 38,100.00	\$ 10,213.38	\$ 199,400.00
Expenses							
Senior Pastor	4,194.44	7,916.67	3,722.23	13,355.27	23,750.01	10,394.74	95,000.00
Staff Salaries	1,349.99	1,895.99	546.00	5,141.97	5,687.97	546.00	22,752.00
Employer Expenses	103.28	132.67	29.39	393.38	398.01	4.63	1,592.00
Administrative Expense	1,336.34	750.00	(586.34)	2,435.98	2,250.00	(185.98)	9,000.00
Designated Funds	35.19	125.00	89.81	241.81	375.00	133.19	1,500.00
Worship	625.00	791.67	166.67	1,700.00	2,375.01	675.01	9,500.00
Christian Education	0.00	62.50	62.50	0.00	187.50	187.50	750.00
Church & Community	50.97	75.00	24.03	406.92	225.00	(181.92)	900.00
Building & Grounds	7,923.09	4,333.33	(3,589.76)	14,541.55	12,999.99	(1,541.56)	52,000.00
Pastor Search (PNC)	0.00	416.67	416.67	826.00	1,250.01	424.01	5,000.00
Pass Thru	5,000.00	66.67	(4,933.33)	5,000.00	200.01	(4,799.99)	800.00
Reserve	0.00	50.50	50.50	0.00	151.50	151.50	606.00
Total Expenses	\$ 20,618.30	\$ 16,616.67	(\$ 4,001.63)	\$ 44,042.88	\$ 49,850.01	\$ 5,807.13	\$ 199,400.00
Net Total	(\$ 3,602.23)	(\$ 6,924.17)	\$ 3,321.94	\$ 4,270.50	(\$ 11,750.01)	\$ 16,020.51	\$ 0.00

FINANCIAL REPORT EXPLANATIONS

- Actual income YTD is \$10K over budgeted YTD, however \$5K of the overage is due to the grant from Presbytery which we passed through to Chester County Children’s Foundation.
- Actual expense YTD is \$6K less than budgeted. This includes the \$5K grant check to CCCF.
- Actual Income is \$4K greater than expense YTD.

CHARITY FUND

The Charity Fund is designed for donors to give to congregationally-connected families in need of assistance. Some are known to you, some are not. If you wish to give to this fund, over and above your regular giving, please make sure that your check is made out to the church but the notation is for Charity Fund. Opportunities for assistance and questions may be directed to Tom Richards or Peg Dombach.

May Birthdays:

- May 2 Betty Moore
- May 5 Tom Spirko
- May 6 Nathaniel Newlin
- May 8 Pat Longabaugh
- May 12 Sara Newlin
- May 21 Dave Mantz
- May 21 Jeanne Richards



May Anniversaries:

- May 3 Chris and Sarah Masterson (2003)
- May 9 Tom and Jeanne Richards (1987)
- May 20 Jim and Gail Kohler (1961)

Please contact Karen DeAscentiis (kdeascentiis@verizon.net) with your relevant dates and other information.

Please send to Peg Dombach (pdombach@ptd.net) any joys, achievements, milestones, etc. for anyone in your family, and we will include them in the monthly newsletters.



Chris Martin has been working at VisionCorps since September of 2025 and was appointed to the role of **Vice President of Human Resources** effective April 1st. In the role, Chris serves as a strategic and hands-on leader responsible for overseeing all aspects of human resources management in alignment with the mission, values, and goals of the organization. Chris's role ensures that HR policies and practices foster a diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace and support employee engagement, organizational performance, and legal compliance. Reporting to the CEO, Chris is part of the Leadership Team that will grow VisionCorps to be successful for the years to come.



VisionCorps is a leading non-profit organization in Pennsylvania, on a mission to empower individuals who are blind or vision impaired to attain independence. This is done through rehabilitative, preventative, and educational services, as well as by employing people who are blind in manufacturing, food processing, and administrative services. VisionCorps serves the Lancaster, Lebanon, York, and Chester County area.

Make sure to congratulate Chris on her promotion!

Bride &
GROOM TO BE



John and Barbara McDonald are excited to announce the engagement of their granddaughter, Shelby Findley, to Ben Kellman of Greenville North Carolina, where they both live.

Shelby is the daughter of Marcia and Mike Findley of Coatesville.

Celebrating
SPRING



Ryan and Colin Klump are enjoying the warmer weather and being able to be outside on their bikes.

Even if you can't ride a bike, take a walk and enjoy the sunshine, flowers, birds, and all Spring brings. Thank you, God, for your beautiful creation that all of us can enjoy.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day	Event	Time
Every Sunday	Sunday School for all ages	9:00-10:00 a.m.
Every Sunday	Worship of God in Sanctuary	10:30 a.m.
Every Sunday	Coffee Hour in Eppihimer Fellowship Hall	Following worship
Every Tuesday as needed	PNC meets – Eppihimer Fellowship Hall	6:00 p.m.
Every Wednesday	AA Meeting – Old Fellowship Hall	6:00-9:00 p.m.
Every Wednesday	Bell Choir Practice – Sanctuary	6:30 p.m.
May 6	Honey Brook Women’s Club – Epp. Fell. Hall	6:30-8:00 p.m.
May 7	Shepherd’s Kitchen–Eppihimer Fell. Hall	4:30-6:30 p.m.
May 8	Women’s Club Setup for Tea – Eppihimer Fellowship Hall	
May 9	Honey Brook Women’s Club Tea – Epp. Fell. Hall	10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
May 17	Handbell Choir plays during Worship	10:30 a.m.
May 18	Open Mic Night – Old Fellowship Hall	6:30-9:30 p.m.
May 31	Session meeting following Coffee Hour	12 noon
June 5	Strawberry Festival – Save the Date	4:30-6:30 p.m.



For concerns, contact the appropriate member to assist you.

Clerk of Session – Gwynne Sweatlock
(gsweatlock@gmail.com)

Building and Grounds – Bill Klumpp
(honeybrookhandyman@gmail.com).
(for emergencies text 610-463-4144)

Caring and Fellowship Ministry – Lynn Klumpp
(lynnklumpp@yahoo.com)

Education and Spiritual Formation –
Ruthann Kistler
(rhkistler@yahoo.com)

Worship and Welcome – Norma Mantz
(mantznorma@yahoo.com)

Mission and Community Relations –
Keith and Peg Dombach
(pdombach@ptd.net, kdombach@yahoo.com)

Personnel and Administration – Marty Ruser
(610-457-4463) with Paul Sweatlock as a liaison
(psweatlock@gmail.com)

Liaison for LM & Chester Co. Children’s Foundation
Chris Masterson
(masterson.chris@gmail.com)

Comptroller, Realm Admin – Karen DeAscentiis
(kdeascentiis@verizon.net)