



The Sower

“Planting seeds of faith and fellowship in East Cocalico Township and beyond.”

The Sower is a ministry of the East Cocalico Church of the Brethren.

PO Box 288, Reamstown, PA 17567 (4 Bunker Hill Road, Stevens, PA 17578) 717-336-7616

Web Site: EastCocalicoChurch.org

Facebook: East Cocalico Church of the Brethren

October, November, December 2025

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

Galatians 6:9

From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings to everyone! As I begin to write this fourth quarter newsletter, I'd like to start with a question... “What is your favorite season, and why?”

Some of us in our congregation like winter because we enjoy outdoor activities like skiing and skating – as well as building the occasional snowman! Lots of people at East Cocalico love springtime because of the budding trees and abundance of beautiful flowers that come to life, especially in Lancaster County. And for others, summer is a favorite, especially for those who sit outside more, “live” to go to the beach as much as possible, or travel to campsites and parks in their mobile vehicles and RVs. You just can't beat warm temperatures and abundant sunshine!

Now, maybe you're curious as to which is *my* favorite season? I would have to say that it's fall – with its beautiful array of colors and crisp days that require the sweaters that were tucked away in my closet for just such a time. But fall also touches my heart in ways that the other seasons don't. It makes me think of the ending of old things and the anticipation of the new, coming soon. The leaves on the trees fall, leaving the branches bare. The grass trades its shiny green color for a muted brown as it dies back. Everything settles, everything changes. It's like the earth is taking time to contemplate.

Maybe we should take a hint from the seasonal change to autumn and give some thought to contemplating the things that we have allowed to “grow” in our hearts and spiritual life over the past year. Have we let our morning or evening devotions go by the wayside as we flip on the TV instead? Are we engaging in activities that we know are more pleasing to us than pleasing to God? Or just maybe, are we feeling more spiritually “dead than alive” lately?

Perhaps God is nudging all of us to shed those things that have been allowed to grow up and are replacing Him. Like the leaves on the ground that need to be raked away, or the grass that is finally not tended to anymore this year, we all need to find those areas in our lives that we must allow to die and be swept away so that they can be replaced with the new, with the beautiful, and with something that brings meaningful joy and not regret to our souls.

Sunday Mornings

Sunday School 9:30 AM

Worship 10:30 AM



As we head into the changing seasons, it's a good time – maybe the *best* time – to clear out the old and anticipate and encourage the new. It's useless to keep the old and dead “stuff” of our lives if what God really wants us to do is beautify.

Let's all take time – today - to think about and examine our spiritual lives, thoughtfully. It's time for us to contemplate. Everything settles, everything changes. This season, will we?

Blessings,

Pastor Cyndy

July Mission Project Update

Our mission project for July was collecting various personal and cleaning items to donate to Clare House in Lancaster. This is a nonprofit transitional housing program for mothers and children who are facing homelessness. The photo at the right is Michelle, standing with the donated items.



Ladies Sharing Luncheons

Ladies, there are two luncheons scheduled for the fall season. The first one will be held on October 14. The second one will be held December 9. Both will take place at noon at the Udder Choice Restaurant in Lincoln. All ladies are welcome to attend.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes



As in past years, we are once again collecting shoeboxes filled with items for children that will be sent to countries in the world where there are needy children. You may pick up a box and fill it, or if you have difficulty getting out you may donate money that will be used to purchase items for the shoeboxes. We will be collecting your filled boxes from October 5 through November 9. There are boxes on a table in the fellowship hall. Please be sure you read the instructions for what may not be included. We will be inspecting them before we drop them off to ensure that everything is acceptable.

Mark the correct age category:	
☐ 2-4 Years Old	 BOY
☐ 5-9 Years Old	
☐ 10-14 Years Old	
Samaritan's Purse OPERATION Christmas Child	
Mark the correct age category:	
☐ 2-4 Years Old	 GIRL
☐ 5-9 Years Old	
☐ 10-14 Years Old	
Samaritan's Purse OPERATION Christmas Child	





Christmas Eve

There will be a Christmas Eve service at 3:00 PM on Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve. This year there will be a special Christmas Tea following the service. Everyone is invited to attend and bring along finger food, such as sandwiches, and Christmas cookies for this special time of fellowship.



Finger Food
Sandwiches



Christmas
Cookies