

EASTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

FEBRUARY, 2020

PEACHBLOSSOM PRESS NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement

“Sharing the love and blessing of God with all.”



412 S. Harrison Street

Easton, MD 21601

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Website: www.eastonbrethren.org

What would you do if you had more time than you do now? In a 2015 Gallup survey, about half of Americans said they don't have enough time to do what they want to do, a percentage that's remained fairly constant over the past three decades.



And an H&R Block survey last year reported that, on average, working Americans said they had only about 26 minutes of free time per week. That led to them putting off or ignoring things like regular doctor's appointments, exercise, cleaning, home and car maintenance, and more (including 18 percent who said they put off paying bills!).

Perhaps that's also why many people—more than a third of American adults—don't get enough sleep, with some checking in far lower than the recommended minimum of seven hours a night. And the problem seems to be global, not just a US issue.

Do you ever feel crunched for time? And what sorts of things do you put off or skip as a result? In the crush of all the things we have to do or feel like we have to do, one area that can easily get squeezed out is our faith. If we don't make it a priority, other things can quickly crowd it out. Worship, prayer, Bible study, “sabbath” breaks, and more fall by the wayside. And without that grounding, we can feel out of balance. As Psalm 90:12 says, “Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom” (NLT).

Now the good news: You have a free, extra, bonus day this month! Leap Day, Feb. 29, comes to us just once every four years. Some people like the night when the clocks turn back an hour in the fall for that extra hour of sleep, but that hour has to be given back each spring at Daylight Savings time. Leap Day is yours to keep!

It was added by Julius Caesar and later adjusted by Pope Gregory XIII, if you want to know who to thank. It comes about, as you might know, because the calendar year is actually about 365.2425 days long, and so occasional compensation is needed to keep things on track. I kind of wish they had added it to a nice, summer-y month like June or August, but I'll take it anyhow.

So embrace those extra 1,440 minutes this month and use them for something that you've been putting off for too long: clean that closet, go to the beach, talk a walk, or get an oil change. And I encourage you to invest at least a bit of that time in something that increases or strengthens your connection with God and deepens your life of faith. Maybe you'll even sleep a little better that night.

—Pastor Walt

TIME ON YOUR HANDS

As we celebrate Leap Day this February, take a minute and test your time knowledge with the following multiple choice questions (answers below):

The Prime Meridian runs through the Royal Observatory in what English city?

- Coventry b. Dover c. Greenwich d. Liverpool

How many seconds are there in a day?

- 78,600 b. 86,400 c. 60,000 d. 1,000,000

In what year did Pope Gregory XIII “fix” the calendar and formalize Leap Day as we know it?

- a. 1852 b. 1582 c. 828 d. 1664

In what city is the US’ official Cesium Fountain Atomic Clock located?

- Washington, D.C. b. Boulder, Colo. c. Los Alamos, N.M. d. Chicago

How far (in meters) does light travel in a second?

- 10 million b. 89 million c. 250 million d. 300 million

In what year were standard time zones created in the US?

- a. 1863 b. 1883 c. 1903 d. 1923

How many time zones exist in the US today?

- a. Four b. Five c. Six d. Seven

In what year was a “leap second” last added to earth’s official time to keep it correct?

- a. 1968 b. 1986 c. 2016 d. Never

ANSWERS: 1. c. ; 2. b.; 3. a. (per order of Pope Gregory XIII); 4. b. (at the National Institute of Standards and Technology); 5. d. (299,792,458 to be more precise); 6. b. (courtesy of US railroads); 7. c. (Eastern, Central, Mountain, Pacific, Alaska, and Hawaii-Aleutian); 8. c. (on Dec. 31 of that year).

DID YOU KNOW? Singer Dinah Shore, professional hockey player Cam Ward, and actor James Mitchell are among the famous people born on February 29. In all, about 4 million people around the world were born on that date. Happy Leap Day!

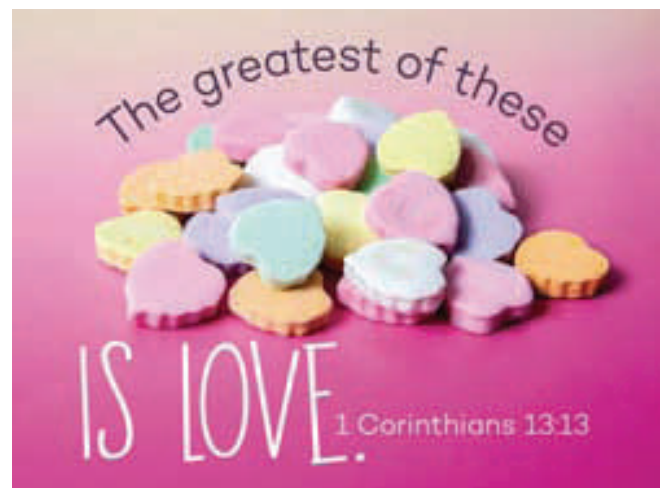


The precise number varies depending on the Bible version, but roughly how many times does the word “love” occur in the Old and New Testaments combined?

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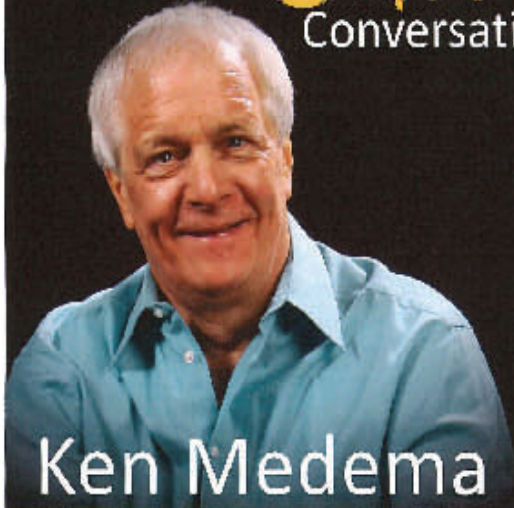
A. 200-300
B. 400-500
C. 600-700
D. 800-900

Answer C



Can We Talk?

Conversations for Change
through Story and Song



Ken Medema



Ted Swartz

Wednesday, March 11 7pm

Avalon Theatre 40 East Dover St. Easton, MD 21601

Admission \$15; For tickets, contact Easton Church of the Brethren
at 410-822-0475 or eastonchurchofthebrethren@gmail.com

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CENTER FOR
ART
HUMOR &
SOUL

TED & KEN ARE COMING!

Our congregation will host a special performance by musician Ken Medema & actor Ted Swartz as part of their spring tour, "Can We Talk? Conversations for Change through Story and Song." They have both performed numerous times at Church of the Brethren events and all across the country, but this is the first time they've done a joint tour.

Their Easton stop (and the only Maryland or Delaware stop on the tour) will be Wednesday, March 11, at 7 p.m., and the show will take place at the Avalon Theatre (40 E. Dover St.). Tickets for the show are \$15 each (general admission), with all proceeds over expense benefiting Talbot Interfaith Shelter. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. All tickets will be sold through the church office.

It should be a fantastic evening, so plan to come, and invite your friends, neighbors, and others to come, too!

Sermon & Scriptures

February 2

Conditions of Employment

Psalms 15; Micah 6:1-8; Matt. 15:1-12

February 9

Battery and a Salt

Psa. 112:1-10; Matt. 5:13-16

February 16

Decisions, Decisions

Deut. 30:15-20; Matt. 5:21-26; Sirach 15:15-20

February 23

Mountain Moments

Exod. 24:12-18; Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21

LENTEN STUDY

During Lent, Pastor Walt will be leading a six-week study focusing on Brethren heritage. It will be offered in the Pathfinders Sunday school class on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. March 1-April 5 and Monday evenings at 7 p.m. in the church library/parlor March 2-April 6. The same lesson will be presented in both places each week, so you only need to come to one, and can pick and choose as needed. A "prequel" film titled "The Radicals" will be shown in the Pathfinders Class Feb. 16 and 23 and also from 7-9 p.m. Monday, Feb. 17. All are welcome, but anyone considering becoming a member of the church is especially encouraged to attend!



Information from T.A.C.L.

Please see the wonderful opportunities at Temple B'Nai Israel coming in February. Performances are at 7:30 pm.

February 6: Dr. Rachel Franklin

Dr. Franklin, concert pianist and music historian, is joined by popular jazz bassist Jonathan Miles Brown. They will present a unique program of music and film that traces the journeys of immigrant and first - generation Jewish composers to Hollywood, exploring how so many of them became an integral part of cinematic history.

February 13: Atlantic String Quartet

Holly Jenkins and Gregory Mulligan on violin, Karin Brown on viola and Bo Li on cello. Selections from contemporary Jewish composers Philip Glass and Jonathan Leshnoff, as well as Felix Mendelssohn

February 20: Kentavius Jones & Friends

Pop and Rock hits by influential Jewish composers and singers, including The Cars, Leonard Cohen, PINK, Simon & Garfunkel, Mark Cohn, Bob Dylan and others

February 27: Leroy & Richard Potter & Friends

Music from George Gershwin 's Porgy and Bess and Leonard Bernstein 's West Side Story.

All performances will be held at the Temple B'Nai Israel, 7199 Tristan Drive, Easton, MD

FEBRUARY Birthdays

- 1 Ember Mae Stichberry
- 2 Pam Fluharty, Steve Wooters
- 3 Marjorie (Pete) Fox
- 4 J. Adam Lohr, Harold Lyons
- 5 Barbara Saulsbury
- 6 Wade Miller
- 7 Kevin Kinsey, Christopher Cober,
Matthew Schwaninger
- 12 Ava Elaine Valliant
- 13 Sarah Loscomb, Jennifer Phillips,
Margaret Pete, Aubrie Stichberry
- 14 Andrew Cheezum
- 15 Judy Musch
- 16 Phil Ridenour
- 17 Renee Baldwin
- 18 Pat Schwaninger
- 19 Ted Schwaninger
- 20 Ryan Glass
- 21 Casey Edsall, Jan Hagenberger,
Rebecca Moore
- 22 Brynn Dayton
- 26 Tracy Johnson, Ellen Walbridge,
Eden Z. Holmes
- 27 Charles Schwaninger,
Bernard Randall-Jones
- 28 Kimberly Patrick

FEBRUARY Anniversaries

- 14 John & Dorothy Stichberry
Albert & Margaret Pete
- 18 Bud & Judi Loscomb

Talbot County Empty Bowls will take place on Sunday, February 23, 2020 at the Immanuel Lutheran Church, Ocean Gateway, Easton, MD. Tickets are now on sale now at www.talbotcountyemptybowls.org. The 6:30 p.m. seating is still open. Ticket price is \$20 per person, which includes a dinner of delicious soup and the hand-painted bowl in which its served. Tickets must be purchased in advanced.

Talbot County Empty Bowls, a grassroots movement to help end hunger, raises money by holding an annual community soup dinner from which all the proceeds (\$199,000 to date) are donated to ten food pantries in Talbot County.

A critical part of this effort is the role of the community in providing the bowl for the dinners. For a fee of \$16 per bowl, from January 1 to February 15, Kiln Born Creations, at 1 N. Washington Street, Easton, MD will provide all the materials needed to paint a bowl. Once painted, the bowls are left at the store, fired, and donated to Empty Bowls for the dinner. Any questions, please contact Mary Lou Malone, Empty Bowls Committee at 410-725-0716.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

For anyone who is not a member of our congregation but would have interest in officially joining, we will be receiving new members during worship on Sunday, April 5. Membership is a way to connect at a deeper level with the faith community, sharing in its service and ministry. If you would like to become a member, please contact Pastor Walt or the church office by March 15.



Our Deepest Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to Terry & Cheryl Dayton in the passing of Terry's mom on Thursday, January 23 in Arizona. We pray Christ presence & love to the Dayton family.

CAMP MARDELA NEWS

Benefit Spaghetti Dinner



March 14, 2020 - 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Denton Church of the Brethren
108 S. 7th Street, Denton, MD

AYCE Spaghetti Dinner to benefit Camp
Mardela

Prepared by Chef Mat Baynard and served by
the Camp Mardela Youth.

Camp Mardela Auction and Flea Market

May 9, 2020



Breakfast & Browsing begin at 8:00 a.m.

Bidding begins at 9:00 a.m.

Donations are welcome. Deliver to camp or call
410-479-2861 for pick-up!

Flea Market is available. Bring your own table or tail-
gate, \$15 per space. Tables are provided for \$20.

Any questions, call Camp at 410-479-2861

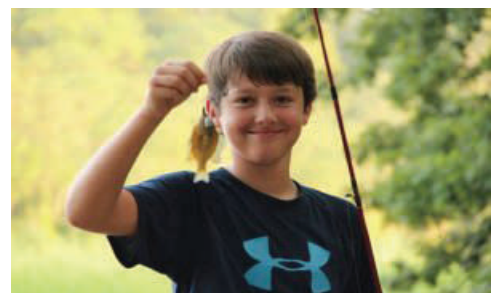
Camp Mardela Events, 2020 Summer Theme: "This is our Prayer"

Feb. 28-Mar. 1 - Younger Youth Retreat
Mar. 6-8 - Middle School Youth Retreat
Mar. 13-15 - Senior High Youth Retreat
April 24-25 - CIT Training
May 9 - Camp Auction
May 23 - Clean-up Deadline
TBA - Camp Appreciation Day
June 11 - Volunteer Staff Training (7:00 p.m.)
June 13 - Volunteer Staff Training (9:00 a.m.)
Sept. 4-6 - Family Camp
Sept. 16 - Applesauce Making
Sept. 19 - Camp Supper

To place an ad in this years Camp Mardela Auction
Booklet, please contact Lee Ann in the office and she
can give you the form to complete. Deadline for
submission is April 4, 2020



Fun times at Camp Mardela



Our Prayer List

Please pray especially for the following individuals and their families:

Our brothers and sisters in Nigeria, Beth Lockwood, Jean & Don Saballus, Richard Scott, Billy Harding, Chuck Davis, Annabel Young, Larry Fike, Childlene Brooks, John Ford, Alan Segar, Bruce Butler, Sharon Lister, Virginia Watson, Brent Spurry, Pat Saathoff, Pat Lewis, Ellen Walbridge, Pete Haynes, Lee Roesti, Norman Harding, Gene & Betty Lednum, GraceWay CoB, Nancy Scheffler, Roger Plagge, JK Rider, John Nalley, Bobby Hopkins, Kurt Kline, Dee Candel, Mary Ann Kiser, Doug Edsall, Lois Schall, Meredith Kelly, Natalee Jones, Doris Walbridge, Jeff Wright, continuous prayers for our church family in Nigeria, continued prayers for Comfort Amos, Barbara Taylor, Audrey Geib, Leo Truban, Emerson Fike, Katelyn Howard, Christine & Kenny Fike. Pray for leaders & people that are working towards peace. Please phone the church to add or remove persons on our prayer list.

CUISINE FOR A CAUSE II

We're launching a second edition of last year's popular event, **"Cuisine for a Cause."** First we're looking for eight households willing to host a meal for six (or more) guests. Hosts can select the time that works best for them, somewhere between March 13 and May 17.

Once all the dates and times have been finalized, we'll sell "tickets" for the seats at those meals for \$10 each. Hopefully it will be a season of good food, great fellowship, and helping an important cause, too: All proceeds will benefit Camp Mardela. Look for the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Leadership Team/ Congregational Business Meetings scheduled

The next Leadership Team meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 3, in the church parlor, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Our Congregational Business Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 16, beginning at 1:00 p.m. There will be a carry-in meal following worship. All items are needed for the meal. Team 2 will be in charge of the meal. Plan to stay for great food and fellowship following worship and then for the meeting at 1:00 p.m.



Congratulations!!



Warmest congratulations to Jocelyn and Darren Koenig on the birth of their baby

boy, Edan Thomas. Edan was born on January 4, weighed 5lbs, 5oz and was 19 1/2 inches long. Also, congratulations to grandparents, Jay & Sharon Lister. *We wish the Koenig/Lister families all the happiness and love in the world.*



Volunteer Opportunities

Talbot Interfaith Shelter

The 2020 volunteer list is available for sign-up. Please take the time and look to see where you can spare a few hours of your time every other month. Any questions, please contact Norma Trax. **Our next date is March 19, 2020.**

Interested in Serving as Worship Leader or doing the Children's Time?

We're always looking for new people to share their gifts! It doesn't take a lot of time--just a bit of preparation and a willingness to serve. If you would like to join this team of volunteers or want more information, please contact the church office or Pastor Walt.

Neighborhood Service Center

Please contact Marilyn Neal, if you are interested in volunteering at the center. Their phone number is 410-822-5015.

NSC Food Pantry

Let's not forget that food prices keep going up! When we pay attention to our local, national and international food needs, we are reminded that people suffer from food insecurity all around. If we do not share of our bounty, others go hungry. Let us give, so others may live. Any non-perishable food items with good "best if used by" dates are accepted. **There is a container in the narthex to put your non-perishable items.**

Ridgeway House Lunches

The 1st & 3rd Fridays of each month. For months that have five Fridays, lunches will be provided on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Friday. Contact Loretta Lohr (410-822-3094). Monetary and food donations (drink boxes, individual fruit cups, small bags of chips and cookies) are always welcome.

Dixon House Senior Living Center

The Dixon House located at 108 N. Higgins in Easton is seeking volunteers interested in helping out occasionally with crafts projects for the residents. All supplies are provided. If you would like to help, please contact Pastor Walt or the church office, or you can contact activities director Shelly Laroque directly at 410-822-6661.



Immigration Task Force Volunteers Engage in Acts of Kindness

This past year more than 60 of our immigrant neighbors were provided transportation by local volunteers to legally required immigration proceedings in Baltimore and Salisbury. The transportation is coordinated by a volunteer from the non-partisan Immigration Task Force, **Mobilizing for Humane Treatment of Immigrants**, in close coordination with the Chesapeake Multi Cultural Resource Center. This is so much more than just a ride. It is a group of people volunteering their time, with no reimbursement for expenses, to support others with **kindness and compassion**.

Without fail on the 4th Friday of each month, a group of Task Force volunteers, trained through the DC Detention Visitation Network, have visited detained immigrants held at the Snow Hill Worcester Co Jail. These volunteers have met in the past year with more than 50 detainees and fulfilled requests such as reading materials and contact with clergy. Some have formed Pen Pal relationships. Visitation access to the detainees is regulated by agreements between the jail and DC Detention Visitation Network. These volunteers from our community are recognizing the humanity of individuals separated from their families and communities all of whom face an uncertain future.

Fifteen community members signed up for a Community Spanish Program offered in partnership between the Task Force, Chesapeake College, Mid Shore ProBono, and the YMCA which provided the meeting space.

A Task Force volunteer provides interpretation services between Mid Shore ProBono attorneys and immigrants. Another volunteer has been reaching out to immigrant children through the arts, as part of an after school program sponsored by the Chesapeake Multi Cultural Resource Center. Another, expert in immigration law, filed objections to proposed regulations that would raise barriers to documented immigrants becoming citizens.

Two volunteers from the task force have reached out to the many other congregations throughout the county to expand the network of congregations associating with the task force. There are six local congregations that are already associated with the task force and include Temple B'nai Israel, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship At Easton, Third Haven Friends Meeting, Easton Church of the Brethren, Scott's United Methodist Church and Grace Lutheran Church.

Who are these volunteers? Our neighbors who are part of a local, non-partisan volunteer immigration task force, **Mobilizing for Humane Treatment of Immigrants**. Task force members share the belief that that on **the moral grounds of justice, compassion, and human dignity you support humane treatment of immigrants**.

Reach out to: Helpingimmigrantstc@gmail.com, to learn more.

Volunteers for February

	February 2	February 9	February 16	February 23
Preaching	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt
Worship Leader	Sharon Miller	Kevin Wile	Lynn Butler	Wanda Baynard
Head Usher/Sound	Leroy Miller	Leroy Miller	Leroy Miller	Leroy Miller
Ushers	Rick & Jane Marshall	Leroy & Sharon Miller	Rick & Jane Marshall	Leroy & Sharon Miller
Greeters	Rick & Jane Marshall	Ron & Elisa Miller	Les & Marlena Groves	Terri Tarr & Sharon Miller
Deacons on call	Les & Marlena Groves	Rick & Jane Marshall	Leroy & Sharon Miller	Ron & Elisa Miller
Special Music	Ellen Wile	Choir	Ellen Wile	Choir
Flowers				



2020 Disaster Response Auction Booklet Patron Ad Sign Up Sheet

The Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response Committee deeply appreciated and thanks everyone for your past support of the Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response Auction Booklet. If you have not advertised in the booklet previously, they invite you to consider doing so this year. The 40th Annual Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response Auction will be held on May 2, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Carroll County Agricultural Center in Westminster, MD. Your support enables them to provide even more assistance to more disaster victims this year.

The sign-up sheet is located in the narthex. Deadline to sign-up is Sunday, February 9.

Box Tops for Education



Please continue to collect the box tops for education during this school year. The box tops are found on a variety of food items we purchase. The box tops will enable us in some small way help the school children of Talbot County. Thank you for your participation.

Your Witness Team
Anne Harvey & Diane Shores

Vespers service will be held on
Wednesday, February 19 in the
church parlor, beginning
at 7:00 p.m.



GUARD
YOUR *heart,*
FOR EVERYTHING
YOU DO *flows*
FROM IT.



PROVERBS 4:23, NIV



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