

EASTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

MARCH, 2020

PEACHBLOSSOM PRESS NEWSLETTER

Mission Statement

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



412 S. Harrison Street

Easton, MD 21601

410-822-0475

eastonchurchofthebrethren@gmail.com

Website: www.eastonbrethren.org

Among the many people I've met across my various experiences in the church, one of my very favorites is Ken Medema. Many of you probably have at least heard of him, and some of you perhaps have seen him perform.

Ken is an incredibly talented musician, both with singing and with playing piano and other keyboard instruments. His immense abilities are even more impressive when you learn he has been blind since birth, seeing only vague shades of light and dark. He learned to navigate his world through touch, and by doing so he has touched countless lives through sharing his gifts. Just the other week I met a woman from Cambridge who talked about how much she has appreciated Ken over the years.

In an interview I did with him last year, Ken described his musical ministry as “holy work,” and it is. He “sees” people in a way that few others do, able to pull out their stories and make them sacred.

Another of my favorite church connections is Ted Swartz, a Mennonite actor who takes familiar Bible stories and turns them on their head in ways that make audiences both laugh and drop their jaws open in wonder. Ted says on his website that he “discovered that at the intersection of humor and biblical story we often find new or different understandings of scripture.”

He has also in recent years done shows about grief and loss, wrestling with tragedy in his own life, as well as about some contemporary issues, trying to shine the light of faith on each of them.

Both have been regulars on the Church of the Brethren circuit over the past few decades, appearing at Annual Conference and a variety of other events, most recently the National Older Adult Conference. While neither are actually members of the denomination, many Brethren have come to think of them as part of the family, and the feeling seems to be mutual.

As Ken and Ted connected through those Brethren encounters, they found that they really enjoyed interacting with one another, and they decided to do their first-ever joint tour this spring. Easton, happily, is one of the stops on that unique tour. The duo will present “Can We Talk?: Conversations for Change through Story and Song” at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 11, at the Avalon Theatre.

I hope everyone can be part of this special evening. Invite your friends, and your relatives, and anyone else you think might enjoy a powerful show that leaves them thinking. The theater seats 400 people! General admission tickets are \$15 and available from the church office. If you or someone you know really wants to come but the cost is an issue, please let us know, and we'll work something out.

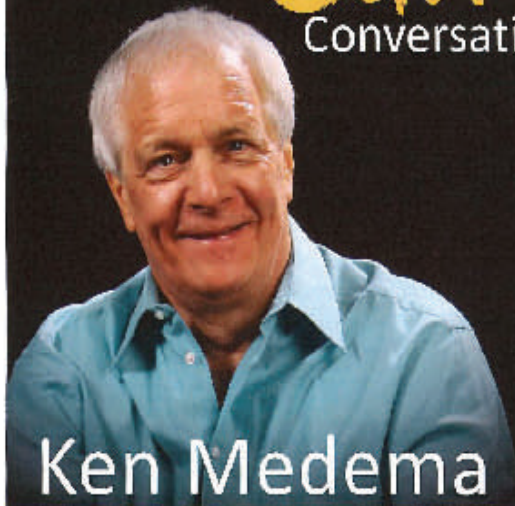
As we enter the season of Lent this year, I can't think of a better way to usher us in to what it means to follow the way of Christ. Blessings to each of you as you seek new perspectives on life through the lens of faith.

—Pastor Walt ☐

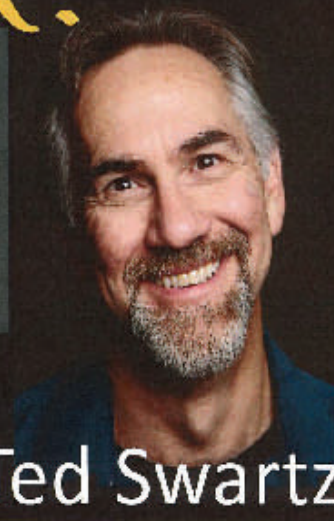


Can We Talk?

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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Interlude
Retreat
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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!

VOLUNTEERS are needed for the Ken Medema-Ted Swartz show on March 11 at the Avalon Theatre. We could use a few ticket takers and ushers from 6-7 p.m., as well as someone to be a "go-fer"/assistant during the late afternoon and early evening and a couple of folks willing to help with clean-up. If you're able to help, please contact Pastor Walt.

Sermon & Scriptures for Lent

March 1

"I Am ..."

John 8:58, 1:1, and 17:5; Exodus 3:14, Isaiah 44:6-8

March 8

"I Am ... the Gate"

John 10:9, Psalm 118:14-24, Matt. 7:7-8, 13-14, Deut. 6:4-9, et al

March 15

"I Am ... the Light of the World"

John 8:12, 9:1-41 and 11:9-10, Eph. 5:8-14, et al

March 22

"I Am ... the Good Shepherd"

John 10:11, Psalm 23, Isaiah 58:9b-12, 1 Tim. 3:1-7, et al

March 29

"I Am ... the Vine"

John 15:1, Psalm 80:7-19, Sirach 24:16-22, et al

April 5 (Palm Sunday)

"I Am ... the Way"

John 14:6, Prov. 3:5-6, Matthew 21:1-11, et al

April 9 (Maundy Thursday love feast)

"I Am ... the Bread of Life"

John 6:35, Matthew 26:14-30, Exodus 16:14-18, 31-32, Deut. 8:1-3, et al

April 16 (Easter Sunday)

"I Am ... the Resurrection and the Life"

John 11:25 and 3:1-17, John 20:1-18, et al

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.

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.



BIBLE QUIZ



Who came to Jesus by night to ask him questions, and what famous Bible verse was part of Jesus' answer?

- A. Martha; "I am the resurrection and the life ..."
- B. Peter; "Do to others what you would have them do ..."
- C. Thomas; "I am the way and the truth and the life ..."
- D. Nicodemus; "For God so loved the world ..."

(See John 3:1-16.)

MARCH

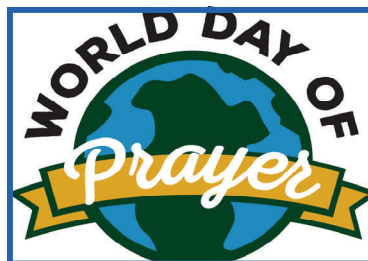
Birthdays

- 1 Martina Towers
- 3 Jalen Jones, Kellee Kinsey
- 4 Leslie Schwaninger
- 5 Diane Laukenmann, Brendan Faw
- 8 Cheryl Heckard
- 10 Cindy Townsend, Darlena Roesti-Butler
- 14 Kristi Booze
- 15 Corey Edsall, Matthew Faulkner, Katie Pederson
- 16 Joanna Williams
- 17 Patti Ball
- 18 Kevin Schwaninger, Rebecca Russ, Paul Turkington
- 20 Sandy Faw
- 21 Gene Lednum, Robert Milburn, Joy Phelps, Albert Pete
- 22 Steven Mullikin
- 23 Trevor Ball
- 24 Randy Walbridge
- 25 Paula Ulrich
- 27 David Allen, David Ireland, Jude Basel
- 28 Nancy Scheffler
- 29 Michael Correa, Kathy Ebling
- 30 Randy Bachand
- 31 Jennifer Fox

MARCH

Anniversaries

- 9 Ted & Patty Schwaninger
- 11 David & Jo Ann Fike
- 14 Ken & Sue Ann Russ
- David & Cindy Allen
- 25 Allen & Cheryl Heckard



**MARCH 6,
2020**

**MARCH 8,
2020**



**Maundy
Thursday**

Our Maundy Thursday Love Feast will take place at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 9, in the fellowship hall. All are welcome. We would like to have a number of bread-making machines for the event this year. If you have one you'd be willing to loan, please let the deacons know. If you don't have a breadmaker but would be willing to make a loaf of homemade bread, we'd be glad for that, too!

Vespers service will be held on
Wednesday, March 18
7:00 p.m.
Roundtop Church



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.

Your donation for this meal will make
summer camp possible!

Camp Mardela Events, 2020

Summer Theme: "This is our Prayer"

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

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.

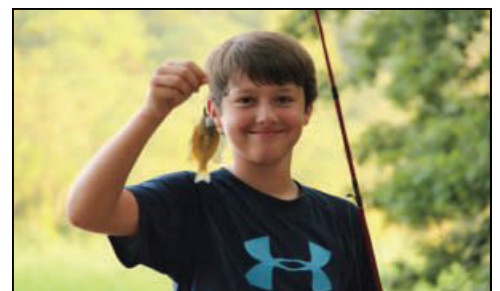
Any questions, call Camp at 410-479-2861

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



Donations are needed for the auction and can be picked
up for your convenience. Flea market items are also wel-
come. Chief Gieta will be putting some pictures of items
donated in the auction booklet to create interest. Please
call Robert and Judy Musch at 410-822-6925. Some do-
nations have already been delivered to camp. If you have
any personal contact with area businesses, please take a
donation letter and ad notification from the Narthex to hand
out. It will be helpful if you let us know who you have ap-
proached to eliminate double requests.
Thank you. Judy Musch

Fun times at Camp Mardela



Our Prayer List

Please pray especially for the following individuals and their families: The family of Sam Hunt, the family of Meredith Kelly, Lillian Sefcik, Ginger Brady, Beth Lockwood, Jean & Don Sabalus, Richard Scott, Billy Harding, Chuck Davis, Annabel Young, Larry Fike, Childlene Brooks, Alan Segar, Bruce Butler, 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, 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.



Our deepest sympathy to the family of Sam Hunt. Mr. Hunt passed away on Friday, February 14. Funeral service were held on Thursday, February 20 at Denton Church of the Brethren. Mr. Hunt was a brother to Pat Lyons.

Our deepest sympathy to the family of Meredith Kelly. Ms. Kelly passed away on Thursday, February 13. Funeral services were held on Saturday, February 22 at Christ Church, Easton.

We pray Christ presence and love to each of these families.

Leadership Team Meeting scheduled



The next Leadership Team meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 2 in the church parlor, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes from February 3 meeting

- The treasurers books are in the hands of the auditor.
- Pastor Walt gave us a recap of the whole year. He has been asked to be on the ballot for the Program and Arrangements Committee for Annual Conference.
- Geoff Fox was voted the 2020 Vice Chair.
- Gene Walbridge presented the final draft of the Ministry Education Fund. This will be voted on at the February 16 CBM.
- There will be an update on the Dutchmans Lane Property at the CBM.
- Next meeting is March 2, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

CUISINE FOR A CAUSE II

We're launching a second edition of last year's popular event, "**Cuisine for a Cause.**" We have five households that will host a meal: Jane & Rick Marshall—six guests, 3/20/20. Mat & Wanda Baynard—six guests, 4/17/20. Geoff & Lee Ann Fox—six guests, 4/24/20. Anne Harvey & Barbara Saulsbury—six guests, 5/3/2020. John & Norma Trax—eight guests, 4/3/2020.

There will be a sign-up sheet for guests beginning Sunday, March 1. 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.



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.



Volunteers for March

	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
Preaching	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt	Pastor Walt
Worship Leader	Jay Lister	Mat Baynard	Jane Marshall	Sharon Miller	Kevin Wile
Head Usher/ Sound	Judy Musch	Judy Musch	Judy Musch	Judy Musch	Judy Musch
Ushers	Robert & Judy Musch	Terri Tarr & Marlena Groves	Robert & Judy Musch	Terri Tarr & Marlena Groves	Robert & Judy Musch
Greeters	Barbara Saulsbury & Liz Wildasin	Diane Walbridge	Misti Green	Leroy & Sharon Miller	Ron & Elisa Miller
Deacons on call	John & Norma Trax	Geoff & Lee Ann Fox	Mat & Wanda Baynard	Les & Marlena Groves	Rick & Jane Marshall
Special Music	Kindred Spirit	Choir, Amy Bachand soloist	John Coleman	Choir	Ellen Wile
Flowers					

IRISH EYES ARE SEARCHING

Can you find the following Irish cities/places in the puzzle below? Answers can be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal, forwards or backwards. Happy St. Patrick's Day!

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

DUBLIN
GALWAY
KILKENNY
TIPPERARY

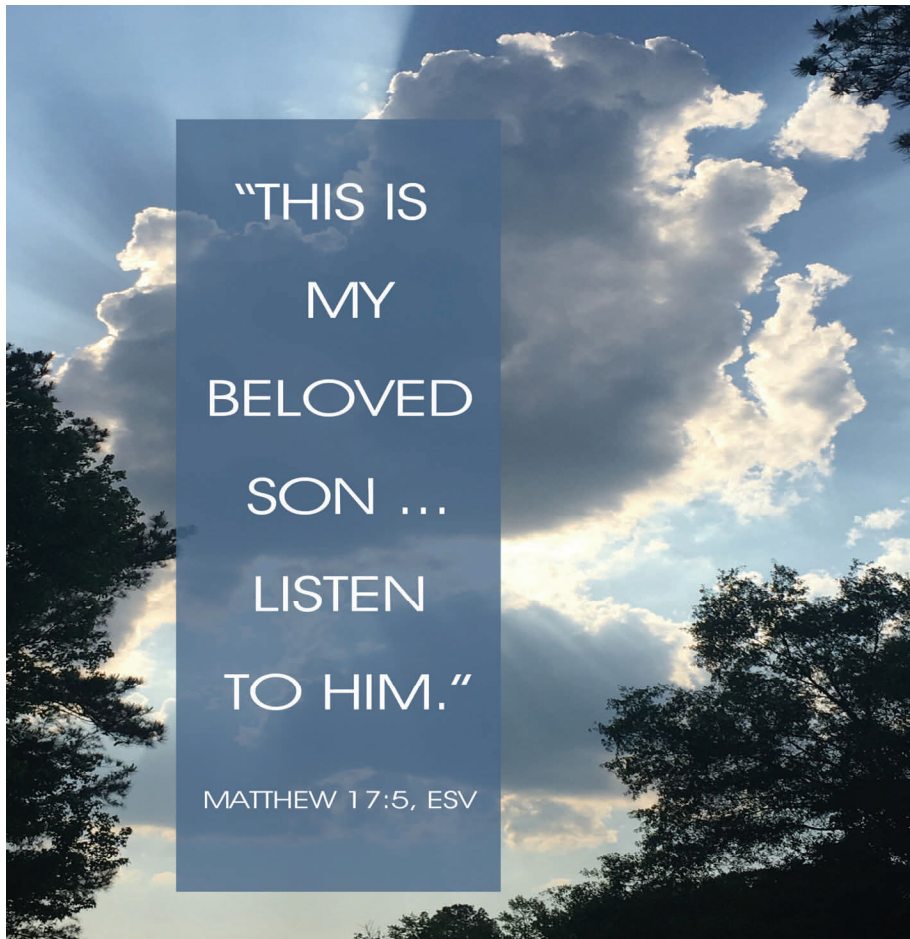
CORK
LIMERICK
WEXFORD
KERRY

SHANNON
WATERFORD
SLIGO
DOWN

Attendance & Offering for February

Attendance	45	45	37	45	172
	2/2/20	2/9/20	2/16/20	2/23/20	Totals
<u>Distributions</u>					0.00
General (06)					
Envelopes	10,066.00	1,304.00	1,629.00	3,003.00	16,002.00
Loose Change/ Cash	5.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	7.00
Total Before Pre- paid Tithes	10,071.00	1,306.00	1,629.00	3,003.00	16,009.00
<u>Other Income (06)</u>					
Building Use					
Safe Harbor Rent	30.00				30.00
Dutchmans Lane Rent			1,155.00		1,155.00
Harrison St. Rent			1,155.00		1,155.00
Totals	30.00	0.00	2,310.00	0.00	2,340.00
<u>Special Offerings (07)</u>					
Deacon Fund	800.00				800.00
In Kind					
In & Out					
Ken Medema/Ted Swartz	90.00	30.00	150.00	60.00	330.00
MADD Auction Ads		95.00			95.00
Totals	920.00	125.00	2,460.00	60.00	3,565.00
Totals	11,021.00	1,431.00	6,399.00	3,063.00	21,914.00





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