

HATFIELD MEETINGHOUSE

Church of the Brethren
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APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER

From our Pastor . . .



He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!!

This month we remember the darkest day in Christian history, Christ's death on a Roman cross. We also celebrate the brightest day in Christian history on Easter with the news that Christ has risen from the grave and defeated death. We live in the promise of the Resurrected Christ who offers us eternal life with Him and the Father in heaven.

It seems appropriate that Easter ushers in Spring here in the Atlantic Northeast. Spring is a time of new life and growth. How will we at Hatfield Church of the Brethren embrace this time? In what ways will we experience new life and growth in our congregation? I am excited to be able to give more time to the congregation now that I am retired from Living Branches. I look forward to having Hatfield Church of the Brethren represented at the Grand Opening of the new Hatfield Police Station. I look forward to the renewal of the Hatfield Pastors group and the part Hatfield Church of the Brethren will play in that renewal. I am excited to see the number of dedicated volunteers serving at the food pantry. I am encouraged as I talk to people who say they plan to visit Hatfield to see if we are a good fit as their spiritual home.

What will the remainder of 2026 bring to Hatfield Church of the Brethren? If we leave ourselves open to the leading of the spirit, I know good things are in store.

- - - Pastor Lynne

Food Cupboard News . . .

Dear Volunteers,

April is **Volunteer Appreciation Month**, and we want to take a moment to recognize the heart and dedication you bring to our food cupboard. Because of you, families in our community have access to nourishment, dignity, and hope.

Whether you're working in the store, distributing fresh produce, greeting guests, helping guests with their groceries, helping families with their shopping carts, helping sorting donations, stocking shelves, or lending a helping hand wherever it's needed, your time and compassion make a real difference every single day. Your kindness does more than fill plates, it strengthens our entire community. We are deeply grateful for your commitment and the care you show to everyone who walks through our doors.

Thank you for all that you do! We simply couldn't do this without you!



- - Don & Annette Hanks

hatfieldcobfoodpantry@gmail.com



We have been invited to be the guests of Indian Creek CoB for their **Maundy Thursday, Love Feast on Thursday, April 2nd at 6:30pm**. If you are interested, please let Connie Holbert know. They would like a head count.

COME ONE and COME ALL!

You are invited Easter Sunday, April 5th for a Carry in Breakfast at 9am. before our Easter Celebration Service at 10am.

Please sign up on the sheet posted on the board in the Narthex with your name, how many will be coming and what you will be bringing. Please join us as we share a meal and fellowship to celebrate our Risen Savior!

- - - Annette Hanks



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EASTER CELEBRATION – All are welcome.

Sunday, April 5th - Fellowship Breakfast 9:00am.

Easter Worship with Bread and Cup Communion: 10:00am.



April is VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH . . . Thank you to all the volunteers associated with the food cupboard, day care and church. Ushers, greeters, worship leaders, Deacons, prayer warriors, fellowship hour "goodies", prayer chain, bread table, canned goods, frozen food, milk and eggs, produce, sign in table, decorators. The list can go on and on!

THANK YOU . . . THANK YOU. . . THANK YOU!!!



Reminders, Notes, Tips

- The weather is getting warmer! Please make sure your child has appropriate clothing to go outside.
- Children 2 and older will participate in CAL Sports twice a month. Please make sure to check the calendar to make sure they have appropriate shoes to run around in.
- Please make sure your child has a change of clothes in their cubby. We only have a small supply of extra school clothes. If your child goes home in school clothes, please bring them back so we can wash and reuse them. If you have clothes to donate (especially pants), we will gladly take them.

Important Dates

Friendship House

(we will be closed April 3rd and April 6th)

North Penn

30th-3rd No School-Spring Break

New Happenings

- Friendship House will be closed Friday, April 3rd and Monday, April 6th for spring break. (North Penn is open Monday, April 6th)
- Week of the Young Child- April 13th-17th. Established by NAEYC, this is a fun-filled week celebrating early learning, young children, their teachers, families, and communities. Daily themes include Music Monday, Tasty Tuesday, Work Together Wednesday, Artsy Thursday, and Family Friday!
- Summer is right around the corner. Please fill out the attached paper to let us know your plans. We are in the process of planning summer camp. Please be aware that there will be an additional charge in June for performers and activities for the summer. Teddy Bears-\$45, Busy Bunnies-\$55, Little Lambs-\$65 Young Cubs, Pandas, School Age-\$75

Weekly Themes:

30th-3rd Easter

7th-10th Life Cycles

13th-17th Week of the Young Child

20th-24th Earth Day

27th-1st Weather

Chapel with Pastor Lynne

Theme- Holy Week & Easter

Lesson 1 - Jesus Dies and is Alive

Lesson 2 - Jesus Makes Breakfast



FOCUS ON FOLKS!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

04 – Brandon Holbert
13 – Kathryn Pellak
17 – Rob Hanks
21 – Annette Hanks
21 – Collin Haldeman
27 – Carter Hanks

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

None in April



Life is like a camera.
Focus on what is important
and you will capture it
perfectly.

Better with Less workshop

If your congregation is facing budget constraints, leadership burnout, or declining membership, you are not alone! But what if this season is an opportunity instead of scarcity?

Join the ANE District for the Better with Less Workshop featuring author and pastor G. Jeffrey MacDonald to discover how part-time ministry models are empowering congregations across the country. You'll gain practical tools, hear encouraging stories, and reimagine the possibilities for your ministry context. April 18th, 10am – 1pm- Zoom. Register <https://tinyurl.com/4s3jeez7>. (717-367-4730)

10 Things God Won't Ask

When He Meets You

- ✚ ...how many friends you had; He'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.
- ✚ ...what kind of car you drove; He'll ask how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.
- ✚ ...the square footage of your house; He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
- ✚ ...what clothes you had in your closet; He'll ask how many you helped to clothe.
- ✚ ...what your highest salary was; He'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.
- ✚ ...what your job title was; He'll ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.
- ✚ ...what neighborhood you lived; He'll ask how you treated your neighbors.
- ✚ ...ask about the color of your skin; He'll ask about the content of your character.
- ✚ ...how many material possessions you had; but will ask if they dictated your life.
- ✚ ...why it took you so long to seek Salvation; He'll forgive when you ask and lovingly invite you into the glories of heaven.

STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION - APRIL 2026

Greeters

Don Hanks, Rob Hanks, Dan Sibley

Worship Leaders

05 – Annette Hanks (Easter)
12 – Robin McMahon
19 – C Holbert
26 – C Holbert

Accompanist

05 – Annamarie Dieterle
12 – David Himmer
19 – Annamarie Dieterle
26 – Annamarie Dieterle

Message

05 – Pastor Lynne (Easter)
12 – Pastor Don McDonough
19 – Deacon Marlene Natali
26 – Pastor Lynne Allebach

Steward Counters

Connie Holbert - Treasurer

FAITHFUL COMMUNITY

What Is Happening?

APRIL 2026



Thursday, April 2nd

Maundy Thursday

Love Feast

Indian Creek COB

6:30pm.

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Friday, April 3rd

Good Friday

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Saturday, April 4th

ECR Worship Team

Noon – 4:00pm.

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Sunday, April 5th

HAPPY EASTER

Carry-In Breakfast

9:00am.

Morning Worship

10:00am.

Pastor Lynne Allebach

Fellowship Time

11:00am.

ECR Worship

11:30am.

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Tuesday, April 7th

Food Cupboard

10:30am – 1:00pm.

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Saturday, April 11th

ECR Worship Team

Noon – 4:00pm.

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Sunday, April 12th

***“Wired Word”* Bible Study**

9:00am.

Morning Worship

Pastor Don McDonough

10:00am.

Fellowship Time

11:00am.

ECR Worship

11:30am.

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Monday, April 13th

Worshipful Work

6:00pm.

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Saturday, April 18th

Food Cupboard

8:30am. – 11:00am.

ECR Worship Team

Noon – 4:00pm.

Sunday, April 19th

“Tyrants” Bible Study

9:00am.

Morning Worship

Deacon Marlene Natali

10:00am.

Fellowship Time

11:00am.

ECR Worship

11:30am.

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Tuesday, April 21st

Food Cupboard

10:30am – 1:00pm.

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Saturday, April 25th

Men’s Breakfast

8:30am.

Heritage Restaurant

ECR Worship Team

Noon – 4:00pm.

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Sunday, April 26th

***“Wired Word”* Bible Study**

9:00am.

Morning Worship

Pastor Lynne Allebach

10:00am.

Fellowship Time

11:00am.

ECR Worship

11:30am.

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Monday April 27th

Food Cupboard

5:30pm – 7:30pm.