

# PITSBURG CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

You can see our services on  
Facebook or YouTube  
Under "Pittsburg Church of the Brethren"

## JUNE 2023

Pastor: Ken Oren email: [pittsburgcob@yahoo.com](mailto:pittsburgcob@yahoo.com)  
Web: [www.pittsburgcob.org](http://www.pittsburgcob.org)  
Facebook: Pittsburg Church of the Brethren

### - - - CALENDAR OF EVENTS - - -

#### Sundays:

8:45 am Coffee fellowship

9:00 am Bible Café led by Dewayne Heck

10:00 am Praise and Worship

#### Tuesdays:

LifeWise class on Summer hiatus

#### Wednesdays:

7 pm Bible Study on summer hiatus

May 29 Memorial Day

June 18 Father's Day

June 21 First Day of Summer

June 21 Wednesday 7:00 pm  
Board meeting

July 4-8 CoB Annual Conference - Cincinnati

Sept 4 Labor Day

Sept 6 Wednesday 7:00 pm Board meeting

Sept 13 Wednesday 7:00 pm Council meeting

Sept 20 Wednesday 7:00 pm Bible Study resumes

Song of Solomon 2:12 (NRSV)

<sup>12</sup> The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing  
has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard  
in our land.

#### FROM THE PASTOR

This is a fun verse that describes a change in seasons. An interesting fact to note is that the turtledove is a kind of dove that hides away in the wintertime and appears again in the spring/summer seasons. It's voice is never heard in winter unless it is a fine warm day.

We are moving into a different season - school is out, people are taking vacations, our projects at the church are nearing completion - and we can take time to look around and say, "God is Good."

We are thankful for our congregation and the wonderful way we work together - seeking God's will, supporting and encouraging each other, and envisioning a future of Hope.

May all your summer plans serve to empower your life and faith, and bring you closer to God who created it all.  
Pastor Ken

#### Castine Area Food Bank

June food item is Flour

*Items may be left with the Strawzers for transport.*

WORSHIP LEADER:  
June: John Strawser  
July: Gail Bankson

#### Note:

If we have not listed your  
birthday or anniversary,  
please contact the Pastor so  
we can correct the list.

#### JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1	Aden Strawser	10	Randall Westfall
5	Tom & Linda Walker	12	Jennifer Westfall
5	Jack & Diane Baker	18	Ken & Daryl Oren
6	Ken Oren	21	Heidi Westfall
8	Donna Jean Heck	28	Linda & Tony Taylor
8	Kenneth & Marilyn Miller		



### Volleyball Court Cleanup.

A big thank you goes out to our youth for cleaning the volleyball court. What was a court full of weeds and sand is now a finely manicured court ready to be used. Volleyball anyone? Afterwards we did the “Brethren” thing and all went to Picnics for ice cream.



Bobbie Wiseman’s piano recital on Sunday May 21 was a wonderful afternoon - and another great use of our facility



The Pitsburg Players - “Let your light shine”  
Visit our Facebook or YouTube page, “Pitsburg Church of the Brethren.”



What happens when you receive Christ into your life?

### **Change #1 A life changing forever relationship with Jesus begins.**

*Revelation 3:20 (NIV) - <sup>20</sup> Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.*

We have seen this verse in pictures. Have you ever noticed what was missing? The door handle or latch. This picture of Jesus is more than a man standing at a door, it is a picture that many times is overlooked. "The door in the picture represent the human heart, and unlike the door handles that we normally picture, this handle is on the inside." This is a picture of Jesus as he stands at the door of a sinner.

Jesus will not force his way through the door... Jesus will stop and knock waiting for you to open the door to let Him in. You will have to open the door to let Him in. "I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." This speaks of fellowship, of feeding on the Word of God, and of coming to know Jesus Christ better.

If Jesus is kept on the outside then there can be no fellowship or relationship. But when Jesus is on the inside, there is fellowship and a life changing relationship begins.

### **Change #2 You become a child of God**

*John 1:12 (NIV) - <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God*

If you believes in Jesus as the Son of God, you will be saved. To receive Jesus, who is the Word of God (John 1:1) means to acknowledge His claims, to place our faith in Jesus, and to yield our full (100%) allegiance to Him. People are not naturally born children of God but can become so by receiving the gift of the new birth. We become children of God in the sense of God's covenant people.

### **Change #3 Your sins are forgiven**

*Colossians 1:14 (NIV) <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

Not only have we become part of God's family as a child of God, we also have forgiveness of sins. This is atonement (the reconciliation of God and humankind through the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ) or redemption (the action of saving or being saved from sin). Redeemed was used of freeing slaves from bondage. Here it refers to Christ freeing believing sinners from slavery to sin. Atonement is always associated with the blood of Christ. We are redeemed through His blood shed on the cross - Jesus paid a price to deliver us out of slavery.

### **Change #4 You have eternal life.**

*1 John 5:11-13 (NIV) <sup>11</sup> And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup> Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. <sup>13</sup> I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.*

What is the testimony? "That God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son." Having the assurance of eternal life will change our Christian life here and now.

### **Change #5 You begin the adventure of knowing God personally.**

*Philippians 3:8 (NIV) - <sup>8</sup> What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ*

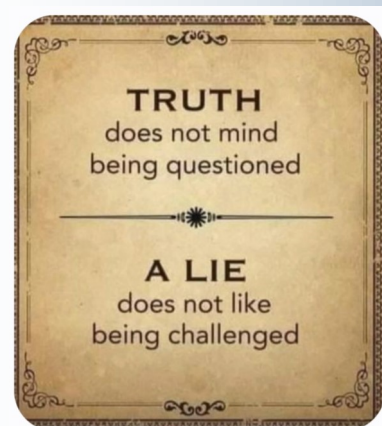
To "know" Christ is not just having new intellectual knowledge, it is a verb that means to know Jesus "personally" It is to share life with Christ. We must not underestimate the word "know".

*John 17:3 (NIV) - <sup>3</sup> Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.*

*2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 (NIV) - <sup>8</sup> He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. <sup>9</sup> They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might*

Our conversion is not just a flash in the pan experience. Conversion is something that stays with us until we leave this planet called earth. It is not for just a moment but it continues for a lifetime. Sanctification is not a great emotional experience; it is a daily walk in dependence upon God. To sanctify something is to set it apart for God's special use and purpose. It is the beginning of knowing God personally and working with God for a lifetime.

Submitted by Dewayne Heck



Submitted by  
Kim Kessler

PITTSBURG CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN  
8376 PITTSBURG LAURA RD  
ARCANUM OH 45304  
[www.pittsburgcob.org](http://www.pittsburgcob.org)



If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please contact the Pastor at [pittsburgcob@yahoo.com](mailto:pittsburgcob@yahoo.com)



The Pittsburg Players - "Mis-matched"  
Visit our Facebook or YouTube page, "Pittsburg Church of the Brethren."