Castine Area Food Bank
July food item is Peanut butter

This July 5 we expect to have a special visit from our Thailand missionary family: Nate and Ivy Chessman and family.

Wear a face mask. Practice 6' separation. With no hugs or handshakes.

Bring smiling eyes and a hopeful spirit.
Pastor Ken

NAME A TIME IN HISTORY WHEN THINGS DID NOT CHANGE . . .
We may have had times of comfort and discomfort - and we may remember time in the past with nostalgia, but in general we remember the good times and forget that even then, things were constantly changing.
We would hope that we remember the times of discomfort and use them to work toward making a better today and tomorrow - but our memories are limited.
We also may be guilty of only thinking about ourselves and what we experienced, and not what was happening in the shadows around us.
I pray that Christ would open our eyes anew - to see those around us in a different light. To see each person as a brother or a sister who is also struggling in the shadows - and that we would do our part to help them see and feel light.
We don’t have to go to Thailand to make a difference, we can act in love right here.

On the other hand, we can appreciate those that go out of their comfort zone to help others, and we can learn from them on how we can be stretched ourselves.
Pastor Ken

Isaiah 43:18–19a (NRSV)
18 Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. 19 I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
During the American Revolution, the legal separation of the thirteen colonies from Great Britain in 1776 actually occurred on July 2, when the Second Continental Congress voted to approve a resolution of independence that had been proposed in June by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia declaring the United States independent from Great Britain's rule. After voting for independence, Congress turned its attention to the Declaration of Independence, a statement explaining this decision, which had been prepared by a Committee of Five, with Thomas Jefferson as its principal author. Congress debated and revised the wording of the Declaration, finally approving it two days later on July 4. A day earlier, John Adams had written to his wife Abigail: 

"The second day of July 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."

Adams's prediction was off by two days. From the outset, Americans celebrated independence on July 4, the date shown on the much-publicized Declaration of Independence, rather than on July 2, the date the resolution of independence was approved in a closed session of Congress.

From the preamble to the Declaration of Independence:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

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**PASTOR KEN PRAYER LIST**

Dale - COPD  
Peggy - hip concerns  
Tom - son Jerry  
Jerrlyn - grandson Eric in Kuwait  
Betty S - ease pain, strength  
Alice and Ray neighbor with stage 4 cancer

From Sue Strawser  
John - stone work on hold  
Kaylie S - foot surgery June 30th  
Penny son Sean - nodule on thyroid, Graves disease  
Dianna - foodbank coordinator  
- Melody with leukemia.  
Rick G - pancreatic cancer

Linda T - nurse daughter  
Bobby - July 1, bone marrow transplant  
Carol DeMaio - Cousin Dan  
- Sis in law Barb S, broken hip, Parkinson’s  
Sarah O - Dan in Mexico  
- Genna in Chicago  
Jordan W - awaiting shoulder surgery  
Families in and around Pittsburg for a connection with God and His church  
Sandy Crist group - prayer for children and schools  
Those affected by virus world wide  
- Medical personal and first responders  
- People in isolation  
  - nursing homes, prisons, elderly,  
  - and those subject to depression, anxiety, or abuse.  
Service personal and families all over the world.  
EYN - Church under persecution  
Israel - protection and guidance in holding to Godly values  
USA - Revival  
- Civil discussion and renewed focus on Justice and Peace for everyone

**PRAISES**

Sunshine - walking in God’s creation  
Gardening - vegetables and fresh flowers  
Family time together  
Time for prayer, Bible study and meditation  
Forgiveness  
New opportunities  
The fact that Jesus is coming back - be prepared

Please send me updates as appropriate by email or phone.  
Pastor Ken 937-546-6808 - call or text  
Facebook page “Pitsburg Church of the Brethren” - skits and messages. Hit “Like” to help spread the word.
Dear Pittsburg Church of the Brethren,

What a crazy couple of months. We are saddened by the ongoing trials our world is facing, yet we know God still reigns. In this season of many worldwide needs, we are extra thankful for your friendship, prayer support, and financial support. Your sacrifice is not unnoticed. Below are our updates and ways we would ask you to pray along with us.

Nate and Ivy

What is the covid situation in Thailand?
The number of reported cases has been very low in our city lately, but the economy has been hit hard with lockdowns and curfews. We are grieved for friends and neighbors who are struggling to buy food and pay rent. We long to be with them through this difficult season.

In the midst of the trials, our Thai church has been very active bringing meals to those in need and sharing Christ's hope. Please pray that God would soften hearts and bring comfort through this season.

When will our family return overseas?
Our current plane tickets are for September 3. Right now the borders are tightly shut to Thailand and Taiwan (where we would normally transfer planes.) We are thankful for governments that want to protect its citizens, but we are anxious to return "home." Please pray for wisdom for leaders facing difficult decisions. As we wait for news, we are thankful for God's peace, knowing that He is in control in the midst of uncertainty. Pray that we (and especially our kids) would continue to lean into this peace and away from anxiety.

What have we been doing in the USA?
Lots of computer screen time. :)
To be more specific, we've had lots emails and zoom calls, both with friends/students/co-workers in Thailand and with friends/churches in the States.
We've also enjoyed sneaking in bike rides and time with our parents whenever possible! Since we're living in their house, our kids have appreciated an overdose of grandparent time!

Now that churches are beginning to open, our time in the States should look a little more normal. We'll spend most Sundays sharing with supporting churches in Ohio.
Please pray that our words would honor Christ. During the week, we'll continue to work remotely and serve local churches as needs arise.
Everyone is struggling to get through this virus.
If you have prayer concerns, you may call Pastor Ken at 937-546-6808.

Visit our Facebook page, “Pitsburg Church of the Brethren.”
This is a scene from Father’s day.