

**West York Church of the Brethren
5101 Darlington Road
York, PA 17408**

Richard Godfrey, Pastor

The West Yorker



December 2025

"The mission of the West York Church of the Brethren is to love, nurture and build the community of Jesus Christ."



West York Church of the Brethren

5101 Darlington Road

York, PA 17408

Phone: (717) 792-9260

Prayer Line: (717) 792-9260 (Option "5")

E-mail: westyorkchurch@gmail.com

Website: www.westyorkcob.org

Sunday Worship: Sunday School 9:00 am

Worship Service 10:15 am

2025

The West Yorker



Christmas Candlelight Service
Wednesday, December 24th
6:00 p.m.

Please join us for our Special Christmas Eve Worship service. Join us as we take time from our busy schedules, and hear a message of love from God from a different point of view, one that we seldom consider at Christmas, but reminds us of the real purpose and message of the gift of love that God has given us.



Bread & Cup Service
Sunday, December 7th
10:15 am Worship Service

The cantata
"Peace on Earth"
will be presented on
Sunday, December 21st
during the 10:15 am
worship service.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Leadership Team Meeting - December 2
Men's Breakfast - December 6
2nd Sunday in Advent - December 7
Bread & Cup Service - December 7
Youth Meeting - December 7
Newsletter Deadline - December 10
CEC Christmas Program - December 12
3rd Sunday in Advent - December 14
Day of Prayer for Children & Youth - December 17
Youth Christmas Party - December 19
4th Sunday in Advent - December 21
Cantata - December 21
First Day of Winter - December 21
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - December 24
Christmas Day - December 25
New Year's Eve - December 31

DENOMINATIONAL, DISTRICT & COMMUNITY EVENTS
 (For more info on denominational events, go to www.brethren.org)



**Friends of Cross Keys Village -
The Brethren Home Community**

**Annual Luminary
Tree Lighting**

Friday, December 19th at 6 pm

(Weather date is December 20th)

Join us for caroling and light refreshments at Harmony Ridge's main entrance. Sponsor forms to sponsor a luminary in honor or memory of someone special are hanging on the hallway bulletin board.

children's
AID SOCIETY
Southern PA District
Church of the Brethren



All three centers need paper goods - paper towels, Kleenex, wipes, toilet paper, paper plates, copying paper and construction paper. When these items are donated it saves us money because we don't have to buy them.

*Thank you for your continued support for
CAS.*

**Greater Hanover Area Fire Museum
8th Annual Holiday Train Garden**
Operating Model Train Layouts & Displays
134 East Hanover Street - Hanover



**Fridays 6 pm to 9 pm
Saturdays 11 am to 7 pm
Sundays 12 pm to 5 pm**

November - 28, 29 & 30

December - 5, 6, 7; 12, 13, 14; 19, 20, 21

January 2026 - 2, 3 & 4

Week between Christmas & New Years

Friday, December 26 - 11 am to 9 pm
Saturday, December 27 - 11 am to 7 pm
Sunday, December 28 - 12 pm to 5 pm
Monday, December 29 - 9 am to 3 pm
Tuesday, December 30 - 9 am to 3 pm

Free event

Donations benefit the Fire Museum

**Spring Grove Alumni Chorus
will present**

“Christmas in the Grove”

Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 7th

4:00 pm

Spring Grove Area
Middle School
Auditorium



Everyone is invited!!!!



**IF YOU ARE CERTIFIED IN CPR &
AED, PLEASE CONTACT BARB IN THE
CHURCH OFFICE AND LET HER
KNOW. WE ARE COMPILING A LIST
OF THOSE WHO ARE TRAINED IN
CASE OF AN EMERGENCY.**

THANK YOU!!



Steve & Nicole Grove have taken the opportunity to serve as our new Food Pantry coordinators. They are asking for donations of gravy, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, boxed potatoes or stuffing for Harvest of Hope Food Pantry for the month of December.

December Special Offering

Our special offering for December is
“Keystone Family Alliance”

Keystone Family Alliance aims to educate, motivate, and equip every Christian in the state of PA on the needs of orphans and vulnerable children, both locally and globally. We bridge the gap between the desperate needs in the child welfare system and Pennsylvania churches. By engineering wraparound Care Communities, Keystone Family Alliance provides tangible support, prayer, resources, and aid, resulting in foster families who are involved longer and stronger.

Please use the brown envelopes on the table in the gathering area.

January Newsletter

Deadline for articles for the
 January Newsletter is

December 10, 2025

(Due to the Christmas Holiday the newsletter will be available by December 21, 2025.)

Thank you.



MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
Saturday, December 6th
8 am
Fellowship Hall at WYCOB
PLEASE JOIN US!!!

YOUTH MEETING
Sunday, December 7th
11:30 am to 1pm



Youth in middle or high school.
We will read and talk about scripture.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY
Friday, December 19th
6 pm to 8 pm
Youth in middle or high school.



2026 Offering Envelopes
will be available in
December.

If you do not use envelopes
and would like to start so
that your giving is recorded
with an end-of-year tax statement,
please see Jake Hershey, Michelle
Hartlaub or call the church office.



We will once again have
 a **Mitten Tree**
 this year. Please bring
 mittens, hats, gloves,
 scarves and socks to put
 on the tree.



The Child Education Center

will present their Christmas program on Friday, December 12th at 6:30 pm.

Thank you for your support of our Hoss's Community Day and R & K Subs Fundraisers.
We appreciate your support of our school!

Interested in giving to West York Church Electronically? Scan the QR Code.



QR CODE

Scan the QR code to visit our online giving page.

Any questions, contact Jake Hershey.

Note from the Treasurer **Contributions for 2025**

Our **last deposit** of the year will be **Sunday, December 28th**. Contributions placed in the offering plate after Dec 28th will be counted towards 2026 giving. **Electronic giving** contributions must be made by **Dec 24th** to count as a 2025 contribution. Any **contributions mailed to the church** must be **in the church office by Dec. 26th** in order to be counted as a 2025 contribution. If you have any questions please contact Jake Hershey, Treasurer.



INVITATION TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

The "Seeking Amazing Grace" Adult Sunday School class continues to grow, numerically, but even more importantly, spiritually. We have studied - in depth - the prophetic books of Revelation, Daniel and Isaiah, as well as the exciting Gospel of John. We are currently studying **Paul's letters to the New Testament churches, including Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians**. These four books (Epistles) contain some of Paul's most important explanations of Jesus' teaching on how to live the Christian life. They are just as relevant for us today as they were 2000 years ago when Paul wrote them.

You do not have to be an advanced Bible scholar to be a part of this class - only someone interested in learning more about God's Word - the Bible - and how it applies to our modern-day culture.. Please come and check us out.

Bible study is one of the most important aspects of a growing, maturing faith, and is ever-increasingly important in these chaotic times in which we live. And the informal, friendly atmosphere of the Sunday School class is a great place to see God's Word come alive in your own life and walk of faith. Come join us. We also continue to look at the Wired Word - a study of the current top news stories of the week and how Scripture applies to those stories and how we, as Christians, need to respond to the events in the news each day. Hope to see you in class.

Care and Share Women's Bible Study meets virtually on Mondays at 7 pm, led by Judith Wallace. They will soon start a new study **"Matthew: The Arrival of the King."**

You are invited to join one or more of these groups for Bible Study!!



“I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall continually be in my mouth.”
Psalm 34:1

Don’t just praise the Lord for an hour on Sunday. Keep a song in your heart all the time. Start first thing each day. Scottish preacher, Duncan Campbell resolved to bless the Lord at all times, starting with his morning devotions. According to his biographer, Campbell rose each morning as the farmers harnessed their horses to the plow. He was convicted by their work ethic and determined to be as diligent with his spiritual harvest as they were with their crops.

Campbell’s biography explained, “During those hours of communion with God, the fresh dew of heaven bathed his soul, refreshing and equipping him for daily service. He carried the fragrance of the presence of God with him from the secret place into his public ministry.”

When we start the day praising the Lord, it keeps a song in our heart throughout our waking hours. When we offer our praise and worship to God, He can dry our tears and banish our fears. His praise should continually be on our lips.

Like the father of the prodigal son, God longs for us to come to Him. He is full of compassion, eager to forgive, and ready to fellowship with us. If you’ve had a bad day, or week, or year, let this Christmas (and every day!) be the time you run to Jesus, kneel before Him, and find the peace and comfort only available in the compassionate arms of our loving Lord and Savior.

Pastor Godfrey

PASTOR GODFREY’S DECEMBER SERMONS

December	7th	-	<i>Be Prepared!</i>	Matthew 3:1-12
December	14th	-	<i>Hope, Frustration, Joy</i>	Matthew 11:2-11
December	21st	-	<i>Cantata - “Peace on Earth”</i>	Isaiah 9:6, Philippians 4:4, 7
December	24th	-	<i>Another Birthday Story</i>	John 1:1-14
December	29th	-	<i>Flight to Egypt</i>	Matthew 2:13-23

PUZZLE

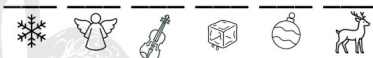


GOOD NEWS TO THE SHEPHERDS

What did the angel of the Lord say to the shepherds?

Directions: Write the first letter of each picture on the lines.

“



”

Luke 2:11, NIV

Answer: "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you." Luke 2:11, NIV



Christmas Card treasures



Turn old Christmas cards into beautiful keepsake ornaments! It's a fun, simple way to give new life to cards you've received and add a handmade touch to your tree.

What you need:

- Christmas cards
- Scissors
- Glue
- Circle pattern (cut from cardboard or trace around object)
- Hole punch
- Yarn or ribbon
- Glitter (optional)



What you do:

1. Trace a circle onto two Christmas cards.
2. Cut out the circles and glue the backs together.
3. Decorate the edges with glitter or ribbon for extra sparkle.
4. Punch a hole at the top and thread yarn or ribbon through to hang.



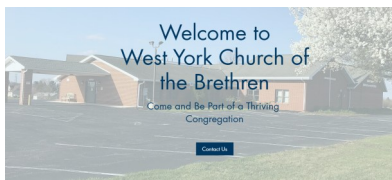
Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.
— James 1:17 (NIV)



Grace Delivered

Our monthly coin collection benefits the
Nashville Fire Company
with cases of water and

Gatorade. We are asking you to consider bringing your loose pocket change and extra coins to drop into our offering cans on the first Sunday of each month. If offerings will permit, we will add additional fire companies as we go along.



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!!!
WWW.WESTYORKCOB.ORG



To sponsor the bulletin, newsletter and flowers for on the altar in 2025.

Sign-up sheets are hanging on the Informational Bulletin Board in the hallway by the coat rack.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

meets during the
worship service each week.



STAY CONNECTED Follow us on

Facebook

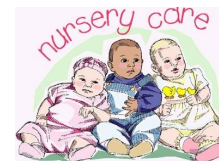
and

Instagram



**West York Church
of the Brethren
@westyorkcob**

**West York COB
@westyorkcob**



**THE NURSERY IS AVAILABLE FOR
CHILDREN FROM NEWBORN THROUGH
3 YEARS OLD. IT IS LOCATED IN THE
ROOM OFF OF THE GATHERING AREA.**

CHILDREN'S STORY

**If anyone feels led to share a
Children's Story during the Worship
service please let Pastor Godfrey or
Barb in the office know.**



**In the event of bad weather,
please contact Mike Parente
for cancellations.**

Serving our Congregation in December

Acolytes

- 7 Caleb Grove
- 14 Eva Hake
- 21 Alex Bridges
- 28 Isabelle McMonigle



Greeters

- 7 Chuck Wallace
- 14 Kathy Hinkle
- 21 Bill Zumbrum
- 28 Cheryl Fahringer



Power Point Operator

- 7 Dave Highlands
- 14 Nathan Keefer
- 21 Larry Marshall
- 28 Bill Zumbrum



Sound Board Operator

- 7 Larry Marshall
- 14 Ed Jacobs
- 21 Merl Keefer
- 28 Gary Hake



Nursery Caregivers

- 7 Nicole Grove
- 14 Kayla Eshelman
- 21 Genie Grove
- 28 Vivian Hubbell



Hospitality Table

- 7 OPEN
- 14 OPEN
- 21 OPEN
- 28 OPEN



December

Wendy McDowell
 Janice Spurlock
 Pennie Jacobs
 Bob & Jo King
 Everleigh Kern
 Lincoln Nolt
 Nancy D. Smith
 Steve Grove
 Bentley Marshall
 Alexaden Bridges
 Shirley (Genie) Grove
 Jonathan & Gretchen Greiner
 Erma Miller
 Kira Greiner
 Bernard Anthony
 Kazuko King
 Bill Zumbrum
 Barb Coonan
 Julee Bricker
 Michael Schilberz, Jr.
 Cheryl Buser
 Kathy Hinkle





The Wellspan Spiritual Care and Education Department wants to let our church know when a member is in the hospital. **PLEASE identify our church at registration and admittance into the hospital.** According to HIPAA regulations, if you provide this information to the hospital, our church may be notified of the admission.



DAY OF PRAYER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Wednesday, December 17th is our monthly Day of Prayer for our Children and Youth. Please find time during this day to pray for our Church's Ministry to Children and Youth.



Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request you would like to share with the church, please fill out a prayer card (found in the gathering area) and give it to the pastor. You may also call Barb in the church office.

West York COB Prayer Line

What Is It?

It is an avenue for ALL of us to use! It is not for sharing prayer concerns, but for calling to hear what prayer concerns have been shared. It is a recorded message that Barb, our church secretary, updates a couple times a week to keep the congregation informed of those who need prayer. The number to call is **717-792-9260 (Option "5")**.

If you have a prayer concern to be added to the prayer line, please call the church office.

God Bless You for Praying!

I am grateful for the Pastor's visits and the cards from the Care & Share sisters. I know it was done in Jesus' name.
Lillian Grove

Thank you to all who helped during the Church Work Day on November 15th. It was a very productive day.
Brian Allabach

We wish everyone at West York Church of the Brethren a blessed and joyous Christmas season and a happy 2026!



Thank you all for your friendship and support this past year.
I look forward to working with you in 2026!

Barb Sloat and Jeffrey Stover



For pastoral emergencies:
Please contact Pastor Godfrey or Cindy Heist.



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL December 12th & 13th 5 pm to 9 pm

Join us in celebrating the King!

Christmas Lights & Music ~ Decorated Trees

Tree Decorating Contest ~ Bake Sale

Kids Activities ~ Cozy Fires

Luminary Garden (Honoring our Loved Ones)

Delicious Turkey Dinner & Soup (per donation)

Warm Drinks & Lots of Cookies (Free)

Hay Rides Friday & Saturday 5-9 pm

Announcements

We are running the announcements on a power point prior to the worship service and after. If you have an announcement you would like to add to the power point, please contact the church office no later than Thursday each week.

If you have an announcement you would like to make in church during the worship service, please talk to Pastor Godfrey prior to the service.

ORIENTAL TRADING & CHRISTIANBOOK.COM ORDERS

If you want to place an order from **Oriental Trading** or from **Christianbook.com** for church-related activities, please call Barb in the church office. We have set up one account at each for the church that is tax exempt. If you order on your own, you will be liable to pay the PA Sales tax for those purchases. Questions? Contact Barb.



The Service and Outreach Chairperson, along with our Pastor, administer and oversee a special Outreach Ministry Fund. This "Outreach Fund" will be used to assist people with uncovered or unexpected financial needs on a case by case basis. Payments to assist persons will be made against bona fide invoices only and no cash will ever be distributed to individuals.

If you would like to contribute to this fund, please designate on your envelope "Outreach Fund".

Thank you for considering to participate in this ministry with your generous offering.