

Take care that

**THIS  
LIBERTY**

of yours  
does not somehow  
become a

**STUMBLING  
BLOCK**

to the weak.

1 CORINTHIANS 8:9, NRSV

**First Church of the Brethren**

**August 11, 2021**

**730 Church Street**

**Eden, NC 27288**



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As a high school soccer referee, one of my requirements is to complete a class on concussions on a periodic basis. The course consists of how to be able to spot the signs and symptoms of a concussion as well as what is the protocol for a student athlete returning to play following a concussion. Certain milestones must be reached so that the player can become more and more active. Sometimes there are setbacks, and the player must go back a step or two in the process. The goal is for the student to get back on the field in a timely manner, but more importantly, in a way that preserves their long-term health. The delay is annoying, but ultimately leads to better results.

I feel like this is a pretty good metaphor of where we are right now with church activities and Covid 19. We really want to get going, we've gotten some things going and planned and then along comes the Delta Variant. Some people are like those hard-core parents that want their kid back in the game right now. Others are the ones who are afraid for the kids to ever go back on the field.

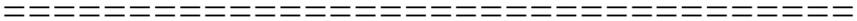
I know there are some people that think we ought to just go ahead and get back to normal. Others are still not even ready to be in the building on Sunday mornings. The answer is somewhere in the middle. And there is a lot of trial and error

involved. We may take a step forward and then two steps back. The decisions are always difficult, especially when you know that any decision is going to be disliked by someone.

The members of the board have made some difficult decisions this week, including limiting our Homecoming Celebration to just a worship service and pushing back the start of King's Club. It is so hard to know for sure what to do, but they are trying their best with the available information.

We will get back. "Normal" may not look like what it looked like what it did before, but it will come. Please be patient and prayerful as we move forward.

*Listen to counsel and receive instruction,  
that you may be wise in your latter days.  
Proverbs 19:20*



How Beautiful God's Love

How beautiful God's Love for us

So broad, so deep, so clear;

A gift that's rich and personal,

A joy that's always near.

—Peggy Ferrell, *Poems and Prayers*

## FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

730 Church Street Eden, NC 27288

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### **Pray Without Ceasing**

Eugene Barton, Lucy Bradford, Katherine Bridges, Carolyn Combs, Melissa Dalton, JT Hale, Barbara Janney, Gary Janney, Tania Martin, Salem Nelson, Marie Priddy, Aaron Roach, Jutta Shelton, Roger Shockley, Louise Tudor, Patsy Underwood, Gail Walker, Danny Whitley, Frankie Wilson

### **Thinking of You**

**Lucy Bradford**

### **District Prayer Request**

Pray for the Pulaski, First Church of the Brethren, received as a congregation in the district one hundred years ago. Let us honor the spiritual foundation laid for us by that great cloud of witnesses and work with a will in our own generation for the edification of the church.

Thank you for continuing to honor your commitment to the work of Jesus Christ through your tithes.

Would you rather send your tithes by PayPal?

You can find us listed as Ncbrethren.tithe@gmail.com



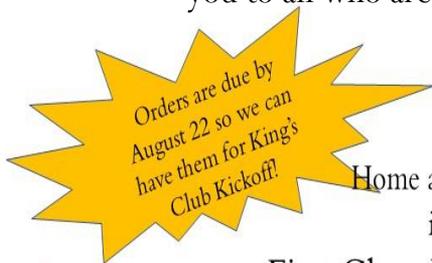
If you cannot attend regular Sunday service do not forget that you can watch a live stream of Sunday Worship service on YouTube. Find us on YouTube as Eden NC Church of the Brethren, where you can view the live stream each Sunday, or watch any of our recent sermons online.

Home and Family Life will be making fried apple pies on October 5<sup>th</sup>. The pies will cost \$3 each and orders continue through September 12<sup>th</sup>. To order, complete the form in the narthex or contact a member of Home and Family Life!



Eden First Church of the Brethren will be hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> from 1pm - 5 pm. There is an increased demand for blood donors at this time so please donate if you are able! Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin boards, or you can also sign up to donate online.

King's Club is still in need of teachers and helpers for the fall! If you feel God calling you to work with the young people of our congregation and our community please reach out to Pastor Doug, the Nurture Commission, or the church office. Thank you to all who are willing to serve!



Home and Family Life  
is selling

First Church of the Brethren  
T-shirts and hats



T-shirts available in Sapphire Blue or White

Hats will be tan

T-shirts - \$15 each\*

Hats - \$20 each

See a Home and Family Member to order or use the sign-up sheet on one of the bulletin boards

For large orders from one family, first 5 will be \$15, anything after 5 will be \$12. Samples shown here are just examples. Final products will look much nicer.



## Upcoming Birthdays

August 11: Julie Lehman

August 12: Beulah Hubbard

Leon "Monk" Barton

August 13: Braydon Blizzard

Adeline Wilkinson

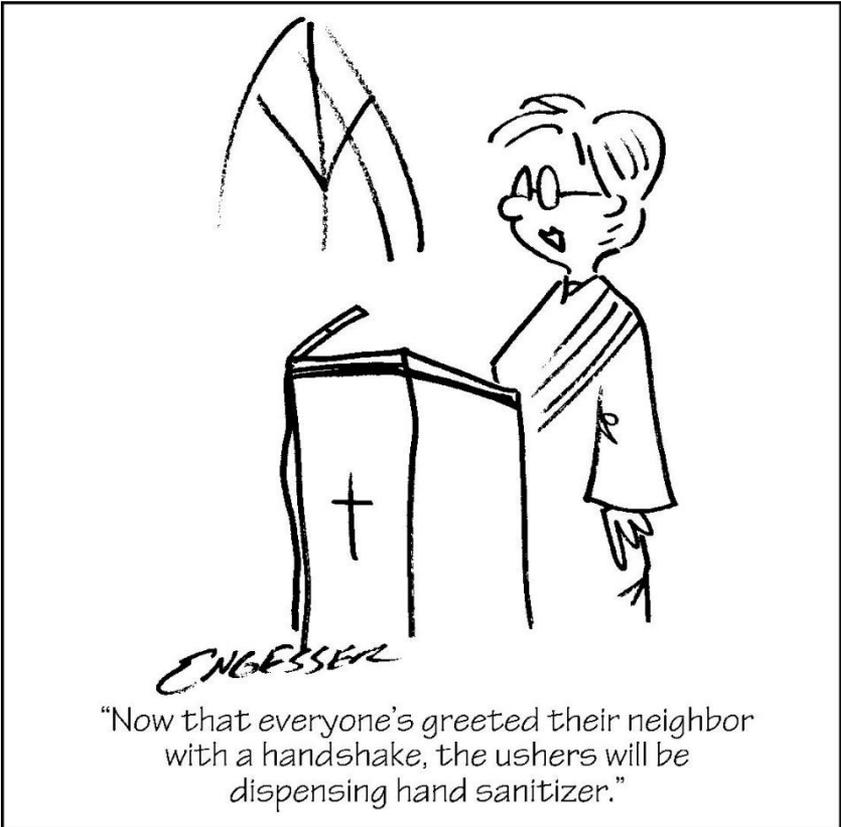
August 14: Jr. Craven

August 16: Luke Trant

August 19: Barbara Wright

## Happy Anniversary

Garry & Sharon Tudor



"Now that everyone's greeted their neighbor with a handshake, the ushers will be dispensing hand sanitizer."