A photograph of three sheep in a lush green field. One larger sheep is in the background on the left, and two smaller lambs are in the foreground. The sheep are looking towards the right. A semi-transparent green box is overlaid on the top right of the image, containing text.

Jesus said,
“Take care
of my sheep.”

JOHN 21:16, NIV

First Church of the Brethren
730 Church Street, Eden, NC May 18, 2022

FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



EDEN, NC
Doug Diamond – Pastor

Remember What God Has Done For You

Adapted from a sermon by Pastor George Wright

“If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer.”

– 2 Corinthians 1:6

Your greatest impact will come from your greatest struggles.

What do I mean? God never wastes a hurt. Instead, God uses the pain and struggles we face in life to point us back to Him, to strengthen us, to grow us – and yes, to comfort others.

Whenever I’m struggling or going through a tough time, I want to hear from someone who has walked in my shoes.

It’s the “been there and survived that” perspective that I so desperately need.

You see, it’s the stories of God’s provision, comfort, and presence at life’s lowest moments that become powerful testimonies in the lives of others.

In Romans 12: 15-16, Paul puts it this way: “Rejoice with those who rejoice, and mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.”

Looking at all the pain and brokenness in the world, how badly do we need to see this verse in action? But, is this even possible? With so many opinions, agendas, and needs to choose from, how do we live out the words of Romans 12?

We live from the overflow. We remember what God did during our time of need and do likewise.

Meaning, we offer grace and forgiveness instead of judgment, love instead of condemnation, patience instead of frustration, understanding instead of condemnation.

We live from the overflow of what we’ve experienced firsthand.

In the end, it all comes back to the Gospel. It’s about what God has done for us that we could never do ourselves; it’s about the incredible freedom found in Christ Jesus. And it’s out of this freedom that we can be used by God to point others to experience the same comfort and salvation that we first encountered in our time of need.

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“Faith is like wi-fi: It’s invisible, but it has the power to connect you to what you need.”

—Unknown

FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

730 Church Street Eden, NC 27288

Office phone: (336) 627-7063 - Email: eden1stcob@gmail.com

Pray Without Ceasing

Eugene Barton, Lucy Bradford, Carolyn Combs,
Melissa Dalton, JT Hale, Barbara Janney, Tania Martin,
Salem Nelson, Marie Priddy, Aaron Roach, Jutta
Shelton, Roger Shockley, Patsy Underwood, Leon &
Gail Walker, Danny Whitley

Thinking of You

JT Hale

District Prayer Request

Pray for the National Young Adult Conference (NYAC) scheduled for May 27-30, 2022, in Montreat, North Carolina. Let us give thanks for the devotion, energy, giftedness, and skill that young adults bring to our shared discipleship!

Home and Family Life is taking donations for the Father's Day bulletin! Please submit your list of names with your donation by Sunday, June 12th in order to have your names listed in the bulletin. We look forward to celebrating all our fathers and father figures!

Make plans to satisfy your sweet tooth and enjoy some fellowship as you join the Ministry Commission on Sunday, June 12th



at 2:30 pm for an Ice Cream social! Look for signup sheets in the Sunday School classrooms and in the narthex so you can list the homemade ice cream flavor (or baked goods) you would like to bring. We hope to see everyone there!



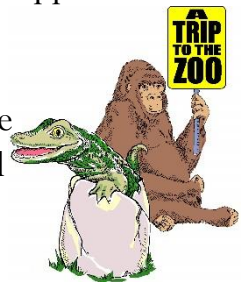
Church of the Brethren is holding National Youth Conference in Colorado in July of this year and our congregation will be sponsoring five youth and two adults to attend. Those attending will be participating in a service project to package school kits to send to needed areas. We are asking the congregation to help in this project by donating **boxes of crayons (no larger than 24 count), and boxes of unsharpened pencils (in 12 count packages)**. A box will be located in the narthex for your donations. We will collect these items in May and June.



Your support with this service project is appreciated!

The Challengers Class is planning a trip to NC Zoo Saturday, May 21, 2022 & would like to invite anyone in the congregation interested in going to let Julie Lehman know this week.

The Zoo hours are 9am-5pm & the cost is as follows: Adults Ages 13-61 \$15.00, Seniors 62+ \$13.00, Child Ages 2-12 \$11.00 and children under 2 Free.



Upcoming Birthdays

May 24: Mike Janney

May 25: Mandy Silvers

May 27: Jack Murray

May 28: Mike Harris

Happy Anniversary

May 28: Dan & Addy Barton



“To err is human, to forgive, divine,
and well, I’ve done my part.”