

Evergreen News

A Pastor's Perception

Have you ever searched for plastic pastel eggs on Easter morning? Have you ever hidden them for others to find?

I'm not sure everyone has this tradition, but it happened in my childhood home—and I enjoyed it immensely. I know our daughter, Noelle, enjoyed this in her younger years.

It is interesting that on Easter morning, the tradition has become about searching for a treat or a gift. This differs from the first Easter morning when some of Jesus' followers searched for one thing and found another.

Perhaps you've had the experience in which you went looking for one thing but found another. You were looking for a missing sock and found a shirt you did not even know was missing. Or you went shopping for one item but found one or more other things you didn't even know you wanted or needed. Or you had what you were looking for in mind but realized that there was something even better than you realized.

That was the experience of those who arrived at the tomb on that first Easter morning. They expected to find death, but they saw life. This seems to be the way of God, and when we seek Him, we find more than we imagined. God is in the business of exceeding expectations. If I take time to look back, I can see how He has given me more than I had noticed in the moments, from the grace of forgiveness from Him and others to an encouraging word found in Scripture or shared from a friend, a sense of peace found in prayer or a conversation with someone who took the time to listen. I may not have been looking for anything, but He provided.

Many have come to Jesus, the Resurrected One, looking to find a way to experience eternal life. But if we keep seeking Him and His ways, we find that in Jesus is a way to experience abundant life in the present.

I love this about our God: He often provides more than I was looking for, the unexpected. But it does start with searching for or seeking Him.

Matthew, a companion to Jesus, records him saying, " **But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.** (Matthew 6:33)

In seeking the kingdom of God, we find more than we were looking for. When we seek the King and His kingdom, we find Him and His provision of all we need.

On more than one occasion, after we have put away all the Easter decor, including the eggs, we find another one or two eggs. If we had only kept seeking, we may have found them. May we all keep seeking Jesus and His kingdom, trusting He has more for us than we could ask or imagine.



What's inside our latest issue:

Easter Events P. 2

WGT Calendar P. 3

Tiny Timbers Tidbits P. 4

Celebrations P. 6

VBS Update P. 7

Youth News P. 8



- *Prayer Shawl Gathering
Wednesday, April 9th, 7 pm
- *Sisters in Christ Saturday,
April 12th, 9 am
- *Egg Hunt April 12th @ 10 am
- *Love Feast April 17th @
6:30 pm
- *Spring Clean-up Day April
26th starting at 8 am
- *Weekly Gatherings**
- *Ladies Bible Study Mondays
at 11 am
- *Men's Bible Study Thursdays
at 7 pm & Saturdays at
7 am
- *Youth Wednesdays at
6:30 pm

**Our Vision
Statement:**
***"To Know, Love, &
Follow Jesus by
serving All"***

Love *Feast*

Making plans for Easter?

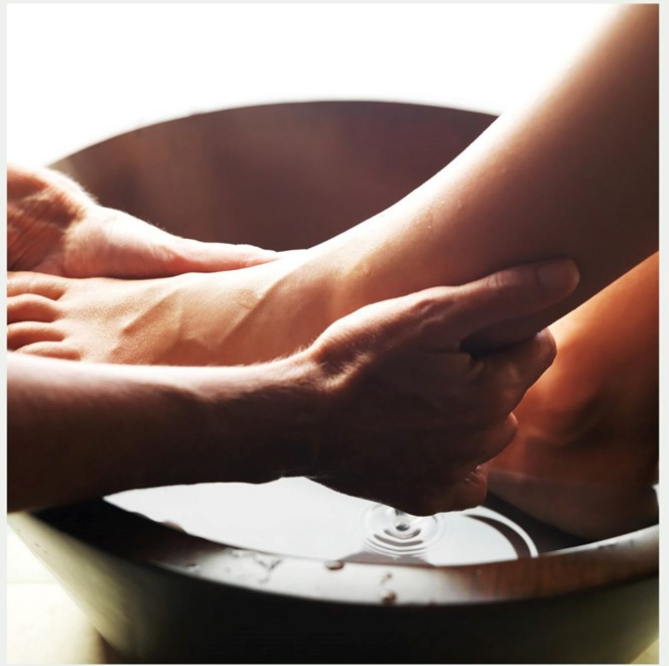
What plans did Jesus have before Easter?

The Thursday before Easter, Jesus shared a meal and washed his disciples' feet.

He then told them He had set an example for them and that they would be blessed if they followed His example.

Will you join us in doing as Jesus did on the Thursday before Easter?

Will you join us for Love Feast at 6:30 on Thursday, April 17?



Thursday, April 17

6:30 pm

EASTER

6:30 AM SUNRISE GATHERING

**7:15 AM CONTINENTAL
BREAKFAST**

**8:30 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL/
SMALL GROUPS**

**9:45 AM LARGE GROUP
GATHERING**



April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Youth 6:30 pm	3 Men's Bible Study 7 pm	4	5 3 M 7 am
6 8:30 am Sunday School/Small Groups 9:45 am Large Group Gathering	7 WWW 11 am	8 Commissions 7 pm	9 Youth 6:30 pm Prayer Shawl 7 pm	10 Men's Bible Study 7 pm	11	12 3 M 7 am Sisters in Christ 9 am Egg Hunt 10 am
13 Palm Sunday 8:30 am Sunday School/Small Groups 9:45 am Large Group Gathering	14 WWW 11 am	15 Leadership Team 7 pm	16 Youth 6:30 pm	17 Love Feast 6:30 pm	18 Good Friday Office Closed	19 3 M 7 am
20 Easter 6:30 am Sunrise Gathering 7:15 Breakfast 8:30 am Sunday School/Small Groups 9:45 am Large Group Gathering	21 WWW 11 am	22	23 Youth 6:30 pm	24 Men's Bible Study 7 pm	25	26 3 M 7 am Spring Clean Up Day 8 am
27 8:30 am Sunday School./Small Groups 9:45 am Large Group Gathering	28 WWW 11 am	29	30 Youth 6:30 pm			



Tiny Timbers Tidbits

As spring begins our friends at Tiny Timbers are enjoying the warmer weather. We are excited to be able to get back outside and swing on the swings, collect pine cones and play games in the grassy area. The students favorite games to play are " What time is it Mr. Fox?", " Red Light, Green Light" and "Duck, Duck, Goose". We are also looking forward to our field trip coming up at the end of March. We're heading to the North Museum of Nature and Science to explore and see a show! Our MWF friends went on their field trip to the Hershey Gardens. They got to plant some vegetables and explore the butterfly atrium. They really enjoyed their trip!

Registration is open for the 2025/2026 school year! Please help spread the word to all your family and friends. If anyone has questions or wants to register, they can email





He has risen as He said!
Matthew 28:6

EASTER

Rain or Shine

Egg Hunt

April 12th
@ 10 am

Storytime
Snack
Craft

West Green Tree Church of the Brethren
740 Greentree Road
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
717.653.5367
www.westgreentree.org



TINY TIMBERS

Art Show & Continental Breakfast

SUNDAY, MARCH 30TH
WGT FELLOWSHIP HALL
8 AM - 9 AM

All are invited to attend the Art Show and Continental Breakfast!

- *Welcome the preschool families
- *Enjoy some delicious breakfast treats
- *View that awesome preschool artwork

	February 23	March 2	March 9	March 16
Total Worship	116	123	133	113
Sunday School	75	69	75	63
General	\$5,593.37	\$4,084.61	\$8,875.07	\$7,924.31



Anniversaries

4/4 - John & Laurie Hollinger
4/10 - Mike & Dori Reem
4/15 - Dave & Ruth Hawthorne
4/23 - Zac & Heidi Grove
4/29 - Dan & Krista Dickson

Birthdays

4/1 - Don Weaver
4/2 - Andy Brandt
4/3 - Nick Miller
4/4 - Donna Coble
4/6 - Ruthanne Gruber
Allison Huber
4/11 - Sally Nolt
4/12 - Lucy Youtz
Isaiah Sheetz
4/14 - Steve Smith
Regena Tripp
4/15 - Shawn O'Brien
4/17 - Jason Leonard
4/19 - Landon Harnish
Paula Jones
4/20 - Brienna Brown
4/21 - Naomi Clugston
Lillian Youtz
4/23 - Alec Drawbaugh
4/25 - Jackie Trout
Dana Youtz
Shawn Vago
4/26 - Angela Waser

Align Life Baby Shower

West Green Tree family- Thank you so much for supporting Align Life Pregnancy ministries! Your generosity is very much appreciated. They were so happy to receive the gifts. These will be a real blessing to their clients- moms, babies and families.

WGT Witness Commission



Brothers and Sisters,

With calendar year 2024 financial information now finalized, the Leadership Team wanted to share an update with everyone. Total General Fund expenditures for calendar year 2024 were \$307,858, and total tithes and offerings to the General Fund were \$310,685. West Tree Green's financial status therefore remained stable. Though the General Fund checking account balance continues to make managing cash flow difficult at times throughout the year.

Thank you to everyone for your ongoing support of West Green Tree's ministries through your time, talent, and treasures. We ask for your continued support and dedication, as we work together to complete the good works God has prepared for us.

WGT Leadership Team



Save the Date
Saturday, April 26th,
8am till 1pm

Calling all volunteers.
Winter is scheduled to be done soon and it is time to spruce up our church and the grounds.

More information to follow
See the Steward
Commission with questions

Vacation Bible School

We are gearing up to guide our young adventurers on the ultimate Alaskan adventure where northern lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers, and glistening glaciers. As we trek the tundra, they'll explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our wild world today. Pointing them toward Jesus, True North VBS shows them that He is a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North!

If you would like to help with the planning of our Alaskan Adventure please contact Allison Huber or Mike Reem. VBS is the July 14th to July 18th.



Youth News

We are almost four months into 2025 and it has been off to a great start for the youth! We started off the year with a winter retreat in January at Gretna Glen Camp where we focused on the Fruit of the Spirit. During Sundays in January and February we finished up the series on the Fruit of the Spirit and Wednesdays we went through a series entitled, "Tear Down the Idols", where we focused on different things that can be idols in our lives and how Jesus' death and resurrection restored our special purpose, but now we have a choice to make. To continue wasting our lives and chasing after idols that will never satisfy, or tear down the idols and live fully devoted to God!

We also started working hard on preparing for Youth Sunday which we just finished in March and I am so proud of our youth! They took charge from day 1 and spent many hours practicing songs, announcements, the order of the service, sermons and many other things to get ready. The theme of Being Made in the Image of God is such an important reminder that we are all made in God's image and that He cares deeply for each of us and loves us so much. We don't need to compare ourselves with others because God made each one of us unique and special! When the youth weren't preparing for Youth Sunday, we focused on prayer by starting a series by Francis Chan which went through the purpose of prayer which is to communicate with God and how we are told to pray by looking at Jesus' teachings and examples.

In April, we will be starting a new series where we will walk through How to Study the Bible with an emphasis on why it is important and that if we truly believe the Bible is God's Word, then it has implications on our lives and has authority over our actions and how we live. Please continue to keep our youth in your prayers that they would continue to grow close to our heavenly Father and share His love with their peers so they will also come to know and love Him!"

David, Youth Coordinator

740 Greentree Road
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

WEST GREEN TREE
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

**WEST GREEN TREE
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**



*God is our refuge and
strength, a very
present help
in trouble.*

Psalm 46:1 KJV

Sunday Gathering Times:

- ♦ **8:30 am Sunday School/Small Groups**
- ♦ **9:45 am Large Group Gathering**
- ♦ **Live Stream via YouTube "West Green Tree Worship"**

Weekday Activities:

- ♦ **Mondays: Ladies Bible Study @ 11 am**
- ♦ **Wednesday: Youth @ 6:30 pm**
- ♦ **Thursday: Men's Bible Study @ 7 pm**
- ♦ **Saturday: Men's Bible Study @ 7 am**

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