

# Weekly Connection Newsletter

#### **Souderton Brethren in Christ Church**

494 Cherry Road, Souderton, PA 18964 215-723-7452 <u>churchoffice@soudertonbic.org</u> and find us on Facebook

March 13, 2025

www.soudertonbic.org

# **Prayer Gatherings**

Each Wednesday in person at the church office and on zoom @ 1:00 pm. Zoom meeting ID: 461 338 2306 Password: 6b0j8y. The zoom link is https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4613382306?pwd=NU5Ra25u WmJ4bDJ0bFpXYmEzRUZ4QT09

Iglesia Cristiana Pastor: Rony Guerra Contact: <u>iglesiacristianasouderton@gmail.com</u> **Office hours: Tues-Thurs 9am-1pm** 

### This Sunday

Sunday School @ 9:30am Worship @ 10:30am

Iglesia Cristiana Worship @ 1:00pm

Join the livestream for either Worship service at their scheduled time: <u>www.soudertonbic.org/stream</u> <u>www.youtube.com/@soudertonbic</u>

Thank you for your faithful giving! Give in person at the offering box, by mail, or at our website.

#### Pastor KrisAnne's Korner

Lent: the 40 days leading up to Easter Sunday. These weeks, for many Christians around the world, are marked by somber reflection. It's not unusual for believers to fast during Lent, giving up some food, drink, technology or favorite pastime; in order to focus on prayer. Repentance and confession are words often associated with Lent; the idea is to remember our weakness, sinfulness and mortality. To reflect on the sin of all humanity and the brokenness and suffering of the whole world.

None of this sounds very inviting. Many of us would rather focus on what's positive, what's good, the things we are thankful for and the things that are going well. I don't blame you if you feel that way... and yet... These days leading up to Holy Week, when we remember Jesus' willing sacrifice, suffering and death, are so important. It's not always good that we remain determined to only think about what is going well and what makes us happy. That stubborn optimism may only serve to pull us away from the heart of God, and isn't the heart of God the very thing we want to grow within us?

Jesus looked suffering in the face; he didn't turn away from it. He touched lepers. He wept at his friend's grave. He listened to the crippled cry out. He sweat blood like tears as his soul filled with anguish in the Garden. He allowed himself to be beaten, ridiculed, whipped, stabbed and nailed to a cross. He bore our sins, the shame and the guilt. If we refuse to feel our own weakness and suffering; if we refuse to empathize with the weakness and suffering of others, are we not separating ourselves from Jesus, in a sense? Jesus' heart was big enough to embrace joy, peace, and gratitude, as well as sadness, pain and suffering.



As we continue to reflect on following Jesus, let's be brave enough to follow Him in this way as well. Let's not shrug off pain and sadness, because they are uncomfortable or seem ungrateful. Let's embrace them, as Jesus did, and feel them with God, remembering that He felt them, too. He is right there, working in our pain and suffering and in the pain and suffering of others. Lent and Easter are wonderful reminders of the full depth and breadth of our human lives - lives filled with pain and joy, sadness and gladness, suffering and peace. God is with us in it all, working it all for our redemption and healing. Welcome to Lent!

#### **Prayer Requests:**

Send any prayer requests to: Pastor KrisAnne at 215-254-8348 or <u>KrisAnne.Swartley@soudertonbic.org</u>, or your deacon.

## **Needs around the GLOBE**



There are many people in need all around the globe. There are also many Christian organizations working to bring immediate relief to people's suffering and to create longterm solutions for the challenges they face. Many of these organizations are struggling financially at this time. If you'd like to contribute to the impactful work of Christian relief organizations, here are a few that align with our values:

#### **Brethren in Christ World Missions:**

https://partnership.bicus.org/

Mennonite Central Committee: <u>https://mcc.org/get-involved</u>

World Vision: <u>https://www.worldvision.org/ways-to-help</u>

World Relief: <u>https://worldrelief.org/make-an-impact/</u>

We encourage you to prayerfully consider how you can partner with one or more of these agencies as they put hands and feet to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in numerous places where human suffering is the greatest.

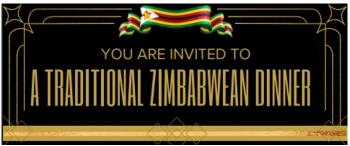
#### **My Coins Count**

We're collecting during Worship THIS SUNDAY Mar 16. And again on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The My Coins Count



Project typically raises more than \$130,000 from across the state of PA. Last year \$130,918 was raised from the My Coins Count collections for MCC education projects.

#### Zimbabwe Missions Trip Fundraiser March 22<sup>nd</sup>!



When: Saturday, March 22, 2025, 6pm – 8pm Where: Souderton BIC Church

Cost: \$20 per person 13 and over; \$10 per person 12 and under

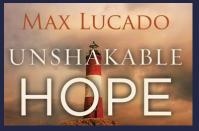
A free will offering will be taken at the end of dinner

Contact the church office to reserve your seat! Please specify # of adults & children under 13. Payment is requested prior to March 22.

# Sunday School Class

<u>New</u> Adult Class

Starts March 16th Unshakable HOPE By Max Lucado



Check out the RightNow Media QR code below for free videos



\*<u>The Study of Romans</u> led by Dan Zagorski *continues* 

#### **Announcements**

#### **Kenbrook Pantry Collections** Are you up for a "challenge"?

Help us support Kenbrook's pantry with the following:

• 36 gallons of Bleach (sterilizing is important!) AND



• As many containers of drink mix <u>as possible</u> – lemonade, pink lemonade, tea or orange drink

– **no** fruit punch.

Kenbrook made 1220 gallons of drink last year!

#### <u>April 5<sup>th</sup> Mini-Golf Tournament</u> PUSH THE ROCK

Mini-golf @ Putt-U in Coopersburg to benefit underserved youth in Brazil, Costa Rica, and Guatemala. Check-in begins at 9am - golfing starts at 10am. Check out the details at the link below or scan the OR code!

Tournament Link



#### Bridge of Hope / BuxMont GALA

<u>Help end homelessness</u> for single mothers and their children – see link below for more info:

Raising Hope Gala 2025 | Bridge of Hope - BuxMont



Raising Hope Gala Celebrating 25 Years of God's Faithfulness!

Join us for an amazing evening including a cen-

terpiece raffle, dinner, live auction and stories of lives transformed.

Thursday, April 10 | 6:00 PM William Penn Inn, Gwynedd, PA

All proceeds benefiting single mothers and children facing homelessness in Bucks & Montgomery Counties

## Calendar:

- **Tue:** Iglesia Cristiana Worship @ 6:30pm
- Wed: Prayer on Zoom or in Person @ 1pm
- Wed: 7:00 pm Youth Group
- Thu: 7pm Worship Team practice, Iglesia Cristiana Bible Study

## **Upcoming Events:**

- March 15: An Irish Heritage Afternoon @ Souderton Mennonite @ 3pm
- March 16 & 23: My Coins Count collection during Worship
- March 22: Zimbabwean Fundraiser Dinner – contact church office to reserve your seat! Please specify number of adults or children under 13. Payment is requested prior to March 22.
- March 23: Souderton Small Group @ Snyders @ 6:30pm
- March 29: Atlantic Conference @ Parker Ford Church, Pottstown, PA
- April 10: Bridge of Hope Gala
- April 13: Palm Sunday & Baptism
- April 20: Easter Sunday; Sunrise Service @ 7am at Silverdale followed by breakfast. Worship @ 9:30 at Souderton BIC