

Recording the

JOURNEY

of the Black Rock Church of the Brethren

October–December 2026



3864 Glenville Road, Glenville, PA 17329

Email: blackrockcob3864@gmail.com

www.blackrockchurch.org

Adult Sunday school: 9:00 am Worship: 10:15 am

Children's Sunday school at 10:15 am bi-weekly starting 10/11

Pastor: Brandon R. Grady- pastorbrandon121@gmail.com

Home 717-797-6920 or Cell 717-472-7800

Office Manager: Jodi Weaver- aabrcob@comcast.net

Office: 717-637-6170 or Cell phone- 717-451-2516

Office Hours: M-Th 7 am–3 pm

Fri. 7 am-1 pm Remotely

Our Vision:

Come as you are. Experience God's love. Go out like Christ.

Our Mission

Black Rock Church is a place of refuge where people are renewed and transformed by the Spirit to continue the work of Jesus peacefully, simply, together

Black Rock Church of the Brethren
3864 Glenville Road
Glenville, PA 17329

HIGHLIGHTS October to December

- Pastor's Page
- Loads of service opportunities
- Wedding Ceremony Invitation
- Birthdays and Anniversaries
- Congregational Business Meeting
- Camp Eder, FALL FEST
- Celebration of Life Service-NOV 1
- Angel Tree 2026
- Christmas Eve. times and locations.
- Truck Stop Ministry Cookies.

**FIND US ON YOUTUBE: BLACK ROCK
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**



Pastor's Page

Still Building, Still Blessing

By Pastor Brandon

**"Foreigners shall stand and feed your flocks,
strangers shall till your land and dress your vines." -
Isaiah-61:5**

Have you ever stopped to wonder what a church building would say if it could talk? What stories would its walls tell? What songs would echo once more through its sanctuary? What prayers would rise again from its pews?

This past month, Black Rock Church celebrated a remarkable milestone: 150 years of ministry within this beloved building. For a century and a half, these walls have sheltered worshipers, welcomed seekers, witnessed baptisms, hosted weddings, comforted grieving families, and amplified countless hymns of praise to God.

One hundred fifty years.

That's a lot of praying, praising, and persevering.

As I reflected on this anniversary, my thoughts were drawn to Isaiah 61. In that chapter, God paints a picture of restoration and renewal. Fields are tended. Vines are cared for. People work together. God's blessings continue to grow and flourish. The focus is not merely on buildings, but on what happens in and around them as God's people faithfully live out their calling.

That sounds a lot like Black Rock. For 150 years, generation after generation has contributed to the life of this congregation. Some preached. Some taught. Some sang. Some cooked meals. Some served on boards. Some quietly fixed things that needed fixing. Some faithfully prayed. All played a part in helping God's work continue.

And what a joyful season this has been!

Just a week after our anniversary celebration, we gathered for a special hymn sing, joining voices with friends from Jill's church, where she faithfully served as pianist for 32 years. What a blessing it was to celebrate through music, fellowship, and shared faith.

Then, in another first for Black Rock, Jill and I will be married here on October 10. As far as we can determine, this will be the first wedding of a pastor serving Black Rock Church

while actively serving as pastor. What a joy it is for us to share this special occasion with the church family we love so deeply. And we're so excited to celebrate with you at our church only reception on October 25 when we return from our honeymoon!

As I think about these events, a few questions come to mind.

What stories will be told about Black Rock 25 years from now?

What ministries are waiting to be born?

What lives will be touched?

What hymns remain unsung?

What prayers remain unsaid?

What blessings remain unseen?

The truth is that every church faces questions about the future. Yet our history reminds us that God's faithfulness has never depended upon perfect circumstances. Through changing times, changing communities, and changing generations, God continues to guide, provide, and bless.

Perhaps that's one of the greatest lessons of 150 years.

The story is not finished.

There are still ministries to nurture, neighbors to love, songs to sing, and good news to share.

There is still building. There is still blessing. There is still belonging.

And most importantly, there is still God—faithful yesterday, faithful today, and faithful tomorrow.

As we continue this journey together, may we celebrate God's goodness in the past, rejoice in God's presence today, and look forward with confidence to all God has yet to do.

The next chapter is still being written.

And by God's grace, we get to write it together.

To God be the glory!

Thanks, from the Outreach team to everyone who donated for the clothing drive as well as for the school kits. We had three carloads of clothing and shoes that we delivered to community Aid on Saturday 9/12. Thanks to your purchases of supplies and your monetary donations we are sending 66 school kits this year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! Thank you!



October Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2 Katie Weaver | 3 Arthur & Heidi Hanson '80 |
| 3 Justin Hoffacker | 5 Bob & Mary Crawford '06 |
| 6 Angela Gwinn | 6 Robert & Tiffany Licciardello 06 |
| 10 Kristin Alwine | 16 Randy & Jill Hoffacker '82 |
| Karen Griffie | 17 Zach & Katie Ream 2025 |
| 14 Sandie Keller | 18 Dustin & Amber Shaw '14 |
| John Werner | 20 Robert & Terry Stickles '85 |
| 16 Suzanne Werner | 20 Eric & Dee Stremmel/Bortner '89 |
| Mike McIntire | 20 Nate & Beth Osborne '90 |
| 18 Vicki Forbes | 21 John & Suzanne Werner '78 |
| 21 Lynette Haring | 22 Mike & Patti Ritter '94 |
| Autumn | 31 Terry & Tenna Conover '75 |
| Licciardello | |
| 23 Matthew Ecker | |
| 24 Madison Bortner | |
| 25 Kase Ort | |
| 30 Gary Rappoldt | |



Happy Birthday

November

1-Geoffrey Rappoldt
2-Chrystelle Strausbaugh
6-Greg Shaffer
6- Caleb Stickles
7-Kenneth Stremmel
11- Kirsten Cook
17- Bristol Miller
18-Christine Shaffer
19-Bailey Stickles
20-Ken Weaver
24-Tyler Osborne
25-Ryder Vanderheyden
27-Linda Covalt



December

1-Bo Brant
2-Joy Shaffer
4-Lily Hoffacker
4-Skip Wah
8-Terry Conover
8-Sarah Kilgalen
9-Eliza Despines
14-Rich L Shaffer
16-Dominick Licciardello
16-Geraldine Eckrote
16-Nathanial Shaub
16-Audrey Shisler
19-Rachel Brownlee
19-Delaney Licciardello
21-Matthew Garvick
21-Wayne Baugher
24-Debora Wolicki
26-Sally McIntire

Happy Anniversary

November

Mark and Mary Ann Robinson Nov. 4
Todd and Sandy Bollinger Nov. 8
Justin and Danielle Hoffacker Nov. 14

December

Mike and Sally McIntire Dec. 16
Joe and Connie McMaster Dec. 30

**Outreach Team will be
sponsoring an
Angel Tree for the
Children's Aid Society.**

The tree will be up
Nov. 1- Dec. 6, 2026.

You can take an Angel from
the tree, buy the gift and bring
the unwrapped gift to church
to be donated to an
underprivileged child.
Thanks, Connie McMaster



**Nov. 14, Future of Black Rock COB Planning session
w/Carrie Brenton Open to Everyone.. 9 am –12 Noon.**

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS CARD 2026

The congregational Christmas card has been a tradition here at Black Rock for many years. Beginning on the first Sunday In Advent (November 29) and continuing through the end of December, this year's Christmas card will be on display for folks to sign. The idea is that by signing the card, you share your greetings with members of the Black Rock Flock, and in lieu of sending out individual cards, you can use the envelopes provided to make a donation. This year's card proceeds will go to Brethren Disaster Ministries. Jill Hoffacker has graciously agreed to design this year's card. Many thanks to Jill for sharing her photography talent.

**Nov. 29, First Sunday in Advent,
Dave Dulaney, Guest Speaker**



Save the Date!

Sunday, December 6,
is the day to bring cookies to Black Rock to share
with the Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry.

We're thinking ahead to cookie
baking season, so don't forget
to bake some extra cookies for
the truckers. During the
Christmas season, the chaplains
at the Carlisle Truck Stops and
volunteers hand out bags of cookies to truckers and travelers
to share our love and God's love.



Place 5 or 6 cookies in a zip lock sandwich bag. Then put
the plastic bag in a paper bag (which may be decorated, but
that is not required)

Bring your cookies to Black Rock on Sunday, December
8th and either put them in the library or on the tables at the
back of the church. Paul & Shirley Boldosser will pick
them up and deliver them to Carlisle on Monday Dec. 7th.
Paul & Shirley will add 2 labels. The required label with the
truck stop information and a label with a scripture that says

**The 2nd Annual Black Rock COB
All Church Christmas Party!
Sunday, December 6, at 12:30 pm
At Craft Eats Restaurant**

304 Poplar Street, Hanover, PA 17331

See the bulletin and Moderator -Jim Biddle for more info.

Christmas Eve Services:

Black Rock at 4 pm

with Pastor Brandon Grady

Chestnut Grove at 9 pm

**Service of Scripture Readings and Carols
led by Carrie Brenton and Shirley Boldosser.**



Celebration of Life Service

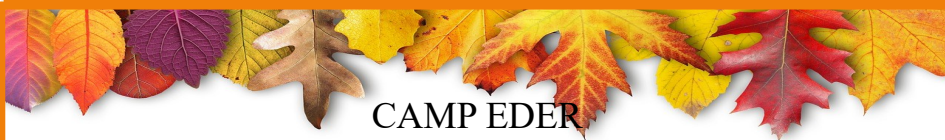
A Service to remember those we've lost in the last year. Please write their names in the black book at the back of the sanctuary. Then on Nov. 1, we will ring a bell and light a candle in their memory at this special service.

November 1 – Soup Sunday following worship.

During October there will be a sign-up sheet posted on the narthex bulletin board to sign up to attend and to indicate what you will bring (type of soup or salad or a dessert).

Please join us for a time of food and fellowship.

NOV. 1-Deacon Reorganization Mtg. & Crisis Training
with Eric Chase, from CAS. Following the soup meal



CAMP EDER

November 4th Senior Day

We are approaching cookie season!

We will be doing fall themed cookie decorating that the senior will be able to take home and a post card activity about camp/camping memories!

Brethren Volunteer Service Appreciation Cards

Please watch for the basket of names on the back table of the current Brethren Volunteer Service workers. These faithful volunteers work diligently throughout the year on the projects that they are assigned representing our denomination; they deserve a Christmas Card thanking them for their service. Please take one or more names. Thank you for your assistance.

BVS

Save these dates in October ...

October 4, Love Feast and Communion-

following Worship in the fellowship hall.

Congregational Business Mtg. packets available 10/04

October 10, Wedding

of Pastor Brandon Grady and Jill Slagle-

Saturday, Music starts at 1:30 pm.

All are invited to the Wedding ceremony;

However, Due to the number of friends and family attending the reception the (Reception will be by invitation only.)

October 11, Sun. Worship with Carrie Brenton

Oct. 11-CROP WALK -Codus State Park 1-5 pm

Please go ahead and get your pledges, there will be pledge sheets available, on Oct. 4th.

48th CAMP EDER Annual Fall Fest

October 17, 2026 10 AM– 4 PM

914 Mount hope Road, Fairfield PA 17320

Pit Roasted Pork and Turkey Meals

\$15 adults and \$8.(12 & under)

Silent Auctions 10-10:45 am & 11-11:45 am

Live Auction at 12 NOON

Sunday, October 18, -SOPA District Executive,

Traci Rabenstein will be preaching.

Immediately Following the Worship service. we will hold the

Fall Congregational Business Meeting,

Oct. 25th, an All Church Wedding Reception will be held following worship, when the Pastor and his wife are back from their honeymoon.

