

# Faith Connection Stories

We love to hear stories about Penn Central Conference **congregations working within their communities** to passionately declare and demonstrate their **courageous love of Christ.**

Please share your story.

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# Redeemer's, Littlestown and Bethel, Spring Grove - Mission Trip to Pipestem, WV



- Three congregations, two conferences and one mission
- Summer Mission Trip with Appalachian South Folklife in Pipestem, WV
- 30 volunteers
  - Repairing homes and cleaning weed-infested yards
  - Painting shutters and siding and sanding drywall



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# Quentin - Sparkle Box



- Followed book The Sparkle Box
- Good deeds done and written on paper → put in a box
  - Everyone celebrates the joy of these deeds!
- Added donation box as well:
  - Yarn for Prayer Shawl Ministry
  - Food item for JOY Food Pantry
  - Clothing for Jubilee Ministries
  - Donation to:
    - Children of Compassion
    - Local Fire Company
    - Lebanon County Christian Ministries



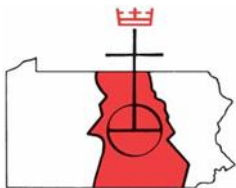
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# Bethany, Ephrata - Hometown Mission "Trip"



- Three days, July 14-16, 2016
- Day began with breakfast and devotions at the church
- Then broke out into project groups
- 40 people participated and volunteered 350 hours of labor to the local community!



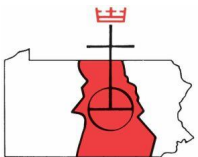
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# Ephrata Manor – United Church of Christ Homes



- Providing care and service to elders through acts of love and compassion
- Food drives to benefit Ephrata Pioneer Fire Company
- Spaghetti Dinner to benefit local Lions Club and their philanthropic endeavors



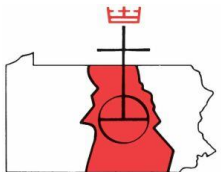
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# Bethel, Spring Grove – Youth Share Their Faith



- Martin Luther King Day
- 13 volunteers, 26 hours of services
  - Answering phones and scheduling tax appointments for senior citizens
  - Cleaning out a large storage closet, sorting clothing, reorganizing children's clothing displays and sorting glassware



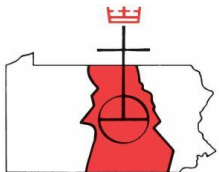
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# First Reformed, Lancaster – Serving Meals and Raising Funds



- Over 16,000 meals served in 2016
- Raised over \$3600 for National Multiple Sclerosis Society at a concert featuring QuintEssentially Brass



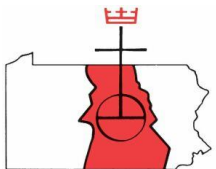
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# Shiloh, Danville – Expanding Their Welcome



- Became ONA in 2015
- Hosting educational opportunities around LGBTQ issues through book studies and forums for the wider community
- Purchased a new bus and made space in sanctuary for those in wheelchairs
- Working on becoming A2A
- When Muslim Community Center was evicted, offered space in their building



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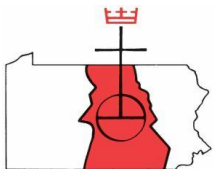




# St. John's, Lewisburg – Filling Up Buckets



- April, 2017
- Goal - fill up 10 clean up buckets for Church World Services.
- Filled 20 buckets!
- CWS Emergency Clean Up Buckets provide assistance to families and communities affected by flooding, tornados and other disasters.



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# St. John's, Boalsburg – Furthering Safety



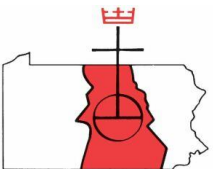
You are Safe  
*"Not all those who wander are lost."*

J. R. R. Tolkien

Safety Pins Show Our Support

In WWII the Dutch used safety pins as a secret symbol of solidarity for and with their Queen Wilhelmina, and against the Nazis. No words were needed to identify a friend. Today this tradition is being retooled as a symbol of safety and acceptance for those who are vulnerable and afraid in a cynical world. Wear this to show others that they are "safe" with you. Choose to promote a culture of unity, kindness, tolerance, peace, love, and freedom!

- Furthered "You are Safe" initiative
- Made and gave out over 200 pins decorated with charms of hope such as hearts, peace signs, crosses and globes; also colorful beads
- Reminded those who wear them, to reach out to those in need and to speak up for those who have no voice



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THANK YOU  
for sharing your story!



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