

Boehm's Chapel Society

WINTER 2015

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13 West Boehms Road, Willow Street, Pa., 17584

Finally, it's underway



Photo by the Rev. Chris Eden

On Nov. 5, measurements were made and stakes were placed for the Chapel Society's auxiliary building. Above, from left, Dolores Myers, Chapel Society executive director; Don Dale, the

building's designer; Marv Adams, president of the society; and Don Hess, contractor. At far right, taking it all in, is Sebastian Eden, son of the Rev. Chris and Amanda Edén. See Page 2.

Festive day at Chapel

Perfect day for Apple Festival. Perhaps best-attended in its 30-year history. Pages 4-5



Apple tree comes home

Mama Beam variety arrives, potted for the winter by expert. Page 6





Photo by the Rev. Chris Eden

Standing by the what will be the four corners of the building are, from left, Don Dale, designer; Marv Adams, Chapel Society, Don Hess, contractor, and Dolores Myers, Chapel Society.

Staking out a new era for the Chapel

Finally.

Stakes have been driven into the ground to show where the Chapel Society auxiliary building will stand.

Finally.

A contractor has been hired to oversee the project.

Finally.

The storage shed has been moved, making way for the new building.

Finally.

A date of completion has been set.

Finally.

We are on our way.

It has been literally years since the subject of an auxiliary building was broached.

And now, if the weather cooperates, the new building should be finished around June 1 of next year, in time to be dedicated at the Heritage Sunday event that will mark the Chapel's construction 225 years ago.

On Nov. 5, the stakes were driven. That means that excavation could start soon. Don Hess, a contractor, will be in charge of getting the building



In October, this group met to discuss placement of the new building and work on the hillside on the Boehms-Frey property line. Clockwise from left is Don Dale, designer; Don Hess, contractor; Marv Adams, Chapel Society; Mike Rhineer, excavator; Dave Ressler, Boehms trustee; Jeff Frey, owner of the Frey farm; and Mark Deimler, Pequea Township zoning officer.

erected. The designer is Don Dale, of New Danville. Excavation will be handled by Mike Rhineer Jr.

The building is designed for meeting space, the display of artifacts, storage and for bridal parties to have a place near the Chapel to dress.

It is designed to look like a tying shed, a larger version of which stood behind the Chapel. Tying sheds were used to shelter horses back in the days when people made their way to the Chapel in buggies and wagons.

Part of the project will

include grading of the hill that is on the property line with the Frey farm. Cost of that part of the work will be split with the Frey family.

Please stay tuned. We will put pictures on our website – boehmschapel@gmail.com – as work progresses.

Storage shed takes a ride

Move makes way for new building

On Nov. 4, a crew from Fox Skidloader Services arrived to prepare the stone pad at 5 West Boehms Road, the first step in the relocation of the Chapel Society's storage shed.

The property at 5 W. Boehms Road, owned by the Chapel Society, adjoins the church property. The dwelling is located on the property used by the Penn Manor School District chapter of "Homes of Hope," a division of "Love in the Name of Christ." It provides housing for local families in need of temporary assistance.

Moving the large storage shed was the first major step to allow excavation and construction to begin on the long-planned auxiliary building.

The crew arrived about 11 a.m. with a large dump truck, loaded with stone, and Bobcat in tow.

In short order the two-man crew sized up the site, made a quick scoop with the Bobcat and began to dump the stone.

It was soon decided another load of stone was needed, and yet a third partial load to complete the job.

The truck rumbled off the property at approximately 3:30 p.m., just in time to clear the area for Brian from Twin Locust Barns, of Willow Street, to begin his work of the actual moving of the shed at 4 p.m.

Brian executed the move



with skilled precision. Within 15 minutes the shed was lifted

into the air and loaded onto the back of a flatbed.

*Photos by
Dolores Myers
and Rev. Chris Eden*

From top to bottom, the shed is lifted off its base for its short trip. In center photo, the shed is maneuvered into place. And at bottom, the shed is shown at its new location.

The next step was to back the flatbed across the open field next to the cemetery, through a clearing between two trees, and lower it onto the stone pad at 5 W. Boehms.

It was a tight space in which to work, but Brian maneuvered the truck and shed back and forth and up and down until the shed at last rested on top of the prepared stone base.

With the use of a jack, the extra pieces of lumber were removed from underneath the shed to make it sit level on the site. In just slightly over an hour, the shed rested on its new location.



Photo by the Rev. Chris Eden

Perfect day for 30th Apple Festival

We could not have asked for a better day for the 30th Boehm's Chapel Apple Festival. There was a forecast of showers for that morning, but they never showed up and a warm sun shone all day on the festival, probably the best attended that

we've ever had. Pictured above, a crowd moves among the vendors in back of the Chapel. At lower left, apple butter boils in a copper kettle. At lower right, the barbershop group, Break from Blue Collar, performs.



Photo by Chere Fizer

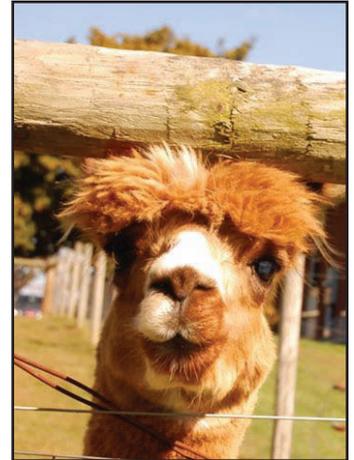


Photo by the Rev. Chris Eden



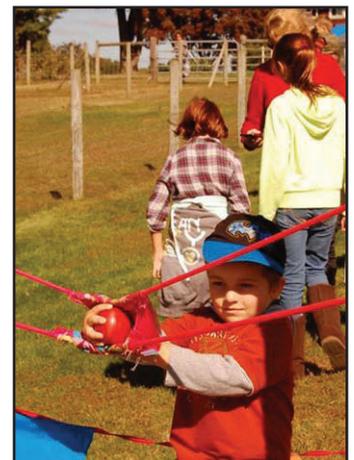
Photos by Chere Fizer

Apple butter, made the old-fashioned way, brings people to the Apple Festival. Above, Michael Heckendorn and Jamie Fizer remove a boiling kettle of apple butter, now ready to be placed in jars. At right, Jim McCullough and Michael test consistency of the apple butter by putting some on a plate and seeing how it runs. Below, Jere Schultz stirs a kettle.



Photos by Rev. Chris Eden

Above, an alpaca owned by Rich Hackman takes in events at Apple Festival. Below, children found plenty to do at festival.



ADVENT at the CHAPEL



Josiah Hurst is shown while working on a chalk drawing.

Lessons, carols and a chalk talk

A holiday chalk talk presentation by Lancaster County artist Josiah Hurst will be combined with the traditional Advent candlelight program of Lessons and Carols, scheduled for 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 6, in historic Boehm's Chapel, 13 W. Boehms Road, Willow Street.

Josiah will present a program titled "History of the carols."

The prerecorded narration will explain the origins and events surrounding the writing of some of the best known Christmas carols.

His presentation will combine lights, music and chalk to produce an inspired piece of art. Black light and colored lights are used to illuminate the artwork and create a surprising added dimension.

The elements of the chalk talk interpretation will help these beloved carols become even more meaningful.

Josiah said:

"Ever since that time when I was a kid, and fell asleep

coloring with crayons in bed, I have continued exploring and developing my art skills. I enjoy graphic design, specifically the illustration aspect, and all kinds of art, whether digital or traditional.

"Growing up, my mother Elva Hurst trained me in various art mediums, including watercolor, oils and the art of chalk talk.

"When I was 13, I took cartoon lessons for several years where I learned many of the skills I use almost daily today. I created an art studio called 'Stained Paper Studio,' through which I post all of my artwork on Facebook and Instagram regularly. When I'm not making art, I enjoy the beauty of nature on our 40-acre farm.

"I desire to become the best I can possibly be as an artist, and I hope that my art will reach and inspire people, because after all, that's what art is all about."

The congregation will participate in a capella singing of traditional carols, as the story of Christ's birth is related through Scripture.

The program is open to the public and is suitable for all ages. A love offering will be received.



Josiah Hurst

The apple (trees) of our eye arrive

After years of searching, waiting and overcoming several obstacles, Mama Beam's apple trees have finally arrived back in Lancaster County.

The saplings arrived via priority mail on Oct. 31. Richard Graham, the proprietor of Pine Brook Farms Inc., Conestoga, potted the trees until they can be permanently planted near the new auxiliary building on the Boehms campus.

Richard, a graduate of Longwood Gardens Horticultural School, attended Boehms United Methodist Church during his childhood and youth. He is the son of Elaine Harry, a Society board member.

The search to bring Mama's apple back to its place of origin, began circa 2006 with various attempts to contact people and places where a few of the heritage trees were known to still be growing. All attempts proved unsuccessful.

Mama Beam was Barbara Herr Nissley Beam, the second wife of Abraham Beam, brother of the Rev. Martin Boehm. Mama was the widow of Jacob Nissley and a daughter of Christian and Barbara Herr. In 1786, Abraham and Barbara lived in the area known as Camargo, Bart Township, approximately eight miles south of Boehm's Chapel.

Mama grafted together two of the best variety of apples from their farm orchard, which resulted in the Mama Beam Apple. Abraham and Mama

Barbara left Lancaster County, in 1788 and relocated to British Upper Canada.

In the fall of 2013, a Google search for the Mama Beam, or Belmont apple, as it is also known, produced a hit on a blog written by Karen Dale, a member of the Vashon Island Fruit Club, in Puget Sound, Washington. In the spring of 2014, Karen graciously sent several scions taken from a tree on Vashon Island to Boehm's Chapel Society. Only one of the grafts proved viable.

In addition to the scions, several saplings were ordered from an orchard in Michigan, found via an Internet search. Due to extreme winter weather and additional problems cited by the owner, the orchard was unable to supply any Mama Beam saplings for 2014 or 2015.

Boehm descendant Evie Chaffer received information from an apple growers association near to her New York residence, about another nursery growing heritage trees in Asche County, North Carolina. Big Horse Creek Farm was contacted in June. Because they had not received requests for the Mama Beam variety earlier in the year, only three or four trees were grafted and available for 2015.

It has been a pleasure to work with Ron and Suzanne Joyner, of Big Horse Creek Farm, to bring a small bit of Boehm heritage back to Lancaster County.



Shown is the package the Mama Beam trees arrived in.

Neither sleet, nor rain, nor snow ...

At this wedding, if you didn't like the weather, wait a few minutes and it would change to sunny.

As the sun came up on Sunday, Oct. 18, the day seemed to promise clear autumn weather, with a bit of nip in the air.

At noon, the weather forecast, on local radio station, WJTL, unexpectedly predicted a slight chance of snow flurries for late afternoon. Snow in October is somewhat unusual for Lancaster County, but not totally unknown. (Within days of Boehm's 2011 Apple Fest, an early October snowfall coated sections of southern Lancaster County.)

The wedding on Oct. 18 was the last scheduled chapel wedding on the calendar for 2015. Jessica Sharpe, the bride-to-be, planned to arrive at 1 p.m. to begin preparations for the 3:30 p.m. ceremony.

Brides being married in the Chapel must use the church fellowship hall to dress and apply makeup. They either walk or are driven back to the Chapel at the appropriate time.

The new Chapel auxiliary building will provide separate dressing room facilities for wedding parties and offer a much shorter distance to walk to the Chapel.

A few minutes after Jessica and Becky (the "best maid," as she jokingly referred to herself) arrived, a light rain began to fall. As grandparents pulled into the parking lot, they told of driving through sleet en route to Willow Street. The nasty, cold sleet, in short order,



Under a salute of umbrellas, newlyweds Noah and Jessica Horn drive away from the Chapel in a classic 1979 AMC Concord. Their marriage ceremony at the Chapel featured a myriad of weather conditions, but ended in the sunshine.

also arrived at the Boehms campus.

As the clock approached 2 p.m., groom Noah Horn and his best man were found, across the parking lot inside the Chapel. They were put in charge of erecting an exhibit to prominently display a painting, which served as the couple's guest register. The painting, of a multicolored sky, collected the fingerprints (representing small balloons) of all those in attendance.

Ushers were on hand to greet early arrivals, with umbrellas in hand. When the sleet stopped, minute particles of hail momentarily bounced across the Chapel walkway.

Within a short time, both sleet and hail ceased, and a light snow began to fall.

Rain, snow, sleet and hail seemed to alternate over the next hour, one squall after the other. Although, the lightly falling snow added to the

ambiance of the wedding day, none of the other three elements were favorable for the bride to walk to the Chapel. At approximately 3:10 p.m., all untoward weather activity ceased and the sun began to peek through the clouds. Fifteen minutes later, Noah, best man Michael and the pastor, assembled to take their places at the front of the Chapel.

As the wedding party lined up outside the Chapel doors in preparation for the processional music to begin, the clouds rolled back. Jessica wore her maternal grandmother's wedding gown.

Slight alterations had been made to the dress, due to some loss of material over the years. In her shoe was the lucky sixpence, used by her paternal grandmother on her wedding day. When the double doors to the Chapel were opened, Jessica entered, on the arm of

her father, with the sun shining behind her.

Rain returned while the many family photos were captured, but once again the sun was shining as the couple exited the Chapel.

With Jessica at the wheel, the newlyweds departed for their reception in her parents' 1979 AMC Concord, under an arched salute of golf umbrellas.

There was another classic car in the wedding. For maybe the first time in 25 years, a 1964 baby-blue Rambler, owned by Jessica's parents, was out of its garage in bad weather.

It was driven away from the wedding by the best man and the maid-of-honor.

"[It] was my dad's first car, and it has been babied! It was the same car he and my mom left in after their wedding," Jessica said.

Society again sponsors ETS speaker

The Boehm's Chapel Society will again sponsor the speaker for the annual Wesley Forum at Evangelical Theological Seminary in Myerstown next April.

"I am convinced that the Society's sponsorship makes a significant difference among church leaders here in south-central Pennsylvania," said Dr. Tony Blair, president of the seminary.

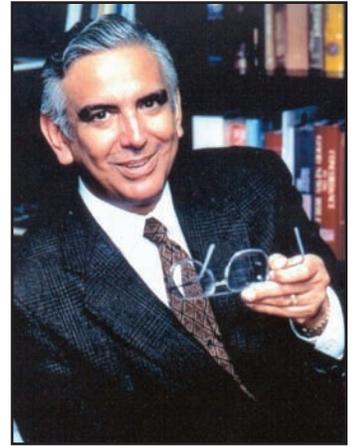
Dr. Blair said the seminary plans to invite Dr. Justo Gonzalez to be the Wesley speaker. He authored a church history textbook that Evangelical and other schools have used for decades, said Dr. Blair.

Dr. Gonzalez has written "Christian Thought Revisited" and is the founder of the Association of Hispanic Theological Education.

Dr. Blair said that ETS "is

in the midst of starting an Hispanic Christian Academy in partnership with United (Theological Seminary)."

Last year's speaker was Wendy Deichmann, of United Theological Seminary. She discussed what a "return to orthodoxy" has meant for United (and, by extension, could mean for the United Methodist Church and other denominations).



Dr. Justo Gonzalez

Boehm's Chapel Society

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November sunset

Dolores Myers, executive director of the Chapel Society, took this photo in early November as the sun was setting behind the Chapel.

