



# Emmaus Historical Society

218 Main Street • Emmaus, PA 18049  
610-966-6591 ~ emmaushist@ptd.net  
www.emmaushistoricalsociety.org



February 2021  
NEWSLETTER

## President's Message

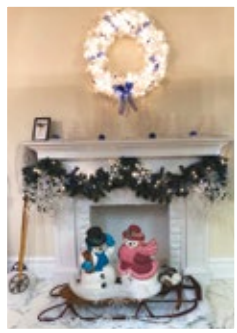
Dear Members,

One year ago this month, the Emmaus Historical Society was busy prepping for the annual special event of the SnowBlast Winter Arts Festival in conjunction with Emmaus Arts Commission. The museum was decorated in all things winter and snow, mostly blue and white, had the train putz still set up for visitors and was inviting all to have some hot chocolate with various snacks. There were no masks being worn and no inkling of what was about

to happen with the start of a pandemic that would change how we interacted with one another and how we would need to operate to be safe for an undetermined time to come.

open and programs presented monthly. It is important for us to continue being safe until the pandemic subsides and vaccines are available and given to the majority of the population. We miss seeing our members at the museum, at our programs and at our fundraising events. We appreciate the support you are giving us during these difficult times with your donations to our collections, your monetary donations to our general operating and Capital funds, and your membership.

There still are no immediate plans to reopen the Museum. During this time, the Board of Directors is reviewing re-opening possibilities for the future.



February is also the month the Emmaus Historical Society celebrates its founding in 1992. The February program of 2020 ended with an anniversary cake for all to enjoy. It would be the last program for the entire year.

In the meantime, we continue setting up individual appointments for the genealogy library as well as for artifact and memorabilia donation drop offs for our collection. Please call us at (610) 966-6591 for appointments.

This year we are celebrating our 28th anniversary. Hopefully, later in the year, we will be able to share cake with our members once again.

We will continue to feature Historical Society collection photos on Facebook and Instagram and will update our website with our latest news. Please remain positive and keep your spirits up. We hope for the best and stay optimistic in this new year. You all remain in our thoughts. Stay safe and healthy by continuing to follow the Covid-19 guidelines.

Let's also not forget that February is the month we celebrate St. Valentine's Day as well, and in 2020, the museum had a display of old-fashioned Valentines and decorations to look back at some traditions of the past to celebrate February 14th. Since we are unable

We will see you as soon as we can. ☺



*Jeane*

to share them in a display this year, I have included a few Valentine card photos and one of our past museum displays for you so that you can appreciate some of the beauty of our collection again.

*100 Years Ago*

**Completed** - Andrew Jagnesak, proprietor of the Broad Street Hotel, has completed the installing of his new bar, and opened up same on Saturday. The Morning Call, Monday, March 21, 1921..

We continue to miss all of what we would normally be doing if the museum were



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Visit our website for updates and other information at:  
www.emmaushistoricalsociety.org



# Recent Acquisitions

## Remembering the John Z. Iobst Family

By Andrew Kerstetter

In December 2020, the Emmaus Historical Society received a donation of photographs of many members of the John Z. Iobst family from a direct lineal descendant. We take this opportunity to remember this family for their many generations of service to the Emmaus community. While photographs of the town itself show what places looked like in the past, photographs of the people who inhabited and worked at these places help the history of the town to come alive for future generations. For without the people, you would not have the town.

John Zacharias Iobst was born on March 14, 1838 in Emmaus, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, to Frederick Theobald and Hannah (Knauss) Iobst who both had been raised within the Moravian village of Emmaus by families who were among the earliest inhabitants of the town. Both families would have been active congregants of the Emmaus Moravian Church. Frederick Theobald Iobst at age seventeen had immigrated from Saxony in the Alsace-Lorraine region and settled in the Emmaus vicinity where in 1839, he was instrumental in forming the first Emmaus Band and later went on to become the first Burgess of Emaus in 1859 when the town was incorporated as a borough, holding that position until 1864. Note that by 1859, Emmaus had become Emaus. John Zacharias Iobst was raised in the Moravian community and attended the local schools. In 1861, he was instrumental in uniting the then politically divided Emaus Band and as head, marched to Doylestown and enlisted the whole band in the United States Army as members of the 104th Regiment in the Civil War. The band was mustered out of service on August 11, 1862. John Z. Iobst was noted in his obituary as a musician of rare accomplishments. The violin was his instrument of choice but he was equally proficient on brass instruments, being an original member of the Emmaus Moravian Church Trombone Choir. During his lifetime, he was involved with an iron ore operation in Upper Milford Township, The Mountain Water Company of Emaus, and for many years in a partnership with Charles Kemmerer as coal dealers. He was also active within the community serving as a member of the town council, a Justice of the Peace, school director and an active member of the local Democratic Party. On March 5, 1865, he was united in marriage with Rosina Josephine Giering of Emmaus who was the daughter of longtime Emmaus jeweler Johannes Jacob Giering. Some time after their marriage, the Iobst's took up residence at 209 Main Street where they would reside the rest of their lives. Eight children would be born to the couple with a short description of each below. John Z. Iobst died on September 10, 1911 at his home in Emaus, followed by his wife who was known as Josephine on March 18, 1917. Both are buried at the Emmaus Moravian Cemetery.

1. Frederick John Iobst - 1865-1907 - was a graduate of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and was a longtime pharmacist in the employment of N. H. Kemmerer of Emaus. In 1901,



Frederick John Iobst

he enlisted in the United States Marines, being deployed to the Philippines, where he was a member of the surveying corps. He was known to be proficient in mathematics, having been a student of the great mathematician Lehman Schuler of Emaus. He died unmarried at age 42 of pulmonary tuberculosis.

2. Amelia Josephine Iobst - 1869-1959 - was married to William M. Jarrett and very active in the Emmaus Moravian Church women's organizations where she was well known as a soprano soloist. Her husband was the church organist and choir master for many years, while also operating a music store near the Triangle in Emaus. He was also the well-known conductor of the Juvenile and Eureka Orchestras. The Jarretts had no children.

3. Emma Catharine Iobst - 1871-1946 - lived at 6 N. 3rd Street and was unmarried.

4. Nora Eleanor Iobst - 1874-1960 - married John H. Treichler and had two daughters, Rosa A. Treichler and Grace M. Treichler. She lived for many years on Broad Street in Emmaus.



Grace M. Treichler

5. Harry Joseph Iobst - 1876-1946 - was a telegraph operator on the Reading Railroad for 12 years before attending and graduating from the Drew Theological Seminary in 1909, after which he served the pastorates of the Methodist Churches of Cokesbury, Lebanon, Anderson and Mount Vernon, New Jersey. He was an assemblyman in Hunterdon County for many years. He married Flora M. Siebing and had three children: Harry, Josephine and Frances.



Ralph W. and Carl Iobst  
(cousins)

6. Robert Stanley Iobst - 1879-1931 - was a senior member of the Coal and Lumber Firm of Iobst and Bowers of Emaus with his brother-in-law. He was also an active member volunteer at the Emmaus Moravian Church. He married Cynthia S. Walter of Emaus and had two children, Ralph W. and Robert A. Iobst and lived at the corner of Main Street and Keystone Avenue.



Judge Richard W. Iobst

7. Richard William Iobst - 1881-1948 - was a railroad telegrapher on the Reading Railroad in his early days, eventually becoming an assistant train dispatcher, after which he decided to study law. He was admitted to the Lehigh County Bar Association in 1908, to begin a career which led him to be Lehigh County District Attorney and President Judge of the Lehigh County Court of Common Pleas from which he retired in 1944. Locally, he was the Emmaus Postmaster, Justice of the Peace and Borough Treasurer.

He married Minnie A. Fuhr and had one son, Carl Iobst. Richard W. Iobst purchased 218 Main Street at a sheriff's sale in 1919 and renovated the original structures into the Greek revival style we see today. This is now the home of the Emmaus Historical Society.

8. Ella Lucinda Iobst - 1890-1973 - was a graduate of the Normal School at Kutztown where she earned her teaching degree. She later taught elementary school in the local schools of Limeport, Salisbury and Emmaus. She married Mark T. Bowers, who was a partner with her brother in the Iobst and Bowers Coal and Lumber Firm of Emaus. They had two sons, John and Mark Jr. ☞

100 Years Ago

Moving - District Attorney R. W. Iobst and family are at present moving from North Fourth into their handsome new residence on Main Street. The Morning Call, Wednesday, February 9, 1921.

## Photographs and Memories

By Jeanne Harakal

For as long as I can remember, I have always had a love for photographs. Perhaps this love was passed down from my parents who made sure there was an annual family photo for each Christmas card. Perhaps it was also seeing photo albums of generations past on both parents' sides of the family. I recall my parents inheriting many photos from my father's cousin, Grace Reinsmith, who had no survivors. I was fascinated by the old forms of photos that we found.

In the latest newsletter I received from the Lehigh County Historical Society, Executive Director Joseph Guerrero discussed the importance of documenting names on photos for identification by future generations. One of the things that was not done on many of the family photos from my various relatives was documenting who was in the photo. The Emmaus Historical Society often receives undocumented photos as well, hence the "mystery" photos featured in our newsletter. Our inherited family photos remained in my parents' attic for 40 years, maintaining their mystery when I rediscovered them. I found them fascinating but was unsure of how to unlock the identities of my ancestors.

Since I knew what branches of the family they were from, I began with researching my family tree. Over many years, my family grew with more and more ancestors. I then began to match young and older faces since the photos were of many of the same people at different ages. I also reviewed birth and death years of my ancestors as well as the type of photo to give additional hints to identities. To my delight, I discovered the identities of family members I had never met linked to two family members I had known as a child.



Ambrotype - Unidentified Ancestor

The oldest type of photos in the collection were the ambrotypes which were images developed on a glass plate. They were introduced in 1854 and popular from 1855 - 1863. I found three of this type of photograph but unfortunately, have not yet been able to identify the subjects in the photos.

The next type of photos in the collection were ferrotypes, also commonly called tintypes. These photos were often small, approximately 2 1/2 inches by 3 1/2 inches. They were introduced in 1856 and were still around into the early 1900s. They were a positive image processed on a thin piece of blackened

iron. Many times, if you can identify the person in the photo, know their date of birth and can identify the period of clothing they are wearing, you can date the photo within a certain range of years. I recognized my father's grandmother in this photo from a photograph of her in her later years. Her name was Emalinda Elmira (Titlow) Benner. This photo shows her with her husband, George, also recognized from a later photo, as well as possibly her Benner in-laws, still to be determined exactly by name.



Emalinda and George Benner & Family



The carte de visite was the next type of photograph I identified. These were introduced in 1859 and popular from 1860 to 1880. They were images developed on paper, also measuring 2 ½ by 3 ½ inches like the tin types. I discovered many of these in small photo albums.

Most were unidentified but fortunately, I found one in a piece of paper labeled as "Stella's mother and father". Stella was Grace Reinsmith's aunt, and was readily identified in later photos so

**Augustus and Tevilia Reinsmith** the ancestral pieces fell into place. Stella's parents were Grace's paternal grandparents, Augustus and Tevilia Reinsmith.

The next type of photograph in the collection that I identified was the cabinet card. These photos were mounted on heavy card stock to keep the paper from curling. This type was introduced in 1866, post-Civil War, with the peak of its popularity from 1870 – 1895. Square corners were used after 1900. Cabinet

cards were named because they were often displayed in cabinets and bookcases. The most common size was 4 ¼" X 6 ½".

In this photo, the couple was identified by a family photo where I recognized my great grandmother, Emalinda, once again. The couple in this elaborately framed cabinet card is John and Lucy Ann (Kline) Titlow. I knew with the elaborate frame that they had



**John and Lucy Ann Titlow**

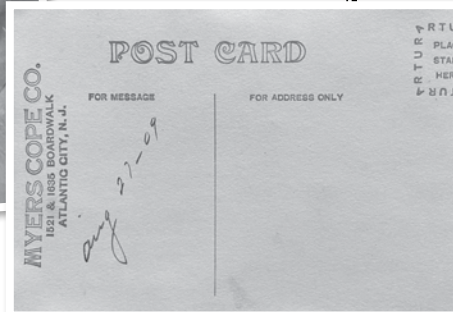
to be important members of the family. They were Emalinda's parents, hence my great, great grandparents.

*100 Years Ago*

**Shipped Dandelion** - George Laudenslager of town shipped a box of dandelion to his brother-in-law, Morris Weaver, at Weirsdale, Florida, as Mr. Laudenslager states no dandelion grows in that section of the country. The Morning Call, Wednesday, March 23, 1921.



The last type of photo that was unique in the collection was the real photo postcard (RPPC). In 1903, Kodak introduced a camera that allowed the public to take photographs and have them printed on postcard backs, usually 3 ½" X 5 ½".



Kodak offered a pre-printed back that allowed photographers to travel, creating many postcards as souvenirs. I found several postcards created for Stella Reinsmith for her niece, Grace. Pictured here is a real photo postcard of Grace and Stella Reinsmith from 1909.

The photo that began my realization of the treasures that I might discover is this family portrait on the front porch of the Titlow home with six of the seven adult Titlow siblings present. With this photo, I was able to first identify my great grandmother, Emalinda, and hence her parents, John and Lucy Ann Titlow.

This photo was printed on paper and adhered to thick card stock and was a little larger than the other cabinet cards in the collection but was similar in age, probably taken around the turn of the century.



**John and Lucy Ann Titlow & Family**

Needless to say, I have much work to do to identify all of the relatives in the photos but it is a good start and as I identify more, they lead to others yet to be discovered. Genealogy and ancestral photography discoveries will continue to be a fascinating hobby and focus for me in my spare time. There are so many faces yet to find and stories yet to be told. ☺

## A Look Back at Rules and Regulations in the Original Moravian Settlement of Emmaus

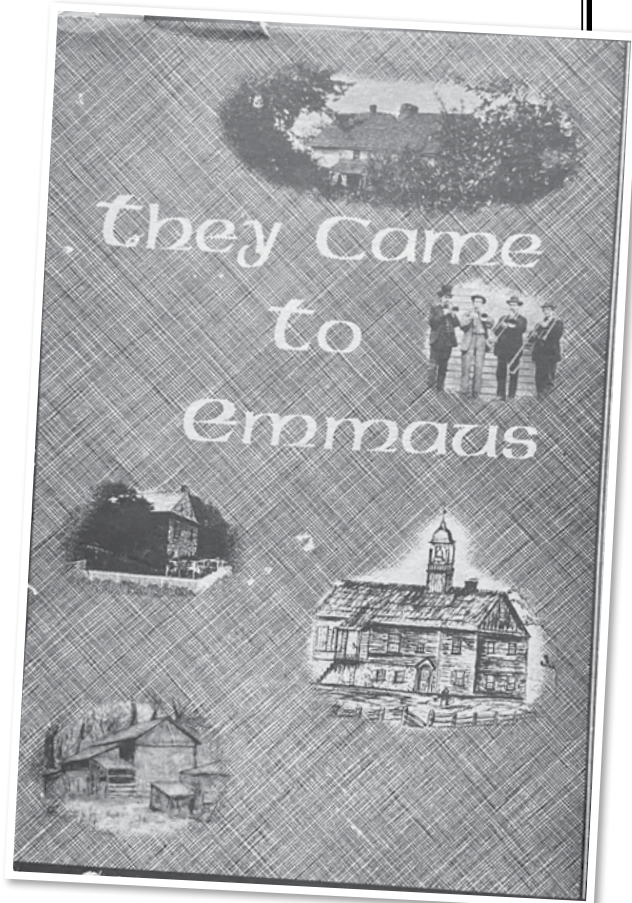
By Mike Flynn

Most residents of Emmaus are familiar with or at least aware of some of the Rules and Regulations governing the borough. The timely removal of snow or ice on sidewalks, guidelines on property structures, noise ordinances and regulations regulating pets are all meant to enhance the quality of life in our town. Codes, rules and regulations are found throughout the history of Emmaus and go back to the very beginning of the settlement. We thought it would be interesting to look back at some of the very first rules and regulations that existed in colonial times.

Although there were European settlers mostly of German descent living in the area before 1759, it was in that year that the Moravian settlement of Emmaus was established. On land donated by Jacob Ehrenhardt and Sebastian Knauss, the village extended from current Keystone Avenue to Third Street along Main Street and consisted of 32 lots. Residents had to be members of the Moravian Church and German was the common language. What follows are some of the original rules and regulations that existed before the Revolutionary War. They are translated from the original German and this list is a small part of the list published in *They Came to Emmaus* by Preston Barba, pages 69-72.

1. "No inhabitant will be allowed to follow any other trade or business than the one he followed when admitted to the village, unless he obtains the consent of the Committee.
2. For necessary expenses, such as for the night watch, the digging of wells and repair of pumps, and provisions against fires, no one ought withdraw his hand but contribute cheerfully.
3. Nothing shall be taught or preached in Emmaus not conformable to the Gospel of Christ. Anyone having his own peculiar notions may have them as long as he does not propagate them.
4. No meetings, either public or private, shall, under any circumstances, be held without lights.
5. No dancing, no tipling in taverns (except for necessary entertainment of strangers and travelers) no beer-tappings, no feasting at weddings, christenings or burials, etc., nor the playing of children in the streets, shall be so much as heard of among the villagers. Those so inclined cannot live in Emmaus.
6. Should any person, by the all-wise Providence of God, be deprived of his senses, he shall be mercifully treated and patiently borne with, etc. And if restored again no mention is to be made of his former condition.
7. Any premeditated mischief done to woods, fences, fields, fruit trees etc. shall be looked upon as infamous, as generally also all other gross and heathenish sins: wenching, gluttony, drunkenness, cursing, lying, cheating, stealing, quarreling and fighting shall not even be heard of in Emmaus, and those guilty of the like cannot be allowed to continue to live here.
8. The streets of the village are to be kept clean and orderly. Straw, dung and other filth is not to be thrown about but carefully placed behind the houses in the yards or gardens; also tools are not to be left about lying in public places.
9. No journeyman, apprentice servant or maid shall be received into any family without the approbation of the committee."

These rules and regulations provide for us a window, through which to view the day to day lives of the original inhabitants of the village. Two and one-half centuries old, they give us a snapshot of the concerns and priorities of the people of that time. ☞



**Remember the Emmaus Historical Society  
when shopping on Amazon!**



While we would like you to "think local" first, if you need to purchase anything on Amazon, you have an opportunity to contribute to our fundraising efforts without spending additional money. We are now participating with Amazon Smile. If you purchase anything on Amazon, you can sign in through smile.amazon.com and choose the Emmaus Historical Society as the non-profit organization you would like to support. In return, Amazon will contribute ½ percent of each purchase to the Emmaus Historical Society.

*Stay safe while supporting the Emmaus Historical Society!*

*100 Years Ago*

**Presented with Watch**

At the monthly meeting of Emaus Fire Company No. 1, Monday evening, retiring president Warren Polster was presented with a handsomely engraved watch as a token of esteem from his fellow members. Mr. Polster served as president of the company for three years. R. S. Stoneback in a neat address, presented Mr. Polster with the timepiece, and Mr. Polster, responded with a word of thanks.

The Morning Call, Wednesday, January 12, 1921.

## Contributions to our Capital and General Funds

We acknowledge and offer our sincere thanks to everyone who has generously contributed to the Emmaus Historical Society during the period from October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. Capital Fund contributions fund those major projects that are necessary to maintain and preserve our beautiful building and property, as well as our mortgage. Capital projects planned for 2021 include electrical wiring along with air conditioning on the third floor, front façade painting of the upper porch area, and additional pre-payment of the 30-year mortgage. Contributions to our General Fund provide for the expenses related to running the Museum as well as funding programs, activities and this newsletter.

### Capital Fund

#### Diamond Jubilee - \$5000.00 or more

The Emmaus Historical Society and its Board of Directors would like to gratefully acknowledge *Robert and Bonnie Burdette, in memory of Barry W. Barto* for a donation to the Capital Fund.

#### Moravians - \$500.00 - \$999.00

Michael and Meda Henry

#### Founders - \$250.00 to \$499.00

Mary Louise Snyder; Charles and Charlotte Johnson, in memory of Dr. Charles and Helen Johnson

#### Heritage - \$100.00 to \$249.00

Edwin and Lucille Hillegass; E.F. Butz Agency, in memory of Jackie Yandl; Kenneth Domeshek, in memory of Stuart Cox

#### Historian - \$50.00 to \$99.00

Donald Hohe; Patricia Mabus, in memory of father, Richard C. Mabus

### General Fund

#### Heritage - \$100.00 to \$249.00

Charles Stauffer; Stuart Domeshek, in memory of Stuart Cox

#### Historian - \$50.00 to \$99.00

Curt Adams; Robert and Florence Reiss; Patricia Zentner, in memory of Stuart Cox;

Carole Fiori, in memory of the Schwar Family; Linda

Hetherington, in memory of Stuart Cox

#### Friends – up to \$49.00

Steven Morse; Robert and Sara Sukol; Mary A. Brown, in memory of Harry Wetherhold

## Membership

Our membership meetings and programs are open to the public and held the third Wednesday of the month (except January, Lenten Wednesdays, June, July and August) at 7 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church Parish Hall, 5th & Chestnut Streets in Emmaus. An annual membership picnic is held the third Wednesday in June at Emmaus Community Park, where guests are welcome to become members with payment of membership dues. However, Covid – 19 has cancelled our activities to date. We hope 2021 will bring better times. Our members include individuals (local and from afar), as well as Emmaus-area businesses and organizations.

#### Annual Membership

Individual	\$15.00
Family	\$25.00
Junior (Under 18 – No vote)	\$ 3.00
Business	\$40.00
Charitable Civic Org.	\$25.00



#### Life Membership

Individual	\$200.00
Family	\$350.00
Business	\$300.00
Charitable Civic Org.	\$100.00

### Welcome to our New Members - Thank you for Supporting Us!

Steven Morse

Salvatore and Roxanne Verrastro

Kathleen Stoudt

### Deceased Members - We extend our condolences to the families of:

Mary Ellen Barnes: October 1, 2020

Richard Mabus: October 25, 2020

Martha Corbett: November 2, 2020

(Founding Member)

LeAnna Lehman: November 20, 2020

Alfred Neff, Jr: November 30, 2020

Judith Rau: December 2, 2020

Sandra Minnich: December 4, 2020

Paul Kunkel: December 8, 2020

Larry Kratzer: December 19, 2020

Kathryn Gulla: December 24, 2020

Please call the office at 610-966-6591 if you are aware of any member to whom we should send a Get Well, Sympathy or Thinking of You Card.

# Mystery Photos



We received the following updates on all photos from our Holiday 2020 issue plus one from our Fall 2020 newsletter!



The single photo of the man has been identified by several people as Michael Miller. He moved away from Emmaus in 9th grade, but would have been in the class of 1953. It's believed his family moved to Allentown and he may have then graduated from Allen High School.



The photo of the lady reading the book has been identified as Anna Marie deGorbea, who lived in Upper Milford Township on South Mountain Drive and was a professor at Cedar Crest College. This photo will be offered to the college for the school archives.



The mystery photo in the newsletter with the group of people has been identified as follows:

- a. Lady with hand on her hip is Mary (Yenser) Folk
- b. Girl in front of her is her daughter Pauline Folk
- c. Girl in middle is another daughter Virginia Folk
- d. Woman sitting is another daughter Lillian (Folk) Hagenbuch

The folk family lived at 550 Ridge Street, Emmaus. The 2 men are still unknown.



The photo of the soldier in the fall newsletter has been identified as Allen M. Brown of Catasauqua, PA who married Virginia Folk of Emmaus, but never lived here. He was in WWII. This photo will be offered to the Catasauqua Historical Society.

## NEW MYSTERY PHOTOS

*Can you help us with these photos?*

If you know anything about these photographs, please contact us at [emmaushist@ptd.net](mailto:emmaushist@ptd.net) or at (610) 966-6591.



**Executive Board**

President	Jeanne Harakal
Vice President	Linda Boehmer
Recording Secretary	Linda Waddell
Corresponding Secretary	Teri Sorg-McManamon
Treasurer	Albert Wieand

**Directors**

Patricia Mabus	Michael Henry
Andrew Kerstetter	Gregory Owens
Debra Hoffman	Michael Flynn
<b>Solicitor/Parliamentarian</b> - John Zettlemoyer, Esq.	

**Museum Hours**

Closed until we can safely open  
Call (610) 966-6591 for appointments

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT:**

The mission of the Emmaus Historical Society is to collect, preserve and exhibit Emmaus artifacts, documents, histories, photographs and genealogy for displays and research and to offer educational programs and events throughout the year.



*100 Years Ago*

**Improving** - Albert, son of Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Deischer, who was operated on in the Sacred Heart Hospital at Allentown, for appendicitis, is improving.  
The Morning Call, Wednesday, March 23, 1921.



NEWSLETTER  
February 2021

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Emmaus Historical Society*  
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