



Myerstown Church of the Brethren

Scriptural Message

Heavenly Father, show our children the right path this school year. May they not be influenced by the unwise, but seek your purposes in all things. Guide their choices. Show us the right path as a family. That we would place our time and energy on the things you want us to invest in.

Dear Lord,

As our students begin a new school year, I pray that you will keep them in your care. Send your Spirit to open their minds to all that is true and beautiful and good. Help them to see the gifts and talents you have given them and to use them well. Help them to grow in knowledge and wisdom. Help them to be kind to others and lead others to be kind to them. Give their teachers patience and understanding and help them teach what is just and true. Send your angels to guide and guard our children and to keep them from all harm. Open their young hearts to your presence and enfold them in your peace and protection. Hold them in the palm of your hand and bring them home safely at day's end.
Amen.

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Myerstown Church of the Brethren

September 2023

Ministry through
Faith, Vision, and Action

Greetings from Pastor Chris

Starting something new or change is not something we enjoy or look forward to. Change sometimes can be good, and also rewarding. But in the moment it is scary. Like for many of the children going back to school. The first day of school can be overwhelming and scary for many of the students. But it is nice to be able to see old friends and be able to learn new things. With change so many times we can look in the past and be afraid of failing or not being good enough. A new beginning awaits anyone who is willing and wanting to make Jesus Christ the Lord of their life. **2 Corinthians 5:17** **"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come the old has gone, the new is here!"** Here in the church We are all in a different season. Seasons can be scary and exciting. There is a time for everything.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-5 **"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them."** **Ecclesiastes 3:14** **"I know that everything God does will endure forever, nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him."** We as a church need to be trusting that God has a plan for each one of us. Even if we can't see it at the time, God is in control. In **Matthew Chapter 28** in the Great Commission Jesus promised his disciples "I am with you always, to the very end of the age." No matter where we are in life Jesus promise will remain. Do we trust him to take care of all of our needs. no matter what season we are in?

Attendance & Offering

Attendance average for June 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023

Sunday School – 15
Worship Service – 79
Online Views - 29

Attendance average for July 1, 2023 – July 31, 2023

Sunday School – 16
Worship Service – 82
Online Views - 33

Home Care

Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers those living in nursing homes/assisted living homes: ***Faye Brubaker, Joanne Ealy, Gloria Keppley, Glenn and Lois Hassinger, Dixie Gasper, Eleanor Brubaker, Ken Gross***

Gift Cards

The gift card order is always processed ***the first Sunday of the month***. Look for your order form in the newsletter or on the bulletin board. The list of businesses is always changing. How many cards do you think you can use in a month? You don't have to buy a card to give away, you can use them yourself. You can buy your groceries or gas for your vehicles.

MCoB email list - join by sending your name and email address to info@myerstowncob.org

Greeting Cards

If anyone has used greeting cards that they want to get rid of, please bring them to church and put in the box in the Gathering Place. The cards will be made into gifts and sent to India

Disaster Relief Auction

September 22nd & 23rd is the Brethren Disaster Relief Auction at the Lebanon Expo Grounds. The expenses of food are on the rise and we want to raise as much as we can for those who have experienced natural disasters. We are asking for donations to help defer these expenses & allow a greater portion of the income from food to go to the relief auction. We appreciate any monetary donation that you can give to this project. Please make checks payable to: Brethren Disaster Relief Auction with food in the memo line. Send checks to Evie Dehmey and she will add that to the food committee department. Evie Dehmey, 164 Vinegar Ferry Rd., Marietta, PA 17545. We also are looking for people to serve on our committee. We meet 3 times a year and then help with the food at the auction. If you have any interest in serving on our committee, please contact Lois Roop at 717-954-2278 or email clroop@verizon.net

Pumpkin Roll

Women's Fellowship will be starting the baking of pumpkin rolls on September 18th. If you would like to help in any way, please contact Janet Dubble or Dottie Nagle. Look for the pumpkin roll order forms in your mailbox.

COBY'S Bike & Hike

Sunday, September 10th is COBY'S Bike & Hike at Lititz Church of the Brethren, 300 West Orange St., Lititz. For more details or to register or donate online, visit cobys.org/bike-and-hike. If you have any questions, contact Steve Nichols at steven@cobys.org

Holiday Bazaar

It's that time of year when you are probably cleaning out good but unused or unwanted items. The annual bazaar is November 18th, but we are already accepting donations for the "white elephant" tables. The items can be stored in the Sharing Cupboard area.

Love Feast and Communion

Fall Love Feast and Communion will be held Sunday, October 1st following the worship service. If anyone would be willing to babysit during the Communion service, it would be greatly appreciated. Please see any of the deacons with questions.

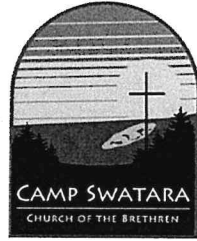
Choirs to Resume

Bell Choir will resume Wednesday, September 6th at 6:15 p.m.

Senior Choir will resume Wednesday, September 6th at 7:30 p.m.

September Wedding Anniversaries

4 th	Jason & Carey Krall
9 th	Jay & Brenda Lentz
17 th	LaMar & Joanne Fahnestock
	Dale & JoAnn Houtz
19 th	Bob & Kathryn Gibble
21 st	George & Dottie Nagle



CAMP SWATARA NEWS

Sad that summer camps are over??? Don't fret, there are fall and winter camps scheduled as well!

Looking to plan a vacation? Spend some time at Camp Swatara in their Family Camping Center. Rent a cabin or bring your camper/RV for a fun get-away.

Upcoming Activities at Camp:

- **Sept 1st 6:30pm-8:30pm Item Preview**

7pm Kids auction

Sept 2nd 8:30am-9:30am Item Preview

9:30am Regular Auction

All proceeds benefit the Camp Swatara Family Campground

- **Sept 8th-9th Father & Son Weekend**

There is a unique bond between dads and their sons that is what this weekend is all about. Grades 1-6, plus dads. \$229/pair. Info and Register on our website.

- **Oct 20th-21st Fall Camp**

Now that school has started, don't you wish you could come back to camp? \$119/camper. Visit our website to register by Oct 6th, 2023.

- **Oct 27th-28th Free Camping Weekend**

Join us to close the campground. Volunteer for 1 day and enjoy free camping. Work day is Oct 28th. Info and register on our website.

- **Visit www.campswatara.org for additional activities throughout the spring/summer months.**

Commissions and Church Board Meeting

Date: July 18, 2023

Meeting was called to order: @ 7:30 pm

by Chairperson: David Dubble

Present were:

Prayer by: Grace Ziegler

Present were: Pastor Chris Dubble

Secretary's Report of June 20, 2023

Approved as presented by aye vote

Treasurer's Report of June 30, 2023

Approved as presented by aye vote

Commission Reports & Members Present

Ministry & Evangelism Commission: Chairperson – Grace Ziegler,
Pastor Chris, David Dubble, Linda Zimmerman

The meeting opened with prayer by Dave Dubble

Worship leaders are in place for the remainder of July and for August.

July 23 Kim Horn

July 30 Tim Fetzer

August 6

August 13 Katrina Wagner

August 20 Bob Noll

August 27 Evelina Krall

If anyone is interested in being worship leader for August 6th, please notify Grace Ziegler.

John Kline will be our speaker on August 13th when Pastor Chris is on vacation.

August 27th is Rally Day with Pastor Chris speaking.

September 24th is the Enrichment Service with Walter Heisey leading.

October 8th is our Sunday afternoon Gospel Music Program. We have 9 groups signed up and are looking forward to a meaningful service.

Heather Moehlmann Karnes of Richland Express contacted Grace and agreed to present a program on March 24, 2024.

For community involvement we discussed the possibility of making a float in the Myerstown parade on Saturday, November 25th.

We are looking to have a Men's breakfast on Sept. 16th. Details to follow.

The report of Annual Conference from the delegates is planned for a Sunday during Sunday School.....date to follow.

Missions & Fellowship Commission: Chairperson – Janet Dubble
Sharon Seldomridge

Myerstown Night at the Reading Phils is August 18th. To date, 50 tickets have been reserved. The deadline for reserving tickets is Sunday, August 6th. We are able to request as many additional tickets as we need from the Myerstown Vitality Partnership.

The Rally Day Fellowship meal for August 27th will directly follow the worship service. The Mission and Fellowship Commission (with possible assistance from Women's Fellowship) will provide hot dogs, meatball sandwiches, and drinks. Two signup sheets will be put in the Gathering Place: one for those that will be attending and a second one for those will provide sides, salads, and dessert. Kim Wenger will coordinate the kitchen.

CCLI Licensing Renewal is due August 31st. This is our license to use, project and stream the music and lyrics that we use in our church. The total annual renewal cost is \$238.

Collection items for the Sharing Cupboard for August will be crackers and small cans of soup (any flavor EXCEPT tomato).

Registration is open for District Conference

Delegates are Pastor Chris, Joyce Wagner, Jackie Dohner, Walter Sattazahn and Cindy Sattazahn.

Alternate is Janet Dubble. All delegates will be registered as a group. Janet Dubble will do this.

Women's Fellowship meeting is August 3rd at 6:30 pm for planning pumpkin roll baking, Women's breakfast, etc.

Christian Education Commission: - Chairperson – Christine Blackwell
Brenda Lentz, Walter Sattazahn, Cindy Sattazahn

We finalized details on VBS.

Trustee and Property Commission: – Chairperson – George Nagle
Dale Houtz, Bill Kline, Mark Landis, Jr.

Replaced fluid valve in girls restroom at the school.

I got 2 estimates to repair cracks and fix front parking lot.

Triangle replaced the AC unit for the Gathering Place. The compressor was 15 years old and was bad. New unit was \$6,645.....5 year warranty on compressor.

The school wanted use of the sanctuary 5 days a week. We gave them a price of \$350 a month. They decided to use only on a Wednesday morning. We came up with a price of \$100 a month extra.

We decided to request Hoffer Paving to do the job at \$37,300.

A special council meeting will be announced this Sunday, July 23rd and next Sunday, July 30th, to see what the church decides on repairing our parking lot.

Finance and Stewardship Commission: – Chairperson – Bob Noll
Jay Lentz, Tim Fetzer

Budget worksheets for 2024 were given to each commission. We would like them returned by September 12th. The total budget will be presented to board at the September meeting. Through the first six months of 2023 we are \$18,168.17 short for the General Fund vs. actual giving. If this trend continues we will be short \$36,336.34. We again would like to thank everyone for their faithful giving.

Pastor's Report

Things I have done.

- Met with family and planned funeral service.
- Attended annual conference from July 4th through July 8th.
- While at annual conference I worked on continuing education, and attended business meetings throughout the week.
- Made phone calls to several people in the congregation.
- Met with a family regarding an upcoming funeral service.
- Drove to another church to get Bible school supplies.

Things I will be doing the rest of the month.

- Attend board meeting.
- Attend VBS volunteers meeting.
- Pray and perform anointing service for an individual in our community.
- Officiate a graveside service.
- Attend a quarterly brethren pastors meeting.
- Perform a memorial service on Saturday July 22nd.
- Help with Bible school July 23rd through July 27th.
- Visit with the sharing cupboard, and ladies aid.
- I am continuing preaching through the gospel of John this month. We just finishing John chapter 6 and continuing on to John Chapter 7.
- I would like to thank everyone for all their prayers while at conference.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Interests & Concerns

Who is locking the doors at the end of church each Sunday, was a question that was raised.

Adjournment

At 8:25 pm with prayer by Pastor Chris

Commissions and Church Board Meeting

Date: August 15, 2023

Meeting was called to order: @ 7:40 pm

by Chairperson: David Dubble

Present were:

Prayer by: Cindy Sattazzahn

Present were: Pastor Chris Dubble

Secretary's Report of July 18, 2023

Approved as presented by aye vote

Treasurer's Report of July 31, 2023

Approved as presented by aye vote

Commission Reports & Members Present

Ministry & Evangelism Commission:

Pastor Chris, David Dubble, Linda Zimmerman
Mark Landis, Sr., Earl Liskey

The meeting opened with prayer by Mark Landis, Sr.

Worship leaders are in place for

August 20 Bob Noll

August 27 Evelina Krall

September 3 Mark Landis, Sr.

We discussed Rally Day which will be held Sunday, August 27th. Pastor Chris will be preaching. We will have the blessing of the children's backpacks and presentation of Bibles.

The Men's Breakfast scheduled for September 16th will be held in the fellowship hall with Kim Wenger preparing the meal.

Spiritual Enrichment Sunday will be held September 24th with Walter Heisey as the speaker.

Our Sunday afternoon Gospel Music Program will be held October 8th and plans are underway for advertising and extending the invitation to other area churches.

We discussed the possibility of having a Thanksgiving Eve service with the possibility of joining with other churches in the Myerstown area.

Missions & Fellowship Commission: Chairperson – Janet Dubble
Sharon Seldomridge, Kim Horn

Myerstown Night at the Reading Phils is August 18th. 60 tickets have been reserved.
Rally Day is August 27th. Our commission will supply hot dogs, meatball sandwiches and drink. The congregation will provide side dishes and desserts. Set up on Saturday morning. Kim Wenger will man the kitchen.

Collection items for Sharing Cupboard for September is cereal and spaghetti sauce.

It was requested by Samaritan's Purse for MCoB to be a collection site for the Operation Christmas Child boxes. This involves storing the boxes for approximately one week. Sunday through Thursday load the truck Friday to Monday. Would it be possible, do we have enough volunteers? Maybe get the school involved.

Women's fellowship news

It's Pumpkin Roll time. Order deadline is October 1st. Baking begins September 18th through October 9th, and October 16th if needed. Price will remain the same at \$15.00.

Holiday Bazaar is November 18th. Volunteers will be needed.

Women's Holiday breakfast or luncheon on December 9th.

We reviewed the budget for 2024.

Christian Education Commission: - Chairperson – Christine Blackwell
Brenda Lentz, Walter Sattazahn, Cindy Sattazahn

VBS went well.

We went over VBS suggestions.

Talked about who will get Bibles on Rally Day.

We are looking to involve the children in the worship service.

Went over the budget for 2024.

Talked about the Kid's Club after Rally Day meal.

Trustee and Property Commission: – Chairperson – George Nagle
Dale Houtz, Bill Kline, Mark Landis, Jr.

We want to thank Charlie Krall for replacing the switch on the front door lock.

I got 2 prices for upper parking lot.....Hoffer and Hackman. We are waiting on Nolt Paving. Martin Paving was here today to give an estimate.

Finance and Stewardship Commission: – Chairperson – Bob Noll
Jay Lentz, Tim Fetzner

We would like to remind each commission to have their proposed budget completed and returned to our commission by September 12th. The total budget will be presented at the September Board Meeting.

We would like to thank everyone for their faithful giving.

Pastor's Report

I would like to thank everybody for their prayers for myself and my family these past couple weeks. With all your prayers, our family could feel at peace. We are truly blessed to be part of such a wonderful church family. It has been such a blessing to see how this church has grown together as a family, and it has been such a blessing to be able to be part of that. It is amazing to see how God is working here at Myerstown church. I am so excited to see what God has in store for us here in His church!

Things I have done

Planned and officiated a graveside and memorial service.
Helped with Bible school.
Visited with ladies aid.
Helped and visited with the Sharing Cupboard.
August 3rd and 4th attended virtually the global leadership conference.
Hospital visits and called several people from the congregation.
Was on vacation.
Planned worship services and preached.
Met with pastor mentor monthly.

Things I will be doing

Attend board meeting.
Attend spiritual nurture meeting.
Help plan rally day and preach from Matthew chapter 28.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Interests & Concerns

We discussed the pain that Grace Ziegler has and hope and pray her operation on Friday will help with the pain and help her resume her normal activities.
Annual Conference report will be in the next newsletter.

Adjournment

At 8:15 pm with prayer by Pastor Chris

SEPTEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00am	4 LABOR DAY	5 Music Committee Mtg. 7:00 pm	6 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	7 Sharing Cupboard 10am-1pm	8 Sharing Cupboard 3pm-6pm	9
10 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Cobys Bike & Hike	11	12	13 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	14 Sharing Cupboard 10 am – 1 pm	15 Sharing Cupboard 3 pm – 6 pm	16
17 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	18	19 Executive Mtg. 6:30 pm Commission Mtg. 7:00 pm Board Mtg. 7:30 pm	20 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	21	22 Diaster Relief Auction	23 Diaster Relief Auction
24 Sunday School 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am	25	26	27 Bell Choir 6:15 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm	28 Sharing Cupboard 10 am – 1 pm Spiritual Nurture Mtg 7:00 pm	29 Sharing Cupboard 3 pm – 6 pm	30

SEPTEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Dean Wagner LABOR DAY	5	6 Janet Dubble Nancy Liskey	7	8	9 Walter Sattazahn, Jr.
10 William Wenrich Isabella Reppert	11	12	13	14 Ella Heisey Alicia Yoh	15	16 David Sheetz
17	18	19	20 Jane Spangler	21	22	23 Amelia Gross Aaron Krall Evan Krall
24	25 Rachel McClure	26	27 Edna Yoh	28	29 Chelsea Reppert	30 Susan Dundore

September Wedding Anniversaries

- 4th Jason & Carey Krall
- 9th Jay & Brenda Lentz
- 17th LaMar & Joanne Fahnestock
- 19th Dale & JoAnn Houtz
- 21st Bob & Kathryn Gobble
- George & Dottie Nagle

WrapUp

Church of the Brethren Annual Conference 2023 ■ Cincinnati, Ohio

Viviendo el amor de Dios
Viv Lanmou Bondye A
Rayuwan Kaunar Allah
Living God's Love

Ephesians 5:1-2
Languages: Spanish, Creole, Hausa, English

Elections and appointments

Annual Conference moderator-elect:

Dava Cruise Hensley, Roanoke (Va.) First Church of the Brethren

Program and Arrangements Committee:

Gail Heisel, La Verne (Calif.) Church of the Brethren

Pastoral Compensation and Benefits

Advisory Committee: **Lori Hurt**, Boones Mill (Va.) Church of the Brethren

Mission and Ministry Board – Area 2:

Tina Hunt, Mansfield (Ohio) Church of the Brethren; **Area 3: Deirdre Moyer**, Eden (N.C.) Church of the Brethren; *affirmed:* **Meghan Horne Mauldin**, Mill Creek Church of the Brethren, Tryon, N.C.; **Robert Jackson**, Lower Miami Church of the Brethren, Dayton, Ohio

Bethany Theological Seminary trustees –

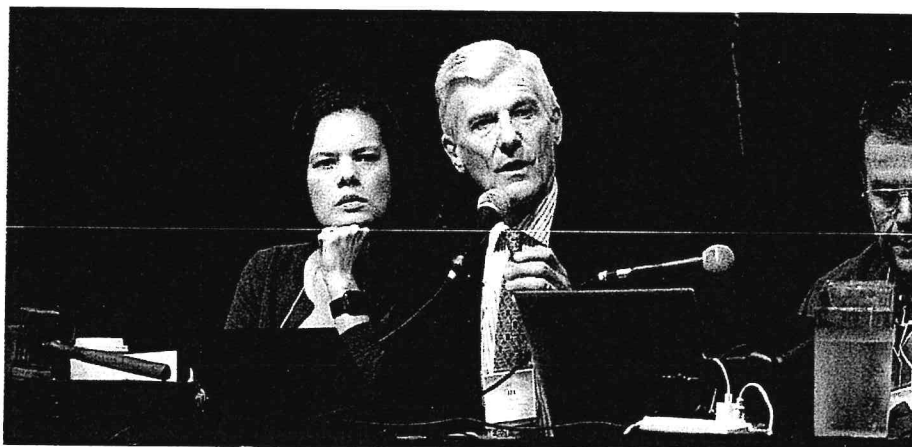
representing laity: **Mark Gingrich**, Open Circle Church of the Brethren, Burnsville, Minn.; *clergy:* **Jennifer Hosler**, Washington (D.C.) City Church of the Brethren; *affirmed:* **Susan Stern Boyer**, La Verne (Calif.) Church of the Brethren

Eder Financial Board: **Dennis Kingery**,

Prince of Peace Church of the Brethren, Littleton, Colo.; *board/constituency-elected:* **Russ Matteson**, Pacific Southwest District, representing the Ministers' Association and Council of District Executives; **Eunice Erb Culp**, Indiana; **Audrey Myer**, Pennsylvania.

On Earth Peace Board: **Audrey Zunkel-**

DeCoursey, Living Stream Church of the Brethren; *affirmed:* **Jennifer K. Scarr**, Bridgewater (Va.) Church of the Brethren



Moderator Tim McElwee (center) presides over the 2023 Annual Conference, with moderator-elect Madalyn Metzger (left) and secretary David Shumate (right). Photo by Glenn Riegel

Resolution lamenting Doctrine of Discovery leads Annual Conference business agenda

Delegates approved “With Actions and in Truth: A Lament on the Doctrine of Discovery.” The doctrine is a rationale for historical colonialism by Europeans around the world, which originated in a series of Christian writings and papal decrees particularly from the 15th century. The resolution was brought by the Mission and Ministry Board. It addresses injustice in the church’s history with Indigenous people, even if indirect, and encourages Brethren to learn the history, name the wrongs, recognize ways in which we have benefitted, and take time to lament that wrong. The church is called to develop relationships with Indigenous communities and seek ways to bring healing and reparation to Native people. Delegates spent more than the scheduled time discussing the resolution, ultimately passing it by a large margin.

Silent confession and repentance: Following a decision last year by the Standing Committee of district delegates, the Conference observed a time of silence for “confession and repentance concerning our mistreatment of one another in our discussion of human sexuality.” The time began with the reading of a statement from Standing Committee, continued with several minutes of silence, and concluded with these words: “We know our God hears us and will help us move forward together, and that fruit will be born out of this time of confession, for the prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.”

Calling leadership: A Standing Committee request for a study committee to research the process of nominating and calling church leadership was approved. The request named the challenges around assembling the ballot that is voted at Annual Conference. Named to the committee were Eric Bishop, Erika Clary, and Emmett Witkovsky-Eldred.

Process for nominations from the floor: Delegates approved a new two-step process for nominations from the floor, brought by Standing Committee. The change requires those making nominations to first state reasons

why the ballot for a particular position is inadequate. Delegates must approve their willingness to accept a new nomination based on the reason offered.

Eder articles of organization: Delegates approved restated and amended articles of organization for Eder Financial.



Photo by Donna Parcell

[Brethren.org/news/coverage/annual-conference-2023](https://brethren.org/news/coverage/annual-conference-2023).

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This Wrap Up produced by News Services with the 2023 Press

Team: Jan Fischer Bachman, Karen Garrett, Keith Hollenberg, Wendy McFadden, Russ Otto, Donna Parcell, Frank Ramirez, Glenn Riegel, Laura Sellers, and Frances Townsend.

(continued on page 2)

Church of the Brethren Annual Conference 2023 ■ Cincinnati



Preachers (from left):
Moderator Tim McElwee,
Sheila Wise Rowe,
Deanna Brown,
Jody Romero,
and Audri Svay.

Photos by
Glenn Riegel and
Keith Hollenberg

BEARING THE FRUIT OF GOD'S LOVE



(continued from page 1)

Ministers continuing education: Since 2002, ministers have been required to do continuing education. The Conference adopted a 2023 version of the document that clarifies guidelines, adds financial responsibility and leadership as a focus area, and pro-rates the number of continuing education units needed.

Standing Committee actions: The district delegates approved the inclusion of "Polity, Position, Policy, and Practice" in the next revision of the *Standing Committee Manual*, and approved review of the Special Response Process "A Structural Framework for Dealing with Strongly Controversial Issues" to be carried out in 2024.

Interim reports: Delegates received progress reports from two Annual Conference study committees—"Standing with People of Color" and "Breaking Down Barriers: Increasing Access to Denominational Events"—and two Standing Committee subcommittees working on implementation of last year's polity changes related to agencies.

Anniversaries: The Conference celebrated the 100th anniversary of Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria) and the 75th anniversary of Brethren Volunteer Service.

Gun violence: On Earth Peace and a Gun Violence Prevention Action Team organized a walk and prayer vigil in downtown Cincinnati. Three TV stations aired reports on the event.



Photo by Donna Parcell

At right: Annual Conference director Rhonda Pittman Gingrich with elected members of the Program and Arrangements Committee: Nathan Hollenberg, Jacob Crouse, and Beth Jarrett.

Photo by Glenn Riegel



Photo by Keith Hollenberg



Photo by Glenn Riegel

By the numbers

1,393 total registration including 441 delegates and 952 nondelegates.

\$29,330.17 received in offerings including \$14,431.72 for Core Ministries offerings that highlighted Global Mission, Brethren Volunteer Service, and Discipleship and Leadership Formation; \$8,556.23 for Annual Conference operating expenses; \$6,342.22 for Annual Conference translation.

\$12,698.11 given for Fount House, this year's "Witness to the Host City."

\$12,895 raised by the silent auction with one-third of the proceeds supporting Annual Conference and two-thirds supporting Brethren Disaster Ministries.

\$3,740.80 raised by the quilt auction of the Association for the Arts in the Church of the Brethren, benefiting the Nigeria Crisis Fund.

120 units collected by the blood drive.

5.3 percent increase approved for the Minimum Cash Salary Table for pastors.

1 project, 1 fellowship, and 1 congregation welcomed:

- *Madtown Church of the Brethren* in Madison, Wis., a project of Illinois and Wisconsin District.
- *East Dayton (Ohio) Fellowship* in Southern Ohio and Kentucky District.
- *Gordonsville (Va.) Chapel*, a congregation in Shenandoah District.

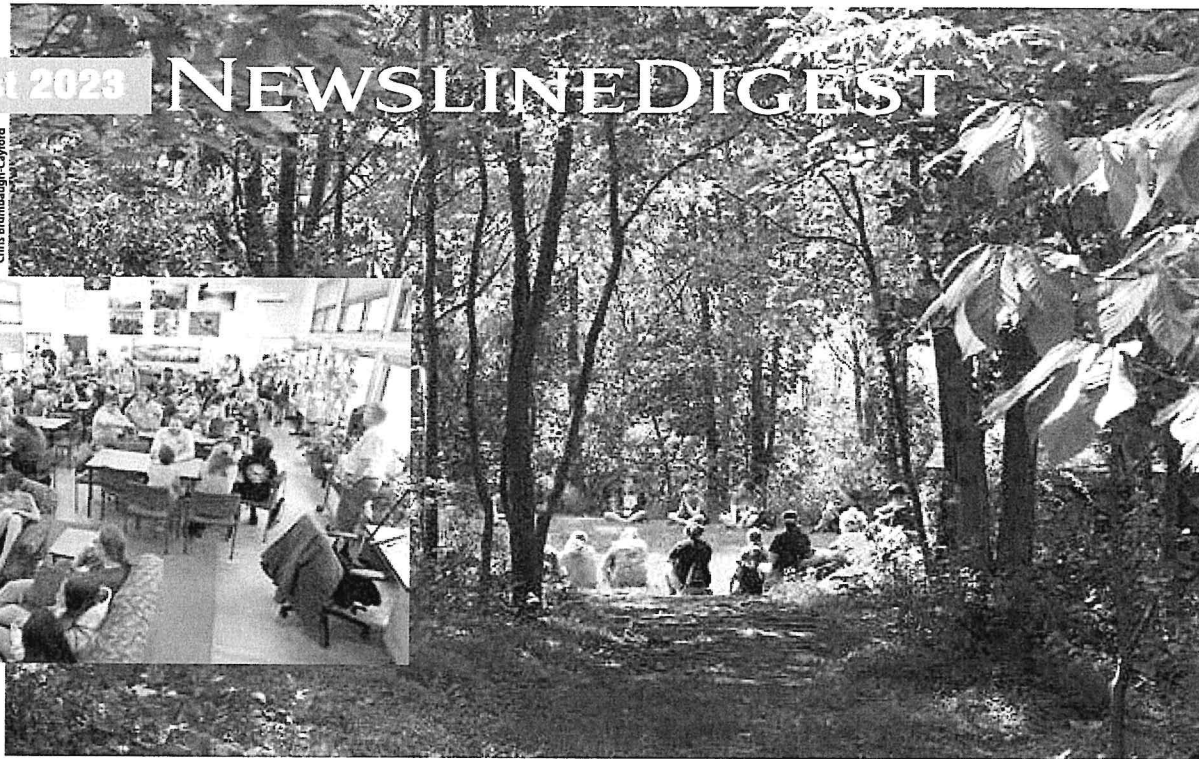
Photos by (from left) Glenn Riegel, Donna Parcell, Laura Sellers, Keith Hollenberg.



Chris Brumbaugh-Coyford



Chris Brumbaugh-Coyford



Junior highs gather at Juniata

For the first time since 2019, National Junior High Conference met at Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pa., with 11 districts represented among the 164 participants. The event is sponsored by Youth and Young Adult Ministries, led by director Becky Ullom Naugle.

Worship invited participants to ask, "What does God want from me?" Ecumenical guests Hyacinth Stevens and Damien Feyjoo focused on celebrating the joy of our faith and understanding the depth of mercy God offers. Amber Harris,

ordained in the Church of the Brethren and executive director of SPARK (Share Peace and Rekindle Kindness Inc.), encouraged participants to hope and act courageously while watching for the Holy Spirit's movement.

The group also traveled to the college's field station, an environmental research and education center at Raystown Lake. Learning stations included "greening your church," planting a pollinator garden, and considering our place in God's creation.



Jeff Boshart

Meetings address divide in DR

From June 9 to 11, as part of ongoing work to encourage unity and reconciliation in Iglesia de los Hermanos Republica Dominicana (Church of the Brethren in the Dominican Republic), retired pastor Alix Sable of Lancaster, Pa., and Global Food Initiative manager Jeff Boshart met with church leaders.

Meetings were held with the board of the DR church and with leadership of Comunidad de Fe (Community of Faith) made up of Kreyol-speaking congregations of Haitians living in the

DR and Dominicans of Haitian descent. The two groups separated nearly five years ago, during an annual conference when a proposal seeking equal representation in board positions from the two sides of the church failed to be ratified.

A draft plan calling for two separate districts was developed by Dominican American pastors who are members of Global Mission's country advisory team for the DR. Church leaders in the DR requested more time to discuss the plan.



Post this page

You are welcome to photocopy these news pages. For more Newsline stories, go to www.brethren.org/news

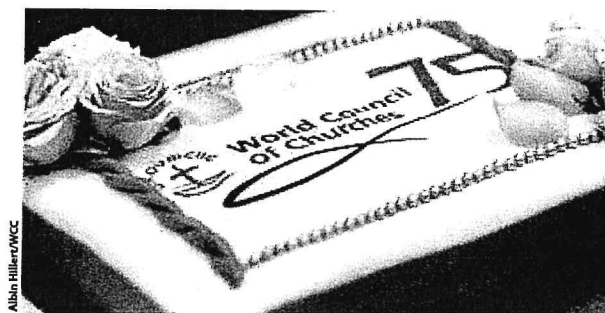
Church leaders respond to reporting of abuse by former employee

Church of the Brethren leaders have received new reporting about sexual abuse by a former member of the denominational staff, which occurred in a work setting several decades ago. The book *Her Words, My Voice* by Heidi Ramer has brought new attention to the events. Victim and alleged perpetrator were adults at the time, and both are now deceased. Action was taken by church leaders at the time.

The General Secretary's office and the denomination's Mission

and Ministry Board have been part of the response. A meeting was held with family of the abused person. More actions related to past practices and current policies and procedures are expected, in order to ensure a safe workplace and to improve organizational responses. Currently, a process for responding to sexual abuse allegations is incorporated in the *Employee Handbook* and denominational staff are required to complete an annual training for prevention of abuse and workplace misconduct.

The World Council of Churches (WCC) celebrated its 75th anniversary on June 25 during meetings of its Central Committee. The Church of the Brethren is a founding member. Among significant actions taken by the committee were adoption of bylaws for a new Commission on Climate Change and Sustainable Development, appointment of 17 youth advisors to strengthen the voice of young people in the WCC, and approval of a Strategic Plan 2023-2030 with "Pilgrimage of Justice, Reconciliation, and Unity" as the theme. Numerous statements addressed global concerns ranging from endorsement of a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty to ecumenical solidarity with Africa and people of African descent to artificial intelligence.



Personnel

Sam Carter began July 17 as sorter and packer of medical supplies for Material Resources at the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, Md.

Shelly K. Haas of Roanoke (Va.) Oak Grove Church of the Brethren began July 15 as part-time financial services coordinator for Virlina District.

Hannah Jarrett began June 5 as director of Camp Bethel in Fincastle, Va. She succeeds **Barry LeNoir**, who retired June 30. Over the years, Jarrett has worked for the camp as a counselor-in-training, senior counselor, summer program coordinator, and administrative assistant. Camp Bethel also hired **Elizabeth Brancati** as guest services coordinator and **Becca Duncan** as food services coordinator.

Michael B. Leiter, a Church of the Brethren mem-

ber from Frederick, Md., started May 15 as client services manager for Eder Financial. He holds a bachelor's in business administration from Messiah University, Grantham, Pa., and a master of business administration from Hood College in Frederick.

Pardis Mahdavi has been named the 19th president of the University of La Verne, Calif. She brings more than 20 years of scholarship, experience, and leadership in higher education, most recently serving as provost and executive vice president at the University of Montana. Mahdavi succeeds **Devorah Lieberman**, who has retired after serving as ULV president since 2011.

Carolyn Neher of York Center Church of the Brethren in Lombard, Ill., began June 5 as associate director of Children's Disaster Services. A CDS volunteer

since 2014, Neher has deployed to six disasters, is trained as a project manager and critical response childcare volunteer, and is a volunteer trainer. She holds a bachelor's in psychology from McPherson (Kan.) College and a master of education in early childhood leadership and advocacy from National Louis University.

Stanley Noffsinger retired May 31 as chief executive officer of Timbercrest Senior Living Communities in North Manchester, Ind. He began at Timbercrest in February 2019 as long-term interim executive. Noffsinger is a former general secretary of the Church of the Brethren.

Christine Huiras, most recently chief operating officer at Timbercrest, has been named executive director.

Traci Rabenstein, director of Mission Advancement for

the Church of the Brethren, was promoted to executive director of the department.

H. Kendall Rogers has retired as professor of historical studies at Bethany Theological Seminary, completing his final courses this spring. He taught at Manchester College (now Manchester University) in North Manchester, Ind., for 30 years, then joined the Bethany faculty in 2008. He has been ordained in the Church of the Brethren to the ministry of teaching since 1984.

Wiley Rowan began June 12 as business development director for Eder Financial. He holds a double major in marketing and management from Judson University in Elgin, Ill.

Winni (Sara) Wanionek resigned May 31 as sorter and packer of medical supplies for Material Resources.

TURNING POINT'S 365 - DAY BIBLE READING PLAN



One of the best ways to know God is to become acquainted with the full counsel of His written Word. This reading plan will guide you through all 66 books of the Bible in the coming year.

SEPTEMBER

1 Ezekiel 25 – 27	11 Daniel 4 – 5	21 Jonah 1 – 4
2 Ezekiel 28 – 30	12 Daniel 6 – 8	22 Micah 1 – 4
3 Ezekiel 31 – 32	13 Daniel 9 – 12	23 Micah 5 – 7
4 Ezekiel 33 – 35	14 Hosea 1 – 4	24 Nahum 1 – 3
5 Ezekiel 36 – 38	15 Hosea 5 – 9	25 Habakkuk 1 – 3
6 Ezekiel 39 – 40	16 Hosea 10 – 14	26 Zephaniah 1 – 3
7 Ezekiel 41 – 43	17 Joel 1 – 3	27 Haggai 1 – 2
8 Ezekiel 44 – 46	18 Amos 1 – 4	28 Zechariah 1 – 5
9 Ezekiel 47 – 48	19 Amos 5 – 9	29 Zechariah 6 – 10
10 Daniel 1 – 3	20 Obadiah 1	30 Zechariah 11 – 14





PRAYER REQUESTS

Date:

Prayer:



This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



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Family Order Form

Created: 8/8/2022 9:48:27 AM

Myerstown Church of the Brethren/PA

The following is a list of gift cards that can be purchased as a fundraising project for the building fund. All orders must be placed by the first Sunday of each month. Thank you for your purchase.

Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total
Ace Hardware \$25.00	4%		\$	Cabela's \$25.00	10%		\$	Giant Food Stores \$50.00	4%		\$
adidas \$25.00	13%		\$	Carrabba's Italian Grill \$25.00	10%		\$	Groupon.com \$25.00	7%		\$
Aeropostale \$25.00	10%		\$	Carter's \$25.00	10%		\$	Hardee's \$10.00	5%		\$
Amazon \$100.00	1.7%		\$	Cheesecake Factory \$25.00	5%		\$	Home Depot® \$25.00	4%		\$
Amazon \$25.00	1.7%		\$	Children's Place \$25.00	12%		\$	Icing \$10.00	9%		\$
AMC Theatres \$25.00	8%		\$	Chili's Grill & Bar \$25.00	11%		\$	IHOP \$25.00	8%		\$
AMC Theatres Single Ticket \$10.00	10%		\$	Chipotle Mexican Grill \$10.00	10%		\$	J. Crew \$25.00	13%		\$
AMC Theatres Single Ticket \$12.00	10%		\$	Chipotle Mexican Grill \$25.00	10%		\$	JCPenney \$100.00	5%		\$
American Eagle® \$25.00	10%		\$	Chuck E. Cheese's \$10.00	8%		\$	JCPenney \$25.00	5%		\$
American Girl \$100.00	9%		\$	Claire's \$10.00	9%		\$	Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores \$25.00	6%		\$
American Girl \$25.00	9%		\$	Cold Stone Creamery \$10.00	11%		\$	Kohl's \$100.00	4%		\$
Applebee's \$25.00	8%		\$	Cracker Barrel \$10.00	8%		\$	Kohl's \$25.00	4%		\$
Applebee's \$50.00	8%		\$	Cracker Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$	L.L.Bean \$25.00	16%		\$
Arby's \$10.00	8%		\$	CVS Pharmacy \$25.00	6%		\$	Lands' End \$100.00	15%		\$
AutoZone \$25.00	7%		\$	Dalry Queen \$10.00	3%		\$	Lands' End \$25.00	15%		\$
Banana Republic \$25.00	14%		\$	Darden Restaurants \$25.00	8%		\$	Long John Silver's \$10.00	8%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$10.00	8%		\$	Dick's Sporting Goods \$25.00	8%		\$	LongHorn Steakhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$25.00	8%		\$	Disney \$100.00	3%		\$	Lowe's \$100.00	4%		\$
Bass Pro Shops \$100.00	10%		\$	Disney \$25.00	3%		\$	Lowe's \$25.00	4%		\$
Bass Pro Shops \$25.00	10%		\$	Domino's \$10.00	8%		\$	Marshalls \$25.00	7%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$10.00	12%		\$	Dunham's Sports \$25.00	8%		\$	Men's Wearhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$25.00	12%		\$	Dunkin' Donuts \$10.00	3%		\$	Michaels \$25.00	4%		\$
Bed Bath & Beyond \$25.00	7%		\$	Dunkin' Donuts \$25.00	3%		\$	Moe's Southwest Grill \$25.00	6%		\$
Best Buy \$100.00	4%		\$	Eat'n Park \$10.00	9%		\$	Nike \$25.00	12%		\$
Best Buy \$25.00	4%		\$	Eat'n Park \$25.00	9%		\$	Old Navy \$25.00	14%		\$
Bob Evans Restaurants® \$10.00	10%		\$	Express \$25.00	10%		\$	Olive Garden \$25.00	8%		\$
Boscov's \$25.00	8%		\$	Famous Footwear \$25.00	8%		\$	OshKosh \$25.00	10%		\$
Boston Market \$10.00	12%		\$	Foot Locker \$25.00	8%		\$	Outback Steakhouse \$25.00	10%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$10.00	8%		\$	GameStop \$25.00	5%		\$	Panera Bread \$10.00	8%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$25.00	8%		\$	Gap \$25.00	14%		\$	Panera Bread \$25.00	8%		\$
Build-A-Bear Workshop® \$25.00	8%		\$	Giant Food Stores \$100.00	4%		\$	Papa John's Pizza \$10.00	8%		\$
Cabela's \$100.00	10%		\$	Giant Food Stores \$25.00	4%		\$	PetSmart \$25.00	5%		\$
								Pizza Hut \$10.00	8%		\$

Make Checks Payable To: **Myerstown Church of the Brethren**

Total Due All Columns:

\$

Family Order Form

Created: 8/8/2022 9:48:27 AM

Myerstown Church of the Brethren/PA

The following is a list of gift cards that can be purchased as a fundraising project for the building fund. All orders must be placed by the first Sunday of each month. Thank you for your purchase.

Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Product	%	QTY	Total
Rainforest Cafe \$25.00	9%		\$
Red Lobster \$25.00	8%		\$
Red Robin \$25.00	8%		\$
Regal \$25.00	8%		\$
Rite Aid \$25.00	4%		\$
Sam's Club \$100.00	2.5%		\$
Sam's Club \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Sheetz \$100.00	3%		\$
Sheetz \$25.00	3%		\$
Shutterfly \$25.00	9%		\$
Speedway \$25.00	4%		\$
Staples \$100.00	5%		\$
Staples \$25.00	5%		\$
Starbucks \$10.00	4.5%		\$
Starbucks \$25.00	4.5%		\$
Subway Restaurants \$10.00	4.5%		\$
T.J. Maxx \$25.00	7%		\$
Taco Bell \$10.00	5%		\$
Talbots \$25.00	13%		\$
Tanger Outlets \$25.00	8%		\$
Target \$100.00	2.5%		\$
Target \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Target \$50.00	2.5%		\$
Texas Roadhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
TGI Fridays \$25.00	9%		\$
The Home Depot® \$100.00	4%		\$
The Home Depot® \$25.00	4%		\$
Under Armour \$25.00	11%		\$
Walmart \$100.00	2.5%		\$
Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Walmart \$50.00	2.5%		\$
Wawa \$25.00	1%		\$
Wendy's \$10.00	6.5%		\$

Make Checks Payable To: *Myerstown Church of the Brethren*

Total Due All Columns:

\$