

## Dear Youth and Advisors,

The Footprints '11 Planning Committee would like to invite all youth and advisors in our region to join us for an exciting weekend! You may remember this event as the Eastern Regional Youth Conference.

The title "Footprints" comes from the idea that each of us is on a journey. Our footprints are taking us in new and exciting directions as each of us strives in our own way to follow in the footsteps of Christ. Footprints is about your personal faith journey and the steps you are taking in your walk with God.

Footprints is also about community and impact of our actions. Perhaps you have heard the saying, "Take only pictures, leave only footprints." Or maybe you have heard people discussing their ecological "footprint." Footprints is not just about our journey and where it is taking us, but also the impact our journeys and our lives have on the world around us. We are all members of the body of Christ and as such we must be careful where our feet fall lest we trample on others.

With that in mind, the theme for this year's conference is "Be Doers of the Word." Taken from James 1:22-24, it expresses the idea that we cannot just talk-the-talk, we also need to walk the walk. We need faith *and* deeds if we are going to have a positive impact on the world.

We hope you will consider joining us for this great weekend of learning and fellowship as we seek to grow in our faith and understanding of Christ's life and work.

Please complete a registration form for each participant attending, and send it along with a check for registration fees. To receive the early-bird discount, send your registration in by September 15th. Hope to see you there!

Karen Duhai, Georgia Markey, Kathy Miller, and  
Jess Ross

Footprints 2011 Coordinators

## Footprints 2011 Schedule

### Friday, November 18

- 6:30 p.m.: Arrive/Register
- 9:00 p.m.: Welcome/Introduction
- 10:00 p.m.: Opening Worship
- 12:00 a.m.: Lights Out

### Saturday, November 19

- 7:30 a.m.: Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m.: Worship
- 10:30 a.m.: Workshops
- 12:00 p.m.: Lunch
- 1:30 p.m.: Workshops/Service Project
- 3:00 p.m.: Free Time
- 5:00 p.m.: Dinner
- 7:00 p.m.: Worship
- 9:00 p.m.: Mutual Kumquat Concert
- 12:00 a.m.: Lights Out

### Sunday, November 20

- 7:30 a.m.: Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m.: Closing Worship
- 12:00 p.m.: Lunch
- Departure

## About Walt Wiltschek

Walt Wiltschek is campus pastor at Manchester College in North Manchester, Ind. Walt grew up in York County, Pa., and went to York College and Eastern Mennonite University while starting out as a sports journalist at the York Daily Record. Experiences at Camp Eder led him to go into ministry work and to Lancaster Theological Seminary. The road from there led to Westminster Church of the Brethren and then to the staff of *Messenger* magazine in Elgin, Ill., before moving to Manchester in January 2010. He enjoys traveling, sports, and youth work of all kinds.

## About Mutual Kumquat

Seth Hendricks, Chris Good, Drue Gray, Ben Long and Jacob Jolliff make up Mutual Kumquat, a talented group of 3 singer-songwriters, a percussionist, and a mandolin virtuoso. Mutual Kumquat has engaged audiences across the U.S. with positive, clever, and poignant lyrics, strong rhythms, rich harmonies, stick-in-your-head melodies and its unique blend of acoustic roots music influenced by bluegrass, funk, jazz, soul, folk, reggae and afrobeat. Mutual Kumquat formed in 2000 while the band members were all students at Manchester College. Visit them online: [www.mutualkumquat.com](http://www.mutualkumquat.com)

## Directions to Rhodes Grove

For directions, please visit the Rhodes Grove website at:

<http://www.rhodesgrove.com/information.htm>

## Questions

Questions may be directed to:

Middle PA District  
Church of the Brethren  
1113 Mount Vernon Avenue  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

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**"Be Doers of the Word"**  
From James 1:22-24

**Worship/Keynote:**  
**Walt Wiltschek**  
**Music Leaders:**  
**Mutual Kumquat**

**Friday, November 18 thru**  
**Sunday, November 20, 2011**  
**Rhodes Grove Retreat Center**  
**Chambersburg, PA**



Church of the Brethren

**A REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR:**  
**~ MIDDLE PA ~ WESTERN PA ~**  
**~SOUTHERN PA ~**  
**~ATLANTIC NORTHEAST~**

## Footprints '11 Workshops

(Note: Workshops will be filled on a first come, first served basis in the order that registrations are received. Workshops are offered during both the morning and afternoon time slots unless otherwise noted.)

1. **Kumquat-style Hymn Sing:** (morning only) Come join **Mutual Kumquat** as they share about their new CD project of hymn arrangements, "For the Beauty of the Earth," and look at the power of hymns, both musically and lyrically. You will also have an opportunity to ask the band questions about their creative process and, of course, there will be lots of singing!
2. **The Writing Is On the Wall:** (afternoon only) Do you like words? Come hang with our keynote speaker, **Walt Wiltschek**, and learn about the art of writing. Explore tools for getting your creative juices flowing, learn about careers in the writing world, and see how it can be a part of ministry.
3. **In a Brethren Accent:** (morning only) What does it mean to follow Jesus in the Church of the Brethren? This group, led by the Church of the Brethren's Director of Spiritual Life and Discipline, **Josh Brockway**, will look at being disciples of Jesus, with a Brethren Accent. Hear and share stories of Brethren and look at why Peace, Simplicity and Community have come to be our mantra.
4. **Spiritual but not Religious?:** (afternoon only) It's pretty popular today to say that we are spiritual persons, but in the same breath to say we are not religious. What does that mean, and is it even possible? Come to this workshop, also led by **Josh Brockway**, and explore the ideas of religion and spirituality and what some others have said through video and images.
5. **Sustainable Living: Justice and Peace for All:** We can live in ways that care for our planet, our global human community, and that fill us with joy. Spend time with **Tom Benevento**, Director of New Community Project's Sustainable Living Homestead, and learn simple and inspiring techniques in sustainable living that build the foundation for a nonviolent society. Learn what actions have the biggest impact and how to turn problems into life-giving solutions.
6. **Building Relationships:** As you journey through life, you're constantly building relationships. Your high school years offer some of the most exciting, but hazardous, times of relationship building. Join this session with **Jon and Jess Whitsel** to learn some ways to form relationships based on God's principals and to learn how to better resist the temptations that try to pull us into unhealthy relationships. Jon is a licensed minister in the Middle PA district, and he and Jess are active youth leaders in their home congregation.
7. **Connecting "Mountain-Top" Experiences with Daily Faith:** (morning only) Why is it that intense "mountain-top" experiences and "daily faith" seem to mix like oil and water? How can we grow as disciples of Christ in spite of, or perhaps because of, the mountains and valleys which are part of the life of faith? When do we celebrate differences, and when do we strive to identify parallels? Spend some time with **Becky Ullom**, Church of the Brethren Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, to share your thoughts and to listen to the wisdom of others as we seek to honor the blessing of both venues of faith formation.
8. **Finding Our Way: Ancient Practices of Faith:** (afternoon only) Join **Becky Ullom** for a about how the seven ancient faith practices are re-connecting young adults (as well as others) to the church. Understand the scriptures that point us to these practices. Reflect on meaningful experiences of love feast, communion, tithing, and other practices. Consider the difference between "old" and "dead."
9. **Faith: What Are You Going to Do with It?:** Before we can be doers of the word we need to know what the word says. It's not enough to just "take Jesus with you." We need to follow where Jesus leads even when Jesus leads us outside our comfort zones. Join **Brandy Liepelt**, pastor of the Somerset Church of the Brethren, to look at some scripture, hear some stories of how different people followed Jesus' lead, and talk about where God is leading you.
10. **Fears: Too Afraid to Be Afraid:** You are not alone. We all have something that scares us or makes us fearful. Join **Brian Markle**, Pastor of Lake View Christian Fellowship, to learn about what others fear and to discover some ways to better deal with your own fears and the fears of others.
11. **In Mission For Jesus:** (afternoon only) One of the many ways to serve our Lord Jesus is to get out of our comfort zones and help others. You can be an ambassador for Christ as you get dirty and sweaty in other communities. Join **Jonathan Bream**, Pastor of the Brooklyn First Church of the Brethren, and see what you want to do and how you can be the hands and feet of Jesus.

## Advisors Only

12. **More Than Noise: Helping Your Youth Understand the Music Madness:** (morning only) Does the music your youth listen to appear to be more noise than pleasing to your ears? Most adults know little about popular music and the messages that powerfully shape our youth's hearts and minds. Join **Jonathan Bream** and learn how to help youth navigate music choices and use music to glorify God at the same time.

## Service Project

13. **Spaghetti Kitchen:** (afternoon only) The Chambersburg Salvation Army runs a food program that provides hot meals to those who need them. Those who sign up for this service project will take a trip to the Greencastle Church of the Brethren to cook a big spaghetti dinner that the Salvation Army will deliver to needy persons in this area.

## Friday Check-In

- All groups must be accompanied by an advisor.
- Plan to arrive between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. for registration.
- Friday night activities will begin with a welcome at 9:00 p.m.
- We will have snacks but no meal on Friday, so please plan to eat before you arrive.

## Who Can Attend

**Senior High Youth:** Any youth who is in at least ninth grade during the 2011-2012 school year, up to and including those who graduated in 2011.

**Advisors & Pastors:** Local and district youth advisors, pastors, and those with a heart for youth ministry are encouraged to attend. No children are permitted.

## What to Expect

- Rhodes Grove provides hotel-style accommodations. Please pack accordingly.
- **We ask that all attendees bring an offering of spaghetti ingredients (sauce, noodles, non-perishable/boxed cheese), which will be used to make the spaghetti dinner. Unused ingredients will be donated to the Chambersburg Salvation Army.**
- Instead of making t-shirts for you to buy, we are going to do a free t-shirt exchange! **We ask that all attendees bring a clean, gently used t-shirt to swap at the conference. Please choose a t-shirt (no tanktops, sweaters, etc.) with no inappropriate or offensive language, images, etc.** Only attendees who bring t-shirts will be able to participate in the swap.