“Journey to the Cross” is the title of a little booklet which Linda ordered from Christian Tools of Affirmation. The booklet gives a few thoughts, a scripture and an opportunity to reflect and journal during the forty days of Lent. Over the years, many Christians have taken this time to prepare for Easter or Resurrection Sunday. Focusing on what Jesus did and taught during his last days on Earth. Hopefully, each of us can take a few extra minutes in prayer, reading in God’s Word, or a devotional as we prepare to celebrate Jesus’ victory over sin and death.

My prayer and words of encouragement for each of us as individuals and congregations come from Paul’s challenge to the believers in the church in Thessalonica:

“Because we know that this extraordinary day is just ahead, we pray for you all the time—pray that our God will make you fit for what he’s called you to be, pray that he’ll fill your good ideas and acts of faith with his own energy so that it all amounts to something. If your life honors the name of Jesus, he will honor you. Grace is behind and through all of this, our God giving himself freely, the Master, Jesus Christ, giving himself freely.”

(1 Thessalonians 1:11-12, The Message)

While in a conversation this morning, I realized these words of Paul certainly should challenge and guide our attitude and actions. “….pray that he’ll fill your good ideas and acts of faith with his own energy so that it all amounts to something.” It is the power of the Holy Spirit which gives energy and strength to our life and witness. It is not our own wisdom or insight which gives meaning and value to our faith and witness. When we rely on the power of the Spirit—then “our good ideas and acts of faith” will amount to something. It is God’s grace which gives worth to our faith experience as individuals and as a faith community.

During this special season of the year we see signs of new life “springing” up all around. Which reminds us of the new life which comes from Christ’s life, shed blood, death and resurrection. As we spend time meditating on God’s Word and Christ’s journey to the Cross, I am reminded that Jesus love and obedience to our Heavenly Father allowed Him to freely give His life for you and me.

Words cannot describe the pain and suffering which Jesus endured on our behalf. May His words become our words as he placed himself in the hands of the Father, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” I pray as we approach Resurrection Sunday, these words might challenge, empower and bless as we place our hands and lives into God’s care and keeping.

RDB
District Office News

**HOSPITALIZED**
- Dale E. Rummel, retired ordained minister in the Greenville congregation, for surgery.
- Patricia M. Marshall, co-pastor of the Fairview congregation, for treatment.
- Farrel Abraham, pastor of the Robinson congregation, for surgery and treatment.
- Charles B. Statler, pastor of the Shade Creek/Ridge congregation, out-patient testing and treatment.

**NEW MEMBERS**

Uniontown congregation
- Miranda Novak
- Steve Novak

Robinson congregation
- Caitlyn Burkett
- Chloe Short
- Ryan Stewart

Meyersdale congregation
- Wayne Decker
- Michele Donaldson
- Joshua Sarver
- Ryan McCoy
- Cory Blocher
- Deanna Beal
- Rebecca Beal

Mt Joy congregation
- John Orr
- Rachel Orr

Choir robes available free (28), various sizes. Neutral beige with no logo, washable polyester. Good condition.

For more information call 724-433-4362.

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**2012 Western PA District Directory**

The 2012 District Directory has been emailed in PDF file to pastors and contact persons in most of the district’s congregations. This can be used to print as many copies of the information as you congregation may need. If you would prefer to have your own PDF file, please email Suzie at smoss@brethren.org and it will be sent to you. Or if you would like a printed copy, stop by the office to pick one up, or contact Suzie and it will be sent by regular mail. If you have any questions, please be in touch.

Thanks very much!
District Office Staff

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**Tenebrae Service**

The Windber Church of the Brethren (19th and Graham Avenue, Windber) invites you to come and participate in our 12th annual Tenebrae service to be held April 6th at 7:00.

This service is always a thought provoking, soul searching experience as we hear the story of Christ’s last hours brought to life while darkness falls around us.

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**PLEASE NOTE:**

District Choir practice is scheduled for April 15 and May 20. The choir will be singing at the Roxbury Singspiration on Sunday, April 29. We are still accepting new members. We have a good time learning new songs and praising God together. You do not need to sing well to join. If you enjoy singing and praising God, I encourage you to come and join us. A note to the churches of the district. The choir is available to provide music for all types of events. We are willing to perform a concert at any one of the district churches. Let me know. In Christian Love, Becky Toath (814) 467-8132, mrst45@hotmail.com.
God Stories-update

Praise God for what He has done and is doing in Western PA! It has been so exciting to read the stories as they have arrived and we can’t wait to share them with our brothers and sisters in Christ. If you have not submitted a story yet, there is still time. We are extending the deadline to May 1st and we want your story included.

Please pray and ask God to remind you of a time when He revealed Himself to you in some way. When has He shown you His love, mercy, grace, forgiveness, or kindness? How do you know that He is real? Think of a time when you have seen God’s fingerprints and write a short, uplifting testimony or meditation (350 words or less.) Try to include a related Bible verse, brief prayer, and a sentence or two about yourself (including where you go to church.) Do not worry if you do not consider yourself to be a writer. The stories will be edited and verses, prayers, and titles will be added as needed. We also invite you to submit photos taken in Western PA. Our goal is to have the devotional published by District Conference.

Thanks to all of you who have already submitted stories. We need more, so feel free to send additional entries. Encourage others to share their stories as well. Please keep this endeavor in your prayers. God is at work among us. Let us share what He has done and keep looking for what He is doing. Your entries may be sent to Joy Derck at 3089 Dutch Run Road, Shelocta, PA 15774 or emailed to jderck@ymail.com,

To God be the Glory!
The Western PA District Spiritual Formation Team

P.S. Please note the sample devotional by Donald Johnson.

A Virtuous Woman

Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait for Thee. Psalm 25:21KJV

God touched my life through the influence of a young lady I met in Sunday School. This young lady taught young children and sang in the choir. Her dedication to the Lord was apparent and her values were set high.

We attended different grade schools, but did attend the same high school. Graduating two years before her, with my driver’s license, we began dating. My dad would give me fifty cents and loan me his car on Saturday evening to go see her. That fifty cents would buy each of us an ice cream cone and we were happy. Both of us lived on farms and the pay was room and board. Money was scarce.

She was a member of the Somerset Church of the Brethren and through her influence, God touched my life and I joined the church at age seventeen. (She had joined at age twelve.)

Our country was at war in 1942 and I was sent a draft notice. Not being a conscientious objector, which I could have been, I reported. Now God stepped in and said, “Marry that girl before you leave.” Time was short in Pennsylvania due to the required waiting period for marriage, so we ran off to Maryland. We got our marriage license and were married that same day. Three days later, I was on my way to basic training. It was a sad parting.

Not having a single furlough and being away thirty-eight months, almost half-way around the world, was tough. My wife prayed for me daily, as I did for her. I firmly believe her prayers saved my life as only half of our outfit returned. The New Testament Bible that was handed to me upon entering the service is tattered and torn, but is still in my possession.

Proverbs 31:29 describes my beloved wife and mother of our three children precisely. The psalmist wrote: Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.

Donald Johnson is a member of Somerset Church of the Brethren.
Denominational News

Annual Conference 2012
The ballot has been announced for the 2012 Annual Conference of the Church of the Brethren, to take place in St. Louis, Mo., on July 7-11. The Nominating Committee of the Standing Committee of district delegates developed a slate of candidates, and the Standing Committee then voted to create the ballot that will be presented to the delegate body in July.

Go to www.brethren.org/ac for the list of nominees.

Older Adult Month
Aging with Passion and Purpose – May 2012

The Church of the Brethren celebrates God’s gift of aging each May. This year’s theme is Aging with Passion and Purpose: The hope to which you have been called... (Eph. 1:18). A variety of worship resources are available at www.brethren.org/oam/month.html, along with a list of ways to recognize older adults in your congregation. Contact Kim Ebersole, Director of Older Adult Ministry, at (800) 323-8039 or kebersole@brethren.org for more information.

Renovaré Essentials Conference
The steering committee for the Renovaré Essentials Conference at Elizabethtown (Pa.) College on April 21 has extended the $40 registration fee until the registration deadline of April 5. “This is going to be a wonderful conference,” said David Young, a leader in the Springs Initiative for church vitality. “We invite you to an ‘oil change’ for our spirit! ...The (Atlantic Northeast) District Spiritual Renewal Team...hopes that this will be a way to develop the spiritual journey of for you and your congregation in 2012.” Richard Foster and Chris Webb will be the speakers. Foster is the author of “Celebration of Discipline” and a founder of Renovaré. Webb is the new president of Renovaré and an Anglican priest from Wales. A program for children will be part of the conference. Go to www.ane-cob.org.

Brethren give grants for tornado outbreak
Church of the Brethren Newsline March 7, 2012

The tornado outbreak that began on Feb. 28-29 and continued March 2-3 was one of the largest ever recorded in March, according to Brethren Disaster Ministries. The program has requested a grant from the denomination’s Emergency Disaster Fund in response to a plea from Church World Service (CWS) for funds for affected communities.

Brethren Disaster Ministries has been contacting the affected Church of the Brethren districts about local needs and how the program can support any local or regional efforts. Preliminary reports indicate that there were no Brethren congregations in the affected areas.

“BDM does not normally provide direct assistance in the form of cleanup or chainsaw crews on a national level,” wrote coordinator Jane Yount in an update, “as there are a number of other organizations whose mission and structure is well suited for this type of work—just as BDM is well suited to repair and rebuild homes.

“Many people are wondering how they can help. Following a major disaster such as this, it is always advisable to follow the lead of the affected communities with regard to volunteers and donations. At this time state and local emergency operations are underway in many areas, and access to some of them is limited or prohibited. The message coming from the affected areas is ‘Cash is King.’ Monetary donations are currently needed and will continue to be needed to ensure a sustained recovery and rebuilding of these communities.

Unsolicited in-kind donations can clog the system and prevent the most needed supplies from reaching the disaster survivors quickly.”

It is still too early to tell how Brethren Disaster Ministries may be involved in long-term rebuilding efforts. The program is supporting immediate response efforts by CWS through the EDF grant of $7,500. The money will help CWS respond in 13 states.

CWS staff have been monitoring the situation, communicating with response organizations, assessing needs, and arranging shipments of material aid. As local long-term recovery groups are forming in affected areas, CWS will support these groups through training and small seed grants to assist with start-up costs. The total goal for the CWS appeal is currently $110,000.
DISTRICT
MEN'S FELLOWSHIP
SPRING BREAKFAST
SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2012
ARBUTUS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
1201 Erickson Dr, Johnstown, PA 15904
8:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.
FREE WILL OFFERING

Please Contact:

Homer Marshall or Mearl Craig
369 W Church Ave 814-242-0909
Masontown, PA 15461
Or call: 724-583-7073

(We need to know how many are coming. Thank You!)
Local Church News

**Chords of Praise**

Sipesville Church of the Brethren
Sunday, April 29
7:00 p.m. — Refreshments will follow.

**Reminders:**
(see February and March Highlights for more details)

- Berkey congregation, Love Feast and Communion, Thursday, April 5, 7:00 p.m.
- Conemaugh congregation, "The Conspiracy of Betrayal-The Trial of Judas" Friday, April 6, 7:00 p.m.
- Rummel congregation, Service of Shadows, Friday, April 6, 7:30 p.m.
- Mount Joy congregation, Good Friday/Easter Cantata, Friday, April 6, 7:30 p.m.
- Penn Run Quilt Retreat, April 14 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
- District Women’s Retreat, April 21-22, Antiochian Retreat Center in Ligonier
- Penn Run Scrapbook Retreat, April 21 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Berkey congregation, Church Basement Sale, Friday April 27 and Saturday, April 28, 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
- Roxbury congregation, Spring Singspiration, Sunday, April 29, 7:00 p.m.
- Roxbury congregation, Community Blood Screening, Saturday, May 19, 7:00 a.m.
- Maple Spring Sisters in Christ, “Visitors from the Past Ministries” May 10, 6:45 p.m. Luella Krieger portrays Eve.

**Our Journey of Grace Through Faith**

Pastor Jimmy Kensinger of the Montgomery Church of the Brethren and his wife Tracey Colson-Kensinger, have written a book entitled *Our Journey of Grace Through Faith*. It is a beautiful and moving story of two people’s love and each other. Caught up in the throes of tragedy, they discovered God’s amazing healing grace. Their life together is a moving and convincing testimony of how God works to bring forth forgiveness out of adversity, joy out of sorrow, and triumph out of tragedy - all for his praise and glory!

Pastor Jimmy surrendered his life to God in solitary confinement in federal prison in 1979. Tracey was involved in a horrific auto crash in 1988 that left her a C1-C2 quadriplegic. They were married in 1994. Today Jimmy ministers God’s grace from a pulpit and within prison walls. Tracey, from a wheelchair, shares her testimony of God’s goodness to her. Together, Jimmy and Tracey give a powerful witness of God’s saving grace at work in their lives.

If you would like to purchase copies, they are available through the District Office.

**TEEN FUN & FIT**

This FREE class is geared toward teenagers (ages 13-18) to reach and/or maintain a healthy weight and include education of nutrition and activities in a safe and fun atmosphere. This class is FREE to ANY teen of the community. The class will meet from 4pm-5pm on Tuesdays at the Somerset Church of the Brethren beginning April 3, 2012. For registration, phone the church office at 814 445-8853.

Permission slips and medical information will have to be filled out by their first visit. We need this information for safety issues for the teen as well as the personnel. When you call, if you leave a message, leave the name and phone number where the secretary can follow up to send you the permission slips and medical information forms. There is a cap of 20 participants, so get registered now!
April 2012

There is a certain hymn that always made us chuckle in church – it’s called Come All Christians, Be Committed. If you’ve ever served God in a busy, stressful role, perhaps you can see the wry humor in such a title, too. Remember that one Sunday when your nursery helper was out sick and you got twice as many toddlers as usual? Or that banquet when half your volunteers decided to go to a football game instead, because it was the playoffs? Recall that summer when you directed community VBS and it was a thousand degrees in the shade? It’s enough to make even the most dedicated Christian consider a trip to the funny farm.**

But let me tell you, being committed to an institution is not what the song is all about. It’s not really even about making sure all the “stuff” gets done. (You know that saying: “Well, if I don’t do it, no one will.”)

No, this hymn is a beautiful call to all of us to strengthen our commitment to Christ and His Church. That means several things.

First, we must more deeply commit our lives to the Christ of the Scriptures – our Savior, our Lord, our Friend. We must “fall in love” with Jesus (Guys, I know that’s weird for you) and not just claim that He’s a part of our lives, but live with Him at the CENTER of our lives. If you’ve ever been on the brink of death and someone brought you back – a doctor, an EMT, a passer-by, a family member – do you not owe them your life? Do you not regard that person very highly? Then why is it so easy to forget what Jesus the Christ has done for us? He gave His life in place of ours. He paid our debt to holiness with His own blood. Surely He deserves first place our lives!

Second, we must be committed to His Church. To service within His Body. Do you know that there are Christian brothers and sisters around the world? They may look different from you, but they are a part of Christ’s body, same as you. Are you active in supporting world missions? Do you sponsor a child through a Christian organization? Do you regularly pray for Christians in China, Iraq, Egypt, Palestine, Nigeria and other places that are unfriendly to the Gospel? It is not enough for us to sit on our sun porches and admire our geraniums while we read Our Daily Bread. We must be active in the worldwide Church – someday we will all be presented together as Christ’s Holy Bride!

Third, we must commit to a local church. I know that’s hard for some people to do, especially ones who have been burned before. But it’s God’s desire that each Christian be a part of a loving, supportive family of believers. We were never meant to live this life alone! Remember that old Simon & Garfunkel song – “I am a rock, I am an island”? That is not the way God wants us to live. God wants to see little kids and elderly folks and moms and dads and teenagers and babies – all worshiping and working together in love! A body without a big toe or a liver or a spinal cord is a body that is not functioning like it should. If Christ’s body is missing ANY members, there’s a problem.

There is another element to this hymn that is very important – we must be committed to God’s glory! Do you believe that God is bigger than you? Do you believe that His ways and thoughts are higher than yours? Do you believe that He has a plan for every single soul on the earth? Do you believe that God created everything in the Universe? Then I daresay GOD deserves all glory and honor, not you. Because of our God, we have peace and joy. Because of Jesus’ sacrifice, we are forgiven! We experience His grace and love and mercy daily. Why would we not burst into praise of His glorious Name? Why would we not bow at His nail-scarred feet in adoration? How can we keep from singing?!?

Come, all sisters and brothers, and be committed. To Christ, to His Church, to His Glory.

For God’s sake.

Abby

** I realize that mental illness is a serious problem and I don’t mean to offend. I just know that sometimes God’s work tries our faculties and patience!
Local Church News

Spring Swiss Steak Dinner
Moxham Church of the Brethren
Saturday, April 28
4 - 6 PM

$8.50 for adults
$4.00 for children

Take outs are available.

Yard Sale —
Saturday,
June 2, 2012
Penn Run
Outreach Center
8 AM. – 3 PM.

Indoor/outdoor individual spaces are available for a cost of $10/$5.
Start cleaning out your closets. Contact the church for more information.

The Bittersweet Gospel Band
in concert
at Somerset Church of the Brethren
April 16 at 6:30 PM

The band is made up of many church of the Brethren members from all over the denomination including Pastors Scott Duffey and Gilbert Romero and Dan Shaffer, Program Director at Camp Harmony.

Strawberry Festival
Ridge Church of the Brethren
Saturday, May 17,
from 4 to ? PM

Proceeds to help sponsor orphan in Honduras. Watch for more information next month.

Vendor Show

Penn Run congregation is planning a Vendor Show is on Saturday, November 10, 2012 at the Outreach Center. Time to be announced.
This is a great way to shop for Christmas with all your favorite vendors!
Think of having all of your special independent consultants such as Pampered Chef, Tupperware, Avon, Creative Memories, Stampin’ Up!, Scentsy, Thirty One, Tastefully Simple, Gold Canyon Candles and more together under one roof!

If you know of anyone who sells any of the above items or something else, please let Lori Fackler know so a contact can be made. Help will be needed the evening of November 9 for table set up. Food donation lists will be posted in October. See Lori Fackler if you have any questions (see the District Directory for contact information).

Walnut Grove Spring Rummage Sale

The Walnut Grove Church will be holding its annual spring rummage sale on Saturday, April 28, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM.

Shoppers are invited to spend the morning browsing through a wide variety of merchandise while enjoying our open kitchen and bake sale.

Anyone interested in renting a table space of their own for the sale should contact the church office at 814 536-1811. Our church is conveniently located on Bedford Street in Johnstown with plenty of off-street parking.
We advertise the sale in local newspapers, local churches, and on our outdoor signs. Best of all, the tables are only $10 and may be set up on Friday evening before the sale. Hope to see you there!
District Men’s Fellowship is sponsoring

A Men’s & Women’s
Spring Golf Outing

May 5, 2012
Indian Springs Golf & County Club
825 Indian Springs Road, Indiana, PA 15701 [VFW Course]

WHO CAN ENTER
Men & Women’s Foursome
Women’s Foursome
Men’s Foursome

Cash Prizes
Hole in One $100
Closest to Line $50
Closest to Pin $25
Longest Putt $25
Longest Drive $25

Team Prizes
High Team/Low Team
Other Prizes

DINNER CHOICE
Chicken Cordon Bleu OR Stuffed Pork Chop
Mashed Potatoes Green Beans
Salad Roll
Coffee, Tea, Iced Tea

HOLE SPONSORSHIP $35
Who can be a Hole Sponsor?
- Men’s/Women’s Fellowships
- Youth Groups
- Sunday School Classes
- Individuals …… ANYONE

You get: Your name in program and one person from the sponsoring group can attend the banquet.

Make checks payable to DISTRICT MEN’S FELLOWSHIP.
Mail Registration to: Homer Marshall 369 West Church Ave, Masontown, PA 15461-1651

Please send in your registration form by April 28, 2012. Add $15 per person or $60 per foursome if registered after the deadline. For meal only, add $5 per person registering after the deadline.

1:00 p.m. Tee Time
(rain or shine)
6:00 p.m. Dinner

COST
$70 per person (meal included)
$280 per foursome (meal included)
$18 for meal only
District Men’s Fellowship Golf Outing Registration Form
May 5, 2012 (registration deadline April 28)
Make checks payable to: DISTRICT MEN’S FELLOWSHIP

Mail to: Homer Marshall
369 West Church Ave
Masontown, PA 15461-1651

Foursome or Individual

Spokesperson _____________________________ Phone ________________

Congregation ____________________________

Golfers (before 4/28)(after 4/28)

Name ____________________________ $70 ____ $85 ____
Name ____________________________ $70 ____ $85 ____
Name ____________________________ $70 ____ $85 ____
Name ____________________________ $70 ____ $85 ____

Total Due with Registration $ ____________
Amount Received by Treasurer $ _________ Initial _________ Date Rec’d_________

Banquet Only Registration

Congregation ____________________________

Number of Reservations ________ @ $18.00 each Total Due $ ________________

Do Not Include Golfers After April 28 add $5 per person

Contact Person _____________________________ Phone ________________

Amount Received by Treasurer $ _________ Initial _________ Date Rec’d_________

Hole Sponsor

Name ____________________________
Phone ____________________________
Address ____________________________ Zip ______

Make Checks Payable to: District Men’s Fellowship

$35 per Hole: Number of Holes ________ @ $35 Total Due ________
Amount Received by Treasurer $ _________ Initial _________ Date Rec’d_________
Community Foundation for the Alleghenies Grants $2,000:
The Community Foundation for the Alleghenies awarded a $2,000 grant to the Church of the Brethren Home to continue outdoor repairs on the original 1921 building. This grant will help us complete the restoration of the manor. Angie Berzonski presented the grant check on behalf of the Foundation to Emily Reckner, Director of Social Services, Edie Scaletta, NHA and Thomas Reckner, CEO. This is the fourth grant the Church of the Brethren Home has received from the Community Foundation.

NHA Certification:
Congratulations to Robert Thompson, Personal Care Administrator and Respiratory Therapist on completing his certification as a Nursing Home Administrator. His training included 250 classroom hours, 1,000 Administrator In Training (AIT) program hours and passing the NHA written exam. He started the certification process in October 2009 and was certified on February 8, 2012.

Auxiliary News:
No matter how large or small the purchases, the Home Auxiliary is always ready to support our residents and help make their stay here at the Home as comfortable and pleasant as possible. This spring the Auxiliary has donated money to purchase 3 lift seats, 2 wheelchairs, mulch for the outdoor landscaping, new mattresses and addressable pull boxes for one section of the Home. Our thanks to everyone who supports the Auxiliary programs and fundraisers. See your Auxiliary Key Lady for information on the Stanley Fuller fundraiser going on now.

Retirement Village Cottage Available:
There is a two bedroom, one car garage cottage available in the Orchard Point Retirement Village. Please call 814-467-5505 Monday – Friday for more information.

Financial Seminar:
The BHCW Charitable Trust will be holding an estate planning seminar at Pettikoffer House in May with US Bank.

Looking Back…
- 1921, the board received the plan and specifications for the Home and decided to submit them to contractors for bids.

Food & Nutrition Show
March 13th
Basement Chapel
Displays, Samples & Food Drive

Nutrition Month
March

Spring Tea
April 22nd
2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Sponsored by the Home Auxiliary

Chicken Barbecue
June 2nd
Dine-In 3pm to 6pm
Take-Out Noon to 6pm
Delicious Chicken Dinners Grandma’s Attic

Rededication Service
June 24th
2:00 pm
Scalp Level COB
Displays and Refreshments to Follow in Fellowship Hall

Brethren Home Community Windber
Church of the Brethren Home, Pettikoffer House, Taufer Place, Coventry Place, & the Cottages at Orchard Point
April 2012
Annual Spring Tea

Sunday, April 22nd
2-4 p.m.

Hosted by:
The Home Auxiliary
277 Hoffman Avenue, Windber

Tea will be served on Second, Fifth & Sixth Stations.
Come enjoy light refreshments and fellowship with friends and family.
52 GOD BLESS YOU – 2012 TEAM
As of this date 45 families have joined the 2012 “52 GOD BLESS YOU TEAM” with total contributions of $3000. The more persons who are attached to God’s ministry, the stronger God’s Camp becomes. Give a donation to Camp for $52 ($1.00 a week) and help with the debt reduction. We are helping to reach out to God’s children. Thank You.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES – Call Camp for information
Camp is currently looking for the following summer personnel:
   Weekend Lifeguards    Maintenance
   3 Male Counselors    Cooks / Kitchen Crew

Year Round Opportunities include:
   Cooks, Maintenance, Volunteers

**Applications may be printed from the website – www.campharmony.org

Dan Shaffer, Camp’s Program Director, shared at the February Camp Board meeting that he has been offered a part-time position of youth minister at a church and that he has accepted that position. He will stay on at Camp during the summer camping season. We thank Dan for his many years of involvement with, dedication to, and work for Camp Harmony and wish him well in his new endeavors.

In March the Camp Board will have a visioning meeting to let the Holy Spirit work and lead us toward staffing needs for the future. If anyone has an interest in this area of employment, please contact Janice at Camp –1-814-798-5885. Always keep Camp in your prayers as we look to staffing needs.

***

CALL CAMP FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER

April 10 – Free preview Zumba class – Classes following on Tuesday and Thursday (See flyer)
April 13-14 – Spring Croppers
April 28 – Manly Man Day
May 4-5 – Quilters Retreat
May 12 – Spring Dodge Ball Tournament
May 19 – Run the Plank
June 10 – 22 – Staff Training
June 17 – 22 – Volunteer Work Week
June 22 – Reunion Picnic / Campfire - Dedication of Summer Staff

***

Reminder: The toll free number for Camp Harmony is no longer in service. Please continue to use 1-814-798-5885.
CAMP HARMONY
ZUMBA®
FITNESS TUE APRIL 10
FREE STARTER CLASS
WEEKLY CLASSES
CLASSES BEGIN AT 6 AND 7 PM
TUESDAYS $5 THURSDAYS
APRIL 17 - JUNE 12 APRIL 12 - JUNE 14
CAMPHARMONY.ORG 814-798-5885
CAMP HARMONY PRESENTS

MANLY MAN DAY

APRIL 28

FEATURING

STEVE MCGRANAHAN
THE WORLDS STRONGEST REDNECK

2:00pm registration
$20 per person
$5 discount for additional family members

redneck olympics
manly prizes
meat and potatoes supper

798-5885 campharmony.org
GOOD360 - Goods for the Greater Good – Retail Donation Partner (RDP) program

The RDP program annually matches nonprofits with retail stores in their local communities for on-going donation pickups. This means that Camp Harmony was recently matched with The Home Depot in Greensburg for a one time yearly donation of $300 (this was a special half price enrollment.) Each month we are eligible to receive products directly from the store. We (Camp) must pick up the products and distribute them accordingly. Product donations can be used to serve youth, the ill or the needy, or to assist in the administration of our program.

**WHY** are we letting you know this….? Last month we picked up a shipment worth $29,000 (cabinets, tools, windows, etc.). This was given to us free. Since we are an organization of 60+ congregations, we need your help to share what we can’t use at Camp. Items must be given to the church organization or any youth, the ill, or the needy. If you know someone who fits into this category, and has a special need, please contact Camp. Plan to call or come to Camp to see what is available.

We realize this could evolve into another extension ministry and that is what we are all about. At this time volunteers are needed who might have trucks and trailers to pick up merchandise and those who can spread the message and help us distribute the goods. Also we have been approached by another Home Depot to enroll, but it involves the normal yearly donation of $600. If you would like to help with this program, either as a volunteer or to help us enroll with the other store, please let Camp know.

When we all work together – what a difference we can make… Help us spread the gifts to those who are in need.

**WATER TANK NEEDED** – In the distant past Camp had a water tank on a trailer which was used to store extra water when needed, and also to keep the dust down on the roads. If anyone knows where we can find another one, please let us know.

**PRAYER PARTNERS** – Once again we are asking persons to come to Camp especially during the summer to pray for the campers, volunteers, and staff as they go through their events of each unique day. We believe that our Mighty God answers his people. If you can’t travel to Camp, we still need your prayers from home. Please call Abby at the District Office at 866-279-2181 for more information and to schedule your time.

This is a joint project of Camp Harmony and the Children, Youth and Outdoor Ministries Team (CYOM) of the Western PA District Leadership Team.
Always keep Camp and the persons who enter the gates in your prayers!!!!!!!
We’re still receiving Form B, the Additional Officers Form, and the Congregational Outreach Report 2011/2012. These reports were received at the District Office as of March 15, 2012. Here is a reminder about the deadlines: Form B, Additional Officers Form, and the Congregational Outreach Report 2011/2012 and Form E – Statistical Form for 2011 are now due. Form A will be mailed to the congregations in early April with a due date of May 15, 2012.

EVERY REPORT FORM IS IMPORTANT IN UPDATING CONTACT INFORMATION FOR BOTH THE DISTRICT AND THE DENOMINATION. We’re grateful for the responses noted below.

Please be careful to include complete addresses and phone numbers where requested. Email addresses are helpful also, if available. If you have a question about any of the report forms, please don’t hesitate to call the District Office (814 479-2181 or 1-866-279-2181) and ask.

Again, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

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2012 District Events and Meetings

EVENTS ARE CODED AS...
- District Events open for anyone in the District to attend - CAPS
- Meetings such as District Leadership Team, Camp Board, Home Trustees, and events beyond the District - small print
- Youth and Children’s Activities - ITALICS & CAPS

SUGGESTIONS FOR USE...
- KEEP FOR REFERENCE WHEN SETTING LOCAL CHURCH DATES.
- Each month check this page in District HIGHLIGHTS for changes/additions.
- Keep your calendar updated.

APRIL 2012
1 - PALM SUNDAY
6 - GOOD FRIDAY
8 - ALLELUJA! CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!
14 - MEN’S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST, 8-10 a.m., Arbutus Church [SEE ENCLOSED FLYER]
14 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m., Rummel Church
14-16 - CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP SEMINAR
16 - Brethren Home Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
20-21 - WOMEN’S MINISTRY ANNUAL RETREAT, “Women on the Move,” Antiochian Village Retreat Center [SEE ENCLOSED FLYER]
22 - SPRING TEA, 2-4 p.m., Brethren Home [SEE BHCW PAGE]
23 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors, 7 p.m.
24 - Johnstown Area Pastors, 12 noon, Camp Harmony
28 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m., Rummel Church
29 - TITHING SUNDAY

MAY 2012
3 - Brethren Home Auxiliary, 1 p.m.
3 - NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
5 - MEN’S & WOMEN’S SPRING GOLF OUTING [SEE ENCLOSED REGISTRATION SHEET]
6 - NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY
6 - Men’s Fellowship Council, 2:30 p.m., Greensburg Church
10 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
12 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m., Rummel Church
13 - HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY!
14 - Women’s Ministries Cabinet, 1 p.m., District Office
17 - ASCENSION DAY
19 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., Greensburg Church
21 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
21 - Heritage Festival Committee, 7 p.m., District Office
22 - Johnstown Area Pastors, 12 noon, Ed & Sally Houghton Residence
27 - HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHURCH! (Pentecost Sunday)
28 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors, 7 p.m.
JUNE 2012
2  - BHCW CHICKEN BARBEQUE, Brethren Home
3  - ANNUAL CONFERENCE BRIEFING with AC Moderator Tim Harvey, Geiger Church – refreshments at 2 p.m., briefing at 3 p.m.
14 - Women’s Ministries Camp Day, Camp Harmony
17 - HAPPY FATHER’S DAY!
18-22 - NATIONAL YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
18 - Brethren Home Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
22 - Men’s Fellowship Council, 2:30 p.m., Camp Harmony
22 - CAMP HARMONY REUNION DAY, 6 p.m.
24 - 90th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE BRETHREN HOME COMMUNITY WINDBER, Scalp Level Church
25 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors, 7 p.m.

JULY 2012
2  - Women’s Ministries Cabinet, 1 p.m., District Office
7-11 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE, America’s Center, St. Louis, MO
16 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
16 - Heritage Festival Committee, 7 p.m., District Office
23 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors, 7 p.m.
26 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m. (District Conference Business)

AUGUST 2012
2  - Brethren Home Auxiliary, 1 p.m.
3  - District Leadership Team, 6 p.m. picnic, 7 p.m. meeting (District Conference Business)
11 - Women’s Ministries Brunch
18 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM & INTERVIEWS, 9 a.m., location to be announced
20 - Brethren Home Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
20 - Heritage Festival Committee, 7 p.m., Camp Harmony
27 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors, 7 p.m.
30 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office

SEPTEMBER 2012
3  - LABOR DAY
6  - Key Ladies Luncheon, 12 noon
8  - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., Plumcreek Church
8  - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m., location to be announced
9  - HAPPY GRANDPARENTS DAY!
9  - Men’s Fellowship Council, 2:30 p.m., Greensburg Church
10 - Heritage Festival Committee, 7 p.m., Camp Harmony
15 - BRETHREN HERITAGE FESTIVAL, Camp Harmony
17 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
24 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors, 7 p.m.
29 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m., location to be announced
29 - MEN’S & WOMEN’S FALL GOLF OUTING
AVAILABLE SPEAKERS LIST

March 2012

ORDAINED
BALDEO, ISAAC - 4555 Glen Eden Rd, Cranberry Twp, 16066-3001 - 724 452-0923
BAUGHMAN, CARL L. - 130 Homewood Dr, Butler, 16001-1960 - 724 283-1051
BROWN, JOSEPH E. - 150 River Rd, Fairhope, 15538-2509 - 814 267-3211
DAVIS, KENNETH A. - 301 Walker St, Garrett, 15542-8427 - 814 634-8173
EASH, JOHN E. - 131 Friendship Ln, Hollsopple, 15935-6732 - 814 629-0206
FORRY, ROGER L. - 341 Lincoln St, Somerset, 15501-1308 - 814 443-2979
GOVEY, MICHAEL D. - 180 Golf Course Rd, Stoystown, 15563 - 814 629-1312
GINDLESPEGER, TERRY P. - 131 Colleen St, Johnstown, 15906-3916 - 814 535-3660
HAY, CHARLES R. - 1127 E Main St, Berlin, 15530-1428 - 814 267-3205
HIRONIMUS, BERTHA - 142 Bent Tree Hill, Ligonier, 15565-3202 - 724 238-3984
HOSLER, WILBUR H. - 525 First St, Clymer, 15728-1417 - 724 254-9764
HOUGHTON, JAMES E. - 124 Lindberg Ave, Johnstown, 15905-3019 - 814 255-2431
HOUGHTON, SALLY M. - 124 Lindberg Ave, Johnstown, 15905-3019 - 814 255-2431
ICE, ROGER L., SR. - 48 N Grove St, Scottsdale 15683 - 724 887-4340
JOHNSON, WOODY - 2900 Fourth Ave, Beaver Falls, 15010 - 724 624-4471
KABLER, ERIC P. - 126 Clermont St, Johnstown 15904-2132 - 814 266-2734
LONGWELL, ERIC M. - 225 Oak Hill Rd, Shelocta, 15774-3144 - 724 599-8690
MARSHALL, HOMER H. - 369 W Church Ave, Masontown, 15461-1651 - 724 583-7073
MARSHALL, PATRICIA M. - 369 W Church Ave, Masontown, 15461-1651 - 724 583-7073
MARTIN, NOAH S. - 614 Freedom Ave, Johnstown, 15904-2206 - 814 266-6489
MOSORIJA, GARY N. - 1337 Roxbury Ave, Johnstown, 15905-4528 - 814 619-4238
OTT, CLIFFORD W. - PO Box 444, Jerome, 15937-0444 - 814 479-2374
REININGER, LINDA L. - 229 Davis St, Johnstown, 15906-1517 - 814 539-1345
RUMMEL, DALE E. - 6171 Greenville Pike, Grafton, 15666-1959 - 724 319-0099
RUPERT, JACK - 409 State St, Johnstown, 15905-2642 - 814 255-7793
SHAEFFER, JUDITH A. - PO Box 319, Donegal, 15628-0319 - 724 516-9191
SHAUHS, M. ERIC - 25 Sixth Ave, Meyersdale, 15552-1444 - 814 634-8740
SIMONSICK, ROBERT - PO Box 32, 201 S Main St, Davidsville, 15928 - 814 442-0897
SMITH, A. HARRISON - 22 Hawes Rd, Farmington, 15437 - 724 329-5973
STEIN, ROBERT R. - PO Box 375, Chalk Hill, 15421-0375 - 724 438-2226
SWICK, MICHAEL R. - 4127 Greenville Rd, Meyersdale 15552-8518 - 814 634-8158
THOMAS, RODGER J. - 1700 Veil Ave, Windber 15963 - 814 509-6399
WALKER, JUDY M. - 201 E Washington St, Mount Pleasant, 15666-1959 - 724 547-3772
WHIPPLE, CHARLES D. - 317 Wyoming St, Greensburg, 15601-3947 - 724 600-6332
WHITACRE, DANIEL J. - 118 Chipmunk Ln, Meyersdale, 15552-7245 - 814 634-5037
WESTLAKE, ELVA JEAN - 436 Pony Farm Rd, Kittington, 16201-4639 - 724 548-4901
WILCHER, JOEL A. - 658 R 13th St, Oakmont, 15139-1020 - 412 828-3690
WILLOUGHBY, CAROLYN S. - 416 Kenneth Ave, Johnstown, 15904-3510 - 814 266-9758

LICENSED
BAUGHMAN, KAREN L. - 130 Homewood Dr, Butler, 16001-1960 - 724 283-1051
BEACHLEY, LINDA E. - 200 Conemach TRL, PO Box 723, Davidsville, 15928-0723 - 814 479-4802
CRABLE, DAVID E. - 23 S Water St, Masontown, 15461 - 724 583-7464
GREEN, GARY W. - 4589 Somerset Pike, Hollsopple, 15935-8217 - 814 479-5096
GREW, DOTTIE H. - 509 Sherman Ln, Meyersdale, 15552-1239 - 814 634-5329
HAMILTON, PAUL R. - 124 Friedhoff Ln, Johnstown, 15902-1401 - 814 536-4465
ISHMAN, DANIEL R. - 116 Todd Rd, Freeport, 16229 - 724 525-2901
MARSZALEK, CHERYL A. - 409 Herman Ave, Wilmerding, 15148-1206 - 412 829-2253
PERUSO, RUSSELL J. - 151 Blackner Rd, Johnstown, 15905-7408 - 814 288-4529
SHAEFFER, ABBY R. - (office) 115 Spring Rd, Hollsopple, 15935-7412 - 814 479-2181
SHAEFFER, DANIEL P. - (office) PO Box 158, Hooversville, 15936-0158 - 814 798-5885
THOMAS, SCOTT R. - 2996 Carpenters Park Rd, Davidsville, 15928 - 814 288-2094
YINKEY, CHRISTINA - 382 Canery Rd, Somerset, 15501-2806 - 814 233-4832

LAY SPEAKER
RAMER, DONNA L. - 102 Franklin Dr, Greensburg, 15601-1305 - 724 836-0594
Happy Easter!
According to Mayan legend, the first tortilla was made as a gift to a king in 10,000 B.C. Since then it has become a staple in the Latin American diet, making up more than half of the protein and calories consumed daily by the poor. Both flour and corn tortillas are made at Hogar Emanuel and they are eaten at every meal. Until as recently as 2009, they were made by rolling the dough into little golf ball sized balls, then flattening by patting back and forth between their hands, and grilling on a heavy piece of metal that laid across an open wood-fired oven. They are best eaten warm and often just plain or by folding other foods inside. For instance, refried beans and white cheese in a corn tortilla is called *catrachitas*; or *baleadas*, *papusas*, or *enchilatas* are made with wheat tortillas and eggs, melted cheese, sausage, chicken, vegetables, salsa (just about anything) inside. We *gringos* like to cut them in pie-shaped wedges, fry in oil, and then sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon. YUMMY! Of course, not nearly as healthy. Occasionally they are still made by hand because they taste better, but now the youth make a fresh batch every other day using a press that makes perfectly shaped, thinly-rolled tortillas. In addition to supplying the needs of the home, this modernization allowed the adolescents to start a micro-business that includes not only preparing, but packaging and selling tortillas to the public, as well.

Thanks to funding from Western Pennsylvania District Church of the Brethren’s Center Hill congregation, a brand new “tortilleria” (building where the tortillas are made) provides a cleaner, healthier, and more efficient place to cook the tortillas. No matter where they are made or how you eat ‘em. They’re good!

A brand new “tortilleria” was inaugurated February 2012.

**WHAT’S HAPPENING AT HOGAR EMANUEL...**

**CHILD-OF-THE-MONTH**

*Maria Isabel*

She spent several years at Nueva Esperanza (the government-run home) and finally came to live at Hogar Emanuel when she was twelve years old. She is now eighteen and completing her high school education by distance learning on Saturdays while working Monday through Friday in a beauty shop that is offering her a scholarship to complete her training in cosmetology. She has always been a very shy and quiet girl who keeps to herself. However, her job is making such a difference in bringing Maria out of her shell. Everyone is noticing the positive change and the joy that is reflected in her relaxed attitude every day as she leaves for work.

Please keep this young lady in your prayers this month as she continues to prepare for her life as an adult.

**MARCH 2012**
Alejandra grew and experience the world.”

“It’s just lovely,” Alejandra emphasized.

She is obviously a very dedicated “mother” and claims that even though her own six children are now grown, she is still very much concerned about them.

When asked whom she most admired, she says that in addition to her Christian parents, she thinks that Madre Teresa De Calcutta is a person worth imitating.

Please keep Alejandra and her family in your prayers this month.

Alejandra first joined the Hogar Emanuel family in 2008, but left her job to help her family when her mother passed away. However, in 2010 she came back to work with the children she loves so much. Alejandra is the main caretaker for the toddlers who live in the Sala Cuna (nursery) and occasionally helps as an educator for the older, preschoolers.

She says:

“Working in the Sala Cuna, I am a happy person. The time I have with my co-workers demonstrates there’s a beautiful fellowship between us. I am a jovial person and I like when the people around are so, too. I have the honor to watch the babies – Nayeli, Carlita and...