PONDER, PRAY, PRACTICE

When I began thinking about what to share in this article, I thought of the three words in the heading. Ponder, Pray, Practice. I pondered a bit at the order of the words, but felt they came to mind that way for a purpose. I’ve been pondering recently about the situation faced by our sisters and brothers in Nigeria. How would I respond if faced with a similar situation? Would my faith remain strong? Would I be able to look beyond the pain and suffering I was going through to help or even think about others?

I will list some questions one might ask as you ponder and think about in any given situation positive or negative. How has or will this effect or impact my life? Will my decision to do or say something or not to do or say something create a problem or become a stumbling block for others? What does God’s Word say about the decision I make? How will my decision strengthen my faith and witness for Christ?

After giving some thought to the situation or concern, and asking one or two of the questions above or ones you have thought about, then take it to the Lord in prayer. Begin by thinking about a verse of scripture or looking in the Word that might give insight to the situation. Then give thanks to the Lord who is always available to listen. Pray that God might give one an open mind and spirit as we share and listen for His response. Share the concern, problem, or need with the Lord just as if you were sharing with your best friend. Be prepared to listen, as you would, if waiting for a response from a friend.

Finally, if this is an action that needs to be put into practice—then do it. One may need to be very deliberate in order to put a new thought or idea into practice. Recently an individual commented that they were trying to break a habit or pattern in their life that was not helpful during a conversation. There comment was, “I need to remind myself, in every conversation, not to make an unhelpful response.” Again to change a habit or way we respond to a given need or situation takes time and energy. This does not happen overnight or without some effort on our part.

Thinking about the coming Advent Season and New Year I pray that you might “Ponder, Pray, Practice” as an opportunity to grow in your spiritual life and to approach life in a new and exciting way.

RDB
CONGRATULATIONS
• To Brandy and Paul Liepelt, pastors of the Somerset Church, on the birth of their daughter, Phoebe Anne, November 11.

SYMPATHY
• To the family of Noah Martin, who died November 16. Noah was an ordained Minister in the Church of the Brethren, he was one of the founders of New Day, Inc. a ministry for at risk youth and families.

LEADERSHIP
• Wes Berkebile is retiring from Center Hill, 12/31/14
• Russ Peruso resigned as Associate Pastor at Pleasant Hill, 10/31/14
• Farrel Abraham is retiring from Robinson, 12/31/14
• Kim Sisitski was called to be pastor at Robinson.

Thank you, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!
From Suzie Moss

This is just a note to express my appreciation, again, to all of you that may have had a part in planning my surprise retirement party, attending the party, or may have sent me a card or a gift. All of it was such a wonderful surprise! I’m very grateful for all of the expressions of love and support.

Special thanks to all who contributed to the creation of the memory quilt and the scrapbook. Each item reflects a beautiful memory of my time in the Western PA District. Thank you!

I pray God’s blessings on each of you as you continue to serve Him through your ministry in Western PA.

Grace & Peace,
Suzie

NEW MEMBERS
Conemaugh congregation
• James Braunns
• Joyce Braunns
• Stan Pisarski
• Debbie Moor
• Cheri Vautar
• Jim Vautar
• Rebecca Shetler
• Frank Costa

Plumcreek Congregation
• Shirley Duncan

Maple Spring
• Keith Ritter
• Peter Delzangle

Center Hill Congregation
• Alicia Olinger
• Anna Yeterian
• Madison Kneece
• Justin Anthony

Way of Hope Christian Fellowship
• Kenny Hetz III
• Amanda Smith
• Stephanie Rummel
• Erin O’Connell
• Craig Leibfreid

Ministry Position Opening
PLEASANT HILL
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Seeks: YOUTH PASTOR OR COORDINATOR

If interested please email: ejones07@atlanticbb.net; or rbeachley@brethren.org

Further information will be provided.

Please share this information with your congregation.

February 2015
Highlights Deadline
January 10, 2015
Local Church News

**Pennsylvania Dutch Buffet**
The Penn Run church will host a **PA Dutch Buffet** on Saturday, **December 6** from 4 - 7 p.m. at the Penn Run Christian Outreach Center located directly behind the church. Menu includes: chicken and waffles, mashed potatoes, biscuits, noodles, scalloped pineapple, a vegetable, drinks and desserts. Cost is $8 for adults and $6 for children. Take-out is available.

**CHRIST’S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**
The Geiger Church is hosting the well-known gospel group “**The Keystone Quartet**” on Sunday evening, **December 21, 2014** at 7:00 P.M. and you’re invited!! Please mark your calendars so that you can join in this festive time of holiday celebration. Questions: contact Pastors John and Linda Stoner at 814/444-8800 or jnljaunts@floodcity.net (e-mail) or PM Pastor Linda on Facebook.

**Pasta Buffet**
The Penn Run church will host a **Pasta Buffet** on Saturday, **January 3rd, 2015** from 4 - 7 p.m. at the Penn Run Christian Outreach Center located directly behind the church. Menu includes: spaghetti, penne, meatballs in sauce, sausage in sauce, Alfredo sauce, stuffed shells, California blend vegetables, salad, bread, drinks and desserts. Cost is $8 for adults and $6 for children. Take-out is available.

**Quilt Retreat**
The Penn Run church will host a **Quilt Retreat** on Saturday, **January 15, 2015** from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Penn Run Christian Outreach Center located directly behind the church. For more information, please call the church office at (724) 463-0420.

**Blood Drive**
**Somerset**
Church of the Brethren Lobby
606 Berlin Plank Road, Somerset

**Monday, December 1**
12 PM to 5:30 PM

For more information please call the church at 814/445-8853

**Christmas Is Coming!**
Eat 'N Park coupons and Sheetz coupon books make great stocking stuffers for family and friends. They are both only $10 and when you purchase them you help support the work of the Brethren Home Auxiliary. Contact your church key lady or the COB Home office at 467-5505 for details.

**Merry Christmas!**

**Ministry Position Available:**
**January 1, 2015**
The Meyersdale COB is looking for a female Youth Coordinator. Maximum of 40 hours per month. If you are interested, please email mdalecobweb@comcast.net or call (814) 634-5650 for a complete job description and application.

**ATTENTION:**
If you group has dates to be listed on the District Calendar, please call the District Office at (814) 479-7058 or email Tina at tlehman@brethren.org.
**AbbsTract December 2014/January 2015**

Ah, it’s Christmas time! Finally, all those retail displays are seasonally appropriate. And soon, all good church-going folk will encounter that group of people with whom we have a “love/not-so-much-love” relationship. They’re called Chreasters. The ol’ C&E club.

You know, the ones who show up only at Christmas and at Easter. They are a diverse group – each with a different story and a variety of motives. Some attend these special services because they want to please a parent or grandparent. Some come because they feel some kind of inner guilt if they don’t at least give God these two concessions every year. Some are present because they’re in town visiting family – they may or may not attend church regularly at home. Some have to work on Sunday mornings and a mid-week evening or holiday service is do-able for them. Some people know God, but have fallen out with Him. Some have commitment issues and can’t be bothered with weekly church attendance – they might get roped into doing something!

Now some Chreasters, I believe, got the impression at some point that church really isn’t for them; that God doesn’t want to hear from the likes of them. Christmas and Easter seem like freebies – times when anyone can go and be uplifted without being noticed too much. “Maybe, if I just slip in the back, I can catch a few crumbs from the Master’s table. Maybe He won’t begrudge me a few scraps of blessing. Christmas and Easter are miraculous days. Anything can happen. Anyone is welcome. Even me.” These are usually the ones who are most open to the sound of the Gospel.

The Chreasters are coming. Whatever part you play in your church’s Christmas worship – be it pastor, musician, choir member, usher, greeter, nursery attendant, sound technician or hey, just a person in a pew – this group is your mission field. Set a lavish table and don’t just drop crumbs; invite them to sit next to you and feast on God’s love!

What a merry Christmas it will be if you convince one person that he has worth in God’s eyes. What a happy holiday if someone wakes up the next morning knowing that Jesus came to Earth for her (yes, even her).

What a heavenly peace you will know if you communicate the truth of God’s salvation to someone and he accepts it for himself!

Go ahead and have your shimmering garlands and glittering ornaments, twinkling lights and flickering candles. I love that part of Christmas! Just make sure these things don’t blind you to the people who enter your midst, looking for a miracle.

As you plan to celebrate Christmas with your church family, spend some serious time in prayer for every Chreaster who will be led to your church this year. Pray for every seeker, sinner, skeptic and saint. Ask the Holy Spirit to show up, too, that He would speak the truth of grace and redemption into the hearts and minds of every person in that place.

Jesus came to us as an impoverished baby, and I believe that He will return to us as the Righteous King of kings and Lord over all, to claim His faithful church. Let’s see that we are faithful to Him this season. Joy to the world - let Heaven and nature sing

:) Abby

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**Special Thanks!!!!**

**A special thanks to all who supported the District Auction that was held at Camp Harmony on November 1, with their prayers, donations and purchases.**

To date, without expenses, $9,902.00 has been received for District Ministry.

Camp Scholarships will be given to first place and second place churches that raised the most funds. Maple Spring took first place raising $1,469.00. Pleasant Hill took second place raising $689.00.

Camp again provided us with a delicious breakfast and lunch. Without expenses $800.00 was raised for camp.

**A special thanks to Camp for their hospitality in all areas as we prepared for the auction.**
Job Openings

- The Church of the Brethren is seeking a **chief financial officer** (CFO) and executive director of Organizational Resources. This full-time salaried position is located in Elgin, IL and reports to the General Secretary.

- The Church of the Brethren is seeking an individual to fill a full-time salaried position of **director of Brethren Disaster Ministries** (BDM). The director of BDM is part of the Global Mission and Service team and reports directly to the executive director of Global Mission and Service.

- The Church of the Brethren is seeking an individual to fill a full-time salaried position of **coordinator of Donor Communications**. The coordinator of Donor Communications is part of the Donor Relations team and reports to the director of Donor Relations.

- The Church of the Brethren is seeking an individual to fill a full-time salaried position of **coordinator of Orientation, BVS**. The coordinator of Orientation is part of the Brethren Volunteer Service (BVS) team and reports to the director of BVS.

- The Church of the Brethren is seeking an individual to fill a full-time salaried position of **director working within Congregational Life Ministries**. Congregational Life Ministries is in a staffing transition and seeks a gifted and dynamic colleague to sustain a variety of commitments. The position is located in Elgin, Illinois and is available January, 2015.

Qualified candidates are invited to request the application form by contacting:

Office of Human Resources
Church of the Brethren
1451 Dundee Avenue
Elgin, IL 60120
800-323-8039 ext. 367 – humanresources@brethren.org

More information about all these and any other open positions can be found at [http://www.brethren.org/about/employment.html](http://www.brethren.org/about/employment.html)

Brethren Press offers Advent devotional, winter Guide for Biblical Studies, Yearbook on CD

**Church of the Brethren Newsline**

**November 12, 2014**


“Awake: Devotions for Advent Through Epiphany” is written by Sandy Bosserman, a former district executive and an ordained minister in the Church of the Brethren. The Advent devotional is published in a pocket-sized paperback format suitable for individual use and for congregations to supply to their members. The theme “Awake” is inspired by 1 Thessalonians 5:5-6 (NIV): “You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober.” Purchase for $2.75 per copy, or $5.95 for large print.

**Church of the Brethren related scholarships**

Many congregations of the Church of the Brethren in Pennsylvania include Juniata College in their outreach budget. These funds allow the College to award Church of the Brethren Scholarships to deserving Brethren students who might otherwise be unable to attend Juniata College. The Church of the Brethren Annual Scholarship demonstrates in a practical way the close relationship of the Church of the Brethren to Juniata students.
Denominational News

go to [www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org) for the most complete and up to date news from the Church of the Brethren

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**Prayers and Support for EYN**

Congregations and Pastors received a letter from District Minister Ron Beachley asking for our continued awareness, prayers and support for our sisters and brothers in the Ekklesiyar Yan’uwa a Nigeria (EYN), the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria. Following is a quote from that letter. If you would like to see the whole letter please ask your Pastor to share it with you.

“Our prayers are a crucial part of the support needed by EYN to give encouragement to those being persecuted, kidnapped and killed in northern Nigeria. I would challenge congregations to invite members to join other brothers and sisters in a four (4) time daily prayer commitment. I would suggest taking 2 or 3 minutes each designated time to lift up our sisters and brothers facing persecution in Nigeria, pray God’s presence will surround and protect, pray their faith will remain strong, and pray for those who are persecuting them. The 4 designated times would be 8:00 am; 12 noon; 4:00 pm; and 8:00 pm. I believe if we join together with at least two thousand individuals joining this effort from our district, our sisters and brothers in Nigeria will feel the power of the Holy Spirit surrounding, encouraging and strengthening their faith during this time of persecution.

I would appreciate knowing if your congregation will join this effort and how many individuals will participate. Also, along with our prayers, please consider a monetary gift to help with the financial assistance committed from the Mission & Ministry Board. Contributions can be sent do the Western PA District noting the gift is for Nigerian Relief. Thanks for your prayers and support.”

If you want more information about the situation in Nigeria and what is happening in the church there go to [www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org) where you can view a video and read more about it.

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**2015 National Older Adult Conference (NOAC)**

What NOAC is: NOAC is a Spirit-filled gathering of adults who love learning and discerning together, exploring God’s call for their lives and living out that call by sharing their energy, insight, and legacy with their families, communities, and the world.

2015 Theme: The Jesus Told Them a Story (Matthew 13:34-35 CEV)

Dates: **September 7-11, 2015**

Location: Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center, approximately 25 miles west of Asheville, NC

Website: [www.brethren.org/NOAC](http://www.brethren.org/NOAC) (more information will be posted on the site as planning progresses)

Registration brochures will be mailed to attendees of previous NOACs, congregations, districts, and retirement communities in late February 2015.

Online registration will open March 1, 2015; people may also register by mail.

For more information, contact Kim Ebersole, NOAC coordinator, at (800) 323-8039 ext. 305, (847) 429-4305 direct line, or kebersole@brethren.org. BVSer Laura Whitman is serving as NOAC assistant and can be contacted at ext. 323, (847) 429-4323 (direct), or LWhitman@brethren.org.

NOAC is a Spirit-filled gathering of adults who love learning and discerning together, exploring God’s call for their lives and living out that call by sharing their energy, insight, and legacy with their families, communities, and the world.
Denominational News

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evangelism: Now and Not Yet</th>
<th>Remember BVSers this Christmas!</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>January 5-9, 2015</strong></td>
<td>Greetings from Brethren Volunteer Service!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bethany Theological Seminary</strong></td>
<td>Here is a link to addresses for the current BVS volunteers <a href="#">PDF set up for Avery 5160 labels</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Richmond, IN</strong></td>
<td>Our volunteers love receiving cards and greetings from Brethren congregations!</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If you would like to read more about BVS, please <a href="#">download our latest newsletter</a> or browse the <a href="#">BVS blog</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If you or someone you know is looking for their next step, BVS has volunteer positions open all year round. <a href="#">Find out more</a> or <a href="#">explore project listings</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastors will earn two continuing education credits.</td>
<td>Thank you for your continued support and interest in Brethren Volunteer Service! May your time of Advent be blessed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class size is limited to 20 students.</td>
<td>In Peace,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Course fee: $275.00.</strong></td>
<td><strong>The BVS Team</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Make check payable to: <strong>Brethren Academy</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Registration deadline: December 1, 2014**

Please note: enrollment numbers on the date of the registration deadline will determine whether the course will be held.

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM AND FEE TO:
Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership
615 National Road West
Richmond, IN 47374
www.bethanyseminary.edu/academy

Registration brochures were emailed to pastors, if you did not receive one please contact the District Office.

A blog post about how to get your church online is now available at [http://blog.brethren.org/2014/three-easy-ways-to-get-your-church-online](http://blog.brethren.org/2014/three-easy-ways-to-get-your-church-online). The post by Church of the Brethren website producer Jan Fischer Bachman is titled “Three Easy Ways to Get Your Church Online” and includes advice on creating a website, setting up a Facebook page, and claiming a Google listing.

Registration opens Dec. 1 for Christian Citizenship Seminar 2015, an event for senior high youth and their adult advisors sponsored by the Church of the Brethren Youth and Young Adult Ministry on April 18-23 in New York City and Washington, D.C. The seminar’s study of US immigration will be guided by the theme scripture from Hebrews 13:2: “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” Space is limited to 100 people so early registration is advised. Cost is $400. For more information and a downloadable brochure, go to [www.brethren.org/ccs](http://www.brethren.org/ccs).

The Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADNet), a small non-profit, is hiring a half-time director. ADNet is dedicated to transforming faith communities and individuals with disabilities by full inclusion in the body of Christ. Roles include focusing on donor development, overseeing office and staff, guiding organizational communications, and relating to the board of directors. For more information and job description see the web site [www.adnetonline.org](http://www.adnetonline.org). Send a resume to becky.gascho@gmail.com. The Church of the Brethren is a sponsoring partner of ADNet.
The Springs of Living Water Academy for pastors offers courses with learning objectives which participants localize in their setting. The academy has five interactive 2-hour phone conference calls of practical training and discussion over a 12-week period, focused readings, joining in spiritual disciplines, and receiving shepherding calls between sessions. A few persons of the church walk along. A summary paper reflects course content and application. CEUs available.

Level 1. **Foundations for Christ-centered Church Renewal**

A spiritually grounded, servant-led approach using *Springs of Living Water* text learn to:

- Go deeper in one’s faith journey using a spiritual disciplines folder and devotional
- Enlist a congregation in renewal, spiritually discern and train a renewal team
- Help a congregation enter a spiritual journey with disciplines folders
- Understand servant leadership from scripture to approach the life cycle of a church
- Identify and fulfill 5 roles of transforming pastoral leadership for church renewal
- Implement a seven fold path for renewal based on a church building on its strengths
- Help a church spiritually discern a scripture, vision, and ministry plan

Spiritual Disciplines folder on Disciplines, Devotional: *Celebration of Discipline*-Richard Foster

**Wednesdays: February 4 & 25, March 18, April 8 & 29 - 10:30 am-12:30 pm ET**

(If interested in a Saturday morning class, please check option on the registration form.)

Level 2. **Servant Leadership for Church Renewal, Shepherds by the Living Springs**

Using text *Servant Leadership for Church Renewal* and other resources participants will:

- Grow in a closer walk with Christ using spiritual disciplines folder and devotional
- Catch a vision of spiritually oriented servant leadership that is transformational
- Discover and apply principles of Master Preaching for Renewal of the Church
- Learn to use the gifts of dialogue and spiritual discernment for decision making
- Explore how to implement a renewal plan; follow up all aspects of transformation
- Learn to reach out to new people and in-actives according to size of your church
- Explore how to build healthy, spiritually vibrant, Christ-centered congregations.

Spiritual Disciplines folder: “Called To Be Servants-Entrusted To Be Servant Leaders”

Devotional: *Life Together*-Bonhoeffer

**Wednesdays: February 11, March 4 & 25, April 15, May 5 - 10: 30 am-12:30 pm ET**

Instructor is Dr. David S. Young with potential guests. Participants call an 800 number. Along with focused readings, participants practice daily disciplines using folders. For an Academy brochure, please email davidyoung@churchrenewalservant.org or call (717) 615-4515. Website: www.churchrenewalservant.org.

(Testimonials on the back of this page.)
Testimonials from the Springs newsletter found on the Springs website

— “Taking part in the Springs Academy has been a refreshing journey in my own spiritual formation, and it has given me new energy, new perspective, and new direction in the work of the pastorate. I very much look forward to continuing my journey in the offerings of the Springs Academy.

Keith Funk, Pastor, Quinter COB, Western Plains District

— "I am not sure how the church can enter authentic renewal without being Christ-centered and transformed, and that is why I value what is taught in The Springs Academy. As we studied the process of church renewal, we were encouraged to deepen our walk with Christ through the spiritual disciplines that build the Christian life – which, I believe, ultimately teaches the people of God to discern the will of God which moves us toward renewal."

Mark Ray, Pastor, Leake’s Chapel COB, Shenandoah District

— “My participation in the Springs of Living Water Initiative has energized me spiritually. Practicing the spiritual disciplines has deepened my relationship with God by assisting me with internalizing the teachings of Jesus.”

Richard J. Fischl, Lead Pastor, Codorus COB, Southern PA District

— "Springs Academy has renewed my spiritual life personally and has brought new life spiritually back into the lives and hearts of the people in my congregation. A fresh new vision."

Barry Conn, Pastor, County Line COB, Western PA District

— “SPRINGS Academy has been a wonderful blessing to me personally and to the church which I serve, as we begin the Renewal Initiative. Dr. Young and the other participants have been encouraging, insightful, and very helpful as I began this exciting journey—looking upward, inward and outward. I have looked forward to our Saturday Morning Conversations.”

Merv Lanctot, Pastor, Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
Christmas Greetings!

Brethren Home Community Windber

Fall Activities:
This autumn has been especially busy for residents and staff alike!

~ The beautiful fall weather led to many resident outings to view the foliage and lots of shopping.

~ The staff has been occupied with continued training for PointClickCare record keeping. Many stations have been completely transitioned to the system, with more progress being made with the remaining stations every day.

~ Through the efforts of Maintenance Director Dennis Clark, Conemaugh Hospital donated 24 electric beds to the Home. The beds are a great addition! They adjust to low heights that are safer for resident transfers, and are more convenient for the staff as they assist the residents. Over the bed tables were also included in the donation.

~ District events occupied much time at the Home this fall. A BHCW display and craft sale was sponsored at the annual Heritage Festival. A BHCW display was also mounted for the annual district meeting in October. Our donations to the District Auction were a vintage leather topped drum table and a “Harvest Home” basket that contained all types of autumn and Thanksgiving supplies. Dr. Beachley visited the Home in October for all faith communion day.

~ The annual Harvest Home campaign has gotten off to a great start. Many generous monetary donations and in kind donations have been gratefully received. Harvest Home donations may be delivered during regular business hours or mailed to the Home.

~ Breast Care Awareness Month was a huge success. Throughout the month of October a wide variety of activities were held to support the Joyce Murtha Breast Care Center in Windber. Yogurt, jelly beans and candy bars were sold in the Ice Cream Parlor and bracelets were available in the main office. On Halloween the profits from a luncheon and bake sale held in conjunction with a Sunshine Fund basket party and vendor demonstration were added to the total. Personal Care Administrator Bob Thompson delivered a check for $698 to the breast care center on November 5. We’re proud of the efforts our staff makes to be involved in community service projects!

May the angel’s song “Good Will to Men” echo in your heart today!
Christmas Tree of Stars 2014

Please help us decorate the Christmas Tree of Stars in this 31st year of our program. Your donation will not only honor or memorialize a loved one or friend, it will help provide benevolent care for our residents.

The names of those being remembered will be displayed on the Christmas tree located in the Home’s Circle Lounge.

Please detach and return the bottom portion with your contribution to:

Church of the Brethren Home
277 Hoffman Avenue
Windber, PA 15963
ATTN: Tree of Stars

Thank you for showing your love and generosity by supporting the Tree of Stars Campaign!

Christmas Tree of Stars 2014

Please Hang a Star in Memory of:

____________________________________________________________________

OR

Please Hang an Ornament in Honor of:

____________________________________________________________________

Donated By: ______________________________________ Amount: __________

Address: ___________________________________________________________
CAMP REUNION DINNER
Join your camp family and friends
on Tuesday, December 30, 2014 at Camp Harmony for our
Annual Reunion Dinner.
Call Camp by December 19 to RSVP at 814-798-5885
Just $10.00 for great food, fun, and fellowship.
Starting time 6:00 PM

Volunteers
Camp Harmony always welcomes volunteers. Any day is suitable, however at this time, Tuesday
is the day when most of our volunteers are present. Come and join the group any time. Thank
you.

We are continuing our Feeding America program where we are providing meals to the Learning
Lamp day program and afterschool program in Boswell. If you would like to help deliver meals
during the school year, please contact Camp for more information. Delivering one day a week
would be extremely helpful. Thank you.

2014 “52 God Bless You Team”
75 families and/or congregations have attached to the 2014 “52 God Bless You Team” for $8,300.
They are helping Camp Harmony bless others. Join now for a $1.00 a week for 52 weeks. This
support helps the ministry of Camp as it reaches out to others. Thank You. As more and more
families are blessed they contribute $1.00 a week or $52.00 to Camp so that the ministry can bless
others. The original premise was that if all the families in the District contributed $52, the
mortgage could be eliminated…..

WISH LIST
Often groups or individuals are looking for items and/or projects that they can do for
Camp. This list is constantly changing and we thank you for all your help.
--marl
--vacuum sweepers
--materials for Four Square Vertical and/or construction
--don’t forget we are always collecting Labels for Education (Campbells)
--work gloves
--picnic tables
--non stick griddles for retreat centers
--work gloves
--safety glasses
--hot pads, oven gloves
--toasters for retreat centers

Future Events – January 17: Camp Representatives Luncheon,
January 30 – February 1: Children’s Winter Retreat (2/3/4/5)
Camp Harmony is looking for lumber donations to complete the new bed frames in our cabins! If you donate, you can have the bed built in honor of a camper (past or present). This name will be displayed on a small plate on the bed frame.

Each individual bed costs $150 to build, which also includes a new mattress.

To make a donation, please complete the form below and return to Camp Harmony:

PO Box 158
Hooversville, PA 15936

For more information, please contact the office at 814-798-5885.

Yes, I want to make a donation to the Build-A-Bed Fund. I would like to honor a past or present camper with the following information on a name plate:

IN HONOR OF

________________________________________________(25 characters or less)

(Name of past or present camper. No more than 2 camper names per plate.)

I have enclosed my $________ donation by _____Cash _____Check
Thanks for your help! The NEW Form B that comes from the Yearbook Office in Elgin and updates contact information about your congregation’s board or leadership team chair, the treasurer, a deacon contact, and a number of other contact persons will be coming to congregations and contact persons soon. You should have received the Additional Officers Form for 2015 from the District Office. Complete addresses and phone numbers are appreciated, as well as email addresses, if they are available.

The next Report Card will appear in the February 2015 issue of HIGHLIGHTS.

In addition, the Congregational Outreach Form for 2014/2015 has been sent from the COB Stewardship Office and is due by December 1, 2014. If you have a question, you will need to contact the Stewardship Office at 800-323-8039, ext. 361. A downloadable version of the form, as well as a new fillable option is also available at www.brethren.org/stewardship. Feel free to use that option in order to switch to paperless reporting.

The forms listed below were received in the District Office as of November 20. ALL of these informational forms are important to both the district and the denomination. The updated forms are sent to Elgin and they provide a copy for the District Office. If you have a question about a form, please don’t hesitate to contact Tina at 814 479-2181 or toll free 1-866-279-2181. Your prompt attention to this task will be appreciated. Thanks!

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<tr>
<th>Church Code</th>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Form A</th>
<th>Form B</th>
<th>2014 Statistical Report</th>
<th>Additional Officers</th>
<th>Self-Allocation</th>
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2014 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.

DECEMBER 2014
3 - SPRINGS OF LIVING WATER ACADEMY, 10:30 am-12:30 pm, phone conference call
7 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
7-13 - Disaster Work trip to Spotswood, New Jersey - Contact Herb Ewald-814 539-8530
9 - SPRINGS OF LIVING WATER ACADEMY, 10:30 am-12:30 pm, phone conference call
14 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
15 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
21 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
22 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
25 - MERRY CHRISTMAS!!
30 - VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER, 6 p.m., Camp Harmony
31 - NEW YEAR’S EVE

PLEASE NOTE
Dates will be added or changed as needed. If your District group, team, or committee has additions or changes to this calendar, please contact the District Office as soon as possible. Your help is much appreciated!
2015 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.

JANUARY 2015
1  - HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!
6  - EPIPHANY
18-25 - WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY
26  - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2015
1   - Service Sunday
12  - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
16  - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
18  - ASH WEDNESDAY
21  - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., TBA
22  - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
23  - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
24  - Johnstown Area Pastors, 12 noon, Windber Church

MARCH 2015
1   - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
6   - WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
8   - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS (Turn clocks AHEAD one hour)
8   - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
15  - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
15  - ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
22  - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
23  - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
24  - Johnstown Area Pastors, 12 noon, Scalp Level Church
29  - PALM SUNDAY
30  - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.

APRIL 2015
2   - MAUNDY THURSDAY
3   - GOOD FRIDAY
5   - ALLELUJA! CHRIST IS RISEN!
20  - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
22  - Earth Day
27  - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
28  - Johnstown Area Pastors, 12 noon, Morrellville Church
### MAY 2015

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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office</td>
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<td>HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY!</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>ASCENSION DAY</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., Uniontown Church</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHURCH! (Pentecost Sunday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>MEMORIAL DAY</td>
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<td>Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Johnstown Area Pastors, 12 noon, Way of Hope</td>
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### JUNE 2015

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<td>19-21</td>
<td>NATIONAL JUNIOR HIGH CONFERENCE, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>HAPPY FATHER’S DAY!</td>
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<td>Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.</td>
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### JULY 2015

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<td>11-15</td>
<td>ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Tampa Bay, Florida</td>
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<td>Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>District Leadership Team, 6 p.m., Arbutus Church (District Conference Business)</td>
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### AUGUST 2015

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<td>Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.</td>
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### SEPTEMBER 2015

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<td>LABOR DAY</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>BRETHREN HERITAGE FESTIVAL</td>
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<td>District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., TBA</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS (Turn clocks BACK one hour)</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>District Conference, 9 a.m., Camp Harmony</td>
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<td>Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.</td>
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NOVEMBER 2015
1  - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS (Turn clocks BACK one hour)
1  - NATIONAL JUNIOR HIGH SUNDAY
7  - TENTH ANNUAL DISTRICT AUCTION, 9 a.m., Camp Harmony
12 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
21 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., TBA
23 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
26 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!
29 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
30 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.

DECEMBER 2015
6  - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9  - SPRINGS OF LIVING WATER ACADEMY, 10:30 am-12:30 pm, phone conference call
12 - CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY – Camp Harmony – more information to come
13 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
21 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
21 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
25 - MERRY CHRISTMAS!!
28 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
31 - NEW YEAR’S EVE

PLEASE NOTE
Dates will be added or changed as needed. If your District group, team, or committee has additions or changes to this calendar, please contact the District Office as soon as possible. Your help is much appreciated!