

# District Highlights

December 2012/January 2013  
Vol. 12 No. 10

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Please send **all**  
Highlights information  
to the District Office by  
the **10th**.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### EDITOR:

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(Subject: Highlights)

## THANKSGIVING AND BEYOND!!!

When you receive the Highlights, Thanksgiving will be a memory and life will again be settling into a normal routine. The first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the Christian year will be celebrated this coming Sunday, and the excitement of the Christmas Season will begin. As I shared in a note sent to pastors the day before Thanksgiving, let's continue to give thanks, each day, for all the blessings received daily from our Lord.

This year the Christmas Season will be different in the Beachley family. I realize it will also be different for many of you as well. A significant person in the family is gone, and that means change in how we gather and celebrate during this special time of the year. However we deal with life changes, the good news of Christ's birth remains embedded in our faith and memory. We can celebrate, remember and rejoice in Christ's birth and ministry no matter how or what circumstance we may face.

In a recent eBrethren email in an excerpt from The Advent Road devotional booklet by *Walt Wiltschek*, his words spoke to me in a special way. His meditation was based on Luke 2:29, "**Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word.**" Simeon was reflecting on the opportunity of holding the Christ child in his arms. His words speak to my heart as I reflect on Mother's death and passage to new life.

**"God, you can now release your servant; release me in peace as you promised."** I know this was Mother's prayer as she was preparing to leave this life. Her contentment and joy found in life was because of her trust in Christ as Lord and Savior. The life she lived and the faith she demonstrated throughout her life was realized as she departed this life to be with Jesus. I was overwhelmed by the many individuals who came to her viewing and memorial celebration and expressed how she touched their lives in so many ways. What a comfort that is to know and to have been nurtured by a mother of faith and commitment.

In the devotional referred to earlier, Walt wrote, "When the moment comes, though, there is no doubt. Simeon is led to the temple, sees the family, and cradles the baby in his arms. He begins praising God, joyfully acknowledging that the Lord has fulfilled the promises that had been made—to Simeon and to all of Israel. He had personally seen the light of Christ entering the world. And with that, he had everything he could ever need."

It is a joy and comfort to know that when our loved ones die, they are going to a better place, where pain and suffering are no more. Let's continue the spirit of Thanksgiving daily in the words of the Psalmist, "**Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.**" (Psalm 106).

RDB

## District Office News

### HOSPITALIZED

- **Lori Conn**, wife of Barry Conn, pastor of the County Line congregation, for treatment.

### SYMPATHY

- To District Minister **Ron Beachley** and family in the death of his mother Elsie Mae Beachley who was a member of the Beachdale congregation for approximately 70 years.

### LEADERSHIP

- **David A. Baker** has resigned as FT pastor of the Bethel and Greenville congregations as of December 31, 2012.
- **Gerald E. Deffenbaugh** has resigned as FT pastor of the Geiger congregation as of January 31, 2013.
- **Kevin L. Broadwater** has resigned as PT pastor of the Salisbury congregation as of December 31, 2012.

I need to say thanks for your prayers, cards, visits and support for me and my family during Mother's illness and death.

Your kind words and prayers gave strength and support during our time of need.

We had a wonderful celebration of Mother's life and witness she shared in the Beachdale congregation and beyond.

I want to say personally and for my siblings a gracious "thank you" for your kindness during this time.

Blessings to each of you!!

Shalom,

Ron

**February 2013  
Highlights Deadline  
January 4, 2013**

## THANK YOU!

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

To date \$12,146.50 without expenses was raised for District Ministry.

Camp Scholarships will be given to 1st and 2nd place churches that raised the most funds. Maple Spring took first place raising \$2,492.50. Scalp Level took 2nd place raising \$1,361.00 .

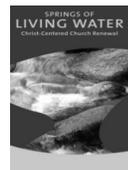
Camp again provided us with a delicious breakfast and lunch. Without expenses deducted \$816.00 was raised for camp.

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

## Springs of Living Water

The Springs of Living Water Initiative in Church Renewal is at work on phase II, inviting new churches who feel led to a season of revitalization, and churches already in Springs who want to continue to the next level. Do they have a sense that more is possible; that there is a spiritual thirst; that they want to go the next step in their faith journey. The basic question congregations ask is "Where is God leading our church?"

If you have any such questions, you are invited to call Ron Beachley at the District Office or David Young at 717-615-4515 to learn more about what Springs of Living Water has to offer and what it means to be involved. You can also learn more by looking at the Springs website at [www.churchrenewalservant.org](http://www.churchrenewalservant.org). A letter of invitation is going out to all Western PA churches as is an Advent Spiritual Disciplines folder.



The District HIGHLIGHTS is the official publication of the Western PA District Church of the Brethren. This newsletter is published 10 times a year by the Western PA District Office at 115 Spring Road, Hollsopple, PA 15935-7412. Postage paid at Johnstown, PA.

## Local Church News

### The CHORDS OF PRAISE

will present  
a Christmas concert  
on Sunday, December 2, 2012  
at 3 P.M. at the

#### Sipesville Church of the Brethren.

Come hear the dulcimers !  
The offering will benefit their ministry.  
Refreshments to follow in social room.

Sponsored by: NUTURE COMMISSION

### Christmas Eve invitation from Mt. Joy

You're invited to Mt. Joy Church of the Brethren on Monday, December 24, 7:30 p.m. for the annual Christmas Eve and Candlelight Service. The Adult Choir will present *Celebrate His Name! Proclaim His Birth!* A Joyful Christmas Acclamation by Mary McDonald, Larry Shackley, and Pamela Martin. Scott Leichliter is the Director. The Children's Choir and the Youth will also have some songs and readings.

Mt. Joy Church is located 1 mile east of Mt. Pleasant on Route 31. For more information, please call 724-547-3670. Bro. Lee Smith is the pastor.

### Note from the Editor:

Since this issue covers 2 months we are going to try to publish the February newsletter earlier than usual so that your February and March events can get announced to the rest of the District in a timely fashion.

Please send your upcoming events to the District Office or email them as soon as you plan them. If you are mailing your information it is important to send it to the District Office so it can go in the "Highlights" folder. If you are emailing your information please make sure to include the word "Highlights" in the subject line so that it gets into the right folder.

### An Invitation from Uniontown

The Women's Ministry at the Uniontown Church of the Brethren, Sisters in Spirit, would like to extend an invitation to women ages 14 and older to join them at their meetings.



The first meeting in 2013 is January 12th at 10am. For more information, please call the Church office at 724-438-8372.

### An Aloha Christmas

EXPERIENCE CHRISTMAS IN HAWAII  
AND OUR TRADITIONAL LIVE NATIVITY

When: Saturday Evening - December 8, 2012

Time: 6:30 P M until 8:00 P M (come and go....stay as long as you choose)

Where: **Middlecreek Church of the Brethren**

Featuring: Live animals and Biblical characters plus decorations and refreshments like those enjoyed by our Island brothers and sisters.

SPECIAL GUESTS: Singers Larry and Judy Walker

Join the folks at the "Little Church with the Big Heart" for a tropical Christmas.

Questions: Contact – Interim Pastors John and Linda Stoner Phone - 814-444-8800  
E-mail – jnljaunts@floodcity.net

Located at 226 Middlecreek Road just beyond Posey Corner's Camp Ground



The Christmas season is all about love and peace and understanding, right? Coming together, despite our differences, to worship King Jesus, the Christ.

I recently had the opportunity to reflect on some of my personality traits – both the good and bad. And I realized that sometimes people are offended by the way I come across. I had to admit that some of that is because I'm still a work in progress, still prone to the sins I loathe. But it also occurred to me that many times such conflict arises from misunderstandings between people of different backgrounds and experience and senses of humor.

We have a great little book in the District Library called *Energizing Children's Ministry in the Smaller Church*, by Rick Chromey, and it contains a chart which I'd like to reproduce for your consideration, now. It contrasts two epochs of time in relation to Christianity.

MODERNITY (1500-2000)	POST-MODERNITY (2000 - ?)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conquest &amp; Control</li> <li>• Machine/Mechanism</li> <li>• Science &amp; Reason</li> <li>• Objectivity</li> <li>• Debate &amp; Conversion</li> <li>• Organization</li> <li>• Individualism (me)</li> <li>• Denominational</li> <li>• Regional</li> <li>• Rules</li> <li>• Printing press, Telescope &amp; Clock</li> <li>• Time-based, Seat-based</li> <li>• Church is a "club"</li> <li>• Passive</li> <li>• Lecture, Discussion</li> <li>• Word-based</li> <li>• "Land" (<i>Leonard Sweet</i>)</li> <li>• Police Officer &amp; Lawyer</li> <li>• School &amp; Prison</li> <li>• Builders &amp; Boomers (born pre-'61)</li> <li>• Bible is a study (theology)</li> <li>• "Think outside the box."</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperation &amp; Community</li> <li>• Body/Movement</li> <li>• Spirituality &amp; Experience</li> <li>• Subjectivity</li> <li>• Dialogue &amp; Conversation</li> <li>• Organism</li> <li>• Group (we)</li> <li>• Ecumenical</li> <li>• Global</li> <li>• Relationship</li> <li>• Internet, Cell phone &amp; TV</li> <li>• Timeless, Wall-less</li> <li>• Church is a "community"</li> <li>• Active</li> <li>• Experiences, Dialogue</li> <li>• Image-driven</li> <li>• "Water" (<i>Leonard Sweet</i>)</li> <li>• Tour Guide &amp; Artist</li> <li>• Journey &amp; Party</li> <li>• Gen X &amp; Millennials (born post-'61)</li> <li>• Bible is a story (narrative)</li> <li>• "There are no more boxes."</li> </ul>

➤ Curious, isn't it? When I read these lists, I get a better understanding of those both older and younger than me. I was a high school junior in 2000, so my world was changing rapidly. Many of the values I grew up with were changing and evolving. The wider Church started to look drastically different. People were meeting in coffeehouses to worship God – in homes, under bridges, in Laundromats. The rules I memorized as a child started to erode in favor of a more free-spirited faith. The leadership frameworks I knew and trusted were tossed out and replaced with dreadlocked guys in t-shirts, preaching about a ragamuffin Jesus – not the gleaming, gilded Savior I learned to know through collared professionals.

Does this sound like your experience? If so, do you feel betrayed? Like your faith isn't good enough anymore? Like the Christianity you embraced is viewed as somehow lacking, somehow not worth as much as this trendy, hipster Gospel?

Maybe you feel like hijacking hymns is criminal – like people wearing jeans to church is disgraceful. I'm kinda there with you. It feels a little weird, I think. Confusing, and disrespectful at times. That's why God urges us to look at the heart. I must constantly examine my own motives, and the motives of others. The outward appearance doesn't account for much, when you think about it – the heart is what interests God. Is this why we have problems with welcoming people into our churches? Because they may read from the NLT, not the KJV? Because they speak and act differently? It truly does exasperate me to think that God chose an unmarried teenager to give birth to His Son. What do you think?

## Disaster Ministries News

### Sandy shipments from New Windsor center now exceed \$900,000 in value

Church of the Brethren Newswire  
November 14, 2012

Shipments of relief materials have been heading out from warehouses at the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, Md., ever since superstorm Hurricane Sandy was churning through the Caribbean on its way to the northeast US. The Church of the Brethren Material Resources staff has done the processing, warehousing, and shipping of relief materials on behalf of Church World Service (CWS). Now the value of the shipments made for CWS--a global humanitarian agency funded by public donations, grants, and the support of 37 member Christian denominations--totals \$900,402.

Material Resources staff were filmed by WBAL TV Baltimore as they continued to fill orders for relief goods. Rob Roblin of Channel 11 news in Baltimore, Md., taped the report on the shipments sent to the Hurricane Sandy response, to air Wednesday, Nov. 14, during the 6 p.m. newscast (view it at [www.wbaltv.com/news/maryland/carroll-county/Carroll-County-organization-helps-Sandy-victims/-/10137488/17410174/-/5ju175/-/index.html](http://www.wbaltv.com/news/maryland/carroll-county/Carroll-County-organization-helps-Sandy-victims/-/10137488/17410174/-/5ju175/-/index.html) ).

Shipments from the New Windsor warehouses include CWS Blankets, Hygiene Kits, School Kits, Baby Kits, and Emergency Clean-Up Buckets. So far, shipments have gone to local agencies in the states of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. CWS works with state, regional, and local Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, FEMA, and member denominations and agencies to determine where help is most needed.

### Quote of the week

“One little boy ran over to me when we first walked in, yelled ‘Bob!’ and jumped in my arms and said, ‘I love you. Can we play now?’ Made my day.”

-- Bob Roach, one of the Children’s Disaster Services (CDS) volunteers who have been caring for children in shelters following Hurricane Sandy. He was quoted Monday in a CDS Facebook status update by associate director Judy Bezon. Since the superstorm hit the northeast, CDS has deployed close to 30 volunteers. The first team to respond has already completed their two weeks of service, and replacement groups have been sent in. This week a replacement team of nine volunteers has gone to New York, and a replacement team of five volunteers has gone to New Jersey, according to Brethren Disaster Ministries executive Roy Winter.

### Church fund makes grants for Sandy response, new BDM project in Binghamton, NY

Church of the Brethren Newswire  
November 14, 2012

“During a disaster such as this, now is the time to remember that the most important humanitarian donation an individual can make is cash,” notes Brethren Disaster Ministries in an e-mail update this week about its response to Hurricane Sandy. The reminder comes at a time when the Church of the Brethren’s Emergency Disaster Fund (EDF)--which supports the work of Brethren Disaster Ministries--has made its first grants toward the Sandy relief effort.

Church members who are considering contributions to support the work of Brethren Disaster Ministries and Children’s Disaster Services may make out checks to the Emergency Disaster Fund. Mail donations to: Church of the Brethren, Attn: EDF, 1451 Dundee Avenue, Elgin, IL 60120; or make donations at [www.brethren.org/edf](http://www.brethren.org/edf) .

“Once damage assessments are complete, Brethren Disaster Ministries will develop plans for future long-term recovery activities including major home repairs and rebuilds,” reports Roy Winter, associate executive director. “We will also support Church World Service in developing Long Term Recovery plans, providing technical and financial support, and providing onsite Long Term Recovery training in stricken communities.

“This is just the beginning of Hurricane Sandy response and recovery,” he adds. “We have all seen the scope of destruction and know it will take years to rebuild the lives of all who lost their homes. Brethren Disaster Ministries is working on behalf of the church to be a light for children and other Super Storm Sandy survivors.”



## Denominational News

### Position Openings

- Program assistant for the director of Donor Relations and the associate director of Donor Communications (Elgin, Illinois)**  
This newly created fulltime hourly position will support and assist the donor relations and communications staff in developing connections with donors and friends of the denomination through electronic and print correspondence, individual and congregational contacts, special offerings, and stewardship education resources.
- Director for Intercultural Ministries (Elgin, Illinois)**  
The Church of the Brethren is seeking an individual to fill the role of director for Intercultural Ministries. This full time position is part of a dynamic team of leaders in the office of Congregational Life Ministries and will be integral in developing intercultural ministries throughout the church.
- The Cedars, Inc.** in McPherson, KS is looking for an experienced Development Officer. This person will be involved in marketing, development and work with tax sheltered annuities. For more information contact Carma Wall, CEO at 620-241-0919.
- Brethren Journal Association Seeks Editor**  
This is a contract position. The person filling this position will consult with the Brethren Journal Association Advisory Board regarding long-range planning, possible writers and topics, and maintaining high standards of journalism and scholarship. The editor is responsible for determining the content of the journal. A detailed job description is posted on the Bethany Theological Seminary website at [www.bethanyseminary.edu/sites/default/files/docs/blt/BJA\\_EditorDescr.pdf](http://www.bethanyseminary.edu/sites/default/files/docs/blt/BJA_EditorDescr.pdf). Applicants should send resumes by January 15, 2013, to [blt@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:blt@bethanyseminary.edu). For further information, contact [blt@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:blt@bethanyseminary.edu).

More information about these and other positions is available at <http://www.brethren.org/about/employment.html>

Newsline is produced by Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford, director of news services for the Church of the Brethren General Board, [cobnews@brethren.org](mailto:cobnews@brethren.org) or 800-323-8039 ext. 260.

### Educational Opportunity for You!

Jesus said, "Follow me!"

Come and explore his invitation more deeply in the Holy Land!

Dan Ulrich, professor of New Testament studies at Bethany Seminary, and Marilyn Lerch, director of the TRIM program for the Brethren Academy of Ministerial Leadership, are leading an Academy travel course to Israel in June 2013 and invite Bethany alumni/ae and other interested travelers to join them. It is an excellent opportunity to earn CEU credits.

Along the way, Dan and Marilyn will lend their expertise to that of the professional guides with Educational Opportunities, an organization that has taken groups to the Holy Land for years. From Bethlehem to Nazareth, the Dead Sea to the Sea of Galilee, the Mount of Olives to the place where it is said Jesus was crucified, the group will tour the sites that are part of the faith story for Christians around the world. Hear the scriptures read on location and get a glimpse of the Middle East today with its vibrant population and fascinating culture.

A complete travel brochure is available on the Bethany website at [www.bethanyseminary.edu/sites/default/files/docs/academy/Holy\\_Land\\_Trip\\_Brochure.pdf](http://www.bethanyseminary.edu/sites/default/files/docs/academy/Holy_Land_Trip_Brochure.pdf)

For full trip details, including passport deadline information, go to [http://www.bethanyseminary.edu/sites/default/files/docs/advancement/HolyLand\\_AlumInfo.pdf](http://www.bethanyseminary.edu/sites/default/files/docs/advancement/HolyLand_AlumInfo.pdf)

### Committee shares hopes for Sunday of renewal, releases logo for 2013 Annual Conference.



A logo for the 2013 Annual Conference of the Church of the Brethren, and more details about the schedule including a Sunday focused on spiritual renewal, have been released by the Program and Arrangements Committee. The 2013 Conference takes place June 29-July 3 in Charlotte, N.C., and is open to all church members and families, as well as delegates from congregations and districts.

The planning group met recently at the General Offices in Elgin, Ill. The committee includes the Conference officers--Bob Krouse, moderator; Nancy S. Heishman, moderator-elect; Jim Beckwith, secretary--and committee members Eric Bishop, Cindy Laprade Lattimer, and Christy Waltersdorff, with Conference Office director Chris Douglas.

The logo, designed by Debbie Noffsinger, presents the theme, "Move in Our Midst," which also is the title of a beloved Church of the Brethren hymn by the late Ken Morse and Perry Huffaker (#418 in "Hymnal: A Worship Book").

## Denominational News

### Pre-publication price available for Lenten devotional from Brethren Press

Church of the Brethren Newslines  
November 15, 2012

The 2013 Lenten devotional from Brethren Press is now available to order at pre-publication pricing. To place orders, call 800-441-3712 or go to [www.brethrenpress.com](http://www.brethrenpress.com).

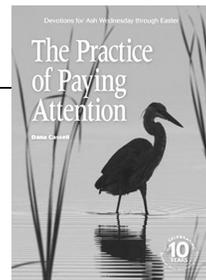
“**The Practice of Paying Attention: Devotions for Ash Wednesday through Easter**” is written by Dana Cassell and offers daily scriptures, meditations, and prayers for Lent and Easter in a pocket-sized paperback suitable for personal use or for congregations to provide to members.

“Our days are filled with countless distractions that make demands on our time and attention. It’s easy to lose focus,” says a promotional flier from Brethren Press. “Join us as we step back, slow down, and practice paying attention to God at work in our lives. May this Lenten journey be filled with clarity and surprise.”

Order the 2013 Lenten devotional by Dec. 21 to receive pre-production prices of \$2 (regular size print) and \$5 (large print)--a significant reduction from the usual cost of \$2.50 or \$5.95 large print. Shipping charges will be added to the invoice.

This year’s Advent devotional by Walt Wiltschek also is still available. “**The Advent Road**” has been published with some special features, including as an e-book in either epub or pdf format (\$2) as well as the regular booklet (\$2.50) and large print (\$5.95) versions. A shipping charge will be added to the invoice. Call 800-441-3712 or order online at [www.brethrenpress.com](http://www.brethrenpress.com).

Become a seasonal subscriber to the Brethren Press devotional series and receive both annual devotionals--Advent and Lent--at the discounted price of \$4 per year. Subscriptions are automatically renewed each year and can be cancelled or changed at any time.



### Bethany Seminary Faculty to Offer Advent Devotionals

For the first time, Bethany Seminary will offer devotionals for each Sunday in Advent, beginning with December 2. Written by teaching and administrative faculty, the devotionals will be available Monday, November 26, on the Bethany website at [www.bethanyseminary.edu/resources/devotionals](http://www.bethanyseminary.edu/resources/devotionals). Devotionals on four different scripture texts will be featured for each week. It is hoped that the insights, meditations, and prayers shared by the faculty will be meaningful and useful to congregations, organizations, and individuals throughout the season.



### James Troha, VP of Advancement at Heidelberg University, Named Juniata's 12th President

(Posted November 20, 2012)

HUNTINGDON, Pa. -- James Troha, vice president for institutional advancement and university relations at Heidelberg University since 2009 has been named the 12th president of Juniata College by the Juniata board of trustees. Troha will begin his official duties on or about June 1, 2013.

Troha takes over the presidency from Thomas R. Kepple Jr. who served as president of Juniata from 1998 to 2013. Kepple will retire May 31 after serving the college for 15 years as its chief executive.

"Jim Troha has a strong record of proven leadership in numerous aspects of running a College, including student affairs, enrollment, and fundraising," says Robert McDowell, chair of Juniata's Board of Trustees. "He is also very community-focused in his personal and professional life, and we expect that focus will benefit Juniata, Huntingdon and the global community, which is so much a focus of our student's educational experience. The board is very pleased to have concluded our search and to have been successful in recruiting our first choice as our new chief executive."

Troha comes to Juniata after a successful executive career at Heidelberg, located in Tiffin, Ohio. His responsibilities at the university include directing all elements of the institution's fundraising, marketing and university relations efforts.

**JUNIATA**  
COLLEGE



# **INVITATION**

## **BRUNCH 'N BROWSE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL MATERIALS**

**For:** Anyone Interested in Christian Education, VBS Directors, Teachers, Pastors, Christian Education Committees, Nurture Commissions

**Date:** Saturday, February 9, 2013

**Time:** 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

**Place:** District Office  
115 Spring Road, Hollsopple 15935

**Hosted by:** District Spiritual Formation Team



### **Have You Selected Your *Vacation Bible School* Materials?**

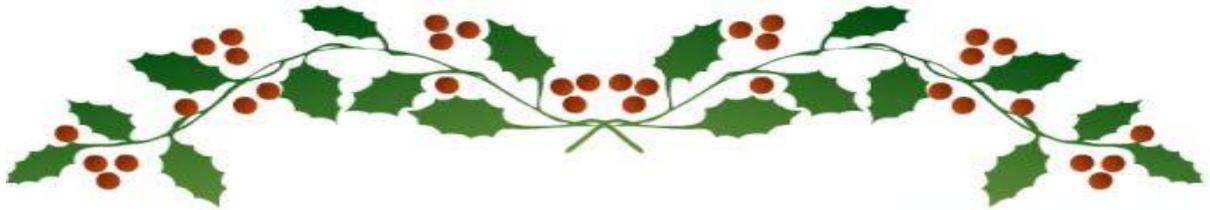
You are invited to the annual *Brunch 'n' Browse* to preview VBS materials. The display will be provided by the Johnstown Christian Bookstore & Office Supply from several publishers such as... *Standard Publishing, Gospel Light, David C. Cook, Augsburg, Veggie Tales, and Group Publishing.*

Visit our curriculum displays and video and book displays in the District Resource Library, as well as the books in the District Library. Samples of Brethren Press curriculum are available to view, as well as numerous other resources, DVD's and Bible studies.

There will be refreshments and a door prize awarded! The door prize is:

- VBS Kit (\$100.00 toward the kit of your choice) - The name of the congregation selected must have representatives attending.

If you have any questions,  
please call the District Office 814 479-2181 or toll-free 1-866-279-2181.



## *Brethren Home Community Windber December 2012/January 2013*

### **Home Auxiliary News**

An installation service for the new 2013-2014 officers was held by Chaplain Linda Reiningger at the November Auxiliary meeting. We thank the following ladies for their dedication and willingness to serve the mission of the Home:

President: Arbutus Blough (Maple Spring Congregation)  
Vice President: Wilma Friedhoff (Morrellville Congregation)  
Secretary: Janet Fisher (Sipesville Congregation)  
Recording Secretary: Connie Berkebile (Walnut Grove Congregation)  
Treasurer: April Mackell (Pleasant Hill Congregation)

Through their many fundraising efforts, the Auxiliary has been able to contribute over \$10,000 in goods and services to the Home this year. Thanks to everyone who has been able to support them in their service to the Home!

### **Home Cookbooks**

The Home Cookbooks have arrived in time for Christmas giving! The books feature many new recipes and some old favorites from the 1973 Auxiliary Cookbook. Cookbooks may be purchased at the Home main office, or be ordered by calling 814/467.5505.

### **Thinking Pink**

Home employees partnered with Sodexo Senior Living, the Home's dietary service, to support breast cancer awareness month and the Joyce Murtha Breast Care Center. Fundraisers including breast cancer awareness bracelets, "Cookies For the Cure", and dress down day passes were held. A total of \$410 was raised and delivered to the Breast Care Center on October 25.

### **District Women's Rally**

The BHCW was happy to host the District Women's Rally at Pettikoffer House on October 11. The beautiful autumn day was reflected in the centerpieces and favors made by staff and residents at the Home.

### **Pastor Recognition Month**

Chaplain Linda Reiningger was recognized for her dedication to our Home in a surprise service on October 8. She was presented with a framed poem and of course everyone enjoyed the refreshments that followed.

*This holiday season -*

*Be filled with wonder, touched by peace, and blessed by the miracle Christmas.*

*Brethren Home Residents, Staff and Administration*



# TREE OF STARS 2012



BRETHREN HOME COMMUNITY WINDBER

Please help us decorate the Christmas Tree of Stars  
in this 29<sup>th</sup> year of our program.  
Your donation will not only honor or memorialize  
a loved one or friend, it will help us  
provide benevolent care for our residents.

Names of persons being remembered will be hung on the  
Christmas tree  
located in the Home's Circle Lounge.

Please 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 concern by

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## TREE OF STARS 2012

Please Shine a Light in Memory

of: \_\_\_\_\_

OR

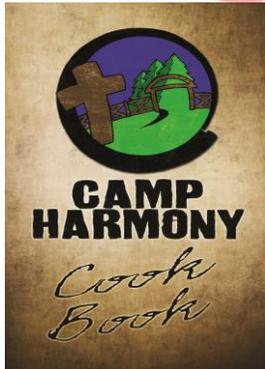
Please Hang an Ornament in Honor

of: \_\_\_\_\_

Donated by: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

# Start your Christmas shopping at Camp Harmony!



## *Camp Harmony Cook Book*

(\$10 + shipping)

Give a gift that gives throughout the year! Compiled of delicious recipes from friends of Camp Harmony all over the district, this great collection will thrill the foodie on your list!



## *Camp Harmony Ornament*

(\$5 + shipping)

These ornaments are great for Christmas or year-round to remind you of the ways God is using ministries like Camp Harmony to fulfill the purpose of sending His Son. Each ornament is unique, cut from different trees, all bearing a laser-burned image of the Camp Harmony logo.

To place an order, go online to [www.campharmonyevents.org/store](http://www.campharmonyevents.org/store) or call 814-798-5885



# Camp Harmony Annual Appreciation Dinner

**This dinner is for YOU!**

Come enjoy a meal with those who have worked and volunteered with the ministry of Camp Harmony in the past year as we thank you for all you do!

When: Sunday, December 30, 2012

Where: Faith Hall

Hors d'oeuvres served at  
5:00 PM

Dinner served at  
6:00 PM

Games

Friends

Memories

Singing

Please call to make your reservation:  
814-798-5885



# Camp Harmony Winter 2013

## FEBRUARY

1-2 **YOUTH RETREAT  
(GRADES 6-12)**

9 **SWEETHEART DINNER**

## MARCH

1-2 **ELEMENTARY RETREAT  
(GRADES 3-5)**

8-9 **PASTOR/SPOUSE  
RETREAT**

## APRIL

5-6 **WOMEN'S RETREAT**

19-20 **30 HOUR FAMINE**

For more information, Contact US!

Call 814-798-5885

E-mail:

[program@campharmony.org](mailto:program@campharmony.org)

Website: [WWW.CAMPARMONYEVENTS.ORG](http://WWW.CAMPARMONYEVENTS.ORG)

Find us on Facebook! [www.facebook.com/campharmony](http://www.facebook.com/campharmony)

*It's Never too Early to Start Thinking about Summer!*

## Craft Donation List

Do you have any of these items laying around? Leftover Sunday or Bible School craft supplies you're not sure what to do with? Donate to camp! Here's a list of what we'll be needing for next summer's crafts:

- metal coffee cans
- old wooden beaded car seats (made for comfort)
- large pieces of thin colored foam
- duct tape (any color)
- wood cut shapes (6 to 12 inches, animals, ect.)
- foam peanuts
- foam pieces
- stuffing
- flat pieces of wood (6x6 or larger)
- sand
- short, flat baskets (no handles)
- mini glue sticks
- real turkey or pheasant feathers
- yard sticks
- wooden stakes (at least 12inches)
- soft material (at least 4ftx4ft, preferably fleece)
- Acrylic paint (any color)
- Temptra paint (any color)
- Water colors (childs trays and artists cakes)
- Styrofoam balls (medium to large)

THANK YOU!

--CAMP HARMONY STAFF



The annual report form for congregations (Form B) has been sent out from the denominational offices in Elgin, Illinois. The form will update contact information about your congregation's board or leadership chair, the treasurer, a deacon contact, a nurture contact, a stewards contact, a witness contact, junior high advisor, youth advisor, and several other contact persons. The form needs to be returned to Elgin by December 31, 2012.

In addition, the Congregational Outreach form was sent from the COB Stewardship Office — not the Yearbook Office. Blank forms are available at [www.brethren.org/stewardship/documents/congregational-outreachform.pdf](http://www.brethren.org/stewardship/documents/congregational-outreachform.pdf). If you need to contact Elgin with questions about the outreach form, please contact Mandy Garcia at 800-323-8039, ext. 361. The deadline for this form to get to Elgin is December 1, 2012.

The forms listed below were received as of November 15. This information is important to both the district and the denomination. Please be sure to review the information provided and make updates as they are needed. Complete addresses and phone numbers are appreciated, as well as email addresses if they are available. The updated form gets sent back to Elgin and then they provide a copy for the District Office. If you have a question about the form, please don't hesitate to contact Suzie at 814 479-2181 or 1-866-279-2181. Your prompt attention to this task will be appreciated. Thanks!

Church Code	Church Name	Form A	Form B	2012 Statistical Report	Additional Officers	Self-Allocation
37-010	Arbutus					
37-015	Beachdale					
37-020	Bear Run					
37-030	Berkey					•
37-050	Bethel					
37-060	Brothersvalley					
37-068	Canaan					
37-070	Center					
37-080	Center Hill					
37-090	Conemaugh		•			
37-100	Connellsville		•			•
37-110	County Line		•			
37-130	Elbethel					•
37-140	Erie Community United					
37-150	Fairchance		•			
37-160	Fairview					
37-170	Farmington Bethel					
37-190	Geiger					•
37-195	Good Samaritan					
37-200	Greensburg		•			
37-210	Greenville					
37-220	Hooversville					
37-230	Hostetler					
37-240	Hyndman		•			
37-250	Indiana					
37-310	Ligonier First					
37-320	Locust Grove					•
37-340	Maple Glen					
37-350	Maple Grove					
37-360	Maple Spring					•
37-373	Markleysburg		•			
37-380	Meyersdale					
37-390	Middlecreek		•			
37-400	Monroeville		•			•
37-410	Montgomery		•			

Church Code	Church Name	Form A	Form B	2012 Statistical Report	Additional Officers	Self-Allocation
37-260	Morrellville					
37-420	Mount Joy					
37-430	Mount Pleasant		•			
37-270	Moxham		•			
37-440	Nanty Glo		•			•
37-450	Natrona Heights					
37-460	Oakdale					
37-470	Penn Run					
37-475	Pike Run		•			
37-480	Pleasant Hill					
37-500	Plumcreek					•
37-505	Purchase Line					
37-508	Rayman					
37-510	Robinson					•
37-520	Rockton		•			
37-530	Rockwood		•			
37-280	Roxbury					
37-540	Rummel					•
37-550	Salisbury					
37-560	Scalp Level					
37-570	Shade Creek/Ridge		•			
37-580	Sipesville					
37-590	Somerset					
37-600	Sugar Grove					
37-620	Ten Mile					
37-630	Tire Hill					•
37-635	Union Chapel					
37-640	Uniontown					
37-290	Walnut Grove					
37-645	Way of Hope					
37-300	Westmont					
37-650	Windber					
37-660	Wooddale					

# 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.

## **DECEMBER 2012**

- 2 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 2-8 - Disaster Team Work Camp – Town Creek, Alabama (Contact Herb Ewald -814 539-8530)
- 9 - SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT
- 13 - Day Trip to New Windsor, Maryland – Work Day (Contact Herb Ewald -814 539-8530)
- 16 - THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT
- 17 - Brethren Home Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
- 18 - Day Trip to New Windsor, Maryland – Work Day (Contact Herb Ewald -814 539-8530)
- 23 - FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT
- 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!**

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## SUGGESTIONS FOR USE...

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- Each month check this page in *District HIGHLIGHTS* for changes/additions.
- Keep *your* calendar updated.

## JANUARY 2013

- 1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!!
- 21 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 18-25 - WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY
- 22 - Johnstown Area Pastors, 12 noon, Walnut Grove Church
- 28 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board, 7 p.m.

## FEBRUARY 2013

- 7 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
- 9 - BRUNCH 'N' BROWSE, 9:30-11:30 a.m., District Office – **[SEE ENCLOSED FLYER]**
- 13 - ASH WEDNESDAY
- 16 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., Rummel Church
- 17 - FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
- 18 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
- 23 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m. – *location to be announced*
- 24 - SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
- 25 - Camp Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
- 26 - Johnstown Area Pastors, 12 noon, Berkey Church

## MARCH 2013

- 3 - THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
- 7 - BHCW Auxiliary, 1 p.m.
- 9 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m. – *location to be announced*
- 10 - **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS (Turn clocks *AHEAD* one hour)**
- 10 - FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
- 17 - FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
- 18 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 23 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m. – *location to be announced*
- 24 - PALM SUNDAY
- 25 - Camp Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
- 26 - Johnstown Area Pastors, 12 noon, Ligonier Church
- 29 - GOOD FRIDAY
- 31 - ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!

## APRIL 2013

- 6 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m. – District Office
- 15 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
- 20 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m. – District Office
- 21 - ANNUAL SPRING TEA, 2-4 p.m., Brethren Home Community Windber
- 22 - Camp Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
- 23 - Brethren Home Community Windber

### **MAY 2013**

- 2 - BHCW Auxiliary, 1 p.m.
- 4 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m. – District Office
- 5 - NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY
- 9 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
- 9 - ASCENSION DAY
- 12 - HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
- 18 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., Farmington Bethel Church
- 19 - HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHURCH!
- 20 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 27 - Camp Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
- 28 - Johnstown Area Pastors, 12 noon, Camp Harmony

### **JUNE 2013**

- 1 - BHCW CHICKEN BBQ, 12 noon to 6 p.m. Brethren Home Community Windber
- 2 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE BRIEFING, *location to be announced*
- 16 - HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!
- 17 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
- 24 - Camp Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
- 29-July 3 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Convention Center, Charlotte, North Carolina

### **JULY 2013**

- June 29-3 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Convention Center, Charlotte, North Carolina
- 15 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 22 - Camp Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
- 25 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., (District Conference Business)

### **AUGUST 2013**

- 1 - BHCW Auxiliary, 1 p.m.
- 2 - District Leadership Team, 6 p.m., Arbutus Church (District Conference Business)
- 10 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m. – *location to be announced*
- 19 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
- 24 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m. – *location to be announced*
- 26 - Camp Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.

### **SEPTEMBER 2013**

- 2 - LABOR DAY
- 5 - BHCW Auxiliary Key Ladies Luncheon, 12 noon
- 5 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
- 7 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m. – *location to be announced*
- 8 - HAPPY GRANDPARENT'S DAY!
- 14 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., Penn Run Church
- 16 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 21 - BRETHREN HERITAGE FESTIVAL, Camp Harmony
- 23 - Camp Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
- 28 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m. – *location to be announced*

### **OCTOBER 2013**

- 6 - WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
- 12 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m. – *location to be announced*
- 19 - DISTRICT CONFERENCE, 9 a.m., Camp Harmony
- 21 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
- 26 - SVMC/BRETHREN ACADEMY PROGRAM, 9 a.m. – *location to be announced*
- 28 - Camp Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.

### **NOVEMBER 2013**

- 3 - **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS (Turn clocks BACK one hour)**
- 3 - NATIONAL JUNIOR HIGH SUNDAY
- 7 - BHCW Auxiliary, 1 p.m., (BAKE, CRAFT, & SOUP SALE)
- 7 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
- 16 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., *tentatively Beachdale Church*
- 18 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 25 - Camp Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
- 28 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

### **DECEMBER 2013**

- 1 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 8 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 15 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 16 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
- 22 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 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!**

## AVAILABLE SPEAKERS LIST

December 2012/January 2013

### 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  
DEFFENBAUGH, BARRON - 207 Churchill St, Johnstown, 15904 - 814 266-9758  
EASH, JOHN E. - 131 Friendship Ln, Hollsopple, 15935-6732 - 814 629-0206  
FORRY, ROGER L. - 341 Lincoln St, Somerset, 15501-1308 - 814 443-2979  
HAY, CHARLES R. - 1127 E Main St, Berlin, 15530-1428 - 814 267-3205  
HIRONIMUS, BERTHA - 142 Bent Tree Hill, Ligonier, 15658-3202 - 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  
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  
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, Grampian, 15666-1959 - 732 319-0099  
RUPERT, JACK - 409 State St, Johnstown, 15905-2642 - 814 255-7793  
SHAFFER, JUDITH A. - PO Box 319, Donegal, 15628-0319 - 724 516-9191  
SHAULIS, M. ERIC - 25 Sixth Ave, Meyersdale, 15552-1444 - 814 634-8740  
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. - 425 Morningside Ave, Jeannette 15644 - 724 522-5260  
WALKER, LARRY E. - 425 Morningside Ave, Jeannette 15644 - 724 522-5260  
WHIPPLE, CHARLES D. - 317 Wyoming St, Greensburg, 15601-3947 - 724 600-6332  
WESTLAKE, ELVA JEAN - 436 Pony Farm Rd, Kittanning, 16201-4639 - 724 548-4901  
WILCHER, JOEL A. - 658 R 13<sup>th</sup> St, Oakmont, 15139-1020 - 412 828-3690  
WILLOUGHBY, CAROLYN S. - 207 Churchill St, Johnstown, 15904 - 814 266-9758

### LICENSED

BAUGHMAN, KAREN L. - 130 Homewood Dr, Butler, 16001-1960 - 724 283-1051  
GREEN, GARY W. - 4589 Somerset Pike, Hollsopple, 15935-8217 - 814 479-5096  
GREW, DOTTIE H. - 509 Sherman St, Meyersdale, 15552-1239 - 814 634-5329  
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  
SHAFFER, ABBY R. - (office) 115 Spring Rd, Hollsopple, 15935-7412 - 814 479-2181  
SHAFFER, DANIEL P. - 135 Holly Path, Windber, 15963 - 814 244-5470  
THOMAS, SCOTT R. - 2996 Carpenters Park Rd, Davidsville, 15928 - 814 288-2094

### LAY SPEAKER

RAMER, DONNA L. - 102 Franklin Dr, Greensburg, 15601-1305 - 724 836-0594

Western Pennsylvania District  
Church of the Brethren  
115 Spring Road  
Hollsopple, PA 15935-7412

**DECEMBER 2012/JANUARY 2013**

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*Christmas Begins with Christ*

*Love was born at Christmas so that we can live with peace and joy all throughout the year. Have a beautiful Christmas and a prosperous New Year!*

*Ron, Suzie, Carole, Abby & Jane*

*"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."  
John 1:1 NIV*



Western Pennsylvania District  
Church of the Brethren  
115 Spring Road  
Hollsopple, PA 15935-7412

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NOVEMBER 2012

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\_\_\_\_\_

# EL HOGAR DE NIÑOS ENMANUEL

San Pedro Sula, Honduras

A Christian Home for homeless, abused, and severely neglected children



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOGAR ENMANUEL...

**Happy Thanksgiving!** Thanksgiving is a North American holiday and is not celebrated in Honduras. However, I can't help thinking about several "Thanksgiving Days" at Hogar de Ninos Emanuel.

It was Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 2002, when Bill and I arrived at the Home with a work team of twelve people to begin what we refer to as the "Roof Project." The main dormitory of the Home, originally constructed in the early 1980's, was built with wooden trusses that had nearly been destroyed by termites and the tin roof was terribly rusted. I remember being inside the kids' rooms during a thunderstorm and realizing that it was raining inside nearly as hard as it was outside. During the following four months, thanks to over 130 volunteers from Western Pennsylvania, the roof was replaced offering a safe and dry home for the children who were living there.



Over the years many American volunteers who have traveled to Honduras certainly introduced the children to our American holiday and its traditions. In 2010, Brethren Volunteer Service volunteer, Lauren Farrell, helped in preparing a full Thanksgiving feast complete with roasted turkey and pumpkin pie for all the children, staff and invited guests to enjoy. They loved it!

Last year, another one of our work teams said their farewells to the kids on Thanksgiving Day. Reflecting on these days made me think about just how much God has blessed this Home. **HE** has provided a safe haven for many hurting children to have the opportunity to learn about Him and even more than that — the kids are now able to pass their blessings unto others in so many ways. This year — we lift our hearts and hands in true thanksgiving for what the Lord has done and is doing in this place.

*From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. John 1:16*

## CHILD-OF-THE-MONTH

### MEET Jesus Enrique



Six year old **Jesus Enrique** says he is happy to be living at Hogar

Emanuel although he loves his biological family very much. He joined the Hogar Emanuel in May 2011 as a sick little guy after he was removed from the streets where he found begging to help support his family. He is a very bright young boy who is now healthy and has just completed his first year of school at Hogar's *Jardin de Enmanuel* (kindergarten) where he says he enjoys learning how to read and write in Spanish class.

He is always trying to help others and is one of the first in line when it comes to welcoming new children into the home. He says that his best friends are Mark and David Pineda and enjoys watching TV shows with super heroes and Nascar; his favorite movie character is Zimba from the Lion King.

On his wish list is a Tonka truck or remote control car.

Please pray for Jesus this month.

# SPONSORSHIP COUPON

Please provide your name and address on the reverse side and mail this coupon with your donation

PROVIDING FOR  
**HOGAR de NINOS ENMANUEL**  
 THROUGH  
**WESTERN PA DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**  
**MISSION PROGRAM - HONDURAS**  
 115 Spring Rd.  
 Hollsopple, PA 15935

If you prefer to receive this newsletter electronically ONLY, please email that request to [hogaremanuel@verizon.net](mailto:hogaremanuel@verizon.net)

**PayPal** and/or sponsorship coupons are also available on the website at [www.hogaremanuel.com](http://www.hogaremanuel.com)

Partnering in the success, I pledge to keep the Enmanuel Children's Home in my prayers as well as offer my financial support. Please use my donation for the following fund:

\$	General Fund—use where needed most	
	Child Sponsorship—providing for the basic needs of the children. If you desire to be assigned to a specific child, contact Rona.	
	Staff Sponsorship—providing for the on-site care of the children.	
	Maintenance & Development—providing for the maintenance and improvement of the facilities	
	Nursery Fund—providing for infant care.	
	Gift Fund—providing for birthday/Christmas gifts	
	New Bridge Program—helping our adolescents prepare for independent living.	
	Special fund _____ (specify)	
\$	TOTAL ENCLOSED	11/12

Clip and mail with your donation

## HOGAR DE NINOS ENMANUEL



CHECK IT OUT!

We're on the web!

[www.hogaremanuel.com](http://www.hogaremanuel.com)

*You are joining to help us when you pray for us.*  
 2 Corinthians 1:11

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Rona Hemminger, editor

Mobile: 540-649-3111

Email:

[hogaremanuel@verizon.net](mailto:hogaremanuel@verizon.net)

## STAR EMPLOYEE



This month we are pleased to introduce another new staff member as we continue to ramp up our preparations to increase the number of children who can be rescued by Hogar de Ninos Emanuel.

**MAGDELENA** lives in a neighborhood not far from the Home so is able to walk to work to share her nights with the intermediate-aged girls. She holds a degree in arts and sciences and feels that being a parent of two beautiful daughters of her own (ages 13 and 16) helps her to better relate to our girls. She says that working with the girls six days a week made it easy for her to

quickly learn to appreciate their individual personalities and become attached to each of them.

Previous to coming here, she worked at a clothing store but feels that helping the children is a very important and fulfilling job for her.

She loves to eat pizza and says that she enjoys TV shows involving law and justice such as *Case Closed*.

Please join us in welcoming Magdalena to our Hogar family and pray for God to lead and guide her as she ministers to the children in her care.

The children living at Hogar de Ninos Emanuel are very thankful and indeed have been blessed by the outpouring of love from all of you. However, there are so many more that are waiting and praying that they, too, will be rescued:

***As you join with your family and friends on this day,  
 Please include the less fortunate in your thoughts as you pray!***

***There are many among us who have no holiday fare,  
 In every corner of the world, there are homeless out there!***

***Perhaps, due to circumstances and through no fault of their own,  
 They now find themselves hungry, destitute and oh so alone!***

***In whatever prayer of thanks you offer; no matter what words you say,  
 Please add this simple verse - help someone else find their way!***

***"Lord, help me to help those who have nothing to celebrate today;  
 To make their lives better, please show me the way!"***

***If you put "self" aside each day for a moment or two,  
 Show compassion for others, you'll be amazed at the good you can do!***

***And, next year when you gather to give thanks once again,  
 You can say...***

***"Thanks for helping me make a difference Lord.....  
 thank you Amen!"***

By Rita

Western Pennsylvania District  
Church of the Brethren  
115 Spring Road  
Hollsopple, PA 15935-7412

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DECEMBER 2012

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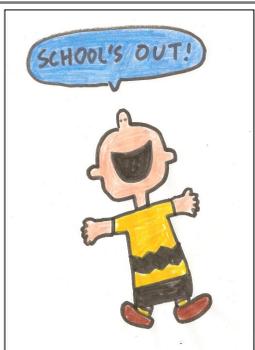
SP# \_\_\_\_\_ Ch# \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOGAR ENMANUEL...



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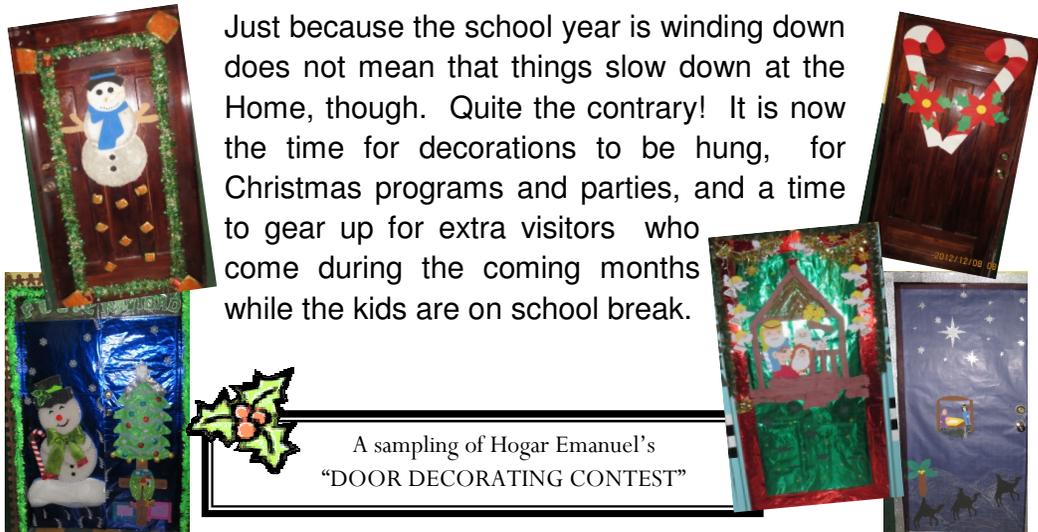
Just like in the United States, those who completed their kindergarten classes will put on their cap and gown and march down the aisle to receive their diplomas. This is an especially exciting time for us as this will be the first year to have a class graduate from **Jardin de Emanuel**.

The next big "graduation" event in Honduras is graduation from the sixth grade. That is because for many of Honduras's poor, it marks the end of their children's academic education. The Honduran government only provides a compulsory education up to the sixth grade. After that, the family is expected to pay tuition as well as cover the expense of all books and school supplies — so many children simply are done with school and start to help supporting their family upon sixth grade graduation. At Hogar Emanuel, nine children will graduate from sixth grade, but next year is a promise of continuing education for them. For Leticia this is a special achievement because she is graduating from ESMIRNA, which is a school for the hearing impaired.

When children arrive at Hogar Emanuel, it often begins a time of catch up for them. This year four of our teens are excited to have completed the huge milestone of graduating from their remedial classes that will now allow them to move forward with their education.

Huge congratulations goes out to two young adults —Joseline Rivera (who many of you met at the benefit banquet at Camp Harmony in September) and Alfredo Nunez. Both of these fine young adults have now graduated from high school! As you can see, "graduation time" is indeed a time of acknowledging how God has provided a special opportunity for the kids who live here.

Just because the school year is winding down does not mean that things slow down at the Home, though. Quite the contrary! It is now the time for decorations to be hung, for Christmas programs and parties, and a time to gear up for extra visitors who come during the coming months while the kids are on school break.



A sampling of Hogar Emanuel's "DOOR DECORATING CONTEST"

EL HOGAR DE NIÑOS ENMANUEL

San Pedro Sula, Honduras

A Christian Home for homeless, abused, and severely neglected children



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\$	General Fund—use where needed most	
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	Maintenance & Development—providing for the maintenance and improvement of the facilities	
	Nursery Fund—providing for infant care.	
	Gift Fund—providing for birthday/Christmas gifts	
	New Bridge Program—helping our adolescents prepare for independent living.	
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\$	TOTAL ENCLOSED	12/12

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 2 Corinthians 1:11

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Rona Hemminger, editor

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Email:

[hogaremanuel@verizon.net](mailto:hogaremanuel@verizon.net)

## Meet BERTHA



Bertha came to Hogar Emanuel when she was six years old with two sisters and a brother. "Shrimps are the best if eaten with garlic sauce", and "Vanilla, a dessert with a vanilla topping is the best dessert ever," she stated when asked about her favorite foods. The twelve-year-old fifth grader's favorite TV show is Lizzie McGuire, she enjoys baseball, and likes to keep herself updated about natural science, her favorite class in school. "Because they have a variety of climate and diversity of

animals is why I would like to be an explorer in Africa when I grow up," Bertha tells us. Her smile is one of the most inspiring things about her, but she likes everything about herself because that is the way God made her. She is very obedient and polite. "Cinthia and Karen Hernandez are my best friends., but I like to play with my brothers. "I give thanks to God for my Hogar Emanuel family that treats me with love and tenderness —that is why I like to help everyone when they need something." Bertha says with an ear-to-ear smile.

Please pray for Bertha and her family this month.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS !!!!!

It's Christmas time and it is always a struggle and a bit frustrating when we WANT to give that special gift, but don't know WHAT to give. For me, I can truly say that it is more blessed to GIVE than RECEIVE. Bill and I have four beautiful grandchildren that we love to shower with gifts, so this year Drake, our ten year old grandson, was asked, "If we would give you money to shop in any store and buy anything you want, what would you buy?" His response floored us! He said, "I don't know! Why can't Christmas be just about the Jesus thing?" I agree with him, but yet there is still something about giving gifts that we all like to do.

This morning I read this excerpt from *Blueprints for Living* by Hayden Wreyford, and it helped me put the "gift-giving thing" in perspective:

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### And So We Give.....

*With examples like these, it is no wonder we give! We are compelled by Christ's example to give generously of our time,*

*our talents, our treasures, and even our very lives. We love others because He first loved us. We give to others because He first gave to us. Sometimes giving a physical gift is just too easy for me. What if what I really need to give this Christmas is something I can't buy? What if what I really need to give away is more of my time by volunteering more? Or what if it's an apology? It's definitely something to pray over. Whatever you give this season, let the generosity of the Christmas story be your inspiration and let Christ be your example."*

It makes sense that the "Jesus thing" is why you have opened your hearts (and yes, your pocketbooks) for the children at Hogar de Ninos Emanuel in hopes of a better life for them.

On behalf of the children, staff, and board of directors — May God bless you and your giving spirit this Christmas season!



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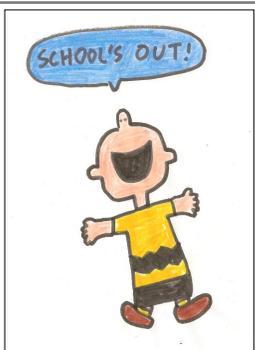
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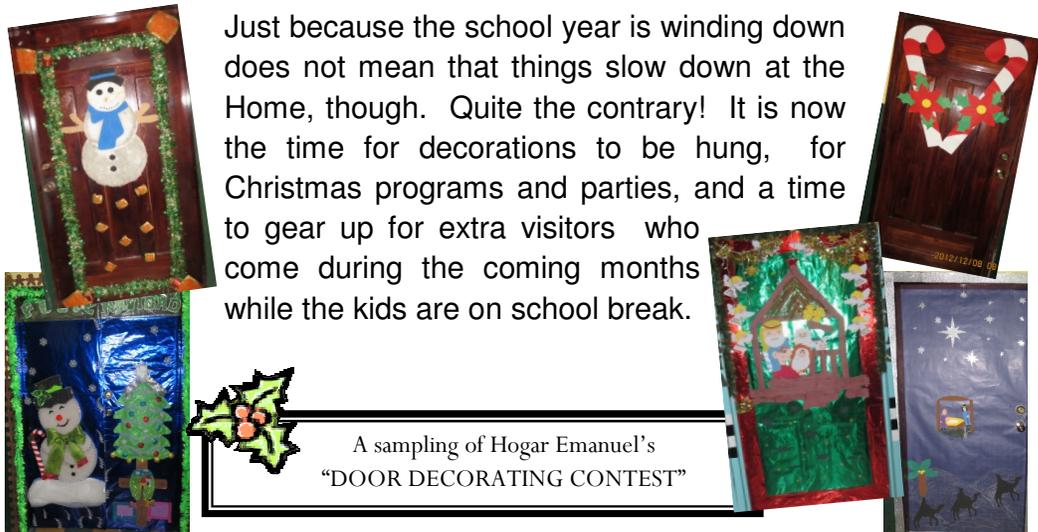
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