

# District Highlights

December 2015/January 2016 Vol. 15 No. 10

## IN ALL THINGS, GIVE THANKS

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Monday ~ Friday  
8:00 a.m. ~ 4:00 p.m.  
Staff meeting each  
Monday, 8:00 a.m.

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

When I began to think of something to share this month several items came to mind. Since this is a combined newsletter I thought about Christmas, that lasted a short time, but the one idea that stood out or lasted the longest was giving **thanks**. How appropriate during the month of November to remember to give **thanks**. I was nudged by the spirit to share a special **thanks** and gratitude for a number of things which have happened in the life of the Western PA District in the past several months.

**Thanks** and appreciation for the response of kits and buckets which were brought to district conference. There is no way to count the number of kits that were put together by congregations. However, the district van was well packed as it journeyed to New Windsor. Again we never know where the kits will end up, but we do know that they are truly appreciated by those who receive them.

A second **thanks** to congregations who responded to the Nigerian Crisis Fund. I know some congregations sent their support directly to the denominational office before District Conference. The offering taken at district conference was close to \$2,300. A decision was made by the Steward & Finance Team to donate 10% of the proceeds from the District Auction to the crisis fund. Approximately \$600.00 will be added to the district conference offering bringing the total close to \$3,000. Also, several congregations continue to give regularly to support the resettlement and care for those in Nigeria who are living in refugee camps. Certainly last year's district conference theme, "Wonderful Grace of Jesus," or this year's theme, "All for the Glory of God," are being lived out within the life of the Western PA District.

I want to commend and say **thanks** to individuals who give time and energy as volunteers in local congregations. Teachers, deacons, church board members; those who serve on committees are all vital links in the local faith community. I want to encourage all of us, which includes volunteers, to be prayer partners in the ministry of our local faith community. We may not be on a board or committee, but we can be involved through our prayers and encouragement. When was the last time you said "**thanks**" to someone for their involvement in the life of your congregation? Make a special effort to send a note of thanks and encouragement to someone serving in your local congregation.

Remember Paul's words in 1 Thessalonians 5:11: "**And now, friends, we ask you to honor those who work so hard for you, who have been given the responsibility of urging and guiding you along in your obedience. Overwhelm them with appreciation and love!**" (The Message)

RDB

## District Office News

### **LEADERSHIP**

#### **John Manges**

- Retired, Morrellville 12/31/15

#### **Don Peters**

- Called as pastor, Center Hill 12/1/15

### **HOSPITALIZED**

- Please pray for **Pastor Kevin Wilkins** as he is currently receiving treatment for cancer

### **SYMPATHY**

- To the family of retired pastor **Owen Preston** as he went to be with the Lord on November 1, 2015
- To the family of Regina Deffenbaugh who went to be with her heavenly father on November 13, 2015. Regina is the mother of pastor **Barron Deffenbaugh**.

### **NEW MEMBERS**

#### **Somerset Congregation**

- Gary Gardner
- Hayley Gardner
- Daniel Gilley
- Stan Supranowicz
- Joyce Gardner
- Angie Supranowicz
- Bradley McCoy
- DeAnn McCoy
- Eric Shaffer

#### **Tire Hill Congregation**

- Andrew and Nicole Moser
- Tristen Hawkins

### **NEW DIRECTORIES COMING SOON!**

The 2016 Western PA District Directory will be sent out some time in March. I will be contacting groups and teams listed in the directory for corrections and updates starting in December. Please make the changes to your groups and send me the most updated information you have. It is very helpful to us here at the District Office as well as everyone else in the District.

Thanks in advance for your help!

Tina

\*\*If you would still like a paper copy or a CD of the 2015 Directory, please contact the District Office at 814 479-2181 or email me at [tlehman@brethren.org](mailto:tlehman@brethren.org).

### **NEED YOUR HELP**

If your congregation will produce a new directory in **2016**, please drop off or send a copy to the District Office, 115 Spring Road, Hollsopple, 15935.

It is very helpful to the District Office staff to have updated information from all the churches we serve.

Thank you!

### **February 2016 Highlights Deadline**

**January 10, 2016**

**Please send all Highlights information to the District Office for this next issue.**



**AbbsTract December '15 / January '16**

I've recently become smitten with a newer BBC show, *Call The Midwife*. It's on Netflix if you're looking for a truly good thing to watch.

Set in the late 1950s and early 1960s, it follows the joys and sorrows of a group of midwives as they deliver the babies of London's poorest families. Every episode has funny bits as well as parts that bring tears. Through this show, I've realized something about newborns: They are the most incompetent, yet powerful creatures on earth.

A newborn baby is weak, helpless and very small. Everything must be done for him. She cannot even hold up her own head. He must be fed, bathed, dressed, changed – everything is new to him, and many things frighten him. She is susceptible to every conceivable danger.

Yet consider the tremendous power that one of these infants wields: He can draw a crowd, just by his presence. She can bend a grown man to her will with a single whimper. He convinced his mother to quit smoking months ago. She can rearrange the daily schedule of everyone involved. He was responsible for the home remodel. She already has a bank account.



Think about the impact of a certain baby in your own life. The things you gave up for him. The things you did for her.

When Jesus was born, many Jews had trouble accepting that their King would be born of a woman; a peasant woman, no less. I think they looked for the Christ to arrive at His first coming in the way we are told He will arrive at His second coming – with mighty steeds and thunderclouds and trumpet fanfare and POWER.

It was impossible for many to accept that a newborn in a feed trough could be their promised Redeemer. Many thought the infant Jesus was a weak substitute for a glorious Savior.



I must say it irks me that we often only sing the first verse of Christmas hymns.

They're familiar and festive, but often the good stuff, the meat of the message, comes later in the song.

*Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings  
Ris'n with healing in His wings  
Mild He lays His glory by  
Born that man no more may die  
Born to raise the sons of earth  
Born to give them second birth  
Hark! The herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

Whom do you worship this Christmas season? Has your Jesus grown out of the manger and into His ministry? Has He suffered for you, died for you, risen for you? Has Jesus moved from little bumpkin baby to victorious, mighty God?

*Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,  
Let all within us praise His holy name.  
Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever,  
His power and glory ever more proclaim!  
His power and glory ever more proclaim!*

Blessings,





## Local Church/District News



The following pastors were recognized at this year's District Conference for their many years of faithful service in ministry.

James D'Amico	71 years
Owen Preston	59 years
Dale Rummel	59 years
Isaac Baldeo	55 years
Roger Forry	55 years
John Gomola	55 years
A. Harrison Smith	55 years
Daniel Whitacre	55 years
Gerald Deffenbaugh	52 years
John Manges	52 years
John Eash	51 years
Donald Lester	51 years
Peter Kaltenbaugh	48 years
Charles Whipple	47 years
Phillip King	44 years
Ronald Beachley	43 years
Kevin Wilkens	41 years
Vince Cable	40 years
Earl Crissman	40 years
Carl Baughman	39 years
Clifford Ott	39 years
Henry Landis	37 years
Farrel Abraham	36 years
Ronald St. Clair	36 years
Kenneth Davis	35 years
Wes Berkebille	35 years
William Wenger	35 years
Jay Christner	34 years
Wilbur Hosler	34 years
Brian Simmons	34 years
Eric Fether	32 years
Carolyn Willoughby Deffenbaugh	32 years
Ed Moore	32 years
Guy Myers	32 years
Sandra Peterman	31 years

Thank you and God Bless you!

### From the District Library...

Christmas is coming! As I get older, every Christmas season arrives earlier, with more retail hype than the year before. As a minister, I find it difficult to have anything new to say about the miracle of Christmas. What new insights are there to have after all this time?



There's a beautiful little book we have in the District Library called **The 12 Ways of Christmas**, by David Jeremiah. It's a full-color read that explores twelve spiritual facets of the season: wonder, sacrifice, humility, charity, creativity, simplicity, affection, reflection, giving, children, music and tradition. Just reading the list is comforting!

Stop in and give it a look – or check out another great selection. We are always getting new and new-to-us titles, so take some time and come check them out. You can even stick around and enjoy a quiet place to read or study. Hope to see you soon!

Our thanks to Mark and Ashley Murchie, who serve 3 churches in Windber, for their recent donation of sixteen books. They read them at Grove City College; you can read them in your favorite chair. Here's the list:

### Hard Sayings of the Bible

{Kaiser, Davids, Bruce, Brauch}

### The Person of Christ

{MacLeod}

### The Work of Christ

{Letham}

### The Shape of Sola Scriptura

{Mathison}

### Studying the Historical Jesus

{Bock}

### Martin Luther: Selections From His Writings

{Luther, Dillenberger}

### Luther And His World

{Tomlin}

### A Reformation Debate: Calvin/Sadoletto

{Baker}

### Jesus Under Fire

{Wilkins, Moreland}

### The Jesus I Never Knew

{Yancey}

### Christian Spirituality

{Alexander}

### God's Lesser Glory

{Ware}

### Paul, Women & Wives

{Keener}

### Encountering Religious Pluralism

{Netland}

### 20<sup>th</sup> Century Theology

{Grenz, Olson}

### The Epistle to the Hebrews

{Bruce}

## Local Church/District News



Brethren Disaster Ministries needs your help. If you are interested in being a part of future mission trips please contact Herb Ewald for more information at 814-539-8530

or [hjewald@atlanticbb.net](mailto:hjewald@atlanticbb.net)

Other than the day trips to New Windsor all week long trips will be announced as the information becomes available.

**THANK YOU**

**Week Trips**  
**Dec. 6-12, 2015**

### **Events at the Penn Run Christian Outreach Center**

(located directly across the street from the  
Penn Run Church of the Brethren)

**PA Dutch Buffet** - Saturday, December 5, 2015  
from 4 pm - 7 pm

### **THE STORY OF THE CANDY CANE** - ANONYMOUS

LOOK AT THE CANDY CANE, WHAT DO YOU SEE?  
STRIPEs THAT ARE RED, LIKE THE BLOOD CHRIST  
SHED FOR ME.

WHITE IS FOR GOD'S SON, SINLESS AND PURE.  
THE "J" IS FOR JESUS, MY SAVIOR, THAT'S FOR  
SURE!

TURN IT AROUND AND  
A STAFF YOU WILL SEE -  
JESUS, MY GOOD  
SHEPHERD, WHO  
CARES FOR ME!



## Special Thanks!!!!

**A special thanks to all who supported the District Auction that was held at Camp Harmony on November 7, with their prayers, donations and purchases. Another special thanks to all the volunteers who helped in any way before and on the day of the auction. We pray God's richest blessings on each one who helped to make this day a success.**

The total receipts received from the District Auction were \$10,073.00. After expenses, we honored our commitment to send 10 percent of our profit to the Nigerian Crisis Fund which amounted to \$600.00. That provides \$5,410.40 available 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 \$1,569.50. Pleasant Hill took second place raising \$1,192.50.

Camp again provided us with a delicious breakfast and lunch. \$800.00 was raised for camp. **A special thanks to everyone at Camp Harmony for their hospitality in all areas as we prepared for the auction.**

## District News

## *Getting to Know You...* District Staff

**Joy Derck** - Current Chair, Spiritual Formation Team

### **How long have you worked in the District and how did you become a part of the District staff?**

I moved into the Western PA District after my husband, Randy, was called to be a pastor at Plumcreek Church of the Brethren. I went through the gifts discernment process and was asked to fill in a vacant spot on the Spiritual Formation Team in 2010 or 2011. I am currently completing my second three-year term.

### **What types of projects do you work on or with?**

I have had the privilege to work with a great group of people on the Spiritual Formation Team. My current team members are Tammy Hoover, Myrna Baer, and Amelia Derr. We have tried to encourage churches to call out prayer intercessors to pray for revival in our churches and in our country. (II Chronicles 7:14 If my people...) It has been exciting to see the Lord bring more unity and collaboration on the leadership team as Bill Wenger has also felt called to bring each sub-district together for concerts of prayer. (Our sub-district had a powerful time of prayer at Plumcreek on September 27. We may have been few in number, but the Lord was present!)

In addition to promoting prayer, the team has also been working on publishing a book of God Stories, written by Brethren in western PA. We have enjoyed reading about the ways that God has been working in so many lives in our district. We also thank God for our new editor, Abby Shaffer, who has the gifts needed to complete this project.

Another responsibility is finding and promoting resources that can be borrowed from the district office. There are numerous DVD Bible studies and books on a variety of topics. Please come and check out what you need and let Abby or me know if there is something you would like us to order. You might also want to donate a study that you have done that others may find valuable. We want to serve you and desire to do what we can to draw those in your church or community closer to Christ.

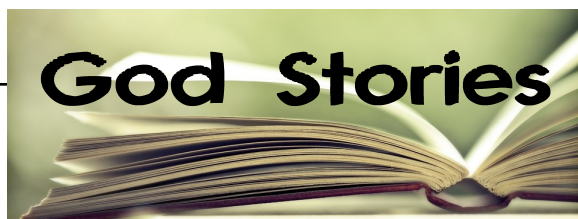
The Spiritual Formation Team is also responsible to enlist others to plan the Brethren Heritage Festival. Although attendance was down this year, the fellowship was great and \$3,000 was raised for Camp Harmony and \$3,000 for the Nigerian Crisis Fund. A huge "Thank You!" to every church and individual who participated. We are looking for new ideas from positive people who would like to join us in planning next year's Festival. Please call me at 724-354-3386 if you are interested. We promise you will have good food and fellowship at our next meeting.

Another collaboration that our team is working on is with the Research and Development Team. Together we are planning a retreat for pastors at Camp Harmony on May 6 and 7. More details will be coming.

### **Anything else you want to share about yourself?**

I love Jesus and others and my desire is to see Jesus' prayer for unity, as recorded in John 17, realized in our district. This is happening – not only on the leadership team, but also on the Brethren Heritage Festival Committee, and, as was noted by our church's delegate to conference, at district conference. The more God's Spirit loves through us, the more people will be drawn to Jesus.

## District News



### **Request for Information...**

Hi everyone – we’re now working steadily to fulfill our dream of publishing a real book full of submitted testimonies. Yes – thank you to all who sent in their “God Stories” – we now have an editor and a publisher and this is happening!

We do, however, have two stories by the same author that are unsigned – we would very much like to have a name to add. We’re looking for someone who rolled her vehicle and survived; her two younger sons are Scott and Dennis, and they have two older siblings; Dennis served as an Army MP early on in the Iraq War. If that sounds familiar, please call or email me today!

Others have submitted stories that are quite short – if someone contacts you about adding more to them, please help us out. We don’t want to put words in your mouth, but we don’t want to publish a lot of blank space, either!

Also, if you have an un-submitted story of God’s power/faithfulness/general awesomeness that you would like to share, send it in. This is absolute last call – we’d like to have these books in your hands at District Conference next year.

Thanks to all who have supported this project – please keep the ongoing work in your prayers this winter!

-- Abby Shaffer

*[wpadistrictyouth@gmail.com](mailto:wpadistrictyouth@gmail.com)*

(on behalf of the Spiritual Formation Team)



## District/Denominational News

go to [www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org) and [www.westernpacob.org](http://www.westernpacob.org) for the most complete and up to date news from the W. PA District

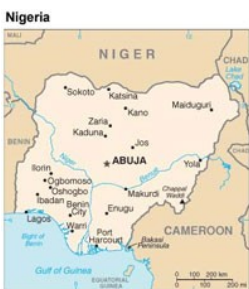
### From the Annual Conference Office...

There will be a change starting this coming year for congregations registering delegates for Annual Conference.

Both **delegate** and **non-delegate** registrations will open on the same day, **Wednesday, February 17, 2016.**

There will be no "early" delegate registration beginning in January as in the past. A letter with more registration details and information will be sent directly to all congregations in December. Anyone with questions can contact the Conference Office by calling 800-323-8039, ext. 365.

Or email at [annualconference@brethren.org](mailto:annualconference@brethren.org).



### Please continue to pray for the situation in Nigeria.

Remember them daily as we all pray for peace to come to that devastated region. Visit **[www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org)** for more information.

### Job Openings

If you are interested in job opportunities through the Church of the Brethren, open positions can be found at <http://www.brethren.org/about/employment.html>



## Brethren are called to prayer in the face of extremist violence

Church of the Brethren Newsline November 14, 2015

*"Even though I walk through the darkest valley..."*

Psalm 23:4

As the world begins to comprehend the magnitude of the terror attacks in Paris, Church of the Brethren general secretary Stan Noffsinger is calling the church to prayer for those affected by extremist violence in Paris, and around the world.

Brethren are encouraged to bring into the sphere of prayer all people affected by violence--those hurt and killed in the terrorist attacks in Paris and the bombings that occurred in Beirut, Lebanon; communities in northeast Nigeria that are still suffering from violence; the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and those affected by continuing fighting in South Sudan and Darfur; the people of Syria and Iraq and Afghanistan who have suffered years of war; those caught up in an escalating situation in Israel and Palestine; the people hurt and killed by gun violence in the US; the children fleeing gang and drug-related violence in Central America; and other places around the world where violence seems to prevail.

"The grief grips at our hearts, but I am reminded by the Nigerian church's witness--in the midst of violence they also took the time to pray for those who perpetrated the violence, for the light of Christ to remove the veil of darkness from the minds of Boko Haram," said Noffsinger. "So today, while my prayers remember Parisians and the French people, I also pray that the light of Christ remove the veil of darkness which clouds the minds of terrorists, and those of us who are citizens in countries that may have acted in unjust ways. God, may the light of Christ illuminate the path to justice and peace."

Noffsinger serves on the World Council of Churches (WCC) Central Committee and has been in conversation by e-mail with members of the WCC Executive Committee as they prepared the following statement. (Next page) The WCC Executive Committee is currently meeting in Switzerland. Their statement is recommended as guidance for prayer, and as inspiration for considering how Christians and the church may best respond to extremist violence,

See next page



## 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



### Statement on terrorist attacks in Paris

**A statement of the World Council of Churches Executive Committee, meeting in Bossey, Switzerland, Nov. 13-18, 2015:**

*"God has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8).*

On Friday 13 November, the people of Paris again confronted terror, violence and death, following attacks that left more than 120 people dead and hundreds more injured. Today our hearts and minds are with the victims, their families and friends, with all those who mourn, and with all the people of France. We are with them in deep compassion and prayer. We pray that they may be comforted, by the love and care they have received from those who have now brutally been taken away, and by the support and solidarity of others, of their families and of their neighbors--whoever or wherever they may be.

The people of Lebanon faced the same violence and sorrow a few days ago, adding to the tragically long list of countries and people affected by such attacks.

Together as one humanity, as people of every faith and none, we should show that our shared respect for human life and dignity is stronger than this evil act of terror, this perversion of religion. As representatives of churches from across the whole world, we the executive committee of the World Council of Churches meeting at this time in Bogis-Bossey, Switzerland, pray and trust that God, the creator and the source of all life, will comfort, console and protect those affected by these attacks and all those who suffer and fear. We hope and pray that they will receive and be assured by these signs that they are not alone.

In the face of this brutality, the human family, all people of faith and of good will, must stand together to recommit to respecting and caring for one another, to protecting one another, and to preventing such violence. We cannot and do not accept that such a terrorist atrocity can ever be justified in the name of God or of any religion. Violence in the name of religion is violence against religion. We condemn, reject and denounce it. Let us confront it by holding firm to and upholding the democratic, intercultural and human rights values that this terrorism seeks to attack. Let us not allow these events to diminish our care and hospitality to those fleeing violence and oppression. Let us continue to strive to do what we know is required of us: to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God on the way of justice and peace.

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give  
unto you: not as the world giveth,  
give I unto you. Let not your heart  
be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

John 14:27

## 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

## Global Mission Updates



### Haiti

Pray for God's blessings upon Emily Davis as she completes two years of Brethren Volunteer Service (BVS) work with Midwives for Haiti. Pray for traveling mercies as she returns home and for guidance and energy as she transitions to further education or continued social justice work. Pray for the ongoing work of Midwives for Haiti, which provides pre- and post-natal care and trains birth attendants to help fill a severe gap in maternal health care in Haiti. Pray that Midwives will find a new volunteer to serve through BVS — [more information](#) is available for those feeling God's call to serve the mothers of Haiti.

### Dominican Republic

Pray for the National Board, Executive Committee, and other leadership of Iglesia de los Hermanos, the Church of the Brethren in the Dominican Republic, as they continue guiding the church through changes and new directions. Church leader Daniel Bueno requests special prayer for the elderly pastors of the denomination.

### United States

Pray for the Children's Disaster Services (CDS) training workshop for child life specialists, professionals who specialize in working with children who have been impacted by direct trauma. Pray for meaningful connections with and for the 60 participants as they become equipped to bring their skills and expertise to CDS responses.

### Nigeria

Praise God for Zakariya Musa's successful completion of a bachelor's degree in Mass Communication from the University of Maiduguri. Musa serves with Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN, the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria) as editor of *Sabon Haske*, EYN's news publication. He persevered to complete his degree despite the many trials he faced, including death of family members and displacement, from Boko Haram violence. More of Musa's story can be read [here](#).

\*To connect with Nigerian sisters and brothers in daily prayer, follow the [EYN devotional guide](#).



EYN Staff Member Zakariya Musa.  
Photo by Janet Crago

## AVAILABLE SPEAKERS LIST

January 2016

### ORDAINED

ABRAHAM, FARREL – 4315 Seton Dr, Pittsburgh, 15227-1245 – 412-979-0067  
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  
BERKEBILE, WES J. – 4285 State Route 208, New Wilmington, 16142 – 724-901-7058  
BROADWATER, KEVIN L. - 475 Keystone St, Meyersdale, 15552-6943 - 814 442-5684  
CABLE, VINCENT E. – 344 Hopwood-Fairchance Rd, Uniontown, 15401 – 724-438-4254  
CHRISTNER, JAY L. – 313 N. Edgewood Ave, Somerset, 15501-1355 – 814-445-4223  
DEFFENBAUGH, BARRON K. - 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  
GREW, DOTTIE H. - 509 Sherman St, Meyersdale, 15552-1239 - 814 634-5329  
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  
KABLER, ERIC P. - 126 Clermont St, Johnstown 15904-2132 - 814 266-2734  
KENSINGER, JAMES M. - 329 Spackman St, Seward, 15954-3117 - 814 446-1088  
LONGWELL, ERIC M. - 240 Plumcreek Rd, Shelocta, 15774 - 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  
MOORE, EDWIN E., JR. - 107 Sabra Court, Uniontown, 15401-9729 - 724 970-2505  
PETERMAN, SANDRA M. - 110 Windy Ridge Ln, Apt 3, Shelocta, 15774 - 724 599-2145  
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 - 814 322-7786 New Day – 814 535-8202  
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 - 506 Sciandro Dr, Greensburg, 15601 - 724 837-4491  
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  
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  
WILLOUGHBY, CAROLYN S. - 207 Churchill St, Johnstown, 15904 - 814 266-9758

### LICENSED

DERCK, JOY E. - 3089 Dutch Run Rd, Shelocta, 15774-2224 - 724 354-3386  
DERMER, JOANN - 3062 Hyndman Rd, Hyndman, 15545 - 814 842-6489  
HILER, GARY W. - 228 Baltzer Bridge Rd, Friedens, 15541-6320 - 814 267-6722  
ISHMAN, DANIEL R. - 116 Todd Rd, Freeport, 16229 - 724 525-2901  
MARSZALEK, CHERYL A. - 409 Herman Ave, Wilmerding, 15148-1206 - 412 551-6422  
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  
YOST, ERIC W. – 1009 First Street, Windber, PA 15963 – 814-467-0882

### LAY SPEAKER

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

Please join us as we learn and grow in our understanding of the Savior and the joy he brings to our journey!

Event:

Place:

Date:

Time:

For more information:

A mailing will be sent to all the churches in coming months with more information.

# Woman of God<sup>®</sup>

*Joy in the Journey*

Therefore  
my heart  
is glad . . .  
*Psalm 16:9*



## **BRETHREN HOME COMMUNITY WINDBER**

**DECEMBER, 2015  
JANUARY, 2016**



**HOME AUXILIARY REPORT:** *The Home Auxiliary met on November 7 in the basement chapel. Pastor Lohr of the Sipesville congregation led the group in devotions. The following purchases were approved: 2 lift slings for \$229; 4 fall mats for \$500; 2 digital recorders for \$151; a set of condiment holders for \$37.50; a set of cracker baskets for \$87; a vital sign recorder for \$550; and sewing room shears for \$50. When this amount is added to the year's previous purchases, the Auxiliary has donated over \$12,000 to the mission of the Home in 2015. The staff, residents, and administration all wish to express their appreciation for the wonderful additions the Auxiliary has been able to make to supplement the Home's budget. Even more importantly, the countless volunteer hours our Auxiliary gives throughout the year make our Home more homelike for all of us!*

**OCTOBER RUMMAGE SALE:** *Chris Knepper and her volunteer crew held another successful rummage sale in the basement chapel on October 22, 23, & 24. Thanks to everyone who was able to make donations to the sale that earned just over \$2,100. The next sale is scheduled for February. Donations for the sales may be dropped off at the Home weekdays between 7AM and 3PM.*

**WE RUN, WE WALK, WE LOVE:** *A run for fun was organized by Home staff members and Sodexo Senior Dietary Services in memory of our dear friend and former dietary director Lynette Orozco. The run was held on November 7 at Windber Recreation Park, with both adult and children's races. Participants in the childrens' race received medals, the approximately 60 entrants in the adult race and Lynette's family were rewarded with steh opportunity to share memories of Lynette's special life. The approximately \$1,000 in profits from the event was donated to an educational fund for Lynette's grandson, Gavin. Over 400 pounds of food was donated by the Home staff and race participants for the food pantry at the Walnut Grove Church of the Brethren. The staff hopes to make the fun run an annual event.*



**BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH:** The Home staff became involved with the fight against breast cancer again this October. Throughout the month a number of events were held to help raise funds to benefit the Joyce Murtha Breast Care Center. Bracelets and cookies were sold, and dress-down days were organized, all leading to a check of \$400 delivered to the Breast Care Center. Many of our staff members and residents have been touched by this disease, and were proud to take part in the effort to find a cure.

**A SPECIAL REQUEST:** The Home Housekeeping department is seeking quilts or haps for the winter season. Although the Home thermostat is kept at a toasty temperature, many of our residents frequently feel chilled. This is especially true for those who have limited mobility. If an individual or church has quilts or haps available, please contact Pam Harkcom at 467-5505. Thanks in advance for your help!

**HARVEST HOME IN ACTION:** The last of the donations from the Harvest Home 2014 campaign are being used to help refurbish the Home lobby. New wall paper, paint, lighting fixtures, and hand rails are being installed to make the area more inviting for our residents and their guests. New carpeting will be installed after the other projects have been completed. The maintenance department hopes to have the work completed in time for the annual Christmas Open House. Thanks to the many churches that have made donations to both the 2014 and 2015 Harvest Home campaigns.



*Give gifts that support the work of  
our Home Auxiliary this Christmas!  
Eat 'N Park Coupons and Sheetz Coupon Books  
are available at the Home office weekdays from  
8 AM - 4 PM, at only \$10 each.  
The purchaser receives the full purchase value of the coupon  
and the Auxiliary profits from each coupon sold!*



# CAMP HARMONY

A ministry of the Church of the Brethren  
1414 Plank Road, P O Box 158  
Hooversville, PA 15936-0158  
E-mail: [harmony@campharmony.org](mailto:harmony@campharmony.org)  
<http://www.campharmony.org>  
(814) 798-5885 FAX: (814) 798-2225

*"Inviting all people to experience the wonder of  
creation, and find harmony with God, with nature, and  
with one another"*

**"The Church of the Brethren should be absolutely fearless, absurdly happy, and always getting into trouble for Jesus." Quote from Dan West...**

## **FUTURE EVENTS – Call Camp for Information**

**December 12 – Children's Christmas Party**

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM (See flyer) Featuring Snapology from Pittsburgh.

Come and bring a friend.

5/6/7 year olds will make a Lego snowflake, build a Lego sled and race it down the Snapology race track. They will also build a turntable to make a spin art creation.

8/9/10 year olds will build a Christmas scene and accessories. Then using this scene they will make an animated Christmas card using computers and cameras.

Children's Winter Retreat – January 29 – 31 – See Brochure

Jr/Sr High Winter Retreat – February 12-14 - See Brochure

Spring Fling Couples Dinner – March 19

Spring Scrapbook Retreat – April 8-9

Craft and Flea Market – April 22-23

Sportsman Show – April 29-30

\* \* \* \* \*

## **CRAFT SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR 2016**

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| -old dryer hose                             | -chestnuts                            |
| -pillow stuffing                            | -new fabric paint                     |
| -chalk board paint                          | -stapler                              |
| -new sharpie markers                        | -medium round pine cones              |
| -small plastic bathroom cups                | -acrylic paint-basic colors (new)     |
| -glue sticks for mini glue gun              | -Aleene's & Elmers tacky glue (new)   |
| -small flocked birds, animals & butterflies | -lightweight miniature objects & toys |
| -masking tape                               | -dried moss                           |
| -gutter guard                               | -duct tape                            |
| -large google eyes                          | -acorns & acorn caps                  |
| -winter gloves                              | -jigsaw puzzles                       |



## CAMP HARMONY

A ministry of the Church of the Brethren  
1414 Plank Road, P O Box 158  
Hooversville, PA 15936-0158I

E-mail: [harmony@campharmony.org](mailto:harmony@campharmony.org)

<http://www.campharmony.org>

(814) 798-5885 FAX: (814) 798-2225

*"Inviting all people to experience the wonder of  
creation, and find harmony with God, with nature, and  
with one another"*

**"The Church of the Brethren should be absolutely fearless, absurdly happy, and  
always getting into trouble for Jesus" Quote from Dan West.....**

### **Job Openings – For more information contact the office.**

Part Time Cook

Part Time Kitchen Assistant

Part Maintenance

Part Time Facilitator for the Ropes Course

To apply for any of these positions, send in an application, resume, and a letter of  
reference from someone other than family.

### **2015 "52 GOD BLESS YOU TEAM"**

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. Join the 2015 team. The original premise was that if all  
the families in the District contributed \$52, the mortgage could be eliminated.....At this  
time 50 families or congregations have already joined in 2015 for \$3,100 . Thank you for  
your support.

*If you want to touch the past, touch a rock. If you want to touch the present, touch a flower.  
If you want to touch the future, touch a life.*

### **Keep on the look out for a used truck for Camp.....**

\*Stay tuned for more information about a new Bible study called "Run for God", to begin  
in February, which will connect with Camp's Run the Plank.

\* \* \* \* \*

A special thank you is extended to all the congregations who give special offerings to  
Camp. This month let's highlight Pleasant Hill Church of the Brethren. They liked our  
Swiss Steak so much (served at the Honduras banquet) that they decided to have a Swiss  
Steak dinner for their area benefitting Camp. Camp made the steak and catered it to the  
church where two hundred people took part. They then were able to give \$1600 back to  
Camp. Keep in mind that the Camp staff is more than willing to help with your  
endeavors. When everyone works together the job is easier. Thank You.....



# 2 YOUTH WEEKENDS!

CHILDREN'S RETREAT - GRADES 3-5

JANUARY 29-31



JR. & SR. HIGH - GRADES 6-12

FEBRUARY 12-14



CAMP HARMONY  
P.O. Box 158  
1414 PLANK ROAD  
HOOVERVILLE, PA 15936

LIKE US ON



CAMP HARMONY  
WINTER  
RETREATS



2016

2 YOUTH WEEKENDS!

CAMP HARMONY.ORG  
814.798.5885



# WINTER REGISTRATION FORM

CAMPER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

GENDER: \_\_M\_\_F BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_ CURRENT GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN(S) NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

IS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME @ CAMP HARMONY? \_\_\_Yes\_\_\_No

## WHICH RETREAT ARE YOU REGISTERING FOR?

CHILDREN'S (GRADES 3-5)

JR & SR HIGH (GRADES 6-12)

☐ JANUARY 29-31

☐ FEBRUARY 12-14

PLEASE COMPLETE IF YOUR CHURCH IS PAYING A PORTION OF THE FEE:

CHURCH NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

THE CHURCH WILL BE PAYING \$\_\_\_\_\_ OF THE REGISTRATION FEE.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE (REQUIRED; PASTOR OR CAMP REP)

IN SIGNING THIS APPLICATION, I GRANT PERMISSION FOR MY CHILD TO ATTEND CAMP HARMONY AND FOR CAMP HARMONY TO USE IMAGES (PHOTO, VIDEO, ETC) OF MY CHILD AND MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY IN CAMP PUBLICITY (PRINT ADS, INTERNET INCLUDING SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES, ETC.). I WAIVE THE RIGHT TO INSPECT OR APPROVE IMAGES FOR SUCH PURPOSES. I ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT, BY THEIR VERY NATURE, OUTDOOR AND CAMPING ACTIVITIES INVOLVE SOME RISK OF INJURY. I UNDERSTAND ALSO, THAT ALTHOUGH THE CAMP HAS TAKEN PRECAUTIONS TO PROVIDE PROPER SUPERVISION, INSTRUCTION, TRAINING, AND EQUIPMENT FOR EACH ACTIVITY, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE CAMP TO GUARANTEE ABSOLUTE SAFETY. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT PARTICIPATION IN THESE ACTIVITIES IS VOLUNTARY AND WAIVE ANY CLAIM THAT MAY ARISE AGAINST THE CAMP AND/OR EMPLOYEES AS A RESULT OF PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM, EXCEPT FOR THOSE THAT ARE A DIRECT RESULT OF GROSS NEGLIGENCE OF THE CAMP OR ITS EMPLOYEES.

# ABOUT THE WEEKEND RETREATS

IF YOU CAN'T WAIT UNTIL NEXT SUMMER TO COME BACK TO CAMP, THIS IS THE RETREAT FOR YOU! DURING OUR WINTER RETREATS AT CAMP HARMONY, WE DO MANY OF OUR FAVORITE ACTIVITIES FROM SUMMER INCLUDING CRAFTS, WORSHIP, GAMES AND BIBLE LESSONS. PLUS WE'LL GET TO GO SLEDDING AND PLAY IN THE SNOW! EACH WEEKEND IS DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH IN CHRIST AND GROW IN YOUR WALK WITH HIM. WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU AT CAMP HARMONY!



**REGISTRATION:** FRIDAY EVENING 7-8 PM

**PICK UP:** SUNDAY AFTERNOON 2 PM

**COST:** \$100 PER CAMPER

## HOW TO REGISTER

MAIL YOUR COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM (ONE PER CAMPER) AND A \$25 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT TO:



CAMP HARMONY WINTER RETREATS  
P.O. Box 158  
1414 PLANK ROAD  
HOOVERVILLE, PA 15936



PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE BY CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT CARD. WE RECOMMEND FULL PREPAYMENT TO REDUCE TIME IN REGISTRATION LINE. REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED LESS THAN ONE WEEK FROM BEGINNING OF RETREAT DATE WILL BE CHARGED A \$15 LATE FEE.

## THINGS TO BRING

BEDDING, MONEY FOR STORE & OFFERING, TOWEL & TOILETRIES  
SEASONAL CLOTHING INCLUDING EXTRA SHOES AND SOCKS, BIBLE  
ALL OF YOUR FRIENDS!!!!

HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED MORE INFORMATION?

814.798.5885

PROGRAM@CAMPHARMONY.ORG



the WPA district and camp harmony present:

THE 2015

# CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS

# PARTY!

Saturday, December 12

FROM 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

@ CAMP HARMONY

AGE 5 TO 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

ONLY \$10 PER CHILD!

(Sibling discount available)

PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE;  
PAYMENT IS DUE AT ARRIVAL.

QUESTIONS? WPADISTRICTYOUTH@GMAIL.COM

FEATURING:  
LEGO FUN WITH  
SNAPOLOGY!

# CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY registration / info / health form

\*\*\*\*\*

Participant's Information:

Circle: Male / Female

LAST: \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_

PREFERRED NAME/NICKNAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

PRIMARY GUARDIAN(S): \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

ALLERGIES/MEDICAL CONDITIONS/PRESCRIPTIONS/DIETARY: \_\_\_\_\_

In case of emergency, I give permission for my child to be taken to the nearest hospital, and I understand that every attempt to contact me immediately will be made. I also understand that I may be contacted and asked to make arrangements to pick him/her up from the event. In the event of illness or injury, I will not hold legally responsible the Western PA District of the Church of the Brethren, nor its staff/volunteers. I also give permission for photos/videos of my child to be taken/used during this event and for future publicity.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

X-----

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND SENT IN BY DECEMBER 4, 2015!

Please mail to:  
WPA DISTRICT OFFICE  
115 SPRING RD  
HOLLSOPPLE, PA 15935

OR FAX to:  
WPA DISTRICT OFFICE  
814.479.2506

OR e-mail to:  
ABBY SHAFFER  
WPADISTRICTYOUTH@GMAIL.COM



# PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR REPORTS

Thanks very much for keeping the reports coming in! 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. Please be sure to review the material provided on Form B and make updates as they are needed. **Complete addresses and phone numbers are appreciated**, as well as email addresses, if they are available. The **Additional Officers**

**Form** for 2016 will be sent from the District Office soon.

In addition, the **Congregational Outreach Form** for 2015/2016 has been sent from the COB Stewardship Office and is due by December 1, 2015. 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](http://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!

Church Code	Church Name	Form A	Form B	2014 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	Fair View					
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	2014 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					

# 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

## DECEMBER 2015

- 6 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 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!

# 2016 District Events and Meetings

This calendar will be updated as we receive dates from your groups, please send your important dates to the District Office ASAP to insure they will be on the District Calendar. Thank you.

## 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 2016

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

## FEBRUARY 2016

- 10 - ASH WEDNESDAY
- 11 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
- 14 - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
- 15 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
- 18 - ASH WEDNESDAY
- 20 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., TBA
- 21 - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
- 22 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
- 28 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

## MARCH 2016

- 4 - WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
- 6 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
- 6 - ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
- 13 - **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS (Turn clocks *AHEAD* one hour)**
- 13 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
- 20 - PALM SUNDAY
- 21 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 24 - MAUNDY THURSDAY
- 25 - GOOD FRIDAY
- 27 - ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!
- 28 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.



### **APRIL 2016**

- 4 - SVMC Continuing Education class
- 14 - DWM Spring Brunch
- 18 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
- 22 - Earth Day
- 25 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
- 27 - SVMC Continuing Education class

### **MAY 2016**

- 1 - *NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY*
- 5 - NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
- 5 - ASCENSION DAY
- 6-7 - Holy Spirit Conference, Camp Harmony
- 6-7 - District Women's Ministries Spring Event, Antiochian Village
- 8 - HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
- 12 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
- 15 - HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHURCH! (Pentecost Sunday)
- 15 - SVMC Continuing Education class
- 21 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., Uniontown Church
- 23 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 30 - MEMORIAL DAY
- 30 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.

### **JUNE 2016**

- 5 - Annual Conference Briefing, location to be announced
- 9 - DWM, Camp Day @ Camp Harmony
- 13 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
- 19 - HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!
- 20 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
- 29 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE (begins), Greensboro, North Carolina

### **JULY 2016**

- 3 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE (concludes), Greensboro, North Carolina
- 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY
- 18 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 21 - Core Leadership Team 6 p.m., - Beachley Residence (District Conference Business)
- 25 - SVMC Continuing Education class
- 25 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.
- 29 - District Leadership Team, 6 p.m., Arbutus Church (District Conference Business)

### **AUGUST 2016**

- 15 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
- 20 - DWM, Women's Tea
- 22 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.

### **SEPTEMBER 2016**

- 1 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
- 5 - LABOR DAY
- 10 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., TBA
- 10 - SVMC Continuing Education class
- 17 - BRETHREN HERITAGE FESTIVAL
- 19 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 21 - DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE
- 26 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.

### **OCTOBER 2016**

- 2 - WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
- 6 - DWM, Home Day, Brethren Home Community Windber
- 15 - District Conference, 9 a.m., Camp Harmony
- 17 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
- 24 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.

### **NOVEMBER 2016**

- 6 - **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS (Turn clocks *BACK* one hour)**
- 5 - ELEVENTH ANNUAL DISTRICT AUCTION, 9 a.m., Camp Harmony
- 10 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
- 10 - SVMC Continuing Education class
- 19 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., TBA
- 21 - Brethren Home Trustees Executive Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 24 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!
- 27 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 28 - Camp Harmony Board of Directors – Committees, 6:30 p.m.; Board 7 p.m.

### **DECEMBER 2016**

- 4 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 10 - *CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY* – Camp Harmony – *more information to come*
- 11 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 18 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 19 - Brethren Home Community Trustees, 6:30 p.m.
- 25 - MERRY CHIRSTMAS!!
- 26 - 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!**

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



NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2015

U.S. Postage Paid  
Non Profit Organization  
Permit No. 122  
Johnstown, PA

SP# \_\_\_\_\_ Ch.# \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

WHAT’S HAPPENING AT HOGAR ENMANUEL.....



It was a stormy night in San Pedro Sula when a watchman heard a tiny whimpering coming from a plastic bag tossed under a bridge. When he investigated he found a newborn baby inside and called the police who in turn took the baby to the hospital. As the story of this infant hit the newspapers, our executive director, Vivian, reached out to offer a home to this tiny baby girl and she is now safe in the loving arms of Hogar Enmanuel! We believe her date of birth to be October 15th. As God would have it, just last week the Ashley Furniture Home-Stores (whom by the way, also helped to build our new computer lab and infirmary) offered their ongoing monthly support towards providing additional staffing needed for our nursery. Of course, this baby girl did not have a given name, so it is only fitting that she will be called “ASHLEY ISABEL.”

Much funding is still needed to provide staffing and supplies for infant care. If you find it in your heart to make it possible for us to reach out to even more infants like baby Ashley, please consider donating to our NURSERY FUND.



Inside the new computer lab

Meet our newest volunteer

**Jonathan Ekka Oraon** came to us in September through the Mennonite Central Committee’s Young Anabaptist Mennonite Exchange Network (YAMEN) which is a year long service opportunity for young Christian adults outside of the US or Canada. He is from Coochbehar, a small heritage town in the state of West Bengal, India and will be serving at Hogar Enmanuel for the next year. The kids already have learned to love him as he works along side them helping them in all areas, but is especially helpful in the new computer lab. He says



that although he misses his parents and younger brother in India very much, he lives with a wonderful host family in Honduras who is helping him to adapt to the many and extreme cultural differences — from greetings and salutations to clothing, food, and language, but he’s loving it!

For those who are interested in serving through a similar program as Jonathan, there is also the Serving and Learning Together (SALT) program which is for Christian young adults from Canada and the U.S. who want to serve internationally in a wide variety of positions in fields like education, agriculture, health care, information technology, peace and more! See <http://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/volunteer/salt> or <http://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/volunteer/yamen>

EL HOGAR DE NIÑOS ENMANUEL

San Pedro Sula, Honduras

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



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

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HOGAR de NINOS ENMANUEL  
THROUGH  
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**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

Nov/Dec 2015

Clip and mail with your donation

HOGAR DE NINOS ENMANUEL



CHECK US OUT!

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

and

 [Facebook.com/hogaremanuel.hn](https://www.facebook.com/hogaremanuel.hn)

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



BVS onsite volunteer Stephanie Breen with her “new kids”

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
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CAN YOU HELP FILL OUR GROCERY CART?

This month we need a little help with the following items on our grocery list... to help, donate to the “Special Fund” and specify “GROCERY CART.”



- Baby formula / powdered milk

Baby lotions, shampoo, & wash

Infant toys
- Diapers and wipes

Baby Cereals & fruits

All the supplies needed by our youngest residents.

THANKS! GRACIAS! FOR A SUMMER FILLED WITH FUN!

This past summer the children were blessed beyond measure with many incoming groups who spoiled them with food and gifts, games and crafts, Zumba classes, trips to the beach, movie nights, clowns, face paintings, a bouncy house, special topic classes, and the list goes on and on. There is just no way to express our gratitude to all those who gave their time, talents, finances and most importantly their love to make their lives a little better.

ONCE UPON A TIME.....

On a beautiful fall day over four hundred people came to Pennsylvania to enter through Cinderella’s castle into an enchanted forest. Each guest was able to sit at one of twenty-five tables that were perfectly decorated to portray a fairy tale and eat a fabulous meal with special desserts. Then everyone was blown out of the water by the *Cast for a Cause* in their amazing performance of “*The Trouble with Gold*”. The play’s message was simply that it is more blessed to give than receive. We are thrilled to report that this benefit raised over \$8100 for the children at Hogar Enmanuel and donations are still coming in! WOW! It truly was an evening that was “somewhere over the rainbow.” Thanks to all who made it a great success! We’d love to have more of you involved with our next triennial event in 2018. The theme will be Toys and Games. It’s not too early to start thinking about it!



Castle Entrance



Cast for a Cause