THE HIGHLIGHTS

Western PA District Church of the Brethren

July 2023

Living Out God's Love

Living God's Love is the theme for our Annual Conference for 2023 in Cincinnati, Ohio July 4-8. The theme is taken from Ephesians 5:1-2 where Paul says to all of us, "Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us, and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

While conference is in session please be praying for all who attend and will be listening and watching virtually. Pray also for the safety of those traveling and pray for a blessing on our denomination as we gather worship and to do God's work. This years' conference will be filled with Worship, business, Bible Studies and Equipping sessions on 35 different topics. The conference will be held at the Duke Energy Center, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Those attending the Conference as well as those back home will be encouraged and challenged to live in God's love in our daily lives and to continue to be imitators of Christ's love every day. There will be a diversity of speakers and the Bible studies for the week will be taken from the Gospel of John.

As always there will be projects, auctions, ice cream, controversies, concerts and remembrances. Two special remembrances are 75 years since BVS (Brethren Volunteer Services) began from the Annual Conference floor brought to Business by youth and Brother Dan West. We will also remember and celebrate 100 years of the EYN connection in Nigeria, Africa. To praise God for all the lives that have been touch and changed by two movements in our denomination, The Church of the Brethren.



More local news and happenings: Your District team continues to meet and work on projects, calling forth ministers to the "Set-Apart Ministry", credentialing and hoping to fill the slate for the District Leadership team with servants of the Lord. The planning for District Conference is moving forward, and Your Search Committee continues its task and would love to have something to share in the future.

Some of our congregations are trying new ideas dealing with the structure of church boards, others are trying new and different ways to reach their neighborhoods. Pray for good results.

Next month I will try to highlight the Annual Conference activities and business; but for now, allow us to be "Living God's Love' in our lives, homes and Congregations every day!

Just how do YOU, Live Out God's Love?

Pete Kaltenbaugh, Interim District Minister

FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE

The Highlights deadline for the **August 2023** issue is

July 10, 2023

Please send your information to tlehman@brethren.org.

DISTRICT STAFF:

Peter Kaltenbaugh, Interim District Minister

Amy Bowman, Financial Clerk

Tina Lehman, District Secretary and Highlights Editor

DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday

8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Financial Clerk is in

Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

CONTACT US:

115 Spring Road Hollsopple, PA 15935 814-479-2181 866-279-2181 toll free www.westernpacob.org

REQUEST FOR DIRECTORIES

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

If your congregation will be making a new directory for **2023** please send one to the District Office, 115 Spring Road, Hollsopple, 15935 Thank you!

2023 DISTRICT DIRECTORY

The 2023 District Directory has been sent out via email and postal mail.

If you would like a paper copy of the 2023 District Directory, please contact, tlehman@brethren.org or 814-479-2181

Thank you!

SEARCH COMMITTEE

Please keep the District
Office Staff and the Interim
District Minister as well as
District Leadership Team in
your prayers as they
continue to work in the
district during this time of
transition.

Please also be in prayer for the District Search Committee in their search for a permanent District Minister.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

If your information appears in the District Directory, please be sure to send me any updates that may happen (when they happen) during this year.

I plan to finalize the 2024
District Directory by December
31, 2023 in order to send out
the new directory early in
January 2024.

I need your help to keep the information current and appreciate it greatly. Thanks!

Tina

ACROSS THE DISTRICT

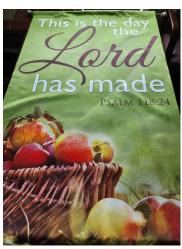
NEW MEMBERS

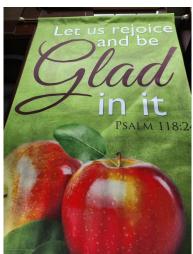
Congregation

Freedom Church (Indiana) – Leroy and Heidi Sulkosky

FREE BANNERS

Two almost brand-new large sanctuary banners, free to a good home, please contact the District Office, 814-479-2181.





TO ALL MINISTERS

Reminder to be sure to update your clearances if you haven't done it already. Once you receive your updated info, please send a copy to the District Office, thanks!

Western PA District COB 115 Spring Road Hollsopple, PA 15935

CONGREGATIONAL PROFILES

The following congregations looking for part-time pastors:

Plumcreek, Robinson, and Pike Run

Interested pastors please contact the District Office at 814-479-2181.

FREE HYMNALS

The County Line Church has some old Church of the Brethren hymnals to give away.

They are red cover and published in 1968.

The front says, "The Brethren Hymnal."
We have over 100 plus copies.
If anyone is interested, contact
Pastor Barry Conn at 814-443-4656.

ACROSS THE DISTRICT

CHICKEN BBQ

The Shade Creek/Ridge COB is hosting a chicken barbeque on July 22,2023 from 11am-2pm (or until sold out). Meal includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato, green beans, dinner roll.

Drive-thru take-out only. \$12.00 per meal Tickets are recommended, call (814) 754-5593.

July 16 is the deadline to order tickets.

EVENTS AT FREEDOM CHURCH INDIANA

Sunday July 16, 2023

Annual Veterans Car Show
2:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Live music, craft and food vendors.
A bouncy house will be there for the kids.
All money raised goes to The Veteran's Parsonage,
a shelter for homeless veterans since 2015
on the church grounds.

Restart Youth Group meets the first and third Friday of every month at 6:00pm. The second Friday of each month is Traveling Down the Theological Trail at 6:00pm, and our Movie Night and Pot Luck is the last Friday of each month at 6:00pm. All events are at Freedom Church; everyone is welcome to attend!

AN INVITATION

New to the Monroeville or Pittsburgh area?
The Monroeville Church of the Brethren invites you to worship with them!

481 Center Road,

Monroeville, PA 15146

412-372-4165

Worship and Fellowship on Sundays 11:00 am You can also like us on Facebook

VIRTUAL SERVICES

Arbutus COB Sunday Services are streamed at 9:00 am https://arbutuscob.org/

Geiger COB Sunday Services are on Facebook at 10:30 am

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1709517105945633

Hostetler COB Sunday Services are on Facebook at 10:30 am

https://www.facebook.com/HostetlerCOBMeyersdalePa

Meyersdale COB Sunday Services are on

Facebook at 10:30 am

https://www.facebook.com/people/Meyersdale-Church-

Of-The-Brethren/100064412810727/?

eav=AfZ hZTDR0BT2145UoR6btO6zS69 LKf8aq-

ZM8lDlo0J v6FfXuzfhRJn8YR1Nqs9g&ref=py c&paipv=0

Rummel COB You can listen to podcasts of services on their church website at https://rummelchurch.com/sermons/

Salisbury COB Sunday Services are on

Facebook at 10:30 am

https://www.facebook.com/Salisbury-Church-of-the-

Brethren-211422968870314

Walnut Grove COB Sunday Services are on Facebook at 10:00 am

https://www.facebook.com/Walnutgrovecob



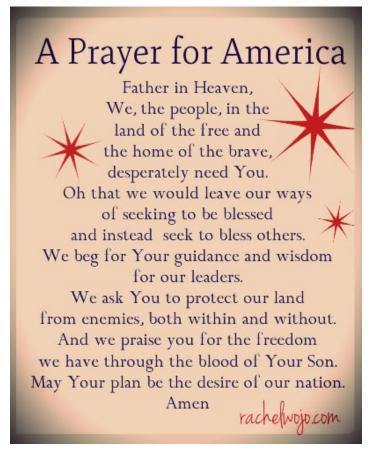
We invite you to: The Annual Community Hot Dog Roast

July 15, 2023 starting at 5 pm



Please bring a Covered Dish to share.

Hostetler Church of the Brethren 2344 Sand Spring Rd Meyersdale PA 15552







DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Western Pennsylvania District Church of the Brethren

115 Spring Road, Hollsopple, Pennsylvania 15935-7412

814 479-7058 814 479-2181



Church of the Brethren

<u>MEMO</u>

TO:

Western PA District Churches

FROM:

Program and Arrangements Committee

DATE:

Summer 2023

RE:

2023 District Conference Information

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

The Western PA District Annual District Conference will be held at **Camp Harmony**, **1414 Plank Road**, **Hooversville**, **PA 15936**, on **Saturday**, **October 21**, **2023**. The Program and Arrangements Committee is working hard to insure a productive and uplifting experience for all those in attendance. We appreciate your prayers and patience as we go forward during this time. Thank you!

There will be NO on-site registrations this year. Please Pre-Register by completing the included form and send to the District Office by OCTOBER 1, 2023.

The registration fee for the conference is \$25.00 per person, which includes lunch, conference booklet materials, and facility fee.

Enclosed you will find the following form and information regarding District Conference:

- REGISTRATION FORM: Please send ONE check and ONE registration form for your church
- · CHURCH WORLD SERVICE RECOVERY AND SUPPORT KIT INFORMATION: kits and/or buckets

Please share this information with your delegates and non-delegates of your congregations. REMEMBER, <u>ALL</u> registrations must be done <u>BEFORE</u> District Conference.

Individuals attending the conference should report to Registration by <u>8:30 am</u> on October 21st in order for the conference to begin on time. If you have any questions regarding District Conference, please feel free to contact the District Office at 814 479-2181 or toll free at 1-866 279-2181.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE



2023 WESTERN PA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Saturday, October 21, 2023 – 9:00 am

CAMP HARMONY - 1414 Plank Rd, Hooversville, PA 15936

*Participants recommended arrival time is 8:30

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

CHURCH		
Number of DELEGATES	NON-DELEGATES	@ \$25.00 each
TOTAL I	REGISTRATION FEE \$	
[\$25.00 registration cover	s registration materials, meal and bever	ages, facility fee]

There will be NO on site registrations this year. Please complete this form and send to the District Office by OCTOBER 1, 2023.

Make ONE check for ALL participants payable to:

Western PA District COB, 115 Spring Road, Hollsopple PA 15935-7412

Before mailing to the District Office, please copy this form for your records.

WE ARE EXCITED TO BE MEETING AGAIN IN PERSON THIS YEAR! THE PROGRAM AND ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE IS WORKING HARD TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE IN ATTENDANCE WILL BE COMFORTABLE AND SAFE.

PLEASE BE CONTINUE TO BE CAUTIOUS AND CONSIDERATE OF OTHERS.

Each Church may have NO MORE THAN 4 DELEGATES represented.

- ♦ Delegate Representation (Choose 4 individuals from the list below)
 - Elected Delegates for 2023
 - Pastor
 - Board or Church Leadership Team Chair
 - Commission or Team Chairs
 (Ministry, Nurture, Stewards, and Witness <u>OR</u> an authorized/appointed representative of those commissions)
 - Youth Representative
- Non-delegate Representation (Each congregation is allowed 2)

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

THERE WILL BE RESERVED SEATING AREAS NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO THE MAIN HALL FOR THOSE THAT REQUEST IT ON THIS FORM.

Address Email I will require a box lunch I will not require a box lunch Food Allergies or requests: Special seating request: YES NO	Name Address Email I will require a box lunch I will not require a box lunch Food Allergies or requests: Special seating request: YES NO
Name Address Email I will require a box lunch I will not require a box lunch Food Allergies or requests: Special seating request: YES NO	Name Address Email I will require a box lunch I will not require a box lunch Food Allergies or requests: Special seating request: YES NO
Name Address Email I will require a box lunch I will not require a box lunch Food Allergies or requests: Special seating request: YES NO	Name Address Email I will require a box lunch I will not require a box lunch Food Allergies or requests: Special seating request: YES NO

SERVING IN THE DISTRICT AND BEYOND

BRETHREN DISASTER MINISTRIES

From Herb Ewald, District Disaster Coordinator

It is becoming increasingly more difficult to secure a crew of eleven volunteers via telephone, so I will be using email to communicate with churches and individuals to line up enough people to make this program work.

This system, I hope, will streamline the process and eliminate missed calls and phone messages that sometimes go unanswered. Once you receive an email from me, please check the printed schedule and consider giving a day or a week out of your busy schedule toward this very rewarding, worthwhile ministry.

Contact your church coordinator to volunteer and, if your church does not have one, please contact me at <a href="mailto:hierarm.hiera

New Windsor Trips

No Trips Scheduled Yet

Week-long Trips

7/9/3/23 to 7/15/23 ½ group needed, S. Ohio/KY 10/1/23 to 10/7/23 ½ group needed, A.N.E. 10/29/23 to 11/0/23 ½ group needed, location TBA 12/10/23 to 12/16/23 ½ group needed, S. PA

FOOD PANTRIES

Walnut Grove Food Pantry https://www.facebook.com/Walnutgrovecob/

Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank https://www.pittsburghfoodbank.org/

Please consider donating food to these or any other groups in our area.

EL HOGAR DE NIÑOS ENMANUEL SHOE PROJECT



El Hogar De Ninos Enmanuel Shoe Project

Thanks to everyone who has continued to support the district shoe project! Our last shipment took place at the end of January, and with many generous donations, we are already half way to our minimum shipment goal. Please keep the project in mind this summer, if you collect shoes and can't deliver them because of a busy summer schedule, please hold onto them for the next collection day this September. The collection day date will be announced in the July newsletter.

For those who like to deliver shoes, the district office accepts shoes during regular office hours, a delivery appointment may be made by calling the Westmont Church office at 814-255-2154, or please contact any of the committee members listed below.

Your donations are helping the folks at El Hogar to continue furnish the new chapel building, and also with the development of post graduate educational programs at El Hogar. Thanks again for your super support!

The shoe committee members are: April Mackell - 814-536-1811 Karen Nagyvathy – 814-244-6977 Marie Camut – 814-266-3010.

Thanks to everyone who has been able to donate to this project, together we can help make a difference!

AVAILABLE SPEAKERS

ORDAINED

ABRAHAM, FARREL - 4315 Seton Drive, Pittsburgh, 15227-1245 / 412-979-0067 / sharingpearls@comcast.net BEACHLEY, LINDA—PO Box 723, Davidsville, 15928-0723 / 814-479-4802 / Irbeac@atlanticbb.net BEACHLEY, RONALD - PO Box 723, Davidsville, 15928-0723 / 814-479-4802 / rondbeachley@gmail.com BROADWATER, KEVIN—475 Keystone Street, Meyersdale, 15552-6943 / 814-442-5684 / pastorbroadwater@verizon.net DERR, AMELIA – 1202 Roberts Street, Nanty Glo, 15943-1325 / 814-749-0262 / iamameliaderr@yahoo.com DERR, HORACE - 1202 Roberts Street, Nanty Glo, 15943-1325 / 814-749-0262 / pastorbutch@gmail.com HOUGHTON, SALLY - 124 Lindberg Avenue, Johnstown, 15905-3019 / 814-243-6448 / smh124@atlanticbb.net KABLER, ERIC—126 Clermont Street, Johnstown 15904-2132 / 814-266-2734 / eric.kabler@kablerthomas.com LONGWELL, ERIC— 240 Plumcreek Road, Shelocta, 15774-3144 / 724-599-8690 / kb3ttx@gmail.com MADER, RUBY—2101 Cambria Avenue, Windber, 15963 / 814-467-5265 / redhatvicar@yahoo.com (June, July and August only) MANGES, JOHN - 137 Catskill Lane, Johnstown, 15904-7523 / 814-539-3332 / manges@atlanticbb.net MARSHALL, HOMER - 369 W. Church Avenue, Masontown, 15461 / 724-583-7073 / hom.run2007@verizon.net MARSHALL, PATRICIA - 369 W. Church Avenue, Masontown, 15461 / 724-583-7073 / hom.run2007@verizon.net MOSORJAK, GARY - 1337 Roxbury Avenue, Johnstown, 15905-1224 / 814-659-5853 / wendel05@aol.com PERUSO, RUSSELL - 151 Blackner Road, Johnstown, 15905 / 814-242-0549 / russperuso@gmail.com PISARSKI, STANLEY – 511 Thrasher Street, Johnstown, 15909 / 814-410-3685 / spisarski1017@gmail.com STEIN, ROBERT - PO Box 375, Chalk Hill, 15421-0375 / 724-438-2226 / crid@verizon.net SWICK, MICHAEL - 4127 Greenville Road, Meyersdale 15552-8518 / 814-634-8158 / preachmike101@comcast.net

LICENSED

BURNEY, OYANGO—111 Hillcrest Drive, Indiana, PA 15701 / 724-541-6850 / livingyourbestlifeinthepresent@gmail.com
COUGHENOUR, KAITLYN— 785 Red Dog Road, Salisbury, 15558 / 814-521-4649 / shellywithattitude@gmail.com
SHAULIS, TRAVIS—608 Second Street, Meyersdale, 15552 / 814-442-8626 / tanbadaner@gmail.com

WALKER, JUDY—425 Morningside Avenue, Jeannette 15644 / 724-522-5260 / larryewalker1@gmail.com

LAY SPEAKER

RAMER, DONNA—102 Franklin Drive, Greensburg, 15601-1305 / 724 836-0594

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center Upcoming Continuing Education Events (updated May 2, 2023)



Dear Friends of Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center: Below are our current continuing education events that are open to all, no matter your district or denomination.

<u>To register, click on the event title and follow the registration links for each event</u>, or contact us at <u>SVMC@SvmcCob.org</u>, or 717-361-1450. Check or online credit card payments are accepted.

Neurocognitive Disorders: Supporting Parishioners

Kimberly Korge, Leader

Tuesday, September 12, 2023, (originally May 9), 9 AM - 3 PM, Cross Keys Village

Understand what dementia is and how it differs from Alzheimer's disease; discuss tips to manage difficult situations and conversations with parishioners; describe the significance of trauma and how it might present in those living with a neurocognitive disorder; identify strategies to support parishioners impacted by trauma.

\$60.00 for .5 CEUs; \$50.00 for no CEUs. Includes lunch. (No Zoom option for this event)

Choose Life: Deuteronomy's Message for Today

Steve Schweitzer, Leader

Tuesday, October 10, 2023, 9 AM - 3:30 PM, Juniata College

The book of Deuteronomy is a central text containing key themes that shape the Old Testament and its relationship to the New. In this study, we will explore the historical, literary, and theological contexts for understanding the message and content of Deuteronomy.

\$60.00 for .55 CEUs; \$50.00 for no CEUs. Includes lunch. Zoom option: \$40.00 for .55 CEUs or \$30.00 for no CEUs.

Walter Brueggemann's prophetic imagination: Reviewed, Recovered, and Restored

Conrad Kanagy, Leader

Thursday, November 2, 2023, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Elizabethtown College

In this seminar, we'll begin by addressing current challenges facing the church, its leaders, and its mission. We will then review the theological contributions of Walter Brueggemann to these challenges over the past five decades. We will consider how the recovery of these contributions may lead to a church that finds itself newly restored and reoriented.

\$60.00 for .5 CEUs; \$50.00 for no CEUs. Includes lunch. (No Zoom option for this event)

More events are in the planning stages. Visit our website at: <u>www.etown.edu/svmc</u> and click on "Continuing Education"

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS



FaithX announces its summer theme and service trips

"Have you heard? FaithX registration opens on Feb. 1, at 6 p.m. (central time)!" said an invitation from FaithX staff Marissa

Witkovsky-Eldred. "The FaithX Office invites you to join them this summer to put your faith into action!"

FaithX Summer 2023 registration is open! A total of 12 service trips are planned for junior high, senior high, adult, and we are able participants. Join a FaithX trip to put your faith into action, examine your beliefs, build friendships, and explore a new place! View the full schedule and complete your registration at www.brethren.org/faithx.

. Spain is the destination for this year's international trip for the adult age group. The theme for FaithX 2023 is "Voices for Peace" (Romans 15:1-6, *The Message*). Find a theme statement at www.brethren.org/faithx/theme. Read more at www.brethren.org/news/2023/faithx-summer-theme-and-service-trips

Viviendo el amor de Dios Viv Lanmou Bondye A Rayuwan Kaunar Allah Living God's Love

Annual Conference 2023

Duke Energy Convention Center Cincinnati, Ohio July 4-8 (Tuesday-Saturday)

For news and updates please visit:

https://www.brethren.org/ac/



National Older Adult Conference (NOAC)

September 4-8, 2023 Lake Junaluska, NC

NOAC is a Spirit-filled gathering of adults 50 and older who love learning and discerning together, exploring God's call for their lives and living out that call by sharing their energy, insight, and legacy with their families, communities, and the world.

"God is Doing A New Thing"

"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." —Isaiah 43:19

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS MAY 1st.
PAST PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL
SOON WITH UPDATED INFORMATION.

Church of the Brethren Annual Conference July 4-8, 2023



Worship Livestream

Annual Conference worship services can be viewed online at www.brethren.org/ac2023/webcasts live or later via the recording. Services start Tuesday evening, July 4 at 6:45 Eastern Time. They continue at the same time on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings as well as Saturday morning at 8:30 am Eastern Time. A livestream of the worship services, as well as recordings, will also be available in Spanish. There is no fee to watch the worship services although donations are appreciated (see below).



Worship Offerings

To participate in the worship offerings go to www.brethren.org/ac2023/offerings to see how you can make a difference in the life of the church and beyond.

Connect Your Congregation

Most years, we form one large worshiping congregation on Annual Conference Sunday, as many congregations and individuals tune into the webcast on Sunday morning. This year, the days of Conference are different, and so there is not a Sunday morning worship service. Yet we invite you and your congregation to join the streaming worship anyway! Consider using one of the five worship services for some Sunday, perhaps even **Sunday**, **July 9**, the Sunday following Conference. The recordings will be available on the webcast site for as long as you need to access them!

Bulletins

Bulletins to view or download and print are available here: www.brethren.org/ac2023/webcasts

Donate

Those who did not register as virtual non-delegates, but are joining us for the streaming webcasts of Annual Conference worship services are encouraged to share a donation to help offset the costs of streaming the services.





EVERY THURSDAY 9 AM - 4 PM 1414 PLANK ROAD, HOOVERSVILLE

As a thank you:
Coffee and pastries at 8:45 am; lunch at noon

Contact us at 814.798.5885 or harmony@campharmony.org

www.campharmony.org #spreadtheHarmony

2023 DISTRICT EVENTS AND MEETINGS

If your congregation, committee, or group would like to have information listed on the District Calendar, please send it in to the District Office by the 10th of each month. Thanks!

JULY 2023

- 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
- ANNUAL CONFERENCE begins, Cincinnati, OH
 ANNUAL CONFERENCE ends, Cincinnati, OH

AUGUST 2023

- SVMC Class- SVMC Class

SEPTEMBER 2023

- 4 LABOR DAY
- 7 Core Leadership Team, 6:00 pm, District Office
- 9 SVMC Class
- 16 District Leadership Team, 9:00 am, Penn Run COB

OCTOBER 2023

- 1 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
- 14 SVMC Class
- 21 District Conference, 9:00 am, Camp Harmony
- 28 SVMC Class

NOVEMBER 2023

- 5 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS (Turn clocks BACK one hour)
- 9 Core Leadership Team, 6:00 p.m., District Office
- 11 SVMC Class
- 18 District Leadership Team, 9:00 am, TBA
- 23 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

DECEMBER 2023

- 3 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 10 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 17 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 24 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 MERRY CHIRSTMAS!!
- 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

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

THE HIGHLIGHTS July 2023