

# District Highlights

June 2018 Vol. 18 No. 5

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## OFFICE HOURS:

Monday ~ Friday  
8:00 am ~ 4:00 pm

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

**The Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man (Paul) is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel." - Acts 9:15**

In April of this year, the Shenandoah and Virlina Districts of the Church of the Brethren shared in an event entitled "Calling the Called!" Its focus was upon the need for the Church to discern and call forth those persons among us whom the LORD may be calling to set-apart ministry.

Within the life of the Church we have always looked at a call to ministry as having two elements - a person himself senses the Lord's call while the Church as the Body of Christ also senses that call. You really can't have one without the other. Looking at the Apostle Paul's call to ministry, the Lord chose Paul, but He used the Church (in the person of Ananias) to convey the call.

The fact that God uses the Church as a vehicle of His call to individual believers is an important thing to note. Knowing this to be the case, we are led to the understanding that there is a need for us to purposefully try to discern who God may be calling to ministry. We might say that "there is a call for us to call out the called."

In the Church of the Brethren we do not look at ministerial leaders as "Clergy" set off in distinction from the "Laity." We speak of the "priesthood of all believers" and also of how God sets some apart for leadership roles. In other words, we believe that every Christian is called to ministry for the LORD. But we also recognize that some members of the Church are chosen by God for special roles of teaching and leadership in the congregation. The question is: How do we discern who those leaders are? How do we "call the called"?

The first place to start is to simply recognize the need to prayerfully be engaged in such discernment. Numbers of folks have recently remarked that perhaps one of the reasons we have so few people available to offer pastoral leadership to our churches is that churches have stopped "calling the called." In other words, we have not been putting much thought or effort into the work of spiritually discerning who it is that God would desire to raise up to lead us.

The need is great. The Billy Graham Association says that in the United States 1500 pastors leave the ministry every month. There is a need for us to pray to the Lord that He might reveal to us who in our congregations may have the call of God upon their lives.

God is faithful. He will raise up leaders for His Church. But He does use us in that process. May we ponder anew how we ourselves might be more faithful in seeking to discern new leaders among us. Let's work at "calling the called."

God bless you all!

**Bill Wenger**

## District Office/Local Church News

### **HOSPITALIZED**

- Please pray for **Pastor John Stoner** who is recovering after a foot injury and surgery.

### **SYMPATHY**

To the family of **Pastor James D'Amico** as he went to be with the Lord on May 3rd.

### **NEW MEMBERS**

#### **Robinson Congregation**

- Ryan Henry

**July 2018**

**Highlights Deadline**

**June 10, 2017**

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



### **2018 DISTRICT DIRECTORY**

The 2018 District Directory is now available.

Digital and published copies have been mailed and emailed. Please let me know if there are changes or additions. Corrections and additions are posted below and in future Highlights.

If you would like a PDF or a paper copy, please contact the District Office at 814-479-2181 or email Tina Lehman at [lehman@brethren.org](mailto:lehman@brethren.org).

### **DISTRICT DIRECTORY UPDATES**

Pages, 9, 11, 13, 14, & 36 - **PHONE NUMBER:**

James "Ed" & Sally Houghton—  
no longer have a land line, use:  
814-243-0534 (Ed) & 814-243-6448 (Sally).

### **NEED YOUR HELP**

If your congregation will produce a new directory in **2018**, 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!



If you are a pastor and are interested in becoming a pastoral mentor in the Western PA District, please contact the Pastor & Parish Leadership Team or the District Office.

AbbsTract June 2018

**“And what is so rare as a day in June?  
Then, if ever, come perfect days;  
Then Heaven tries the earth if it be in tune,  
And over it softly her warm ear lays...”**

This is the start to one of my favorite poems, written by James Russell Lowell in the 1800s. It's a lovely poem that speaks of God's generosity in nature for this season – the sights, sounds, smells and colors of late spring/early summer.  
(Look it up when you get a chance.)

When I consider the generous nature of God, I am necessarily moved to consider my own generosity. I confess it isn't always what it should be. Maybe you're willing to ponder this with me. Don't worry, I'm not trotting out another formula for tithing or a new campaign for “stewardship,” which has become synonymous with “just give us your money.”

Where pure generosity is concerned, money is a secondary concept; it is simply a means to an end. The truly generous person has very little thought for money at all!

We've heard so much about “giving the 10% that God requires,” and “fulfilling our duty to the Church,” and “being responsible tithers” that it's no wonder we have very little joy and generosity when the basket comes around. What God intended to be a spiritual exercise has been turned into an anxious chore in many cases. Is it enough? Is it too much? Did I do the math right? What will the ushers think? God knows we're saving up for vacation. I put extra in last week because I didn't have change for a twenty. We gave to Camp Harmony last month; that counts, right? Wait, did my spouse just put cash in, too? We didn't talk about that beforehand.

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There is a word I learned today: munificent. (It's kind of like “magnificent.”). Munificent means, “unusually generous.” Someone who is munificent gives beyond what is expected, even to the extreme. A munificent person has open hands, a big heart and a bounteous spirit, all of which give freely and unsparingly.

Does that sound like you? I must admit, I have a long way to go with this one.

Yet, when I look at our God, munificence is what I see. When I meet Jesus, He is all generosity, arms stretched wide. When I experience the Holy Spirit, He does not leave me lacking.

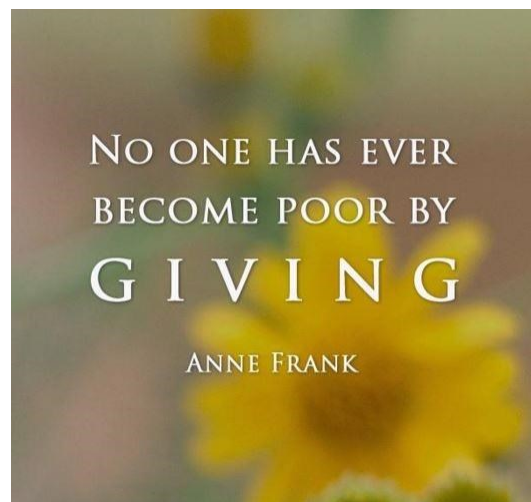
As Christians living in the New Covenant, we are not mandated to calculate ten percent of our income. Instead, we are invited to give joyfully, to a ridiculous degree. We're given the chance to be generous beyond what's sensible. Not because we have so much money, but because we serve an amazing God.

What stands in the way of true generosity? Greed. Pride. Fear. Three things we need to put to death. Three things Christ gave His life to erase from our lives.

Take a few minutes to grab your Bible and read 2 Corinthians 8:1-15. Paul wrote about the people in the Macedonian churches. Their wallets were slim, but their generosity was outstanding! Munificent, even! They did not give out of wealth, but out of poverty and with joy, because of the work God was doing in them.

I know we have some munificent people in our district. Several faces spring to mind! There's nothing particularly special about these people, apart from their love for God and their lack of greed, pride and fear. Won't you join me in the abundance of June to pray for this condition to spring forth in our own lives?

We are blessed to be a blessing,  
:) Abby



## Local Church/District News

### *District Women's Ministries:*

#### Calendar of Events 2018:

- June 7** Camp Day—Camp Harmony
- August 11** Summer Tea @ Beachdale
- October 4** Home Day

*Mark your calendars,  
more information to follow!*

CELEBRATING  
**100**  
YEARS

The **Sipesville COB** is celebrating it's 100th anniversary this year!

All are welcome to attend the festivities during the weekend of July 28 and 29, 2018.

There will be a campfire, worship, fellowship meal and hymn sing.

More information will be coming soon!



Once again Harvest USA would like to have a booth at Annual Conference in Cincinnati. The District is looking to the churches for donations to be able to pay for their booth. Please contact the District Office if your congregation would like to donate.

### Events at the Penn Run Christian Outreach Center

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

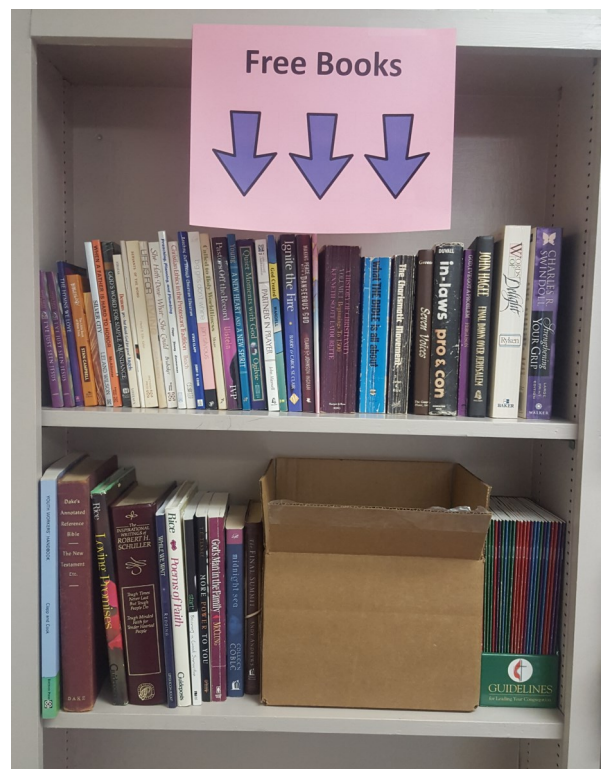
#### Indoor Yard Sale

June 2, 2018

8:00 am to 2:00 pm

A 10x10 space with an 8' table is available for \$10.  
Have your yard sale with us!

Please call Lori Fackler for more information  
at 724-349-2929.



Once again we've received a generous donation of books to the District Office. They are here and ready to go to a good home! Stop in and take a look!



### Annual Conference Briefing

**Sunday, June 3, 2018  
3:00 pm**

**Rummel COB**

## Local Church/District News

### From the Pastor & Parish Ministry Team:

#### Pastoral Care and Crisis Intervention II – PCCII

Saturday, September 8, 2018  
Moxham Church of the Brethren  
Johnstown, PA

Monday, September 10, 2018  
Ligonier First Church of the Brethren  
Ligonier, PA

This course is being offered twice to accommodate anyone who may be working or otherwise unable to attend.

The course is designed to aid the pastor, chaplain, laity, and the congregation in offering spiritual care within the congregation when crises occur that are now affecting the family or a smaller group within the congregation. It will begin where PCCII left off and will build upon it.

The course will also examine the role(s) that the pastor as well as the congregation may assume in reaching out to small groups and how the trauma of one affects many within their immediate "circles".

The first half of the course will be spent learning the spiritual and psychological dynamics surrounding trauma within the family as well as proven methodologies of effective intervention. The second half of the course will be spent in small group practicums mastering these techniques.

A hot lunch will be provided.

Deadline for Registration:  
**Monday, August 27, 2018**

Please send check or money order made payable to SVMC in the amount of \$10.00 to:

Dale Leverknight  
c/o Montgomery Church of the Brethren  
5227 Purchase Line Road  
Commodore, PA 15729-8331



Roxbury COB will be hosting their **Summer Yard Sales** at the Roxbury Church Grove on the Somerset Pike.

June 9, 2018  
July 14, 2018  
August 4, 2018

Contact Claire Montoya at 814-536-0515 for more information.

Somerset COB will be hosting members of the National Junior High Workcamp for a pot luck covered dish dinner at the church on **Tuesday June 12, 2018 at 6:30 pm.**



The Workcamp members will be working at Camp Harmony from June 10 through 14, 2018. Come out and share a meal and fellowship with them.

The Hostetler COB will be hosting its 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Event  
**Food and Fun by the Fireside**  
**Saturday, June 16, 2018 at 4:30 pm**

The church will provide hot dogs and drinks. You may bring a covered dish or dessert.

Musical lineup includes:  
Mountain Sound  
Gary Baer  
Red Oad Run  
NextGen  
Flaugherty Brothers Band

Other groups are welcome to join in!

For more info: Call Amy Bowman at 634-8170.

The Hostetler COB is located at 2344 Sand Spring Road near Pocahontas.



## Local Church/District News

### Church and School Safety Seminar

**Salisbury Faith Factory—Salisbury COB**  
**153 Union Street, Salisbury**

**July 28, 2018**  
**8:30 am to 5:00 pm**

Violent crime at church has increased every year since the late 90's. Setting a Watch Ministries is dedicated to informing churches and schools about the current trends and teaching them how to respond legally and effectively.

The Church and School Safety for Today Seminar is a day long event that will:

- Examine practical security solutions
- Present crime prevention strategies
- Discuss Active Shooter threats
- Explain typical police response
- Prepare attendees for the mental and physical aftermath of a violent encounter

Register at [settingawatch.com/salisbury](http://settingawatch.com/salisbury)

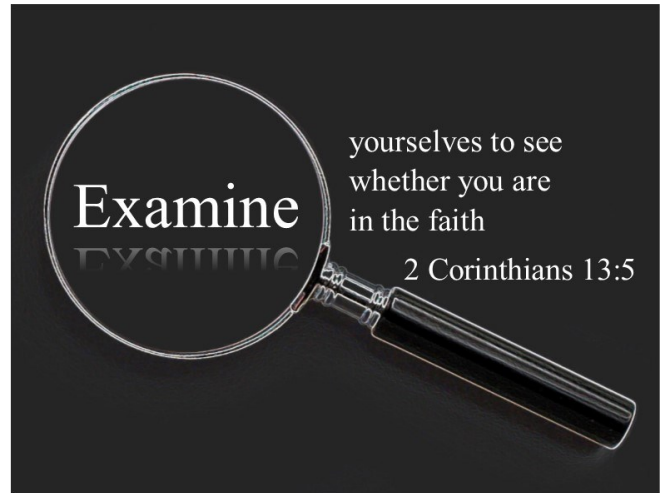
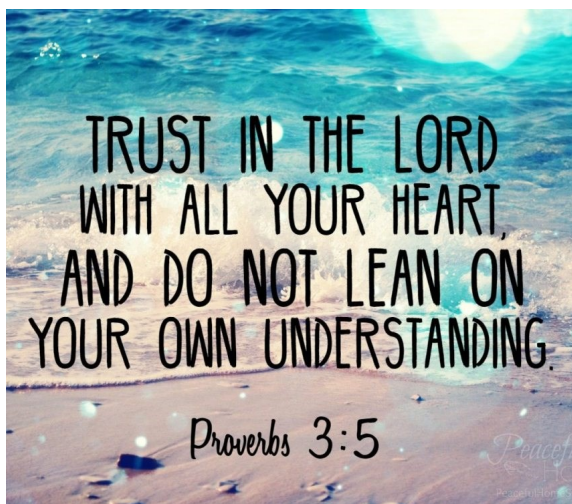
Early Bird Registration—before June 30, 2018  
**\$40\***

Online Registration—after June 30, 2018  
**\$55\***

Group Rate—Groups of 12+  
**\$35**

At The Door—Day of Event  
**\$65**

\* Taxes and fees not included



### **2018 District Conference** **October 20, 2018** **Camp Harmony**

Mark your calendars, more information will be coming to your churches soon!

### **Brethren Revival Fellowship Events**

#### **Brethren Bible Institute**

July 23—27, 2018  
Summer Term

**Registration deadline June 25, 2018**

#### **Brethren Alive 2018**

July 27—29, 2018

Joy for the Journey—national gathering of Anabaptist oriented evangelical Brethren to celebrate our life in Christ and encourage on another to spiritual growth and faithfulness.

**Registration deadline is June 25, 2018**

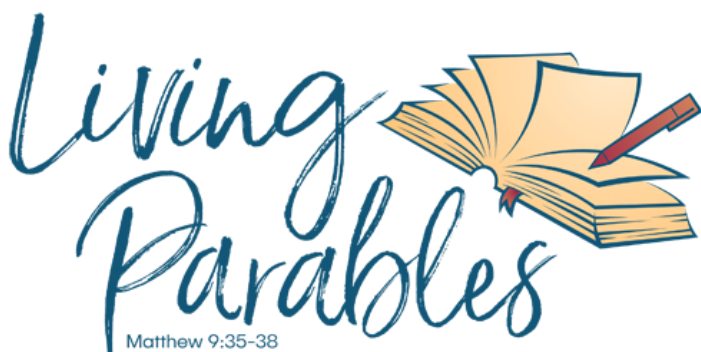
Registrations need to be **MAILED** to:

Brethren Bible Institute  
155 Denver Road  
Denver, PA 17517

Please contact the District Office for registration forms

## 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



## Annual Conference 2018 July 4—8, 2018

Duke Energy Convention Center  
Cincinnati, OH

**Registration is now open!**

<http://www.brethren.org/ac/2018/registration/>



## Inspiring and informative Catered Meal Events at Annual Conference

A wide variety of special meal events will be offered during the 2018 Annual Conference in Cincinnati, July 4-8. Each event includes a meal and program. For more information about any of these meal events go to:

[www.brethren.org/ac/2018/activities/meal-events](http://www.brethren.org/ac/2018/activities/meal-events)



## National Youth Conference

**July 21—26, 2018**

**Colorado State University**

**Fort Collins, Colorado**

Emilie Deffenbaugh from the Somerset COB is a member of the National Youth Cabinet, if you have any questions about the event please contact her at [deffn75h@richlandrams.net](mailto:deffn75h@richlandrams.net)

## From the NYC Office:

All Church of the Brethren congregations are invited to participate in three NYC Offerings, even if they are not sending youth. Offering should be sent to the NYC Office (1451 Dundee Avenue, Elgin, IL, 60120) prior to NYC, July 21-26, 2018

Here are some suggestions:

**Clean-up buckets:**  
NYC hopes to give 600 clean-up buckets to victims of natural disasters. Please send financial gifts or kit supplies (excluding buckets, laundry detergent, and liquid household cleaner—all of which will be provided on site).

**Sending new or gently used sewing scissors:**  
NYC will hopefully cut 2,400 t-shirts into diaper pieces for Diapers for Haiti. After being sewn, those 2,400 diapers would provide Midwives for Haiti with a one year's supply.

**NYC Scholarship Fund:**  
Congregations may send financial gifts to The NYC Team as they are hoping to welcome up to 20 international Brethren youth from around the world. The NYC Scholarship Fund makes this possible, by helping with the cost of travel and registration for youth from a number of places, including Brazil, Spain, the Dominican Republic, Nigeria, India.

Thank you all for your generous support!

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## Global Mission Updates

### Global Mission Prayer Guide

#### India

Praise God for Jay Wittmeyer's recent visit with the Church of North India (CNI). Wittmeyer, executive director of Global Mission and Service, spoke at the commencement ceremony for Gujarat United School of Theology (GUST), of which the Church of the Brethren is a founding member. Wittmeyer also spent time visiting with CNI families and communities.

CNI began in 1970 as a merger of several denominations, including the First District Church of the Brethren in India, which has remained independent of CNI. The Church of the Brethren in the US relates to both CNI and the First District Church of the Brethren in India.



Wittmeyer (seated third from left) with graduates and officials of Gujarat United School of Theology. Photo courtesy of GUST.

Pray for families of the more than 125 people who died in India's violent dust storms last week. Most of the deaths came from high winds and intense lightning bursts that collapsed houses and walls, with victims buried underneath. In addition to the deaths, at least 200 people have been injured, electricity is disrupted, and families face loss of livestock. Pray for those who mourn, those who are injured, and those who have lost homes or livelihoods.

#### Afghanistan

Pray for victims of multiple bombings in Afghanistan a few weeks ago. Two explosions in the capital city of Kabul killed at least 25 people, including 8 journalists and 4 police officers. At least 45 people have been injured. A suicide bomb attack that struck a school in the Kandahar region killed 11 children and injured at least a dozen more. Pray for solace for those who grieve. Pray for healing of body, mind, and soul. Pray for a changing of the hearts that employ violence.

#### Puerto Rico

Pray for a recovery planning session between Roy Winter, associate executive director of Global Mission and Service and Brethren Disaster Ministries, and the recently appointed recovery team of the Puerto Rico District of the Church of the Brethren. The group will do training and then focus on guidelines and goals for the long-term hurricane recovery program. Pray for wisdom and energy of this group as they serve Puerto Ricans still suffering the effects of last fall's Hurricane Maria

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## Global Mission Updates

### Global Mission Prayer Guide

#### Nigeria

Officials from Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN, the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria) have shared reports of violent attacks in Maiduguri, a large city in the northeast. At least six people were killed in the suicide bombings. In another violent incident, at least 19 people were killed when gunmen attacked a church in a small village in Nigeria's Benue state last week. Pray that peace may prevail in Nigeria, where people continue to live with the fear and reality of Boko Haram attacks and violent clashes between herdsman and farmers.

Give thanks for the 71st Majalisa, or annual conference, of Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN, Church of the Brethren in Nigeria), which took place April 10-13 at EYN's headquarters in Kwarhi. The conference theme was "Gathered in His Presence," based on Psalm 15:1. While reports highlighted how many congregations are still struggling due to displacement from Boko Haram violence, it was also joyfully reported that three new districts are being added, and 31 congregations will be granted full autonomy in 2018.

The conference concluded with a soccer game as part of the EYN Gospel Team Presidential Football Tournament.



Participants in the EYN soccer tournament. Photo courtesy of Markus Gamache.

## Denominational News

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## Global Mission Updates

### Global Mission Prayer Guide

#### South Sudan

Pray for Carolyn and Roger Schrock as they travel to South Sudan for two and a half months of volunteer service with the Brethren Peace Center in Torit. The Schrocks will train agronomists and work with the Eastern Equatoria Farmer's Association, an organization seeking to fight the region's pervasive hunger by encouraging farmers to pool resources and leverage assets. Pray for the Schrocks' health and safety as they serve. Pray for the efforts of all working to ease the hunger crisis in South Sudan.



Carolyn and Roger Schrock. Photos by Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford and Kendra Harbeck.

Pray for Global Mission worker Athanasus Ungang as he travels from South Sudan to the United States for several weeks of home leave with his family. Pray for a time of rest, relaxation, and refocusing.

#### Israel and Palestine

Pray for all victims of the immense violence occurring in Gaza and the West Bank. In clashes between Palestinian protesters and the Israeli army on Monday, at least 52 Palestinians were killed and more than 2,400 injured. At least 90 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza by Israeli forces since protests began on March 30. The protests have centered on Israel's economic blockade of Gaza and on Palestinian refugees' right to return. The protests have been leading up to what is known as the Nakba on May 15, the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the state of Israel, which included a violent and forcible expulsion of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians from their villages.

The tensions and violence were exacerbated by the United States government choosing Monday to officially relocate its Israel embassy to Jerusalem, a move that has been condemned by the United States National Council of Churches and much of the international community for its detrimental effect to the peace process in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

Pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones and those who are injured without access to proper medical care. Pray for Israelis living in fear and for Palestinians living with daily oppression. Pray for the safety of those who work for peace and justice, such as the Christian Peacemaker Teams. Pray for an end to Israel's illegal military occupation of Palestine. Pray that all actors -- Palestinian, Israeli, and otherwise -- lay down their weapons and that a just peace may reign.

## AVAILABLE SPEAKERS LIST – June 2018

### ORDAINED

ABRAHAM, FARREL – 4315 Seton Dr, Pittsburgh, 15227-1245 – 412-979-0067  
BEACHLEY, RONALD D. – PO Box 723, Davidsville, 152928-0723 – 814-479-4802  
BERKEBILE, WES J. – 4285 State Route 208, New Wilmington, 16142 – 724-901-7058  
DEFFENBAUGH, BARRON K. - 207 Churchill St, Johnstown, 15904 - 814 266-9758  
DERMER, JOANN - 3062 Hyndman Rd, Hyndman, 15545 - 814 842-6489  
DERR, AMELIA – 1202 Roberts Street, Nanty Glo, 15943-1325 – 814-749-0262  
DERR, HORACE - 1202 Roberts Street, Nanty Glo, 15943-1325 – 814-749-0262  
EASH, JOHN E. - 131 Friendship Ln, Hollsopple, 15935-6732 - 814 629-0206  
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  
MANGES, JOHN W. – 137 Catskill Ln, Johnstown, 15904-7523 814-539-3332  
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  
MOSORJAK, GARY N. – 1337 Roxbury Avenue, Johnstown, 15905-1224 – 814-619-4238  
RUMMEL, DALE E. - 6171 Greenville Pike, Grampian, 15666-1959 732-809-9013 (seasonal)  
RUPERT, JACK - 409 State St, Johnstown, 15905-2642 - 814 322-7786 New Day – 814 535-8202  
SHAFFER, ABBY R. - (office) 115 Spring Rd, Hollsopple, 15935-7412 - 814 479-2181  
SMITH, A. HARRISON -506 Sciandro Dr, Greensburg, 15601- 724837-4491  
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  
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

HILER, GARY W. - 228 Baltzer Bridge Rd, Friedens, 15541-6320 - 814 267-6722  
HORNER, TAMMY - 124 Whysong Lane, Johnstown, 15906 – 814-244-0958  
PARFITT, STEPHEN – 12 Mohawk Drive, Greensburg, 15601 – 724-832-3457  
YOST, ERIC W. – 1009 First Street, Windber, PA 15963 – 814-241-7753

### LAY SPEAKER

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

## *Brethren Home Auxiliary News      Spring, 2018*



### **Dear Friends in the Western District,**

*The Church of the Brethren Home Auxiliary was formed to organize and unite the services of the women of the district for the physical comfort and spiritual welfare of all the members of the Church of the Brethren Home family, and to develop a deep interest and loyal support of the Home. For more than fifty years, the Auxiliary worked diligently to achieve those goals. The tremendous support of the Western District churches made much of the Auxiliary's work possible; however, the sale of the Home in March of 2018 also eliminated the charter of the Auxiliary.*

*The membership met on May 3 to dissolve, with regret, the organization and alter or discontinue the volunteer services currently provided by our members. Historian Garnet Croyle was recognized as a charter member who has been actively involved in the Auxiliary since its founding.*

#### *The Membership Voted To:*

- ~ Discontinue the Sheetz and Eat'nPark coupon sales.*
- ~ Continue volunteering in the sewing room each Tuesday.*
- ~ Discontinue providing We Care Gift Bags to new residents.*
- ~ Continue sponsoring the monthly birthday parties.*
- ~ Continue volunteering the in the Home beauty salon each Wednesday.*
- ~ Donate the silver serving trays to the Windber Woods activities department. Donate the silver tea set to the 2018 District Auction.*
- ~ Discontinue membership and fund raising activities.*
- ~ Donate the \$6,075.07 currently held in the Auxiliary's checking and savings accounts to the District.*
- ~ Discontinue assigning new persons in the Remember Your Resident program, while asking churches currently assigned a resident to continue their involvement until those residents leave the Home.*
- ~ Meet with the new administrators on May15 to discuss continued involvement in the volunteer programs of Windber Woods.*
- ~ Transfer the 849 pairs of shoes collected for the next shoe project to the District with the proceeds from the project to benefit El Hogar de Ninos Enmanuel orphanage. All churches are encouraged to continue collecting shoes, and delivering them to the district office during office hours.*

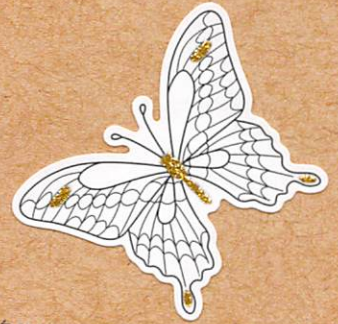
*THANK YOU to each congregation that has supported the work of the Auxiliary throughout the years! Your service has been a positive witness of Christ's love to Home residents, their families and our staff. We ask that you continue to hold the current residents and staff of Windber Woods in prayer, and support them as you are able. Congregations interested in service projects at Windber Woods are encouraged to contact Volunteer Coordinator Susan Haluska at 814-361-6466.*

*The District Women's Ministries  
would love for you to join us at*

*Camp Harmony for*

**"CAMP DAY"**

*on June 7, 2018*



*Registration begins at 9:15 am*

*Our program will be presented by Pastor Linda Beachley.*

***"Transformation by Faith"***

*You will not want to miss the afternoon fun.*

*The Country Store will open before lunch.*

*Please bring goodies to be sold. From food to.....?*

+++++

CAMP DAY - JUNE 7, 2018 Registrations due MAY 29

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_ # Att. \_\_\_\_\_ names on back

COST \$12.00 each Check enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks out to: District Women's Ministries

Send to: Arbutus Blough 1-814-629-9279

845 Speigle Road,

Hollsopple, PA 15935-9505

# Church of the Brethren Annual Conference

## Witness to the Host City



There are several ways the Church of the Brethren will be a witness to the city of Cincinnati and to each other during Annual Conference this summer. Be sure you and your congregation plan to participate by collecting items or volunteering in one of the following ways:

### First Step Home

#### A place for Hope...A place for Help...A place for Healing

Founded in 1993, First Step Home is the only addiction treatment center in Cincinnati allowing children up to the age of 12 to live with their mother while she is in treatment. They provide a continuum of care, and work to assist women in rebuilding their families as they break the cycle of drug and alcohol addiction.

Through an array of services including residential and outpatient treatment, group and individual counseling, maternal and newborn support, job placement, and wellness education, they have helped thousands of pregnant and new mothers fight their addictions and establish stable lives for themselves and their children.



#### How you can help

Annual Conference attendees can help by collecting and bringing any of the following items First Step Home has expressed are their needs:

- Twin sheet sets
- Towels
- Wash Cloths
- Soap
- Deodorant
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Lotion
- Women's socks
- Women's underwear (all sizes)
- Women's sports bras (all sizes)
- Diapers (all sizes)
- Baby onesies
- \$5 gift cards to Walmart or Kroger

For more information on First Step Home visit [www.firststephome.org](http://www.firststephome.org).

***When you are in Cincinnati, please bring your donated items to the floor in front of the stage area in the Convention Center Hall A on Wednesday evening or all day Thursday.***



Since it is becoming increasingly more difficult to secure a crew of eleven volunteers via telephone, with the help of the District, I will be using email to communicate with churches and individuals to line up the necessary people to make the program work. This system, I hope, will streamline the process and eliminate missed calls and phone messages that sometime go unanswered. Missed calls and unanswered messages requires another time consuming telephone call, sometimes with the same results! After the receipt of an email, and after checking the printed schedule would you **PLEASE** consider giving a day or a week out of your busy schedules toward this very rewarding, worthwhile ministry. PLEASE contact your church coordinator to volunteer. If your church does not have one PLEASE contact Herb Ewald at [hjewald@atlanticbb.net](mailto:hjewald@atlanticbb.net) or (814) 539-8530.

**THANK YOU!**

**New Windsor Day Trips**

Jun. 06, 2018  
Jun. 26, 2018  
Aug. 09, 2018  
Aug. 28, 2018  
Oct. 04, 2018  
Nov. 08, 2018  
Nov. 27, 2018  
Dec. 18, 2018

**Week Trips**

July 22-28, 2018 (w/Mid. Atl)  
September 02-08, 2018  
October 14-20, 2018 (w/Virlina)  
December 02-08, 2018

Maple Spring Church of the Brethren

# Summer Reading Nights

Tuesdays at 7 pm June 5<sup>th</sup> – August 21<sup>st</sup>



Join us for a story, craft, and snack.

Take a book home, read and bring it back and earn a trip to our free pizza party!

**For more information call the Church office at 479-7062, visit our website at [maplespringcob.org](http://maplespringcob.org), or like and follow us on Facebook!**

Maple Spring Church of the Brethren

106 Spring Road

Hollsopple PA 15935

Maple Spring Church of the Brethren

# Vacation Bible School

June 25th – 28th 9 am – 12 noon at Maple Spring Church

Friday, June 29th 9 am -2 pm at Camp Harmony

## The STORY of MOSES



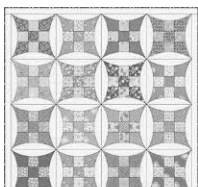
---

We will see stories of Moses come to life, make crafts, and travel through the Egyptian Market Place.

On Friday June 29th we will meet at Camp Harmony. Children in grades 1-6 will be able to swim, go for a hike, and many other camp activities. Children ages 3-Kindergarten will be able to go for a wagon ride and participate in other camp activities. Lunch is provided.

**For more info or to register call the Church office at 479-7062 or visit our website at [maplespringcob.org](http://maplespringcob.org). Like and follow us on Facebook to keep up to date on all our activities that you and your children will enjoy!**

Maple Spring Church of the Brethren, 106 Spring Road, Hollsopple PA 15935



SILENT  
QUILT  
AUCTION

# Yard/Bake Sale

Friday, June 22 and  
Saturday, June 23  
8:30am-4:00pm

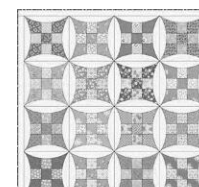
(please no early sales)

Tire Hill Church of the Brethren

(Pavilion behind the Church)

**665 Tire Hill Road**  
**Tire Hill, PA**

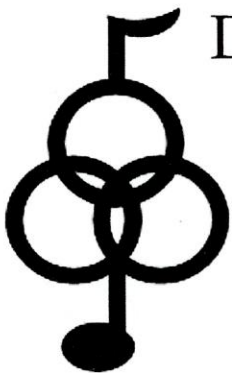
Benefits Women's Fellowship



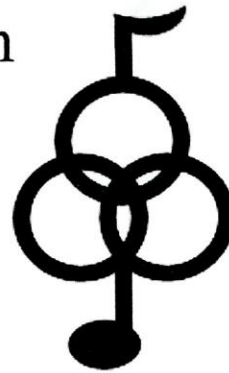
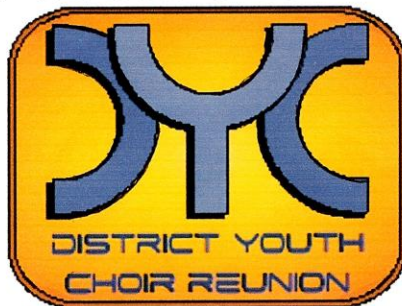
SILENT  
QUILT  
AUCTION







## District Youth Choir Reunion



**When:** July 8th 12:30-4:30 (We can hang out after if we want.)

**Where:** Camp Harmony- Pavilion by the pool

(In case of bad weather or too many people, we can use the old dining hall.)

**Who:** All choir members, advisors, directors,  
and their families

(One tour or 18, first ever tour or last tour so far or somewhere in between.

You can even come if you went to camp with choir people and wanted to  
come to choir but couldn't.)

**What to Bring:**

- Covered Dish
- Swim stuff (pool open 2-4)
- \$2 per person who is swimming
- Donation for Camp for letting us meet there and for  
being awesome!
- Choir photos and memorabilia for everyone to look at  
(Be sure your name is on it so it doesn't get lost.)
- Music or instruments if you want to "jam" with old  
friends

Please pass this on to all of your friends via facebook, e-mail, telephone,  
snail mail, carrier pigeon, pony express, or whatever you need to do. Don't  
let anyone get left out! That's what choir's all about!



# 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"*

## **HOSS'S FUNDRAISER IS A SUCCESS**

Our second Hoss fundraiser was held on May 6, 2018 in Richland. Thank you to everyone who enjoyed a great meal and also made money for Camp. The restaurant reported that \$639.07 will be given to Camp. Thank you everyone for your support.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **2018 "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. The original premise was that if all the families in the District contributed \$52, the debt could be eliminated. At the present the 2018 team totals 34 families and groups.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **LOOKING AHEAD - \* Poster included in Highlights for information**

Summer Camping Season

Performing Arts Camp – "Alice in Wonderland" – June 29 – 6PM & June 30 – 2PM

\$10/adult, \$5/Children – Concessions Available

Fall Gospel Music Festival – August 31 – Sept. 1\*

Harmony Fest – September 22-23\*

\* \* \* \* \*

## **HIGHMARK WALK FOR A HEALTHY COMMUNITY**

Join us on May 19, 2018 in the Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community as we participate to raise funds for our camp scholarship program. Hundreds of children and youth visit Camp Harmony every summer to experience nature and adventure, meaningful relationships, significant memories and spiritual transformation. Each summer camp provides scholarships for those needing financial assistance. Please consider helping us as a walker raising funds or a donor so more kids can come to Camp Harmony. Contact a Camp Board Member or Staff Member to donate or walk on a team. Our goal is \$5,000 for scholarships. At this time we have raised \$7,335. WOW....

\* \* \* \* \*

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We are presently preparing for our Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) where we provide meals to children in the community who are on free and reduced lunches during school. In order for us to provide this service and a very worthwhile ministry, we are in need of volunteers to drive to nearby sites and deliver the food. One day a week for an hour is all that is needed. If you are interested and willing to help please contact Camp.

**NEEDED – 2 liter empty plastic bottles are needed for Camp!!! Ask Phil about their purpose...**



# SEND A KID TO CAMP

Camp Harmony is partnering with Mission Partners to help send children to camp by donating used clothing and shoes. The link to the website with the explanation of the program is as follows:

<https://www.wpaumc.org/cleanclosetsforcampers>. Mission Partners is also on facebook.

Just bring your used clothing and shoes to Camp and put them in the big red bin. Camp will then be reimbursed per lb. by the amount of goods collected.

Your congregation can help another way. One of these bins, with the same printing on it, can also be placed at the location of your Church. All the goods from the different bins are collected about every ten days and they are added together and the proceeds are sent to Camp. Just think what could happen if we all did this as a group.

If your congregation is interested in this double ministry, please contact Camp Harmony and ask for Janice.



**CAMP HARMONY**



# **Harmony Fest**

**Bringing People Together in Harmony!**



## **September 22-23, 2018**

**Kids Activities**

**Vendors**

**Food  
&  
Music**

**FREE  
Admission!**

**Campfire &  
Movie Under  
the Stars**



**There's something for everyone!**  
**[www.campharmony.org](http://www.campharmony.org)**

**1414 Plank Road Hooversville, PA 15936**  
**814-798-5885 [harmony@campharmony.org](mailto:harmony@campharmony.org)**



# 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.

In addition, the **Congregational Outreach Form** for 2017/2018 had been sent from the COB Stewardship Office and was due by December 1, 2017. 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 October 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	2017 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			•		
37-380	Meyersdale		•		•	•
37-390	Middlecreek					
37-400	Monroeville					•
37-410	Montgomery		•			

Church Code	Church Name	Form A	Form B	2017 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		•	•	•	•
37-620	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					•

# 2018 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.

## JUNE 2018

- 3 - Annual Conference Briefing, Rummel COB, 3 pm
- 7 - DWM Camp Day, Camp Harmony
- 17 - HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

## JULY 2018

- 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY
- 4 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE (begins), Cincinnati, Ohio
- 8 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE (concludes), Cincinnati, Ohio
- 16 - District Women's Ministries meeting, 1 pm, District Office
- 19 - Core Leadership Team 6 p.m., (District Conference Business)
- 21-26 - NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE, Fort Collins, Colorado
- 27 - District Leadership Team, 6 p.m., (District Conference Business)

## AUGUST 2018

- 1 - Brethren Home Auxiliary
- 11 - DWM Summer Tea, TBA (alternate day Aug. 18)
- 12 - Stewardship Sunday
- 31 - Camp Harmony Gospel Festival Begins

## SEPTEMBER 2018

- 3 - Camp Harmony Gospel Festival Concludes
- 3 - LABOR DAY
- 6 - Brethren Home Auxiliary Key Ladies Luncheon
- 10 - District Women's Ministries meeting, 1 pm, District Office
- 13 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
- 21 - DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE
- 22 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., TBA
- 22-23 - Harmony Fest, Camp Harmony
- 29 - Honduras Mission Dinner, 5 pm, Camp Harmony

### **OCTOBER 2018**

- 4 - DWM Brethren Home Day
- 7 - WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
- 20 - District Conference, 9 a.m., Camp Harmony

### **NOVEMBER 2018**

- 1 - Brethren Home Auxiliary Meeting
- 3 - THIRTEENTH ANNUAL DISTRICT AUCTION, 9 a.m., Camp Harmony
- 4 - **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS (Turn clocks *BACK* one hour)**
- 8 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
- 12 - District Women's Ministries meeting, 1 pm, District Office
- 17 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., TBA
- 22 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

### **DECEMBER 2018**

- 2 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 8 - *CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY – Camp Harmony – more information to come*
- 9 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 16 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 23 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 24 - Christmas Eve
- 25 - MERRY CHIRSTMAS!!
- 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!**



### FRIDAY

4:00 PM- Concessions Open

6:00 PM- Music Begins

### SATURDAY

7:30 AM- Concessions Open

11:00 AM- Open Mic

1:00 PM- Music Begins

### SUNDAY

7:30 AM- Concessions Open

10:00 AM- Worship Service

1:00 PM- Music Begins

### MONDAY

7:30 AM- Concessions Open

11:00 AM- Music Begins

Swimming and activities for children & families  
throughout the weekend for a minimal charge.



To book your stay or for more information,  
please contact Camp Harmony:

814-798-5885

[www.campharmony.org](http://www.campharmony.org)



### FRIDAY

4:00 PM- Concessions Open

6:00 PM- Music Begins

### SATURDAY

7:30 AM- Concessions Open

11:00 AM- Open Mic

1:00 PM- Music Begins

### SUNDAY

7:30 AM- Concessions Open

10:00 AM- Worship Service

1:00 PM- Music Begins

### MONDAY

7:30 AM- Concessions Open

11:00 AM- Music Begins

Swimming and activities for children & families  
throughout the weekend for a minimal charge.



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814-798-5885

[www.campharmony.org](http://www.campharmony.org)





A weekend for the whole family to be blessed with great music, fun, and food! Stay for the whole weekend or come for just a day.



Hear great talent from Gospel performers like:

Heaven 4 Shore      Good News  
The Choraliers      United  
& Pearl      ...AND MANY MORE!



Enjoy activities for all ages throughout the weekend:

Children's Sessions      Outdoor Fun  
Bounce House      Swimming



Other features of the weekend:

Concessions Available

Open Mic & Jam Sessions      Lodging & Campsites Available  
(Cabins, Lodges & RV sites)

To book your stay or for more information,  
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Western Pennsylvania District  
Church of the Brethren  
115 Spring Road  
Hollsopple, PA 15935-7412  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER  
2nd Quarter 2018

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



EL HOGAR DE NIÑOS ENMANUEL

San Pedro Sula, Honduras

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



HOW THE BODY OF CHRIST IS WORKING AT  
HOGAR ENMANUEL...

Highlights from the February 2018 Work Camp:  
(A picture's worth a thousand words...)



Bill and Rona with Director Reina Sarmiento



Jennifer Proehl with former residents of El Hogar



Fun day with the children at the Zoo.



Organizing the Bodega



February Work Group 2018



Betty's Hope Fund In Action



Steve Wilhoit's Bicycle Project



Roxanne Wilhoit, Marjorie Bittner and Amanda Harned's Back to School Project



Lois Spory meeting her sponsor children Karla and Ashley



Bob, Carrie, & Brielle Antesberger and Shannon Todd leading Bible study.

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 [hemminger@verizon.net](mailto:hemminger@verizon.net)  
**PayPal** and/or sponsorship coupons are also available on the website at [www.hogarenmanuel.com](http://www.hogarenmanuel.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

Clip and mail with your donation



Hogar de Niños  
ENMANUEL

CHECK US OUT!

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

and



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

From HIM the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. Ephesians 4:16



Are you willing to join the Lord’s work at El Hogar?

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Rona Hemminger,  
Mission Program Coordinator  
Mobile: 540-649-3111  
Email:  
[hemminger@verizon.net](mailto:hemminger@verizon.net)

Carrie Antesberger, Editor

Here’s how YOU can become part of the Body of Christ at El Hogar de Niños Emanuel:

JOIN US IN PRAYER!

Providing for the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of approximately 80 children is a tremendous job. We need faithful prayer warriors who are willing to daily lift up the needs of the staff and children at El Hogar de Niños Emanuel. If you are interested in becoming a prayer warrior and learning how you can specifically pray for El Hogar, please contact Carrie Antesberger:

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



JOIN US IN FUNDRAISING!

Our tri-annual fundraising event will be held at Camp Harmony on September 29, 2018. The theme is Toys & Games! It’s not too late for you to get involved by sponsoring a table! Decorate your table with the game or toy of your choice, enjoy the meal and entertainment, and at the same time you will be helping the children of El Hogar. For more information contact Rona Hemminger:

[hemminger@verizon.net](mailto:hemminger@verizon.net)  
or 540-649-3111.

JOIN US BY INVESTING: Currently we have two tremendous needs at El Hogar.

1. Our electric bill has gotten to the point that we can barely afford to pay for it, so we are looking for supplemental sources of energy to help. ESolar, a company in Honduras, has already pledged to cover the cost of initial installation for solar panels leaving us with a balance of about \$13,000 for materials to complete the project. We are searching for help to cover the cost of equipment. We are looking at a 5-7 year payback that will continue to keep costs in line for years to come. If you would be willing to contribute in this way and help us to continue being a light in the midst of darkness, please label your donation as **Special Fund: Energy**.
2. We are in serious need of replacing two freezers in our kitchen. The approximate cost is \$1000 each. Please label your contribution as **Special Fund: Freezers**.

