

# THE HIGHLIGHTS

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Western PA District Church of the Brethren

June 2020

## FROM THE DISTRICT MINISTER'S DESK



*When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place . . . [and] all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*

*– Acts of the Apostles 2: 1,4*

With May 31<sup>st</sup> marking Pentecost this year, we are reminded of the powerful event when the Holy Spirit first came upon Jesus' disciples in Jerusalem after His ascension. There was a violent wind and tongues of fire, and the disciples were enabled to speak languages they themselves did not know. This happened so that the gospel could be proclaimed to Jewish people who lived in many different countries and who had assembled in Jerusalem for the Pentecost festival.

This was a miraculous event, and it is a joy to think how God has miraculously given us as well His Spirit to equip us for sharing the good news of Jesus with people of many different backgrounds. He has poured out His Spirit upon us. He has transformed us and made us new in Christ. He has put within us a Holy Spirit driven desire to let others know about the blessing of eternal life God has given us.

While we ourselves may not have been enabled to speak foreign languages by the power of the Holy Spirit, nevertheless all of our witness to Christ is empowered by the Spirit. The Apostle Paul says that no one can say "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. (I Cor. 12:3). So every time we say the name of Jesus in praise and worship or in discussions with others about the faith, we are sharing in a miraculous work of the Spirit. We may not think of it in this way, but through us God is making a divine proclamation to the world about His Son. The Holy Spirit works in us to let people of all walks of life and all backgrounds to hear the gospel.

So may you be encouraged by the fact that through Christ you have been filled with the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Holy Trinity! The Spirit is at work in you, just as He was in Peter, James, John, Andrew, Matthew, Thomas, Mary Magdalene, Paul, and Timothy! As they bore witness to Jesus, so can you with the same power that they did.

May all of the wonders of Pentecost fill your heart and mind with excitement in the faith!

**Bill Wenger**

# FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE

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The Highlights deadline for the **JULY/AUGUST 2020** issue is

**June 10, 2020**

Please send your information to [tlehman@brethren.org](mailto:tlehman@brethren.org).

## DISTRICT STAFF:

William Wenger, District Executive

Amy Bowman, Financial Clerk

Tina Lehman, District Secretary and Highlights Editor

## DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

## Financial Clerk is in

Tuesday & Thursday

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

## CONTACT US:

115 Spring Road

Hollsopple, PA 15935

814-479-2181

866-279-2181 toll free

814 479-2506 fax

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

## 2020 DISTRICT DIRECTORY

The **2020** District Directory is finished and has been sent out to the church contact list via email. Paper copies have been also sent out via regular mail.

Corrections and additions will be posted on this page in future issues.

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

## REQUEST FOR DIRECTORIES

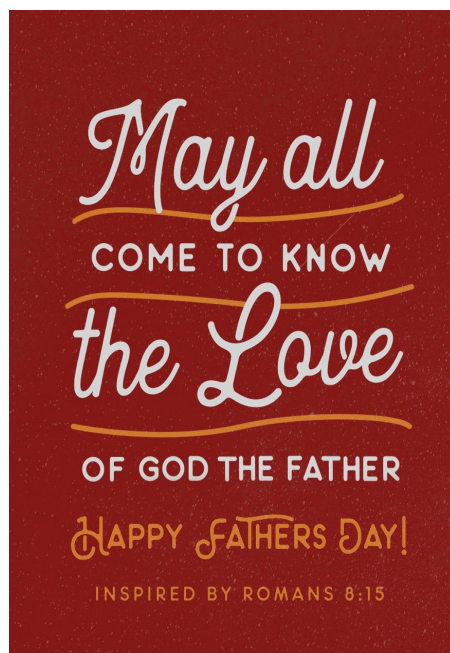
It is very helpful to the District Office staff to have updated information from all the churches we serve. If your congregation has a new directory for **2020** please send one to the District Office, 115 Spring Road, Hollsopple, 15935  
Thank you!

## ORDINATION REVIEWS

Ordained ministers and church leadership in the District should have received 2020 Ordination Review Forms.

Please be sure to complete these forms and return them to the District Office as soon as possible so that we can complete the review process and report to the denomination in Elgin.

If you have any questions, please contact the District Office, 814-479-2181.



# ACROSS THE DISTRICT

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## AVAILABLE SPEAKER

District Executive Bill Wenger is available to our District congregations to fill the pulpit on Sunday mornings, to meet with Church Boards for discussions about the mission of the congregation, and to provide teaching seminars on overviews of the Old Testament and/or the New Testament.

If your congregation is interested any of these things, please feel welcome to call Bill at the District Office, 814-479-2181. Thank you.

## ORGANIST WANTED

The **Arbutus COB** is looking for an organist for their Sunday morning worship service. The church is located at 1201 Erickson Drive, Johnstown.

Please contact Pastor Guy Myers at 814-659-3627 if you are interested.

## RESCHEDULED/CANCELED EVENTS

The Prayer Retreat that was scheduled for May 9, 2020 at Camp Harmony was canceled due to the statewide shutdown. Pastor Richard LaFountain was to be the speaker at the retreat and he is offering his book "Restoring Shattered Faith" as an e-book or in PDF format.

If you are interested, please email him at [pastordicklaf@gmail.com](mailto:pastordicklaf@gmail.com) and type FREE OFFER in your message. Pastor Richard will send you a copy via email or US postal mail.

## DISTRICT WOMEN'S MINISTRIES CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020

**July 20, 2020** meeting @ District Office

**August 15, 2020** Women's Tea  
@ Meyersdale COB

**September 21, 2020** meeting @ District Office

**October 8, 2020** Women's Brunch TBA

**November 16, 2020** meeting @ District Office

*Mark your calendars,  
more information to follow!*

## EVENTS AT THE PENN RUN CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTER

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

### Quilt Retreats

*[Rescheduled for June 2020]*

From 8:00 am—8:00 pm

### Annual Yard Sale

June 6, 2020

From 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Set-up day June 5th at 8:00 am

Call the church office at 724-463-0420  
for information.



# SERVING IN THE DISTRICT AND BEYOND

## BRETHREN DISASTER MINISTRIES

### We Need Your Help!

If you are interested in being a part of BDM mission trips, please contact Herb Ewald for more information at 814-539-8530 or [hjewald@atlanticbb.net](mailto:hjewald@atlanticbb.net)

#### 2020 Schedule

##### Day Trips

6/9/2020

8/13/2020

10/6/2020

10/29/2020

11/17/2020

12/3/2020

##### Week Trips

7/12—18/2020 full Project #1

9/13—19/2020

half Project #1 M/At.

11/8—14/2020 full Project #2

12/13—19/2020 full Project #2

**Note: Due to the current situation with COVID-19, BDM trips are being postponed and canceled. Please visit <http://www.brethren.org/bdm/> for more information.**



## EL NINO DE HOGAR SHOE PROJECT FUNDRAISER



**Please note**, the shoes collected **DO NOT** go directly to the Honduras Orphanage. The shoes go to Funds2orgs, which turns collected shoes into cash. This money is then given to the Orphanage for their needs.

The shoes you collect also serve as a philanthropic bridge to give people a hand-up and work opportunity, rather than just a hand-out.

Micro-entrepreneurs set up small businesses.

They sell the shoes you gather in their communities, which creates business and commerce opportunities leading to sustainability.

To participate, simply collect gently worn shoes, boots, slippers, or sandals at your church.

Questions may be directed to: Marie Camut at 814-266-3010, Brianna Baker, or the District Office.

There are no current work days scheduled at the ICA building at 1929 Penn Avenue, Jerome PA, 15937. New info will be posted as we receive it.

*(Shoes may still be dropped off at the district office.)*

When collecting all of the school and health kits, please put them into boxes and **not** bags. This makes it so much easier for shipping. Thanks from the District Disaster Team

**please note**



# ANNUAL CONFERENCE NEWS

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## Church of the Brethren Annual Conference will not be held this summer

The Standing Committee of the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference met by video conference call for a specially called meeting on Thursday, May 7, 2020. The Standing Committee, which is made up of district delegates to Annual Conference, discussed a recommendation from the denomination's Leadership Team, in consultation with the Annual Conference Program and Arrangements Committee, to cancel the Annual Conference scheduled for July 1-5, 2020 in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

**Standing Committee affirmed that recommendation and is announcing that an in-person Annual Conference will not be held this summer. It is with great sadness that this decision had to be made.**

As previous news releases regarding Annual Conference have indicated, the safety and health of Conference participants have been the highest priority. It became apparent within the past few weeks that because of the unsettling character and demands of the COVID-19 crisis, the denomination could not safely have a large gathering in July. This special meeting of Standing Committee was called because, by Church of the Brethren polity, Standing Committee is given the authority to make decisions for the Annual Conference between Conferences.

The decision included a deferring of the Annual Conference theme, program, and featured leadership to the 2021 Annual Conference scheduled to take place in Greensboro, NC, on June 30—July 4, 2021. The business of the 2020 Annual Conference, such as affirming the Compelling Vision, is also deferred to the 2021 Annual Conference.

The Nominating Committee of Standing Committee also brought a recommendation to the full Standing Committee that the ballot that would have been presented for election in 2020 will be presented to the 2021 Conference instead. The Nominating Committee will be contacting each person on the ballot to ask if they are willing for their name to be considered in the 2021 vote. People holding positions elected by Annual Conference whose terms expire in 2020 will be asked if they are willing to extend their terms one additional year until the election in 2021 can determine who will replace them.

**The Annual Conference Office is preparing to offer full refunds of registration and all other fees paid by those who already had registered for Annual Conference this year. Refund information, and an option to donate, will be sent by email.**

We are blessed that our host facilities in Grand Rapids have agreed to waive over a half million dollars in cancellation penalties if Annual Conference will return to Grand Rapids in our next open year. The Program and Arrangements Committee is glad to announce that Annual Conference will be back in Grand Rapids on July 3-7, 2024.

The Program and Arrangements Committee is working on plans for one or two online gatherings as a denomination during the week of July 1-5 when Annual Conference would have been held, although no business will be conducted. More information will be available in the coming weeks.

This will be the first time in the 233 years of recorded Church of the Brethren annual meetings that the Brethren will not be able to meet together in person. Even throughout the Civil War years, World Wars I and II, the Great Depression, and more, Brethren have gathered each summer to discern God's will, worship, and fellowship together. We mourn that this year the pandemic makes such a gathering impossible.

## COVID-19 RESOURCES

### **Financial Assistance for Church or District Staff**

**Ministry Assistance Fund:** This is a special fund created to assist credentialed ministers and licensed ministers serving as pastors. Applications for grants will be channeled through the District Executive/Minister or designee of the minister/family experiencing hardship. For more information, visit <http://www.brethren.org/ministryoffice/assistance-fund.html>, contact your District Executive/Minister, or email [officeofministry@brethren.org](mailto:officeofministry@brethren.org).

### **Grant Opportunities for Congregations**

**Brethren Faith in Action Fund:** This fund provides grants of up to \$5,000 to fund outreach ministry projects that serve communities, strengthen congregations, and expand the reign of God. Church of the Brethren camps are now eligible to apply for Brethren Faith in Action grants through December 2020. For more information visit <http://www.brethren.org/faith-in-action/>, email [BFIAFund@brethren.org](mailto:BFIAFund@brethren.org) or call 847-429-4343.

**COVID-19 Pandemic Grants:** This is a newly created program providing grants up to \$5,000 from Emergency Disaster Funds to support congregations in providing humanitarian relief for vulnerable people in their congregations and communities. This can include programs providing food, shelter, emotional and spiritual care, care of church leaders and support for children. To apply or for more information go to [covid19.brethren.org/grants](http://covid19.brethren.org/grants), email [bdm@brethren.org](mailto:bdm@brethren.org) or call 410-635-8731.

**Going to the Garden:** This is a special program of the Global Food Initiative/Office of Peacebuilding and Policy addressing food insecurity by providing micro-grants up to \$1,000 to create or supplement a community garden. Long-standing garden projects or those who have received grants from the GFI in the past are eligible to apply for larger amounts. To apply or for more information email [jboshart@brethren.org](mailto:jboshart@brethren.org) or 920-568-8177.

### **Grant Opportunities for Districts**

**COVID-19 Pandemic Grants:** This is a newly created program providing grants up to \$25,000 from Emergency Disaster Funds to support districts in providing humanitarian relief for vulnerable people in the congregations and communities of the district. This can include programs providing food, shelter, emotional and spiritual care, care of church leaders and more. To apply or more information go to [www.brethren.org/covid19grants](http://www.brethren.org/covid19grants), email [bdm@brethren.org](mailto:bdm@brethren.org) or call 410-635-8731.

### **Other Resources**

**CARES Act:** This Act, passed by the Federal government, outlines provisions to assist small businesses and non-profits (which includes churches) through the Paycheck Protection Program. This program is by application through a financial institution or bank. Consult with your legal, tax, financial or lending institution, and other competent professionals for more information. District executive ministers may also provide counsel and referrals for exploring these options. Visit [www.brotherhoodmutual.com](http://www.brotherhoodmutual.com) to learn more about how the Act applies to churches or districts. More information on the Act itself can be found at the U.S. Small Business Administration's coronavirus relief options website: <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options>

## BRETHREN REVIVAL FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

### **Brethren Bible Institute**

July 27—31, 2020

Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown PA

### **Brethren Alive 2020**

July 31—August 2, 2020

Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA

For more information, please write to:  
The Brethren Revival Fellowship, 155 Denver Road  
Denver, PA 17517

# AVAILABLE SPEAKERS

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## ORDAINED

ABRAHAM, FARREL – 4315 Seton Dr, Pittsburgh, 15227-1245 – 412-979-0067  
BEACHLEY, RONALD D. – PO Box 723, Davidsville, 15928-0723 – 814-479-4802  
BERKEBILE, WES J. – 4285 State Route 208, New Wilmington, 16142 – 724-901-7058  
DERR, AMELIA – 1202 Roberts Street, Nanty Glo, 15943-1325 – 814-749-0262  
DERR, HORACE - 1202 Roberts Street, Nanty Glo, 15943-1325 – 814-749-0262  
GREEN, GARY – 4589 Somerset Pike, Hollsopple, 15935-8217 – 814-915-0227  
HOUGHTON, JAMES E. - 124 Lindberg Ave, Johnstown, 15905-3019 -814 243-0534  
HOUGHTON, SALLY M. - 124 Lindberg Ave, Johnstown, 15905-3019 -814 243-6448  
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  
MYERS, GUY L. – 1271 Killiwhat Street, Johnstown, PA 15902-1224 – 814-536-2404  
PERUSO, RUSSELL J. – 151 Blackner Road, Johnstown, 15905 = 814-242-0549  
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  
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  
YOST, ERIC W. – 1009 First Street, Windber, PA 15963 – 814-241-7753  
YOUNG, FRANK P. – PO Box 251 Jerome, 15937 – 814-418-5930

## LICENSED

HILER, GARY W. - 228 Baltzer Bridge Rd, Friedens, 15541-6320 - 814 267-6722  
PISARSKI, STANLEY – 511 Thrasher Street, Johnstown, 15909 – 814-410-3685

## LAY SPEAKER

HIMES, PATRICK—219 Wild Cat Road, Windber, 15963—814-418-2352  
RAMER, DONNA L. -102 Franklin Drive, Greensburg, 15601-1305-724 836-0594

# CAMP HARMONY

## COVID—19 SUMMER UPDATE AND NEXT STEPS

Psalms 46:10

“Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”

Like you, we continue to move through this pandemic slowly and as safely as possible. But we are still moving! And we are thankful for everything that God has given us and what He continues to provide for us and show us along the way. In the redesigned schedule on this page you will find the next steps that we are moving towards for our summer camp program. We will be following all local, state and federal mandates in regards to summer camps as well as using guidelines from various camping associations in regards to safety and cleaning

There are three options available for those campers that are already registered for camp:

- 1) transfer your current payments to a new camp week
- 2) donate your current payment to Camp Harmony - full or partial
- 3) receive a full refund including the registration deposit.

We will be contacting all campers who are already registered to discuss the options. If you are a camper who has not registered for summer camp yet, please go to [campharmony.org](http://campharmony.org) to register for a week of camp from our redesigned schedule. Space is limited.

### 2020 REDESIGNED SUMMER SCHEDULE

Pre-K Camp - ages 3-5

June 29 - July 3, 9 am to noon

Day Camp - grades K-5

July 6-10, 9 am to 5 pm

Junior Camp - grades 2-5

July 12-17, overnight

Jr. High Camp - grades 5-8

July 19-24, overnight

Youth Camp - grades 8-12

July 26-31, overnight

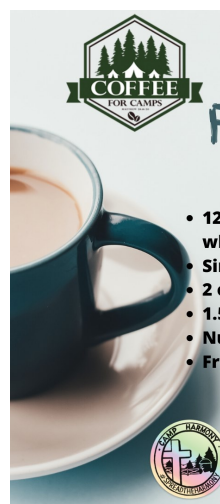
Day Camp - grades K-5

July 27-31, 9 am to 5 pm

**LOWER PRICES FOR 2020 CAMPS!!!**

**REGISTER ONLINE AT**

**WWW.CAMPHARMONY.ORG**



### Coffee Fundraiser

#### WHAT'S AVAILABLE??

- 12 oz. & 5 lb. bags - ground and whole beans
- Single serve cups
- 2 oz. & 6 oz. frac packs
- 1.5 lb. & 10 lb. green beans
- Numerous flavors!
- Free shipping on orders over \$40

SEE NEXT PIC FOR  
HOW TO ORDER!

[COFFEEHELPINGCAMPS.COM](http://COFFEEHELPINGCAMPS.COM)  
[CAMPHARMONY.ORG](http://CAMPHARMONY.ORG)



### Coffee Fundraiser

- Visit [coffeehelpingcamps.com](http://coffeehelpingcamps.com)
- Choose coffee to purchase
- Use fundraiser code:  
harmony-267
- 100% of profit comes to camp!
- Tell your coffee-loving friends

Thank you for  
your support,  
we appreciate you!

[COFFEEHELPINGCAMPS.COM](http://COFFEEHELPINGCAMPS.COM)  
[CAMPHARMONY.ORG](http://CAMPHARMONY.ORG)





## Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center

### A Note from Donna Rhodes, Executive Director



To say that our world finds itself in uncharted territory during the pandemic of COVID-19 does not feel like an adequate statement. Each of us experience unexpected changes in our daily pattern as we practice social distancing, scrub our hands, carefully plot simple trips to the grocery store or post office, and join our beloved families of faith virtually. We are learning anew how important relationships are and the need to be mindful of family and neighbors who may be alone and in need of care during this time.

The Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center is also adapting to the unexpected changes in our carefully planned courses and continuing education events. Our spring ACTS course for four of our five districts is *Introduction to Pastoral Care*. If there ever was a time to be creative in how pastoral care is provided, the time is now. Our students are learning quickly that while face-to-face pastoral care may be preferred, pandemic precautions call for creativity. The courses in *Introduction to Pastoral Care* are being taught via Zoom and the instructors are helping students hone skills for pastoral care in all circumstances including the pandemic in which we find ourselves.

SVMC acted quickly to rearrange schedules and plans for 1 graduate course, 6 ACTS courses, 3 continuing education events, and multiple meetings. Most courses and meetings are utilizing Zoom and our continuing education events are postponed with new dates already established or will be soon.

Our office on the Elizabethtown College campus is closed due the closing of the college. However, Karen Hodges, SVMC Program Coordinator, is working from home as is my usual practice. Our phone messages and mail are forwarded by the college. Through all these changes, we continue to provide the same attention and care to SVMC, and its students and instructors, as we have always done.

Your prayers and financial support for SVMC continue to be deeply appreciated as we fulfill our mission and ministry in these new circumstances. We know that COVID-19 has caused economic ramifications which affect individuals, congregations, and districts. SVMC will be affected by the economic ramifications, and we hope you will remember SVMC's ministry as you consider your charitable giving. Your support enables SVMC to carry out our work of ministry training in our geographic area.

May this excerpt of Psalm 109 from Psalms for Praying by Nan Merrill provide inspiration on this challenging journey:

*For You are kind and merciful, ever searching for ready hearts, and comforting those who cry out to You! Implant your gifts within my spirit, that I might offer them out to those in need! For, I long to do Your will, to co-create in joy, to become a beneficent presence in the world! Become like a garment wrapped around me, clothe me in the raiment of your love! Then I will be strong to face my fears with a love that is firm and sure. For You, O Heart of all hearts, are the Thread that connects each one of us, that defines the interconnectedness of all being! Though I am weak and yet have miles to go, your steadfast love will lead me Home. Fear yields itself to Love and cannot withstand the Light; just as one lit candle dispels the darkness, each ray of love eases the pangs of fear. O, Giver of the Journey, companion me along the way; then I will recognize your Face in each one I meet.*

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## Continuing Education Events 2020-21

[Click here for more info on CE Events](#)

*Excellent continuing education events are being planned by the Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center. Detailed information and registration forms are found by clicking on above link, or on SVMC's website: [www.ETOWN.EDU/SVMC](http://www.ETOWN.EDU/SVMC) under "Continuing Education". (Due to COVID-19, several events have been rescheduled. The schedule below reflects all changes -- to date).*

- **Binocular Vision: Seeing Through Eyes of Faith and Science, .55 CEUs**  
Juniata College, .55 CEUs  
Leader: Russell Haitch  
Postponed: TBD (Originally scheduled for March 19 2020)
- **Pastoral Care & Crisis Intervention, Part III, .5 CEUs**  
Leader: Dale Leverknight  
Originally scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2020 at Newville Church of the Brethren  
New Date and Location: Saturday, October 24, 2020, Huntsdale Church of the Brethren
- **Neurocognitive Disorders: Supporting Parishioners through the Journey, .5 CEUs**  
Leaders: Jenn Holcomb and Kimberly Korge  
Originally scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2020, Cross Keys Village  
Postponed to May 10, 2021, same location.
- **Stories of Transformation in Luke-Acts and their Expression in Narrative Art, .55 CEUs**  
Leaders: Christine Bucher and Bob Neff  
Monday, October 5, 2020, Elizabethtown College
- **Pastoral Care & Crisis Intervention, Part IV, .5 CEUs**  
Leader: Dale Leverknight  
Originally scheduled for Saturday, October 24, 2020, Huntsdale Church of the Brethren  
Postponed: Date and Location TBD (Note that Part III will be held October 24)
- **Kingdom Building in Worship, .55 CEUs**  
Leaders: Cindy Lattimer, co-pastor; Marty Keeney and Loren Rhodes, musicians  
Saturday, October 31, 2020, Stone Church of the Brethren
- **Science Fiction and Theology: Connections with Culture, .55 CEUs**  
Leader: Steve Schweitzer  
Wednesday, November 11, 2020, Elizabethtown College

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## 2020-21 Class Schedule

The ACTS (Academy Certified Training System) and TRIM (TRaining In Ministry) courses of SVMC are available not only to students in ministry training, but also to lay persons seeking development of their understanding of scripture and ministry skills. In addition,



courses are available for CEUs (Continuing Education Units). The cost is: Credit=\$240; Audit=\$80; CEUs=\$90; TRIM=\$300.

To register for the ACTS or TRIM courses listed below, please contact Karen Hodges by email: [hodgesk@etown.edu](mailto:hodgesk@etown.edu), or phone: 717-361-1450.

To register for the Graduate courses hosted by SVMC, please contact the Admission's Team at Bethany Theological Seminary at 800-287-7722, or email [admission@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:admission@bethanyseminary.edu).

Please share this information with persons who may be interested in registering for our courses.

#### SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY MINISTRY CENTER COURSES 2020-21

(updated April 5, 2020)

ACTS	LOCATION	INSTRUCTOR	DATES & TIMES
<b>Atlantic Northeast District</b>			
Intro to Old Testament	Akron CoB	Galen Hackman	Tues: Sept 22, Oct 6, 20, Nov 10, 17, 2020 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Church of the Brethren History	Etown College Young Center	Jeff Bach	Thurs: Jan 7, 14, 28, Feb 11, 25, 2021 (make-up Mar 4); 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Teaching & Learning in the Church	ANE District Office	Joe Detrick	Thurs: Mar 25, Apr 8, 22, May 6, 20, 2021 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM
<b>Mid-Atlantic District</b>			
Intro to Old Testament	TBD	Jeff Davidson	Sat: TBD 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM
Church of the Brethren History	Westminster CoB	Jim Benedict	Sat: Jan 30, Feb 13, Mar 6, 2021 (make-up Mar 13) 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM
Teaching & Learning in the Church	Westminster CoB	Charlotte Bear	Sat: Mar 27, Apr 17, May 15, 2021 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM
<b>Middle PA District</b>			
Intro to Old Testament	MPA District Office	Craig Gandy	Tues: Sept 8, 22, Oct 6, 20, Nov 10, 2020 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Church of the Brethren History	MPA District Office	Craig Gandy	Tues: Jan 5, 19, Feb 2, 16, Mar 2, 2021 (make-up Mar 9); 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Teaching & Learning in the Church	MPA District Office	Mark Liller	Tues: Mar 23, Apr 6, 20, May 4, 18, 2021 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM
<b>Southern PA District</b>			
Intro to Old Testament	Newville CoB	John Hess	Tues: Sept 22, Oct 6, 20, Nov 10, 17, 2020 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Church of the Brethren History	SOPA District Office	Bill Waugh	Tues: Jan 12, Feb 2, 16, Mar 2, 16, 2021 (make-up Mar 23); 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Teaching & Learning in the Church	Carlisle CoB	Donita Keister	Saturdays: March 20, April 10, May 1, 2021 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
<b>Western PA District</b>			
Intro to New Testament	WPA District Office	Dale Leverknight	Sat: Aug 15, Aug 29, Sept 19, 2020 9 AM – 3:30 PM
Intro to Theology	WPA District Office	Rob Wolf	Sat: Oct 10, 24, Nov 14, 2020 9 AM - 3:30 PM
Preaching	Rummel CoB	Ruby Mader & Abby Shaffer	Sat: Feb 13, 27, Mar 13, 2021 9 AM – 3:30 PM
Worship	WPA District Office	Ron St. Clair	Sat: Apr 17, May 1, 22, 2021 9 AM - 3:30 PM
<b>All Districts</b>			
Communication Skills for Pastoral Ministry	Carlisle CoB	Ken Gibble	Sat: Feb 20, March 20, 2021 9 AM – 3:30 PM
<b>TRIM</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	<b>DATES &amp; TIMES</b>
CoB Polity & Practice	ANE District Office	Randy Yoder	Oct 23 -24 and Nov 13-14, 2020 Fridays: 4 pm-9 pm; Saturdays: 8 am-5 pm
<b>GRADUATE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	<b>DATES &amp; TIMES</b>
Chronicles-Ezra-Nehemiah	Stone CoB	Steve Schweitzer	Aug 28-29, Oct 16-17, Nov 13-14, 2020
Brethren Beliefs & Practices	Juniata College	Denise Kettering-Lane	TBD

## Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center

[www.ETOWN.EDU/svmc](http://www.ETOWN.EDU/svmc)

717-361-1450

SVMC's mission is to equip leaders for ministry in a regionally based, Christ centered, culturally relevant context in ways that bear witness to the beliefs, heritages and practices of the Church of the Brethren. SVMC is a Church of the Brethren ministry partner with Bethany Theological Seminary, Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership, and five Church of the Brethren districts: Atlantic Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Middle PA, Southern PA and Western PA.

Photo by Karen Hodges

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# 2020 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 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thanks!

## JANUARY 2020

- 1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!
- 6 - Epiphany
- 18 - 25 - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 24 - 26 - Junior Winter Camp (Grades 2 – 6), Camp Harmony
- 31 - Teen Winter Camp (Grades 7 -12) begins, Camp Harmony

## FEBRUARY 2020

- 2 - Teen Winter Camp (Grades 7 – 12) ends, Camp Harmony
- 6 - Core Leadership Team, 6:00 pm, District Office
- 8 - SVMC Class, 9:00 am, District Office
- 9 - Johnstown Area Sub-District Prayer Gathering, 3:00 pm, Pleasant Hill COB
- 15 - District Leadership Team, 9:00 am, Tire Hill COB
- 17 - District Women's Ministries meeting, 1:00 pm, District Office
- 21 - Indoor Open Climb, 6:00 pm, Camp Harmony
- 22 - SVMC Class, 9:00 am, District Office
- 26 - ASH WEDNESDAY
- 28 - Indoor Open Climb, 6:00 pm Camp Harmony

## MARCH 2020

- 1 - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
- 6 - WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
- 8 - **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS (Turn clocks AHEAD one hour)**
- 8 - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
- 13 - Indoor Open Climb, 6:00 pm, Camp Harmony
- 13 – 14 - Scrapbook Retreat, Camp Harmony
- 14 - Teaching Seminar, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Plumcreek COB
- 14 - SVMC Class, 9:00 am, District Office
- 15 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

# 2020 DISTRICT EVENTS AND MEETINGS

## **MARCH 2020 - continued**

- 16 - District Women's Ministries meeting, 1:00 pm, District Office
- 22 - ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
- 22 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
- 29 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

## **APRIL 2020**

- 5 - PALM SUNDAY
- 9 - MAUNDY THURSDAY
- 10 - GOOD FRIDAY
- 12 - ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!
- 19 - Tithing Sunday

## **MAY 2020**

- 7 - NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
- 7 - Core Leadership Team, 6:00 pm, ZOOM
- 10 - HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
- 21 - ASCENSION DAY
- 25 - MEMORIAL DAY
- 31 - HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHURCH! (Pentecost Sunday)

## **JUNE 2020**

- 21 - HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

## **JULY 2020**

- 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY
- 16 - Core Leadership Team 6:00 pm, (District Conference Business)
- 20 - District Women's Ministries meeting, 1:00 pm, District Office
- 25 - District Leadership Team, 9 am, Windber COB (District Conference Business)

# 2020 DISTRICT EVENTS AND MEETINGS

## AUGUST 2020

- 15 - SVMC Class, 9:00 am, District Office
- 15 - DWM Women's Tea, Meyersdale COB
- 16 - Stewardship Sunday
- 29 - SVMC Class, 9:00 am, District Office

## SEPTEMBER 2020

- 3 - Core Leadership Team, 6:00 pm, District Office
- 4 – 7 - Gospel Festival, Camp Harmony
- 7 - LABOR DAY
- 12 - District Leadership Team, 9:00 am, TBA
- 19 - SVMC Class, 9:00 am, District Office
- 21 - District Women's Ministries meeting, 1:00 pm, District Office
- 21 - DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE
- 26 - 27 - Harmony Fest, Camp Harmony

## OCTOBER 2020

- 4 - WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
- 8 - DWM, Women's Brunch, TBA
- 17 - District Conference, 9:00 am, Camp Harmony

## NOVEMBER 2020

- 1 - **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS (Turn clocks BACK one hour)**
- 5 - Core Leadership Team, 6:00 p.m., District Office
- 14 - District Leadership Team, 9:00 am, TBA
- 16 - District Women's Ministries meeting, 11:00 am, District Office
- 26 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!
- 29 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# 2020 DISTRICT EVENTS AND MEETINGS

## **DECEMBER 2020**

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 6  | - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT                   |
| 12 | - CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY – Camp Harmony |
| 13 | - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT                    |
| 20 | - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT                   |
| 24 | - Christmas Eve                             |
| 25 | - MERRY CHIRSTMAS!!                         |
| 31 | - NEW YEAR'S EVE                            |