

# THE HIGHLIGHTS

Western PA District Church of the Brethren

March 2023

## LOOKING DOWN THE ROAD

Ash Wednesday, February 22nd starts the Season of Lent and our view is challenged to look down the road to the Cross, the Tomb and YES, the Resurrection! Looking down the road and waiting expectantly is as old as time. Humankind is looking and unfortunately worrying about just about everything. It even happens in our congregations.

The other day I heard someone say "Worrying is a negative prayer," I do not believe I had ever heard that stated quite like that before. I have told my children and myself that, "worrying is like paying interest on a loan you had not received yet," So often we worry about medical, financial and even spiritual matters, way before they even happen.

Parents and even expectant parents worry about how they will be able to pay for college or what occupation their child will go after and will they be able to afford a home when they marry. Some individuals worry growing old and how will they manage a wheel chair or walker! Really! In your thirties you worry about that?

Congregations worry about leadership, finances and buildings. Who will bury us, visit us or speak on Sunday mornings, and how does a small declining congregation maintain this building built a hundred years ago for 10 or 20 times the number that is attending now. Worry is a Negative Prayer! This idea that by watching and worrying we can affect or protect ourselves from the vagaries of life is untrue.

Trusting in God is more than a BUMPER STICKER, it is the path for success. Individuals and Congregations need to trust in God's plans and be willing to ask for the plans, and follow the plans God lays in their laps. Why would anyone who purchased a large multi passenger vehicle for their large family, continue to drive it, patch it, when you were down to two individuals or one?



Often family homes that once housed everyone growing up are moved out of, to a place that suits the needs of those remaining. It's more efficient and financially sound for those who are present.

I am constantly surprised at those who worry about how the church wants to change. They do not want to do it differently than how they have done it for the past xx years. Yet almost none have a Black and white TV, Rotary dial phone or live without a Microwave in their home. But live in the sixties in the church they sometimes attend and want everyone to go back in time, with music, dress and culture.

Serving Jesus in the present is where it needs to be, not worrying about how the culture, and the times have changed around us. In Matthew chapter 4 Jesus hears that John the Baptist is in prison, He then goes to Galilee. Then in Matthew 4:17: Jesus begins to preach; "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven has come near."

We need to quit worrying about what is down the road.

We must live out The Father's plan and move forward, not tied to the past, nor worrying about what is to happen. Live each day, each season and move faithfully toward the place prepared for the children of God. Worry is a Negative Prayer. Live in the light and promise of Jesus Christ. Remove the chains of the past.

Pete Kaltenbaugh, Interim District Minister

# FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE

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

**March 10, 2023**

Please send your information to [tlehman@brethren.org](mailto: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](http://www.westernpacob.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 will be making a new directory for **2023** please send one to the District Office, 115 Spring Road, Hollsopple, 15935  
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.

## IRS MILEAGE RATE

The mileage rate for 2023 is **65.5 cents** per mile.

## 2023 DISTRICT DIRECTORY

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

Changes and updates are listed on **Page 3**, please make a note of them.

If you would like a paper copy of the 2023 District Directory, please contact me at [tlehman@brethren.org](mailto:tlehman@brethren.org) or 814-479-2181

Thank you!

## EMAIL SAFETY

Just a friendly reminder:

If you receive an email that looks suspicious, claiming to be from someone you know in the District, be cautious. Ask yourself if the message sounds like something that person would send to you.

Check the address it was sent from, and if it looks fishy, it probably is. Do not give out any personal information or send money to someone claiming to be someone you may know from the District. Nobody in the District will ask you for gift cards or banking information.

Remember to trust your gut and be safe online!

# DISTRICT DIRECTORY UPDATES

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If you have received a **paper copy** of the 2023 District Directory, please make the following corrections. The PDF file form of the directory has been emailed out to the congregations.

<b>Page 5</b>	Change Robert Stein's email to ucobpastor@gmail.com
<b>Page 8</b>	Change Travis Shaulis' street address to 608 Second Street
<b>Page 12</b>	Change Travis Shaulis' street address to 608 Second Street
<b>Page 13</b>	Change Linda Stoner's address to 2450 Stutzmantown Road, Somerset 15501
<b>Page 14</b>	Remove Kayla Cowan
<b>Page 14</b>	Add Marshall Fetsko & Gary Reese as Maintenance, harmony@campharmony.org
<b>Page 14</b>	Add Tammy Page as Housekeeping, harmony@campharmony.org
<b>Page 14</b>	Todd Shaffer and Andrew Moser's terms are (2023)
<b>Page 14</b>	Dan Shaffer is Camp Board Treasurer
<b>Page 15</b>	Lacey Yinkey is Camp Board Secretary
<b>Page 17</b>	Change Bear Run Location Address to 1471 Mill Run, Mill Run PA 15464
<b>Page 17</b>	Change Pastor Robert Stein's address to 1265 Kentuck Road, Ohio, 15470
<b>Page 17</b>	Change Pastor Robert Stein's email to ucobpastor@gmail.com
<b>Page 18</b>	Change First COB Ligonier pastor John Shaffer's phone number to 610-413-1997
<b>Page 19</b>	Change Indiana Freedom Church email to info@freedomchurchpa.com
<b>Page 20</b>	Change Locust Grove pastor Michael Kenney's phone number to 814-288-7083
<b>Page 20</b>	Change Meyersdale pastor Eric Shaulis' phone number to 814-442-7968,
<b>Page 20</b>	Change Meyersdale pastor Eric Shaulis' email to epshaulis@comast.net
<b>Page 22</b>	Change Pleasant Hill email to pleasanthillcoboffice@gmail.com
<b>Page 23</b>	Change Rayman pastor Charles Mahon's phone number to 814-418-8359
<b>Page 25</b>	Change Uniontown Associate Pastor Robert Stein's email to ucobpastor@gmail.com
<b>Page 26</b>	Move Linda and Ronald Beachley to page 31 under Retired Ordained Ministers
<b>Page 26</b>	Move Michael Christine to Page 31 under Retired Ordained Ministers
<b>Page 27</b>	Move Dottie Grew to page 31 under Retired Ordained Ministers
<b>Page 28</b>	Change Charles Mahon's phone number to 814-418-8359
<b>Page 29</b>	Change John Shaffer's phone number to 610-413-1997
<b>Page 29</b>	Change Robert Stein's email address to ucobpastor@gmail.com
<b>Page 31</b>	Change Dorothy Kunselman's phone number to 814-229-2527
<b>Page 32</b>	Add Shelby McCoy, 1809 Geiger Road, Friedens, 15541-7500, cell 814-233-5383
<b>Page 33</b>	Change Michael Kenney's phone number to 814-288-7083
<b>Page 33</b>	Change Travis Shaulis' street address to 608 Second Street

# ACROSS THE DISTRICT

## NEW MEMBERS

### Congregation

**Purchase Line**—Kaylon Karlovich and Michaela Lydic

## LEADERSHIP CHANGES

### Retired

Dottie Grew  
Daniel Whitacre  
Michael Christine  
Chris Forry

### Pastoral Changes

M. Ross Glotfelty, part-time—Maple Glen

## 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

## WITH SYMPATHY

To the family of **Pastor Linda Reininger** as she passed away on January 13th

To **Pastor Stan Pisarski** and his family as his mother passed away on January 17th.

To family of **Pastor Henry Landis** as he passed away on January 30th.

To the family of **Pastor John Glick** as he passed away on January 1st. See obituary below:

*The Rev. John W. Glick, 83, of Bridgewater, passed away at home on Sunday, Jan. 1, 2023. He was a long-time pastor in the Church of the Brethren, serving churches in Pennsylvania, Iowa, Indiana and Virginia. He also loved driving the school bus, church and activities busses, and was involved at the Bridgewater Retirement Community. His family would like to thank the Bridgewater EMS and the RMH Emergency Department staff. There will be a service held March 25 at the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Bridgewater Volunteer Rescue Squad, 10 Volunteer Drive, Bridgewater, VA 22812.*

## CONGREGATIONAL PROFILES

The following congregations looking for part-time pastors:

Plumcreek, Robinson, and Pike Run

Interested pastors please contact the District Office.

# ACROSS THE DISTRICT

## 100 YEAR CELEBRATION

The **Connellsville COB** will be having a 100-year celebration on March 19, 2023 at 11:00 am at the church.

**Congratulations on 100 years!**



## EASTER EGG SALE

The **Indiana Freedom Church** will be having an Easter egg sale until March 12, 2023.

Cost is \$5.00 per egg

Flavors available: peanut butter and coconut

Contact the church at 724-463-3280

## EVENTS AT THE PENN RUN CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTER

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

### Pasta Buffet

Saturday, March 4, 2023

4:00 pm—7:00 pm

### PA Dutch Buffet

Saturday, April 1, 2023

4:00 pm—7:00 pm

### Pasta Buffet

Saturday, May 6, 2023

4:00 pm—7:00 pm

### Spring Craft Show

Saturday, May 20, 2023

9:00 am—2:00 pm

### Yard Sale

Saturday, June 3, 2023

8:00 am—2:00 pm

**Call 724-463-0420 for event info.**

## PRE-EASTER CELEBRATION

The **Pleasant Hill COB** is providing an opportunity for folks to prepare for Easter with a time of meditation from the cross. Seven stations will be provided and each one will focus on one of the sayings from the cross. Participants may spend as much or as little time as they wish at each station.

The church will be open at the following times:

March 28, 29 and 30 from 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

April 1 from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

April 2 from 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

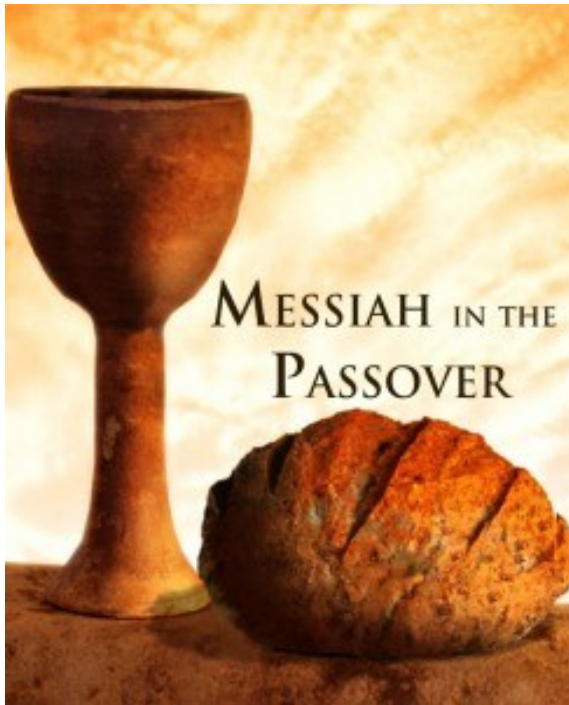
You are invited to come and spend some time at the foot of the cross as you prepare to celebrate





# PASSOVER SEDER

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**Sunday, April 16, 2023 at 5:00 pm  
at Camp Harmony**

The Messiah in the Passover Banquet is a wonderful presentation that opens up the Old Testament and gives Christians new insights into communion. The Banquet will be approximately 2 and a half hours featuring a full Jewish Seder meal and explanations of the traditions presented. The presenter is **Jeff Kipp** from Chosen People Ministries.

Jeff was born Brooklyn, New York. In the Fall of 1973, Jeff left college, friends, and everything behind to find America and find himself. He landed in a little New Mexican town called Taos and the second day there, he was led to a Jesus People coffee house and met Dr. Michael Silverburg, a fellow Jew and fellow New Yorker. That night was the first time Jeff was told that Jesus was the Jewish Messiah and he prayed to

receive Him into his heart and life. The Lord began to speak to Jeff of his destiny and the call of God upon his life in regards to reaching his Jewish people with the gospel. It was also in Northern California that he met his wife-to-be, Kathy. The Lord had led her to Santa Cruz to be a part of Youth with a Mission. They were called by the Lord to move back to Kathy's hometown of Minneapolis to begin their new life together. It was there they were introduced to the Messianic Movement and became part of a Messianic Jewish Congregation.



After many years of ministry, the Lord called the Kipps to relocate to Pittsburgh in 1993 where they have successfully pioneered and planted two Messianic Congregations and have seen many Jewish people come to faith in their Messiah. They lead Congregation Yeshua Ben David, started in 2005 and meet in the heart of Pittsburgh's Jewish community, in Squirrel Hill.

This event is open to people of all ages and families are encouraged to attend and be part of this experience.

**Cost is \$20.00 for adults, \$10.00 for children ages 6 - 18, children age 6 and under are free.**  
**Please RSVP by April 3, 2023** to the District Office at 814-479-2181 or [tlehman@brethren.org](mailto:tlehman@brethren.org).  
Make checks payable to the Western PA District.



**CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES**

# ACROSS THE DISTRICT

## HELP WANTED

### THE DISTRICT IS IN NEED OF A TREASURER

#### SUMMARY and ACCOUNTABILITY:

The Treasurer is the custodian of all the funds administered by the District Board and reports to the Stewards Commission and to the District Board. The Treasurer instructs the Financial Clerk on any necessary functions that need to be handled and will also have close contact with the Financial Clerk. There are no set hours for this position, only as needed. The treasurer will attend CORE Team meetings along with the Stewards & Finance Team Chair. The Treasurer will be an authorized signee on all banking and saving accounts.

If you are interested or feeling God calling you to this Treasurer's position, please contact Donna Smith at (814) 535-1102.

## CALL FOR GOOD NEWS

**We can all use some good news now  
and again right?**

Milestone birthdays, milestone anniversaries,  
academic achievements, etc.  
I look forward to sharing more good news from  
the District!

[tlehman@brethren.org](mailto:tlehman@brethren.org)

## 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-ZM8IDIo0J\\_v6FfXuzfhRJn8YR1Nqs9g&ref=py\\_c&paipv=0](https://www.facebook.com/people/Meyersdale-Church-Of-The-Brethren/100064412810727/?eav=AfZ_hZTDR0BT2145UoR6btO6zS69_LKf8aq-ZM8IDIo0J_v6FfXuzfhRJn8YR1Nqs9g&ref=py_c&paipv=0)

**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>

## 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

# ACROSS THE DISTRICT

## DISTRICT LIBRARY

### Did you know the District Office has a Library and Resource Room?

During these winter months you are probably preparing for the upcoming events at your church. Have you ever checked out the District Library and Resource Rooms? They are packed full of useful information.

The district resource room can be a place to look for small group bible studies, teaching books for helping kids make friends or facing fears and helping to grow in their faith in the Lord. There is also a curriculum books for teaching kids and adults with developmental disabilities.

A short walk down the hall you walk into our district library. Are you in charge of teaching the youth and need some creative bible studies ideas. Do you need some literature on how to recruit some help? Books are available for you to read. You teenagers that have to do book reports maybe you can find an interesting book here.

We have books on minsters who were influential in the world like Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Billy Graham. If you want to know the history of Christianity or the history of our Church of the Brethren denomination. You can find that in our library too! There are also multiple pastoral resources available on these shelves as well.

I have only touched on the list of books and teaching resources available to borrow. Be sure to check our district resources!

Respectfully submitted by Kaitie Coughenour,  
Western PA District Spiritual Formation Team  
Member



## YOUTH OPPORTUNITY

The Locust Grove COB will be starting a weekly youth group meeting at their church Wednesday evenings at 6:30. They do not have many youth at their church currently but would like to invite any district youth that would like to join their youth for this fun opportunity.

Contact the church at 814-539-6826  
or [locustgrove@atlanticcbb.net](mailto:locustgrove@atlanticcbb.net)  
for more information.



May the road rise to meet you,  
may the wind always be at  
your back, the sun shine warm  
upon your face, the rains fall  
soft upon your fields and until  
we meet again may God hold you  
in the hollow of his hand.

- AN IRISH BLESSING



# 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 [hjewald@atlanticbb.net](mailto:hjewald@atlanticbb.net) or (814) 539-8530, (C) 814-691-5718

### New Windsor Trips

No Trips Scheduled Yet

### Week-long Trips

5/7/23 to 5/13/23	½ group needed, S. Ohio/KY
7/9/23 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



THANK YOU!!!!

After months of collecting shoes for shipment to funds2orgs, our pick up date was set January 25. We were excited to get our shipment underway, unaware that some of our regular volunteers would be unable to be present that day. As we scrambled to find substitutes to fill those jobs, the weather forecast became ominous. On Tuesday morning, snow and sleet caused school and road closings around Johnstown. We were anxious as we waited for the truck, which was being driven by a Florida resident, to find its way to the Westmont church. We were blessed to have them arrive safely, and our crew made short work of loading the truck.

Many thanks to our fearless packers: Ron Beachley, Bill Cuppett, Karen Nagyvathy, Bob Nagyvathy, Gene Myers, Matt Myers, Bill Hemminger, Brock Hemminger, Ross Camut and Marie Camut.

Our January shipment earned **\$1,373.60** for the El Hogar De Ninos Enmanuel Christian Home! **THANK YOU** to our district churches! Your continued support of this project is a blessing for the Home, and an act of Christian service we can make together.

We have already started to collect for our next shipment. As always, we are asking for new or gently worn shoes, boots, slippers, or sandals. Please place a rubber band around each pair. The shoes may be delivered to the District Office during office hours, or by calling the Westmont church 814-255-2154 for a drop off appointment. Our next Collection Day will be held at the Westmont church on:

**Tuesday, April 25, 2023, 9:00-11:00 AM.**

For further information on the project, please contact:  
Marie Camut, 814-266-3010, April Mackell,  
814-536-1589, or Karen Nagyvathy, 184-244-5977.

# AVAILABLE SPEAKERS

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## ORDAINED

**ABRAHAM, FARREL** – 4315 Seton Drive, Pittsburgh, 15227-1245 / 412-979-0067 / [sharingpearls@comcast.net](mailto:sharingpearls@comcast.net)

**BEACHLEY, LINDA**—PO Box 723, Davidsville, 15928-0723 / 814-479-4802 / [lrbeac@atlanticbb.net](mailto:lrbeac@atlanticbb.net)

**BEACHLEY, RONALD** – PO Box 723, Davidsville, 15928-0723 / 814-479-4802 / [rondbeachley@gmail.com](mailto:rondbeachley@gmail.com)

**BROADWATER, KEVIN**—475 Keystone Street, Meyersdale, 15552-6943 / 814-442-5684 / [pastorbroadwater@verizon.net](mailto:pastorbroadwater@verizon.net)

**DERR, AMELIA** – 1202 Roberts Street, Nanty Glo, 15943-1325 / 814-749-0262 / [iamameliaderr@yahoo.com](mailto:iamameliaderr@yahoo.com)

**DERR, HORACE** - 1202 Roberts Street, Nanty Glo, 15943-1325 / 814-749-0262 / [pastorbutch@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbutch@gmail.com)

**HOUGHTON, SALLY** - 124 Lindberg Avenue, Johnstown, 15905-3019 / 814-243-6448 / [smh124@atlanticbb.net](mailto:smh124@atlanticbb.net)

**KABLER, ERIC**—126 Clermont Street, Johnstown 15904-2132 / 814-266-2734 / [eric.kabler@kablerthomas.com](mailto:eric.kabler@kablerthomas.com)

**LONGWELL, ERIC**— 240 Plumcreek Road, Shelocta, 15774-3144 / 724-599-8690 / [kb3ttx@gmail.com](mailto:kb3ttx@gmail.com)

**MADER, RUBY**—2101 Cambria Avenue, Windber, 15963 / 814-467-5262 / [redhatvicar@yahoo.com](mailto:redhatvicar@yahoo.com) (June, July and August only)

**MANGES, JOHN** – 137 Catskill Lane, Johnstown, 15904-7523 / 814-539-3332 / [manges@atlanticbb.net](mailto:manges@atlanticbb.net)

**MARSHALL, HOMER** - 369 W. Church Avenue, Masontown, 15461 / 724-583-7073 / [hom.run2007@verizon.net](mailto:hom.run2007@verizon.net)

**MARSHALL, PATRICIA** - 369 W. Church Avenue, Masontown, 15461 / 724-583-7073 / [hom.run2007@verizon.net](mailto:hom.run2007@verizon.net)

**MOSORJAK, GARY** – 1337 Roxbury Avenue, Johnstown, 15905-1224 / 814-659-5853 / [wendel05@aol.com](mailto:wendel05@aol.com)

**PERUSO, RUSSELL** – 151 Blackner Road, Johnstown, 15905 / 814-242-0549 / [russperuso@gmail.com](mailto:russperuso@gmail.com)

**PISARSKI, STANLEY** – 511 Thrasher Street, Johnstown, 15909 / 814-410-3685 / [spisarski1017@gmail.com](mailto:spisarski1017@gmail.com)

**STEIN, ROBERT** - PO Box 375, Chalk Hill, 15421-0375 / 724-438-2226 / [crid@verizon.net](mailto:crid@verizon.net)

**SWICK, MICHAEL** - 4127 Greenville Road, Meyersdale 15552-8518 / 814-634-8158 / [preachmike101@comcast.net](mailto:preachmike101@comcast.net)

**WALKER, JUDY**—425 Morningside Avenue, Jeannette 15644 / 724-522-5260 / [larryewalker1@gmail.com](mailto:larryewalker1@gmail.com)

## LICENSED

**BURNEY, OYANGO**—111 Hillcrest Drive, Indiana, PA 15701 / 724-541-6850 / [livingyourbestlifeinthepresent@gmail.com](mailto:livingyourbestlifeinthepresent@gmail.com)

**COUGHENOUR, KAITLYN**— 785 Red Dog Road, Salisbury, 15558 / 814-521-4649 / [shellywithattitude@gmail.com](mailto:shellywithattitude@gmail.com)

**GEORGE, ROBERT**—850 Pine Street, Indiana, 15701 / 724-762-0773 / [rjghemlock@gmail.com](mailto:rjghemlock@gmail.com)

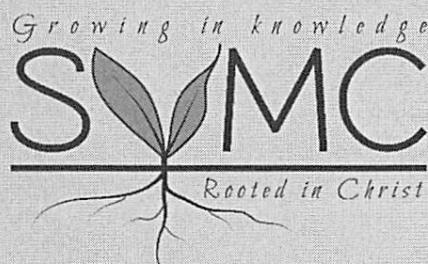
**SHAULIS, TRAVIS**—608 Second Street, Meyersdale, 15552 / 814-442-8626 / [tanbadaner@gmail.com](mailto:tanbadaner@gmail.com)

## LAY SPEAKER


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

# CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

## Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center Upcoming Continuing Education Events



Dear Friends of Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center: Below are our current continuing education events that are open to all. To register, click on the event title and follow the registration links for each event, or contact SVMC. If fees are involved, check or credit card payments are accepted. (Credit card processing fees are paid by the registrant).

<p><u>Ministering to Those with Addictions and Their Families</u> Blaine Minor, Leader March 6, 13, 20, 2023 7 PM – 8:30 PM, Zoom</p>	<p>Addiction is a major problem in our society, and the church is not immune to this heartache. We may feel unknowledgeable and helpless as the church ministers to families affected by addiction. Through this 3-part ONLINE series, we will take an in-depth look at addictions and how to minister to both the addict and the family of the addict. Sign up for one, two, or all three sessions. <b>Registration for this series is free but required.</b> <b>CEUs (.15) are available for \$10.00 per session.</b></p>
<p><u>Theology of the Holy Spirit</u> Joelle Hathaway, Leader March 29, 2023 9 AM – 3 PM Juniata College</p>	<p>This course explores the doctrine of the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life, through the lens of God as Triune Creator. Though in recent centuries the Holy Spirit has often been the neglected member of the Godhead, much contemporary theological reflection has sought to remedy this situation. In this session, we will consider scriptural, Patristic, and contemporary theological voices from both East and West, emphasizing the role of the Holy Spirit in animating, sanctifying, beautifying, and perfecting the created world as well as the relationship between the Spirit and the Son. <b>\$60.00 for .5 CEUs; \$50.00 for no CEUs. Includes lunch.</b></p>
<p><u>Julian of Norwich, Catharine Hummer, and Universal Restoration</u> Frank Ramirez, Leader April 25, 2023 7 PM – 8:30 PM, Zoom</p>	<p>Universal Restoration (not Universalism) was one of the core doctrines of the Pietist movement in general and the Brethren in particular. Grounded in scripture, it is not the belief that everyone will be saved. It only suggests that there is no limit to what God <i>can</i> do. This session will explore both Julian of Norwich (1342-c.1416) who was the first woman to write a book in English, and Catharine Hummer (fl.1762) of White Oak, PA, who was the first woman to preach among the Brethren. (Click on the title link to read more). <b>Registration for this series is free but required.</b> <b>CEUs (.15) are available for \$10.00 per session.</b></p>
<p><u>Neurocognitive Disorders: Supporting Parishioners</u> Kimberly Korge, Leader May 9, 2023 9 AM – 3 PM Cross Keys Village</p>	<p>Event objectives: 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. <b>\$60.00 for .5 CEUs; \$50.00 for no CEUs. Includes lunch.</b></p>
<p><b>Future Events</b> </p>	<p>The following events are in the planning stages for 2023. Please stay tuned for more information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steve Schweitzer, Academic Dean, Bethany Theological Seminary</li> <li>• Bob Neff, former Bethany Theological Seminary professor, Church of the Brethren General Secretary, Juniata College President</li> <li>• Chris Bucher, retired Elizabethtown College professor</li> </ul>

SVMC is a Church of the Brethren ministry education partner with the districts of Atlantic Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Middle Pennsylvania, Southern Pennsylvania, and Western Pennsylvania Districts, as well as Bethany Theological Seminary and Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership. Our mission is to equip leaders for ministry in a regionally based, Christ-centered, culturally relevant context in ways that bear witness to the beliefs, heritage, and practices of the Church of the Brethren.

717-361-1450 – [www.etown.edu/svmc](http://www.etown.edu/svmc) - [SVMC@SVMCcob.org](mailto:SVMC@SVMCcob.org)





## 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](http://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](http://www.brethren.org/faithx/theme). Read more at [www.brethren.org/news/2023/faithx-summer-theme-and-service-trips](http://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

Ephesians 5:1-2  
Languages: Spanish, Creole, Hausa, English

**Annual Conference 2023**  
Duke Energy Convention Center  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
July 4-8  
(Tuesday-Saturday)

**Registration opens at 12:00 Noon Central Time on Wednesday, March 1, 2023.**

<https://www.brethren.org/ac2023/registration/>

Additional information is available at:

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

## Brethren Disaster Ministries responds to earthquake in Turkey and Syria

Church of the Brethren Newline February 11, 2023

"Please continue to pray for survivors in the affected areas [of Turkey and Syria] who face the trauma of losing homes and loved ones, continued aftershocks, living out of doors without basic amenities/food and in freezing temperatures, and in danger of diseases such as cholera. Their needs are great and will continue to be great for a long time to come. Please also pray for all the official and unofficial responders." Brethren Disaster Ministries lifting up the earthquake crisis in Turkey and Syria, in a Facebook post on Friday, Feb. 10. Brethren Disaster Ministries staff are exploring how to support partners directly on the ground who are already meeting the needs of survivors as they can. The staff are working to be "as strategic as we can in making sure that the funds we send go where they are most needed and where needs are not being met."



On February 10th, grants totaling \$50,000 were approved for two partner organizations, given from the Church of the Brethren's Emergency Disaster Fund (EDF): **\$25,000 to support the Lutheran World Relief** shipment of supplies to Turkey for emergency earthquake relief, and **\$25,000 to support the Lebanese Society for Education and Social Development** earthquake response program in Syria. Church members and congregations may support the earthquake response by donating online at [www.brethren.org/giveearthquakeresponse](http://www.brethren.org/giveearthquakeresponse) or by sending a check to: Emergency Disaster Fund, 1451 Dundee Ave., Elgin, IL 60120, with "earthquake response" in the memo line.



**YOU'RE INVITED TO...**  
**CAMP HARMONY'S BIRTHDAY**

# Jubilee

**A FUNDRAISER FOR OUR NEW  
SWIMMING POOL & SHOWER HOUSE**



**Thursday, March 2**  
**6-8 PM**  
**Building the Future!**

**Richland Fire Hall**  
**1321 Scalp Ave.**  
**Johnstown, PA 15904**

**WWW.CAMPHARMONY.ORG**



# CAMP HARMONY



## 2023 SUMMER CAMP

ADVENTURE & FUN WITH AN ETERNAL PURPOSE!

### DAY CAMPS

Grades K-8, 9 am - 4:30 pm

Portage Day Camp, June 19-23

Day Camp #1, June 19-23

Day Camp #2, June 26-30

Day Camp #3, July 10-14

Day Camp #4, July 17-21

Day Camp #5, July 24-28

Day Camp #6, July 31 - Aug. 4

Meyersdale Day Camp, July 31-Aug. 4

More for  
2023!



### PRE-K CAMPS

Ages 3-5, 9 am - 12 pm

Pre-K #1, June 26-30

Pre-K #2, July 24-28



### OVERNIGHT CAMPS

**Junior, Grades 2-5**

Junior #1, June 11-16

Junior #2, July 2-7

Jr. Extreme, July 16-21

**Junior High, Grades 5-8**

Jr. High #1, June 11-16

Jr. High #2, July 2-7

Jr. Hi Extreme #1, July 9-14

Jr. Hi Extreme #2, July 16-21

**Youth, Grades 7-12**

Youth #1, June 11-16

Youth #2, July 2-7

Youth Extreme, July 9-14

Youth Adventure, July 23-28

NEW!!

NEW!!



**SAVE 50% FOR YOU  
AND A FRIEND**

WHEN A RETURNING CAMPER BRINGS  
A NEW-TO-CAMP-HARMONY-FRIEND!!



**SIBLING DISCOUNTS  
& SCHOLARSHIPS  
AVAILABLE!**

REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 1

**WWW.CAMPHARMONY.ORG**



CAMP HARMONY

# LEND A HAND AS A THURSDAY VOLUNTEER

Help us make a difference by volunteering  
to complete projects around Camp.



What we need:

carpentry, electrical,  
plumbing, mechanical,  
gardening, cleaning, etc.  
(If you are willing to help,  
we can find a place for you!)

Our Mission:

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

**EVERY THURSDAY | 9 AM - 4 PM**  
**1414 PLANK ROAD, HOOVERVILLE**

**As a thank you:**

**Coffee and pastries at 8:45 am; lunch at noon**

Contact us at 814.798.5885 or [harmony@campharmony.org](mailto:harmony@campharmony.org)

[www.campharmony.org](http://www.campharmony.org)  
[#spreadtheHarmony](https://twitter.com/spreadtheHarmony)

# 2023 DISTRICT EVENTS AND MEETINGS

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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!

## **MARCH 2023**

- 3 - WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
- 5 - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
- 11 - SVMC Class
- 12 - **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS (Turn clocks AHEAD one hour)**
- 12 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
- 19 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
- 26 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

## **APRIL 2023**

- 1 - SVMC Class
- 2 - PALM SUNDAY
- 6 - MAUNDY THURSDAY
- 7 - GOOD FRIDAY
- 9 - ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!
- 16 - Seder Dinner, Camp Harmony
- 22 - SVMC Class

## **MAY 2023**

- 4 - NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
- 6 - SVMC Class
- 7 - NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY
- 11 - Core Leadership Team, 6:00 pm, District Office
- 14 - HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
- 18 - ASCENSION DAY
- 20 - District Leadership Team, 9:00 am, TBA
- 22 - SVMC Class
- 28 - HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHURCH! (Pentecost Sunday)
- 29 - MEMORIAL DAY

## **JUNE 2023**

- 7 - Annual Conference Briefing, 3:00 pm, TBA
- 18 - HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!



# 2023 DISTRICT EVENTS AND MEETINGS

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## **JULY 2023**

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

## **AUGUST 2023**

Events TBA

## **SEPTEMBER 2023**

- 4 - LABOR DAY
- 7 - Core Leadership Team, 6:00 pm, District Office
- 16 - District Leadership Team, 9:00 am, TBA

## **OCTOBER 2023**

- 1 - WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
- 21 - District Conference, 9:00 am, Camp Harmony

## **NOVEMBER 2023**

- 5 - **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS (Turn clocks BACK one hour)**
- 9 - Core Leadership Team, 6:00 p.m., District Office
- 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 CHRISTMAS!!
- 31 - NEW YEAR'S EVE

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

# THE HIGHLIGHTS

## March 2023