

District Highlights

October 2018 Vol. 18 No. 8

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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.

"Just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught." – Colossians 2:6

This past summer's Annual Conference introduced to the Church of the Brethren a ***Compelling Vision Process***. The intention of this process is to help the people of the Church of the Brethren find a common vision that will enable us to move forward as we struggle to define a common identity. The Annual Conference delegates began to talk about what it is that keeps us together as a Church, what motivates us to follow Christ, and how do we move forward.

Over the next six months, discussion sessions will be held in all of the districts of the Church of the Brethren so that the people might contribute their ideas as to what this vision ought to be. Then at the 2019 Annual Conference the majority of the time will be spent bringing a focus to the ideas that have been gathered from the members of the Church. A task team will then compose a concise compelling vision statement for the Church to take up for its future life and mission.

The Guiding Statement that has been set forth to frame this discussion is as follows: ***"Confessing Jesus Christ as Teacher, Redeemer, and Lord, we desire to serve Him by pro-claiming, professing, and walking in His way together bringing His peace to our broken world. Join us in reclaiming a new passion for Christ and helping set a course for our future as the Church of the Brethren serving Him in our communities and in the world!"*** This guiding statement will set the focus and tone of the overall discussion.

The Western Pennsylvania District will have the opportunity to share in this process during two different Discussion Times that will be led by Kay Weaver from the Atlantic Northeast District. Kay is part of the task team helping to facilitate the vision process. **The first of our Western PA Discussion Times will be held on Sunday, November 4th, at Camp Harmony. This session will begin at 2:30 p.m. and conclude at 5 p.m. The second one will be held on Sunday, November 25th, at Mount Joy Church of the Brethren. This session too will begin at 2:30 p.m. and conclude at 5 p.m.** (Mount Joy's address is 494 E. Main St., Mount Pleasant, PA 15666.) All members of the Western PA congregations are invited to attend one of these sessions. I encourage you to attend. It is important that our ideas be shared and become part of the information funneled into the Compelling Vision. If you have any questions concerning this, please feel welcome to call me at (814)479-2181.

Peace to you in Christ!

Bill Wenger, District Minister

District Office/Local Church News

LEADERSHIP

Pastors

Mark Murchie—Full Time, Scalp Level
Ronald Barto—Full Time, Somerset

Ordained

Eric Yost—Windber

HOSPITALIZED

- Please pray for **District Treasurer Carole Horner** and her continued recovery.
- Please pray for **Pastor Edwin Moore** as he is recovering from knee surgery.

*** Correction, Amelia Derr is not recovering from back surgery as was listed in the previous issue. She is recovering from another procedure and is doing well, she thanks everyone for their prayers.

NEW MEMBERS

Tire Hill Congregation

- Conner Hawkins
- Robert Rhodes
- Evelyn Richards

Hooversville Congregation

- Adam Yingling



NEED YOUR HELP

If your congregation will produce a new directory in **2019**, please drop off or send a copy to the District Office, 115 Spring Road, Hollsopple, 15935.

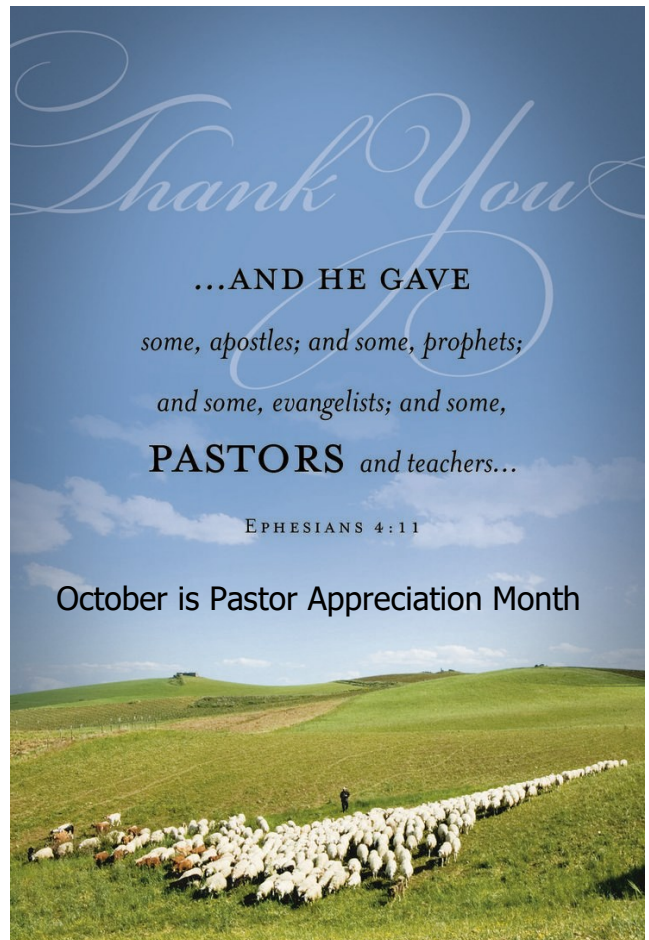
It is very helpful to the District Office staff to have updated information from all the churches we serve.
Thank you!

November 2018

Highlights Deadline

October 10, 2018

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



AbbsTract**October 2018**

Have you ever been just ... exhausted?

I'm not talking about physical exhaustion, that bone-weary feeling you get after a long day with your hand to the plow. I mean the kind of exhaustion that comes with too much to do and too little time and money to cover it all.

WHAT A DAY



At the moment, I am getting ready to help to make Harmony Fest happen. Then I'll help Rona with preparations for the Honduras banquet. Then it's our 10th wedding anniversary and whatever Dan has cooked up for that. Then we set up and DJ for a friend at her wedding. Then it's District Conference. I'm preaching every Sunday. And I'm looking at some new possibilities for local church ministry. Trying to get my bathroom and kitchen remodeling finished that was begun in April. Looking for a buyer for Flood City Café, which we opened a few years back. Working hours at our Escape Rooms in Johnstown and Altoona. I'd like to paint my friend's back deck for her, if it ever stops raining. And my parents' foundation to match the new roof. I need to dig up my weedy flower beds and separate my perennials, sharing them with others. Clean out the car, get 4 new tires and a new exhaust. Figure out how to pay for the medical bills.

I know I risk sounding like a whiner here, but maybe you can identify. That's the short list. At District Conference this year, we'll be challenged to examine ourselves. I'm not looking forward to that, because I know what I'll find.

I'm someone who is caught up in life on earth. And every day lived without the joy of Heaven in view is a day lived in struggle. Why am I exhausted? Because I am so focused on the here-and-now and the next-week and the next-month that I cannot see the next-life.

I am so busy begging God to work all this craziness out for me that I fail to seek His face. Him: first. Me: not first.

Whining replaces gratitude. Pining replaces contentment. In place of the peace I know can be mine, I have crowned The Frenzy.

If I'm supposed to be a pastor, a spiritual example to others, I'm toast. I'm over here trying to do all of this on my own, keep all of these things in my throbbing head, make all of this stuff happen, and all the while, God wants to offer me rest.

God's rest is not laziness. It's not a substitute for work. It is the secure knowledge that He is in charge and I am not. Every breath comes from Him and belongs to Him. Oh, why do I not live like I know this?

Examine yourself. Are you in the faith? Or are you anxious and distracted by many things? God's Word says to seek Him first, and all the rest will fall into line. Is that happening? Are we seeking His face before we look to see what's in His hand?

Even now, I'm sitting at my desk – it's 8:10 pm and I'd like to finish this thing and head home to work on laundry and mop the kitchen. And finish my display for the festival. Maybe get some supper.

God, give me the grace to face what I see under the magnifying lens and offer it to You. Broken and tired as it is. Thank You for wanting me, faults and all. Teach me what it means to walk with You. Amen.

:) Abby

Local Church/District News

Events at the Penn Run Christian Outreach Center

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

PA Dutch Buffet

Saturday, October 6, 2016
from 4 pm - 7 pm

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

***Quilt Retreats - 8 am to 8 pm**

October 12, 2018 and October 13, 2018

*Call Pastor Jeff at the church office at 724-463
-0420 for more information.

Scrapbook and Card Making Retreat

October 20, 2018 - 8 am to 8 pm
Celebrating Christmas in October!

Call Julie at 724-840-2704 for more
information.

Pasta Buffet

Saturday, November 3, 2018
from 4 pm - 7 pm

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

Annual Home & Craft Show

Saturday, November 10, 2018
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Many vendors and home party consultants will
be there as well as a silent auction, a pie
auction and lots of good food!

Western Pennsylvania District Church of the Brethren 13th Annual

AUCTION

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3,
2018**

**9:00 AM at Camp Harmony
1414 Plank Road, Hooversville,
PA 15936**

Donated auction items include; antiques,
homemade crafts, and quilts.

Two \$50 Gift Card drawings
during the day.

Proceeds support the ministries of the
Western PA District
Church of the Brethren.

Please contact the Western PA Church of
the Brethren District Office
at 814-479-2181 if you have any
questions.

**Breakfast served from
7:30 am to 8:45 am**

Lunch served

Fresh baked pies

Silent Auction

**Items can be previewed
after 7:00 am**

Pray

For our nation
For our community
For our churches
For our families

Local Church/District News

District Women's Ministries:

Calendar of Events 2018:

October 4 Home Day

*Mark your calendars,
more information to follow!*

*Save the Dates for this Christmas Outreach
Opportunity!*

BLESSINGS

Sharing the Love of Jesus
at the Beachdale COB

Friday, November 2, 2018 6:00—8:00 pm
Saturday, November 3, 2018,
10:00 am—2:00 pm

The community will be invited to help themselves to a selection of Christmas shopping items for newborns through school age, free of charge. The Beachdale family will be providing these new or gently used items.

Contact the church at 814-267-5780 if you have any questions.

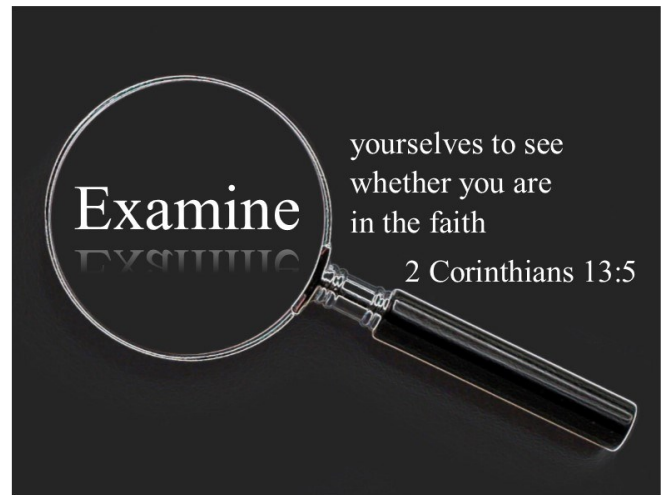
Do you have a passion for leading youth to a life-changing walk with the Lord Jesus Christ? If so, then read on:

The congregations of the Rummel, Scalp Level and Windber Church of the Brethren are searching for a youth director to lead their combined youth groups. (This has been a successful program for 11 years.)

Qualifications for this position shall include a clear testimony of salvation, a life of high moral and spiritual standards, honesty, trustworthiness, an ability to work with youth, and an ability to design and administer a youth program (youth from sixth to twelfth grade).

More information can be given to interested persons by submitting a cover letter and resume to Pastor Ruby Mader at:

rummelcob@verizon.net



**2018 District Conference
October 20, 2018
Camp Harmony
9:00 am**

Hope to see you there!

2018 District Conference Prayer Meetings Saturday, October 20, 2018

This year, in conjunction with District Conference, two prayer meetings will be held with a focus upon the spiritual renewal and the evangelistic outreach of our District churches. The first will begin at 7:30 a.m. in the "The Upper Room" at Camp Harmony before Conference registration begins.

The second prayer meeting will also be held in "The Upper Room" after the adjournment of the Conference. These prayer sessions will be led by Mark Murchie, Pastor of the Scalp Level Church, and Bill Wenger, District Minister.

All Conference attendees are invited to share in one of these prayer times. Prayer is vital to the ongoing life and mission of the Church. One author put it like this: "Prayerless Christianity is fruitless Christianity." Let us join together at District Conference to ask the LORD to bring forth a harvest in the Churches of the Western PA District.



Denominational News

go to www.brethren.org for the most complete and up to date news from the Church of the Brethren

District conversations begin as part of Compelling Vision process

**Church of the Brethren Newsline
August 24, 2018**

By Rhonda Pittman Gingrich

As summer gives way to fall, the process launched at the 2018 Annual Conference to help the denomination discern God's call and develop a compelling vision to guide us into the future is moving into a new phase. Shaped by the conversations that took place at Annual Conference, the Compelling Vision Process Team has designed a two-hour event to engage members in deeper conversation around God's call for us as a church.



Photo by Glenn Riegel

These conversation events have already taken place in the Southern Plains and Michigan districts, and the Process Team is working with district executives to schedule additional events in multiple locations across the denomination. The next scheduled conversations will take place at the Missouri/Arkansas District conference at the Windemere Conference Center in Roach, Mo., the weekend of Sept. 14-15; at Mount Morris Church of the Brethren in the Illinois/Wisconsin District on Sept. 16 (with two additional events to follow in the district in October); and four locations throughout Southern Pennsylvania District the weekend of Sept. 29-30. Districts will be publicizing all scheduled events as plans are finalized.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to participate in an event. In preparation, please: pray for the church and the Spirit's guidance as we move through this process; visit the [Compelling Vision website](http://www.brethren.org/compelling-vision), and read about the Compelling Vision process (especially if you were not at Annual Conference and are unfamiliar with it); reflect on scriptures that inform our ministry and life together as the body of Christ; and bring a Bible and, if possible, a smart phone, tablet, or laptop to the event.

—Rhonda Pittman Gingrich, an ordained minister from Minneapolis, is chair of the Compelling Vision Process Team.

***** Reminder: The Compelling Vision Discussions in our District will be held on November 4, 2018 at 2:30 pm at Camp Harmony and November 25, 2018 at the Mount Joy COB at 2:30 pm. *****



So don't lose a minute in building on what you've been given, complementing your basic faith with good character, spiritual understanding, alert discipline, passionate patience, reverent wonder, warm friendliness, and generous love, each dimension fitting into and developing the others. With these qualities active and growing in your lives, no grass will grow under your feet, no day will pass without its reward as you mature in your experience of our Master Jesus.
2 Peter 1:5-8 The Message

The District Women's Ministries

Presents

"Inspiring Women in the World of Finance"

We, the cabinet, are so proud to welcome Rev. Eric Kabler.

Pastor Eric is ordained in the Church of the Brethren.

His business is located in the Johnstown area.

WEALTH FAITH INVESTING ESTATE RETIREMENT
COLLEGE TAXES INSURANCE

Pastor Eric will try to cover as much as time will allow.

BONUS: In the afternoon session, Pastor Eric will answer some of your questions. There will be paper on the Registration Table for you to write your questions on. Please turn your papers in by 12:00 noon

DATE: Thursday, OCTOBER 4, 2018

TIME: Registration from 9:15 – 9:50am

WHERE: The Sipesville Church of the Brethren

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"WORLD of FINANCE" Registrations – DUE - SEPT. 26

Congregation _____ # Attn _____

COST \$12.00 Checks enclosed \$_____

Make out checks to the DISTRICT WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

MAIL to: Arbutus Blough.645 Speigle Rd, Hollsopple, PA 15935



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 or (814) 539-8530.

THANK YOU!

New Windsor Day Trips

Oct. 04, 2018
Nov. 08, 2018
Nov. 27, 2018
Dec. 18, 2018

Week Trips

October 14-20, 2018 (w/Virlina)
December 02-08, 2018

PANCAKE / BUCKWHEAT CAKE & SAUSAGE BRUNCH



October 27, 2018
8am-2pm

Meal includes: buckwheat or pancakes, sausage,
home fries, gravy, syrup, applesauce

Sponsored by:

Uniontown Church of the Brethren
20 Robinson St. Uniontown

Eat-in or Take-out

Adult - \$8.00

Children (3-10yrs) - \$4.00

Additional cost for extra sausage.

Phone:

724-438-8372



Live From Nashville – In Concert

NEW
LEGACY
PROJECT

FRI – OCT 19 – 7 PM

Formerly the Blackwood Legacy
FREE NON-DENOMINATIONAL CONCERT

Mt. Joy Church of the Brethren

494 East Main Street – Mt. Pleasant, PA

Info: 724-547-3670

Come early for best seating!

New Legacy Project, formerly the **Blackwood** Legacy, blend the best of country gospel, traditional and edgy newer southern gospel, with today's popular worship music, while staying true to the Gospel Message. This Nashville-based group is known for their flawless harmonies, comedy, and homespun humor. Join us for a memorable time of live music, fellowship and fun! Admission is free and a love offering will be received. Listen for their new radio single "God of the Empty Grave" and visit them on Facebook or at

www.NewLegacyProject.com



Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2018 by rejoicing in our firm foundation, celebrating the present, and envisioning the future.

Please help us celebrate!

**BANQUET AND WORSHIP
SERVICE**

Date: Saturday, November 3, 2018

Time: 4:00 PM – 7:30 PM

**Location: Chambersburg Church of
the Brethren**

Celebration will include: Hymn Sing; Historical review with Warren Eshbach, Banquet, Worship Service with Steve Schweitzer (from Bethany Theological Seminary) preaching; Live painting by David Weiss (Springfield).

A free-will offering will be received

**Reservations are Required by calling SVMC at 717-361-1450
or emailing svmc@etown.edu by October 15, 2018.**

Please check out our 25th Anniversary Webpage, including devotions that are being shared on the 25th day of each month in 2018: <https://www.etown.edu/programs/svmc/25Years.aspx>

SVMC is a strong and vital ministry partnership as we move into our 25th anniversary year. Instructors, students, donors, congregations, our five partnering districts, Bethany Theological Seminary, and Brethren Academy have all played a part in the success of our twenty five years.

We anticipate a growing and meaningful ministry in the future as we continue to offer educational opportunities with discernment into how to serve a changing church and a never-changing God.

Join SVMC as we rejoice in our foundation, celebrate the present, and envision the future as we are Rooted and Growing in Christ!



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

<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"*

DISHTOWELS

Thank you so much for your great response to the need for dish towels. We now have enough to completely supply all the retreat centers and cabins. Your help was greatly appreciated.

* * * * *

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 40 families and groups donating \$4,300

* * * * *

LOOKING AHEAD

Harmony Fest – September 22-23

Honduras Banquet – September 29

Friends Helping Friends at Boscov's – October 16

District Conference – October 20

District Auction – November 3

Faith Promise Dinner – December 1

Children's Christmas Party – December 8

* * * * *

VOLUNTEERS

A very special thank you is extended to our many volunteers who have been working at Camp. They have been very busy working in the programming, on construction, in the kitchen, during our festivals and banquets, and with our summer feeding program. Camp couldn't operate without your help. Thank you so much. If you are sitting at home wondering what to do worthwhile with your life – contact Camp. We have a place for you....

* * * * *

FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS AT BOSCOV'S

On Tuesday, October 16, 2018, Camp Harmony will be participating in Friends Helping Friends at Boscov's. Plan now to buy your \$5.00 shopping pass to receive 25% off your purchases on this day. The entire \$5.00 benefits the non-profit organization from which you purchased this pass. These passes can be purchased by calling Camp at 814-798-5885. Don't delay and plan on a shopping spree on October 16 (maybe even buy early Christmas gifts).

****Make sure you read the 2018 Camp Harmony Camp Report



CAMP HARMONY

PO Box 158
1414 Plank Road
Hooversville, PA 15936

Phone: (814) 798-5885
Fax: (814) 798-2225
www.campharmony.org

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

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for sending children to Camp Harmony this summer! We had a great summer of connections with each other and with Jesus. With over 400 total overnight and day campers, there wasn't a dull moment as we worshipped, swam, ate, played and overall enjoyed God's beautiful creation.

We are very happy to report that we had 5 first-time decisions for Christ as well as 1 rededication! We praise God for His grace and the opportunities that we have to share His love with all who come to Camp Harmony. Our theme this past summer was **iBELIEVE: Greater Things** and we invited campers to ask the big "what if..." questions and explore how God can be seen in the vastness of creation, the power of community and in their own hearts. Campers discovered how God's endless love launches amazing adventures and that God always has new mysteries to explore.



We are thankful for your willingness to support Camp Harmony by sending campers to our programs. We are looking forward to summer 2019 when our theme will be **The Peace of Christ** and our theme verse will be Colossians 3:15 "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts...and be thankful." We are hopeful next summer to have even more children and youth hear the word of God through our camping programs and hope that you can be a part of them as well.

If Camp Harmony can serve your church in any way, please let us know how we can partner with you. We have year-round facilities and activities for retreats, day trips and much more. We have events all year providing entertainment, food and opportunities for spiritual growth. To view all of our buildings, activities, events and programs visit our website at www.campharmony.org and take a look around. We would be happy to visit your church/ministry to discuss how we can best serve your church family.

We look forward to connecting with you in the future and serving you better. To God be the glory!

Phil Regetta
Program Director

Upcoming Events:

Harmony Fest – Sept. 22-23
OCC Shoebox Collection – Nov. 12-19
Children's Christmas Party – Dec. 8
Junior Winter Camp – Jan. 25-27
Teen Winter Camp – Feb. 1-3

*Free Admission, Vendors, Concessions, Kids activities
Drop your boxes off at Camp!
Ages 5-12
Grades 2-6
Grades 7-12*

#spreadtheHarmony

2018 Camp Harmony Camp Report

Overnight CAMP	Leaders in Training & LG	Performing Arts	Teen Robotics & Trailblazers	Bike Adv.	Wilderness	Jr. Classic & Robotics	Splash & Jr. TB	United Adv.	Family		Total
	Grades 8-12	Grades 6-12	Grades 7-12	Grades 7+	Grades 3-6	Grades 2-6	Grades 2-6	Grades 8-12	All		
WPA COB Campers	5 & 3	15	0 & 8	1	10	16 & 12	18 & 12	3	20		123
Other Churches	3 & 1	13	2 & 1	1	2	2 & 4	5 & 4	2	21		61
Total Campers	8 & 4	28	2 & 9	2*	12	18 & 16	23 & 16*	5*	41		184
* indicates camp at maximum capacity											
WPA COB Volunt.	0	5	1	1	1	3	0	0	0		11
Other Churches	2	12	2	0	1	0	0	0	0		17
Total Volunteers	2	17	3	1	2	3	0	0	0		28
Decisions for Christ	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0		5
Rededications	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0		1
Offering Totals	0	32.00	23.90	45.75	65.00	164.23	0	31.50			423.08**
**Offering totals include 2018 winter camps											
2017 Camper Totals	11	24	0 & 14	3	16	35 & 20	21 & 11	6	31		197 (Sports – 5)
2016 Camper Totals	12	31	0 & 10	3	20	14 & 20	22 & 0	6	34		194 (Sports – 22)
2015 Camper Totals	Overnight campers – 167										167
2014 Camper Totals	Overnight campers – 154										154

OTHER CAMPS	2017 Trick Or Retreat	2017 Christmas Party	2018 Winter Camps		2018 Day Camps		2018 Pre-K Half Day
	Gr. 6-12	Ages 5-12	Jr	Teen	Day	Sleep Over	Ages 3-5
WPA COB Campers	6	23	16	12	-	-	-
Other Churches	1	13	6	3	-	-	-
Total Campers	7	36	22	15	192	26	49
					Day - 9.6/day, 8.6/night; PreK - 6.1/day		
WPA COB Volunt.	7	5	6	3	31		14
Other Churches	1	1	2	1	0		0
Total Volunteers	8	6	8	4	31		14
					Day - 1.6/day; PreK – 1.8/day		
Offering Totals	-	-	39	21.70	-	-	-
2017 Camper Totals	-	23 (2016)	22	28	145	16	65
					Day – 5/day, 8/night; PreK – 5.5/day		
2016 Camper Totals	-	-	13	37	208	37	36
					Day – 6.3/day, 7.4/night; PreK – 3/day		
2015 Camper Totals	-	-	-	-	265 day campers		
					7.6/day		
2014 Camper Totals	-	-	-	-	171 day campers		
					6.1/day		

WPA COB Churches represented with summer campers: 31 Other Churches: 24

WPA COB Churches with Highest Summer Overnight Camp Registrations:

Scalp Level	18	Berkey	13	Purchase Line	10	Maple Spring	7
Meyersdale	17	Pleasant Hill	11	Somerset	10	Bethel	4

Other WPA COB Churches Represented: Arbutus, Beachdale, Bear Run, Center Hill, County Line, Geiger, Greensburg, Ligonier, Locust Grove, Middle Creek, Morrellville, Moxham, Penn Run, Pike Run, Ridge/Shade Creek, Roxbury, Rummel, Sipesville, Tire Hill, Walnut Grove, Way of Hope, Westmont, Windber

**Summer Overnight Camp Registrations: 102 online vs. 82 paper

2018 Summer Offering: 50% Operation Christmas Child
 50% Hammock Village

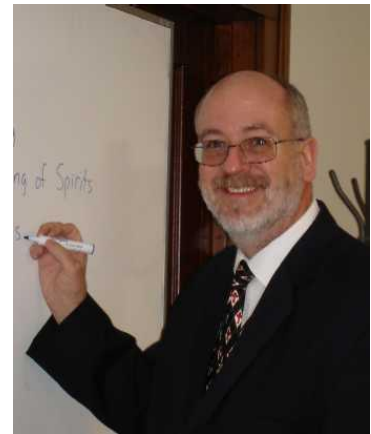
6 campers took advantage of Winter Camp registration offer.

Angel Tree campers: 2017 - 1, 2018 - 4

GEIGER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN WELCOMES Tom Zuercher

Join us!! Sun. Morning, September 30, 2018 at 10:30 am
Sun., Mon. & Tue. Eve. (9/30 - 10/2) at 7:00 pm

Born in Fort Wayne, Indiana in 1953, Tom Zuercher moved with his family to Middle Point, Ohio, in 1956, and Tom has lived in Ohio ever since. Having been raised in a Christian home, the youngest of four boys, Tom's formative years were spent in the Church of the Nazarene. He gave his life to Jesus Christ at the age of eight at a tent meeting revival at the county fairgrounds, and felt a call to ministry when he was 16. At that time, Tom began preaching in area congregations for special events, youth revivals, and pulpit supply, and was also licensed to the Ministry.



In 1976, Tom graduated from Mt. Vernon Nazarene College with a Bachelor's Degree in Communications and a double minor in Music and New Testament Greek. Tom attended Ashland Theological Seminary and earned the Masters of Divinity Degree in 1979. Throughout the college and seminary years, Tom served on the pastoral staff of three congregations, focusing on youth ministries, music ministries, and visitation.

Tom was introduced to the Church of the Brethren in 1975, and soon felt God's Call to move from the Church of the Nazarene to the Church of the Brethren. The Ordination transfer was completed in 1981. Tom served two pastorates in the Northern Ohio District: North Bend Church of the Brethren (1976-1980) and Mt. Pleasant Church of the Brethren (1982-1991). The Northern Ohio District called Tom to serve as the District Executive in 1991, a position he held for eleven years. In 2002, sensing God's Call to return to the pastorate, Tom was installed as the Pastor of the Ashland Dickey Church of the Brethren, where he is now preparing for retirement at the end of August, 2018. The Dickey congregation has experienced significant growth, both numerically and spiritually. A second worship service was added in 2006, and the first phase of a long range building plan was completed in 2008. The twenty year strategic plan for ministry entitled "Vision For the Future" calls for continued ministry to those who need the love of Jesus Christ - both in the neighboring community and around the world.

Tom is married to **Susan** (Mayfield) Zuercher, and they celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary in 2018. They had three adult children: **Heather** (Zuercher) **Burns**, a widowed mother of three, died on April 14, 2018, after a five year battle with cancer. Heather and her husband, Roger, left behind three wonderful children: Anna, Braden, and Kaleb, who are currently living with Tom and Susan pending guardianship with their aunt and uncle. **Jared Zuercher** is married to Katie (Daugherty) Zuercher, and they have two daughters: Eirelyn and Noella. Jared practices law in the Akron, Ohio area. **Sharla** (Zuercher) **Lechner** is married to Paul Lechner; they have two daughters: Kaliea and Aelan, and will soon have permanent custody of Anna, Braden, and Kaleb. Paul and Sharla are both chemical engineers, but Sharla is developing her career as a stay-at home Mom who home schools.

Because of his passion for and experience with church growth, Tom has served as a consultant for congregations across the country, leading seminars on various church issues. Beyond organizational topics, Tom also has led numerous revivals, retreats and workshops, focusing on spiritual growth and transformation. For eight years (2003-2011) Tom served as Adjunct Faculty at Ashland Theological Seminary, providing leadership in the Masters of Divinity Cohort program. In addition to church ministry, Tom's other interests include foreign travel, United States postage stamps, archaeological history of Jerusalem and the Temple Mount, and the theatre.

AVAILABLE SPEAKERS LIST – October 2018

ORDAINED

ABRAHAM, FARREL – 4315 Seton Dr, Pittsburgh, 15227-1245 – 412-979-0067
AIRESMAN, ROYDEN – 161 Old Hickory Flat Road, Somerset, 15501 – 814-445-6058
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
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 -814 243-0534
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
PETERMAN, SANDRA M. – 110 Windy Ridge Lane, Apt. 3., Shelocta, 15774 – 724-354-6026
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
YOST, ERIC W. – 1009 First Street, Windber, PA 15963 – 814-241-7753

LICENSED

HILER, GARY W. - 228 Baltzer Bridge Rd, Friedens, 15541-6320 - 814 267-6722
PARFITT, STEPHEN – 12 Mohawk Drive, Greensburg, 15601 – 724-832-3457
PERUSO, RUSSELL J. – 151 Blackner Road, Johnstown, 15905 = 814-242-0549

LAY SPEAKER

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

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.

OCTOBER 2018

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

NOVEMBER 2018

- 3 - THIRTEENTH ANNUAL DISTRICT AUCTION, 9 a.m., Camp Harmony
- 4 - Compelling Vision Discussion, 2:30 pm, 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!!
- 25 - Compelling Vision Discussion, 2:30 pm, Mt. Joy COB

DECEMBER 2018

- 1 - *Celebrate the Word*, Advent Kickoff – Geiger COB
- 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!



EL HOGAR DE NIÑOS ENMANUEL

San Pedro Sula, Honduras



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

Meet Zahid

Nine year old Zahid has been part of the Hogar family since age 4. He was born with a debilitating bone condition on his tibia called pseudarthrosis., which can be defined as a “false joint.” This is comparable to a break in the bone that is unable to heal itself.

With the help of the Ruth Paz Foundation, Zahid has had five surgeries in the past 5 years to compensate for the growth and strengthen his tibia. Despite minor complications, the surgeries have been successful and have enabled Zaide to go from a wheelchair to now walking with the help of his crutches.

Zahid’s most recent surgery was performed on August 28th. Please pray for complete healing and renewed strength.

The cost of the surgery and doctor’s fees have been generously provided for by The Ruth Paz Foundation. However, we at Hogar Enmanuel must purchase the bone graft material that will be used to strengthen Zahid’s tibia bone. The cost of the bone material is \$600. Any financial help with this expense would be greatly appreciated! Donations can be made by using the sponsorship coupon included in this newsletter.

(Special Fund: Zahid)



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
PayPal and/or sponsorship coupons are also available on the website at 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

and



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

“Peacemakers
who sow in peace
raise a harvest of
righteousness.”
James 3:18



How can you help
us sow the seed of
Christ in the lives
of these children?

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Rona Hemminger,
Mission Program Coordinator
Mobile: 540-649-3111
Email:
hemminger@verizon.net
Carrie Antesberger, Editor

Don’t Miss Our Journey to Toyland...

It’s not too late to get your tickets to our tri-annual fundraising event at Camp Harmony on September 29, 2018. Join us for a fun-filled evening which will include a delicious meal, entertainment, and fellowship. Tickets are \$35 a piece and are available from table hosts or by contacting Rona Hemminger (hemminger@verizon.net or 540-649-3111).



Sweet Dreams...

*A special thank you to our sponsors who
generously provided new beds for our nursery.*



*“I will lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone,
O Lord, make me dwell in safety.” Psalm 4:8*

