

THE HIGHLIGHTS

Western PA District Church of the Brethren

October 2023

PASTOR APPRECIATION

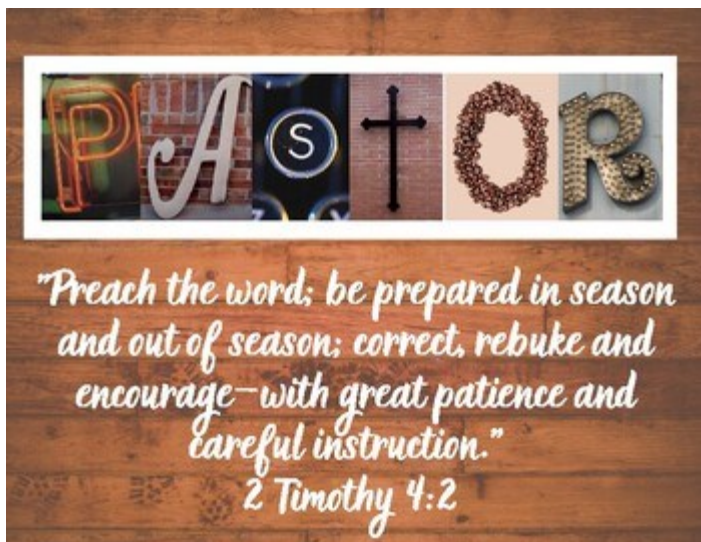
Pastor Appreciation Sunday, October 8, is the special day of recognition for church pastors. It started as a Hallmark holiday dating back to 1992. At least one day per year the congregation as well as individuals might be aware of their pastor and show some gratitude for all that they do.

A pastor's role is quite unique, and we often do not appreciate what is done until we need services for a wedding or a funeral or etc. Even "part-time" Pastors are involved in the emotional, mental and spiritual challenges of their congregation or flock.

It isn't like hammering nails, or changing oil, or drawing up contracts. At the end of the task Pastors don't just go home and not think about the task again. Pastors go home and pray, and dwell on our concerns, caring for what the flock or individuals are going through.

Some congregations find interesting and thoughtful ways to appreciate their Pastors. Some offer food cards to a local restaurant, some offer a vacation home or cabin for a few days just so the pastor can get away for some quiet and relaxation. Others send cards, sharing their individual words of appreciation. Whatever it might be; just could be a little pick-me-up that was needed.

At the very least you could in the privacy of your home offer a prayer, that you have a pastor and that if or when you might need their services you have a pastor who will respond and bring hope and help in the name of Jesus Christ.



In my fifty plus years of serving the Lord as a Pastor, I have come to realize that when: I showed up in the hospital, at the accident scene, at the side of the deathbed, anniversary party, birth of the baby, the arrest of a teen, or news of an accidental death, or a terrible doctor's report; I was bringing the power of the loving, forgiving and enormous power of Jesus Christ. Not that our Lord wasn't already there but I as Pastor, had the opportunity to reveal Him and share Him with those who needed Him so desperately or joyfully wanted to be blessed!

October is Pastor Appreciation month. Let's be gracious with our love and appreciate your pastor all year. When was the last time you shared a compliment or just even a heartfelt handshake and smile with the pastor? Do it this Sunday, why wait!

Pete Kaltenbaugh, Interim District Minister

FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE

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

October 10, 2023

Please send your information to tlehman@brethren.org.

DISTRICT STAFF:

Peter Kaltenbaugh, Interim District Minister

Amy Bowman, Financial Clerk

Tina Lehman, District Secretary and Highlights Editor

DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday

8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Financial Clerk is in

Tuesday & Thursday

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

CONTACT US:

115 Spring Road

Hollsopple, PA 15935

814-479-2181

866-279-2181 toll free

www.westernpacob.org

2024 DISTRICT DIRECTORY

Make a note!

If your information appears in the District Directory, please be sure to send me any updates by **November 30, 2023.**

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

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 **2024** please send one to the District Office,

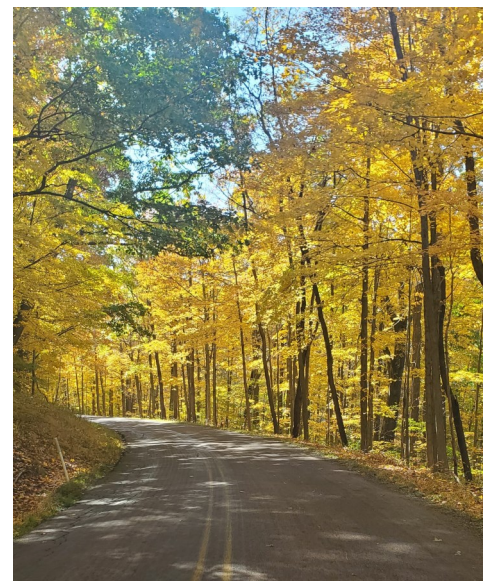
115 Spring Road,
Hollsopple, 15935

Thank you!

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



FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Hi Everyone!

This is just a few items of information regarding District Conference this year.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE
Saturday, October 21, 2023
at 9:00 am at Camp Harmony

THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023.

There will be **NO on-site registrations this year so please be sure to register **BEFORE** October 1st.**

Registration forms are available
on the District website at

<http://www.westernpacob.org/conference.html>

District Conference Booklets are ready for pick-up at the District Office. If you cannot pick-up your congregation's booklets in-person, please contact me the District Office at 814-479-2181 to make other arrangements. I'm also going to try this year to send the booklet in PDF form via email to my contacts.

There have been some questions about the kits for CWS. We are asking that your delegates bring any kits from your church to District Conference to be placed into the District van. This is to ensure that the kits will get distributed in a timely manner.

Please also be in prayer for District Conference, District Leadership, Camp Staff, Delegates and Non-delegates, and everyone else involved in planning this event as well as our congregations. Thank you.

Tina Lehman, District Administrative Assistant

PHONE CALLS TO THE OFFICE

If you need to contact Pastor Pete, Amy, or Tina, please contact the District Office at 814-479-2181. There is a voicemail system where you can leave a message for Tina, Amy, or a general message for the staff or Pastor Pete. Please only contact District staff on their cell phones if there is an emergency.

We also ask that if you need to contact the staff via their cell phone, please call before 9:00 pm unless it is an urgent emergency.

Messages are checked every day and we will return calls as promptly as possible. Thank you for all of your support over these last few challenging years and we appreciate all your prayers and kind words.

Blessings to you,

The District Office Staff



ACROSS THE DISTRICT

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-ZM8lDloOJ_v6FfXuzfhRJn8YR1Nqs9g&ref=py_c&paipv=0

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

Salisbury COB Sunday Services are on Facebook at 10:30 am
<https://www.facebook.com/Salisbury-Church-of-the-Brethren-211422968870314>

Walnut Grove COB Sunday Services are on Facebook at 10:00 am
<https://www.facebook.com/Walnutgrovecob>



AN INVITATION

New to the Monroeville or Pittsburgh area?

The Monroeville Church of the Brethren
invites you to worship with them!

481 Center Road,
Monroeville, PA 15146
412-372-4165

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

PET FOOD PANTRY

The Pet Food Pantry is open the **second** Saturday of each month from 10:00 am to Noon at the Arbutus COB.

They have seen a significant increase in the number of clients. In August the pantry served 57 families, up from 5 families in July. The information about the pantry was noted on Facebook the middle of August drawing attention to this new pet food pantry open to everyone who is in need of help feeding their furry friends.

The pet pantry is currently accepting donations for any pet item that is no longer needed by your family. Suggestions for donations are: pet collars, beds, bowls, leashes, etc. These items will be offered free to the clients. The items can be dropped off at the church through the first set of glass doors into the entrance to the church. These doors are always open.

The pet pantry would gladly accept donations of cat and dog food. The church is blessed to be able to offer this program to the community.

For additional information call: 814-410-3151 to contact Cheryl Edmiston.

ACROSS THE DISTRICT

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 7, 2023
4:00 pm—7:00 pm

Quilt Retreat

Saturday, October 21, 2023

Scrapbook Retreat

Saturday, October 21, 2023
9:00 am—5:00 pm

Pasta Buffet

Saturday, November 5, 2023
4:00 pm—7:00 pm

Annual Holiday Craft Show

Saturday, November 11, 2023
9:00 am—2:00 pm

Call 724-463-0420 for event info.

PART-TIME POSITION

The Roxbury COB is looking for a part time custodian.

Rate: \$9.00 per hour—15 hours per month

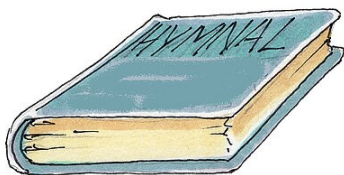
Job duties include: some light landscaping: weed eating, trimming hedges, and mowing. Clearing walkways and handicap ramp and applying salt in winter. Indoor light housekeeping and removing trash in the fellowship Hall, offices, kitchen, and bathrooms. Set up / break down tables for events as needed.

There will be an opportunity to job shadow the outgoing custodian to ensure quality work is performed. All equipment and supplies are located at the church. Knowledge of minor plumbing and electricity is a plus.

Roxbury Church Of The Brethren
112 Sell Street
Johnstown, PA 15905
Church Phone: 814 536 6716

If you are interested please contact Gary Mosholder at
814 341 8717

FREE HYMNALS



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

They are red cover and published in 1968.

The front says, "The Brethren Hymnal."

We have over 100 plus copies.

If anyone is interested, contact

Pastor Barry Conn at 814-443-4656.

FREE ORGAN

Free Wurlitzer Organ
with Multi-Matic and Percussion
Please contact Sharon Liska from the Wooddale Church of the Brethren at 724-322-9129



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 or (814) 539-8530, (C) 814-691-5718

Week-long Trips

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/>

Pet Food Pantry at Arbutus COB

2nd Saturday of each month at 10:00 to Noon

Contact Cheryl Edmiston at 814-410-3151

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

EL HOGAR DE NIÑOS ENMANUEL SHOE PROJECT



El Hogar De Ninos Enmanuel Shoe Project

THANK YOU!

Sincere thanks to everyone who has been collecting shoes. We are so thankful for the continued support of our churches, the great condition of the donated shoes, and the care with which they are packed. It makes our job of filling the bags for pick up so easy!

Donations continue to be accepted at the District Office during regular office hours; at the Westmont COB by calling 814-255-2154 to schedule a drop off appointment; or by contacting a committee member.

Committee members include:

April Mackell – 814-536-1589

Karen Nagvathy – 814-244-6977

Marie Camut – 814-266-3010.

Together we can help do great things!



AVAILABLE SPEAKERS

ORDAINED

ABRAHAM, FARREL – 4315 Seton Drive, Pittsburgh, 15227-1245 / 412-979-0067 / sharingpearls@comcast.net

BEACHLEY, LINDA—PO Box 723, Davidsville, 15928-0723 / 814-479-4802 / lrbeac@atlanticbb.net

BEACHLEY, RONALD – PO Box 723, Davidsville, 15928-0723 / 814-479-4802 / rondbeachley@gmail.com

BROADWATER, KEVIN—475 Keystone Street, Meyersdale, 15552-6943 / 814-442-5684 / pastorbroadwater@verizon.net

DERR, AMELIA – 1202 Roberts Street, Nanty Glo, 15943-1325 / 814-749-0262 / iamameliaderr@yahoo.com

DERR, HORACE - 1202 Roberts Street, Nanty Glo, 15943-1325 / 814-749-0262 / pastorbutch@gmail.com

HOUGHTON, SALLY - 124 Lindberg Avenue, Johnstown, 15905-3019 / 814-243-6448 / smh124@atlanticbb.net

KABLER, ERIC—126 Clermont Street, Johnstown 15904-2132 / 814-266-2734 / eric.kabler@kablerthomas.com

LONGWELL, ERIC— 240 Plumcreek Road, Shelocta, 15774-3144 / 724-599-8690 / kb3ttx@gmail.com

MADER, RUBY—2101 Cambria Avenue, Windber, 15963 / 814-467-5265 / redhatvicar@yahoo.com (June, July and August only)

MANGES, JOHN – 137 Catskill Lane, Johnstown, 15904-7523 / 814-539-3332 / manges@atlanticbb.net

MARSHALL, HOMER - 369 W. Church Avenue, Masontown, 15461 / 724-583-7073 / hom.run2007@verizon.net

MARSHALL, PATRICIA - 369 W. Church Avenue, Masontown, 15461 / 724-583-7073 / hom.run2007@verizon.net

MOSORJAK, GARY – 1337 Roxbury Avenue, Johnstown, 15905-1224 / 814-659-5853 / wendel05@aol.com

PERUSO, RUSSELL – 151 Blackner Road, Johnstown, 15905 / 814-242-0549 / russperuso@gmail.com

PISARSKI, STANLEY – 511 Thrasher Street, Johnstown, 15909 / 814-410-3685 / spisarski1017@gmail.com

STEIN, ROBERT - PO Box 375, Chalk Hill, 15421-0375 / 724-438-2226 / crid@verizon.net

SWICK, MICHAEL - 4127 Greenville Road, Meyersdale 15552-8518 / 814-634-8158 / preachmike101@comcast.net

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

WHITED, JAMES—881 Treasure Lake, DuBois 15801 / 814-592-5714 / jrwhitedsr@gmail.com

LICENSED

BURNEY, OYANGO—111 Hillcrest Drive, Indiana, PA 15701 / 724-541-6850 / livingyourbestlifeinthepresent@gmail.com

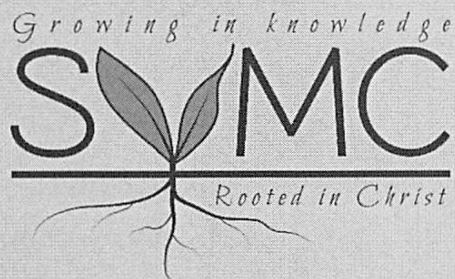
COUGHENOUR, KAITLYN— 785 Red Dog Road, Salisbury, 15558 / 814-521-4649 / shellywithattitude@gmail.com

SHAULIS, TRAVIS—608 Second Street, Meyersdale, 15552 / 814-442-8626 / tanbadaner@gmail.com

LAY SPEAKER

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

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES



Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center's Upcoming Continuing Education Events

Below are SVMC's current continuing education events that are open to everyone.

To register, click on the event title and follow the registration links for each event, or visit www.ETOWN.EDU/svmc and click on "Continuing Education".

Choose Life: Deuteronomy's Message for Today

Steve Schweitzer, Leader

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

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

\$60.00 for .55 CEUs; \$50.00 for no CEUs. Includes lunch.

Zoom option: \$40.00 for .55 CEUs or \$30.00 for no CEUs.

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

Conrad Kanagy, Leader

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

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

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

Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center

Email: SVMC@SvmcCob.org

Phone: 717-361-1450

Updated June 21, 2023



Leadership in Turbulent Times

Fall Book Study on *Quietly Courageous: Leading the Church in a Changing World*

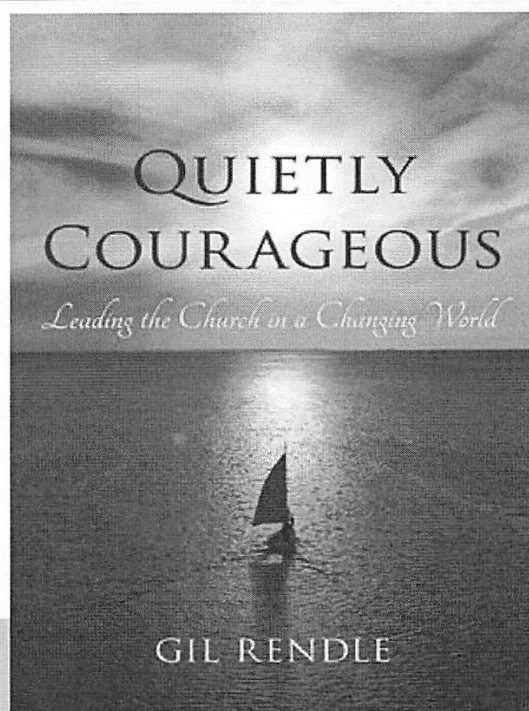
God calls certain people into leadership in the church. And those that respond to that call are passionate about leading with purpose and care. Yet many pastors struggle to respond to the challenges of a changing culture, while remaining faithful to an eternal Gospel message. They recognize that leading a congregation isn't the same as leading a civic group or business, yet realize that people often interact in predictable ways. Gil Rendle, in his book *Quietly Courageous: Leading the Church in a Changing World*, offers insight for church leaders who want to lead well, and respond to the unpredictable forces that shape our world with grace and courage.

"Quiet courage is needed when there is no going back because the 'back' that is remembered doesn't exist anymore. Our current reality is that we are not in a turnaround situation. Leaders cannot take us back to a more comfortable time when the church was established at the heart of the culture as a bedrock, trusted institution."

—Gil Rendle

Circuit Rider John Fillmore will facilitate a 10-week conversation on Rendle's book. Sessions will begin Oct 3rd and will be held virtually from 7-8 pm EST (4-5 PST) on Tuesdays. CEUs will be available to pastors, and the Part-Time Pastor/Full-Time Church Program will provide participants a copy of the text.

Registration at: <https://www.brethren.org/ministryoffice/>



Camp Harmony

(Non-Profit Organization)



ONE DAY ONLY - OCTOBER 18, 2023
SHOP 8AM - 11PM

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DONATE \$5 AND ENJOY:

- **25% OFF DISCOUNT SHOPPING PASS***
 - **REGISTER TO WIN A \$100 BOSCOV'S GIFT CARD**
At every Boscov's store
-

100% OF YOUR DONATION GOES TO OUR ORGANIZATION

For Shopping Passes or information, contact:

Purchase Shopping Passes from:

Deb/Camp Harmony – 814-798-5885 or Ginny/Pleasant Hill COB – 814-243-4540

For more details visit [boscovs.com/friendshelpingfriends](https://www.boscovs.com/friendshelpingfriends)

*Exclusions Apply

CAMP HARMONY

Sunday, October 22, 2023 – All Day Fundraiser Hoss's in Johnstown



Dear Friend of Camp Harmony:

We are excited to team up with Hoss's Steak and Sea House to raise money for a very worthy cause. Please consider visiting the Hoss's location listed below on 10/22/23 to aid us in raising money to benefit Camp Harmony.

Print this email and present it on 10/22/2023 at Hoss's in Richland Township, Johnstown and Hoss's will donate 20%* or 25% of your total check paid to Camp Harmony.**

*To qualify for the 20% payout, our group must have a minimum of \$300.00 in total pre-tax food and beverage sales.

**To qualify for the 25% payout, our group must have a minimum of \$1,200.00 in total pre-tax food and beverage sales.

This applies to a one-day, single location, pre-scheduled event. The purchase of gift cards is not included as part of your organization's community fundraising totals.

DISTRIBUTING INVITATIONS ON HOSS'S PROPERTY IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED AND WILL DISQUALIFY OUR ORGANIZATION!

Thank you for your cooperation!

Group #127993

Please print and present this paper when ordering or take a picture and show it to the hostess in order for camp to get credit for your purchase.



2023 DISTRICT EVENTS AND MEETINGS

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

OCTOBER 2023

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

NOVEMBER 2023

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

DECEMBER 2023

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

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