

WABASH CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



645 Bond Street Wabash IN 46992 ● 260-563-5291 ● office@wabashcob.org

May 2020

Congregational Connections

Sunday Services

We will continue to gather on Sunday mornings for worship, with the Zoom meeting opening at 10:15AM. To join the worship services on Sunday morning, go to <https://zoom.us/j/393263884>, or call 312-626-6799, and enter meeting ID 393 263 884.

Weekly meet-ups

The second initiative is offering a time during the week for those who are interested to join in a Zoom meeting to chat and socialize with one another. I have set up three recurring meetings per week for this purpose.

The first is on Tuesday afternoons at 4PM. To join, go to <https://zoom.us/j/660520630>, or call 312-626-6799, and enter meeting ID 660 520 630. Password is 313795

The second meeting will be held on Thursday evenings at 7PM. To join, go to <https://zoom.us/j/869664958>, or call 312-626-6799, and enter meeting ID 869 664 958. Password is 715560

The third meeting will be held on Sunday afternoons at 3. To join, please go to <https://zoom.us/j/443578669> or call 312-626-6799 and enter meeting ID 443 578 669. Password is 716887

We welcome all who are on the journey to know Jesus, who share in his love and who choose to embrace the diversity within this community of believers. As individuals we may be at different places along the path, but as a community, we are all traveling together in faith, trusting God to show us the way.



The dogwoods are in bloom!

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- And more!



Appreciating God's Creation

Pastor Doug Veal

A few weeks ago, I was talking with Dennis Horn about various different places to go hiking, and he suggested looking into Asherwood, a nature preserve run by ACRES. Tasha and I

enjoy getting out to hike, and appreciated the recommendation. So a little while later, after having looked into how to get there, we got ourselves decked out to go out and explore a bit. We piled into the car, and headed south of town. After a short while, we got there, and spent a few hours exploring. Then, another day, we went back out and tried out some of the trails we didn't go on the previous time.

One of the reasons that I enjoy hiking, especially in wooded areas, arises out of the connection that I so often find to God as I walk through such places. On our trips out to the Asherwood preserve, we've seen a lot of beautiful plants and animals. It always amazes me as I spend time outside how all of it comes together, and how much I experience the presence of God in nature.

As followers of Jesus, we stand in the grand tradition of the Hebrew scriptures that proclaim over and over again that God is both the creator and sustainer of not only us, but of all that natural world. As we look at times we spend in the great outdoors, we see God's handiwork on a regular basis. In the beauty of a flower blooming, or of the animals finding their way through undergrowth and trees as they seek their daily bread. I often think of the scripture from the Gospels, where Jesus says, paraphrasing here, that nothing we can create can be dressed more beautifully than a lily in a field.

It seems important for us, then, to take time to appreciate God's handiwork in nature, to see the grand sweeps of beauty that are just outside our door. While I know we are still staying home, finding time to be in nature, whether it be just your backyard, or out in a park or nature preserve where you can maintain social distancing, offers opportunities for you to connect with God through God's creative work.

Even if you are unable physically to spend time outside yourself, taking time to contemplate pictures or videos of nature can be a great benefit, and a way for us to find another connection to God in our lives. I've included a photo this month that I took on one of our trips out to Asherwood (you can see it on Page 6). It is my hope and prayer that you can find ways to experience God's creation even in this time of social distancing. Continued Page 9 sidebar

Women's Fellowship

Knowing that we all miss seeing each other, are there alternate ways that we can sit with each other? If you have ideas, please contact Michelle in the office.



Worship Schedule

May

May 3	Luke 24:13-35	The Walk to Emmaus
May 10	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	The Lord is our Refuge
May 17	Ephesians 1:15-23	Ceaseless Thanksgiving
May 24	Pastor Doug off	Guest speaker TBA
May 31	1 Corinthians 12:3-13	The Body of Christ



Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

Now, more than ever, we need stories of what is going on in our lives as we do our best to self-isolate and stay at home.

Have questions? See Michelle in the office, or send her a quick email.

Reading through the Bible in a year: Daily readings for May

Please note that the readings given for March were actually April's readings. These are the ones that March should have been. My upmost apologies for getting the dates mixed up!

1 Exodus 17-20	9 2 Samuel 10-14	17 Psalms 57-59	25 Job 41-42
2 2 Samuel 5-9	10 Psalms 54-56	18 Job 39-40	26 Jeremiah 42-46
3 Psalms 51-53	11 Job 37-38	19 Jeremiah 37-41	27 Luke 5-6
4 Job 35-36	12 Jeremiah 32-36	20 Luke 3-4	28 Galatians 1-3
5 Jeremiah 27-31	13 Luke 1-2	21 2 Cor 11-13	29 Exodus 33-36
6 Mark 15-16	14 2 Cor 9-10	22 Exodus 29-32	30 1 Kings 1-4
7 2 Cor 6-8	15 Exodus 25-28	23 2 Samuel 20-24	31 Psalms 63-65
8 Exodus 21-24	16 2 Samuel 15-19	24 Psalms 60-62	

Brenda and Larry Landis

Update

Larry and I have been fortunate to be able to walk and work outside most days. I have already been able, with Larry's help, to do some work in the flower beds and on bushes that I have wanted to do for a long time. I have several other projects like that in mind.

Our niece's and nephew's families have both brought groceries and left them on the porch. They also have sent pictures of the kids on Facebook and Messenger but I sure miss the hugs. Our neighbor brings her daily newspaper over to Larry so he has something to read and puzzles to do.

I have learned to make a mask and will wear it to go to the grocery myself soon. Having learned on the first one, I plan to make another that is better. I am cooking MUCH more than normal, which involves planning, and both take time. I have a list of projects to do in the house when I can't get outside

. I have a list for Larry, too, but he isn't all that enthusiastic about it!

I have more time for devotional and Bible reading, which is good. Just slowing down can be good, as pointed out by several devotionals I have read. I know that is true for me. The world goes on, in a different way, that's for sure. But it does go on. As I read, I realize that I can feel peaceful because I know that God is in control. We can't understand how He lets these things happen. But we can know that He is in control and Jesus is beside us in whatever we face. That assurance keeps me calm in this uncertain world we are facing.

Brenda Landis

PS Laurie, I hope I got all my punctuation correct!

PPS—Brenda, thank you for being game and sharing a slice of your life with us!

Witness & Nurture Commissions

Local Outreach

Because of the COVID-19 outbreak, our support of the community is even more needed. Pastor Doug sent out letters last week showing the support groups we have been divided up into. While these times can be trying economically, mentally and even physically, we are hoping that this is one way that we can come together spiritually to support each other. Some ways we can do that:

- Hold each other and our nation's leaders in prayerful support
- Check in with each other to see who needs groceries, or other supplies, if you are going to the store.
- Send each other a letter or card.
- If members of your list text, send a "thinking of you today" text.
- Call each other.
- Check with witness to see how you might be able to help with other areas.

Camp Mack Corner

Camp during COVID-19 Outbreak

In the last several weeks, the COVID-19 pandemic has kept us mostly in our homes and physically apart from one another. With many staff members working from home, and those at camp maintaining safe distancing and cleaning procedures, the Camp Mack staff has continued to prepare Holy Hospitality for our guests and exciting, challenging, and faith-filled experiences for our summer campers. Our mission is to provide a sanctuary where people connect with God, experience creation, and build Christian community. In order to be that sanctuary, we must be confident that our camps are as safe as possible. For this reason, we will not be able to operate our current camp schedule for this summer.

While it is not a replacement for the tight community created at camp, we will be providing other ways Continued Next Page

Community Support

Church Food Pantry

Our local pantry is looking to supplement what we get from Milford each month. Additional items needed are:

Mac and Cheese boxes
Hamburger
Baked beans
Hamburger /Tuna/
Chicken Helper
Peanut butter
Canned meat (tuna, chicken, etc.)
Jelly
Pasta
Saltines
Bread
Soups
Canned fruits and veggies
Saltines
Cleaning Supplies
TP/Tissue



Advisory Board Meeting

Advisory Board meeting was cancelled for April. We will be looking to reconvene when the Stay at Home order has been lifted. In the mean time, we have been communicating via email to see how we can best serve.



Ben at Camp, 2016

campers can be connected to God and each other this summer. There will be alternative experiences created; we hope to provide some packages for crafts and other activities; if restrictions allow, there may be some limited day activities at camp.

Our summer theme, This is our Prayer, tells us that God is always with us and we can rejoice in knowing our community of faith can sustain us. In my office, a cross hangs above my desk with the words from Psalm 46:10. Be still, and know that I am God... The psalm speaks to anxiety and fear about the frightening things happening in the world, but it begins by assuring us that God is our refuge, and it ends by telling us to stop, take a breath, and to recognize that God is still in control.

During the next few weeks, we will work through plans for providing a positive summer experience and how we will handle registrations and fees. Once we have all plans in place, we will be in contact with all registrants to provide available choices. Campers and their families should receive a contact from us before the end of May.

This decision has only been made after a great deal of contemplation and prayer. We do not want to put campers, volunteers, staff, or families at risk. In the end, we will provide the best and safest camp experience we can for this summer and prepare for an even greater experience in the summer of 2021.

We wish health and strength as you face the challenges of this time. We are praying for you.

Blessings,
Gene Hollenberg



P.O. Box 158, Milford, IN 46542
Phone: 574-658-4831
Fax: 574-658-4765
Email: info@campmack.org
Website: www.campmack.org

Special Offerings

March, April, and May

As we continue in this time of social distancing, one of our regular practices that has taken a bit of a break is our regularly scheduled special offering focus. While this is understandable during this unprecedented time within our congregation, we would like to find ways to continue supporting these important ministries across our country and our world. You are invited to continue your support of the special offerings for March, April, and May by sending a check to the church indicating which of the special offerings you want to support. At this time, we will be collecting for the following projects and groups: One Great Hour of Sharing, our Youth Fund, and Global Women's Project. We will share amounts received in the June newsletter, as well as reminding you of other upcoming special giving opportunities.



Pastor Doug shares some hiking beauty

Stewards Commission

Update

Since we aren't gathering at church, you may not have noticed changes that have been going on. Thank you Leroy for either doing the work, or coordinating for the work to be done.

The parking lot has been raked and regraded.

The gutters and fascia have been repaired (and replaced where needed) on the parsonage. They were also cleaned out.

Permission was given to a neighbor of the parsonage to clean up some volunteer trees. This should help both properties look better, and address some issues they are causing with our gutters.

Women's Camp

Update

Due to the COVID19 pandemic, S/C Indiana's Church of the Brethren Women's Camp scheduled for May 28-30 at Camp Mack has been **cancelled**. Date for next year's camp is June 3-5, 2021. Please mark your calendars!

Stewardship

April 5

General Offerings—\$2474

April 26

General Offerings—\$2260
Special Offerings—\$50

April 26

General Offerings—\$300
Special Offerings—\$650

District Prayer List

May 3—Please pray with us for the Hickory Grove CoB and the Puerto Rico District congregations and staff.

May 10—Please pray with us for the Huntington CoB and the Southern Pennsylvania District congregations and staff.

May 17—Please pray with us for the Kokomo CoB and the Western Pennsylvania District congregations and staff.

May 24—Please pray with us for the Lafayette CoB and the Marva congregations and staff.

May 31—Please pray with us for the Liberty Mills CoB and the Shenandoah District congregations and staff.

Brethren Leadership Institute

Upcoming Classes

Brethren Academy & Bethany Theological Seminary classes have moved online: All classes will be conducted online through the end of the semester. <https://bethanyseminary.edu/about/bethany-seminary-responds-to-coronavirus-concerns/>



The Year Of Heifer

In The S/C IN District

The South/Central Indiana COB District Board has recommended that 2020 be designated the "Year of Heifer" within the district. Raising funds for Heifer International will be this year's district-wide service project, comparable to past years' collection of clean-up buckets and hygiene kits. Offerings collected at the following district events will all be donated to Heifer International:

District 50th Anniversary Celebration - July

District Conference - September 19

The goal is to raise enough funds to provide for 3 Heifer Gift Arks (\$5000 each) - a total of \$15,000! "A Gift Ark donation includes two water buffalos, two cows, two sheep and two goats, along with bees, chicks, rabbits and more." Donations may be contributed during offerings at the designated district events or be mailed to the district office (604 N. Mill St., N. Manchester, IN 46962) any time during the year with "2020-Heifer" in the memo line.



National Young Adult Conference

to be held virtually in 2020, in-person in 2021

By Becky Ullom Naugle

Double dipping! Who doesn't love two scoops rather than one? National Young Adult Conference will happen two years in a row: once virtually in 2020, and in-person in 2021. The NYAC 2020 theme, "Love in Action," based on Romans 12:9-18, invites us to make our love for God's children visible. Staying home, rather than traveling and gathering in person, is a perfect embodiment of the theme.

Read more at www.brethren.org/news/2020/national-young-adult-conference-in-2020-and-2021.html

“Come & See” Solidarity Tour:

Palestine & Israel July 19-31, 2020

Join Dr. Michael Spath on his 15th tour of Palestine and Israel, meeting with Jewish, Christian, and Muslim religious, political, and NGO leaders, as well as visiting the holy sites of the three Abrahamic religions.



Sites:

Bethlehem – Nativity Church, Manger Square

Jerusalem – Holy Sepulchre; ‘Wailing’ Wall; Mount of Olives; Al Aqsa Mosque & Dome of the Rock, Garden of Gethsemane Optional: Yad Vashem

Judean Desert – Jericho; Qumran; Dead Sea; Jordan River

Galilee – Annunciation Basilica, Capernaum; Tabgha; Mount of Beatitudes; ‘Jesus Boat’

Ramallah – Nelson Mandela Square

Hebron – Ibrahimi Mosque; Old City; Shuhada Street “ghost town”

Land Cost of Tour Package:

The cost of our tour decreases as we add more!

15+ travelers: \$2445 10-14 travelers: \$2895 9 travelers: \$3195 8 travelers: \$3395

THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

- Average of 2 meals daily
- Hotel - double occupancy
- Deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- Entrance fees to listed sites
- Guide - Jericho & Qumran, Hebron, Al-Aqsa
- All tips and gratuities

Please contact Dr. Michael Spath lmichaelspath@gmail.com or 260-515-9300

Smiles

In the Sanctuary

Even though we cannot be here, Karen still has the sanctuary reflecting The Resurrection. It always brings a smile to my face to walk around the church and see messages of hope.

BDM Update

Jenn Dorsch Messler



All Brethren Disaster Ministries rebuilding sites are currently suspended for weekly volunteers. Here are the details on these schedule changes based on the COVID-19 environment:

Read more at www.brethren.org/news/2020/bdm-rebuilding-sites-suspended-for-weekly-volunteers.html



as the 23rd psalm puts it, lightly adapted, even as we walk through the valley of darkness, God is with us, comforting us with God's presence.

In Christ,

Pastor Doug



Workcamps

Jr. High - completed 6th - 8th grade

June 7-11 Rodney, MI - Camp Brethren Heights
June 14-18 Harrisburg, PA
June 27-July 1 Philadelphia, PA
July 8 -12 Brooklyn, NY
July 22-26 Roanoke, VA
July 29-August 2 South Bend, IN

Sr. High - completed 9th grade - age 19

June 7 -13 Miami, FL
June 14-20 Boston, MA
June 20-28 BFR- Haiti
June 20-26 Cle Elum, WA - Camp Koinonia
July 5 -11 Kalamazoo, MI
July 12 -18 Palmyra, PA
July 12-18 Waco, TX - Family Abuse Center
July 19-25 Santa Ana - California
July 26 - August 1 Knoxville, TN
August 3-9 Littleton, CO

Intergenerational - completed 6th grade & older

July 6-10 Keezletown, VA - Brethren Woods Camp & Retreat Center

Adult - ages 18+

May 28-June 8 Rwanda
June 22-25 Bethel, PA - We Are Able Companions

We Are Able - ages 16-30

June 22-25 Bethel, PA - We Are Able

SING ME HOME FESTIVAL



MUSIC. SOCIAL JUSTICE. SPIRITUALITY. - ONLINE EDITION

PRESENTED BY: FRIENDS WITH THE WEATHER & MANCHESTER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

SING ME HOME INTO BELONGING - WEEK 3

4/26 - 6:50PM

FESTIVAL WELCOME FROM KURT BORGMANN

4/26 - 7:00PM

TRENT WAGLER & JAY LAPP OF THE STEEL WHEELS

4/28 - 11:00AM / 12:00PM

JAMES HERSCH / TYLER GOSS

4/30 - 7:00PM

STEVE KINZIE

4/30 - 7:45PM

DR. DREW HART

4/30 - 8:30PM

ERIN ZINDLE

* ALL TIMES EDT

FIND US ONLINE VIA FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE.

LEARN MORE AT [SINGMEHOME.ORG](https://singmehome.org)

How are you being fed today?

Who or what is nourishing you? And who and what are you feeding?

We are fed by the witness and work of women throughout the world who face the harshest challenges with creativity and hope. We were fed by our mothers, who offered their whole selves us for our wellbeing (scroll down for a way to give back).

We are in even deeper prayer for our partner projects. We pray for the women in the Wabash County Jail and their families, and the transformational work of Growing Grounds in Indiana.

We pray for the vulnerable women, children and all migrant workers, people impacted by the caste system, those without access to running water, and the redemptive work of Cultural Academy for Peace in India.

We pray for those people without access to health care, without citizenship documentation, without communication from loved ones who have relocated to support their families, and the healing work of Integrated Health Collective in Chiapas.

We pray for the children who cannot attend school, who are in dangerous, ill-resourced, or anxious households. We pray for the girls of Uganda and all places in the world who are at greater risk of rape, female genital mutilation and sex trafficking without school, and we pray for the world-building work of Sister Stella and Shifting Ideas through Education for African Women.

We pray for service workers - who are usually women - whose employment was already risky and underpaid, who now join the impossibly long lines for food pantries and unemployment insurance.

Like you, we are fed by feeding others. We are nourished by caring for others. We encourage you to practice self-care through compassion to others. Jesus taught us that we must love our neighbor as ourselves - and we do both at the same time.

Put tangible love in your mother's hands (and other people you care about)! Send a donation to Global Women's Project with a list of the people you want to honor this Mother's Day and we will send them a handwritten card to tell them that they inspire you to support women and their communities throughout the world. This is a good time to get postal mail - scroll down for instructions.

Are you getting a stimulus check? If you don't need it for immediate needs in your family, do you plan to share it with neighbors and non-profits? Tell us how you are called to give: how you are fed and feeding in this seasons.

Anna Lisa, for GWP

To participate in the Mother's Day gratitude project, mail your donation and list of names to:

Global Women's Project

c/o Sarah Neher