

Wabash Church of the Brethren

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Deb Peterson, interim pastor



November
2018

RANDOM THOUGHTS.....

I am beginning to think that this body of mine is the one I will have the entire time I am on this side of eternity. Over the last three months, it seems my body has been bombarded with the signs of aging—aches in my neck as my vertebrae deteriorate, being tired more often than I would choose, and then this thing with my eye, the torn vitreous and seeing floating cobwebs that never go away. The ophthalmologist says it's "common as we age," and that I'll "get used to it." Ha!

I didn't agree to this. I have tried for years to change my body. I want longer legs, smooth facial skin with no bumps, eyelids that aren't sagging and a face with no deep wrinkles. I mean, is this so much to ask? But then I had to ask myself, is this is going to happen? We all know the answer to that.

But the psalmist says I am wonderfully and fearfully made. Now, upon hearing that, with Thanksgiving right around the corner, don't you automatically think that "fearfully" refers to your thighs, your upper arms, that little tummy roll that has helpfully crept over the bottom of the laptop, so that it might help you type?

No. "Fearfully" means that we are so exquisitely fragile and delicate and vulnerable that if you really thought about it, you'd tremble with sobering anxiety. It can all be taken from us--our babies, our dogs, our books and imaginations, even our ability to see whatever remnants of light we might notice today amidst the noise and the hustle bustle...

And we are WONDERFULLY made, perfect, with bad self-esteem and personal opinion to the contrary, gorgeous as children and poems in the eyes of God. Wonderfully made, not made to starve ourselves to be movie star thin, not made to use people or drugs to abuse ourselves, not made to fervently desire to change our appearance. We were made for radical self-care, so that we can fill up and give from a place of crazy generosity because we have been so freely given delicious food and outrageous friendships. We were made in the very image of God.

So yeah, I just started out to share this one insight, that this will be my body the whole time I am here on earth! This one! Yikes, how awful. No, wait, wait, this exact one that is still here, against all odds. Thank you, thank you, thank you God. We have lost so many precious friends who would have done anything to have some more time in this broken place, spending time with our Mother outdoors, scuffling through the leaves, and with those they love most. Anything!

So that is how I am going to spend today, pretty much, sort of more-or-less believing that this is it. This body, this adventure, this exact family, this everything. My body and your body is wonderfully made, of love and energy, for love and energy, for giving, forgiving, for--as William Blake said--learning to endure the beams of love*. Acceptance is hard but joy will always be the best make-up I can put on.

* William Blake was a theologian, poet and artist during the Romantic Age in the eighteenth century. The Bible was an early and profound influence on him and remained a source of inspiration throughout his life. Several of his poems and paintings express a notion of universal humanity: "As all men are alike (tho' infinitely various)." In one poem, narrated by a black child, white and black bodies alike are described as shaded clouds, which exist only until one learns "to bear the beams of love." He embraced imagination as Jesus Christ himself and all human beings. -Wikipedia

Pastor Deb

Worship Schedule

November 4

Pulpit—Deb Peterson

Worship Leader—Linda Miller

Song Leader—Stan Miller

Greeter—

Usher—Larry Jamerson

Children's Church—Carol

Horn

Musician—

November 11

Pulpit—Deb Peterson

Worship Leader—Leroy

Striker

Song Leader—Stan Miller

Greeter—

Usher—Larry Jamerson

Children's Church—

Musician—

November 18

Pulpit—Deb Peterson

Worship Leader—Dennis

Horn

Song Leader—Stan Miller

Greeter—

Usher—Larry Jamerson

Children's Church—

Musician—

November 25

Pulpit—Dr. Samuel Dali

Worship Leader—Laurie K-C

Song Leader—Stan Miller

Greeter—

Usher—Larry Jamerson

Children's Church—Carol

Horn

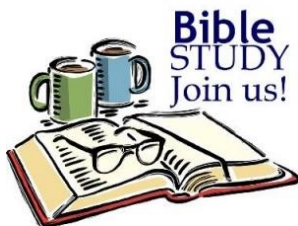
Musician—

If you feel called to serve in any area of worship, please feel free to contact Michelle, or sign up on the schedule outside the office door.

Bible Study Meeting

The Tuesday Bible study is looking at "troublesome" Bible passages and behaviors we may have always wondered about but never found answers. Each weekly lesson is not a part of a series, so you can come for several, all, or just a particular one that catches your eye. There is no homework or books to buy. It's from 10:00-11:00 a.m.

November 6—Why did God Choose Abel and not Cain? Genesis 4:1-16



November 13—How can I be worthy enough to receive Holy Communion? 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

November 20—Did Isaiah and the Other Prophets know Jesus was coming? Isaiah 9:2-7

November 27—How does God's time relate to our time? Psalm 90

December 4—What is the Resurrection of the Body? 1 Corinthians 15:35-57

November Special Offering—

Founded in August 2003, the New Community Project is a small nonprofit organization with a big goal: to change the world. Toward this end, we provide resources that challenge us, experiences that change us, and a community that gives us hope. Our focus is environmental sustainability and social justice, both of which are essential for a peaceful human community.

NCP was begun out of the interest and support of people from across the US, and continues to attract people from across the age spectrum and with a broad array of perspectives. Our approach is somewhat unique: While some groups try to affect the government or focus on doing good for our neighbors, we invite our network to make changes in themselves and their communities, and then move out from there.

You can read more here—<https://www.newcommunityproject.org/index.shtml>



As many know, we host a weekly Al-Anon group at the church, on Tuesday evenings. It is led by Alice Campbell and she reports that it has been growing slowly but steadily. They have made a donation to the church to say thank you. The card they sent will be hanging on the bulletin board by the mailroom.

Women's Fellowship again had a wonderful breakfast meeting on Oct. 20th. We are sorry that you were not there! We met at the church for home cooked food, plenty of fellowship and a morning of shopping at the Craft Show at the Honeywell Center. Karen hosted the breakfast and food items were also contributed by Laurie and Brenda. It was decided that the November meeting will be moved to Dec. 1st so that we can attend Timbercrest for the Festival of Trees. We will meet at the church at 9:30am. If you are not carpooling, we will meet you at Timbercrest's main lobby at 10:00am. This will not be a breakfast meeting. Also it was decided to have our Christmas gathering in January as in previous years. Date yet to be set.



Please hold in your hearts the following:

- members of the Executive and Search committees as well as board members for fruitful discernment during this transition period.
- Leroy Striker, who is nursing a broken fibula.
- CJ Cervera as he continues to sort out getting back into Manchester University.
- All those who have not yet given voice to whatever may be troubling them.
- The greater denominational leaders as they listen to hear what local congregations share during the Compelling Vision Process..



November District Prayer Calendar

November 5 - Please pray with us for the Rossville COB and the Pacific Southwest District.

November 12 - Please pray with us for the Salamonie COB and the Puerto Rico District.

November 19 - Please pray with us for the Turnpointe Community COB and Mid. Pa. District.

November 26 - Please pray with us for the Union Grove COB and Southern Pa. District.

Talent Show

The Nurture Commission thanks everyone for their participation in the talent show. The food was delicious, and the program was so entertaining!

Attention!! Council Meeting!

November 18, 2018 will be the Congregational Council Meeting. There will be a carry-in prior to business starting. Please plan on staying for fellowship and helping to guide the church business for 2019.



Snow and ice

If we ever have to cancel Sunday morning worship this winter because of snow and/or cold, please check WANE-TV (Channel 15), Ft. Wayne, for such an announcement. An attempt will also be made to post this info on the local radio station(s).

POWERHOUSE 2018

A regional conference for Church of the Brethren youth

Living Stories:

Connecting our lives with the
parables of Jesus

Nov. 10-11, 2018

Speakers:

David and Maria Huber

Jed Freels and Jeanne Davies



Camp Alexander Mack

Register online at manchester.edu/powerhouse

COMPELLING VISION CONVERSATIONS

Saturday, Nov. 10, 3:00-5:00 pm, Anderson Church of the Brethren, Anderson, Ind.

Sunday, Nov. 11, 2:00-4:00 pm, Timbercrest Sr. Living Community, N. Manchester, Ind.

Please plan to attend one (or both!) of these times for conversations with sisters and brothers in the district. If you are not able to attend, please be in prayer for the conversations. More information about the conversations is available at <http://www.brethren.org/ac/compelling-vision.html>.

Samuel Dante Dali of Nigeria is serving as current international scholar in residence at Bethany Theological Seminary in Richmond, Ind. He and his wife, Rebecca, arrived the first week of August and will remain in residence through the end of December.

Samuel Dali served as president of Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (Church of the Brethren in Nigeria) from 2011 to 2016, the period when EYN was most severely affected by violence from Boko Haram. A theological scholar, Dali has served as academic dean and head of the Department of Church History at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria and as chairman of its governing council. He has also held the positions of lecturer and treasurer at Kulp Bible College.



He is also known for his work in peacebuilding and advocacy with ecumenical, interfaith, and political entities in northeastern Nigeria, especially with internally displaced peoples. He has pastored the EYN congregation in the city of Jos and is a member of the Interfaith Forum against corruption. He earned a Bachelor of Arts from McPherson (Kan.) College, a Master of Theology (M.A.Th.) from Bethany, and a Ph.D. in theology and church history from the University of Birmingham (England).

Dali will attend selected classes and join discussions during his time at Bethany. He is also working on two books, the first of which addresses the political theology of Anabaptism and its historical position of refraining from involvement in government, and the challenges this poses for Nigerian society. The second will document 100 years of peaceful service and influence of the Church of the Brethren in northern Nigeria, a mission that began in 1923.

Rebecca Dali, who has received international recognition for her humanitarian work with the oppressed in Nigeria, will work on a book that recounts how women and children often suffer the brunt of insurgency and violence in northern Nigeria, drawing on her doctoral research and her work with the Centre for Caring, Empowerment, and Peace Initiatives, which she founded in 1989.

—Jenny Williams, CoB Newsline

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

R E M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS
15th of every month**



Thursday Nov 1—8—Altars Honoring the Day of the Dead; Funderburg Library

All Month—Syrian refugee art show; Gallery G, Jo Young Switzer Center, upper level

Saturday Nov 3—11:30am Art Reception for Alexandra Hall; Ling Gallery, Otho Winger Hall

Sunday Nov 4—5:00pm Power Hour: Is masculinity in crisis? Jean Childs Young Intercultural Center

Thursday Nov 8—9:30am Rotary World Affairs Conference; Jo Young Switzer Center, upper level

Thursday Nov 8—7pm Frankenstein: A film viewing and discussion; Academic Center Room 101

Sunday Nov 11— 5pm Power Hour: Is hip-hop detrimental to the youth? Jean Childs Young Intercultural Center

Tuesday Nov 13—3:30pm Unveiled: A One Woman Play by Rohina Malik; Cordier Auditorium

DID YOU KNOW...

The bulletin board articles get changed out every couple of weeks. Be sure to check it out for all the latest news from:



- ⇒ Manchester University
- ⇒ District Offices
- ⇒ Brethren Disaster Ministries
- ⇒ Global Food Crisis
- ⇒ Church of the Brethren, Nigeria
- ⇒ General Offices
- ⇒ Bethany Seminary
- ⇒ BVS The Volunteer
- ⇒ And many more!

Anyone who has a cell phone of any kind that is not broken, can donate the phones to Hands of Hope. The phones can be given to abused women who can call 911 without having an account with anyone. It would be good if they also donated the charging cord, too but that is not absolutely necessary. They can contact Brenda Landis (765-833-2141) or Hands of Hope directly at 260-563-4407.



UPCOMING BLI CLASSES

This fall marks the beginning of the third year of the 3-year rotation of classes of the Brethren Leadership Institute (BLI). That means that a year from now we will be celebrating the graduation of those who have completed all 12 classes and other requirements.

BLI is structured so that new students can join any time, and anyone can audit individual classes.

In October and November, **Craig Alan Myers** and **Tim Morpew** will be teaching *Biblical Interpretation*.

Many thanks to **Don Fecher**, who has been the BLI administrator the last few months. **Tina Rieman** will be resuming that position for the rest of the year; she can be reached at BrethrenLeadershipInstitute@gmail.com.

More information about BLI can be found at www.scindcob.org/BLI.html.

The Center on Conscience and War is informing people that comments can be made to abolish selective service registration, or if that cannot be done, then create a position for indicating conscientious objection when young men register. You can learn more at <http://centeronconscience.org/co/conscientious-objection-and-the-draft/353-commission-on-military-national-and-public-service.html>. This link provides an email address that you can use to express your views on selective service.

The Church of the Brethren has curriculum to help youth learn about the Church of the Brethren peace witness; part of the curriculum involves the youth writing and collecting references in order to be prepared if the draft should be reinstated. More information is available at <http://www.brethren.org/CO/>.



CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
BENEFIT TRUST

BBT reminds us that November is open enrollment month. Call Jeremiah Thompson, 800-746-1505, ext. 3368,

for more information.

BDM is making assignments for the year 2019. Our district is scheduled for these dates:

- 1) Feb 3-9 we need seven volunteers. We will be working with Ill./Wis. District.
- 2) Mar 10-16 we need fifteen volunteers.
- 3) Sept. 8-14 we need fifteen volunteers.

- 4) Dec 1-7 we need seven volunteers. Again we will be working with Ill./Wis. District.
- The February and March dates we are likely to be located in Lumberton, N. Car.

As a congregation or other group, would you be willing to serve one of these weeks? Or are you willing individually to be part of a group coming together from our district? Let me know of your interest by sending an email to kindy@cpt.org or by calling 260-982-2971.

In addition, this fall and at least into next year, Puerto Rico is taking disaster volunteers. There is a need for construction leaders and household managers (cooks). Conditions will be challenging and flexibility will be required. BDM will be starting with getting homes livable before doing building to withstand future hurricane-force winds. First BDM will work with Brethren families, then with neighbors and community members. What would free you up to join this rebuilding effort that may continue for many months or years?

If you have questions feel free to email or call. Thank you for your support of Brethren Disaster Ministries!

Cliff Kindy, South/Central Indiana Disaster Response Coordinator



CAMP MACK

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

Thank you to all who took part in the 20th Camp Mack Festival. It was one of our most successful festivals ever! Plan to be a part of the 21st Annual Camp Mack Festival on October 5, 2019!

Volunteer Banquet: Everyone who served as a volunteer from November 2017 to October 2018 is invited to be camp's guest at a recognition dinner at Camp Mack on Saturday, November 3rd. Registration and hors d'oeuvres are at 4:15 p.m.; dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m. Entertainment will follow the dinner. Call camp to make your reservation. Church of the Brethren Pastors, plan to attend the Fall Pastors' Sabbath, November 6-7. Leadership for the event is Gimbiya Kettering. Fee is \$20.

Sandhill Crane Get-A-Way Day: Treat yourself to a mini retreat on November 10 while traveling to Jasper Pulaski FWA. Dress for the weather and bring binoculars if you have them. We will stop for dinner on the way home. Cost is \$20 (covers snacks and travel)

Volunteer Work Days are November 12-14. Come for a day or the entire time. Meals and lodging are available. Contact the office for reservations.

Christmas Get-a-Way Days, December 1 and 2. Join us on December 1 for Christmas cookie baking/decorating, Christmas ornament making on the lathe, and wreath making with fresh greens. The Christmas cookie day has a morning and afternoon session on Dec 1 and an afternoon session on Dec 2. These are popular events and do fill up.

PRAYER REQUESTS and NEEDS:

Camp Mack staff and volunteers as we welcome and host groups new and old

News around the Sanctuary

Larry Landis wants to make sure we're clear that \$2 banana splits at Dairy Queen in N. Manchester are on WEDNESDAY not TUESDAY (in case anyone is borrowing dating tips from him).

Gene and Mary DeLauter enjoy spending time with their two great-grandchildren. They recently took a trip to Southern Indiana, where they visited the Red Skelton Museum (Gene has been a fan since Red's radio days).

Maxine Singleton is still struggling with some health problems that she hopes will be resolved soon. She did, however, accidentally find a cure for her sciatica. She had a fall in which she hit her back on the arm of a couch and since then has been pain-free (results may vary, this may not be the cure for you...). The best time she's had recently was a trip shopping in Toto with her sister-in-law. For those that don't know, Toto, besides being Dorothy's dog, is also the bargain-hunting capital of Northern Indiana (who knew?!). When she's home, Maxine spends her time listening to her large collection of music by the Gaithers and watching Perry Mason. Her message to the church: "Keep on loving the Lord."

Bethene is feeling better every day. She starts therapy soon. She is thankful for her family's help.

Alyssa Marvel and the MJSH marching band went to State Competition this last weekend. We hope they had success!

Linda Miller tells us that she and Stan's activities right now center on "following Alyssa around". Linda also enjoys spending time when she can with her grandsons Nathan and Logan, ages 4 and 7, who are both wrestlers. Stan Miller is enjoying his new job in Rochester. Cohen Marvel has started making college visits, so if anyone wants to put in a plug for their alma mater (Manchester...Manchester...) now's the time. He wants to be a math teacher and later, with a master's degree, become a guidance counselor.

Zak Roudebush is working on his third or fourth sci-fi book, this time in collaboration with his mom. Maybe we'll hear a selection from his work at the next talent show. Ben Roudebush shared his impressive artistic gifts with us at the talent show. He has been accepted into the Wabash County Best of the Best art program and his work will be on display (and for sale!) at the Honeywell Center on May 19th. Good job, Ben! Michelle Roudebush attended the American Massage Therapy Association's Fall Convention at Pokagon this weekend. We hope they all gave each other massages and returned home very relaxed (Actually, we learned new techniques that were really cool, and my brain is in overdrive with how to use them!).

Larry Jamerson forgot his anniversary this year. Nancy didn't mind but Larry was so upset he ran out and got her flowers and a card (They've been married 31 years!). Good thinking, Larry!

Monica Schneider is about to graduate with a degree in environmental science. She may want to work with water quality, as a career.

Laurie and Willie Cornett are not suffering too much from Mikayla Genovese's absence, mostly because they see her a couple of times a week. And thank goodness, Willie and Laurie still like each other, so they'll get by.

You probably don't want to play poker with Pam Little any time soon as she's having a real lucky streak! She had six bingos in a row at Bingo-cise! Then, when she played Euchre, she was dealt five loners!

Heather Hannan has recently become Assistant Director at the Bowen Center in Columbia City. Congratulations, Heather! Kelly Martin is her very proud mamma and Jean

Martin her (even more) proud gramma. Kelly Martin reports that the group home she supervises is almost fully staffed and maybe we'll start seeing more of her.

Dave and Katie Ply keep on the move, going to NASCAR races, rock concerts... you name it. Party on, you crazy kids! Joetta George says college (IUK), where she is studying math education, is awesome! (We're just glad Cohen and Joetta and Ben like math so the rest of us don't have to deal with it).

Roberta Eubank is always especially pleased to spend time with her granddaughters, when she can. She recently took a trip to Auburn where she visited with her daughter and granddaughters April and Teresa. They had pizza and went shopping. Sounds like an excellent day!

Though they've only been back a week, Dave and Audrey Hahn are already headed back to Florida with their granddaughters Chloe and Ava Bishir. Audrey and Dave appreciate the weather and the wildlife; Chloe and Ava are more into playing Putt-Putt and swimming.

A large group worked hard last week to get all of the Growing Grounds adult clothes packed up and sent away. The team included Larry Jamerson, Karen Odiorne, Leroy Striker, and Leroy's 20-man crew from the vocational school. Larry also enlisted the boys to wash storm windows. Thanks to all who helped!

Carol and Dennis just got back from a trip to Vermont with friends. A highlight for them was the fall colors; they also did as much hiking and biking as they could (due to a pulled hamstring, Dennis opted for an electric bike). In their grandchild report, we hear that Jesse Montel loves his computer programming class "a ton"! Dennis and Carol are also pleased that both Ava Horn and Elyse Montel are avid readers.

Karen Odiorne got together with her high school friends in Bremen on Friday and went to her grandson Justin's football game. Next comes basketball! She also took care of her mom's needs for the week. Then she came back early Saturday morning to cook for the Women's Fellowship breakfast. She's excited that her son Ty will be visiting over the holidays (part of the occasion for his visit is his mom's 70th birthday!).

Tom and Lori DeArmond not long ago took a trip to the Biltmore Mansion in Asheville, NC. They also saw a Chihuly glass exhibit that was there. Tom says the experience was amazing and beautiful! They plan to travel to Minnesota for Thanksgiving.

-Reported by Laurie K-C