



**Wabash Church of the Brethren**

645 Bond Street Wabash, IN 46992 260-563-5291 [office@wabashcob.org](mailto:office@wabashcob.org)

---

# March 2022

Peacefully, Simply, Together



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.

## Pastor Doug Veal

Once again, we are about to enter the season of Lent, that time each year where we take time to prepare for the coming of Easter, the celebration of the Resurrection, one of the highlights of each church year. I don't know about the rest of you, but it always seems like Lent sneaks up on me every year. After all, it still feels like we just finished the Advent Season, celebrated Christmas, then welcomed in a new year. It seems strange to me that it's already time for Lent. Yet, here we are, and Lent will begin on Wednesday, March 2, the day of Ash Wednesday.

One of the interesting oddities of Lent, at least to me, comes with figuring out when it begins each year. Lent, like Advent, runs for forty days. But, it begins on a Wednesday each year. Why is this? Well, when we calculate the beginning date for Lent, we actually exclude Sundays from the forty-day count. In calendar terms, then, Lent runs for 46 days, yet the church calendar only counts forty days. Sundays are to be seen almost as "little Easters", a reminder of the coming celebration of the Resurrection.

As I've written about in past newsletters around the beginning of Lent, one of the things that many Christians choose to do for the season of Lent is to take up a new spiritual discipline, whether that may be a fast from some food or activity, or committing to reading a certain amount of scripture, or maybe taking on a new Lenten devotional practice. While we, in the Church of the Brethren, do not require one to fast, or to engage in a new spiritual discipline during this season, choosing to do so can be a very helpful practice. Like we do each year, we have purchased Lenten devotionals from Brethren Press as one option for you to use as a spiritual discipline in the run-up to Easter. This year's devotional was written by Walt Wiltschek, the District Executive of the Illinois/Wisconsin district, based on the theme "We wait for light." The devotionals are available in the sanctuary, or you can contact myself or Mikayla to have one mailed or delivered to you.

However you choose to mark the season of Lent, I want to invite you to take time to reflect on your faith, to study and pray, and to prepare for the coming celebration of Easter. Lent reminds us of the story behind Easter, one that makes all of the great joy of that day possible.

In Christ,  
*Pastor Doug*

# Church Board

The March Church Board and Commissions meeting will be held Wednesday March 9, 2022, Commissions at 6:30pm.

## Nurture Commission

Important:

**Newsletter update:**

From here on, the newsletter will be sent out the last week of the month, so you will receive it in the first week of the new month. We are trying to get it out more consistently.

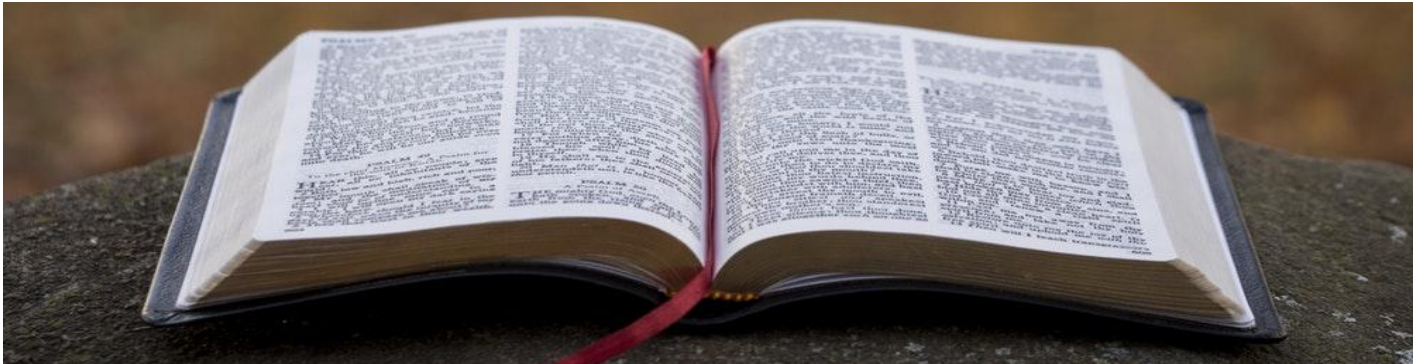
**Kay's return to worship:**



As most have seen, Jim and Kay Gaier have returned to worshipping with our congregation after a time apart from us, after her retirement. There have been ongoing discussions with our former district executive, Beth Sollenberger, the director of the Office of Ministry for the Church of the Brethren, Nancy Heishman, Kay, Pastor Doug, and the Executive Committee around this as there are a number of ethical questions and issues for a retired pastor returning to a congregation where she previously served as pastor. Through these discussions, a written agreement has been reached that will be on file with our congregation, the district, and the Office of Ministry. There are a number of areas that are covered, including how we will handle requests for Kay to participate in weddings and funerals, her ongoing support of pastoral leadership, and guidelines around pastoral care. Pastor Doug is happy to sit down with anyone who would like to review the agreement, and clarify any questions you may have. We are very happy to be able to welcome both Jim and Kay back to our congregation in this way, even as they will be sporadic in attendance due to her work as part of the interim team for the district executive position.

## Sunday School

Sunday School will take place at 9AM, before worship. We will be meeting downstairs in the Fellowship Hall initially.



## Worship Schedule - March

If you are interested in participating in the service, please contact the office, or talk to pastor Doug!

	Pulpit	Worship Leader	Song Leader	Head Usher	Children's Church	Musician
6	Pastor Doug Luke 4:1-13 <i>The Temptation of Jesus</i>		Mikayla Stanley	Larry Jamerson	Carol Horn	Bonnie Haughn
13	Pastor Doug Philippians 3:14-4:1 <i>Be of one mind</i>		Mikayla Stanley	"	Carol Horn	Laurie Kieffaber Cornett
20	Pastor Doug Isaiah 55:1-9 "God's Bread and Drink"		Mikayla Stanley	"	Laurie Kieffaber Cornett	Bonnie Haughn
27	Pastor Doug off, Gene Hollenberg to speak		Mikayla Stanley	"	Carol Horn	Laurie Kieffaber Cornett

## **Women's Fellowship**

Martha Shepler turn **100** on February 11, 2022. As a birthday gift her great, great, great grandchild was born **on** her birthday!

Martha and Roy were active in the church several years ago and Martha is currently at Wellbrooke. We gave Martha a card shower for her birthday, but surely they would still appreciate a card if you still feel moved, or just a quick prayer! Please write a little note in the card identifying yourself as part of CoB Women's Fellowship.

The address is            Martha Shepler  
                                 20 John Kissinger Dr.  
                                 Wabash, IN 46992

## Upcoming Youth/Adult Activities

### Summer Camp Registration Opens February 25th at 7pm!



The time has come to register for summer camp. All camps require a \$75 deposit to hold your spot. Camps are for grade completed this spring.

#### Questions about how to register?

Contact Brittany, the Camp Mack Registrar, at [Brittany@campmack.org](mailto:Brittany@campmack.org)



#### Overnight Camps

Samplers	Grades 1-2	June 5-7, June 13-15, July 10-12	\$190
Seekers	Grades 3-4	June 19-24, July 17-22	\$450
Finders	Grades 5-6	July 10-15, July 24-29	\$460
Followers	Grades 7-9	June 26- July 1	\$460
CIT Camp	Ages 14-17	June 19-24	\$460
Youth Camp	Grades 9-12	July 3-9	\$475

#### Specialty Camps

Archery	Grades 6-9	June 5-9	\$440
Splash	Grades 5-8	July 10-15	\$485
Culinary	Grades 6-9	July 17-22	\$485
Creative Arts	Grades 6-10	July 10-15	\$460

#### Eco Camps

Eco Adventure	Grades 5-6	July 17-22	\$480
Survivor	Grades 6-9	July 10-16	\$485
Dadirri	Grades 9-12	July 3-9	\$485

#### Grand Camps

June 16-18; July 31- August 2  
Grandchildren Ages 5-10 \$110  
Grandparents \$160



### *Hello Camp Mack Attendees,*

Below is information regarding registration and our church transfer code that is required to get the 50% paid by our Wabash Church of the Brethren. Booklets listing all camps and more are at church.

Let us know if we can help you get your own kids/youth/grandkids to camp, plus others you know would benefit from the awesome experience.

*– Carol and Dennis*

Hi, my name is Brittany Hartman, and I'm the registrar here at Camp Mack. I wanted to check in as we close in on the opening of Summer Camp and Grand

Camp registration at Camp Mack (**Friday, February 25th at 7pm**) . In the past, your church has participated in our "church transfer code" system, AKA the gold sheet. This is truly the "gold standard" of registration, so we thank you for your participation.

Church Transfer Codes for 2022:

Wabash CoB

**6WAB1 for 50% of camper fees**



## **Things to remember:**

Please remind your campers that after registration, they will need to click the “Make Payment” button on the financial tab. The prompt to enter a transfer code will pop up immediately.

Unless your church transfer code is for 100% of camp fees, they will need to pay their deposit to be officially registered (not just enrolled) for camp.

We encourage you to have your campers and their families register and pay online. By using the transfer code, they will know exactly the amount they owe, greatly reducing errors.

We ask that you do not gather camper family payments and submit them on families behalf.

For the church portion, we will email you an invoice to submit to the church for payment. These invoices will begin April 1, 2022 and run monthly through the duration of summer as needed.

If you notice any changes that need to be made to your invoice, please let us know as soon as possible.

## **Camp Mack Spiritual Retreat Opportunity for Adults**

Join in this adult retreat exploring faith and the unique activities available at camp. An outside minister and camp staff will work together to provide spiritual growth and camp fun in a relaxing environment. Come and explore your faith and play in the beauty and sanctuary of Camp!

The winter retreat features a focus on centering our faith and lives, led by Amy-Gall Ritchie. The summer retreat will explore how we connect with God in nature, led by Randall Westfall

*Fee:* \$160 per person for 2 nights and 5 meals.

*Dates:* August 19–21, 7:00p Friday to 1p Sunday.

## **National Youth Conference**

“Foundational”

Colossians 2:5-7

July 23 – 28, 2022 in Fort Collins, Colorado

The registration fee, which includes food, lodging, and programming, will be \$550. Youth who have completed ninth grade through one year of college at the time of NYC (or are age equivalent) and their adult advisors will gather at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colo. Online registration will open in early 2022 on [www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org).

The cabinet discussed theme ideas relevant to senior high youth. Ultimately, the theme that emerged was “Foundational,” based on scripture from Colossians 2:5-7, “For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, and I rejoice to see your morale and the firmness of your faith in Christ. As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.”

We talked about all of the ways that God is revealed as the foundation for our lives throughout the Bible. Some examples of this are the cornerstone, the way that God can be seen as an anchor for our lives, and how we remain rooted in God in all circumstances.

Isabella Torres noted, "Picking the theme was difficult at first because we had so many different ideas, but all of our ideas always intertwined with having a foundation in God. To me, it is a great theme, and it is also something I find to be very important as a youth today."

Luke Schweitzer shared, "I am really excited about this theme and I cannot wait to see what the speakers and youth do with it next summer."

Watch for NYC 2022 updates at [www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org) and social media of the Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

— Erika Clary will serve as coordinator of National Youth Conference 2022, working in the Church of the Brethren's Youth and Young Adult Ministries through Brethren Volunteer Service.

---

## Devotionals - Upper Room

The Upper Room is available in the sanctuary. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please contact the office and please specify regular or large print. If you would like to pick one up the next time you are here, they are on the back table in the sanctuary.

---

## Altar and Sanctuary Staging

We are looking for either a dedicated individual who would enjoy changing out the altar and window setups on a regular basis, or a small group who would like to rotate assignments. Please contact the office if you are interested.

---

## 2022 Directory

New directories are located on the back table.



## Reading through the Bible in a year - March

1	Psalms 24-26	9	Job 19-20	17	Isaiah 56-61	25	Mark 3-4
2	Job 17-18	10	Isaiah 51-55	18	Mark 1-2	26	1 Corinthians 9-10
3	Isaiah 45-50	11	Matthew 26-28	19	1 Corinthians 7-8	27	Genesis 48-50
4	Matthew 23-25	12	1 Corinthians 5-6	20	Genesis 44-47	28	1 Samuel 11-15
5	1 Corinthians 3-4	13	Genesis 40-43	21	1 Samuel 6-10	29	Psalms 36-38
6	Genesis 36-39	14	1 Samuel 1-5	22	Psalms 33-35	30	Job 25-26
7	Ruth 1-4	15	Psalms 30-32	23	Job 23-24	31	Jeremiah 1-6
8	Psalms 27-29	16	Job 21-22	24	Isaiah 62-66		

---

## Witness Commision

### Special Offerings

March 15	One Great Hour of Sharing
April 14	Guatemala Accompaniment
May 19	Church World Service

## Growing Grounds News

### Growing Grounds News

When you go past 571 South Wabash St. apartments now, you may notice lights on inside. This is the glow of (homeless) women now having a place to stay (at no cost) for a month while they are helped to figure out their next steps in life. Four of the apartments are occupied and the last two was cleaned and opened on January 3, 2022. To check about enrollment, women may call Rhonda at 260-568-2643.

### A note of thanks...

A couple of days before Christmas, we received a call from FISH saying that a man with two young boys was homeless and sleeping in his truck. Upon calling him, he said that an accumulation of unfortunate incidents had converged to leave him homeless and asking for help for the first time in his life. After talking with him and reviewing the application he filled out, the GG committee decided to pay for a week at Knight's Inn for him and his boys.

We have just received a text from him thanking GG for being able to spend a warm Christmas with his boys, get cleaned up and presentable, and able to start making contacts for construction work in this area. "Thank you so much. You guys really helped me out in a time of need and I will not forget this. I am very thankful and it is not taken for granted." He is now collecting references to give us so that we can pass these along to those needing construction and millwright work. He already has some work lined up.

## Little Free 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  
Personal Hygiene items

# Stewards Commission

Looking at a new and exciting way you can help the church? We are in need of a volunteer (or two or three) to help run the video streaming. A very positive outcome to sheltering in place is that we've been able to improve our ability to include family members who aren't normally able to worship with us, as well as reach beyond our community.

If you are interested, or know someone who would be, please contact Pastor Doug at [pastordoug@wabashcob.org](mailto:pastordoug@wabashcob.org) or Mikayla at [office@wabashcob.org](mailto:office@wabashcob.org).

---

## Around the District

### District Office



**Kay Gaier** is an ordained minister in the Church of the Brethren and a graduate of Bethany Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree. She also holds a Master's degree in Counseling and Family Studies from Michigan State University. Kay served for 14 years as pastor of the Wabash Church of the Brethren. In her time as pastor, she served as a volunteer in several District leadership roles including District Moderator, the Shalom Team, and participation on

Teaching Committees for several Ministers in Training as part of their Ministry Formation experience. As a result of her participation in a nationwide forum on "Small Churches", Kay initiated the development, implementation, and a session presentation for a regional conference on **Small Church Ministry**.

Kay's role within the Co-Interim DE Minister position will draw from her experience and interest in the gifts and challenges for pastors and congregations in their life together over time. Her focus will be supporting pastors and congregations as they experience the issues that come through a congregation's life cycle. Important in that work will be connecting with the district

committees, teams, and other resources currently in place as well as continued orientation and educational opportunities for pastors.



**Anna Lisa Gross** is an ordained minister in the Church of the Brethren. She has served as interim pastor for six congregations (one in the United Church of Christ, the remainder in the Church of the Brethren) and is now a settled pastor at Beacon Heights Church of the Brethren.

Anna Lisa's call to interim ministry includes her experience that all pastorates are interim (see her article in the January/February 2020 Messenger Magazine), given the enormous changes we're experiencing within churches and in our wider communities.

Anna Lisa's role within the Co-Interim DE Minister position will feature her experience with interim work, with congregations, the District Board, and other constituent bodies. Anna Lisa will focus on pastoral and congregational transitions and representing the District with the Council of District Executives, Camp Mack, Timbercrest, Manchester University, and Annual Conference agencies.

# Camp Mack

## **Sabbath Rest**

When you receive this letter, I will be on vacation. We are at a house on the beach in St. Augustine, Florida enjoying good friends, good books, puzzles, beachcombing, and area attractions. This is a vacation we take at different places every two years with a group of friends, and it is always recharging.



Today, however, as I'm writing this, it is a different experience. Yesterday, some things came up, so I needed to work long past the time I expected to go home. While working, a storm brought an inch of rain, some sleet and freezing rain, and then the snow. When I woke up this morning, we had about seven inches of heavy wet snow on the ground. I had an appointment at 8:00 AM and then about three hours in the office on my day off because of the unexpected work from yesterday. So, at 6:00 this morning, I cleared the driveway (apologies to my neighbors). I am tired.

Getting away is important. God calls us to rest and renew, but many times we get caught up in the busyness of our days so that taking time for ourselves gets pushed to the side. You wouldn't think it would be this busy in the winter at Camp, but there is a lot to do year-round. If I don't plan for vacation and time off, it doesn't happen. And, if it doesn't happen, my work and my attitude suffer.

Camp Mack is designed to be the place where you can get away to reconnect with the grace of God all around you. Some opportunities are only for a day, and others last several days. If you haven't received this year's activities brochure, call or email us, and we'll send it out to you. Your ability to meet the needs of others and your own joy in life are dependent on your ability to recharge.

God regularly calls us to disengage from our day to day responsibilities. Camp Mack can provide a sabbath experience to renew your spirit and reconnect with God. Sign up today.

**Gene Hollenberg, Executive Director**

---

## Brethren Disaster Ministries

Friends,

BDM is active and desires your participation. Children's Disaster Services has training scheduled in Roaring Spring, PA , November 5-6. CDS has been active in person this year on the US/Mexico border with migrant children and presently with children of families immigrating from Afghanistan. Call New Windsor, 800-451-4407 to ask questions or to register for one of the training sessions.



Thank you for your support and encouragement of BDM activities. Blessings of peace to you!

Cliff Kindy, District Disaster Coordinator

# Praise God for the return of four girls abducted from Chibok area of Nigeria

Church of the Brethren Newsline

February 4, 2022

By Zakariya Musa

Praise God for the return of four girls who were abducted from Kautikari, in the area of Chibok in northeast Nigeria, on Jan. 14, 2022. Kautikari village is located east and about 20 kilometers drive from Chibok town, predominantly occupied by Christians.

The girls were abducted by ISWAP, according to Ayuba Maina, the District Church Council secretary for that district of Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN, the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria). He said the girls are still with the Nigerian military in Chibok, where their parents met them.

The girls are Lami Yarima, age 9; Na'omi Titus, age 18; Hauwa Gorobutu, age 17; and Rahab Thumur, age 20.

Chibok, which is about 150 kilometers from Maiduguri, the Borno State capital, has continued to suffer a series of attacks from both Boko Haram and ISWAP. Recently, members of the Chibok community have called for an end to the attacks in the area, seeking the return of the schoolgirls believed to still be in Boko Haram captivity. Kibaku Area Development Association (KADA), an association of people from Chibok, spoke during a press conference in Abuja, Nigeria's capital city, on Saturday. The group lamented that since the outbreak of insurgency over a decade ago, the area had been attacked more than 72 times, with more than 407 persons killed.

"On behalf of the entire Chibok community, we are using this medium to once again call on President Muhammadu Buhari to rescue Chibok community, an ethnic nationality, from total annihilation by the Boko Haram terrorists. This is because since the mass abduction of 276 of our daughters on April 14, 2014, where about 57 escaped on their own, we still have 110 of them still unaccounted for," said KADA national president Dauda Iliya.

"We call on all well-meaning Nigerians and Mr. President in particular, to rise up to the occasion and urgently save our people from total annihilation and starvation."

CHANNELS reported that the group also advised the federal government to seek support and synergize with the armed forces in tackling insecurity in the region. While asking the government to set up a camp for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the community, the association is still hoping for the safe return of the remaining 110 schoolgirls abducted more than seven years ago.

— Zakariya Musa is head of Media for Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN, the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria)

## Brethren Leadership Institute

Due to current gathering restrictions, please contact the district office to confirm class schedule and method of delivery.