

Wabash Church of the Brethren

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Kay Gaier, pastor



Here is what I'm thinking...

As I write this Will and Kate are already packing and loading up the car for the trip to Indiana this afternoon. They are coming here to go to Camp Mack for Grand Camp with Jim and I on Sunday afternoon and will stay with us for a total of ten days. After the stressful events that piled up to make a rough few months for me this spring and summer, I was intentional about putting together five of my unpaid weeks so that I could have some real recovery time. This ten days of time with my grandchildren—all five of them—is the kick-off event for that time. After they return home Jim and I will (rest!!) be leaving for Germany to spend three weeks visiting and traveling with our son, Adam. The gift of being paid three-quarter time is that it is possible for me to have such a recovery time and I am deeply appreciative for this opportunity.

Another benefit to my working three-quarter time is that you folks get to hear and enjoy other voices from the broader community. Once again I feel confident that I am leaving you in great hands. The first two weeks in August you will be hearing from Al Hohl. Al is a long time pastor and preacher in the United Church of Christ denomination and who has been converted to the Church of the Brethren through his recent marriage to Carole Baker. They currently attend the Manchester Church of the Brethren. Al has been vetted by Helen Beery who says he is a wonderful speaker and all around great guy. I also had lunch with Al at Annual Conference and found him to be both insightful and fun to be with.

The last two Sundays in August and the first one in September the guest preacher will be Helen Beery whom you already know and love. Helen has also graciously consented to serve as an on-call pastor while I am out of the country.

So here's what I'm thinking...I am leaving with great confidence that you will be nurtured spiritually and cared for pastorally—not just by Al and Helen, but by each other in the ways you always do so well. May this be a time for all of us to be renewed for the joy, work, and opportunities for worship and ministry that lay ahead for us as a vibrant community of faith. I ask for your prayers for a safe and restful time as you all will be in mine.

August 2016

Blessings,

Kay



Worship Schedule

August 7	Loving Darkness
Scripture	John 3:17-19
Message	Pastor Al Hohl
August 14	No Bull Until...
Scripture	Psalms 50 and 51 (selected verses); Luke 18:9-14
Message	Pastor Al Hohl
August 21	Blessing: Fearfully and wonderfully made
Scripture	Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18
Message	Helen Beery and Rachel Gross
August 28	Blessing: A Listening Heart
Scripture	1 Kings 3:5-12
Message	Helen Beery
September 4	Blessing: Risk Faith
Scripture	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Message	Helen Beery

Would you like to participate in the worship service sometime? If so, you'll find a sign-up sheet outside the office for various positions.

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER**

ARTICLES IS

September 15

Women's Fellowship

Friday Aug. 5th. Meet at church at 5:30 . We will eat together (location to be determined) before going down town to enjoy the First Friday event. Please wear walking shoes to browse thru new stores, do some shopping, listen to entertainment, and just be together as friends.

Thank you to the stewards for the new drainage around the main entrance!



Prayers for:

Solomi Titus is our girl from the group that was abducted from school in Nigeria. Please keep her and her family in your hearts and prayers. This is the 2 year anniversary (April 14) of the abductions. Please continue to pray for the girls, and their families, who have not been returned home yet.

Please just keep the following in your prayers in an ongoing way: **Brian Genovese, Wayne Barkey, Stan Miller, Jim and Bonnie Haughn, Danika Landis and family.**

Larrowe Family has had several health struggles in their midst. Please remember Sean as he recovers from his procedure, Kenny as he continues to have back pain, Macy after being lifelined to Parkview Fort Wayne where she currently is receiving for a possible blood clot in her lung and kidney failure; and Sharon as she not only nurtures them, but also deals with knee pain.

Terry Copeland's youngest sister, Denise Rayburn as she recovers from surgery for lower tract cancer.

Cohen Marvel as he recovers from broken wrist.

In Support of the district, please include the following congregations in your prayers this month:

August 7: Mexico Church of the Brethren

August 14: Nettle Creek Church of the Brethren

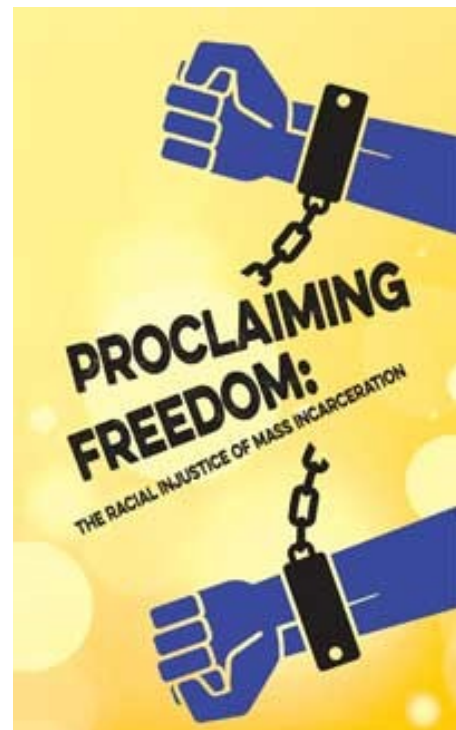
August 21: Northview Church of the Brethren

August 28: Peru Church of the Brethren

YOU'RE INVITED!

On August 21st at 7pm we will have a coffeehouse.

Mikayla and Anna will give a Summary Report over their time at Christian Citizenship Seminar. Light refreshments will be served.



Special Offering August — Deacon's Helping Hands

The Deacon's Helping Hands Fund is used for various purposes, usually for congregational members. It is a small, one time gift to help out with a bill or other need.

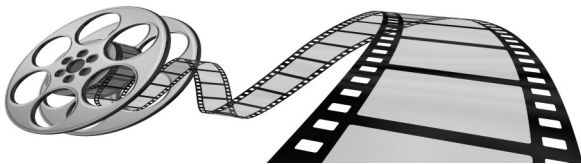
Timbercrest free movies

You are invited to join the residents on the following dates:

Friday, August 12 Race

Friday, August 26 Concussion

Questions? Call Wanda Miller 982-6189



Camp Mack Golf Outing is going to be held Saturday, August 20 at McCormick Creek Golf Course in Nappanee. Registration is at 8am, and golfing starts at 8:30. Lunch will be at 1pm. For more information, or to register, please see the information on the rear table.



PEACE DAY 2016

How Are You Called to Build Peace?



On Earth Peace invites churches, peacebuilders, and seekers of justice to participate in Peace Day 2016. Plan a prayer service or community action event and reflect on how you and your community are called to build peace during the week surrounding September 21, 2016.

We are all called to build peace in unique and transformative ways. Some are called to resist and undo racism, some to pray without ceasing, others to heal God's creation, and others to stop war.

Some are called to build peace in their neighborhood, in their church congregation, in their local community, or somewhere across the world.

This Peace Day we invite you to follow God's call to wherever you and your church community can build peace together to God's glory and your neighbor's good.

Learn more about Peace Day and get involved:

- Tell us what you're planning and how we can help!
- E-mail us: peaceday@onearthpeace.org.
- Visit our website at <http://peacedaypray.tumblr.com>.
- Follow us on Twitter @peacedaypray.
- Join the Peace Day Facebook Group Conversation.

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

The Camp Mack Golf Outing is Saturday, August 20, at McCormick Creek Golf Course in Nappanee, Indiana. Registration is at 8:00 a.m. golfing starts at 8:30 a.m. with lunch at 1:00 p.m. Cost is \$75 per player. Go online or call the camp office for a registration form. Can't play? Sponsorship categories range from \$100 to \$1000. Help raise money for camperships! Support this "fun"draiser!

Camp Mack Festival is October 3rd, Prepare now to support the Festival – provide a food or crafts booth, some auction donations, share a demonstration, and/or offer to work a shift at Children's Activities, the Welcome booth, or Parking. Come help us celebrate 90 years at camp and plan to attend this fun event!

Colony Camp is a great opportunity to experience some summer fun with family and friends before everyone goes back to school! The cost is \$84 per family camp lodging is available at an extra cost and meals are provided. August 12-14 Labor Day Family Camp offers something for the entire family. Cost is \$96 per family with additional cost for lodging and meals.

COMING EVENTS: Grand Camp July 31—Aug 2

Colony Family Camp: Aug. 12-14

Sailing 101 Get-Away Day: Aug. 20

Prairie Flower Walk Get-Away Day Aug. 21

Labor Day Family Camp: Sept. 2-5

PRAYER REQUESTS: Camp leaders, campers returning home, and Family Camps.

Quiet Place Quote: Whenever you turn aside to look at God and spend time there it involves a climb...to Mt. Sinai. Catherine Martin

Jim and Kay will be taking their two grandchildren for Grandcamp on July 31—August 2.



DID YOU KNOW...

The **Stockdale Mill** is offering free tours every Saturday until November; 12pm—4pm

The **Hawkins Family Farm** hosts a “Pizza Fridays on the Farm” every Friday in August. Please bring a placesetting and enjoy a wood-fired pizza picnic style on the lawn.

Dr. Pamela Haynes of Manchester University will perform in a **Piano Concert** at the Honeywell House on August 7th from 7pm-8pm.

Friday August 5th the Honeywell Center Plaza will host a **Plaza Party** with food, drink and music of many decades. Starts at 6pm.

Local Farmers' Markets

North Manchester hosts one Wednesday afternoon and Saturday morning.

Roann has one Friday evening.

Wabash has one Saturday mornings.

Manchester is having it's **FunFest 45** starting August 10th.

August 12 starts the running of **Light Up the Town** a musical celebrating Wabash's status as First Electrically Lit City and how it came to be.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2016

MEXICO CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN—September 16-17

- Biblical story-telling with Robert Alley on Friday afternoon.
- Thank You Dinner for District Leadership Friday evening.
- Fun with Tara Hornbacker Friday evening
- Saturday breakfast provided by Pipe Creek COB
- Worship with Moderator Paul Schrock preaching
- Business and Reports
- Lunch served by the Mexico COB
- Reports from congregations about their outreach ministries
- Pie Auction
- Dedication of clean-up buckets for Church World Service



PREPARATION FOR DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Each congregation has been asked to bring one pie to be auctioned Saturday afternoon. Also, each congregation has been asked to submit to the district office 100 words about one or more of their outreach ministries. These submissions should be in the district office by August 15. Delegate authorization forms have been emailed to all congregations. If you have not received yours, please contact the district office immediately. These forms are due August 1.

Non-delegate registration forms are available on the district website conference page; please contact the district office if you are not able to download the form. The Nominating and Personnel Committee is still seeking individuals to fill open positions in our district. Please be prepared to say, "yes!" if you receive a call! If you have suggestions, please contact the district office. The Auditing Committee needs one volunteer to help them prepare their report for District Conference. If you can help, call the district office.

CDS deployments to California, W. Virginia, mark record number so far this year

Church of the Brethren Newslines—July 23, 2016

Children's Disaster Services (CDS) volunteers recently returned from deployments in the areas of Kernville, Calif., and White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. CDS has had a record number of 9 responses so far in 2016, in addition to the Nigeria Healing Hearts response.

In related news, at least two Church of the Brethren districts--Shenandoah District and Virgina District--also have been working with Brethren Disaster Ministries to respond to flooding in West Virginia.

Recent deployments by Children's Disaster Services

A team from the Southern California CDS responded to the Kern County wildfire, and cared for more than 12 children. The CDS staff is counting the California wildfire response as two different responses, reports associate director Kathleen Fry-Miller, with a second CDS team involved in a national response to a different wildfire in the same area of the state.

In updates on other recent deployments, the CDS team that served in Angleton, Texas, following flooding in the Houston area served 103 children. A CDS team deployed to West Virginia following flooding was asked to serve there through the national American Red Cross.

"We are so appreciative of your kind thoughts and prayers for the children and families affected by disasters this year, as well as our faithful volunteers," Fry-Miller said.

CDS has two volunteer trainings to highlight this fall:

Sept. 30-Oct. 1 at Skyridge Church of the Brethren in Kalamazoo, Mich. (394 S. Drake Rd.). The local contact is Kristi Woodwyk, 616-886-7530 or woodwykk@bronsonhg.org .

Oct. 14-15 at Manassas (Va.) Church of the Brethren (10047 Nokesville Rd.). The local contact is Sonja Harrell, 703-368-4683 or office@manassasbrethren.org .

More information about CDS workshops and additional training locations can be found on the website www.brethren.org/cds .

Districts respond to W. Virginia flooding

Shenandoah District has been working with Brethren Disaster Ministries, West Virginia Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), "to ensure that we respond in a way that best meets the needs of those affected by the recent flooding," reported the district newsletter. The district has been helping to provide clean-up buckets to those affected by the flooding, and churches are assembling buckets. Contact Karen Meyerhoeffer at 540-290-3181 for details.

Virgina District also has been encouraging its members and congregations to help provide clean-up buckets, and has been collecting donations toward the disaster response work in W. Virginia.

Currently there is no need for donations of supplies, and no possibilities for individuals to volunteer with clean up efforts in W. Virginia. Brethren Disaster Ministries staff will be evaluating how Brethren may participate in the later long-term recovery process.

Marion Church of the Brethren

ANNUAL

Swiss Steak Dinner

INCLUDING
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Green Beans • Salad • Roll
Dessert • Drink

Saturday Aug 27 4:00 to 7:30pm
Adults: \$ 9.00 Children \$4.00
10 & under

Call for
orders to go!
662-1600

Proceeds to Benefit:
"Klothes for Kids"
and "Gilead
Cancer Ministries"

Marion Church of the Brethren

2302 South Geneva Avenue Marion, IN
(on 26th Street between the By-pass & Miller Ave.)



15, 32, 50, 62 and 100 Mile Rides

Date: Sunday, September 11
Time: Registration and check-in - 6:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Ride: Can start anytime between 7:30 and 9:30 a.m.
Fees: Includes free commemorative t-shirt, free pre-event movie, free breakfast, free lunch and catered SAGs
Registration (6/1— 9/11) - \$45; (9/12—9/13) - \$55
Contact: Christine Flohr 260-563-7171
toursm@visitwabashcounty.com
Location: Wabash County YMCA

The Dam to Dam Wabash County Century Ride presented by Parkview Wabash Hospital is organized by a group of volunteers dedicated to the advancement of trails and greenways throughout Wabash County. The Century Ride route is designed to take riders over the Salamonie and Mississinewa Dam and around the Stockdale Dam. Riders experience 16 points of historic interests throughout the county. All of the routes are designed to showcase Wabash County's rural beauty during the changing of the seasons.

Books for Nigeria! - through October 16, 2016)

This new initiative is focused on helping schools recover (and improve) as EYN rebuilds its education programs. One of the best ways to combat terrorism is to provide good education. Boko Haram, meaning "western education is forbidden," is trying to stop education, especially of girls. This book drive is part of a larger plan supporting education for the children of NE Nigeria. There are two focuses of this book drive: child education and pastoral education. The books will be shipped in December 2016, so all books must be to the Brethren Service Center by November 20, 2016.

There will be two collection boxes, one inside the main doors and one in the west wing, at Manchester Church of the Brethren to receive books up until the morning of October 16, 2016. Kathy Fry-Miller will be traveling by car to New Windsor and can take books with her. She will pick them up from our church Sunday morning, October 16.

Books for Children

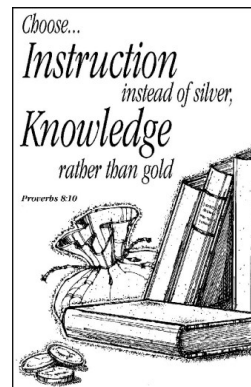
EYN-related schools are in need of books for their school libraries and classrooms. Please collect new or used books in good condition for children ages 6 to 16 years old. Specifically requested are paper-back chapter books for children, such as those recognized by the Newberry Award (easily found online). Non-fiction books and children's encyclopedias are also requested. All books should be in good condition and published in the last 20 years.

Books for Kulp Bible College

EYN's Kulp Bible College is requesting help supplying their library. They are in need of materials for training pastors including Bible commentaries, reference books, and resource books for pastors as well as books on Christian education, theology, preaching resources, Hebrew and Greek languages, pastoral counseling and ethics. All books should be in good condition and published in the last 20 years.

If you miss the October 16 deadline at our church, you may send books to arrive in New Windsor by November 20 to: Books for Nigeria, Brethren Service Center Annex, 601 Main Street, New Windsor, MD 21776

For Kathy to take them, please make sure all books arrive at the church by the morning of October 16, 2016.



Living Simply, from Volume 18 of Giving

Shane Claiborne was recently interviewed by Giving magazine about “Generosity in Community,” This is his response to the question, “What have you observed as the greatest barriers to living simply?”

“In North America, living simply and living in community have become increasingly countercultural. We receive constant messages to be financially and socially independent. If as Christians we want to live simply, we need to surround ourselves with a community of good mentors, teachers, and examples. Biblical accounts of generosity include communities as well as individuals. Like a living fire, we can benefit from the stirring of coals in community to keep our generosity alive and strong against the cultural messages we receive.

“The deep inequity between the rich and poor continues to grow. Sometimes in the North American church, we too often focus on hot-button social issues that Jesus didn’t say much about. He did say a great deal about poverty, the marginalized, and how his followers should respond. A generous church is one that reflects Christ’s ministry and presence in the world.”

Not so simple: Living in Christ - An excerpt from a reflection by Rev. Adam J. Copeland

“Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have” (Philippians 4:11).

If only simple living were actually simple. I recently found my way to a website dedicated to simple living. The author suggested hiring a style consultant to simplify one’s wardrobe. Then one could sign up for an extensive eight-week course on how to live a simple life. Oh, and I can’t forget the \$30 million minimalist house featured prominently on the site. The website made simple living actually look pretty complicated—and expensive!

Katharine, a friend of mine, recently went on a road trip that took her near the house of an acquaintance, a woman she had met but was not particularly close to. Katharine values minimalism and thrift, so she asked if she might stay the night with her acquaintance. Katharine later explained to me, “I only expected a shower and a bed and certainly no more than a bowl of cereal for breakfast. But what I received was a full experience: decadent, home-cooked meals; a collection of new friends; great conversation; and the warming of a soul that only comes with hospitality towards the whole person, perfectly executed.” Katharine sought simplicity, but she received generosity.

What should we do with this simple-living paradox, this challenge that for many of us today, living simply takes real work? Even when we attempt to live simply, we can end up with another experience entirely. I prefer to look at those who were just as baffled some 2000 years ago. “Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content in whatever I have,” writes the Apostle Paul from his jail cell in Rome (Philippians 4:11). Paul had just received a gift from the community of the Philippians, with whom he had previously stayed and to whom he had ministered.

While simple living is not so simple, it can lead to generosity in many forms: generous giving of time, generous giving of money, generous giving of love, and eventually, generous thanksgiving. Philippians 4:11 reminds us, however, that complications arise when attempting to live simply. Epaphroditus, the one who delivered the gift from the Philippians, almost died of illness when he was with Paul. As Paul sought to live simply, Epaphroditus “came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for those services that you could not give me” (2:30). Such reminders help to dissuade us from dangerous notions that those who live in poverty have a simple or easy life. The gospel is clear in its call to care for the poor and needy. We should not need to be reminded that poverty is hazardous for individuals, households, and society.

And yet, for those of us who have much, living simply can become a call to action responding to God’s good and unexpected gifts to us. As Paul indicates, it is a learning process, a sanctification process, even, of being made holy by the Spirit’s good work in us. Like Paul, as we focus on living out the gospel of Christ, we cannot expect that simple living is easy. Together, though, we might find that with God, simple living is faithful.

Rev. Adam J. Copeland teaches at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., where he serves as director of the Center for Stewardship Leaders. This reflection was originally published in Giving magazine, produced by the Ecumenical Stewardship Center.

Friends,

I am the District Disaster Coordinator for the South/Central District of the Church of the Brethren, but it seems I have not done a very good job of inspiring folks to be involved in the disaster work program of our church.

We have had two teams go this last year to Colorado and to Detroit but we have the potential to send maybe six to eight teams per year. We have at least two people ready to participate in the project leaders' training

happening in late September and early October. That is good, because Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) needs capable leaders on each project site to facilitate the work of larger groups of volunteers.

What is happening presently? Detroit is in the midst of a flood-related response with a BDM team on the ground each week through at least the remainder of this year. Drywall tasks, painting, trim and some flooring work keep the teams busy each week. Another project is continuing in Colorado, flood- and fire-related, but that project will be ending at the end of August. Another is in South Carolina, again flood-impacted. That project is shared with three other denominations and is a model of building capacity in the local community to more quickly organize after a disaster strikes. That site is one of three being considered to replace the Colorado site when it closes in August. So work is being lined up ahead by BDM staff for the next year already.

In a month or so I will be requesting weeks with BDM staff for volunteers from our district to serve on projects around the country. Those sites will not be known definitely, but we will commit to fill the fifteen or so volunteer openings for each week without knowing where we will be going. We do know that the sites will be staffed with construction coordinators, cooks, a wonderful supply of tools and a good space to sleep, relax and recoup for the next work day. These disaster times are like retreats!

If you are the disaster coordinator for your congregation I encourage you to rally a team, working with neighboring congregations, relatives, co-workers and friends to accumulate sufficient for a team of fifteen. Or let me know if you can only find three and we will combine them with other small groups. If you don't have a disaster coordinator in your congregation, I commission you to make it happen!

What does such a congregational disaster coordinator do? 1) Recruit volunteers to work at BDM project sites. 2) Encourage gifts of money to support the district travel of volunteers to disaster sites. 3) Help put together kits for school, health kits or disaster buckets as the district is doing jointly this year for district meeting. 4) Support the larger BDM international program such as the miraculous undergirding of EYN (the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria) during their recent years of crisis under the attacks of Boko Haram. 5) Encourage congregational members to volunteer with Children's Disaster Services.

Speaking of Children's Disaster Services (CDS), there is a training workshop happening in Kalamazoo, Michigan, September 30 - October 1 this fall. If you desire to be a volunteer with CDS through this training or want to promote a training in your own community, contact Kathy Fry-Miller through her email at <kfry-miller@brethren.org> or by phone at 410-635-8734.

I am already planning to select January 22-28, 2017 (first choice), or November 12-18, 2017 (second choice), as weeks for our district to send volunteers. This will be a joint effort with the Illinois/Wisconsin district so we need only supply about half of the volunteers. Are you interested in filling that slot? Or take the initiative: Tell me some of your own choices before the end of July so I can get our district's selections in the pool for BDM as the staff shape up the plans for next year. Do not wait. Other districts will be filling up many or most of those openings at that time.

Or if you can only go for a couple days or on the spur of the moment, let me know. We are sending small teams for Fridays and Saturdays to Detroit since it is close, and have also been able to supplement smaller groups from other districts going to Detroit in order to build a full complement of fifteen volunteers for the weekly team.

See, we don't have to be carpenters or able to climb ladders to be involved in BDM. Even our small congregations are fully capable of being participants at one of the many levels. It nurtures our faith to be involved. It preaches the gospel to volunteer with BDM. It builds and strengthens the church to be active in BDM. Do you need a boost in your outlook on life? Come be part of the work of Brethren Disaster Ministries!

Blessings of peace to you!

Cliff Kindy, S/C Indiana District Disaster Coordinator

<kindy@cpt.org> or 260-982-2971



BRETHREN
Disaster Ministries