

WABASH CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



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February 2019

Updated Look!

I'm sure you've noticed by now that something looks different! We've used the old newsletter design for several years, and it was just starting to feel like it needed a change. Hopefully you will like the new look, find it easy to read, as well as find easily the information you need.

Weather Information

Q: Wondering if we'll have service on Sunday?

A: If we must cancel, we will do our very best to get the word out via a number of avenues. If you are on the email prayer chain, we will send out an email as soon as we know. WANE-TV (Fort Wayne Channel 15) and WKUZ radio (105.9FM) are the two broadcast media we will use. If possible, we will also make a post on Facebook.

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.



Wabash CoB Sanctuary

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Random Thoughts: Take the Cookie

Pastor Deb Peterson

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven..." (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

We've all heard this verse quoted and quoted. If you were into music in the 1960s, you heard it in a song, "Turn, Turn, Turn," made popular by the American folk-rock group, the Byrds. Pete Seeger wrote the lyrics and it was word for word from Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. I bet you could even recite some of the other verses...a time to be born, a time to die...a time to weep and a time to laugh...a time to keep and a time to throw away.

This sacred list represents all the seasons and the important matters of our lives. Some are happy times, others sad; some are productive while others seem wasteful; some inspire peace and others bring pain. All of them are necessary for us to learn, grow, and evolve as spiritual beings. Their appearance is not by accident. If we look closer each experience reveals a loving, divine purpose that we can learn to trust.

Recently, we've all experienced transitions. We have begun a new year and winter finally announced it truly is winter. Personally, there are three distinct stages we all tend to go through in every major transition. Each one begins with an ending, then a time of grief, feeling disoriented and eventually acceptance. The third stage is a new beginning. So we must let go before we can begin anew. Transitions are a fact of life and yet we struggle sometimes and fight to keep things the same as they've always been. But the flow of life is a process of change. If we don't learn the process and "go with the flow," we honestly cannot be happy. We're like salmon, always trying to swim upstream.

Each major transition in our lives requires our undivided time and attention to go from that ending to a beginning. Sometimes the challenges we encounter seem like dark tunnels, yet every tunnel has a light at the end of it. As we grope in the darkness, we can focus on the faint light we see in the distance. This light represents a gift—whatever it is we are to learn, to heal, or to change. The darkness will pass as we move toward the light, as we gratefully receive the tunnel's gift.

Each transition contains a gift if we're open to receiving it. Some of these gifts are easy to identify: when winter changes to spring and brings its own new beginnings, the loss of a job leads to something much better that you could not have imagined. Other gifts are not so easy to identify, like the storms that often usher in a new season, the oppressive heat of summer, or the bitter cold of winter. These other gifts require us to look beyond the appearances and peer much deeper for their significance.

Just as picking fresh tomatoes and corn and eating them is more fun than the work of preparing, planting, and weeding a garden, we can't enjoy one without the other. Even the transitional storms of our lives are necessary to clear the atmosphere of old ways of thinking that keep us from fully experiencing the next seasons of our lives. The oppressive heat of summer and the bitter cold of winter cause us to retreat within ourselves for rest, renewal, and creativity.

Nothing in life is static for long. As soon as we grow to the next higher level, it seems it is then time to go to the one beyond that one. And on and on we grow and go—unless we resist. When crisis comes, resistance is the normal first response. It's self-protective, yet in the long run, it becomes self-destructive. With every crisis comes a choice—to resist or to accept, to respond in fear or in faith, to say yes or no. The writer of Ecclesiastes wrote in 7:14, "When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider: God has made one as well as the other."

If we remember that there is a gift in every crisis or challenge—in every transition of life—we will be able to go with the flow more easily. As we discover the gift in every season of our lives, we learn to trust more and more that loving, divine purpose behind it. Then the current of life can carry us off to new adventures, more rewarding and exciting than any we may have chosen in a resistant state of mind. A Bible professor once said in my class, "there is nothing new under the sun, so take the cookie as it crumbles." Yes, live one day at a time and accept changes as they happen. They're going to happen anyway.

Women's Fellowship

We will need a hostess (or two) for each month for our activities, starting with April. This can be as simple as deciding that we will meet for a breakfast at the church or elsewhere or planning an outing for us to attend. Brenda and Karen will be happy to help the hostess. Michelle needs dates, times etc. to get these announced. Brenda has accepted the call to be our president and Karen will continue as secretary/treasurer with Katie also on the books.

Our next meeting is Saturday, February 16 at 9:30am at the church for breakfast and a project. Brenda Landis will be hosting the meeting.

On March 11, our church will host the District Board Meeting, serving a light supper at 6pm. See Karen if you are willing to furnish some of the food or help work in the kitchen.

On March 24, we will have a quick lunch (location to be determined) and then attend the spring musical at Manchester High School to attend the spring musical in which Alyssa Marvel will participate.

Bible Study Topics

February 6—What is the Antichrist? 1 John 2:18-25

February 13—What will Heaven be like? Revelation 21:1-7

February 20—How inclusive should the Church be? Galatians 3:23-29

February 27—What happened in the Transfiguration of Jesus? Luke 9:28-36

March 6—Did God forsake Jesus on the cross? Mark 15:33-37

Remember, we have moved our meeting day to Wednesdays, but still at 10am. Please come and join us for some fellowship as we delve deeper into scripture.



Worship Schedule

If you would like to participate in Worship, please either find a member of the nurture commission (Laurie K-C, Bonnie H, Linda M, Michelle R, or Mikayla G) or sign up on the schedule outside the office door.

February	Pulpit	Worship Leader	Song Leader	Greeter	Head Usher	Children's Church	Musician
3	Pastor Deb	Karen O.	Mikayla G.	Barb M.	Larry J.		Bonnie H.
10	Pastor Deb	Stan M.	Mikayla G.	Barb M.	Larry J.		Bonnie H.
17	Pastor Deb	Dennis H.	Mikayla G.	Barb M.	Larry J.	Carol H.	Laurie K-C
24	Al Hohl	Leroy S.	Mikayla G.	Barb M.	Larry J.		Bonnie H.





Ben at Camp, 2016

District Prayer Concerns

February 3—Please pray with us for the Arcadia COB and Northern Indiana District.

February 10—Please pray with us for the Bethel Center COB and Michigan District.

February 17—Please pray with us for the Buck Creek COB and Mid-Atlantic District.

February 27—Please pray with us for the Buffalo COB and Missouri and Arkansas District.

Camp Mack Corner

Camp Reps, mark your calendars! Plan to attend the Camp Rep Meeting on Saturday, January 12, from 9:00 to 11:30 am at either Camp Mack or the Union Grove Church of the Brethren in Muncie, Indiana. Enjoy a breakfast and receive 2019 program information and materials. Send your RSVP to Jessk@campmack.org. Please send a substitute if you are unable to attend.

Upcoming Opportunities at Camp:

- ☐ February Quilt Retreat Feb. 14-17
- ☐ Scrapbooking Retreat Feb. 21-24
- ☐ Team Leader Training March 2
- ☐ Annual Dinner March 8
- ☐ FLYE Weekend March 8-9
- ☐ Volunteer Work Days March 11-13
- ☐ Mother Daughter Retreat March 23-24

Work Opportunities at Camp:

Applications are being accepted for 2018 Summer Staff, 18 years of age or older, with a heart for the ministry at Camp Mack. Applications are available at the Camp Mack website or persons may call or email camp for an application.

Please consider being a Team Leader or counselor this summer to enrich the young lives at Camp Mack. Contact Jessica Kreider to check needs and dates 574-658-4831 or jessk@campmack.org

Upcoming Get-A-Way Days at Camp:

- ☐ February 11 Eagle Watch
- ☐ February 23 Scrapbooking
- ☐ February 23 Board Games

Go to the Camp Mack website: www.campmack.org for information and to register or call 574-658-4831.

Prayer Request:

Please pray for committed summer staff and camp counselors.



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



Feb 5 3:30pm VIA, President Dave McFadden's vision, Abundance. Cordier Auditorium.

Feb 8 & 2212:00pm Music at Manchester Weekend for prospective students interested in participating in the Music Program. Audition for scholarships, attend classes, and more. See [here for more information](#).

Feb 13 7:30pm Nolen Music Series Concert featuring The Fort Wayne Jazz Orchestra. Timbercrest Assembly Room.

Feb 16 8:00am Freezin' for a Reason Polar Plunge. Benefits Special Olympics. Center Lake Warsaw



BDM Rebuild Project

Brethren Disaster Ministries

February Update

God's blessings to you in this New Year! Our South/Central District of the Church of the Brethren has four weeks assigned to us by BDM in this new year. I am especially focused on February 3-9 and March 10-16 when we need 7 and 15 volunteers respectively. The work will be based in Lumberton, NC with workers going to both North and South Carolina for new builds and repairs.

Your help will be what gets the work done. Hurricanes Matthew and Florence have wreaked havoc in this region and families need our assistance and encouragement. Will you be one of the members of the team and are there others from your congregation, workplace or family who would be great to have along? Respond to this email or call me at 410-596-8569 in January or 260-982-2971 after this month.

BDM is also working in Puerto Rico this year. Small groups of seven are going for two or more weeks at a time. If you can hold up in hot, rugged conditions and are free to go let me know when it works for you and I will try to make those arrangements quickly.

Children's Disaster Services (CDS) has been very busy these past years providing care and trauma healing for children impacted by fires, hurricanes, floods, shootings and other unnatural but common events.

CDS is needing new trained volunteers. April 10-11 in Chicago, April 12-13 in North Manchester and Feb 22-23 in Washington, PA are some of the next nearby trainings. Call 1-800-451-4407, extension 734 for details.

Thank you for your prayers and support, physical and financial, for BDM and its important ministries!

Cliff Kindy, District Disaster Coordinator