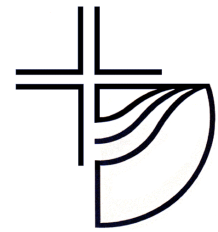


WABASH CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



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

June 2020

Congregational Connections

Bible Study Updates

Pastor Doug will also be starting two new opportunities beginning next week. On Tuesday, June 2, Bible study will be returning on Zoom, starting at 10AM. If you would like to join this weekly Bible study, please contact Pastor Doug for connection information. We will be finishing our study of Paul's letter to the Philippians.

Sunday School Updates

On Sunday, June 7, Pastor Doug will begin holding Sunday School starting at 9AM. This will be held in the same Zoom meeting as the weekly worship service, so all you will simply need to join the meeting earlier on Sunday morning. We will be finishing up our discussion of the book A Dunkard Guide to Brethren Beliefs. You do not need to have a copy of the book, but several are available for those who are interested. If you would like a copy, please be in touch with Pastor Doug.

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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- Pastor's Letter
- Women's Fellowship News
- Worship Schedule
- Camp Mack Corner
- District Prayer Concerns
- BLI Update
- Church Calendar
- And more!

What is this Place

Pastor Doug Veal



This has been a difficult time for us over the last several months. We have seen a great deal of change, both in our wider society and as a congregation. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has changed much of how we approach our lives, virtually overnight. Schools closed their buildings and many moved towards online education. Businesses shut down, and are slowly re-opening. Our congregation has shifted from our normal, weekly, in-person gatherings to online worship.

This shift towards online worship may, at times, make it seem like the church has been closed since March. Yet I

would strongly contend that, while our building has closed, our congregation has never closed. We may not be having in-person services, but our congregation has continued to find ways to meet together, to pray together, to worship together.

As I mentioned in the letter explaining our decision to continue meeting virtually, from a theological perspective, while our weekly worship service is an important aspect of our identity as a congregation, our congregation is not and never has been primarily the building, or our weekly gathering in-person.

All of us, as followers and disciples of Jesus, are the body of the church. Even as we continue to refrain from in-person meetings, and utilize alternate ways to meet remotely, we continue to be the body of Christ in our community. Even as we have entered into this time of physical distancing, our congregation has not “closed.” We are still the body of Christ, still meeting and caring for one another, still worshiping, still ministering to one another and our world.

As we look forward, we are all hoping and praying for a return to in-person worship services, meetings, carry-in meals, and a return to a normal routine of church life. Eventually, we will be able to do so. Yet we are continuing to wait, a difficult thing for us, as a way to show our love and care for one another. We continue to meet virtually, not out of fear, but out of loving concern for the health of all our members. I invite all of us to continue to be in prayer for one another, for our congregation, and for our congregational leadership as we continue to walk forward together while apart.

In Christ,

Pastor Doug

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

June 7	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1	So we don't lose heart
June 14	Mark 4:26-34	Planting and Growing
June 21	Jeremiah 32:1-15	Jeremiah's Defiant Act of Hope
June 28	Guest Speaker TBA	



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 June

1 Proverbs 1	9 Lamentations	17 Luke 11-12	25 Philippians 1-2
2 Jeremiah 47-52	10 Luke 9-10	18 Ephesians 4-6	26 Leviticus 7-9
3 Luke 7-8	11 Ephesians 1-3	19 Leviticus 4-6	27 1 Kings 19-22
4 Galatians 4-6	12 Leviticus 1-3	20 1 Kings 14-18	28 Psalms 75-77
5 Exodus 37-40	13 1 Kings 10-13	21 Psalms 72-74	29 Proverbs 7
6 1 Kings 5-9	14 Psalms 69-71	22 Proverbs 5-6	30 Ezekiel 13-18
7 Psalms 66-68	15 Proverbs 4	23 Ezekiel 7-12	
8 Proverbs 2-3	16 Ezekiel 1-6	24 Luke 13-14	

Updates

Roudebush

Well, our household is never really usual, but here lately, it has been anything but! Ben found out on his birthday (the same day the Governor enacted the stay at home orders) that he was being “evicted” from Trine. After helping a lot of his floor-mates and fraternity brothers move, he packed up Roxy (his car) himself and made the trek down to Indy. Good thing the boy likes to travel light! What a way to remember your birthday! Since, he has started an internship with the Indianapolis Children’s Museum in the IT department. Most of it has been remotely so far, as they are not open. He picked up a side hustle with InstaCart, so you will have to ask him about his first foray. It involves a bike, some damaged groceries, and a lot of laughs.

For Zak, it was his first year to try out (and then make) County Honor’s Band. All of those kids worked so hard, and then to have even the recorded concert cancelled that night, was a really hard thing. He was supposed to have his wisdom teeth taken out over Spring Break, but then that had to change. Then it got scheduled, but it was still too early in the reopening, so they rescheduled. And we found out that it was for the day after his AP Chemistry test. So we rescheduled again. So he finally got it done! Only took 4 tries! He’s recovering well, and enjoying some time with his brother.

And me, well, I’ve been gardening and spending as much time outside as I can manage. There are still a few work related tasks I’ve been doing, mostly studying. I have chosen to see it as a bit of a sabbatical and a way to determine what has substance and purpose in my schedule, and perhaps what needs to change. I’ve been trying to find ways of helping my (literal) neighbors and others who are unable to go out.

A big shout-out to all the kids—life has thrown the entire lemon orchard at you this year, and you have really just rolled with it! Keep the faith, this experience will serve you well in the future.

Barkeys

Linda has shared with me that on several times they have been able to share meals with Lisa and her family via FaceTime. Over the weekend, they were excited to be able to be together in the backyard. Hopefully they were able to find a shady tree, boy was it hot!

Millers

Alyssa has been chosen as the drum major for Manchester High School. So much fun! And so glad to hear that schools still have marching bands! You will love it!

Camp Mack Corner

Camper Connection

Did you know that most weekdays there is a family focus post on Facebook? Here are the posts from last week through today:

Try camping in your backyard, living room, or garage. Make some fun memories and make s’mores in a backyard campfire or on the stove.

<https://dinnerthendessert.com/how-to-make-smores-4-ways/>

Join our virtual campfires on Sunday evenings at 7:00.

Create a family bucket list. <https://bucketlistjourney.net/family-activities-things-to-do-with-kids/>

Get creative with some chalk games. <https://christiancamppro.com/5-fun-games-with-chalk/?fbclid=IwAR11zvuOkp2mw2ybzELrdbRNic4Z6IWZVwmqAhg4YB-JrIR9qKnMEVPg65Q>

Get out into nature and find some mushrooms for dinner. 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

Check out Jessie's description of how in today's Family Focus.
<https://www.facebook.com/CampMack>

If you are close enough, we would love to have you visit and experience nature here at camp. Call us first and we'll let you know the best places to experience nature. If you aren't nearby, get out into a park and enjoy the world God created!

Parent Connection

If you need some help with making this summer a positive one, this website might help:

<https://www.tinabryson.com/news/video-helping-our-kids-manage-summer-disappointments>.

Let us know if your campers are talking about special camp events they are missing. Let us know what they are, and we will try to figure out a way to provide the experience. Keep looking for this newsletter every week, and give us feedback. We want to serve you and your family.

Our Prayer: Dear God, help us to find you in everything we do. Help us to look for you and for the wonderful things around us every day. Help us to stay safe and know we are loved. Amen.



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

June

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 Church World Service. We will share amounts received in the July newsletter, as well as reminding you of other upcoming special giving opportunities.



Pastor Doug shares some hiking beauty

Witness & Nurture Commissions

85 Hope and Francine's Friends Mobile Mammography Unit

-June 10: Town Life Center, NM 9a-3p
-June 11: Friends Church, Wabash 9a-3p

If you or anyone you know is 35 and older and interested in getting a mammogram at either of these locations, please call 260-483-1847 or 800-727-8439 to schedule an appointment. Mammograms can be billed to your insurance. Women without insurance can discuss the possibility of financial help for the mammogram, when they call for an appointment. You may visit francinesfriends.org for additional information.

HAWC Meeting, May

While the day did not bring as wonderful weather as we had hoped, we were able to meet outside and stay distanced. Stay tuned for updates. Next meeting is June 17 at 2pm.

Stewardship

May 3

General Offerings—\$1270
Special Offerings—\$129

May 10

General Offerings—\$1410
Special Offerings—\$250

May 24

General Offerings—\$1030
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

Letters from our District Executive

Beth Sollenberger

Greetings,

I applaud the creativity and persistence I see in you and give thanks for the ways you have continued to serve God and minister to parishioners throughout these strange days of COVID 19.

The other evening the father of "my" 4Hers called to borrow the clippers we own. When I took the 2 sets over to the barn I discovered he was going to clip by himself as the boys had other things to do. I said I would do the smaller calf hoping that task on a hot sticky evening was not really bigger than me! The good news is that I actually got the job done. The weird news is that the task is done to get a calf ready for a county fair that may or may not happen. And if it does take place it will be very different and if it does not take place the project will get finished in a very new and strange way.

I keep hoping for a return to "normal" and I realistically know that I may never see that "normal" again! These days churches are worshiping in a "new normal" way. We may gather with masks, sanitizer and every other pew roped off. We may discover the value of drive in church in the parking lot. We may include YouTube and live streaming worship services as part of our long-term plans.

What does the future entail? How has living through these days of quarantine and social distancing changed our sense of normal? What have we learned that we do not want to forget as we move forward? Someone has said and I do believe that we will get through this experience changed for the better if we learn from it and find that the creativity of necessity will serve us well in the era of "new normal!"

Blessings,

Beth

OHIO TORNADO REBUILDING Local Volunteers Needed

BDM will be accepting volunteers who are Ohio residents for 1 week periods during July 13-31, 2020.



BDM is anticipating the ability to provide volunteers to support the recovery from record breaking tornado activity on Memorial Day weekend 2019 in the Miami Valley Area of Southern Ohio. BDM will be monitoring the COVID-19 situation prior to these dates and changes or cancellations may be made based on travel restrictions, CDC and governmental guidance, and conversations with local partners.

Volunteering within COVID-19 Guidelines

- No Lodging or Meals provided (must live within driving distance)
- Groups of only 8-10
- Masks & Social Distancing required
- Volunteers during this time period must be Ohio residents
- Volunteers provide their own transportation
- Compliance with additional safety measures will be required and must be agreed to prior to serving

TO APPLY TO VOLUNTEER CONTACT:
Burt Wolf in the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District at
southernohiobdm@gmail.com or 937-287-5902

Or Terry Goodger in the BDM office at
tgoodger@brethren.org or 410-635-8730



Summer Work Camps Cancelled

From the Workcamp Ministry

It is with a heavy heart that we are writing to announce the decision to cancel all workcamps this summer due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In cancelling workcamps, we are choosing to prioritize health and safety and protect workcamp participants, local communities, and service site partners from unnecessary risk.

Although we cannot gather in person, we are excited to announce that we have a new plan to stay connected with those who registered for workcamps. We will be offering weekly times of connection, reflection, and fellowship from the end of June to the beginning of August.

Read more at www.brethren.org/news/2020/church-of-the-brethren-workcamps-canceled.html



Camp Mack
Giving Day
June 7



The story of Camp Mack is your story, and
the future of Camp Mack is your future.

We are seeking 95 donors to give \$95 each in
honor of Camp Mack's 95 years of
providing holy hospitality.

Join our livestream on Facebook to hear Camp
Mack stories from special guests, activities, and
ending with our virtual campfire.

Be a part of keeping the campfire burning.

We look forward to seeing you June 7th

Calling all Golfers!

White's Teeing Up for Teens

Make plans to join us June 22nd for White's Residential & Family Services annual Teeing Up for Teens golf outing! Your team of four will enjoy the new format of 18 holes! Prizes will be awarded for closest to the pin, longest drive, and best score. Benefits include throw the ball, mulligan x 2, and pole length.

Money raised will update an outdoor basketball court with a new sport court which will benefit our residential students on campus. So gather some friends and get your team signed up today!

<https://secure.ministrysync.com/ministrysync/event/home.php?e=20123>

Sabbath as Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now

Walter Brueggemann

I read this in the Kokomo CoB weekly newsletter and it really made me stop and take pause. I believe it was written by Pastor Mark.

In Sabbath as Resistance, Walter Brueggemann likens our consumerism-driven society to ancient Egypt. Hebrew slaves made bricks for storehouses for the wealth of the upper class, at the top of which sat Pharaoh. Now, as then, the push is always to do more, earn more, make more; we worry there's not enough time or money. "In this system there can be no Sabbath rest," says the author. Yet, at the culmination of creation, "God rested on the seventh day. God did not show up to do more. ... God did not come and check on creation in anxiety to be sure it was all working." And "because the creator is anxiety free," we can be too. "God is not a workaholic," writes Brueggemann. "God does not keep jacking up production schedules. To the contrary, God rests, confident, serene, at peace." God's rest, in turn, gives us — who are created in his image — a "restfulness that contradicts the 'drivenness'" of Pharaoh's Egypt and modern society.