

WABASH CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



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July 2020

Congregational Connections

Bible Study Updates

On June 2, Pastor Doug started Bible study 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 began 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.



Wabash City Schools delivering lunches

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Re-opening the church building

Pastor Doug Veal

Later this month, on July 12, we will re-open our building for a hybrid of online and in-person worship. We will continue to offer a Zoom connection for those who feel the need to continue to stay home due to being at higher risk for COVID-19.

As we do so, I want to remind us that at our core level, the church itself has not been closed. The church is not its building, it is the people who make up our congregation. While we have been apart these past months, our congregation has continued its ministry, both to one another and to our larger community. Whether or not our building is open for worship services, we continue to be the church together.

With that said, I know that it is not the same for us to be worshiping and meeting online only. Yet as we have faced this new pandemic threat, that has been the safest, best option for us to pursue. As we continue to move forward through the rest of this year, we may find it necessary to return to an all online format depending on the circumstances surrounding our own congregation, our local community, and the world around us.

First and foremost, while we are attempting to adhere to all of the best practices recommended for us, there is still the possibility that our precautions will fail. This is important for all of us to remember as we each, individually, weigh whether to continue online or to return to in-person services. We continue to strongly suggest that if you are in a high-risk category for the COVID-19 virus, that you remain at home and join in online.

We will be requiring everyone to wear a mask at this time, following the CDC recommendations for public spaces. While we recognize that this may feel uncomfortable, the best science is showing that this is an important aspect of limiting the spread of COVID-19. Disposable masks are available at the church building, but you are encouraged to bring your own if you have one. If you feel that you cannot wear a mask for health reasons, that likely shows that it is best that you continue to join our services through the online option.

There will be a number of changes made to our services to encourage social distancing and to limit the amount of time that we spend in the sanctuary for our services. Our hybrid online/in-person services will be shorter to limit the amount of time that we are spending indoors.

We will not be printing and handing out bulletins at this time. Instead, we will have the projector running to show any needed announcements or other items that may be used during the service. All hymnals and Bibles have been removed from the pews for the time being. We will continue to have music during the service, but there will be no singing. Singing has been identified as an extremely high-risk activity.

Instead of passing the offering plate, we will have a box on the ushers table for you to use to drop in your tithes and offerings. You may also continue to mail them to the church if you prefer.

We will not be passing the microphone around for joys and concerns. This is an area that I have been pondering on how to do well for some time now, and one that will require some experimentation as we begin this process. Beginning with our first hybrid service, if you have an item to share, you are asked to email or text that joy or concern to Pastor Doug, who will share them on Sunday morning. This will allow both those online and in the building an opportunity to

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

July

July 5	1 Kings 19:1-15	The Sound of Sheer Silence
July 12	James 1:17-24	Doers of the Word
July 19	Micah 6:1-8	Doing Justice
July 26		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 July

1 Luke 15-16	9 Colossians 1-2	17 Leviticus 16-18	25 2 Kings 16-20
2 Philippians 3-4	10 Leviticus 13-15	18 2 Kings 11-15	26 Psalms 87-89
3 Leviticus 10-12	11 2 Kings 6-10	19 Psalms 84-86	27 Proverbs 13
4 2 Kings 1-5	12 Psalms 81-83	20 Proverbs 11-12	28 Ezekiel 37-42
5 Psalms 78-80	13 Proverbs 10	21 Ezekiel 31-36	29 Luke 23-24
6 Proverbs 8-9	14 Ezekiel 25-30	22 Luke 21-22	30 1 Thessalonians 4-5
7 Ezekiel 19-24	15 Luke 19-20	23 1 Thessalonians 1-3	31 Leviticus 22-24
8 Luke 17-18	16 Colossians 3-4	24 Leviticus 19-21	

hear the joy or concern, while also minimizing the potential contacts between persons in the building.

All those who return for in-person services are asked to maintain social distancing of at least six feet at all times. As you choose a seat, we are asking that all households select a seat that allows for the maintaining of social distancing. Our sanctuary is large for the number of people that we have attending currently, so we should be able to spread out in this way fairly easily. You may end up needing to sit at a different place than you normally would.

As you arrive for in-person worship, we would ask that you do not enter the building until five minutes before the service. We will be restricting entrance to either the main glass doors or the elevator. We will prop open the glass door so as to limit the number of persons needing to touch the door. We have installed hand sanitizer stations at the bottom and top of the stairs near the main entrance. As you enter or leave the building, you are highly encouraged to use these stations. We have also placed sanitizing wipes throughout the sanctuary. We are asking as you leave the sanctuary, to please take a moment and use them to wipe down the pew where you are sitting. We are also requesting that you exit the building immediately following the end of the service, and to not congregate at the back of the sanctuary.

Finally, it is extremely important that, if you are feeling sick, that you do not join us for the in-person option. Whether it is due to a COVID-19 infection or another illness, we need to be willing for the sake of all of us, to stay home when we are unwell.

It is important for all of us to follow these guidelines to the best of our ability, so as to limit the chance of spreading COVID-19 as best as we can. These precautions and guidelines have been carefully considered and adopted as the best way to allow for us to resume holding services in our building. If you have any questions or concerns, please be in touch with me by phone or text at 26-225-3014 or by email at pastordoug@wabashcob.org.

In Christ,

Pastor Doug, On behalf of the Executive Committee

Upper Room

July—August Edition

July-August 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.

Wedding Bells

Mikayla and Nathan are getting married!

They have set a wedding date for Saturday, August 1, 2020 at 11am.

There is an invitation on the bulletin board in the mailroom hallway. There will be a carry-in meal after the service, and all are welcome to both. In lieu of gifts, donations for honeymoon in TN are requested. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to 260-578-4911 or genovesemj@gmail.com
Masks will be required per church re-opening policy.

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
Personal Hygiene items



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.



Camp Mack Corner

Camper Connection

Summer Camp at Camp Mack begins in just a week with Quest for Camp. This camp from where you are summer camp will be filled with Bible studies, recreation activities, crafts, singing, Time Alone with God (TAG Time), vespers, nature, bedtime stories, and more. Campers will be able to connect with each other and leaders through afternoon and evening Zoom calls. And, did we mention? This camp is FREE! Check out the details below.

-Register at www.campmack.org/questforcamp . We will send a parent letter with details and the portal link.

-Zoom calls will include activities as a group, breakout rooms in the afternoon, discussion time, large group activities, and bedtime stories

-Regardless if campers can join in on the Zoom calls, the summer camp portal website is awesome one its own.

-June 28-July 3: Age 5 through completed 3rd grade

-July 5-10: Completed 3rd-6th grades

-July 12-17: Completed 6th-10th grades

-We would love our past team leaders and counselors to join us during the Zoom calls to moderate the breakout rooms in the afternoon and to connect with campers.

Email jessk@campmack.org with any



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



Scholarship Committee Chair Susan Street with Lulu Baer recipient Maya Benysh of Wabash High School.

The second scholarship is in honor of Lulu Baer, a Wabash native and founding member of Tri Kappa. Lulu Baer attended the May Wright Sewall's Classical School in Indianapolis and it was on February 22, 1901 that she and her fellow classmates founded Tri Kappa. Seven years later, Lulu returned home to begin the Wabash Chapter of Tri Kappa, known as Alpha Epsilon. This award is presented to a senior boy and girl of outstanding character from Wabash High School who have availed themselves most fully of the opportunities for self development. This year's recipients are: Wyatt Davis and Maya Benysh. Both Wyatt and Maya will receive \$400 and, as tradition, their names will be engraved on the Tri Kappa Lulu Baer Award plaque displayed in Wabash High School.

Executive Committee

Outside Groups using the Building

In regard to outside groups using the building, the May Board minutes note that this will not happen until a decision is made to move to Stage 3 of our reopening plan. The building will continue to be closed to outside groups or for meetings. Any such use of the building in the future would be determined if and when we move to Stage 3 of the reopening plan. So, initially we will be reopening only for worship. Sunday School will continue on Zoom, but will end by 9:45 to allow for travel time.



nounced two new courses with appeal for both current seminary students and ministers who are seeking opportunities for additional professional development. "Theology and Ministry in Response to Crisis" is an August intensive taught by Russell Haight, professor of Theology and Human Science. "The Shape of Ministry in a High-Tech World" will be taught in the Spring semester 2021 by Dan Poole, assistant professor of Ministry Formation.

Read the Bethany release at <https://bethanyseminary.edu/bethany-announces-new-courses>

District Prayer List

July 5—Please pray with us for the Church of the Brethren, Inc. All staffers and volunteers.

July 12—Please pray with us for the Logansport CoB and the Western Plains District congregations and staff.

July 19—Please pray with us for the BLI students, administrators, and instructors.

July 26—Please pray with us for the Lower Deer Creek CoB and the West Marva congregations and staff.

Stewards Commission

Video Assistant Needed

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 or Michelle at office@wabashcob.org.

Witness & Nurture Commissions

HAWC Meeting, June

You may have heard Growing Grounds folk, or HAWC (Housing Action Wabash County) attenders talk about Host House which is the house at 559 to 561 W. Hill St in Wabash that is being renovated to house homeless families in transition. The work on that house continues, but it is not yet finished, so it is not open for occupancy. People who want to help with that project could direct funds to Advantage Housing at 101 W. Sycamore, Suite 1A, Kokomo, IN 46901. Advantage Housing will soon also have an office in Wabash at the former Plain Dealer building. Some donors to Growing Grounds have designated a generous amount of money to help make this house possible. We are so excited to see this home for the homeless coming to fruition!

Stewardship

May 31

General Offerings—\$4797
Special Offerings—\$0

June 7

General Offerings—\$1060
Special Offerings—\$3050

June 14

General Offerings—\$580
Special Offerings—\$0

June 28

General Offerings—\$6214.94
Special Offerings—\$979

Special Offerings

July

This month, our giving goes to Growing Grounds, our own home-grown ministry that works with women, both inside, and outside, incarceration to prevent returns. This involves many activities such as: GED training, mentoring, helping to secure housing, childcare, transportation, and employment.

We oftentimes work in collaboration with other organizations to help make this a reality. Wabash County Transit, Manchester Inmate Ministry, Lighthouse Mission, LearnMore Center, and many others. We also attempt to build relationships with employers and landlords to ensure a more successful environment.

Donations can be made to the church, with Growing Grounds put in the memo field. They can be mailed to the church.



Pastor Doug shares some hiking beauty

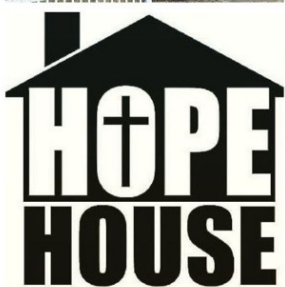


Witness & Nurture Commissions

Hope House

The fund raiser for this house is underway and these donations go directly to the Community Foundation of Wabash County. See below also for the Sunday, June 28, event at the drive-in. This group does not yet have a location for this home.

To learn more about Hope House, the public is invited to attend Hope House Under the Stars on June 28th. Any donations for the Wabash County Hope House collected during or after the event will be directed to the Community Foundation and used to sponsor rooms, pay salaries, and provide meals and recovery-related programming for women living in the home. The Community Foundation of Wabash County will be processing donations and administering the Hope House Fund. All donations are tax deductible. To make a donation, you can visit the Community Foundation website or mail a check to the Community Foundation located at 105 West Second Street, North Manchester, IN 46962



with Hope House in the memo line. With your financial support, you will help women in Wabash County maintain recovery, strengthen relationships, find freedom, discover purpose in their lives, and most importantly, find hope.

For more information on Hope House, follow Hope House on Facebook and Instagram or visit www.hopehousemarion.org.

questions.

From Page 5 Parent Connection

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

[https://](https://www.tinabryson.com/news/video-helping-our-kids-manage-summer-disappointments)

[www.tinabryson.com/news/video-helping-our-kids-manage-summer-disappointments.](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.

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



Benjamin Roudebush

Majoring in Computer Sci And Information Tech
[Trine University](#)
From La Fontaine, IN

Benjamin Roudebush named to Trine University President's List

June 8, 2020

Benjamin Roudebush of La Fontaine, a Trine University student, was named to the President's List for the Spring 2020 term.

Roudebush is majoring in Computer Sci and Information Tech.

To earn President's List honors, students at Trine University's main campus and Fort Wayne Center for Health Sciences must complete a minimum of 15 hours and have a grade point average of 3.750-4.000.

Letters from our District Executive

Beth Sollenberger

Greetings,

This morning I was the breakfast volunteer in the Camp Mack kitchen helping get ready and serving a small group that is staying there. We were chatting as we poured syrup into small plastic containers and capped them off with a lid and a label. I said something about being glad we were not preparing individual servings of fruit and syrup for over 200 campers as it is labor intensive work. Vanessa replied with a (new to me) thought, "I don't know how we are going to manage if these rules are still in place next summer and we have a full camp."

Summer is here! And the strangeness continues. Some of you are back sitting in worship together. Others are continuing to worship from afar joining Facebook live, livestreaming, zoom, google hangouts, and maybe just with an occasional check-in phone call or through the window wave. We are indeed learning new ways to be the church together physically or with all the social distancing suggestions firmly in place.

There is one truth I know. The church continues to be the church no matter how we normally or creatively gather together in Jesus' name.

Questions abound. When will we get back to normal? Will we have to wear masks forever? How do you do Vacation Bible School now? Will there be district conference? That one does have an answer!

The decision has been made that we will not have an in person district conference this year. However, a few things are in the works. We are hoping to have a way to raise the money we wanted to give to Heifer Project. The decision was made last spring to set a goal of 3 arks; \$15,000 dollars for Heifer. Erin Huiras has agreed to help make this possible. We are still working on the details, but folks, we have a commitment from our resident auctioneer. Look for details to come of how you can be a part of this virtual endeavor to raise some dollars for Heifer!

We will also have a chance to worship together. Moderator Spencer Spaulding and members of the program and arrangements committee are getting things ready to provide a virtual worship experience for all of us. Watch for details of how to participate.

And, happening very soon will be this year's opportunities that have replaced gathering together in Grand Rapids for Annual Conference. The details of how to participate are included in this email. Please SHARE the information with the members of your congregation!

I pray for the members and friends of this district daily. South/Central Indiana is blessed with creative and flexible pastors who have met the challenges of this pandemic with grace and the ability to see challenges as opportunities. I give thanks for you all and rejoice in your steadfast faith!

Blessings,

Beth