

# Wabash Church of the Brethren

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Kay Gaier, pastor



September  
2018

## ***RANDOM THOUGHTS.....***

Stewardship. What's the first word that comes to your mind when you read or hear that word? I'm willing to bet it's "money." But in spite of the teaching of many Christians, there is no New Testament equivalent of the Old Testament's mandatory tithe. Throughout the New Testament, we find examples of the principle that our motivations as the giver are as important, if not more so, than the gift itself.

If we are truly disciples of Christ, we are to be stewards of *all* the wonderful gifts God created for us. We must remind ourselves often that stewardship is not a financial ministry; it is a discipleship ministry. Calling ourselves disciples means doing what we can to take some responsibility for the way we spend our time, sharing our talents, contributing to healthy relationships, recycling, caring for the earth and all of creation, caring for our bodies, minds and spirits and responsibility for how we use money. If people don't hear teaching and preaching about money, they are left exposed to one of Satan's favorite tools. Money. When it comes to money, if the heart overrules the head, the result is frequently disastrous. Just follow teenagers around a mall to see what I mean.

Continually being conscious of being faithful followers of God leads us to manage all God's resources, whether it's taking cardboard, plastics and glass to a recycling bin, watering trees and grass, exercising our bodies as well as enrich our minds and feed our spirits with prayer and quiet time in presence. Although we have a variety of abilities among us, many people think they have the right to use them any way they want to. But Peter tells us in his first letter to Jewish Christians written 60+ years after Jesus died how we are to practice stewardship: *Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.* (5 Peter 8:54-11)

All our abilities should be used in serving others; none are for our own exclusive enjoyment. Examples include visiting shut-ins and nursing homes if you are an encourager, weeding an ailing neighbor's garden or planting seeds of beauty for others' enjoyment if you have a "green thumb." It means fixing a nutritious meal for someone dealing with cancer when you're preparing your own meal, babysitting for stressed-out parents when you have a special way with children. Teaching a Sunday school class or weekly Bible study, hosting a committee meeting in your home, sharing your tools with friends are all ways of actively practicing stewardship by "serving one another with whatever gift each of you have received."

And of course, there's money. It's not ours; it too is a gift from God. If you have *enough* to provide your daily needs, use your blessings to serve one another. Provide offerings to your church and the broader community. As you place that check or envelope in the offering plate think of it as a blessing to others, as a small part of your stewardship you took on when you began calling yourself a Christian. Our spiritual condition can be summed up with this prayer: "Gracious God, no matter what we say or do this offering is what we think of you."

*Pastor Deb*

# Worship Schedule

September 2 Scripture Message	Bound Together, Clothed in Christ Colossians 3:12-15 Youth
September 9 Message	Laura Stone
September 16 Scripture Message	God is Merciful Psalm 116:5-14; Isaiah 50:7-9 Deb Peterson
September 23 Scripture Message	What Causes Fights and Quarrels? James 4:1-12; Psalm 54:4-7; Mark 9:33-35 Deb Peterson
September 30 Scripture Message	Be at Peace Mark 9:38-50; Psalm 19:7-10 Deb Peterson

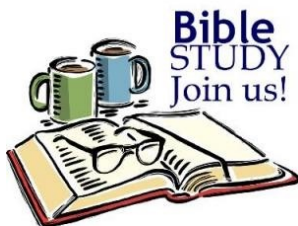
Please hold in your hearts the following:

- members of the Executive and Search committees as well as board members for fruitful discernment during this transition period.
- Anita Davidson (daughter of Marguerite Smith) is undergoing treatments for ovarian cancer.
- Marguerite Smith is not doing well, and has been moved to hospice.
- Those that have been mentioned in the bulletin insert as well as during Joys and Concerns
- All those who have not yet given voice to whatever may be troubling them.
- District Conference delegates Laurie Kieffaber-Cornett and Linda Miller, as well as DC board member Karen Odiorne, and Pastor Deb Peterson as they travel to Conference this month, near Pendleton. May the Spirit lead them as they discern the work of the church.



## New Bible Study Meeting

The Tuesday Bible study is looking at "troublesome" Bible passages and behaviors we may have always wondered about but never found answers. Each weekly lesson is not a part of a series, so you can come for several, all, or just a particular one that catches your eye. There is no homework or books to buy. It's from 10:00-11:00 a.m. This is what we'll be looking at in September.



- Sept. 4 What Does the Bible Teach About Wisdom?  
(Proverbs 9:1-12 and other verses)
- Sept. 11 How Perfect Do I Need To Be? (Matthew 5:43-48)
- Sept. 18 What Is The Sin Than Can Never Be Forgiven?  
(Matthew 12:30-37)
- Sept. 25 How Much Should I Give To The Church? (Luke 21:1-4)

## District Board Needs you!

They are currently seeking someone to serve on the Nominating and Personnel Committee. This would be for 1 term (3 years) and would be effective as of DC (September). It is comprised of 9 members. If interested, or needing additional information, please contact Karen Odiorne.

The Women's Fellowship meeting will be at 9:30 Sept 22. in the lower room of Grandstaff-Hentgen on Manchester Avenue. After breakfast, we will be working on a project for Hands for Hope. Please let Brenda RSVP to Brenda Landis or Karen Odiorne.



## September Special Offering— World Mission

The Church of the Brethren Mission Offering supports ongoing international partnerships with brothers and sisters in Nigeria, Haiti, South Sudan, and many other places around the world. It empowers people of all ages to serve through ministries like Brethren Volunteer Service, Ministry Summer Service, and workcamps. Thank you for supporting the Mission Offering.



**Mission**  
offering

Stewards Commission would like to thank the following: **Leroy Striker** for fixing the broken truss of the shed. Earlier in the year, a large limb fell on the shed, incurring the damage. **Karen Odiorne** for keeping the church clean, and weeding/tending the flowerbeds outside. **Larry Jamerson** for his tireless, seemingly endless efforts to keep the church dry.

Witness Commission would like to thank the following: **Murray Cox** for assisting with both furniture and food deliveries. **Larry Jamerson** for fetching the food for the pantry every month from Milford.

The August 19th Jamerson summer picnic and jamboree, which is fast becoming a church tradition, was attended by 38 people. Now in its fourth year the picnic included swimming, boating, delicious food and fellowship.

Nancy and Larry provided barbecued pork, chicken, hamburgers and hotdogs and the hospitality of opening their home to us. The excellent cooks in the group brought an array of side dishes, including enough desserts to satisfy Larry's sweet tooth for awhile.



It was nice to see the children (and some of the adults) enjoying the water (says Larry).

#### Many Generous Donations and Lifters for Growing Grounds Outreach

Hauling furniture for Growing Grounds is not as relaxing as Murray makes it look as he sits on a heavy lounge chair that he and Dennis just lifted into his trailer, but it is a blessing to folks starting over. This particular piece from a Timbercrest resident, and three twin beds for her children, have gone to a woman who has been living in the Hands of Hope domestic violence shelter. She now has an apartment thanks to her own minimum wage job contributions and the resources of Advantage Housing. Growing Grounds has helped in the past with utilities and tire repair. It is a story of pain, persistence, support, and hope. Thanks to the many persons in the congregation who have also helped with furniture and household items, often on hot, or cold, days and with back problems even before lifting. Thanks, too, for those who offer use of their trucks or trailers, and drive to various locations around the county.

(On this particular hauling trip pictured, we got the open trailer unloaded ONE MINUTE before the rain started.)



#### September District Prayer Calendar

September 2 - Please pray with us for the Peru COB and Northern Indiana District.

September 9 - Please pray with us for our upcoming District Conference.

September 16 - Please pray with us for the Pike Creek COB and Michigan District.

September 23 - Please pray with us for the Pipe Creek COB and Missouri/Arkansas Dist.

#### What does the future hold for the smaller church?

As part of their 125th year celebration, the Anderson Church of the Brethren is sponsoring a conference entitled "The Future of the Church." The focus will be on the smaller church. Jeff Carter, President of Bethany Seminary, and Nancy Sollenberger Heishman, Director, Office of Ministry, will be among the main resource leaders helping us think about the future. The conference will begin at 9:00 am Saturday, September 29 and will close with a light lunch at noon. If you are interested in attending, contact Helen Wenger at (765) 649-9231 or [acoboffice@aol.com](mailto:acoboffice@aol.com) to RSVP in order to have an accurate count for lunch.

## GRAND CAMP IS...GRAND!



For over twenty years, Camp Mack has had a 48 hour camp for grandparents to bring their grandchildren, ages 5-10. It has grown so much over the years from about eight children to this year's 43. It's such a success they have had two Grand Camps each summer for a while now.

The first time I went was in 2004 with my grandson Nick, who is now 24 years old and has children of his own. He was six and loved it from the first moment. My former husband and I took him for five years and we were the camp counselors for four of those years. It was Nick's first experience with camp and Camp Mack has now become a very special place to him. He was baptized there during a Grand Camp and he was married there. He recently told me how special camp was for him and how he plans on his little girls going there eventually.

This year was my first Grand Camp in 12 years and it has sure changed! Although with a total of 83 grandparents and kids rather than the former 25-30, four leaders instead of two and the option of many more activities to participate in, the atmosphere, camaraderie, friendships made and a deeper relationship with my grandchild was the same. I took Nick's little sister, 5 ½ Amelia. The weather was perfect from our check-in at 4:00 p.m. Sunday to the end on Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

There year, are so many options to participate in! We had the camping standards such as devotions, swimming, boating, kayaking, family-style meals, campfires, singing songs with silly motions and craft-making (Amelia made a cement stepping stone (all by herself!) and added things of nature that she gathered throughout the camp, forever preserved in cement) and a 10 inch dreamcatcher dangling with yarn and feathers. There is always plenty of free time, precious time spent bonding and having lots of delightful fun with grandchildren. Amelia was fascinated with the artesian well, especially when we found a dark green frog in it the first day. Her water bottle always had to be filled with that well water, which meant several trips to the far side of the camp each day.

We particularly enjoyed the boardwalk built in the midst of the wild grasses growing tall above us on both sides. On a group tour led by a camp employee, we tasted things in the wild that are edible. Our favorite was the root of a cattail, which when peeled looked like celery but, as Amelia said, tasted "like a cucumber only better!" She would tiptoe down that boardwalk, whispering, hoping to see animals. We had much free time, time for her to play with other children at the Ark-themed playground as grandparents watched and made their own new friends, naps (which both of us needed!), taking walks along the lake and hikes into the woods, all the while on the lookout for God's creatures, tiny wildflowers and making beautiful memories.

The 48 hours of Grand Camp is a magical time for the kids and so gratifying for the adults as they remember their own camping experiences. We hadn't been there ten hours before Amelia was talking about "next year." She and I decided next year we would bring Nick's oldest daughter who is Amelia's age with us. And we will return. Pastor Deb



### News Around the Sanctuary—Part 1

Interim pastor Deb Peterson's take on us after her first week: "I absolutely love my job. I feel so content, so at peace. I thank God for dropping Wabash in my lap."

The Barkey's especially enjoyed visits from family over the summer.

Dave Ply intended to retire as a girl's softball coach over the summer but he just couldn't do it. He has been coaching for 20 years!

The Bishir family had a good time visiting Uncle Ryan in Colorado. They went up to the top of Pike's Peak (14,000 feet), Megan was scared on the ascent but the girls weren't. They also visited St. Mary's Glacier which had snow! In the summer!

If you need to know what to do with your excess of zucchini, ask Brenda Landis. She has 1001 recipes for it, as she demonstrated at the last Women's Fellowship Breakfast.

Henry David Haughn, Bonnie Haughn's newest grandchild, (you may have heard about him), scores in the 95th percentile developmentally. He is trying to walk at seven months. (We

suspect that he is a genius and possibly will be known as "Mr. President" at some time in his future.)

Pauline Pobst tells us her life has been good and is still good at age 103. She had a fall about a month ago, hitting her head on the sidewalk. She has managed to remain on her feet

since then. She still misses the Wabash church and thinks about us often.

Jean Martin is delighted that she now has three great-grandchildren. She enjoys playing euchre at the senior center.

Katie Ply tells us that son Josh's house is almost done. Maybe.

Chloe Bishir has a shinier smile these days--she recently got braces. She says school is going great. She is playing tennis again and enjoys science.

Mahala and Finn Haughn are currently both students at Ohio State. Mahala is a senior who is pursuing child development. Finn is a sophomore studying engineering.

Ian French, Nancy and Larry's grandson, who we first knew as a seven-year-old, is now married and in the Army. (Following in his grandpa's footsteps.) Sister Kasey is the mother of the Jamerson's first great-grandchild, five-year-old Max.

### IMMEDIATE NEED: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN SEPTEMBER FOR PUERTO RICO!!

After 11 months of relief work, planning, meeting and fundraising BDM needs volunteers to begin to rebuild the homes of so many affected by Hurricane Maria in 2017.

- \* Volunteers starting in September 2018 are needed. Group sizes will be 5-7 people.
- \* Flexible, creative volunteers willing to go the extra step in helping set up and plan for an ongoing recovery project.
- \* Able to serve for 2 weeks or more preferred due to travel costs.
- \* Volunteer housing and meals will be simpler and a bit more rustic than a typical BDM site. The housing does not have air conditioning but does include many fans.
- \* A willingness to help rebuild along with meals preparation and care for volunteer housing will be needed
- \* Able to work in a hot, humid climate with limited to no luxuries like air conditioning
- \* Experience in metal roofing helpful but not required. Block masons will be needed later in the year.
- \* Funds to help with travel costs are available through your district and the BDM office.
- \* We will be scheduling volunteers beginning September 2 through the middle of December (excluding the week of Thanksgiving). Please contact the BDM office at [BDM@brethren.org](mailto:BDM@brethren.org) or 410-635-8731 with the dates you would be available.
- \* PLEASE DO NOT buy your airline tickets until you are notified to do so.
- \* Since we have less than a month before the first group of volunteers are expected, please contact us as soon as possible if you would like to be a part of the first groups to go to Puerto Rico. Volunteers will be scheduled on a first-come first-served basis.
- \* We look forward to hearing from you! We really need at least 2-3 volunteers!

For additional information please contact Roy Winter  
[rwinter@brethren.org](mailto:rwinter@brethren.org) or Sharon Franzen  
[sfranzen@brethren.org](mailto:sfranzen@brethren.org)



RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN  
YOUR ARTICLES  
EARLY!**

R E M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEWSLETTER  
ARTICLES IS  
15th of every month**

The Locust Grove Church of the Brethren will be holding revival services September 23 - 25, with Bethany Seminary President, Jeff Carter, preaching every evening. Services start at 7:00 pm with special music each night.

If anyone needs more information, call 765-591-2667.



Monday September 3—Syrian refugee art show, Gallery G, Jo Young Switzer Center, all month

## DID YOU KNOW...

The bulletin board articles get changed out every couple of weeks. Be sure to check it out for all the latest news from:



- ⇒ Manchester University
- ⇒ District Offices
- ⇒ Brethren Disaster Ministries
- ⇒ Global Food Crisis
- ⇒ Church of the Brethren, Nigeria
- ⇒ General Offices
- ⇒ Bethany Seminary
- ⇒ BVS The Volunteer
- ⇒ And many more!

### UPCOMING BLI CLASSES

This fall marks the beginning of the third year of the 3-year rotation of classes of the Brethren Leadership Institute (BLI). That means that a year from now we will be celebrating the graduation of those who have completed all 12 classes and other requirements.

BLI is structured so that new students can join any time, and anyone can audit individual classes.

The next class is ***Teaching and Learning in the Church*** and will be taught by **Aaron Gross**. The dates are September 1 and September 8; all sessions will be held at the Marion Church of the Brethren. Register any time!

In October and November, **Craig Alan Myers** and **Tim Morpew** will be teaching ***Biblical Interpretation***.

Many thanks to **Don Fecher**, who has been the BLI administrator the last few months. **Tina Rieman** will be resuming that position for the rest of the year; she can be reached at [BrethrenLeadershipInstitute@gmail.com](mailto:BrethrenLeadershipInstitute@gmail.com).

More information about BLI can be found at [www.scindcob.org/BLI.html](http://www.scindcob.org/BLI.html).





Camp Alexander Mack  
2018 Staff

You shouldn't have to look too hard to spot our very own CJ Cervera in the picture above. Boy, does this picture bring back memories for me! I served as a staff member for 2 years as a youth (I won't name the year, but it was before the turn of the (latest) century!). It was an absolutely amazing experience. Being able to make new friends and learn new skills, while living at Camp Mack—it doesn't get better. Plus, I got to learn the secret of making cinnamon toast. Having Kate Warstler as my mentor in the kitchen was intimidating, but incredible. Getting up at 5am to find out how many sausages fit on a sheet pan (without counting!) was just one of her mini tidbits she would share. After breakfast cleanup, I usually had the (not so much fun) job of cleaning all the bathrooms (I've lost count over the years, but it took until lunchtime). Becky Ball—Miller was goofy fun to be around, and kept the waterfront ship-shape. Afternoon lifeguarding was the enviable position for sure. If you had time left over, there was helping Mike Kauffman with many of the beyond numerous maintenance tasks. Painting cabins, anyone?

While the names of the staffers have changed over the years, the spirit and the heart of both the staffers and the camp have not. If you are looking for a summer job that is outside the norm, or if you are looking for ways to volunteer, Camp Mack is a great answer!

And CJ—you have now made memories that will last a lifetime. Cherish them, you may never know when they will come back to make you smile (like when you see the next generation's staff picture!).

### THIS YEAR'S DISTRICT CONFERENCE SERVICE PROJECT

In 2017, Church World Service distributed 4,612 clean-up buckets in several locations around the United States. We want to help replenish their supply and therefore are asking each congregation to fill at least one bucket and bring it to District Conference.

To help get you started, District Board member **Theresa Sites** and her husband Dennis have been traversing the district, delivering empty buckets to each congregation. Each bucket has a list of the clean-up supplies that need to go in it. If you are in need of a bucket and/or the list of items, please contact the district office.

### PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE 2018 SOUTH/CENTRAL INDIANA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

WHEN: Saturday, September 15

WHERE: Grandview Church of the Brethren

WHAT:

- worship
- fellowship with sisters and brothers in the South/Central Indiana District
- reports from district committees and denominational agencies
- insight sessions
- dessert auction

Many thanks to those of you have returned the **District Conference Delegate Authorization** forms, which are due **August 1**. If you haven't seen the form, you can find it on the district website conference page, or request a paper copy from the district office.

**Non-delegate registration** forms are available the same way; those who register before **August 20** can avoid paying the late fee.

### DESSERT AUCTION RETURNS

Erin Huiras will once again entertain us with his auctioneering skills at district conference. **Each congregation is asked to bring one dessert to be auctioned.**

Last year's donations included a tasty variety of desserts, along with creative ideas such as a "Making Memories with the Grandchildren" basket and a DeBrand Chocolate sampler and gift card.

Plan to leave the Brethren value of getting a good deal at the door; come prepared to bid often and generously!



Friday, September 14

Everyone is invited to participate in these events!

Grandview Church of the Brethren

1:00 pm Pastoral Self-Care Workshops with Dan Poole and Janet Ober Lambert\*

5:30 pm Fellowship and Appetizers

6:00 pm Dinner

7:00 pm Rebecca Dali brings an update about Nigeria\*

\*CEUs available for those attending all sessions



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Website: [www.campmack.org](http://www.campmack.org)

FLYE Weekend: October 5-6, FLYE (Fun Leadership Youth Events) will train youth ages 14-17 to be leaders through team building, service, and leadership and may lead them to serving as CIT's and counselors at Camp Mack in the future. \$25.

Camp Mack Festival: Save the date for our 20th annual Camp Mack Festival on Saturday, October 6. There will be plenty of food, demonstrations, tournaments, and the live auction. Contact the camp if you have quality items for the auction you would like to donate. Watch for information coming soon!

Father/Son Retreat, Let the Games Begin: Oct. 13-14, \$135 for father and son (\$63 for each additional person). Share experiences through time in the woodshop, building yard games, and survival style competition.

Quilt Retreat: Oct. 17-21. \$191 for arrival Wednesday evening, \$167 for Thursday evening, \$138 for Friday morning arrival, and \$123 for Friday evening arrival.

Scrapbooking Retreat: Oct. 18-21. \$146 for arrival Thursday evening, \$131 for Friday morning arrival, and \$117 for Friday evening arrival. Sign up for the Scrapbooking Get-a-Way Day for a 1 day Saturday option.

Seasoned Citizen Retreat: Oct. 22-25. \$172 per person or \$116 if not staying overnight. Join this group of life-experienced people for a refreshing time of meeting friends new and old, programs, and more.

## Upcoming Events:

September 8 Pallet Crafts & Sailing 201 Get-Away-Days  
(Bible Art Journaling- CANCELLED for 2018)  
October 5-6 FLYE Weekend  
October 6 Camp Mack Festival  
October 13-14 Father Son Weekend  
October 17-21 Quilt Retreat  
October 18-21 Scrapbooking Retreat  
October 20 Scrapbooking, Knitting and Crocheting,  
Beginner Quilting Get-a-Way Days  
October 21 Fall Nut and Tree ID Walk  
October 22-25 Seasoned Citizen's Retreat  
October 27 Children's Drum Building Get-a-Way Day  
October 27 Pumpkin Carving Get-a-Way Day

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please pray for:  
The Camp Staff & Indiana Camp Board

## News Around the Sanctuary—Part 2

Larry and Nancy recently spent three days in Denver visiting daughter Jen and also hosted a family reunion at their house for 50 people.

If Pastor Deb looks like she's been in a fight with raspberry bushes, it's her new kitten Feona that is to blame. It seems that Feona is a sassy one, like her "mother".

Cassi Mullett is now officially a cosmologist. Congratulations, Cassi!

Mikayla sang with the A Capella choir for the first time at opening convocation at Manchester. She represents the fourth generation in her family to attend Manchester and also the fourth generation to be part of A Capella choir. She started classes on Wednesday but said the night before that she still felt like she was visiting.

Ava Bishir is now in middle school. She is participating in cross country this year and her favorite subject is reading.

Jim Finnell keeps busy volunteering with Meals on Wheels weekly and the soup kitchen once a month. (He is assisted at the soup kitchen by Carol Leach.) Jim continues his championship bowling career in his spare time and also enjoys golfing.

Alexis Hartley is a freshman at IU Bloomington and intends to study law. Her brother Aaron recently graduated from IU and also from the police academy in Bloomington.

Brenda Landis is also an active volunteer with 85 Hope. She cares for nieces and nephews several days a week. She tells us that niece Danika is doing well and is a little live wire.

Brenda shared a favorite Bible verse that is meaningful to her: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." She also tries to remember that we cannot "do all things" without support from others.

For Levi Gentry, the high point of his school year so far is playing Top Thrill Dragster and getting to bring his iPad home. Brantley Leap, his brother, says the unaccustomed use of technology is also the best thing about kindergarten. The youngest guy in the family Carson still has more humble pleasures--the interest closest to his heart is worms!

Maya Benysh is a junior this year. She is playing soccer. For her, school is failing to excite her, at this time. She spoke on behalf of her family regarding Aiden's college career. She thinks he's doing fine. She and her parents are also surviving the half-empty nest syndrome well; at least, she has not seen any excessive weeping on the part of her parents. (Possibly behind closed doors.)

Karen and Johnny enjoyed another trip to Germany this summer to visit Karen's son and family.

Megan Bishir's school year, so far, is characterized by crazed first graders who talk a lot. Luckily for her sanity, they are beginning to settle down a little bit.