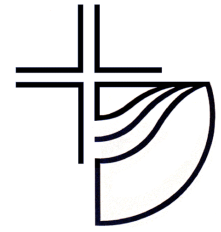


WABASH CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



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

March 2019

Greetings!

Welcome to what is really just a small snippet of our life here together at the church. We are always looking for additional information about our lives to the newsletter. You can email the office, leave a note on the secretary's desk, or call the office if you have news that's just "too good not to share"!

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

In This Issue

- Pastor's Letter
- Women's Fellowship News
- Bible Study News
- March Worship Schedule
- Camp Mack Corner
- District Prayer Concerns
- BDM Update
- Church Calendar



Random Thoughts: Take Something On

Pastor Deb Peterson

We are entering the Lenten season now, leading up to Easter, a celebration of Jesus and his resurrection from the dead. A lot of Christian denominations encourage their people to “give up” something for Lent. I did that for several years, not because my church told me to, but for my own sacrifice to be aware of the sacrifice Jesus made.

The first year, I gave up chocolate. I was so addicted to chocolate so it seemed like a perfect sacrifice to me. It was very, very difficult but after Easter, I decided to continue denying myself anything that was chocolate—half-price-after-Easter Cadbury chocolate eggs, chocolate ice cream, chocolate pudding, chocolate birthday cake, hot chocolate... anything chocolate was my middle name. I lasted six months and was very proud of myself.

But six months later, Lent rolled around again and I was further along in my spiritual walk. I thought hard about it and researched it from a Biblical standpoint. I realized that my sacrifice couldn't ever compare to what Christ gave up for me and knowing that made me ashamed that I thought giving up my favorite food for forty days made me somehow a better person. I decided Jesus didn't care one tiny bit either way, as long as my heart was reasonably malleable and I was trying to follow His teachings.

I decided to do something that would somehow make a difference in a way more pleasing to Jesus. I decided to “take on” something rather than giving up. So that year, I bought forty cute note cards and some cute stamps (I love and respect the American flag and all, but during this season of Love, I wanted special postage). Each day after my morning prayers, I then wrote an encouraging note to someone in my life. One day, the name of a very good friend I hadn't seen in years popped into my conscious. I wrote about memories we'd shared and how thankful I had always been that God had crossed our paths. Another day, I wrote my note to a teen from my church who had acted in a play for the first time ever that weekend, telling her what a great job she did and how proud I was of her. Another day, I wrote to neighbors down the street whose Christmas yard decorations had included a breathtaking, antique and very large nativity. I told them how much our family had enjoyed it and how it spurred conversations around the dinner table. My little note-writing marathon was a wonderful experience. So many of the people to who I sent a letter contacted me to say just how much it meant to them.

Today, we see words all day long and are inundated with language. In this day and age of email and texts and tweets, those words bombard us in electronic form. We check our inbox several times a day (looking for what??), read what we find and respond, we scroll through Facebook and read a whole lot of stuff we could do without. When we check our “snail mail,” we find bills, catalogs and advertisements. Very seldom do we get an old-fashioned, handwritten note of encouragement or thanks in our mailboxes. When we do send notes, it's electronically.

This year, how about “taking on” something with me? Actually, you will still be giving up something—an hour or two of time, and it doesn't have to be daily. It could be our Wednesday morning Bible Study, where we will discuss each Sunday sermon's scripture in depth for an hour. How about committing to making one phone call each day to whomever God lays on your heart? Volunteering at the local senior center or food pantry once each week is also good. You can lighten a load for someone who could use your help or your money. One year I invited someone to dinner at my home each week. Another Lenten season I did a “random act of kindness” each of those 40 days. Sometimes it was just letting people in front of me in a line. Or, you can write notes: to your postal person, to a volunteer you admire, think of things you can do for people such as co-workers, shut-ins, school superintendents, a convenient store worker or a neighbor you don't know very well. Don't ask them what you can do, it's more heartfelt if you observe, then offer what you've seen that they need.

Of course, you can always write notes. Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God and the good of God's world.

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.

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

For March, we will be drilling down deeper into the Lenten scriptures each week from worship.

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.

March	Pulpit	Worship Leader	Song Leader	Greeter	Head Usher	Children's Church	Musician
3	Pastor Deb		Mikayla Genovese		Larry J.	Laurie K-C	Bonnie H.
6 (Ash Wednesday)	Pastor Deb						Bonnie H.
10 (Lent 1)	Pastor Deb		Stan Miller		Larry J.	Laurie K-C	Bonnie H.
17 (Lent 2)	Laurie K-C	Karen	Stan Miller		Larry J.	Carol H.	Bonnie H.
24 (Lent 3)	Pastor Deb		Stan Miller		Larry J.	Carol H.	Bonnie H.
31 (Lent 4)	Candidate		Stan Miller			Carol H.	Bonnie H.



Ben at Camp, 2016

District Prayer Concerns

March 3 - Please pray with us for the Burnettsville COB and Northern Plains District.

March 10 - Please pray with us for the Christ Our Shepherd COB and Northern Ohio District.

March 17 - Please pray with us for the Eel River Community COB and Southern Ohio District.

March 24 - Please pray with us for the Four Mile COB and Pacific Northwest District.

Camp Mack Corner

Upcoming Opportunities at Camp:

- ☐ 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 2019 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:

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



March 1, 7:30 Journeys—An University Bands Concert, Cordier Auditorium, \$5

March 5, 3:30pm Appeals on Wheels, Jo Young Switzer Center, Upper Level. See the judiciary system at work. <https://www.in.gov/judiciary/appeals/2332.htm>

March 8, 7:30pm O Come, Let us Sing! Choral works from Renaissance to Jazz era.

March 10, 3:00pm MSO: 80!, Honeywell Center. Dr. Pamela Haynes on piano.

March 11, 6:00pm Intelligent Lives: Looking Beyond a Test, 10627 Diebold Road, Fort Wayne. Film and speaker exploring intellectual disabilities. Again on March 12 at 3:00pm in Jo Young Switzer Center, upper level.



BDM Rebuild Project

Brethren Disaster Ministries

March Update

Our South/Central District of the Church of the Brethren has four weeks assigned to us by BDM in 2019. The next upcoming week is March 10- 16; 11 volunteers are still needed. The work will be based in Lumberton, NC with workers going to both North and South Carolina for new builds and repairs. If you are interested in helping with this contact Cliff Kindy asap at kindy@cpt.org or 260-982-2971. 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 Cliff know when it works for you and he will try to make those arrangements quickly. We are also looking for rebuild volunteers for September 8-14 (15 vols) and December 1-7 (7 vols). If you are willing to recruit a team to go, let Cliff know who you have! Thank you for your prayers and support, physical and financial, for BDM and its important ministries! Cliff Kindy, District Disaster Coordinator



Protest against drone warfare

Office of Peacebuilding and Policy—D.C.

The Church of the Brethren recognizes the destructive impacts of U.S drone strikes around the world. In 2013, Mission and Ministry Board approved a resolution against drone warfare. The Church views the use of drones as a moral issue, as it does all participation in war, saying in the resolution that "war or any participation in war is wrong and entirely incompatible with the spirit, example and teachings of Jesus Christ," and that all "war is sin...[and that we] cannot encourage, engage in, or willingly profit from armed conflict at home or abroad."

On May 3rd, faith communities will gather in Washington, D.C., to bring attention to why drone warfare is immoral, ineffective, and often illegal. They will call for an end to CIA drone strikes and for the company responsible for the development of Predator and Reaper drones, General Atomics, to sign the Future of Life pledge on lethal autonomous weapons.

Join us for the rally on May 3rd! More details can be found here. Can't make it to D.C. for the rally? Organize your own demonstration in your own community, and support us on social media with the hashtag #EndDroneWarfare.

Drone strikes are being ordered on our behalf, as U.S. citizens. It is important that we take the time to speak up for justice for the victims of the drone strikes that are already happening, and preemptively protect human rights that would be taken away by the use of autonomous weapons.

Nurture Commission

We have many activities planned over the next couple of months... here are some highlights and we hope to see you there!

March 31st—Our first Fifth Sunday Breakfast of the year. Come at 9:30am to fellowship before service. Please bring peanut butter and/or jelly for our food pantry.

April 14—Palm Sunday Breakfast. The youth will serve us a meal prior to service. Menu and additional details in the coming weeks.



2018 Easter Breakfast

Don't forget to change your clocks March 10th.



District Lenten Services Schedule

Theme: Focus on Jesus
"Let us fix our eyes on
Jesus, the author and
perfector of our faith, who for
the joy set before Him
endured the cross, scorning
its shame, and sat down at
the right hand of the throne
of God." - Hebrews 12:2

Services begin at 6:00 pm at
host churches

March 10 - Lafayette CoB
March 17 - Guernsey CoB
March 24 - Lower Deer
Creek CoB
March 31 - Pike Creek CoB

Easter Lilies

And other spring flowers

We will once again use Easter lilies and other spring flowers to decorate the sanctuary.
There will be inserts in the bulletin each week. If you have any questions, please see Karen
Odiorne for more details.



Easter Lilies



Brethren Leadership Institute

Upcoming Classes

The BLI might be for you if you are: Exploring ministry , Answering a call to ministry,
Seeking further education or spiritual growth .

Classes are open to all, and may be taken for credit within the BLI program, for CEU's, or may be audited if you're pursuing a particular subject for your own personal education or spiritual growth. The spring class will be Introduction to Theology, and will be taught by Eugene Roop. Class dates are: Saturday, March 9, 2019, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (Marion CoB) Saturday, March 23, 2019, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (Marion CoB) Saturday, April 6, 2019, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (Kokomo CoB) Besides course attendance, participants in the BLI program are required to attend an orientation session and Practice of Ministry days as part of the program. Upcoming dates for these sessions are: Practice of Ministry Day - Saturday, May 4, 2019, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm BLI Orientation - Saturday, May 11, 2019, 9:00 - 11:00 am To register email Sarah at BrethrenLeadershipInstitute@gmail.com or call (260) 982-8805. For more information on the Brethren Leadership Institute (BLI) and fees, visit <http://www.scindcob.org/BLI.html>.