



Wabash Church of the Brethren

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

June 2022

Peacefully, Simply, Together



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.

Pastor Doug Veal

CarePortal: A New Opportunity

In late April, Brenda Landis and I attended a meeting to discuss a program called CarePortal at Josiah White's. CarePortal is an opportunity for our congregation to connect with other congregations, social workers, and schools to help provide needed items to children in our community. This is mainly physical items, such as clothing, bedding, and so forth, though there can be monetary requests as well. One of the examples we heard about was a person who needed help paying for gas to visit with their children who were in foster care, and received gas cards from one church. Often, these needs are ways to help the children to either return home, or to stay in their home, with their parents.

This platform allows for social workers and schools to post a need, and then allow for the various churches that have joined to post and share how they can contribute towards meeting that need. Sometimes, this will be a fairly small, easily met need, often fulfilled by a single church. At other times, it can be a larger need, wherein several churches work together to each provide for a portion of that need.

After the meeting, our congregation's profile in the system was activated, allowing us to see and respond to the various requests that come through the CarePortal platform. Brenda and I will be the primary contact persons for these requests.

In our meeting, it was suggested that each congregation that participates in the program should set up a group who would be interested in meeting the various needs that come across. We are currently working on setting this up, and we would appreciate it if you let either myself or Brenda know if you would be interested in participating in this part of the program. We will be setting up an email list to send out information about the requests that come through.

If you would like more information about this new opportunity to serve our community, please be in touch with either myself or with Brenda Landis. You can also visit the website: www.CarePortal.org. While you will not be able to log in to see the active requests, there is a lot of very good and helpful information explaining the program and the ideas behind it.

In Christ,
Pastor Doug

Church Board

The June Church Board and Commissions meeting will be held Wednesday June 8, 2022, Commissions at 6:30pm, Board at 7pm.

Nurture Commission

Important:

Directory Update:

Please make the following update to your church directory:

Judy and Joe Rodecap

4726 Pleasant Valley Dr.

Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Annual Conference Volunteer Opportunity:

Laurie Kieffaber Cornett, this year's delegate, as well as Mikayla and Charles Stanley, will be driving to Omaha, Nebraska, next month for Annual Conference. They will be helping, by taking school supplies from the church for the Witness to the Host City, Girls, Inc of Omaha. Below you can read info from Brethren.org on what to donate. If you want to donate any items, please have them to the church on or before Sunday, July 3.

“Girls, Inc. of Omaha has been serving girls, ages 5-18, for over 45 years. Committed to nurturing girls to be strong, smart, and bold, they offer homework help and enrichment classes in music, art, and science; encourage exercise and good nutrition; provide clothing and hygiene supplies; and equip girls with basic life skills related to budgeting and banking, public speaking, voting and citizenship, and how to apply for a job.



The Annual Conference has asked Girls, Inc of Omaha what items are most needed to support the girls they serve. This is what they need:

School Supplies

- Backpacks (all ages)
- Notebooks (all ages)
- Markers (any colors)
- Crayon's (chunky and regular)
- Sharpies (any color)
- Loose leaf notebook paper
- Folders (all ages)
- Pencils (all kinds)

Art Supplies

- Construction paper (all colors)
- Glue
- Sidewalk chalk
- Ribbon, beads etc.
- Glitter

Hygiene

- Deodorant
- Sunscreen
- Bug Spray
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Mouthwash
- Lotion
- Reusable Water Bottles

Clothing

- Panties (all sizes)
- Bras (all sizes)
- Training Bras
- Socks (any color / all sizes)

Games

- Board games (all ages)
- Basketballs
- Baseballs/softballs/bats/gloves (gloves could be gently used)
- Volleyballs and Volleyball knee pads (knee pads could be gently used and washed)
- Dodgeballs (soft foam)
- Jump ropes (long and short)
- Yoga Mats
- Referee Whistles
- Ball pumps
- Water balloons
- Beach balls
- Soccer balls (size 3-5)

Donations of supplies can be dropped off in the onsite Annual Conference office or brought to worship on Tuesday evening to be shared during the offering. We will also be supporting Girls, Inc. through our monetary offering that evening. Please make checks out to Girls, Inc. of Omaha."

Newsletter update:

Moving forward, the newsletter will be sent out the last week of the month, so you will receive it in the first week of the new month. We are trying to get it out more consistently

News From the Pews

(That title belonged to Marcie but it's amusing and I don't think she'd mind.)

We're very thankful that **Nancy Jamerson** has mostly recovered from her disturbing health crisis of a year-and-a-half ago. It's always good to see her and we look forward to enjoying her and **Larry's** generous hospitality again later this summer.

Carol and Dennis Horn will be married 58 years this summer! (Plus three years of dating!) **Carol** says it has been wonderful and a blessing--(or something like that...) She hopes they will "have more, more, more" years together. **Dennis** said their life together had been "great." But after learning of his wife's enthusiastic assessment, he also chose to jump on the "more, more" bandwagon.

Linda Barkey shared recently in church that Wayne was having some success with his therapy and is no longer on hospice. **Linda**, herself, is also still having therapy on her neck from her fall last year.

Larry and Brenda Landis attended a family wedding several weeks ago. At the reception, they won the dance contest for being married the longest! (I know. You'll have to ask them.) They will be married 57 years in June! Of their long marriage, **Brenda** says they made a commitment and they stuck to it. Oh yeah, and they love each other!

Kay and Jim Gaier will be married 50 years this summer! And the **Barkeys** will celebrate 55 years! Look for them in an upcoming Messenger!

The Jamerson's grandson Aaron Hartley graduates from law school this year. His sister **Alexis** is also attending law school.

A number of our loved ones in this congregation are either caregivers for their spouses or are being cared for BY their spouses. Both of these roles are stressful ones. We want to remember to pray for these friends, ask often how they are, and give what support we can.

Finn Haughn's proud grandma, Bonnie, has shared with us that **Finn** graduated from Ohio State a few weeks ago. He received his degree in engineering and graduated Magna Cum Laude-- with high honors! He is currently traveling in Europe for a month- and-a-half. (**Bonnie** knows he's really there because he sent her a picture with the Eiffel Tower in the background.)

Laurie KC is very much enjoying her new role as **Nana** to **Charles Alan Stanley**. Charlie has **Laurie** wrapped around his little fingers. They especially enjoy singing together, watching Blue's

Clues, and having silly conversations. (Their favorite songs are Mail Time and The Rainbow Connection.)

Sharon Larrowe's exciting and surprising news is that she sold her house and has moved! Last weekend! She is excited about beginning a new chapter in her life! (We are happy to learn that she is not moving far, but will remain in the area.) More details to follow, we're sure...

Hailey Height, the Barkey's granddaughter, received academic honors for her freshman school year. Her younger sister **Lauren** excels at softball.

Dennis and Carol enjoyed a visit with their **granddaughter Elyse** several weeks ago. They stayed with **Elyse** while she attended her school in Bluffton then brought **her and Duckie** to their home for the weekend. Some of the high points were doing homework with **Grandpa**, sharing her poems and stories, reading and snuggling together, and a trip to the Indiana State Museum with her beloved **cousin Ava and Uncle Bryon**.

The occasion for **Elyse's** visit was her **older brother Jesse's** move to Salt Lake City for an internship in computer science. **Parents Angie and Barth Montel** drove him there on a whirlwind four+ day trip.

Ask **Laurie** the next time you see her if her car has a new battery yet or its own set of jumper cables! And **Dave Hahn** is a hero who will come and assist stranded motorists in the rain and even when he'd rather be golfing. Thanks, **Dave!**

Wayne and Linda were delighted to see their son Eric and wife Heather from Bridgewater, Virginia over Easter.

Chloe Bisher, Audrey and Dave Hahn's granddaughter, was inducted into the National Honor Society. **Ava Bisher** was awarded top band student honors (trumpet) and also top geography student. And she received top academic honors!

We certainly do have a lot of gifted young people associated with this church, don't we?!

Nancy Jamerson and her daughter Wendy French are planning a trip to Colorado Springs in August to visit grandson Ian and his year-old baby, Lucas. Ian French is serving as a medic in the army. Nancy hasn't seen Lucas for a year and she misses him!

Brenda Landis recently had an appointment with her oncologist and she is happy to report that she has been cancer-free for five years! We're so pleased to hear this news!

Norma and George Schneider have been married 58 years! They agree that their life together has been wonderful!

Bryant Larrowe has been working at a new job in Connecticut since the first of the year. He works for Amtrak "riding the rails". He lives in a locomotive with several others and they travel slowly along the tracks checking for breaks. They work four months at a time and then get some time off. **Bryant** loves it!

Aiden Benysh had a birthday last weekend (22!) and **Maya Benysh** this weekend (20!). **Toni** tells us that they are too grown up these days to do much celebrating with the family but that won't stop **Toni** from eating cake in their honor!

Kay and Jim Gaier are excited about a new granddaughter due in October to **son Adam's family** in Germany. Having been married for 50 years, Kay says she is grateful to have been able to spend her life with the father of her children. She credits part of the success of her marriage to the fact that she and **Jim** spent a lot of time apart for many years due to **Jim's** job. According to Kay, the separation was also quite difficult at times-- like when they were raising three children. (So don't try this at home.)

Larry Jamerson has been busy clearing out his area of the lake and working in his yard. As we know, he also does a considerable amount to keep things at church running smoothly including regular trips up north to replenish the food pantry. Thanks for all you do, **Larry**!

John and Laurale Kreps will be married 61 years this summer! **Laurale** tells us it's been an interesting life and a good one.

Congratulations to all our long-married couples! Even if you didn't say so specifically, we'll assume that you still love each other and would do it all over again!

Sunday School

Sunday School will take place at 9AM, before worship. We will be meeting downstairs in the Fellowship Hall initially.



Worship Schedule - June

If you are interested in participating in the service, please contact the office, or talk to pastor Doug!

	Pulpit	Worship Leader	Song Leader	Head Usher	Children's Church	Musician
5	Pastor Doug Acts 2:1-21 "The Coming of the Holy Spirit"		Stan Miller	Larry Jamerson	Carol Horn	Laurie Kieffaber Cornett
12	Pastor Doug Acts 16:9-15 "Paul's call to Macedonia"		Stan Miller	"	Laurie Kieffaber Cornett	Bonnie Haughn
19	Pastor Doug Luke 7:1-10 "The Centurion's Faith"		Stan Miller	"	Carol Horn	
26	Dan Pool		Stan Miller	"	Laurie Kieffaber Cornett	

Women's Fellowship

Pastor Doug's article explained a new mission for Wabash COB. I would like to make this a special project for the Women's Fellowship. I would like for as many of you as possible to sign up to receive the requests for children's needs in our county. You may have children or grandchildren who have outgrown the items that are needed. Or you may feel led to give a small monetary amount so items can be purchased to fill the request. Please register soon.

We are hoping to have some WF events in the near future. One idea is to have Nan Erbaugh, who spoke to the congregation recently, tell about her years of riding along with law enforcement officers who were on patrol. The women who are being served by Growing Grounds love the throws that Mikayla showed us how to make back when we were able to meet together and I'm sure those throws have been claimed by now. We could make more.

We're looking for ideas for meetings. It can be informative, entertaining, helpful, or just social. Please let me know your ideas.

Brenda Landis

Upcoming Youth/Adult Activities

Summer Camp Registration Opens February 25th at 7pm!



The time has come to register for summer camp. All camps require a \$75 deposit to hold your spot. Camps are for grade completed this spring.

Questions about how to register?

Contact Brittany, the Camp Mack Registrar, at Brittany@campmack.org



Overnight Camps				
Samplers	Grades 1-2	June 5-7, June 13-15, July 10-12		\$190
Seekers	Grades 3-4	June 19-24, July 17-22		\$450
Finders	Grades 5-6	July 10-15, July 24-29		\$460
Followers	Grades 7-9	June 26- July 1		\$460
CIT Camp	Ages 14-17	June 19-24		\$460
Youth Camp	Grades 9-12	July 3-9		\$475



Specialty Camps				
Archery	Grades 6-9	June 5-9		\$440
Splash	Grades 5-8	July 10-15		\$485
Culinary	Grades 6-9	July 17-22		\$485
Creative Arts	Grades 6-10	July 10-15		\$460



Eco Camps				
Eco Adventure	Grades 5-6	July 17-22		\$480
Survivor	Grades 6-9	July 10-16		\$485
Dadirri	Grades 9-12	July 3-9		\$485



Grand Camps

June 16-18; July 31- August 2
Grandchildren Ages 5-10 \$110
Grandparents \$160

Register at campmack.org/summer-camp

Hello Camp Mack Attendees,

Below is information regarding registration and our church transfer code that is required to get the 50% paid by our Wabash Church of the Brethren. Booklets listing all camps and more are at church.

Let us know if we can help you get your own kids/youth/grandkids to camp, plus others you know would benefit from the awesome experience.

– *Carol and Dennis*

Church Transfer Codes for 2022:

Wabash CoB

6WAB1 for 50% of camper fees

Things to remember:

Please remind your campers that after registration, they will need to click the “Make Payment” button on the financial tab. The prompt to enter a transfer code will pop up immediately.

Unless your church transfer code is for 100% of camp fees, they will need to pay their deposit to be officially registered (not just enrolled) for camp.

We encourage you to have your campers and their families register and pay online. By using the transfer code, they will know exactly the amount they owe, greatly reducing errors.

We ask that you do not gather camper family payments and submit them on families behalf.

For the church portion, we will email you an invoice to submit to the church for payment. These invoices will begin April 1, 2022 and run monthly through the duration of summer as needed.

If you notice any changes that need to be made to your invoice, please let us know as soon as possible.

Camp Mack Spiritual Retreat Opportunity for Adults

Join in this adult retreat exploring faith and the unique activities available at camp. An outside minister and camp staff will work together to provide spiritual growth and camp fun in a relaxing environment. Come and explore your faith and play in the beauty and sanctuary of Camp!

The winter retreat features a focus on centering our faith and lives, led by Amy-Gall Ritchie. The summer retreat will explore how we connect with God in nature, led by Randall Westfall

Fee: \$160 per person for 2 nights and 5 meals.

Dates: August 19–21, 7:00p Friday to 1p Sunday.

National Youth Conference

“Foundational”

Colossians 2:5-7

July 23 – 28, 2022 in Fort Collins, Colorado

The registration fee, which includes food, lodging, and programming, will be \$550. Youth who have completed ninth grade through one year of college at the time of NYC (or are age equivalent) and their adult advisors will gather at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colo. Online registration will open in early 2022 on www.brethren.org.

The cabinet discussed theme ideas relevant to senior high youth. Ultimately, the theme that emerged was “Foundational,” based on scripture from Colossians 2:5-7, “For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, and I rejoice to see your morale and the firmness of your faith in Christ. As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.”

We talked about all of the ways that God is revealed as the foundation for our lives throughout the Bible. Some examples of this are the cornerstone, the way that God can be seen as an anchor for our lives, and how we remain rooted in God in all circumstances.

Isabella Torres noted, “Picking the theme was difficult at first because we had so many different ideas, but all of our ideas always intertwined with having a foundation in God. To me, it is a great theme, and it is also something I find to be very important as a youth today.”

Luke Schweitzer shared, “I am really excited about this theme and I cannot wait to see what the speakers and youth do with it next summer.”

Watch for NYC 2022 updates at www.brethren.org and social media of the Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

— Erika Clary will serve as coordinator of National Youth Conference 2022, working in the Church of the Brethren's Youth and Young Adult Ministries through Brethren Volunteer Service.

Devotionals - Upper Room

The 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.

Altar and Sanctuary Staging

We are looking for either a dedicated individual who would enjoy changing out the altar and window setups on a regular basis, or a small group who would like to rotate assignments. Please contact the office if you are interested.

2022 Directory

New directories are located on the back table. Please contact the church if you would like a copy mailed to you.

Reading through the Bible in a year - March

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	1 Kings 1-4
7	Psalms 66-68	15	Proverbs 4	23	Ezekiel 7-12	31	Ezekiel 13-18

Witness Commision

Special Offering

June 9	Growing Grounds
July 14	Habitat for Humanity
August 11	Deacons' Helping Hands Fund

Growing Grounds News

Growing Grounds News

Some of you may have noticed the article in *The Paper* about Housing Action Wabash County (HAWC). It is a cooperative venture coming out of the 2014 Growing Grounds (GG) call to other ministries, nonprofits, government agencies, and individuals to gather at our church to consider working together on the urgent and life-threatening lack of shelter for the homeless and housing insecure in our county. Every month since that time, a gathering has occurred in our church fellowship hall as we share our endeavors, help each other meet the needs of those struggling from all age groups, and plan for systemic change that will speak to solutions on a wider and deeper scale. Recently, the next step seemed to be to incorporate HAWC. An incorporation subcommittee is meeting regularly to complete needed paperwork, make submissions, develop policies and budgets, and plan for a Board. Ask Jim Gaier about this huge task! He has taken on a major role in all this and will continue to do so with his extensive background in grant writing for NASA and beyond.

We have been greatly assisted by Advantage Housing and Executive Director Dale Bliss in the incorporation process and the development of HOST houses, apartments renovated (often with help from individuals from our congregation) to receive homeless women and children at 571 South Wabash St., and soon families at 559-61 West Hill Street. Dale has seen the commitment and passion of those in Wabash County for those needing shelter and related help and has added his and the organization's expertise, passion, and endless hours to the endeavor.

In the meantime, Growing Grounds continues to try to meet the emergency needs of people who call, or organizations who refer. This includes payment for motel stays, some help with rent or utility payments, gas cards, lots of furniture pickup and distribution, food and clothing distribution, and just the "walking

with” aspect. A closer look at the giving aspect of Growing Grounds shows that in approximately the last four to five weeks, GG has, with discernment and personal contact, paid out \$726 to emergency Knight’s Inn housing, \$780 to apartment and HOST housing, and \$170 toward transportation needs. Volunteers have transported truckloads of furniture and household items given to GG, often from Timbercrest residents, that were, in turn, given to county individuals in need, persons getting out of incarceration who are starting over, Hands of Hope women and their children, Babes of Wabash families, and Waypoint.

Over many years, the denomination’s Global Women’s Project (GWP) has consistently awarded funds to Growing Grounds. In fact, we are the only US-based outreach that it funds since they use most of their donations to fund women in other countries where the money has a further reach. We are pleased and grateful to announce that GWP has awarded a new round of funding to GG in the amount of \$3,000. You may be aware that individuals can contribute to GWP at any time of the year, but especially on Mother’s Day when a woman of any age, or man, can be honored through this giving. While speaking of giving, we take this opportunity to sincerely thank all those related to the congregation who have donated money, time, trucks, lifting, and household items to Growing Grounds and the individuals and families served. You are amazing!

Dennis and Carol Horn

Little Free Pantry

Our local panty 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

Stewards Commission

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 Mikayla at office@wabashcob.org.

Around the District

ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Church of the Brethren Annual Conference

July 10 - 14, 2022

Omaha, NE

CHI Convention Center

To register, go to: <https://www.brethren.org/ac2022/registration/>



**ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE ONE ITEM OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS
AND SEVEN ITEMS OF NEW BUSINESS**

From Newslines, April 1, 2022

The business items for the Church of the Brethren's Annual Conference on July 10-14 in Omaha, Neb., are now posted online at: <https://www.brethren.org/ac2022/business/>. The Conference is returning to a full business agenda complete with queries and other new business after several years in which the compelling vision took precedence.

The Conference will address one item of unfinished business, "Update to Polity Regarding Annual Conference Agencies," and seven items of new business.

New business includes queries on "Standing with People of Color" and "Breaking Down Barriers—Increasing Access to Denominational Events"; three items related to pay and benefits for pastors: a new Integrated Annual Ministry Agreement and Revised Guidelines for Pastors' Salaries and Benefits, a Revised Minimum Cash Salary Table for Pastors, and the annual cost-of-living adjustment to the Minimum Cash Salary Table for Pastors (the latter recommendation to come in June); amendments to the appeal section of the Ethics in Ministry Relations polity document; and revisions to the denomination's bylaws.

The delegate body also will vote on a ballot and will receive numerous reports including from the denomination's Leadership Team, the work of the Church of the Brethren's board and staff, the Annual Conference agencies (Bethany Seminary, Brethren Benefit Trust, and On Earth Peace), Conference committees including the Program and Arrangements Committee and the Pastoral Compensation and Benefits Advisory Committee, and representatives to ecumenical organizations.

To watch the business online you must register as a virtual nondelegate. Business sessions will no longer be live-streamed free of charge. Go to www.brethren.org/ac2022/registration.

Camp Mack

News from the Director

Building Lives at Camp



“These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundational words, words to build a life on. If you work these words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who built his house on solid rock. Rain poured down, the river flooded, a tornado hit—but nothing moved that house. It was fixed to the rock. But if you just use my words in Bible studies and don’t work them into your life, you are like a stupid carpenter who built his house on the sandy beach. When a storm rolled in and the waves came up, it collapsed like a house of cards.” Matthew 7:24-27 (The Message)

There are two kinds of people we serve here at Camp Mack: children and adults. If you fit one of those categories, we are the perfect place for you this summer.

The summer camp experience includes fresh air, cookouts, worship, physical activity, swimming, boating, loving community, crafts, Bible study, adventure, challenge, prayer, developing friendships, outdoor space, great food, and dozens of other opportunities we haven’t even thought of yet. Camp is a place where encountering God happens all the time and when we least expect it. And whether you are a camper, paid staff, or volunteer, all of these things are waiting for you.

I hear folks say that there’s no time in the summer to fit in the camp experience. I understand — we are all busy, but the old saying is quite true. We have time for the things we value. It can be hard to make choices out of many opportunities, but look at the list in the previous paragraph. All that happens in a few short days at camp. One of my great joys is standing at the beginning of the line for our camp check-in. So many people come to the door excited and bubbling over with anticipation as they see old friends and consider the cabin assignment they will get. The staff has worked hard to prepare a place for them. The counselors have prepared to open up lives to the wonder of God’s love. All this comes together to make the powerful experience we call camp.

As Jesus closes his Sermon on the Mount in the scripture quoted above, he is talking about selecting the solid foundation of faith as support for our lives. Camp is the place where foundations are built. Campers find them. Volunteers find them. Staff find them. Because at camp, they are not hidden.

What will you or your children find at Camp Mack this summer? Make your commitment now to search. Begin building on the solid foundation of Christian community.

Gene Hollenberg, Executive Director

Brethren Disaster Ministries

Friends,

BDM is active and desires your participation. Children's Disaster Services has training scheduled in Roaring Spring, PA, November 5-6. CDS has been active in person this year on the US/Mexico border with migrant children and presently with children of families immigrating from Afghanistan. Call New Windsor, 800-451-4407 to ask questions or to register for one of the training sessions.



Thank you for your support and encouragement of BDM activities. Blessings of peace to you!

Cliff Kindy, District Disaster Coordinator

On Earth Peace held its spring board meeting via Zoom on April 7-9, led by co-chairs Melisa Leiter Grandison and Irvin Heishman. The meeting opened with a report on the current interim staffing arrangement. Responsibilities previously carried by the executive director are now divided among the three staff: Marie Benner-Rhoades, Matt Guynn, and Darlene Johnson. The board is preparing to consider proposals for a new staffing structure. Staff have stepped up development work, with interns assisting in making calls to donors. The board is assisting with planning a Dec. 3 concert fundraiser at Manchester Church of the Brethren in North Manchester, Ind., in-person and online, featuring Friends with the Weather. In other business, the board continued work to become “unapologetically multiracial/multicultural”; held conversations about the On Earth Peace branding; considered recommendations that board members be trained in Kingian Nonviolence; celebrated progress made with National Youth Conference staff “for training for all adult advisors with guidelines in place to protect queer youth from bullying as well as providing identified safe space and advisors”; and reviewed polity recommendations being brought to Annual Conference, five years after On Earth Peace asked for clarification of polity relating to agencies. Board member Beverly Eikenberry was appointed as treasurer. Two candidates were affirmed as new board members, beginning in 2023: Tamera Shaw, a program coordinator in the Psychology Department at George Mason University, and Jessie Houff, community arts minister at Washington (D.C.) City Church of the Brethren and Community Arts coordinator and an adjunct professor at Wesley Theological Seminary.

Brethren Leadership Institute

Due to current gathering restrictions, please contact the district office to confirm class schedule and method of delivery.