

Wabash Church of the Brethren

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Kay Gaier, pastor



Here's what I'm thinking...

October
2017

October is about the time of year Larry starts nudging me to think about some kind of stewardship emphasis. Today is only September 27 and he has already been in my office—twice. I know how important stewardship is but it is not my favorite topic so, as much as I like Larry, I inwardly groan when he shows up at my office door. But today I started reading the “Annual Stewardship Emphasis” materials from the denomination that he shared with me. In it there is an article by a very experienced and well-loved pastor, Rev. Dr. Fred Bernhard, titled, “Stewardship in the Small Church.” In the article he writes,

From my experience, I can testify that a bigger worshipping community does not make a more effective church. Size may make multiple programs possible, but congregational vitality can be achieved in congregations of all sizes. The common denominator is passion. Congregations who possess passion know that they can make a difference for Christ in their community and around the world. They know that, no matter how small, they can do big things for God. The secret is a passion for a purposeful, mission-driven, congregational life. Persons are drawn to such churches because they want to serve.

Well, I think we are already mission-driven in many important ways, but probably not in ways that everyone is passionate about.

So, here's what I'm thinking... What are **YOU** so passionate about that it could become your mission? I know we just passed out a *Time and Talents Survey* and I hope you will return those soon, but I am talking about something different. I am thinking of something that would make you think, “I’d love to go to a church where I could be part of that!!” — whatever “that” may be. It may not be obvious at first how your passion could become a mission of the church, but let’s think outside of the box. Let’s think together how what you love to do could become something you do for love and how the church might support you in doing it. Fred closes his article with this: “When your congregation, however small, puts its trust in God and changes your attitude from scarcity to abundance, amazing things will happen—things beyond your wildest imagination.”

It’s just good stewardship.

Blessings,

Kay



Worship Schedule

October 1 Worldwide Communion Sunday

Scripture Philippians 2:1-13

Message Pastor Kay Gaier

Today we join with Christians around the world to celebrate our unity in following Christ. It is an odd thing to claim unity when there are so many differences among us. How do you understand that unity and how do you see it being expressed in such a fractured world?

October 8 A Tale of Two Kingdoms, Part 2

Scripture Matthew 14:13-21

Message Rev. Al Hohl

October 15 Digging in the dirt

Scripture Philippians 4:1-9

Message Pastor Kay Gaier

Where two or three are gathered in Christ's name...there will be problems. The unity we are called to does not erase our differences nor are we to ignore them. What is Paul asking of the church in this letter? Are there any take-aways for us as the church today?

October 22 Mixed loyalties

Scripture Matthew 22:15-22

Message Pastor Kay Gaier

The ruse that the Pharisees were using to trap Jesus is still being used to trap people today. Can you be a Christian and a Patriotic? What is the right relationship between obedience to the state and obedience to God?

October 29 Jesus claims love's priorities

Scripture Mathew 22:34-46

Message Pastor Kay Gaier

When Pharisees ask Jesus which commandments is the greatest of all, his answer defines the central calling of the faithful for all time—to love God and to love your neighbor. How does putting these two together complicate things for the Pharisees and also for us.

Would you like to participate in the worship service sometime? If so, you'll find a sign-up sheet outside the office for various positions.



Special Offering—South/Central District—October

Our special offering goes in support of the district ministry. Ways in which the district supports us are: Maintaining a line of communication with the denominational office; identifying leadership talent and placement assistance; providing support and training for leadership; providing continuity during transition periods; providing fellowship/networking activities amongst the member congregations; creation and upkeep of congregational information as it pertains to the district; providing conflict resolution/mediation resources as needs arise; and many others beyond what would fit here! If you have questions, or wish to assist with the District Leadership, please see Karen Odiorne, who is on the District Board. There are many ways of serving.

Church Women United October 27 9-11:30am—TC Assembly Room

Inspires ALL women to come together, energizing their desire to build new bonds through “Kindling New Fires for Peace” – embracing the essence of other cultures.

We invite you to come dressed in “International Attire” showing your support for peace and justice around our world. If you don’t feel you already have something to wear for this unusual celebration, come early and browse amongst our guest vendors, whose specific ministries promote peace and justice, giving you options to purchase a clothing item or accessory to don!

Among the diverse choices, “One World Handcrafts” will display African attire, scarves, wraps, as well as be-stow a Christmas tree filled with a variety of ornaments

for sale. Sally Rich’s African ministry, “Omiyo” (meaning “to give” in Acholi) will offer an array of unique jewelry and also Sherry Searles’ mission, “Accessories of Hope” will extend a selection of scarves and bags.

Registration, project contributions (to “Destiny Rescue”) and vendor shopping will be accessible from 9 – 9:30am and again following our program, from 11-11:45 am.

Awaken your spirit to the value of “intercultural sharing” gained first-hand, from our friend and neighbor, Sally Rich. Within our intimate setting, discover how we can and do “live-out” peace, how we are fueled to contribute to humanity, how we truly recognize who is our “sister” or our “brother.”

Our informal arrangement will encourage you to enlighten your taste buds, while getting to know “your neighbor” better, possibly uncovering new ways to living peace.



New Sunday School Class

All are invited to attend! We will be looking at the DVD and book by Jim Wallis and Sojourners entitled JUSTICE FOR THE POOR. Through this study we will explore the experiences of people living in poverty in the U.S. What can we learn and what are the responsibilities of Christians? We will be looking at the Bible for those answers. Books will be available at the first meeting. Come and join this important study group.

(Jim Wallis was one of the speakers at NOAC) Even if you missed the first Sunday, come anyway!

This year it is being held on October 21st from 12pm—4pm at Paradise Spring. Admission is \$5 per person. While there, you can taste over 100 different types of chili and it is the largest chili-cookoff east of the Mississippi River. All proceeds are earmarked for 9 different charities serving Wabash County. They are: FAME, Blessings in a Backpack, FISH of Wabash County, Family Services Society—Hands of Hope, Manchester Recreation Association, SHARE Little Free Pantry, Wabash County Cancer Society, Wabash County Christmas Spirit, Wabash County YMCA, Honeywell Foundation Educational Outreach, Learn More Center, Wabash County Crime Stoppers, North Manchester Historical Society, Wabash All Inclusive Playground, and Wabash County 4-H Association.



Power, Privilege and the Journey Towards Justice Conference

Jointly sponsored by the Brethren Mennonite Council and On Earth Peace will take place at the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren, October 20-22.

- Registration is \$125, with housing available in local hotels or with host families in the church.
- Some registration brochures are available in the North Manchester church office if you are interested.
- Registration is also available on-line through the BMC website.
- Facilitators for the conference are Matt Guynn, director of social change organizing with On Earth Peace and

Regina Shands Stoltzfus, professor at Goshen College. experiences of liberation through storytelling, worship and conversation.”

- The goals are to “examine how power and privilege affects our individual and corporate lives, analyze how power operates within the church, learn new ways to use power to further nonviolent change, and share
- The conference will conclude Sunday morning, October 22 with worship at the Bridgewater Church.
- Registration is due by October 9.
- Please see Kurt Borgmann if you are interested in more information.

CAMP MACK

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

Come F.L.Y.E. (Fun Leader Youth Education Program) into the world of leadership with training weekends at Camp Mack. This is for all youth who will be between the ages of 15-17 by May 15, 2018. The first weekend training program is October 6-7. Fee: \$35. Email or call us for more info.

Camp Mack Festival, Saturday, October 7. All are invited for a day of fun and raising funds for camper scholarships and other projects. Free parking and admission. New this year is a flea market. If you have donations for the auction or flea market, please contact the Camp Mack office.

All fathers and sons are invited to Father Son Weekend at Camp Mack, October 14-15. The theme is "Everyday Heroes." Fee: \$134 per father/son pair, \$62 for each additional person.

Fall Scrapbooking Retreat: Oct. 19-22. Come, crop 'til you drop with a weekend of scrap therapy. Bring the scrapbooks you need to finish, spread out your supplies, and swap your extras at the swap table. Fee: \$116 (Fri. PM), \$130 (Fri AM), \$145 (Thurs PM).

Fall Quilt Retreat is October 19-22. Quilters gather to quilt, build wonderful friendships, and enjoy the tranquility of Camp Mack. Bring your sewing machines, UFOs, and quilting supplies. Fee: \$122 (Fri PM), \$137 (Fri AM), \$166 (Thurs PM).

Volunteer Banquet: Everyone who served as a volunteer from November 2016 to October 2017 is invited to be camp's guest at a recognition dinner at Mexico Church of the Brethren on Saturday, November 4th. Registration and hors d'oeuvres at 4:15 p.m.; dinner served at 5:00 p.m. Entertainment will follow the dinner. Call camp to make your reservation.
Mexico COB: 4460 N. Mexico Rd, Mexico, IN 46958

UPCOMING EVENTS:

October 21	Scrapbooking, Knitting and Crocheting, Beginner Quilting Get-a-Way Days
October 22	Fall Nut and Tree ID Walk
October 27-29	Build a Drum
October 28	Build a Drum Kids Day
November 7-8	Pastor's Sabbath
November 11	Sandhill Cranes Get-a-Way Day
November 13-15	Volunteer Work Days

PRAYER REQUESTS: Camp Staff and Volunteers

2018 Learning Tours—New Community Project

NCP Learning Tours build community with our neighbors, explore important justice and environmental concerns, and offer opportunities to reflect on the connections between our world and their world. Expect basic but safe accommodations, an encounter with other cultures and ecosystems, good traveling companions, and plenty to think about. Trips are open to people of all ages, with every effort made to create experiences for folks from across the age and ability spectrum. Cost excludes airfare and visas, but includes all on-the-ground expenses.

Nepal January 4 - 18, 2018 Leaders: Shakti Samuha; David Radcliff Cost: \$995 (\$895—student) (plus airfare to and from Kathmandu) Hosted by the anti-sex-trafficking group and NCP partner Shakti Samuha, this is an up-close look at a country of great beauty and great poverty. Visit cultural and religious sites; meet women and girls NCP grants support for economic development and education; learn about on-going impacts of the April 2015 earthquakes; encounter child laborers, women in the entertainment sector, returnees from the sex trade, and young men leaving the country to work abroad; take an overnight trek to an awe-inspiring view of the Annapurna Range (moderately strenuous, alternative transportation available).

Ecuadorian Amazon - Deep Jungle May 26 - June 2 Leaders: Delio, David Radcliff, Dr. Dustin Wilgers Cost: \$900 (\$825—student) (plus airfare to and from Quito) Head deep into the Amazon Rainforest to the Yasuni National Park—one of the most biodiverse - and threatened - spots on earth. Explore the rainforest, guided by Siona shaman Delio; see monkeys, birds, pink dolphins, the ceiba tree (“Spirit Tree”)—maybe even a jaguar; observe the impacts of oil drilling and ranching; visit indigenous Waorani and Sequoia native communities; accommodations in tents while in the forest.

Diné (Navajo) Reservation, New Mexico June 19-26 Leaders: Jim Therrien, David Radcliff Cost: \$175 (student \$125) Experience the beauty of and challenges facing the land and people on the Diné reservation. Help with work projects in this native community northwest of Albuquerque; join with youth and elders to learn handcraft skills; learn about the history of the Diné, including boarding schools and The Long Walk. Explore current social issues, spiritual practices and the impacts of fracking; see local artists at work; visit nearby Chaco Culture NHP.

Dominican Republic: July 11-20 Leaders: Bartolo Incarnacion, Tom Benevento Cost: \$525 (\$450 - students) The Dominican Republic is best known for its emerald blue oceans, white sandy beaches and beautiful all inclusive resorts, but NCP will take you to a different side of that world. Live in a Batey community, learning about life for poor and marginalized immigrant Haitian/Dominican sugarcane workers who earn less than a dollar a day; explore environmental issues of the Caribbean region including deforestation, water scarcity, and the direct impacts of the climate crisis. See community development projects in action, learn from inspiring local activists, and get your hands dirty working alongside villagers to reforest their rugged mountainous homeland, creating edible forest ecosystems. Stay with village families and sleep on concrete floors in remote places.

Denali/Kenai Fjords National Parks, Alaska July 29 - August 7 Leader: David Radcliff Cost: \$825 (\$675—student) (plus airfare to and from Anchorage) Camp at Savage River campground 15 miles inside the Park; hike along streams and up a nearby peak; see moose, grizzlies, Dall Sheep, a dogsled demonstration, and (if we’re lucky) Denali—the Great One (highest peak in North America); spend a day doing a volunteer work project; explore environmental issues facing Alaska. In Seward on the SE coast take a day-long fjords cruise to observe whales, walruses, seabirds, and a glacier; visit a sea life center; stay (indoors!) in a cozy hostel.

Arctic Village, Alaska August 7-15 Leaders: Charlie Swaney, David Radcliff Cost: \$875 (plus airfare to and from Fairbanks) Visit this north-of-the-Arctic Circle community—Gwich’in by birth, caribou by culture. Meet Arctic advocacy groups in Fairbanks: learn about the threat of drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and the impacts of global warming. Then travel by small plane (included in registration) to Arctic Village. Hike and camp in sight of the Brooks Range, eat traditional foods, experience Gwich’in life and customs, maybe see migrating caribou. Spectacular!



For more information or to register, visit www.newcommunityproject.org or contact David Radcliff at 844-804-2985; dradcliff@newcommunityproject.org
New Community Project 117 Nature Road, Blue Ridge, VA 24064



Seasoned Citizens Camp

The Seasoned Citizens Camp at beautiful Camp Mack will be October 16th to the 19th. Bible Study each morning will be from 1 Kings, Luke, and Romans taught by Frank Ramirez. Norman and Carol Waggy will tell of their experiences in Nigeria on Tuesday evening. Other activities, including Vespers, will fill the rest of the time.

We're unsure at this time, but we may bake cookies for future campers one afternoon. Afternoons can be as relaxing or as active as you like.

Register online if you like at www.campmack.org. Or, if you have a brochure, send in the form to Camp Alexander Mack at PO Box 158, Milford, IN 46542. Handicap accessible sleeping and meeting rooms are available, as well as dining options for those on special diets. Fee: \$171 per person or \$115 if not staying overnight.

Please come for the whole retreat or for as many days or as much time as you can. Check-in begins around 3 p.m. on Monday at Sarah Major and closes with lunch on Thursday.

Share this with others and mark your calendars.

Hope to see you there!

Co-Deans Phyllis Hall, Margaret Weybright, Dorothy Gall



October 8th 7:00pm—#RelationshipGoals; Jay Watts leads a community dialogue about relationships, experience, and the quest for authenticity in the Social Media World. Location 6

October 12th 7:00pm—Next Generation: Becoming a 21st Century Professional (VIA); Ryan Jenkins is the keynote speaker. Location Cordier Auditorium

October 13th 7:30pm—ACC/University Bands Homecoming Concert.

October 14th 7:00pm—Voyages of Life and Love; Featuring Daniel Belcher, Judy Marlett, includes selections from *The Long Walk* and *Your John Keats*. Location 24

October 16th 7:30pm—A Family Portrait; launches 79th season of MSO, composed by Dr. Debra Lynn and is inspired by Civil War Letters. Location Cordier Auditorium \$15 admission fee

October 19th 8:00pm—Cupcakes and Math (and Computers); Have questions about majoring/minoring in these? Come eat cupcakes and learn what they have to offer. Location 21

October 24th 3:30pm—Ephemeral Voyage; artist and holocaust survivor Lea Goldman will give an artist lecture, discussing her life and work. Hoff Room, upper level of Switzer Center

October 26th 7:30pm—Fort Wayne Ballet: Traditions, Tributes & Tambourines (VIA); The Fort Wayne Ballet has designed a program for MU with modern, innovative works, as well as treasured classics in the world of ballet. Location Cordier Auditorium

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**

Stand by the Batwa

Displaced and disregarded, Batwa (pygmies of East Africa) have long received our curiosity—now they need our help. They struggle for shelter, food, education...even clothing to wear to church. Children are sent out to beg, mothers long for skills training and a better future.

Stand by the Batwa is New Community Project's effort to raise \$27,000 this fall to provide micro-loans, tailoring training and small animal projects for women in Rwanda and Congo shoes, food and scholarships for girls in Rwanda and a school for girls in Congo

Help the Batwa stand tall!

"...turning the world upside down..."



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!

Brethren Leadership Institute

Evangelism/Outreach

Oct 28 and Nov 4—9:00-4:00 Marion CoB

Taught by Nate Polzin, District Executive of the Michigan District and pastor of The Church in Drive In Saginaw.

Contact Tina at scincob@gmail.com for registration information.