

NEWSLETTER

March-April

Southern Pennsylvania District Church of the Brethren



A Message from our District Executive

I watched a video of a young woman who has Tourette's Syndrome. In case you do not know what Tourette's is, the following excerpt from Wikipedia may help:

Tourette syndrome or **Tourette's syndrome** (abbreviated as **TS** or **Tourette's**) is a common neurodevelopmental disorder that begins in childhood or adolescence. It is characterized by multiple movement (motor) tics and at least one vocal (phonic) tic. Common tics are blinking, coughing, throat clearing, sniffing, and facial movements. These are typically preceded by an unwanted urge or sensation in the affected muscles known as a premonitory urge, can sometimes be suppressed temporarily, and characteristically change in location, strength, and frequency. Tourette's is at the more severe end of a spectrum of tic disorders. The tics often go unnoticed by casual observers. Tourette's was once regarded as a rare and bizarre syndrome and has popularly been associated with coprolalia (the utterance of obscene words or socially inappropriate and derogatory remarks). It is no longer considered rare; about 1% of school-age children and adolescents are estimated to have Tourette's,^[2] and coprolalia occurs only in a minority.

In the video, the woman was asked where some of her vocal tics came from. Her answer was from watching Tik Tok videos. In other words, she mimicked what she was watching. It reminded me of the adage about computer programming: "Garbage In, Garbage Out." My mind also meandered back to that old Sunday School song that told us to "Be careful little eyes what you see." Our brains are far more complex than I can understand but I heard that our brains retain every bit of information that we see, hear, or read. The problem for us is that we can't always remember just exactly where it is stored! So, all that "stuff" is in there and just waiting to come out. Many of us have internal sensors that help stay socially acceptable and out of trouble.

I think there is a better answer for us than just relying on that internal sensor. (Actually, since it is in God's word, I KNOW it is better!)

"Teach me, LORD, the way of your decrees, that I may follow it to the end. Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law and obey it with all my heart. Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight. Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain. **Turn my eyes away from worthless things;** preserve my life according to your word." Psalm 119:33-3 (emphasis mine)

Time spent in God's word is crucial for filling our minds with things that lead to better living and keep us from wrong thinking, wrong living, and wrong speech. It also provides a way for God to expose those things which are harmful and/or detrimental to our Christian witness.



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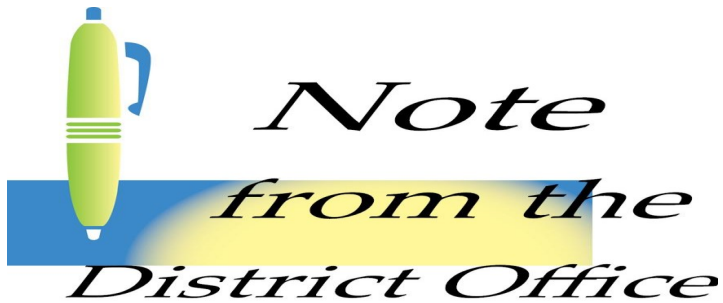
In the case of some with Tourette's, if it isn't in there, it can't come out!

Obviously, what I wish for us is that we are dedicated to studying God's word and living as disciples of the Living Word, Jesus Christ. The more I immerse myself into the word, I realize how much I fall short and rely upon God's grace to carry me through. I resolve to be more like Jesus in all I do and speak. Not that I have already attained it, but I press on.

Two questions for you to consider: What worthless things do you wish to have your eyes turned away from? What things of worth do you desire to see?

Bill





Information in this newsletter is accurate as of the date of publication.

Please check with the district office if events are to be continued as listed.

*Friendly
Reminder*

DEADLINE

For the next District Newsletter
is due.....

Thursday April 27

2023 SOPA
District Conference
September 15 & 16, 2023

One Heart...
One Voice...
For the

Glory of God

Romans 15: 5-6

Chambersburg COB
260 S. Fourth St.
Chambersburg, PA

Terry Smith
District Moderator

BVS @ 75

Carlisle First Church of the Brethren

In honor of Brethren Volunteer Service's 75 Anniversary, the Carlisle First Church of the Brethren announces a special program on BVS at the church on Sunday, March 26th from 2-4pm.

Burr Beard served in BVS in 1972-1973 as a conscientious objector and is the host for this event.

With special guests, former and currently serving volunteers in attendance, Beard will conduct interviews to illuminate the history of the past 75 years of BVS and it's current status in terms of opportunities for high school and college graduates, and volunteers of at least age 18.

The event is free and open to the public and is sponsored by the Carlisle First Church of the Brethren. Doug Miller is the Pastor of the Carlisle First Church of the Brethren. Please contact Burr Beard at 717-462-0393, or Pastor Doug at 717-870-1263.





PENNSYLVANIANS CONCERNED ABOUT ALCOHOL PROBLEMS
PENNSYLVANIA ALCOHOL EDUCATION FOUNDATION

900 South Arlington Avenue, Suite 160B, Harrisburg, PA 17109

Telephone: 717-652-2517 Fax: 717-671-9198 Email: contact@pacap.org

Website : www.pacap.org

Spring 2023

Dear Friends of PCAP,

I am pleased to greet you and give you an update on the work of PCAP. First, I want to wish everyone a joyous Easter as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

I want to report on the work of our educational arm of PCAP which is known as the **Pennsylvania Alcohol Education Foundation (PAEF)**. We are currently scheduled to teach in several school districts until the end of the school year. All of these are schools we taught at last year. That indicates we are hitting all the right needs! We continue to look at new ways we can reach out to these children. There are many indicators of emerging trends found in the recent U.S. Government survey on substance abuse. Read the newsletter for more information. These schools are open to hearing more. PCAP endeavors to do that very thing for them. They look to us for direction and expertise. Many of the subjects we teach have been updated and the students respond well to them. Praise the Lord!

Now I need to ask for your help with the expenses that are involved in providing these classes. Our funding comes only from concerned churches and individuals. I am sure that we all want to do whatever we can to inform and protect our children and grandchildren from the dangers of drug use.

We stand ready to do our part but we need your help. Your generous donations will enable us to reach even more children. In the Fall of 2023 it is our prayerful hope to add more educators to other areas needing PCAP teaching. We are asking you to help us do that. Shower us in prayers and send us your financial help please!

May the Resurrected Christ bless and keep our children safe from the dangers of drug use. Blessings to all who join with us in this battle.

Sincerely,

PENNSYLVANIANS CONCERNED ABOUT ALCOHOL PROBLEMS

Rev. Don H. Wert
President

Barry W. Heckman
Educator, Speaker, PCAP Deacon



PCAP NEWSLETTER

An update of what's happening at PCAP

Spring 2023

Breakthrough in Understanding U.S. Alcohol and Drug Problems!

Did you know that statistics used to measure alcohol and other drug use in America will also now include information about mental health issues? It is a significant fact in understanding the real issues as the use of these substances continue through each generation.

The last statistical fact is alarming, 13% considered suicide.

Here are some results from the last study:

- 133 million Americans over age 12 used alcohol in last 30 days.
- 7 million were 12-17 and 50 million were 18-25 years old.
- 30 million identified as having Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD).
- 7 million of those with AUD also have Drug Use Disorder.
- 18-25-year-olds were the largest group of dual use (alcohol/drug disorder).
- Major depressive episodes were highest among 18-25-year-olds.
- New users in 2021—4.1 million alcohol/2.6 million marijuana.
- 2.5 million Americans over age 12 used marijuana.
- 40% of those vaping marijuana were 12-17 (the largest age group).
- 20% marijuana users had major depressive episodes.
- 13% of all drug-using age groups had suicide thoughts.

Summary: The American population continues to show wear and tear from overused alcohol/drugs as a recreational pastime. As you go through the numbers, you'll see the hardest hit are the 18-25-year-olds. They are in college, military or in the workforce. This may be a lost generation. Not if we can help it.

We have a chance to make a difference with the 12-17-year-olds. Sadly, **13% of them have considered suicide**, had major depressive episodes and tried drugs like alcohol and marijuana (vaping the preferred marijuana method of use.)

Most parents I talk to trust schools to teach their children about these subjects. Very few will educate themselves about the drugs and effects well enough to be a good information source. Based on that need, you can send PCAP there! We will educate and work with all ages including parents. We will go to your schools and churches to reach and teach about the issues that matter. Send us! Pray for us! Support us with your financial love. Thank you in advance!

BIBLE MOMENT

From a recent church PCAP message—(Mark 9:5-7) God spoke to his disciples on the mountain after Jesus was transfigured into the Heavenly Being He actually is. God said "This is my dearly loved Son, listen to Him." The message title is "Whose voice do you listen to?"

Consider the recent Super Bowl. About half the commercials were for alcohol. The commercials were designed to capture your interest quickly and cleverly. I kept hearing in my mind: "*Whose voice do you listen to?*"

Christians have the Holy Spirit to guide us through life (if we listen to Him). How hard is it when bombarded with so many "*commercials designed to capture your soul?*" We have no idea how many media influences a young person deals with every day.

Did you know many internet sites are designed to sell illegal drugs?

For more info: <https://youtu.be/5BQ5J7qaaCQ>

How hard it is to hear the Voice of God over all the noise!

Prevention education is the answer to this problem. It works. Growth rates in usage are reduced drastically in schools, churches and other community groups where abstinence and the effects of these and other drugs are taught thoroughly.

PCAP NEWSLETTER

An update of what's happening at PCAP

Spring 2023

PCAP School News

We are currently teaching many health classes in school districts grades 6-12. Most of the current subjects the teachers want covered are vaping nicotine, vaping marijuana, alcohol and its effects, drugged driving, good decision-making and alcohol, drugs and dating. A key lesson is "think about the condition of the driver when you're getting into their car."

One of our newest approaches to teaching is to feature Natural High Living as an alternative to a drug life. We see this as a door opener to discuss the good things in life as a better choice.

We continue to teach abstinence from all alcohol and other drugs as a best choice. Natural High shares this view.

For more information: See story from Switchfoot, Christian music group - <https://www.naturalhigh.org/storyteller/switchfoot-grammy-award-winning-band/>

Included with that Natural High link are discussion questions and activities. We base some of our classes on similar materials from those resources.

We also study and listen for *perceived needs* to be met. The teachers know what they are up against. This extends into school administrators and school boards, parent organizations and local ministeriums.

We are always looking to add new volunteers in certain geographic areas. Please call our office with any questions.

PCAP in Churches

We have received several inquiries to speak at local churches. The first thing we like to do is contact the ministry team and get an understanding of what it is they would like us to do for them. Sometimes we are asked to speak to a certain group within the church to educate. These groups may be, for example, parent, grandparents, youth or Sunday School groups. Sometimes we are asked to help the congregants look at an incorrect mindset about alcohol or drugs. Often, we are simply asked to deliver a message of hope through Jesus Christ!

Remember to whom Jesus most often ministered—people in a life of sin and deep need. Let **PCAP** act as a catalyst of change for your church groups! Call our office for a speaking date and more information.

Financially we are always praying and hoping you would consider **PCAP** for your gifts and giving. Some ways churches have included us: in their annual missions budget, special collection (can be coupled with speaker visit), encouraging extra individual gifts as able (mailing materials provided), and by estate bequeathments.

Finally we ask you to support us in prayer. Included in this envelope mailer is our Pray Warrior Calendar for May through December of 2023 (8 prayers). Please add us to your daily, weekly or special needs prayers. We thank you in advance.

He is Risen! Indeed!

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2023 PCAP Prayer Warrior Calendar—May through December

MAY—We have had Easter come and go but should we? Easter, the Resurrection of Christ, is an ongoing celebration for all Christians all over the world, isn't it? Easter is more than bunnies, chocolate and days off from work and school. Some will know Easter as a time of partying and traveling to a Southern beach resort. Pray that those that live this way will come to know the real reason we celebrate Easter. The month of May is also a time we see proms, graduations and summer-break plans shaping up. Many will use this time as an excuse to get high. Pray that those young people will not see tragedy, will make good choices and, instead, will be interested in the Goodness of knowing Jesus.

JUNE—We are heading into summer! The freedom of no school and the lack of structure will affect many young people badly. Instead of chasing good things, they will choose to use this time as party time. Drugs like alcohol can become a daily activity because there is no reason to worry about being sober. Please pray that those young people not fall into this type of foolishness. Also pray they find good things in their lives to pursue. Free time can be good times for those who want to know Christ more fully. This is another prayer we all could embrace on their behalf.

JULY—Summer, fireworks, baseball and great outdoor times! For many, the idea of picnics comes to mind. These are great chances families have to grow together, unfortunately, it is often coupled with some alcohol or other drugs as a social requirement or expectation. Pray that these gatherings will not center on the act of using a substance to artificially lift one's spirits but instead that the act of gathering together is in itself enough! This is so important, especially for the little ones. Pray that they remember good wholesome family gatherings with no alcohol or drugs in sight. Pray that their parents are aware of the examples they make for children to see.

AUGUST—The biggest vacation month. Pray that the travels, vacations and other summer memories have no alcohol or drugs in the mix. Pray that the "one last fling" before school restarts won't include using illegal substances as a way to get ready for school.

SEPTEMBER—Many kids are facing new schools, new friends, new places, new challenges and new hopes. Disappointment could be right there also if things don't go well. Some will feel unable to fit in, feel uncomfortable, not understand what is expected and have dashed hopes of being good at something. Pray for those who are struggling with these challenges. Pray they find joy and peace in these and many other challenges as the school year reveals itself. Lastly, pray they find good Christian classmates and friends that can lead them in a pathway for righteousness.

OCTOBER—Kids are often affected by seasonal sadness over the changing of the clocks, the cold winter days and the lack of exercise they get from being indoors so much. Teachers are affected by this too. Pray for all to have good thoughts, positive activities and alcohol/drug-free days.

NOVEMBER—Thanksgiving! Football! Pumpkin Pie! Not everybody gets excited about these things like I do. Many from other cultures are not even aware of what all this means. Consider they are in a season of change during these next holidays. Schools are full of mixtures of cultures, religions and different family compositions. We can't assume we know what it feels like for others. This is what I ask you to pray about: How can we be most supportive and loving during this time of year? How can we help others feel like they are part of our lives too? Think about young persons and what they are thinking. How can we show Christ to them? Pray for them.

DECEMBER—Christians know this is the month of celebration! Christ is born! We also know that the young ones will be taking a break from schools, spending more time at home and hanging out with friends. Pray they are on their guard to weigh their decisions carefully. Pray they think before they act. Pray the best for them. Pray, as we always pray, they come to know Christ!

Thank you for your support by being a **Prayer Warrior**! We can't be an island unto ourselves. Proverbs says: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and don't lean on your own understanding." Prayer is an admittance that we need to come before our Lord with pleas and needs. Intercessory prayer is asking for help for others, asking for God's intervention. **PCAP** is against the things that lure people to embrace darkness and turn away from the Light of Christ. Children need your help. We thank you for your support.

PCAP teaches about abstinence from all drugs. Some of our subjects taught: Good Decision Making/Risky Behaviors What is Your Natural High?, [Alcohol and Dating](#), Drugged Driving, [Alcohol and the Human Brain](#), Marijuana-Just Because It's Legal is it Safe?, [Vaping—Risks to Health from Vaping](#), Opioids—a Road to Addiction. How Does Addiction Hijack the Brain?, [And there's more!](#)

We invite you to a HYMN SING
Sunday, April 30, 3 pm Chestnut
Grove Meetinghouse 5008 Chestnut
Grove Road, Spring Grove, PA
17362 On RT 516, south of Jefferson
Led by Pastor Brandon Grady of the
Black Rock Church of the Brethren





FAR Reach Ministries Faith. Action. Results. An occasional newsletter heralding education for the Church of the Brethren in the Africa Great Lakes region The so-called “Prosperity Gospel” manifests itself in so many ways that, at least for me, it often pops up with an aspect that I haven’t heard before. I suppose that it takes us back to Satan’s lies starting in Genesis 3 that are continually circling back around with a new twist. It must be pointed out that the word gospel in this context is used quite loosely, since gospel means good news. These prosperity teachings can hardly be considered good news. They are, quite frankly, lies from the devil. A few examples: - A pastor preaches that his followers will be struck dead by God if they don’t bring their tithe. - It is claimed that the sick child will not be healed unless the parents give X number of shillings, francs or dollars. - A message of “tongues” (unintelligible gibberish) is “interpreted” (by the tongues-speaker himself) saying that so-and-so will die and the tongues-speaker will marry his widow. - When the pastor comes to visit and expects not only a meal (common hospitality) but also demands a chicken, goat or other “gift” from the host - and if it’s not received, goes around the village, as well as exclaiming from the pulpit that the person lacks Christian faith. Pastors are men and women called of God to be shepherds. They are ones that lead by faithfully teaching the truths of Scripture, not the lies that they might manage to wrest from it or the lies that they have come up with on their own. They are ones that lead by nurturing - showing by example the way of Jesus. They are ones that might well enjoy some benefit from their flock, but not from butchering them! I’m certainly not opposed to butchering/meat eating and it’s not my purpose to get into an argument today on the subject. But I will argue that the farmer’s role is to nurture those animals - to care, feed and provide for them. The Bible in both the Old and New Testaments draws the analogy of the pastor’s role to that of shepherd. In the King James Version the old English word husbandman appears occasionally. It is largely unused these days; Deloris and I have Bachelor of Science degrees from Delaware Valley College in

Dairy Husbandry. That was 1978 - now the college turned university calls it Dairy Science. But as the word husbandry implies, it's all about caring and nurturing. Those of us in pastoral roles are "husbands" (sorry for the gender specific terminology). Not that we should think we're married to the church (in spite of the belief of some church members). Rather that we should see our call to "feed my sheep" similarly to Paul's admonition in Ephesians 5 for husbands to love their wives as Christ loved the church. The call is to care for people in such a way as Jesus shared His life - with peace, simplicity and yes, sacrifice. At the top of the list of emphases at the Great Lakes Bible School (GLBS) is the concept of servant leadership. Within the context of GLBS, it hasn't been a particular challenge to teach. We are, after all, a Brethren institution. Stratification of sociological castes is, at least in theory, at the heart of who we are. There has been though, over the years, attempts to delineate a system of hierarchy in the church with clergy on the higher level, along with a subtle put-down of the laity. In opposition to this there have been those that want to bring the church leadership down a notch or two. Theologian Elton Trueblood wrote that our goal should not be to bring the clergy down to the level of the laity, but to elevate the laity to the level of the clergy. In his words, the abolition of the laity. The goal of the servant leader, it would seem, should be to provide teaching, nurturing, and encouragement to the church. Didn't someone once say something about the priesthood of all believers? The church is not a barn full of sheep destined for the slaughterhouse. We are Christ's chosen people. "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy." I Peter 2:9-10 ESV The "prosperity" preachers that I find popping up around these parts are building a house on a very sandy surface. Some of them, having a bit of charisma, will do fairly well - for a time at least. I have a namesake





BWM to Host May 6 Celebration of the Global COB at Hempfield

Brethren World Mission is sponsoring its first ever fundraising event on Saturday, May 6, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Hempfield COB. Billed as a Celebration of the Global Church, the evening will include a meal, an update on work supported by BWM, and a concert by the Bittersweet Gospel Band. There is no cost to attend, but an offering will be received. The church is located at 1186 Stevens St., Manheim.

After the meal, a short program and hour-long concert will begin in the sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. BWM Chair Bob Kettering will give a whirlwind tour of the exciting ministries happening in some of the countries where there are Brethren churches, especially highlighting the new and emerging churches in East Africa.

To top off the evening, the Bittersweet Gospel Band will perform a lively concert. Pastor Gilbert Romero, of Los Angeles, began the six-member group more than 30 years ago to provide cross-cultural musical experiences, praising Jesus no matter what language is sung. Other familiar names in the group include Scott Duffey, Leah Hileman, and former COB moderator Dave Sollenberger. A link to join the program and concert virtually will be shared closer to the event.

To attend in person, please RSVP by April 26 with the number attending and choice of entrée (hamloaf or baked ziti) to Dennis Garrison at dgarri-son613@gmail.com or 717-451-3440. The cost is by donation but tables of eight can be reserved.

Donations can be given by check (made out to Brethren World Mission) or online (directly to COB Global Missions—link available that night). If you can't attend the event and want to give, please use the link or send your check to Brethren World Mission (Memo Line: Banquet), PO Box 393, Manheim, PA 17545.

Mission Statement: The purpose of Brethren World Mission is to help the Church of the Brethren fulfill the Annual Conference mandate to become a world church.

Meat Canning

Our annual meat canning, a joint project with the Southern Pennsylvania District, will take place April 10 - April 13.

Thank you for your generous support of this project that feeds hungry people in our District's area and overseas! The project still needs your support.

We anticipate that chicken meat and facility costs for canning will be higher this year.

A number of our congregations have sent support for this project, or plan to, in March or April.

Further funds will help to purchase more chicken which will enable more distribution

In our District.

Your volunteer participation is the other part that makes this project possible.

You have provided a lot of support this year and our volunteer schedule is almost full!

We still need a few volunteers to fill out the first shift, beginning at 7:15 am Monday, April 10.



Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry, Inc. 2023 Spring Fundraising Dinner Concert

Featuring Date: Saturday, May 6, 2023

Time: 5:30 P.M.

Where: First Church of God 2089 Newville Rd. (Rte. 641) Plainfield, PA 17081

Sharing Christ with Truckers and Travelers Since 1985 Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry, Inc.

P.O. Box 851 Carlisle, PA 17013

carlisletruckstopministry.org

ctsm851@gmail.com

Cost: \$17.00 / Ticket

Ticket Deadline: April 24, 2023

For Tickets and Information:

Ministry Office 717-385-7932

Chaplain Dave Braithwaite 717-249-5140

Chaplain Mike Kelso 717-448-1420

Dave Bell 717-776-7191

Anna Mae Zinn 717-386-1527

Paul Miller 717-243-9573

Dave Lepley 717-439-4515

Harry Cleaver 717-428-2673

Glenn & Anna Miller 717-845-3066

Pat Thornton 717-512-0068

Linda Sipe 717-624-5342

Jay Sensenig 717-816-7795

Chip Purkins 717-218-8754



A Great Big Thanks!!



Sharing Christ with Truckers and Travelers Since 1985

March 2023

We have much to be thankful for over the last year. Approximately 200 attended our 2022 fall banquet for an evening of food, fellowship and a concert by Brothers in Grace. This was our first banquet since fall of 2019 (due to COVID), and despite not having a silent auction, we raised over \$13,000.00 for the Ministry.

Our cookie collection and distribution event in November and December of 2022 was a great success. ABF Freight in Carlisle generously donated a trailer for our use during that time. We were able to provide approximately 13,000 bags of cookies to truckers, travelers, truck stop employees and others. Thanks for all your support in that annual endeavor.

P.O. Box 851
Carlisle PA 17013-0851
717-385-7932
www.carlisletruckstopministry.org

Upcoming Events



April 22, 2023

At: York First

COB

2710 Kingston Rd. York, PA 17402

Guest Speaker:

Ruoxia Li

WOMEN'S



Hosted by:
West York COB
@ Camp Eder
June 5th-6th



Hello,

On behalf of the NOAC Planning Team, welcome to the wonderful world of the National Older Adult Conference. We hope that you are planning to attend the conference, September 4-8, either in person at Lake Junaluska, NC or virtually. Here is basic information that may assist you in your planning.

General registration will open online on May 1 at www.brethren.org/noac.

General registration ends August 15.

Registration fees:

In person at Lake Junaluska- \$200. After July 15 the fee increases to \$230.

Virtual only- \$100. After July 15 the fee increases to \$125.

\$20 discount for first time attendees

If you need a **paper registration form**, please call Randi Rowan at 847-429-4303. Also, feel free to leave a message. Note: paper registration ends August 19.

Terrace registration will be open April 24- 28 *only* for those who have mobility issues and prefer to stay at the Terrace Hotel which is the closest housing to our main meeting area.

After you complete your online registration form you will receive a confirmation email and **a link to Lake Junaluska housing and meal plans. All fees for housing and meal plans are payable to Lake Junaluska.**

If you prefer to **rent a vacation home** in the Lake Junaluska area, please call 800-863-8415 or click on this link: <https://www.vacasa.com/go/partners/lake-junaluska>

We are partnering with the Fellowship of Brethren Homes, so that all Homes will have free access to the online conference. Online access will include morning Bible Study, Key-note Speakers, worship services, and one virtual field trip each day. If you plan to participate at one of the Brethren Homes, you do not need to register. Please contact your Chaplain or activity director to request a communal viewing space during NOAC.

For those going to Lake Junaluska, contact your District Office to see if it is possible to organize a bus from your district for **transportation to NOAC**.

If you have questions, please contact NOAC@brethren.org or call 847-429-4303 and speak to Randi Rowan, program assistant for Discipleship Ministries.

You may find more information on the NOAC website at: www.brethren.org/noac and on our Facebook page at “Church of the Brethren NOAC.”

Blessings,

2023 NOAC Planning Team

Christy Waltersdorff, Coordinator

Glenn Bollinger Karen Dillon

Bonnie Kline Smeltzer Leonard Matheny

Jim Martinez Don Mitchell

Karlene Tyler

Josh Brockway and Stan Dueck, Discipleship Ministries Staff



2023 Camp Eder Golf Outing

Friday May 12, 2023

Carroll Valley Golf Course at Liberty Mountain

78 Country Club Trail Fairfield, Pa 17320

7:00 am Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:00 am Shotgun Start (Four Player Scramble Format)

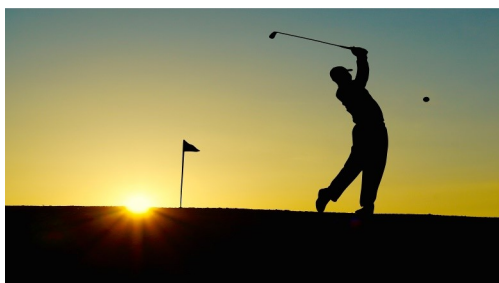
12:00 Noon Lunch at Camp Eder

Registration

\$85 per person

\$325 per-four person team

Hole sponsor and Foursome \$425



To register or for more information contact Camp Eder

717-642-8256

campeder@campeder.org

914 Mt Hope Rd

Fairfield, Pa 17320

THE EDER RETREAT

APRIL 28TH-30TH

REGISTRATION PRICES: \$50 per Adult (18+), \$25 per child

Sample Schedule

Friday: 7PM Arrive at Camp Eder & Move in

8:30PM Campfire at main campfire

Saturday: 8AM Breakfast

9AM Morning Workshops Crafts Backpacking 101 Woodshop & more

12PM Lunch

1PM Afternoon Camp Activities climbing wall challenge course & more!

6PM Dinner

7:30PM Interactive Songs w/ Music With Monte

Sunday: 8AM Breakfast 9:30AM TBD

CALL (717)642-8256 OR EMAIL MSCHMITTEL@CAMPEDER.ORG



Knobsville COB upcoming events

Wednesday Evening Bible Study March 8 thru May 24, weather permitting. Study will be from 6 to 7 pm.

April 1 at 11 am. Church/Community Easter egg hunt for all ages. (Rain date April 8)

April 2 during 10:30 morning worship service is Spring Communion.

April 9 Church Son Rise Service at 7 am, followed by breakfast in Fellowship Hall. (Sunday School at 9:30 & Morning Worship at 10:30)

Pastor Bob/Christine Bilger





CROSS KEYS VILLAGE

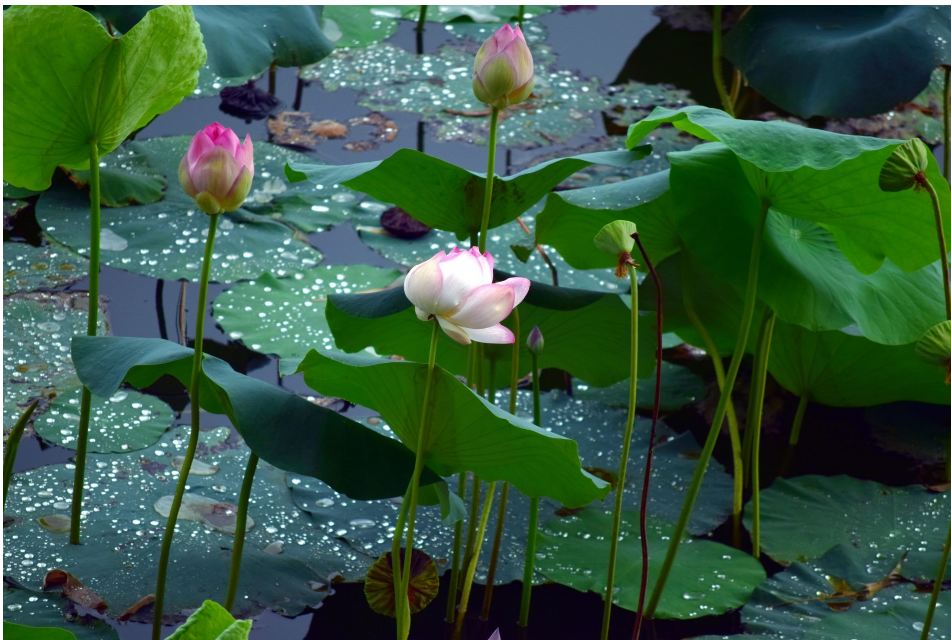
The Brethren Home Community

Events at Cross Keys Village – The Brethren Home Community

Saturday, May 20 16th Annual Butterfly Release 10AM (Pond)

Friday, June 2 Cardboard Boat Regatta (Pond)

Saturday, August 12 Drive Thru Chicken BBQ
10:30AM until sold out





Villager Earns Prestigious Art Distinction

Villager Sue Fehringer from Cross Keys Village – The Brethren Home Community has had a long career as a mathematician, teaching at Gettysburg High School and Gettysburg College. As much as she loves numbers, she also has a passion for mixed-media art. At one point, she had been an active member of the York Art Association. However, life gets in the way, and by the time she moved to Cross Keys Village in 2020, Sue had been on a 10-year pause from participating in the York Art Association's events.

Because of Cross Keys' close proximity to York, and with time on her hands at last, Sue decided to enter the association's Annual Fall Member Show held in September. She submitted her intriguing mixed-media piece **Crows at Sunset**, which features two main layers. For the back, she painted layers of acrylic on Yupo paper to evoke a sunset. On the front layer of clear acetate, she used Halloween spider webbing and watercolors to create an arborescent texture, with crows done in acrylic. Sue inserted an extra matte board between the two layers while framing the piece, generating additional dimension. This ingenious use of texture, color and depth didn't go unrecognized: out of the 100 works submitted in the event, **Sue won Best in Show!**

YAA's Board member Suzanne Stoltenberg remembers: "When Sue Fehringer's painting won Best of Show this fall, the juror said he felt each layer of the work was thoughtfully arranged, and the painting was filled with colors and textures. He loved how she created crisp silhouettes of the birds but used more gestural strokes in other areas, something professional painters frequently do to lead the eye of the viewer to the center of interest."

Not one to brag, Sue simply recalls "For me to win alongside all that talent, I felt very privileged and honored. It was nice to have that recognition." As if that didn't make Sue proud enough, an unknown admirer purchased the piece.

Closer to home, Sue participates regularly in the art exhibits organized by our Life Enrichment team, right here on the CKV campus. Whether or not she enters another art show, you can bet Sue will be creating more captivating pieces in the future.

Pastor Claver

In the Shadow

Among my favorite places on the planet is the little village of Gasiza in Rwanda. Nestled in the Virunga mountains, it isn't exactly remote, as it's less than a one hour drive from our home in Gisenyi. But a good bit of the journey is over very poor roads, giving one the impression that it's farther out than it really is. The location is so beautiful that it might be described as stunning. The farms are well maintained and very productive. There are onions, cabbages, potatoes, beans, tomatoes, maize, bananas, eggplant, mangoes, avocados - and the list goes on. One hears dairy cows lowing and sheep bleating in the background. The view is incredible. On a clear day you can see Lake Kivu in the distance, as well as the volcano Mt. Niyirigongo in neighboring Congo. But the real reason it is one of my favorite spots is the Gasiza Church of the Brethren. The congregation is led by Peter Claver Habimana, a fifty-something man with a dear little wife, Mama Josephine, and a family of eight children. When a younger man, he was, by his own description, a drunkard and an atheist. God miraculously saved him and changed his life. He eventually became the pastor of a Pentecostal church and ultimately joined the Brethren in 2015. Pastor Claver, as we call him, doesn't have much education. He is though, a very gifted preacher, with a big heart. He works very hard as a bivocational pastor. Along with service to the church he is a carpenter and a farmer. His embodiment of a solid work ethic is powerful in an environment where many pastors are expecting others to do and provide for them. As a student at the Great Lakes Bible School (GLBS), Pastor Claver is learning English, applying previously learned





Bible knowledge, and just as importantly, serving as a wonderful example for the others. One of the key teachings we are emphasizing in the Great Lakes Bible School is servant leadership. While a pastor is indeed a leader of people, he is also a servant. I suppose that most would recognize the importance of a pastor's submission to the Master Jesus Christ. But all too often, leaders are subsequently expecting their church members to be in submission to them, rather than leading with the understanding that we all are in submission to each other (Ephesians 5:21). Another important feature of GLBS is the mix of students and faculty. Age, education and experience range across the spectrum. At 66, I'm the oldest one. Our view is that the older ones will mentor the younger and that the younger bring energy and vitality. It has been heart-warming to watch the interactions among the students. The mentoring is quite obviously taking place, but the energy is also apparent, not only from the younger to the elder, but a mutual iron-sharpening-iron. Even though pastors like Claver are the seasoned ones, there is no attitude of superiority. This past Sunday, Theoneste (principal/head teacher) and I, along with our two Burundian students made the road trip to Gasiza for morning worship. We arrived at 9 as the folks were just gathering. The music started promptly, with lots of dancing to accompany the singing. The four choirs took turns leading the congregation as the pastor intermittently spoke and read from the Scriptures. The guest preacher (me) shared for a half hour or so. After a closing song and prayer, the service concluded shortly before noon. As the congregation dispersed, we stayed behind with the pastor and deacons. A feast was spread before us of beef, potatoes, rice, beans and Fanta. I noticed that neither the pastor nor his wife were eating. They were both busy ensuring that everyone else was taken care of. Finally, when all were served, they sat down to eat their own meal. I pointed this out to Theoneste. He said, "You're right - they are servant leaders." It is my prayer that all of our church leaders here in the Africa Great Lakes region will learn by their example. For the Master, Chris Elliott with the Church of the Brethren in the Africa Great Lakes.

Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership proudly offers Disciples in a VUCAH World

ZOOM MAY 16, CONFERENCE MAY 17-19,

Course Description and Objectives

The course will focus on a cultural wave that has swept the North American church into a brand-new world—that is pluralistic, complicated, and high tech. Faced with the challenge, fresh expressions of church are emerging alongside the traditional church. How might churches relate with people who live in a North American culture that is increasingly both non-religious and multi-religious? The course will explore discipleship and congregations in a VUCAH world (volatile, uncertain, chaotic, ambiguous, hyperconnected).

The course includes attendance at the New and Renew Conference, May 17-19 either in-person or via Zoom, online conference platform.

This is a two-step registration and payment process:

1. Fill out the attached registration form and return payment of \$115 to the Brethren Academy for the DISU credit (or go online to register and pay at <https://bethanyseminary.edu/brethren-academy/>)
2. Participants in the DISU will click here to register for the conference event.

Instructor: Stan Dueck

Stan Dueck is an ordained minister serving as the Director of Organizational Leadership with Discipleship Ministries of the Church of the Brethren. Stan is a consultant, coach, mentor, teacher, and strategic advisor. He is passionate about cultivating healthy congregations and building the capacity of leaders. He has pastored in two congregations, both planted in 1724. Stan is a graduate of Fresno Pacific College, Lancaster Theological Seminary, and the College of Executive Coaching. He has certifications in leadership and personal coaching from the International Coaching Federation, Multiple Health Systems, WBECS, and Marshall Goldsmith's Global Leadership and Stakeholder Centered Coaching. Stan and his wife Julie and daughter Courtney reside in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

Required Text

- Bullivant, Stephen. Nonverts: The Making of Ex-Christian America. Oxford University Press, 2022. ISBN-10: 0197587445 / ISBN-13: 978-0197587447.
- Cruickshank, Jessie. Ordinary Discipleship: How God Wires Us For The Adventure of Transformation. NavPress, 2023. ISBN 978-1-64158-732-7. Jessie is the keynote speaker at 2023 New & Renew Conference. Book included with conference registration.
- Gustine, Adam L. Cultivating Communities of God's Shalom. IVP Books, 2019. ISBN-10: 0830841512 / ISBN-13: 978-0830841516.
- Martin, Shannan. Start With Hello. Revell, 2022. ISBN-10: 0800740890 / ISBN-13: 978-0800740894. New & Renew workshop presenter.
- Miofsky, Matt. Let Go: Leaning into the Future Without Fear. Abingdon Press, 2019. ISBN: 1501879626.
- Additional suggested reading will be provided on the syllabus.

Participants

As an attendee of this event, you may be included in still photos, videotaped footage, news articles, informational brochures or other media used to interpret the mission and purpose of Bethany Theological Seminary, the Church of the Brethren, and the Brethren Academy.

Schedule

Location – In-person or via Zoom (Access information will be sent immediately prior to the event.)

Schedule

- Wednesday, May 17, from 1:00 – 4:00 pm CDT meet with instructor. Virtual or in-person at COB office, Elgin, IL.
- • Thursday, May 18 and Friday, May 19 – attend New and Renew Conference 8:00 am – 5:00 pm CDT, virtual or in-person at Church of the Brethren office, Elgin, IL.
- • Tuesday, May 23, from 12:00 – 2:00 pm CDT. Zoom meeting

*****This course is available to: • TRIM/EFSM students and fulfills 1 M/MS unit and BCE credit • Those seeking Continuing Education Units (2.0 CEU) • Anyone seeking personal and spiritual enrichment DISU fee \$115.00 DISU Participant Conference fee \$109.00 Registration deadline: April 12, 2023

Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership proudly offers:

What Brethren Believe

APRIL 19 – JUNE 13, 2023

8-WEEK ONLINE COURSE

Course Description and Objectives

What do Brethren believe? How do these beliefs translate into practice? This course will answer these questions and others by exploring Brethren beliefs related to a variety of issues, including Scripture, the person of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the nature of the church, original sin, and the end times. We will discuss how these beliefs shape our understanding of Brethren ordinances, such as baptism, Love Feast, anointing, nonresistance, and nonconformity. Particular attention will be paid to the Pietist and Anabaptist origins of Brethren beliefs. The course will also examine how these beliefs and practices have changed over time and consider the diversity of beliefs found among Brethren today.

- ☐ Students will consider Brethren ways of constructing theology.
- ☐ Students will read about unique Brethren beliefs and practices as well as consider how Brethren have interpreted beliefs and practices shared with other Christian traditions.
- ☐ Students will learn to identify the works and contributions of significant Brethren writers on these topics.
- ☐ Students will become aware of the range of habits and beliefs in the Brethren tradition as well as the diversity of their interpretation
- ☐ and use in the Church of the Brethren today.
- ☐ Students will reflect theologically on at least one belief or practice found within the Brethren tradition.

Instructor: Denise Kettering-Lane

Denise Kettering-Lane is the Associate Professor of Brethren Studies at Bethany Theological Seminary. She earned an MTS from Candler School of Theology and then completed her PhD at The University of Iowa in 2009. She began teaching at Bethany in 2010. Before coming to Bethany, Denise worked as an archival assistant at the Brethren Historical Library and Archives in Elgin, Illinois. She teaches courses on Brethren history and theology as well as general courses in church history. She also serves as the editor for the journal Brethren Life and Thought.

Denise and her husband Calvin have 2 children and currently live near Dayton, Ohio.

Required Text

Dale Brown, *Another Way of Believing: A Brethren Theology* (Elgin, Ill.: Brethren Press, 2005).

Graydon Snyder and Kenneth M. Shaffer Jr., *Texts in Transit II* (Elgin, Ill.: Brethren Press, 1991).

In addition, students will be expected to access Brethren Life & Thought articles online and other resources through their local libraries.

Expectations

Online learning requires students to be disciplined in their time management. Students are expected to spend 10 hours per week in courserelated work

For online learning, students will need an email account, a laptop or desktop, basic computer skills, and access to the internet using an updated web browser, such as Microsoft Internet Explorer or Edge, Google Chrome, or Mozilla Firefox. Some courses may also require Zoom or Skype. If your computer is four years old or less, you should have the capabilities for this course. If you have questions about specifics, please contact the Brethren Academy.

During a Brethren Academy course or event, you may be included in photographs or sound /video recording. Such photos and recordings, including quotes from you, may be included and identified in news articles, informational brochures, or social media on behalf of the Brethren Academy and/or Bethany Theological Seminary. If you wish to be excluded from such publications, please contact the Brethren Academy in writing by the start date of the course or event.

Course Withdrawal Refund Policy 100% of course fee prior to registration deadline 50% from the registration deadline to the first day of class No refunds will be given once the class has begun Exceptions require the approval of the Director of the Brethren Academy To earn CEU credit Participant will - Meet the attendance requirement -Complete the assigned reading -Engage in the course through meaningful participation -Complete reduced assignments as outlined in the syllabus

This course is available to:

- TRIM/EFMS students- fulfills one B/T, BTS Units
- Those seeking Continuing Education Units (2.0 CEU)
- Anyone seeking personal and spiritual enrichment

Essentially, this course is open to ALL!

Course fee \$300.00

Registration deadline: March 15, 2023

Other Upcoming Events!!

- New Fairview COB yard sale- March 24 8:00am-6:00pm & March 25 8:00am-1:00pm
- District Board meeting at Olivet COB- March 25 8:30am
- District Prayer Meeting at Carlisle COB- March 26 6:00pm
- Ministry Commission- March 23 6:30pm & April 27 6:30pm
- Nominating and Personnel (Zoom)- March 27 6:30pm
- Witness Commission (Zoom)- March 30 6:30pm
- Core (Zoom)- April 3 6:30
- Stewards (Zoom)- April 4 6:30pm
- Eastern Zone Pastors- April 6 12:00pm at Codorous COB
- Meat Canning- April 10-13
- Program & Arrangements (Zoom)- April 17 6:30pm
- Executive Committee (Zoom)- April 20 6:30pm



Upcoming
mark your calendars