

February Birthdays

- 1 Jane Flyback, Willis Murray
- 2 Cookie Stout
- 3 Mark Hilbert, Marvin Hilbert
- 5 Judy Heaton
- 7 Mark Wright
- 9 Kent Briar
- 11 Connie McMillan
- 13 Ward Stout
- 17 Daniel Stout
- 19 Jay Burroughs, Janet Conner
- 20 Perry Schmittler
- 21 Mary Werking
- 22 Jane Stone
- 23 Lucy Reed
- 25 Marilyn Petty
- 26 Ashlee Brandenbrug
- 27 Katherine Reneau



Looking For Another Way of Living?



Check out Brethren Volunteer Service. Share God's love through acts of service. Put your faith into action. There will be a **Special Unit for Older Adults**. Attend the **Older Adult Orientation April 26-May 7, 2004** at the Brethren Service Center, New Windsor, Maryland. The application **deadline is March 15**. Older adults need not commit to a term of service to attend the orientation. Check it out! www.brethrenvolunteerservice.org, a program of the Church of the Brethren General Board.

What Might It Mean to be a Living Peace Church?

This year's Annual Conference adopted a "Call for a Living Peace Church," brought to the conference by On Earth Peace and the General Board. In so doing, the church has challenged itself to go beyond being a historic peace church. It—we (On Earth Peace)—have challenged ourselves to build on our rich heritage and enliven our witness of nonresistance and reconciliation. What will that mean? **The gospel call to peace is personal and also corporate, spiritual and also political. The gospel call stands over and against economic violence as well as physical violence. It expects that we will overcome evil with good in our personal relationships as well as our global relationships. What will this mean for a 'living peace church'?**

Might it mean that in our congregations, we will consistently practice the Matthew 18 admonitions to speak directly to the one who has fallen short or offended us, and to be ready always to forgive? Might it mean that our children and youth will grow up knowing, because it is clear in their homes and congregations, that they are part of a community of faith that follows the Prince of Peace and does not live by the sword? What do you think it will mean?

Three simple beliefs:

The mission and program of On Earth Peace are based on three simple beliefs:

1. We believe that Jesus has a message for our world today, and that a part of that message is a call to refrain from violence and overcome evil with good.
2. We believe that the Church of the Brethren is called to live out that message, and to proclaim it in the world.
3. We believe that On Earth Peace has been given the responsibility of helping the church carry out the Gospel message.

