



Reflect upon your own life and see if you too have any “stuff” that needs cleared out of your life and put it in the proper place...the hands of God. Clear it out; hand it over...to God. And then you will see that the “light of Christ” can “enlighten” you, because he is our “light” for the journey.

The light of Christ enfold you,

**Pastor Carol**

**Upcoming Sermons**

Pastor Carol has begun a series of sermons about being a Disciple and Discipleship. Come worship and learn together what responsibilities we, as Disciples, hold.

**Youth**

Check your cupboards. The youth will start taking orders in **October for mints, nuts, and honey**, so you can have them by the holidays.

**Youth Day of Prayer**

The National Youth Cabinet invites all Church of the Brethren youth groups around the denomination to join in a day of Prayer on Sunday, **September 28, 2003**. The focus is on praying for our world, our denomination, and for one another.

**Continuing to Pray for...**

**\*Philip Stout** Ben and Donna King Barry and Laura Nicholson

John Earl McCormack

Terri Dunaway New college students: Elizabeth Bach, Vanessa Hilbert, and Todd Stout

Rebecca Bach - the Academy at Ball State

All students headed back to Elementary, Junior and Senior High School



**Homebound:** Ruth Crull Viola Nicholson Mary Werking

**Care Center:** Estella Hilbert LuFreda Bowman

**Stewardship Thought**

He who gives when he is asked has waited too long.

- *Sunshine Magazine*

**Total Offerings**

Average Offering Needed per month to meet budget.....	<b>\$1,513.56</b>
Average Offering for August to meet budget (4 of 5 Sundays).....	<b>\$1,204.40</b>
August 3.....	\$1,386.80
August 10.....	\$1,296.61
August 17.....	\$ 834.05
August 24.....	\$1,300.50

**Average Attendance - 55**

**Other Giving**

Peace Offering..... \$26.00

**September Birthdays**

- 2 Joy Klein
- 5 Iona Lauver
- 7 Mark Pfeiffer
- 11 Valerie Heaton, Derek Heaton
- 12 Tracy Schmittler
- 14 Bill DeVinney



- 19 Harold Hilbert
- 21 Trevor Stout
- 23 Nancy Andrew, Kasey Reneau, Elizabeth Bach
- 25 John McCormack
- 27 Alicia Stout, Jayme Brandenburg
- 29 Patrick Briar, Philip Pfeiffer



### **From the Librarian**

Nettle Creek church of the Brethren has a library ready to be explored and used by its members. There are books for children and adults: books about Brethren history, numerous Bibles, books about prayer, books of humor, health and much more. Come in and browse and find the books that appeal to you.

Carolyn Wieseke, Librarian

### **Women of the Church**

A Women’s Fellowship meeting will be held Wednesday, September 10, 6:30 p.m.. Please come in order to make plans for the coming year. Bring your ideas.

### **Natural Church Development**

September 14 Duane Grady will meet with us to discuss the results of the survey and answer questions as well as directing us toward the next steps in the process. There will be a carry-in dinner following worship and then we will meet with Duane. Attendance is encouraged.

### **South Central District Conference**

District Conference this year will be held at Camp Mack September 12-13. The theme follows the Annual Conference theme of “In Jesus’ Name.” Registration Friday begins at 6:00 p.m. The hymn sing is at 6:45 p.m.

### **A Spiritual Retreat at Nettle Creek**

Time is fast approaching. On two **Saturdays, September 27 from 9:00 - noon and October 4 from 9:00 – noon, Kathy Royer** will lead us in a retreat. The topic will be “Discernment in Prayer.” She is pastor of Spiritual Formation at Cedar Grove CoB in Southern Ohio District. Kathy also does Spiritual Direction. All are welcome. If childcare is needed, please call the church office 765-489-4430 to help us plan.

### **Bethany Emphasis Sunday**



Nettle Creek Church of the Brethren supports our seminary, Bethany Theological Seminary located in Richmond, Indiana on Route 40. The Church of the Brethren and Bethany Seminary are partners in an important mission—calling, sending, and supporting pastors. Our churches depend on Bethany to train effective pastors and Bethany depends on congregations to call, send and financially support the education of those who are called. Our special offering September 14 will go to support Bethany. Nettle Creek currently has three students attending Bethany: Ann Bach, David Beebe, and Valerie Healon.

### **Updates On Nettle Creek’s Bethany Students**

**Ann Bach:** *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. . . Hebrews 12: 1-2*

**Slow but steady wins the race.** At least that is the case for me in my studies at Bethany Theological Seminary. I was called into ministry by the Nettle Creek Church of the Brethren and licensed by the South Central Indiana District into ministry on May 23, 1999. I have been actively pursuing my seminary education since that time while also continuing to work my job as a nurse, spouse, and parenting two children. At Bethany we are

required to do two field education components in the Masters of Divinity Degree. My interim at Nettle Creek served as one of these requirements. I am preparing to begin my 2<sup>nd</sup> field education experience during this academic school year. **I will begin as student pastor in the Cincinnati, Ohio Church of the Brethren on Aug. 31, 2003.** It will last for the entire school year, ending in late April or early May. While this will take me away from the Nettle Creek congregation for a period of time, it is a great opportunity for me to increase my learning and understanding of ministry. **I would deeply appreciate your prayers for me during this time-it is a gift to feel surrounded by others in prayer and faith when we are growing and having new learning experiences.** This is the last big hurdle for me to conquer to be able to graduate. In May 2004 I plan to go to Taizé, France for my multicultural experience. This will allow me to complete my Masters of Divinity review course (my final requirement for graduation) in the fall of 2004. Bethany awards degrees only one time a year, so I will officially graduate in May of 2005, but **I hope to be completed by Christmas of 2004.** **It feels like I have been running this race a long time, but it is exciting for me to begin to see the finish line. While I have had my moments of discouragement that I just wouldn't be able to do this, God has been steady and has reassured me that I didn't have to win the race fast, just pace myself and one day I would achieve the goal. *Slow but steady wins the race!*** Ann Bach

### Valerie Healton:

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I began my studies at Bethany in the fall of 2000 pursuing my Master's in Divinity. I attend part-time which is 6 hours or less, however, I usually attend classes anywhere from 2-4 times per week. I am on the 6-year track, which allows me to be more relaxed in completing my course requirements, which fits in well with my family responsibilities. I became licensed by this congregation on January 5, 2003. I finished my middler student preaching assignment with the Troy Church of the Brethren in May and with 36 credit hours complete, I am exactly halfway through. I have truly enjoyed my time at Bethany thus far and look forward to expanding my learning as well as furthering my exploration of the call that God has graciously placed upon my life.

God Bless all of you!

Valerie Healton

### See You At the Pole

**September 17, 2003** youth across the United States will **gather to experience the power of prayer around their flagpoles.** This year this event will take place both at **Hagerstown Elementary and Hagerstown High School.** Needed are 2 -3 kids from the elementary to high school that want to help plan the event (Parents are welcome to attend the meeting and event). You need to be present at the meeting and event and to pray for the event. **The planning meeting will be September 2 at 7:00 p.m. at New Testament Church of Christ.** Students if you are interested in attending this planning meeting, contact Jeremy Green at 765-489-5762

### Sister Church Picnic



Don't forget to come to the Hagerstown Park at noon on **September 21** for food, fun, and fellowship with our sisters and brothers in Christ from Locust Grove and White Branch CoB Congregations. Bring a covered dish and an appetite.

### National Young Adult Conference 2004: Stand at the Crossroads and Look

It's not too early to plan to attend the National Young Adult Conference, which will be held **June 14-18, 2004** at Snow Mountain Ranch, Winter Park, Colorado. The conference will be held at the YMCA Retreat center in the Rocky Mountains. The **cost** of registration, which covers housing, programming, and meals, is **\$225.** The conference is geared toward **young adults ages 18-35.** Each day, you will have the opportunity to participate in two worship celebrations. **Keynote speakers** include: Tony Compolo, Angie Lahman Yoder, Belita Mitchell, and Stan Noffsinger. Shawn Kirchner will lead music. You will also have time to enjoy many recreational options such as hiking, swimming, volleyball, tennis, fishing,

miniature golf, white water rafting, and a climbing wall. You may register online at [www.nyac2004.org](http://www.nyac2004.org) between January 1 and April 15, 2004.

### **Purdue Parents and Student**

**Lafayette Church of the Brethren** invites you and your student to join them for worship Parents Weekend, September 7 followed by a backyard fellowship luncheon. Worship service begins at 9:30 a.m. and is followed by Sunday School for all ages at 11:00 a.m. The church is located at 1107 South 18<sup>th</sup> Street, at the corner of 18<sup>th</sup> and State Street in Lafayette. Detailed travel directions may be found on their web page: [www.lafayettetecob.org](http://www.lafayettetecob.org). You may also contact their church office at 765-474-5021

### **Alexander Mack Festival**

**October 4** is the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Alexander Mack Festival at Camp Mack, Milford, Indiana. There will be an auction, which will be in Becker Upper Dining Hall at 2:00 p.m. following the Silent Auction from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Two new attractions** are planned for this year's fifth annual Alexander Mack Festival on the first Saturday of October – October 4th. DYSCO, the Northern Indiana District Youth Cabinet, is planning youth activities this year for all youth in Indiana. At this printing the youth are planning games, a drop-in center and Karaoke.



Besides the usual mouth-watering festival treats – chili boats, vegetable soup, waffles, apple butter, cornbread and beans, homemade potato chips, pies, etc -- at the ball field food court, look for the **new Harvest Market**. Plan to stock up on fresh produce such as squashes, apples, potatoes, pumpkins and more. (If you have produce to donate to this market, please bring it to the booth by 9:00 a.m.)

**Horse-drawn carriage rides and hayrides** offer a delightful way for all ages to relax and see the camp. Displays and demonstrations highlight earlier periods of history. See pottery making, spinning, candle dipping, comfort knotting, beadwork and Indian artifacts, to name a few.

**Children** especially enjoy face-painting, clowns making animal balloons and puppet shows. They have opportunity to do a number of crafts as well.

**A great variety of Entertainment offers something for everyone**. Cloggers, square dancers, dulcimers, vibraphone, and a human jukebox are scheduled. In the center of the food court listen to Max Shively on the keyboard and trumpet, Emily and Mark Laudeman, the Union Center Praise team, The Living Word quartet and others.

**The story of Camp Mack based on the book *The Cornfield that Grows People*** will be shared in two performances in Sarah Major. Mural tours will be led by Ray Barkey. The **climax of the day is the Alexander Mack Festival Auction** that begins at 2:00 p.m. in Becker Lodge following the close of the silent auction.

**One half of this year's festival proceeds are designated for camper scholarships. The other half is to be used for audio visual equipment.**

Plan to enjoy the festival on October 4th at Camp Mack with your family and friends.

### **Camps and Activities**

August 15-17 Family Colony Camp – Camp Mack

August 23 Camp Mack Golf Outing at Spring Meadow Golf Course, Middlebury

August 22-24 Father/Child Camp

August 29-01 Labor Day Family Camp

September 12-13 S/C District Conference at Camp Mack

September 26-27 N/IN Women's Camp at Camp Mack

October 4 Alexander Mack Festival – Camp Mack – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. or until the auction is over  
October 13-16 Seasoned Citizens Retreat – Monday through Thursday noon

### Youth Ministry Workshop – Family Based Youth Ministry



There is workshop planned for Saturday, **November 1, 2003 from 9:00 –4 p.m. EST** at the Brethren Service Center, New Windsor, Maryland. Keynote speaker is Mark DeVries. He is the author of five books, including *Family Based Youth Ministry*. He has taught workshops throughout the United States as well as in Russia, Canada, Uganda, and South Africa. Interested persons may mail their **\$15.00, payable to Church of the Brethren by October 15 to Chris Douglas, 1451 Dundee Ave, Elgin, IL 60120.**

### Church World Service – CWS



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE**

Did you know that the Church of the Brethren is one of the denominations supporting Church World Service? Church World Service is a cooperative ministry of 36 Protestant, Orthodox, and Anglican denominations, providing sustainable self-help and development, disaster relief, and refugee assistance in more than 80 countries. CWS carries out its worldwide mission through the following major programs: Education and Advocacy, Emergency Response, Immigration and Refugees, Mission Relationships and Witness, and Social and Economic Development. Each year friends and neighbors across the U.S. join in some 2,000 locally organized, interfaith **CROP WALKS** that help support the work of CWS around the world and in the U.S. Another program of CWS is **CWS TOOLS OF HOPE & BLANKET Program**. Through preparing “**Gift of the Heart**” **Health, School, and Baby Kits**, congregations and groups across the country are equipping neighbors around the world to meet their own immediate needs and gain self-sufficiency

- Taken from *Service: A publication from Church World Service*

### Free Legal Aid for AARP

Lawyers in the organization Legal Services Network (LSN) offer a free initial consultation, during which many concerns of people over age 50 can be handled. For more extensive work, lawyers accept special rates negotiated by AARP. Examples are \$74 for a simple will, \$35 for financial power of attorney. Call 800-424-3410 for a list of participating attorneys or search online at [www.aarp.org/lsn](http://www.aarp.org/lsn).



### Not Ready for the Commitment



You call me Master and obey me not,  
You call me Light and see me not,  
You call me the Way and walk not,  
You call me Life and desire me not,  
You call me Wise and follow me not,  
You call me Fair and love me not,

You call me Rich and ask me not,  
You call me Gracious and trust me not,  
You call me Noble and serve me not,  
You call me Mighty and honor me not,  
You call me Just and fear me not.  
If I condemn you, blame me not.

- Unknown

