

Letter from Ron and Harriet Finney to Nettle Creek Church of the Brethren

Dear Pastor Carol and Friends at Nettle Creek,

We are writing to you because it is unlikely we will be able to see everyone prior to the time we end our tenure as District Ministers. Ten years ago, we considered our call to serve the South/Central Indiana District, a special privilege and it has been must that.



One of the blessings of this time has been the great variety of ministry experiences. Much of our work has been in collaboration with congregational leaders in “meetings that make a difference”! Contrary to some thinking, God does use committees to make a difference in the Kingdom. Without question, the process of calling new pastoral leadership is certainly one of those experiences.

Within these ten years, only six congregations have not changed pastoral leadership. We certainly celebrate with you the bond between Pastor Carol and the Nettle Creek congregation. Our prayer is for a long and fruitful ministry. We have also walked together in many other ways and that journey has been a privilege.

As the end of March approaches, our thoughts and prayers are for the future and we want to let you know that our vision includes a vital congregation in Hagerstown. You have been faithful and patient as you sought after God’s will. Now it is evident that God is going to do a new thing within your midst.

We also pray for our district and denomination; and we ask you to continue doing so as well. We are blessed to be a small, but vital part of the Body of Christ. Although there are some who would like to make clones of popular leaders, congregations and denominations that has never been God’s will for the Church. We pray that God will continue to bless you as a unique and compatible part of the Body of Christ.

...lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called. With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. Ephesians 4:1-3

*Your brother and sister in Christ,
Ron and Harriet*

Humor Me

The biggest fact about Joseph’s tomb was that it wasn’t a tomb at all—it was a room for a transient. Jesus just stopped there a night or two on His way back to glory.

- Herbert Booth Smith

If absence makes the heart grow fonder, how some people must love the church!

People are like tea bags—you have to put them in hot water before you know how strong they are.

Bernie Koerselman

The phrase that is guaranteed to wake up an audience: “And in conclusion.”

- Christian One-liners

God does not propose to judge a man/woman until he/she is dead. So why should you?

A Bible in the hand is worth two on the shelf!

-Bulletin Digest

When you get to your wit’s end, you’ll find God lives there. - Christian One-liners

Take care of your lambs, or where will you get your sheep from? - Bulletin Digest