

News from the Brick

Nettle Creek Church of the Brethren
5352 N. Brick Church Road
Hagerstown, IN 47346

Established 1820



Carol M. Pfeiffer, Pastor
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Jodi Johnson: Interim Secretary
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Worship: 10:00 a.m.

August
2005

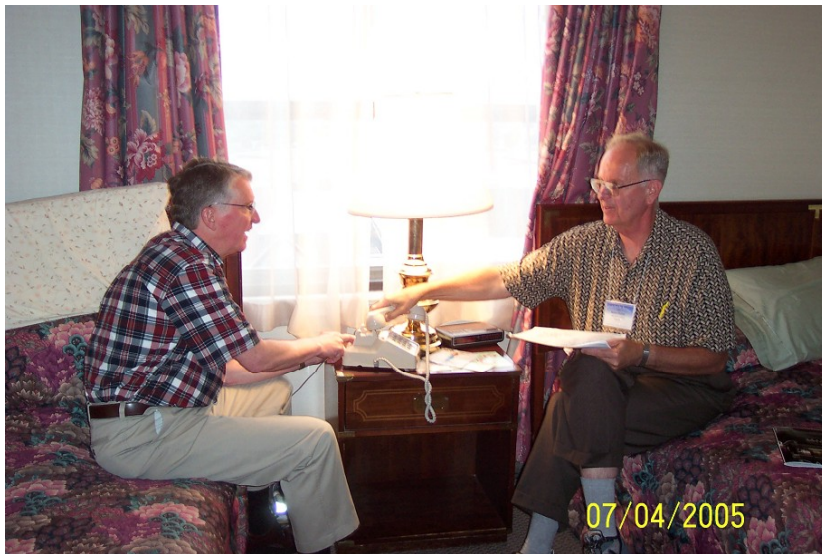
*Continuing the Work of Jesus.
Peacefully. Simply. Together.*

Carol's Comments

"How Many Brethren Does It Take"

Read: Matthew 25: 14-30 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' v. 23

One night at Annual Conference Bob, Leland, Beverly, and I decided we would have pizza in our room. There was a place across from our hotel, so we thought we would order and have it delivered. We had a problem with our phone. The plug going into the back of the phone was loose and would not stay connected. In order to make the call one person would have to hold the plug in the socket while the other person dialed. So, Leland volunteered to be the plug holder while Bob made the call. We found out that there was a \$10.00 charge to have it delivered across the street. Needless to say, Bob and Leland went over to pick it up.



We jokingly said, "How many Brethren does it take to make a call?" Indeed, how many Brethren does it take to make a call? A call to discipleship? A call to a ministry? A call to serve on a board or committee? How many Brethren does it take? It takes all of us. It takes every committed Christian to invite others into the kingdom of God—to make disciples. It takes all of us to be alert to the God-given abilities we notice in others...those special gifts...those spiritual gifts. Whether we are serving at the local level, the district level or the denominational level, it takes all of us being attentive to God and others.

It is not an easy task to serve on a nomination committee or a gifts and discernment committee. Many people are asked to serve in a position, and many people say, "No," for whatever reason. Are we missing something in our calling out of people? Are we who are being called to serve taking the time to discern if this is God's call to us? Are we going to prayer with the call? I think in today's society, we face many other things clamoring for our attention and our abilities. So when it comes down to the church's call or God's call, it's easier to say, "No." What if Christ said no to healing others, to being compassionate, to listening, to loving, to forgiving, to serving when the call came?

The parable of the talents describes the person who diligently prepares for Christ's return by investing his or her time and talent to serve God. That person will be rewarded. The person who has no desire or work for the kingdom will be punished. God rewards the faithful.

Sometimes we don't realize what our gifts or abilities are until someone points them out to us. Sometimes we don't want to use our abilities. But it is important for a community to encourage others in their gifts and to call them out to serve. And it is important for all of us to do that. Also, it is important for all of us to be attentive to what God may be calling each of us to do. How many Brethren does it take to make a call? All of us! How many Brethren does it take to respond? All of us, for Christ needs us all and is in all. And may we find the joy that comes in serving Jesus.

In Christ, for Christ,
Pastor Carol M. Pfeiffer

Ordination of Ann Bach



Ann Bach is a licensed minister in Nettle Creek Church of the Brethren whom we have called out for ordination. Her gifts were recognized, and she has been through Bethany Theological Seminary graduating in May. The District, as well as our congregation, has affirmed her call to ordination. We will celebrate with her at her ordination **August 7 at Nettle Creek at 4:00 p.m.** A reception will follow the service. All are welcome to help Ann, her family and church family celebrate this eventful time of God's calling.

Roasted Corn Stand a Success!

We had a good response of volunteer workers from our congregation for the Roasted Corn Stand at the Wayne Co. Fair. There was much good fellowship and fun to be had as we sold our corn each day. Many thanks to all who prepared the corn for roasting, to those who roasted the corn, and to those who shucked and buttered the corn for serving. And a **BIG THANK YOU to Juli and Tim Proctor** who organized, set up, and worked the corn booth. They did all that and more. Now that we have the process down pat, we expect we will be taking our stand on the road to another location soon.



Faith Housing Inc.

Pastor Carol is a board member of Hagerstown Faith Housing, Inc., which provides 1 and 2 bedroom apartments in Hagerstown. Steve Wieseke is replacing Dave Reneau and serves on the board also. The apartments are for persons 62 years of age and over or disabled persons of any age. If you or someone you know may be interested in living in a well-maintained apartment community, please contact our community manager, Floyd Sanders 765-489-4898 for information.

Prayer Concerns

Roger Werking	Geneva Davis	Beth Stone	Wilma McClary (Beth Bowman's aunt) in rehab
Eloise Beeson	Harriet Burroughs	Bob Klein	Don Seibert Gary and Cookie Stout
Carl Lang	Bill and Kim Hall		

Homebound and Care Centers: Mary Werking, LuFreda Bowman, Bernetha Davis, Ruth Crull

Wedding Congratulations

Congratulations to Julie Wieseke and Alfredo Tobias Espinoza upon their marriage July 30. We wish them a long and loved-filled life. Parents of the couple are Stephen and Carolyn Wieseke and Alfredo and Leticia Tobias Espinoza.



Pastor Parish

Pastor Parish is available for feedback at anytime. Members are Gene Beeson, Ruth Stout, Jodi Johnson, and Ron Hoover.

Serving at Camp Mack

Pastor Carol will be co-director with Dennis Beckner from Columbia City Church of the Brethren at the Seekers Camp August 7-13. Pray for all campers attending Camp Mack this summer.

Deacons Picnic

The Deacons picnic will be held at Bill and Ruth Stout's, Tuesday, August 16 at 6:00 p.m.

District Conference at Beech Grove Church of the Brethren

This year's District Conference will be held at the Beech Grove Church of the Brethren, 9064 W. Grandview Blvd, Pendleton, Indiana. Come and enjoy worship and singing on Friday night.



Through Love be servants one to another

Galatians 5:13

South/Central Indiana

District Conference

Beech Grove Church of the Brethren
September 9-10, 2005

District Conference Volunteer Choir – September 9-10

Join the District Conference Choir as God's servants as you share your gifts of singing.

Friday 6:30-7:00 p.m. The choir will lead in singing and praise songs and hymns, as we worship through music.

7:00-8:00 p.m. Lead in singing the Hymns as we worship.

Saturday 1:15-2:30 p.m. Closing Worship Service

The Conference choir will sing a choral anthem entitled "We have Heard the Joyful Sounds" A Medley of three hymns. There will be opportunities to attend rehearsals each **Sunday – August 14, 21, 28, and September 4 at 4:30 p.m. Beech Grove CoB. Friday, September 9 – 4:30 p.m. will be the final rehearsal from 5:30-6:00 p.m. at the church.** If you want to have copies of the anthem sent to you, please contact Gerry Longenbaugh at 765-641-4349 Office.

Hagerstown Church Women United will host the Area 6 Annual Gathering at Hagerstown United Methodist Church, **Saturday, September 17 from 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.** A luncheon will be prepared and served by Hagerstown United Methodist Women. All women are invited to come to this informative gathering. The theme is "Real Love in Action." **Duretta Garrett** Program Manager at the Henry County Youth Center will be the speaker and residents will provide special music playing the Handbells. Area 6 includes the counties of Wayne, Henry, Delaware, Jay, Blackford, and Randolph.

August Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|------------------|
| 6 | Ronnie Hoover, Kathy Denney | 25 | Madison Stout |
| 7 | Meredith Arn | 26 | Samantha Hilbert |
| 8 | Michael Reneau | | Greg McIntire |
| 9 | Leland Nicholson, Nathan Maddock, Curtis Andrew | 28 | Angela Beaty |
| 11 | Ruby McCormack, Lucas Artman | 29 | Jon Stout |
| 13 | Libby Andrew | 30 | Ann Bach |
| 15 | Rebecca Bach | 31 | Dennis Nicholson |
| 16 | Lufreda Bowman | | Blanche Petty |
| 17 | Dale Oakes | | |
| 20 | Rachel Reneau | | |
| 22 | Dana Flanagan | | |
| 23 | Alan Bullock | | |



New Address - Dave and Dee Reneau's new address is **589 Cardinal Loop, Lake Wales, FL 33859.**

Giving for June

Average Offering needed monthly to meet budget.....	\$1,465.29
Average Offering for the month of June.....	..\$1,354.48
June 5.....	...\$1,605.40
June 12.....	\$ 785.00
June 19.....	\$1,461.50
June 26.....	..\$1,566.00

Attendance

44
40
41
?



Giving for July

Average Offering needed monthly to meet budget.....	\$1,465.29
Average Offering for the month of July....(4 of 5 Sundays).....	\$1,042.00
July 3.....	\$ 862.00
July 10.....	\$ 1,549.00
July 17.....	\$ 585.00
July 24.....	..\$1,172.00

July 31 unavailable at press time

Caregiving : \$69.00

Roasted Corn Project: \$1,755.00

CampMack : \$59.00

Average Attendance: 34

Camp Mack



Family Colony Camp, August 19-21, and Labor Day Family Camp, September 2-5, are wonderful times to experience the love of God and the beauty of camp while growing closer as families. Why not check today to see if there are openings? **Colony Camp is an RV camp** where campers have lots of freedom to plan their own schedules from a great variety of activity choices. Most **Labor Day Family Campers** stay in lodges or cabins. In addition to many planned camp activities, this family camp has scheduled classes for every age from infant through adults. Adults may choose from seven study choices

This year's **Camp Mack Festival is Saturday, October 1, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** Enjoy festival food, fun and entertainment for the entire family. The traditional auction of quilts, antiques, old books, art and baskets full of goodies begins at 2:00 p.m. New this year is child care during the auction (no infants, please). Also, this year credit cards will be accepted for auction purchases of \$25 or more. A **Christian Rock concert** featuring four bands is scheduled for **Junior Highs and Youth from 2:00-5:00 p.m.** Please call Mike or Lana Kauffman by August 15 to let them know what you have to add to the sale bill. Plan to bring sale items on festival day. The **fundraiser proceeds go to Camp Mack to provide Camper Scholarships and furnishings for lodges.**

Let's Get Together...Yeah! Yeah! Yeah!

Mark your calendar for the Festival on October 1. Why don't we get a group together and go up to the Festival? We can have a good time at Camp Mack Festival. It's a fun day for the whole family. There will be food and crafts. The Auction includes antiques, furniture, quilts, craft items, and other cool stuff. **Churches can sign up for a food or craft booth. Items are always needed for the auction**



A Quiet Place Quote:

To pace ourselves in our race, we must make it a priority to withdraw to replenish ourselves spiritually, emotionally, and physically - Cynthia Heald

Annual Conference 2005

Go to <http://www.brethren.org/AC2005/index.html> for highlights, sermons, and photos of Annual Conference 2005. Follow the link for the sermon texts.

Lighten Up, Brethren! Is Introduced at Annual Conference

Lighten Up, Brethren! is a new challenge from the Association of Brethren Caregivers (ABC) for Church of the Brethren members to adopt healthy living and behaviors. The program promotes wellness in body, mind, and spirit, and offers weekly support and encouragement to those who sign on. Anyone interested in participating can receive a weekly e-mail containing a meditation, scripture passage, or recipe. Lighten Up, Brethren! is a program of the Wellness Ministry of ABC in collaboration with Brethren Benefit Trust and the General Board.

During Annual Conference, ABC introduced the program at its booth and through a short video during its report to delegates. As part of the presentation, Kathy Reid and Stan Noffsinger, executives of ABC and the General Board respectively, accepted the challenge to lose weight by the next Annual Conference. ABC staff and other program participants wore Lighten Up, Brethren! T-shirts.

To join the program, visit www.brethren-caregivers.org and click on the Wellness Ministry. A brochure about the new program also is available, describing the invitation for Brethren to commit to lifestyle changes of increasing physical activity and decreasing consumption as a way to be good stewards of their bodies. **Lighten Up, Brethren! T-shirts are available for \$10 each.** To order brochures or a t-shirt with the program's logo on the back, call ABC at 800-323-8039.



Heifer Project International Celebration

A celebration of the **early days of Heifer Project International** will be held in **Carroll County, Md., Aug. 12-14**. The commemorative conference called "Passing on the Gift" is **sponsored by the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, Md., along with the Heifer International Mid-Atlantic Regional Office and the Historical Society of Carroll County**. On Earth Peace is sponsoring a screening of the documentary, "Seeds of Peace," at the Carroll Arts Center in Westminster, Md., on Aug. 12 at 7 p.m. The Brethren Service Center will be the site of day-long activities featuring a gathering of Seagoing Cowboys on Aug. 13. Brochures are available from Kathleen Campanella at 410-635-8710 ext. 747 or e-mail kcampanella_gb@brethren.org.

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"But Please, Lord, don't let it be ME!"