

the first of the year. McFadden will represent the Church of the Brethren on the planning committee along with Noffsinger. "Now's the time to talk about the issues of alternative service and its future," Noffsinger said. "To me that's the value" of the conversati on with Selective Service, he added.

### ***MutualAid eXchange (MAX)***



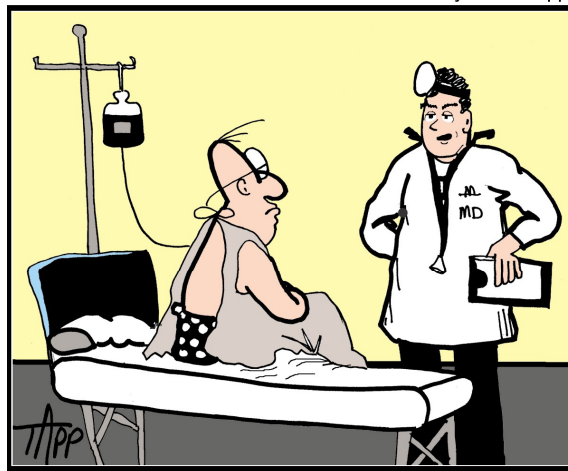
MAX has created a Mutual Aid Ministries program to help care for the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of Anabaptists under burden, a recent release announced.

MAX began in 2001 with the mission of providing mutual aid services to Anabaptists throughout North America, developing insurance products for the home, farm, church, or business. Objectives of the new program are to partner with the church to develop mutual aid ministries that are relevant, meaningful, and tangible, the release said. Four ministries are envisioned: Burden Bearing Ministry, Network Ministry, Financial Ministry through a "share fund," and an Education Ministry. Call 877-971-6300 or visit [www.mutualaidexchange.com](http://www.mutualaidexchange.com).

### ***'Christian History and Biography' Magazine Features Anabaptists.***

The Fall 2004 issue of *Christian History & Biography* magazine features the history and beliefs of the **Anabaptist in America**. The magazine displays the cover title, "Pilgrims and Exiles: Against persecution and prosperity, the Mennonites, Amish, and Brethren have followed Christ and their convictions." **Feature stories include "People of Conscience," by Bethany Seminary professor Jeff Bach and managing editor Chris Armstrong;** "The Germans Have Landed," by David B. Eller, director of the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies at Elizabethtown (Pa.) College; "Outsider's Guide to America's Anabaptists," by assistant editor Steven Gertz; "Pure and Simple," by Stephen Scott, administrative assistant at the Young Center; "Holy Ground," by Frank Ramirez, pastor of Everett (Pa.) Church of the Brethren; "Be Not Conformed," by John D. Roth, professor at Goshen (Ind.) College; "From Mutual Aid to Global Action," by Gari-Anne Patzwald and William Kostlevy, who serves on the Brethren Historical Committee; and "Negotiating with the Modern World," by Donald B. Kraybill, professor at Elizabethtown. "Through meeting these authors over the phone and reading their articles, I feel I have been introduced not just to a set of beliefs, but to a family of believers. Indeed, not just introduced, but invited to dinner—even to the famous Brethren 'love feast,'" wrote Armstrong in his editorial. To gain background and information for the issue, he visited Lancaster County, Pa., with hosts related to the Young Center including Eller, Scott, Kraybill, and Brethren historian Donald Durnbaugh. Armstrong also received help from staff of Brethren Press and the General Board. The magazine is published by Christianity Today. For more information see [www.christianhistory.net](http://www.christianhistory.net) or call 800-873-6986 or e-mail [chcustserv@christianhistory.net](mailto:chcustserv@christianhistory.net).

### **CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH** by Thom Tapp



**"...and jumping up and down when you preach doesn't count as aerobic exercise!"**