

Disaster Child Care opens two new centers in Florida

Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan, and Jeanne--Disaster Child Care (DCC) volunteers will have responded to each of these disasters with the opening of two new child care centers this week in Vero Beach and Winter Haven, Fla. Two teams of volunteers and a project manager from the General Board program are being deployed to these locations at the request of the American Red Cross, reported coordinator Helen Stonesifer.

Other Disaster-related News From the Denomination

The General Board's Emergency Disaster Fund has provided \$20,000 for food relief in Kenya, where a tenth of the people are at risk of famine, reported Roy Winter, director of Emergency Response. "Kenya is suffering a massive crop failure due to irregular rainfall patterns and contamination of grain reserves by aflatoxin, a toxin created by grain mold," he wrote in the grant application. "It is estimated that 3.3 million people need emergency assistance." The grant will support efforts at food relief for 18,722 families.

Church of the Brethren Invited to Provide Christmas Eve Service on Christmas Eve



Television network CBS has invited the Church of the Brethren to provide its nationally telecast Christmas Eve service. A different denomination is invited each year. The program will air 11:35 p.m.-12:35 a.m. Eastern Standard Time during the slot normally occupied by the David Letterman show. The service will be taped Nov. 23 at Bethany Theological Seminary in Richmond, Ind., and is being produced by the General Board. "This is a rare opportunity, and we are honored by the invitation," said Stan Noffsinger, general secretary of the General Board, whose office received the invitation from CBS on behalf of the denomination. "We are grateful for the involvement of the Bethany Theological Seminary community, which is lending

Nicarry Chapel for the worship venue." Those who are planning the service are Chris Bowman, pastor of Oakton (Va.) Church of the Brethren, who will deliver the message; music coordinator Shawn Kirchner, minister of music at La Verne Church of the Brethren and a professional musician with the Los Angeles Master Chorale; worship consultant Dawn Ottoni Wilhelm, assistant professor of Ministry Studies at Bethany; consultants Stan Noffsinger and Del Keeney, executive director of the board's Congregational Life Ministries; and executive producer Wendy McFadden, publisher of Brethren Press.

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



The Baptism