

News from the Brick

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

Established 1820



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October
2004

Eloise Beeson, Secretary
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Worship: 10:00 a.m.

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

Carol's Comments

"Our Wonderful Creator"

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place: those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully. They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation.

Psalm 24: 1-5

Bob and I went to Texas for a week's vacation and to visit with our son, Andrew and daughter-in-law, Gloria. While there we visited many museums. There was so much to see. We went to the Amon Carter Museum, the American Airlines C.R. Smith Museum, Palace of Wax/ Ripley's Believe It Or Museum, the Women's Museum (you would have guessed that), the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame, the Modern Art Museum, Fort Worth Bureau of Engraving and Printing Western Currency Facility, the Fort Worth Zoo, and the Fish Hatchery near Athens, Texas, and a rodeo. Yes, we were about "museum-ed" out.



What is the point of this list? I think it made an impression on me after we got back and went to the Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis. (Yes, another museum). As we toured the Indiana State Museum, I realized how overwhelming all this history and research was. There were exhibits about the development of the earth, the glacier period, the diversity of animals and aquatic creatures, the geology, the history of not only Indiana but its inhabitants. Think about it. We cannot fathom all that God has done...all that God has created. We cannot begin to fathom the mental capacity with which God has gifted humankind with the scientific and technology advances that we have come to know in our world and take for granted. It takes moments sitting in nature or visiting museums to instill in us the vastness of creation and the history of humankind.

As we come into the autumn season and the leaves begin to fall to the earth, reflect upon the process of nature. Think about the cycle of life—of life and death. How can we not believe in a higher power whom we as Christians call God, Lord, Creator, Father, Redeemer, Savior etc.? The vastness of it all is just too much to comprehend. We gaze in wonder and amazement at what our loving, giving, saving God has shaped and formed.

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place (v. 3)? With such greatness of God, "Who are we?" We are God's own beloved, whom he created and gave "dominion over all the earth!" (Gen. 1:1) **We are invited** to stand in his "holy place." As we come to God with openness and offer him ourselves as we are, he forgives our sin—our self estrangement from him, our attempts to be our own gods and to worship other things rather than our Creator/Savior God. What a God is that! God takes the good, the bad, and the ugly and creates life where there was no life. Out of nothing, the "formless void" God created...and "God saw that it was good." Let us praise our God of wonder! Indeed, *the earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it.*

Gratefully,
Pastor Carol Pfeiffer

Camp Mack Festival – Saturday, October 2

It's a day of awesome festival food and family-oriented activities for every member of your family – a day that will fly by! Visit booths of mouth-watering foods! Take the kids to children's activities for lots of games and crafts. Turn your junior highs and youth loose in an atmosphere of Christian fun for their ages. Choose from a great variety of entertainment – such as quartets, cloggers, dulcimer players and others. Relax on horse drawn carriage rides, hayrides or train rides. Enjoy a pontoon ride around Lake Waubee. Watch rope being made (perhaps help make it), or visit demonstrations like spinning, weaving and pottery making. Then enjoy the fun of the benefit auction of antiques, baskets full of goodies, quilts and old books. The Auction will take place starting at two times (8:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.) in Becker Lodge. To view what items will be auctioned in which time slot visit www.campmack.org and click on the Camp Mack Festival Link. – from *South Central Church of the Brethren District Memo*

Attention Youth Camp Mack Concert October 2

Camp Mack Festival will feature the **Dead 2 Self Christian Rock Band, Saturday October 2, 2004 from 4:00-6:30 p.m.** There will be a snack bar and pre-packaged food. The cost will be \$2.00.

Mennonite Mutual Aid Representative



Brad Miller will be here Saturday, **October 2 from 9:00-10:00 a.m.** to give us information on what they have to offer. He will focus mainly on the Advocate program for benevolent assistance (our Endowment Fund and some outreach projects). He will also have information concerning other areas of stewardship (investments, health insurance, etc.) This meeting is just to gather information, so hope you can attend and bring questions.

Byron Miller to Speak October 3

Byron Miller, former pastor at Nettle Creek, will bring the morning message October 3. Come to hear Brother Miller speak on “Unused Power” using the text Romans 8: 9-14 and to reminisce about the past. Worship begins at 10:00 a.m. **Lillian Long**, Byron's daughter, who first played the organ here 41 years ago will be our musician that Sunday.

Love Feast on October 3

Our fall Love Feast is on **Sunday, October 3 at 7:00 p.m.** The **theme** for this Love Feast is “**We Would See Jesus**”: Jesus the Living Water, Jesus the Servant, Jesus the True Vine, Jesus the Bread of Life. For Brethren Love Feast begins with a period of **examination**. Brethren cite Jesus' words in Matthew 5:23-23, calling for reconciliation before offering gifts to God, and Paul's warning in I Corinthians 11:27-30 about the dangers of participating in the love feast in a thoughtless fashion. Following the time of examination, participants ponder the powerful meanings in **Jesus' washing of the disciples' feet**, recorded in John 13. These meanings include God's cleansing and forgiveness, as well as our need to give and receive service. Jesus command to wash one another's feet is a clear reminder that if we do not live in the spirit of feetwashing, we have no part in him. The **Love Feast meal** recalls the meal Jesus shared with his disciples. The unique character of the relationship envisioned for those who are members together in Christ's body is described in John 14-17. The sharing of food symbolizes the sharing of life and looks toward the messianic banquet of the future. Finally, the Brethren share **the bread and cup**, remembering Christ's supreme gift of life and renewing their commitment to embody Christ and to follow his path of sacrificial love for the world (*For All Who Minister*). **Come join in the celebration of Love Feast. Feel free to attend as an observer if you have never participated before. All are welcome.**

Pennies from Heaven Offering

We are bringing our Pennies from Heaven during this month, in case you forgot. The offerings will go to the Florida Disaster Fund to help clean up from the recent hurricanes.



Upcoming Small Group Training!



Want to be in a small group? Or ever want to learn how to lead a small group? Then this training session time is for you. You don't have to be gifted in teaching or commit to being a small group leader. If you have any interest in **being in a small group**, then you are welcome to attend our training. **Dr. Gary Newton will stress the importance of small groups and participating in them, as well teaching us how to lead a small group.** Mark your calendars for **November 19-20.** We will begin on Friday with a **pitch-in dinner at 6:00 p.m. sponsored by the Nettle Creek congregation.** The evening session will begin after the meal and end at 9:00 p.m. Saturday the training session will be from 9:00 – 3:00 p.m. To prepare for this training Dr. Newton has asked us to read: *Dog Training, Fly Fishing, and Sharing Christ in the 21 Century: Empowering Your Church to Build Community Through Shared Interests* by Ted Haggard. The book description taken from www.amazon.com states: *Ted Haggard presents a successful and tested model for a small group ministry here that can be implemented by a church of any size. By enabling members to embrace and capitalize on their own unique abilities, the diverse groups create an environment where people meet mentors that can disciple and guide them. This need-and-interest based approach redefines the model for powerful church growth.* We are inviting our sister churches to participate with us. **There is no fee, but we will accept donations to cover the cost of having Dr. Newton.** Please be in prayer as you read the book and attend the training.

Continuing to Pray for...



*Steve Stout	*John Earl McCormack	Bob & Harriet Burroughs
Raymond Hoover	Bob Klein	Jane Briar
Jeremy DeVinney	Cliff & Mary Jane Renaker	Terri Schmittler
Home: Mary Werking	Care Center: LuFreda Bowman	

Sympathies Extended

Sylvia and Ron Hoover family on the death of Sylvia's mother, Wilda Helms.



Giving For September

Average Offering needed monthly to meet budget..... \$1,420.29
Average Offering for September..... 1,028.58
 September
 5..... \$ 1,203.00
 12..... 986.50
 19..... 906.97
 26..... 1,017.85
 Bethany Offering.....\$103 .00
 Pennies from Heaven.....?????
Average Attendance for September.....39



October Birthdays

- 1 Tyler Sharp
- 2 Gerard Longnecker
- 3 Ryan Renaker, Chad Bavender
- 4 Nancy Horst
- 5 Cheryl Goar
- 7 Bill Amick
- 8 Sharon Terhume
- 9 Michael Reneau
- 11 Harriet Burroughs
- 12 Dan Goar



- 13 Lenvel Conner
- 18 Claude Andrew
- 19 Ron Hoover
- 25 **Viola Nicholson (94)**
- 26 **Ruth Crull (90's)**
- 28 Roberta Tremps, Carol Goar
- 29 Steven Paddock, Anita Williams



Become a Hospice Volunteer

Would you like to make a difference in someone's life? Would you like to help add quality life to the days of a dying patient? There are several ways that one can give their time to be a volunteer. Read a book to patient that can no longer see, write a letter for a patient that can no longer hold a pen, hold a patient's hand that is afraid, or be a friend to a patient in need, play cards, braid hair, play chess and the list does not stop there. An hour of time given to a person with a terminal illness is priceless. For more information on how to become a volunteer in your area contact: Stephanie Baker, LPN, Volunteer Coordinator for *Covenant Hospice*. Phone: 765-529-6672 or 1-877-757-1357, email: sbaker@covenant-hospice.com



South Central Indiana District's New Office Hours

Regular Office Hours will be Monday-Thursday from 8:15—4:30. The office will close during the noon hour for 45 minutes and possibly at other times for brief periods of errands. The answering machine will be on during all absences. On Monday mornings the staff will be in a staff meeting. Allen Kahler, District Minister, will not be in the office on Fridays. Dee will be in the office on Fridays from 8:15—12:15. On Friday afternoons calls will be forwarded to Dee from the office until 4:30. Dee will also be available to respond by e-mail.

Our New District Minister and Family

I know most of you know me from my work in the district in the past, but my family probably isn't as well known. My wife of 23 years, Cheryl is my constant companion and friend. She has been with me through the difficult times and the joyous times. I can remember in the spring of 1989 when I was looking at going to college and she said we needed to go to Manchester College and see if that was a possibility. And by August we packed up all we had and moved 250 miles west from our home in East Canton Ohio. We brought 2 daughters with us, Rachel and Megan, now 18 and 16 respectfully. Rachel now is off on her path for the future as she studies Paramedics at Vincennes University. Megan is looking forward to getting her license so she can drive around her new town. I think she will like driving around here more than the traffic we had in Marion. In the first days of my junior year at Manchester we were blessed with a third daughter, Briana, now 13. Briana liked the fact that she got to paint her room green, and now is busy hanging posters all over it. The two girls who are in school at Manchester Jr. and Sr. High are adjusting to their new school and friends. – taken from the *South Central Indiana Church of the Brethren Memo*

From Left: Briana, Megan, Rachel, Cheryl, Allen Kahler



Jo Young Switzer Called to Manchester College Presidency

The Manchester College Board of Trustees on Aug. 28 appointed vice president and Dean Jo Young Switzer as president of the college, effective July 1, 2005. Switzer, a 1969 graduate of the college in North Manchester, Ind., will be Manchester's 14th president and its first woman president. She will succeed Parker G. Marden, who will complete his 11th year as president when he retires on June 30, 2005. Switzer has led academic affairs at Manchester since 1993. She also has chaired Manchester's Department of Communication and taught at Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne. Her doctorate and master's degree are from the University of Kansas, in communication studies. She has completed post-doctoral study at Indiana University.

Brethren Life & Thought News Release

The journal, *Brethren Life & Thought*, is pleased to announce the release of a special issue dedicated to the centennial celebration of Bethany Theological Seminary. Volume 49.1&2, (2004), "*Bethany Theological Seminary*," was guest edited by Nancy Faus, Donald E. Miller, and Graydon Snyder. Two groups of persons were invited to contribute articles. One group includes graduates from Bethany who went on to pursue an academic career. The second group of writers includes persons who know the seminary well without having graduated from Bethany. Some of them have a perspective from outside the tradition of the Church of the Brethren. All were asked to reflect upon the curriculum of the seminary from their vantage points. Twenty six authors share their perspectives on mission, educational style, and legacy of the seminary. This special issue has a collage of articles about the history and influence of Bethany's curriculum. Visit the website for a list of articles and authors. Issue price: \$10, plus \$2.50 S/H; One-year subscription price: \$20. Mail request with check to: *Brethren Life & Thought*, c/o Bethany Theological Seminary, 615 National Road W, Richmond, IN 47374 phone: 765-983-1811. email: gardnca@bethanyseminary.edu, web: www.brethren.org/bethany/blt.htm



Disaster Response Work Assignment: Oct 31-Nov.

**Hallam, Nebraska,
Tornado Recovery**

Volunteer Housing: Antelope Park

Church of the Brethren 3645 Sumner St. Lincoln, NE 68506-1040

The small Nebraska town of Hallam, Nebraska was nearly obliterated by a powerful F-4 tornado (winds up to 260 mph) that struck on May 22. Of the town's 170 homes, only 7 are repairable. The rest have been condemned and must be completely rebuilt. Many of the affected families were underinsured.

VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE CONSTRUCTION SKILLS ARE NEEDED. We are tentatively limiting group size to 15 for now. The Western Plains tool trailer and an ER/SM truck will be on site, and the Lincoln Action Program has a minivan that can be at our disposal. Volunteers should bring their own towels and bedding. **CONTACT: JOHN BUNCH—765-651-0655 for more information or to volunteer.**

Denominational CoB News Regarding Emergency Disaster

The Emergency Disaster Fund allocated \$15,000 to support the child care, fund clean up, and help establish a rebuilding project. The Disaster Response office is sending Larry Williams, a disaster project director from Frederick, Md., to Florida to evaluate areas of need for a rebuilding project. He will work with Atlantic Southeast District disaster response coordinator John Mueller to determine project sites and volunteer housing options, and to meet with other disaster programs, reported Emergency Response director Roy Winter. Winter already is assessing the next storm to come through the Caribbean. "As Hurricane Ivan unleashes rain and destruction on gulf coast states, now hurricane Jeanne strengthened while over Puerto Rico," he said. "I have reports of a foot of rain in Puerto Rico with more coming. At this point I have not been able to reach anyone in Puerto Rico, but expect there will be a lot of flooding."



The Emergency Response office issued guidelines for those wanting to donate relief

materials. "It is vitally important that people wishing to donate material goods go through the proper channels and donate only those items that are specifically requested by authorized relief agencies," Disaster Response Coordinator Jane Yount said. She asked **those wanting to donate to Florida to see www.volunteerflorida.org or call 800-FL HELP-1.** Donations will go to a partnership of disaster relief organizations and the Tampa Fair authority, to be distributed to local relief agencies for those in need. Another option for material donations is Gift of the Heart kits, particularly Emergency Clean-up Buckets and Health Kits, Yount said. For more information visit www.churchworldservice.org/kits.

Women - Three words you should never forget:

Get. Your. Mammogram.

At Reid Hospital’s Breast Center, they encourage women to celebrate each birthday by making sure they’ll have many more to celebrate—by getting a mammogram. This screening is the best method of early detection of breast cancer, and the earlier it is detected, the better chance for successful treatment and cure. They’ve made the process more comfortable with soft robes, warm pads and soothing music. They’ve also added pre-registration, evening hours and reduced waiting time. Call 765-983-3358 to schedule your mammogram. Also, stop by the Reid lobby the first Wednesday of each month for “Women on Wednesdays,” an information-packed event designed around your busy life.

- **FREE** health info, screenings, and giveaways
- A “Grab ‘n Go” meal for only \$3:00
- Specially priced Gift Shop item & more!

Drop by anytime between 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Events

Oct. 6 – Cancer

Nov. 3 – Sleep

Dec. 1 – Mental Health

Concert – CeCe Winans

On Friday October 14, 8:00 p.m. there will be a Concert by CeCe Winans. She is a gospel writer and singer. The cost is **\$20.00** and it will be held in **Earlham College Runyan Center**. Call 1-800-327-5426 or 765-983-1311 for more information.



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A Pastor’s Parking Space

A pastor was having difficulty with his assigned parking space on the church parking lot. People parked in his spot whenever they pleased, even though there was a sign that clearly said, “This space reserved.” He thought the sign needed to be clearer, so he had a different sign made, which read, “Reserved for Pastor Only.” Still people ignored it and parked in his space whenever they felt like it. “Maybe the sign should be more forceful,” he thought. So he devised a more intimidating one, which announced, “Thou shalt not park here.” That sign didn’t make any difference either. Finally, he hit upon the words that worked; in fact, nobody ever took his parking place again. The sign read, “The one who parks here preaches the sermon on Sunday morning!”