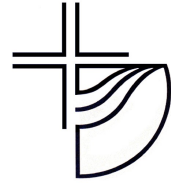


News from the Brick

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

Established 1820



Carol M. Pfeiffer, Pastor
Church Phone: 765-489-4430
Parsonage Phone: 765-489-3435
pastor@nettlecreekcob.com
www.nettlecreekcob.com



Jodi Johnson, Secretary
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Worship: 10:00 a.m.

**October
2006**

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

Carol's Comments

"Where's the Chicken"

Isaiah 49: 1-9; 15-16 *This is what the Lord says: "In the time of my favor I will answer you, and in the day of salvation I will help you; I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people, to restore the land and to reassign its desolate inheritances, to say to the captives, 'Come out,' and to those in darkness, 'Be free!' ...Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands' your walls are ever before me."*

A couple of college friends and I met in Richmond to catch up on each other's lives. We hadn't done that in awhile, so of course, we had to meet over food. We all ordered the same salad which came with pecans, cranberries, and chicken. When the waitress brought our food, we all three began digging through our salads. I said, "Where's the chicken?" I didn't see anything but a few strands (and I mean strands) of chicken breast. My two friends found a bit more than I did under their layers of lettuce, but needless, to say it was so sparse, you could hardly find it. The waitress noticed our dismay and so soon the manager came over. She agreed that there wasn't any chicken in it. She went back to the kitchen and came out with two bowls of chopped chicken breast. The bowls had generous portions of chicken. We were then able to enjoy this delicious salad.



It's interesting how one can order an item at one restaurant from the same chain and then from another and how they sometimes differ. One time I ordered this same salad at another establishment and it had too much bacon on it and the salad dressing which was already on it made the lettuce soggy. Another time, I hardly had any bacon at all. I'm guessing that it depends on whom the chef is and how they fix the food.

Spiritually, we turn in our order to God and expect to get what we order. We may envision generous amounts of wisdom or strength or a huge helping of answers just the way we ordered. And sometimes we have to wait like waiting for food in a restaurant. Sometimes we don't get anything like we envisioned. And we dig through our prayers asking, "Where's the answer?"

Recently my spiritual director invited me to dig through layers of my prayer life...to pay attention to how I felt and what I noticed in my life...emotions, situations, responses to God, resistance to God. So I invite you to dig through the layers in your spiritual life. Is there anything that seems to be hindering your walk with God? What feelings or emotions are you noticing...anger, fear, joy, hope, sadness? Are you noticing any resistance within yourself? Why? Dig through the layers. Let God lift the hindrances to the surface to sift through the validity of them. It is when we face those things that God opens the way. We get a better glimpse of **who God is**. We get a better glimpse of **who we are** in Christ. It's easy to ask, "Where's the answer?" and put all the blame on God's side. But it is harder to say, "Where am I in this?"

The Isaiah passage tells us that God has **not** forgotten us. He will provide “the chicken.” God will provide answers. We are “engraved ...on the palms of [his] hands.” When we take it all to God; when we trust him to help us dig through the layers of our lives, we learn that he IS faithful and just. We learn that we often demand more than we are willing to commit to God. We learn that he **does** meet us and give us insight and presence. God can only get through the layers as we are willing to **submit** to his loving presence.

In Christ, for Christ,
Pastor Carol Pfeiffer

Church Council Date – Note Change

Church Council will be **Sunday, October 22** after worship. The budget needs to be approved. Health insurance enrollment closes October 31.

Calling All Women for CBWF



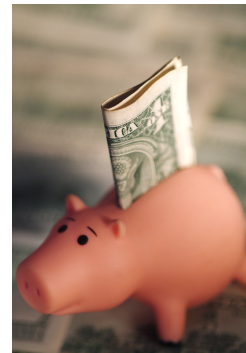
The Church of the Brethren Women’s Fellowship (CBWF) reorganized September 13 at the church. We enjoyed pizza and BROWNIES! Pastor Carol, at least, enjoyed many brownies. Officers are: Geneva Davis, co-chair. We are waiting for another person to step forward for the other co-chair position. Kathy Denney, secretary. Lucille Dilling, treasurer. Marjorie Briar and Beverly Nicholson, program planners. Eloise Beeson, postage stamps collection. After the meeting the ladies washed chairs. The next meeting will be **Thursday, October 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the church.**

Giving For September

Average Weekly Offering needed to meet budget.....	\$1,390.77
Average Offering for September ... (3 weeks.....)	\$ 904.76
Total Offering for September	\$2,724.27
September 3.....	\$1,102.00
September 10.....	\$1,212.27
September 17.....	\$.400.00
September 24 not available at print time.....	

Average Attendance for September..... 36

Other Giving: Bethany Seminary, \$67.00



Special Offering Dates

- October 8 – World Missions Offering
- November 12 – Hagerstown Food Pantry

Worship Leader and Speaker Information for October

- October 1 – Ron Hoover, guest speaker: Rev. David Shetler
- October 8 – Jodi Johnson, Pastor Carol
- October 15 – Beverly Nicholson, Pastor Carol
- October 22 – Bill Stout, Pastor Carol
- October 26 – Carol Bullock, Pastor Carol

Love Feast

Sunday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m. is our Love Feast. Theme this year for our fall Love Feast is “Called by God.” There will be a time of examination of the state of our relationship with Christ. Following that portion of the service we will proceed to the basement for footwashing, meal, and bread and cup communion. All are welcome. Observers also welcome.



Study on “Together Conversations”

Keep watching for information regarding when the study will begin on “Together Conversations on Being the Church.” It is important for all persons in the congregation to be a part of the study and to share what “being the church” means to them. Any questions regarding the study may be directed to Bill Stout or Marjorie Briar.

Coming in November - Harvest Dinner

The Harvest Dinner is coming **November 4** to be held at the **Congregational Christian UCC Church** in Hagerstown. Our congregation is helping with the dinner. See Teresa Renaker for food to donate.



“Baskets Full of Caring”

Julie (Wieseke) and Alfredo Tobias lost everything to a house fire on Labor Day including their two cars. They only had lived there two weeks. They do have insurance but as one can imagine, it will take time to replace everything and more funds than are imaginable as well. The Deacons started a project to help. We are collecting basic essentials for the kitchen, bath, and bathroom. If you would like to help, please don't wrap items, but bring them in a basket, any kind of basket i.e. bread basket, wastebasket, laundry basket, tomato basket, bushel basket, whatever. Just use your imagination. Preferred colors are white and light colors in towels and linens. They have a queen-size bed. During worship on October 1 we will dedicate the baskets or containers of



basic essentials.

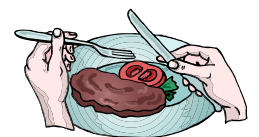
Prayer Concerns

*Dennis Nicholson	*Tim Proctor	Greg Giffen	*Rae Gottlieb	Sally Schmittler
*Alfredo and Julie Wieseke Tobias		Barry Nicholson	Geneva Davis	Howard Davis
Don Seibert	Mark Werking	Jay Burroughs	Gratia Waskom	
Home: Mary Werking, Harriet Burroughs, Ruth Crull, Viola Nicholson, Bernetha Davis				
Care Center: LuFreda Bowman, Margaret Briar				

(Please let Pastor Carol or Jodi Johnson know if you want someone placed on or removed from the Prayer List.)

Support Our Sister Churches – Upcoming Events

- **Songfest - Locust Grove Church of the Brethren** is having a songfest **Sunday, October 8, 6:00 p.m.** at 9530 East County 400 South (Jerry Myers Road)
- **Steak Supper - Anderson Church of the Brethren** is having a steak supper at the church at 741 N. Scatterfield Rd, Anderson, Indiana on **October 19, from 4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**



South Central Church of the Brethren Women’s Fellowship Fall Rally

Grandview Church of the Brethren at Pendleton is hosting the CBWF Fall Rally, **Saturday, October 14.** Registration is at 8:45 a.m. with the morning session beginning at 9:30 a.m. The theme is “We are Here for Such a Time as This” The speaker is Sue Cartee, pastor of Hagerstown United Methodist Church. Lunch is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children. Reservations for lunch and childcare need to be sent by October 9 to Janet Parker. See Kathy Denney for more information.

†††

The mystery of the church consists in the very fact that *together* sinners become *something different* from what they are as individuals; this “something different” is the Body of Christ.

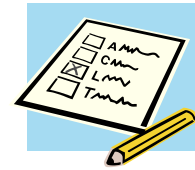
- J. Meyendorff

Moderator – Gerry Longenbaugh

District Conference Ballot Results

Moderator-Elect – Aaron Gross
 District Board, North section – Opal Nees
 District Board, Central section – Martha Cory
 Program and Arrangements, North section – Bickey Barber
 Program and Arrangements, West section – Flora Williams
 Nominating & Personnel Committee, West section – Carole Seward
 Nominating & Personnel Committee, Central section – Bev Donaldson

Secretary – Helen Wenger
 Standing Committee – Jeff Castetter



Special Called District Conference to be held October 21

FROM: S/CIN Church of the Brethren District Board

Brothers and Sisters of the South/Central Indiana District of the Church of the Brethren:



The South/Central Indiana District Board announces a special called District Conference. This Conference is set for October 21, 2006 at the Kokomo Church of the Brethren at 9:00 am. The Conference is to be attended by all of your Conference delegates. Only registered delegates will be allowed to vote. Other members are welcome to attend.

Moderator Gerry Longenbaugh will be leading the meeting. The special called District Conference will have one item of business, a recommendation from the District Board on how to deal with congregations that may perform a same-sex covenant. (See September newsletter for the recommendation).

Camp Mack Festival – October 7 at Camp Mack, Milford, Indiana

Join the fun at the Camp Mack Festival. If you've never been to Camp Mack, this is an opportunity to tour the camp as well as join in the food, fun, auction, and entertainment. **Silent Auction** begins at 10:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. in Quinter-Miller Auditorium. The **Main Benefit Auction** begins in Becker Upper Dining Room at 2:00 p.m. (antiques, old books, quilts, comforters, baskets full of goodies, hall tree with mirror and storage under seat, oak bench love seat, quilted wall hangings). **Visa and MasterCard accepted** in payment for purchases over \$25.00. There will be **demonstrations** of wood turning, pressed flowers, needle felting, comfort knotting, corn grinding, post card display, rug hooking, needlepoint, pottering turning and more. **Entertainment** includes a guitarist, pianist, bell ringer, dulcimer group, Appalachian folk music, magician, praise band, quartet, square dancing, and mural tour. Lots of variety in **food** to be sampled will keep you from getting hungry.

Denominational News - taken from CoB Newsline

- **The 2006 World Mission Offering emphasis** for the Church of the Brethren General Board invites congregations and church members to "Come walk with us in mission." The offering is designed to foster and deepen ties between Brethren mission workers and congregations. "Our gifts to mission work are an amazing way for us to 'walk the talk,'" said Carol Bowman, the board's stewardship development counselor.
- **Church leaders from Sudan have issued a statement listing current priorities for their country, including the merger of the two councils of churches**--the Sudan Council of Churches in the north and the New Sudan Council of Churches in the south. **The Church of the Brethren has worked with both councils.** The statement affirmed the peace agreement reached between the government of Sudan and southern rebel groups in Jan. 2005, and the Darfur peace process under the African Union, but also noted isolation of churches in the implementation of the peace agreement, expressed concern about escalation of fighting in Darfur and eastern Sudan and the internally displaced refugees, and called for acceptance of a United Nations peacekeeping force in Darfur. "We the Sudanese Heads of Churches commit our churches to fully support the unity of the people of Sudan and to walk together as one ecumenical family. We urge

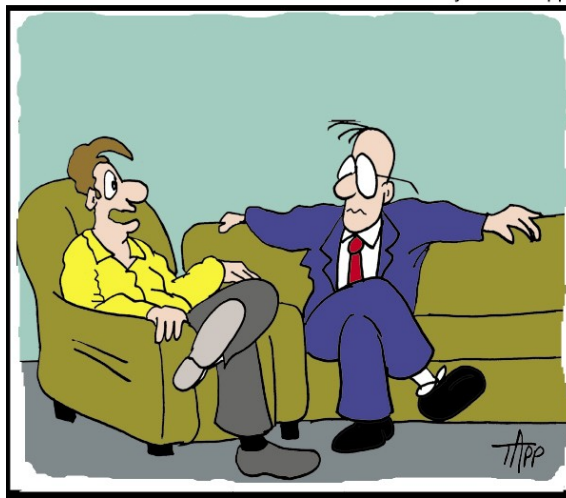


our partners/donors and the rest of the global ecumenical family to continue accompanying us in the task of rebuilding Sudan," the statement said. The church leaders made the statement during a meeting in Kenya Aug. 17-19 under the auspices of the All Africa Conference of Churches and the World Council of Churches.



- Church of the Brethren Disaster Response** continues to rebuild and repair homes on the Gulf coast following the destruction caused by Hurricane Katrina a year ago. Aug. 29 marked the first anniversary of Katrina's heartrending devastation. Although the storm made landfall in southeastern Louisiana, heavy damage can be found within a 100-mile radius of the storm's center in Mississippi and Alabama, as well as in Louisiana, reports Brethren Disaster Response, a program of the Church of the Brethren General Board. "The official death toll attributed to Katrina has climbed to 1,836, making Katrina the deadliest hurricane since 1928," said Jane Yount, Brethren Disaster Response coordinator, in a Sept. 1 update. "Katrina is also by far the costliest hurricane in US history, with \$75 billion in damages. An estimated 350,000 homes were destroyed and many thousands more damaged." "With the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina behind us, we are thankful for all the volunteers who have followed Jesus' call to be His hands and His feet," said Zach Wolgemuth, associate director of Emergency Response. "As we head into the second year since one of our nation's worst natural disasters, communities and long-term recovery organizations are organizing and beginning the process of rebuilding. The demand for the services provided by Church of the Brethren Disaster Response is great," he added. **Brethren Disaster Response is in the process of opening a new project site in Louisiana, and likely will open another site on the Gulf coast this winter, staff report.** This is in addition to the current project site in Mississippi and one in Pensacola, Fla., following Hurricane Ivan in 2004 and Hurricane Dennis in 2005. The new site in St. Tammany Parish, La., is scheduled to open Oct. 15. St. Tammany Parish is northeast of New Orleans on the shore of Lake Pontchartrain. "As a result of the rainfall and storm surge, the level of Lake Pontchartrain rose and caused significant flooding along its northeastern shore, affecting the town of Slidell and surrounding communities," Yount reported. Brethren Disaster Response has been in conversation with the long-term recovery committee in St. Tammany Parish--Northshore Recovery, Inc.--and the group is eager for assistance, Yount said. Work will include all types of major repairs to homes that have incurred flood and wind damage, along with some debris clean up and demolition. **Preparations are underway for two Brethren Disaster Response trainings for volunteer leadership this fall.** Twenty-five people have responded to the invitation to attend hands-on, two-week trainings at Pensacola on Oct. 1-14 and at Lucedale on Oct. 22-Nov. 4. Participants will learn all aspects of managing a disaster response project including construction, safety, volunteer management, hospitality, and cooking; trainees will be prepared to take the roles of disaster project director, disaster project assistant, or household manager. For more information go to www.brethren.org/genbd/ersm.

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Well preacher, I'd like church a lot more if you had a 'no preaching' section."