



Southern Pennsylvania District Church of the Brethren

THE COST of DISCIPLESHIP—a pondering of the D.E.

Christ - SO PA Dist. Mission: Create New Testament communities committed to personal transformation thru Jesus Christ

Vision Statement:
Working together to
empower disciples for
ministry & mission through:
Leadership Development,
Mission & Service Opportunities,
& Creative Resourcing

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APRIL / MAY 2025

Then He (Jesus) began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days, rise again (Mark 8: 31, NRSVue)

There is an old song, I remember from youth that we sang in my home church, entitled, “Are Ye Able” which has always brought a tear to my eye, as each verse raises the question about my (OUR) capability of staying on the pathway of Jesus especially in times of adversity, discomfort, and suffering. Another question we need to ask ourselves is whether we can be full disciples of Jesus Christ without the cost of suffering?

As we journey thru the season of Lent, it is a good opportunity to better understand the full thrust of being a disciple of Christ and if that is something, we who say we are Christians, are earnest about accomplishing? Keep before you, the Mark 8:34 text as we move through the weeks before the crucifixion and Easter, and think about what it will take to be a devoted follower of Jesus, especially when: illness, no funds for the “extras of living in this world”, hunger, death, etc, etc cross our paths? Scripture says in Mark 8:34 that Jesus looked over the crowd of people who had been following Him and the disciples. Jesus gave those folks an invitation to join Him as His disciples. BUT, Jesus’ conditions shocked the people of that day...He said, “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” --- “Are ye able?” In this text, Peter took exception to Jesus’ comments about suffering and called Jesus on his stance. Jesus, in turn, calls Peter to task, indicating that Satan is speaking thru Peter at that moment.

Remember the text in Matthew 19: beginning with vs 16 – where the rich young ruler questioned Jesus of what good he needed to do to have eternal life? The man in the scripture text walked away from Jesus with his head drooping when Jesus lays out the difficult road it will take for that to happen. SO, can we say “Lord, we are able...our spirits are thine”? Are we willing to accept our CROSS in this life? If Jesus suffered and was rejected by the “leaders” of His time, are we not also rejecting Christ in those times when our cross seems difficult to bear? Let us help one another bear the crosses that come into our lives, knowing they are learning times.

Sisters and Brothers, there is a price tag for discipleship and even we, who embrace the church, do not like the price tag and sometimes walk away. It is much more appealing to pay thousands of dollars to attend a sports activity than get in the suffering line of following Christ. Are you equipped for the suffering that will come? Easter’s promise **should be** a sufficient reason for our journey and bring with it the Peace that only Christ can offer during the hard times. “Are Ye Able”, said the Master to be crucified with Me?

Georgia



SOPA District Office

Monday - Friday

Call for Hours

Office Phone: (717) 778-2264

Admin Assistant Email: sopadistrict@brethren.org

Georgia Markey, Interim District Executive

Email: gmarkeyfarmgirl114@gmail.com

Cell: (717) 887-3905

Office (717) 778-2254

Address: SOPA District COB

3375 Carlisle Rd, Suite A

Gardners, PA 17324

Website: <https://www.cob-net.org/church/sopa/>**2025 SOPA District Directory**

The **2025 District Directory** is currently being updated and worked on! If you have any updates/changes or information that would need to be added to the Directory, please forward the information to the District Office ASAP. We plan to distribute copies soon.

Congratulations to Eric Seibert, Mechanicsburg COB,
becoming licensed on March 2, 2025.

District Search Processes

York Second COB—Pastor (currently being served by Lay Minister)

SOPA District Office—District Executive (currently held by Interim DE, Georgia Markey)

York Second—*Interested Candidates, please reach out to the District Executive.*

**For the D.E. Position, contact—Sister Nancy Sollenberger Heishman, 847-429-4381,
nsheishman@brethren.org**

Meat Canning**April 21—24, 2025**

Needed Funds to purchase and process the canned chicken.

Please reach out to:

Kim Geisewite

District Witness & Outreach Commission Chair

kimgeisewite@gmail.com or 570-295-9879

FUNDS ARE STILL NEEDED. PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING!

District Events / News

April 13, 2025

2025 C.O.B

Annual Conference Moderator

Dava Cruise Hill Hensley

will be providing the Sunday Worship Service at
Newville Church of the Brethren

10:00 AM

Everyone is welcome to attend!

Cross Keys Village—The Brethren Home Community

Lifespring Day Services Now Open

Lifespring Day Services at Cross Keys Village provides a peaceful, supportive environment for adults needing supervision. The program provides health services with social activities. For more information, visit:
crosskeysvillage.org/lifespring/

Mechanicsburg COB—Spring Fling

Rummage Sale

Friday & Saturday

April 4th & 5th, 2025

SOPA District Picnic

July 27, 2025

**Little Buffalo State Park
Pavilion #2**

Near the pool and playground.

Potluck picnic at 4:30

Vesper Service at 5:30

Details will follow as Witness
and Outreach Committee
continue to plan.

Hope to see you there!



The Encounter Sunday School Class, Huntsdale COB, has been providing lunch at “My Brother’s Table” (Carlisle Salvation Army) for many years. This year was no exception. On February 15, class members prepared, served and cleaned up, interacting with approximately 35 community members, with home-made ice cream being the favored menu item. There is always time to interact and engage participants, with each one of us being reminded how very fortunate we are to feed persons a delicious meal satisfying their physical needs and attending to their spiritual needs as well. – Pastor Darlene Stouffer



HOLD IN PRAYER

Prayers for Keith and Beth Nonemaker, West Shore COB. Keith's sister, Marsha Eslinger, passed away in February. If you would like to send Keith and Beth a card their address is:
235 N. 19th Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011

Kim Geisewite continues to recover from a recent surgery, please keep Kim and Ken in your prayers.

Leon and Ellen Yoder's daughter in law was in an serious automobile accident and is recovering. Please keep the entire family in your prayers.

Jan Custer continues to recover from cancer treatment. Please keep Jan and Steve in your prayers.



A Prayer for Mother's Day

Dear Lord, thank you for the blessings of children and families. Help us rely on you for guidance, patience and even-temperedness throughout our days.

We pray that our children will love you, worship you and serve you with their God-given gifts. Grant us the wisdom to know how to influence them to live godly lives. Prevent us from provoking our children to anger and from manipulating or nagging them.

Fill our households with abiding love and respect. And help us all be united in purpose to do your will. In the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Church of the Brethren Denominational News

Tim Button-Harrison, Northern Plains District Executive Minister announced he will be retiring December 31, 2025. Tim served the District for over 19 years.

The Shenandoah District Church of the Brethren has begun their search for District Executive leadership.

2025 Annual Conference Ballot

A complete list of nominees with biographical information and photos is available at www.brethren.org/ac2025/business and will be published in the 2025 Conference Booklet. Please be in prayer for these nominees and share this information with your Annual Conference Delegate(s). Elections will be held this summer at Annual Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina, July 2-6.

(See pg. 25 for Annual Conference Ballot details.)

UP~COMING EVENTS

APRIL 2025

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Tuesday, April 1, 2025 Central Zone Pastor's Meeting, Carlisle COB, 9:00 AM

Wednesday, April 2, 2025 CAS, PA Family Support Alliance Blue Ribbon Champions for Safe Kids, 3rd and State St., Harrisburg, 9:00 AM, (visit CAS website for more info, <https://www.cassd.org/>)

Thursday, April 3, 2025 Eastern Zone Pastor's Meeting, Codorus COB, 12:00 PM

Thursday, April 3, 2025 SVMC Meeting—Leffler Chapel—Elizabethtown College

Thursday, April 3, 2025 District Witness and Outreach Committee Meeting, ZOOM, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 District Stewards Commission Meeting, ZOOM, 6:30 PM

Thursday, April 10, 2025 CAS Board of Directors Meeting, 6:00 PM

Thursday, April 10, 2025 District Executive Commission Meeting, Carlisle COB, 6:30 PM

Saturday, April 12, 2025 Women's Spring Luncheon, Huntsdale COB, 9:00 AM

Sunday, April 13, 2025 Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 17, 2025 Maundy Thursday

Friday, April 18, 2025 Good Friday, *District Office Closed*

Sunday, April 20, 2025 Easter Sunday

Mon –Thur, April 21-24, 2025 District Meat Canning Project

Wednesday, April 23, 2025 District Nurture Commission Meeting, Zoom, 7:00 PM

Thursday, April 24, 2025 District Ministry Commission Meeting, Carlisle COB, 6:30 PM

Saturday, April 26, 2025 Carlisle COB Summer Concert Series—The Fisher Girls, 7:00 PM (pg 11)

Tuesday, April 29, 2025 CAS Auction Fundraising Event, New Fairview Church, York PA 5:00 PM, On-line Auction runs April 26—28, 2025, <https://www.auctria.com/auction/CASAnnualAuction> (see attached flyer, pg. 12)

May 2025

Thursday, May 1, 2025 National Day of Prayer

Saturday, May 3, 2025 SOPA District, in partnership with Camp Eder, Men's Outdoorsman's Day, Camp Eder, (see attached flyer pg 8)

Saturday, May 3, 2025 Mid Atlantic Disaster Response Auction, (see attached flyer pgs.16-18)

Monday, May 5, 2025 Nominating and Personnel Committee Meeting, ZOOM, 7:00 PM

Tuesday, May 6, 2025 Central Zone Pastor's Meeting, Carlisle COB, 9:00 AM

Thursday, May 8, 2025 Eastern Zone Pastor's Meeting, Location TBD, 12:00 PM

Sunday, May 11, 2025 Mother's Day

UP-COMING EVENTS CONTINUED

May 2025 (continued)

Thursday, May 15, 2025 CAS Ribbon Cutting & Dedication, Werner Early Learning Childcare Center, 636 West Poplar St., York, 3:30—5:00 PM (see attached flyer, pg 13)

Saturday, May 17, 2025 District Board Meeting, Waynesboro COB, 8:30 AM Danish/Beverage, 9:00 AM meeting begins, 117 S. Church St., Waynesboro

Wednesday, May 21, 2025 Camp Eder Golf Tournament, (see attached flyer pg. 8)

Thursday, May 22, 2025 District Ministry Commission Meeting, Carlisle COB, 6:30 PM

Saturday, May 24, 2025 Carlisle COB Summer Concert Series—Elly Cooke, Country Gospel, 7:00 PM (see attached flyer pg. 11)

Monday, May 26, 2025 Memorial Day, *District Office Closed*. ****Reminder**, Chaplain in the Park begins, Memorial Day thru Labor Day, Codorus & Gifford Pinchot State Parks. Please consider volunteering for a Sunday!** (See attached flyer pg. 14)

Thursday, May 29, 2025 Ascension Day

June 2025

Monday & Tuesday, June 2 & 3, 2025 District Nurture Commission, Women's Camp, Camp Eder (see attached flyer pgs 9-10)

Thursday, June 5, 2025 District Witness and Outreach Commission Meeting, ZOOM, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, June 10, 2025 District Stewards Commission Meeting, ZOOM, 6:30 PM

Wednesday, June 18, 2025 District Nurture Commission Meeting, ZOOM, 7:00 PM

Saturday, June 21, 2025 Carlisle COB Summer Concert Series—Frank N' Bob, 7:00 PM (see pg. 11)

Monday, June 23, 2025 District Executive Committee Meeting, Carlisle COB 6:30 PM

Thursday, June 26, 2025 District Ministry Commission Meeting Carlisle COB 6:30 PM

July 2025

Wednesday—Sunday, July 2—6, 2025 COB Annual Conference, Greensboro N.C. (voting information on pg. 25)

Saturday, July 19, 2025 District Board Meeting, Gettysburg COB, 8:30 AM Danish/Beverage, 9:00 AM meeting begins, 1710 Biglerville Rd, Gettysburg

Thursday, July 24, 2025 District Ministry Commission Meeting, Carlisle COB, 6:30 PM



Nurturing Spiritual Growth

District Nurture Commission



Jesus died and rose to offer a personal relationship with each individual and to adopt us into God's family to spread His will and His ways to those around us in our everyday lives.

Nurture Commission is here to assist congregations to grow spiritually in the Lord Jesus Christ, so our lives, families, and churches will have a growing Kingdom impact on earth as it is in heaven.

*"Walk in a manner worthy of the Lord,
to please Him in all respects,
bearing fruit in every good work and multiplying
in the full knowledge of God. "*

Colossians 1:10

Mark Your Calendars!

Women's Spring
Luncheon (**NEW DATE**)—
Huntsdale COB
Sat., April 12, 2025

District Men's Outdoorsman
Day
Camp Eder
Sat., May 3, 2025

District Women's Retreat
Camp Eder
Monday & Tuesday,
June 2-3, 2025

Chaplain in the Park
Codus & Gifford Pinchot
State Parks

Sunday Worship Services
Memorial Day thru Labor Day:

Take your Youth Group or Sunday School Class to lead Children's Sunday School at Codorus on a Sunday, during Worship In The Park, and take a picnic to enjoy for after services.

Questions or Information Contact:

Beth Nonemaker, Nurture Chair

717-761-3047

CAMP EDER & SOPA DISTRICT MEN'S OUTDOORSMAN DAY MAY 3RD ONLY



DEVOTIONAL THEME: PROVIDE AND
PROTECT, GENESIS 2:15

MAY 3 ————— 8:30AM-3PM

**\$50 LUNCH
INCLUDED!**

CLAY SHOOT AND FISHING

JOIN US ON MAY 3RD FOR A DAY FILLED WITH ADVENTURE! TOGETHER, WE'LL DELVE INTO THE WORLD OF CLAY SHOOTING, MASTERING GUN SAFETY PROTOCOLS AND HONING OUR SKILLS TO BECOME PROFICIENT CLAY TARGET SHOOTERS. SECURE YOUR SPOT BY REGISTERING ON THE CAMP EDER WEBSITE OR BY CONTACTING THE CAMP OFFICE VIA PHONE. LODGING ALSO AVAILABLE AT ADDITIONAL COST (CONTACT CAMP OFFICE)

*IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP SPONSER THIS EVENT BY DONATING AMMO OR FINAICALLY PLEASE CONTACT DENNY TURNNER AT 717-829-1166

CAMPEDER.ORG/REGISTRATION
717-642-8256

914 MT HOPE RD
FAIRFIELD, PA 17320



Camp Eder Golf Outing

Wednesday May 21st

Where

Carroll Valley Golf Course At Liberty Mountain

Cost

\$90/person

\$360 per-four person team

\$460 Hole Sponsor and Foursome

Supporting

To Sponsor or register for this event scan the QR code and fill out the sponsorship document





Southern PA District Church of the Brethren

Women's Camp at Camp Eder

June 2 & 3, 2025

Registration begins at 8:45 AM

Retreat begins at 9:30 AM

COST OF MEALS

(Vegetarian options for all meals)

Monday Lunch - \$12.00 Tuesday Breakfast - \$10.00

Monday Dinner - \$14.00 Tuesday Lunch - \$12.00

COST OF LODGING PER PERSON: Please visit campedr.org for more details on lodging facilities

TREE OF PEACE - \$65.00 – 8 rooms, each room has 2 single beds, one double bed, one trundle bed

SCHWARZENAU LODGE - \$42.00 – Sleeps 32 total, two dorm rooms with eight bunk beds each

GEIGLEY LODGE - \$32.00 – Dorm A – Sleeps 14 people, Dorm B – Sleeps 15 people, bathroom side,
Dorm C – Sleeps 22 people, over kitchen area

*****REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MAY 19, 2025*****

REGISTRATION FORM – COMPLETE FORM BELOW AND MAIL WITH CHECK PAYMENT TO:

Southern PA District COB, 3375 Carlisle Road, Suite A, Gardners PA 17324

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Southern PA District COB TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Refunds will not be given after May 19th.

“DAY” GUEST – CHOICE OF MEALS

Monday - ☐ Lunch = \$12.00

Monday - ☐ Dinner = \$14.00

☐ **VEGETARIAN options for all meals**

Tuesday - ☐ Breakfast = \$10.00

Tuesday - ☐ Lunch = \$12.00

TOTAL COST OF “DAY” GUEST MEALS = _____

“OVERNIGHT” GUEST – TOTAL COST INCLUDES LODGING AND ALL MEALS

☐ TREE OF PEACE = \$113.00

☐ GEIGLY LODGE = \$80.00

☐ SCHWARZENAU LODGE = \$90.00

☐ CAN'T DO STEPS

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Email Address: _____

Congregation: _____

Roommate Preference: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone # _____

SOPA District
2025 Women's Camp Project

Our speaker, Judy Cline, is Operational Director of the Capital Area Pregnancy Center in Camp Hill PA.

Several baby layettes (laundry baskets) will be provided to collect the listed items.

You're welcome to bring one or more items from the list, or to donate cash for purchasing items for the baby layettes to be donated to the Capital Area Pregnancy Center.

Those who enjoy knitting or crocheting, take note of the need for baby caps, booties, sweaters and baby blankets (one of each per layette).

For more info contact Beth Nonemaker, Nurture Chair (cell phone) 223-488-0038

Women's Camp is Monday and Tuesday, June 2-3 at Camp Eder.

Baby Layette CONTENTS

- ❑ 1 quilt/blanket
- ❑ 1 receiving blanket
- ❑ 1dozen diapers
- ❑ 1pk.diaper wipes
- ❑ 3 onsies
- ❑ 2 sleep & play
- ❑ 1 winter sleeper
- ❑ 3 bibs
- ❑ 1 pr. booties
- ❑ 1 pr. socks
- ❑ 1 bath/shampoo
- ❑ 1 lotion/powder
- ❑ 1 bottle & nipples
- ❑ 1 towel & washcloth
- ❑ 1 crib sheet
- ❑ 1 misc. care item
- ❑ 1 pk. Pacifiers
- ❑ 1 toy
- ❑ 1 diaper bag
- ❑ 1 item for MOM
- ❑ 1 baby cap
- ❑ 1 baby sweater



Carlisle First Church of the Brethren 2025

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

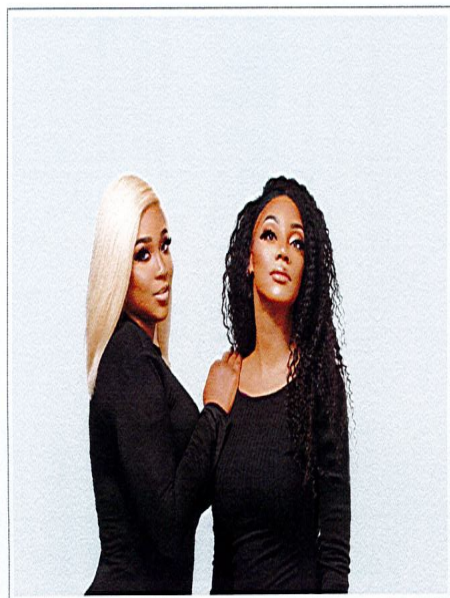
Fire In The Glen, March 22nd, Celtic



1340 Forge Rd, Carlisle, PA
17013
Free of Charge
7:00pm
Refreshments



Elly Cooke, May 24th Country Gospel



The Fisher Girls, April 26th

Gospel

Frank N' Bob, June 21, Acoustic Classic Rock



The Lehman Center Auxiliary Presents

34TH ANNUAL AUCTION

benefiting

children's AID SOCIETY
Since 1913



We are excited to invite you to our upcoming Auction, where we aim to make a significant difference in the lives of those who need it the most.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Silent Auction including:

- Art Collectibles
- Theme Baskets
- Gift Certificates
- Autographed Sports items.

Live Auction featuring:

- New Merchandise
- Household goods
- Handmade items
- Unique itmes

Delicious Food starting at 12p.m.

Enjoy a delectable spread of food and refreshments before & throughout the event.

To include

- Homemade Soups
- Bar-B-Que
- Homemade Pies

Live Auction & Virtual available

Some of our items will be available 'Virtually' prior to the Live Auction starting Saturday April 26th till Monday April 28th! Visit our website for the Auction catalog!



Contact Us
717-845-5771



More Information
www.cassd.org/casauction.html



5 P.M.

29

APRIL

NEW FAIRVIEW CHURCH

1873 NEW FAIRVIEW CHURCH RD
YORK, PA, 17403

children's AID SOCIETY
Since 1913



SAVE THE DATE!
MAY 15, 2025
OPEN HOUSE FROM
3:30 - 5:00 PM

**OFFICIAL RIBBON CUTTING &
DEDICATION AT 5:00 PM**

The Werner Early Learning
Childcare Center
636 West Poplar Street
York, PA 17401

For more information email
WELCC@casd.org

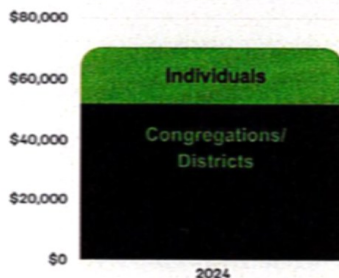


2024 One Great Hour
of Sharing gifts

130 Individuals

102 Organizations

TOTAL \$72,437



Upcoming Special Offerings



Pentecost
Offering

June 8, 2025



Mission
Offering

September 14, 2025



Advent
Offering

December 14, 2025



One Great Hour
of Sharing

March 15, 2026

Learn more at
www.brethren.org/offerings

Scan to give an offering



[www.brethren.org/
giveoffering](http://www.brethren.org/giveoffering)



Church of the Brethren
Mission Advancement Office
1451 Dundee Ave. Elgin, IL 60120

An inter-denominational ministry
working for unity of disciples of Christ
and spreading the gospel to the world



Join Chaplains In the Park
At Codorus State Campground
May 25 - August 31
Sunday Services 9:30-10:30 AM
At the Amphitheater

Ways Your Congregation Can Support:

- **PRAYER! GOD'S WILL BE DONE IN THE PARKS & THROUGH CHAPLAINS**
- **ATTEND A SERVICE & LET THE PARK MANAGEMENT KNOW HOW MUCH YOU APPRECIATE HAVING THE CHAPLAIN TEAM MINISTERING THERE**
- **SEND A FINANCIAL GIFT OR SIGN UP FOR YOUR CHURCH TO PARTNER AND HELP SUPPORT MINISTRY NEEDS AND/OR A CHAPLAIN'S FAMILY**
- **DONATE CRAFT SUPPLIES, ACTIVITIES, GAMES, RESOURCES**
- **VOLUNTEER! YOU MAY SERVE JUST ONCE ALL SUMMER OR MORE OFTEN, GIVING OF YOUR PRESENCE IN THE PARK BLESSES OUR MINISTRY SO MUCH!**

HERE ARE AREAS OF SERVICE:

- + **Children's church:** You may lead a lesson or craft during the message to the parents (State Clearances Required)
- + **Sunday Morning Worship Team** during services
- + **Providing fellowship activities** for the family during the week (game night, movies, worship music, campfire, etc.)
- + **Visitation Team:** Weekly walk through the campground with the Chaplain to greet & encourage campers

CONTACT: CHAPLAIN AMBER - AMBER.S.BALLOU@OUTLOOK.COM FOR MORE INFO.

DONATE AT PA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES - PACHURCHES.ORG/CHAPLAIN-MINISTRY

UPDATES ON FACEBOOK: PA CAMPGROUND MINISTRY AT CODORUS STATE PARK

2025 Disaster Response Auctions

Brethren Disaster Ministries benefits greatly from the proceeds of several annual disaster relief auctions and other fundraisers. We are very grateful for the time, hard work, dedication, and creativity this represents—almost entirely by volunteer effort.

The dates for the 2025 auctions are listed below. For up-to-date information on the status of each auction, please note the contact information and check for updates closer to the dates of the auctions. We hope to see you there!

May 3: Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Auction—Carroll County Agricultural Center Shipley Arena in Westminster, Md.; Breakfast begins at 7:00 AM. See www.madcob.com/disaster-response-auction or call 443-960-3052

May 16 & 17: Shenandoah District Disaster Ministries Auction & Sale—Rockingham County Fairgrounds in Harrisonburg, Va.; See <https://shencob.org/disaster-auction-and-sale>; www.facebook.com/ShenandoahDistrictBrethrenAuction; or call 540-234-8555

Sept. 26 & 27: Brethren Disaster Relief Auction (Atlantic Northeast and Southern Pennsylvania districts)—Lebanon Valley Expo Center, Lebanon, Pa.; See www.brethrenauction.org; www.facebook.com/BrethrenDisasterRelief; or call 717-823-2745

Planting Your Spring Garden For the Garden of Your Daily Living

Plant Three Rows of peas

Peace of Mind

Peace of Heart

Peace of Soul

Plant Four Rows of Squash

Squash Gossip

Squash Indifference

Squash Grumbling

Squash Selfishness

Plant Four Rows of Lettuce

Lettuce Be Faithful

Lettuce Be Kind

Lettuce Be Patient

Lettuce Really Love One Another

No Garden is Complete without Turnips

Turnip For Meetings

Turnip For Service

Turnip To Help One Another

To Conclude Our Garden We Must Have

Thyme

Thyme For Each Other

Thyme For Family

Thyme for Friends

Water Freely with Patience and
Cultivate with Love. There is much
fruit in your garden because you
REAP WHAT YOU SOW.

Pass it on!

44th Annual Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response **Auction**

www.madcob.com/disaster-response-auction



May 3, 2025

Carroll County Agricultural Center - Shipley Arena
Westminster, Maryland

Sponsored by the Church of the Brethren Mid-Atlantic District

Three Indoor Public Auctions

Saturday, May 3, 2025 - 9:00 a.m. Rain or Shine

Handmade Quilts, Comforts, Baby Quilts & Quilted Wall Hangings

Patterns such as:

Arabella's Courtyard, Dresden Sunbonnet, Heart of Roses, Autumn Leaves, Flower Star, Blue Sampler, Pink Cat Squares, Swiss Sheep, Millie Day Dresses, Sunflowers, Happy Batiks, Single Irish Chain, Maple Leaf, Fruity Fun, Nature Walk, My Mercantile Blocks, Wacky Zoo, Blue Flowers, Hearts & Feathers, Pin Wheel, Diagonal Rectangles and more!

Plus

Woodworking tools, handmade crafts, baked goods, folk art, glassware, furniture, garden and hand tools, small appliances, antiques, collectibles, pictures, toys, books, and more!

Plant Sale – 8:00 a.m.
General Auction – 9:00 a.m.
Specialty Auction – 9:30 a.m.
Tools in General Auction – 10:00 a.m.
Quilt Auction – 12:15 p.m.



Look for these Specialty Auction Items

Arariba Bowl with Walnut Foot, Red Moose Lodge Rental, 2007 Honda CH80 Scooter, Oak Coffee Table, Vintage Anchor Hocking Green Dishware, Antique Cradle, Silk Wreath, Wood Jewelry Cabinet, Adams English Ironstone Platter, Children's Painted Wooden Rockers, Williams-Sonoma Cookbooks, Homemade Cakes, Purple Heart Dried Flower Vase, Drop Leaf Table, Vintage Milk Glass, Children's Table with Bench, The Escape Cabin Rental, and much more!

Food Service

Breakfast 7:00-9:30 Lunch 10:30-2:00 All other food booths open at 10:00 a.m.

Homemade Pies, Donuts, Ice Cream, Soups, Hot Dogs, Vegetable and Fruit Salads, Turkey Barbeque and Country Ham Sandwiches, Dessert Stand, Bake Table, Drink Stands, Food Service, etc.

All proceeds from the auction go to:

**The Church of the Brethren Emergency Disaster Fund and
the Mid-Atlantic District transportation fund for disaster response.**

Terms: cash, check and credit card.

Church of the Brethren Mid-Atlantic District, Robert Wilson, Sales Manager
ATM Machine located in Shipley Arena.

Not responsible for any accidents on premises.

Cover photos (starting top, clockwise) BDM, Eglise des Freres au Congo, Debbie Noffsinger and Melodie Bernhard.

Thank You!

\$22,485 was raised through this booklet for the Disaster Response Auction.

Thank you to the churches, businesses, organizations and individuals that placed listings or ads in our Auction Booklet. We very much appreciate your support of the Disaster Response programs in this way.

Please bring
your own
chair, seating
is limited!



Mark your
calendar for
next year's
Auction on
May 2, 2026

Child Care Available

Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Be sure to pick up your children for lunch! We appreciate prompt pickup at 3:00 p.m. so the caregivers can clean up.

Thank you!



Photo courtesy of BDM

Can you help? Auction Day Volunteers Needed!!

If you want to help at the auction, call Jeff McKee at 443-547-5958 to make arrangements in advance, or, on auction day, go to the information booth to be assigned a task.

Many hands make the work light. Thanks!

Please visit our sister districts' Disaster Relief Auctions

Shenandoah District Disaster Ministries Auction & Sale – May 16-17, 2025
Rockingham County Fairgrounds, Harrisonburg, Va
www.shencob.org/disaster-auction-and-sale

Brethren Disaster Relief Auction in PA – September 26-27, 2025
Lebanon Valley Expo Center, Lebanon, Pa
www.brethrenreliefauction.org

NEW & RENEW CONFERENCE 2025



God is Doing a New Thing

Isaiah 43:19

MAY 14-16, 2025 | ELCIN, IL

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN GENERAL OFFICES AND VIRTUAL

New & Renew is a vibrant hybrid gathering focused on church planting and church renewal. This event is rooted in worship and prayer that equips, nurtures, and stimulates practical, creative ministry.

REGISTRATION OPENS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10
WWW.BRETHREN.ORG/NEWANDRENEW

CEU's will include both live sessions and recordings

A continuation of the Church Planting Conference, New & Renew is a Renaissance project of Discipleship & Leadership Formation to grow vital congregations and empower every person to make a positive difference in their world through demonstrating the extraordinary God.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
JONATHAN BROOKS

Jonathan Brooks serves as Lead Pastor at Lawndale Christian Community Church. As well as the Chief Inspiration Officer for Lawndale Christian Ministries which includes Lawndale Christian Health Center, Lawndale Christian Development Corporation and Lawndale Christian Legal Center.

Pastah J, as he is affectionately called, is a sought-after speaker, writer, artist, organizer and community developer. He has contributed to numerous blogs, articles and books and is the author of the book *Church Forsaken: Practicing Presence in Neglected Neighborhoods*.

Jonathan has a Bachelor of Architecture from Tuskegee University, Master of Arts in Teaching from National Louis University, as well as a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry from Northern Seminary with an emphasis in Christian Community Development. He resides in the North Lawndale neighborhood on the West Side of Chicago.



Sponsored by the Church of the Brethren through the Office of Discipleship & Leadership Formation and the New & Renew Advisory Team


 Church of the Brethren



Roots and Branches

Jeremiah 17:7-8

Young Adult Conference

May 23 – 25, 2025

Brethren Woods Camp and Retreat Center
(Keezletown, VA)

Registration: March 1 – May 1 • \$250

www.brethren.org/yaa/yac

Young Adult Conference offers people ages 18-35 a chance to enjoy fellowship, worship, recreation, Bible study, service projects and more... with other fantastic young adults!

Do you wish YAC was longer? It can be! Add on YAC MAX to your registration and stick around on Sunday for lunch and a long afternoon of fellowship!

Questions?
Contact Becky Ullom Naugle
bullomnaugle@brethren.org
847-429-4385



Church of the Brethren



National Junior High Conference

June 20-22, 2025

Juniata College • Huntingdon, PA

Gentleness, commanded in scripture and named as a "fruit of the Spirit," is not valued by the culture around us. How would our relationships with each other and with God change if gentleness guided us? What does it mean to "Let your gentleness be known?"

Come explore these questions
with us this summer!

Register
NOW!

www.brethren.org/yaa/njhc

Registration fee: \$275 (Until June 1)

For Junior High Youth (those who have completed grades 6 – 8) **and their advisors.**

Scholarships (intercultural and travel) are available.

Questions?
Contact Becky Ullom Naugle
Director of Youth/Young Adult Ministries
bullomnaugle@brethren.org or 847-429-4385



Church of the Brethren
www.brethren.org

Church of the Brethren Ministers' Association Pre-Annual Conference Continuing Education Event

A PLACE FOR EVERY BODY: DISABILITY, ACCESSIBILITY, AND THE CHURCH

July 1-2, 2025 • Greensboro, North Carolina



JEANNE DAVIES serves as the Executive Director for the Anabaptist Disabilities Network. Jeanne has a Master of Divinity degree from Bethany Theological Seminary, a Graduate Certificate in Disability and Ministry from Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan, and a Graduate Certificate in Homiletic Peer Coaching from Vanderbilt University Divinity School. Jeanne is the author of *Believing and Belonging: An Accessible Anabaptist Membership Curriculum*, an illustrated curriculum of 26 lessons for youth and adults written at a third-grade reading level.

In the U.S., more than 25% of adults have some type of disability. About 8.5% of children have been diagnosed with a developmental disability. People living in rural areas experience higher rates of disability than those in urban areas. Whether we are aware or not, we have many disabled people in our congregations. Many more are not present because of barriers to access and belonging. Jesus invited everyone to the table, meeting needs and calling forth gifts. How might we create congregations that have a place for everybody, and live into the fullness of the body of Christ?

Jeanne will guide us through three sessions:

- Tuesday evening: What Disables Us?
- Wednesday morning: Creating Accessible Congregations
- Wednesday afternoon: Accessible Worship

Suggested Reading:

- *Everybody Belongs, Serving Together: Inclusive Church Ministry with People with Disabilities* by Terry DeYoung and Mark Stephenson
- "Toward Accessible Worship: The Experiences and Insights of Christians with Disabilities," *Journal of Disability and Religion*, 2024, Vol. 28, No. 2, 189–219, by Erik W. Carter, Michael Tuttle, Emilee Span, Charis Ling and Tiffany B. Jones
https://bcdd.soe.baylor.edu/sites/g/files/ecbvkj1796/files/2024-11/toward_accessible_worship_the_experiences_and_insights_of_christians_with_disabilities_1.pdf

ARRIVAL/REGISTRATION

Tuesday, July 1
4:00 - 6:00 pm

EVENT

Tuesday, July 1
6:00 - 9:00 pm
Wednesday, July 2
9:00 - 11:45 am / 1:15 - 4:00 pm

COMPLIMENTARY DINNER

offered Tuesday, July 1 to all attendees, 5:00 - 5:45 pm, just prior to the opening session (advance registration required for meal; attendees' children may be included if registered)

LUNCHEON

(available for purchase)
Wednesday, July 2
12:00 noon - 1:00 pm

More information and registration:
www.brethren.org/ministryoffice



Church of the Brethren

Register online at www.brethren.org/ministryoffice beginning March 5, 2025
or by mail using the 2025 Event Registration Form on reverse

O: THE BRETHREN BIBLE INSTITUTE

155 Denver Road
Denver, PA 17517

Date _____

) PLEASE SEND _____ PACKET(S) OUTLINING MORE COMPLETELY THE 2025
SUMMER BIBLE INSTITUTE (APPLICATION FORMS INCLUDED)

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

52ND ANNUAL BRETHREN BIBLE INSTITUTE



SUMMER TERM
JULY 21-25, 2025
(ON THE CAMPUS OF
ELIZABETHTOWN COLLEGE,
ELIZABETHTOWN, PA)

"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the
word of God." - ROMANS 10:17

Sponsored by the

BRETHREN REVIVAL FELLOWSHIP

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BRETHREN LIFE AND THOUGHT - This course acquaints the students with the history and teaching of Brethren from the early 1700's down to the present day. Essential themes of Brethren belief and practice will be highlighted. This is a two-part class. Plan to take both parts.

THE BOOK OF ROMANS - Systematic theology cannot be complete without including the Book of Romans. Within its depths, we mine the reality of universal sinfulness; justification made available to all mankind; sanctification as evidence of new life in Christ; and the future glorification of saints. Practical applications written at the conclusion of this letter are useful to mature believers and those starting the Christian life.

STUDY OF DAVID - From obscurity to kingship, David exhibits a heart devoted to God. This study will help develop and apply life principles, observe types of Christ, and explore key themes in the life of this exciting Bible character.

GOING THE NEXT STEP: DEVELOPING SPIRITUAL MATURITY - It should be the goal of every believer to grow more like Jesus Christ and develop and mature in our faith. This class will focus on several spiritual disciplines or habits every Christian needs to develop in this process of spiritual maturity.

WOMEN SET FREE: A STUDY OF WOMEN IN THE GOSPELS - In a culture where they were often treated as second-class citizens, Jesus welcomed women into his kingdom. We will study Mary and Martha, the woman at the well, the woman caught in adultery and more as we look both at the role of women in the ministry of Jesus and in the church today.

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY - This course will be a general introduction to the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures). Attention will be given to the content, outline, and general theme of each Old Testament book. Theological implications of each book will also be considered. This is a two-part class. Plan to take both parts.

THE SPREADING FLAME: STUDIES IN ACTS - This course will look at the birth of the Church, and its growth and expansion from a small group in Jerusalem to a world-changing faith. The major themes and personalities of the early church will be noted, and practical applications will be made.

CREATED IN HIS LIKENESS - We have been uniquely created by God in His image, which gives each of us inherent value, purpose, and dignity. Understanding this important concept helps us to know how to live out our identity in Christ and how to honor God through our actions, relationships, and choices.

INSTRUCTORS

Craig Alan Myers – Ordained minister...serving as pastor in the Blue River Covenant Brethren Church in Indiana...assistant editor of BRF WITNESS...BRF chairman...on the executive board of CBC...M. Div. from Ashland Theological Seminary.

Eric Brubaker – Ordained minister...serving in the Middle Creek Church...editor of BRF WITNESS...self-employed draftsman...M. Div. from Evangelical School of Theology.

Carl Brubaker – Ordained minister in the Atlantic Northeast District of the Church of the Brethren...BRF treasurer...BMF treasurer...evangelist for revival meetings.

Wilmer Horst – Ordained minister...member at Hade's Brethren Church...high school teacher at Maranatha Christian School.

John Minnich – Post-High Sunday School teacher at White Oak Church...retreat leader and speaker...a technologist in the Cardiology Department at Lancaster General Hospital.

Steve Hershey – teacher, speaker, mentor, storyteller at White Oak Church...field services specialist for Lancaster DHIA...dairy farmer.

Principal/Coordinator

Kenneth Leininger – Ordained minister in the Atlantic Northeast District of the Church of the Brethren...antiquarian book dealer...BRF event coordinator.

JULY 21-25, 2025**BRETHREN BIBLE INSTITUTE
COURSES**

8:50 - 10:20

BRETHREN LIFE AND THOUGHT PT. 1.....(Myers)
THE BOOK OF ROMANS.....(Horst)
STUDY OF DAVID.....(Minnich)

10:30 - 12:00

BRETHREN LIFE AND THOUGHT PT. 2.....(Myers)
DEVELOPING SPIRITUAL MATURITY..(Carl Brubaker)
WOMEN IN THE GOSPELS.....(Hershey)

1:30 - 3:00

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY PT. 1.....(Eric Brubaker)
STUDIES IN ACTS.....(Myers)
CREATED IN HIS LIKENESS.....(Horst)

3:00 - 4:30

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY PT. 2.....(Eric Brubaker)

COST

Dormitory Students.....\$300.00
Commuting Students.....\$125.00

TO REGISTER

For application forms, write to:

Brethren Bible Institute
155 Denver Road, Denver, PA 17517

Please send for an application form early.
Your application process must be completed by June 25, 2025.

BRETHREN BIBLE INSTITUTE

BBI is intended to provide systematic instruction in the Bible for any person 16 years of age or older. Students may take one, two, or three courses. The cost is the same regardless of how many courses are taken. It is expected that dorm students take at least three classes unless special arrangements have been made with the principal prior to the opening of the institute.

Students will meet for chapel each morning at 8:10 AM with classes to follow. Classes meet every day, Monday through Friday. Each class is 1 ½ hours in length.

Total cost for dormitory students (including room board/tuition) is \$300.00 for the week. The cost for commuting students is \$125.00.

SCHOLARSHIP AID

Scholarship aid is available to students who cannot afford the tuition. To apply for the scholarship aid you should write a letter requesting the aid, and supply the name, address, and phone number of your pastor, elder, minister, or other church leader to whom you are accountable. Send requests to the BBI address.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS

A certificate of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be offered for ordained ministers at a rate of one tenth of a CEU for each hour spent in class. Therefore each completed course will count as .75 CEU. Ministers should request the certificate when they register.

LICENSED MINISTER TRAINING

The Brethren Life and Thought class and the Old Testament Survey class can be applied toward licensed ministers training for ordination within the Church of the Brethren. Both classes are double periods. Plan to attend both periods. Call Kenneth Leininger at 717-336-1287 for details.

DISCLAIMER

BBI is sponsored by the Brethren Revival Fellowship, Elizabethtown College is not affiliated with and does not necessarily endorse the opinions, beliefs, statements, writings, methods, or philosophies expressed by this conference/event or its individual participants.



Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership

615 National Road West • Richmond IN 47374-4019
765-983-1824 • 1-800-287-8822
academy@bethanyseminary.edu or academy@brethren.org

Hello Students, Coordinators, Supervisors, and District Representatives,

I wanted to make you aware of an upcoming transition in the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership. I have accepted a new position as the Director of the Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center (SVMC) and will be concluding my time as the Coordinator for English-Language Ministry Training Programs. My last day in the position will be March 21, 2025. Even though I am departing the Brethren Academy, SVMC is a longtime partner in ministry education and thus I am grateful to still be in a role that supports the good and faithful work of the Brethren Academy.

A search process is underway for my replacement. In the interim, you may be in touch with Terri Moses, Administrative Assistant (moseste@bethanyseminary.edu, 765-983-1824) if you have any administrative questions and in touch with Janet Ober Lambert, Director (oberlja@bethanyseminary.edu) with any programmatic questions. Even as I transition out of the Coordinator for English-Language Ministry Training Programs role, I will continue to fulfill teaching requirements for the upcoming Practical Ministry Colloquium course (April 16-June 10, 2025), a Directed Independent Study Unit connected to this summer's Pre-Annual Conference Ministers' Association Event (July 1-2, 2025), and a new Leadership and Administration course (August 13-October 7, 2025).

I have enjoyed my time with the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership and have especially appreciated the time and ministry shared with each of you. As Paul writes in his letter to the Philippians: "I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now" (3:2b-4). Even as I leave this role, I will continue to hold you in my prayers and I continue to look forward to opportunities to partner in the good work of proclaiming the gospel, together.

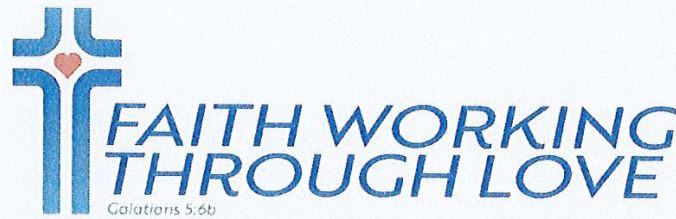
In Christ,

Audrey Hollenberg-Duffey

"I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil 3:5).

Church of the Brethren

2025 Annual Conference Ballot



The Nominating Committee and Standing Committee present the following ballot for the 2025 Annual Conference elections in Greensboro, North Carolina. Complete biographical information is available on the Annual Conference website: www.brethren.org/ac2025/business and will be printed in the Conference booklet.

For Moderator-Elect

Dennis Beckner – Columbia City Church of the Brethren, Northern Indiana District

Glenn E. Bollinger – Mill Creek Church of the Brethren, Shenandoah District

For Annual Conference Program and Arrangements Committee

Amber T. Harris – Peace Covenant Church of the Brethren, Virilina District

Marty Keeney – Stone Church of the Brethren, Middle Pennsylvania District

For Church of the Brethren Mission and Ministry Board – Area 1

Donna Parcell – Indian Creek Church of the Brethren, Atlantic Northeast District

Eric Ramirez – Ebenezer Church of the Brethren, Atlantic Northeast District

For Church of the Brethren Mission and Ministry Board – Area 4

Samuel Gahm – Messiah Church of the Brethren, Missouri/Arkansas District

Sarah Mason – Monitor Church of the Brethren, Western Plains District

For Pastoral Compensation and Benefits Advisory Committee

John R. Hipps – Bridgewater Church of the Brethren, Shenandoah District

Brenda Westfall – Mt. Morris Church of the Brethren, Illinois/Wisconsin District

For Review and Evaluation Committee

Illexene Alphonse – Miami Haitian Church of the Brethren, Atlantic Southeast District

Lupita Ortiz Cruz – Mount Hermon Church of the Brethren, Virilina District

Chris Douglas – Highland Avenue Church of the Brethren, Illinois/Wisconsin District

Anna Lisa Gross – Beacon Heights Church of the Brethren, Northern Indiana District

Gene Hollenberg – Union Center Church of the Brethren, Northern Indiana District

Del Keeney – Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren, Southern Pennsylvania District

Deb Oskin – Living Peace Church of the Brethren, Southern Ohio/Kentucky District

Daniel L. Rudy – Monte Vista Church of the Brethren, Virilina District

Carol Scheppard – Lebanon Church of the Brethren, Shenandoah District

Paul Schrock – Northview Church of the Brethren, South/Central Indiana District