



ANE Today

Volume 47 Issue 3

May/June 2016

ATLANTIC NORTHEAST DISTRICT
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
www.ane-cob.org



ANE's 3-Year Emphasis

ALL IN:
Going. Glowing. Growing.
Godly.

Matthew 28:18-20 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Each year ANE will be focusing on one of the words for being ALL IN. For 2016, we are highlighting the first word ... **GOING!**

We need members of Atlantic Northeast District to partner, pray, and support the ministries of your congregation and the ministries of Atlantic Northeast District. Share your stories with us so that we can celebrate together being ALL IN for the good of God's Kingdom. **LET'S GET GOING!!**

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What's New in the District?

New Members

Drexel Hill - *Letter:* Brandon Hanks, Katrina Hanks

East Fairview - *Baptism:* Charles Dietz, Lori Dietz, Autumn Sauder, Brett Sauder;
Reaffirmation: Leila James, Ann Moyer, Todd Stoltzfus

Elizabethtown - *Baptism:* Samuel Becker, Chloe Ebersole, Benjamin Heinz, Isaac Kraenbring

Hempfield - *Letter:* Sara Basom; *Reaffirmation:* Mark Beach, Naomi Beach

Lewiston - *Baptism:* Nsimba Miandabu

Mechanic Grove - *Letter:* June Howell, Cinda Showalter, James Showalter

District Directories

The 2016 District Directory has been printed. If you would like to purchase one, the cost is \$9 (includes postage) or \$7 if picked up.

District Directory Corrections

P. 24 Florin - Intentional Interim Pastor: Galen Hackman

P. 37 Annual Conference 2016—Greensboro June 29-July 3

P. 47 Kevin Derr: email pastorhkd@gmail.com

P. 52 Brandon Hanks: 7525 West Chester Pike,
Upper Darby, PA 19082,
Brandon.drexelhillchurch@gmail.com

P. 58 Musa Mambula, add Apt. C-22



Jan Reed Announces Retirement

It is with a mixture of joy, thankfulness, and sadness that we announce the retirement of one of the Atlantic Northeast District Staff. Jan Reed is ANE's Communication Manager and has been a vital part of the ANE District Staff for the past 21 years. She has made the decision to retire, with April 28 being her last day in the District Office.

Jan began her employment journey with ANE in February 1995 as an office secretary. Jan's dedication to the work of the district, willingness to jump in and do whatever needs to be done, and eye for detail allowed her to juggle many roles in her tenure with ANE. Jan's sense of humor, kind heart, and ability to be a team player has earned her appreciation from both staff members and district leadership. Jan's ability to "fit in" has helped ANE navigate many district transitions, staff assignment configurations, and personnel shifts. Her steady manner and knowledge of the district has been invaluable in assimilating new staff and equipping others to carry out their work and ministry assignments.

A Staff Luncheon will be held to honor Jan and celebrate her years of service to ANE. Jan has contributed 21 years of experience to this ministry, and her contributions will be remembered fondly. Please join me in wishing her God's best in the next steps of her journey. Cards or notes to express your appreciation for Jan and her work should be sent to: Jan Reed, 500 E. Cedar Street, Elizabethtown, PA 17022; or, you can email her at: jreed@ane-cob.org



Ministry

Craig H. Smith

Pastoral News

Akron – Called Christopher Reinford as Associate Pastor.

Annaville - Called Paul & Brandy Liepelt as Pastoral Team beginning 7/1.

East Cocalico – Interviewing. John Shaffer serves as Interim.

Ephrata – Interviewing. Internal Interim Team.

Florin – Galen Hackman called as Intentional Interim.

Green Tree – Profile developing. David Leiter announced his retirement.

Long Run – Joel Hershey and Bob Spencer serve as Interim Team.

Myerstown – Called Jack Harpold as Interim.

Mohrsville – Vote pending.

Paxton – Interviewing. Mary Etta Reinhart serves as Interim.

Quakertown – Interviewing. Erv Huston serves as Interim.

Stevens Hill – Called Andrew Hamilton as Pastor to begin mid-May.

Wilmington – Negotiating. Ruby Bean serves as Interim.



Newly Licensed Minister
Sandra David Soto (Puerta del Cielo)



In Loving Memory . . .

Mary Jo Flory-Steury, associate general secretary of the Church of the Brethren and executive director of the denomination's Office of Ministry, passed away March 4.

Betty Breidenstine, wife of Jack Breidenstine (former Spring Creek pastor – retired), passed away March 26.

Coaches' Corner – Craig H. Smith

Seven Questions to Advance Your Church

1. What does your preferred future look like?
2. What steps will you take now – today or this week – to move you toward the preferred future?
3. What obstacles might get in your way?
4. How will you navigate these potential obstacles?
5. What opportunities are visible on the road to your preferred future?
6. How will you embrace these opportunities?
7. What plans are being made to celebrate the mini-victories along the way?

Asking better questions leads to healthier solutions; and healthier solutions lead to a clearer vision; and a clearer vision leads to a brighter future; and a bright future is God's energy for today and ray of hope for tomorrow.

ANE's 3-Year Emphasis

ALL IN: Going. Glowing. Growing. Godly.

For 2016, we are highlighting the first word ... GOING!

A "Going" People

Wyomissing Church of the Brethren has quite a few successful community outreach opportunities we do annually. We begin with an auction. Handmade crafts, baked goods and services are offered--and the auctioneer makes it fun. Families from the community have bought "in home" dinners and have dined with members.

The spring event is the community Easter Egg Hunt, usually the Saturday before Palm Sunday. Eggs are hidden for all ages (even adults), and hot dogs and goodies are offered in the Fellowship Hall for everyone. This is attended by 150+ people, mostly non-members.

Later in the year we have a rummage sale, where most items are priced at a dollar. It helps members declutter and helps those in the community who need it. It's known as a place to get bargains! In November, there is a craft sale with over 30 crafters and vendors. That always draws a crowd. In December, a homemade cookie sale and a craft sale are offered.

Our band, Notes of Faith, have a concert at least once a year. Families, friends, and others come to the church for an evening of good music and fellowship.

These are the things we do that are supported by both our church members and the community at large. Anytime we can bring the community into the church, we try to maximize the presence of the church by signage, handouts, or collecting email addresses.

**CHURCH 2 CHURCH - Ready to Serve**

The ANE District Witness and Outreach Commission recently kicked off a new opportunity for our district congregations to network and work together. Church 2 Church is a "community building" ministry outreach opportunity that allows churches with needs to partner with churches who are interested in a service project.

If your congregation has a need for a little extra help with a need such as painting, landscape clean up, or cleaning out rooms in the church, please be in touch with the ANE District Office (see below). We now have a "Call List" of potential volunteers who have agreed to be available to spend a day helping a sister congregation with a need. We are actively looking for ways that we can help our sister ANE District congregations with needs.

Church 2 Church will be a great way for small groups in our congregations to reach out to meet needs in other communities. This is also a great way to become acquainted with and have the opportunity for fellowship with our brothers and sisters in other ANE congregations.

Further details are available online (www.ane-cob.org) on the Witness & Outreach Commission page.

*If you have questions or would like to add your group to the "call list", please contact:
Atlantic Northeast District Office (717-367-4730), or the ANE District Director of
Witness and Outreach (mreinhardt@ane-cob.org)*

The Barnabas Fund

<u>2016 Application Deadlines</u>	<u>2016 Meeting Dates</u>
April 25	May 2
July 11	July 18
October 17	October 24

The Barnabas Fund has been established to share the blessing of financial resources with those who express a ministry-driven need. The Fund seeks to encourage the ministry of congregations through a grant-based ministry investment strategy that seeks Kingdom-based ministry results through: shared resources, fiscal accountability, ministry planning, and economic partnering.

BARNABAS FUND RECIPIENTS

Consideration will be given to congregations whose characteristics include:

- A verifiable active outreach ministry
- Located in and serving a community with a significant economically challenged population.
- Limited resources due to circumstances beyond their control
- Sizeable community needs that surpass the congregation's ability to respond.
- There must be a clear evidence of Gospel and Mission

Applicants will be contacted within 10 days **following** the scheduled meeting. ***Please contact the District Office for an Application.***

UITT Telephone Conference

Please be in prayer for the ongoing monthly phone conferences we are conducting with our ANE District urban congregations and John Neff of E³ Ministries. These phone conferences focus on helping our urban churches cultivate tangible tools and strategies to implement or engage in to impact their growth. The bottom line is reflecting upon the question..."How are we making a difference?"

Participants can join this video conference from home. No need to travel to a distant location to join in this discussion! Please contact Mary Etta Reinhart, Director of Witness and Outreach at mreinhart@ane-cob.org to participate in this important event for urban leaders.

2015 Disaster Relief Auction Update - Tom Fritz, Co-Chair

We want to thank our supporters within the Atlantic Northeast District, the Southern Pennsylvania District, and all of our constituency who donate to the Auction, purchase articles and food and especially those who work hard to make the Auction a success. Our net proceeds from the 2015 auction were \$332,790. These funds were distributed as follows on behalf of general disaster relief:

- \$77,790 (22%) for supplies to compile 12,000 school kits during the auction. These were shipped directly to the BDM warehouse.
- \$60,000 (18%) restricted for Gifts of the Heart in spring of 2016 (type to be determined at a later date).
- \$155,000 (47%) for Brethren Disaster Ministries.
- \$25,000 (8%) to the Atlantic Northeast District to fund disaster relief trips.
- \$15,000 (5%) for blanket ministry to local shelters.

Our total contributions for 2015, then would be \$332,790. Our prayer is that these distributions will help to alleviate the suffering of God's people in this country and throughout his world. To God be the Glory!

An Important Informational Update Regarding Brethren Disaster Relief Auction and Atlantic Northeast District

The ANE District Witness and Outreach Commission would like to share an update regarding the relationship between the Brethren Disaster Relief Auction (BDRA) and the Atlantic Northeast District (ANE), specifically concerning the funding of the travel expenses of the ANE District volunteers who participate in disaster relief projects sponsored by Brethren Disaster Ministries.

For nearly 40 years, the Brethren Disaster Relief Auction has diligently labored in raising funds for the Brethren Disaster Ministries. The yearly Auction is truly "Brethren Gathering for a purpose to honor and glorify God" and over the years has contributed millions of dollars for these purposes. In addition, the BDRA recently sent \$500,000 to the Nigerian Crisis Fund to assist and support our Nigerian Brethren in crisis. We praise God for the work of BDRA over the years and wholeheartedly support the work and mission of the BDRA. We celebrate and thank the many volunteers who have faithfully served and the many who attended the auction over the years to make it a success which ultimately has blessed hundreds of disaster victims over the years. The primary role of BDRA is raising funds for these purposes and the BDRA Board of Directors in their sole discretion determines the distribution of such funds.

Historically, the Witness and Outreach Commission of the ANE District has encouraged volunteers from our ANE District churches to travel to the various Brethren Disaster Ministries projects to serve and help rebuild homes of disaster victims. They have appointed an ANE District Disaster Response Coordinator and area coordinators to oversee the volunteer efforts. In addition, the ANE District has reimbursed those volunteers travelling to disaster response work sites for their travel expenses up to a predetermined amount (current amount is \$400), if requested and funds were available.

Recently, the BDRA, in consultation with the Witness and Outreach Commission, has committed to a one-time per year distribution to the ANE District for disaster response travel expense. In November 2015, the BDRA granted the amount of \$25,000 to fund travel expense in 2016. The ANE District is extremely grateful for this generous contribution from the BDRA.

However, it should be noted that ANE expenses for funding disaster trips in 2016 will exceed this grant. After expending all of the BDRA grant, any additional expenses will come from the newly created ANE District Disaster Benevolence Fund, provided there are sufficient funds. The ANE District has agreed to provide an annual summary to BDRA of how the BDRA grant was administered along with projected trips and funds needed for the following year. This summary will assist BDRA in determining the BDRA allocation amount for the next year.

Therefore, there are several things that you and your church should be aware of as follows:

1. Any requests for reimbursement for disaster response travel expenses scheduled through the ANE's District Disaster Response Coordinator will be processed through the ANE District.
2. Individuals, churches, or church groups who wish to make donations or who raise funds to help fund disaster response travel may send these funds to the ANE District for the Disaster Benevolence Fund designating these funds for ANE District disaster response travel expense. The funds sent directly to the ANE District in this manner may offset the amount of funding that will be requested from the BDRA.
3. The ANE District Disaster Benevolence Fund is not a part of the annual ANE District Ministry Investment Plan. The Fund was established as a way for our ANE congregations to partner together for special benevolent purposes, as well as to serve as a funding mechanism for ANE District disaster response travel expenses that exceed the annual BDRA contribution.

The Atlantic Northeast District has been extremely blessed to be at the forefront of disaster ministries by the strong financial support through the BDRA's yearly auction and the many volunteers who have traveled to and served on disaster relief projects throughout the country. We are so grateful that the Lord has blessed this work and for the many who have volunteered and supported this work financially. It is our hope that you and your church will continue to support these ministries in the future.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please feel free to contact Mary Etta Reinhart, the Director of Witness and Outreach, in the ANE District Office at 717-367-4730. May the Lord bless you and your church as we labor for the Kingdom for the glory of God and our neighbor's good.



Youth & Young Adults

Jess Ross, Director

Junior High Lock In

Held Feb. 12-13, with swimming, basketball, volleyball, 9 square in the air, dodgeball, kickball, ultimate, football, movies...well there was just no time for sleep! In addition, there was lots of food and great connection with friends. Sarah Kolbe led devotions and a game centered on trusting God.

Junior High AND Senior High Service Project

On March 12th, we had just over 100 people attend this event. Due to the large number, we split into two groups. One group started at the Material Resources Center of MCC in Ephrata. Participants worked at various stations such as recycling, which included things like sorting books, separating the book's spine, covers and pages (spine and covers reused for insulation and pages reused as paper towels) and baling the separated book covers and pages, baling cardboard (cardboard reused for insulation). We also cut up T-shirts (reused as rags for mechanics, plumbers, etc.) and jeans (reused for rugs, comforters, or blankets).

Another group assembled and checked school kits for children (to be distributed to children around the world without basic education materials). While that group was at the MRC, our other group was down the road at Ephrata CoB. Those at the church had the option of dodgeball, an art project, or other games. Mid-morning the groups switched so that all were able to serve at MCC. At noon we gathered for lunch, devotions and then had the option of staying to play.



Youth Peace Team

Congratulations to **Jenna Walmer**, a District Youth Cabinet Alum and member of Palmyra CoB, for being chosen as a member of the Youth Peace Team for 2016! This team travels to camps across the denomination, teaching about peace, justice, and reconciliation. The group also gives peace programs at a variety of camps and conferences over the summer. The goal of the team's work is to talk with other young people about the Christian message and the Brethren tradition of peacemaking.

Camp Swatara Educational Gift

Do you plan to attend one of the five Brethren Colleges or Bethany Seminary in the fall? Are you a member of a Church of the Brethren within the Atlantic Northeast (ANE) District? Do you plan to work the summer at Camp Swatara? If you answered yes to all of those questions, contact me about the Camp Swatara Educational Gift and ask about what funds might be available to you!

Check out the Youth section under Our Ministries on the District website for more details on all events and as always feel free to email me with questions! jross@ane-cob.org

National Youth Opportunity

Explore Your Call July 15 – July 25, Bethany Theological Seminary, Richmond, IN

This summer, come to Bethany. Live on campus and learn with professors. Expand your mind and expand your circle of friends. Have fun in nature. Explore different, exciting paths of Christian ministry. Explore where God is leading you next in life. High school students are encouraged to apply now. Check out bethanyseminary.edu/institute-for-ministry-with-youth-young-adults/eyc/. Due to a generous grant, all qualified applicants will receive a full scholarship.

National Young Adult Opportunity **National Young Adult Conference**

Date: May 27-30, 2016 **Location:** Manchester University, North Manchester, IN

Registration: Register Now! www.brethren.org/yac

Cost: \$250. A non-refundable deposit of \$125 is due within two weeks of registering.

Scholarships: At your request, we will send a letter to your congregation asking them to provide a \$125 scholarship. You must make your request by April 17. Scholarships are also available to BVSers who are currently serving.

Details: "Creating Harmony" Colossians 3:12-17. National Young Adult Conference (NYAC) offers people ages 18-35 the chance to worship and fellowship for four days on the campus.

Nurture Commission



Church Finance Seminar

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 22, 10-11:30 a.m. for this seminar led by Dan Ensinger, CPA, Senior Manager at Weinhold, Nickel & Co. and member at East Cocalico CoB. This event will take place at the District Office with video conferencing possible from designated churches.



ALL IN: Going. Glowing. Growing. Godly. This is our three-year focus for our District. This year we are specifically looking at GOING, and as we do that I want to take this space to tell you about Bible2School and how they are going into public schools to reach children with the word of God.

Section 1546 of the Pennsylvania School Code allows children, with parental permission, to be released from school for religious education. This law allows Bible2School to offer a one-hour program on a weekly basis from September to April. Bible2School is a non-profit organization that provides non-denominational Bible classes to elementary grade students in Lancaster County public schools. Kids participate in lively worship, hear a Bible story, break into small groups to discuss how they can apply the Bible lesson in their lives, and pray together. In the article below, Kent Rice, Pastor of Outreach and Mission at Hempfield CoB, shares some of his thoughts on the organization.

Sunday Might Be Too Late—My Experience With Bible2School

It's been over fifty years since the Supreme Court ruled that organized prayer was not appropriate in public schools and I continue to hear more laments about that ruling than I do celebrations of young people becoming interested in the Gospel! One organization that is "playing by the rules" yet still chalking up victories in Lancaster County, PA is Bible2School. By working within the legal parameters that religious classes can take place if they: are off school grounds; use no public school funds; and are not promoted by school officials, Bible2School impacts hundreds of school children each week with short, simple, clear and creative Christian studies.

Last year was my first year volunteering as a teacher and I remember the first day that the school bus pulled up and the kids came walking briskly (well, running actually!) to the door of a church located a mile away from their elementary school. Eighteen second-graders piled into the room and were *excited* to be there! It was clear that they expected something cool to happen and our group of teachers and small group leaders was not going to disappoint them. But perhaps even more amazing to me was how important I suddenly was to these kids—they gave me high fives, told me about their families, spilled any beverage that wasn't a juice box and then, before you know it, were piling back into the bus. The whole year went like that. My job was leading the large group lessons and this group loved to help act out the stories (with predictably mixed results!). One week we gathered inside a huge inflated "whale" to tell the story of Jonah. It was awesome!

Continued on P. 9

Sunday Might Be Too Late—Continued

Sometimes as I would be trying to convince my small group of three boys to stop playing with everything and answer my questions, I would glance over at my friend Deb's group of three girls sitting quietly and praying with folded hands. But that was okay, because I had one kid in particular (I'll call him "Danny") who was my "problem child"—so unfocused and uncooperative at the beginning that I wondered why he came at all. In fact, the only thing Danny and I agreed on was that my second grade school picture was hilarious! (I had brought it in the first week to show them what I looked like.) But over the year, Danny changed. He started answering real questions about the Bible. He seemed to think more deeply and he stopped withholding high-fives from me. He had really grown, both spiritually and emotionally. And on the last week I gave him my second-grade autographed picture!

Like so many who go on mission trips wanting to minister to others but who end up feeling like *they* were ministered to, so have I felt in my second year of teaching at Bible2School. Last week the third graders (from a different school) whispered along to a Believer's Prayer at the end of a movie—not because their friends were doing it, not because they wanted to earn points with the adults, but because they were owning the knowledge of what a relationship with Jesus Christ can be. My eyes filled with tears at the beautiful sound of city kids who were every conceivable shape, size and color praying together when they could be at recess with their friends.

Not everyone has the luxury of being able to spend their lunch hour with these kids and I'm thankful that my schedule is flexible enough to do it—that as a minister it's even part of "my job." But mostly I'm thankful for every moment in which a child learns that Jesus loves them and that there are people who love them, too. I'm not naïve enough to think they will remember all the lessons I teach, but I *do* believe they will remember that they learned something about God from a couple of caring people once a week. And I will gladly pick up tater tots from the floor for a *year* if even *one* kid comes to understand that nothing can separate him or her from the love of God through Jesus Christ.

Thank God for Bible2School!

Is it not ironic that people will be deeply concerned over the issue of prayer in the public schools but will seldom utilize the opportunity to pray for schoolchildren in this way, against which there can be no law! —Richard Foster

You can partner with Bible2School in a few ways. You could donate financially, be a host site, volunteer your time, and PRAY! To find out more information visit www.bible2school.com.

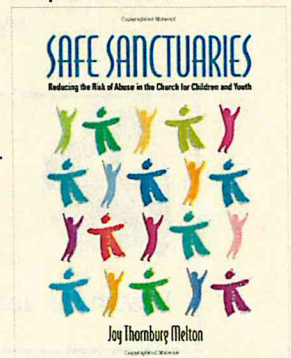
Child Protection

If you were not aware, clearances are now to be renewed every **5 years**. The following is taken from a document from the Department of Human Services of PA: *Beginning August 25, 2015, all volunteers will be required to obtain certifications every 60 months. If an individual or agency, however, elects to renew all certifications at the same time, the date of the oldest certification, rather than the most recent, is the date to be used for the renewal date.* http://keepkidssafe.pa.gov/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/document/C_135249.pdf

This is a very helpful document in that it answers many frequently asked questions. If you are still needing to create or revise your church's Child Protection Policy, here are some of helpful resources.

Safe Sanctuaries

Safe Sanctuaries: Reducing the Risk of Abuse in the Church for Children and Youth (Anniversary Edition) Found on Amazon, as well as other sites. "This ten year anniversary edition of the bestselling Safe Sanctuaries series brings together in one volume- the transformative and foundational information found in the Melton's previous two volumes. Safe Sanctuaries remains the only resource of its kind that offers the tools necessary to train leaders of the church to keep the children and youth safe. This volume is updated to include information on the growing concern around the internet and predators as well as a new section on vulnerable adults."



SafeChurch

"Our 'SafeChurch Project: Protection of Children and Youth from Sexual Abuse'... program helps you to create policies and guidelines developed in alignment with your mission and theological understanding to create a sanctuary where all can gather in an atmosphere of trust and safety. SafeChurch is Samaritan's unique process of working with groups or "Clusters" of congregations from various traditions to help shift congregational culture to proactive engagement of all adults to protect children from sexual harm – not only at church, but in the communities where we live, work, play and go to school."

Their mission is "to help congregations and youth serving organizations become aware of the need to be proactive and provide leadership in the community to keep children and teens safe." Please visit www.scclanc.org/clergy-congregation-care/safechurch to find out more information. This program serves Lancaster, Lebanon, and York counties.

Senior Adult Ministries

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ATLANTIC NORTHEAST SENIORS

July 14 – One Day Mystery Tour; an exciting adventure. Cost per person is \$87 per person.

August 1 to 5 – Five days and four nights: **Indiana Quilt Gardens and Ohio Amish.** View planted quilt gardens in four different areas, spend one night at Ohio's Carlisle Inn in Sugar Creek, visit the Warther Knife and Sailing Ship museum and much more. Cost per person double occupancy is \$763.



September 15 – **Newseum** one-day trip to Washington, D.C. Each of the seven floors is packed with interactive exhibits such as Pulitzer Prize photographs, Berlin Wall, our presidents, spectacular view of our nation's capital and many more. Cost is \$75 per person.

October 17 to 20 – **Noah's Ark and Creation Museum** -a walk through the 70,000 sq. ft. Creation Museum, enjoy a 2-hr. gospel music cruise and a tour on Noah's Ark which will open around August 1. A stop at Flight 93 site is planned on the way home. Cost per person is \$634.



November 14 to 18 – **Branson Christmas Shows** Four nights and five days, staying in same hotel and experiencing 12 musical and comedy shows. We will fly to and from Philadelphia Airport to Springfield, Missouri. Cost per person double occupancy is \$1,525.

For more information on any of these trips, contact Earl Ziegler at 717-560-6488 or email at evzieg@gmail.com. Detailed itineraries are available upon request.



District Women's Camp

August 21-23 Camp Swatara

Speaker: Rosie Weary



Watch for details and registration materials which will be sent to congregations in May.

~ OPPORTUNITIES ~

Fellowship Tour in Nigeria August 2016

Opportunities

- Listen to people's stories, build relationships
- Minister to the "most vulnerable" in God's kingdom
- Visit Care-Centers (including an Interfaith community)
- Provide children's activities at sponsored schools
- Peace and Reconciliation work (Alternatives to Violence Program)

Requirements

- A caring heart, love for God's people
- Good health
- Adaptability, flexibility

"**Zumunci a Kafa Take**" is a Nigerian expression meaning "Fellowship is in the Feet." This tour would focus on "walking side-by-side" in support of the Nigerian people. Possibilities could include food distribution, assisting in medical clinics, offering children's activities, and visiting care-centers, although the primary focus would be building relationships and hearing stories. Post high/young adults are especially invited to participate. Contact Donna Parcell at dparcell@comcast.net or Carl Hill @ (847) 429-4361 or crhill@brethren.org.



Want to sponsor a young person? Donations for underwriting trip costs for youth and young adults are being accepted at the District Office. Send donations to Atlantic Northeast District, 500 E. Cedar Street, Elizabethtown, PA 17022, with 'Nigerian Tour' in the memo line. Make checks payable to *Atlantic Northeast District*.



You Can Make A Difference

Did you know that there is a humanitarian disaster here in our own backyard? And did you know that we can easily do something about it? South Allison Hill in Harrisburg is a blighted urban area with the

highest poverty rate between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and it's right here in our own backyard.

The good news is that Harrisburg First Church of the Brethren is engaged in an effective, well-regarded ministry helping improve people's lives on 'The Hill,' and You can make a difference!

You can help the people living on South Allison Hill by lending your heart, using your feet, and donating to bcmPEACE as part of its participation in the **Highmark Walk For A Healthy Community**. Sponsored by Highmark Blue Shield for Harrisburg area nonprofits, it is bcmPEACE's annual fundraiser. We're hoping to raise \$15,000 to expand its reach.

The Walk will be held **Saturday, May 21st at Harrisburg Area Community College**.

Ways You Can Help

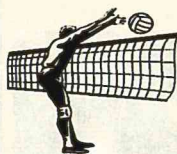
1. **Form a Team of Walkers from your congregation or youth group.**
2. **Be an individual Walker** and solicit donations to support your walking
3. **Donate to an existing walker or walk team.** If you can't be there in person you can be a 'virtual walker'
4. **Donate directly to bcmPEACE**

Choose any of these options online by going to **bcmPEACE.org** or you can send donations (payable to "bcmPEACE") to bcmPEACE, 219 Hummel St., Harrisburg, PA 17104. We'd love to talk with you about helping bcmPEACE, so feel free to call Ron Tilley, Executive Director at 717-234-0415 x18.

Bus to Annual Conference

Ken Kreider is again offering transportation to and housing at Annual Conference. Join us for a comfortable trip to Greensboro, NC. For information, please call 717-367-7622, email kreiderk@etown.edu, or write to J. Kenneth Kreider, 1300 Bear Creek Rd., Elizabethtown, PA 17022.

District Volleyball Tournament!



Plan to participate in the District Volleyball Tournament scheduled for May 21 at Elizabethtown College.

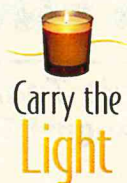
Flyers and registration forms have been mailed to congregations and online registration will be available soon (www.ane-cob.org). Registrations are due in the District Office by May 1.



Community Fun Night at Ephrata CoB

July 4th Community Fun Night plans have begun. Mark your calendars now for Monday, July 4th (rain date July 5th) as Ephrata Church of the Brethren hosts the community in their backyard and shows the love of Jesus to our neighbors.

There will be LIVE music, Pony Rides, Juggling by the DKers, games, spin art, barrel train, inflatables, and much more. Delicious food and milkshakes are available to purchase from the Youth Groups. The fun starts at 5pm and the fireworks begin at 9:30! Email Linda Fahnestock at lindafah@ptd.net for more information. Share our link on Facebook --- July 4th Community Fun Night --- with all your friends!



Congregational Collage for Annual Conference

The 2016 Annual Conference theme is "Carry the Light." Program and Arrangements Committee is inviting all congregations to send creative pictures of different ministries from your church – the choir, the youth activities, mission work, fund-raising events, fellowship, etc. that show how your congregation carries the light of Christ. We would like to develop a "congregational collage" that will be displayed on the video screens in the main hall. David Sollenberger will use his creativity to develop the collage.

We are requesting no more than ten (10) pictures in jpeg format. It would be good if one of them could be your church building. This might make a good project for your youth or others in your congregation interested in media. These can be emailed to accob2016@gmail.com with the subject as "Collage and [the name of your congregation.]" Please send them no later than May 15, 2016.

Organist Shawn Gingrich in Concert

Sunday, May 22, 3:00 p.m.

Palmyra Church of the Brethren

45 N. Chestnut St., Palmyra

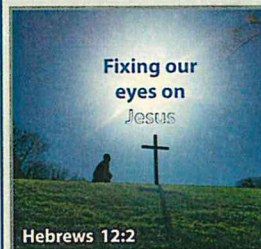
Enjoy our Aeolian Skinner organ as we welcome Shawn Gingrich -
director of music ministry & organist, First United Methodist Church, Hershey;
instructor in organ and handbells, Messiah College;
founder and director, Hershey Handbell Ensemble.

Book Available: *Evelyn Dick* has written a book entitled, "Life On the Edge", *Thirty Four Years in Haiti*. It can be purchased by sending a suggested contribution of \$18.00 (\$15. for the book and \$3. for shipping and handling) to Vine Ministry, PO Box 967, Goshen, IN 46527 or go to our web-site, vineministry.org and use Pay Pal. Checks to be payable to Vine Ministry. All proceeds from the sale of the book go to Vine Ministry. Evelyn grew up in the ANE District and late husband LeRoy pastored in the District for a number of years.



Brethren Village presents the 2017 President's Tour of Germany

John Snader, BV President & CEO, is hosting a 10-day trip to Germany in May 2017, featuring the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. The trip will feature 500 years of Evangelical Reformation, Worms, the birthplace of Reformation Bible Translations, Mainz, Gutenberg Museum Tour, Heidelberg, Oberammergau, Passion Playhouse Tour, and much more. Please contact Holly Began at 581-4251 for more information.



DISTRICT CONFERENCE NEWS

Look for changes this year to District Conference Delegate Certification and Registration Forms.

No Post Cards – New Delegate Certification Form will be sent to congregations the end of April. Send in or complete online.

New District Conference Registration Form – Mail or complete online with payment. This form will be sent out to all congregations in July, so be sure to submit your Certification Form.

Calendar

April

- 23 "What About Sunday School?" Event, Lancaster CoB
- 23 Alpha & Omega Banquet, Lampeter CoB
- 28 Hbg./Leb. Area Senior Adult Banquet, Hershey Spring Creek CoB

May

- 15 SVMC Sunday
- 19-21 New Church Planting Conference, Bethany Seminary
- 21 District Volleyball Tournament, Elizabethtown College
- 27-30 Young Adult Conference, Manchester University

June

- 4 Annual Conference Briefing, Hempfield CoB
- 21 District Board, Elizabethtown College
- 29-July 3 Annual Conference, Greensboro, NC

October

- 8 District Conference, Elizabethtown College



Deadline for the July/August issue of ANE Today is May 26. Articles may be faxed (717-367-8737) to the District Office or emailed to: **Jan Reed at jreed@ane-cob.org.** When possible, include appropriate logo or other graphic designs.

**ATLANTIC NORTHEAST DISTRICT
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

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Elizabethtown, PA 17022

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OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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