

ANE Today



ATLANTIC NORTHEAST DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

ALL IN: Going. Glowing. Growing. Godly.

Volume 48, Issue 6

November/December 2017

Atlantic Northeast District Calls Kontra As Next District Executive Minister

Dear Fellow Atlantic Northeast District
Disciples,

The ANE District Search Committee is delighted to announce that we have called our current District Board Chair, Pete Kontra, to be our new District Executive Minister effective January 1, 2018. The decision of the Search Committee was enthusiastic and unanimous, as was the vote of the District Board. Pete also has a clear sense that this is a call from God and that, of course, brings with it genuine joy for the future of our District!

Pete has been in pastoral ministry for over 20 years, mostly right here in the ANE District. He has served as District Board Chair for the past 2 years and has been involved with District Ministry for most of his career. He and his wife Shelley live in East Hempfield, Lancaster County, about 20 minutes from the District Office.

Brother Pete is committed to listening and relationship-building, and his heart for Jesus is evident in his words and his actions. Many of us already know Pete and have enjoyed working alongside him for God's Kingdom, and we look forward to continuing to do that with him in his new role as District Executive.

Yours in Christ,

Misty L. Wintsch
Chair of the District Search Committee



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ANE District Conference Wrap Up Elizabethtown College * October 7, 2017

On the morning of October 7, 2017, the Atlantic Northeast District hosted the 48th annual District Conference in Elizabethtown, PA. For many, the day started in the early hours and perhaps for some, it was still dark. If you were lucky enough to literally drive through the darkness and into the light, you would have seen the most beautiful sunrise. The peaceful metaphor projected a sense of inspiration for the day.

At 7am, the Leffler Chapel lobby was bustling with energetic, enthusiastic and dedicated Christians. Friendly and helpful volunteers from the host church, Hanoverdale, were busy welcoming each guest and making sure everyone was well organized for the day. Fellowship abounded in the breakfast room, the Bible study, and inside the Chapel. Outreach was in action, as hundreds of clean up buckets and supplies were collected to help Church World Service.

As 60, out of 76, congregations gathered for the day, delegates, non-delegates, presenters, guests, staff and volunteers, all came together to be "Transformed Into His Image." Moderator Glenn Martin, welcomed everyone and began with prayer. As the gathering music started and the congregation began singing, the sun was shining brightly over Leffler Chapel. It was clear that God was in our midst!

Evaluations revealed that while the temperature inside the Chapel was cold, the atmosphere was warm. Perhaps the warmest feeling was when Brothers and Sisters from all over the ANE District gathered together in small groups for prayer, then renewed our Church of the Brethren covenantal sacred promise.

Business commenced and reports from Commissions and partner agencies were presented. The following are summarizing messages from each ANE Director and Moderator Glenn Martin:

Church Development & Evangelism Commission

"Last year, two of our ANE fellowships were down to a handful of members and worshippers, possibly facing closure: Lirio De Los Valles, in Lebanon and Renacer Leola, now Un Nuevo Renacer, worshiping in Mountville. Prayer, new leadership, vitality and faith has changed both churches and they are experiencing spiritual and numeric growth!"

Dear Past, thank you for your lessons.
Dear Future, they are ready.
Dear God, thank you for another chance.

Don Mitchell , Director of Church Development & Evangelism



ANE District Conference Wrap Up Elizabethtown College * October 7, 2017 (Continued)

Ministry Commission

Among its many responsibilities, the District Ministry Commission is responsible to manage all ministerial and credentialing matters for the District, among which include annual licensing renewals, credentialing interviews and services, and pastoral installation services. Our District currently has 54 licensed ministers, 242 ordained ministers and 6 candidates pursuing licensed ministry. It is our joy to celebrate with all the ministry happenings in our District this year: 6 newly licensed ministers, 4 newly ordained ministers, and 6 newly placed pastors.

District Ministry Commission



Nurture Commission

"The Nurture Commission is here for you and your congregation! From youth events, to Women's Fellowship, to lay leadership events, scholarships, resources and more, we have numerous avenues through which we can help you and your church GROW! Let us know how we can be there for you, to facilitate, support and advocate for the spiritual, emotional, physical and relational health and vitality of your congregation!"

Jess Ross, Director of Nurture

Witness and Outreach Commission

"At District Conference, the Witness and Outreach Commission shared all the outreach opportunities that are available in our ANE District. This includes our ongoing ANE District Disaster Response efforts, which support the work of Brethren Disaster Ministries and our Church 2 Church "community building". This is a ministry outreach opportunity that allows churches, with needs, to partner with churches who are interested in a service project. Our ANE District also offers financial partnerships and support among ANE congregations, with our ANE District Disaster Benevolence Fund. This fund supports ANE congregations dealing with situations involving significant loss. We also have our ANE District Barnabas Fund, which supports and encourages ministry in our urban congregations."

Mary Etta Reinhart, Director of Witness and Outreach

Stewardship Commission

"In 2016, 16 ANE Congregations (20% of our congregations) gave 67% of ANE's congregational contributions received, and 17 Congregations (or 22%) did not contribute anything. We are family networking together to share the Gospel. ANE NEEDS YOU AND ALL ANE MEMBERS TO SUPPORT THESE MINISTRIES. REMEMBER THIS - All of these ministries and more, are only possible through the financial support of each ANE congregation!"

Kay Weaver, Director of Stewardship

2017 District Conference

"As I reflect on District Conference, I am both inspired and reminded of God's transforming work in our lives. A big thank you to everyone involved in this year's conference as we celebrated the work of our district for kingdom building. May God grant us a renewed vision of our purpose as His church."

Glenn Martin, 2017 District Conference Moderator

After the Commission reports, a financial report was given by the ANE Treasurer Ray Flagg. A 2018 District Ministry Investment Plan was presented and the delegates voted to approve the proposed budget, for \$632,287.



ANE District Conference Wrap Up Elizabethtown College * October 7, 2017 (Continued)

At 10:15, the 2018 Slate was presented. Beginning each November, the Gifts Discernment Team works together to fill the slate, that delegates vote on at conference. Throughout the year, many prayerful thoughts are lifted up, and the team works diligently to find people that feel called to serve. The Atlantic Northeast District is blessed with many talented, dedicated and passionate Brothers and Sisters, always seeking to help and improve the Church of the Brethren. 174 slates were returned, and 163 of them were affirmed. The 2018 Slate was positively approved. The candidates that will serve you over the next 1-3 years include the following:



Moderator Elect: Brian Berkey (Jennersville/Wilmington)

Program & Arrangements Committee: Laura Meiser (Hempfield)

Gifts Discernment Team:

Heather Landram (Lititz); Sandra Brubaker (Chiques); Bob Kettering (Lititz); Bethany Hoffer (Palmyra)

Standing Committee: Kim Ream (Ephrata)

Alternate Standing Committee: Belita Mitchell (Harrisburg First)

District Board Chair: Jeff Glisson (Lititz)

Church Development and Evangelism Commission:

Scott Haldeman (New Beginnings); Andrew Hamilton (Stevens Hill Community)

Ministry Commission:

Liz Bidgood Enders (Ridgeway); Randy Hosler (Chiques)

Nurture Commission:

Joyce Schnupp (Middle Creek); Douglas Enck (East Cocalico)

Stewardship Commission:

Michael Shupp (Mohler); John Miller (Mohrsville)

Witness and Outreach Commission:

James Nolt (Chiques)

Camp Swatara

Barry Garman (Elizabethtown), Daryl Myer (Chiques), Michael Shearer (Annville)

COBYS Family Services: Suzanne Schaudel (Lancaster), Wilbur Rohrer (Middle Creek), Robert Wintsch (Mechanic Grove)

Please pray for these individuals as they share their talents and serve the ANE District with their time. The ANE Gifts Discernment Team will be inviting congregations to nominate individuals to the 2019 Slate in January. Prayerfully, and thoughtfully nominate individuals to your congregational leaders who would be fit to serve .



ANE District Conference Wrap Up Elizabethtown College * October 7, 2017 (Continued)

After lunch, Pete Kontra was introduced as the ANE's new District Executive. The evaluations clearly showed that many people are excited for Pete's enthusiasm and call for unity. A beautiful worship serviced concluded the day. As one whole Church, Brothers and Sisters gathered in song and prayer. Testimonials were shared, messages were inspiring, prayers were lifted up, and a generous offering was given to our Brothers and Sisters in Nigeria. Beautiful words of encouragement and wisdom were expressed by Moderator Glenn Martin, as he consecrated and transferred leadership to the newly appointed Moderator, Misty Wintsch.

What a beautiful day the Lord made! On behalf of the ANE District Staff, we would like to thank everyone that attended. Thank you for your contribution and participation. We look forward to seeing you next year!

Please mark your calendars now for next year's 49th District Conference!

The Atlantic Northeast District Church of the Brethren would like to express gratitude and acknowledge the following:

Guest Speaker: Dr. Musa Mambula (International Scholar in Residence at Bethany Seminary)

Moderator: Minister Glenn Martin (New Beginnings)

Moderator Elect: Pastor Misty Wintsch (Mechanic Grove)

Interim District Executive: Randy Yoder (Stone)

Chorister: Joy Brubaker (Midway)

Pianist: Ryan Arndt (West Green Tree)

Choirs: Florin and West Green Tree

Choir Directors: Ryan Arndt (West Green Tree) and Chuck Nichols (Florin)

Choir Accompanists: Marcy Price (Florin) and Mary Jane Smith (West Green Tree)

Offertory Speaker: Pastor Pamela Reist (Elizabethtown);

Host Church: Hanoverdale

On-Site Coordinator: Jim Dengler (Hanoverdale)

Translators: Angel Gonzalez (Nuevo Amanecer), Arelis Sable (Lancaster) and Dawn Sandoval

Elizabethtown College: Samantha Brant, Barry Fritz, Melissa Hagman, Joe Hudzick and Bonnie Martin

By the Numbers

Buckets Collected: 440

Offering Total: \$2,694.20

Morning Attendance: 273

Afternoon Attendance: 270

Worship Service Attendance: 230

Delegate Attendance: 181

Non-Delegate Attendance: 92

Congregations in Attendance: 60



To hear newly appointed District Executive, Pete Kontra address the delegate boy, please visit our Facebook page under videos. (AtlanticNortheastDistrict)

Follow our page to keep updated on District and congregational information.



District Conference 2017: Transformed Into His Image

Photos by Donna Parcell





MINISTRY

ANE's Ministry Emphasis:

Be an ALL IN Church. Be ...
Going. Glowing. Growing.
Godly. We have
designated 2017 *The Year
of Glowing!* Let's get
Glowing. Let's do this! Let's
be the church we are
created to be.

In Memoriam

The Reverend
Doctor **Wallace B.
Landes, Jr.** passed
away on September
21. Wally
pastored three
churches:

Reisterstown CoB,
Bush Creek CoB and most recently
Palmyra CoB. A memorial service is
planned at Palmyra CoB on
November 11 at 11:00am.



Pastor **Edwin P.
Liskey** passed
away on
September 29. Ed
pastored at
Swatara Hill,
Middletown, PA.
He also served on

the ANE District Board on the
Witness & Outreach Commission
through December 2016, and was
serving on the District's Gifts
Discernment Team.

Placement News

Conewago: Sandy Christophel serves as Interim.

Florin: Galen Hackman serves as Intentional Interim. Interviewing.

Geiger Memorial: Open.

Green Tree: Called Rod O'Donnell.

Hempfield: Search Committee forming.

Lititz: Called Jim Grossnickle Batterton as Pastor of Spiritual Care.

Long Run: Joel Hershey & Bob Spencer serve as Interim Team.

Mechanic Grove: Called Calvin Park. Bob Kettering serves as Interim.

Nuevo Amanecer: Negotiating.

Parker Ford: Called DJay Martin.

Spring Creek: Negotiating; Dennis Garrison retiring 12/17.

Swatara Hill: Search Committee forming.

Quakertown: Called Mark Nichols.

Wyomissing: Search Committee forming. Pastor Tim Speicher retires 9/18.

Licensings, Ordinations, and Installations

Rod O'Donnell was
installed as pastor
at Green Tree on
October 8 by Mary
Etta Reinhart, ANE
Director of Witness
& Outreach.



Carolina Izquierdo
was installed as pastor
at Un Nuevo Renacer
by Interim District
Executive, Randy Yoder
on September 24.

Rita Carter's, Mechanic Grove, licensing
service was performed by Marvin
Foster, ANE District's Ministry Commission
Chair, on June 11.



Joel Gibbel, Lititz, was
ordained on October 15.
His service was conducted by
Kay Weaver, ANE Director
of Stewardship.



District Youth Activities and Information

Senior High Retreat

January 19-21, 2018 at Camp Swatara

Jeff Keller will be speaking to the topic of *Surrender to Joy* with music led by a team from Elizabethtown CoB. There will be meaningful sessions, great games and activities, super snacks, time to hang out with friends, and more! Ninth through twelfth grade youth, we really hope to see you there! **Registration Deadline:** Monday, January 8, 2018; Cost: Youth – \$100, Advisors – \$60

Junior High Lock In

February 16-17, 2018 @ Ephrata Rec Center

Time: 10 pm – 6 am; **Registration Deadline:**

February 12, 2018; Cost: \$15 per youth, free for Advisors

Details: There will be devotion time, games (including 9 square in the air!), movies, gym time, swimming and food!

Junior High AND Senior High Service Project AND Car Rally!

April 21, 2018 @ Global Aid Network (GAIN) in Mount Joy
Volunteer at GAIN from 9:45 – 1, with a pizza lunch, car rally and ice cream to follow! Stay tuned for more details as we get closer to the date.

****SPECIAL REQUEST FROM GAIN.** There is a shortage of clothing at their facility. Would you consider starting a clothing drive at your church and then bring all donations to GAIN on the day of the service project? Thank you in advance!!

National Youth Conference

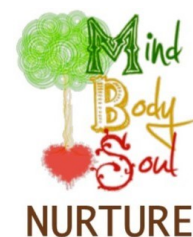
Registration opens Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 6pm central time. Those registering by January 21 will get a free NYC 2018 drawstring backpack!

Denominational Opportunities for Young Adults

Ministry Summer Service (MSS) (<http://www.brethren.org/yya/mss>) is a leadership development program for college students in the Church of the Brethren who spend 10 weeks of summer working in the church (local congregation, district office, camp, or national program).

Youth Peace Travel Team: The members of the Youth Peace Travel Team (<http://www.brethren.org/yya/peaceteam>) travel 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. College age Church of the Brethren young adults (19 - 22 years) will be selected for the next team. A stipend is paid to team members.

The same **application** (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfrJvtpC5VkuUtxrniyoSPiSU8xDeQR4GXqm4HiK_yMqTqCgXg/viewform) is used for both Ministry Summer Service and the Youth Peace Travel Team. Applications are due January 5, 2018.





ANE District Delivers 455 Disaster Relief Clean Up Buckets to New Windsor

What a wonderful God we serve! In August, Church World Service announced the need for more Disaster Relief Clean Up Buckets in their warehouse at Brethren Disaster Ministries in New Windsor, MD. This request was prompted by hurricane Harvey's devastation of Houston, TX. Little did they know Irma, Jose, and Maria were on their way, as well as a devastating earthquake in Mexico.

Mountville CoB, whose outreach is to supply buckets on a regular basis, has been an essential key to coordinating a large initiative to put together clean up buckets in our District. Three congregations, Ephrata, Elizabethtown and Mountville agreed to be drop-off points for others in the District. Many smaller congregations delivered buckets to District Conference to be included in the delivery. Ephrata CoB reached out and volunteered to transport all the collected buckets to Brethren Disaster Ministries for Church World Service on October 10.

Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren, Annville Church of the Brethren along with Ephrata congregations had each put together 100 buckets for this delivery. At our District Conference on October 7, close to 100 more buckets were collected, along with hygiene kits, to be placed on the truck.

We are pleased that our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ have come together to assist Church World Service at this time.

Didn't get to put buckets together, but would like to? See page 10 for an opportunity to still get involved!



Elizabethtown CoB



Delivering Buckets to District Conference



Annville CoB



Annville CoB



Delivering Buckets to District Conference



Photo by: Dan Marschka, Staff Photographer
LNP—Mountville CoB



Elizabethtown College: College Steeped in a Tradition of Non-Violence

(continued from previous issue)

In addition to pacifism and nonresistance, Anabaptism emphasized social justice based on the influence of Pietists. The Pietism movement began in the late 17th century. Pietism emphasized a personal emotionally charged conversion experience. The evidence of a personal religious conversion was demonstrated through engaging in social justice. Pietism required nonconformity to the world by rejecting secular literature, abstaining from consuming tobacco and alcohol, forbidding gambling, dancing, and attending the theater or secular festivals/amusements.

This Pietist emphasis on servant leadership and social justice within the context of nonconformity extended to personal appearance regarding "plain dress." Plain clothing is a strong political statement as it has historic roots in rejecting military uniforms reflecting rank and accomplishment. Plain dress is an ideological statement symbolizing a belief in pacifism and nonresistance. Dressing plain means you are a member of a church which emphasizes humility, egalitarianism, and conformity to community.

Typically plain clothes for men means a dark suit with the lapels removed and this is called a standing collar "plain coat" sometimes accompanied by broad fall pants. Men wear a felt or straw hat, the size of the brim can indicate their leadership role in the church. Plain dressed men do not wear neckties.

A plain dressed woman's wardrobe is defined by what is called a "cape dress" often accompanied with an apron, worn even when not in the kitchen, and can symbolize her husband or father's leadership role in the church. Their hair is grown long, worn pinned up, and finished with what is called a "covering" which is a prayer veil and can be topped with a bonnet. Plain people do not wear cosmetics or jewelry.

A religious sect among the Anabaptists, Pietists, and Historic Peace Churches is The Church of the Brethren. This denomination originated at Schwarzenau, county of Wittgenstein, Germany. In 1708 a group of Pietists, led by Alexander Mack (1679-1735), heavily influenced by the Mennonites and Amish, distinguished themselves by insisting adult baptism be done through triple immersion. They also accompanied the observance of communion with a fellowship meal called the love feast. (To be continued....)

Another great opportunity to fill Clean Up Buckets for CWS

Our ANE District Disaster Coordinator, Bob Eisemann, has organized a clean-up bucket project for our ANE District. Small groups, SS classes, family groups or the entire congregation can participate in assembling these clean up buckets which will then be distributed to disaster survivors by Church World Service. The need is **URGENT**.

The Brethren Disaster Relief Auction has purchased buckets. Some of the items to fill the buckets will be also provided to persons participating in this project. This includes the dish detergent, laundry detergent, work gloves, dust masks, non-latex gloves and duct tape to seal the lid. The remaining items will need to be gathered by your congregation or small group to complete the list.

After your group has filled your buckets, Bob Eisemann will arrange transportation from your location to the CWS warehouse in New Windsor, MD.

Please contact Bob Eisemann at 717.733.7413 or cell 717.203.7270 for details and to schedule your project.



This was the second excerpt of Mr. Benowitz's article. His article will be continued in the next issue of ANE Today.



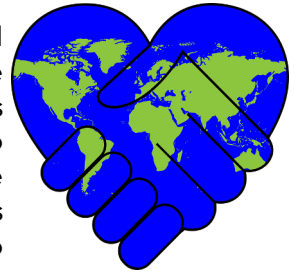
Alpha Hall the oldest building on the campus

Text by Jean-Paul Benowitz, Historian, Elizabethtown College Director of Student Transition Programs & Director of Prestigious Scholarships & Fellowships. Illustrations by Shanise Marshall, Elizabethtown College Class of 2015, History major with a Fine Arts-Art History and Religious Studies minors.



Immigration Issues in the news...How can we help?

Immigration has been a significant news item in recent months. We have heard stories about persons affected by the proposed phasing out of the DACA act over the next several months. There are also concerns about persons living in the United States without proper documentation who fear for their safety if they were to be returned to their native country. Many of us in our local communities and congregations are aware of persons who are living among us in fear of their future. In fact, some congregations have chosen to reach out to a specific person or family to help them find solutions to their immigration concerns.



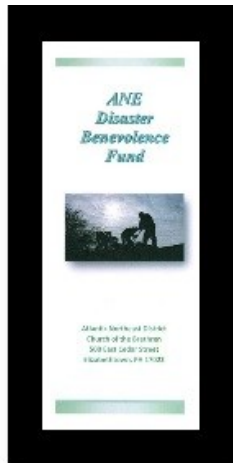
Did you know that the ANE District Disaster Benevolence Fund can be used to help congregations who desire to reach out to persons who need financial help in dealing with legal and other issues related to immigration concerns? The Scripture Focus of this fund reminds us:

Distribution of funds for the ANE Disaster Benevolence Fund is done in the spirit of Matthew 25, where Jesus commends those who unknowingly ministered to Him as they ministered to others: "I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink; I was a stranger and you welcomed me; I was naked and you gave me clothing; I was sick and you took care of me; I was in prison and you visited me." (Matthew 25:35-36).

One of the purposes of the fund is to "share financial resources with ANE Congregations who reach out to an individual or family who has experienced an unexpected significant loss of basic necessities." Our ANE District Witness and Outreach Commission recently affirmed that a person or family facing deportation could fall under this category of "significant loss of basic necessities."

If your congregation desires to help a person or family facing significant immigration issues but is finding that kind of financial help is stretching beyond the financial abilities of the congregation, please contact the ANE District Office or Mary

Etta Reinhart at mreinhardt@ane-cob.org for an application. Our ANE District Disaster Benevolence Fund is just one more way can partner with you as you reach out to witness and minister in your local communities.



District Calendar

November 1

Gifts Discernment & Program & Arrangements Meeting

November 7 :

Ministry Formation, ACTS students

November 14:

Ministry Commission Board Meeting, Hempfield

November 21/22:

Office Closed
(At Noon on 21st)

December 12:

Ministry Commission

December 14:

Witness & Outreach Meeting, Mohler

December 19:

Church Development Meeting, Ephrata

Christmas Break (Office Closed)

December 25– January 2

The **Ministers of Music** quartet will be performing three concerts at ANE churches this fall. The group has been performing in area churches and retirement facilities for over 35 years, has produced several CDs and has been heard on local radio stations. Three of the members of the group are ANE ministers: Bob Kettering (baritone), Ron Ludwick (bass) and Dennis Garrison (soprano). Others include Lamar Dourte (1st tenor), Merle Gingerich (2nd tenor) and John Frey (accompanist). You're invited to attend one or all of these performances:

- October 29 (7:30 PM) – Hershey/Spring Creek CoB
- November 5 (7:00 PM) – Quakertown CoB



Barnabas Fund in Action!

The Barnabas Fund Team met in early May to determine 2018 funding based on requests received from ANE district churches. Alpha & Omega, Brooklyn First, Germantown, and Harrisburg First were all offered funding for 2018 contingent upon approval from the ANE District Board and the ANE District Conference in October of the 2018 Ministry Investment Plan.

As those requests for funding were reviewed, there were many examples shared of the different kinds of ministry taking place in these urban congregations. For example, here are examples of the kind of work being done at Brooklyn First:

First Church has been active in reaching out to unchurched family members and reaching out to the community to the unchurched youth and adults. Over the years, some of these unchurched families have become active in worship, some have stepped up and have begun to participate in the life of the church.

The Spanish Bible Study currently is using series called "El Expositor Biblico" (The Bible Expositor), which consists of 13 lessons, focusing on the Great Biblical Teachings...In addition to the Bible Study, many meetings include a discussion on the needs, concerns, and everyday struggles of its participants. At times, the Bible Study becomes a support group, seeking the Lord's answer to what are life's very complex problems....

Our Open Gym for Jesus continues to witness unchurched youth from the street coming to know who Jesus is with Bible Study, snacks, gym time. In 2015, we started to read through and study the Gospel of John. There are times we spend nearly half an hour understanding God's Word and answering questions. These young share prayer concerns....

Young Adults continue to meet, albeit sporadically, and fellowship, and care for each other. The Young Adults sponsored the showing of the movie, God's Not Dead. Approximately 50 people attended the movie....

As the community changes First Church attempts to fill the needs of the community. As we are in the process of converting the former Positive Place (an AIDS/HIV ministry room supervised by former pastor,

Phill Carlos Archbold), First Church envisions expanding our meager food and clothing pantry into that area.

The Brooklyn First congregation is being supported by the District Barnabas Fund with a \$25,000 annual commitment in 2017. This is just one more way that our ANE District congregations are able to work together to enable congregations with identifiable needs to more productively offer successful outreach and evangelism ministries in their communities.

For more information about the ANE District Barnabas Fund, check out the "Our Ministries" section of the ANE District website at www.ane-cob.org.

New Members: ANE District

Lewiston— Emily Keller, James Carville

Little Swatara— Baptism: Katie Light, Maya Bicksler, Lauren Bryant, Roxanne Loump, Enos Loump

Mount Wilson— Letter: Sidney McKinney, Ryan Clift, Kaila Clift

Myerstown— Letter: John Martin Moyer, Rachel Moyer, Melissa Wilson, Brenda Weierbach

Providence— Baptism: Anna Diehl, Samuel Diehl

Spring Creek— Baptism: Benjamin Sheppard, Josiah Nderitu, David Gerhart, Tyler Boland; Letter: Janet Myers, Jim and Marsha Heisey

Wyomissing— Letter: Margaret Bauer, Abi Young



GIVING THANKS FOR YOUR GIFTS

ANE Ministry Investment Plan as of 9/30/17

ANE staff celebrates and sincerely thanks the 58 congregations who have contributed volunteer time and finances year to date. Your generous gifts were invested in the following ministries to enable ANE congregations to do together what they cannot do separately and help each congregation carry out in better fashion their major functions.

Pastoral/Congregational Ministries... \$126,962

Assist in credentialing pastors, and meet with ones who are in the discernment process of understanding God's call to the ministry within the Church of the Brethren. Year to date we have completed 7 pastoral placements and are working with 9 more search committee efforts. Also provide continuing education events, consultation services for pastors and lay leadership, financial aid for ministerial study, and fiscal support for Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center.

Stewardship Ministries... \$ 47,049

Communicate the ANE Ministry story through our *Ministry Investment Plan*, *The Parking Lot*, *ANE Today* newsletter, *Know Your Neighbor* newsletter, and the www.ane-cob.org. In partnership with Everence, we plan and provide holistic stewardship education through our annual Stewardship University and Creating Congregational Cultures of Generosity workshops.

Nurture and Youth Ministries... \$ 49,395

Provide encouragement and opportunities for Christian education within the ANE congregations. Advocate for the spiritual, emotional, physical and relational health and vitality of the district's congregations through educational and informational workshops, Women's Fellowship ministries, and many District youth events where more than 200 youth participated in a service project, Jr. High, and Sr. High retreats.

Witness and Outreach Ministries... \$113,332

Encourage and network with congregations to proclaim the Gospel of Christ, through *The Barnabas Fund*, *Disaster Benevolence Fund*, *Church2Church Ministry*, and Urban Initiative workshop *Beyond the City Limits*. Also provide outreach programs and resources, funding for ANE volunteers participating in Disaster Response, and support for Family Life Centers and urban ministries in Harrisburg, Lancaster, New York, and Philadelphia.

Church Development and Evangelism Ministries... \$58,370

Provide support from *Seeds of Faith* fund for planting and developing 7 fellowships and projects and the rebirth of 3 small, struggling congregations. We also provide Church Planting leadership resources and workshops.

General Operating and Administrative Ministries... \$ 74,231

Covers costs for District insurance, auditors, accountants, treasurer, office building maintenance and utilities, Historical Committee, and dues for Annual Conference and PA Council of Churches.

The undergirding of these District Ministries is made possible only through the generosity and financial support of ANE congregations. To the 21 congregations and fellowships who haven't contributed, as you reflect on your many blessings, please consider giving a gift to ANE ministries so many others can be blessed. And to the 58 congregations that have contributed, again, thank you for continuing to share your blessings through ANE ministries.



Stories from ANE Disaster Response

Now is the time for your congregations to reserve a week to travel to a BDM work site to serve at a BDM rebuild project. Our ANE District has reserved weeks with BDM for our ANE congregations who wish to serve at BDM rebuild work sites in 2018. At this time BDM has two locations where they are working.

One location is in **Marion, South Carolina**. According to the BDM website:

Hurricane Matthew hit South Carolina in October 2016. Marion County was one of the hardest hit areas, as well as one of the poorest. During the Hurricane, the County experienced wind gusts of up to 60 mph and received 10-12 inches of rain, with some areas measuring as much as 17.8 inches. Residents in low lying areas were evacuated due to flooding, with over 100 residents moved by boat, bus or helicopter.

The other location is in **Eureka, Missouri**. According to the BDM website:

In December 2015, Winter Storm Goliath caused by a dangerous combination of heavy rain, snow and river flooding, set historic water level records across the state of Missouri.....This spring 2017 storms brought at least 10 inches of rain in 10 days causing over 250 roads to close under water, including a 57-mile stretch of Interstate 44. Hundreds of businesses and homes were damaged or destroyed, many of which had just recovered from the 2015 flooding.

While these are the current work locations, Brethren Disaster Ministries may choose to move to a different location during the course of 2018, depending upon the situation in other areas hit by recent storms and/or hurricanes. Congregations who sign up for a week of work may choose the BDM Disaster work site where they will serve.



**BRETHREN
Disaster Ministries**

For more information, please contact Robert Eisemann, ANE District Disaster Coordinator, by phone at 717-733-7413 or email at rgeise-mann@gmail.com



**Children's Disaster
Services Workshop
November 17-18,
Little Swatara**

Anyone 18 or over is welcome to attend this 2 - day training (27 hours) and become a certified CDS caregiver. References and background checks are also required for certification. Once caregivers complete certification, all expenses are paid for disaster responses. The website link for registrations is www.brethren.org/cds/training/dates.html There are also other sites and dates listed on the website if you are not able to attend this one.

Local contact, Jean Myers, may be reached at (610) 678-5247 or Jean351@aol.com.

Travel costs for ANE congregations who travel to BDM work sites under the coordination of our District Disaster Coordinator, Robert Eisemann, may be reimbursed by funds from the Brethren Disaster Relief Auction and the ANE Disaster Benevolence Fund. For more information you may contact Robert Eisemann by phone at 717-733-7413 or email at rgeisemann@gmail.com or Mary Etta Reinhart, ANE District Director of Witness and Outreach by phone at 717-808-4306 or email at mreinhart@ane-cob.org.



Outreach Update: Chiques CoB



2017 Day Camp

Chiques Church of the Brethren has operated a very successful outreach ministry for 35 years. Our day camp program started with a college student who had a vision for a day camp to minister to children on Summer vacation. Following our week of Vacation Bible School, the day camp runs for six weeks. The first week starts with first graders and the last week ends with sixth graders. The children come from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm daily Monday thru Friday. This Summer we had 266 campers and were filled to capacity. The children experienced many fun-filled days with activity, laughter and learning.

Highlights of the program are:

The pond: a welcome relief on those hot days and the new red slide was a hit too. The extra bump in it gives the kids a little extra thrill as they travel down.

Ga-ga and 9 square: 2 of the most loved games at day camp. In fact it just wouldn't be day camp without them.

New steps: a wonderful addition, making it easy for campers and parents to travel back and forth from pavilion to church and we can even have two-way traffic on it. They are rock solid - no more swaying from side to side, which is great for adults but knowing kids probably doesn't make them as happy.

Many parents expressed their sincere thanks to this church for the day camp program. "How can the program be so good and yet free; nothing's free?" The answer is Chiques COB funds and staffs the program for the community. We have quality teachers, directors and staff who live out their faith by volunteering their time and energy to day camp. We have people willing to finance this ministry through the servant sale. We have people willing to cook, clean, repair, and drive for this ministry. Lastly we have, that which undergirds this ministry, people praying. Again

and again it is a witness to our community that "Jesus" is alive and well. Over the years it has been my hope and prayer that Biblical truth and Jesus are worked into all parts of the program, not just Bible class. I see this coming to fruition as I've witnessed this in craft, music and cooking classes and in the way the counselors interact and treat the campers.

Alpha & Omega
Community Center

**Night of music with McCaskey
High School Gospel choir**

Date: Saturday November 4th, 2017
Place: Hempfield Church of the Brethren
1186 Stevens Street, Manheim, PA 17545
Time: 7:00 pm

**Fundraising event to support
Alpha and Omega
Community Center**

Note: Dessert/ refreshment will be include
either before or after the Concert

Cost: Free

More information: 717-394-3021 or www.alphayomega.us



Bethany and EYN Form Educational Partnership

Bethany Theological Seminary and EkklesiyarYan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN, Church of the Brethren in Nigeria) have entered into an historic relationship, the first of its kind between the Seminary and a Church of the Brethren group outside the United States. At the 2016 Annual Conference, Bethany president Jeff Carter and EYN president Joel Billi signed a Memorandum of Understanding which outlined a new intercontinental online education program. Conceived as a way to facilitate theological study at Bethany for EYN members, the program is a joint effort between the Seminary and EYN.

The first graduate academic program at Bethany made available to EYN students through the partnership will be the Certificate of Achievement in Theological Studies (CATS), requiring one course each in biblical, historical, theological, ministry, and peace studies and one elective. To be eligible for study at Bethany, international students must pass the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). To help students prepare for the TOEFL, Bethany is arranging the offering of an intensive English language course in the fall of 2017. Students are required to take this course and a study course for TOEFL testing. Global Perspectives on Scripture: 1 Corinthians, currently scheduled for January 2018.

Reflecting the importance of collaboration in this new partnership, this first course will be taught by both Dan Ulrich, Wieand Professor of



New Testament Studies at Bethany, and Pandang Yamsat, chief executive director of the Center for Value and Attitudinal Reawakening. A New Testament scholar, Yamsat recently retired from the faculty of the Theological College of Northern Nigeria. The two met at Bethany early in May to begin planning the course.

"I am especially delighted that Dr. Yamsat took time to visit Bethany during a brief personal visit to the United States and to begin planning for our January course," says Ulrich. "Our planning sessions were very productive: we were able to finalize the course objectives, outline the work needed to meet those objectives, and develop a rough schedule for each class session. We have developed a strong working relationship, and I am confident that we can model the kind of intercultural interpretation we hope our students will learn."

Key to the program's success will be a new technology center at the

Boulder Hill Compound in Jos, Nigeria, where EYN students will take all their classes online. Plans for the facility call for two large flat-panel screens and multiple cameras and microphones, similar to the technology now available in one of Bethany's classrooms. Students on campus at Bethany, students in Jos, and faculty in both locations will share the live classroom, able to see and hear each other in real time. Course content may also be offered through recorded class sessions, and faculty and students will communicate by e-mail and texts.

Construction began on the technology center in mid-July 2017. Documentation of the process is available on Bethany's website at www.bethanyseminary.edu/eynpartner. Click on View Gallery to see photos of the work progression.

While the center will belong to EYN, Bethany is assuming responsibility for raising funds to cover the construction cost of \$150,000.



Bethany and EYN Form Educational Partnership (continued)

Mark Lancaster, Executive Director of institutional advancement, and Musa Mambula, Bethany's international scholar in residence, have taken the lead in this effort, meeting with Church of the Brethren members across the denomination to make them aware of this opportunity for involvement in an empowering mission with EYN. To date approximately \$136,000 has been raised. Due to the fluctuation of the Nigerian currency, at least \$16,000 is still needed to meet the original goal. An additional \$50,000 needs to be raised to cover the costs of desks, computers, an upgrade in the campus electrical system, the internet connection, and compensation for Nigerian professors to teach the intensive English course. Ongoing support for this bold adventure in faith is also needed as program costs will continue from year to year.

As the program develops, Bethany plans to offer accessible courses in theological and historical studies, ministry studies, and peace studies. Developed or adapted in conversation with

Nigerian church leaders, these courses will be designed to encourage mutual learning on topics of interest to students in Nigeria as well as America. Courses will be offered in intensive formats so that students can complete them during a short stay in Jos.

It is hoped that this innovative program will create a pathway for more EYN students to enroll as degree students and study on campus at Bethany. Courses taken for the CATS can be transferred directly into the master of divinity or master of arts program at Bethany. As EYN moves from a state of crisis to one of greater independence after enduring widespread violence and destruction at the hands of Boko Haram, this educational partnership can help strengthen the leadership, mission, and ministry of a resilient and growing denomination.

Musa Mambula and Mark Lancaster are always willing to

speak with individuals and congregations about how God has moved the Seminary to embrace this unique partnership with EYN. Contact Mark with questions about the program or how to support this holy effort: lan-cama@bethanyseminary.edu, 765-983-1805 (work), or 510-809-6721 (cell).



Zumba Glow Fitness Party

Saturday, November 11, 2017 6:30-8:30pm

Harrisburg First Church of the Brethren,
219 Hummel St., Harrisburg, PA 17104

For more info: 717-461-2951 zumbaglownow@gmail.com





Seeking First the Kingdom

November 4 & 5, 2017

2nd annual event sponsored by the
Spiritual Renewal

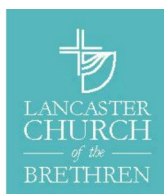
Committee

of the

Lancaster

Church of the Brethren

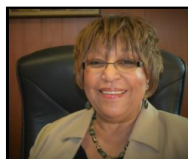
1601 Sunset Avenue
Lancaster, PA 17601



www.lancob.org
717.397.4751

Guest Speaker:
Rev. Belita
Mitchell

Pastor, Harrisburg First
Church of the Brethren



Rev. Belita Mitchell is our keynote speaker at the two worship services on Saturday, November 4 and again at our combined worship services on November 5. Rev. Mitchell's Saturday morning address is entitled, *Radical Hospitality* and the afternoon address is entitled, *Passionate Worship*. Sunday's worship service is entitled, *The Mind of Christ*. All worship services along with the subjects of the Seeking Sessions are designed to enhance the retreat theme: *Different Gifts, One Body* and centered around Romans 12.

Seeking Session Leaders:



Joshua Brockway, Director of
Spiritual Life & Discipleship,
Church of the Brethren



Kent Kroehler, retired pastor,
First United Methodist Church,
Lancaster



Randy Riggs, retired pastor,
First Presbyterian Church,
Lancaster; LCCC Board
President



Joel & Linetta Ballew, Co-
Administrators of Camp
Swatara

Seeking Session Descriptions:

Discovering Spiritual Gifts

Joshua Brockway
Exploring Romans, Corinthians &
Ephesians to discover Spiritual Gifts within
the church

Gifts enhance the goals of the Church

Kent Kroehler
Discover how gifts of the spirit enhance the
goals of the church

Working through our differing Gifts

Joshua Brockway
Focusing on discernment and the gifts
themselves in the life of the congregation

Using & Developing our Spiritual Gifts

Randy Riggs
Explore how the use of developing Spiritual
Gifts benefits the church

Family Focus (parents & children)

Joel & Linetta Ballew
The Ballews will lead two sessions (AM &
PM) on the theme of Different Gifts, One
Body as it relates to families with children

This event is approved by the Ministry
Commission of the Atlantic Northeast District
of the Church of the Brethren for Ministry
Continuing Education Credits (CED).

Lancaster Church of the Brethren
is a working, worshiping, learning
Christian community, open and
accepting without discrimination
or force in matters of belief and
practice.




Christmas Cabaret

With Leah J

This family-friendly cabaret-style concert will feature original Christmas songs, carol singing, and humorous holiday stories. There is no admission fee, but a love offering will be accepted to support the musicians.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 3PM

Harrisburg First Church of the Brethren
219 Hummel Street
Harrisburg PA 17104
717-234-0415

www.LeahJMusic.com



Holiday Craft Show

Saturday, November 4

9:00-4:00pm

Wyomissing CoB

2200 State Hill Road

Wyomissing

610.374.8451

www.wcotb.org

wcotb2200@aol.com

Numerous Vendors & Food

Mohrsville Church of the Brethren

1542 Shoey Road Mohrsville, PA 19541

(610) 926-5167



Homecoming

Sunday, November 12, 2017

Join us as we celebrate our

150th Anniversary

Penn State Men's Glee Club at Lititz CoB

Sunday, November 12

3:00pm

You won't want to miss the sounds of these energetic young male voices filling the sanctuary that afternoon. Be sure to invited all the music lover and Penn State fans you know to join us for this program. There will be a cost sharing offering to defray the cost of their transportation.

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 9:30 AM | Sunday School
Teacher: Bro. Glenn Hassinger |
| 10:30 AM | Worship Service
Guest preacher: Bro. Jeff Bach
Special Music: Rich Bealer |
| 12 Noon | Lunch with church family & friends! |

Stewardship University

Save the date!



Saturday, March 3, 2018
Calvary Church
Registration begins at 8 a.m.

Keynote speaker
Leonard Dow of Everence – How is it with your soul?

**ATLANTIC NORTHEAST DISTRICT
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
500 East Cedar Street
Elizabethtown, PA 17022**

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

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Don V. Mitchell, **Director of Church Development & Evangelism**

Mary Etta Reinhart, **Director of Witness & Outreach**

Jess Ross, **Director of Nurture**

Kay M. Weaver, **Director of Stewardship**

Krista Dickson, **Office Administrator**

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Christine Dugan, **District Conference Manager**

Phone Number: 717- 367- 4730

FAX Number: 717- 367- 8737

Website: www.ane-cob.org



AtlanticNortheastDistrict

Our Mission:

*Creating spiritually healthy New
Testament congregations who
covenant and network
together to further the
Kingdom of God.*

Deadline for the Jan/Feb issue of
ANE Today is December 1.

Articles may be faxed to the District Office
or emailed to:

Kelly Bernstein at
kbernstein@ane-cob.org.

When possible, include appropriate photo,
logo or other graphic designs.