



ANE Today

Volume 46 Issue 6 November/December 2015

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



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

District Conference	2-3	Stewardship	7
What's New in the District?	4	Outreach Updates	8
District Ministry Notes	5	Church 2 Church	9
Youth & Young Adults	6	Opportunities	9-11
		Calendar	11

Atlantic Northeast District Conference Wrap-Up



The forty-sixth Atlantic Northeast District Conference of the Church of the Brethren was held at Elizabethtown College, Leffler Chapel and Performance Center, on October 3.

Come to the Water was the theme. Moderator was Robert Kettering, member of the Lititz congregation. Lebanon CoB and Lirio de los Valles Fellowship served as hosts for this year's conference. A total of 189 delegates attended, representing 71 out of 76 congregations.

Conference this year was one full day: Bible Study by Dennis Garrison, Gathering Music by Ridgeway Brass. Worship & Roll Call of Congregations and Fellowships, each were asked to bring an 8 ounce container of water from their home church, a baptistery, or stream or pond where their congregation baptizes. The water was emptied into a fountain. Followed by reports from District Board and related ministries.

A Minister's Recognition Luncheon, hosted by the District Ministry Commission, was held at the KAV, Brossman Center. Four fifty-year Ministers, Sam Cassel, White Oak; Glen Faus, Chiques; Robert Heffley, Hempfield; and Jim Myer, White Oak were recognized, as well as newly ordained, licensed, and placed ministers and ACTS Graduates.

Saturday afternoon service of worship and praise was attended by 273. Nuevo Amanecer praise team led by Aaron Gomez opened the service. Keynote speaker Thomas Zuercher presented an uplifting message on "Water Testing" John 7:37-38. Elizabethtown CoB Youth Ensemble performed the Offertory Song: "Something in the Water". An offering of \$ 2672 was also given to District Projects.

Saturday's business included the following:

Action on Veritas, Project to Fellowship

Action on New Beginnings, Fellowship to Congregation

Approved a budget for 2016 of \$ 614,377.00

Approved the following slate: Moderator-Elect – **Glenn Martin**; Program & Arrangements – **Jennifer Balmer, Michael Allen**; Gifts Discernment – **Matt Christ, Sheryl Faus, S. Joan Hershey, Nancy Fittery, Jeffrey Glisson, Timothy Speicher**; Standing Committee – **Jeff Rill**; Alternate Standing Committee – **Larry O'Neill**; District Board Chair – **Pete Kontra**; District Conference Clerk – **Sarah Clugston**; Church Development & Evangelism – **Jere Cassel, Chris Smith**; Ministry – **Marvin Foster**; Nurture & Christian Education – **Karen Hackett, Donna Leferver Hoover**; Stewardship – **Michael Hawthorne, Barbara Platt**; Witness & Outreach – **Carl Brubaker, Gloria Torres**; Camp Swatara – **Michele Gibbel, Lynda Jensen, Racel Swank**; COBYS – **Rebecca Fuchs, Lisa Reinhart**.

Learned from the ANE District Displays

Consecrated Dennis Garrison, from the Hershey Spring Creek congregation, as 2016 Moderator.

Conference next year will be October 8 at Elizabethtown College

What's New in the District?

New Members

Harrisburg First - *Baptism:* Xaviar Cruz, Supreme Funn, Kristina Hunn, Matthew Hunn, Rachel McClinton, Tyquan Reddick, Briel Slocum; *Letter:* Leah Hileman

Indian Creek - *Reaffirmation:* Hazel Moyer

Lititz - *Baptism:* Poe Kwar Hsee, Noah Johnson, Mu Mu, Samuel Tobias; *Letter:* Jayne Burns, Leonard Burns, Joanne Henry, John Henry, Judy Mellinger, Ardeth Wolgemuth, Marvin Zimmerman, Regina Zimmerman

Mechanic Grove - *Baptism:* Stephen Graham, Paul Myers, Kirsten O'Connell; *Letter:* Jenn Nolt, Richard Nolt; *Reaffirmation:* Lacey Costa

Midway - *Baptism:* Alexandra Burrows, Emma Gutekunst, Michael Gutekunst, Blayne Heisey, James V. Kennedy, Oliver Martin, Talita Shirk; *Letter:* Tammy Good, Vince Good, Jim Hummel, Kelly Ray, Leavy Ray, John Smith, Vicki Smith

Mohler - *Baptism:* Alyssa Gehr, Ryan Gehr; *Letter:* Martha Martin, Steve Martin

Paxton - *Baptism:* Taylor Albert Pottinger, Ronald Varner

Richland - *Baptism:* Tyler Shott, Alayna Stauffer

Springfield - *Baptism:* Wanda Anne Anderson

Stevens Hill - *Baptism:* Jade Love-Morris, Ashley Stoeckl; *Letter:* Audrey Estep, Randy Estep



ANE on Facebook: Get connected. See ministry updates. Peruse photos of special events. Catch a word of inspiration. Stay informed. Become a part of the *ANE Communication Team*: REPOST ... help get the word out. Encourage your members to **LIKE ANE on FB!** Help us keep ... **Connecting Our Common Good News!** www.facebook.com/AtlanticNortheastDistrict

Reminder:

In case of inclement weather, the District Office follows the Elizabethtown Area School District's schedule for closings or delays.



Ministry

Craig H. Smith

Pastoral News

East Cocalico: John Shaffer called as interim.
Florin: Randy Fiske announced his resignation.
Green Tree: David Leiter announced his retirement.
Mohrsville: Jim Bauer has announced his retirement for 2016.
Mount Zion Road: Called Chris Smith.



Thank You, LORD!

Newly Licensed Ministers

Chris Dubble (Richland)
 Carolina Izquierdo (Lancaster)
 Leonor Ochoa (Lancaster)
 Eric Ramirez (Lancaster)

Newly Ordained Ministers

Jordan Keller (Lewiston)
 Alix Sable (Lancaster)

Seven Questions to Advance Your Church

1. What is your congregation's passion for ministry?
2. How are you working to put traction under *this* passion?
3. Who is holding the church accountable for doing what they said they wanted to do?
4. How will you support the vision of your church?
5. What's missing?
6. Who can help?
7. What's the next step in aligning your goals and your actions?



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.

Shift Thinking:

The following are considerations to navigate culture and shift thinking to impact this present generation:

- Keep a tough hide.
- Keep a tender heart.
- Keep looking up.
- Keep searching out a better way.
- Keep finding a way forward.

Scripture Points:

But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you. — John 14.26

When I am with those who are weak, I share their weakness, for I want to bring the weak to Christ. Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some.
 — 1 Corinthians 9:22

Let's turn the tables on a culture of *stuck-ness* in the church and create a culture of meaningful tradition mingled with a bright-eyed, eager-spirited, God-alive wonder!

Youth & Young Adults

Jess Ross, Director



Senior High Barn Party

This was held on Saturday October 3rd for high school students. We gathered at the Becker farm for devotions, a hay ride, food, train wreck and played many other games. Despite the cool, rainy weather, we had a great time!

Senior High Retreat

Date: January 15-17, 2016

Location: Camp Swatara

Registration Deadline: January 7, 2016

Cost: Youth – \$100, Advisors – \$60

Details: We would love for you to join us as we experience great sessions with speaker and band, games, food and of course great people to connect with.

Junior High Lock In

Date: February 12-13, 2016

Time: 10 pm – 6 am

Location: Lebanon Valley College, Arnold Sports Center

Registration Deadline: February 4, 2016

Cost: \$10 per youth, free for Advisors

Details: There will be devotion time, games, movies, gym time, swimming and food!

Junior AND Senior High Service Project

Date: March 12, 2016

Time: 9 am – 1:30 pm

Location: MCC

Cost: \$2 per attendee (pizza lunch)

Registration Deadline: March 3, 2016 (this gives MCC time to prepare for us)

Details: Please invite your whole youth program to join us at Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Material Resources Center in Ephrata. After serving there we will be going to another facility where we will eat lunch and play some games!

Open Camp-us

Date: April 9, 2016

Location: Camp Swatara

Registration Deadline: March 31, 2016

Details: Day of fun! Climbing Wall, High Ropes, Adventure Games, Hiking, Gaga, 4 Square, Volleyball, and more possibilities!

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 Events

Christian Citizenship Seminar

May 27-30, 2016

Manchester University

National Young Adult Conference

Apr 9-14, 2016

New York and Washington, DC

Giving Thanks for ANE Ministries

ANE Ministry Investment Plan Update 9/30/15

ANE staff celebrates and sincerely thanks all ANE members and congregations who have contributed volunteer time and finances this year. It is important to note:

- \$60,000 was provided as grant support for four urban congregations' outreach ministries ... *because of your gifts;*
- Resourcing Search Committees and coordinating the identifying and calling of candidates for 18 pastoral placements are taking place ... *because of your gifts;*
- Candidates are Interviewed for Licensing and Ordination to Ministry ... *because of your gifts;*
- Ministerial training and pastoral education is being made available ... *because of your gifts;*
- Interim Ministry is coordinated and creative church staffing explored ... *because of your gifts;*
- Ministry Partnering Agencies and Institutions are supported ... *because of your gifts;*
- Official records are kept, Pastoral Ministry Files are managed, accountability is deployed, back-ground checks are run, new persons are invited to consider Set-apart Ministry, Child Protection awareness is promoted, historical records are archived, communications are disseminated, events – big and small – are planned ... *because of your gifts;*
- We continue to resource Church plant projects and Fellowships in NY, ME, and PA. ... *because of your gifts;*
- Funds and leadership are provided for Church revitalization with Drexel Hill congregation ... *because of your gifts;*
- Sr & Jr High Youth events and service projects take place ... *because of your gifts;*
- District Disaster Benevolence grants, Seeds of Faith grants, and Barnabas grants for congregations ... *because of your gifts*
- Connecting ANE congregations through the website, *Parking Lot*, *ANE Today*, and District Conference ... *because of your gifts*

and . . . much, much MORE!

As of 09/30/15 the fiscal investment in these ministries has been
\$432,345.

As of 9/30 ANE's total giving was \$104,376 short of the year-to-date Ministry Investment Plan and \$62,612 short of expenses. Twenty-three percent (23%) of ANE congregations, fellowships, and projects have not yet contributed to our common district ministry. Please urge your congregations as members of the ANE family to celebrate and support these ministries with a financial gift.

THE GIFT GOES ON...

Please remember YOU are a member of the ANE community. With your prayers and financial support, together, we spread the gift of the Gospel in ways that your congregation can't do alone. Together, let's be...

The ALL IN District! Raising up a Going... Glowing... Growing... Godly People.

Kay Weaver, ANE Director of Stewardship

Thankful 



Outreach Updates

- Mary Etta Reinhart, Director of Witness & Outreach

As members of the Witness and Outreach Commission interact with congregations in our district, we often hear stories of ways that our churches are reaching out to their communities. This outreach sometimes takes place in the form of an organized program. At other times, outreach is a result of seeing and meeting a community need.

Here is a story that was submitted by Peggy Rasmussen from Mechanic Grove:

Mechanic Grove CoB has served around 100 people the last Saturday in April for more than 6 years through the Flowing Oil Café. The Flowing Oil Café is the result of someone's dream to provide a dining out experience for those who cannot afford to eat out at restaurants. They are encouraged to give a donation, which helps with costs of the meals. With the support of Love INC of Lancaster, the dream is an enduring reality. Southern Lancaster County churches take turns serving the community with meals prepared by local congregations every other Saturday evening September through May. The meals take place in two centrally located churches in Quarryville, so there is good access.

When Mechanic Grove CoB members have served, they provided the food and devotions, prepared the meal, and then ate with the dinner guests. As part of the witness commission, I have had the joy of participating in this fellowship. Many of the dinner guests come regularly and enjoy the conversation with other regulars and getting to know new people. When I sit with them, we often talk about what brought them here and a little bit about themselves. They often bring up something that inspired them from the devotional. It has been a great outreach to the community, with the support and cooperation of the area church community.

John Rowe from Hanoverdale submitted this story:

Hanoverdale CoB has launched a new Drama/Musical Outreach Program called His Hypocrites. Behind the name... in the original Greek, *hypocrites* was their word for *actor*. But as I'm sure you're aware, by many inside and outside our church walls, Christians are viewed as "hypocritical" and often held to an unattainable standard of perfection. We know that only Jesus Christ lived a perfect life. Our name has been chosen to spark that inevitable conversation and in turn our response is always the perfection of Jesus Christ and it allows us to share Him and His grace/mercy in spite of our shortcomings.

We began last summer with "A Man Called Peter" about the life and ministry of Rev. Dr. Peter Marshall. We then added some dramatic roles to our annual Christmas Cantata/Musical. We just finished our second summer run... "Little Women" which played to 4 sold-out audiences and we added the element of a four-course dinner to this year's presentation. The "dinner theater" concept was well received and we will be continuing that format moving forward. We are currently in auditions for our 2015 Christmas program "Casting Call," which will present December 20 at a 10:00 AM combined service and have announced 2016's Summer Show... "Runaway" (The story of Onesimus from Philemon).

Our goal was to create a program that would "feel safe" for those who may not necessarily grace the doors of a church otherwise... We were extremely successful this past year, in that over 70% of our audience was from outside the regular attending body. At the end of each program, we have a tie-in and an opportunity for people to hear more about the gospel after the show. For information about the program, tickets or auditions, contact John Rowe, Director, at office.hanoverdale@gmail.com.

We would be happy to hear your Outreach Stories as well. Please send them to Mary Etta Reinhart, Director of Witness and Outreach at mreinhart@ane-cob.org.



CHURCH 2 CHURCH

Do you know a Sunday School or Bible Study group that is looking for an interesting service opportunity? The ANE District Witness and Outreach Commission has recently approved an exciting new ministry opportunity for congregations in our local ANE district. This is a church to church "community building" ministry outreach opportunity that allows churches with needs to partner with churches who are interested in a service project.

Possible projects might include (but not be limited to) painting, landscape clean up, or cleaning out rooms in the church.

The work being done is meant to offer encouragement and a spiritual boost to a congregation with needs it cannot meet on its own.

This will be a church to church process. The ministry will be open to all District congregations. A youth group, Sunday School class, or another similar group should be able to perform these service projects.

The materials, tools, and expenses to complete the projects will be coordinated between the partnering churches.

We are excited to be able to offer this totally unique opportunity for serving in our ANE District. 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 on the Witness and Outreach Commission page at www.ane-cob.org.

~ OPPORTUNITIES ~

Come to the Well

Partake of Living Water and Depart for Ministry
January 11-12, 2016
Camp Swatara

Springs of Living Water, in partnership with the ANE District, Camp Swatara, and Bethany Theological Seminary, invite you to attend a day of Pastor's Sabbath Rest (Jan. 11) and the 19th Annual Pastor's and Church Leaders Conference (Jan. 12). All pastors and church leaders are welcome to attend this Retreat with teaching/study time and training with CEU opportunity. Fireside space set aside for quiet prayer and solitude, as well as opportunities for fellowship and worship.

For more information, contact David Young at davidyoung@churchrenewalservant.org or 717-615-4515.

12 Baskets and a Goat

Grazing money to goat-oward hunger relief
Sunday, November 22, 3 pm, Elizabethtown CoB



All are welcome to come to this lively debut performance, full of humor and meaning, as only Ted and Jeff can deliver. If you wish, bring a loaf of bread or baked goods to be auctioned off as part of the show or to be sold at a bake sale following the show. And bring your wallet to bid on goodies, to purchase items, or to give a donation. All proceeds will benefit Heifer Project International and the Elizabethtown Community Cupboard food bank.

More information can also be found at www.etowncob.org or email info@etowncob.org.

In this season of giving thanks, what better way to express gratitude than to support efforts which goat-oward hunger relief!



Camp Swatara Travels to Acadia National Park

Why is the area around Bar Harbor and Acadia National Park called Downeast Maine? In 2016 you will have the opportunity to not only learn the meaning of "Downeast," but also experience firsthand the wonders and beauty of this area where the "waters meet the forests." From September 9-18 Camp Swatara is sponsoring a trip to Acadia National Park and the surrounding area. Ray and

Judy Powell, who have co-led this trip for the past nine years, have more than 30 years of experience exploring the Park. Activities will include nature discovery walks and boat rides, as well as a carriage ride through the Park. Park Ranger presentations will be included on several of these discoveries. Sightings of deer, eagles, seals and beaver are common. (Sorry, no moose, but you never know.) There will also time to visit the shops of Bar Harbor.

Housing accommodations while in Maine are in modern 2-3 bedroom cottages located on the water's edge outside of Bar Harbor (www.seasidemaine.com). Each cottage is comfortably furnished and includes private bedrooms (double occupancy), as well as a shared bath, kitchen, and living room. Travel to and from Acadia is done in two Camp vans and overnight accommodations while traveling are in hotels included in the cost of the trip. The estimated cost is \$975 per person (dependent upon final accommodation costs). This cost includes all housing accommodations, transportation, tickets, all breakfasts and the dinner/supper meals while in Maine. Similar trips with commercial vendors cost more than \$3,000. Space is limited to no more than 18 persons.

Past trips have included participants from various COB congregations such as Chiques, Palmyra, Myerstown, Lancaster, Phoenixville, Indian Valley, Spring Creek, Elizabethtown, Martic Grove and Mountville.

If you wish to register for this trip you may contact Camp directly or for additional information contact Ray and Judy at [jmprrp@comcast.net](mailto:jmprkp@comcast.net) or 717-669-7403.



Save the Date!

Stewardship University

Saturday, March 12, 2016

Lancaster Mennonite School

Workshops focusing on holistic stewardship.
Registration begins at 8 a.m.

For more information, contact Kay Weaver
at 717-367-4730.

More details will be forthcoming.



District Women's Spring Fellowship

Saturday, March 5, 2016

Lancaster CoB

Speaker: Melanie Snyder
Elizabethtown CoB

More detailed information and a
registration form will be mailed
to each congregation in January.

Calendar

November

7	District Board Reorganization, Camp Swatara
16	District Volunteer Luncheon
25-26	Office closed for Thanksgiving (beginning at noon 11/25)

December

23-Jan.3	Office closed for Christmas (beginning at noon 12/23)
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January

11-12	Church Leaders Conference, Camp Swatara
15-17	Senior High Youth Retreat, Camp Swatara
18	Office closed for MLK Day.

Happy
Thanksgiving

Deadline for the January/February issue of ANE Today is November 30.
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.

**ATLANTIC NORTHEAST DISTRICT
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

500 East Cedar Street
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

Non-Profit Organization

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

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