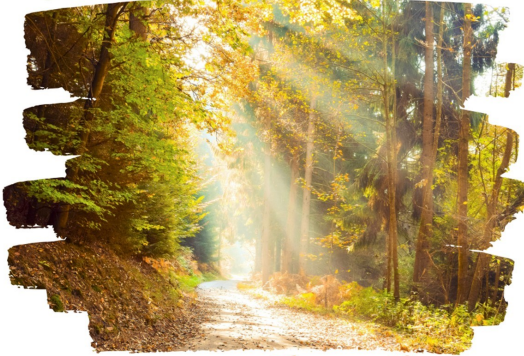


2 Corinthians 5:17-21

CHRIST'S AMBASSADORS



pursuing the path of
RECONCILIATION 

Created by Karen Breidenstine-Howe, Spring Creek COB

I have been gratified to hear that this year's theme, "Christ's Ambassadors: Pursuing the Path of Reconciliation," is resonating with many brothers and sisters! It is, I think, a relevant theme in a time when we find ourselves struggling with divisions both among believers and in the world around us. To help others make their peace with God may seem an overwhelming task, but this precious gift of the ministry of reconciliation was given to us by our Lord Jesus when we ourselves made our peace with God, when we became new creations, and we speak on behalf of the Messiah himself and with his power when we go about this task.

As we live into our new identity in Christ, reaching out to others in love and humility, amazing things can happen. Beth Sollenberger, author the Lenten

devotional *Through Thick and Thin*, tells a story of a South African man who made peace with the man responsible for sending him to prison for years; these men are now neighbors and meet regularly for fellowship. Making peace with our enemies may be an important first step in sharpening our "ambassador" skills. Also, if we can make peace with those with whom we disagree, showing the power of forgiveness, the example we set may help others move toward the path of reconciliation with God, and we ourselves move forward in love. And isn't that the direction our Lord wants us all to go?

As for this year's conference on October 11 and 12, plans are well underway. We return to the Elizabethtown College campus, but we will hold our meeting in the KAV, a spacious and sunny room, well-suited to our discussion table format. Further, we have secured two nearby classrooms to accommodate our lunchtime insight/equipping sessions. Our pre-Conference Bible study, held online, will be led by Brother Jeff Keller. Also, the Mountville Church will host our Friday evening worship service. Keep looking for further details in upcoming issues of this newsletter!

In the meantime, if you're looking for district-wide fellowship opportunities, please consider attending ANE Day @ Camp Swatara on April 27.

Kathy Brode

District Conference Moderator

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-21

17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;

19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

20 So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.