

UPDATE

Newsletter of the Missouri Arkansas District of the Church of the Brethren



Opportunities to Serve, Learn, and Share at the 2018 District Conference

The 27th Recorded Missouri Arkansas District Conference will be held on September 14-15, 2018 at Windermere Baptist Conference Center in Roach, MO, presenting many opportunities to be “Compassionately Called”, the theme of District Conference.

Participants may bring Hygiene Kits to District Conference which include 1 hand towel (15”x28” to 16”x32”), 1 washcloth, 1 nail clippers (removed from package), 1 bar of bath-size soap (in package), 10 standard size band-aids, 1 toothbrush in original package, and 1 wide-tooth comb. Place all items in a 1-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closer and remove excess air before sealing.

Our ministers will have the opportunity to earn .5 CEUs at District Conference. There will be a minister’s workshop at 1:30 p.m. on Friday led by Nancy Heishman, Director of the Office of Ministry. There will be an insight session on Friday evening after worship led by Loyce Borgman, from Brethren Benefit Trust, entitled “Effectively Board.” This session will be worth .1 CEUs to our ministers as well as the morning Bible Study lead by Mark Lancaster from Bethany Theological Seminary. All sessions are open to everyone.

On Saturday morning following worship, the Compelling Vision Process Team will be with us to share about their work and to hear from our district our responses to their questions as they develop ideas for a compelling vision for our denomination. Encourage everyone in your church to come and be a part of this process.

Because this process will take a major part of our day on Saturday, **delegates should read their conference booklet** and be prepared to move quickly through business. Also, **remember to bring your ‘hands’** representing the work of your church.



REGISTER FOR DISTRICT CONFERENCE NOW!!!

Registration forms for District Conference are **due on August 5th**. Any registrations received after that date will be charged a \$10 late fee.
All reports are also due on August 5th.

Were you not able to attend the 2018 Annual Conference? Find full coverage at www.brethren.org/ac/2018/coverage.

New Ventures in Christian Discipleship Season to Begin September 8

The Ventures in Christian Discipleship program at McPherson (Kan.) College is moving into its seventh year of providing useful, affordable education to small church congregations. The first course of the year, “The Why and How of Conflict Engagement,” will briefly explore the theory and practice of conflict engagement. Using the expertise of Mennonite, Quaker, and Methodists scholars, John Paul Lederach, Parker Palmer, and Tom Porter, participants will explore various models of engagement, the importance of spiritual preparation when we are asked to help facilitate conversations between others who are in conflict, and some tools that can assist us in listening and responding in helpful and healing ways. The class will be held online September 8th at 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. CST and taught by Debbie Roberts. Debbie teaches adjunct courses at Bethany Theological Seminary in Reconciliation Studies and is pastor of Ellisforde Church of the Brethren, Tonasket, Washington and Sunnyslope Church of the Brethren, Wenatchee, Washington.

All classes are donation-based and continuing education credit is available for \$10 per course. To learn more about Ventures in Christian Discipleship and to register for courses, visit www.mcpherson.edu/ventures.

THE ANNUAL FARRENBURG
FISH FRY WILL BE ON AUGUST
25, 2018 AT THE FARRENBURG
CHURCH OF THE BRETHERN
SERVING FROM 5-7 P.M.
EVERYONE IS INVITED!



District Prayer list for the week of:

- Aug. 5** – Farrenburg Church of the Brethren, Tim Farrenburg-Pastor & South Central Indiana District; Carol Waggy – Interim DE
- Aug. 12** – Teachers and staff in our schools; Nancy Sollenberger Heishman – Director of Ministry
- Aug. 19** – Cabool Church of the Brethren, Roland Johnson-Pastor and Michigan District, Beth Sollenberger – Interim DE
- Aug. 26** – Bethany Theological Seminary as faculty and staff prepare for a new school year starting on the 30th



Tim Farrenburg is now recovering in the rehab unit at the Delta Community Hospital in Sikeston, MO. He wants everyone to know that he appreciates the prayers and ask that you please continue! There was a 50% chance that Tim would make it through the procedure that was done on him. He reported, "God is not finished with me yet." We thank God with him!

Cindy's Insights

“Confessing Jesus Christ, as Teacher, Redeemer, and Lord, we desire to serve Him by proclaiming, professing, and walking in His way together bringing His peace to our broken world. Join us in reclaiming a new passion for Christ and helping set a course for our future as the Church of the Brethren serving Him in our communities and world!”

--Guiding statement of the Compelling Vision Process Team

I do not tend to be an emotional person. Being a minister, I have had to learn ways to keep my emotions in check. However, I was moved to tears when the Annual Conference delegate body raised their hands to vote in favor “that all new business for the 2019 Annual Conference be set aside so that the delegate body and other Annual Conference participants can focus their attention on the essential conversations that will lead to discerning the compelling vision that Christ intends for the Church of the Brethren.”

This demonstrated to me so much more than a proper procedure at Annual Conference. This action said, “The Church of the Brethren is important to me.” It was an affirmation of how much everyone in that room loved the church which I also love. This vote reflected our passion for Christ and his church so much that we are willing to set aside any agenda we have to listen for guidance from the Holy Spirit. We elected to start on a spiritual journey.

Let’s get started in Missouri and Arkansas. Join us at District Conference on Saturday, September 15, when a member of the Compelling Vision Process (CVP) Team will join us and lead us in some conversations about values, vision, and hope. There will be having one other opportunity for conversation with the CPV Team in our district. The date is yet to be set.

Your voice can’t be heard if you don’t attend, so plan now to join us at District Conference!

On the journey together,
Cindy

Contact Information for the Missouri Arkansas District Office is as follows:

Mailing Address:	P.O. 156 Cabool, MO 65689	Office Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays (Other days will vary.)
Phone Number:	(417) 254-0858	Office Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Email Address:	moark.district23@gmail.com	

Mark Your Calendar

- July 29-Aug. 4 District Church Camp at Hammond Mill Camp
- Aug. 16-17 Cindy will be at a Leadership Team meeting in Elgin, IL – District Office closed
- Aug. 25th Farrenburg Fish Fry from 5-7 p.m.
- Aug. 27th **News items are due** for the September Update
- Sept. 3rd Labor Day – District Office closed.
- Sept. 14-15** **District Conference** at Windermere Conference Center in Roach, MO
- Sept. 21 International Day of Peace
- Oct. 1-5 CODE West meeting – District Office Closed

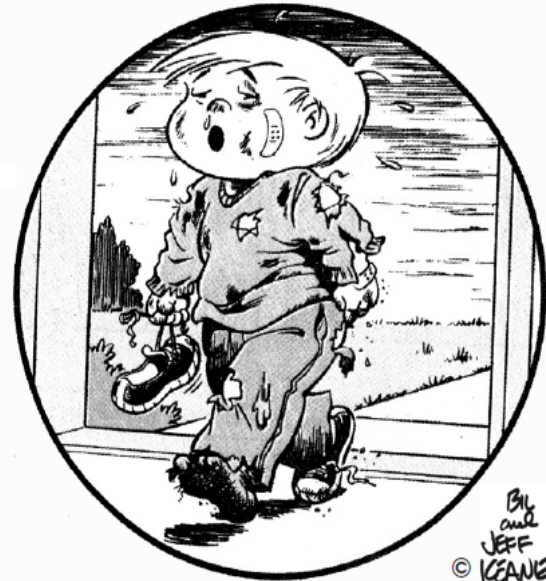
A Smile



A smile is something nice to see
It doesn't cost a cent.
A smile is something all your own
It never can be spent.
A Smile is welcome anywhere
It does away with frowns.
A smile is good for everyone
To ease life's ups and downs.

Card passed along by Virgil K.
Hawn of Shelbyville, IN.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane



"I think my guardian angel took the day off."

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*
©Bil & Jeff Keane
Reprinted with permission