

# UPDATE

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



2018

## **"The Miracles of Jesus" to Be the Theme of District Camp**

Campers will have the opportunity to learn about the Miracles of Jesus when they attend District Camp on July 29-August 4 at Hammond Mill Camp near Dora, Missouri. Lorene Moore will lead morning Bible Study, Barbra Davis will again lead crafts, and Seth Moore will lead the campers during recreation. All youth ages 8-18 are welcome to attend. Staff members are still needed. Contact Tommie Leet if you can help: phone # 816-225-3363 or email [t-leet@hotmail.com](mailto:t-leet@hotmail.com).

Information sheets, registration forms, and medical forms for camp have been sent out to all the churches. Campers may register up to the opening day of camp; however, they must have the completed forms when the register which have been signed by parents or guardians.

### ***District Prayer list for the week of:***

- July 1** – CODE Meeting (2-4) and Annual Conference (4-8);  
Moderator Samuel Sarpiya and Moderator-Elect Donita Keister
- July 8** – Messiah Church of the Brethren (Kansas City), Pastor Barbra Davis, & Brethren Benefit Board & Committees Meeting (8)-  
Nevin Dulabaum—President
- July 15** – National Youth Conference (21-26) and Northern Indiana District, Torin Eilker—DE
- July 22** – Greenwood Church of the Brethren and Brethren Volunteer Service, Orientation of Unit 320, (22-Aug. 10)
- July 29** – Missouri Arkansas District Church Camp (29-Aug. 4)

## Compelling Vision Team Coming to District Conference

The Compelling Vision Team (CPT) will be coming to the Missouri Arkansas District Conference on September 14 and 15 at Windermere Conference Center near Roach, Missouri. A member of the CPT will explain the process and answer questions. They will also be leading us in some conversations around a Compelling Vision. They are committed to gathering as much input from as many people as possible throughout each step of the process, so please come to District Conference and join in the conversation.

A District Conference information sheet and registration form has been sent to all the churches of the district for you to copy and distribute, plus they are available on the website. If you have received this newsletter by email, the form and information sheet has been attached. Please contact the District Office if you need a registration form or for more information.



### DISTRICT DISASTER RESPONSE COORDINATOR NEWS

WHEN A HOME IS REBUILT AFTER A DISASTER, THERE IS A HOUSE BLESSING. A QUILT, COMFORTER OR LAP ROBE IS GIVEN TO THE HOMEOWNER. MOST OF THESE ARE FROM CHURCHES EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI. I WOULD LIKE A COUPLE OF THESE FROM CHURCHES IN OUR DISTRICT TO SEND TO LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA. LET ME KNOW IF YOUR CHURCH WOULD BE WILLING TO SEND ONE.

THERE ARE OPEN WEEKS FOR VOLUNTEERS IN LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA. THE WEEKS ARE: **DECEMBER 9-15** AND **DECEMBER 16-22** (15 SPOTS EACH). PERHAPS WE CAN GET A GROUP TOGETHER AND GO. FROM RAYTOWN (KANSAS CITY AREA), IT IS 1,100 MILES EACH WAY, OR AN 18 HOURS DRIVE, IT WILL TAKE TWO DAYS EACH WAY. I HAVE BEEN THERE AND THE AREA IS VERY NICE AND IT WILL BE WARMER THAN HERE. DECEMBER 9-15 WOULD POSSIBLY BE THE BEST TIME. I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

MY CONTACT INFORMATION IS: 816-315-7256 C [gahmgb@gmail.com](mailto:gahmgb@gmail.com)

## Brethren Warned of Email Scam

Scam email messages have been received by some Church of the Brethren members recently, asking for donations to help with refugee resettlement. These are scam messages and should be deleted.

The Church of the Brethren's legitimate email requests for funding will invite giving online at the Church of the Brethren website, [www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org) or via the mailing of a check to the Church of the Brethren General Offices, 1451 Dundee Ave., Elgin, IL 60120.

The Office of Mission Advancement sends the "eBrethren" email newsletter, print letters, and occasional fundraising messages by email to encourage members to give to Church of the Brethren ministries. These will always invite donations sent by check to the denominational offices or online giving at a secure donation site such as [www.brethren.org/give](http://www.brethren.org/give) (powered by GivingFuel).

Please do not ever give out bank account information or personal details in response to an email message. Legitimate email messages from the Church of the Brethren will not request such information.

If you receive a request listing any other ways to give, please delete it or forward it to our webmaster at [cobweb@brethren.org](mailto:cobweb@brethren.org) so that the denominational staff can track down the fraudulent senders.

The denominational staff appreciates the generous giving and support that is received for Church of the Brethren ministries, and encourages church members to be "wise as serpents and innocent as doves" (Matthew 10:16b).

Some districts are reporting similar scams asking for donations to the district. The Missouri Arkansas District has sent out no such request and any email asking for your donations to our district or any other district should be reported as scams and/or deleted.

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



# NEWS FROM OUR DISTRICT CHURCHES

## **News from Warrensburg - submitted by Jerry Crouse**

### ***Mark Pearce Received into Membership***

On Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mark Pearce was received into membership of the faith community through his re-affirmation of faith. Mark is a life-long resident of Warrensburg who has participated in the Warrensburg congregation for several years.

### ***Local Witness Through Newspaper Articles***

Accepting an invitation extended to area communities of faith by the Warrensburg Daily Star-Journal (DSJ), the congregation submitted a couple of articles and photos highlighting our beliefs and activities. Here are links to those articles: [http://www.dailystarjournal.com/religion/warrensburg-church-of-brethren-who-are-these-brethren/article\\_b0e8cc0f-c229-5a59-a15c-303a02d81eb7.html](http://www.dailystarjournal.com/religion/warrensburg-church-of-brethren-who-are-these-brethren/article_b0e8cc0f-c229-5a59-a15c-303a02d81eb7.html) ; [http://www.dailystarjournal.com/religion/warrensburg-church-of-brethren-serving-the-least-of-these/article\\_7c63f44a-cb0d-594b-abc5-558f5d227efb.html](http://www.dailystarjournal.com/religion/warrensburg-church-of-brethren-serving-the-least-of-these/article_7c63f44a-cb0d-594b-abc5-558f5d227efb.html) . A second contribution to the DSJ will be made in July.

### ***Action Taken at Semi-Annual Congregational Forum Meeting***

Among other business, the congregation took the following action during our June 10<sup>th</sup> forum meeting:

- Agreed to sign the *We Are Still In* declaration, pledging continued work individually and as a congregation towards the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and climate change. (See: <https://www.wearestillin.com/>)
- Allocated witness funds to pay for audio recording services enabling 2 congregational submissions of content for the Dunker Punk Podcast (<http://arlingtoncob.org/dpp/>). The first submission by young adults from the congregation will be aired later this summer.
- Agreed to: continued financial support of the MO/ARK District in 2019, the gathering of an offering for the Annual Conference Witness to the Host City of Cincinnati, Ohio, and the preparation of health kits for the Festival of Sharing this fall.

### ***Bike Riders on the New Rock Island Trail***

Continuing an annual tradition of the youth group, 23 members and friends participated in a picnic and bike ride following worship on June 3rd. Leeton Mayor, Taylor Elwell welcomed the group to Leeton's recently upgraded park facilities. After a picnic lunch in the park shelter, cyclists set out along the recently opened Rock Island Trail on an out-and-back ride towards Chilhowee.



#### **From Broadwater – submitted by Marie Froman**

On the Mend and Pending—

I am looking forward to being back in church this coming week (June 24). Steve, Danny, and I are on the road to recovery by God's wonderful grace and healing. We are each very thankful. 😊 Harriot Swinger, from Jefferson City, has come down to help us during our time of recovery.

Our Brother Gary Marron has been hospitalized too with a brown recluse spider bite. And, Vanita (Snider) Coleman's husband Keith has had more surgery. This trend of health-related issues needs to make a turn around. We appreciate all of the prayers and support from our district brothers and sisters.

Stephanie Sappington has not left on her adventure this summer. The Brown Family continues to enjoy Current River and different ones have been on vacation from their crew coming back safely each time.

District Camp is coming up soon and I have been busy working on dining hall posters for the various schedules, duties, and sports activities. A banner has been ordered and soon to be printed with the overall theme for the week. I enjoy this pre-planning that really seems to help everything run more smoothly. Email has been a big help in keeping contacted and up-to-date. So, before long, I will be putting back some homemade cookies in the freezer. So, I need to put on my mitts!!! We really have an awesome crew that works together well benefitting the children of Missouri Arkansas District. I am glad to be a part of this sharing of time and talents for the cause of Christ. Go team!

ALL HANDS ON DECK—Just a reminder to bring your hands of Compassion to District Conference so we can have our worship center displayed.

Blessings to each of you,

Marie Froman, pastor and 2018 District Conference Moderator



Missouri Arkansas District Conference

September 14 & 15

Windermere Conference Center

Roach, MO

## *Cindy's Insights*

*"Camp is...a space in which we can live out – and live in – the love of Jesus."*

--Sarah Ullom-Minnich, *Messenger*/Nov. 2016 "Finding Christ-like Community at Camp"

For me, camp was a cornerstone in the building of my faith. In the beginning, I just went because I got to swim everyday and I LOVED to swim (and still LOVE to swim). But as the years went by, I looked forward to church camp for other reasons (no, it just wasn't because of the cute boys).

It became a time when I could shut out the rest of the world and all those problems of adolescence. At camp, I was loved for who I was and treated the same as any other person with no favoritism for social status or wealth. People treated me like Jesus would treat me.

Most of all, camp became a place where I could draw closer to Jesus, walk with Jesus without fear of being harassed for my faith. For as long as I can remember, I have had a yearning to know more about God and camp provided this for me. Through the messages we heard and saw lived out by the staff, my faith grew. In our camp duties, we learned that our work gets done fast if everyone works together. Camp taught me how to be Jesus living and moving in the world.

All this is taught in Sunday School classes and in worship services, but church camp provides the opportunity for children to be with other children who they do not see every Sunday. Youth learn to live as a community with persons who start out as strangers and how to make them strangers no more. Campers can develop social skills that will help them the rest of their lives as they are taught to "live out and in the love of Jesus".

Encourage the young people in your church to attend District Church Camp. Send them even if your church can't financially support them for our camp receives donations to help everyone go to camp. You may help a future District Executive to "live in the love of Jesus"!

Living together in the love of Jesus,  
*Cindy*



## July 29 – August 4

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

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

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## Mark Your Calendar

- July 2-4      Cindy will be attending the CODE Summer Meeting in Cincinnati, OH
- July 4-8      Annual Conference at Cincinnati, OH
- July 21-26    National Youth Conference at Fort Collins, CO
- July 23      **News Items are due for the August Update**
- July 29-Aug. 4      District Church Camp at Hammond Mill Camp
- Sept. 14-15    District Conference at Windermere Conference Center in Roach, MO

MISSOURI ARKANSAS DISTRICT OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 156  
CABOOL, MO 65689