

**UPDATE**  
**Missouri/Arkansas District**  
**Church of the Brethren**  
**June 27, 2014**



**Webcasting Available for Annual**  
**Conference Worship:**

Church of the Brethren congregations and individuals are invited to join in a special Annual Conference Sunday worship service from around the country on July 6. The Conference Office is inviting churches to join in the webcast of worship that Sunday, in order “to worship together as one virtual church.”

Start playing the broadcast from the beginning whenever your church service starts. A bulletin will be available to download and print from the Annual Conference webpage. For further instructions go to [www.brethren.org/ac](http://www.brethren.org/ac)

Cabool did this last year and found it very successful. Let’s have more of us unite with our denomination in this way. It can be done either at the sanctuary or in a home, wherever the appropriate equipment is available. Feel the thrill of being at the big meeting and worshipping with thousands of others.

**Conference Witness to Host City**  
**Benefits YWCA Shelter for Women**  
**in Columbus:**

The Church of the Brethren Annual Conference partners this year with the YWCA/YMCA of Columbus, Ohio, for an annual Witness to the Host City. Each year, the Witness to the Host City service project invites Brethren to aid the city that hosts the denomination’s annual meeting.

The YWCA shelter for women in Columbus, called Rebecca’s Place, works with women and children in a significant ministry providing educational opportunities, job training, employment services, and more to equip women and families for a better future.

Below are some of the most pressing needs that Brethren may respond to. An offering of these donations will be taken at the Thursday night worship service on July 3. Conference goers are invited to bring one or all of the following items:

1. Socks, both men’s and women’s are needed
2. Disposable baby diapers, any size
3. Hygiene kits. Each kit should include 1 hand towel (not a fingertip or bath towel), 1 wash cloth, 1 one-gallon zipped plastic bag that is filled with 1 bath-size bar of soap, 1 bottle of shampoo, 1 container of deodorant, 1 nail clipper, 1 wide-tooth comb, 1 container of dental floss, 6 band aids.

Remember to make a card or write a letter to EYN. Tell them of your continued prayer and concern for the abducted girls and attacks on churches and villages. If you don't have a delegate to carry your card to Annual Conference, send it to Jerry Crouse by July 1.

**Deepwater Has Final Worship:** The Deepwater Church of the Brethren met for their final worship together on April 27, 2014. In a letter from Pastor Ken Steckly he said it was a bitter/sweet service with 6 in attendance.

The Deepwater church is located in Henry County. The original Deepwater meetinghouse was constructed in 1879 about 5 miles northwest of the village of Deepwater on three acres donated by the Woolford family. There are records indicating a fellowship active as early as 1877 developing around five Fahnestock brothers – Daniel, Ephraim, John, Jacob, and William – who migrated to the area from Ohio in 1870-71. Jacob Fahnestock served as the first pastor.

In the early 1970s it was determined that the church building was so located as to be in the high water table of the projected Truman Reservoir. Thus it became necessary to move the location to the village of Deepwater. A new church building was constructed and dedicated free of debt in 1978.

**You have a Chance to Volunteer on a Home Rebuild:** Gifford, Illinois was heavily damaged by a tornado in November of 2013. There were 80 homes destroyed and 40 with damage. The community is rebuilding and we have an opportunity to help them.

Gary Gahm, our District Disaster Coordinator, is organizing a group to travel to Gifford in July. Gifford is located north of Champaign, IL about 4 hours east of St. Louis. The Long term recovery committee is responsible for the rebuilding efforts there. Rick Koch from the Ill/Wisc District has been working with the Long Term Recovery Committee to get Brethren volunteers involved.

July 14-18 and July 21-25 are the weeks open to us to go and volunteer with the rebuilding. Lodging will be in a former retreat center and the cost per night is \$5.00. We would try to car pool to the site along with others from the MO/ARK District.

If you are interested in going to Gifford to rebuild one of those weeks, please contact Roger Schrock and or Gary Gahm. Gary can be reached for more information at: 818-313-5065 (home phone) 816-315-7256 (cell) or [gahmgb@comcast.net](mailto:gahmgb@comcast.net)

**District Moderator Visits Bethany:**

On Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, Luci Landes of the Messiah C.O.B. came to visit us at Bethany for our morning services. She is this year's MO-ARK District Conference Moderator and we really enjoyed her talk on the subject of "GRACE." She referred to the different meanings of that term and also read excerpts from a couple of books written by Max Lucado. The best part though, was how she connected the subject of grace to her own life, with the recent sickness of her friend and sister in Christ, Sherri Paddock. She then challenged each of us to share our own stories of grace, whether it be in messages of kindness, giving, the sharing of our resources, or just conversing with someone about the love of God, among others. She wants each of our congregations to share our

GRACE stories and how those moments have influenced our lives.

Luci is more than willing to come to any congregation within our district to either visit or speak about the grace of God. I highly recommend your congregation to open your hearts and doors to hear God's message of grace and hope that so desperately needs to be shared in our congregations and world at this time.

God's blessings to you,  
Pastor Jason Frazer, Bethany Church

**Camp Registrations Are Needed:**

Registration Forms for Hammond Mill camp have been sent to all congregations. Please get all your campers to fill in a registration form and send it to:

Tommie Leet  
HCR 67 Box 124 A  
Warsaw, MO 65355

If you can't get your forms together just now, please call Tommie with the names of your campers so she can make appropriate plans for the correct number, age, and gender of our campers.

You do not need to send the registration fee to Tommie at this time. Just bring your money along and pay when you arrive.

**Please Pray for the Andrews:**

After due thought and prayer the tough decision was made to admit Thurman Andrews to the Forrest City hospital until he can be evaluated for a nursing home facility. Pray for Opal as she begins the difficult journey of transition to the nursing home for Thurman. He would no longer do as requested so it was difficult to get his medication taken on a daily basis. He is now getting more meds and is in a better frame of mind, smiling and talking some.

Hopefully he will get into a nursing home yet this week.

Thurman is the former pastor of the New Hope (Arkansas) Church of the Brethren. Thank you for your prayers.  
(From Darlene Riley)

**Parish Paper to Be Added to the**

**UPDATE:** The District Leadership Team has approved a subscription to a national church publication called "The Parish Paper". It will now be sent once a month with an UPDATE. We hope the information and thoughts in the Parish Paper will be useful in your congregation and for your leadership.

This subscription gives us permission to provide copies to all of our churches and the churches, in turn, have permission to make copies for their newsletter or other distribution to their members. **We do not have permission** to delete the copyright, to re-write, paraphrase, delete, or change the wording of sentences and paragraphs. We also do not have permission to give to any third party other than our members. We cannot otherwise distribute or sell this publication.

We do have permission to distribute to our members using: E-mail, Post, newspaper, newsletter, meetings, training events, and website.

The Parish Paper will come to you as a second attachment to our emailed UPDATE. Or if you get your UPDATE by post it will be the final 2 pages of your letter.

Feedback on your use and thoughts about this publication would be very welcomed at the District Office.