

MAY 2016



Together on the Journey with your district executive minister . . .

I want to thank church board/leadership team chairpersons and congregations as well as individuals who have responded so generously to my and the district's appeal letter of April 6 to provide financial and prayer support toward the district's commitment to build a Habitat for Humanity house. As of my letter on April 6, we had \$12,735 of the \$21,667 necessary to begin digging the foundation. (Sponsors need to have at least one-third of the sponsorship cost of \$65,000 on hand in order to begin digging the foundation.) Over the past month, \$6,182 has come in, making our total funds on-hand \$18,917.45, leaving us just \$2,750 short of being able to start digging! So far, twelve congregations have contributed to the effort, with six individuals also making generous gifts. Thank you, and please keep this ministry in your checkbook and prayers.

District Standing Committee representative Jim Benedict has scheduled three briefings about the upcoming June 29 – July 3 Greensboro, NC Annual Conference. The briefings will be at Denton on Saturday, June 4 from 10–noon; Broadfording on Sunday, June 12 from 2–4 p.m.; and Oakton on Saturday, June 18 from 10–noon. You are welcome to attend any of the briefings. Jim Benedict will be leading the meetings. Additionally, this year's Moderator, Andy Murray, will be in New Windsor on May 24, and that evening the Brethren Service Center's Zigler Hospitality Center is offering a Meet and Greet Dinner with the Moderator. Andy will share highlights and an overview of the upcoming conference. Social time is 5:30 with dinner at 6. Cost of the meal is \$10.00/person, and reservations can be made by calling 410-635-8700, or by emailing mgrossnickle@brethren.org.

The district office continues to prepare for next month's move to office space at the Westminster Church of the Brethren. We plan to move "the big stuff" the week of June 13 and be re-situated by annual conference time. We're in the process of arranging for new phone lines, so next month's *Journey* will have all the district office's new contact information. At this point, we can tell you that email contacts will remain the same for both me and Administrative Assistant Cathy Baker.

Gene Hagenberger

2016 DISTRICT CONFERENCE NEWS

Our Mid-Atlantic District Conference will be a one-day conference held on Saturday, October 8 in Easton, Maryland. Please join us as we celebrate our 50th District Conference. We want worship to be a big focus for the day. When Jesus walked on earth, He prepared His followers for the time He would return to heaven. He promised to send a counselor, the Holy Spirit, to guide us. Often we forget to acknowledge the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. Our conference theme will focus on the Holy Spirit's role in strengthening congregational ministries through the coming of, moving of, work of, and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Our theme verse is II Timothy 1:7, *For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.* (NIV) We are encouraging district churches to share ministry experiences and ideas that express vitality. We want to reach our community for Jesus.

Lois Ann Glessner, 2016 Moderator

2016 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2016 Annual Conference theme is "Carry the Light." The Program and Arrangements Committee is inviting all congregations to send creative pictures of different ministries from your church—the choir, the youth activities, mission work, fundraising events, fellowship, etc. that show how your congregation carries the light of Christ. We would like to develop a "congregational collage" that will be displayed on the video screens

in the main hall before and after gathering for worship and business. Brother David Sollenberger will use his creativity to develop the collage.

We are requesting no more than 10 pictures in jpeg format. It would be good if one of them could be your church building. If you use a phone or tablet, the format might be different, but we encourage you to send them as jpeg files, if possible, and make sure they are clear and are your best set. This might make a good project for your youth or others in your congregation interested in media. These pictures can be emailed to accob2016@gmail.com with the subject line as "Collage and [the name of your congregation.]" Please send them no later than **May 15, 2016**.

PLACEMENT UPDATE

Bethany:	Searching
Faithful Servants:	Pulpit supply
Frederick	Preparing Profile
Friendship:	Searching
Harmony	Preparing Profile
Welty	Searching
Woodbridge	Searching

DISTRICT CALENDAR

May

7	Disaster Auction, Westminster, MD
9	Habitat House, 6:30 pm, Hagerstown, MD
10	Meat Canning Committee, 10 am, Union Bridge CoB Area 5 Pastors' Gathering, Westminster CoB, 10 am - 12 pm
17	Area 6 Pastors' Gathering, Frederick CoB, 10 am - 12 pm
19	P&A, 2:30 pm, Frederick CoB
24	Area 7 Pastors' Gathering, Beaver Creek CoB, 10 am - 12 pm
31	Area 8 Pastors' Gathering, Johnsontown CoB, 10 am - 12 pm

June

1	P&A on-site, 11 am - 12:30 pm, St. Mark's UMC, Easton, MD
4	Annual Conference Briefing, 10 am Denton CoB

11	Ministerial Leadership Workshop, Westminster CoB, 10 am - 3 pm
12	Annual Conference Briefing, 2 pm Broadfording CoB
18	Annual Conference Briefing, 10 am Oakton CoB

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Ordained Ministers

Robert (correction to name) Miller - Broadfording
102 Shellbark Lane, Martinsburg, WV 25403
robertjuly45@yahoo.com

Everett Fisher (correction to phone number)
703-527-3837

NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED!

Be sure to check out our redesigned MAD website at www.madcob.com. And let us know what you think!



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