

June 2017



Together on the Journey

Dear friends, as many of you will be aware from last month's Journey, Cathy Baker finished her service as district administrative assistant on May 11 in order to move to a full time position with Calvary UMC in Frederick. I'd like to introduce you to our new district administrative assistant, Jo Ann Landon who began service on June 5. Jo Ann and her husband John live in Westminster, MD. They own Landon Graphics, supplying vehicle fleet graphics to local and regional customers. They love to visit their son Will in Chicago. Jo Ann has attended Westminster Church of the Brethren most of her life. As you're in touch with the district office and have opportunity to speak with Jo Ann please introduce yourself to her and welcome her. You will find her to be personable and professional and will enjoy getting to know her. **Please note a change in district office hours. Our new hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** The district office phone number is 443-960-3052. Jo Ann will be using the administrative assistant email of AAMAD@brethren.org.

I want to express sincere thanks to the twenty-one congregations and sixteen individuals across the district who have contributed \$33,417.13 toward building the district habitat house in Washington Co., MD. While there have been delays, mostly due to permitting issues, the house is progressing and we're hoping to see it dedicated and the family move in by Thanksgiving. I realize that each of our congregations have local outreach ministries that you support in addition to the wider support of camp, college, district, denomination, etc. Congregations and individuals have sacrificed to support this particular ministry. I

know it will make a world of difference to the family, and it will strengthen that community. I thank you for what you have done, and for any congregation or person looking for a worthwhile place to make a gift, I invite you to help contribute toward the \$31,582.87 that remains to be paid of our sponsorship. Checks may be made out to Mid-Atlantic District and designated for Habitat house.

I want to share with you good news about the restart at GraceWay-Dundalk being led by restart pastor Yakubu Bakfwash. After just a little over three months worship attendance is approaching forty a Sunday. Brother Yakubu is making a concerted effort to connect with those in the immediate neighborhood of the church. The growing congregation is attracting long time community residents in the area around the church as well as immigrants from Africa who have settled in Dundalk – persons from Ethiopia, Nigeria, Sudan, Congo, and Rwanda have become connected. The vision of a multiethnic church is becoming apparent. A dying church is being resurrected, by the grace and power of God, and with the good leadership that God has providentially provided, which includes not only Brother Yakubu and his wife Diana, but our Church Extension and Evangelism Ministry Team members, District GraceWay-Dundalk Restart Board members, our District Leadership team, and individuals across the district. The vision and sacrificial generosity of the former Dundalk congregation provided the seed of new life that God is blessing. The Hagerstown congregation has voted to become a sponsoring partner of the replant, pledging the support of finances, presence, and prayers. Perhaps your congregation will consider such a partnership in mission. Please feel free to contact me or CEEMT Chair Jennifer Hosler or District Restart Board Chair Chris Stockslager to learn more about how you may be supportive. Current pressing needs are: Your prayers for Yakubu, Restart leadership, and the ministry; a late model van for Brother Yakubu so that he may travel, provide transportation, and connect with the community; your gifts of presence – visiting with the congregation to encourage them – let them know you're coming; and your financial gifts through the district to support this ministry outreach. Gifts may be made through the District Church Extension Fund and sent to Mid-Atlantic District

Office, 19 Bond St., Westminster, MD 21157, noted GraceWay Restart.

I hope this summer presents an opportunity for us to see and greet each other, and I pray that this season of the year will bring you some special blessings of rest and relaxation. Thank you for your partnership together on the journey.

Yours,

Gene Hagenberger

Mid-Atlantic District Executive Minister

NOAC 2017

Consider using the Mid-Atlantic bus to travel to NOAC, a one-day trip with the cost not to exceed \$135 per person for the round trip. The 2017 NOAC is September 4-8 at the Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center in the beautiful mountains of western North Carolina. For more information, contact the District Office.

2017 Directory Corrections

Eileen Smith's new email is
smitheileen55@gmail.com

PLACEMENT UPDATE

Denton	Searching
Easton	Searching
Frederick	Searching
Friendship	Searching
Union Bridge	Searching

DISTRICT CALENDAR

June

14 P&A 6 pm at Frederick CoB
17 MAD COB at Camden Yards
28-July 2 Annual Conference in
Grand Rapids, MI

July

18 Dundalk Restart Board at Dundalk 5:30 pm
26 P & A 6 pm at Frederick CoB

August

5 LT Meeting Manassas CoB

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