

October 2017



*From your
District Executive Minister . . .*

In a recent report, Joe Detrick, Interim Director of Ministry for the Church of the Brethren, made this observation, "In these difficult times within the church it is even more important to keep building and nurturing relationships on a personal level." District Conference is an opportunity for us to do that. We have leaders to call, reports to receive, a budget to adopt, but "Business" is not the most important thing we do. The most important thing that happens at District Conference is that members from across our five states and the District of Columbia gather together, talk around the lunch table, share in a workshop, worship together, pray together, and in doing so connect, build, and strengthen the ties that bind. Even when "nothing" happens at District Conference, something very important happens.

"In these difficult times within the church it is even more important to keep building and nurturing relationships on a personal level."

Together on the Journey,

Gene Hagenberger

Gene Hagenberger
Mid-Atlantic District Executive Minister

*From the District Conference
Moderator-Elect*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
As Moderator-Elect, I'm praying for our District Conference in October and looking ahead to 2018 when I will be Moderator. I hope to see you and I am open to hear from you.

My theme and focus for 2018 will be Jesus Christ as Lord. Scripture and details will be presented to the Leadership Team for approval later.

My goal is to encourage and challenge us to hold firm to our hope; for our hope is in Jesus the Christ.

I'm asking each congregation, delegate, or pastor to identify one person who would be willing to be the contact person. If you would please send that person's email address to me, I will be connecting with them (lindalambert1544@gmail.com). I confess I'm not one who knows how to use technology, but if this would help, I am willing to be willing. I will send a message in each *Journey*. I will pray for each congregation. I will be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. I will seek to do God's will.

I will be the servant that God empowers me to be as I seek to be faithful to this awesome challenge.

In Christ,

Linda Lambert

Linda Lambert
Moderator-Elect

Mustard Seed House



At District Conference in 2015, a dream was created for the Mid-Atlantic District to build a Habitat House. A committee was formed and the house was named the “Mustard Seed II” after the parable of Jesus moving mountains with the faith of a mustard seed. Over the past two years, the committee has met and the picture above shows the result of that effort. Currently the house is 90% complete, with an open house scheduled on September 29 and the dedication and settlement in mid-October. The project still needs some financial support; if your church can give some more it would be appreciated, or if an individual can help it would be great. The current short fall is about \$9,000, and we would like to have the house paid for by District Conference in October. The committee thanks all those who have given financial support and in-kind donations.
Glenn Young, Chair

A Thank You from Habitat

The following is an excerpt from a letter to the Mid-Atlantic District sent by Dr. Joyce A. Heptner, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Washington County.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your church’s generous contribution to Habitat for Humanity of \$2,600 in supporting the Mustard Seed 2 House on Cleveland Avenue. Please extend Habitat’s sincere thank you to all who made this donation possible.

Everyone deserves a safe and decent place to live. This donation moves us closer to making Waynisha and her children’s dream of having their own home possible.

Please accept our sincere thank you for your support. According to 2 Corinthians 9:11-12: *You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.*

Shepherd’s Spring

Please help Shepherd’s Spring replace their big-top tent!



For more information, follow this link:
<http://mailchi.mp/1be3b0f2ec4b/what-once-wascan-now-be?e=a549aa93ce>

Children's Disaster Services Workshops

Here are the fall 2017 locations, dates, and contact information for the workshops:

Bridgewater, VA, Bridgewater Church of the Brethren, September 22-23. Contact: Gladys Remnant, 540-810-4999, gremnant@aol.com.

Jacksonville, FL, Florida Christian Church, September 29-30. Contact: Tina Christian, CDS Gulf Coast Coordinator, 561-889-2323, cdsgulfcoast@gmail.com.

Northville, MI, Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, November 10-11. Contact: Jen Pifer, 734-776-1667, cakegirl680@gmail.com.

Bethel, PA, Little Swatara Church of the Brethren, November 17-18. Contact: Jean Myers, 610- 678-5247, Jean@aol.com.

Anyone 18 years or older is welcome to attend the 2-day training (27 hours) and become a certified CDS caregiver. References and background checks are also required for certification. Once caregivers complete certification, all expenses are paid for disaster responses. The training is an overnight experience, simulating a shelter situation. It includes an overview of the work; understanding phases of disaster and how caregivers fit in; working with disaster partners, children, and family needs following disaster; supporting resilience in children; setting up a children's center with a Kit of Comfort; ethical guidelines; and the certification process.

Registration is online at our website: www.brethren.org/cds/training/dates.html. If anyone has questions, please email or call Kathleen Fry-Miller at 260-704-1443. She can provide information to share about the program and workshops.

Kathleen Fry-Miller, Associate Director
Children's Disaster Services

Send a bucket of help!

Junior high youth will assemble emergency cleanup buckets for disaster relief during District Conference. Please bring supplies (list below) or checks payable to "Mid-Atlantic District junior high" (with "Buckets" in the memo) to Frederick Church of the Brethren by the morning of October 14.

Clean-up Bucket Supply List

- One 5-gallon bucket with resealable lid (used ok if cleaned well, NOT if it has held chemicals)
- Four scouring pads
- Seven sponges, including one large
- One scrub brush
- Eighteen reusable cleaning towels (e.g., Easy Wipes)
- One 50-oz. or two 25-oz. bottle) of liquid laundry detergent
- One 16- or 28-oz. bottle of liquid disinfectant dish soap
- One 12- or 16-oz. bottle of household cleaner that can be mixed with water (no spray bottles)
- One package of 48-50 clothespins
- Clothesline, two 50 ft. or one 100 ft.
- Five dust masks
- Two pairs non-surgical non-latex gloves
- One pair work gloves, cotton with leather palm or all leather
- 24-28 heavy duty or contractor type 30- or 45-gallon trash bags on a roll and removed from carton
- One 6- or 9-oz. bottle of non-aerosol insect repellent

All cleaning items must be new. Liquids must be capped and securely tightened.

District Calendar

- September 7, 7-8:30 pm - CEEMT Meeting
- September 11, pm - Gene at Frederick
- September 12, pm - Gene at Frederick
- September 13, 6 pm - Gene at Denton
- September 16, 9 am-12 noon - ACTS Formation at District Office
- September 17, 3 pm - Annual Dunker Service at Antietam National Battlefield
- September 18, pm - Gene at Frederick
- September 19, pm - Gene at Frederick
- September 20, 6 pm - P&A at Frederick
- September 21, pm - Gene at Frederick
- September 24-28 - Gene at Princeton Theological Seminary for Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising program
- September 27-October 3 - Administrative Assistant JoAnn Landon on vacation
- Office closed September 29, October 2 and 3
- September 29-October 1 - Gene on vacation
- October 10, 9:30-noon - Gene at Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center Executive Committee Meeting, Chambersburg, MD
- October 13-14 - Mid-Atlantic District Conference, Frederick, MD
 - October 13, 9 am-3 pm Ministers Continuing Education Event with Jonathan Shively
 - October 13, 5:30 pm Pastors and Spouses Banquet, Frederick
 - October 13, 7 pm District Conference Worship, Frederick

PLACEMENT UPDATE

Broadfording – Interviewing, interim open

Columbia – Interviewing, Gerry Hanberry, interim

Denton – Interviewing, Dawn Lare retiring 9/30/17, interim open

Easton – In negotiations, Rusty Curling, interim

Frederick – Profile circulating, interviewing, Craig Smith, interim Lead Pastor

Friendship – Profile circulating, pulpit supply

Union Bridge – Profile circulating, Sandi Rogers, interim

Woodbridge – Charlotte Bear interim effective October 1

Mid-Atlantic District
Church of the Brethren
19 Bond Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157
443-960-3052
Gene Hagenberger
District Executive Minister
demad@brethren.org
Jo Ann Landon
Administrative Assistant
aamad@brethren.org

Permission is granted by the
Mid-Atlantic District to reproduce and distribute
information from this newsletter.