

December 2017

so you must make it, take it. Remember, Christmas is for you too.

A Merry and Blessed Christmas to each of you,

Gene Hagenberger

Gene Hagenberger
Mid-Atlantic District Executive Minister



Together on the Journey with your District Executive Minister, and Administrative Assistant ...

I think I told you before that during my twenty-eight years as a pastor I was sick—almost without fail, and usually with bronchitis—during the week after Christmas. As soon as the pastoral busyness and stress of the Advent season and the Christmas Eve service—which I loved—was behind me and I could catch my breath, I couldn't catch my breath.

So I'm thinking of, and praying for, pastors who give so much during this season of Light, burning the candle at both ends to make our Advent season bright and beautiful, while trying not to be black holes at home. And I'm thinking of all our members and my friends across the district who are so busy and stressed with responsibilities and expectations that you're wondering if you're going to make it to the finish line of Christmas day.

A verse from one of my three favorite Christmas carols:

*And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow:*

Look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.

O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.

Friends, my Christmas wish/prayer for you: Time for you to rest beside the road of this Advent way that you may hear the rustle of angels' wings and hear the song that renews your spirit and restores your soul. Probably no one will grant you that time,



Each day in the District office, I see and experience God's love and work. What a blessing it is to learn (there's a lot!) and be a part of the work of the District. You've welcomed me with kindness and have been so helpful and patient. Thank you. I look forward to working with you.

I'm so grateful to Gene for giving me this opportunity. He is gracious and patient, all with a sense of humor. I'm also very grateful to Kay Horr, District Leadership Team member from Union Bridge. She is my guide and teacher in learning the office details for the work of the District.

Many blessings to you this Christmas season.

To Ann Landon,

Administrative Assistant
Mid-Atlantic District Church of the Brethren

Mustard Seed House



Habitat for Humanity and the Mid-Atlantic District would like to thank everyone for their generous donations

\$3463.00 in donations is still needed.

We're getting closer!

Chicken Canning 2018 - 8 Days

April 16, 17, 18, 19 and
April 23, 24, 25, 26

Processed at
Christian Aid Ministries



Contact the District Office to sign up today!

Directory Update

The 2018 Directory will be coming out in March. Please let the District office know of any changes in your address, phone number, and emails.

District Calendar

Please see the December "EVENTS" previously distributed for a list of events throughout the Mid-Atlantic District.

2018 Leadership Team Meeting Dates

February 3, April 7, June 2, August 4, November 17

Placement Update

Arlington—Nancy Fitzgerald retiring January 7. Interim being arranged.

Broadfording—Eric Henderson interim. Searching and interviewing.

Columbia—Gerry Hanberry interim. Searching.

Denton—Rusty Curling interim. Searching and interviewing.

Easton—Walt Wiltschek began December 1.

Frederick—In negotiations for Lead Pastor. Jim Benedict to serve as Acting Lead Pastor starting January 1. One or two other positions to follow call of Lead Pastor.

Friendship—Pulpit supply and interviewing.

Midland—Tim Monn retiring August 31, 2018.

Myersville—Searching for interim. Preparing to search for pastor.

Oakton—Ken Miller-Rieman finishing Dec. 31; moving to Prince of Peace, South Bend. Searching for interim.

Thurmont—Interim team of Bill Caputo, Joanne Gaver, and Linda Lambert. Preparing profile.

Union Bridge—Sandi Rogers interim. Searching.

Woodbridge—Charlotte Bear interim. Considering future direction.

Continue to remember in prayer: Paul Dodd and Pete Haynes; both are recovering from surgery.

Sympathy to and prayers for the family of Alan Clingan, pastor of Allensville, who passed away on November 25, 2017.

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

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