



**MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT**

# **EVENTS**

**March 2024**

**(and beyond)**

Original photo by Regina Holmes, Midland Church of the Brethren

# ***“And Can It Be?”***

## **2024 Lenten Services Area 5 Church of the Brethren**

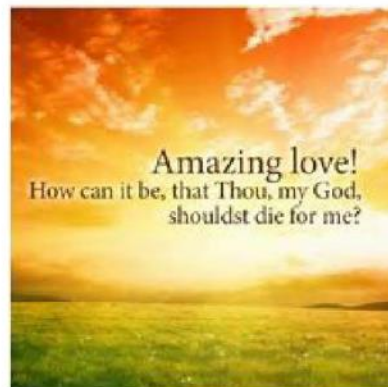
Congregational Hymn Sing @ 6:45 pm  
Worship Service Starts @ 7:00 pm

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Host Church:</u>	<u>Service Agenda:</u>
Feb. 25, 2024	Edgewood COB	Speaker: Jennifer Summy, Director, Camp Mardela
Mar. 3, 2024	Piney Creek COB	Speaker: Rev. Paul Leatherman, Jr. Pastor, Sam’s Creek & Edgewood COB
Mar. 10, 2024	Union Bridge COB <b>(Youth Service*)</b>	Speaker: Jess Mosholder, Member, Union Bridge COB
Mar. 17, 2024	Glade Valley COB	Speaker: Bruce Anderson Director, Shepherd Spring Outdoor Ministry Ctr.

Childcare will be provided.  
Refreshments & Fellowship after each service.

(\*) Youth and families are to gather at 5:00 pm for practice and a pizza party.  
Please let Jan Walker ([walkerjank@hotmail.com](mailto:walkerjank@hotmail.com)) know if you have Youth that can participate.

Offering designation for each service as follows:  
2/25 & 3/3: Camp Mardela  
3/10 & 3/17: Shepherd Spring Outdoor Ministry Center





*Mid-Atlantic District Church of the Brethren*

**Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Dinner  
Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 6 p.m.  
At Bush Creek Church of the Brethren  
4821 Green Valley Road (Rt. 75) Monrovia, MD**

Join us for an evening of good food, fellowship,  
and auction of specialty food items co-hosted by  
Union Bridge Church of the Brethren  
Bush Creek Church of the Brethren

**Tickets are \$35 per person**

**Contact Jeff McKee before April 1, 2024 at  
443-547-5958 or [jamckee26@msn.com](mailto:jamckee26@msn.com)**

**Menu:** Fruit Cup, Meat Loaf, Fried Shrimp,  
Vegetarian Pasta Casserole, Candied Carrots,  
Scalloped Potatoes, Oven Roasted Vegetables,  
Homemade Breads, Rolls & Assorted Desserts

Please contact Alice Houck at 240-750-4307 or  
[abhough1@gmail.com](mailto:abhough1@gmail.com) to provide specialty foods  
(cakes, pies, candy, gift baskets, etc.) to auction at  
the dinner



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO PROVIDE MEALS**

The Mid-Atlantic District will be partnering with some of the SO PA District congregations who are willing to prepare a meal for approximately 30 people for lunch with a light snack.

Please contact your district office if your congregation is willing to provide a meal or funds.

The Meat Canning Committee is very grateful to the congregations that provide the meals and funds.

**Disclaimer:** All info is as of the date of publication; times, needs, restrictions, etc. may change between now and April. Please volunteer and know that we will contact you with updates if necessary. Thanks!

## **HOTELS IN CAM AREA**

### **Econolodge**

2031 N Reading Rd,  
Denver 717-336-7000

### **Comfort Inn**

1 Denver Rd, Denver  
717-336-7541

### **Hampton Inn & Suites**

380 E Main St., Ephrata  
717-733-0661

## **2024 Meat Canning Committee**

### Mid-Atlantic District

19 Bond St, Westminster, MD 21157 443-960-3052

aamad@brethren.org

Lou Gloyd

Steve Horr

Billy Horton

Brenda Thomasson

Kim McDowell, *Interim DEM Team*

Jo Ann Landon, *Staff*

### Southern PA District

3375 Carlisle Road Suite A, Gardners, PA 17324

717-778-2254

Kim Geisewite

Ralph Miller

Clarence Stouffer

Roger Turner

Cindy Barclay,

*SOPA District Witness Commission Chair*

Georgia R. Markey, *Interim DEM*

gmarkey@brethren.org

# **Meat Canning Project**



## **4 Days**

**April 1 - 4**

Processed at:  
Christian Aid Ministries

Sponsored by:  
Southern PA &  
Mid-Atlantic Districts COB

**Directions to Christian Aid Ministries**  
2412 Division Highway, Ephrata, PA

**717-354-2434**

**From Lancaster:** Go north on Rt. 222 to Rt. 322. Go approximately 4 miles east on Rt. 322 to Christian Aid Ministries. Facility is on the left.



**From York:** Take Rt. 30 east to Rt. 222 North, then follow the above directions.

*"I was hungry and you gave me food"*  
Matthew 25:35



*This quote from Jesus' story about the last judgment is a reminder that we render service to God even as we respond to human need. The spirit of generous sharing, and the hunger that exists in many parts of the world come together in our Meat Canning project.*

For the 46th year, the Mid-Atlantic and SO PA Districts are co-sponsoring a Meat Canning project which previously has enjoyed a generous response and enthusiastic support. The project is scheduled for April 1 - 4, 2024 at the Christian Aid Ministries facility.

The 2024 Meat Canning goal is to can approximately 17,000 pounds of chicken in 4 days of processing.



Starting funds are good, but we need to raise money if we intend to meet our goal. Excess money is held for next year's event. Expenses include the cost of the chicken, use of CAM's facility, labels, boxes, miscellaneous supplies, as well as shipping costs, when applicable. Congregations are encouraged to take offerings during January, February, March and April for this ministry of sharing and to forward these funds to their respective District Office.

The Meat Canning Project is a great way for us to minister to those in need during these difficult economic and disaster ridden times.

As in the past, a portion of the meat from this project will be provided to both Districts to be shared with local food banks and meal programs. The Meat Canning Committee has decided to wait until Spring 2024 to determine how a donation of meat or funds will be made to denominational ministries.

In order for the committee to provide adequate help for each shift, it is important that you inform your District Office ASAP when you will be available to volunteer.

Mid-Atlantic District call 443-960-3052

Southern PA District call 717-778-2254

Shift assignments will be made by the District Offices on a first-come-basis. Once you have pledged volunteers,

**YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FINDING REPLACEMENTS**

if you are unable to fulfill your commitment.

No shows create schedule problems and an increase in inspector fees.

## Daily Work Schedule & Responsibilities

### Shift #1 - 7:15 a.m. to NOON

Assist in starting the day's process, participate in the cutting, canning and labeling. (15 volunteers needed)

### Shift #2 - 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Participate in the total process of the program. (15 volunteers needed)

### CAM Requirements

First and foremost it is the desire of CAM to honor and glorify God. We appreciate all the people that are volunteering their time and effort at the Ephrata warehouse. We kindly request that the following guidelines be respected.

- Parents should share with CAM the responsibility for the safety of their youth.
- Proper use and respect for equipment and reasonable care for the building.

**Girls/women must wear a dress or skirt at the knee. No low cut tops. Skirts are provided if you wear pants, it can be worn over your pants.**

- Men/boys must wear long pants and shirts with sleeves. **No shorts or Tank Tops!**

**Note: Room temperature is 55 degrees, dress accordingly.**

- NO SMOKING or TOBACCO use.
- NO CHEWING GUM.
- NO use of foul language.



Mid-Atlantic District Church of the Brethren  
**2024 Disaster Response Auction Booklet**



Dear Pastors, Disaster Coordinators, Witness Chairs and Donors.

We deeply appreciate and thank you for your past support of the Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response Auction Booklet.

If you have not advertised in the booklet previously we invite you to consider doing so this year.

The 43rd Annual Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response Auction will be held Saturday, May 4, 2024, starting at 9:00 am at the Carroll County Agricultural Center in Westminster, Maryland. Your support will enable us to provide even more assistance to more disaster victims this year.

***In 2023, \$85,000 was given to the Emergency Disaster Fund of the Church of the Brethren to help victims recover from many disasters all around our world.***

**During 2023 the Emergency Disaster Fund supported these efforts and more:**

- BDM – Nigeria Crisis Response
- Turkey/Syria Earthquake Response
- Hurricane Fiona Response – D.R.
- Russia/Ukraine War Response
- Kentucky 2021 Tornado Response
- Tijuana, Mexico (Bittersweet Ministries) Hurricane Hilary Home Rebuilding
- Haiti Earthquake recovery
- South Sudan Violence and Flooding Recovery
- Child Life Disaster Relief (CLDR) Local Team Capacity Building
- Rwanda Church of the Brethren – feeding vulnerable children
- Eglise des Freres au Congo (Church of the Brethren in the Congo) - Relief for Families Displaced due to Violence & Emergency Flood Relief
- PAG Hurricanes Eta and Iota Response in Honduras
- Washington City Church of the Brethren Asylum Seeker Support
- Eastern Ky Rebuilding – 2022 Summer Flooding Response

***Your local church is an important part of this effort!***

- You can help by placing an ad in the booklet. We are once again offering the ad sizes below in black and white or color. The ad can include a photograph or artwork. Ad sizes and prices are as follows:

Full page...\$160 black/\$200 color	Eighth Page...\$25 black/\$35 color
Half page...\$85 black/\$105 color	Patron Listing...\$10, \$25, \$35, or more
Third Page...\$60 black/\$75 color	Donations of any amount
- Encourage your members to place business, personal or patron ads and print announcements about the auction in your newsletter and bulletin.
- Please print the enclosed bulletin insert and put it in your bulletin by Sunday, January 14, 2024.
- You can also help by posting the flyer included that is requesting special sale items.

***Here are more ways you can help make the auction a success.***

- Create craft items
- Donate baked goods
- Donate plants, shrubs and trees
- Assemble gift baskets
- Hold a fundraiser to support the auction
- Donate high quality items to publish in the booklet
- Volunteer to help
- Publicize and attend the Auction!

**Please return your advertising space reservation form by Friday, February 9, 2024!**

Please call booklet designer Debbie Noffsinger at 847-714-4482 or email [auctionbooklet@comcast.net](mailto:auctionbooklet@comcast.net) if you have questions.

*Thank you for your continued support of our Disaster Response Auction!*

Mid-Atlantic District Church of the Brethren

# 2024 Disaster Response Auction

The 43rd Annual Disaster Response Auction will be held on **May 4, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Carroll County Agricultural Center in Westminster, Maryland.



Photo by Jerrn Dorsch-Messier

*In 2023, \$85,000 was given to the Emergency Disaster Fund of the Church of the Brethren to help victims recover from many disasters all around our world.*

## During 2023 the Emergency Disaster Fund supported these efforts:

- BDM – Nigeria Crisis Response
- Turkey/Syria Earthquake Response
- Hurricane Fiona Response – D.R.
- Russia/Ukraine War Response
- Kentucky 2021 Tornado Response
- Tijuana, Mexico (Bittersweet Ministries) Hurricane Hilary Home Rebuilding
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- Washington City Church of the Brethren Asylum Seeker Support
- Eastern Ky Rebuilding – 2022 Summer Flooding Response

*Thank you for your support of our Disaster Response Program!*

***On the back of this page are many ways you can help make the Auction a success.***



### Put May 4th on your calendar!

Come to the auction and invite your friends ...together we can make a difference to many people near or far recovering from disasters.

## You can support Disaster Response in various ways:

- Prayer
- Donate as a Patron, Supporter or Sustainer for as little as \$10 and get your name printed with your church in the Auction booklet.
- Purchase church, business, or personal ad space in the Auction booklet Full page (\$160 black/\$200 color), Half Page (\$85 black/\$105 color), Third Page (\$60 black/\$75 color) and Eighth Page (\$25 black/\$35 color). Check with your church office for info.
- Make quilts, comforters and wall hangings or other handcrafts to sell.
- Donate special items such as high quality woodwork, paintings and artwork. Antiques, furniture and collectibles also are a valuable donation.
- Encourage your church group or children's Sunday School class to collect items to make special gift baskets, school bags full of new books, etc. to auction off. Get creative!
- Contribute a gift certificate from your business for the auction.
- Donate quality auction items (value of \$10 or more) such as craft items, food, baked goods, flower and vegetable plants, trees and shrubs for booth sales.
- Groups and individuals can sponsor special events such as plays, dinners, and musical presentations to raise and provide monetary gifts to the auction.
- Volunteer to help at the Auction.

*– Decide now how you can help!*

**If you have special items of high value to donate, email a photo to [auctionbooklet@comcast.net](mailto:auctionbooklet@comcast.net) by February 9th to have your item published in the booklet.** Then inform your Disaster Coordinator or call Jeff at 443-547-5958.

**If you have regular items to donate** inform your church's Disaster Coordinator or call Jeff at 443-547-5958.

**To place an ad or to donate as a patron in the booklet** see your pastor, your Disaster Coordinator or call Debbie at 847-714-4482.

***These commitments are due February 9, 2024.***





ROMANS 16:2 (CEB)

# WELCOME+ WORTHY

2024 CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

January 2024

To: Pastor, Moderator, or Church Representative

Re: **Registration for the 2024 Church of the Brethren Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, Michigan -- July 3 - 7**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Annual Conference provides an opportunity for the body of Christ known as the Church of the Brethren to come together to hear the voice of God as revealed by the Holy Spirit within and among us. Please join us for inspiring worship, informational Bible studies, communal discernment, engaging breakout sessions, energizing exhibits, empowering witness, nurturing fellowship and meaningful connection.

## Registration Fees

Registration for both delegates and non-delegates for the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference will open at 12:00 Noon Central Time on **Friday, March 1, 2024**.

- The advance delegate registration fee is \$330 per delegate. Advance registration will close on June 10. The fee for registering delegates onsite in Grand Rapids will be \$405. Don't wait!
- The advance non-delegate registration fee is \$150. Advance registration will close on June 10. The fee for registering non-delegates onsite in Grand Rapids will be \$185.
- Registering as a Virtual Non-Delegate to watch business online, view special events and concerts, and participate in a number of equipping sessions is again an option. The advance virtual non-delegate registration fee is \$195 through June 10. From June 11 until July 7, the registration fee will be \$225. New this year is an option for Groups and Institutions to participate virtually from a common location. For more information go to [www.brethren.org/ac2024/registration](http://www.brethren.org/ac2024/registration) and select Virtual.

## Registering a Delegate

Congregations may register their delegates using online registration beginning Wednesday, March 1, 2024 at 12:00 Central Time. Payment options include paying by credit card or sending a check. Go to [www.brethren.org/ac](http://www.brethren.org/ac) and click on the "Registration" button and then choose "Delegate Registration". Each delegate's complete name, address, email, and phone number are required. If you need assistance, call the Annual Conference Office (800-323-8039, ext 4366) and we will be happy to assist in registering online. Delegate registration fees provide each delegate with a Conference booklet, the business materials packet, a designated delegate name tag, and seating at the delegate tables at Annual Conference. Each congregation who registers a delegate or delegates will also receive a copy of the 2024 Annual Conference minutes.

## Delegate Eligibility and Allotment

Delegates must be full members of the Church of the Brethren. The number of delegates for each congregation is based on the membership statistics as reported in the 2023 Church of the Brethren Yearbook:

Up to 200 Members	1 delegate	401-600 Members	3 delegates
201-400 Members	2 delegates	601-800 Members	4 delegates



### **Non-Delegate Registration**

Non-delegate registration opens Wednesday, March 1, 2024 at 12:00 Central Time. When registering anyone other than a delegate, click on the "Non-Delegate Registration" button.

### **New Registration System**

The Church of the Brethren is rolling out a new registration system this year that looks different than what we have used in the past. For more information about how to use the new site go to [www.brethren.org/ac2024](http://www.brethren.org/ac2024) then click Registration and go to the Instructions for New Registration Site. These instructions will be available a week before registration opens.

### **Conference Hotels**

There are two hotels in the conference block: the **Amway Grand Plaza** and **Courtyard Grand Rapids Downtown**. Our Annual Conference Room Rate at both hotels will be \$119 plus tax (15%), totaling \$136.90 per night. Go to [www.brethren.org/ac2024/hotels](http://www.brethren.org/ac2024/hotels) for more information. **The link for hotel reservations will be on the last page of the registration site immediately after you register as well as in the confirmation email sent.** Everyone can reserve a room upon completing their registration. *Do not call the hotel to make a reservation! Annual Conference discounted room rates are only available for online registrations made through our provided link.*

### **Worship Services**

All five worship services will be available free of charge to all registered and non-registered persons.

### **New Attendee Orientation**

We encourage delegates or non-delegates who have never attended or have not recently attended Annual Conference to attend the New Attendee Orientation session in Grand Rapids at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon July 3. The location will be listed in the conference booklet.

### **Public Health Measures**

Attending any group event may increase your risk of illness and injury. Should circumstances dictate, we will implement appropriate and responsive health and safety measures. However, we encourage all attendees to take the precautions they deem necessary and ask that all attendees respect the decisions made by others.

### **Online Information**

Please check our webpage at [www.brethren.org/ac2024](http://www.brethren.org/ac2024) for more information about Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, including leadership, themes, schedules, meal and food options, meetings and events, and much more. New information is added regularly, so check back often!

Please feel free to contact either of us if you have any questions.

*Rhonda and Debbie*

Church of the Brethren Annual Conference Office  
1451 Dundee Avenue, Elgin, IL 60120

Rhonda Pittman Gingrich, Conference Director  
Dial direct: 847-429-4364 | Toll free: 800-323-8039, ext 4364  
[RPGingrich@brethren.org](mailto:RPGingrich@brethren.org)

Debbie Noffsinger, Conference Assistant  
Dial direct: 847-429-4366 | Toll free: 800-323-8039, ext 4366  
[dnoffsinger@brethren.org](mailto:dnoffsinger@brethren.org)

# Celebrate 2024

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE QUILTING BEE

*Your finished 8 ½ x 8 ½ inch block must begin at the bottom of this sheet,  
meeting this line and matching the width of this paper.*

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ROMANS 16:2 (CEB)

**WELCOME+**  
**WORTHY**

2024 CHURCH OF THE BRETHERN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**Your congregation is invited to create a block  
for the 2024 Conference quilts.**

Please follow instructions on the next page.

All Quilt Blocks should be postmarked  
**by May 15, 2024**

**Mail your quilt block and a dollar (or more)  
donation**

**to offset the cost of quilting materials to:**  
(checks payable to AACB)



**Margaret Weybright**  
**1801 Greencroft Blvd. Apt. #125**  
**Goshen, IN 46526**



Quilt tops are assembled before conference.

No blocks can be accepted at conference for this year's quilts.

All blocks delivered at conference will be considered  
for next year's quilts and wall hangings.



## PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR QUILT BLOCK

### TYPE OF FABRIC

- Pre-shrunk cotton or cotton blend.
  - If you use stabilizer,  
Please use only water soluble,  
very soft or easily removed backing.
- Do not use:** double knit,  
counted cross-stitch on canvas,  
liquid embroidery, padded blocks,  
or heat-applied designs or photos.

**PLEASE: NO GLUE**

### PATTERN

- Use your own creativity to make your design.
- **Important:** Identify your block with your congregation's name, state, and/or district.  
This makes the quilts more valuable!  
(Second blocks from your congregation need not be identified.)



### SIZE OF BLOCK

- **Outside border:** Not less than 8½ square AFTER it is worked.
- **Inside design:** Not more than 8" square with nothing in the seam allowance.

**Cut the block to size AFTER it has been pieced,  
embroidered, or appliquéd.**

Accuracy is important.  
Blocks less than 8½ inches will not fit;  
larger designs will be obscured.

**See you all in Grand Rapids  
July 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**





# SONG & STORY FEST 2024

## JULY 7 - 13

### CAMP BRETHERN HEIGHTS

RODNEY, MICHIGAN

#### FEATURING MUSICIANS:

GREG & RHONDA BAKER    BRIAN KRUSCHWITZ    ERIN & CODY FLORY ROBERTSON  
HANNAH BUTTON-HARRISON    TIM & BYRON JOSEPH & MARLENE WOOD    LOUISE BRODIE  
JENNY & JEFFREY FAUS FAMILY    CHRIS GOOD    PEG LEHMAN    MIKE STERN

#### FEATURING STORYTELLERS:

SUSAN BOYER    DEBBIE EISENBISE    ANNA LISA GROSS  
KATHY GUISEWITE    JIM LEHMAN    JONATHAN HUNTER

