



Church of the Brethren Annual Conference JOURNAL

Friday • July 5, 2019 • Greensboro, North Carolina

Blood Drive Signup

Just a reminder if you have not yet signed up that the Blood Drive is open Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Our goal is a donation of 200 pints to the community.

Conference 2022

Program and Arrangements Committee announced that the 2022 Annual Conference will take place in Omaha, Neb., July 10-13. The brand new convention center and rebuilt hotel district will offer especially good hotel rates. Other upcoming conferences include Grand Rapids, Mich., July 1-5, 2020, after which we return to Greensboro, June 30-July 4, 2021.

Exhibits Closing

Exhibits will close Saturday evening at 6:45 p.m. That includes Brethren Press. Make sure you make your planned purchases at the various vendors before then.

Nominations for 2020

Is there someone you would like to nominate for next year? Nominations are open from now until December 1. Go to brethren.org/ac. Also, a reminder that Nominating Committee has a table located near the front of the stage if you have questions about how to the nominating process.

Love Feast Cleanup

Any containers or foot washing tubs that were donated may be picked up at the tables across from registration shortly after the conclusion of Love Feast on Saturday afternoon.

“Boss or Servant?” Theme for Christina Singh’s Sermon

“We Christians should take on the nature of a servant, just like Jesus did,” said Christina Singh, pastor of Freeport (Ill.) Church of the Brethren.

“The life of a Christian means submission to God first, then submission to one another. In other words, for Christians servanthood is the condition or state of being a servant to others rather than serving ourselves. We willingly

give of ourselves to minister to others without any hesitation.” Singh’s Friday night sermon is built around Psalm 51:1-19 and Philippians 2:1-11. Christina is a member of the Mission and Ministry Board of the Church of the Brethren, and is also a volunteer chaplain at Freeport Memorial hospital. Her hobbies are reading, cooking, writing (she is the author of *From Krishna to Christ*), and keeping up with world events, though she has less time for these since she became a student at Bethany Theological Seminary. “All my time is taken up caring for God’s people and for my husband Alfred and home.”



Special Events at Brethren Press

Hang out with Bible study writer Paul Bowser Saturday from 2 - 3 p.m. Paula, a retired Brethren pastor, is the author of two Covenant Bible Studies, *Women of the Hebrew Bible*, and *Jonah*. She is also the author of *Holy Manna*, the forthcoming 2020 Lenten Brethren Press devotional.

Musa Mambula’s new book, *The Need for Christian-Muslim Dialogue on Peace*, is available at the Brethren Press conference bookstore. Musa is the author of three other books on peace and will stop by the bookstore from 3 - 4 p.m. on Saturday for a special book signing event. Come meet this Brethren author and advocate for peace.



Quilt Auction Today!

The annual Association for the Arts Quilt Auction will be held at the Association for the Arts exhibit Saturday, at 4:45 p.m. Proceeds go for world hunger relief.

Wrap-up DVD

The Annual Conference Wrap-up DVD is invaluable for reporting on this week at Greensboro. Get the 10 percent discount and order yours for \$19.99! Order today!

Offering Totals

Wednesday offering for Nigerian church rebuilding:

\$10,872.16

Thursday offering for Core Ministries of the Church of the Brethren:

\$10,242.41

Special Concert

Seth Hendricks, Chris Good, and David Hupp team up as "Friends with the Weather," in concert Friday evening, 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Guilford Ballroom. They blend dynamic musicianship, three-part vocal styling, and rich lyrical content.

Schedule Change

The Insight Session "Beyond the Blockbuster: Black Panther as Metaphor," by Steve Schweitzer, has been changed to Saturday afternoon at 12:30, in Auditorium 4.

Registration Info

As of Thursday, July 4, closing

Delegates - 677

Non-Delegate - 1458

Total - 2135

Hollenberg-Duffeys Preach Saturday

Audrey and Tim Hollenberg-Duffey preach Saturday morning on Zechariah 8:12-17 and Matthew 5:21-36, their title being: "Did I Choose This Family?" As Audrey pointed out, "We don't choose our biological family. Do we choose our church family? In a world that is increasingly divided, what would we communicate if we could take a step closer to one another, just as God stepped closer to us? Can we reclaim our faith family identity?" They currently pastor at Hagerstown (Md.) Church of the Brethren but are transitioning to Oakton Church of the Brethren in August.



Their interests include running, gardening, music (Audrey plays piano and viola and Tim sings), and "caring for our beautiful daughter Anita," who was born on Christmas Day after the two played Mary and Joseph at the church's Christmas Eve service. Labor followed a few hours after worship.

People Worth Knowing:

David Sollenberger

Whether you're a perennial attendee or this is your first Annual Conference, you couldn't help but notice David Sollenberger, of North Manchester, Ind. "I try to interpret what goes on, not just what the camera's seeing." He left a career in television news to serve the church full time, beginning in 1987. "You have in mind what the story is," he said. "You have to figure out how to illustrate it on videotape. The critical element is illustrating the story. It helps if you know the story ahead of time, but sometimes you discover the story as you're taping." David has been all over the world covering the Brethren story, surviving a plane crash and finding himself occasionally in dangerous situations. He and his team, including Larry Glick, Christopher Brown, and Rayner Borgmann, are responsible for producing the annual wrap-up video. Though David describes himself as a video producer, "I think of myself as a guitar player," he said. "I've been playing since I was 13. One of the most enjoyable things is playing with the Bittersweet Gospel Band."

