



Church of the Brethren Annual Conference Journal

Grand Rapids, Michigan, Sunday, July 3, 2011

“Annual Conference exists to unite, strengthen and equip the Church of the Brethren to follow Jesus”

INFORMATION UPDATES

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE MINISTRIES

Continues “Living Room Chats” in their exhibit, Monday, July 4th:
11:30am-12:30pm New Life Ministries, E3 for Congregations with John Neff
12:45-1:45pm Youth and Young Adult Ministries with Becky Ullom
4:30-5:30pm Springs of Living Water with David Young
5:45-6:45pm Portrait of Us with Carl Bowman

MONDAY AND TUESDAY

Mornings, the business session will immediately follow worship which will begin at 8:30am. Monday’s worship will be led by Sonja Griffith and Tuesday morning worship will be led by Chris Bowman.

THE BRETHERN JOURNAL ASSOCIATION

Regrets to announce that Dawn Ottoni Wilhelm had to cancel her presentation for Monday’s luncheon. The BJA will use the program time for an expanded report on the BJA Strategic Plan and future of Brethren Life & Thought.

BRETHERN BENEFIT TRUST

Invites you to stop by the booth and check your e-mail. And while you are there pick up your free tote bag.

PLEASE TAKE YOUR DELEGATE

Packets and all personal items with you after each session. There will be periodic cleaning and straightening of the chairs between sessions.

VIEW LIVE BROADCASTS OF THE FIVE WORSHIP SERVICES AND ALL BUSINESS SESSIONS

Over the internet, open your browser to www.brethren.org/webcasts and then click on Annual Conference. The broadcast window will appear on the Annual Conference broadcast page. Live webcast have been made possible through a partnership with Bethany Seminary and Annual Conference.

LOST AND FOUND

Is located in the Annual Conference office. Please check with one of the volunteers in the office if you have lost something.

CHURCH PLANTER TO ADDRESS CONFERENCE MONDAY



Rockford, Ill church planter Samuel Sarpiya will preach Monday evening on the theme, “We Are a Gift With a Promise.”

Sarpiya was born in Jos, Nigeria, lived for some time in South Africa and Hawaii, and currently resides in Rockford, Ill. For the past two years he has concentrated his skills on planting a Church of the Brethren in Rockford, Ill. While living in South Africa and Hawaii he was involved with the group, “Youth With a Mission.” In addition to his church planting he serves as part-time staff for On Earth Peace. His vision for the Rockford community is best expressed as “Rockford Beyond Racism, Poverty, and Violence.” He also directs an all volunteer project, “Rockford Partners For Excellence,” currently working at the West Middle School in Rockford.

BRETHERN PRESS BOOK SIGNING

Come and meet the director of the Brethren Historical Library and Archives, Terry Barkley, as he signs copies of his book, *One Who Served: Brethren Elder Charles Nesselrodt of Shenandoah County, Virginia*. Barkley brings a vanished segment of Brethren history to life in this book.



AACB ANNOUNCES SILENT AUCTION



At the AACB exhibit, Artist/Pastor Dave Weiss is donating five paintings for silent auction. The paintings are an interpretation of the scripture theme for each day. Drop by, bid, and extend the table of Jesus by taking up needle and thread at the quilt frames.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKS YOUR HELP

The Nominating committee of Standing Committee is seeking your help in nominating persons for leaders who are elected at Annual Conference. Tables with information on the process of nominating persons are located both at the front and back of the worship/business session hall. You will find information about open positions and nominating forms there. In addition help with on-line nominations and information about how to use the online nominating process is available.



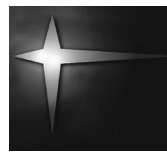
PLEASE REMEMBER TO TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES DURING WORSHIP AND BUSINESS SESSIONS



**CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
MINISTERS' ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES
PLANS FOR 2012 PRE-CONFERENCE
CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENT**



Join the Ministers' Association in 2012 for a two-day learning event with Dr. Walter Brueggemann in St. Louis, MO, July 6-7, 2012. Dr. Brueggemann is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and one of the leading interpreters of Old Testament of our day. Questions? Contact Chris Zepp at 540-828-3711 or czepp@bwcob.org



**BRETHREN
FOUNDATION**
INC.

Brethren Foundation is introducing its new online client at Annual Conference. Brethren Foundation clients can conduct their foundation business, (e.g., initiate transactions, generate reports, check account balances, view performance information . . . And more) online. Stop by the BBT booth in the exhibit hall to see a demonstration of the new client portal. Ask for Steve, Director of the Brethren Foundation.

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE
REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE
NEEDS YOUR HELP**

The Revitalization Committee for Annual Conference has developed a survey to help them form their recommendations. They hope to have people complete the form who have a) never come to conference, b) come sporadically, or c) who come regularly. Please help by going to the Annual Conference website at: www.brethren.org/ac and click on the "Revitalization AC Survey" link.

**CHILDREN'S FINAL PRACTICE
SCHEDULED**

A final rehearsal has been scheduled for Tuesday for the Children's Concert. Please be sure your elementary aged children are brought to the stage area no later than 6:05pm Tuesday. The Children's Choir will sing for the conference at 6:50pm Tuesday evening.

Follow the 2011 Annual Conference Online

Go to www.brethren.org/news/conferences/ac2011 for an index page of all reporting including news stories, webcasts of worship and business, "Today at Annual Conference" pages with "Brethren on the Street" interviews, daily worship bulletins and sermons, daily photo albums, and the Church of the Brethren Twitter stream from Annual Conference (use hashtag #CoBAC2011). Facebook posts from Annual Conference can be found at www.facebook.com/ChurchoftheBrethrenAnnualConference <<http://www.facebook.com/ChurchoftheBrethrenAnnualConference>>. After Annual Conference ends, a printable two-page Wrap Up and photo PowerPoints will also be available at the index page www.brethren.org/news/conferences/ac2011.

The Annual Conference Journal, a daily newsheet, is also posted on the index page www.brethren.org/news/conferences/ac2011.



Photo by Wendy McFadden

**OPEN ROOF AWARD PRESENTED
TO OAKTON
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

During the Mission and Ministry Board meeting on Saturday, the Oakton Church of the Brethren (Vienna, Virginia, Mid-Atlantic District) was recognized as the recipient of the 2011 Open Roof Award. This award is presented annually to a congregation or district in recognition of its work toward ensuring that all may worship, serve, be served, learn and grow as valued members of the Christian community, regardless of ability or disability. Paula and Grady Mendenhall represented the congregation as the award was presented by Jonathan Shively, Executive Director of Congregational Life Ministries. Heddie Sumner, a member of the Disabilities Ministry, assisted with the presentation.

(see photo at left.)

Pictured (left to right) Dale Minnick, Mission and Ministry Board Chair; Stan Noffsinger, CoB General Secretary; Grady and Paula Mendenhall, representatives of the Oakton (Va.) CoB; Heddie Sumner, Disabilities Ministry; Jonathan Shively, Executive Director Congregational Life Ministries.

Conference Statistics

(as of 10pm Saturday)

Registrations: Delegate: 868
Non-Delegate: 3053
Total as of 10pm Sunday: 3921
Saturday Evening offering: \$9,304.16



The Journal is a publication of the Annual Conference Office, Chris Douglas, Director
Eddie H. Edmonds and Alice W. Edmonds, Editors.