

Pre-Conference Schedule

Thursday, July 7

- 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Standing Committee Dinner**
Location: Hilton – Hill
- 6:15 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Standing Committee Meeting**
Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas A/B

Friday, July 8

- 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Standing Committee Meeting**
Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas A/B
- 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Council of District Executives Meeting**
Location: Hilton – Grand Central B

Saturday, July 9

- 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Standing Committee Meeting**
Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas A/B
- 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Council of District Executives Meeting**
Location: Hilton – Grand Central B
- 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Mission and Ministry Board Executive Committee Meeting**
(closed session)
Location: Hilton – Flatiron
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Annual Conference Coordinators Meeting**
Location: Hilton – Herndon
- 3:00 p.m. **Annual Conference Onsite Registration Opens**
Location: CHI – Hall B
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Brethren Academy Directed Independent Study**
This gathering is for TRIM and EFSM students who are attending the Minister's Association Pre-Conference Gathering with the intent of receiving ministry training credit. Pre-registration of DISU required.
Location: Hilton – Cozzens
- 5:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. **"Meet and Greet" Ministerial Connections Banquet**
(by Invitation Only)
Location: Hilton – Blackstone B
- 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Brethren Ministers' Association Pre-Conference Event: "Tempered Resilience: How Leaders are Formed in the Crucible of Change"**
Presenter: Dr. Tod Bolsinger
Registration
Location: Hilton – Blackstone A
- 5:45 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Brethren Ministers' Association Supervised Childcare**
Location: Hilton – Merchants

Sunday, July 10

- 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Standing Committee Meeting**
Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas A/B
- 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Mission and Ministry Board Meeting**
Location: Hilton – Hill
- 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Council of District Executives Meeting**
Location: Hilton – Grand Central B
- 8:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Brethren Ministers' Association Supervised Childcare**
Location: Hilton – Merchants
- 9:00 a.m. – 11:45 p.m. **Brethren Ministers' Association Pre-Conference Event:
"Tempered Resilience: How Leaders are Formed in the
Crucible of Change"**
Presenter: Dr. Tod Bolsinger
Location: Hilton – Blackstone A
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Brethren Ministers' Association Luncheon (by invitation only)**
Location: Hilton – Blackstone B
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Mission and Ministry Board and Strategic Planning Team
Luncheon with International Guests (by invitation only)**
Location: CHI – Room 215
- 12:00 p.m. **Exhibit Hall Opens**
A great place to learn about many of the church's ministries as well as other church-related organizations.
Location: CHI – Hall B
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Nominating Committee Luncheon (by invitation only)**
Location: Hilton – Flatiron
- 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Brethren Ministers' Association Supervised Childcare**
Location: Hilton – Merchants
- 1:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Brethren Ministers' Association Pre-Conference Event:
"Tempered Resilience: How Leaders are Formed in the
Crucible of Change"**
Presenter: Dr. Tod Bolsinger
Location: Hilton – Blackstone A
- 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Annual Conference New Attendee Orientation Meeting**
An opportunity for everyone, but especially first-time delegates and those who have not attended Conference recently, to meet with the Moderator-elect, Annual Conference Secretary, and the director of Annual Conference Office to learn the ropes and ask about this year's logistics.
Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom C

Sunday, July 10 (continued)

- 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Table Facilitators Training**
Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom A
- 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Supportive Communities Network Briefing**
Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom B
- 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Brethren Academy Directed Independent Study**
This gathering is for TRIM and EFSM students who are attending the Minister’s Association Pre-Conference Gathering with the intent of receiving ministry training credit. Pre-registration of DISU required.
Location: Hilton – Cozzens
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **Fellowship of Brethren Genealogists Annual Business Meeting**
Presenters: Douglas Nyce and Gerald Rhodes
Formed in 1966 under the sponsorship of the Historical Committee of the Church of the Brethren, the FOBG is dedicated to fostering communication among persons tracing the same Brethren ancestral lines, encouraging research in Brethren genealogy and encouraging the preservation of materials relating to the history and genealogy of Brethren families.
Location: Hilton – Herndon
- 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Intercultural Ministries Gathering & Reception**
Come and join us for the Intercultural Ministries Gathering and Reception as we share together with music, song, words of encouragement from across cultures. Our special guest will be author Sheila Wise Rowe, author of Healing Racial Trauma: The Road to Resilience and her latest book Young Gifted and Black: A Journey of Lament and Celebration. We look forward to gathering together as we begin Annual Conference Together.
Location: CHI – Room 208
- 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Open Table Mix and Mingle**
Location: CHI – Rooms 213/214
- 4:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. **Choir Rehearsal**
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Faith Forward Donor Circle Dinner** (by invitation only)
Location: CHI – Room 216

2022 Church of the Brethren Annual Conference Schedule

Sunday Evening, July 10

- 6:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. **Early Childhood Services**
Godly play, sing and learn
Location: CHI – Rooms 205/206
- 6:45 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. **Gathering and Opening Worship**
Following Jesus again...Must We?
Preacher: David Sollenberger
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Hearing: Proposed Polity for Agencies**
Presenters: David Steele and Torin Eikler
In 2017 Annual Conference tasked the Leadership Team with developing a new Agency polity that provides the definition of an Annual Conference Agency; specifies the process to become an Annual Conference Agency; identifies the process for resolving issues of conflict or dispute between the policies and/or practices of an Annual Conference Agency and the polity, policies, and positions of Annual Conference; and identifies the process for reviewing Agency status if conflicts cannot be resolved. This hearing will offer participants an opportunity to learn about the rationale for the proposed changes and ask any questions they might have.
Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom A
- 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. **Delegate Packet Preparation**
Location: CHI – Room 209
- 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. **Game Night**
Location: CHI – Hall B
- 8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Junior High Activities**
Games and get acquainted activities
Location: CHI – Room 202
- 8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Senior High Activities**
Ice breakers and evening devotions
Location: CHI – Room 201
- 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. **Young Adult Activities**
Share your favorite camp game
Location: Hilton – Paxton

Monday, July 11

- 7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m. **Annual Conference Group Run/Walk**
On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday morning you are invited to gather at the large sculpture outside the front of CHI for a thirty minute run or walk. Come take advantage of the pathways along the Missouri River and get to know fellow Brethren runners and walkers! Pick up a flyer with more information at registration.

- 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **New Church Recognition Breakfast** (by invitation only)
Location: CHI – Room 214
- 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **Clergywomen’s Breakfast**
Speaker: Amy Gall Ritchie
Topic: “Holding on to God’s Call in the Midst of Storms”
Pastor and Spiritual Director Amy S. Gall Ritchie will host a panel of clergywomen exploring the challenges of remaining centered on God’s call when ministry contexts are full of chaos and uncertainty. Come to listen, share, and offer mutual support as/with women in leadership today.
Location: CHI – Room 213
- 8:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Early Childhood Services**
Godly play, sing and learn
Location: CHI – Rooms 205/206
- 8:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. **K – 2nd Grades Children’s Activities**
Riverwalk and picnic lunch, center activities
Location: CHI – Room 204
- 8:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. **3rd – 5th Grades Children’s Activities**
Park play and picnic, scavenger hunt
Location: CHI – Room 203
- 8:30 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. **Junior High Activities**
Games, AC experience, service project, guest speaker
Location: CHI – Room 202
- 8:30 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. **Senior High Activities**
New Community Project speaker, games and picnic in the park.
Location: CHI – Room 201
- 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Business Session**
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 11:50 a.m. – 12:50 p.m. **Mutual Support Group: Those Who Have Lost Loved Ones to Suicide**
Location: Hilton – Prague
- 11:50 a.m. – 12:50 p.m. **Mutual Support Group: Families Living with Intellectual /Developmental Disabilities**
Location: Hilton – Murray
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Womaen’s Caucus Luncheon**
Speaker: Bobbi Dykema
Topic: “Taking Our Turn in Line” We renew our relationships with one another and with the work of Womaen’s Caucus as we gather in person! Gathering at tables is a sacred setting to share powerful stories, recalling the feminists whose heavy lifting changed our world – and then we’ll consider ways to take our own places in line. A bucket brigade, a picket line, a parade: we write history together now. Whether you are a long-time affiliate of Caucus or simply curious, you are welcome to these tables!
Location: CHI – Room 208

Monday, July 11 (continued)

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Brethren Volunteer Service Luncheon**

Speaker: Michael and Carol Stern

Topic: "Peace Through Music: A Musical Journey to the World Friendship Center" Michael and Carol Stern will share a musical journey to a historical Brethren Volunteer Service project site that works for peace in Hiroshima, Japan – The World Friendship Center. Michael is a folksinger, songwriter and resource leader from Seattle. As a songwriter and inspirational speaker, he incorporates a deep appreciation for scripture, faith and action into his songs and creative presentations. A former BVSer, Michael frequently appears at a wide variety of venues including churches, schools, folk festivals, retreats, camps, and conferences.

Location: CHI – Room 213

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **LatinX Leaders Luncheon** (by invitation only)

Topic: *Tiempo de conversaci n y comuni n para todos aquellos que est n involucrados en el trabajo con ministerios Latinx (Hispanos, Latino, Latina). Ser un tiempo para compartir alegr as, preocupaciones, ideas y retos; as como tambi n llegar a conocerse mejor y aprender mutuamente.

Nota: Esta conversaci n se llevar a cabo principalmente en espa ol.

Para solicitar un boleto: Randi Rowan at rrowan@brethren.org

A time for conversation and fellowship for all those who are involved in working with Latinx (Hispanic/Latino/Latina) ministries. It will be a time to share joys, worries, ideas and challenges, as well as getting to know each other better and learn from each other. Note: This conversation will be conducted primarily in Spanish. To request a reservation, please contact Randi Rowan at rrowan@brethren.org

Location: CHI – Room 214

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

1. **Go and Make Disciples of All Nations**

Presenter: Eric Miller and Ruoxia Li

Focus: Christ commands us to go and make disciples of all nations. Along with Brethren churches around the world, the Global Mission office engages in this work on behalf of the denomination. Learn how you and your congregation can join with us in sharing the gospel. Come and hear life-giving stories of this work. Get ideas for sharing the gospel from our international guests that will inspire your own sharing, whether at home or abroad.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren/Global Mission

Representative: Eric Miller

Location: Hilton – Washington City

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

2. Enriching Our Conversations: Race in Brethren History

(.1 CEU)

Presenter: Denise Kettering-Lane

Focus: Americans are currently asking lots of questions about history—what stories do we tell, who gets to tell them, and what do we do with these stories? These questions are particularly heightened around race and ethnicity. In this session, participants will explore Brethren history, pursuant to race, and learn how our tradition navigates the complexities of our historical narrative so that richer conversations can emerge in local congregations.

Agency/District: Bethany Theological Seminary

Representative: Lori Current

Location: Hilton – Hill

3. The Check is in the Mail

Presenter: Daniel Radcliff

Focus: What if your church received a large financial gift, would you know what to do with the money? This session will introduce you to BBT's organizational investing program, known also as Brethren Foundation Funds, Inc. Attendees will leave this session more confident in leveraging the tools BFFI provides to achieve their organization's goals.

Agency/District: Brethren Benefit Trust

Representative: Loyce Borgmann

Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas B

4. History and Mystery: Partnerships with the Brethren

Historical Library and Archives (.1 CEU)

Presenter: Jen Houser and Allison Snyder

Focus: As was the case for many workplaces and organizations, Covid-19 made the BHLA grapple with necessary changes that needed to be made, especially when access to our collection has been incredibly limited during the 2020-2022 time period. During this Equipping Session, BHLA Director Jen Houser and BHLA Intern Allison Snyder will demonstrate a practical application of the BHLA as both a reference source and research location and how the BHLA has expanded its research and reference offerings to adapt to current access limitations. The BHLA will demonstrate how local congregations, districts, and individuals can utilize the BHLA as it adapts to existing needs of research and the access model moving forward.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren

Representative: Jen Houser

Location: Hilton – Cozzens

Monday, July 11 (continued)

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

5. **Strategies for Allyship and Welcome** (.1 CEU)

Presenter: Jessie Houff and Alyssa Parker

Focus: Jesus calls us to love our neighbor. But what does it mean to fully welcome someone? How might we welcome all our neighbors even when we don't understand them? How can we be a true ally to those who need support? How can we listen with our hearts to those different than us? In this Equipping Session, we will address all these questions and learn how we can create atmospheres for love and understanding. Attendees will gain understanding for how to create safe and welcoming spaces for all who are called to follow Jesus. By the end of this session, attendees will be equipped with helpful tools to bring back to their communities. Let us continue the work of Jesus by opening our hearts and our ears.

Agency/District: On Earth Peace/Young Adults on Fire

Representative: Jessie Houff

Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom B

6. **Current: Engaging the Whole Church in Conversations that Matter**

Presenters: Joan Daggett and Jeff Lennard

Focus: Currents of unease and change are swirling in today's church and society, and it can be hard to find a framework or safe place for engaging one another in conversation. Bringing all ages together in worship and conversation around topics that matter is the vision behind Shine's new thematic, digital, undated curriculum, Current. Join Shine staff in conversation and learning about ways to use the Shine curriculum to lead your church in hope in the wilderness of these times.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren/Brethren Press

Representative: Joan Daggett

Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas A

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Brethren Chaplains Gathering

Presenters: Laura Stone and Anna Lee Hisey-Pierson

Gather with other chaplains serving in many different settings and network and share resources and support for the work of providing care in the midst of the ongoing pandemic.

Location: Hilton – Herndon

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Mutual Support Group: Persons Caring for Someone with Dementia

Location: Hilton – Prague

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Mutual Support Group: Families Living with Aspergers & Autism

Location: Hilton – Murray

Monday, July 11 (continued)

- 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Early Childhood Services**
Godly play, rest, sing and learn
Location: CHI – Rooms 205/206
- 2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Business Session**
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. **Choir Rehearsal**
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Discipleship Ministries Dinner**
Speaker: Sheila Wise Rowe
Topic: “Pathways to Healing” While these are unprecedented times, many are trying to find their footing while overwhelmed by the pandemic, grief, emotional trauma general, and racial trauma specifically. Sheila Wise Rowe will share how Christ offers pathways to healing and shalom. She also shares how we can be Christ’s heart, hands, and feet regardless of the times we are living.
Location: CHI – Rooms 215/216
- 6:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. **Early Childhood Services**
Godly play, sing and learn
Location: CHI – Rooms 205/206
- 6:45 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. **Evening Worship**
Loving Beyond the Pain
Preacher: Leonor Ochoa
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. **Ted & Company Performs: *We Own This Now***
Starring Ted Swartz and Michelle Milne, *We Own This Now* is a play by Alison Casella Brookins that looks at love of land, loss of land, and what it means to “own” something. Chris has farmed the land his grandmother found as a home in Kansas after fleeing Russia almost 100 years ago; his daughter Riley is learning more about who was on that land before her Oma arrived, and the jarring connections she has to the fate of those people. We follow Chris and Riley as they navigate their changing relationship to each other and to the land their family has farmed for several generations. Diving into historical documents, absurd situations, and extended metaphors, the audience discovers alongside Riley and Chris how the Doctrine of Discovery (the legal framework that justifies theft of land and oppression of Indigenous Peoples) is still being used and causing harm today. *We Own This Now* provides a starting point for further conversation: What does it mean to “own” something? What is the relationship between “owning” and “taking” — and what is the relationship between “ownership” and (taking) responsibility? A talk back session with Ted and Michelle will be offered at 12:30 on Tuesday.
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom

Monday, July 11 (continued)

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

1. Effectively Board (.1 CEU)

Presenter: Nevin Dulabaum

Focus: Is your church board doing what it should be doing? Are the meetings of your church board effective? This session will talk about the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of church boards. Attendees will leave with a handout offering ideas related to board functionality that they can take back to their congregation.

Agency/District: Brethren Benefit Trust

Representative: Loyce Borgmann

Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas A

2. Expanding war-making: Brethren engagement with developments in militarism (.1 CEU)

Presenters: Nathan Hosler and Galen Fitzkee

Focus: Harkening back to traditional Brethren ideas of conscientious objection and pacifism requires us to reassess the current landscape of United States militarism in the 21st century. The withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan and a formal end to America's longest war, for example, do not signal the demise of U.S. militarism, but rather its evolution and mutation. The department of defense and other institutions maintain the capability to conduct "over the horizon" drone strikes which often kill or injure civilian victims, violate international law, and contribute to instability in many regions around the world. The use of artificial intelligence also continues to expand, with similar negative effects. These developments make militarism less apparent, though no less insidious, and necessitate that our awareness and advocacy for peace also evolve to keep up with the times. This session will prepare attendees to think theologically and faithfully about these issues and engage in advocacy against militarism in all of its forms in pursuit of a more just and peaceful world.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren/Office of Peacebuilding and Policy

Representative: Galen Fitzkee

Location: Hilton – Herndon

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

3. Chronicles as a Resource for Congregations: Biblical Theology and Practical Implications of the Book (.1 CEU)

Presenter: Steven Schweitzer

Focus: The book of Chronicles contains a rich theology relevant for the Church today: leadership, worship and seeking God, and the identity of God's people. These three themes will be explored with attention to how congregations can embrace the book's vision of a restored community whose hearts are oriented toward God. Participants will gain insight into the book and how to use it as a resource for biblical foundations in shaping congregational life.

Agency/District: Bethany Theological Seminary

Representative: Lori Current

Location: Hilton – Hill

4. Haiti Earthquake Response – How Service Ministries Have Shaped the Growing Haitian Church

Presenters: Romy Telfort, Ilexene Alphonse and Roy Winter

Focus: The Haiti Church of the Brethren has grown in the midst of natural disasters, social unrest, violence, and an ineffective/corrupt government, all while the Haitian people live with widespread poverty and unemployment. The latest disaster, the August 2021 earthquake that devastated southwestern Haiti, will be the context for sharing and discussion about the intersection of service ministries and church growth in Haiti. Haitian Church leaders will share how the church's disaster response, water, medical and other service ministries have had a positive impact upon the local church and community. Session participants will discuss how lessons learned in Haiti can be applied to ministries in their local communities. Information and materials about the earthquake response and other ministries in Haiti will be provided to enable participants to share in their congregations.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren

Representative: Roy Winter

Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom A

Monday, July 11 (continued) _____

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

5. Training 1000 Brethren in Kingian Nonviolence – Part One

(.1 CEU)

Presenters: Clara West McGilly and Matt Guynn

Focus: As you equip disciples for the work of Jesus in the Neighborhood, come learn about Kingian Nonviolence Conflict Reconciliation. Kingian Nonviolence is a distinctive and exciting approach for interpersonal conflict and community leadership based on the work and leadership of Martin Luther King, Jr, --and it even has Brethren roots! The Kingian approach uses the power of agape love to reconcile with opponents and work for a positive future. Learn a key tool from Kingian Nonviolence, then brainstorm how your congregation or district could be part of On Earth Peace's goal to train 1000 Brethren in Kingian Nonviolence, fostering local and regional clusters to address pressing issues of justice and conflict in their neighborhoods. Participants are invited to attend either or both of the sessions with this title (see also Wednesday night) as times to build relationships and brainstorm how to put this teaching into practice.

Agency/District: On Earth Peace

Representative: Matt Guynn

Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom B

6. Part-time Pastors + Full-time Churches = Plenty of Ministry

(.1 CEU)

Presenters: Jen Jensen and Deb Oskin

Focus: Join staff and circuit riders of the Part-time Pastor; Full-time Church program together with members of the Pastoral Compensation and Benefits Advisory Committee as they share resources and tools for strengthening the partnership between pastors and congregations in a world of multi-vocational ministry.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren

Representative: Nancy Sollenberger Heishman

Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas B

7. Pathways to Healing

Presenter: Sheila Wise Rowe

Focus: Sheila Wise Rowe will equip attendees with tools and resources to help their lives and relationships better reflect God's vision of Shalom. An individual and communal peace that surpasses all understanding. It gives rise to emotional and racial healing and justice. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. spoke of a vision of the beloved community where everyone is loved, cared for, and poverty, hunger, and hate are absent. Sheila Wise Rowe will offer insights into this pathway to healing and reconciliation.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren

Representative: LaDonna Sanders Nkosi

Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom C

Monday, July 11 (continued)

- 8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Junior High Activities**
Yard games
Location: CHI – Room 202
- 8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Senior High Activities**
Amazing race & evening devotion
Location: CHI – Room 201
- 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. **Young Adult Activities**
Stroll through Old Market with an ice cream stop at Ted and Wally's.
Location: Hilton – Paxton

Tuesday, July 12

- 7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m **Annual Conference Group Run/Walk**
See information on Monday's schedule.
- 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **Brethren Disaster Ministries/Children's Disaster Services Meet & Greet**
Topic: Join us for an informal gathering to connect with Brethren Disaster Ministries and Children's Disaster Services volunteers. We also welcome anyone interested in learning more about our ministry in service to disaster survivors in the U.S. and around the world. Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome
Location: CHI – Room 208
- 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Annual Conference Blood Drive**
Location: CHI – Exhibit Hall B
- 8:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Early Childhood Services**
Godly play, sing and learn
Location: CHI – Rooms 205/206
- 8:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. **K – 2nd Grades Children's Activities**
Bus trip to Lauritzen Gardens and Durham Museum
Location: CHI – Room 204
- 8:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. **3rd – 5th Grades Children's Activities**
Bus trip to Lauritzen Gardens and Durham Museum
Location: CHI – Room 203
- 8:30 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. **Junior High Activities**
Lewis & Clark Landing, Pedestrian Bridge, AC experience
Location: CHI – Room 202
- 8:30 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. **Senior High Activities**
Trip to the Omaha Zoo
Location: CHI – Room 201
- 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Business Session**
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Young Adult Activities**
Jimmy John's picnic lunch
Location: Hilton – Paxton

Tuesday, July 12 (continued)

- 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. **Hearing: PC&BAC Integrated Annual Ministry Agreement and Minimum Cash Salary Table**
This hearing will offer participants an opportunity to learn about the rationale for the proposed changes and ask any questions they might have.
Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom A
- 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. **Talk Back: Brethren Benefit Trust**
Presenter: Nevin Dulabaum
This session immediately follows the business session in which Brethren Benefit Trust shares their report. Join the BBT leadership to ask your questions, receive clarification, and provide your feedback.
Location: Hilton – Hill
- 11:50 a.m. – 12:50 p.m. **Mutual Support Group: Third Culture Kids**
Location: Hilton – Prague
- 11:50 a.m. – 12:50 p.m. **Mutual Support Group: Persons Living with Depression & Related Issues**
Location: Hilton – Murray
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Outdoor Ministries Camp Celebration Luncheon**
Speaker: Bekah Houff
Topic: “Camp Celebration and Recognition” Camps everywhere share the message, “Come join us to reconnect with old friends, and leave with new friends.” This luncheon features the traditional “roll call” of camps, presentation of awards and grants, honoring of retirees, and information about new programs and trends in outdoor ministry. And, of course, camp fellowship!
Location: CHI – Room 208
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Bethany Theological Seminary and Brethren Academy Luncheon**
Speaker: Jeff Carter
Topic: “Growth in the Midst of a Changing World” Bethany Theological Seminary is currently focused on four major priorities: keeping our exceptional biblical and theological education affordable and accessible to all qualified students; encouraging innovation and creativity among faculty, particularly in the development of new programs and in classroom technology; building on our mutually beneficial partnership with EYN to provide graduate education for Nigerian students; and providing a hospitable and welcoming educational environment to our students, whether they take part in the residential program, visit Richmond for intensive courses, or participate in distance learning opportunities. In this session, President Jeff Carter will share the good news of Bethany’s growing enrollment, decreasing student debt, and new and growing programs that respond to the needs and interests of our diverse student body.
Location: CHI – Rooms 213/214

Tuesday, July 12 (continued)

- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Brethren Revival Fellowship Luncheon**
Speaker: Carl Brubaker
Topic: "A World-Wide Tour from the Brethren Mission Fund"
An overview of how the Brethren Mission Fund began and how it functions, along with a description of those who have been supported over the years.
Location: CHI – Rooms 215/216
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Multi-Cultural Family Reunion**
An all-ages reunion for Brethren who identify as or come from multiracial families. This is a time to get to know one another, reconnect, and share experiences and stories. Participants will be responsible for bringing their own lunch, food must be purchased at the Hilton. For more information, please contact Joanna Willoughby at joanna.wave.willoughby@gmail.com
Location: Hilton – Merchants
- 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Talk Back Session: We Own This Now**
Presenters: Michelle Milne and Ted Swartz
Join actors Michelle Milne and Ted Swartz for a discussion about their performance of "We Own This Now," by Alison Casella Brookins. Michelle and Ted will be available to discuss the content, creative process, and questions that arise from experiencing the play.
Location: Hilton – Herndon
- 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**
- 1. FaithX, Workcamps, and Mission Trips: Who? What? Where? How?**
Presenters: Eric Miller and Zech Houser
Focus: Join Global Mission and FaithX staff to learn about different kinds of international service and mission trips. What resources are available for individuals and congregations interested in a trip? What are important things to consider when deciding on a trip and planning a trip? Topics will include everything from trip goals to insurance considerations.
Agency/District: Church of the Brethren/Global Mission
Representative: Eric Miller
Location: Hilton – Cozzens

Tuesday, July 12 (continued)

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

2. Identity and Justice: Becoming Effective Neighbors (.1 CEU)

Presenters: Carol Wise, Brian Flory and Marie Benner-Rhodes
Focus: Each of us has a multiplicity of identities that make up who we are – for example, race, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, economic, professional or family role, etc. This session will explore how our various identities intersect with social systems that function to favor some and disparage others. Our awareness of this dynamic can help us to be better partners in our common work for justice and right relationships in our church and neighborhoods.

Agency/District: On Earth Peace

Representative: Matt Guynn

Location: Virtual only

3. Bettering our Witness: Jesus' Ambassadors in the Neighborhood (.1 CEU)

Presenter: Stan Dueck

Focus: Are you looking to serve your community and share the love of Christ? Starting a new ministry can be daunting whether you're a church leader or a passionate volunteer who's ready to bring the Gospel to your neighborhood. The good news is it doesn't have to be overwhelming. The session will look at the keys to initiating a relationship-based neighborhood ministry, plus ideas and resources to kickstart your outreach ministry.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren

Representative: Stan Dueck

Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas A

4. Disabilities and Mutual Care (.1 CEU)

Presenter: Jeanne Davies

Focus: Individuals and families with disabilities carry some additional burdens in life. Well-meaning people remind them to "take care of themselves." Instead of taking care of ourselves, how might we shoulder burdens and share joys together based on the Brethren practice of mutual care?

Presented by Anabaptist Disabilities Network.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren/Discipleship Ministries

Representative: Jeanne Davies

Location: Hilton – Washington City

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Mutual Support Group: Persons Impacted by Domestic Violence

Location: Hilton – Prague

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Mutual Support Group: Persons Impacted by Addictions

Location: Hilton – Murray

Tuesday, July 12 (continued)

- 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Early Childhood Services**
Godly play, rest, sing and learn
Location: CHI – Rooms 205/206
- 2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Business Session**
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Brethren Mennonite Council worship**
Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom C
- 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **Reception for Chris Douglas and Jim Beckwith**
Chris retired last October after 12 years as Conference Director and 35 years as CoB staff. Jim concludes 10 years as Annual Conference Secretary. Join us to express our gratitude for their years of service.
Location: CHI – Room 209
- 4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. **Choir Rehearsal**
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Brethren Press and Messenger Dinner**
Speaker: Christina Bucher
Topic: “Turning the World Upside Down: The Distinctive Way Brethren Read the Bible” Brethren have a countercultural way of reading the Scriptures, which is rooted in our Anabaptist and Radical Pietist traditions. Historically we’ve found the Gospel of Matthew to be a key interpretive lens, with its focus on nonviolence and reconciliation. Recent study has led two Brethren scholars to claim the Luke-Acts narrative as equally vital and transformative to our life of faith. Come and learn how personal study led to a forthcoming book from Brethren Press, and why our distinctive Brethren way of reading the Bible should be celebrated and shared.
Location: CHI – Rooms 215-216
- 6:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. **Early Childhood Services**
Godly play, sing and learn
Location: CHI – Rooms 205/206
- 6:45 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. **Evening Worship**
Radiating Jesus’s Love and Embrace of Humanity
Preacher: Eric Bishop
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Talk Back: Mission and Ministry Board**
Presenter: David Steele
This session immediately follows the business session in which the Mission and Ministry Board shares their report. Join the CoB leadership to ask your questions, receive clarification, and provide your feedback.
Location: Hilton – Washington City

Tuesday, July 12 (continued)

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Bittersweet Gospel Band Concert**

Pastor Gilbert Romero formed a band more than 30 years ago to reach out to young and old, first in East Los Angeles, and eventually across the country and beyond. Many musicians have come and gone in that time, but the heart of the ministry is still a cross-cultural worship and music experience, lifting up the importance of praising Jesus and being his followers in the world today. It's a blend of music styles and an experience of joy and celebration. Band members for this conference include Gilbert Romero, Scott Duffey, Leah Hileman (Leah J Songs), Dan Shaffer, Andy Duffey, Kevin Walsh, and Moderator David Sollenberger.

Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

1. **Healing Racism for the Congregation and Community — A Roadmap to Healing** (.1 CEU)

Presenter: LaDonna Sanders Nkosi and Josiah Ludwick

Focus: Come and learn how congregations can be helpful on the road to healing racism. Congregations and Districts that have received the Healing Racism Mini-Grants will share their learnings and insights from their projects.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn and share ministry ideas and program and outreach strategies. Also, potential grants and funding opportunities, training and equipping partners, and other resources will be shared as well. We look forward to welcoming you there!

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren/Intercultural Ministries

Representative: LaDonna Sanders Nkosi

Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom C

2. **How do Ministers Get Paid?** (.1 CEU)

Presenter: Deb Oskin

Focus: Do W-2s and 1099s confuse you? This session, led by a clergy tax expert, will answer the complex question: How do ministers get paid? Learn about the differences between employees and self-employed workers and why those differences matter. Finally figure out what the designated housing exclusion is. Attendees will leave this session ready to use rules regarding health insurance, business expenses, and employer reimbursements to lower their minister's taxable income, and learn tips on how to double-check the W-2 to make sure it was prepared correctly.

Agency/District: Brethren Benefit Trust

Representative: Loyce Borgmann

Location: Hilton – Hill

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

3. Congregational Fundraising 101: The Haiti Medical Project Experience

Presenters: Paul Brubaker and Sandy Brubaker

Focus: Brethren missions are a popular area for congregational fundraising. Paul and Sandy Brubaker will discuss fundraising ideas congregations might consider using, including their own experience with fundraising meals for Haiti Medical Project and CCEPI.USA, as well as asking attendees to share fundraising ideas that have worked for them. They will also discuss the need for fundraising using Haiti Medical Project as an example.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren/Global Mission

Representative: Eric Miller

Location: Hilton – Cozzens

4. Justice, Transformative Leadership, and the Future of the Church of the Brethren (.1 CEU)

Presenters: Carla Gillespie, Marie Benner Rhoades, Anna Lisa Gross and Matt Guynn

Focus: Is there a crisis of leadership in the CoB? What are the internal and external contributors to this crisis? As potential leaders “count the cost,” are too many finding that the time commitments and emotional, spiritual, physical, and mental costs are too high? What fearless, adaptive, and innovative responses to these challenges might we work toward together? This session will facilitate participants’ thinking and working together toward solution-oriented responses to these questions, seeking to be faithful to and trusting in God’s continuing call and movement within and beyond our denomination. We seek to empower individuals and congregations to think and work together around calling and equipping leaders in new ways that will contribute to the spiritual health and wellness of both the leaders and the led.

Agency/District: On Earth Peace/Womaen’s Caucus

Representative: Bobbi Dykema

Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom B

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

5. Nigeria Crisis Response – Church Growth in the Midst of a Crisis

Presenter: Joel Billi, Yuguda Mdurvwa and Roy Winter
Focus: The terrorist and extremist violence in Northeast Nigeria displaced more than half the members of the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria (EYN) in 2014. By 2016 the church headquarters were reclaimed by EYN. Now, eight years later, violence, killings and the burning of churches continue without an end in sight. In the midst of this unrest and trauma EYN has boldly planted many new churches and rebuilt others. In this session, Nigerian church leaders will provide an update on the crisis in Nigeria and its impact on the Church, while highlighting how the church has grown during this difficult time. Learn and discuss the intersection of crisis and church building and growth and consider how what you learn can be applied in your local church and community. Participants will be equipped to share about the Nigeria Crisis, the state of the Nigerian church, and strategies for strengthening, and even growing, the church during a crisis.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren

Representative: Roy Winter

Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom A

6. Strength for the Journey: Fostering a Ministerial Imagination (.1 CEU)

Presenter: Janet Ober Lambert

Focus: Imagine having a small group of colleagues with whom you can share the ups and downs of ministry, with whom you can test new ideas and wrestle with dilemmas common to your calling, or with whom you can dive deep into a topic that fascinates you all. Now, imagine earning CEUs at the same time! This is the Brethren Academy's Strength for the Journey program – providing space, resources, and trained conveners to help ministers foster an imagination and passion for ministry. This insight session will outline the details of the program and provide information about how attendees can get involved.

Agency/District: Bethany Theological Seminary/Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership

Representative: Lori Current

Location: Hilton – Herndon

Tuesday, July 12 (continued)

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

7. Learning to Wash Feet: Discipleship In Outline (.1 CEU)

Presenter: Joshua Brockway

Focus: Discipleship has been at the core of Brethren faith and practice since the beginning. Yet, when it comes to naming what discipleship is, we often find ourselves at a loss for words. This session will explore a definition of discipleship and invite participants to consider how the practices of their congregation form followers of Jesus. Participants will come away with a definition of discipleship and resources to begin thinking about discipleship formation in their community of faith.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren/ Discipleship Ministries

Representative: Joshua Brockway

Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas A

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Junior High Activities**

Board games

Location: CHI – Room 202

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Senior High Activities**

Brethren Kahoot & evening devotion

Location: CHI – Room 201

8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. **Young Adult Activities**

Evening bike ride at Lewis and Clark Landing/Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge. Meet in activity room immediately after evening worship. (\$12 for 60-minute bike rental)

Location: Hilton – Paxton

Wednesday, July 13

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m. **Annual Conference Group Run/Walk**

See information on Monday's schedule.

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **Brethren World Mission Breakfast**

Topic: "What is Happening in Brethren Overseas Missions"

The Brethren have returned to Europe! Mission work there began in Spain and the Spanish Brethren are taking the church into other parts of Europe, even into some of the places where it all began. Join us for some exciting updates on the work of our overseas brothers and sisters.

Location: CHI – Room 216

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **Bethany Theological Seminary Breakfast** (by invitation only)

Location: CHI – Room 215

8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Annual Conference Blood Drive**

Location: CHI – Exhibit Hall B

8:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Early Childhood Services**

Godly play, sing and learn

Location: CHI – Rooms 205/206

Wednesday, July 13 (continued)

- 8:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. **K – 2nd Grades Children’s Activities**
Walking tour of Omaha sculptures, park and picnic, guest speaker
Location: CHI – Room 204
- 8:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. **3rd – 5th Grades Children’s Activities**
Riverwalk and picnic, guest speaker
Location: CHI – Room 203
- 8:30 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. **Junior High Activities**
Bus trip to Big Lake Park and picnic, putt-putt golf
Location: CHI – Room 202
- 8:30 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. **Senior High Activities**
BVS experience, Brethren Colleges lunch, Get Out Omaha escape room
Location: CHI – Room 201
- 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Business Session**
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. **Talk Back: On Earth Peace**
Presenter: Irvin Heishman
This session immediately follows the business session in which On Earth Peace shares their report. Join the OEP leadership to ask your questions, receive clarification, and provide your feedback.
Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom B
- 11:50 a.m. – 12:50 p.m. **Mutual Support Group: Persons Living with Physical Disabilities or Chronic Conditions**
Location: Hilton – Prague
- 11:50 a.m. – 12:50 p.m. **Mutual Support Group: Communities Supporting Immigrants, Migrants & Refugees**
Location: Hilton – Murray
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Bridgewater College Reception & State of the College**
Speaker: David Bushman
Topic: “State of the College” Join Bridgewater College President Bushman and Senior Administration in a reception to celebrate Bridgewater College’s longstanding tradition with the Church of the Brethren. President Bushman will provide an update on the state of the College today.
Location: CHI – Room 213
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Elizabethtown College Luncheon**
Speaker: Mark Clapper
Topic: “Elizabethtown College’s Founding Values, Living Anew” Join fellow Elizabethtown College alumni and friends for this special luncheon event. Hosted by the College’s Executive Director of College Engagement Mark Clapper ‘96 and featuring a presentation titled the “Elizabethtown College’s Founding Values, Living Anew,” this event promises to be an insightful and delightful part of your Annual Conference experience!
Location: CHI – Room 208

Wednesday, July 13 (continued)

- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Juniata College Luncheon**
Speaker: David Meadows
Topic: "Juniata Reflections" The Juniata Luncheon will be a wonderful opportunity to visit with others who have a connection to, or interest in, the College. Together, we will share in fellowship and storytelling about the Juniata experience. Representatives from the College will bring greetings and updates from campus. All are welcome. We hope you'll join us!
Location: CHI – Room 214
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Manchester University Luncheon**
Speaker: Bekah Houff
Topic: "Manchester University Updates" Church relations staff will share updates on the University. Enjoy networking and sharing memories of our beloved Manchester.
Location: CHI – Room 215
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **McPherson College Luncheon**
Speaker: Monica Rice
Topic: "Ventures in Christian Discipleship – Continuing education for a changing church" The Ventures in Christian Discipleship program has been sharing quality continuing education programs through virtual courses on a variety of enriching topics for the last decade. The founders of the program could not have anticipated the urgent need for digital community brought on by the pandemic but did foresee the value of participants connecting across the distance for relevant courses. The program continues to grow and at the same time seeks to share content that is timely and adaptive. Hear about the Ventures program from a panel of participants who are all current members of the Ventures Committee.
Location: CHI – Room 216
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **University of La Verne Luncheon**
Speaker: Julia Wheeler
Topic: "New Horizons at the University of La Verne" La Verne has lots of "New" to celebrate. New Deans, new Provost, and now a new college: The College of Health and Community Well-being. Come celebrate our shared memories and learn about the future plans of our alma mater.
Location: CHI – Room 209

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

1. Learning to Be More Active and Effective in Disaster Response

Presenter: Jenn Dorsch-Messler and Lisa Crouch

Focus: Come learn from experienced Brethren Disaster Ministries and Children Disaster Services volunteers and staff who have dedicated their time and gifts to serve families who have experienced disasters. They will share stories and resources that will provide lessons learned as well as provide updates on the two programs and where other volunteers and supporters can connect. From this session, attendees will learn how to engage volunteers, donors and supporters in their congregations and districts to respond to disasters locally through partnerships or nationally with Brethren Disaster Ministries and Children's Disaster Services.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren/Brethren Disaster Ministries

Representative: Jenn Dorsch-Messler

Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom A

2. Embracing and Physical Touch as Brethren Theology (and what to do when we can't) (.1 CEU)

Presenters: Denise Kettering-Lane, Charlotte Loewen and Laura Stone

Focus: Attendees will learn about historical practices, such as feetwashing, the holy kiss, and the laying on of hands, where physical touch has been reflected in Brethren theology and life. Information shared across several disciplines will also offer methods for enhancing connectedness in the context of current challenges.

Agency/District: Bethany Theological Seminary/Brethren Journal Association

Representative: Lori Current

Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas A

3. Demystifying Clergy Taxes (.1 CEU)

Presenter: Deb Oskin

Focus: Come to learn what income the two systems of clergy taxes are based on and how to calculate and pay those taxes. In addition, gain several ways to lower those taxes, including smart use of the housing allowance exclusion, business expenses and reimbursements, and ways to structure health insurance reimbursements to lower overall taxable income. Handouts will be provided.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren

Representative: Nancy Sollenberger Heishman

Location: Hilton – Hill

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

4. Who are these Brethren? (.1 CEU)

Presenter: Nevin Dulabaum

Focus: It is interesting how some of what the original Brethren believed exists to this day, even after more than 300 years. They will know us by the manner of our living and our word is our bond. The Church of the Brethren evolved in an interesting tale of defiance, persecution, fleeing one's home and ultimately immigrating to North America. Attendees will have a chance to see the places and learn of the themes that shaped what continues to be the Brethren movement today.

Agency/District: Brethren Benefit Trust

Representative: Loyce Borgmann

Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas B

5. The Church — Camp Partnership

Presenter: Gene Hollenberg

Focus: The relationship between a local congregation and its district camp is an important one. Even when the staff, resources, and programs are limited, there are significant opportunities for the ministries of both to be strengthened. In this session, we will explore how the local congregation can utilize the resource of camp, developing mutually beneficial partnerships in ministry. What are the possibilities for your church at your camp?

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren/Outdoor Ministries Association

Representative: Randi Rowan

Location: Hilton – Cozzens

6. Jesus in the Global Neighborhood (.1 CEU)

Presenters: David Radcliff

Focus: Engaging our congregations with issues facing God's earth and God's people has never been more urgent, given the many environmental and human justice crises we are facing. Yet it can be challenging to redirect our attention to the broader world, given many pressing needs closer to home. We are also prone to seeing faith in a more personal way, rather than finding faith to likewise call us to works of justice and earth care. Join a discussion of ways to engage our people with our world, drawing on scripture and hearing from congregations who are pioneering ways of doing this.

Agency/District: Program & Arrangements Committee and New Community Project

Representative: David Radcliff

Location: Hilton – Herndon

Wednesday, July 13 (continued)

- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Mutual Support Group: Persons Impacted by Childhood Sexual Abuse**
Location: Hilton – Prague
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Mutual Support Group: Grief & Loss**
Location: Hilton – Murray
- 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Early Childhood Services**
Godly play, rest, sing and learn
Location: CHI – Rooms 205/206
- 2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Business Session**
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 4:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. **Young Adult Activities**
Touring Tri-Faith Commons, a dynamic campus that includes a synagogue, church, mosque, and interfaith center on 38 acres. It's the only place of its kind in the world. This activity will extend into the evening hours, so it will not be possible to attend evening worship.
Location: Hilton – Paxton
- 4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. **Talk Back: Bethany Theological Seminary**
Presenter: Jeff Carter
This session immediately follows the business session in which Bethany Theological Seminary shares their report. Join the Bethany leadership to ask your questions, receive clarification, and provide your feedback.
Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas A
- 4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. **Choir Rehearsal**
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Mission and Ministry Board Dinner and Meeting**
(by invitation only)
Location: CHI – Room 208
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Brethren Revival Fellowship Dinner**
Speaker: Eric Brubaker
Topic: "What Are You Doing Here?" God asked this question of Elijah twice and sent him on a journey to get some perspective and reconnect with his calling. God reminds the prophet that He will accomplish His work, but not always in the way expected (1 Kings 17-19).
Location: CHI – Rooms 213/214

Wednesday, July 13 (continued)

- 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Global Mission Dinner**
Speaker: Eric Miller and Ruoxia Li
Topic: “Embracing the Global Church of the Brethren” Co-Executives of Global Mission, Ruoxia Li and Eric Miller, will share updates about the global Church of the Brethren and sponsored projects around the world. International guests will also be introduced.
Location: CHI – Room 215
- 6:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. Early Childhood Services
Godly play, sing and learn
Location: CHI – Rooms 205/206
- 6:45 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. **Evening Worship**
The Family of God
Preacher: Nathan Rittenhouse
Location: Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Michael Stern and Friends Concert**
Michael Stern is a singer/songwriter from Seattle who has been creating inspiring music of peace, justice and compassion since the 1970’s. Raised in the Church of the Brethren, he studied theology and early childhood education before embarking on a long career as a Family Nurse Practitioner and research clinician. As a songwriter, he incorporates a deep appreciation of scripture, faith, service and action into his songs and creative presentations. Come prepared to laugh, cry, be challenged, and to sing-along. David Horsey (Pulitzer Prize winning editorial cartoonist and columnist) wrote that Michael Stern’s songs are “... anthems for an America as it should be – a reminder that peace and justice should be our highest moral values.” And Maureen Jackson in Victory Music Review described Michael’s music as: “... tender and powerful lyrics ..., subjects that matter ..., warm voice, beautiful poetry and rich arrangements draw us into the heart of compassion ...”
Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom
- 8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**
- 1. Resiliency and Service**
Presenters: Michel Brewer-Berres, Pauline Liu and Dan McFadden
Focus: Resiliency is a topic that is covered at BVS orientation to better equip volunteers for the difficult times of their service year. Join BVS staff as they share some tips and come ready to learn about the three “C”s of resiliency.
Agency/District: Church of the Brethren/Brethren Volunteer Service
Representative: Dan McFadden
Location: Hilton – Herndon

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

2. Benefits Benefitting your Pastor

Presenters: Jeremiah Thompson and Ed Shannon
Focus: It seems harder and harder for churches to get pastors and once you have a pastor, you don't want to lose them. What can make the difference in hiring and keeping a pastor? There could be lots of answers to that question, but one answer could be the benefits your congregation offers. This session will highlight the insurance and retirement benefits that BBT can help congregations offer their pastor. Attendees will leave this session more informed about the benefits offered for pastors.
Agency/District: Brethren Benefit Trust
Representative: Loyce Borgmann
Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas B

3. Training 1000 Brethren in Kingian Nonviolence – Part Two (.1 CEU)

Presenters: Clara West McGilly and Matt Guynn
Focus: As you equip disciples for the work of Jesus in the Neighborhood, come learn about Kingian Nonviolence Conflict Reconciliation. Kingian Nonviolence is a distinctive and exciting approach for interpersonal conflict and community leadership based on the work and leadership of Martin Luther King, Jr. —and it even has Brethren roots! The Kingian approach uses the power of agape love to reconcile with opponents and work for a positive future. Learn a key tool from Kingian Nonviolence, then brainstorm how your congregation or district could be part of On Earth Peace's goal to train 1000 Brethren in Kingian Nonviolence, fostering local and regional clusters to address pressing issues of justice and conflict in their neighborhoods. Participants are invited to attend either or both of the sessions with this title (see also Monday night) as times to build relationships and brainstorm how to put this teaching into practice.
Agency/District: On Earth Peace
Representative: Matt Guynn
Location: Hilton – Grand Central Ballroom B

4. Can't find a pastor? Try forming a team! (.1 CEU)

Presenter: Nancy Sollenberger Heishman
Focus: Hear from small congregations finding one way to meet the challenge of the pastoral shortage by calling out the gifts of their own members into a ministry team, thereby multiplying gifts for a ministry that follows Jesus into the neighborhood. Learn ways to support such teams and strengthen the Brethren understanding of the priesthood of all believers in your congregation.
Agency/District: Church of the Brethren
Representative: Nancy Sollenberger Heishman
Location: Hilton – Hill

Wednesday, July 13 (continued)

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Equipping Sessions**

5. Strange New Worlds: How Science Fiction Helps Us (and the Church) Think Differently about the Future (.1 CEU)

Presenter: Steven Schweitzer

Focus: Science fiction brings the reader or viewer into “strange new worlds” by asking questions about our own.

As we consider possible futures for the Church, the genre of science fiction provides a helpful model that may be useful for congregations and individuals as we “boldly go” into the unknown. Participants will explore examples from science fiction that can be adapted for use in congregational settings to engage in challenging and probing conversations about how to step forward in faith together in authentic and innovative ways.

Agency/District: Bethany Theological Seminary

Representative: Lori Current

Location: Hilton – St. Nicholas A

6. Sharing the Gospel in the Great Lakes Region of Africa and Beyond

Presenters: Eric Miller and Athanasus Ungang

Focus: Great things are happening in the Church of the Brethren in DR Congo, Rwanda, Uganda, and South Sudan, including evangelism, church planting, and agriculture.

Come hear stories from U.S. Brethren who have recently traveled to the region and from our guests and staff from the region. Learn how you can support and share in this work and how you can help to get others involved.

Agency/District: Church of the Brethren

Representative: Eric Miller

Location: Hilton – Washington City

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Junior High Activities**

Escape room

Location: CHI – Room 202

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Senior High Activities**

Games & closing evening devotion

Location: CHI – Room 201

Thursday, July 14

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **Annual Conference Coordinators Breakfast** (by invitation only)

Location: CHI – 208

8:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Early Childhood Services**

Godly play, sing and learn

Location: CHI – Rooms 205/206

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Closing Worship**

Share the Love and Make the Connection

Preacher: Belita Mitchell

Consecration of the Moderator

Location: CHI – Peter Kiewit Grand Ballroom