



Church of the Brethren Annual Conference JOURNAL

Sunday, July 10, 2022 – Omaha, Nebraska

Blood Drive

Annual Conference Blood Drive is Tuesday and Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Exhibit Hall B. Sign up just outside the registration area. You may donate blood or double reds! Volunteers needed!

Brethren Press

Four Brethren Press titles will make their Annual Conference exhibit hall debut in Omaha: *We Bear It in Tears, Small Wonders, Maria's Kit of Comfort*, and *Hoosier Prophet*. Stop by the Brethren Press bookstore and check out these titles along with a large selection of faith-based books, gifts, and ministry resources.

Book Signing Monday 1:30-2 p.m.: *Resurrection Peacemaking: Plowsharing the Tools of War*. Author Cliff Kindy is serious about what he calls "the collapse of war" as a new reality. He draws on stories from his over 30 years of working with Christian Peacemaker Teams in Israel, Nigeria, Iraq, Mexico, as well as at home in Joyfield Farm in Indiana.

Free Books! Thanks to a generous donation, Brethren Press will be giving away \$250 worth of free books for a congregational library daily. Enter your church's name at the Brethren Press Bookstore.

Moderator Speaks Tonight

David Sollenberger, 2022 moderator of the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference, preaches at this evening's worship service, with the title "Following Jesus again . . . Must We?" Working from Luke 9:1-10 and 1 John 4:10, Sollenberger emphasizes the difference between the biblical call for unity and our society's current demand for uniformity. "What I'm saying is we don't all have to agree on every aspect of biblical interpretation or practice but that we need to embrace the fact that we're not uniform, we don't need to be, and that's okay."

It's hard to imagine anyone else in the Church of the Brethren with a greater appreciation of just how diverse we Brethren are. As videographer, writer, and editor, Sollenberger's presence at virtually all major Brethren gatherings of the past several decades has given him a ringside seat as our history unfolds. He has traveled the world as the Brethren movement has expanded across several continents and has a clearer picture of who we are and what we are about than anyone else.

His self-deprecating humor keeps him grounded in the reality of his faith. Sollenberger "plays with well others," creating with his collaborators as evidenced by his humorous work with NOAC News, as well as his thoughtful Annual Conference wrap-up videos since 1989.



David Sollenberger

Reflecting on tonight's message, Sollenberger said, "The essence of what I'm going to talk about is that Jesus said we do not have our act together before we were accepted by Christ, so we can't expect that of others before we accept them."

Tonight's Offering

For more than 235 years, Brethren have met at Annual Conference for prayer, worship, fellowship, friendship, and growth for us as individuals and as the body of Christ. Tonight's offering is for Annual Conference.



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Mutual Support Group Schedule Changes

Monday, July 11, 11:50 a.m.

Families Who Have Lost Loved
Ones to Suicide—Hilton Prague

Families Living with Intellectual
Developmental Disabilities—Hilton
Murray

Monday, July 11, 1 p.m.

Persons Caring for Someone with
Dementia—Hilton Prague

Tuesday, July 12, 11:50 a.m.

Third Culture Kids—Prague

Tuesday, July 12, 1 p.m.

Persons Impacted by Domestic Vio-
lence—Hilton Prague

Wednesday, July 13, 11:50 a.m.

Persons Living with Physical Disa-
bilities or Chronic Conditions—
Hilton Prague

Communities supporting Immi-
grants, Migrants, and Refugees—
Hilton Murray

Wednesday, July 13, 1 p.m.

Families living with Aspergers and
Autism—Hilton Prague

Grief and Loss—Hilton Murray

Canceled

Persons Living with Depression and
Related Issues

Persons Living with Addictions

Persons Impacted by Childhood
Sexual Abuse

*The Conference Journal is edited by Frank
Ramirez, with help from the press team, and is
sponsored by the Conference Office.*

Welcome to Omaha!

And welcome to the 235th recorded Annual Conference of the Church of the Brethren. We are meeting in person for the first time since 2019.

A little history. The name Omaha is derived from the U-mo'n-Ho'n tribe, meaning either "upriver people" or "those going against the wind or current."

The First Aid Room is located in the coatroom on the concourse outside the Grand Ballroom, open daily 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4:40 p.m. to 10 p.m. Ronda Neher is the coordinator. If you need assistance during worship, Ronda and other medical personnel will be seated in the back row during worship.

Registration figures as of 7:00 p.m. Saturday: Delegates 419; Non-delegates 684 (670 advance registrations); Virtual 139. Total: 1,103.

The Annual Conference Office is located in Room 212.

Rise and shine! Those interested in a 30-minute walk or run are invited to meet at the large sculpture in front of the convention center, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at 7 a.m.

If you brought supplies for the Witness to the Host City project, Girls, Inc. of Omaha, bring them either to the Annual Conference office (Room 212) or to Tuesday evening's worship.

Tonight After Worship:

Volunteers are needed to collate and assemble 600 delegate packets immediately following the worship service this evening at 8:15 p.m., in Room 209 in the convention center. This generally takes around an hour and is a great opportunity for fun, fellowship, connecting with old friends, and making new ones.

Game Night, 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. CHI Hall B.

Junior High Activities 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. CHI Room 202

Senior High Activities 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. CHI Room 201

Young Adult Activities 8:30 p.m.
to 10 p.m. Hilton Paxton

Cancellation: "Current: Engaging
the Whole Church in Conversations
that Matter" scheduled 12:30 Monday
afternoon has been cancelled.

Ancient Ancestors

Sing the river's song

As we gaze from the bridge.

