



Church of the Brethren

1451 Dundee Avenue, Elgin, Illinois 60120

“Congregations like yours desire to extend Christ’s love to all people, yet people with disabilities and their families often experience obstacles to participating in congregational life that are not obvious to the casual observer. The body of Christ is incomplete without the full participation of people with disabilities.”

These words were written by Timothy Burkholder, Executive Director of **ADNet, the Anabaptist Disabilities Network**. With a strong grounding in the Anabaptist tradition, ADNet began its work in 2002, and has been an exceptionally strong voice for disabilities and mental health advocacy both within the Mennonite Church USA and ecumenically. The good work they have done and their clear passion for this ministry recently led the Church of the Brethren’s Congregational Life Ministries to develop a partnership with ADNet.

What might this mean for you? First, lots and lots of resources. To better understand the mission, vision, and breadth of ADNet and access these resources, please visit www.adnetonline.org. More specifically, as a congregation who understands the importance of providing ways for disabled persons to both serve and be served, through the ADNet Congregational Partnership program you now have a way to do this with significant support, including help in calling a congregational disabilities advocate and/or advocacy team. More information on this program, including registration forms, can be found at www.brethren.org/disabilities/ADNet. Questions can be directed to Christine Guth at ADNet, cjguth@adnetonline.org, 574-343-1362.

The Church of the Brethren disabilities ministry will only be strengthened through this partnership. While certain aspects of our ministry (including the Open Roof Award) will remain specific to our denomination, many of the resources we offer will now come through ADNet. And, resources currently specific to the Church of the Brethren (like the *We Are Able!* workcamp) will now be publicized more broadly through this partnership, which will benefit everyone!

We are very excited to announce this new relationship, and look forward to working with ADNet—and you—to see where our passion for this important ministry might lead.

In Christ’s peace,

Congregational Life Ministries

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