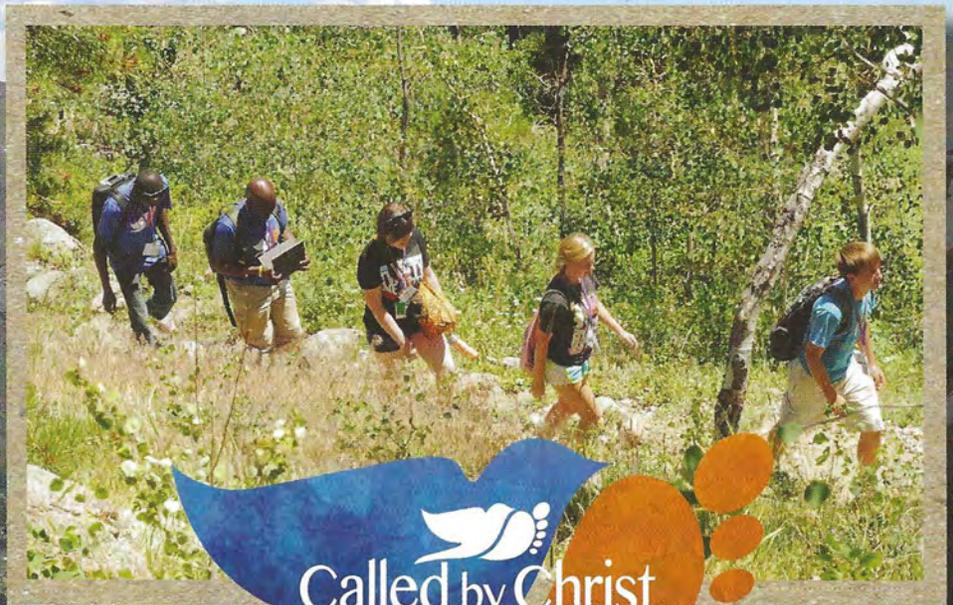
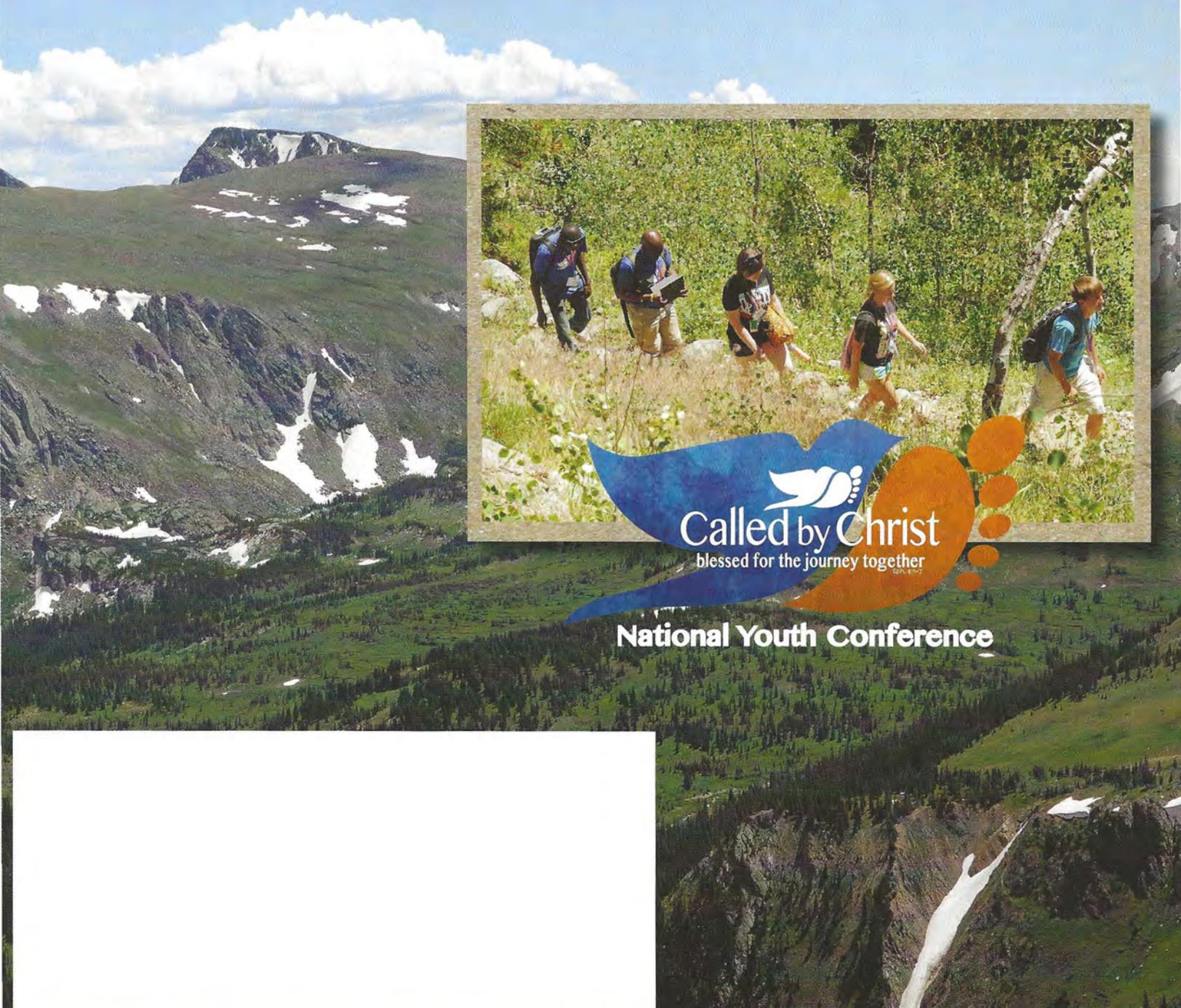


CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

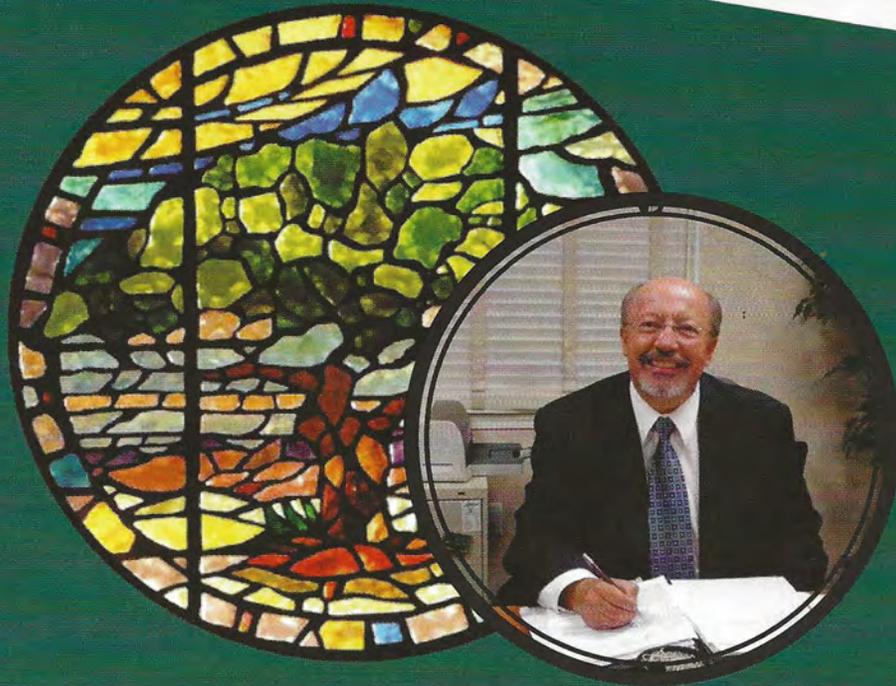
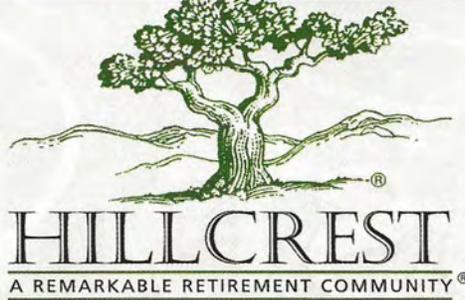
# MESSENGER

OCTOBER 2014 WWW.BRETHREN.ORG



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**National Youth Conference**



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# CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN MESSENGER

Editor: Randy Miller Publisher: Wendy McFadden News: Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford Subscriptions: Diane Stroyeck Design: The Concept Mill

October 2014 VOL.163 NO. 8 WWW.BRETHREN.ORG



## 6 Can 'one' make a difference?

One risk we make in talking about stewardship is only talking about money. How can our discipleship move beyond just ballots and budgets, and be measured by a commitment to generous living?

## 9 Called by Christ—blessed for the journey together

They may have been simply Brethren youth when they climbed out of their cars and busses in Colorado Springs at the start of this summer's National Youth Conference. But when they left less than a week later, they were something else. They were Dunker Punks!

### departments

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Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford



Glenn Riegel



Glenn Riegel

on the cover

National Youth Conference, July 19-24, 2014 at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Background photo by Nevin Dulabaum, inset picture by Glenn Riegel

**A**t National Youth Conference, one of the first impressions is that there are a lot of youth in the Church of the Brethren. For folks coming from small congregations (which is almost everyone), it's a new experience to see hundreds and hundreds of young people making their way to the opening picnic.

The numbers become more dramatic when thousands are packed into the first worship service. Early arrivals are held at the doors until 15 minutes before worship, when the crowds surge into the arena. The energy level keeps going up as the countdown clock goes down. Everyone chants the last seconds out loud and then erupts into cheers when it's finally time. Brethren, we have met to worship!



WENDY MCFADDEN  
PUBLISHER

That's repeated at every worship service (two a day, each one 90 minutes long). There's applause for scripture readings, dancing for the songs, and standing ovations for the preachers. There's no question that it's thrilling to be part of something this big.

One speaker, though, talked about a number that was small. Jarrod McKenna, familiar to some because he was an NYC speaker four years ago, gave the youth a short course in being Brethren. He reminded them that radical discipleship was in their DNA and that their spiritual ancestors numbered just eight. He asked them to consider whether they were up for God's call to be part of a mustard seed revolution. Were they ready to be "Dunker Punks"?

And what is a Dunker Punk? Like Alexander Mack and the others in Schwarzenau, they are ones who live in that Brethren fusion of Anabaptism and Radical Pietism. A Dunker Punk, he said, is "a young person who is a member of a rebellious countercultural tradition that radically commits their life to living God's Calvary-shaped love in the power of the Spirit to the glory of the Father."

Were there perhaps eight people who were ready to make that commitment? he asked. At the end of a minute of prayerful silence, he invited forward those who wanted to live that life of radical obedience to Jesus. Immediately a few stood up. Then more and more. They streamed forward in huge groups until half the crowd—perhaps a thousand people—had filled the floor of the arena.

And that's how this movement began. What should these new Dunker Punks do first? Find a few people to meet with regularly and pray the Lord's Prayer together, said Jarrod, and memorize the Sermon on the Mount. It's that small. It's that big.

(To see what sprang up immediately after NYC, visit [www.dunkerpunks.com](http://www.dunkerpunks.com), [Facebook.com/dunkerpunks](https://www.facebook.com/dunkerpunks), and [@DunkerPunks](https://twitter.com/DunkerPunks) on Twitter.)

## How to reach us

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MESSENGER (ISSN 0026-0355) is published 10 times a year by Brethren Press, Church of the Brethren. Periodicals postage paid at Elgin, Ill., and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to MESSENGER, 1451 Dundee Ave., Elgin, IL 60120-1694.



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Peoria Church of the Brethren assembles snack packs to give to grade school kids.

## Peoria church assembles student snack packs

**A**s the new school year got underway this fall, hundreds of students in Peoria, Ill., faced the prospect of weekends and holidays without enough to eat. In response, Peoria Church of the Brethren—in conjunction with Hines Primary School—assembled more than 510 snack packs for distribution to children in kindergarten through fourth grades at the school on Friday afternoons.

Last school year the church assembled 2,214 snack packs with 8,856 nutritious snacks to feed more than 550 grade school children. The church follows the school's peanut-free/nut-free policy in assembling the packs, which include such things as cereal bars, fruit rollups, oatmeal packets, applesauce cups, ramen noodles, and crackers.

"Our goal for the program has been to provide nutritious snacks to children who may not have adequate food when they are not at school," says program organizer Sue Grabb. "We have been fortunate to have 25 volunteers help to purchase, assemble, and deliver the more than 500 snack packs once a month."

The school allows the church to include a written note in the packs, telling the students, "Each snack pack is assembled with love and care for you." The church also is allowed to include its name, and invitations to church events such as Bible school, picnics, and movies.

The snack pack program began its second year with help from Illinois-Wisconsin District, which provided a grant from its "Missions and Motor" fund.

Response from the school and students has been heartwarming, say program organizers at the church.

"Once when we received the packing boxes back from the school, a note was attached to one of the boxes," Grabb says. "It read: 'The snack packs were very much needed and enjoyed by the children. Thank you so much.'"

"We also heard stories of children sharing their food with siblings," Grabb adds. "One boy started his own snack pack program by sharing his food with a younger neighbor. Teachers and administrators felt encouraged and supported in their work, and the children express joy in knowing that others in the community care about them."

Congregation Close-Up

by the numbers

# 8,559

Dollars received this summer at National Youth Conference in an offering for the NYC Scholarship Fund. (See more statistics in this issue's special NYC section.)

Do you have district or congregational stories that might be of interest to MESSENGER? Short items with a photo are best. Send them to MESSENGER, c/o In Touch, 1451 Dundee Ave., Elgin, IL 60120 or [messenger@brethren.org](mailto:messenger@brethren.org).

## BVSers cross the US on bikes

**“We were able to film Chelsea Goss and Rebekah Maldonado Nofziger** completing their BVS (Brethren Volunteer Service) Coast to Coast bicycle trip today, being greeted by the Pacific Ocean at 5:47



p.m. PDT in Cannon Beach, Ore. This is approximately 110 days after they began from Virginia Beach, Va., on May 1,” reports Ed Groff, producer of *Brethren Voices*, the community television show from Peace Church of the Brethren in Portland. The cyclists are the subject of the September edition of *Brethren Voices*.

“WE MADE IT!! 5200 miles coast to coast!” was the tweet from the two as they posted a photograph of themselves on the Pacific coast August 18. Groff tells this story from the last leg of their journey: “As they entered the Pacific with their bicycles, a vacationing couple from Indiana came over and greeted them. Chelsea and Rebekah discussed what they had just accomplished and the couple were impressed with their work and effort of bicycling across country in support of BVS, and shared

that they are familiar with the Brethren back in their home state of Indiana. I’m sure that when they return home to Indiana, they will talk about their experience of being on a beautiful beach in Oregon and watching two young ladies ride their bikes into the waters of the Pacific.”

View Brethren Voices on [www.Youtube.com/Brethrenvoices](http://www.Youtube.com/Brethrenvoices).

## Brethren assemble school kits in Pennsylvania

**Brethren in the area of Lebanon, Pa., have donated 527 school kits to Church World Service,** according to a report on the PennLive news site. “Twenty-five volunteers from local Churches of the Brethren and Mount Lebanon Campmeeting on August 6 filled 527 school kits for Church World Service,” the report said. Organizers told the news site that the drive was dedicated to the Nigerian schoolgirls kidnapped from Chibok in mid-April.

“As school kits were assembled at Mount Lebanon, each girl’s name was placed in a kit, and a prayer was said on their behalf,” PennLive reported. Volunteers came from the Lebanon, Conestoga, Annville, Mount Zion, Mount Wilson, Palmyra, and Spring Creek congregations in Pennsylvania and the McPherson congregation in Kansas.

Serving others





## Family Fun Day

**The Family Fun Day** sponsored by the Shenandoah District Disaster Ministries Auction Coordinating Committee Aug. 23, "was a success!" said the district newsletter. The event raised almost \$2,000 from a pie and cake auction and food concessions. Proceeds underwrite start-up costs for the 2015 auction. "Thanks to the coordinating committee and to Eddie and Linda Major for hosting the event and sharing their beautiful facilities," said the newsletter.

## Churches help students

**Oak Grove Church of the Brethren** in Roanoke, Va., and Madison Avenue Church of the Brethren in York, Pa., have made the news in their communities for providing backpacks and other supplies for children at the start of the new school year. The Oak Grove Church sponsors a Backpack Ministry for some children at Oak Grove Elementary School in Roanoke, according to the *Roanoke Times*. "This program provides non-perishable food items for the children to take home each weekend during the school year," the newspaper reported.

The Madison Avenue Church is one of several lauded by the *York Daily Record* for donating school supplies. After learning that some students were bringing their supplies to school in grocery bags, church members thought, "Oh my gosh, we can certainly do something to help that," Ruth Duncan of the Ladies Labor of Love group told the paper. "The church decided to focus on nearby Devers K-8 school, where it already works on some other programs. Before the last school year began, they solicited supplies to fill backpacks to give to the school." The group hoped to donate 75 backpacks, including supplies.

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# Can 'one' make a difference?

by Tim Harvey

**F**or many congregations, October is a time to think about stewardship. Church boards plan their budgets; church members fill out pledge cards; gifts discernment teams are both praying and phoning (and maybe cajoling) to fill slots on ministry teams and Sunday school classes; and pastors are working on their annual stewardship sermons. It's a process that many find less than satisfying, something like that fast food burger and fries you eat when you have neither the time nor the creativity to prepare something more interesting and nutritious.

I've often heard people lament that our approach to both ballots and budgets involves too much politics. Many wish we could do things differently. My initial response to such lament is to ask those same people: "Does your congregation have paid pastoral leadership? Do you own a building?" When the answer to these questions inevitably comes back as "yes," we must admit that ballots and budgets are a chosen part of our life together. But that doesn't mean we have to measure success as the world does. We can measure our faith by more than the size of our staff, attendance, and budget.

In the letter of 2 Timothy, Paul introduces us to One-

siphorus and his legacy of generous living. This faithful Christian brother is an example to us as we consider our own stewardship commitments. Take a minute and read 2 Timothy 1:15-18.

## Faithful when others weren't

We don't know much about Onesiphorus, but with what Paul describes and a bit of imagination, we can learn some helpful lessons. Onesiphorus was a member of the church in Ephesus, and he made a trip to Rome. He may have gone there specifically to look for Paul in prison, although I believe it more likely that he had other business in Rome and simply used the occasion to find Paul. Either way, Onesiphorus shows what I call a *generosity of concern* in his actions.

Looking for Paul would have consumed a significant amount of time and expense. Unlike modern times when the local jail is a large, easily identified building, Paul was likely held in one of numerous basements scattered throughout the city. If you've ever been vacationing in an unfamiliar city and spent time trying to find that small restaurant you passed by several days before, you have a sense of One-

siphorus' difficulty. And all this without the benefit of a smartphone and map app!

After finding Paul, Onesiphorus "refreshed" Paul by spending time with him and encouraging him while others (specifically Phygelus and Hermogenes) had turned away. Paul's commitment to Christ had landed him in prison and his chains were a source of embarrassment for some Christians in Rome, as if they invalidated the content of the gospel he proclaimed. Onesiphorus knew no such embarrassment.

Are there persons in our congregations who are a source of embarrassment because of their radical commitment to Christ? Are there those who are an embarrassment for other reasons, like a moral failure, or an ongoing struggle with addiction or mental illness? How might our generosity of concern impact these persons?

### Get out your checkbook . . .

One risk we make in talking about stewardship is *only* talking about money. Now let's be clear: stewardship does involve the use of our money. Onesiphorus would have known this—his search for Paul required him to spend some money for both

What examples of sacrificial giving exist in your congregation's history?

### Money follows mission

The use of our money is one critical part of our discipleship, but Onesiphorus' life shows us that it is not the only part of our discipleship. Generous giving is simply one aspect of generous living. For all of those times that we are a bit frustrated with stewardship that focuses only on budgets and ballots, we might find it helpful to step back and examine the use of our time. Knowing how Brethren tend to integrate their life and faith, I suspect we'll find that we're already doing much of what will follow here, perhaps without realizing it.

Brethren Volunteer Service leaders often talk about a commitment to service in a way that invites us to examine our whole lives. They seek to "challenge all in the church community to engage in a week of service each year and a year of service in one's lifetime." This statement gives us a real way to measure and plan a life of generous giving. Can we intentionally set aside one week each year to serve on a mission or disaster response trip? Do we have one year in our lives to serve

## Following the example of Onesiphorus, how can our discipleship move beyond just ballots and budgets, and be measured by a commitment to generous living?

the search and for Paul's personal needs. He was a man who understood generous giving.

Sacrificial financial giving is an appropriate biblical focus. Many of us talk about the tithe as a good measure of our giving, but really the issue is more challenging than even that. Old Testament giving was much more than a tithe. God's people gave one annual tithe to support the priests and Levites; a second annual tithe to support the sacred celebration; and a third tithe collected every three years to support the poor, the orphans, and the widows. When you do the math, the expected annual giving was approximately 23 percent.

Costly financial discipleship can be a measure of our faith. In a recent issue of *Leadership Journal*, Gordon MacDonald reminds us that "there ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditures exclude them."

My own congregation knows at least one such story. In 1930 the Roanoke Central congregation faced \$60,000 of debt on the church property. The Great Depression was causing financial stress, and the congregation was in peril of defaulting on the loans. In response to this dire need, 24 families took out mortgages on their homes to cover the indebtedness of the church. Their sacrificial giving saved the church property. It was one of legitimate personal risk, as these members faced the possibility of losing their homes in their effort to save the church.

in BVS or in some other mission-based organization?

As I said, I suspect many of us are already doing this, but stepping back and taking a new look at it might prove helpful. Using the idea of "one," how can we cultivate a generosity of living for ourselves? How would our lives change if we . . .

- sought to be a blessing to **one** person each day?
- intentionally built a relationship with **one** new family in our neighborhood, with the prayer that they hear the gospel and follow Jesus with us?
- introduced our congregation to the residents of **one** city block near our church (for those of us in the city) each month, and learned how to pray for them?
- volunteered in our local elementary school with **one** student, so that they might improve **one more** grade level in reading, math, or science?

When you get started on a list like this, it is very easy to get excited. Following the example of Onesiphorus, how can our discipleship move beyond just ballots and budgets, and be measured by a commitment to generous living? ❏

Tim Harvey is pastor of Central Church of the Brethren in Roanoke, Va. He was Annual Conference moderator for the Church of the Brethren in 2012.

▶ **A recent meeting of representatives from ecumenical organizations**, Catholic, Evangelical, and Pentecostal churches in Strasbourg, France, has promised to address more effectively discrimination, persecution, and violence faced by Christians around the world. This theme will be explored in depth through an international consultation to be held in 2015. The meeting in Strasbourg was convened by the Global Christian Forum (GCF) with participation from the representatives of the Vatican, the World Council of Churches (WCC), the World Evangelical Alliance, and the Pentecostal World Fellowship. The meeting was held September 8 and 9.

▶ **The deforestation of the Amazon rain forest in Brazil** increased by 29 percent in the last recorded year, according to figures released September 10 by the country's National Institute for Space Research,

or INPE. It is the first time the deforestation rate has increased since 2008. According to the study, carried out by satellite imaging, the Brazilian region of the world's largest rain forest lost 2,275 square miles—nearly five times the area of the city of Los Angeles—from August 2012 through July 2013.

▶ **The National Council of Churches**, one of 14 religious groups that called on the US Federal Communication Commission to assure free and open access to the Internet, said “net neutrality” is essential for NCC member communions and partners to “freely convey their faith messages to their parishioners and the public.” NCC president and general secretary Jim Winkler said, “For us, this is as much an evangelical issue as a justice issue. The Internet must be equally available to all religious groups and advocates of justice.”

**“Rodriguez and Johnson and Chang are good Dunker Punk names too.”**

—National Youth Conference speaker Jarrod McKenna, suggesting that youth reject the “Brethren name game” and stop equating belonging in the church with familial relationships

**“The ‘closed on Sundays’ sign on his stores is a countercultural statement that man does not live by bread alone, and there is more to life than a bottom line.”**

—Southern Baptist ethicist Russell Moore on Chick-fil-A founder S. Truett Cathy, who died Sept. 8

**“When you come to church, when you worship Him, you’re not doing it for God really. You’re doing it for yourself, because that’s what makes God happy.”**

—Victoria Osteen, co-pastor of Lakewood Church, quoted in a sermon criticized by many Christians for promoting a “me-centered” Christianity

**“[A]nytime following Jesus becomes comfortable, and anytime Jesus seems to agree with our entire worldview, it’s a good sign that we have adapted our concept of Jesus to our culture and that we’d bode well to return to the roots of his message and start over.”**

—Benjamin Corey, author of *Undiluted: Rediscovering the Radical Message of Jesus*, in an interview with Religion News Service senior columnist Jonathan Merritt

## Heard 'round the world



**“The more I travel, I observe that the world is less capable of dealing with the diversity. Rather than embracing the ‘other’ who is different, it seems we grab each other by the throat.”**

—Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, speaking during his recent visit to Brazil

**“In the past, most wars were motivated by the idea of nationhood. Today, however, wars are incited above all using religion as an excuse.”**

—Shimon Peres, former Israeli president, quoted in the Catholic magazine *Famiglia Cristiana*, ahead of his meeting with Pope Francis on September 4

NYC 2014



Glenn Riegel



  
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Eph. 4:1-7

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# Right Now

Glenn Riegel



Nevin Dulabaum



“We are consumed about what other people say about us rather than what God says about us, but what God says about us is more important than anything anyone else says about us.”

— Samuel Kefas Sarpiya

**2,390**  
total registration, including youth,  
adult advisors, volunteers, and staff

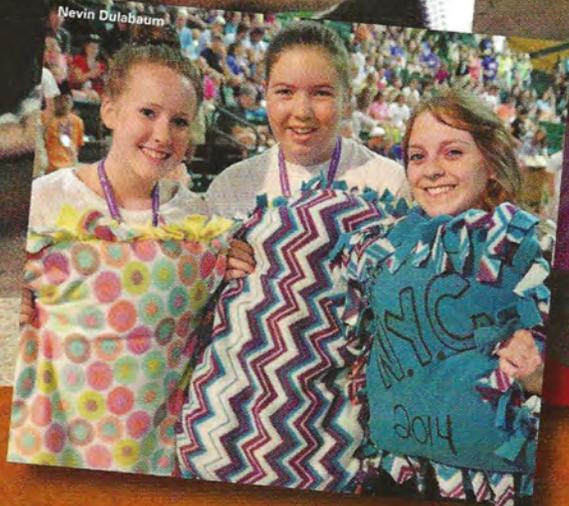
**OVER  
1,900**  
postcards signed and mailed in  
support of the Nigerian schoolgirls  
abducted from Chibok



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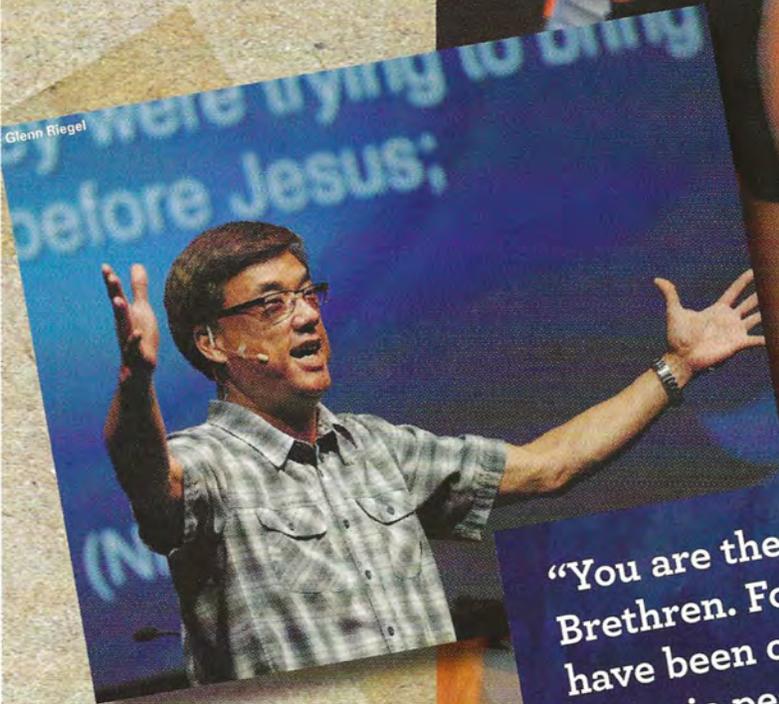
# Called

Nevin Dulabaum

Cheryl Brumbaugh Cayford



Glenn Riegel



“You are the Church of the Brethren. For 300 years you have been one of the three historic peace churches in the world. C’mon! This is your job! ... Carry us to Jesus. We need to be healed!”

—Rodger Nishioka



**"For many of us (including me) this is the biggest journey we ever embarked upon.** We as Christians follow a path that leads to Christ. What does it look like to follow the calling?" said Laura Ritchey (center), one of three youth speech contest winners who gave the Sunday morning messages. Ritchey hails from Woodbury (Pa.) Church of the Brethren. The other two winners were Alison Helfrich (left) of the Oakland congregation, Bradford, Ohio, and Katelyn Young of Ephrata (Pa.) Church of the Brethren.

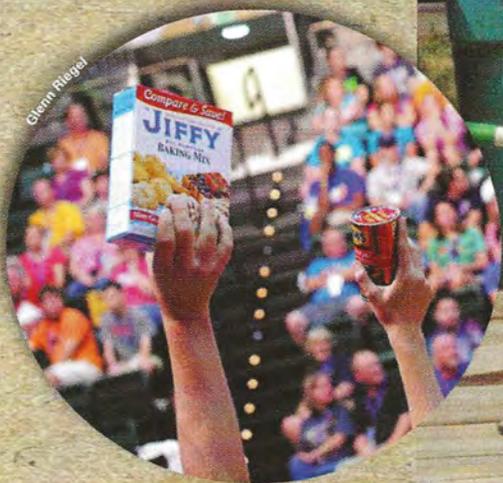
Also that morning, Sam Stein, winner of the youth music contest, performed an original song with his group Green Eggs and Sam (photo at top of page).

# Struggle

**780-plus**  
pounds of food collected for the  
Larimer County Food Bank

**\$1,566**  
received in cash and checks  
for the food bank

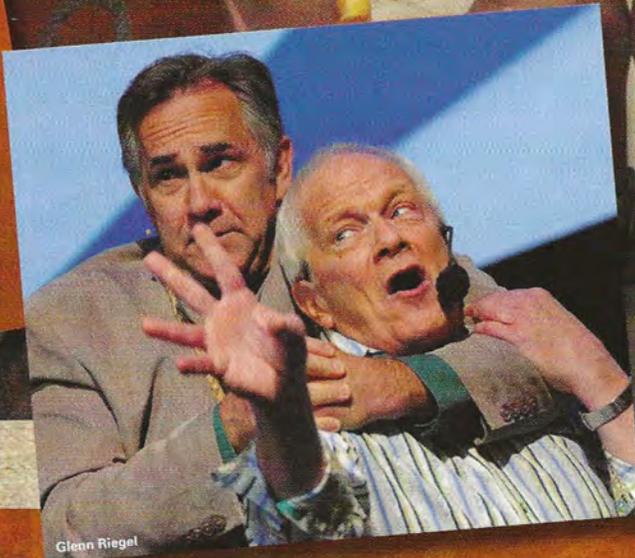
Glenn Riegel



Glenn Riegel

**“When you wrestle with God  
you are touching something  
holy. You may come out of it  
with a limp. You may come out  
of it with a new name. So keep  
wrestling. Keep wrestling.”**

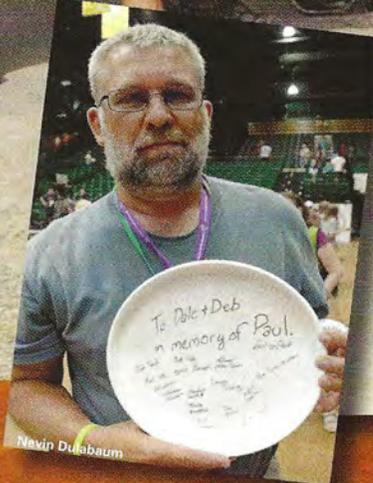
— Ted Swartz during a skit with Ken Medema



Glenn Riegel

**"The work of our lives  
is to wrestle with the  
struggle and never  
expect it to be gone."**

—Kathy Escobar



**Dale Ziegler holds a Frisbee signed by the winning team of the Ultimate contest,** presented in memory of his son. Paul Ziegler was a Church of the Brethren student at McPherson (Kan.) College, when he was hit and killed by a truck while bicycling in 2012. On Earth Peace held a "3,000 Miles for Peace" campaign in his memory last year, raising funds for violence prevention. His parents, Deb and Dale Ziegler, both attended NYC 2014 and gave workshops for youth on grief and the grieving process.

# Claim

Kevin Dulabeum

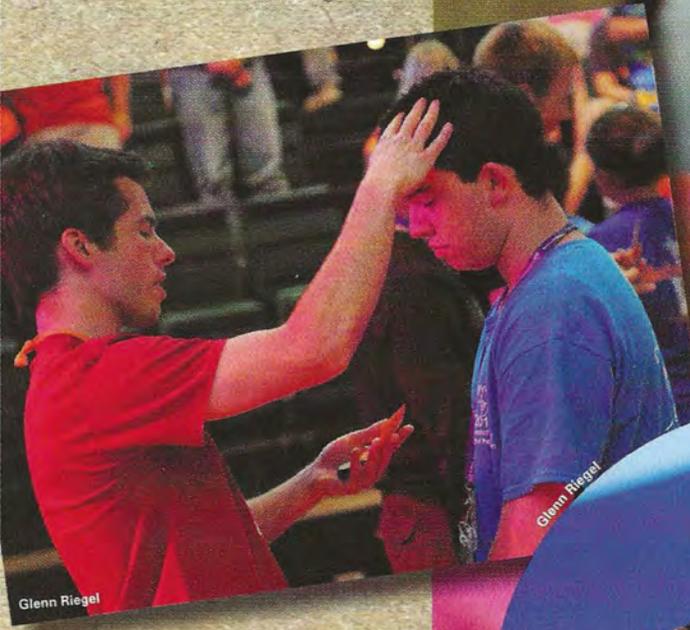
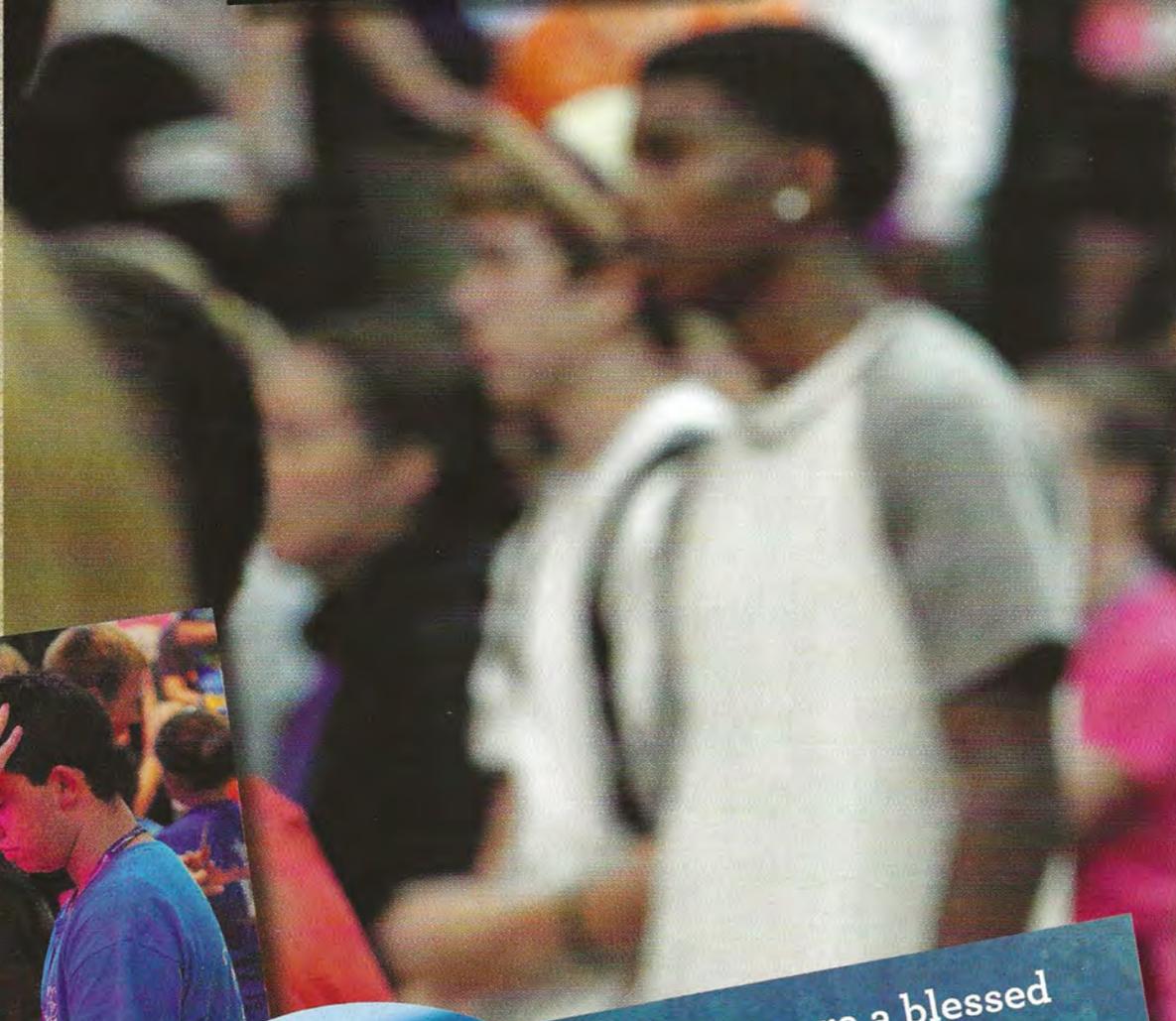


**“To answer the call means risk and stepping into the unknown.”**  
—Jennifer Quijano



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**1,091**  
downloads of the first-ever  
NYC mobile app



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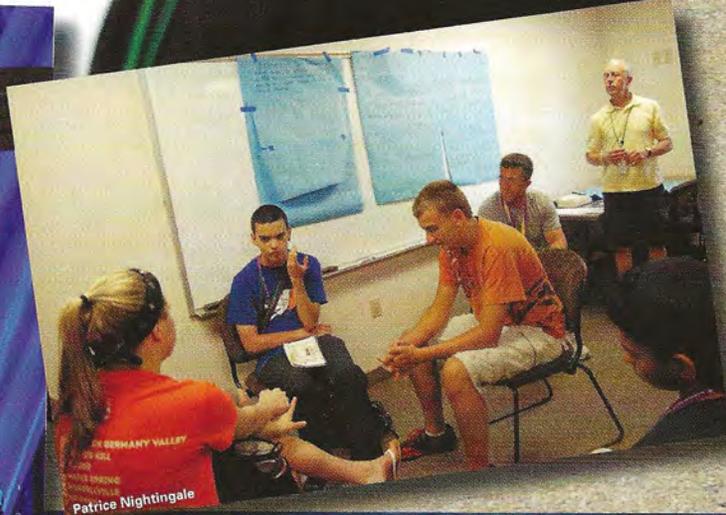
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**“You are a blessed and called child of the Living God. Don't let anyone tell you, you don't belong.”**  
—Katie Shaw Thompson



Glenn Riegel

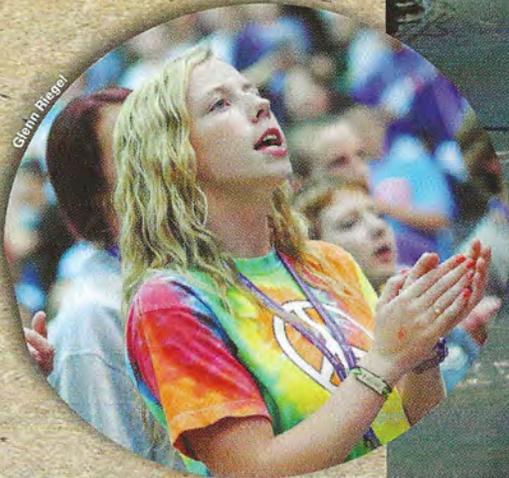


Petrice Nightingale



**\$6,544**  
received in an offering for the  
Haiti Medical Project

**519**  
Hygiene Kits donated to Church  
World Service.



Glenn Fitzgerald



Nevin Dulabaum

**“Come, Holy Spirit. Look at these thousands. Lord, may we surrender to you. We recommit our lives to you. Jesus, we want to experience and undergo your love, that we might be found living your radical love.** Lord, we

don't want to practice love feast only once in a while; we want that to be an open table of how we are in the world.

Lord, we don't want to wash feet only once in a while, but we want to take up your towel—which you conquered with—as our way of conquering in the world.

Lord, we ask for the courage to lay down our swords again. We ask for the courage to not talk about a safe pacifism but about the dangerous, revolutionary enemy love of our Lord Jesus, that you so love us with.

Lord, we don't want to talk about simple simplicity, but radical nonconformity with all that looks like cruelty and slavery in this world.

So look out on these servants of yours. Look out over these hearts that are open to you. And come, Holy Spirit.

**Make this Dunker Punk tradition a gift to the world again.”**

— Jarrod McKenna



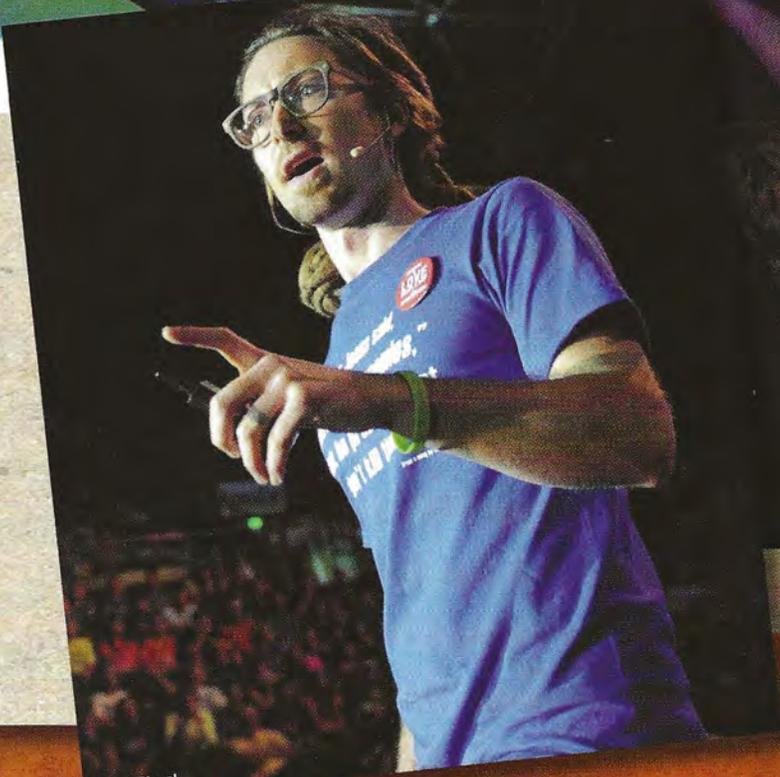
Nevin Dulabaum

**“We serve not because it’s the right thing to do, but because God’s Spirit is in us and we can’t help it!”**

—Leah J. Hileman



Glenn Riegel



Glenn Riegel

Journey



Glenn Rieger

\$8,559

received in an offering for the NYC Scholarship Fund



Nevin Dulabaum

So claim God's call upon your life and be set free. Be free to heal and serve and work. Into the person that you were meant to be.



Nevin Dulabaum

Cheryl Brumbaugh Cayford

"My last story is about you. It hasn't been written yet. So what's your story? How will you make a difference?"

—Jeff Carter



Glenn Riegel

Nevin Dulabaum

Nevin Dulabaum

Cheryl Brumbaugh Cayford

**Former NYC coordinators** who volunteer at the conference have a tradition of getting together for a celebration on the last evening. This year's gathering collected a baker's dozen of past coordinators to celebrate in true Brethren style with pints of Ben & Jerry's.



Glenn Riegel



Glenn Riegel



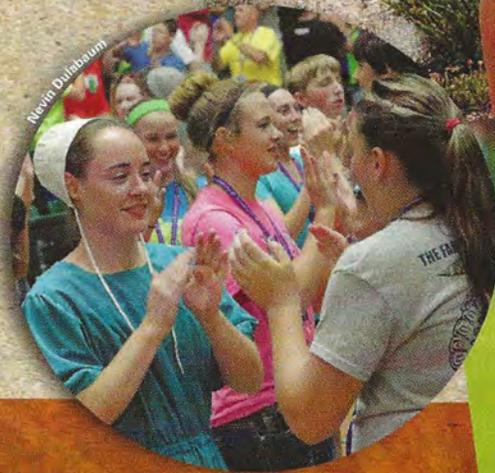
Glenn Riegel



Glenn Riegel

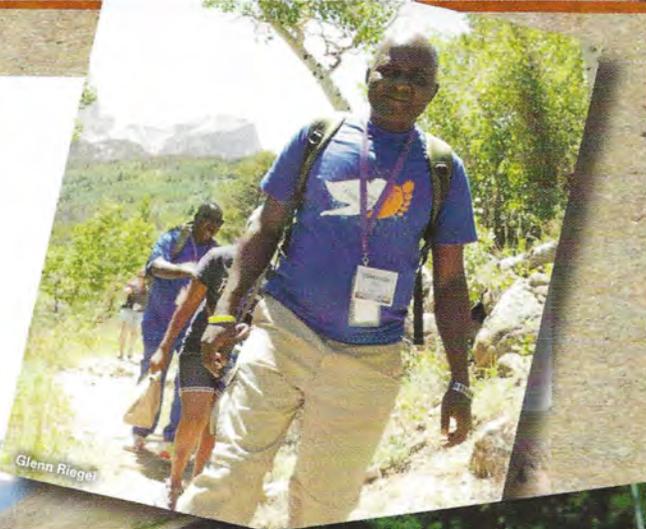


Glenn Riegel

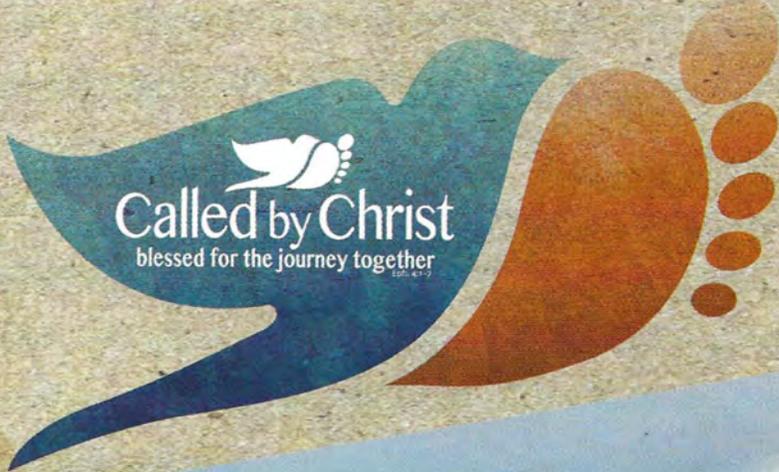


Neven Dalabaum





**The leaders.** Volunteer coordinators for NYC 2014 were Katie Cummings, Tim Heishman, and Sarah Neher (above). They were guided by Becky Ullom Naugle, director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the Church of the Brethren, and the National Youth Cabinet (right).



Cheryl Brumbaugh Cayford



Contributors to the National Youth Conference coverage:  
Glenn Riegel, Nevin Dulabaum, Patrice Nightingale, Frank Ramirez, Paul  
Stocksdale, Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford, and Wendy McFadden.

# The Hundred-Foot Journey

**I've spent my fair share of time in a kitchen.** I'm not a great cook; I prefer to bake. In any case, I know that a successful culinary delight depends on, among other things, the right proportions of a diversity of ingredients blended together. You can't make anything with *just* flour, or *just* vanilla extract. You have to combine ingredients, and sometimes they are very different from one another. Of course, this kind of alchemical transformation is at work not



RYAN HARRISON

only our kitchens, but in life all around us, and is brought to exquisite life in *The Hundred-Foot Journey*.

I thoroughly enjoyed this film, which places an Indian family of cooks and restaurateurs in southern France, trying to resurrect their family business exactly 100 feet across the street from a Michelin-starred restaurant featuring classical French cuisine served with style and a poised, raised eyebrow.

Fortunately, Hassan, a young man of innate culinary genius, is one of the family members. His gift becomes the catalyzing agent of the entire film, and his desire to develop it brings change to everyone involved in the story.

This is a feel-good movie through and through. I laughed, I marveled, I cried. I think I even salivated. Through all of this, it occurred to me that one of the film's primary messages is the spiritual importance of *otherness*. That is, there's incredible potential and richness when things and people that aren't typically "us" get into the mixing bowls of our lives.

This is most clearly seen in the unfolding relationship that Hassan develops with the French restaurant and its proprietress, Madame Mallory (Helen Mirren). In one short (but important!) scene, Madame Mallory tastes a French dish that Hassan is preparing and questions why he would alter a recipe that is 200 years old. "Because maybe 200 years is long enough," Hassan replies.

This simultaneously youthful and wise approach to "what has always been"—bringing something new and wholly unexpected into it—is what sets Hassan apart and makes him the *crème de la crème* in the culinary world. It's also what we see, time and again, as the agent that propels forward movement. And not only in cooking.

We get a glimpse of its influence in the relationship be-

tween Hassan's father ("Papa," played by Indian actor Om Puri) and Madame Mallory. At the height of their struggle, Papa berates French cooking in general: "If you have a spice, use it! Don't sprinkle it in. *Spoon* it in!" His demand for the unabashed blending of distinctive ingredients presaged an unlikely, but rich, relationship between the two that ends up with wine, dancing, and romance.

We also see the power of otherness in the pursuit of dreams. By allowing Hassan to bring new life to age-old, beloved recipes through the addition of foreign herbs and spices, Madame Mallory finally earns her restaurant its second Michelin star, a highly coveted and distinguishing accomplishment.

All of this leads to a well-seasoned truth: staying put, staying comfortable, staying the same with familiar approaches to life, have to be given up in order to bring something greater into being.

And yet, exerting otherness simply for its own sake risks the loss of its leavening ability. This is also seen in the film. Following Hassan's dazzling rise to greatness, when he commands attention and prestige, he becomes visibly lost. Wealthy, admired, and influential, he feels disconnected and alone. Only by returning to his family and the French community that learned to love him did Hassan discover the important balance between blooming where you are planted and reaching for the sun, a lesson our herb and vegetable gardens teach us each season.

*The Hundred-Foot Journey* is a delightful story. What you'll find is a tasteful, unfolding portrayal of the beauty that can come from complexity, and of the depth and richness of relationships that are possible only when we open to something new, something *other*. After all, coziness and convenience may produce results that are "good enough," but the deliciousness of transcendence requires vulnerability and expansion which, as in *The Hundred-Foot Journey*, can look, feel, and taste quite foreign.

Don't see this film on an empty stomach, but do see it with an open heart. And be prepared to simply simmer in enjoyment. 

Ryan Harrison attends La Verne (Calif.) Church of the Brethren where he started and led monthly Spiritual Cinema Circle gatherings for more than five years. He is the director of Resident Life and Wellness at Hillcrest Homes, a Church of the Brethren retirement community, and is completing his doctor of psychology degree at the University of the Rockies.



## ABOUT THE MOVIE

Title: *The Hundred-Foot Journey*. Theatrical release: August 2, 2014. DVD release: November 2014.

Running time: 122 minutes. Director: Lasse Hallstrom. MPAA rating: PG.



James Wheeler

## Sneaking in a little God time

**I** have been a champion worrier since I was little. Once, when I was 6, I was so nervous about going to see the Nutcracker ballet that I made myself sick and couldn't go. These days my worrying is not so crippling, but I still have a knack for dreaming up the worst-case scenario.

My sister has plenty to worry about right now. She and her husband are looking at a coming year filled with uncertainty, but my sister is taking a different approach. Last week she said to me, "Mandy, we don't trust God because we don't know God, and we don't know God because we don't spend time with God." She had a point.



MANDY GARCIA

Trust is built in relationship. It comes by way of shared experience and intentional time spent together. How can we fully trust God when we haven't invested the time to know God? And how can we experience the depth of God's faithfulness without trusting God with our vulnerability, weakness, and fear?

I tend to think that I don't prioritize spending time with God because my days are too full. There is work and

school and family and laundry and church and friends and sleep, all vying for my time. I intend to get around to God, but for some reason I always "run out of time."

Time is a funny thing. It's fleeting, there's never enough, yet I can always find time to worry. I can lie in bed mulling over tomorrow's to-do list. I can find minutes in the day to wonder if I'm getting sick, Google my symptoms, and call the doctor. I can listen to the news on my way to work and squeeze in worrisome thoughts and conversation about the world. But just think if I were to spend all that time with God learning to trust, instead of in my own head, trying to figure it all out on my own. Imagine if I got creative with the minutes that are normally claimed by worry—or just by noise—and put the time into being quiet, listening, being with God.

I'd like to try sneaking in trust-building time with God this fall. Will you join me? Let's talk with God on our commute. Sing

hymns in the shower. Write Philippians 4:6-8 on an index card and memorize it while brushing our teeth. Let's bake something and read 1 John while it's in the oven. Let's allow the vacuum to drown out other noise while we listen for God's voice.

May our worry time be turned into worship time, and our hearts be transformed by trust in one whose love casts out all fear. **AM**

Mandy Garcia is associate director of donor communications for the Church of the Brethren.



### Pumpkin muffins

*My grandmother's pumpkin muffins are one of my favorite autumn treats. This recipe also can be used to make two loaves of pumpkin bread.*

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Mix together:

- 4 eggs
- 2 cups of pumpkin, or acorn or butternut squash puree (or 1 can of pumpkin)
- 2/3 cup of water
- 3/4 cup of oil
- 1/4 cup of plain yogurt
- 1 tsp of cinnamon
- 1 1/2 teaspoons of salt
- 2 teaspoons of baking soda
- 3 cups of sugar
- 3 1/2 cups of flour

Bake in muffin tins for 15-20 minutes or loaf pans for an hour.

Spend the oven time with God.



## Haiti Medical Project attains milestone

**T**he Haiti Medical Project attained a 30-month milestone in June, reports Dale Minnich who serves as a volunteer fundraiser for the project. Also this summer, Lancaster (Pa.) Church of the Brethren surpassed its fundraising goal of \$100,000 to raise an actual amount of \$103,700, reported by Lancaster member Otto Schaudel.

The Brethren World Mission group also is offering substantial support, with a goal of providing \$100,000 to the project.

“The Haiti Medical Project has grown rapidly,” Minnich reported. “Overall, it has been an amazing 30 months since Haiti Medical Project began in early 2012.”

Developments in 2014 include the doubling of the number of clinics held per year to a projected total of 48, which will serve about 7,000 people, with total expenditures expected in the range of \$135,000. In 2013, 24 clinics were held with almost 3,500 patients seen.

The fledgling endowment has over \$225,000 in hand. There is a growing focus on preventive care, and benefits seen from the 2013 addition of a small building and purchase of a vehicle.

The Haiti Medical Project emerged out of the experience of a Brethren medical delegation that worked in Haiti after the devastating earthquake of 2010, under the auspices of Eglise des Freres Haitiens (the Church of the Brethren in Haiti) and Brethren Disaster Ministries. “This initial response—though just a drop in the bucket—launched a series of conversations over the next 18 months to envision a way to make a more significant and ongoing response to the great needs that were identified,” Minnich wrote in his report on the 30-month milestone.

In fall 2011, American Brethren including Paul Ullom-Minnich, a physician from Kansas who had been on the medical delegation of 2010, met with Haitian Brethren leaders and physicians willing to lead a mobile clinic team. A plan was developed for 16 clinics in 2012 costing about \$30,000 and staffed by a team of Haitian doctors and nurses. At those first clinics, more than 1,500 people were served.

The project is working with the Church of the Brethren Global Mission and Service and Haitian Church of the Brethren leaders to create some additional features of the partnership, Minnich reported. These may include an annual consultation in Haiti to review and plan together for social service ministries, and a new community development team to work alongside the mobile clinics on community health issues such as water purification.

## San Diego Islamic Center supports Nigerian victims of violence

**Members of First Church of the Brethren in San Diego, Calif.**, have a new partner in the Islamic Center of San Diego, which has joined in efforts to offer support and comfort to those suffering from violence in Nigeria. Linda Williams reports that the Islamic Center has been raising funds to support the Nigerian Brethren and other victims of the violence perpetrated by the Boko Haram insurgent group, through the sale of eucalyptus stoneware ceramic baskets, handmade in America.

Lallia Allali is coordinating the fundraising effort, with \$500 raised to date and efforts ongoing. The intent is to reach out to the Christian victims of Boko Haram violence in Nigeria, said Williams. Allali is a graduate student at the University of San Diego’s School of Leadership and leads a Muslim Girl Scout Troop that meets at the mosque, where her husband is imam. Members and children at the mosque also have written notes of compassion to be sent to the Nigerian Brethren, Williams reports. An October 15 interfaith event is being planned in San Diego under the banner, “Standing Together in Peace,” which Williams notes will be an opportunity “to celebrate our Muslim sisters’ and brothers’ generosity during the interfaith sharing portion of that event.”



*Children at an Islamic Center help raise funds for victims of violence in Nigeria.*

Photo courtesy of Linda Williams

Photo courtesy of BVS



**Brethren Revival Fellowship BVS Unit 306:** (from left) orientation leaders **Peggy and Walter Heisey, Emily Bollinger, Beverly Godfrey, Zach Nolt, Monika Nolt** holding **Jaden Nolt**, and **Elizabeth Myers**.

The annual **Brethren Revival Fellowship unit of Brethren Volunteer Service (BVS)** has completed orientation and begun a year of volunteer service. All of the members of the unit are serving at the same project site, the Root Cellar in Lewiston, Maine. The new volunteers and their home congregations are as follows: Emily Bollinger, Cocalico Church of the Brethren, Denver, Pa.; Beverly Godfrey, Pleasant Hill Church of the Brethren, Spring Grove, Pa.; Elizabeth Myers, Brunswick (Maine) Church of the Brethren; Zach and Monika Nolt, White Oak Church of the Brethren, Manheim, Pa. For more about Brethren Volunteer Service go to [www.brethren.org/bvs](http://www.brethren.org/bvs).

Children's Disaster Services



## Children's Disaster Services trains volunteers in Honolulu

**Children's Disaster Services (CDS)** held a **volunteer and project manager trainings** mid-September in Honolulu. "We were able to get an all new Rapid Response task force/steering committee set up, with representation from each island, as well as a plan for moving forward," wrote CDS associate director Kathy Fry Miller, in a Facebook post about the trainings held in Hawaii.

For more about Children's Disaster Services, which is a ministry of Brethren Disaster Ministries, go to [www.brethren.org/cds](http://www.brethren.org/cds).

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## Powerful statement on climate

I wanted to express appreciation for Wendy McFadden's understated but powerful "From the Publisher" piece in the September MESSENGER. As that litany of Annual Conference and General Board statements makes clear, things have changed in the denomination, and in its willingness to be prophetic—or even to see issues like climate change as the domain for the church's witness or even as actual problems facing the human and biotic community.

Please keep up your good work for Christ and the church—and the wider world.

**David Radcliff**  
Peoria, Ariz.

## Duped about climate change?

I am writing in response to the publisher's column in the September MESSENGER. It's really no surprise that you would ponder this matter because it is based on the premise, which the Church of the Brethren in the past has believed, that global warming is caused by

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manmade activities. That has been blindly accepted for far too long.

In answer to why the delegates at Conference rejected the paper on climate change: perhaps they have educated themselves on the issue. Credible science has proved that there is no absolute proof that carbon emissions or another of man's activities is the cause for weather activity. This is science that so many are just unwilling to accept, seemingly especially the leaders of the Church of the Brethren. Also, whoever wrote the "Snapshots on Conference" was errant when saying there is a scientific consensus on man-caused global warming. This is just not the case, pure and simple.

I am sure, given the sincerity of good

people who have been duped into this collective cause to close down the much-needed energy sources of our day, that you and others will continue to act as if the debate is over. I only wish you would allow with credibility those who look at all the science to make a valid argument, instead of just looking at studies by persons and groups who are politically or financially motivated.

We find that, in time, people—and members of the Church of the Brethren specifically—are capable of making conscious decisions themselves, and not just follow those who tell them what to believe.

**Randy W. Cosner**  
Dayton, Va.

Please send information to be included in *Turning Points* to Jean Clements, 1451 Dundee Ave., Elgin, IL 60120; 800-323-8039, ext. 320; [jclements@brethren.org](mailto:jclements@brethren.org). Information must be complete in order to be published. Information older than one year cannot be published.

## New Members

- Beachdale**, Berlin, Pa.: Amber Boyer, Alyshia Benford  
**Beaver Creek**, Hagerstown, Md.: Lisa Eppley, Kenneth Reese, Nathaniel Socks, April Boyle, Megan Humphrey  
**Chambersburg**, Pa.: Austin Lee Ditch  
**Chiques**, Manheim, Pa.: Troy Wenger, Nicole Wenger, Lee Wanner  
**Codorus**, Dallastown, Pa.: Allison Miller, Jake Putsch, Todd Burke, Roger Phillips  
**Fairview**, Unionville, Iowa: Karsyn Sebolt  
**Freeport**, Ill.: Brandon Lengel, Jacob Lengel  
**Gettysburg**, Pa.: Rachel Davis, Steve Silyvius, Edith Silyvius  
**Gortner Union**, Oakland, Md.: Dylan Moon, Seanan McGoldrick  
**Harrisburg**, First, Harrisburg, Pa.: Ron Tilley  
**Keyser**, W.Va.: Edith Lloyd  
**Lakewood**, Millbury, Ohio: Alice Baker, Linda Chapman, Horace Huse, JoAnn Huse, Janet Huse, John Johnston, Sue Johnston, Jeanene Pifer, Virginia L. Pifer  
**Lincolnshire**, Fort Wayne, Ind.: Ronda Stevens, Janet Peters  
**Monroeville**, Pa.: Mark Weir, Andrea Weir, Larry Shank, Tammy Cartia  
**Montezuma**, Dayton, Va.: Stephanie Diehl, Katia Sites, Bob Michael, Kathleen Michael  
**Palmyra**, Pa.: Joel Lohr, JoAnn Wallace, Ed Wallace, Jenna Walmer, Rachel Witkovsky  
**Pleasant Valley**, Weyers Cave, Va.: Ryah Nicole Braziel, Jackson Connor Brittle, Caleb William Dodson, Olivia Kate Dodson, Brian Franklin Hall,

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**Coming to the west coast of Florida this winter?** Need a church to worship in? We have a place for you! Good Shepherd Church of the Brethren is located at 6323 13th Street Court East Bradenton, Florida. Service times are: Sunday School 9:15 AM, Worship 10:30 AM, and Wednesday 6:30 PM. We are 50 miles SOUTH of Tampa. For more information or directions, please call (941)-758-0988 (Church) or Pastor Ken Davis (941)-713-0691 (cell). We look forward to seeing you HERE!

**Discover the beauty of England.** Visit London and the countryside. June 16-26, 2015. 9 nights in first class hotels. \$4989.00 per person. Visit the London sights, Dover's white cliffs and secret WWII tunnels, Canterbury Cathedral. Brighton's Royal Pavilion, Winchester, Portsmouth Historical Shipyards including Nelson's Victory, D-Day Museum, and Stonehenge, Cotswolds cream tea, Shakespeare's Stratford Upon Avon, Oxford's Christ Church College. Your hosts will be Andrew & Debi Wright. For more information please call 937.546.1196 or email [awright236@aol.com](mailto:awright236@aol.com). Thank you.

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**Shine: Living in God's Light**, the Sunday school curriculum produced by MennoMedia and Brethren Press, is **accepting applications for curriculum writers**. The curriculum is for children age three through grade 8. Accepted writers *must* attend a Writers Conference in Indiana, March 6-9, 2015. Shine pays for meals and lodging during the conference and covers reasonable travel expenses. More details are available at [www.ShineCurriculum.com/Write](http://www.ShineCurriculum.com/Write). Application and sample session deadline is *December 15, 2014*.

Henry William Heatwole, Cara Irene Landes, Meredith Elaine Lloyd, Jillian Brin Hammond, Luke Wright Scrogham  
**Ridgely, Md.:** Colby Sard  
**Stevens Hill Community,** Elizabethtown, Pa.: Kathryn Saylor, Stanley Saylor, Sarah Jane Lesoine, Claudette Miller, Heather Repa, Brian Roten  
**York, First, York, Pa.:** Jackie LeGrand, Greg Bachman, Marie Bachman

## Wedding Anniversaries

**Alwine,** Bernie and Judy, Mount Joy, Pa., 55  
**Bahn,** Curtis and Ruth, Dallastown, Pa., 60  
**Coulson,** Tuck and Dotty, New Cumberland, Pa., 55  
**Craighead,** James and Lilly, Callaway, Va., 50  
**Faus,** Gerry and Carolyn, Manheim, Pa., 50  
**Godfrey,** Clarence and Darlene, Glen Rock, Pa., 50  
**Hartman,** Jim and Ruth, York, Pa., 60  
**Keeney,** Leroy and Judy, York, Pa., 50  
**Kisamore,** Kenneth and Joyce, Terra Alta, W.Va., 50  
**Longenecker,** William and Peggy, Mount Joy, Pa., 55  
**Lutz,** Ron and Ila, Ambler, Pa., 55  
**Messamer,** Chuck and Diana, Manteca, Calif., 50  
**Naff,** Elbert and Nancy, Pilot, Va., 60  
**Shuman,** John and Karen, Lebanon, Pa., 50

## Deaths

**Appleby,** Georgetta Tosheff, 85, Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 13, 2013  
**Appleby,** Theodore C., 88, Harrisburg, Pa., March 20  
**Baker,** Rachel A., 89, Modesto, Calif., Aug. 7  
**Barber,** Betty Jane, 87, Taneytown, Md., Aug. 28  
**Bard,** Doris Henry, 83, Chambersburg, Pa., Aug.

22  
**Beam,** Winston Harold, 87, McPherson, Kan., July 24  
**Benner,** David William, 80, Ashland, Ohio, Aug. 6  
**Bittle,** E. Elizabeth, 92, Myersville, Md., July 20  
**Blackburn,** Donald E., 75, Greensburg, Pa., Oct. 4, 2013  
**Blough,** Edith M., 98, Palmyra, Pa., Oct. 1, 2013  
**Bowman,** Richard F., 58, Midlothian, Va., May 12  
**Boyd,** Mary Louise, 76, Englewood, Fla., April 27  
**Buckwalter,** Josie E., 84, Lititz, Pa., Aug. 6  
**Campbell,** Clifton Charles, 81, Luray, Va., June 28  
**Cope,** Thomas L., 75, Bethel, Pa., Aug. 9  
**Cutman,** Ruth W., 90, Palmyra, Pa., Aug. 24  
**Dameron,** Gladys M. Hildebrand, 93, Waynesboro, Va., Sept. 4  
**Duncan,** Avalee Mills, 87, Salem, Va., Sept. 4  
**Eller,** Gertrude Queener, 91, Raytown, Mo., Aug. 11  
**England,** Eleanor Miller, 88, Everett, Pa., Aug. 6  
**Faus,** Verna M. Ginder, 90, Manheim, Pa., June 27  
**Ford,** Betty Jean, 74, Jonesborough, Tenn., July 23, 2013  
**Ford,** Hollace A., 79, Jonesborough, Tenn., April 27  
**Fowler,** Earl E., 86, Springfield, Pa., Aug. 18  
**Fulesdy,** Alice L. Sullivan, 89, Alexandria, Va., April 24  
**Giles,** William Stephen, 76, Tulsa, Okla., Jan. 7  
**Good,** William David, 86, Timberville, Va., June 17  
**Green,** George J., Jr., 80, Harrisburg, Pa., July 23  
**Harrell,** Valerie L. Barba, 73, Timberville, Va., July 31  
**Harrison,** Kevin M., 56, York Springs, Pa., Aug. 21  
**Hartman,** Edward E., 84, Palmyra, Pa., March 24  
**Hartman,** Marcia E. Keeny, 84, Seven Valleys, Pa., June 30  
**Heffley,** Ruth R. Wenger, 82, Manheim, Pa., July 8

**Hess,** Judith A. Jones, 70, Sebring, Fla., Aug. 7  
**Holsopple,** James K., 55, Eighty Four, Pa., May 5  
**Huffman,** Paul Hendricks, 98, Timberville, Va., May 4  
**Hurst,** Clair Royer, 91, Lancaster, Pa., Aug. 14  
**James,** Yvonne Schroeder, 90, Mount Morris, Ill., Aug. 21  
**Johnson,** Channie Bell, 81, South Elgin, Ill., Aug. 24  
**Jones,** Bonnie K., 72, New Paris, Ohio, Feb. 14  
**Keeney,** Mary S. Hartman, 99, York, Pa., March 2  
**Lilly,** Marylee Huffman, 76, Harrisonburg, Va., Feb. 27  
**Martin,** Dorothy G. Kline, 92, Harrisonburg, Va., July 29  
**Matthews,** Alberta A. Beeghley, 92, Fort Wayne, Ind., July 21  
**McEwen,** Laurel C., 69, Greensburg, Pa., Feb. 27  
**Messamer,** Darlene Royer, 96, Adel, Iowa, June 23  
**Muir,** Patrick F., 53, Irwin, Pa., Nov. 24, 2013  
**Nichols,** Linford H., 93, Hopewell, Va., Nov. 17  
**Nichols,** Sarah Hodges, 92, Hopewell, Va., Jan. 6, 2013  
**Nicodemus,** John Allen, 84, Boonsboro, Md., Feb. 13  
**Overly,** Gertrude E. Uber, 89, Jeannette, Pa., Sept. 2  
**Patrick,** Ruth G., 75, Latrobe, Pa., Sept. 21, 2013  
**Pepple,** Darrell E., 72, Everett, Pa., Jan. 14  
**Reed,** Zannie Calvin, 88, Salem, Va., Aug. 8  
**Reinecker,** Russell Lee, 92, McPherson, Kan., Aug. 19  
**Rhodes,** Arlene G. Krepps, 82, McVeytown, Pa. Aug. 26  
**Riblett,** Jack E., 83, Greensburg, Pa., Aug. 29  
**Richard,** Eva Frances McCary, 93, Port Republic, Va., Jan. 21  
**Ringgold,** Donald Lee, 77, Dayton, Va., May 21  
**Schlotterbeck,** Albert Richard, Jr., 95, Boonsboro, Md., Feb. 22  
**Schuchart,** Viola Margie, 86, Westminster, Md., Nov. 1

**Schumacher,** William H., 90, Hartville, Ohio, Jan. 12  
**Sell,** Victor Eugene, 80, Lincoln, Neb., April 14  
**Sheets,** Thelma Louise, 96, McPherson, Kan., March 18  
**Shell,** L. David, 76, Roanoke, Va., Feb. 19  
**Shively,** Catherine Mary, 87, Bridgewater, Va., Nov. 19  
**Short,** Dorothy, 74, Ridgely, Md., Aug. 26  
**Silks,** Newman E., Jr., 86, Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 24  
**Smalley,** Calvin C., 86, Greensburg, Pa., Feb. 3  
**Smiley,** Alice Crawford, 94, Uniontown, Pa., Feb. 4  
**Smith,** Mary Louise Johnson, 84, Adel, Iowa, March 2  
**Sollenberger,** Ellis J., 87, New Enterprise, Pa., Aug. 7  
**Spitzer,** Alpha Marie, 96, Bridgewater, Va., July 13, 2013  
**Stoner,** John D., 79, New Cumberland, Pa., July 31  
**Storne,** Wilma L. Barnett, 85, Gridley, Calif., July 25  
**Strycker,** Thomas L., 74, Goshen, Ind., Aug. 13  
**Studebaker,** Eileen L., 93, Tipp City, Ohio, Aug. 1  
**Stutsman,** Merle B., 87, Mount Morris, Ill., March 15  
**Swartz,** Sara A., 90, Carlisle, Pa., Feb. 27  
**Thomas,** Samuel E., 96, Mount Morris, Ill., Aug. 15  
**Thompson,** John H., 59, Greensburg, Pa., Jan. 28  
**Tomlinson,** Veva May, 84, Goshen, Ind., March 30  
**Trexler,** Mary Lou, 82, Lancaster, Pa., Jan. 25  
**Vargas,** Silviano, 82, Falfurrias, Texas, Feb. 1  
**Veser,** John M., 62, Lancaster, Pa., Aug. 27  
**Waddelow,** Don, 93, La Verne, Calif., March 21  
**Walter,** Dolly R. Oehler, 76, Salix, Pa., Aug. 7  
**Walthour,** Judith A., 66, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Nov. 17, 2013  
**Walton,** Claude, 100, Lombard, Ill., March 23  
**Watkins,** Earl J., 79, Berlin, Pa., June 18  
**Wattson,** Mildred Lyon, 92, Raytown, Mo., March 4

**Weber,** Joseph R., 90, Lombard, Ill., March 22  
**Weyandt,** Stephen C., 57, Greensburg, Pa., April 29  
**Whitmoyer,** Vivian M., 76, Lebanon, Pa., Jan. 22  
**Whitney,** Mary Louise Harris, 92, Topeka, Kan., Dec. 15  
**Williamson,** Shirley Harris, 75, Roanoke, Va., Sept. 17  
**Wilson,** Mary May, 95, Dayton, Ohio, Oct. 12  
**Wilson,** Sara Grossnickel, 89, Palmyra, Pa., Aug. 8  
**Wilt,** David Granville, 81, Timberville, Va., July 14  
**Wine,** Joan C., 83, Dayton, Va., Nov. 10, 2013  
**Witzel,** Jessie Laughlin Gearhart, 98, Belleville, Pa., April 23  
**Yingst,** Sylvia Vannorsdel, 96, Dayton, Ohio, May 5  
**Zellers,** Ethel A. Kauffman, 93, Reading, Pa., Dec. 12

## Licensings

**Baugus,** Raymond Dale, Southeastern Dist. (Little Pine, Ennice, N.C.), Feb. 9  
**Cooper,** Ryan C., Shen. Dist. (Staunton, Va.), Aug. 10  
**Dye,** James W. Marva Dist. (Brake, Petersburg, W.Va.), Aug. 17  
**Garst,** Hannah Edwards, Southeastern Dist. (Jackson Park, Jonesborough, Tenn.), Nov. 10, 2013  
**Klink,** Aaron W., Virgina Dist. (Peace Covenant, Durham, N.C.), Aug. 17  
**Lancaster,** Debra P., Virgina Dist. (Oak Grove, Roanoke, Va.), Aug. 10  
**Landram,** Eric L., Shen. Dist. (Staunton, Va.), Aug. 10  
**Martinez,** Mario Rene, Southeastern Dist. (His Way, Mills River, N.C.), July 26

## Ordinations

**Hawkins,** John D., Jr., Shen. Dist. (Cedar Grove, Ruckersville, Va.), Sept. 7  
**Lester,** Megan A., Atl. N. E. Dist. (Lancaster, Pa.), Aug. 24

# Carry the light

**W**e lay on a huge stack of hay bales and stared at the cobalt blue sky, as the late-afternoon sun seeped into our weary bodies.

Clad in blue denim and plaid flannel and sprouting scruffy beards, we had been picking apples all day in north-central Washington in an orchard that belonged to the father of two



RANDY MILLER  
MESSENGER EDITOR

brothers in our group. The bales were stacked high in an open field next to the orchard. We hadn't picked that many apples—we were rank amateurs next to the migrant workers who labored alongside us. They out-picked us handily. At night we slept on steel-frame bunks in cinderblock cabins, bundled in down sleeping bags against the late-autumn chill.

We were at various points of transition in that fall of '72. Some were between high school and college, one was considering grad school, and the rest were simply between the moment and an uncertain future.

The naive hope of the '60s still informed our dreams, and the stain of Watergate had yet to taint our optimism. We were young and we believed the promises of our hopeful leaders who predicted great things from pulpits and street corners. Change was at hand. Peace was just around the corner—at least according to the songs we sang around Church of the

certain commonsense inevitability to it.

Maybe it was that feeling of inevitability that caused us to take our eye off the ball, to not work quite as hard as we might have to make real those dreams of peace. Maybe there were factors beyond anyone's control. Leave it to the social scientists to debate the issue.

While they may not have been wearing denim and plaid, our images of the original eight Brethren do show beards. And writings from those days convey a sense of excitement and anticipation about the movement they had begun. Although aware of the risks, they had bright hopes for what the future could hold not only for them, but also for subsequent generations of Brethren, and the world.

The centuries following the beginning of that movement have revealed that their hopes were not unfounded. Rather than list here the many great things Brethren have had a hand in over the years, I encourage you to check out the *Brethren Encyclopedia* (or past issues of MESSENGER) for reminders.

I wonder sometimes if we Brethren, too, have a sense of inevitability about ourselves and our denomination—about this movement, really, that Alexander Mack and his friends began in 1708. I wonder if we have the impression that we can rest, in a sense, on the accomplishments of our forebears. Are we aware that, as part of this movement, we have to actually *move*?

We are moving in many ways, of course, and the light still burns. But that light needs hands to carry it.

## We are moving in many ways, of course, and the light still burns. But that light needs hands to carry it.

Brethren campfires and at peace marches.

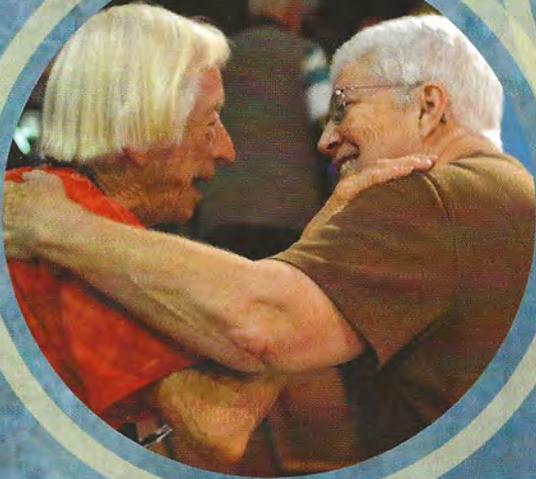
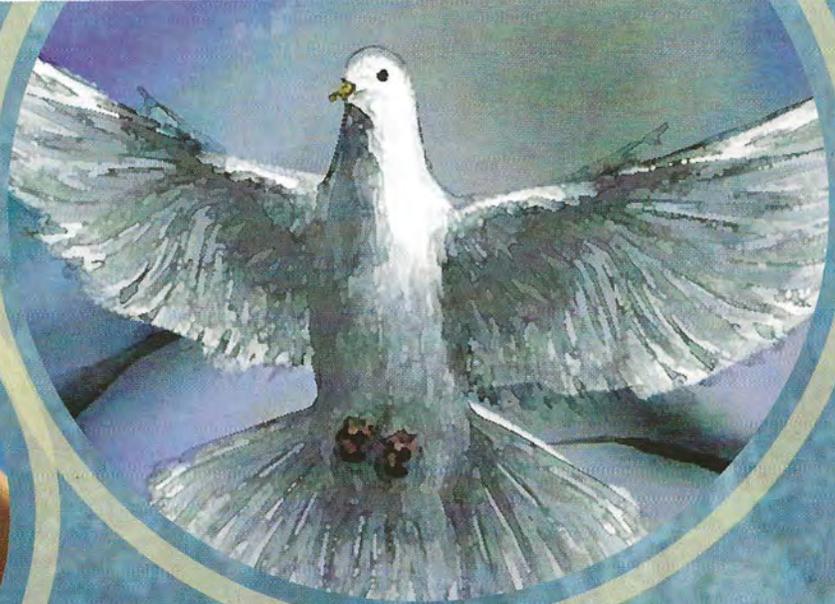
Then came the cold reality of the rest of the '70s, the disillusionment of the '80s, the resignation of the '90s, and the post-9/11 "circle the wagons" attitude that ushered in the 21st century.

To borrow a line from aging baseball player Roy Hobbs in *The Natural*, "Life didn't turn out the way I thought it would." Our callow dreams in those apple-picking days included assumptions that society would simply ride the waves of peace and goodwill into a brighter future. There was a

That light clearly shines in the faces of the "Dunker Punks" pictured in the special National Youth Conference section of this issue. My hope is that the light that ignited their spirits during their week in Colorado will continue to shine through the challenges they will encounter in the coming decades.

Who knows, maybe some of their spark can even help rekindle the light in aging apple pickers, and others, whose own youthful dreams may have been deferred, but are not dead. 

COMING IN NOVEMBER: Stories from the cities



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