

Children's Disaster Services sends teams to Texas, NC

Children's Disaster Services (CDS) deployed a team to Beaumont and Silsbee, Texas, in response to the flooding from Tropical Depression Imelda. The team arrived Sept. 22 and during its first three days made 42 child contacts. The assignment ended Sept. 29.



In early September, in advance of Hurricane Dorian, CDS deployed volunteers to evacuation centers in North Carolina.

Clergywomen's retreat planned for January

The Office of Ministry invites women who are ordained, licensed, or commissioned to a Clergy Women's Retreat Jan. 6-9, 2020, in Scottsdale, Ariz. The theme is "Treasure in Clay Pots" (2 Corinthians 4).



Keynote presenter Mandy Smith pastors University Christian Church in Cincinnati, Ohio, and is a regular contributor to *Christianity Today*. She is the author of *The Vulnerable Pastor: How Human Limitations Empower Our Ministry*. See www.brethren.org/ministryoffice.

'Voices for Peace' to be 2020 workcamp theme

The Workcamp Ministry has chosen a theme and scripture for the 2020 summer season: "Voices for Peace" (Romans 15:1-6). Registration opens Jan. 16, 2020, at 7 p.m. (central time) at www.brethren.org/workcamps.



Senior high youth and advisors also are invited to next year's Christian Citizenship Seminar (CCS) April 25-30, 2020. The theme is "Economic Justice" (Luke 1:51-53). See www.brethren.org/yya/ccs.

Emergency Disaster Fund grants go to hurricane relief in Bahamas

Three organizations doing disaster relief in the Bahamas following Hurricane Dorian have received grants from the Emergency Disaster Fund. The \$10,000 grants went to Church World Service (CWS) Development and Humanitarian Assistance, Feed the Children, and Mercy Chefs.

The Brethren Disaster Ministries response plan for the Bahamas focuses on supporting partners providing immediate response and then working toward a long-term recovery in coming months.

The CWS grant supports the work of a rapid assessment team developing a long-term strategy.

The grants to Feed the Children and Mercy Chefs represent the first time Brethren Disaster Ministries has partnered with the organizations. Mercy Chefs is a faith-based, nonprofit serving professionally prepared meals for disaster victims, volunteers, and first responders. Feed the Children is coordinating a large-scale relief program providing thousands of meals a day, shipping food and supplies from the US.



Brethren Volunteer Service Units 322 and 323

BVS Unit 322: (standing from left) **Felix Naegler** of Wiesbaden, Germany, assigned to Project PLASE, Baltimore, Md.; **Alex McBride** of Union Center Church of the Brethren, to SnowCap Food Pantry, Portland, Ore.; **Jamie McBride** of Union Center Church of the Brethren, to the Palms of Sebring, Fla.; **Maddy Minehart** of Butler, Ind., to Lebanon Lancaster (Pa.) Habitat for Humanity Restore; **Susu Lassa** of Jos, Nigeria, to the Office of Peacebuilding and Policy, Washington, D.C.; (middle) **Janine Dietle** of Essen, Germany, to Abode Services, Fremont, Calif.; **Luca Wolter** of Neuwied, Germany, to Project PLASE; **Elli Roeckemann** of Unna, Germany, to Project PLASE; **Lea Kroener** of Bochum, Germany, to SnowCap; (front) **Cara Hudson** of McPherson (Kan.) Church of the Brethren, to Gould Farm, Monterey, Mass.; **Maria Murphy** of Hollidaysburg Church of the Brethren, to Bernardo Kohler Center, Austin, Texas; **Jacey Myers** of First Church of the Brethren in Roaring Spring, Pa., to Camp Stevens, Julian, Calif.; **Judy Carl** of Pomona (Calif.) Church of the Brethren, to the Asian Rural Institute, Tochigi-ken, Japan.

BVS/BRF Unit 323: (from left) **Victoria Derosier** of Lewiston (Maine) Church of the Brethren, to the Root Cellar in Lewiston; Brethren Revival Fellowship orientation leaders **Peggy and Walter Heisey** of Newmanstown, Pa.

Post this page

You are welcome to photocopy this page. For more Newsline stories and to subscribe to Newsline's free email news service go to www.brethren.org/news

Brethren Faith in Action Fund gives grants to churches

The **Brethren Faith in Action Fund** has given grants to outreach ministry projects of eight congregations since the first of the year:

Altoona (Pa.) 28th Street Church of the Brethren received \$5,000 to purchase a walk-in freezer for food outreach ministries.

Bayamon (P.R.) Church of the Brethren received \$4,989.57 to increase its capacity to feed and serve people through its House of Bread ministry.

Brook Park (Ohio) Community Church of the Brethren received \$5,000 to expand its food bank.

Central Church of the Brethren, Roanoke, Va., received \$2,356.20 to purchase additional nutritional food for weekend snack bags for Highland Park Elementary School students.

Grace Way Church of the Brethren, Dundalk, Md., received \$5,000 for a Coffee House Ministry.

Harrisburg (Pa.) First Church of the Brethren received \$4,300 to expand, revitalize, and promote community outreach ministries in the South Allison Hill neighborhood.

Oakton Church of the Brethren, Vienna, Va., received \$5,000 for supplies and equipment for a youth and adult outreach ministry targeting educational equity in Fairfax County.

Warrensburg (Mo.) Church of the Brethren received \$711 to help members attend a Youth Action Project Conference and a White Privilege Conference.



Bethany Seminary's fall semester began with the largest group of new students in a number of years: 16 are beginning studies at Bethany and 4 alumni with graduate certificates are returning for a degree. Program enrollment includes 5 in the master of divinity program, 3 in the master of arts program, 7 in certificate programs, 5 in the new MA in Theopoetics and Writing, and 2 occasional students. The group includes 5 Nigerians through an educational partnership in distance learning with EYN. Pictured here are participants at a new student orientation: (from left) Tyler Roebuck of Middlebury, Ind.; Julia Wheeler, Pomona, Calif.; Zachary Mayes, Saint Petersburg, Fla.; Phil and Kayla Collins, Elgin, Ill.; and Julia Baker, Fresno, Calif.

Peace church seminaries form new partnership

Bethany Theological Seminary, Earlham School of Religion, and Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary have entered into an open cross-registration agreement. This is the first collaborative effort of its kind among seminaries of the historic peace churches (Church of the Brethren, Mennonites, and Society of Friends or Quakers).

The agreement allows eligible students at the Indiana-based seminaries to enroll in most courses offered by the three schools without tuition adjustments. Online courses and synchronous video technology are making an increasing number of courses widely accessible.

Personnel notes

Michelle Kilbourne began Oct. 1 as director of human resources and administrative services for Brethren Benefit Trust, at the General Offices in Elgin, Ill. Most recently she was Business Programs chair at Judson University in Elgin, where she has been adjunct professor and associate director for Cultivation Ministries. She holds a bachelor's of science in finance and a master's in business administration in human resources from Illinois State University, and a doctorate in organizational leadership from Regent

University in Virginia.

Todd Knight resigned Sept. 28 as administrative assistant for institutional advancement at Bethany Theological Seminary in Richmond, Ind., where he has worked since March 2017.

Nyampa Kwabe is international scholar in residence at Bethany Seminary for the fall semester. An Old Testament scholar, he is acting head of the Department of Biblical Studies at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria (TCNN). He holds a master's degree from the International Christian

College in Glasgow, Scotland; a doctorate from the University of Leeds, England; and master's and bachelor's degrees from TCNN. He is ordained in Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria and has taught at EYN's Kulp Theological Seminary.

Tony Price of New Madison, Ohio, began Sept. 5 as office manager for the *Brethren Life & Thought* publication of the Brethren Journal Association. He continues as pastor of Cedar Grove Church of the Brethren, New Paris, Ohio.