

The Brethren Baptist Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Representing a Church of the Brethren and an American Baptist Church, November / December Issue, 2023

Pacific Northwest District Church of the Brethren Camp Koinonia on October 13-15 - District Conference Report

1 John 3:18 “*Dear children, love each other in action not just in talk.*”

This was the theme of our District Conference where 35 people (15 in-person and 20 online) from across the district and the nation through Living Stream Church gathered at Camp Koinonia. What does it mean to love when we don't like a person – accepting, not judging, listening, patience, wonder instead of suspicion. This may take sacrifice, radical openness, and definitely attention. We won't do this perfectly. That's impossible. But do what you can for as long as you can with the gifts that you have, as one person phrased it. Get past the need for affirmation or proof of change. Persist. Keep responding with love; that is what touches people.

We spent Saturday working with Crucial Christian Conversations and the Beloved Model developed by Barbara Date and Christy Schaub around the theme of Standing with People of Color. We focused on listening to others, not trying to change them. We used the Psalmist's word “Selah” to remind us to pause and reflect on what was said.

We talked about empowering creative solutions to racism, increasing diversity at Brethren universities (La Verne University is 50% Hispanic now and McPherson University started an automotive program with endowments). We talked about seeking out those who are different from ourselves, meditating on scripture, writing letters about what we learn, walking more, and speaking up in love.

There is more work to do, but we celebrate that from the beginning Brethren have embraced sharing God's love through acts of service such as student exchanges, Brethren Volunteer Service, and the World Friendship Center in Hiroshima. Debbie Eisenbise from the Elgin COB headquarters reminded us that this love is for everyone – enemies too. Peace making is not peace keeping. Ours is an ongoing witness. As Thomas Merton said in 1966, “Do not depend on the hope of results...concentrate on the value and truth of the work itself.”

District Business Meeting:

- the district office is now in Ellisforde. The Salkum Church was sold to a Mennonite congregation.
- Camp Koinonia hosted 20 people from a Faith X project last summer and they had positive influence on the camp staff. A Brethren Volunteer Service training was held at camp for 10 days at the end of September, and Kevin, Camp Director, learned a lot about the Brethren. A major need at camp is the \$100,000 replacement of the bridge over the irrigation canal so that buses and delivery trucks can use it.
- Camp Myrtlewood will submit a digital report.
- Stan Dewick, of the COB Mission and Ministry Board, reported about strengthening international relations and emerging missions (Burundi has 50 new churches and Colombia has new churches from the Venezuelan refugees there). He said congregations can apply for \$5,000 grants for their mission projects.

Worship on Sunday was led by Debbie Eisenbise, and we spoke our hymns because the recorded music wasn't working. Worship and sharing God's love happens in many ways. We thank God for his over-flowing grace.

Merry Roy

THANK YOU!!

Thank you for sending in your pledge cards for next year. All donations are very important for the church to operate. The finance committee has met with the church board, and the budget for next year will be presented to council on December 3.

Many blessings to everyone.
Connie Mitchell, Treasurer



CHURCH COUNCIL

The Fall Church Council meeting will be on Sunday, December 3 immediately following worship.

The topics will include:

- ✓ Approval of the 2024 Budget
- ✓ Nominations
- ✓ Discussion Q & A: Connie & Betty put together some projections for the next 3 years "looking down the road". If you are interested in looking at them, let Betty know and she will send you the documents in PDF form. You can call Betty with any questions you may have.

Joe Roy & Colleen Michael, Co-Moderators

ADVENT PROGRAM AND CAROL SING

Sunday, December 10, we will celebrate Advent with carols and story. If you would like to be part of the planning, please contact Merry (509-881-1083)



PLEASE NOTE:

In 2024 we will be switching from bi-monthly to quarterly for the newsletter and calendars.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Our Shut-ins:

- Mary Kintner
- Carolyn Storme

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 8th Tanya Zaytsev
- 9th Keith Madsen

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2nd Colleen Michael
Rowan Rumley-Wells
- 9th Alexis Vickery
- 11th Jo Anne Cox
- 17th Joy Roy
- 22nd Barbara Dryden
Caleb Vickery



Happy Birthday to You
(sung to the usual tune)

Happy Birthday to you!
To Jesus stay true!
May all of God's blessings
Rain down upon you!

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

NO Anniversaries

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 23rd Joe & Merry Roy



DEACON NEWS

The Deacons are looking forward to having a Love Feast and Communion service at Easter this coming year. We will probably make this an annual tradition (due to aging & busy Deacons, etc.). In place of the Love Feast we will have a Bread & Cup Communion Service in the sanctuary on Sunday November 19. Christmas Eve falls on Sunday this year. We are planning our annual candlelight service tentatively at 5:00pm in the sanctuary. That service is always a very meaningful event with Christmas hymns and a short devotion. The Deacons work with the Praise Team and Pastor for this occasion.

Leanne Ford & Linda Vickery

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Christmas Eve service will be held at 5:00pm (tentatively) on Sunday, December 24. The service will include carol singing, a short message, Communion, and candle-lighting.



This is an excellent opportunity to bring friends and family home for the holidays to worship and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.



A LOW-WASTE CHRISTMAS

North Central Washington Libraries are offering FREE hands-on workshops this fall, **Low Waste Holidays**. These workshops are from 5:30-7:30pm on Wednesdays in November and December. You can create thoughtful, handmade gifts and decor for the holiday season. Snacks provided!

The workshops will be at the Eastmont Community Center at 230 N Georgia in East Wenatchee. This is not to be confused with the Eastmont Parks and Recreation building, also on Georgia St. Coming from 3rd Street, you'll pass the tan Parks and Recreation building on your left and the Community Center is a bit further south, toward Grant road; it is a grey building on your right.

- **November 8** - Book Page Garlands & Ornaments
- **November 15** - DIY Fill in the Love Book
- **December 13** - Gift Wrapping Alternatives

Creation Care Team

THE DYNAMIC DUO OF THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES:

World Kindness Day – November 13, 2023

Yes, World Kindness Day is a real thing—just GOOGLE it! It was founded in 1998 by a coalition of kindness NGO's to promote kindness within, and between, people groups and nations.

It is recognized on November 13 of every year. Various nations participating include Canada, Australia, Nigeria, Italy, India, the UK, United Arab Emirates, Singapore, Japan, *and yes, even the USA!* (except NOT in the halls of Congress.)

Activities in recognition of World Kindness Day can be: holding the door with a smile for someone; paying for the coffee of the person behind you in the line; giving coffee cards to the homeless;

spreading positive messages with written cards, phone calls, or social media; volunteering; spending time with a lonely person; charitable donations (hint, hint: snow boots for Lincoln Elementary School).

The Internet has many ideas, and you probably have some of your own. ☺

So, Onward Kindness Soldiers!
Jo Anne & Jan

500 YEARS OF ANABAPTISTS

-via MennoMedia Newsline

Anabaptists around the world are celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the movement in 2025.

To mark this historic occasion, we are excited to announce the creation of a commemorative story book that will capture the diverse and inspiring stories of Anabaptist witness from around the globe," said an announcement from MennoMedia.

"We need more stories! We are eager to include a wide range of experiences and perspectives from Anabaptist communities worldwide. In particular, we encourage submissions from areas outside of the Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and Ontario regions to ensure a truly global representation. We invite individuals, congregations, organizations, and communities to submit their story ideas to be considered for inclusion in the book. These stories can be both large-scale projects and small, personal testimonies that illustrate the transformative power of Anabaptist faith."

Find out more at www.AnabaptismAt500.com.

WHO ARE THE ANABAPTISTS?

The Anabaptists *originated in the 1520s in Europe at the time of the Christian Reformation*. Based on their reading of New Testament Scriptures, they believed that water baptism, a sign of membership in the Christian faith, should be reserved only for adults who could make their own decisions in matters of faith.

Anabaptists typically emphasize *discipleship, peacemaking, and recognizing the presence of Christ* in the gathered community of faith. Spiritual descendants of the 16th-century Anabaptists practice adult believer's baptism and interpreting the authority of the Bible through the prioritizing focus of Jesus' teaching.

The Mennonites and the Church of the Brethren are both Anabaptist denominations and were persecuted in Europe for their beliefs.



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Place
Stamp
Here

**10:00am Adult Bible Study
11:15am Worship Service**



**Take a few minutes to pray for our Church,
our country & its leaders
and the World!**

Brethren-Baptist Church Staff

Pastor	Mike Rumley-Wells
Administrative Assistant/ Bookkeeper	Betty Radke
Organist/Pianist	Judi Delabarre
Substitute Pianist	Diane Stober
Church Bus Driver	Caleb Vickery
Jr. Church Teacher	Merry Roy
Nursery Attendant	Volunteers
November Support Deacon	Estelle Acord
December Support Deacons	Gary & Merry Kay Shaw

MISSION STATEMENT

It is our joyful response to God’s love and grace in Jesus Christ that we be faithful servants to one another and the world.

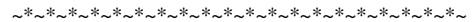
VISION STATEMENT

We seek to:

- Experience God and mature in Christ,
- Equip believers for service,
- Encourage one another in love,
- Share the good news with the lost and hurting world,
- Encourage one another to practice our faith.

PASTOR MIKE’S DAYS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Mornings



OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Wednesday

8:00am - 12:30pm & 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Thursday

8:00am - 12:30pm & 1:00pm - 3:30pm