Courageous Discipleship

I am grateful for this opportunity to serve in an interim capacity with you at La Verne Church of the Brethren, while Pastor Susan is on sabbatical. You have welcomed Donna and me into your faith community and reminded us in many ways of what’s best about the Brethren: a deep commitment to inclusivity, peacemaking, and care for those who are most vulnerable; a hearty embrace of compassionate service, care for creation, and a willingness to listen to and learn from persons of varying traditions and life experiences; a desire to be a community of faith infused by prayer, holding personal needs and the hurts of the world before a God of extravagant grace; the courage to reflect the gospel’s call to non-conformity, mirroring Christ’s way of grace and peace, justice and inclusion, compassion and generosity, integrity and truth-telling.

These are qualities and values in all too short supply in our world today and, sadly, in much of the church as well. I don’t know about you, but sometimes I find it all so maddening, the tendency of many of our political leaders to place self-centeredness and greed above pursuit of the common good. Even more, I find it appalling when church leaders similarly choose the expedient over the right, when decisions are made on the basis of fear rather than integrity and faithfulness to the gospel. But it’s important to remember that we are far from the first people to live in trying times. Centuries before Jesus the prophet Jeremiah lamented the priests and prophets of the day who “have treated the wound of my people carelessly, saying, ‘Peace, peace,’ when there is no peace. They acted shamefully . . . yet they were not at all ashamed, they did not know how to blush” (Jeremiah 6:11-12).

It’s a shocking indictment, asserting that the religious leaders of that time no longer knew how to blush, so accustomed had they become to suppressing their conscience and choosing instead self-aggrandizement. Then, and now, it is no easy task to reflect gospel values. Yet that is our calling, to give witness to Christ’s way of lavish grace, abundant compassion, welcoming acceptance, courageous integrity, and audacious peace. Thank you, La Verne Church of the Brethren, for the many ways you embrace this high calling.

~Joel Kline

The La Verne Church of the Brethren continues the work of Jesus peacefully, simply, together. We create a Christian community, called by Christ to be inclusive, caring and peace-minded. We affirm that people of any race, ethnic identity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, age, economic status, faith tradition, or life situation are welcome in our congregation. We believe in compassionate service, stewardship of creation, respect for diversity and nonviolent reconciliation for differences among all people, nations and faith traditions. We claim no creed but the New Testament, as exemplified by the life of Christ. We strive to follow the way of Jesus. Through these efforts, we seek to grow ever closer to the mind and heart of God.
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The Intercom is provided monthly by the La Verne Church of the Brethren to inform, connect, and share our faith journey with you. If you would like to have information included in the next issue of the Intercom or have suggestions you would like to share, contact the Editor, juilleratstephanie@gmail.com, or the Church Office, (909) 593-1364. We also invite you to visit our website at www.lavernecoh.org
June

JUNE 4

PENTECOST SUNDAY

A New Way Beyond Our Darkness

Joel Kline

“Perhaps a new spirit is rising among us. If it is, let us trace its movements well and pray that our inner being may be sensitive to its guidance, for we are deeply in need of a new way beyond the darkness that seems so close all around us.”

Wear red!

Acts 2:1-21

JUNE 11

TRINITY SUNDAY

Remember How You Wish to Live

Joel Kline

“The heart of most spiritual practice is simply this: Remember. Remember who you are. Remember what you love. Remember what is sacred. Remember what is true. Remember that you will die, and this day is a gift. Remember how you wish to live.”

--Wayne Muller, How, Then, Shall We Live?

Psalm 137

JUNE 18

FATHER’S DAY

The Task at Hand

Joel Kline

“Thus the task at hand: to envision the God of peace. For our souls and for our world. The more we envision and grasp the image of the God of peace, the more we’ll fathom Jesus’ teachings, comprehend how to be human, become a peacemaking church of all-inclusive love, and come upon a way or two to help disarm a world armed to the teeth.”

--John Dear, Put Down Your Sword

Matthew 9:35-10:8

JUNE 25

Eat, Pray, Love….Repeat

Susan Boyer

Pastor Susan named her sabbatical Eat, Pray, Love. The Bible is full of images of how to eat, how to pray, and how to love.

Ezekiel 3:1-3, James 5:13, 1 Corinthians 13:1-8
June Calendar

June 3  Blocher Memorial, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
June 4  Pentecost
June 6  Commissions Meet
June 8  Intercom Deadline (July/August Issue), 5:30 p.m.
June 11 Summer Schedule Begins, Worship at 10 a.m.
          All Church BBQ, After Worship, Courtyard
June 13 Personnel Commission, 6 p.m., Fireside Room
          Church Board, 7:15 p.m., Fireside Room
June 14 Fellowship Visitors & Lunch, 9:30 a.m. & Noon, Meet in Library
          Men-a-Logue, 7:30 p.m., Library
June 18  Father’s Day
June 20  Susan returns from her sabbatical
June 21  Shared Ministries, 1:30 p.m., Fireside Room
June 27  Spiritual Cinema Circle, 6:30 p.m., Fireside Room

The June window display in the hallway is created by Jodi Erlinger-Irwin.

INTERCOM is the monthly newsletter of the La Verne Church of the Brethren
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April Giving and Attendance

April Giving Report
YTD Giving 2017  $229,832
YTD Giving 2016  $214,354
YTD Expenses 2017  $200,656

April Worship Attendance
April 2017  223
April 2016  211
Senior Blessing
June 11, 10:00 a.m.
During worship on June 11, we will honor our high school seniors, who will each receive a blessing and a gift from the church in recognition of their transition from youth to young adults!

Congratulations to...
...Leland Wilson on the publishing of his book, Between the Covers, A Revue of Books Related to Will Rogers
...We celebrate with the Chibok community in Nigeria on the release and return of 82 young women abducted back in 2014. Tobita Pogo, whom we have been praying for over the past years, was among them!

Continued prayers for...
Brian Lapp, Jim Jones, Don Meyer, Linda, Alex and Andi Arnhold, Shantilal Bhagat, all the Chibok girls still missing, and our members who live at Woods.

Prayer Chain
Our Prayer Chain keeps us connected as we become aware of each other’s hurts and joys, and also opens our hearts to God’s love for each of us. When you wish to share a concern or joy on the prayer chain, please contact Pastors Dawna or Joel at (909) 593-1364 or Chaplain Tom at (909) 392-4354.

If your concern is for another, please obtain that person’s permission to share it on the prayer chain.

The number to call in the case of an after hours, pastoral care emergency is (909) 267-5477. During office hours, please continue to call (909) 593-1364.

*Office hours are Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to noon, and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Meet Our
ULV Summer Service Worker!
Kathleen Cao is a sophomore, political science major at the University of La Verne. In the future she would like to volunteer for the Peace Corps and work for the Department of State as a foreign service officer. Kathleen grew up in the Southern California area and during her two years attending school here, she has fallen in love with the city of La Verne. In her free time she enjoys traveling, reading, and exploring local museums and hiking trails. Kathleen will be splitting her 10 weeks of service between Inland Valley Hope Partners and Peace Camp. Please take time to say hello and welcome Kathleen.

Calling All Graduates!
We want to celebrate with all our graduates—be it high school, college, or advanced degree. Tell us when you or your loved one is graduating, from where, what degree will be received, and future plans (if known). We will print these in the Church Family section of future Intercoms, as well as plan a Senior Blessing in worship for our high school seniors. Please share your information with Dawna Welch at Dawna@LaVerneCOB.org. Dawna can also be reached by calling (909) 593-1364.
All Church BBQ!
June 11 – following 10:00 a.m. worship
On the Patio
The Spiritual Life and Nurture Commission will once again be grillin’ up burgers and hot dogs (there will be vegetarian and vegan burger choices, as well) for this family-style picnic. No collection plate. No agenda. Just time to be together before summer scatters us out and about!

Please bring: Your own table ware and a side dish as designated by your last name:
A-J = Salad: (i.e.; green salad w/ dressing, potato or macaroni salad)
K-S = Side: (i.e.; baked beans, chips & salsa)
T-Z = Dessert (i.e.; fruit or baked goods)

Please bring your dish prepared and ready to serve a minimum of 8 people.

Men-a-logue
June 14, 7:30 p.m.
Church Library
What’s Men-a-logue? The second Wednesday of each month, men are getting together in the church library to share what’s going on in their lives and discuss topics of interest. Guys of all ages are talking about favorite movies, faith, and stupid decisions they’ve made. Interested? Join us at 7:30 p.m.

Extending the Table… Sustainably
On Sunday, April 30, the La Verne Church of the Brethren hosted the annual Sustainability Luncheon. This event has grown into a widely attended celebration of Earth Day and a fundraiser for the Benton and Doris Rhoades Peace Awards, due, in part, to an innovative and wide welcome from Corlan Harrison and her “kitchen crew” volunteers. The meal this year featured a sustainable feast of prepared salads and a salad bar made of local and organic vegetables (some of which were grown by our own congregation), vegetarian soups, and desserts made from fair trade chocolate. Remember, you can extend this celebration of sustainability year round by growing organic vegetables and buying local and fair trade food. Hint: you can purchase fair trade coffee, tea, and chocolate from the youth at the coffee cart on the patio any Sunday.

In addition to the meal, Sarah Hamza, student from the City of Knowledge School, received the Benton and Doris Rhoades Peace Award for her video “All Around Me I See...” Dr. Haleema Shaikley, principal of the City of Knowledge, accepted the award on Sarah’s behalf. The video was played and also featured at the Celebration of the Arts, and a copy of the poem that narrated the video is on the next page.
All Around Me I See...

As I fall asleep at night,
I wake up in a dream of light,
Filled not with bitterness,
But tranquil peace and happiness.
However, when I open my eyes,
No more do I see these lies.

All around me I see,
People dying for nothing but to be free,
People dying for no more that the color of their skin,
As political leaders just stand there and grin.

All around me I see,
People going on rape and murder sprees,
People taken advantage of because of their gender,
As the evil culprit walks away not deservingly punished for being a sex offender.

All around me I see,
All these things that supposedly barely apply to me.
I have never gone through these major things,
All I have gone through are the basic injustices life brings.
That's life; it is unfair.
There is nothing we can do about it so why should we even care to dare.

This is why.

Hear these people as they cry.
Now sit here before me and say that you should not try.

Try to be fair even in simple tasks.
Try to give money to someone in need even if they don’t ask.
Try to be fair to your students if you are a teacher.
Try to treat everyone kindly even if they do not share your physical features.
Try to raise money for refugees so they can get a home and food.
Because five dollars helps more than zero dollars do.
Maybe you can’t start some big political movement,
But overtime little things add up and do cause some improvement.

We cannot sit here and say the world is unjust,
While we do nothing except act in more disgust.
Just because the world is unfair doesn’t mean we can be,
Because everything surrounding us is a cause and effect of the actions of you and me.

One day, as I fall asleep at night,
I dream of a world of peace and light.
But then around me I see,
People uniting and doing big and small things to regain peace,
And I realize no more do I need to dream.

Sarah Hamza
City of Knowledge
Who to Contact

During Sabbatical Weeks

Pastor Susan Boyer is on sabbatical from April 17 to June 19. To cover the administration, pastoral care, and preaching responsibilities of Susan, the Church Board has hired Joel Kline as our Interim Sabbatical Preacher. Joel will be here for 10 weeks. He began on April 12. He is working ¾ time. Joel Kline retired in 2014 after serving in pastoral ministry for 39 years in various Brethren churches, including 12 years in his last pastorate as Senior Pastor at the Highland Church in Elgin, Illinois. Joel is a good theological match for us, and we are grateful he is here with us.

Here is contact information while Susan is on sabbatical:

- If you have an administrative question (facility use, church calendar, etc.), please start by contacting Kelly Whittington in the church office – office@lavernecob.org or (909) 593-1364.
- If you have a pastoral care concern or need, please contact Dawna Welch – dawna@lavernecob.org or (909) 593-1364 (after hours contact is (909) 267-5477) or Joel Kline – joelkline@sbcglobal.net or (909) 593-1364 (after hours contact is (224) 402-0909) or Tom Hostetler -- thostetler@livingathillcrest.org or (909) 392-4354.

Peace Camp, 2017- “Finding Peace”

Monday, July 17 – Friday, July 21
5:30-8:00 p.m.

Peace Camp belongs to all of us. Each individual brings something valuable and important to the process of peacemaking. Through collaboration, understanding, and intentionally working at friendly, non-violent relationships, we can not only learn to enjoy our differences but truly celebrate them!

Peace campers aged Kindergarten to 6th grade will come together from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. the week of July 17 to live, love, and learn the ways of peacemaking while singing, playing, and creating along the way!

Applications became available in the church office in May.
Celebration of the Arts
Once Again a Success!

LVCoB and Hillcrest partnered once again to present the 10th Annual Celebration of the Arts on May 5, 6 & 7, 2017. The Gallery at Hillcrest opened the celebration with an exhibit of 28 artists from the Pomona Valley Art Association, which runs through June 23. The opening was very well attended and featured beautiful photos, paintings, and other works curated by John Blickenstaff, Natalie Titone, & Nicolas White. It was a great start to our weekend celebration.

Saturday at LVCoB the gallery opened at 10:30 a.m. featuring many forms of creative works of 33 artists, including books, paintings, photography, pottery, quilting, & wood carving. The Bonita High School Jazz Band opened our new Saturday outdoor performances playing under rainy skies on the corner of Bonita and E Street. Our own Randy Miller was among the following acts which ended our outdoor session with bagpiper Jim Jenkins.

The afternoon events began as our performances coordinator Deborah Waas directed the Hillcrest choir in the Fellowship Hall. The Claremont Community School of Music was well-represented through the remaining acts. Also included was a spirited performance from the Irish Dimensions Dance Company of Upland. Our hosting of this event and our mission continues to extend our joy to neighboring communities.

The Gallery in the Fellowship Hall was packed with more than 100 visitors during the artist reception Saturday night and also Sunday after worship as Jeff Bird directed the Bonita High Jazz Band for their 10th consecutive year.

Our concerts featuring the elementary school choirs continue to draw over 400 people each. Each concert also showcases acts and people within our community who have chosen to specialize in the performing arts. Stand out acts by Ana Verhoven, Grace Bernard, sixth grade pianist Case Keough, our sanctuary choir, and Jarred Faree elicited great applause.

Special thanks to our MCs Doug Bro, Bob Dyer, and Muir Davis, and our committee for presenting what many have deemed the best celebration to date! Eric Davis (chair), John Blickenstaff, Heidi Brightbill, Doug Bro, Juliet Davis, Muir Davis, Lisa Stamatis, Deborah Stanley, & Deborah Waas.

Also thank you to the church, local businesses, staff, and janitorial support for our wonderful event.
**Spiritual Cinema Circle**

**June 27, 6:30 p.m.**
**Fireside Room**
The June Spiritual Cinema Circle features a mix of five interesting short subjects.

**Ramona**
Ramona, an 80 year old peasant, announces that she is going to die. Her son Carmelo asks her for more time to get together the money for the coffin. The news travels around the town. A lot of people come to say goodbye to her and, in passing, give her messages for their deceased.

**Share**
In the near future, romantic partners John and Abby arrive at the point in their relationship where they must decide whether or not to take it to the next level —by employing a technology that allows them to share their entire life histories with each other.

**Alive to Possibility**
Can one’s perception of a situation change the situation itself? “Alive to Possibility” is the uplifting story of three men from vastly different backgrounds and how each has chosen to be “alive to possibility” when facing the road bumps of life.

**A Strong Beat**
Erin thought her world had ended when her brother Kellen died suddenly at 22. His organs were donated – and Connor received his heart in a transplant. Then Erin and Connor met.

**Towed**
A recent break-up leaves Liza stuck in a rough part of Los Angeles— with no home, no money and seemingly no way forward. Parked in a tow zone and stalked by a persistent tow-truck driver, Liza eventually has no choice but to leave her vehicle behind.

Join Us on Tuesday evening, June 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

**Angels’ Share**
Angels’ Share is a “pub theology” group for Young Adults who relate to the La Verne Church of the Brethren. “Angels” usually gather on the last Friday of the month around matters of faith and an occasional craft brew. (Softer drinks are also imbibed.) For the June dates and locations, please check the Sunday bulletins. To get on the email list or with questions, please contact Jenny Y’Deen at jlydeen@gmail.com.

**ULV Food Network Takes a Break**
The ULV Food Network is on vacation! After sharing a meal with La Verne college students every third Tuesday of the month, we end another successful year of Food Network. Over 1800 plates of food were consumed this school year at our Tuesday night gatherings. The Food Network’s success is attributed to the efforts of many hard-working, ever-reliable, fun-loving, brownie-baking volunteers, who are the heart and soul of the ULV Food Network. Thanks to these volunteers, the students enjoyed home-cooked meals, made with love. These amazing volunteers exemplify, by their actions, the beauty of the La Verne Church of the Brethren. Thank you! We’ll see you in September!
I did my fair share of research on the political issue that was chosen for this year’s Christian Citizenship Seminar—Native American Land Rights and Food Security—months before the trip took place. So content-wise, I thought I was well-prepared, until I heard from our speakers. A citizen of the Navajo Nation, also known by their preferred name Din’e, spoke with us and described giant fracking machines drilling into and mining on their land, setting up fracking stations as close as three hundred feet from any residence, and tearing up the dirt roads along the way. This member of the Din’e told stories about their struggles to survive—about how the nearest grocery store is about sixty miles away. And even if everyone had reliable transportation, the roads could be so destroyed by fracking companies that they are impassable. She told us how most people on the reservation shop at neighboring convenience stores and gas stations which were much closer, residing only a few miles away at most. Unhealthy and non-nutritious foods such as fast food, chips, and soda are the cheapest and most accessible forms of food. Conversely, there has been an increased rate of diabetes and obesity within not just the Din’e Nation, but in all Native Nations. As a result, the average Native lifespan has decreased to approximately fifty-six years. At this—the social injustice of it all—I was angry, even disappointed. I actually thought that we’d come a long way since the European Americans invaded the Native people’s homeland all those centuries ago, when really we’ve only come about several paces since then. Native citizens, tribe members, and nations alike still live in poverty, poorly nurtured soils, food deserts, and/or food insecure household. I’m sick of everyone talking, talking, talking about these issues—and not doing anything about it. As much as I find political history to be interesting, I’d much rather be talking about movies, TV shows, books, video games—I’d much rather hang out with my friends and family, instead of stuffing all this information into other people’s thick skulls. I want politicians, senators, congressmen, and myself to shut up about these issues of food insecurity, poverty, and Native American Rights, and finally do something about it. With that being said, it is crucial, now more than ever, that we work together and help each other—be there for one another, in the hopes of a better future. We are more than capable of learning from our mistakes in the past and creating a better road for the long run. I think it’s also important to keep in mind that the Native people are not a charity case—they’re human beings, so we shouldn’t look down on them pitifully and lend them a helping hand out of that pity. We should help each other simply out of kindness and compassion—after all, friendship, loyalty, and unity, I think, are a few qualities which would make the United States a strong and peaceful country. And peace does exist—unity and teamwork exist. I know, because I’ve seen it during this year’s Christian Citizenship Seminar.

Thank you for sending our group to CCS this year. It meant so much that you believe in us.
I have been asked to tell you about being the choir director for the Hillcrest Singers which I am so happy to do, because this relationship brings me a tremendous amount of reward and joy! But in order to talk about working with the Hillcrest Singers, I need to talk a bit about the last 60-some-odd years! As Holly Near so aptly put it in her song, “Unity,” “I’m riding the tail of a mighty whale, and my past has brought me, brilliantly, to here.

This journey – of faith and passion and fun – is solidly grounded in music….particularly singing, and it began in my youngest years – singing with my family – before meals, at bedtime, around campfires, in the car, at family gatherings, while doing chores, and at church! In those very young years I was learning, on a visceral level, that singing was fun; it created a bond between those of us who were singing, helped express feelings, made any job easier, and any car ride shorter! I also learned that songs were immeasurably influential and impacted my personal growth, my relationships, my sense of well-being, and my faith! The seeds were being planted that music had power to express love: “Roses love sunshine, violets love dew; angels in heaven know I love you…”; power to guide my growing faith: “Don’t build your house on the sandy land…..”; power to engage my senses: “sweet the evening air of May”; power to teach, ie. Vowels: “ba-bay, be-bee”; or languages: “Kum Ba Ya”; and songs were fun: Little Peter Rabbit.

In my Music Education studies I read much research supporting that very thing I had learned growing up - basically that music-rich experiences - singing, listening, and moving - brings profound benefit to all other aspects of learning and development; it gives you a better understanding of yourself and enhances how you think and express yourself.

For many years I nurtured all those benefits with elementary age children – in the classroom and in choirs. I loved it – I found terrific reward in giving children those magic music experiences that could help them get in touch with themselves and with the wonders of the world around them. I now love that former students, and parents of students, still stop me to express gratitude for the difference music has made in the lives of their families.

Today I am so fortunate to nurture all those benefits with the Hillcrest Singers! The Hillcrest Singers is a group of 44 70, 80, and 90-year old remarkable individuals, some of whom have been in choirs since their childhood, several who directed choirs of their own, and some of whom only recently decided to explore the joys of singing. They rehearse once a week for an hour and a half. There are individuals who come into the room with the help of walkers – one came in a wheelchair for awhile; a few singers struggle to see the music; one singer rewrites all her lyrics in large print so she can read them and learns the music by rote. Last fall one of our singers had a mild heart attack and one primary concern he told the Dr. was that he had to sing in a concert the following week (he made it to the concert!). You can be sure that all of these singers endure some degree of pain or discomfort – but they come! And for that hour and a half, they set all that aside and go about making music! It is hard work to learn the music – and remember it – especially when there is syncopation involved! Always there is a palpable atmosphere of enjoyment that is helium to my spirit! Their positive attitudes inspire me, and their loyal commitment indicates that they find something valuable in this choir.

Clearly, the power of music does not diminish with age! What I learned as a child, and taught to my children and students, is equally as valuable for seniors! All of that about music increasing self-understanding, stimulating new learning, expressing emotions, and creating bonds is still spot on. At any age we strive to identify and express our emotions; our lives change, and we struggle to stay in touch with our changing identities; we reach out to learn new things and expand our horizons; we desire to bond with other people, and we yearn for a deep connection with our God. Music helps!!
Summer Camp Schedule

Summer Camp dates for 2017 have been announced, and registration forms are already available!!! See schedule below.

Camp La Verne is the outdoor ministry of the southern region of the Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren. Located near Angelus Oaks, CA and adjacent to Jenks Lake, Camp La Verne welcomes campers from grades 3 through 12, whether or not they participate in a Church of the Brethren congregation.

Fees for a week of camp are $250 if postmarked by June 15 or $350 if postmarked thereafter. There is a special discount for first time campers: $125 for the whole week!! Camperships are available for active La Verne COB families who pre-register with the church office. Contact Dawna Welch at (909) 593-1364 for more information.

It’s not too early to begin planning for a week at Camp La Verne this Summer! Make friends. Make memories.

For more about Camp La Verne, visit www.camplaverne.org

Junior Camp, entering 3rd - 5th grade, July 16-22
Director: Janet Hart Short

Senior High Camp, entering 9th - 12th grade, July 23-29
Directors: Erica Brown and Kevin Schatz

Junior High Camp, entering 5th - 8th grade, July 30-August 5
Directors: Ben Sankey and Chris Davis

Registration forms are available in the church office.

What’s Happening in June in Children’s Sunday School?
June 4 is the last day of Sunday school for the summer. Join us for a farewell celebration during Sunday School in the upstairs classrooms above the library!

Sara Davis, Muir Davis, and Dawna Welch will provide leadership and treats!

Friendship Class
June 4
9:15 a.m. in the Social Hall
The Friendship Class is an adult Sunday School class. It explores the Bible and topics that range from water to the paradigm shift. The conversation is thoughtful, and the teacher is excellent. This is the last class of the school year. Don’t miss it!
I have a lot more things to tell you, but I’d rather not use pen and ink. I hope to be there soon in person and have a heart-to-heart talk. Peace to you. The friends here say hello. Greet our friends there by name. 3 John 13-14 The Message

2017 Workcamp Schedule

To see details and registration information, visit [http://www.brethren.org/workcamps/](http://www.brethren.org/workcamps/)

**Junior High Youth**  Completed 6th – 8th grade

- June 24-28 New Community Project - Harrisonburg, Virginia
- July 16-20 Baltimore, Maryland (CLOSED)
- July 18-22 Roanoke, Virginia
- July 24-28 Milford, Indiana – Camp Mack

**Senior High Youth**  Completed 9th grade – age 19

- June 7-13 ECHO - N. Fort Myers, Florida
- June 8-14 Santa Ana, California
- June 16-22 New Meadows, Idaho – Camp Stover
- June 21-27 Lybrook, New Mexico
- July 2-8 Flint, Michigan
- July 2-8 Waco, Texas – Family Abuse Center (CLOSED)
- July 10-16 Knoxville, Tennessee
- July 16-22 Perryville, Arkansas Heifer Intl’ (CLOSED)
- July 23-29 Perryville, Arkansas Heifer Intl’
- July 24-30 Washington, DC
- July 30-August 5 Portland, Oregon
- August 5-12 Conon City, Colorado – New Horizon Ministries

**Intergenerational**  Completed 6th grade and older

- June 12-17 Hooversville, PA – Camp Harmony
- July 15-22 BRF – Lewiston, Maine

**Young Adult**  Ages 18-35

- June 1-11 Nepal
- July 10-13 We Are Able Assistance – Elgin, Illinois

**We Are Able**  Ages 16-30, intellectually disabled youth and young adults

- July 10-13 We Are Able - Elgin, Illinois
Special Offering
for Denominational Ministries
The Pentecost offering is our next opportunity to give to the denomination. When you participate in the Pentecost Offering you support transformative ministries that provide resources and events for congregations, deacons, and people of all ages. You help sustain partnerships with brothers and sisters in Sudan, Haiti, Brazil, Nigeria, India, and the Dominican Republic. You help ensure that important leadership-training is maintained and expanded. You undergird service-oriented ministries like Brethren Volunteer Service and work camps. You help ensure the faith formation of a new generation. On Sunday, June 4 there will be an envelope in your bulletin for the Pentecost Offering. Make checks out to La Verne Church of the Brethren and write denomination in the memo line. You can give to the denomination anytime through the La Verne Church of the Brethren, just be sure to mark your giving accordingly.

Shared Ministries
June 21, 1:30 p.m.
Fireside Room
Shared Ministry members visit those in the hospital, Woods Health Center, South Woods, or those who have a special need. They each give a week of their time, on a through-the-year-rotation basis, to visit and be available to you if you face a personal or family problem. If you think you would like to join this fabulous team, please let Susan Boyer (susan@laverneCOB.org) know. Contact the Church Office at (909) 593-1364 for the currently scheduled member of the Shared Ministry team. Members of this team are: Gary Carl, Millie Davis, Julie Kurtz, Letha & Willard Ressler, Marian Vroman, Paul & Opal Wilkinson and Judy Woodruff.

Support Inland Valley Hope Partners - Food Bank
Help feed our neighbors in need by bringing a non-perishable food to church on Sunday. You can place your donation in the big pink bin in the narthex. Your contributions are delivered to the Beta Center of Inland Valley Hope Partners, an agency our congregation helped create, which has been feeding the hungry and sheltering the homeless since 1968. Emergency Food Services are offered to no, very low, and low income families and individuals at the Beta Program Center which provides 5 days of basic food needs. Donations of boxed cereal, peanut butter, dry and canned beans, and canned fruit are always appreciated!

Fellowship Visitors
June 14, 9:30 a.m.
Church Library
Mary Wright Edelman said, “Service is the rent we pay for being. It is the purpose of life, and not something you do in your spare time.” Want to be of service? Join the Fellowship Visitors. They give about two hours on the second Wednesday of the month to visit with people in our church community who are unable to be in worship on Sunday morning. Visitors go out in pairs. People who visit are as enriched by the experience as those visited. The next meeting time is Wednesday, June 14, at 9:30 a.m. in the Church Library. Since this is the last Fellowship Visitors in this school year, the group will be going out to lunch together, after visiting. Please call (909) 593-1364 or email Julie Kurtz (ztruk@roadrunner.com) if you would like to be part of this ministry.
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Serve with PSWD on Brethren Disaster Ministries

October 15-28
This year the Pacific Southwest District has an opportunity to volunteer with Brethren Disaster Ministries from October 15-28. You can volunteer for one or two weeks, but consideration will be given to those who volunteer for two weeks because it costs the program as much to send you for one week as two. The location of the project work has yet to be determined. You don't need to be a carpenter or have any building experience to be a great help to this rebuilding effort. There is always something you can do to help, and you might even learn a valuable skill while helping others. We will be housed in a local church and will be going out into the neighborhood each day for our day's work. If you are interested please contact John Blickenstaff atblick55@verizon.net.
"The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want." - Psalm 23: 1

The 23rd Psalm is such a fixture at funeral and memorial services that we may associate it first and most with grief and occasions of mourning. Which is fine.

But it is too rich for one setting or a single meaning.

Another is suggested by the Jerusalem Bible's translation of the familiar, "I shall not want," as "I lack nothing."

"I lack nothing." I have enough. With God, I am enough. Right now. Right here.

A lot of missteps in life can be traced to a gnawing fear, a corrosive feeling that, "I am not enough." Inadequate, lacking, insufficient, overlooked and under-valued — not enough. If I get this, then I'll be enough. If I attain that, then I'll be enough. If they honor me, then I'll be enough. All sorts of voices — parent's voices, advertiser's voices, coach's voices, the devil's voice — whisper to us, hiss at us, and play on our fears — "You are not enough."

These are lies. With God, you are enough.

"I lack nothing," sings the Psalmist. What boldness, joy, life. With you, O Lord, I am enough, and more than enough. My cup is full to overflowing.

By the grace of God, you are enough. Just as you are. Trust this, rise up and live.

Events and Activities in June:
SUNDAY 4:00 P.M. CHAPEL VESPERS
  4 – Rev. Randy Gardner, Purpose Church
      Annie Green, accompanist
  11 – Patricia Childress
      Mary Kay Ogden, accompanist
  18 – FATHERS DAY HOLIDAY – no Vespers
  25 – ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE – Maurey Smeltzer Lounge
      Virginia Stark, accompanist

(The Vespers Service is broadcast on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:30 on the Hillcrest Channel.)

STUDIES LED BY PASTOR TOM

Everyone is welcome to attend Pastor Tom's studies at Hillcrest:

- A weekly bible study of "Romans" Thursday, 9:30 a.m. in the Galen Walker Board Room.
- A men's bible study of "2 Peter" meets on Tuesdays at 7:45 a.m. in the private dining room.
- Pastor Tom leads a study of the Psalms at Woods Baker Lounge on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

Dial-A-Devotion is available 24 hours a day at 392-4301.
**Church of the Brethren Annual Conference**
**June 28-July 2—Grand Rapids, MI**

The theme for this year’s Annual Conference is *Risk Hope* based on Hebrews 10:23. Our delegates are **Eric Bishop, Jodi Erlinger-Irwin and Jim Irwin**. Delegate and non-delegate registration for Annual Conference began March 1 online at [www.brethren.org/ac](http://www.brethren.org/ac). The moderator for this year’s conference is Carol Scheppard of Mount Sidney, Virginia. Last year two queries came to Annual Conference regarding what to do about pastors who perform same gender weddings. The Leadership Team of the denomination in consultation with the Council of District Executives were assigned to bring clarity to the authority of Annual Conference and districts regarding the accountability of ministers, congregations and districts. That report along with four items of new business and four other items of old business are now available at: [http://www.brethren.org/ac/2017/business/](http://www.brethren.org/ac/2017/business/).

**Watch the Annual Conference Business Sessions and Worship Services**

All Annual Conference business sessions and worship services will be streamed over the internet. The schedule for all web broadcasts is as follows (*all times are Eastern Time*):

**Wednesday, June 28**
7:00 – 8:30 a.m. Opening Worship

**Thursday, June 29**
8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Morning Business Session
2:00 – 4:30 p.m. Afternoon Business Session
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Evening Worship

**Friday, June 30**
8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Morning Business Session
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Evening Worship

**Saturday, July 1**
8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Morning Business Session
2:00 – 4:30 p.m. Afternoon Business Session
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Evening Worship

**Sunday, July 2**
8:30 – 10:30 a.m. Closing Annual Conference
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Sunday Worship

Visit the webcast page at [www.brethren.org/ac/webcasts](http://www.brethren.org/ac/webcasts) for additional information and instructions. You can join in at any time, or review any previous webcast whenever you wish. You can also comment and chat online with the webcast coordinator during live webcasts.

**Big Rapids Song & Story Fest**
**July 2-8, 2017 - Camp Brethren Heights**
The 21st annual Song & Story Fest will be July 2-8, 2017 at Camp Brethren Heights near Rodney, Michigan, one and a half hours straight north of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Annual Conference ends in Grand Rapids on July 2 at noon, and Song and Story Fest begins that evening with supper. The theme of this year’s Fest is *Rafting in the Hollow of God’s Hands*. Storytellers this year are **Susan Boyer**, Kathy Guisewite, Matt Guynn, Jonathan Hunter, Lee Krahenbuhl, and Jim Lehman. Campfire, workshop and concert musicians are Greg & Rhonda Baker, Jeffrey Faus & Jenny Stover-Brown, Louise Brodie, Friends with the Weather, Bill Joliff, Tim & Byron Joseph, Peg Lehman, Lilly Nuss and Mike Stern. You can find registration information on line at: [http://oneearthpeace.org/song-story-fest-2017](http://oneearthpeace.org/song-story-fest-2017). After June 1 the cost goes up.
**Church Women United**

**June 2, 9:30 a.m.**

**Trinity United Methodist Church**

Church Women United will hold a spiritual retreat Friday, June 2, at Trinity United Methodist Church, 676 N. Gibbs Ave. Pomona. The 9:30 a.m. program will be led by Ardelia Rhone. Contact Margaret Coston at (909) 392-4364 for carpooling.

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**BMC Leadership Meets in St. Paul, MN**

On April 7-9, the Board of the Brethren Mennonite Council for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Interests (BMC) met in St. Paul, MN with leadership from Pink Menno and Supportive Communities Network (SCN) pastors to plan strategically for the future. As reported in the BMC NewsNet: *Beth Zemsky, a local facilitator with extensive experience in movement building and analyses, deepened the group’s understanding about the dynamics of social change, the strength of intersectional work, and the importance of a clear and focused vision. Her presentation and challenge sparked spirited and reflective conversation as well as specific agendas, putting us in a good space for work in Orlando and Grand Rapids this summer.*

La Verne Church of the Brethren supports BMC through its Peace and Justice budget and its participation as a founding member of SCN. For more information and to see how you can be involved, go to [www.bmcglt.org](http://www.bmcglt.org).

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**National Older Adult Conference (NOAC)**

**Inspiration 2017**

**September 4-8, 2017**

**Lake Junaluska, NC**

National Older Adult Conference has a new name – Inspiration 2017. The theme for this year’s conference will be “Generations.” Preachers will be Rodger Nishioka, pastor for Adult Educational Ministries at Village Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, Kan., Susan Boyer, senior pastor at La Verne (Calif.) Church of the Brethren, and Wendy McFadden, publisher of Brethren Press and communications for the Church of the Brethren. Stephen Breck Reid, professor of Christian Scriptures at Baylor University’s George W. Truett Theological Seminary and former academic dean at Bethany Theological Seminary, will lead daily Bible Studies. This year’s keynote speakers are authors Missy Buchanan, Peggy Reiff Miller, along with Jim Wallis, president and founder of Sojourners and editor-in-chief of Sojourners magazine. Registration opened online on February 20. Visit [http://www.brethren.org/noac/](http://www.brethren.org/noac/) for more information.