

The Visitor

A publication of
Elkhart City Church of the Brethren

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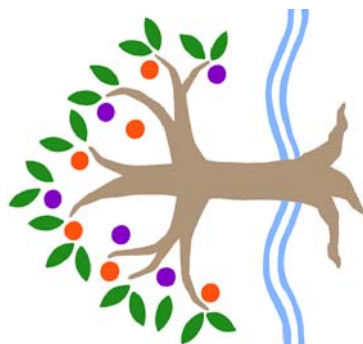
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Director of Nurture
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The Visitor is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of church programs and to report news about the people of Elkhart City Church

Elkhart City Church of the Brethren
1716 Benham Avenue
Elkhart, IN 46516



• Rooted in God • Growing in Jesus • Bearing Fruit in the Spirit

March 2004

WE WALK BY FAITH

Our land...
Our promise...
Our future...
...a cornerstone of a whole new world.
Eph 2:19-22

Future home of Elkhart City Church of the Brethren



The Cornerstone Committee has been working diligently towards the construction of a new church home at CR 113. We worked on the Mission and vision Statements and the information has been passed on to Church Board. We anticipate meeting with each of the Commissions using the Mission and Vision work we have compiled to establish a long-range plan for our church.



In addition to our regular meeting times, we have recently visited 3 churches in the area. We will be visiting additional churches during the winter and spring months to obtain ideas and information that will meet our church's vision and mission when we move into our new location. Photos are being taken of various areas of each church and a scrapbook compiled along with written data to go with pictures that broaden our ideas for a church design.

Your ideas and comments are welcome! Please place them in any of the committee member's folders and they will be shared with all our committee members at the next meeting.

Your prayers for us are appreciated and we hope you will continue as —

We Walk By Faith

Our Land... Our Promise... Our future...

A Cornerstone of a Whole New World.

Maryann Zerbe, Chair
Cornerstone Committee

Nurture Commission is excited about the responses we received to the Ministry Team Searches on behalf of both our Nurture Commission and the Hospitality Team.

The "All Church Events" Food Team has 7 members under the mentorship of Jan Birr, who is already coordinating dates with Worship, Nurture and Witness Commissions. Myrtis Justiniano will be the Team leader for this group.

At the present time the "All Church Events" Activities team received 5 responses including the Mentor for this team, Judy DePue. This team is looking for persons who feel called to work with the Summer Picnic and Fun Fest project, and the Advent project.

The Hospitality (Greeters & Follow-up Visitor's) team has 13 team members signed up. Members on this team will soon be hearing from their mentor Jan Swigert and team leader Connie West to begin their scheduling and service.

The Fellowship Time Team, as of last Sunday, has 2 members ready to participate under the mentorship of Paulajean Ritzmann. With just 2 persons feeling called to help with the Fellowship Time Team, there will be some changes in how things operate. We will continue to serve drinks every Sunday, beginning in March. This includes coffee, hot water, and 1 juice box for each child. As Fellowship Time Team Leader from March through May, Roger Neal will prepare and serve a food snack one Sunday each month, including the necessary set up and clean up. If anyone or any group in the congregation wishes to provide, set out, serve and clean up a food snack, for any other Sunday, they need to contact Roger in advance to arrange a date and find out more specifics.

Anyone who still wishes to turn in their name to serve on one of these teams, is invited to give their information to the team mentor listed above or to the Nurture Commission.

Please note, that if you wish to sign up later in the year, your participation will be welcome.



Church of the Brethren Newsline

The following articles appeared in "Newsline" and have been edited to fit this page. To view them in their entirety, you may receive Newsline by e-mail, by calling 1-800-323-8039, ext. 263, or write CoBNNews@aol.com. Newsline is also available at www.brethren.org and is archived at www.wfn.org. Also see Photo Journal at www.brethren.org/pjournal/index.htm for photo coverage of recent events. Newsline is produced by Walt Wiltschek, manager of the General Board's News Services. Newsline stories may be reprinted provided that Newsline is cited as the source.

Global Food Crisis Fund allocates \$24,000 for Rural Service Center in India.

A grant of \$24,000 from the Church of the Brethren General Board's Global Food Crisis Fund has been approved to support the Rural Service Center in Ankleshwar, India.

The center helps provide sustainable agriculture to rural communities through soil conservation development, tree plantations, land leveling, and biogas production. It grew out of a ministry by Church of the Brethren mission workers and continues to serve communities that include both members of the Church of North India and the India Brethren.

Church World Service (CWS) is preparing to assist refugees from Haiti, in response to the escalating political and humanitarian crisis there. In addition, "Haitians are hungry," said a CWS press release. A worsening food crisis was exacerbated by floods in December. CWS has had a long-standing presence in Haiti and supports Haitian asylum seekers and detainees in the US.

"**Mission Alive 2005!**" denominational missions conference is planned for April 2005.

A Church of the Brethren missions conference, "Mission Alive 2005!" is being planned for April 1-3, 2005, in Goshen, Ind.

The meeting is designed to be "a national Church of the Brethren missions conference to energize and equip ourselves to faithfully share Christ's love with the world," according to the Mission and Ministries Planning Council (MMPC), which initi-

ated the event along with the General Board. One of MMPC's roles is to encourage discussion about mission among the Church of the Brethren membership.

A steering committee of Brethren with experience or interest in mission has been named to shape the event: Carolyn Schrock, Mountain Grove, Mo.; Larry Dentler, East Berlin, Pa.; Carol Spicher Waggy, Goshen, Ind.; James F. Myer, Lititz, Pa.; and Merv Keeney, the General Board's executive director of Global Mission Partnerships.

Church of the Brethren General Board Prayer Calendar

Week of March 7

Pray for the Church of the Brethren General Board as it prepares to meet in Illinois, that it might seek the mind of Christ as it makes decisions and looks toward the future.

Week of March 14

Ask that peace and healing might come to the war-torn Middle East, and pray for those bearing the light of Jesus Christ in that region as instruments of service and reconciliation.

Week of March 21

Join in prayer as the church marks the One Great Hour of Sharing, blessing all those who truly continue the work of Jesus through word and deed.

Week of March 28

Express gratitude for those who go out to serve in the wake of disasters, making Jesus' presence real by helping people rebuild homes and lives that have been torn apart.

With a theme of *Stay, Remain, Watch, Pray*, Pastor David and The Worship Commission have put together a Lenten Calendar for daily use during this Lenten Season. Each day consists of a Reading and a Reflection to further your spiritual walk.

The Lenten Calendars will be available to be picked up at Seventh Day Adventist on Sundays. Those desiring a booklet, but unable to get one at church, please call the church office.

Sometimes the promise of spring is the only thing that gets me through the winter days of February and March. The anticipation of warmer weather and new growth makes it possible to put up with one more freezing day. This is a little like what the spiritual walk through Lent is like: the assurance of Easter and resurrection is how we can face the bleakness of Jesus' suffering and death. Spring flowers have long been a symbol of resurrection and new life, as well as a beautiful reminder of spring. You will have

the opportunity again this year to order flowers to decorate our chancel on Easter morning; your past enthusiasm has made for a fragrant and lovely setting for our Easter celebration.

Order forms will be available beginning in March, and you may place your orders throughout the month. As in previous years, there will be a place on the order form which you may use to designate your flower or flowers as a memorial, or to honor someone special to you. These names will be printed in special to you. Sunday. Please consider this as a way in which you can share your knowledge of the

resurrection with our church family, and thank you in advance for your generous response.

Rosanna McFadden
for Worship Commission



LENT



Birthdays

1	Helen Stout
1	Pauline Arnold
2	Mary Lou Martin
3	Ted Noffsinger
4	Lee Markley
4	Darren Vance
8	Marjorie Kirkdorffer
8	Katy McFadden
13	Joe Vance
16	Frances Billet
18	John Berkebile
21	Betty Yoder
23	Norma Pletcher
23	Walt Gilliland
27	David Hoke
30	Kim Ellis
30	Laurie Arnold

Anniversaries

- 8 Richard & Eileen Rohrer

Bloopers...

From a church postcard reminder in Sharon, Pennsylvania

We will meet as a property committee on Wednesday at 7:00 a.m. Hope to see you Tuesday.



Eileen Rohrer wishes to thank the Overcomer's Class for the beautiful tulips. They have helped brighten her days while she is recovering at home from back pain.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Your prayers, cards, gifts, visits and calls in response to my unexpected open heart surgery in January were overwhelming. Thank you all very much!

Also, thanks to the Overcomer's class for the beautiful blooming tulips. Praise the Lord!
Imogene Rothermel

In our thoughts and prayers...

John Zerbe... had back surgery on February 10. He is recuperating at home

Dave Eis...had stomach reconstruction surgery on February 19. He was discharged from the hospital on Wednesday, February 25.

Eileen Rohrer... is still recuperating at home from several health issues.

Beth Sternberg...had been a patient at St. Joseph Hospital in South Bend due to pneumonia. She has now returned to Holy Cross Rehab Center to room 1E.

Ruth Bibbee... has completed her series of chemotherapy treatments. Ruth also suffered the loss of her sister in Ohio last week.



District Connection

GOOD \$\$\$ NEWS: While we are waiting an official year-end financial report, the preliminary report indicates that we have ended 2003 with an excess income over expense of \$2500+. You made it happen and we thank those congregations and individuals who made special gifts during the year. We anticipate your continued generosity as we move into 2004. Carrying the 2003 excess into the current budget year will help to relieve the unbalanced budget approved by district conference in 2004.

TOO BUSY TO STOP BY THE RESOURCE CENTER?

The Resource Center is only a phone call, or e-mail, away! Just call or e-mail Ann McNerney, Resource Coordinator, and share your concerns, ministry interests, or specific requests with her. We are here to support you and equip you for ministry in any way we can. Please don't hesitate to contact Ann at any time at 888-240-8669, 574-773-3149, or aemcnerney@aol.com.

2003-2004 Resource Center Catalog The new "2003-2004 Resource Center Catalog" is available at the Resource Center. Please contact the District Office if you would like to have a copy mailed to you. It is available in the standard printed version and also on CD (both are free). The catalog is also now published on the District Website where you can search by topic all the items available at the Resource Center.

WEB SITE DIRECTORY—The Resource Center Web Site Directory is a listing of over 200 Christian related sites that can be accessed. You can access the directory at the nidcob.org home page or from the Resource Center page.

2004 District Prayer Calendar

- 3/07—General Board (meeting 13-15)
3/14—Mt. Pleasant, ABC (Board meets 19-21)
3/21—Bethany & Community Church of Waterford
3/28—On Earth Peace (Board Meets 4/16-17)

NOAC (National Older Adult Conference) - September 6-10 at Lake Junaluska, N.C. Registration details will be available soon. Plans are in the works to once again have a bus going from the District to NOAC. Information is available in the tub in the foyer, or please contact the District Office at 574-773-3149 or Sandy@nidcob.org.

DYSCO stands for District Youth Serving Christ and consists of youth who are interested in coordinating activities for the youth of the Northern Indiana District.

DYSCO Youth Cabinet

- Kelly Mast (Goshen City)
- Nick Kauffman (Goshen City)
- Kayla Milleman (Bremen)
- Deanna Reimer (New Paris)
- **Stacey Rogers (Elkhart City)**
- Katie Hollenberg (Union Center)
- Daniel Stichter (Camp Creek)
- Jenn Bowers (Beacon Heights)
- Kelly Miller (Middlebury)
- Keith Carter (Goshen City) District Youth Coordinator
- Ruth Dilling (North Winona) Adult Advisor

Corner Camp Mack



P.O. Box 158,
Milford, IN 46542
phone: 574-658-4831
fax: 574-658-4765
campmack@npcc.net
www.campmack.org

DON'T MISS THE APRIL 1 DISCOUNT DATE FOR REGISTERING SUMMER CAMPERS!

Please turn in your completed registration forms and your share of the fee to the church office by March 21. The church will then write one check to Camp Mack for all the campers. All the registration forms, church form and check will be sent together to the camp by April 1. **The \$20.00 discount ends April 1. After that date campers will be accepted for the full fee.**

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! We especially invite all available adults to attend our Volunteer Work Camps: March 22-24 and April 26-28. Call the Camp at 574-658-4831 to volunteer. No charge.

QUILTERS, REGISTER NOW FOR THE SPRING QUILTING RETREAT, APRIL 16-18. Beginners, intermediate and experienced quilters are invited. Cost is \$78.00.

WOW! LOOK WHAT'S NEW! - MOTHER/ DAUGHTER DOLL WEEK-END IS APRIL 30-MAY 1: Bring your favorite doll to camp and learn the fine art of restoring and preserving it for future generations. Also enjoy afternoon tea with a selection of chocolate, time to make crafts together and evening campfire. Fee: \$90 for mother and daughter; \$40 each for additional daughters or grandma.

ENCOURAGE YOUR PASTOR TO SIGN UP FOR THE SPRING PASTOR'S RETREAT! Dates are April 29-30. This is a gift from Camp to Pastors.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please pray for:
Children making summer camp decisions
Camp's staff and volunteers.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:
Summer Camp Directors' Training March 13
Birdwatcher's Retreat May 6-8
Seasoned Citizens' Retreat (M-Th) May 10-13

A quiet Place quote

"It requires a lot of inner solitude and silence to become aware of these divine movements. God does not shout, scream or push."
— Henri Nouwen



Witness Commission

Witness Special Giving

(as of January 31, 2004)

2¢ a Meal	\$	101.21
Baldwin Missionary	\$	35.00
Church Community Services	\$	80.00
Soup of Success	\$	<u>15.00</u>
Total above budget giving	\$	231.21

Stewardship Commission

Financial Statistics through: January 31, 2004

General Fund

Year to Date Income	\$	12,011.54
Expenses	\$	<u>12,369.17</u>
Net Loss	\$	(357.63)

Average Attendance

Worship: 96 Church School: 75

Building Fund Donations (To-date)

Walk by Faith (w/Interest)	\$	413,853.72
Bldg. Sale proceeds (w/Interest)	\$	<u>95,468.31</u>
Total New Location	\$	509,322.03

Other Stewards News

A new computer was installed in the church office on February 16. It will provide a more efficient means of operation for both Pastor David and Ginny.

Youth

- ♣ The Youth will be studying Psalm 63 and John 6 in preparation for Youth Sunday.
- ♣ March 12th—13th 30 Hour Famine at the McFadden's
- ♣ March 21st—27th—Christian Citizenship Seminar in New York City and Washington, D.C. John Berkebile, Katy McFadden and Stacey Rodgers will be attending.

Church Women United

Church Women United will be starting the Lenten Coffee programs on Monday, March 1. The time is 9:00 a.m. and the location is the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 3300 Benham Ave. Each Monday there will be a different speaker. Please join women of about 25 area churches as we worship together during this Lenten season.

Frances Billet

- March 1 World Day of Prayer
"In Faith, Women Shape the Future"
- March 8 Rev. Hudson, EGH Chaplin
- March 15 Debbie Rank, Deaconess
- March 22 Jeni Hiett Umble, CCS
- March 29 Judy JcDowell, CROP
- April 5 Anne Girton Kumeh—Pastor
Broadway Christian Parish, S. Bend

March 2004



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 4:30 Overcomer's @ MCL	3 9:00 Volunteer Fellowship 6:30 Lenten Study SDA 6:30 Children's choir 7:30 Adult choir	4 7:00 Lenten Study Billet 7:00 Lenten Study Markley 7:00 Cornerstone committee	5	6
7 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Church School <i>Adult choir singing</i> 5:30 Lenten Study Vardaman	8	9	10 6:00 Steward's Commission 6:00 Children's Choir 6:00 Lenten Study SDA 7:00 Church Board	11 7:00 Lenten Study Billet 7:00 Lenten Study G Heeter	12	13
14 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Church School <i>Children's choir singing</i> 5:30 Lenten Study Vardaman	15 7:00 Witness Commission 7:00 Nurture Commission 7:00 Cornerstone Committee	16	17 Junior High at SOS 6:30 Lenten Study SDA 6:30 Children's Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	18 7:00 Lenten Study Billet 7:00 Lenten Study Markley 7:00 Worship Commission	19	20
21 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Church School <i>Adult choir singing</i> 5:30 Lenten Study Vardaman	22	23	24 6:30 Lenten Study SDA 6:30 Children's Choir 7:00 Men's Chorus	25 7:00 Lenten Study Billet 7:00 Lenten Study G Heeter 7:00 Worship Commission	26	27
28 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Church School <i>Men's chorus singing</i> 5:30 Lenten Study Vardaman	29	30	31 6:30 Lenten Study SDA 6:30 Children's Choir 7:30 Adult Choir			