

The Visitor

A publication of

Creekside Church of the Brethren

Office:

1716 Benham Ave.
Elkhart, IN 46516
574/ 293-0886

Worship location:

Seventh Day Adventist
23818 CR 10
Elkhart, IN

website:

www.creeksideconnected.com

David Bibbee

Pastor

E-mail: pastordavid@creeksideconnected.com

Ginny Haney

Administrative Assistant & Editor

E-mail: office@creeksideconnected.com

Jean Mann

Director of Nurture & Education

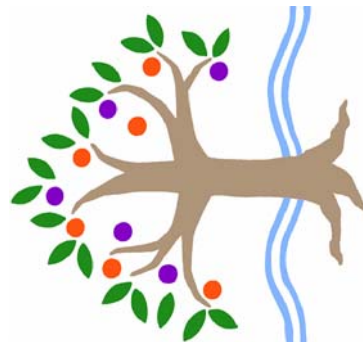
E-mail: jmann@creeksideconnected.com

The Visitor is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of church programs and to report news about the people of Creekside Church.

Creekside Church of the Brethren

1716 Benham Avenue

Elkhart, IN 46516



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

April 2005

Holy Humor Sunday

Jesus said to his disciples at the Last Supper, "These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full." (John 15:11). You must remember that these words were coming from someone who knew he would soon be beaten and hung on a cross to die. When he walked on earth, Jesus was a joyful teacher and healer, and after crucifixion, he was joyful triumphant Risen Christ. After the crucifixion, the resurrection and the Resen Christ's many appearances to his disciples led to an explosion of joy and celebration throughout the land.

"The custom of Easter Monday and Bright Sunday celebrations were rooted in the musings of early church theologians that God played a practical joke on Satan by raising Jesus from the dead. Easter was 'God's supreme joke played on death.'"

"*Risus paschalis*—the Easter laugh,' the early theologians called it. In 1988, observing that the celebration of Jesus' resurrection has been sorely neglected by 20th-century Christianity,

The Fellowship of Merry Christians began encouraging member churches and prayer groups to resurrect the old Christian custom of Easter Monday or "Bright Sunday" celebrations, as the early Greek Christians called it."

The *Holy Humor Sunday* services are bringing back large crowds to churches on a Sunday when church attendance typically drops dramatically. Churches are discovering that one day to celebrate Jesus' resurrection is not enough, so fun-filled celebrations on Holy Humor Sunday have become a tradition in many churches.

Creekside Church has begun to follow this tradition of continued celebration into the Sunday following Easter. We invite you to participate in this celebration on **Sunday, April 3**. Come and see the unexpected ways in which God can work in our lives. Think of joys you could share with the congregation, and expect some surprises in the worship service!

Quoted excerpts taken from www.joyfulnoiseletter.com



MAY 1ST 2005 FELLOWSHIP TEAM EVENT

Each one of us have certain things we especially enjoy doing,
 something that gives us energy, that refreshes us,
 something we love to spend time at.



It may be something we do with others, with family, friends, or even strangers!

It may be something we do in solitude.



It could be a "service".....It could be a "hobby".....

It could be a "gesture".....It could be a "talent".....

It could be something we already know.....It could be a surprise.....!

On May 1st we will gather at the Sailor Center at Hubbard Hill after Sunday School. We are asking you to reveal to the rest of us what you especially love to do by bringing something with you that day.

There will be tables ,easels, and maybe even some shelves for you to show us an item that represents what YOU LOVE TO DO. There will be name tags to put with your item.

Start thinking now. (If you wear special clothing to do this activity, don't hesitate to wear it that day.)



Whatever you decide to share, it will be something so natural to you, that it may not even seem special, but sharing it with others will help us all to see how God has made us each delight in different things.

Whether you are 2 years old, or 82 years old, we are looking forward to your sharing.

There will be more details later on. The carry-in meal will begin around noon.

Schedule for Mission Alive 2005

Friday, April 1

- 1 PM Registration Opens
- 2-5 PM Menno-Hof Tour, Missionary reunions, Prayer meeting
- 7-9 PM Opening singing and welcome
 Carolyn Schrock, worship leader
The Biblical Face of Mission: Guidance from scripture, by Nathan Showalter. Q & A time
- 9:15 PM Ice Cream Social



Saturday, April 2

- 9-9:45 AM Opening singing
 Fred Holland, worship leader
Changing Faces of Mission: Learnings from mission experience, By Grace Holland, Q & A time
- 10 AM—1:30 PM Workshop times and lunch
- 2-4 PM Opening singing
 Media presentation of Church of the Brethren mission
 Panel: *What distinctive gifts, or Weaknesses, does the Church of the Brethren bring to mission from its Anabaptist-Pietist identity?*
 Q & A time with the panel
- 4:15-5:15 PM Workshop time
- 5:30-6:30 PM Dinner Break
- 7—9:15 PM Opening Singing
 Art McPhee and Nathan Showalter, Worship leaders
 New Faces of Mission: Emerging models, by McPhee and Showalter
 Talk-on with speakers
- 9:15 PM Ice Cream Social

Sunday, April 3

- 8:30-9:30 AM Workshop time
- 9:45-11:15 AM Opening singing
 James F. Myer, worship leader
Set Your Face... toward Mission: Accepting the challenge, and going Forth to serve! By Jim Hardenbrook

***March 31 is the deadline for this year's "Messenger" youth essay contest.** It is open to anyone age 13-18 during the current school year. Answer the question, "What do you like best about the Church of the Brethren?" in 300 words or less and send it to messenger@brethren.org or to 1451 Dundee Ave., Elgin, IL 60120, post-marked by March 31. Include name, address, age, phone number, e-mail, and home congregation. Up to five entries will be published in the July/August issue; the writer of the top entry will be invited to share his or her essay at the 2005 "Messenger" dinner at Annual Conference.



Church of the Brethren General Board Prayer Calendar

APRIL PRAYER FOCUS: COMMUNICATION

Week of April 3

Thank God for all those who write features, compile newsletters, and provide other updates, allowing us to hear the breadth of the church's ministry in the world.

Week of April 10

Ask for discernment of ways that new technology can help the Good News of Jesus Christ to be shared and to reach new generations.

Week of April 17

Pray for the ministry of MESSENGER magazine as it serves as a "meeting place" for the church.

Week of April 24

Pause to listen to the Holy Spirit, seeking ways that we can hear each other rather than talking past one another.

Church of the Brethren Newsline

***Young adults will meet on 'Provoking Love and Good Deeds.'** Young Adult Conference (YAC) will be held the weekend of May 27-29 at Woodland Altars, a Church of the Brethren camp near Peebles, Ohio. The theme for the conference is "Provoking Love and Good Deeds" from Hebrews 10:24. "A majority of the leadership is already in place," reported Bob Etzweiler of the Young Adult Steering Committee. "Music and worship are in good hands." Church of the Brethren musicians Shawn Kirchner and Joseph Helfrich are leading music and General Board staff Walt Wiltschek and Becky Ullom are planning worship. Speakers Kurt Borgmann, Cliff Kindy, and Margo Miller will focus three worship times during the weekend. A fourth worship time will use drama and multimedia to explore the theme. For more information and to register see www.brethren.org/genbd/yva/yac.htm. Cost is \$80

Participants may request the Youth and Young Adult Ministries Office to send a letter to their home congregations asking them to provide a \$50 scholarship. Scholarship requests must be received by April 30.

***The Annual Conference Anniversary Committee** invites submissions of music, drama, and worship resources representing the 2008 Tricentennial theme "Surrendered to God, Transformed in Christ, Empowered by the Spirit." Music submissions, due June 30, may include hymns, folk songs, praise songs, anthems, and children's songs. Dramatic writings, due Dec. 31, may be full-length dramas, skits, monologues, and vignettes for adults, children, and/or youth. Worship resources, due Dec. 31, may include calls to worship, prayers, litanies, responsive readings, offertory statements,

children's stories, benedictions, worship centers (description and/or drawing), power point presentations, and interpretive movements. All submissions become the property of the Anniversary Committee for use in tricentennial activities. Name, address, and phone number of the writer or composer should not appear on the submission but should be included on a separate page. Send submissions to the Annual Conference Office, 1451 Dundee Ave., Elgin, IL 60120

***Global Food Crisis Fund distributes \$90,000 for hunger relief.**

The General Board's Global Food Crisis Fund (GFCF) has issued three large grants for hunger relief in North Korea, El Salvador, and Angola. The GFCF allocated \$50,000 to continue support for a longterm international farm rehabilitation project in North Korea. The project encompasses 24,000 acres across three coastal and inland counties, and involves four large farm cooperatives. The first \$60,000 GFCF grant toward this effort in Jan. 2004 supported early planting of barley and rice; this new grant will help provide new and additional grain and vegetables along with material for protective covering of the crops. In other grants the GFCF gave \$20,000 to support Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel in an irrigation and water conservation project in the San Simon area of El Salvador, which will help ten communities with water management, growing crops, fruit tree cultivation, reforestation, and education. In Angola, the fund gave \$20,000 to support SHARECircle in the agricultural phase of its post-war construction work.

Friends of Timbercrest (Formerly Timbercrest Auxiliary)

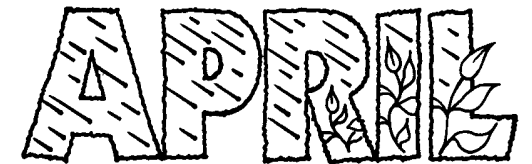
Once again it is time to collect the annual dues of membership for Friends of Timbercrest. The support that we give through our dues helps Timbercrest to share and comfort members of our church family and many other friends at this time in their lives.

The dues are \$3.00 for adult membership for one year (male and female, yes there are men members also), and \$40.00 for a life membership. I will collect the dues each Sunday in April. Thank you for your support of Timbercrest.

Spring Fellowship Day, sponsored by Friends of Timbercrest will be April 30, 2005. If you have not visited Timbercrest before, this is your opportunity to see the lovely facilities there and enjoy a delicious lunch. You may also visit the "Food Market" where you can purchase homemade goodies. If you wish, you can donate a homemade food item. If you plan to attend on the 30th, bring that food item with you. If you cannot attend, and want to donate something homemade just see that I receive it before the 30th and I will take it with me. If you wish to attend and need transportation, please contact me at 295-5774.

Entertainment for the day will be the Timbercrest Choir under the direction of Marlin Brightbill. The speaker is Dr. Parker Marden, Manchester College President on leave. Fellowship hour and the Food Market start at 8:30 a.m. with the program following at 9:55 a.m. Lunch at noon.

Doris Walters, Timbercrest Key Leader



Birthdays

- 2 Beth Breidenbach
- 3 Laurie Mastic
- 4 Tim Randall
- 6 Kate Schrock
- 6 Cara Mastic
- 8 Evelyn Heeter
- 12 Ralph Gordon
- 12 Maryann Zerbe
- 12 Darcy Fritz
- 15 Kristina Cooper
- 16 Bonnie Neal
- 22 Mark Arnold
- 24 Xavier Rosales
- 26 Kenny West
- 26 Angi Marcin
- 27 Cary Kelsey
- 29 John Yoder

Anniversaries

- 4 David & Lodema Hoke
- 6 Dennis & Colleen Weaver



April Activities

Friday, April 8 the Senior High Youth will have Hang-out Activities and drop-in at Rodgers'. At 7:00 p.m, planning for Youth Sunday on May 1 will begin.

Regional Youth Conference

Manchester College is April 16-17
Theme: **"Seeing God."** Matt Guynn is the keynote speaker. Registration cost prior to April 1 is \$50 for youth and \$30 for adult advisors. See Valerie Rodgers or Steve De Pue for registration forms.

**A Unique Senior High Work Camp:
Walk Across America with Don Vermilyea**

Don has been walking for three years on a journey to visit every Church of the Brethren congregation in the United States. The message of his mission? Continue the work of Jesus—peacefully, simply, together. As companions on a portion of Don's journey, we will gather pledges to support the Emergency Disaster Fund and the Global Food Crisis Fund.

Dates: June 27—July 2, 2005

Distance: 100 miles (about 20 miles per day)

Location: We will be walking into Peoria, IL just in time for the beginning of Annual Conference.

Eligibility: All senior high youth and advisors can register on the Workcamp website:

<http://www.brethren.org/genbd/yya/workcamp/registration/html>

Mission Outreach

Special Giving

(as of February 28, 2005)

2¢ a Meal	\$ 161.89
Baldwin Missionary	\$ 270.00
Church Community Services	\$ 230.00
Disaster Relief	\$ 900.00
Heifer Project	\$ 6.75
Soup of Success	\$ <u>145.00</u>
Total above budget giving	\$ 1713.64

Financial Statistics

**Financial Statistics through:
February 28, 2005**

General Fund

Year to Date Income	\$ 25,754.93
Expenses	\$ <u>30,150.00</u>
Net Loss	\$ (4,395.07)

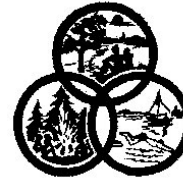
Average Attendance

Worship: 87 Church School: 70

Building Fund Balance (To-date)

Walk by Faith (w/Interest)	\$ 453,870.58
Bldg. Sale proceeds (w/Int)	\$ <u>70,934.87</u>
Total New Location	\$ 524,805.45

Camp Mack
Corner



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

80th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: Plan to carpool to Camp's 80th anniversary grand celebration on May 1. The theme is: *Experiences of the Past...Stepping Stones to the Future*. All congregations are invited to the 10:30 a.m. worship service in Quinter-Miller auditorium. Jo Young Switzer, new President of Manchester College will be the guest speaker. The restored Rose Window will be dedicated. Some activities following lunch include: a video of camp memories, viewing memorabilia and visiting, crafts for children, an ice cream social, a campfire with kettle corn and closing vespers at 3:45 p.m.

CAMP MACK NEEDS "Explore Gods Calling" is this summer's camp theme. Camp requests that churches give their used November 2004-February 2005 *Guide to biblical Studies* Adult Sunday School Quarterlies to camp. These quarterlies are great supplemental resources for our counselors as the call of a Brethren leader is featured with each lesson. Please consider bringing these to Camp on May 1st.

Also needed as gifts or on loan for this summer's "Pioneer Meal" fun are: Old-fashioned butter churns, Pioneer Hats and Bonnets, Pioneer Dresses and Men's outfits (any size), White Mountain hand crank ice cream makers, dried corn and corn grinders.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help at the April 25-27 volunteer work camp and to serve as volunteer counselors and support staff during the summer! **Please prayerfully consider how you might help.**

SUMMER CAMP COUNSELORS, CIT'S AND VOLUNTEER DIRECTORS: please make leadership training on May 6-7 a top priority! Attend the training! Be prepared!

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please pray daily for:
The Camp Mack Staff and Volunteers

MORE IMPRTRANT DATES:

Mother/Daughter Weekend	April 9-10
Quilting Retreat	April 15-17

A Quiet Place Quote: "We are rich or poor according to what we are, not what we have."
G. MacDonald



"Our growth consultant thinks the term **church** sounds outdated."

District Connection



Celebrate Community!

District Celebration
June 12, 2005
6:00 p.m.
Bethany CoB

Theme is "Celebrate Community!"
Scripture text is Acts 2:42-47
More information coming soon

Many of the District's congregations have sent Health kits and money for disaster relief for the tsunami victims. From recent church newsletters we've learned that: Agape sent 161 kits plus \$222; New Paris sent 48 kits; Pleasant Chapel donated a total of \$1250 with a portion of it designated to make 42 kits; Middlebury sent 85 kits plus a number of soft toys for the youngest victims; Plymouth, in February, took 437 kits to the Northern Indiana Food Bank collection site, 155 from the congregation, 282 received through Al & Barb Flory from Whitko Elementary School and the Eel River CoB; Columbia city sent 30 kits and were hoping to send 2 IMA medical boxes; and from all of you who took kits and clean-up buckets to Goshen City, a total of 325 health kits, 66 school kits and 106 disaster buckets were sent.

FYI: Creekside has sent a total of \$900 for Disaster Relief this year so far and the children's Sunday School classes recently a total of 26 School Kits and 40 Health Kits. The Health Kits have already been sent to New Windsor and the School Kits will soon be ready to ship.

2005 District Directory

A copy of the District Directory for 2005 has been sent to all licensed and ordained ministers, churches, church board chairs and those who hold a District office. If you are not in any of these categories and would like a copy of the Directory, send you name, address and church name plus \$4.00 for printing postage to the District Office.

2005 Resource Center Catalog Now Available

The new 2004-2005 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 updated catalog will be published on the District Website where you can search by topic all the items available at the Resource Center.

Too busy to stop by the Resource Center? The Resource Center is only a phone call, or e-mail away! Just call Ann McNerney 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 Ann@nidcob.org.

Northern Indiana District Prayer Calendar

April 3-9	Creekside
April 10-16	Elkhart Valley
April 17-23	English Prairie
April 24-30	Florence

Excerpts From...

Monique's Mission Memo

Praise God for wonderful visits and ministry in January and February! I am enjoying being back in the land of wind and bluffs and hour-long sunsets. Kansas has truly become home over the past 6 years.

It was a blessing to spend time with so many family members, friends and those interested in the work of Wycliffe and SIL. Thank you to all who prayed for that time and whose visits made it so special. A special request would be that those who heard my testimony and vision would receive in their hearts what the Lord intends for their lives. Also, please hold my mother (and father) in prayer as she continues to deal with frustrating heart rhythm and medicine challenges.

I will be speaking anywhere people will have me! I enjoy sharing about Wycliffe and the bible translation vision. Praise God for the opportunities I have already had and for the gracious response of God's call on their hearts.

Did you know...?

- ✦ Wycliffe members may not leave for an assignment unless they have met 100% of the support quota for their ministry.
- ✦ Monique's support quota for Dallas, TX is \$2385/month.
- ✦ Monique currently has over 45 prayer partners and 72% of her support quota pledged.

Meeting 100% of my ministry quota is very

important, as I will not be able to report to my first assignment in Dallas as a Language and Culture Coach Intern until all of the \$2385/month is pledged. Please consider how you or someone you know might become a part of my ministry and the work of Bible translation.

I have committed to the position of Teaching Assistant for the Language and Culture course at the Oregon Summer Institute of Linguistics session. This session will last approximately 2 months. This will be my first time at Oregon SIL as an instructor, rather than as

a student. I am looking forward to the experience, especially since I will be working alongside two of my future Dallas colleagues. Come visit us in Eugene, OR, between mid-June and mid-August. I would love to host you and help you get a first-hand look at pre-field linguistic training and meet with surveyors, translators, and literacy workers from fields all over the world.

Following the time in Oregon, I will be helping with the language and culture module for the MDOC training program for Wycliffe administrators. This module takes place the last two weeks of September, I will then either return to Kansas to finish working towards 100% partnership, or, if I have all my support promised, will remain in Dallas getting to know my new home and settling in to life in a big city.

Your partnership with me is a blessing!

In Him,

Monique De Pue

Your
WORD
is a
LAMP
to my
feet
and a
LIGHT
to my path.
Psalm 119:105

April 2005



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<div style="background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Looking Ahead: May 1 Youth Sunday May 1 Fellowship Team Event at Hubbard Hill </div>				1	2
3 9:00 Worship 10:45 Church School <i>Adult Choir singing</i>	4 7:00 Fellowship Team	5 4:30 Overcomer's @ MCL 6:30 Church Board	6 9:00 Volunteer Fellowship 6:30 Children's Choir	7	8	9
10 9:00 Worship 10:45 Church School <i>Children's Choir singing</i>	11	12	13 6:30 Children's Choir	14	15	16 Regional Youth Conference Through Sunday 11:00 a.m.
17 9:00 Worship 10:45 Church School	18	19	20 6:30 Children's Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	21	22	23
24 9:00 Worship 10:45 Church School <i>Adult Choir singing</i>	25	26	27 6:30 Children's Choir	28	29	30