

The Creekside Connection

A publication of

**Creekside
Church of the Brethren**

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



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

The Creekside Connection

OCTOBER 2009

Pastor's Ponderings

Long ago a man sought the perfect picture of peace. Not finding one that satisfied, he announced a contest to produce this masterpiece. The challenge stirred the imagination of artists everywhere, and paintings arrived from far and wide. Finally the great day of revelation arrived. The judges uncovered one peaceful scene after another, while the viewers clapped and cheered.

The tensions grew. Only two pictures remained veiled. As a judge pulled the cover from one, a hush fell over the crowd. A mirror-smooth lake reflected lacy, green birches under the soft blush of the evening sky. Along the grassy shore, a flock of sheep grazed undisturbed. Surely this was the winner. The man with the vision uncovered the second painting himself, and the crowd gasped in surprise. Could this be peace?

A tumultuous waterfall cascaded down a rocky precipice; the crowd could almost feel its cold, penetrating spray. Stormy-gray clouds threatened to explode with lightning, wind and rain. In the midst of the thundering noises and bitter chill, a spindly tree clung to the rocks at the edge of the falls. One of its branches reached out in front of the torrential waters as if foolishly seeking to experience its full power.

A little bird had built a nest in the elbow of that branch. Content and undisturbed in her stormy surroundings, she rested on her eggs. With her eyes closed and her wings ready to cover her little ones, she manifested peace that transcends all earthly turmoil. 1

There are so many things that try to rob us of God's peace. We are trying to raise our children in a world full of chaos. Our financial security has been redefined and our health problems seem monumental. There are also other areas of our hearts that may be robbing our peace. Are YOU lacking peace?

The Bible speaks of different kinds of peace that are available to us. The first one is Peace with God. This is our spiritual peace. Romans 5:1 "Now that we have been put right with God through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Christ is our Savior, Redeemer and Reconciler. Christ came so we could always have peace with

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

God. We are sinners and the only way we are at peace is through Christ's righteousness. There is no amount of work or service that can change that. This promise from God is a freedom that gives us Peace with God.

The second is the Peace of God which is peace in our emotions. Philippians 4:6-7 "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. If you do this, you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus." Some things are out of our control. This is a place where we meet our own vulnerability. We have to make a decision to lay our burdens at the feet of Jesus. We say, "I can't do any more than what I am doing; these belong to you Jesus and I know that you are caring for them." In the above passage of scripture the Apostle Paul gives us the remedy of prayer and thanksgiving.

And the third is Peace in our relationships. Matthew 5:9 "Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called children of God." We harbor things in our hearts for past hurts and mistakes people have made that may have caused us hardship and pain. Christ is telling us to make peace with those people. Making peace and keeping peace are different. Keeping peace is an external result where we may avoid the problems that are keeping us from true peace. However, peacemaking is carefronting the issue and resolving the pain then finding true internal peace within our souls.

Christ says in John 14 that we can have peace, not just any peace but His peace he gives to us. A peace that the world does not understand. Do you know that peace? I pray if you have not experienced this profound peace that you will seek God's face for it. It is a beautiful gift.

In the Lord's love and joy,

Pastor Janet

1Berit Kjos, *A Wardrobe from the King*, pp. 45-46.



Cookies for Friends

Autumn is the perfect time of the year to sow kindness and reap a "harvest" full of friendships. Make this special treat to share with someone.

What you need:

- An adult to help
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 cup cooked or canned pumpkin
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 1/2 cups diced, roasted almonds
- 1 cup chocolate pieces
- Raffia or fall-colored ribbon (optional)

What you do:

1. Cream butter and sugar together until light and fluffy.
2. Beat in egg, pumpkin and vanilla.
3. In separate bowl, mix flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, nutmeg and cinnamon.
4. Add dry mix to creamed mixture.
5. Add almonds and chocolate pieces; mix thoroughly.
6. Drop by teaspoons onto well-greased cookie sheets.
7. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes or until lightly browned.
8. Cool on racks. Makes about six dozen.
9. Stack two cookies on top of each other. Then tie them like a present with the raffia or ribbon. Give the cookies to friends and family to thank them for their friendship.



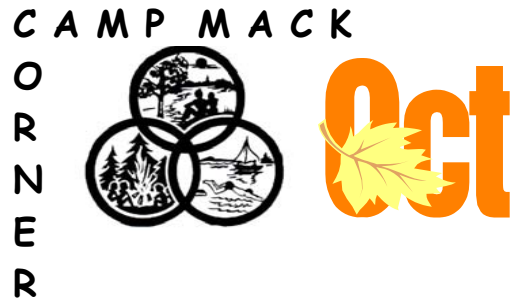
A harvest of...

Autumn brings many visible changes. God makes lots of foods and grains ready for harvest. He also tells us that if we sow in peace, we, too, can raise a harvest.

Find and circle the bold (dark) words from James 3:17-18, NIV.

"But the **WISDOM** that comes from **HEAVEN** is first of all **PURE**; then **PEACELOVING**, **CONSIDERATE**, **SUBMISSIVE**, full of **MERCY** and **GOOD FRUIT**, **IMPARTIAL** and **SINCERE**. **PEACEMAKERS** who **SOW** in **PEACE** raise a **HARVEST** of **RIGHTEOUSNESS**."

C S P E A C E L O V I N G F
O U E U X W C E Y T P R W R
N B A U L T J C O R E I I U
S M C P R X K F W I A G S I
I I E M E R C Y I I C H D T
D S T C E R U D M Z E T O S
E S I V X J C U P W M E M D
R I H E A V E N A W A O H P
A V M P J M K L R T K U V W
T E O C G O O D T G E S S L
E H A R V E S T I B R N Y O
X H D D R Q Q E A Z S E D B
S I N C E R E E L S Y S O W
G I P U R E S O Y C E S E F



P.O. Box 158, Milford, IN 46542
 Phone: 574-658-4831 Fax: 574-658-4765
 E-Mail: campmack@npcc.net
 Website: <http://www.campmack.org>

CAMP IS NOW IN RETREAT SEASON! Your Sunday School class, church board, choir, youth or other group is invited to schedule a retreat to worship the Creator and enjoy the serenity of this sacred place.

UPCOMING RETREATS: Camp Mack's Fall **Seasoned Citizens' Retreat** is October 12-15 followed by the fall **Quilting Retreat** on October 15-18. These retreats offer lots of fun, fellowship and inspiration, so check out our web site or call Camp today for registration forms.

FATHER-SON WEEKEND: Fathers, sons and grandpas, too -- you are invited to a Father-Son Weekend at Camp Mack on Saturday and Sunday, October 10-11. The theme is "GO GREEN!" Learn how solar panels convert sunlight into electricity, build a solar oven, set up and take home a worm bin, investigate wind power, en-

joy worship and campfire. Build relationships! The cost for a father and son is \$95. Additional persons are \$45 each.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DINNER: 2009 camp leaders and support volunteers are invited to be camp's guests at a recognition dinner on Saturday, October 31st. Registration and hors d'oeuvres begin at 4:15 p.m. with the dinner and entertainment at 5:00 p.m. Call the Camp Office to make your reservation.

ENCOURAGE YOUR PASTOR(S) to be the guests of Camp at the fall **Pastors' Sabbath** at Camp Mack. The Sabbath begins at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 10 and concludes at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 11.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Camp Board, staff, guests.

A Quiet Place Quote: "There is one thing that we alone can give God...and that is our personal love. No one else can give God our personal love. This is our great significance." – M. Basil Pennington



OCTOBER Birthdays

- Oct 1 Jan Weaver
- Oct 2 Michaela Hoke
- Oct 3 Gail Vance
- Oct 6 Vanessa DePue
- Oct 7 Marcia Blanton
- Oct 7 Denny Weaver
- Oct 10 Doris Walters
- Oct 12 Andrew Lund
- Oct 15 Sabrina Fritz
- Oct 16 Nan Davis
- Oct 17 Erika Toops
- Oct 18 Joyce Gordon
- Oct 19 Jim Vance
- Oct 20 Keith Vardaman
- Oct 20 Sharon Houser
- Oct 23 Vick Ellis
- Oct 24 Sandy Schrock
- Oct 24 Henry Schmucker
- Oct 24 Luis Davila
- Oct 29 Marcia Sowles
- Oct 31 Jeanne Brandon



OCTOBER Anniversaries

- Oct 1 Paul & Norma Pletcher
- Oct 19 Louis & Jeanne Brandon



ATTENDANCE NUMBERS

DATE	Worship	Sunday School
9/6	48	No SS
9/13	83	40
9/20	88	47
9/27		



Services available through LaCasa:

- **Financial Fitness** classes, held on a regular basis, in English and Spanish, assist families to evaluate their spending patterns, learn new money management skills, improve credit, and set financial goals.
- **Homebuyer Education**, classes held monthly, provide excellent consumer education and home maintenance advice to help families make wise decisions regarding home purchases.
- **Individual Development Accounts** match family savings 3 to 1 to help first time homebuyers save money for a down payment on their home.
- **Foreclosure counseling.** LaCasa has three staff certified in this specialty counseling to help families preserve their investment in their home or at a minimum, limit their loss.
- **Safe, attractive and affordable** rental properties. LaCasa's mission is to work with individuals and community partners to create opportunities for personal growth, family stability and neighborhood improvement. Individuals, families and neighborhoods in our community are struggling under severe financial stress and unless we work together, we risk losing many of the positive-gains our families and neighborhoods have made. LaCasa staff averages 6 new foreclosure referrals every day, and many families renting from LaCasa find it very difficult to make rent payments.



"Fall" is here and trees will be turning beautiful colors for all of us to enjoy. It is also the time of year that Worship Team must begin thinking about all the "Special Sundays" coming up during the last 3 months of 2009.

Pastor Janet and Worship Team have already done some initial planning for the next 3 months as well as the Holiday Season. Here is just a few of the "Special Sunday's" coming up during October, November and December.

- October 4**—World Communion Sunday with Bread and Cup served during Worship.
- October 18**—worship is being planned by the Children with Dan McFadden speaking.
- November 1**—All Saints' Day and we will be remembering those who have gone before us.
- November 22**—Thanksgiving Sunday.
- November 29**—First Sunday of Advent.
- December**—Advent and we will be celebrating the Birth of Christ with a Christmas Eve Service.

In addition, we would like to encourage you to join the choir that will be directed by Angi Marcin and singing on **Sunday, December 13** and Christmas Eve. Angi is also pulling out and dusting off the bells and requesting anyone interested in joining a bell choir to let her know. She has already begun her advertising and Worship Team is asking you to support Angi by sharing your voices by singing in the choir or ringing a bell. We are sure you will have fun also!

Worship Team continues to be grateful and thankful for all who contribute to making our Sunday Worship Services "special" and meaningful. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday Mornings. When you are not there, **YOU ARE MISSED!**

Praise, Blessing and Joy,
Worship Team



Revival Services, September 27 - October 4, 2009, at the Blue River Church of the Brethren, 3040 E. 700 North, Columbia City, IN 46725, 260-691-2605 with Bro. Fred D. Beam, Evangelist, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania.

Services: Sunday – 10:00 a.m.
All Evening Services – 7:00 p.m.

Children's Stories at each service.

The retreat will begin with a light breakfast of donuts, deviled eggs, coffee, tea, and juice at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 17. We will break around noon for a lunch of chili and fixin's with a Texas cake dessert, and be completed by 3:00 p.m.

Cost - \$10.00 for meals with pre-registration. \$15.00 at the door.

Leadership provided by Norm & Carol Spicher-Waggy.



Norm is a family doctor with Middlebury Family Physicians. Carol is an ordained minister with the Church of the Brethren. She often serves as an interim pastor or guest preacher in the Northern Indiana District. Along with her MSW and MDIV degrees, Carol serves on Shalom Teams to assist congregations from Pennsylvania to Iowa in conflict resolution. Carol and Norm have led multiple retreats together for marriage enrichment, work camps, and youth. They are members of Rock Run Church of the Brethren and have three adult children.

Creekside Men's Retreat Registration Form October 17, 2009

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Pre-registration fee \$10.00 (includes meals). Cost is \$15.00 at the door.

Submit registration forms to church office by Sunday, October 11, 2009.

If you have questions contact Stephen De Pue at 574-533-4507 or 574-971-6677.

Paid Cash amt. \$ _____

Paid Check amt. \$ _____

MEN'S RETREAT

"GREASE" FOR PEACE



We get along okay,
but...

Sometimes I don't
understand where
you're coming from.



Saturday, October 17, 2009

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Creekside Church of the
Brethren

60455 CR 113

(between CR 26 & CR 28)

Elkhart, IN 46517

574-875-7800

www.creeksideconnected.com



Are we just "sliding by" in our
relationships with:

a spouse,

a parent,

a son or daughter,

a sibling,

a friend?

Learn how to express your
concerns about how others
behave.

Learn more about what helps
you feel appreciated and how
you can communicate appreci-
ation to the closest people in
your life.

This retreat will offer
"the grease"
to encourage peaceful rela-
tionships in our lives.

The Men's Retreat is sponsored
by the Fellowship Team of Creekside Church.



The cookbook has been sent to the publishing company! We have a total of 355 recipes in our cookbook. More than 100 more than we expected. What a great cookbook this will be. Start thinking about your friends and family who would enjoy this cookbook. We anticipate the final cookbooks arriving in late November. We will begin pre-sales in the early part of November. If you will be out of town after the cookbooks arrive, we will be glad to send them to you. The cost of the cookbook is \$10.00.



Have you started baking cookies yet? Don't forget the Cookie/Candy walk on December 12th.

Cookie Walk

The year is more than half over and the Followers of Faith have been working hard for you. The purpose of this team was to raise funds to provide for ministries which were not covered by the budget. If your team has an idea or event which was not covered by the budget and would like to ask Followers of Faith to donate please fill out a request form. Forms are located in the mailboxes.



Don't miss the children's service on October 18th. The kids have been busy all year doing service projects and want to show you what they have learned about walking in Jesus' footsteps. We are pleased and excited to have Dan McFadden, Director of BVS, as our special speaker.

Our next Creekside Kids event will be on Nov. 14th. The new school year has started which means new additions to our group. We can't wait to get to know all of you. Details will follow.

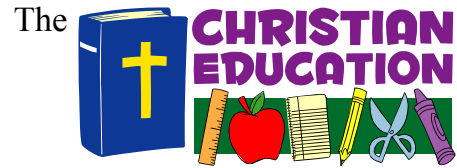


Advent
Choir

We would love to have you in the Advent Choir. Please come to our first practice on November 4 at 7:00 p.m.

**PUT THIS ON
YOUR CALENDAR**

- 11/1—All Saints Day
- 11/4—9:00 a.m.—Volunteer Fellowship
- 11/4—7:00 p.m.—Choir
- 11/7—Thee Seekers Candy Making
- 11/10—6:30 p.m.—Church Board
- 11/11—7:00 Choir
- 11/15—Congregational Meeting
- 11/15—Christ the King Sunday
- 11/18—7:00 p.m. Choir
- 11/19—6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir
- 11/22—Thanksgiving Sunday
- 11/26—**OFFICE CLOSED**
- 11/27—**OFFICE CLOSED**
- 11/28—Birr's 50th Anniversary Celebration
- 11/29—1st Sunday of Advent
- 12/2—9:00 a.m.—Volunteer Fellowship
- 12/2—7:00 p.m.—Choir
- 12/3—6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir
- 12/6—Family Advent Activity
- 12/9—7:00 p.m.—Choir
- 12/10—6:30 p.m. Bell Choir
- 12/12—Cookie/Candy Walk
- 12/15—6:30 p.m.—Church Board
- 12/16—7:00 p.m.—Choir
- 12/17—6:30 p.m. Bell Choir
- 12/22—6:30 p.m.—Bell Choir
- 12/23—7:00 p.m.—Choir
- 12/24—Choir Sing/Bell Choir
- 12/24—**OFFICE CLOSED**
- 12/25—**OFFICE CLOSED**



The Visioning Team along with many others in the congregation have identified the need for a person to take charge of our Christian Ed Program. The job would affect both adult and children planning, organizing the current curriculum we have and researching other areas of study.

This would not be an easy job, but it could be gratifying. The Church Board is willing to provide this person with the resources needed to do the job.

If we have someone in our congregation who would like to tackle this task, we would greatly appreciate the help. You can contact the church board if you would like this challenge.

Church Board



A new and exciting addition to our Christmas Eve Service, our first ever BELL CHOIR! If you are interested please see Angi Marcin for details.

Cookie/Candy Walk

Creekside Church of the Brethren

December 12th

8:00am – 12:00pm



Lots of cookies and candy for everyone!!

Need a Christmas Gift Idea?

Purchase the Creekside 2009 Cookbook for only \$10.00

Two new ways to stay in touch with Creekside Church...



Become our fan...

Stay in touch with Creekside Church by becoming a fan of the new Creekside Church Facebook page. Click the Facebook graphic on our website home page or search on Facebook for Creekside Church of the Brethren.

See what all the Tweeting is about...

You can also stay in touch with what's happening at Creekside Church through our Twitter account at twitter.com/creeksidechurch. Or follow the link from the Twitter graphic on our website home page.



Member Needs



During the past summer a request was made to set up a needs account to help persons in our congregation who have fallen on hard times. We decided that we would promote the first Sunday of each quarter as need Sunday.

In July the offering for this account was over \$1,600, which was a great testimony to the giving nature of our congregation. Since that time we have been able to help at least 5 families and individuals. The confidentiality of the persons helped forbids us from mentioning individuals, but I can tell you that the help we have given is deeply appreciated.

Our fourth quarter begins in October and the account is getting used. We still have people who could use our assistance. If you can afford to help, you can mark your giving envelope "Needs Account". The people we help will feel God's love and so will you.

Church Board



PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Search Committee has met twice this month to begin the process of finding a pastor. Committee members include:

Gary Arnold
Judy DePue
Angi Marcin
Sue Noffsinger
Kurt Vardaman
Kathy Royer, Chairperson
Garnett Heeter
Betty Kelsey

Herman Kauffman, District Director, came to our last meeting to instruct us on the procedures which need to be followed. One of our first jobs will be to meet with the congregation in small groups to form our church profile.

Creekside Pastor Search Team

Walking with displaced people

Khadidje Gamar and her son, Matar Hamed, live in the Church World Service-assisted Habile Camp for internally displaced persons in Chad, in central Africa. Her family and many others are participating in a community garden project to increase their food security.

Some 200,000 people in eastern Chad have been torn from homes and villages as conflict within Chad has joined with both cross-border violence and refugees from the war in the neighboring Darfur region of Sudan, creating an influx of uprooted families.

Church World Service is working with partners to respond. In Habile and Aradib camps in Chad, CWS-supported programs are providing water, sanitation, agricultural assistance and psychosocial care for some 45,000 internally displaced persons.

As a CROP Hunger Walker or sponsor, you help us reach out to families in Chad, Darfur, Haiti, Bosnia, Iraq, Indonesia — to families around the globe as we move closer to a world where there truly is *enough for all!*

Together, we can make a difference!

**Join the CROP Hunger Walk or
contribute to a Walker.**

Become an online Hunger Walker or donor.

Visit www.churchworldservice.org/elkhartin to sign up!



2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 CAMP MACK FESTIVAL
4 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School Love Feast World Communion Sunday CROP WALK BUDGETS DUE	5	6	7 9:00 a.m.—Volunteer Fellowship 6:30 p.m.—Finance Team Mtg.		9	10 Hoke Wedding Reception
11 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School	12	13	14 7:00 p.m.—Fellowship Team Mtg.	15	16	17 Men's Retreat
18 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School Children's Sunday	19	20 6:30 p.m.—Church Board	21	22	23	24
25 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School	26	27	28 DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER	29	30	31