

*District of Idaho & Western Montana  
Church of the Brethren*



# A Joyful Voice

Volume 6, Issue 1

March 2011

Sue Daniel, Editor

## **District Youth Council Coordinator Needed!**

The District Youth Council continues to seek a coordinator with gifts, dedication and passion to work with other DYC members to plan and organize district youth activities. Our youth are among the church's most vital assets, worthy of our time and commitment. Please be in prayer for this immediate need.

Is God calling you . . . ?  
Will you serve . . . ?

Please contact the Idaho district office  
at 442-7260 or email [IdahoAE@msn.com](mailto:IdahoAE@msn.com)

## **DE Announces Retirement Plans**

Idaho/W. Montana District Executive Sue Daniel has announced plans to retire from the position December 31, 2011. Her ministry as "Administrative Executive" for the district began in January, 2006.

In addition to her administrative, executive and clerical responsibilities in the Idaho district, Sue has been active with the Council of District Executives, having served on the "District Purpose Committee" and currently serving as CODE representative to the Ministry Advisory Council.

Sue looks forward to enjoying more time with family, pursuing neglected hobbies, and considering where God will lead her in the next chapter of her life.

The Executive Committee of the district Board of Directors will work with the Church of the Brethren Ministry Office to initiate a search for the new District Executive. A position announcement will be available soon.



## 2011 Workcamps

### "We Are The Body"

#### **Senior Youth Workcamp Returns to Idaho District**

**June 12<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>**

Camp Stover is once again blessed to host a National Senior Youth Workcamp. Up to 30 youth from across the denomination will pay \$350 plus airfare to come prepared for a week of intense physical work as they partner with the Idaho Brethren to give Camp Stover an early summer face-lift; refurbishing, cleaning, and painting the cabins and buildings. They may even help build a new bridge or an addition to the Amsey building.

The youth may come to Idaho thinking this state just produces great potatoes, but we hope they will leave with a greater sense of God's awesome creation and being a part of one Body in Christ.

In appreciation, we would like to treat them to a White Water Raft Trip at the end of the week as we have in past years and are seeking sponsors from the district. Raft trips will be \$45 each.

Please prayerfully consider sponsoring a youth workcamp volunteer!

The workcamp schedule and registration information can be found at: [www.brethren.org/workcamps](http://www.brethren.org/workcamps)

## Congregational Prayer Partner Connection



During the months of **March, April & May . . .**

**Boise Valley** will be in prayer for **Bowmont**

**Bowmont** will be in prayer for **Fruitland**

**Fruitland** will be in prayer for **Nampa**

**Nampa** will be in prayer for **Mountain View**

**Mountain View** will be in prayer for **Twin Falls**

**Community Twin Falls** will be in prayer for **Boise Valley**

Please continue to be in prayer for your partner's congregational health and vitality, personal concerns (health, family, relationships, employment issues, etc.), special events in the life of the church, birthday and anniversary celebrations, and opportunities to connect with others in the district.

## *Fifth Sunday District Worship Service*

*May 29, 2011*

*at*

*Camp Stover*

*Fruitland Church will host*

*\*\*Bring an old coffee cup*

Church the Brethren  
Idaho District Presents

CAMP STOVER 2011

New Meadows, Idaho

**Date: July 10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> 2011**

### **"Got Spirit? Finding God in the everyday"**

Camp Stover is an inter-generational camp, that is to say, all ages are in camp at the same time. Some activities are inclusive of the whole camp, such as morning watch, campfires, meals, church service, and recreational activities. Other activities are by age groups.

Preschool - Ages 3 - 5

Primary - Finished Kinder - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

Juniors - Finished 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grades

Junior High - 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades

Youth - 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades

Young Adult - Second Summer after Graduation and Up  
Adults

#### **Fees:**

Preschool and Primary Pre-Registration	\$ 52.00
Juniors Pre-Registration	\$120.00
Junior High through Adult Pre-Registration	\$135.00

**NOTE:** Pre-registration includes a **FREE** Camp Stover T-Shirt. Additional t-shirts will not be available at Camp.

**NOTE:** All Registration Fees includes 1 Admission to Zims Hot Springs per Registered Camper.

Registration forms will be available March 20<sup>th</sup> 2011

## *Include Camp Stover in your summer plans*

Are you planning your summer vacation or short weekend trips? Is your group planning a retreat? Is your family due to have a family reunion? Be sure to include Camp Stover. It's affordable and there are lots of fun things to do!

Camp RV spots or rooms at the Amsey are only \$15/night. Cabins & group rates are also available.

Reserve now! Dates will go quickly!

For reservations call Ray & Bev Ax at  
(208)-890-1000

Available to any church in the district:

Thomas Trianon Organ

Model # 6820

Serial # 2314-0243

Built sometime in the mid 1970's

Contact Mountain View  
Church of the Brethren

375-0604





### Boise Valley:

- We held an all-church retreat Feb. 5th to review our ministries and activities as well as our vision and goals. It was helpful for the board to hear the strengths and weakness. We enjoyed the fellowship and a fine luncheon.
- The Women's Tuesday morning Bible study started and have 10 participants. The women have a luncheon scheduled for March 20. They plan to have one a quarter. It will be held at restaurants.
- The Church Board has signed a contract with King Construction to design, get permits, and begin work by April. The first leg of getting the infrastructure (well, sewer, drainage, parking areas etc.) done. The second push will be for the building. We launched a building fund campaign for pledges, donations, and reach out to our members and friends for support. Drawings of our plans will be forth-coming...or so the architect tells us.

### Bowmont:

- Winter has been full of blessings at Bowmont. We are now up to 16 Kids in Children's Church! Our "Craft and Baked Good Sale" on November 20<sup>th</sup> was well attended by the community as well as our Church family. This fundraiser will go toward our "Community Center and Fellowship Hall Building Fund".
- November 21<sup>st</sup> was our Annual Harvest Dinner. With hanging of the greens, caroling, outreaches, and the Christmas program in the morning and evening on December 23<sup>rd</sup>, December was busy and blessed. In January we had our annual Church Business meeting and planning session. February 13<sup>th</sup> was our 21<sup>st</sup> annual "Just Because" Banquet hosted at the church and catered by the Tim & Lynda Lindquist.
- We are currently gearing up for our Kid's Easter Extravaganza which is held the Saturday before Easter and is free to the community. We will tell the true story of Easter, have crafts, games, snacks and a huge Easter egg hunt.

### Community Twin Falls:

- On January 29th, we had our annual Vision Day with an attendance of over 25...unlike the very first Vision Day where maybe 6 people attended. We discussed the various weekly events for our church as well as the activities to be planned for the rest of the year. It was such a blessing to have individuals volunteer to head this action team or that action team and not have to rely on the same few people to be in charge. We are planning on being involved in several community outreach programs as well as the outreach for our own members. In addition to the Tuesday dinner and Bible study, the youth have started meeting on Tuesdays as well, with crafts and other activities.
- Our Live Christmas Nativity was a hit. And on February 13th, we held our annual Valentine Potluck following the morning worship. There was lots of good food - as always - and then we played Bingo. Plenty of fun, food and fellowship. We took donations for the meal to send to the Idaho District in support of the faith budget.

### Fruitland:

- Fruitland successfully hosted its annual Ground Hog Dinner on February 5.
- Our Tuesday evening Bible study is discussing the "Death and Resurrection of the Messiah" led by Lorraine Hunsucker, while Cathy Morrison leads a Wednesday morning women's Bible study.
- On January 30, Tami and Timothy Price were welcomed into our fellowship and the kingdom by baptism.
- The women of the church provided a Valentine Dinner on February 12 for wives of soldiers who have been deployed, and the King's Daughters have adopted a deployed soldier, Joshua Billups. They are sending him care packages and are encouraging others to send notes of encouragement.
- Suzanne and JJ Munoz have agreed to lead our youth group and will meet each Wednesday evening.

### Mountain View:

- The Mountain View Church is busy as the new year is under way. The Fellowship Committee successfully held a very delicious and beautifully decorated Valentine's Dinner that was quite well attended.
- Soon there will be an organizational meeting led by our Moderator, Pat Bronner, to bring all the Directors together and gear up for a great new year working for Christ and the church. It is so heartening to see our numbers continue to improve in our worship services. Pastor Tom has a list of people interested in membership classes and becoming members, and several have already become members. We truly feel God's spirit with us during our services. The time when we ask for prayer, pray for each other, and share how God has worked in our lives is a special time in our service that brings us closer to each other and closer to God.

### Nampa:

- On Sunday, Feb. 13th, seven couples who have been married for more than 60 years were honored: Sumner & Betty Johnson, Don & Ann Keim, Gene & Bev Riley, Bob and Ruth Robertson, Bob & Charlotte Skyles, Gordon & Alice Stickney, and Otha & Helen Watts.
- The youth will sponsor a game night on March 11th.
- Nampa CoB will host the Community Good Friday Service at noon on April 22nd. The March 24th Easter celebration will include a 6:45am sunrise service at Walter's Ferry followed by a single worship service at 11am.
- The Witness Commission will sponsor its annual Antique Car & Tractor Show on April 30th, 10am-3pm.
- On May 1st, a special Witness Sunday service will be held, and the Mother-Daughter event will take place on May 7th.

## Report from Idaho Brethren Disaster Ministries

### Volunteer to Chalmette, LA ~ January 2-9, 2011

This year's contingent travelling from the Idaho district was small compared to some years. Most of us travelled New Year's Eve in order to get cheaper air rates. Our group consisted of Ed Kerschenstiener and his grandchildren, Natasha, Kayla and David; Deanna Carr, Bruce Peterson, Michele and Tim Hughes, Orian Odendhal, and myself, Denise Sanchez. With the exception of Orian, this was not our first trip to the Chalmette project, but it will be our last. Brethren Disaster Ministries will be shutting down it's project there by July. Reconstruction in that devastated community seemed painfully slow to those waiting and praying for help, but those of us returning each year after Katrina have seen amazing progress. Mary Mueller, a project director in Chalmette, commented that this last year she has seen Chalmette come to life just with the opening of big stores like Walmart and Home Depot. A new hospital is soon to open.

The homes we worked on this year were homes of people who had paid fly-by-night constructions companies for repairs that weren't done properly or at all. Some of us got to see a lady move into her home after it had been rebuilt by BDM, The nuns, and St. Bernard Project, cooperatively. We could hear her, her sister and daughter shouting and praising the Lord as they went from room to room in her new house. Soon neighbors from across the street and driving by were shouting and welcoming her return. That was the first time Deanna and I got to see a family get moved back home. We got tears and goosebumps.

The most amazing experience for many of us was working with Mary Mueller in the kitchen. Mary is a dynamo. She runs the volunteer house like a well oiled machine. She shops for vanloads of food at a time, cooks 2 meals a day for an average of 30 hungry people, does their dishes, keeps the house clean, organizes, does paperwork, leads and every Tuesday, cooks a taco dinner for the Brethren AND the St. Bernard Project and Americorp volunteers, who call her Mother Mary. She leaves at 7:00 P.M. to start again the next morning. You can compliment Mary on her feats, but her answer will always be, "God is good." We can better appreciate Dee Fillmore and Jenette Freeman, when as assistant directors, they take over the kitchen on their tours of duty.

We all come home from our volunteer experiences feeling multiply blessed. God is good!

Submitted by:  
Denise Sanchez,  
Nampa COB



## Camp Historian Needed



**If you are interested in being the Camp Stover Historian please call a Camp Board Member or e-mail [campstover@gmail.com](mailto:campstover@gmail.com).**

**If you have camp memorabilia you would like included please send it to the above e-mail address.**

## Moderator's Corner . . .

### ***Idaho & Western Montana District Conference 2011***

**October 7-8  
Community Church of the Brethren  
Twin Falls**

Greetings District of Idaho and Western Montana,

Welcome to the Moderator's Corner. This is where I will attempt to keep you up to speed with our progression towards District Conference. The 2011 Conference will be in Twin Falls starting Friday night October 7<sup>th</sup> ending Saturday evening October 8<sup>th</sup>. The theme this year comes from Mark 8:29 "**But Whom do you say that I am?**" As a community of Christian churches we strive to be Christ-like. We have decided that Jesus is the Something that keeps us united. Jesus points out that we also need to agree on His identity. He demonstrated this need by asking His disciples "whom do men say that I am" and "whom do you say that I am." The answers to these questions were not the same. So I would like to take the time before conference for us to meditate on the question "whom do you say that I am?" If you have questions about conference feel free to contact me.

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Church number 208-733-3789  
e-mail [tfcob@aol.com](mailto:tfcob@aol.com)



July 2-6, 2011 in Grand Rapids, Michigan



## Soul Preparation—A Journey to Conference

For over 250 years, Annual Conference has served a valuable role in the life of the Christian movement known as the Church of the Brethren. We have gathered to seek the mind of Christ on matters of common concern, mission, and service. Much of this history has been recorded in decisions that formed how Brethren lived out God's presence in their families, congregations, districts, and the world. However, that history extends beyond the minutes of business to the more prayerful manner in which Brethren entered into the gathering of Conference. In 2011, how will we enter prayerfully into our gathering in Grand Rapids?

I offer to you as members, leaders, congregations, and districts of our denomination the following guide to plan for your soul preparation in these six months leading to Annual Conference. May these help us all to listen to the Holy One and to each other as we seek to discern the mind and spirit of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

**Reflect:** Take time to reflect on the purpose and theme of Annual Conference and how AC contributes to your life, your congregation, and your district. Use silence to invite your reflection and to offer opportunity to listen to what God is saying.

Purpose of Annual Conference: To unite, strengthen, and equip the Church of the Brethren to follow Jesus.

Theme for 2011 Annual Conference: Gifted with Promise: Extending Jesus' Table.

**Pray:** Schedule opportunities for individual and corporate prayer. Join Annual Conference officers in their weekly prayer time at 8 am on Wednesday mornings or schedule another time for your Annual Conference prayers. Include Annual Conference in the prayers in congregational worship.

Highlights for Prayer: Conference Officers, Standing Committee, Delegates, Business items including the 2 Special Response items, Conference Director & Office personnel, many volunteers, Church of the Brethren national staff and district leadership.

**Study:** Engage in studies using the following:

Bible Passages of the Conference Theme: Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:30-44, Luke 9:10-17 and John 6:1-14 plus Mark 8:1-10 and Matthew 15:32-39

Bible Passages for the Worship Services: John 2:1-12; Luke 7:36-8:3; Luke 14:12-14; John 21:9-14

Bible Passages for the daily Bible Study sessions: Jeremiah 30-33, especially 31:31-34; Hebrews 6, 11, and 9:15; Acts 2:33 & 39

Business Items, including the studies provided in the Special Response Process

Acts 15 – the chapter often read for the beginning of Annual Conference

**Serve:** Assemble and bring a school kit to Annual Conference to be presented as part of the offering in Opening Worship on Saturday Evening and then given to Church World Service. You may bring these kits as individuals or families. Information on the contents of school kits may be found at

[www.churchworldservice.org/site/PageServer?pagename=kits\\_school](http://www.churchworldservice.org/site/PageServer?pagename=kits_school).

**Witness:** Share the story of Annual Conference with someone else as a way to "extend Jesus' table", even inviting those persons into the fellowship of the Church of the Brethren in your congregation.

I challenge us all to be creative in how we incorporate the above opportunities into our personal and congregational life. You may want to plan special gatherings for study, reflection, and prayer. I would particularly challenge pastors and church leaders to plan a focus on Annual Conference for Pentecost Sunday June 12. Pentecost served as the pivotal Sunday of Annual Conference in much of our history. Use the conference theme and scriptures, develop your own liturgy of prayers and hymns, include a personal witness to Annual Conference by someone in your congregation, and highlight the movement of the Holy Spirit as God's people gather for fellowship, worship, and discernment.

. . . Robert E. Alley, 2011 Annual Conference Moderator

# District of Idaho & Western Montana Church of the Brethren

## 2011 Calendar of Events



- Feb. 25-26 Board of Directors Retreat**
- March 20 Camp Stover Board Meeting @ Nampa, 2:30 pm**
- April 5 Board of Directors Meet @ Mt. View, 6:30 pm**
- May 14 Camp Stover Water Turned On**
- May 27-30 Camp Clean-up @ Camp Stover**
- May 29 Fifth Sunday Worship @ Camp Stover**
- May 28-30 National Young Adult Conference @ Burbank, OH**
- June 12-19 National Senior High Workcamp @ Camp Stover**
- June 17-19 National Junior High Conf. @ Elizabethtown, PA**
- July 2-6 Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, MI**
- July 10-16 Camp Stover 2011**
- July 15 Annual Camp Stover Meeting**
- July 31 Fifth Sunday District Worship @ Twin Falls**
- Sept. 2-5 District and Youth Fall Retreat @ Camp Stover**
- Sept. 5-9 National Older Adult Conf. @ Lake Junaluska, NC**
- Oct. 7-8 District Conference @ Twin Falls**
- Oct. 30 Fifth Sunday Worship @ Boise Valley**

A *Joyful Voice* is a quarterly publication.  
Please submit articles or items of interest  
from congregations or individuals to:

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