

THE SUNNYSLOPE CHURCH
Church of the Brethren
United Church of Christ
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2019 Newsletter

Vol. 1, Issue 4
Carol Bowman, Editor

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Janet Stutzman	Team Chair	2019
Carol Bowman	Moderator/Vice Chair	2020
Mary Katherine Deen	Secretary/Scribe	2019
Jeri Sapp	Treasurer	2020
Ivan Bowman	Financial Secretary	2019
Jerry Harlow	Property	2019
Lois Tate	Hospitality/Celebrations	2019
Esther Gregory	Christian Ed	2019
Ben Green	Worship Committee	2021
Bob Jackson	Deacon Representative	

DEACONS

Bob & Edie Jackson
Jeri Sapp
Bess Parsley
Marian Gillin*
June Hampton*
Ordo Stutzman*
*Deacons Emeritus

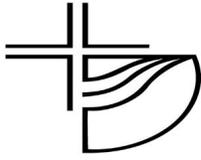


***PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS WHO
ARE UNABLE TO COME TO CHURCH
FOR HEALTH REASONS.***

~NIGERIAN GIRLS~

***Please pray for the girls abducted on April 14,
2014 from a school in Chibok, Nigeria.***

***Northern Nigeria as a whole continues to suffer
under attacks. There are many displaced
persons who need prayer and support.***



REFLECTIONS



Church of the Brethren

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April, 2019

There is a robin who comes back every spring to build a nest in a tree near our house. Maybe it isn't the same robin year after year, but I think of it as the same, and wish it well with its new family this year even as I wish it would stop attacking its phantom enemy in our window every morning and evening. Nests, and buds, and longer days, and my improved attitude – all signs of Spring that invite me to walk in the light, and read poetry, and just be grateful. Robert Frost has a poem, “The Pasture.”

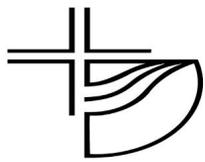
I'm going out to clean the pasture spring;
I'll only stop to rake the leaves away
(And wait to watch the water clear, I may):
I sha'n't be gone long.—You come too.

I'm going out to fetch the little calf
That's standing by the mother. It's so young,
It totters when she licks it with her tongue.
I sha'n't be gone long.—You come too.

One spring when I was a student at Bethany Seminary, my roommate and I would recite this poem together at the end of each day, as a reminder of how precious life is and our friendship was. As Spring approaches this year and I feel the blessings all around me, one of them high on my list is my time with you all at Sunnyslope. I have felt welcomed and appreciated, and will carry this with me as I leave you. The bond we now share gives me a new connection to this beloved Frost poem. So as the Lenten season moves closer to Easter and our journey through the solitude and ache of Jesus' darkest days makes way for his resurrection, I am also reflecting on our relationship together and the joy it has brought me. And when I sit at my window and watch the robin and recite this poem for the thousandth time, I carry you with me into the spring and beyond. “I sha'n't be gone long. – You come too.”

In gratitude,

Debbie



Church of the Brethren

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***PLEASE NOTE: This is a shortened version of our usual newsletter.
Some typical items are "missing,"
but important dates are provided for you in these pages.***



**Celebration of Life Service
for Wanda Johnson Miller
Saturday, March 30, 2019, 11:00 a.m.
Sunnyslope Church
3330 School Street, Wenatchee**

*After the service, join the family for a "pile-on curry meal"
in the Fellowship Hall.*

Preaching Schedule for April, 2019

April 7	Debbie Roberts
April 14 (Palm Sunday)	Ben Green
April 21 (Sunrise-6:30am)	Debbie Roberts and Dave Morrow
April 21 (Easter Sunday-10:25)	Daniel Klayton
April 28	Bob Jackson

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

APRIL 5 -- Friday, 3-5 pm, Compelling Vision Conversation **Wenatchee Brethren Baptist Church, 535 Okanogan, Wenatchee**



The Pacific Northwest District of the Church of the Brethren will be hosting General Secretary, David Steele as he leads us in discussion to help develop a compelling vision for our life together in the greater church body. We are strongly urged to attend to ensure our voices are heard in this process. Through recent Annual Conference decisions the delegate body has called the Leadership Team and Council of District Executives to develop a process through which the church will engage in conversations that will lead us to a “compelling vision.”

The process is intended to move us beyond our conversations, debates, and official statements into living out steps that will move us forward with vision and purpose as we proclaim and serve Christ together.

The Compelling Vision Working Group has embraced the following guiding statement as foundational to the visioning framework and process:

“Confessing Jesus Christ as Teacher, Redeemer, and Lord, we desire to serve Him by proclaiming, professing, and walking in His way together, bringing His peace to our broken world. Join us in reclaiming a passion for Christ and helping set a course for our future as the Church of the Brethren serving Him in our communities and in the world.”

At Annual Conference 2019 the meeting, including most of the business sessions, will be primarily dedicated to the development of this compelling vision for the Church of the Brethren. All congregations are encouraged to be present in these conversations, bringing their unique contributions and sharing in the hard work of discovering God’s plan for how we will continue to be the body of Christ in this broken world.

More information is online at: www.brethren.org/ac/compelling-vision.html.



April 7 -- Celebration for Debbie Roberts

Following worship, we will gather to thank Debbie Roberts for her service to us as pastor, and to say farewell to her and Steve Kinzie. There will be a brief "program" MC'ed by Ben Green, after which we will share a meal. The main course of authentic Mexican food will be provided, as will a cake for dessert.

Please bring a salad or small dessert to share with others.

April 18, 6:00 pm -- Maundy Thursday "Love Feast"

This traditionally Church of the Brethren celebration during Easter week is patterned after "the last supper" described in the gospel of John. We share in foot- (or hand-) washing, Love Feast, and communion. For a number of years, we have shared in this service with the Wenatchee Brethren Baptist Church United. We will gather there at 535 Okanogan. All are invited!



April 28, 2019 -- Monthly Special Offering



Sunnyslope Church works to feed the hungry

As we are reminded in Mathew 23: 35, “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in..,” Sunnyslope continues to feed the hungry. Since 2009 we have supported Foods Resource Bank, now ***Growing Hope Globally***. The new name better reflects our Christian mission and dedication to helping people in need help themselves through agricultural development. While this is a big change, we can assure you that the following will NOT change. We...

- Remain a community of people motivated by our faith to help those in need around the world
- Continue to focus on sustainable solutions to help hungry people lift themselves out of poverty
- Need YOU to help us make a lasting difference in our mission to reduce world hunger

At Sunnyslope we have raised \$21,572.32 in nine years and helped 391 persons go from being food insecure to providing food for themselves. That is to be celebrated!

Soon we will send in our yearly donation to Growing Hope. It will be close to \$2000 and will help over 36 people attain their goals of feeding themselves and their families. Please donate generously on April 28, 2019.

Where does our money go?

We continue to donate to the South American Gran Chaco project. The South American Gran Chaco is the most important ecosystem in South America after the Amazon. This region is at once immensely rich in biodiversity and cultural traditions of harmony with the environment, and one of the most remote and marginalized areas in the hemisphere.

The Argentina Bolivia - Gran Chaco program is uniquely structured to work in two different remote areas of the Chaco with two different partners, based in two different countries. In the Argentina region of the Chaco the local partner is working to demonstrate to the national and local governments that rain water harvesting systems, climate smart agricultural techniques, and training in animal husbandry is a sustainable and viable approach to increasing food security and

economic development for indigenous and criollo families living in the Chaco. In Bolivia, the approach will be continuing the work of the local partner CERDET. In the previous phase, CERDET worked with communities to create community development plans. In this phase they will work to further strengthen the leadership skills of indigenous women and youth through training. 33 different communities in the program area will then be invited to submit proposals for small scale income-generation or agricultural projects (average grant of less than \$850).

Questions? Contact Mary Katherine Deen at mkydeen@yahoo.com or 509-679-0210

May 7 - Congregational Meeting and potluck.

Following morning worship, the Leadership Team will host a time for all of us to discuss needs, desires and directions regarding future pastoral leadership. Your presence and participation will be important!



Meet our new Staff

Kim Ritter began working as our custodian in early March. She comes to us from Ambitions, and her supervisor is Julie Quinn. Her typical hours will be 2-5 on Thursday afternoons. Stop by and say “hello” sometime.

Pat Wheeler begins orientation as our new office assistant on Friday, March 29, and will be in training with various church members on April 1, 2, and 5. She comes to us with many years of experience. Until mid-April, she will be working limited hours and will be in the church office on Monday, Tuesday and Friday mornings only.