2020 BRETHREN DISASTER - VIRLINA TRIPS
Have you ever wanted to minister to someone in distress, but felt that you didn't have the ability to do so? Perhaps you can't preach or teach, but you have a willingness to serve! Then Brethren Disaster Ministries is the perfect avenue for you! You do not need to be skilled in the building trades to help with disaster response. The Virlina District is scheduled for a number of Brethren Disaster Ministries trips in 2020.

Please note the schedule and contact our Disaster Response Coordinators Ed or Susan McKimmy at virlinaddrc@gmail.com or by telephone at (540) 354-5345 or (540) 330-8266 to participate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>Feb 1-15</td>
<td>Antioch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tampa FL</td>
<td>March 29-April 4</td>
<td>Roanoke, Hollins Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>May 9-23</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project1</td>
<td>May 24-30</td>
<td>Full group - Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project1</td>
<td>June 28-July 4</td>
<td>1/2 Group - Antioch (tentative)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project2</td>
<td>September 20-26</td>
<td>1/2 Group - West Richmond (tentative)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project1</td>
<td>November 15-21</td>
<td>1/2 Group - Roanoke, Hollins Road</td>
</tr>
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TRAIL THOUGHTS – A QUARTERLY RESOURCE FROM PAUL MUNDEY
Trail Thoughts is a quarterly resource provided by Church of the Brethren Moderator Paul Mundey. Written as a pastoral letter, Trail Thoughts addresses topics related to the church in a concise, relevant, yet biblical manner. The pastoral letter is designed to be used for personal devotions and/or a resource for Sunday School classes, small groups, or congregational committees/teams and publications. Follow the link to read the winter edition: https://mailchi.mp/brethren/trail-thoughts-winter-2020?e=2b46ad860f.

SUMMER WORKCAMP REGISTRATION BEGAN ON JANUARY 16, 2020
The Church of the Brethren Workcamp Office is excited to release the 2020 workcamp dates and locations! A total of 19 different workcamps will be offered for junior high, senior high, adult, and we are able participants. To view the full schedule, which includes the dates, location, cost, and description of each workcamp, visit www.brethren.org/workcamps/schedule. Registration began on January 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. (central time). Please encourage those of all ages from your congregations to attend a workcamp this summer. If you have any questions or would like a 2020 workcamp brochure mailed to you, contact the Workcamp Office at cobworkcamps@brethren.org.

2020 MINISTERS AND SPOUSES RETREAT – FEBRUARY 28-29, 2020
The 2020 Virlina District Ministers and Spouses Retreat will be held on February 28-29, 2020 at the Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center on U.S. 501 between Big Island and Lynchburg, VA (1 Eagle Eyrie Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24503). Nancy S. Heishman, Director of Ministry for the Church of the Brethren will lead the event. Her
theme is “The Power of Sacred Stories.” The three sessions will focus on the following texts:

- SESSION 2: From the Margins to the Center – John 4:1-42
- SESSION 3: Having the Sense to See – John 9:1-41

This event provides .3 CEU credits for ordained or commissioned ministers. The cost of the event is $150 for couples (or double occupancy), $100 for single occupancy and $40 for commuters (meals included). The Commission on Ministry will provide scholarship up to 50% of the cost for those who need it. You may find the brochure and registration material at [http://www.virlina.org/resources/downloads/send/5-miscellaneous/97-ministers-spouses-retreat-2020.html](http://www.virlina.org/resources/downloads/send/5-miscellaneous/97-ministers-spouses-retreat-2020.html).

**ROUNDTABLE AT BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE - FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 1, 2020**

*Roundtable* is the Regional Youth Conference for the Southeastern Region held each year at Bridgewater College. The 2020 Roundtable will be February 28-March 1 with Kyle Remnant as the speaker. Kyle Remnant is a native of Bridgewater, VA, Kyle is a musician, speaker and husband. The theme of the 2020 Roundtable is **2020 Vision: Seeing as Jesus Does.** Worship, small groups, workshops, recreation, Bible study, vespers, the Variety Show and more fun and inspiration await high school youth.

Things to bring include: a Bible, sleeping bag, pillow, clothes, towel, and toiletries (air mattress optional). For more information about this exciting event, as well as registration forms, please go to [https://iycroundtable.wixsite.com/iycb/roundtable](https://iycroundtable.wixsite.com/iycb/roundtable).

**PILGRIMAGE XXIV - MARCH 20-22, 2020**

Pilgrimage XXIV will be held March 20-22, 2020, at Camp Bethel. Individuals from 60 congregations in our district have participated in this spiritual retreat for adults.

Pilgrimage is for everyone who wants to draw closer to God. It is for the young and old, for the new Christian and the one who has been a Christian for decades. The retreat includes spiritual talks, small groups, fun times, inspiring worship services, and much more.

God continues to work in wonderful ways through this ministry! Prayerfully consider your participation. For more information, please contact Karen Haynes at (336) 765-5263 or by e-mail at haynesmk1986@yahoo.com or go to our website at [www.experiencepilgrimage.com](http://www.experiencepilgrimage.com).

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE MODERATOR’S FORUM – APRIL 18, 2020**

The Annual Conference Moderator’s Forum will take place April 18, 2020 from 1 – 9 p.m. at the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies at Elizabethtown College. The forum’s focus is “Historical Themes Impacting Today’s Church.” It will feature leading Brethren historians who will address a variety of historical themes impacting present-day congregations, districts, and national structures. Themes to be addressed include accountability, compelling vision, division, forbearance, and nationalism. The forum is open to both clergy and laity.

Registration cost, which includes dinner, is $30.00. For those attending the entire event, point six (0.6) CEU’s (Continuing Education Units) are also available for an additional cost of $10.00. The evening worship, beginning with hymn singing at 7 p.m., is open to the public without cost or registration. It will be held in the Gibble Auditorium on the Elizabethtown College campus. This event will also be available via live stream for a registration fee of $15.00. The registration deadline is April 9, 2020. Space for the main sessions (other than worship) is limited to 150 participants. For more information go to [http://www.brethren.org/news/2020/moderators-forum-is-april-18.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2020/moderators-forum-is-april-18.html).

In our own area, the Central Church of the Brethren is willing to host the live streaming event. Please contact Pastor Kevin Kinsey for more details at kinsey.revkev@gmail.com.
NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY - MAY 3, 2020

“New and Renew: Revitalize – Plant – Grow!” is our denominational church planting and church revitalization conference. It is held on alternate, even numbered years. The theme for 2020 is “The Reward of Risk” based on Matthew 25:28 in The Message: “Take the thousand and give it to the one who risked the most.” This event will be held at the Church of the Brethren General Offices in Elgin, IL on May 13-15, 2020. Contact David A. Bess, Chairperson of the Virlina District New Church Development Committee, if you have interest in going. We often provide some scholarship and assist with transportation. For more details, go to www.brethren.org/news/2019/new-and-renew-church-planting-event.html

YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE - MAY 22-25, 2020
The National Young Adult Conference (NYAC) will be held on May 22-25, 2020 at Montreat Conference Center (North Carolina). The 2020 theme, based on Romans 12:9-18, is “Love in Action!” This conference offers persons ages 18-35 a chance to enjoy fellowship, worship, recreation, Bible study, service projects and more... with other fantastic young adults! Registration opened January 20, 2020. For more information on this event go to the website at http://www.brethren.org/yac/. If you have any questions, contact Nolan McBride, the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Assistant, at nmcbride@brethren.org or (847) 429-4385.

AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE ORCHESTRA
Calling orchestra musicians! Annual Conference July 1-5, 2020 in Grand Rapids plans to have an orchestra! Below is a link to a survey any interested musician is asked to fill out to indicate their interest and skill level. If you have questions, you may contact the Orchestra Director, Nonie Detrick at: VBD50@comcast.net

EVENTS OF NOTE FROM OUR CONGREGATIONS
Zechariah “Zech” Houser and Jennifer “Jen” Houser will be licensed to the Gospel Ministry at the Durham, Peace Covenant Church on Sunday, February 9, 2020 during the morning worship service.

World Hunger Auction Events for 2020
- Ken Medema and Ted Swartz at Central Church of the Brethren...March 8, 4:00 p.m.
- Hunger Walk starting at Antioch...April 26, 3:00 p.m.
- Bike Ride starting at Antioch...June 6, 8:00 a.m.
- 37th World Hunger Auction at Antioch...August 8, 9:30 a.m.

Monte Vista Church is sponsoring a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for Camp Bethel on Saturday, March 14, 2020 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. All donations will go to Camp Bethel. Come join us for fun and fellowship for this worthy fundraiser!