



The Brethren Light

Issue 139

October 2006

Our Mission Statement:

- Love God
- Love Others
- Live Following Jesus' Example
- Lead Others To Do The Same

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The Search Continues

by Dennis Baker

The search committee is meeting again, most recently considering two applicants from Indiana, one from West Virginia, one from Pennsylvania, and one from the Dayton area. We will be scheduling an interview with one of them and will be receiving a video tape from another. The process has been to review the resume and/or profile of the person being considered. We would then schedule an interview for those who seem to have qualities in which we are interested. If after the interview, we are still interested in the person and they seem to be interested in us, search committee members will go to hear them preach if they are currently serving a congregation, or we would invite them to our church to preach when they are available. The congregation will have the opportunity to hear a person preach in our church at least once before being asked to vote on a recommendation by

the search committee to call a person to be our pastor.

Once again, we ask for your prayers that God is preparing the heart of the right person to be called to our congregation, and that we would recognize the strengths and character of that individual that we might call that person to become our pastor.

The committee has also recommended to the Executive Team that an interim pastor be hired to provide some continuity to the work of our church during this time of transition. Approximately 9 months ago, our church began to organize according to the five purposes described in Rick Warren's book, *Purpose Driven Life*. Primary Leadership in this plan is to come from the pastor, who leads the leadership team. The five purpose teams have done a very good job fulfilling their

responsibilities in the areas of fellowship, discipleship, mission, ministry, and worship, considering we have not had that pastoral part of our leadership team for several months.

Please be patient with us. We believe that each of us was called to this congregation for a purpose. We pray that over the next several weeks, months, and even years, that we will all discover God's purposes for our lives and will soon discover, together, how to best reach our unsaved family, friends, and neighbors for Christ.



Lamb of the Month for September

Bob Long, September's "Lamb of the Month," is a man with a heart for service. Bob was instrumental in developing our church's bus ministry. He had driven bus for the First Baptist Church for 5 years. When he came to the church of the Brethren, he brought with him the vision for that ministry.

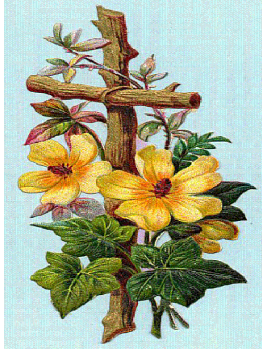
He now feels the Lord tugging at his heart to get him into more ministry. Mowing grass,

doing yard work, or anything to help someone in need - that is the desire of Bob's heart.

He credits his wife of 8 years, Peg, with bringing him to the Lord. After they met he saw her faith, and she started bringing him to church.

Bob and Peg are the parents of Cody and Bethany. Bob is employed by Starbrook Industry in Covington.





For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth.

Job 19:25

In Memoriam *Remembering those in the church and community family who have passed on*

William Edward "Bill" Heisey

June 17, 1918 - August 20, 2006

Bill Heisey, 88, of Bradford, passed away at Gade's Healthcare Center in Greenville. His parents were the late Orien and Mary Elizabeth (Lavey) Heisey. He was a dairy farmer and worked at Martin's Hatchery in Gettysburg. He was a member of the Englewood Dunkard Brethren Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife Alice in 2005; half brother J.D. Heisey; and sister Edna Flick.

He is survived by six sons and daughters-in-law: Larry & Joyce of Troy; Duane & Dixie of Pendleton, IN; Jan & Freda of Taylorsville, MS; Paul & Diane and Steven & Renee, all of West Unity, Ohio. He is also survived by daughter and son-in-law Karen & Stephen Blocher of Bradford, 18 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Burial was at Miami Memorial Park in Covington.

Who's in a Church *By Tracy Brewer, grand daughter of Beth Keihl*

Who's in a church?

Family, friends, neighbors, strangers who will become friends and family.

Who's in a church?

Those who sing and share their talents in order to spread the word of the Lord.

Who's in a church?

Those who praise the Lord and give thanks to Him; those who share His blessings.

Who's in a church?

The old, the young, the adults, the children, the fat, the thin, the light-hearted, the heavily burdened, and all in between.

Who's in a church?

Those who have opened their hearts and minds to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Who's in a church?

Those who need and want to accept the guidance of the Lord and those who try to follow His path and do His will.

Who's in a church?

Those who keep the Sabbath holy by renewing their faith and adding a thought to guide them through the week.

Who's in a church?

Those who read the Word of the Lord and reflect on it to aid in following the Lord and doing His will.

Who's in a church?

Those whom the Lord has chosen to be there, especially those whom can teach His Word, such as.....

Matthew 19:13-15

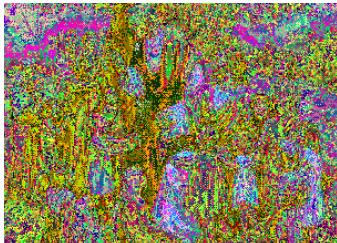
Little children were brought for Jesus to lay his hands on them and pray. But the disciples scolded those who brought them. "Don't bother Him," they said. But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and don't prevent them. For of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." And He put His hands on their heads and blessed them before He left.

Matthew 21: 14-16

And now the blind and crippled came to Him and He healed them there in the Temple. But when the chief priests and other Jewish leaders saw these wonderful miracles, and heard even the little children in the Temple shouting, "God bless the Son of David," they were disturbed and indignant and asked Him, "Do you hear what these children are saying?" "Yes," Jesus replied. "Didn't you ever read the scriptures? For they say, 'Even little babies shall praise Him!'"

Matthew 18:1-6

About that time the disciples came to Jesus to ask which of them would be greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven! Jesus called a small child over to Him and set the little fellow down among them, and said, "Unless you turn to God from your sins and become as little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven. Therefore anyone who humbles himself as this little child, is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. And any of you who welcomes a little child like this because you are mine, is welcoming me and caring for me. But if any of you causes one of these little ones who trust in Me to lose his faith, it would be better for you to have a rock tied to your neck and be thrown into the sea.



Matthew 12:25-26

A divided kingdom ends in ruin. A city or home divided against itself cannot stand.

Who's in a church?

Those who claim God as their Father.

Who's in a church?

God's children.

News from the Purpose Teams

Ministry

As fall approaches and the harvest is near, the farmers have worked through the early spring and summer to be rewarded by a plentiful harvest. It brings to mind what our lives should be. We need to work diligently in our lives so we can be ready when Jesus comes to harvest his people.

Are we ready? Have we sprouted and grown and branched out to reach others? Listen to what God is calling you to do. Are you ready to

grow in Christ's love as you help others to grow in Him? Do you have a ministry that God can blossom and grow?

Let us help you be a blessing to someone today. The Ministry Team will help you in any way we can to use your gifts and talents in new and existing ministries.

Current ministries include: Community Kitchen, Prayer Chain, Prayer Warriors, Welcoming Team, Visitation Team (shut-ins, nursing homes, etc.) Greeting Team, Card Ministry,

Help Line, Helping Hands, Video Tape Team, and Tape Ministry.

If you would like to get involved, or would like more information on these ministries, please contact any of our team members (John Shelton, Nikki Huff, Janice Sarver, Gary Mason, Patty Mason) or call the church office (443-2215)



The Community Kitchen will be serving the Wednesday of Pumpkin Show, Oct. 11. Carry out meals will not be served until 5 pm on Wednesdays, Meals to shut-ins will be served as usual.

Trustees

The Trustees will soon be replacing the playground set with a new one. The cost for this will be approximately \$2000. If you would like to contribute to this project, please mark donations "playground." This donation can be placed in the offering plates or turned in at the office through the month of September.

Discipleship

The Discipleship Team would like to begin a Wednesday evening Bible and activity fellowship for children in grades 1-6. If you would be interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Mary Alice Shoup (448-6345) or the church office.

Mission

The Mission Team will be asking for some help making up health kits and emergency clean-up buckets. More information will be coming on how you can help with this Church World Service Project.

Fellowship

The Fellowship Team will be taking orders for a Cat's Meow keepsake of our church. On the back of the 3 1/2" X 6" X 3/4" thick wood will be:

The Bradford Church of the Brethren, 120 West Oakwood Street Bradford, Ohio Church dedication held on Sunday, December 9, 1923. The Cornerstone holds: Holy Bible, a list of members, photograph of Rev. & Mrs. John M. Stover, a copy of recitation recited by Maurice Crowell, and a copy of the Gospel Messenger.

We request payment of \$20 each at the time of order. Please make checks payable to the Bradford Church of the Brethren. Orders will be taken until October 14. Delivery will be in 5-6 weeks. If you are interested in one of these Cat's Meow Keepsakes, please contact Cathy Baker at 448-6550 or the church office (448-2215)



Worship

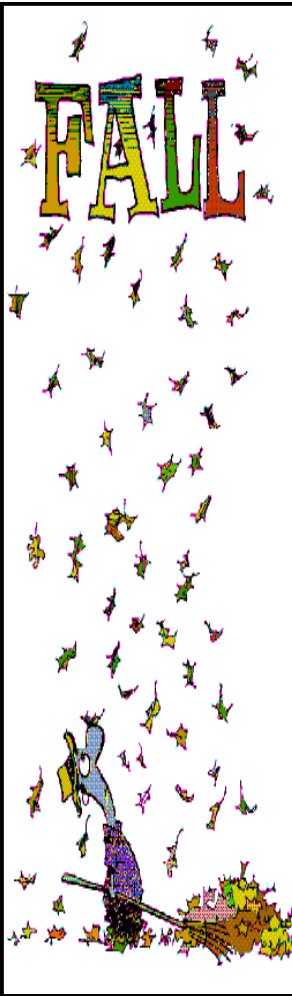
The Worship Team would like to thank everyone who participated in the worship forum on September 16. The work topic for the morning was how to make our Sunday morning service times more convenient for our congregation. Many good ideas were brought forth in small group discussions. After discussion and input from the whole group, the suggested plans were voted on. The top three plans were very close in the number of votes received. The Worship team will now present these three plans to the purpose teams for their consideration and input. After we receive this information back from them, the Worship team will formulate a recommendation on service times to present at the November church council meeting. If this proposal is approved, the Worship team will develop a timetable to introduce the changes.

By the time you read this it is hoped that we will have directors for the Children's Choir in place and practices being scheduled.

The Ministry Team needs volunteers to deliver meals to shut-ins for the Community Kitchen on Wednesday evening. Volunteers may serve as often as they like, but even once a month would be a big help. If you would like to help, please contact Patty Mason at 448-6120.



If you see The Brethren Light editor Teresa Stryker at church on Sept. 24, Oct. 1, or Oct. 8, go up to her and say, "I saw the Light," to receive a prize! And be sure to tell your friends it pays to read the church newsletter!



Pickets Poems

Wit and wisdom from Harold Pickett

Thank Him First

When you arise, to start your day,
You surely can afford
To take a little time to pray,
In communion with the Lord.

I'm sure you'll think about a lot
Of things to ask him for,
But thank Him first for what you've got,
Before you ask for more!

May I suggest you keep a list?
As blessings come your way
Write them down so none are missed,
Then count them every day!

Then, as these lists accumulate,
They're pleasing to review;
They help to keep the record straight,
What God has done for you!

You'll see He's blessed you with a lot
You should be thankful for,
So give him thanks for what you've got,
Before you ask for more!

One of Those Days

I've often said,
"Today I should have stayed in bed,"
When things go wrong,
With every venture, all day long;
For there are times when failure
reigns, and nothing rhymes.

No matter what
I try, it doesn't help a lot,
For I would say
When I've begun a bumpy day,
The more I strain
To get ahead, the less I gain!

It might be said
The trouble all is in my head;
But I maintain
That when my luck is on the wane,
The Devil's got
Me on his hit list, like as not.

So when I see
A day like this confronting me,
It's better, far,
To leave my burdens where they are,
And, like I said,
Go back to bed!



Are you looking for extra funds to help cover your college expenses? Are you interested in pursuing holistic stewardship? MMA College Scholarships are available to high school graduates and college students from Anabaptist congregations that have an MMA advocate. Contact Julie Wombold, our MMA advocate. Application deadline is March 31, 2007.



Welcome, Allison Diane Shoup!

Miss Allison Diane Shoup greeted her parents for the first time at 5:54 pm, August 30, 2006. Daniel and Marcie Shoup, the proud papa and mama, were pleased to welcome their 7pound, 14 ounce, 19 1/2 inch bundle of joy after a long summer awaiting her arrival.

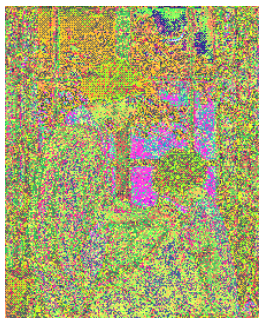
Also enjoying the presence of their first grandchild are David and Mary Shoup. Holly DeMoss is Allison's doting aunt.

Giving and Attendance.....August 20 - September 10

Date	August 20	August 27	Sept. 3	Sept. 10		Totals/Period
General Fund	3,888.00	1,942.00	1,982.00	1,948.00		9,760.00
Building Fund	10.00	160.00	70.00	10.00		250.00
Deacon Fund	20.00	70.00	20.00	20.00		130.00
Resident Aid Fund	45.00	10.00	10.00	45.00		110.00
County Line Christian	100.00	20.00	20.00	95.00		235.00
Change for Change	82.00	73.50	41.00	71.00		267.50
Tape Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Mexico Mission (Browns)	70.00	40.00	20.00	65.00		195.00
Mexico (Pastor Pepe)	20.00	10.00	20.00	0.00		50.00
Mexico (Orphanage)	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00		100.00
Mexico School Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Disaster Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Resource Center	30.00	5.00	45.00	5.00		85.00
Special Offerings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Puppet Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Technology Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Community Kitchen	30.00	68.00	369.00	157.35		624.35
Youth Ministries	40.00	40.00	20.00	20.00		120.00
Bus Ministry	0.00	20.00	10.00	20.00		50.00
Misc. Giving	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		5.00
Total Worship Giving	4,390.00	2,458.50	2,627.00	2,506.35	0.00	11,981.85
8:00 am Attendance	39	57	34	44		174
10:30 am Attendance	112	84	94	74		364
Worship Visitors	4	0	3	3		10
Total Worship Attendance	151	141	128	118		538
S.S. Operating Fund	44.53	48.23	49.14	57.50		199.40
S.S. Class Accounts	14.06	20.00	0.00	18.50		52.56
Total S.S. Giving	58.59	68.23	49.14	76.00		251.96
S.S. Attendance	102	78	80	82		342
S.S. Visitors	8	0	1	1		10

*Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.*

2 Corinthians 9:7-8



First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone.....

1 Timothy 2:1

Community Prayer Needs

Immediate Prayer Needs

Thelma Clark, McKenna Crews, Jon Davis, Bill Hones, Steve Root, David Shoup, Larry Stoner

On-Going Prayer List for Various Personal or Medical Needs

Cory Canan, John Fenstermaker, Edmonia Fine, Norman Fine, Trudy Frolke, Pauline Harmon, Tim Hedges, Harry Horner, Dale Miller, Jack Miller, Max and Judy Stover, Jane Ulrich, Mary Via, Rosemary Wood

On-Going Prayer List for Those Who Deal with Cancer

Harriet Beard, Don Bolinger, Steve Cales, Don Canan, Gary Coon, John Cruse, Alan Deubner, Becky Elliott, Maria Floyd, Peggy Frantz, Ed Garwood, Lori (Swank) Gilbert, Dean Horner, Bill Jones, Rex Kendall, Tammy King, Beth Kolpenski, Jackie Manson, Ben Massie, Patty Owens, Kate Palsgrove, Mary Seas, Lyn Sharp, Tom Shelton, Larry Stonerock, Carrie Wackler, Ellen Wheeler,

Wilma Willoughby



October Anniversaries



- 4 Dave and Diane Painter 1975
- 10 Lowell & Melody Rhoades 1992
- 14 Gary & Patty Mason 2000



Would you like to see the newsletter in color? See it online at the church website www.arenspub.com/Bradford-Church-of-the-Brethren/325/



As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

1 Peter 4:10

This Month with MMA

In their pamphlet *Holistic Stewardship*, MMA stresses that the word "stewardship" does not refer just to how we handle our money. Practicing holistic stewardship means finding ways to let faith in Christ guide our whole lives, including how we handle each of our God-given gifts. The following are ideas from *Holistic Stewardship* on how to make the most of your God-given resources:

Time

Increase your personal reflection time; include time to pray

and read scripture.

Talent

Step out of your comfort zone to develop gifts you may have neglected.

Health

Have recommended health screenings, for early diagnosis and timely treatment.

Relationships

Find ways to get to know your neighbors and reach out to those beyond your immediate community

Money

Create or revise a budget. Include a savings plan

If you would like more information on holistic stewardship - or on the many products, services, and resources MMA offers to help you become a more effective steward, contact MMA at (800) 348-7468, or visit them online at

www.mma-online.org.