

West Marva District MEMO

June 2017

384 Dennett Road Oakland MD 21550
301.334.9270

Kendal Elmore, Executive Minister
J. Rogers Fike, Executive Minister Emeritus
Brenda Harvey, Administrative Assistant
www.westmarvachurches.org

A Letter from Fred...

by Fred Bernhard,

(A good friend of our district, and an ordained Church of the Brethren minister.)

“Tell those rich in this world’s goods to quit being so full of themselves and so obsessed with money: which is here today and gone tomorrow. Tell them to go after God, who piles on all the riches we could ever manage—to do good, to be rich in helping others, to be extravagantly generous. If they do that they’ll build a treasury that will last, gaining life that is truly life.” (1 Timothy 6:18-18, *The Message*).

In 1995 my wife and I were invited to attend a stewardship conference. While there, I experienced a mindset change from scarcity to abundance, realizing that we as Americans are far richer than other peoples around the world. It changed my whole perspective on how I view wealth and material possessions.

Small congregations usually view themselves as congregations with limited resources, both financial and in people skills. Pastors of these congregations hear these responses: “We can’t do that; we don’t have enough money.” “We don’t have the time to do that; all of us are already too busy.” “We’re not like the big church down the street. Let them do that.” From my own experience, I can testify that a bigger worshiping community does not mean a more effective church. Size may make multiple programs possible, but congregational vitality can be achieved in congregations of all sizes.

The common denominator is passion. Congregations who possess passion know that they can make a difference for Christ in their community and around the world. They know that, no matter how small, they can do big things for God. The secret is a passion for a purposeful, mission-driven, congregational life. Persons are drawn to such churches because they want to serve.

A mission committee struggled for weeks trying to come up with ways to buy one heifer for Heifer International. With a little help from the pastor, the congregation caught the vision and turned it into a passion for a mission. The result was 32 heifers purchased and donated to Heifer International.

That congregation experienced a mindset change: from scarcity to abundance. What no one thought possible became a reality when they caught the vision and their compassion fulfilled the mission. In simple terms, they put their hands where their mouths were. It’s a spiritual condition, isn’t it? Giving isn’t about the receiver or the gift but the giver.

It’s a sign of our spiritual discipline. **We give because it’s the only concrete way we have of saying that we’re glad to be alive and well.** Giving is a way of taking the focus off the money we make and putting it back where it belongs—on the lives we lead, the God we serve, the families we raise, the communities which nurture us. Our spiritual condition can be summed up with this prayer: “No matter what we say or do, God, this offering is what we think of you.”

When your congregation, however small, puts its trust in God and changes your attitude from scarcity to abundance, amazing things will happen—things beyond your wildest imagination. Just ask that church’s mission committee!

You may have seen the movie years ago, *God Has No Grandchildren* by Luis Palau. The movie depicts the story of the 1904 revival in Wales when a dramatic revival occurred. Thousands were introduced to Christ, and the results were dramatic. **Bars closed** because of lack of business. **Policemen exchanged their weapons for white gloves because crime had disappeared.** Wales was so caught up with the life transforming power of the Gospel that missionaries were sent all over the world.

One of those missionaries traveled to Argentina where on the streets he led a young boy to Christ. The boy's name was Luis Palau. He has since become known as the "Billy Graham of Latin America." Palau visited Wales to express his thankfulness for being led to Christ. What he discovered was astonishing. Less than one-half of one percent of the Welsh attended church. Divorce was at an all-time high, and crime was increasing. The message of the movie was that **if believers don't share their faith, the Church is one generation away from becoming extinct.**

As a result of this experience, Palau produced the film *God Has No Grandchildren*. The thrust of the film is that each generation is responsible for passing on the faith to the next. **In Wales, the impact of Christianity had all but disappeared.**

Each generation is responsible for passing on the truths of Scripture... to it's children. Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it."

What does this have to do with us today?

In too many of our churches, there is a preoccupation with the way things were in the past. There seems to be no sense of purpose in the present that builds toward a future that is even more faithful and effective than the well remembered past.

How has this happened? Many of our congregations are living in the memories of the past. **The "By-Gone Glory Days."** The congregational

members and leaders of those "glory days" that have gone by, are no longer here, but in their places are subsequent generations. The Holy Spirit likely brought about those days when the congregation's fire and focus was effectively radiating the "Light of the World" to the surro **The flames of revival that brought the "glory days" have now cooled off, in some cases, the embers have become ashes!**

In other words, While not as stark as the waning of the Presence following the Wales Revival early in the 20th Century, there is, nevertheless in too

many of our congregations a loss of enthusiasm and vitality. Perhaps, we have not clearly enough presented a compelling vision and invitation for subsequent generations (in other words: our kids and grandkids) the absolute necessity of having a genuine experience in relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Perhaps, we've been a bit too easy-going, maybe fearing we'd turn our kids "off." **My feeling is, in order to be turned "off," one must first be turned "on."**

Bowling, pizza parties, volleyball, softball, basketball, etc. etc. etc. all have their place in Youth Ministry. These are not, however, PRIMARY, but rather are secondary. Such activities are useful in providing a "magnetic" attraction and a conducive environment, for the **Proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!**

Can you hear the voice of the Lord? "For He (God) made Him (Jesus), who knew no sin, to be sin for us (that's us!) that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

(2 Corinthians 5:21)

So, answering our question: **God has NO grandchildren!** Remember, Jesus told Nicodemus: **"...you MUST be BORN AGAIN!"** (John 3:7)

Blessings!

Kendal ☺



Preston J. "Pete" Miller, August 1, 1938—June 10, 2017



Preston Joseph "Pete" Miller, 78, of Beaver Run Road, Burlington, WV, passed away peacefully on Saturday June 10, 2017 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

Born on August 1, 1938 in Cumberland, MD, he was the son of the late Preston R. Miller and Chattie (Llewellyn) Jones. He was also preceded in death by one brother, Robert H. Miller.

Preston was a 1955 graduate of Phoenix Union High School, Phoenix AZ. From High School he enlisted in the Army and was stationed in Germany as a Military Policeman during the Korean War. He later received his Bachelors in Physics from Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, VA and went on to get his Masters plus 45 from West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV. He was a school teacher for over 53 years and taught at Fort Defiance High School, in VA and Fort Ashby High School, Frankfort High School, Keyser High School, and Potomac State College, all in WV. He coached Cross Country at Fort Defiance and then Frankfort for many years. He was an avid runner in cross country and marathons. He was the Pastor of the Beaver Run Church of the Brethren in Burlington for the last 38 years. As a Pastor he was an inspiration to many and he continued to serve the Lord and preach the Gospel up until 3 weeks prior to his passing.

Surviving are his wife of 56 years, Naomi J. (Moreland) Miller; one son, Todd Michael Miller, one daughter, Dana Lynn Branson, all of Burlington; two grandchildren, John David Diehl of Burlington, and Destiny Renae Branson of Martinsburg; one step grandson, Damon Branson Jr., of Shepherdstown; six great-grandchildren, Tyler Diehl, Ian Diehl, Hailey Diehl, Riley Diehl, Aubrie Washington, and Amir Washington; numerous nieces and nephews; and his three special pets, Copper, Suzi, and Beau.

Friends may call at the Beaver Run Church of the Brethren in Burlington on Saturday June 17, 2017 from 10:00 am until 12:00 p.m.

A Celebration of Life will be conducted at the church immediately following the visitation at 12:00 pm with Pastor Tim Westrom and John Mark Miller officiating.

An interment service will be held at the Abe Cemetery, Old Furnace Road, Ridgeley, WV on Sunday June 18, 2017 at 1:00 pm. Military Honors will be accorded. A procession to the cemetery will begin at the Beaver Run Church in Burlington at 12:00 pm.

The Smith Funeral Home, Burlington Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

The family requests that memorial contributions be directed to the Beaver Run Church of the Brethren Memorial Fund, 1774 Beaver Run Road, Burlington, WV 26710.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to the physicians and staff at the Schwab Family Cancer Center and the staff of Mountain Hospice for the excellent care and compassion extended to both Mr. Miller and his family.

RESERVATIONS FOR DISTRICT CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 16-17, 2017

The lunch served on Saturday will be on a pre-pay basis. It is extremely difficult to prepare a meal when you don't have a number to work with. The menu will be: Chicken, ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, noodles, green beans, corn, coleslaw, rolls and butter, tea, lemonade and coffee and dessert. Meal prepared by the Moorefield Church. Reservations need to be in by September 8, 2017 along with a check made payable to West Marva District, 384 Dennett Road, Oakland, MD 21550.

Person sending reservations: _____

From congregation: _____

Phone number (if needed for contact) _____

MEAL RESERVATIONS:

Number of persons: _____ Saturday noon (cost of meal \$12.00)

**MEAL TICKETS MUST BE PICKED UP AT THE REGISTRATION TABLE ON
SATURDAY MORNING**

DISTRICT CONFERENCE MOTEL ACCOMODATIONS:

Motel reservations should be made directly, arranging with the following public accommodations:

In Moorefield:
South Branch Inn (304)538-2033
Rt. 220 North

Honors AAA & AARP
(If your church has a tax exempt number
bring a copy of it with you to be tax exempt)

In Petersburg:(20 to 25 minutes away)
Fort Hill (304)257-4717

Hermitage Motor Inn (304)257-1771
Virginia Avenue

Evans Motel (304)538-7771
N. Main St.

Homestead Inn, Rt. 55 (304)257-1049

SINGERS NEEDED FOR DISTRICT CONFERENCE CHOIR

Once again Ezra Yoder will be directing a choir for both the Friday evening worship service and on Saturday morning at our District Conference. The songs will be familiar hymns. On Friday evening he would like to meet with all those who would like to participate at 5:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary. For more information contact Ezra at 301-895-5988.

WEST MARVA DISTRICT WOMEN'S SPRING RALLY UPDATE:

The Spring Women's Rally was held at the Oak Park Church of the Brethren with a theme "Shaped to Serve" on May 10, 2017.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the ladies and churches who participated with the 'Emma's Wish' project. These items were delivered to the Mineral County School of Practical Nursing and will be distributed to local children who have cancer (age 9 or younger). Once again we were overwhelmed with the love and compassion that was evident in the amount of items received. The picture here only shows a small portion of the items.



Tina Ferry and Jennifer Paugh shared with the group their thanks for all of the assistance they had received as they work, and continue to work with the West Virginia flooding in Clendenin, West Virginia. They showed a DVD that had been prepared of the devastation of the Clendenin area and there was not a dry eye in the group. There is still so much work that needs to be done and they do not plan to forget this area that so many others have forgotten. We had quite a wonderful surprise when we were introduced to Andrea Underwood, her children and her mother Linda Payne, who were victims of the flood. Their story of survival and rebuilding was so touching. It was the decision of the ladies that we would give \$671.50 to the Kitzmiller Lion's Club to be used in assisting the families in the Clendenin area as they continue to rebuild their lives.

Elaine Bernard and Kaylie Matthews shared with us their experiences as they went on a mission trip to an orphanage in Guatemala. They went to Guatemala with a group from the Sunnyside and Oakdale congregations. They shared with us a PowerPoint presentation and it was very apparent this was a time of hard work, but also a wonderful time of interaction with the children of the orphanage. The children appeared to be very happy and well adjusted. They also shared that there is a mission event that will be taking place in our area that we can be involved in. They talked about the Awaken Tours that will be taking place this summer.

Nina Mason and Tammy Timbrook have worked very hard to prepare a District Women's Historical Booklet. This booklet talks about what has taken place in the Women's Fellowship since it's beginning and also has information from many of the women's fellowships from across the West Marva District. If you would be interested in a booklet you can contact Tammy Timbrook at 304-496-7841. The cost of the booklet is \$5.00.

Diane May presented a concern regarding children that are removed from their homes and taken into Child Protective Services. Many of these children are removed from their homes and are not allowed to take anything with them when they are placed in a foster care home (and this could take place in the middle of the night). She suggested that we use part of our offering to assist these children. We would purchase age appropriate backpacks and place specified items in these packs. All kits will contain a blanket and a stuffed animal. Other age appropriate items will be included. We are working with CPS to determine how to stock the kits to best meet the needs of these children. They would be delivered to Child Protective Service agencies across our district and these backpacks would be given to children when they are being removed from their homes. We have collected \$1,984.50 to use toward the purchase of the items that will be needed. Diane May will order the items that have been specified as most needed and at a later date we will meet to put the kits together. If you know any CPS workers who would be interested in these kits, please have them contact Diane May at 301-707-9935. We have contacted all the counties, but unfortunately some of the supervisors have not returned our call. Please help us reach out to these children.

Donna Kempfner will be serving as our President; Faye Hetrick as Vice-president; Brenda Harvey as Secretary/Treasurer; Marcia Spaid as the Chair of the Witness Commission and Gina Frazee as a member of the Nominating Committee.

A delicious lunch was served by the ladies of the Oak Park Church and the following recipe was requested:

STOVE TOP EASY CHICKEN BAKE

Serves 6

1—6oz package of Stove top stuffing mix for chicken

½# chicken breast cut into 1" pieces

1 can cream of chicken soup

1/3 cup of sour cream

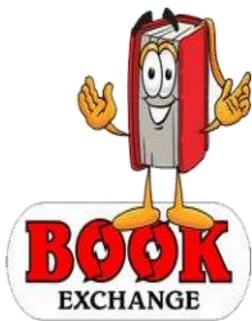
1—16 Oz bag of frozen broccoli (may use fresh)

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Prepare stuffing mix as directed on package. Set aside. Saute chicken in olive oil. Mix chicken, soup, sour cream and broccoli; pour into 9x13 pan; top with stuffing mix. Bake 30 minutes or until heated through

We received 13 Hygiene, 10 School kits and 2 Clean-up Buckets. We also received \$300.00 to be used to purchase clean-up buckets through CWS. \$1,000.00 was also sent to CWS to purchase kits as needed and \$213.00 was received to assist with postage. Once again, a special thank you to Nova Stonesifer for seeing that the kits are delivered to New Windsor.

A special thank you to the Gortner Church for registration, Pine Grove for the morning refreshments, Sugarland for the morning devotions and the Bear Creek Church for the closing devotions.

The Fall Rally will be held at the Westernport Church, October 11, 2017 and the 2018 Spring Rally will be held at the Tearcoat Church.



Attention all Book Lovers!!!! This year at District Conference the West Marva District Spiritual Growth Team will be sponsoring a 'Book Exchange'. Churches and individuals are encouraged to bring Christian study books, Christian fiction books, (**VHS tapes and DVD's have also been included.**) You can bring these items to the Open Discussion Room where they will be displayed. Then anyone in attendance at conference can take these books and more at no charge. Any books left at the end of conference will be distributed to different charity organizations in the Moorefield/Petersburg area.

Attention VBS Directors!!! Also this year at District Conference the West Marva District Spiritual Growth Team will be sponsoring a Vacation Bible School Repurposing Room. If your church would have VBS supplies, decorations, craft ideas, etc., these items can be brought to the Open Discussion Room and they would also be made available to anyone attending conference at no charge. Please make sure the name of your church is on all materials because if they are not repurposed at the end of conference they will be returned to your church.

AERIAL PHOTO'S AVAILABLE

Would you be interested in having an aerial picture of your church? Matt Bernard has informed our office that he had the capability to take a picture of your church using a drone. If you would like more information you can contact Matt at mb515@live.com

HAITI MISSION TRIP 2017 UPDATE—DAVID SUTTON

On March 1-10, 2017 we made another trip to Haiti and this year we had 11 people in attendance. Our group consisted of 3 women and 8 men. Those attending from West Marva were Dan Combs, Luke Bucher and David Sutton. This year Steve Abe from North Carolina was able to attend while the remaining team members were from other denominations.

With only four people in the medical team, I called Barbara, Pastor Prevals daughter in Florida for assistance. She was able to secure two Haitian nurses and a doctor to assist with the clinics. We had six clinics and were able to see 1,800 people, in the mountain churches near Lascahobasm about a three hours ride from Port-au-Prince.

We stayed in Pernal in a house with water and electricity most of the time, also a church were we put on a roof in 1985 and also a school and orphanage. The head pastor is Doucamal who was an orphan in this orphanage in 1980. He is also the Church Board director and has two children. He lives in Beladere and works at the border.

We purchased and took 100 Bibles with us. We took some of them to Pernal on Sunday and gave some of them to Pastor Simeon for the church in Ganthier. The Bible's cost about \$10.00 each but they were priceless to the people who received them. They will be well used.

The other seven men stayed in Port-au-Prince at Pastor Preval's house. The electricity went off every day at 5:00 p.m., so we had to use a generator. Every day we drove 45 minutes to the Ganthier Church. They were having services in a tent for the last two years. The new church is 67'x100 with walls 19 feet high with a large balcony. This will seat 1,500 people. Pastor Simeon stated that he has been working with Bro. Preval since 1965 and that they started the Haiti Mission in 1967. This was their 50th Anniversary. A big convention was held in January for four days with over 20,000 people in attendance coming from the United States, Canada, France, Brazil, Chili and many of the Caribbean Islands where they have churches. These churches are growing so fast.

Pastor Roberts came to us to thank us for putting the roof on his church in Gonavie last year. He told us that when they moved into the new church that 60 new families came to worship with them.

Pastor Charles from the Carice Church said when they moved into the new church we put a roof on that their attendance went from 500 to 1,500 people in six months. The old church would only hold 500.

Pastor Regela wants us to put a roof on his church next year in Petit Goave. The old church collapsed in 2010 during the earthquake, so they have been having church without a building for seven years. He is in charge of 25 churches and 9 schools. The new church will be 70'x120' with a large balcony. It is about 70km from Port-au-Prince. Pastor Regela was born in Haiti, but was raised in Parkersburg, WV. After college he went back to Haiti to serve the Lord with Haiti Mission Services.

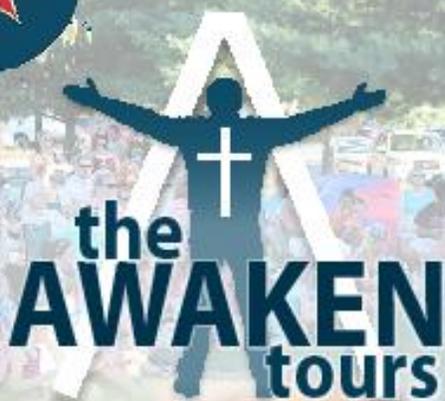
I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support. God has blessed us so much. It has been a privilege to go and serve Him on these mission trips. Matthew 28:18-20 says go and serve and by putting a roof on the new churches, many people have come and accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. I am glad God allowed us to go and be a small part of His service.

If you would like for me to come and show slides of our trip call me at 304-726-4637. I will come when I can as I am serving as co-pastor of the Old Furnace Church.

In His Service, Pastor Dave Sutton

SENIOR CITIZEN'S CAMP UPDATE

Senior Citizen's Camp was held at Camp Galilee on June 6, 2017. There were forty three in attendance. There is always lots of food, fun, laughter, and good Christian fellowship. We appreciate the team (Grover Duling, Randy Shoemaker and Fred and Marge Roy) who work so hard to prepare for the days activities. This year a freewill offering of \$154.00 was given to the camp for their mission project of the year which is the Heifer Project.



STEP RIGHT UP! YOU'RE INVITED

FREE FOOD Kids Activities
BBQ Pulled Pork & Hot Dogs
Sno-Cones
Fellowship
LIVE MUSIC
GUEST SPEAKERS Moon Bounces
Cotton Candy
Face Painting and more!!!

GIVEAWAYS

GAMES

Tour Dates

- Jul 15, 2017 (4-8pm) TOWN PARK MOOREFIELD, WV
- Jul 29, 2017 (4-8pm) WELTON PARK PETERSBURG, WV
- Aug 12, 2017 (4-8pm) TOWN PARK KEYSER, WV
- Aug 26, 2017 (4-8pm) TOWN PARK BARTON, MD
- Sept 2, 2017 (4-8pm) THE GLADES OAKLAND, MD

* RAIN DAY WILL BE THE FOLLOWING DAY AT THE SAME TIME

www.theawakentours.com

Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy an evening of Christian Fellowship.

West Marva District Women's Retreat

Thursday August 10th / Friday August 11th / Saturday August 12th 2017

Camp Galilee, Terra Alta, WV

Theme: **EMBRACE THE SEASON**

Ecclesiastes 3:1 Niv

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven:



God is so orderly that He divided the year into four quarters and we know those times as seasons. Just as we have the natural seasons of winter, spring, summer and autumn, there are also spiritual seasons. God has given us four major seasons that we go through as we go through our daily acts of living. Everyone is in a spiritual season. You are in one of the four spiritual seasons right now for a divine purpose. Without the ability to accurately discern the season you are in, you will miss many opportunities. Come and join us as we study and grow in a greater awareness of our spiritual seasons. And then let God work in and through you to get the most out of whatever season you are in!

On Thursday registration begins at 4:00 PM and Supper at 5:00PM with scheduled activities following. Everyone is invited to spend the night in a cabin free of charge or you may travel home and return in the morning!!

Morning Devotion and Breakfast on Friday at 7:45AM. With a full schedule of activities for the remainder of the day beginning at 9:00AM. Following Lunch on Saturday we will have a Program to wrap up our retreat.

Our Service Project this year will be Foster Children Comfort Kits for children Newborn to 2 yrs. old. Please bring donations of Baby Bottles, pacifiers, diapers, baby wipes, age appropriate toy for 9 month old and up. We will also be making the knotted fleece blankets for the children.

IN ORDER TO HAVE A COUNT FOR MEALS PLEASE PRE-REGISTER BY CALLING 301-334-9270 BY AUGUST 1ST.

Fees will be \$7.00 for each meal that you are present for (\$42.00 for entire retreat).

PLEASE POST ON BULLETIN

A WORKDAY AT NEW WINDSOR

Ephesians 6:6-8 Amplified Bible (AMP) ⁶ Not in the way of eye-service [as if they were watching you] and only to please men, but as servants (slaves) of Christ, doing the will of God heartily *and* with your whole soul;

WHAT: A workday for the women (and men) of West Marva District

Sponsored by the West Marva District Women's Fellowship Witness Commission

WHERE: New Windsor Brethren Service Center, New Windsor MD

WHEN: September 11, 2017 9:00a.m. - 3:30pm

We plan to carpool from local church communities. Each lady riding is being asked to pay your driver \$10.00 to help defray expenses. (Approximate mileage to New Windsor is 150 miles). **DRIVERS WILL BE NEEDED!**

An accurate number of people planning to attend is imperative! The Brethren Service Center needs to know whether to schedule additional help for the day.

You will also gain access to a limited Marketplace, where seconds and outlet items are available at greatly reduced prices to volunteers. Also there will be a complimentary lunch served at noon.

Any church preparing "Gift of the Heart Kits" for the Fall Women's Rally may want to take the kits directly to New Windsor (please make sure you turn this number in at the Fall Rally so you can be included in our totals)

Please fill out and return by September 1, 2017

District Women's Trip to New Windsor Brethren Service Center

September 11, 2017 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Name _____ **Church** _____

Address _____ **Telephone** _____

Number attending _____ **Can drive** _____ **Need a ride** _____

Return the above information to: Witness Commission c/o Mery Berg, 3469 Jordan Run Road, Maysville, WV 304-749-7588 or contact the District Office.

2017 BRETHREN BITS from Betty's Desk . . . Ministers from 1873-1880 West Marva Area

This list may be of interest to those of you who had ancestors serving as ministers in the areas now encompassed in our West Marva District. Information is taken from the *Brethren's Almanac* and *Allegheny Passage, Churches and Families of the West Marva District*.

Name	Address	County	State
James Abernathy	Oakland	Garrett	MD
Daniel B. & George S. Arnold	Burlington	Mineral	WV
Isaac Ball	Kasson	Barbour	WV
Flemon Barnes	Brandonville	Preston	WV
Josiah Beeghly	Accident	Garrett	MD
Solomon Biser	Burlington	Mineral	WV
George Bucklew	Portland	Preston	WV
Thomas Clark	Oakland	Garrett	MD
Martin Cosner	Greenland	Grant	WV
John L. Ebert	Greenland	Grant	WV
Aaron, Moses & Samuel Fike	German Settlement	Preston	WV
Charles Groves	Belington	Barbour	WV
Joseph Hanlin	Greenland	Grant	WV
John L. Hook	Selbysport	Garrett	MD
Joseph Houser	Buchannon	Upshur	WV
Isaac W. Leatherman	Burlington	Mineral	WV
William Michael	Greenland	Grant	WV
John A. & Samuel Miller	Accident	Garrett	MD
Daniel Myers	Rowelsburg	Preston	WV
Jonathan Pope	Moorefield	Hardy	WV
James Ridenour	Brandonville	Preston	WV
Jacob Thomas	Brandonville	Preston	WV
Elias Whetzel	Shade Mills	Alleghany	MD

How many of these names can we still recognize after over 130 years? For example the Thomas family in the Sandy Creek congregation have had a long tradition of serving as ministers. Descendants can still be found today. Actually in Allegheny Passage reference has been made to an article written by M. J. Thomas of Sandy Creek, published on March 7, 1876. This historical account of the pioneering families includes information about Jacob Thomas who got land in the Sandy Creek area in 1794. Some of the Fike family ministers were also involved in the development of the churches there.

Church of the Brethren
West Marva District Office
384 Dennett Road
Oakland, MD 21550
JUNE 2017 Issue

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
OAKLAND, MD
PERMIT NO. 68

Address Service Requested

IN GOD WE TRUST

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 26-July 3	Kendal out of the office
28-July 2	Annual Conference—Grand Rapids, MI
July 4	Office Closed—4th of July
7-9	Primary Camp at Camp Galilee
9-14	Youth Camp at Camp Hope
9-15	Youth Camp at Camp Galilee
15-16	Alumni Camp at Camp Galilee
16-21	Junior Camp at Camp Hope
16-22	Junior High Camp at Camp Galilee
23-26	Primary Camp at Camp Hope
23-28	Junior Camp at Camp Galilee
August 10-12	Women's Camp at Camp Galilee
21-22	Meetings with David Steele, General Secretary of the Church of the Brethren (locations to be announced)
September 4	Labor Day Office Closed
9	Brethren Revival Fellowship Annual Meeting, Oakdale Church
11	New Windsor Work Day, West Marva District Women's Fellowship
16-17	District Conference, Moorefield Church of the Brethren