

WEST MARVA DISTRICT OCTOBER 2017 MEMO

*Singing and Praise!
More than Music..*

*An Afternoon of Praise
Celebrating God's Blessings Among Our
West Marva Churches of the Brethren*

**“This is the Day that the Lord Has Made...
We Will Rejoice and Be Glad In It!”** Psalm 118:24 (NKJV)

“Let the Redeemed of the Lord Say So!...” Psalm 107:20

We are calling all the Brethren of the West Marva District Churches to come together for a Praise Gathering to Celebrate!

We are called to Celebrate what God is doing in our midst. We hear way too much about all that is wrong everywhere, even in the church. There are many, many blessings that are truly wonderful, but are often “hidden” from view, as the clutter of the world obscures them from our attention.

We will gather to **Sing... to Celebrate... to Share... to Pray... and to Worship** the One from Whom all Blessings Flow! Bring a song. Bring a Testimony! **Let's Praise and Worship Together and Celebrate:**

“To the Glory of God and our Neighbor's Good”

**Praise
Him!**

**Sunday, November 5,
Cherry Grove 3 PM
US 219, 1 Mile North
Of I-68, Exit 22**



The Tragedy of Las Vegas...

The times in which we find ourselves remind us of the urgency of proclaiming the Gospel to every person, for surely, evil is present in many places and many forms.

Pray for victims of the mass shooting tragedy in Las Vegas, Nev. May those who grieve somehow find comfort. May those who are injured find strength as they try to heal and recover.

It is difficult for those who are not Biblically informed, to recognize that EVIL is present even in the hearts of individuals

who have not come to a living relationship with Jesus.

M. Scott Peck, noted psychiatrist, who became a Christian after

finding no other means of understanding the reality of evil he observed in his practice that he could not explain any other way. He offers this account in his book, *People of the Lie*.

Evil exists and is real. It is, however the task and opportunity of the church of the Lord Jesus Christ, to bring persons into a living relationship with Christ and help everyone to recognize not only the presence of evil, but God's provision to overcome evil. There are numerous references in scripture that enable us to recognize the power of the Gospel to overcome evil!

May we consider the Church of the Breth-

ren's [1978 Annual Conference statement on violence and the use of firearms](#), which states:

Our heritage and our faith call us as individuals

- **to reaffirm our commitment to the Prince of Peace;**
- **to declare that as individuals we will never use violence against any other person to maim or to take human life.**

Pray for the team of [Children's Disaster Services](#) (CDS) volunteers who are deploying

to serve at a Family Assistance Center in Las Vegas, following a request from the Red Cross. These volunteers are specially trained in Critical Response Child-care. Pray for the children trying to make sense of this tragedy.



We must also pray that as we trust the Lord for our security and safety we should not be intimidated and fearful to leave the relative safety of our homes. **“For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”** 2 Tim 1:7

We must be secure in our trust that the Lord will take good care of us. This DOESN'T MEAN that we disregard caution, but be as conscious as possible of staying safe and secure.

Kendal ☺



The following resolution was approved with two dissenting votes at the 2017 District Conference, September 16, at the Moorefield Church of the Brethren.

West Marva District Church of the Brethren Resolution on Same-Sex Marriage

Whereas: The Church of the Brethren's official position on covenantal relationships between homosexual persons is that they are "an additional lifestyle option but, in the church's search for a Christian understanding of human sexuality, this alternative is not acceptable" (1983 Annual Conference Statement, Human Sexuality from a Christian Perspective); and

Whereas: West Marva District "Core Beliefs Disciplines and Practices" document states on page 10, "Marriage is a life-long commitment of love between a man and a woman..." (adopted by District Conference September 16, 2006); and

Whereas: The Church of the Brethren recently finished a study on the 1983 Annual Conference Statement, Human Sexuality from a Christian Perspective and again affirmed in 2011 the Church's position on the homosexual lifestyle; and

Whereas: "The Church of the Brethren upholds the biblical declaration that heterosexuality is the intention of God for Creation," (1983 Annual Conference Statement on Human Sexuality from a Christian Perspective); and

Whereas: The Church of the Brethren has reaffirmed a commitment to "extend Christ-like comfort and grace to homosexual and bisexual persons" (1983 Annual Conference Statement, Human Sexuality from a Christian Perspective).

Therefore be it resolved that the West Marva District Church of the Brethren,

Reaffirms the denominational position that "covenantal relationships between homosexual persons is [sic] an additional lifestyle option but, in the church's search for a Christian understanding of human sexuality, this alternative is not acceptable" (1983 Annual Conference Statement, Human Sexuality from a Christian Perspective); and

Affirms that ordained or licensed ministers are not permitted to perform or officiate at any same sex marriage;

Affirms that regardless of state and federal laws, marriage is a God-ordained covenant that can only be entered into by one man and one woman;

Affirms that the use of West Marva District buildings, camps, properties, or churches for the use of same sex ceremonies is prohibited;

Reaffirms a commitment to extend Christ-like comfort and grace to Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgendered (LGBT) persons in the spirit of the 1983 Annual Conference Statement, Human Sexuality from a Christian Perspective;

Affirms that the West Marva District will recognize for leadership positions only those persons that uphold the teachings of the Bible and the West Marva core Beliefs.

Recognizes that conversations about LGBT concerns will continue outside the query process, and in the spirit of the 1983 Annual Conference Statement, Human Sexuality from a Christian Perspective such conversations will not be deemed to violate any District policies.

Guest Editorial: Learning the Language

Note: *The following article, from Regeneration Ministries is reprinted with permission. The primary focus here is not specifically about sex related healing, but about our New Life in Christ...KWE*

To our shame, we have participated in wielding God's good gift of sex as an instrument for evil. We have gone on and on presenting our bodies to sin as instruments of unrighteousness. We have been the man bringing this most treasured and sacred gift of his own sexuality to throne room of sin for whatever unrighteous purposes it has in mind.

Christ has come offering Himself on our behalf. Unstained by sin and unrighteousness, Christ steps between us and sin, taking the full brunt of its death (Isaiah 53), and giving us His life so that we might once again present our members to God as instruments of righteousness. He has rescued us from sin's kingdom and brought us to His own good Kingdom. (Colossians 1:13). He has adopted us as His sons (Romans 8:15) and given us a new heart (Ezekiel 36:26). And He now invites us to join in the great Rescue.

The battle rages. And yet, our bodies are only beginning to become familiar with walking in righteousness. Clumsy and confounded in the flow of His purity, we long to be fluent in the language of our new heart.

Christ is faithful to teach us.

Experts in the area of language learning know that the most effective way to learn to speak a new language is to immerse yourself in the language—to go to a country that has as its primary language the language you are trying to learn. To emulate this, many foreign language teachers here in the United States only permit their students to speak the new language in their classes, even for first year students. This can be painful for students. They know what they want to say and they know how to say it in their native tongue, but are limited in the new language.

To become fluent in a new language, then, means being willing to be limited, accomplish less, and even to sound (and perhaps seem to others) less intelligent than the student actually is for a time. In this process, the temptation comes to abandon the task, to revert back to the default mode and speak the more familiar, native language used for so long by the student. This is the natural thing to want to do. The temptation says, "I'll work on fluency later; right now, I need to be satisfied!"

This is similar at times to our predicament in learning to walk as new creatures with new hearts. God has washed us of our sexual sins but they remain familiar, and seem natural, to us. We didn't become accustomed to our particular set of sins overnight and we won't typically find sinful habits and desires changed overnight. Goodness, love, purity, light, and things like these are the language of the family into which we've been adopted. We long to become fluent, to speak this new language as our Rescuer, Jesus, does. And He is teaching us, conversing with us all the time, and filling us with His capacity for this language. It is that for which we were made and redeemed. And yet, the old language, though filthy and degrading to us as persons, seems to slip from our mouths without warning. The long-lived habits of the flesh cry out for satisfaction, now!

Spiritual disciplines and practical exercises are invaluable to us here. Much like language lessons—vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar, conversation, and customs—all seem awkward, slow, and forced at first. But overtime, as we become practiced, they become more natural, and we become more free. Likewise, as we practice spiritual disciplines like confession, silence and solitude, prayer, meditation, Scripture study, gratitude, and simplicity (to name only a few), our minds and bodies now so accustomed to the ways of sin, over time become more familiar and adept at the ways of the Kingdom to which we are saved.

What do you do (or not do) to learn the new language of the kingdom of Christ?



Josh Glazer

Executive Director
Regeneration Ministries.



West Marva District welcomes Josh Brockway, Director of Spiritual Life and Discipleship for the Church of the Brethren, to a Decade of Discipleship Workshop, at the Oak Park Church on Sunday, October 29, from 2:30 to 6:00 PM.

Josh is expected to lead us into deeper and clearer understandings of what following Jesus in the challenging times in which we find ourselves. The following is a sample of how Josh expresses himself... in simple, easy to understand language:

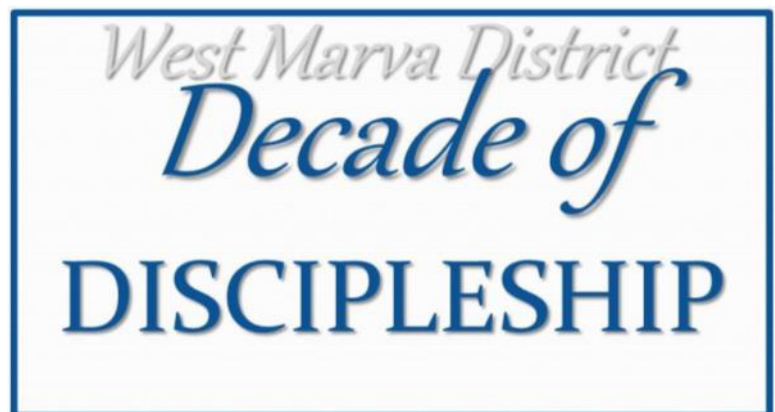
Being ourselves is one of the most difficult things about our spiritual lives. Sometimes when we take off the masks, peel off the labels we get a bit frightened. It's like looking in the mirror first thing in the morning, bed head and all, before all the effort, makeup, or product. Go ahead and laugh, we all know we spend a significant amount of time making sure we look just right.

Guys, you aren't off the hook here. In that moment of shock we forget one plain and simple fact. We are EXACTLY who God created us to be. Let me put it another way: God didn't make junk when he created you...you...and you. Within each one of us, there is a light that has been shining since we were born. That light is a sign of being created by God. Peel back the layers of makeup, product, names, and masks and there is that simple God given light. No matter how we react, out of fear, or dismay, or even joy the great truth is that This Light of Ours is always there. No matter how far we stray, no matter how many layers of masks we put on, this light remains... Your light remains. ...I hope that you will at least catch a glimpse of that light, that gift of God. ...I pray you will begin to live into the name God has given you, that you will begin to nurture the light which God has sparked into your life.

This event is a part of the larger emphasis that we have called the Decade of Discipleship. Continuing Education credit will be given to those who request it. There will be a sign sheet for registration and a check box for CEU credit.

Josh is also scheduled to preach during the morning worship service at Oak Park that morning, at 10:30 AM. Also scheduled during that morning worship time, we are expecting

Gina Frazee to be licensed to the set apart ministry within the West Marva District, of the Church of the Brethren.



REFLECTIONS ON THE 2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This page ... is a reflection on things which likely are of the most interest to readers of the *BRF WITNESS*. There was good preaching, lots of well planned activities, and plenty of opportunities for sharing and fellowship.

1. Once again, the homosexual issue dominated business at Annual Conference. The Leadership Team's answer was in response to queries last year that raised the matter of how Districts shall respond to ministers who perform same-sex unions. **Their answer clearly stated that Annual Conference has not authorized the performing of such unions and outlined a framework for Districts to deal with it, but failed to suggest a strong prohibition against such ceremonies. Fortunately, the long standing position against accepting the practice of homosexuality into the church remains intact.**
2. The Review and Evaluation Committee gave its final report including ten recommendations. The one getting the most attention was #6 which **raised the question if On Earth Peace (OEP) should remain an agency of the Annual Conference because their statement of inclusion is not in compliance with the position of the church. This action would have required a 2/3 majority vote to pass. OEP survived as an agency but only with a 44% approval in the final vote. This vote makes it obvious that On Earth Peace no longer has a support of the majority of the church.**
3. Pro-homosexual voices have become very loud and aggressive at Annual Conference. For Bible believers, listening to all of their appeals year after year becomes a distraction and is disheartening. Annual Conference has become a place where virtual filibusters take place not dissimilar to what goes on in the United States Congress. It is not uncommon to hear people say, "I don't have to listen to this and I'm not coming back." **You would never know we have a clear position stating that homosexuality is unacceptable in the church by what we have to listen to on the Annual Conference floor.**
4. **The most offensive thing that happened this year was the introduction of a new fellowship from the Pacific Northwest District. The pastoral couple for the group was introduced as Elizabeth and her spouse, Lucy. Very weak applause followed their introduction but the boldness to do something like this needs to be dealt with without apology or excuse.**
5. **One of the perplexing things about Annual Conference is that some of the loudest criticism against the denomination is heard from congregations that do not send delegates and therefore lose their votes and their voice to affect change. Many times decisions are made with a very slim margin, and only a few more congregations sending their delegates might have made a major difference in the outcome of the decision.**
6. One of the hopeful things announced as a part of the motion to accept the Leadership Team's answer to the accountability of ministers, congregations, and districts was that **the church turn its attention to the framing of a compelling vision for how we will continue the work of Jesus together. Along with this they will develop a process for departure for congregations that cannot accept the vision.** Many brethren are anxious to see what all this will look like.
7. **Donita Keister** was called to the position of Moderator-Elect. She was a volunteer with BVS/BRF and spent a year at Voice of Calvary in Mississippi.

Our Sisters and Brothers in Puerto Rico Need Help!

The West Marva District has always been supportive of those affected by natural disasters. Recently many folks in the southern part of our country, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico have been hard hit by the recent hurricanes. Though we are busy with many "Church" functions and activities we must not neglect our ministry to the needs of all God's people in these areas of the World.

Mathew 25:31-46 calls us to reach out to and care for these individuals. Support is needed in many places, but let's consider Puerto Rico first. The Church of the Brethren congregations on the island were recently recognized as the Puerto Rico District of the Church of the Brethren. The island was, as you are likely aware, virtually wiped out. Brethren Disaster Ministries is organizing the Church of the Brethren response in Puerto Rico, following Hurricane Maria. ***In responding to this, disaster response and recovery plans are being developed that include a major response to support Puerto Rico.*** Funds are already being sent for emergency relief efforts in there. The ***long-term response*** will likely include volunteer work-camps and home rebuilding. This response will include--in the short term--the shipping of a container of disaster relief supplies and a visit by associate executive director Roy Winter, which was expected in early October. In the long-term, plans are being developed for relief and long-term recovery programs, including home repair.

Recently, Winter was able to talk by phone with Puerto Rico District executive Jose Calleja Otero, for the first time since the hurricane struck. Otero is working on assessing the situation, with the goal of connecting with the Church of the Brethren pastors in the district. "He asked for prayers for everyone in Puerto Rico," Winter said. ***So far, Brethren Disaster Ministries has received no news of any loss of life among the Puerto Rican Brethren. There is damage to homes and churches, however, and there is no water or electricity service.***

Some practical ways to help include the following:

- **Pray.** Pray that those affected will be sustained and recover from all aspects of disaster, personal, community, emotional, physical, financial, spiritual, mental, etc. and those who are serving them...
- **Send a financial donation** to Emergency Disaster Fund; 2017 Hurricane Response; Church of the Brethren; 1451 Dundee Ave.; Elgin, IL 60120...
- **Build Gift of the Heart Kits** – Clean up buckets and hygiene kits are urgently needed...
- **Plan a fundraiser** Funds from individuals, congregations, and fund raisers should be sent to the District Office in Oakland and identified as "2017 Hurricane Relief."
- **Register** for the [waiting list to volunteer](#)
- While many persons might like to send specific needed items, and even go there themselves, this is not the most expedient and helpful way to help. Winter encourages us to consider the following:

Many people want to help by sending material goods to those in need, but unless you have a local contact and have been asked to send specific items, overwhelming a disaster area with unsolicited and often unsuitable items can create secondary disasters. Those wishing to prepare kits, or other needed commodities, are encouraged to bring them to the Oak Park Church of the Brethren in Oakland, MD. As soon as appropriate logistics are established to distribute these items properly, we will see that that happens without any further delay. We are hopeful that the DE in Puerto Rico will assist us with guidance regarding a proper method of transport. Please promote this in your churches and continue praying for all that have been hit by these Hurricanes.

Cash donations to trusted organizations, like Brethren Disaster Ministries, are always preferred over material donations as they give organizations the flexibility and resources needed to be the most effective.

It is not recommended to self-deploy to the disaster affected areas to help with clean up and recovery. Spontaneous volunteers can become a huge burden on the people and resources after a disaster and in most cases, such volunteers will be turned away by local law enforcement. BDM will be actively looking for partners in areas affected by the recent storms. You can also contact [National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster](#) (National VOAD) to register as a volunteer. Your information will be shared with organizations when they begin accepting volunteers.

On another front, **Children's Disaster Services (CDS)** volunteer teams are continuing their work to serve children and families affected by Hurricane Harvey in Texas. The CDS response to Hurricane Irma in Florida concluded in late September.

Mission and Ministry Board Reorganization Completed:

The District Board met Saturday, September 16, 2017 at the Moorefield Church for their re-organizational meeting.

The following is a listing of all Teams and their members, meeting dates, etc.
2017-2018 Mission and Ministry Board

Board Chair: Grover Duling, 3232 Laurel Dale Road, Scherr, WV 26726 304-749-8014
groverduling@gmail.com
Vice-Chair: Mark Jones, P. O. Box 91, Slanesville, WV 25444 304-559-1166
rmjmd14@gmail.com
Recording Sec.: Beverly Vetter, P. O. Box 352, Moorefield, WV 26836 304-434-2578
bsvfwv@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Beverly Vetter, P. O. Box 352, Moorefield, WV 26836 304-434-2578
bsvfwv@hotmail.com
Assistant Treasurer: Carl Fike, P. O. Box 126, Oakland, MD 21550 301-334-2243
crfike56@gmail.com
Financial Sec.: Brenda Harvey, 5558 Oakland Sang Run Rd., Oakland, MD 21550 301-387-6138

Ministerial Leadership Team

Chair: Mark Jones, P. O. Box 91, Slanesville, WV 25444 304-559-1166
rmjmd14@gmail.com
Vice Chair: Randy Shoemaker, Rt.6, Box 6008, Keyser, WV 26726 304-788-1259
rkshoemaker@frontier.com
Sec.: Betty Dzubba, P. O. Box 1442, Keyser, WV 26726 304-788-0379
diebanes@yahoo.com
Mark Teets, 4147 Aurora Pike, Aurora, WV 26705 304-735-3481
mteets@frontiernet.net
Roger Leatherman, 324 Feaster Lane, New Creek, WV 26743 304-289-3106
rdlivl@frontiernet.net

Spiritual Growth Team

Chair: Lucy Webster, 5077 Needmore Road, Baker, WV 26801 304-897-6213
lweb@hardynet.com
Vice-Chair: Betty Wolford, 504 Pocahontas St., Mt. Lake Park, MD 21550 301-334-9521
bjwolford57@hotmail.com
Sec. Donna Kempfher, 1896 Hutton Road, Oakland, MD 21550 304-288-1004
donnaempfher@yahoo.com
Richard Funk, 141 Lower Arkansas Road, Baker, WV 26801 304-897-5319
debfunk@frontiernet.net
David Fouts, 8008 Jordan Run Rd., Maysville, WV 26833 304-749-8172
foutsberg@citlink.net

Mission & Evangelism Team

Chair: Nova Stonesifer, 121 C Street, Mt. Lake Park, MD 21550 301-387-5542
novaann@verizon.net
Vice Chair: Dan Spaid, 346 Shoemaker/Cole Road, Eglon, WV 26716 304-290-2500
drspaid79@gmail.com
Sec.: Rose Bennett, 14076 Dryfork Road, Davis, WV 26260 304-866-4381
rmbennett@frontiernet.net
Sheila Gordon, 40 Country Retreat Drive, Upper Tract, WV 26866 304-257-4540
sheilagordon1@hotmail.com
Fred Roy, 95 Woodland Lane, Keyser, WV 26726 304-788-2418
frdrckroy@yahoo.com

Financial Resources Team

Chair: Mike Saturday, 1651 Hoyes Sang Run Road, Friendsville, MD 21531 301-616-7353
mike@mikesaturday.com

Vice Chair.: Anna Sauder, 809 Heritage Drive, Oakland, MD 21440 240-321-1561
annasauder@gmail.com

Phyllis Marsh, 4824 Dry Run Road, Swanton, MD 21561 301-245-4119
Leon Alt. 1788 Spring Run Road, Petersburg, WV 26847 304-257-4775
leon1948@hotmail.com

TREASURER CAMP GALILEE (Send all checks to:)

Camp Galilee, Attention: Jay Anderson, P. O. Box 146, Terra Alta, WV 26764
(Phone number for Jay Anderson – 304-789-62640)

TREASURER CAMP HOPE (Send all checks to:)

Merinda “Rindy” Clayton, 3514 Mountaineer Road, Philippi, WV 26416 304-457-5332

DISTRICT DISASTER PROGRAM (Send all checks to:)

District Disaster Program, c/o West Marva District Office, 384 Dennett Road, Oakland, MD 21550

DISTRICT BOARD - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES:

The Executive Committee consists of the Board chair; vice-chair; board secretary; treasurer; financial secretary; District Moderator and Chair of each Team.

DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS:

November 11, 2017 – Gortner Union Church

January 6, 2018 – Westernport Church

March 3, 2018 – Keyser Church

June 9, 2018 – Walnut Grove Church

2017 DISTRICT CONFERENCE STATISTICAL AND BALLOT INFORMATION

The attendance for Friday night was 151 and the offering was \$1,003.35. The attendance for Saturday was 146 delegates, 50 non-delegates, 49 congregations were represented and the offering was \$1,536.

A special offering was received to assist with hurricane relief in Texas and Florida. The offering for Church World Service Clean-Up Buckets was \$2,450.

Ballot results: Carl Fike, Moderator-Elect; Grover Duling, Mission and Ministry Board Chair; Roger Leatherman and Randy Shoemaker, Ministerial Leadership Team; Leon Alt, Financial Resources Team; Richard Funk, Spiritual Growth Team; Sheila Gordon and Fred Roy, Mission and Evangelism Team; Ralph Conner, Camp Hope Trustee; Cathy McGoldrick, Camp Galilee Trustee; Barry Adkins, District Conference Planning & Arrangements Committee; Deborah Strawser, Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team and LaDeana Teets will serve the unexpired term of Steve Sauder – 2019 with the Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team; and Linda Sanders, Alternate Standing Committee Delegate.

Brethren Bits from Betty's Desk ... 1905 Bridgewater College HISTORY (continued from the August issue)

It was in 1902 the Missionary Society was created "to encourage the cause of missions and help one another in the study of missionary needs—and encourage missionary knowledge.

On page 73 of this book ... we read the following: "Education is training, not learning." "The Social code considers the fact young people brought together in larger numbers (in college) and are more frequently in each other's company than is usual (in 1905) than in ordinary life. They come from different families and sections of the country—with different kinds of previous training. ... The young ladies and gentlemen meet daily in classrooms and dining halls, an occasional general reception is held. "*Spooning*" is not considered in good form and is discouraged." ... Masculine and feminine minds are differently constituted and should not be subjected to the same educational treatment."

(More quotes) "It is urged that the system of education in vogue in co-educational colleges is a system adapted to men, and that women are being forced into a masculine mold: the tendency is to make women less womanly. There are subjects adapted to needs of respective sexes and for such, separate classes should be provided, but there are many subjects which could be taught to both sexes as well as separately.

The other objection to co-education is that students in such institutions are in too much danger of getting married, or, at least wanting to marry—which is perhaps worse. Premature marriage is more common among the uneducated, even the co-educated. Besides: the exact age at which all people should marry has not yet been finally settled. ... That love making hinders intellectual process—the truth is, it does not work alike in all cases. After all, intellectual progress is not the only thing that makes life worth living." ... "Moses made allowance for such weakness by excusing the men from war during the honeymoon time," ... writes editor Frantz on page 76 of this book.

"This is simply to admit that there are persons in the world whose morals or lack of morals unfit them for membership in respectable society anywhere. When such are discovered by college authorities, they should be given useful information about the connection of trains..."

*On the world of athletics as written in chapter 9: ... "Physical training in high schools, colleges and universities is necessary for mental and moral culture for a strong and well balanced mind. Even the playgrounds of old country schoolhouses were athletic fields for youth. The Greeks gave us this heritage—**Athlon** to the Greeks meant a prize. Athletes are those who strove for a prize. Greeks did not allow men to enter games without careful and prolonged training. Tobacco and alcohol were strictly forbidden."*

... "We should never forget, even in the highest surges of athletic fervor the real purpose for which we are at college. We are not at college to play baseball or football ... or to make ourselves all around athletes... we are at college primarily to develop mind and heart while giving the body what it needs to help them... balance should always be preserved."

Advertisements found at the end of this book include the following:

Bridgewater College: *School and home for Ladies & Gentlemen located in beautiful and far-famed Valley of the Shenandoah—justly renown for its beauty, healthfulness and good people. The Chesapeake-Western Railroad runs through the town, connecting to the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad and great Southern System at Harrisonburg, 7 miles to the northeast and with Norfolk & Western at Elkton, 27 miles to the east.*

The teachers have been trained in such schools as Harvard, University of Virginia, University of Michigan, Boston Conservatory, Mary Baldwin Seminary, Washington & Lee University, Emerson College of Oratory, Zanerian Art School, National School of Elocution & Oratory and Northern Indiana Normal College.

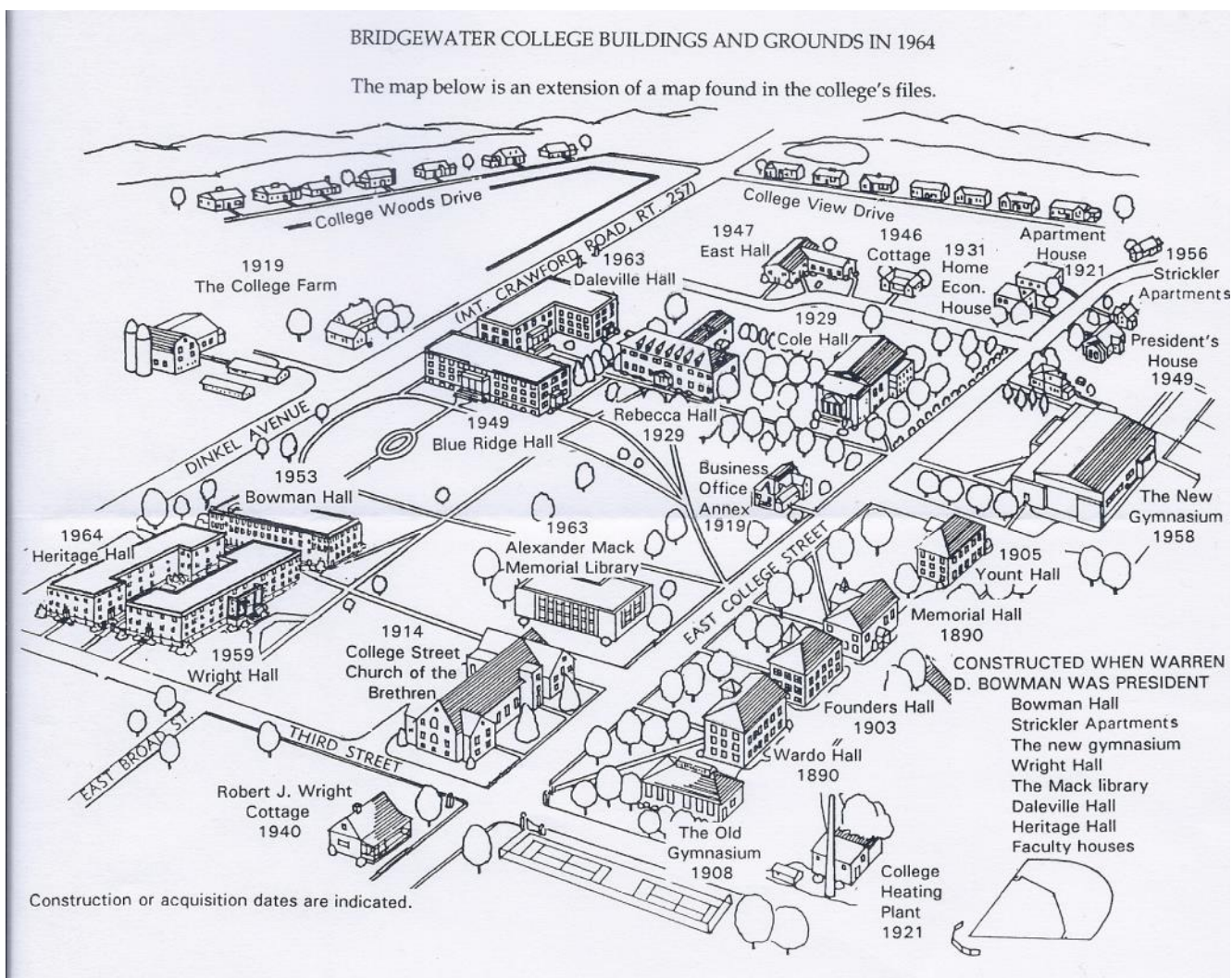
Expenses: ranging from \$130.00 to \$150.00 a session of 9 ½ months for tuition, board, fuel, lights, etc. are so low as to entitle the college to be termed what it really is—a benevolent institution.

The Gospel Messenger: Weekly religious journal, 16 large pages is published in the interest of the Brethren Church. The paper contains special news from every part of the Brotherhood, including reports from Denmark, Sweden, France, Switzerland & India. 3 pages each week are filled with good essays from best writers in the Brotherhood. Here nearly every phase of the Christian religion is considered. Cost: \$1.50 per year.

The Inglenook: Illustrated weekly magazine printed at Elgin, Illinois. Its arrangement is unique and suited to all classes of people—for busy people who don't have time to digest the voluminous dailies, we have two pages set apart for current news boiled down so the readers may keep in touch with the world and yet not require so much of their time. In order that "little people" may become readers and ardent lovers of good literature, we give them a page. To encourage Christian work we give space to Christian workers and reading circle work. For the curious, we keep one page for questions and answers. Subscription price: \$1.00 per annum.

You may never have entered this institution of higher learning but certainly you can appreciate the persons who founded Bridgewater College, as revealed within this information.

Thanks again, Grover for sharing this book for our "Brethren Bits readers."



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

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IN GOD WE TRUST

District Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 AM to 4 PM; Kendal generally is in the office Monday-Thursday, 10 AM to 4 PM and other times by appointment.

The West Marva District Churches exist to be obedient to, and reflect the Great Commandment and Great Commission texts:

Matthew 22:37-40 ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” ³⁸ This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.” *NKJV*

Matthew 28:18-20 ¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’ Amen” *NKJV*

UPCOMING EVENTS

October

11-24
29

Kendal out of office (Vacation)
District Bible Study with Josh Brockway—Oak Park Church 2:30—6:00 p.m.

November 5
11

Praise Gathering at Cherry Grove Church 3:00 p.m.
District Board meeting, Gortner Union Church