

Creekside Church of the Brethren Connection

July 2024



Everybody for the Body

Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body. 1 Corinthians 10:17

In Paul's New Testament letters, the phrase "the body of Christ" is used in various ways.

- 1 Corinthians 12:12-13: Compares the human body to the Body of Christ, saying that just as the body has many parts that make up one whole, so too does the Body of Christ. The passage also says that all people have been baptized into one body by one Spirit and share the same Spirit, regardless of their differences.
- 1 Corinthians 12:12-27: This passage continues the comparison between the human body and the Body of Christ, saying that the parts of the body take care of one another and suffer and rejoice together. For example, if one part suffers, every part suffers with it, and if one part is honored, every part shares in its joy.
- Romans 12:5: Calls the Church "one body in Christ".
- 1 Corinthians 10:17, Ephesians 4:12 and Hebrews 13:3 each call the Church "one body in Christ".
- Colossians 1:18: Calls Christ the head of the church, which is his body.

On Sunday, July 14, we will share the bread and cup of communion at Creekside. This observance, perhaps more than any other in the church, is a way to remember that we are invited both to partake of the body of Christ and to become the body of Christ. This sounds mystical—and it is—but the service is built around a simple meal; bread and wine would have been common at any table in first century Palestine. What makes them special in the service of communion is how Jesus invited his disciples to remember him and his death in even the most ordinary meals they shared.

In the same way, being part of the body of Christ as the church is both mystical and ordinary. Just as the human body is fearfully and wonderfully made, the church is a group of people who can accomplish amazing things together—more than any one of us could do on our own. I believe this is especially true when we are working together to witness in difficult circumstances. It is the way we handle adversity which is the best measure of strength and character. It is the way we work together—not how committed we are to our own projects—which best honors our calling as the body of Christ.

You'll be hearing more about this concept (see the Board report in this *Connection*) at Creekside. I hope you can join us on July 14 as we gather as the body of Christ to remember Christ's love for us, and our call to act as the body of Christ in love and service.

God bless you— *Pastor Rosanna*

PASTOR'S REPORT

Thank you for your prayers, cards, and support during a difficult time for the McFadden family. Tim's father, Wilbur, passed away on May 22, ten days before the extended family left for a week in Florida—a trip he had planned to be a part of. Wilbur's memorial service was June 22; Tim's first cousin Jill died of stomach cancer that day. She lived in Boulder, CO, and Tim plans to attend her memorial service on July 6.

In the midst of grief we have much gratitude for our family, friends, and church family. We remember the families of John Hemminger and Doris Walters, and give thanks for their lives and the way in which they were part of the life of Elkhart City/Creekside. Thanks to all who volunteered to help with these services and minister to these families.

Creekside will be having bread and cup communion during the service on July 14. Thanks to our deacons for their planning and assistance. I will be traveling to California for a few days in July for a retirement/birthday party for my oldest brother Sander. My middle brother Enten will be there too—it has been years since we were together all at the same time.

I have appreciated working with Creekside ministry teams who are discerning how Jesus is calling us to reach out to our community. On June 25, a group of folks from various teams came together to plan a community event: it was a reminder why we need the gifts and vision of many people. The Creekside Family Jamboree will be Saturday, September 7. There will be live music, free events for kids, and a meal of pulled pork, sides, and soft-serve ice cream. Pre-sale tickets for food for adults will be \$10. It was great to see the ideas and the energy coming together around this event. There will be opportunity for *many* people to be involved, in a variety of ways. Please keep this date free, and consider how you can be part of supporting this event at Creekside.

Thank you for your prayers and your service—God bless you. *Pastor Rosanna*



ROMANS 16:2 (CEB)

**WELCOME+
WORTHY**

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2024

Church of the Brethren Annual Conference is in Grand Rapids, MI July 3-7. A number of people from Creekside will be attending. Mike Kauffman is our delegate; he will be listening and voting during

business sessions to represent Creekside Church. You may find out more about business items at www.brethren.org/ac/2024/business. Below is a listing of business items:

Unfinished Business

Query: Standing with People of Color

Query: Breaking Down Barriers—Increasing Access to Denominational Events

Request for an Annual Conference Study on Calling Denominational Leadership

New Business

Mandate for the 2025-2027 Review and Evaluation Committee

Recommendation for a One-time Change in Tenure for Review and Evaluation Committee

Housing Equity Fund Recommendations

Query: A New Model of Denominational Structure

Proposed Memorandum of Understanding Updating Polity for Bethany Theological Seminary

Proposed Update of Polity Related to On Earth Peace

Recommended Cost of Living Adjustment to the Minimum Cash Salary Table for Pastors

Annual Conference worship services can be viewed online at www.brethren.org/ac2024/webcasts live or later via the recording. Services start Wednesday evening, July 3 at 6:45 Eastern Time. They continue at the same time on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings as well as Sunday morning at 8:30 am Eastern Time. A livestream of the worship services, as well as recordings, is also available in Spanish. There is no fee to watch the worship services, although donations are appreciated!

We will be re-broadcasting Moderator Madalyn Metzger's sermon from Wednesday evening during our worship service at Creekside on Sunday, July 7. Thank you for your prayers for all the participants at Annual Conference.

FROM THE CHURCH BOARD:

The ideas keep coming. I've been sharing updates to the board goal every month and it's exciting to see that things are happening. Christian Ed Team has their annual Vacation Bible School planned for this month and this is a great opportunity to welcome children and families to Creekside. I know that the kids who attend have a great time and we look forward to that week. Did you know that ***"A wonderful part of being the body of Christ is that no single member has to do everything; but a reality of the body of Christ is that everyone is called to do something"*** (PR 4/21/24). What does this have to do with VBS? Everything! It means that VBS wants YOU to participate. Contact Jessica Prahl and be a part of this awesome ministry.

You've probably heard about the upcoming hog roast scheduled for September 7 of this year. This is an event being coordinated by Outreach, Hospitality and others and they need you, too. Watch for more information to come, get involved and remember, it's ***"everybody for the body"*** (PR).

Other items of interest from the June board meeting included a proposal to build a walking path on the church property and make it available and accessible to the community. Some great research was done prior to the proposal to the board and there's more to come before a decision will be made to move forward. This is the spirit we are looking for. During that proposal, Ron Nicodemus shared from The Grasshopper Myth by Karl Vaters; a couple of quotes stood out to me:

- "We've come to realize that our small size is not a problem to be fixed, but a strategic advantage God wants us to use."
- "The New Small Church is not about timid little churches. It is about discovering who we are as churches, leaders and congregations, then using that new-found knowledge to be what God has called us to be."

Do these quotes stand out and strike you like they did me? Is Vaters speaking directly to us? We have a strategic advantage that God wants us to use. We are in the process of discovering who we are (the round table discussions this spring) and using that new-found knowledge to be what God has called us to be. It's ***"everybody for the body"*** because ***"A wonderful part of being the body of Christ is that no single member has to do everything; but a reality of the body of Christ is that everyone is called to do something"***.

June's meeting also included more discussion about building repair and maintenance. As noted last month, our building is nearly 20 years old and will require maintenance and repair. In fact, some of those repairs, just like at home, aren't always foreseeable—like the septic system pumps that were replaced recently. Finance team is continuing to compile a list of upcoming potential and planned maintenance and repair items. These will, of course, be communicated to the congregation. One major item will be the roof of the building that will need to be replaced in the next 18 to 24 months. Watch for more info to come between now and the fall congregational business meeting and get ready to "Raise the Roof"!

Scott Harney, Church Board chair

EVERENCE

One of the commitments Everence has is using part of its profits to help communities locally, in the U.S. and around the world. Since 2008, Everence has donated or given grants worth more than \$1,142,484,800. That's \$1.1 **billion**. Some of that money (\$13.5 million) has been shared with member Anabaptist churches such as Creekside by providing them with matching grants to help reimburse the church for emergency monies it has provided to its members. Another \$1.7 million has been donated to charitable organizations by Anabaptist church members who have an Everence My Neighbor credit card. One-and-a-half percent of the transaction totals you make on that card can be used to help charitable groups you choose. I will tell you about other ways Everence is helping individuals and communities in the August Connection.

Larry Ford, Everence Advocate

"Your vocation in life is where your greatest joy meets the world's greatest need."



Vacation Bible School
 Sunday, July 7 - Thursday, July 11
 6:00-8:00 pm Ages 3-12

Join us for games, snacks, and learning to follow Jesus.
 Contact Jessica Prahl to volunteer or pre-register children.

CAMP MACK NEWS

Upcoming Camps: (Grades completed)
 July 7–12 **Creative Arts Camp**, Grades 6–10
 July 7–12 **Finders 1 Camp**, Grades 5 & 6
 July 7–12 **Target Sports Camp**, Grades 6–9
 July 10–12 **Samplers 2 Camp**, Grades 1 & 2
 July 14–19 **Seekers 2 Camp**, Grades 3 & 4
 July 14–19 **Splash Camp**, Grades 5–8
 July 14–20 **Survivor Camp**, Grades 6–9
 July 21–26 **Eco-Adventure Camp**, Gr 5 & 6
 July 21–26 **Finders 2 Camp**, Grades 5 & 6
 July 28–30 **Grand Camp 2**, Grandparents and grandchildren ages 5–10

Other Upcoming Events:

Colony Camp: August 11–13
Labor Day Family Camp: Aug 30–Sept 2
Sailing 101 Get-A-Way Day: August 17
Advanced Sailing Get-A-Way Day: Aug 24

Thank you for your continued support! If you are able to volunteer as health office staff or counselor (we still need 3 female counselors), contact jessk@campmack.org.

Prayer Request: Please pray for summer campers, leaders, and staff—for endurance, joy, meaningful experiences and relationships, faith formation, and God's guidance.

BRUNCH AT ANGEL'S

Everyone is invited to the men's brunch or women's brunch held monthly at Angel's House of Pancakes in Goshen. Creekside folks meet there on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:45 am to enjoy good company and good food.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP each month to Steve Barton (in the summer) or Roger Neal (when he and Bonnie are in town). Steve will not be at church on July 7, so you may also RSVP to Larry Ford if you plan to attend brunch on July 9.

THANK YOU!

To my Creekside family: Thank you for all the preparation, time, support and love shown to the Walters/Emeis/Savey family at Mom's funeral. It was a beautiful celebration of a life well lived and a great example of God's love for his faithful servants. Mom was devoted to God, family, friends and animals (especially dogs and cats). Her legacy will live through all of us.

Peggy Emeis

The Bee Line

Trivia time...



Did you know that the term "honeymoon" came from the ritual of newlyweds consuming honey for post-wedding fertility? I got that information from the internet, so it has to be true. (You may *fact-check* that if you would like.)

Also, One **tablespoon** of honey has enough nutrients to sustain a human life for 24 hours!

Another trivia fact more relevant to us here at Creekside is that a bee lives less than 40 days, visits at least 1000 flowers, and produces less than a teaspoon of honey, but for her it is a **lifetime**. We too often take nature for granted.

With tens of thousands of bees here at the Creekside aviary, volunteers of the "bee team" are working to keep the bees happy and productive as well. We now have a total of nine working hives, seven of which are here by the creek, thanks to four swarms that were 'captured' and successfully relocated.

Ron Nicodemus has been working hard to check the hives and coordinate activities with the other team members. The two new "recruits", Jessica and Gloria, have been especially busy. (They're going to put us to shame.) Jessica's son, Cylas, and her husband Lloyd have been building much-needed lids, covers and swarm boxes while Jessica is making more frames. The apiary is growing almost faster than we can keep up! There may also be more swarms that appear in the next month or so.

If the hives stay healthy throughout the summer months, there will be a LOT of honey to harvest in the fall. That translates to a lot of WORK. We only had five hives last fall when we extracted the honey.

In the June Bee Line, Ron described what we see when examining the frames. Ron and Deana have been checking on them and we plan to make a thorough examination by the end of June. I hope you'll have a chance to see for yourself what the frames look like and how active the girls are our the new observation hive.

Remember to **"Bee Kind"**!
Steve Barton, for the Bee Team



JULY

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Birr, Jan
- 7 Randall, Shelly
- 9 Harney, Chris
- 13 Graber, Cal
- 23 Vance, Kristen
- 24 Nicodemus, Ron
- 25 De Pue, Judy
- 27 Harney, Scott
- 30 Ford, Larry

ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Arnold, Brian & Kaylee
- 8 Prah, Ryan & Jessica
- 11 Nowicki, Tom & Kathy
- 14 Carlson, Kyle & Katy
- 25 Barton, Steve & Jean
- 28 Kelsey, Cary & Betty

EVENTS

*Garden work days are
Mondays 4-6pm & Thursdays 9-11am*

- 2 Christian Ed, 3:00 pm
- 3 Office closed
- 4 Office closed, no garden work
- 9 Brunch at Angel's, 10:45 am
- 10 Finance Team, 3:00 pm
- 12 Game Night, 7:00 pm
- 16 Outreach meeting
- 25 Church Board (maybe), 6:30 pm

The Creekside Connection

A publication of Creekside Church of the Brethren



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The Creekside Connection is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of church programs and to report news about the people of Creekside Church.

