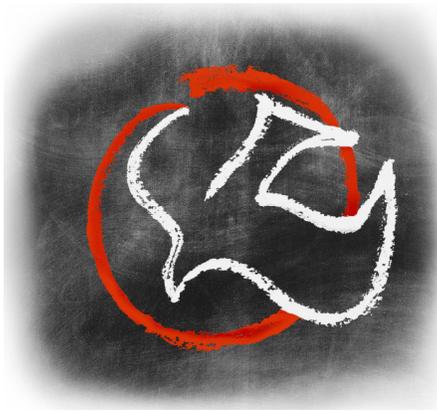


Creekside Church of the Brethren Connection

July 2019



Drawn by the Spirit

*Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you
the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4*

During the forty days following Pentecost (or from Sunday, June 9 through Sunday, July 21), members of Creekside have accepted a prayer challenge. Our adult Sunday School classes and some adults who are not part of classes have been studying *Draw the Circle*, by Mark Batterson. There has been plenty to challenge us so far, and stories and inspirational writing that bears reading a second or third time. I have also been re-reading the book of Acts in preparation for preaching about the mission and vision of the Church which was given to the apostles by the Holy Spirit. I have been moved by the stories of Acts, the testimony to pray in *Draw the Circle*, and your commitment and testimony.

It is not difficult for me—at least most of the time—to take delight in the Lord and affirm God’s action in Creation and in the community at Creekside; it is apparent in your care for me and your care for each other and in the hard work you do in a variety of ministries. But I confess it is more difficult for me to discern the desires of my heart. Of course I want my family to be healthy and happy; I want that for my church family, too. But how is God calling us to care for others besides ourselves? What resources have we been given and what is the most faithful way to use them? Is spending as little as possible what God is calling us to do? Do we have a vision beyond maintaining what we have done before?

I am glad that we still have several weeks to go in our prayer challenge! I liked what Batterson said on Day 22, page 127: Pray like it depends on God, but work like it depends on you. I also liked Day 20 which begins with, “You’ll never be ready,” and ends with “If you are looking for excuses you will always find one.” Our vision is grounded in scripture and prayer, but I believe we will find ourselves when we step out in faith and see what happens. This has been my experience with working on our Community Ministry Grant, which is teaching us a lot about ministry partnerships; we have learned more about community needs and relationships each year of our Seed to Feed garden; my interactions with folks in need who come to the doors of the church continue to show me what [not] to do. God gives us many opportunities to learn and to clarify the desires of our heart, but we have to keep listening, keep moving, and go back to listening. Thank you for your prayers for Creekside and its ministries. We are pilgrims on a journey and travelers on the road to our eternal home.

May the Spirit draw you in joy and delight!
Pastor Rosanna

PASTOR'S REPORT

June was an eventful month for the McFadden family, as we welcomed grandson Miles Richard Carlson on June 3. Parents Katy and Kyle are doing well, but were happy for the offer of some grand-parenting at their home. Instead of going to Annual Conference, with the permission of the Church Board, I will be taking the week of July 1-7 as vacation and Tim and I will be in Michigan. Take a look at the birth announcement on the bulletin board by the Gathering Area if you have a chance!

Please be in prayer for the work of the Annual Conference on June 3-7 in Greensboro, NC. Jan Nicodemus will be the delegate from Creekside; the work of those gathered this year will be to consider a compelling vision for our denomination. The sermon on July 7 will be broadcast during the morning worship service at Creekside. Former moderator Tim Harvey is the Sunday morning preacher. You may tune in to live stream of the conference during the week at www.brethren.org/ac

Although the planting season got off to a late start this year, we are well underway with our Seed to Feed garden and containers for our community ministry. Thanks to those who have worked in the Seed to Feed garden and those who have made food for our workdays. I have been writing and revising our Community Ministry Grant application for the Center for Congregations. Many thanks to Tim and Diane Lund, Cary Kelsey, Judy De Pue, Karen Kohler, Karen Lewallen, and Jeff Vance for their hard work and thoughtful planning. We are making plans to install a greenhouse at Creekside this fall. So far all of the expenses for our community ministry have been covered by grant money from the Community Foundation of Elkhart County.

I have made a commitment to pray each day at 6:30am, and have been keeping a prayer journal. I have been circling Creekside—including each of you—with prayer, and have been humbled by the answers which I have already heard. There are still prayers for our members, our congregation, our denomination, our country, and God's world which are being heard and held by God. Please circle Creekside in your prayers this month.

Wishing you the peace and the power of the Spirit— *Pastor Rosanna*

BEQUEST REQUEST

Our congregation was blessed by the talent, generosity and friendship of Jean Mann Graber while she was among us. Jean's generosity to Creekside Church is continuing in the form of a bequest from her estate for \$49,000. At Cal Graber's request, the Church Board is seeking suggestions from anyone at Creekside who has ideas about how those funds might be used for the work of Christ and the Church.

We put a half sheet form in every mailbox on June 2, requesting at least 3 suggestions of how the \$49,000 might be used. There are extra sheets on the ushers' table in the Gathering Area. You will have the months of June, July, and August to submit those responses; they will be collected, collated, and considered by the Board. Please include your name so that we can contact you if we need clarification. There is a green box in the office where those sheets can be returned.

You may also send suggestions by email to Board chair Ron Nicodemus at demusr@att.net (include "Bequest" in the subject line). Please contact Ron if you have questions.

Every good gift comes from God: we are grateful for those who share those gifts for God's purposes.
Pastor Rosanna for Church Board

NOTE FROM THE FELLOWSHIP TEAM:

The Fellowship team invites you to serve the congregation. If you'd like to help, you may sign up in the kitchen for any of the following tasks:

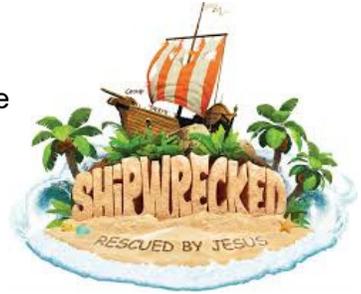
1. 8:45 am—Prepare the refreshments for serving (snacks are provided)
2. 10:30 am—Assist with clean-up and putting snacks away, wipe down tables, etc.
3. 10:30 am or after Sunday School—Dishwasher (we are averaging 2 racks/week)

The Fellowship team appreciates your service! *Betty Snyder & Becky Miller*

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Creekside's Vacation Bible School will be on July 8-11, from 6:00-8:00 pm. The theme is "Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus". Kids ages 3-12 are welcome to attend; please invite the kids you know!

Thank you to those who have donated materials and signed up to volunteer! You can still volunteer to help with teaching, crafts, games, set-up, clean-up, etc. See the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area or talk to Jessica Prahl.



BREAD & CUP COMMUNION, JULY 14



You are invited to the table of grace for communion on Sunday, July 14. This service will be part of morning worship. All who are in fellowship with God and neighbor are invited to share the bread and cup; there will be an option for children to come forward and receive a blessing. Please be in prayer for this service and your participation.

Pastor Rosanna for the Deacons

NEW DIRECTORY

We will be putting out a new Creekside directory in August 2019. Proofs with the latest information we have at the office will be out in the Gathering Area July 14-28. Please check your information carefully and make changes with the red pen which will be provided. If the information is correct with no changes, make a check mark in red so we know you have seen it.

If you have family members who no longer wish to be included in the directory, you may cross them off. We will not delete family listings unless a family members requests that we do so. You may also email the office with updates or changes. Thank you for your help!

Pastor Rosanna

	<i>General Fund 2019</i>	INCOME	EXPENSES	2019 BUDGET \$190,384 total
	January	\$12,241.95	\$14,033.10	\$15,865.00
	February	\$10,086.00	\$12,483.85	\$15,865.00
	March	\$15,975.75	\$17,562.62	\$15,865.00
	April	\$18,251.00	\$17,799.11	\$15,865.00
	May	\$14,568.00	\$11,720.29	\$15,865.00
	YTD total	\$71,122.70	\$73,598.97	\$79,325.00

Our YTD expenses have exceeded our income by \$2,476.27.

THANK YOU

We want to give a big "Thank You" to Creekside church for helping us make the birthday open house for Mary Schmucker a success. You folks are special and we are thankful for each of you. Thanks for every detail: your presence, the gifts, and all the help you gave to Mary and to us. We appreciate it all so very much! God bless you!

Sincerely, and in the love of our Lord—*Pam & Terry Schmucker, Leonard Schmucker, and family*

NOTE FROM THE BOARD

As we were discussing various items at the June Church Board meeting, we remarked at the many good programs that occur both inside and outside the walls of Creekside Church. Just in the past few months, we started and completed assembling over 11,000 ration assistance kits for Church World Service. We were able to do that because of our state Health Board approved kitchen. Several members helped put together portable planter boxes which were then distributed to persons who don't have easy access to fresh vegetables. We are blessed to have a large property which allows us to have enough room for two good-sized gardens which will be providing thousands of pounds of fresh vegetables throughout the summer and into fall to thousands of people who turn to Church Community Service for food to help them through the month. All of this comes at some cost to the church. I hope you will help support this and other great programs including our upcoming Vacation Bible School both financially and with your prayers. WE ARE CREEKSIDE!

Larry Ford, Assistant Church Board Chair

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2019

The 233rd recorded Annual Conference of the Church of the Brethren will be held from July 3-7, 2019 in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Theme: *Proclaim Christ, Reclaim Passion*. The theme is based on II Corinthians 5:17-18: "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation."

I encourage you to pray for this important gathering as we assemble to focus our attention on conversations that will lead to discerning the compelling vision that Christ intends for the Church of the Brethren.

Let us proclaim the One in whom we live and move and have our being, Jesus the Christ, as we reclaim passion for Him as our Divine Teacher, our Savior, our Redeemer, our Lord and King.

Jan Nicodemus, Creekside Delegate

THOUGHTS FROM RON

Allow me to make a parody of the Sixteen Tons song: "Another year older and what did I get? St. Peter don't you call me cause I can't go, I've got God's work to do yet!" I guess the real answer is that "each day we live we are one day closer to our death." At my age this is a sobering thought. Do I live a life worthy of being called a Christian? I know I had better get busy doing the Lord's work because my time is running out. (July is my birthday month.)

Recently, I read the following mission statement about how this person will relate to others and make the world a better place.

I pledge: To make the world a better place
By making a positive difference
On the lives of everyone around me
Through showing kindness, compassion, and love to others.

Thanks for sharing your personal "Mission Statement", Ryan Prah.

Ryan, you are challenging me to make wise choices on how I use my time by writing these words within my heart and to have me carefully listen daily to the moving of the Holy Spirit to show kindness, compassion, and love to all. Will each of you accept this challenge, too?

Ron Nicodemus, Church Board Chair

July 2019

HAPPENING IN JULY:

- 7** —Annual Conference Sunday
8 —Vacation Bible School, 6:00-8:00 pm
9 —Vacation Bible School, 6:00-8:00 pm
10 —Finance Team, 9:30 am
 —Vacation Bible School, 6:00-8:00 pm
11 —Vacation Bible School, 6:00-8:00 pm
14 —Vance Wedding Shower, 1:00-3:00 pm
16 —Church Board, 6:30 pm
17 —Feed the Children, 9:00-noon
 —*Deadline for August Connection*
18 —Outreach Team, 6:30 pm
20 —*Church reserved, 10:00-6:00*

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	Fri	Sa
	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

Birr, Jan	2
Randall, Shelly	7
Harney, Chris	9
Graber, Cal	13
Hostetler, Jerry	13
Hendricks, Becca	16
Bryant, Lanette	17
Wilson, Chris	19
Thompson, Marti	20
Randall, Madeleine	22
Vance, Kristen	23
Nicodemus, Ron	24
De Pue, Judy	25
Harney, Scott	27

VANCE WEDDING SHOWER

You are invited to a Groom/Bridal Shower for Darren Vance and Christi Powers at Creekside on Sunday, July 14 from 1:00-3:00.

All men and women from Creekside are welcome to join the celebration.

Kristen Vance



ANNIVERSARIES

Arnold, Brian & Kaylee	6
Markley, Lee & Deana	6
Prahl, Ryan & Jessica	8
Nowicki, Tom & Kathy	11
Carlson, Kyle & Katy	14
Bueter, Adam & Stacey	17
Kelsey, Cary & Betty	28

NEW ADDRESSES

Roger Stutsman
 3600 E. Bristol Ave.
 Apartment 122
 Elkhart, IN 46514
 Cell (574) 596-8546

Lee and Deana Markley
 Greencroft Healthcare
 1225 Greencroft Drive
 Goshen, IN 46526
 Same phone and email address
Markleys are in the Oasis, room 728. You do not need to include this in the postal address

EVERENCE

Everence Sharing Fund grants help churches provide assistance to people who need a hand meeting their basic needs for things such as food, housing and medical bills. We have been privileged to use these sharing funds to assist some of our own members facing a time of drought in their lives.

Jan Nicodemus, Creekside Advocate

The Creekside Connection

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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.

