



Prime Timers enjoy a lunch together during Older Adult Month

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE BUSINESS

Nine items of new and unfinished business are coming to Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, MI on June 28-July 2. Pastor Doug will serve as our delegate. More information on the nine business items can be found at [brethren.org](http://brethren.org).

## New business:

- Polity for Agencies: A Recommendation from On Earth Peace
- Patient Hope in Matters of Conscience: A Recommendation from On Earth Peace
- Brethren Values Investing
- Polity for Electing Brethren Benefit Trust Board Directors

## Unfinished business:

- The Authority of AC and Districts regarding the Accountability of Ministers, Congregations and Districts responding to Query: Same Sex Weddings
- A Vision of Ecumenism for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- A report and recommendations from the Review and Evaluation Committee
- And interim report from the Vitality and Viability Committee, with a request for an additional year to bring a final report to the 2018 Conference
- An interim report from a study committee on "Creation Care" with a request for one more year to complete the work.

## Why?

Submitted by Charles Preston  
I have been a member of Fellowship Church of the Brethren for more than five years. I have introduced several people to our church. We have many activities other than Sunday morning worship services. I am proud of our church. Carol and I try to participate in as many events and activities at church as possible. I have to wonder why many other members of our congregation have not introduced others to our congregation. Christ instructed us to preach the gospel and make disciples of non-believers. Why is it that our church is not growing? If we cannot grow, we will die. What would make us grow? Do we need to make changes in what we do? We need to take a hard look at ourselves. We, the congregation need to introduce others to our church.

## Park Vesper Services

Each Sunday evening during the months of June, July and August churches of Berkeley County join together at War Memorial Park for vesper services at 7 pm. The June schedule is as follows:

- June 4 - Cornerstone Bible
- June 11 - Bedington UMC
- June 18 - Lily of the Valley
- June 25 - Rosemont Grace Brethren
- July 2 - Thrive Youth Group (First Baptist Church)
- July 9 - St. Luke's UMC
- July 16 - UMC Cluster
- July 23 - Eastern Panhandle Mission Community of Presbyterian Churches
- August 6 - Serenity SDA
- August 13 - 365 Church
- August 20 - West Virginia Emmaus Community
- August 27 - Berkeley County Ministerial Association (Concert with The Collisons)

## National Youth Conference

Participants in National Youth Conference (NYC) 2018 will focus on the theme **"Bound Together: Clothed in Christ."** The scriptural theme is from Colossians 3:12-15: *"As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful."*

NYC will take place July 21-26, 2018, in Fort Collins, Colo. The event is for youth who have completed ninth grade through one year of college at the time of NYC (or are age equivalent to this range) and their advisors. Programming, lodging, and meals are included in the registration fee. Registration will be online and will open in January 2018.

