My family has a game we play. It involves a superhero action figure that we “hide” around the house. The rules stipulate that the figure has to be hidden in plain sight; and once he is found, the finder moves him to his next hiding place. Sometimes we find him in a matter of hours. Sometimes it takes days. Regardless, finding him always makes me smile and hiding him is always an opportunity for creativity and fun.

I am amazed at how much of a kick I get out of finding “The Flash” (Yes, that’s the superhero.) It’s such a simple game, but it makes me happy. That’s partly because it’s a family thing. But I also think it’s because it makes me slow down, pay attention, and gives me a chance to savor the moment.

Savoring is something I don’t do often enough. I am task-oriented; and unless I am asleep, my mind is usually working on something. (Even asleep, I “process” in my dreams.) For that reason, I often miss the small stuff, the little joys of life. I fail to taste my food, “stop and smell the roses,” take a deep breath, and even sometimes, remember the niceties of social interaction. In short, I miss the very things that provide balance to the busiest and most challenging days.

I am working on this. I am trying to savor more. My family and “The Flash” are helping. So are friends and loved ones, even strangers, who share their simple joys with me – art, music, photos of their cats and kids, good jokes and clever puns, homegrown flowers, fruit and vegetables, kind words, kind actions, warm hugs, helping hands, a reassuring prayer. “Like a spoonful of sugar that makes the medicine go down,” all of these make life that much sweeter. I’ve discovered that joy, like our action figure, is often hidden in plain sight. I pray to be attentive enough to find it and savor.

~Janet Ober Lambert
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JUNE WORSHIP THEMES</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE CHURCH CALENDAR</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHURCH FAMILY JOYS &amp; CONCERNS</td>
<td>6-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Joys &amp; Concerns</td>
<td>6-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Thank You</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Remembrance</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Meet Our Newest Staff Member</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Meet Our Summer Service Worker</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHURCH LIFE</td>
<td>11-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Calling All Spring Graduates</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Choir Concert</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Church Family BBQ</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Celebration of the Arts Wrap-up</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Angel’s Share</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Spiritual Cinema Circle</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Peace Camp</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS</td>
<td>14-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Final Strategic Planning Goals</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPOTLIGHT - Church Beyond These Walls</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Intercom is provided monthly by the La Verne Church of the Brethren to inform, connect, and share our faith journey with you. If you would like to have information included in the next issue of the Intercom or have suggestions you would like to share, contact the Editor, juilleratstephanie@gmail.com, or the Church Office, (909) 593-1364. We also invite you to visit our website at www.lavernecob.org
June

JUNE 5  Amazing Grace and Gifts Abound  Dawna Welch
Join us for a special worship focused on recognizing our differing abilities and honoring the gifts we can each bring. With grace, love, and genuine welcome, we will celebrate the many ministries of this congregation, bless our seniors, and thank the teachers among us.
Matthew 25:40; I Corinthians 12:12-27

JUNE 12  Circle of Friends  Susan Boyer
Mark tells a story about people who carried a paralyzed friend to Jesus that he might be healed. There were so many people crowding around Jesus that they couldn't get close...well at least not in any conventional way. So they cut a hole in the roof and lowered their friend down to Jesus. We all need friends like that.
Mark 2:1-12.

JUNE 19  FATHER’S DAY  Emily Earhart
Emily is a chef, food anthropologist, and food educator who is immensely passionate about food! Emily grew up in the La Verne Church of the Brethren, studied at UC Berkeley, and lived in London for three years while completing graduate study and working on an inner-city farm. She currently leads "Farm to Plate" cooking workshops for children at the Huntington Library and Botanical Collections in Pasadena. Emily lives in Seal Beach with her husband, Ryan, and her vintage Wedgewood stove!

JUNE 26  Revolutionary Rest  Linda Himes
In a society where being "busy" seems to be a badge of honor, taking time to rest and renew often feels counter-cultural and revolutionary. Inspired by the book, Sabbath, by Wayne Muller, Linda will explore the God-given purpose of Sabbath rest.

On June 12 we change to our summer schedule. Worship begins at 10 a.m., and there is no Sunday School.
**June Calendar**

June 3  
Dunker Punks, 5 p.m., Lordsburg Taphouse  
Choir Tour Sendoff Concert, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

June 5  
Children’s Sunday/Senior Blessing, 10:30 a.m.  
Summer Lunch Program Fundraiser

June 5  
All Church BBQ, After Worship, Courtyard

June 5  
Family Fun Pool Party, After Church BBQ

June 7  
Commissions Meet

June 8  
Fellowship Visitors & Lunch at La Paloma, 9:30 a.m. & Noon  
Dodie Krug Memorial, 2 p.m., Hillcrest  
Maury Smeltzer Lounge  
Men-a-logue, 7:30 p.m., Library

June 9  
Intercom Deadline (July/August Issue), 5:30 p.m.

June 10  
Choir Tour Begins

June 10  
Card Games, 6 p.m., Social Hall

June 12  
Summer Schedule Begins, Worship at 10 a.m.

June 12  
Linda Hipskind Memorial, 1:30 p.m., Sanctuary

June 14  
Personnel Commission, 6 p.m., Fireside Room

June 14  
Church Board, 7:15 p.m., Fireside Room

June 19  
Father’s Day

June 24  
Angel’s Share, 7:00 p.m.

June 28  
Spiritual Cinema Circle, 6:30 p.m., Fireside Room

June 29  
Annual Conference in Greensboro, NC, to July 3

---

**The June window display in the hallway is created by Jan Newcomer.**

---

**INTERCOM is the monthly newsletter of the La Verne Church of the Brethren**

*Editor:* Stephanie Juillerat, juilleratstephanie@gmail.com  
*Writers:* Staff and Contributors  
*Production:* Kathleen Krecklow

---

**La Verne Church of the Brethren**  
2425 E Street, La Verne, CA 91750  
Phone: (909) 593-1364  
After Hours Pastoral Care: (909) 282-8268  
E-mail: office@lavernecob.org  
Website: www.lavernecob.org

**Ministers:**  
Susan Boyer,  
Janet Ober Lambert,  
Tom Hostetler,  
Dawna Welch

**Board Chair:** Al Clark, aclark@laverne.edu  
**Moderator (vice chair/chair, Personnel):** John Gingrich, jgingrich@laverne.edu  
**Moderator Elect (chair, Gifts Discernment):** Sara Davis, saraedavis3@gmail.com  
**Church Clerk (secretary):** Janice Shaw-Morgan, jshaw301@msn.com  
**Christian Education chair:** Dianne Saurenman, dsauenman@gmail.com  
**Envisioning chair:** Juliet Davis, juliet.davis@ericmdavis.com  
**Peace & Justice chair:** Josih Hostetler, jhostetler@yahoo.com  
**Service chair:** Karen Cahill, km-cahill@verizon.net  
**Property chair:** Steve Johnson, Laverne.insurance@gmail.com  
**Stewardship & Finance chair:** Linda Saddlemire, lsaddlemire@icloud.com

---

**April Giving and Attendance**

**April Giving Report**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YTD Giving</td>
<td>$214,354</td>
<td>$203,494</td>
<td>$151,546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD Expenses</td>
<td>$224,549</td>
<td>$203,494</td>
<td>$161,546</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Average Worship Attendance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April 2016</th>
<th>April 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>211</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Memorial Service for Linda Hipskind, wife of former PSWD District Executive Minister, Gene Hipskind, will be held at the La Verne Church of the Brethren on Sunday, June 12 at 1:30 p.m. Linda was born in Upland, grew up in La Verne, graduated from Bonita High School and the University of La Verne, class of ’65. Linda and Gene retired to Idaho, where Linda passed away March 6. A service was held near their home in March. The June 12 service will allow southern California family and friends to celebrate Linda’s life and offer support to Gene. All are welcome to attend.

Many thanks to everyone at LVCoB for the last four-plus years and the farewell gift of the Disney gift card. I will miss seeing you in the office and speaking with you on the phone, but I will be taking all of you with me in my heart.

With love,

~Kathleen Krecklow
Bryan L. Boyer
1958- 2016

Dr. Bryan L. Boyer was born in Anaheim, CA to Margaret and James Boyer, the youngest of four children. His father died when he was 10 years old; and his older siblings were all grown and out of the house by then. Losing a parent at a young age formed Bryan into the man he became. He graduated from the University of La Verne with a dual degree in History and Psychology. While in college he met Susan Stern; and they were married in 1982.

Bryan loved learning and went on to get a Masters degree in Counseling from Cal State Fullerton, a Masters of Divinity from Bethany Theological Seminary and a Psy.D. from Illinois School of Professional Psychology. Bryan’s work life was varied. He served as a Church of the Brethren pastor, a District Executive Minister, and an adjunct professor. But for the majority of his work career he was a licensed clinical psychologist serving in different settings. He ran three different outpatient clinics in Indiana. For the last 8 years, Bryan worked for the Department of Behavioral Health in San Bernardino County. He was a clinic supervisor working with the severely and persistently mentally ill. It was important to him to do meaningful work that changed the lives of those he was serving. An introvert with deep humility, many around him did not know of all of his accomplishments.

Bryan was most known for his dry wit. Without cracking a smile, he could deliver a line that could make you laugh for days. He could take a tense situation and diffuse it with a gentle touch of humor. With wisdom and an unwavering commitment to his family, Bryan lived his life with loyalty, honesty, and integrity. He held a healthy skepticism of most things, and yet he honored all in life that he found true and authentic.

Survivors include his wife, Susan; his two sons, Matt Boyer and Brett Boyer (Brendon Wilharber); his sister, Sandra Wainui (Bill) and his brother, Bart Boyer (Nancy). He was preceded in death by his brother, James Boyer (Starlene).

Bryan was a member of the La Verne Church of the Brethren. Memorial gifts may be given to New Community Project at 9036 W. Quail Track Drive, Peoria, AZ 85383.

Continued prayers for...
Carl Beckwith, Mari Bull, Anne Hauger, Mary Hunter Bowman, Ora Lea Bowers, Anne Carl, Donald Charles, Mary Cooper, Ralph Click, Aletrice Flora, Pete Harrington, Zoe Hopping and her family, Juanita Lapp, Tabitha Pogu and all the Chibok girls, Dave Stroup
Welcome to Our Newest Staff Member!

Kelly Whittington is overjoyed to be joining the staff of LVCoB. She has been a member of the church since September 2012 and has loved being a part of the sanctuary and hand bell choirs. Kelly followed her love of music and studied performing at Citrus College as a member of the Citrus Singers. Later, she earned a B.A. in Liberal Arts at the University of La Verne. She worked for 12 years as an administrative assistant/project coordinator in the Citrus College music department and spent the last 2 years as the administrative assistant/EHR Coordinator at River Community Residential, a program of Social Model Recovery Systems (a non-profit drug and alcohol rehabilitation agency). Kelly is looking forward to being able to serve the staff and congregation of the church family that has blessed her life and hopes she can give back a fraction of the love and support she has received.

Meet our ULV Summer Service Worker

Once again the Christian Education and Service Commissions will co-sponsor a student from the University of La Verne through the Summer Service Program. The Summer Service Program, founded in 1957, provides students with an opportunity to make a positive difference, serving and engaging with the wider community for a 10-week summer volunteer experience. This year we are happy to welcome Kimberly Kabluyen. “Kimmy” is a senior at the University of La Verne earning her Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science with a concentration in information science. She is originally from Hesperia, California where she attended and graduated from Sultana High School. Kimmy has been running track and field for 9 years and was on the track team at the University of La Verne for 3 years. (That will come in handy at Peace Camp!) Kimmy will split her time between Inland Valley Hope Partners and helping Dawna Welch with Peace Camp. What drew her to the Summer Service program was the opportunity to give back to the community in any way that also allows her to learn about herself and grow as a person.
Congratulations to the following graduates . . .

High School Students

Nicole Bennett will graduate from Upland High School on June 9. Nicki plans on attending Chaffey College for her AA and possibly transferring later to a state school. Nicki is finishing her 2nd year on her school's hip hop team, which had a very successful competition season.

Asia Coffman graduated from Claremont High in January and will walk with her class on June 9.

Camille Davis will graduate from Bonita High School on June 9. Cami will attend Cal State San Luis Obispo in the fall, enrolled in the College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences.

Nathan Keeler will graduate from Claremont High School on June 9. He will be a freshman at the University of La Verne this coming fall and plans to study Film, as well as be involved in college sports.

Jack Kolodge will graduate from Claremont High School on June 9. He will be attending the University of La Verne, playing soccer, and majoring in Business/Accounting.

Eydie Martinez will graduate from Bonita High School on June 9. Eydie will attend CSU Chico in the fall, majoring in Microbiology.

Katie Mitchell will be graduating from Bonita High School on June 9. During her senior year, she has been a member of the Associated Student Body and served as the Commissioner for Staff and Student Recognition. Katie will be attending California State University Los Angeles in the fall, majoring in Social Work, and minoring in Spanish.

Lauren Ober Miller will graduate from Bonita High School on June 9. Lauren will attend Cal State Fullerton in the fall, studying Theater Arts.

Kurtis Redman will graduate from Bonita High School on June 9. Kurtis will attend Cal State Fullerton in the fall, studying Communications.

Ethan Strogen will graduate from Claremont High School on June 9. Ethan will attend Unity College in Unity, Maine next fall. He will be majoring in Conservation Law Enforcement.

Kyra Terry will graduate from Bonita High School on June 9. Kyra will attend Cal State San Marcos in the fall, majoring in Psychology.
More graduates . . .

College

Katrina Beltran graduated in May from Washington College (Chestertown, Maryland) with a degree in Economics.

Maya Davis graduated with honors from Clark University, Worcester, MA on May 22 with a BA in Theatre Arts, focus on playwriting.

Trevor Johnson graduated on May 21 from CSU Monterey Bay with a degree in Business.

Ciera Olson graduated from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago on May 16 with a B.A. in Photography.

Tuesday Thornton graduated in May from Humbolt State University (Arcadia, CA), with a B.A. in Political Science.

Jeff Van Voorhis graduated from the University of La Verne on Saturday, May 28 with a B.S. in Organizational Management with a Human Resource concentration.

Advanced Degrees

Jana Carter graduated from Bethany Seminary on May 7 with an M.A. In Theological Studies. Jana writes, “I'd like to thank my LaVerne COB community for inspiring and supporting this endeavor. Thanks and love to all.”

Aaron Colby received his Juris Doctor on May 14 from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia.
All Church BBQ
June 5, following worship (around 11:30 a.m.)
On the Patio
Once again the Spiritual Life and Nurture Commission invites you to be their guest for a BBQ lunch on the patio. No collection plate! No agenda! – Just time to be together before summer takes us hither and yon!

We will provide: Regular and vegetarian burgers, hot dogs, buns, fixings & lemonade
You bring: Your own tableware and a side dish as designated by last name:
A-G: Side (ie: baked beans, mac-n-cheese, chips & salsa)
H-Q: Dessert (ie: fruit or baked goods)
R-Z: Salads (ie: green salad with dressing, potato, macaroni)

Please bring your dish prepared and ready to serve a minimum of 8 people!

Church Choir Send Off Concert
June 3, 7:30 p.m.
LVCoB Sanctuary
The “send-off” concert of the La Verne Church of the Brethren Sanctuary Choir’s Gospel Train tour begins at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, June 3. A choir of 54 singers will perform beloved American classics from spiritual, folk, and gospel traditions cherished the world over, as well as many original works by our organist and acclaimed composer, Shawn Kirchner. A reception on the courtyard follows the concert.

Then, on June 10, the choir leaves for Copenhagen to begin its Gospel Train concert series in Denmark and Germany. From a group of 72 choir members, 47 are on board for this tour. The idea of a Gospel Train tour was inspired by the choir’s desire to visit the ancestral homelands of many choir members, as well as Schwarzenau Eder, near Bad Berleburg, the birthplace of the Church of the Brethren. God Rejse! (Danish for “Have a Good Trip”)

Calling Spring Graduates
We want to celebrate with all our spring graduates – high school, college, advanced degree. Tell us when you or your loved one is graduating, from where, what degree will be received, and future plans (if known). We will print these in the Church Family section of the July/August Intercom. Please share your information with office@lavernecob.org or by calling (909) 593-1364
Celebration of the Arts 2016
The Power of Art

Each year support for the Celebration of the Arts in the local community grows. This year’s event, held April 29 to May 1, included The Gallery at Hillcrest for the second year, but added the dA center for the arts, a non-profit arts organization in Pomona. Event Chair Eric Davis noted, “This year we experienced more community expansion than ever before. We realized involvement and excitement outside the church grounds.” Once again, music and visual arts held the attention of approximately 1200 visitors.

Twenty music performances and poetry readings were presented over the three days at both the Gallery at Hillcrest and the church. Of the 10 vocal ensembles, four groups from the University of La Verne, two groups from Bonita Unified School District, and one from Claremont participated.

In the galleries, over 100 exhibits revealed creative talent in everything from artwork to sculpture, quilts to woodworking, photography to furniture, and even a children’s book. A vast majority of these artists were from outside the church membership. The number of plein air (painting in the outdoors) participants grew to 6 this year.

Benton Rhoades Peacemaker Scholarships were presented to six local high school students whose submissions came in the form of essays, artwork, and poetry. Submissions represented each teen’s activities and thoughts regarding peacemaking in their community, family, school, town, or the world.

This year’s weather was pleasant, as temperatures never rose above seventy-seven degrees. But perhaps the greatest relief came to those who simply immersed themselves in a sea of art and music after a week of mourning the tragic loss of our dear friend and our pastor’s husband, Bryan Boyer. What else than music and art to heal such a loss as this?
Church Life

Angels’ Share Turns 2!
June 24, starting at 7:00 p.m.
Angels’ Share is a “pub theology” group for Young Adults that began meeting in June of 2014. “Angels” usually gather on the last Friday of the month around matters of faith and an occasional craft beer. (Softer drinks are also imbibed.) The next gathering will be Friday, June 24. Place and topic are yet to be determined. Look for an announcement in the bulletin in early June.
Questions? Contact Janet@LaVerneCOB.org.

Young Peacemaker’s Camp, 2016
Entering Kindergarten through 6th Grade
$25.00 Per Camper
July 25-29, 2016  5:30 – 8:00 p.m.
La Verne Church of the Brethren
2425 E Street, La Verne, CA 91750
Applications available in the church office or www.lavernecob.org

It’s time, once again, to experience peacemaking through the eyes of our children, but Peace Camp belongs to all of us. Each individual brings something valuable and important to the process of peacemaking. Through collaboration, understanding, and intentionally working at friendly, non-violent relationships, we can not only learn to enjoy our differences but truly celebrate them!

If you know someone who you think would love Peace Camp, encourage them to go to our website and print out an application or pick one up in the office. Space is limited to the first 80 campers registered.

The deadline for registration is July 8.

Spiritual Cinema Circle
June 28, 6:30 p.m.
Fireside Room
In our June Spiritual Cinema Circle, *Druid Peak*, a young man played by Spencer Treat Clark, makes a terrible mistake and must find redemption while he confronts his loneliness and desperation. Sent away from his home in the East to stay with his long-estranged father in Wyoming, he becomes involved in the father’s job, which is to study wild wolves. As he learns about wolves, he also finds out the real reason his father left and begins to discern his own life’s purpose. This beautiful film was a festival favorite, and called “enlightening...undeniably gorgeous” by the LA Times. We think you’ll agree, and will find that *Druid Peak* stays in your heart long after it’s over. Join us in the Fireside Room Tuesday evening, June 28, at 6:30 p.m., for an evening of wonderful film. Some adult language and situations.
Strategic Planning Goals Set!

After many months of conversation, deliberation, and discernment on the part the entire congregation, the Church Board of the La Verne Church of the Brethren adopted the following 8 Strategic Planning Goals in a meeting held Saturday, May 14, 2016. On Sunday, May 15, these goals were presented to the Church Council and received without comment, save a commendation to the Strategic Planning Task Force for leading this worthwhile effort. These goals have now become the responsibility of the Church Board to begin implementing over the next 3-5 years. Additional goals from the original 21 will also be considered as the process evolves.

Thank you to the members of the Strategic Planning team and all who participated in this process!

La Verne Church of the Brethren - Goals Selected For Priority Focus – May 2016

Christian Education Program: In this time of vast shift in the Christian Church in the United States, we need to re-think our Christian education program to address lifestyle changes and other needs, looking towards spiritual formation of children, youth and adults.

- The Christian Education Commission would form a committee of people to study trends in Christian Education and spiritual formation.
- Study would include visits or interviews with other progressive churches that have a vibrant program for children and adults and spiritual formation trends of millennials, the largest and fastest growing demographic in our community.
- The committee shall be chosen looking for people who fit into the following categories: millennial with children, trained teacher, someone with knowledge of the paradigm shift, and a program staff liaison.
- This committee will report back to the Christian Education Commission their findings and suggestions for changes in our program by the end of December 2016.

Cultural Competency: Create intentional program to educate and shift our congregational culture to embrace socio-economic and racial diversity and increase our cultural competency/proficiency development.

- Peace and Justice Commission will form a Cultural Competence Task Force to help the congregation develop its cultural proficiency.
- The task force will use outside groups to lead us through workshops to increase our awareness.
- The task force will make recommendations about how we as a congregation might be more welcoming and sensitive across cultural lines.
- The task force will explore possible service efforts that will help our congregational members become more culturally proficient.
- The task force will explore use of LVCoB influence to raise awareness of racial and socio-economic profiling behaviors within our community and help move our community to be more welcoming.
**Dedicated Communications Team:** Create a social media savvy, dedicated communications team to expand awareness of LVCoB mission and programs within the general public and within the congregation. Using new and old forms of social media this group will lift up important themes of the mission of the church: peace, inclusiveness, respect for diversity, service to the community, respect for other faiths, social justice, and the manner of our living. Specific areas of focus:

- Explore use/expansion of social media, e.g. Twitter, Podcasts that reach large and growing portions of our community population such as millennials (age group which is currently around 18-35 years old)
- Work on effective use of the building space to communicate our mission statement (inside and out)
- Increase communications directed at college and high school campuses.
- Creation of the communication team would be assigned to Gifts Discernment commission, current communication team (2 individuals) will be central to the formation/expansion of the new team; a staff liaison will be identified.

**Small Group Experiences:** Seek to expand personal and spiritual growth opportunities by the formation of a variety of small group experiences. These groups should be varied to allow for a variety of entry points for newer members to become acquainted within the congregation and support the building of relationships among members.

- Formation of covenant type groups in which leaders are trained to lead an intentional group meeting on a regular basis. Discussion/support groups, potentially more structured around curricula
- Formation of short time interest groups, much like current Lenten Interest Groups. The leader of the group would be self-chosen around an area of interest/passion: e.g. Photography, bird watching, gardening, Bible Study, etc.
- Offering short term musical involvement opportunities for all ages (e.g. outside worship jam sessions, temporary “pop-up” choirs)
- Formation of groups whose mission is service to the community; this can be short term or longer term. A service project may emerge as a result of a topic being studied in small groups. Study groups may be encouraged to consider a service project as a result of their topic discussion.
- Oversight to the formation of these small groups would be assigned to the commission on Spiritual Life and Nurture and placed under the job description of a program staff member.

**Staff Roles:** Study staffing needs and current staff roles to ascertain what changes need to be made in the context of goals chosen and discussed during this process. (Items c and d refer to specific goal options described herein)

- Offer pastoral team opportunity for personal discernment on desired role within the church based on personal gifts and calling. Ensuring individuals are able to engage in fulfilling vocation as we move forward together is a high priority for the congregation. Reflection will be helpful as the church looks at its desired ministries and explores the best way to staff to meet our ministry needs
- Address congregation concern for “graying” population and needs for staffing program to address changing needs for children and youth, millennials, and young families
- Address staffing for small group leadership, formation and development of opportunities for community service and engagement.
- Address staffing for training and coordination of pastoral care by lay leaders
- Personnel Commission will re-negotiate the tasks/roles of program staff given the changing priorities lifted up in this strategic planning process.
**Whole-church Service Projects:** Conduct peace, justice and/or service events that serve our mission and are visible and inviting to the surrounding community. Demonstrate our values to the community through service and advocacy for our neighbors and our earth.

- Consider projects that involve hands-on / get dirty work and one-day service projects that require short term time commitment (e.g. service projects like park/public space clean-up)
- The Peace and Justice Commission would form a committee to coordinate the events.

**Youth Mentoring/Service Program:** Create mentoring or other personal contact program to help underserved youth in our community.

- Service Commission will create a mentoring committee, with a program staff liaison.
- The committee will be in contact with agencies in our community aiding underserved youth (David & Margaret home, LeRoy’s Boys home, Bonita High School, Ramona Middle school, Roynon Elementary) to discern what needs are not currently being met (tutoring classes, job prep, life skills, after school activities, clothing, supplies).
- The committee will discern what needs could most effectively be met by the interests, gifts and passions of our congregational members. Focus on building relationship and serving single agency/institution as a start is recommended
- The committee will set up the program and recruit volunteers.

**Millennial Task Force:** Create a task force made up of church members who fall within the millennial age group (~18-35). Their task is to identify how to attract/serve millennial population.

- The millennial task force will be put together by the Envisioning Commission, made up of millennials and include a program staff liaison.
- The group will study what millennials are looking for in a community and how millennials differ from church members who are older than them.
- The task force will make recommendations to Envisioning Commission who will be charged with helping their recommendations find footing in the structure.
Church Beyond These Walls
by Linda Leard Kimble

I found myself holding babies with cleft lips and palates in a hospital in Guatemala. It was a bit of a journey arriving in this place, beginning with an annual Spanish immersion trip I take each year to keep my Spanish fluent. God puts us in new places for reasons sometimes we ourselves do not know.

Cleft lip and/or palate is a congenital abnormality that is seen frequently around the world. I always thought of this condition as something that is quickly fixed with surgery. In Guatemala, however, it is very common for children to live with uncorrected cleft lips and palates, leading to malnutrition and other serious health issues.

The project, which I call Bottles for Babies, combs the most remote areas of Guatemala looking for children with untreated cleft lips and palates. These children are often hard to find, because superstition has led mothers to believe they have caused the birth defect. Hidden from view to a large extent, babies in need of support to remedy their cleft lip and palate are recruited for care by loving care providers from this project.

The project arranges for these babies to be cared for in the hospital or provides home care and helps the families feed the children until they reach the proper weight for the first surgery, which is 10 pounds. It takes many months for the babies to reach this weight. In many cases, there has been no care, and children have experienced significant malnutrition and the physical and psychological scars of an open cleft lip and palate.

My small part of this outreach is that I work in the United States to gather funds to purchase at least 100 specially designed baby bottles each year. These bottles are expensive (about $30) and must be uniquely created with a nipple that will allow babies with an open lip and palate to be able to get a seal on the bottle and drink. It is not possible to buy the bottles in Guatemala or ship them there dependably, so they must be hand-carried from Europe or the United States.

I fundraise here, and then hand-carry the bottles to the hospital in Antigua, Guatemala. My friends and I also fundraise for at least three surgeries each year. The surgeries are $400 each, --a very small cost to completely change a child’s life. These children otherwise might spend their lives without the life-altering bottles and eventual surgery.

The project does not just serve babies. Anabel was 14 when we funded her surgery. The agreement she made with Tess was that she would go to school, for the first time in her life, if we would fix her mouth. Three children from the same family benefitted from surgery, all with congenital cleft lips and palates just like their father’s. We have even arranged surgery for a grandfather who spent his entire life with an uncorrected cleft lip and palate.

I find the church beyond our walls in remote villages in Guatemala. If you are interested in learning more about this project, please don’t hesitate to contact me. There are many ways to help. You can pay for bottles or surgeries, help to spread the word, or fundraise. You can even go to Guatemala and hold these little babies in the hospital.

Please email to lindakimble@dslextreme.com or call me at (661) 350-6247 for more information.
Fourth Graders Receive Bibles!
Congratulations to the following Fourth Graders who received Bibles as a gift from this congregation:

Emma Davis, Avah Fox, and Selina Heng

We are happy to give our children Bibles because we want them to explore the powerful stories of inspiration and wonder it contains and discover themselves in God’s narrative of love! The stories in the Bible have been passed down from generation to generation for thousands of years. Consider encouraging Emma, Avah, and Selina’s curiosity by passing on your favorite stories in the Bible next time you see them!
Summer Camps, 2016
Camp La Verne is the outdoor ministry of the southern region of the Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren. Located near Angelus Oaks, CA and adjacent to Jenks Lake, Camp La Verne welcomes campers from grades 3 through 12, whether or not they participate in a Church of the Brethren congregation.

Fees for a week of camp are $250 if postmarked by June 20 or $350 if postmarked after June 20. There is a special discount for first time campers: $125 for the whole week!! ***Camperships are available for active La Verne COB families who register with the church office under the new campership policy detailed below.

Plan now to include a week at Camp La Verne!

Junior High Camp, entering 5th-8th grade, July 10-16
   Directors: Ben Sankey and Chris Davis

Junior Camp, entering 3rd-5th grade, July 17-23
   Director: Janet Hart Short

Senior High Camp, entering 9th-12th grade, July 24-30
   Directors: Erica Brown and Kevin Schatz

Registration forms are available in the church office. For more about Camp La Verne, visit www.camplaverne.org

***New Campership Policy
The Christian Education Commission of the La Verne Church of the Brethren is offering 2016 Camperships to all who wish to experience the glory of God’s creation. Campership hours are no longer required. Applicants must be active participants of the church; and they must turn in an application form by June 1, the deadline for Early Bird registration. Camperships pay half of the Early Bird Fee ($250).

Application forms will be sent to all eligible families. Extras can be obtained from the church office. Forms are to be turned in to Dawna Welch or Janet Ober Lambert by June 1, 2016. No camperships will be honored for late applicants.

Additional scholarships are available from Camp La Verne. Contact Kathy Doramus for details: (909) 593-8836 or k.doramus@gmail.com.

Other questions? contact Dawna Welch at (909) 593-1364 or Dawna@LaVerneCOB.org or Janet Ober Lambert at (909) 593-1364 or Janet@LaVerneCOB.org
Opportunities to Serve and Share

Summer Lunch Program Fundraiser
Sunday, June 5, following worship
This summer, the City of La Verne will once again be running its Summer Lunch Program. This is a free program for children from low income families who receive a free lunch during the school year. Once the school year ends, the free lunches are not available through the schools. The program runs Monday through Friday, June 13 through August 19, at Las Flores Park from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. The program is staffed by City employees and includes activities, crafts, and a free nutritious lunch. Last year over 1150 lunches were served.

The Summer Lunch Camp program is funded entirely by donations from civic groups and faith communities like ours.

The LVCOB fundraiser for this program will be held on Sunday, June 5 following worship. The Service Commission has recruited irresistible children carrying vintage lunch boxes to collect donations in the Narthex and on the patio following worship. All proceeds will help feed the children of our neighborhood.

Camp La Verne Buy A Roof
The manager’s cabin at Camp La Verne needs a new roof. The present one leaks and is part wood shake and composite. The estimated cost for a metal roof is between $7,000 - $10,000. You can help re-roof the manager’s cabin: Buy a 1/4 section for $25, 1/2 section for $50, a full section for $100. Send your donation for a new roof to Camp La Verne, PO 355, La Verne, CA 91750. Thank you.

LVCoB Receives Fair Trade Congregation Status
The La Verne Church of the Brethren has officially received a Fair Trade Congregation status and will be recognized in a “moment” before worship on Sunday, June 5, 2016. Please join the congregation as we celebrate this status and congratulate the La Verne COB Youth and Pastor Janet Ober Lambert for their work which has made this possible. The La Verne COB Youth have been selling Fair Trade Certified coffee, tea, and chocolate for many years and have inspired the congregation to include fairly traded products in its food service.

Fair Trade products are a way in which farmers and producers are included in the decision-making process in order that they have an equitable say in the selling and trade of their products. This decision process, in turn, yields higher wages and living conditions for the farmers and producers of fairly traded products. Not only will buying Fair Trade products support these workers, but when you buy from the La Verne COB Youth, the proceeds go to non-profit organizations whose work they wish to support. In the past, recipients have included Free the Slaves, Habitat for Humanity, Heifer International, and New Community Project.

If you have a question or would like to learn more about supporting Fair Trade products, please do not hesitate to speak to our youth or visit http://lavernecob.org/fair-trade/. To find other local businesses, groups, and congregations supporting fair trade please visit http://fairtradecampaigns.org/.
What’s Up at Hillcrest in June

In 1949, Hillcrest began from the vision of Martha Lear, a member of the La Verne Church of the Brethren. It has continued to serve the needs of older Brethren and others. All the events listed are open to anyone who would like to attend.

Events and Activities in June:

**SUNDAY 4:00 P.M. CHAPEL VESPERS**

- 5 – Rev. Barrett Van Buren, St. John’s Episcopal
  - Virginia Stark, accompanist
- 12 – ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE
  - Annie Green, accompanist
- 19 – FATHERS DAY – planned by residents
- 26 – Dennis Short
  - Dorothy Garner, accompanist

*(The Vespers Service is broadcast on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. on the Hillcrest Channel.)*

**Want to help with Chapel Vespers?**

Chaplain Tom is interested in hearing from anyone who would like to participate in the 4:00 Sunday Chapel Vespers service as a speaker, special music, liturgist, or usher.

**STUDIES LED BY PASTOR TOM**

Everyone is welcome to attend Pastor Tom’s studies at Hillcrest:

- A weekly bible study of “Romans” Thursday, 9:30 a.m. in the Galen Walker Board Room.
- A men’s bible study of “Acts” meets on Tuesdays at 7:45 a.m. in the private dining room.
- Pastor Tom leads a study of the Psalms at Woods Baker Lounge on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

**Dial-A-Devotion** is available 24 hours a day at 392-4301.

**Fun and Games** – Daily, 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., MSL

- Water Walk – Daily, 5:30 p.m. in the AFC Pool
- Aqua Fitness – Daily, 8:30 a.m. in the AFC Pool
- Chair Yoga – Mon, Wed, Fri, 10:30 a.m. in the AFC
- Golf – **Weekly on Monday**, 8:30 a.m. Call Al @ 4076
- Weaving – **Weekly on Monday**, 1:00 p.m. Resident Services Center
- Farkle – **Weekly on Monday**, 2:30 p.m. Birch Court
- Writing Group – **Monthly on the 2nd Tuesday**, 10 – 11:30 a.m., Birch Court
- Hillcrest Singers – **Weekly on Tuesday**, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., Chapel
- Bridge – **Weekly on Tuesday**, 6:15 p.m., Birch Court and **Weekly on Sunday**, 3:00 p.m. in Pinecrest
- Chair Dance, **Weekly on Wednesday**, 9:30 a.m. in the AFC
- Ping Pong / Wii Bowling – **Weekly on Wednesday**, 10:00 a.m. in the Maury Smeltzer Lounge
- Dog Walk and Training, **Weekly on Wednesdays**, 9:00 p.m. at the Dog Park
- Folk/Line Dancing, **Weekly on Thursday**, 11:30 a.m. in the AFC
- Thrift Shop Open, **Weekly on Thurs & Sat**, 8:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- Balance Training - **Weekly, Tue & Thurs**, 10:30 a.m. in the AFC
- Arthritis Fitness - **Weekly, Tue & Thurs**, 10:30 a.m. in the Maury Smeltzer Lounge
- Canasta – **Weekly on Thursday**, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m., Cafe/Fireside Lounge
- Friday Evening Program – **Weekly**, 6:45 p.m., Meetinghouse
- Southwoods Grief Support Group – **Monthly on the second Friday**, 2:00 p.m., Birch Court
- Jewelry Class – **Weekly on Saturday**, 9 – 11 a.m., Birch Court

**Southwoods Grief Support Group** – **Monthly on the second Friday**, 2:00 p.m., Birch Court
Church at Large

Connect with Annual Conference
Via Webcast
June 29-July 3, 2016
Business sessions and worship services of the 2016 Church of the Brethren Annual Conference will be streamed over the internet. The schedule for all web broadcasts is as follows (all times are Eastern Time):

**Wednesday, June 29**
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Opening Worship

**Thursday, June 30**
8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Morning Business Session
2:00 – 4:30 p.m. Afternoon Business Session
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Evening Worship

**Friday, July 1**
8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Morning Business Session
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Evening Worship

**Saturday, July 2**
8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Morning Business Session
2:00 – 4:30 p.m. Afternoon Business Session
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Evening Worship

**Sunday, July 3**
8:30 – 10:30 a.m. Closing Worship

To view any webcast, click the webcasting button on the Annual Conference homepage or log onto www.brethren.org/ac/2016/webcasts for additional information and instructions. You can join in at any time or restart the broadcast from the beginning. You can also comment and chat online with the webcast coordinator, Enten Eller. There is a cost to provide these webcasts. Viewers are asked to consider making an online donation to help make the ministries of our church known through these webcasts.

Song & Story Fest #20
July 3-9, 2016
Camp Blue Diamond, Petersburg, PA

**Storytellers and Workshop Leaders:**
Heidi Beck, Marie Benner-Rhoades, Deanna Brown, Debbie Eisenbise, Bob Gross, Kathy Guisewite, **Reba Herder**, Jonathan Hunter, Jim Lehman

**Campfire, Workshop, and Concert Musicians:**
Louise Brodie, Jeffrey Faus & Jenny Stover-Brown, Chris Good, LuAnne Harley & Brian Krushwitz, Bill Joliff, Peg Lehman, Lilly Nuss, Ethan Setiawan, Mike Stern

**Recharge and refresh with us in the peaceful woodlands of Camp Blue Diamond!**


Church Women United
June 3, 9:30 a.m.
Friends Meeting House, Claremont
Church Women United will hold a spiritual retreat led by the Rev. Ardelia Rhone at Friends Meeting House, 650 W. Harrison, Claremont. Friday, June 3, at 9:30 a.m. Contact **Margaret Coston**, (909) 596-1436 for carpooling. All are welcome!