...don’t forget the hot chocolate

Someone sent me this photo from the whiteboard in the church kitchen shortly before the renovation began. It made me laugh out loud. “Peacefully. Simply. Together….but don’t forget the individual creamers and the hot chocolate.”

Church is a peculiar thing. We have big dreams and visions like peace on earth; sharing the cup of cold water; loving our enemies; carrying the light to the world; and turning the other cheek.

We also have all the daily tasks of life together. We need someone to stock the bathroom with toilet paper, welcome our guests, cook the food for our church meals, clean the solar panels, organize the gardeners in the Peace and Carrots Community Garden, care for the library, run the sound system, hand out the bulletins, count the offering, sing in the choir, pull the weeds, make sure we have individual creamers, etc.

When I was in seminary we talked about mission and vision – what it meant to be the church. When I was a seminary student no one ever talked to us about the tasks of doing church. What I have learned in the last thirty years as a pastor is that doing church can be all-consuming. But church life has both mission and tasks, and there is mission in our tasks and tasks in our mission. “Peacefully. Simply. Together….but don’t forget the individual creamers and the hot chocolate.” Church requires an intentional balancing of mission and tasks.

I have known churches that tilt heavily towards the tasks of living together as a community of faith, and they forget why they have come together. I have known churches that preach only the mission to the world, and they leave their own parishioners hungry on the side of the road. Every day we need to keep track of the mission of the church while we are taking care of the business of being part of a church. It is a difficult and tricky balancing act but vitally important.

May we continue the work of Jesus, peacefully, simply, together….but don’t forget the hot chocolate.

~Susan Boyer

The La Verne Church of the Brethren continues the work of Jesus peacefully, simply, together. We create a Christian community, called by Christ to be inclusive, caring and peace-minded. We affirm that people of any race, ethnic identity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, age, economic status, faith tradition, or life situation are welcome in our congregation. We believe in compassionate service, stewardship of creation, respect for diversity and nonviolent reconciliation for differences among all people, nations and faith traditions. We claim no creed but the New Testament, as exemplified by the life of Christ. We strive to follow the way of Jesus. Through these efforts, we seek to grow ever closer to the mind and heart of God.
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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.
SEPTEMBER 4       IS THAT REALLY IN THE BIBLE?  
*The Day the Sun Stood Still*  
Susan Boyer

In Joshua 10 we find one of the most difficult stories of the Bible to understand. In this story, Joshua commands the sun and the moon to stand still for a whole day so that the Israelite army had more time to defeat their foes. This miracle story has resulted in a long debate between religion and science.

Joshua 10:1-15

SEPTEMBER 11       BACK TO FALL SUNDAY  
*Who Am I to Hinder God?*  
Susan Boyer

“Who am I to hinder God?” asks Peter when he learns that God’s welcome is more important than his religious practices. Making Peter understand it is one thing. Having to convince his friends that it was true is another.

Acts 11:1-18

SEPTEMBER 18       Peacemakers  
Tom Hostetler

We are a people of peace. The Brethren have spoken for and acted on the scripture's call to be peacemakers in the world for 300 years. What does it mean for us today?

Matthew 5:9

SEPTEMBER 25       Walking Across the Centuries of Deliverance  
Susan Boyer

On the last day of Elijah’s life he walks seven miles with his constant companion, Elisha. They walk from Gilgal to Bethel to Jericho to the Jordan. It is a walk through Israel’s history of deliverance.

Psalm 121; 2 Kings 2:1-12
September Calendar

Sept 2  Youth Pool Party, 2nd St. Pool, 5-8 p.m.
Sept 5  Church Office Closed - Labor Day Holiday
Sept 6  Commission Night
Sept 8  Intercom Article Deadline, October Issue
Sept 9  Card Games, Fireside Room, 6 p.m.
Sept 11 Back to Fall Breakfast, Fellowship Hall, 9:15 a.m.
Back to Fall Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Kitchen Tour, Following Worship
Sept 13 Personnel & Board Night
Sept 14 Fellowship Visitors, Library, 9:30 a.m.
WABS, Library, 4:00 p.m.
Men-a-logue, Library, 7:30 p.m.
Sept 15 Bell Choir Rehearsal, Bell Room, 6:00 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal, East Room, 7:30 p.m.
Sept 18 Back to Fall Luncheon, Fellowship Hall, 11:30 a.m.
Sept 20 Food Network Dinner, Fellowship Hall, 5:30 p.m.
Sept 25 Greeters Breakfast, Hillcrest, 8:00 a.m.
Membership Class, Fireside Room, 9:00 a.m.
Youth House Party, Sesteaga’s home, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Sept 27 Spiritual Cinema Circle, Fireside Room, 6:30 p.m.

The September window display in the hallway is created by Janice Shaw-Morgan.
Congratulations to...
...Kathryn Bache and Chris Lotz on the birth of their son, Theodore Christopher Lotz, born July 8. The proud grandmother is Sara Davis and the proud great grandmother is Dorothy Davis.
...Paige Butzlaff joined Brethren Volunteer Service. After three weeks of training in New Windsor, MD she was assigned to CooperRiis, a healing community for those dealing with mental health issues, in North Carolina.
...Tuesday Thornton has become a Peace Corps Volunteer. She is going to Cameroon and will be doing community health work with women.
...Mark Olson who finished his 6th Badwater 135 ultra marathon this July. It is referred to as “the world’s toughest footrace.” This event runs 135 miles from Badwater, CA to Mt. Whitney. At 69 years old, Mark was the oldest finisher.

Change of Address
Curtis and Debbie Frick
5243 Mountain Springs Ranch Road
La Verne, CA  91750

Paige Butzlaff
CooperRiis Healing Community
101 Healing Farm Lane
Mill Spring, NC 28756

Sympathy to...
...Lois Brandt on the death of her brother, Jim Eikenberry, on July 10, 2016. Jim was a resident of Hillcrest and a member of Pomona Fellowship CoB.
...David Horswell-Optowsky on the death of his grandmother, Wanda Horswell, on July 1.
...Gwen Miller on the death of her husband, Wayne Miller, on June 24. Gwen and Wayne Miller were former members of the La Verne CoB from 1975-1989, and Wayne is former Dean of University of La Verne. A memorial service was held on July 18 at the Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren in Pennsylvania.
...Melinda Jones on the death of her brother-in-law, Dennis Holloway, who died on August 6.
...the family of Donald Charles, who died on July 30. A memorial service is scheduled for September 20 at 2:00 p.m. at Hillcrest.

Continued prayers for...
Rosalie Anderson, Anne Hauger, Ora Lea Bowers, Shirley Clark, Ralph Click, Pete Harrington, Jan Newcomer, Barbara Ober, Tabitha Pogu and all the Chibok girls, Paula Stanley, Dave Stroup.
**Gospel Train Tour a Huge Success!**

The choir’s *Gospel Train Tour*, from June 10 to June 26, capped an epic season and created loads of delightful memories, charming locales, unforgettable sights, and delightful experiences. New friendships blossomed and old ones deepened along the way, as did our appreciation of our Brethren heritage. Mentioning it to any choir member who participated triggers a spontaneous flow of stories and anecdotes. Here is a brief recap of some of the more memorable happenings.

The tour extended over 1200 miles from Copenhagen, Denmark to Frankfurt, Germany and back to Copenhagen. Organized by choir member **Laurie Schreiner** and led by guide **Benedikté Ehlers**, the tour utilized a double-decker bus to navigate the autobahns, ferryboat crossings, and even the second largest bridge in the world to deliver five concerts in some very historic churches: Sankt Knuds Kirke in Odense, Denmark, the famous Marmorkirken in Copenhagen (where the choir performed their concert *a cappella*), Jacobikirche in Rotenburg an der Fulda, Germany, the stylish Florinskirche in Koblenz, and the historic Franziskanerkirche in renowned Rothenburg ob der Tauber.

Other highlights of the tour included a quick visit of major historic sites in Berlin and a stop in Leipzig, the home of Johannes Sebastian Bach, on our way to Koblenz. Here, choir members paid homage to J. S. Bach with a visit to the Bach museum and St. Thomas Church, where Bach was music director from 1723 to 1750. Our morning cruise up the Rhine River was also noteworthy.

Of the concerts, possibly the most memorable was in Jacobikirche in Rotenburg an der Fulda, Germany. This was the result of a close relationship between Eva Gerlach, a beloved, local choir director there, and choir member **Shirley Heckman**, who had been the college roommate of Ms. Gerlach’s step-mother. Gerlach arranged for the choir to perform two songs in a Lutheran worship service followed with the concert. At the end, the audience responded in grand European style with sustained, unison applause and floor stomping. At the reception following, the fellowship flowed as our choir visited with many of the audience.
An important goal of the tour was to visit Schwarzenau, Germany, near the Eder River where the first Brethren were baptized in 1708. The choir toured the town and walked to the Eder River. To mark the occasion, Shawn Kirchner and Eric Davis donned their swimsuits and jumped into the Eder. Celebrating that immersion, the choir sang “Down to the River to Pray” at the river’s edge. Lifted by that buoyant spirit, the choir moved on to visit the museum of Alexander Mack, the church’s founder.

Bad Berleburg, another city significant in Brethren history as a center of radical pietism, was the choir’s next stop. Here, they viewed a Berleburg Bible and a Christopher Saur Bible on display in the Berleburg Castle. Both volumes are relevant to historic pietism and the Church of the Brethren. Unfortunately, the resident of the castle, Princess Benedikté (sister to Margrethe II – Queen of Denmark) was unavailable during our visit. We hope she’ll invite us back to perform for her!

On the day following the Franziskanerkirche concert in Rothenburg ob der Tauber, the tour bus headed back to Copenhagen airport, with an overnight stay at Liepzig. Many of the choir peeled off along the way, extending their stay with personal trips to other locations. The balance of the group took the fight home on June 26.

Anything as remarkable as this tour could not have been achieved without the combined efforts of many people. However, Laurie Schreiner needs to be recognized first for her outstanding work. Since January 2015, and through the entire tour as well, Laurie worked with Benedikté Ehlers, our Danish tour guide, and Henning, our skilled driver, to manage details and anticipate problems as the events of the tour were planned and took place. Together, they led sixty-one participants, including 45 musicians, across two countries. Despite some colds and even one broken arm, the mood was always upbeat as compliments continuously flowed about all aspects of the tour.

Of course, without the inspired choral direction by Niké of Shawn’s stirring music through a season with an exceptional number of concerts, the funding for this tour would never have been accomplished. Place all this in a bed of fertile support from the congregation, the church staff, and others, and our choir thrives. Thank you, everyone!

~Doug Bro
Back to Fall Sunday!
September 11, starting at 9:15 a.m.
Join the church family for breakfast and an introduction to Christian Education plans for the new year!

Back to Fall Lunch!
September 18, following worship
Join the church family for lunch and a chance to renew and reconnect!

Angels’ Share
Angels’ Share is a “pub theology” group for Young Adults who relate to the La Verne Church of the Brethren. “Angels” usually gather on the last Friday of the month around matters of faith and an occasional craft brew. (Softer drinks are also imbibed.) For the September dates and locations, please check the Sunday bulletins. To get on the emailing list or with questions, please contact Jenny Y’Deen at jlydeen@gmail.com.

Choir and Chancel Bells Resume
Choir Resumes September 15 at 7:30 p.m.
Chancel Bells Resume September 15 at 5:55 p.m.

There are good reasons to join one of these church choirs.
- You get reserved seats for Christmas Eve and Easter.
- There are no auditions.
- People who are involved in music live longer and are healthier.
- As St. Augustine said, “To sing is to pray twice.”
- You can see who in the congregation is sleeping or texting.
- We have great church choirs!

This is the year you should consider singing or ringing bells or both.

Men-a-logue
September 14, 7:30 p.m.
Church Library
What’s Men-a-logue? The second Wednesday of each month, men are getting together in the church library to share what’s going on in their lives and discuss topics of interest. Guys of all ages are talking about favorite movies, faith, and stupid decisions they’ve made. Interested? Join us at 7:30 p.m. on September 14.

Wednesday Afternoon Book Study
September 14, 4:00 p.m.
Church Library
The Wednesday Afternoon Book Study resumes this fall and our first gathering will be September 14th in the library at 4:00 p.m. Over the summer we read “The Little Paris Bookshop” and “Sisters of Saint Croix” (which many of us could not find). Come join us as we begin a new year and choose good reads for the fall. Everyone is welcome, and we would love to see new faces.
Kitchen Renovation Update

"If you really want to make a friend, go to someone’s house and eat with him...the people who give you their food give you their heart.”
~ Cesar Chavez

At the time I write this, our kitchen renovation is in full swing and the end is in sight. Supported by the congregation, our well-used, full of memories, very warm, dated kitchen is being modernized. The Property Commission headed by Steve Johnson worked throughout the year to research the best possible direction to go with our kitchen renovation. A subcommittee was established to better facilitate our needs. Special thanks to that group, Susan Curtis, Muir Davis, Robb Harrison, and Steve Johnson for their efforts. Gary Fournier has been consulting and directing us in a supportive and productive way, and Timberline Construction has been great to work with.

As we quickly approach completion, I want us to explore the possibilities that our new kitchen will give us. Our kitchen ministries have been expanding to include more community outreach, and I encourage us to keep meeting the needs of our immediate and surrounding communities. I welcome your input.

~Corlan
LV CoB Youth Visit Other Churches

As a part of the youth schedule, the LVCoB Youth visited two other places of worship this summer. In July they worshipped with the Claremont Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), which is an unprogrammed meeting. This is reflected in the fact that they have no paid clergy, as everyone is considered to be a minister. All members and attendees are responsible, as a community, for taking care of the needs of the Meeting. Although the historical roots of Quakerism lie in 17th century Protestantism, and most present-day Friends regard themselves as Christians, not all contemporary Quakers see themselves as Christian. Some regard themselves as members of a universal religion. Therefore, words such as Spirit or Divine Light are often used in place of God. Quakers call times of worship “Meetings for Worship” rather than services. Quaker Meetings for Worship take place in “meeting houses,” not churches. These are simple buildings or rooms. The Religious Society of Friends is founded in the historic experience of Light accessible to all and the conviction that direct communion with this source is available to all.

Meeting for Worship starts as soon as the first person enters the worship room and sits down. You can go in as soon as you are ready and sit anywhere you like. The children join at the end of Meeting, as they have their own activities in another room. The silence may be broken if someone present feels called to say something which will deepen and enrich worship. Anyone is free to speak as long as it is done in response to a prompting of the Spirit. Ideally, such spoken messages actually deepen the silence. After someone has spoken, it is expected that more than a few moments will pass in silence before further ministry. After about an hour, the person closing Meeting for that day will turn and shake hands with someone nearby. Then there will be a period of Joys and Concerns, thoughts that did not rise to level of ministry during worship.

In August, the youth visited Holy Name of Mary in San Dimas. They are a Catholic Faith Community staffed by the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, a parish of more than 5,000 families. They offer worship (Mass) several times on Sunday and throughout the week. In addition, they offer several Sacraments:

“The Sacrament of Baptism is the first step in a lifelong journey of commitment and discipleship. Whether we are baptized as infants or adults, Baptism is the Church's way of celebrating and enacting the embrace of God.”

“The Catholic Sacrament of Reconciliation (also known as the Sacrament of Penance) has three elements: conversion, confession, and celebration. In it we find God's unconditional forgiveness, and as a result we are called to forgive others.”

“Catholics believe the Eucharist, or Communion, is both a sacrifice and a meal. We believe in the real presence of Jesus, who died for our sins. As we receive Christ’s Body and Blood, we also are nourished spiritually and brought closer to God.”

“Confirmation is a Catholic sacrament of mature Christian commitment and a deepening of baptismal gifts. Like Baptism and Eucharist, it is a Sacrament of Initiation for Catholics and a Sacrament of faith in God's fidelity to us.”

“The Catholic sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, formerly known as Last Rites or Extreme Unction, is a ritual of healing appropriate not only for physical but also for mental and spiritual sickness.”

“The Sacrament of Marriage, or Holy Matrimony, is a public sign that one gives oneself totally to this other person. It is also a public statement about God: the loving union of husband and wife speaks of family values and also God's values.”

“In the Sacrament of Holy Orders, or Ordination, is the priest being ordained vows to lead other Catholics by bringing them the sacraments (especially the Eucharist), by proclaiming the Gospel, and by providing other means to holiness.”

From the Holy Name of Mary website
Church Life

Church Council Meeting
October 23, following worship
Our Fall Council Meeting will take place on October 23, following the morning worship service and after a lunch served by the youth. We will be taking a first look at the budget for 2017, as well as receiving the reports from our ministerial staff. We will also be able to read the reports of the Commission chairs. By that time the kitchen should be functioning, and we will be able to ask any follow-up questions regarding this important project.

Membership Class

Adult Membership Class
September 25, October 2, 16, 23
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Location: Fireside Room
If you are interested in learning more about the Church of the Brethren or interested in joining the La Verne Church of the Brethren, consider being part of the next Membership Class. Susan Boyer will teach this four week class during Sunday School, beginning on September 25. It would help with planning if you let Susan know if you would like to participate. (909) 593-1364 or susan@lavernecob.org

Spiritual Cinema Circle
September 27, 6:30 p.m.
Fireside Room
The September Spiritual Cinema Circle will be presented on Tuesday evening, September 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. This month four interesting short subjects will be featured.

Albertine
Since her husband passed away, Albertine - an 81 year-old woman - isolated herself from the world and has disconnected from all social life, apparently waiting for death. One evening, while she tries with difficulty to change a light bulb in her living room, a neighbor, Mr. Dumont, offers his help leading to an unforgettable night.

Powerful Medicine Simply Magic
In this fascinating short documentary, magic itself is used as a therapeutic and educational activity for people who are differently-abled, physically or mentally. We meet people who show the world how mastering a simple magic trick can become a journey of self-determination, self-discovery and self-reliance.

Helium
A young boy Alfred is dying, but through stories about HELIUM - a magical fantasy world, told by the hospital's eccentric janitor Enzo, Alfred regains joy and happiness, and finds a safe haven away from his daily life.

Into the Unknown
Life for retired couple Al and Fern is as peaceful as the lake in their cottage's backyard - until the fateful day they discover a black hole growing in their shower drain! Enter Gus, the mysterious, all-knowing plumber who shows Al and Fern that the magical sinkhole in their bathroom may be the least of their problems.

Hospitality Greeters
September 25, 8:00 a.m.
Hillcrest Dining Room
The Hospitality Greeters Group will gather for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 25, in the Hillcrest Dining Room, for its quarterly scheduling meeting. This will cover dates through fall for greeting folks who come on our church campus on Sunday mornings. The group does a wonderful job of welcoming and informing our visitors as they arrive for Sunday School hour or Worship time. We can always use more people to be greeters, so if you like to meet people, this is a great way to become better acquainted with our church family. Contact Tom Hostetler at thostetler@livingathillcrest.org if you wish to serve in this manner. Thanks!
Food Network Returns  
September 20, 5:00-6:30 p.m.

On the third Tuesday of each month of the school year, the La Verne Church of the Brethren hosts college students from ULV and the community. We provide a nourishing meal and nurturing hospitality. Students eat well, build community with each other and adult volunteers, as well as learn that the La Verne CoB is a place of welcome.

Volunteers are always needed for set-up, serving, clean-up, as well as enjoying dinner and conversation with the students. To offer your help, please contact Corlan Harrison at corlanharrison@gmail.com or (909) 981-7739. College students within our church family are welcome to come to eat and/or volunteer – whatever your schedule allows!

For general questions about Food Network, please contact the church office at office@lavernecob.org and (909) 593-1364 or Zandra Wagoner at zwagoner@laverne.edu and (909) 593-3511 ext. 4446. This program is co-sponsored by our congregation and the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at ULV.

WELCOME, CHILDREN IN WORSHIP!

Not only are children welcome, but we feel that they positively affect worship with their presence and participation! That being said, it can be difficult for children to transition into full participation in worship.

In order to help our youngest members (and their parents!) have an enjoyable and meaningful worship experience, we offer these helpful tips:

- Don’t worry too much about fidgeting. Wiggles happen!
- Children’s bulletins (with activities and age appropriate worship material) are available in the narthex. Please feel free to pick one up for your child and return the clipboard at the end of the service.
- Encourage your child to share their artwork by pinning it on the bulletin board in the Narthex or by placing it in the offering plate.
- Sitting near the front will provide children with a better view of the pulpit and special music.
- Review the adult bulletin with your child so they can begin to learn the order of services. Point out special events such as baptisms or communion.
- Help your child look up and mark upcoming hymns. Let your child help hold the Hymnal. Even if they can't read, they will feel included.
- Encourage your child to stand up when appropriate and to participate in the service along with the congregation in any way he or she is able.
- Give your child money to drop in the offering plate and let them pass the plate to the next person. Talk about where this money goes.
- Let your child greet the pastors each week after the service. Knowing the ministers personally will add incentive for the child to pay better attention during the service.
- Talk about the service with your child. Make sure your child knows what they think about the service is important to you.
Peace Camp, 2016 - *Our Peaceful Community!*

Back in January, when **Sarah Innerst-Peterson** and I chose the theme of Peace Camp, “Our Peaceful Community,” we had no idea how foretelling it would be!

One of the great lessons Peace Camp has taught us over the years is that peace is a community achievement. With a focus on the peacemaker within each of us, we began to think about campers from years past and wondered how they experienced peacemaking in their homes, schools, and local communities. We re-thought about how we usually come together, (as a large group) and intentionally created 8 smaller groups, giving them daily tasks and physical challenges to achieve. What we witnessed was awesome! Campers, along with support and encouragement from their leaders (all young adults from LVCoB!), went about figuring out how to achieve their goals through collaboration, conversation, and cooperation. These young peacemakers, 85 in total, ranging in age from 4-12, are indeed practicing peace in their daily lives, and it is something to behold.

It was a wonderfully peaceful peace camp, and we are so grateful for all the people that support this camp. 60 Brethren and non-Brethren folk work side by side to provide an opportunity for children that ultimately enriches our own experience! Thank you to ALL!!

~**Dawna Welch**

**Fall Faith Groups Now Forming - Facilitators Needed**

Fall Faith and Fellowship Groups are made up of small groups who meet around similar interests during the month of November. Currently, the Christian Education Commission is seeking leaders/facilitators who have a passion, hobby, or desire to study a specific interest with others. In the past, groups have gathered for book study, creative writing, nature walks, dance, art of any form, meditation and prayer. What passion or interest do you want to share? Each group will meet weekly for the 4 weeks of November, ending just as Advent begins. Sign up for FACILITATORS will begin September 18. The group descriptions and PARTICIPANT sign-up sheets will be available beginning October 9. Look in your Sunday bulletin for these inserts. With questions or further direction, please contact: Christian Education Chair, **Dianne Saurenman** at (626) 917-6191 or dsaurenman@gmail.com.

**Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner**

**October 22, 6:00 p.m.**

**Locations will vary**

Would you like to get to know the people you share a sanctuary with on Sunday mornings? Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner is a fun way to do that. Sign up to be a host or to go to someone else’s home for dinner. The host doesn’t know who is coming. The guests don’t know who else will be there. The host provides the main dish, and the guests each are assigned a dish (salad, dessert, or bread). Look for inserts in your Sunday morning bulletin for information and sign-up instructions.
When people ask what I do, and I say I’m a zookeeper, the next question is always “What kinds of animals do you work with?” When I tell them mostly reptiles, bugs, and rodents, their reaction is always either “Ew!!” or “Cool!” Occasionally they mutter “I guess somebody has to,” which I call the Respectful Ew.

Was it always my dream to clean up after snakes and spiders? Not exactly. I started out as a little kid peering into the window of the nursery at the San Diego Zoo, watching the keepers caring for the baby tigers, saying “I want to be her!” Over the years my interests changed, and towards the end of college I started volunteering at the Santa Ana Zoo doing shows using tarantulas, lizards, and snakes. I noticed that just by seeing these animals up close, kids would go from afraid to curious, adults would go from covering their eyes to peeking through their fingers. Some of them would even start to ask questions. I realized I could use their curiosity about the animals I was holding in front of them to teach them about how to help the same animals in the wild.

Everyone in this church knows that as a society, our relationship with creation is strained. I don’t need to tell you all about human influences on the environment and our growing disconnection from nature. Author Philip J. Newell says, “Part of the recovery of our relationship with creation involves a willingness to listen in new ways…One of the keys of listening needs to be simply an appreciative attentiveness to the creatures.” In the Bible Job reminds us, “But ask the animals and they will teach you; the birds of the air and they will tell you…” Evolution is one of the greatest testaments to God’s power and wisdom. Just look at an animal, and you will see His fingerprint.

One thing I’ve learned to appreciate from animals is their stillness. Reptiles especially. I get asked almost every day by guests peering into the lizard exhibits, “Is it alive?” I reply, “Yes, he’s just resting.” It’s a good reminder to me; rest is good. Sometimes they’re digesting a big meal and sometimes they’re saving up energy for their next hunt or courtship campaign. But I think animals know inherently that stillness brings healing. When they have just been injured or under any stress, they rest. When I have an animal that is hurt, I take it off exhibit and put it in a clean, quiet place and leave it alone. Sometimes it needs medical attention, but I’ve noticed that rest alone can do wonders. I think this is true for people too; sometimes when we are hurt or stressed, we just need to be still and let God work through our body’s natural processes.

Jesus said “Look at the birds of the air, they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them.” Animals don’t worry. They eat when they’re hungry and rest when they’re tired. They don’t fear the unknown; they don’t plan for unexpected events. They just live in the present and follow their God-given instincts, unintentionally trusting His design. I think we can learn from that.

When I’m cleaning my animals’ enclosures at work, I sometimes stop to just watch them for a few seconds. Besides being reminded to rest and not worry, I often notice a new detail about their scales or toes or whiskers or nose. And when I do, I’m in awe. God is so creative. Every plant and animal reflects God’s care, His attention to detail, His creativity. Even the spiders and snakes point us to Him, if we just look. So when you get home, take a few minutes to watch an animal. See if you can notice a new detail about them. Take note of what they’re doing and think about why. Maybe you’ll learn something.
Children’s Sunday School
Come and See!
Sunday Mornings - 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
Classroom Upstairs above the Library
Children ages Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to join Sara Davis and Muir Davis in discovering the stories of our Brethren faith through rhythm, singing, art, gardening, and community service. We meet each Sunday upstairs above the library in the northwest classroom.
9:15 – Sharing
9:30 – Story
9:45 – Garden or Service Project
10:15 - Dismissal

Another Chapter in the Church Library
Jeanne Marmolejo served our library needs since 2011. She kept the circulation of materials up to date, ordering and adding donations to our catalog, taking action on requests, publishing monthly Intercom articles and making the library a pleasant place to visit. She requested to step down from the position this year. We are fortunate to have Tom Evans willing to take on this time-consuming position. His goals for the Library include:

1. Maintain current high standard for the organization of the library collection
2. Continue to preserve local and national church history records
3. Create a flexible room layout to accommodate a variety of users
4. Provide access to Wifi
5. Provide a computer with printer and scanner capability
6. Add iPads for children and adult education
7. Improve AV capability for meetings, screening, or Skyping

Tom believes that the library is an expression of our members’ commitment to education, exploration, and lifelong learning. The result of their faith is this beautiful space for all of us to share today. Enjoy the quality of care and effort that went into building this collection, but also feel the love and dedication given by members over the years to make it happen.

Friendship Class
September 18, 25, 9:15-10:10 a.m.
Social Hall
The Friendship Class resumes on September 18 under the leadership of Al Clark. We will begin the Sunday School year with a discussion of the meaning of “Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.” What does this statement mean to us? What do each of the concepts mean? How do each of us interpret each of the words using the New Testament? We will start by asking who Jesus is: how the Bible described him and how he described himself. We will then examine “the work of Jesus” and then each of the three concepts: Peacefully, Simply, and Together.

Enspiriting Conversations
Sundays at 9:00 a.m.
Fireside Room
Come and enjoy an ever-changing variety of spiritual topics, facilitated by Peg Wallace and Julie Wheeler with guest speakers, enlivening topics, and a chance for discussion. Let’s explore together!

September
18 - South African Model of Scriptural Reflection – Peg Wallace
25 - From Desert and Demons to Divinity: One Woman’s Journey to Enlightenment - Julie Wheeler

October
2 - Holy Spirit: The Still Small Voice, Silence -- or Loud Nag? - Peg Wallace
9 - Jesus: Man or God? – Peg Wallace
16 - University of La Verne Sunday: The Fifth Gospel: The Land – Dr. Johnathan Reed, ULV Provost
23 - God: Benevolent Authority or Compassionate Companion? – Peg Wallace
30 - Reflections on the Trinity – Peg Wallace
Coordinating Youth – As a Team

As Janet Ober Lambert continues on sabbatical, a team of members of the church are going to substitute as youth coordinators. Tom Hostetler has taken point in planning a series of trips to a variety of different churches in our area so the youth may learn more about different religions and their traditions. Once the school year begins there will be activities, such as an after church play time at the University of La Verne and a movie night with the youth of the Pomona Church of the Brethren. The date and time are still to be announced.

As for the young adult activities, the Dunker Punk meetings are changing slightly. With most of the senior high participants graduating and going off to college, the meetings will be held at the University of La Verne and are open to any senior high youth and young adults. Meeting times will depend on participants’ schedule and be announced the beginning of September. Any questions? Please feel free to email Rayna Harrison at raynaharrison97@gmail.com.

Youth Calendar

Friday, September 2
Youth Pool Party, 2nd St. Pool, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 11
Back to Fall Breakfast & Youth Class, 9:15-10:10 a.m.

Sunday, September 18
Youth Class, 9:15-10:10 a.m.

Sunday, September 25
Youth Class, 9:15-10:10 a.m.
Youth House Party, Sesteaga’s Home, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Youth Activities

Youth House Party!!!
**September 25, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

Come one, Come All to a Youth House Party at the home of **John Sesteaga** (and his parents, **Sylvianne** and **Victor**), 214 N. Country Club Rd., Glendora! There will be ping pong, foosball, and backyard games! Please bring a snack and beverage to share and a signed permission for each youth who attends. Friends are welcome. Permission forms and directions are available in the church office. For all youth, grades 6-12.

Youth Pool Party
**September 2, 5:00-8:00 p.m.**

**2nd Street Pool**
2715 2nd Street, La Verne

All youth grades 6-12 are invited for a pool party at the 2nd Street pool. Hot dogs, veggie burgers, and drinks will be provided. Bring your swimsuit, towel, permission slip, and a snack/side to share. Please RSVP by text or phone to **Tim** (909) 379-8134 or **Karin** (626) 536-1901 Nelson or by email to khnelsonic@gmail.com. Permission slips were mailed to you or you can stop by the church office to pick one up.

Youth Walk for Peace!
**October 16, 4:00-6:00 p.m.**

The youth (grades 6-12) will once again participate in the Interfaith Walk and Rally for Peace, a community effort that walks for cooperation and friendship between people of all faiths. This year’s walk will begin at 4:00 p.m. at the City of Knowledge Islamic School on Garey Avenue, travel to Temple Beth Israel, 3033 N. Towne Ave for a light communal meal and a celebration of the Jewish Sukkot Festival. Youth may travel to the walk with their families or carpool from the church. Carpoools will depart from the La Verne CoB church parking lot at 3:30 p.m. that afternoon. To secure a ride or to offer one, please contact **Pastor Tom Hostetler** at thostetler@livingathillcrest.org or (909) 392-4354.

Youth Fundraising Lunch
**October 23, 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.**

The Senior High Youth will be serving lunch to the congregation on Sunday, October 23, just before the Fall Church Council Meeting. Volunteers, please meet in the kitchen at 9:00 a.m. and plan to stay till clean-up is done, about 2:00 p.m.
Backpacks and School Supplies for School Children in Need!

**Donations Welcome through September 11**
The Service Commission will once again be purchasing and filling backpacks with school supplies. This summer service opportunity is designated for school children whose families are serviced by Inland Valley Hope Partners. These families have limited resources and are often forced between buying school supplies, buying groceries, or paying rent. The Service Commission will “front” the money to purchase the packs so they are ready when the students head back to school in August. They are inviting your donations to help cover their costs. An estimated twenty dollars will cover the cost of a pack filled with supplies, but any donation will be accepted. To make a donation to this effort, please place your gift in the offering plate (clearly marked) or drop it by the church office. Donations will be accepted from now until September 11. If more is raised than was spent, additional supplies will be purchased for the children in our community. Please make checks payable to the “La Verne Church of the Brethren” and write “Backpack Project” in the memo line.

**Beta Center Needs for September**
With children going back to school, Beta Center has a greater need for snackable foods for low-income families. Consider purchasing single-serve packs of crackers, granola bars, dried fruit and nuts, fruit cups, etc. These are good to pack in lunches or for after-school snacks. Also needed are peanut butter, canned tuna, and pop-top cans of soup and fruit that can be eaten right out of the can. The latter are helpful for persons who are homeless. These donations can be placed in the collection bin in the narthex throughout the month of September. When the bin is full, the food will be delivered. As always, monetary donations are welcome and have a great deal of purchasing power through Hope Partners. You may donate through the church or directly to IVHP, Administrative Offices, 1753 Park Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768

**Help Support Nigeria Care Center**
Our U.S. Church of the Brethren representatives to EYN (Nigerian CoB), Carl & Roxanne Hill, visited La Verne on July 24 and presented a slide show and discussion about the efforts to help our Nigerian brothers and sisters suffering as a result of the brutal actions of Boko Haram in Northeast Nigeria. Efforts include workshops to address emotional trauma, support education systems and provide housing and basic needs for those terrorized and displaced. Carl and Roxanne reached out to our congregation and the entire Pacific Southwest District for funds to purchase a solar-powered pump which will ensure access to well water at one of the Care Center settlements. Solar pumps are a less expensive and more reliable alternative to current pumps that require fossil fuel. The Solar pump system cost is $3,700. Please consider contributing. Checks should be made out to La Verne Church of the Brethren, with Nigeria Crisis Fund - Solar Pump in the memo. Thank you.
Opportunities to Serve and Share

8th Annual Interfaith Walk and Rally for Peace
Bridges Not Walls - The Stories That Connect Us
October 16, 4:00-6:00 p.m.
The Interfaith Walk and Rally for Peace exists to promote friendship and understanding among faiths in the Pomona Valley. The walk is being held in October this year in hopes of cooler weather and to help us make a statement of unity during this election year. Our congregation is invited to walk alongside brothers and sisters of faith as we gather at City of Knowledge Islamic School (just south of Foothill on Garey Ave.), walk to the Claremont Islamic Center (just north of Foothill on Garey Ave.), walk to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (1700 N. Towne Ave., Claremont), and conclude at Temple Beth Israel (3033 N. Towne Ave., Pomona) for a light communal meal and a celebration of the Jewish Sukkot Festival. Those who are unable to walk the full distance may drive from place to place, and vehicles will be available to pick up those who need to rest mid-route. Participants of all ages and abilities are welcome and encouraged. A free-will offering will be taken during the walk to cover costs.

Denominational Offering
September 18
The next special offering for our denomination will be on September 18. The Church of the Brethren Mission Offering supports ongoing international partnerships with brothers and sisters in Nigeria, Haiti, South Sudan, and many other places around the world. It also helps fund Brethren Volunteer Service, the Youth Peace Travel Team, workcamps, and other ministries that provide opportunities for people of all ages to proclaim the Good News of Jesus through action. Other crucial ministries that exist to train and support mission-minded leaders in the church are also supported by this offering: Ministry Summer Service, the Office of Ministry, and Church Planting and Deacon ministries, to name a few. (You can give to the denomination through the church anytime you choose. Just be sure to make your check out to the La Verne Church of the Brethren and put “Mission and Ministry Board” on the notation line.)
Opportunities to Serve and Share

Fellowship Visitors
September 14, 9:30 a.m.
Church Library
It is time for Fellowship Visitors to begin their wonderful visiting this Fall. We are always grateful for new people to join the Fellowship Visitors. Volunteers give about two hours on the second Wednesday of the month to visit with people in our church community who are unable to be in worship on Sunday morning. Visitors go out in twos. People who visit are as enriched by the experience as those visited. The next meeting time is Wednesday, September 14, at 9:30 a.m. in the Church Library. Please call (909) 593-1364 or email Susan Boyer (susan@lavernecob.org) if you would like to be part of this ministry.

43rd Walk for the Hungry
Inland Valley Hope Partners
October 9
Registration begins at 12 noon

IVHP invites you to be a Superhero and fight hunger. Dress as your favorite Superhero, put your walking shoes on, and join others on this 5k walk in Claremont. The location is Claremont University Consortium, 101 South Mills Avenue, Claremont. Registration opens at 12:00 noon, and the walk begins at 1:00pm.

The “Walk for the Hungry” is a fundraising event to raise money and awareness for local and global hunger. This year Hope Partners is offering two convenient ways to register and collect donations:

1. Complete the online registration and utilize your email and social media pages to collect donations. To get registered and begin fundraising online, click http://inlandvalleyhopepart.donorpages.com/2016WalkfortheHungry/

2. Complete the paper registration form and begin collecting donations from those you know. To download the paper registration, click http://www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org/uploads/2016WalkRegistratioForm.pdf

La Verne Church of the Brethren 909-593-1364 www.LaVerneCOB.org
Events and Activities in September:

SUNDAY 4:00 P.M. CHAPEL VESPERS
4 – LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
11 – Mary Ann Williams - Annie Greene, accompanist
18 – TBA - Bernie Pence, accompanist
25 – Russ Matteson - 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 “Conversations” group at Cedar Court 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 – 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
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, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m., Cafe/Fireside Lounge
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 – 11a.m., Birch Court

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.
Annual Conference 2016 Report – Submitted by Simon Lambert

At my second experience of Annual Conference, I gained further insights into how the Church of the Brethren denomination works. I enjoyed meeting friends, old and new, and was impressed with the general organization of business, worship, supporting exhibitions and information. As a delegate, I was seated at one of the round tables which enabled small groups to discuss items, pray collectively, and share some snacks too! Thank you again for the honor of representing the La Verne church, along with Janice Shaw Morgan and Dot Hess.

The following content is adapted from the official published Wrap Up notes:

Moderator Andy Murray presided over the business sessions, assisted by Moderator-Elect Carol Scheppard and Conference Secretary James Beckwith.

In the business sessions there were five queries. The first came from West Marva District – “How shall districts respond when credentialed ministers and/or congregations conduct or participate in same sex weddings?” Before delegates could address the query, they had to vote to open the floor to a query related to human sexuality because the 2011 Conference had decided “to continue deeper conversations concerning human sexuality outside of the query process.” The Conference ultimately referred the concerns of the query to the Church of the Brethren Leadership Team made up of the AC moderator, moderator-elect and secretary, and general secretary who will also be in consultation with the Council of District Executives (CODE). The motion to refer asks these groups “to bring clarity and guidance concerning the authority of A/C and districts regarding the accountability of ministers, congregations and districts bringing recommendations to the 2017 Annual Conference.”

The query “On Earth Peace Responsibility/Accountability to Annual Conference” from West Marva District and another query, “Viability of On Earth Peace as an Agency of the Church of the Brethren” from South Eastern District were combined in one response from Standing Committee. The recommendation was made to refer to the Review & Evaluation Committee “recognizing that the Review and Evaluation Committee has the responsibility to consider the balance and unity of denominational agencies.” Every decade this Committee is elected to review and evaluate COB organization, structure and function. The group brought an interim report this year and will complete its work in 2017.

Illinois and Wisconsin District’s query “Continuing the Study of Our Christian Responsibility to Care for God’s Creation” was considered. The Conference voted to form a three-member study committee to be named by the Standing Committee of district delegates. The study committee will work in consultation with Brethren Benefit Trust and other relevant agencies to develop educational resources and strategies to help Brethren make financial and investment decisions and get involved in community projects to reduce greenhouse gas and reduce fossil fuels.

Pacific Southwest District’s query “Living Together as Christ Calls” was referred to Mission and Ministry Board, which directs the work of denominational staff. Conversation in the Standing Committee expressed strong support for the query’s call to work on the tensions being expressed across the church at this time and for developing strategies to aid the church in “treating one another in a truly Christ-like manner.” (see update on page 24).

In other business, delegates approved a 1 percent cost of living increase in the recommended minimum salary table for pastors.

General secretary-elect David Steele was formally introduced to the Conference by Mission and Ministry Board chair Don Fitzkee. The Conference also applauded the work of interim general secretary Dale Minnich.

Church World Service president and CEO John McCullough presented the CWS “Founder’s Award for 70 Years of Help and Hope” to the Church of the Brethren.
Annual Conference - By the numbers

2,439 registered, including 704 delegates
$68,516 received in Conference offerings to support the Conference, Nigeria Crisis Fund, and Core Ministries
160 usable pints donated at the Blood Drive
$2,793.24 in cash donations to Backpack Beginnings aiding children in need in Greensboro, and $815 in cash donations to Encore Boutique aiding people in job training
$10,050 raised by the AACB Quilt Auction along with $877 raised in a silent auction of Nigerian dresses, and $2000 “Gifts of the Heart”
$7,300-plus raised for Heifer International during the Ted & Co. production of 12 Baskets and a Goat

6 new congregations and fellowships: New Beginnings Church of the Brethren and Veritas, both in Atlantic Northeast District; Jonah’s People, N. Ohio District; Betel International and Ministerio Uncion Apostolica, both in Southeastern District; Gospel Assemble, Atlantic Southeast District

Annual Conference Response to La Verne and PSWD

We received this letter from Jim Beckwith, the Annual Conference Secretary about the query from our church to this summer’s Annual Conference in Greensboro, NC:

The Leadership Team has met this week and part of our work was to delegate tasks from the decisions of the 2016 Annual Conference. This letter is our official notification to the La Verne congregation and to the Pacific Southwest District as a whole with regard to the action of the Conference in response to the Query: Living Together as Christ Calls. The 2016 Annual Conference adopted Standing Committee’s recommendation that the concern of the query be adopted and be referred to the Mission and Ministry Board.

In response to this decision by the Conference, the Leadership Team will be officially advising the Mission and Ministry Board of its assignment from Annual Conference. As you most likely already know, that board is chaired by Donald Fitzkee and general secretary-elect David Steele will become its chief executive officer on September 1. Please invite the La Verne congregation and the Pacific Southwest District as a whole to faithfully support the denominational board and its staff as they seek God’s guidance for our beloved church in response to your query.
Registration for District Conference opened September 1, 2016. Everyone who attends conference, whether delegates, exhibitors, non-delegates, children, and youth, needs to register. The registration portal (listed above) allows you to sign up for meals, insight sessions, child care, and group activities for children and youth. At the end of the online registration process, you can pay by credit card, check, or PayPal account. Checks should be made payable to “PSWD” and sent with copies of your registration to: PSWD, Attn: Registrar, PO Box 219, La Verne, CA 91750-0219.

**Registration Cost:**
- $80 Delegates (meals & lodging extra)
- $60 Adults (meals & lodging extra)
- $60 Youth grades 6-12 includes **Youth Activities** on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
  - After October 26, activities & meals are not available to registrants.
- $30 Children grades K-5 includes **Children’s Saturday Activities**
  - Meals for children 5 – 10 years half price, under 5 free.
  - After October 26, activities & meals are not available to registrants.
- Free: Must register for insurance, Children Pre-K (meals & lodging extra) includes **Nursery Saturday**
  - Meals for children 5 – 10 years half price, under 5 free.
  - After October 26, activities & meals are not available to registrants.

Contact the District Office with your registration questions (909) 392-4051 or FrontDesk@pswdcob.org

*Registrations postmarked after October 26th will incur a late fee of $25 for individuals or $50 for families.*
Song & Story Fest
A reflection from Michelle Davis

10 years ago, we attended our first Song & Story Fest in Ohio. We arrived knowing only our family. The experience was great! Every day we had music, stories, worship, and workshops. Our children were encouraged to participate in the evening worship with their talents and jokes.

Last July, we attended our 10th Song & Story Fest in Pennsylvania. Our children arrived, excited to see their friends from all over the country. We hugged and talked with our Brethren friends who we hadn’t seen since last Song & Story Fest. Each year, I find it more difficult to leave. There are so many people to love and only a week to fit it all in! This community has been coming together for years, telling stories, singing songs, and bonding peacefully and lovingly. I soon realized that this is truly the best of the church; the example of how to live and engage. Why don’t you join us next year?
Global Unity Games
Sept. 11-21, 2016

The Inland Valley Interfaith Network is inviting our local communities (La Verne, Pomona, Upland, Claremont, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga) to participate in the Global Unity Games: Tomorrow Together, Sept 11-21. The Games are part of an international movement to bring compassion to our communities (see the Charter for Compassion at www.charterforcompassion.org). The Global Unity Games in September is an 11-day challenge to bring about unprecedented unity in communities around the world through compassionate action and service. By infusing the power of playfulness and compassion with the fun of friendly “coopetition,” the Games offer a unique way to strive together to serve each other, our own personal well-being, and the Earth. There are many ways that individuals and teams can play, from organizing creative service projects to performing intentional acts of compassion to promote peace, unity, and dignity in our communities. You are invited to report your compassionate activities on the Compassion Report Map (see instructions below). We have registered the broader Inland Valley as a “team” on the Global Unity Games website. When players report compassionate acts, please use the team name “Compassionate Inland Valley” so that our efforts are reported collectively. The reports are reflected on the Global Unity Games Scoreboard. For more information about the Compassion Games, as well as ideas for compassionate action, please go to the following website: http://compassiongames.org

During the Global Unity Games (Sept. 11-21, 2016), whenever an individual or group completes an Intentional Act of Compassion, please use these instructions to record the event on the “Compassion Report Map.” We will all use the Team Name “Compassionate Inland Valley” since we are all on the same team!

Go to the following website: http://compassiongames.org/
1. Along the top of the homepage, click on “Report”
2. To enter the report map for the Global Unity Games, click on “Sign in as Guest” or sign-in by using a social media account like Facebook or Twitter
3. You will be given the option to Add a New Report – click on that
4. A form called “Create your Report” will appear. Fill out the information on the form. Be sure to use “Compassionate Inland Valley” as your team name
5. After completing the form, accept the terms and conditions by checking the box and click on “Save”

Your report will be recorded on the Compassion Map and can be accessed by clicking on the world map.