

The Broadfording Church of the Brethren Fellowship

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Terror

by Pastor Len Smith

In recent months many in our world have personally experienced terror. Terror has taken many forms in the 21st Century from the passenger planes being flown into buildings in New York City and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001, to the beheadings of Christians in Libya, individuals being burned alive in Syria and Iraq, shootings in France and Denmark, and suicide bombers in Nigeria and other countries. By means of social media and the internet, each one of us has personally become an eyewitness to these horrific acts.

Perhaps many of you have asked yourselves, why is this happening? And why is this happening now? How should we personally react to terror? I believe that the Scriptures have much to inform us about contemporary terror.

Does it ever seem like we are living more and more in a world of reversals? For example, we read in Romans 13:3 (NIV) "For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you." Instead, in our contemporary world it often seems that the terrorists have no fear of governmental authority. Instead, so many governmental authorities are fearful about what the terrorists may be planning to do next. We need to pray for governmental authorities all over this planet to fulfill their divine job description found in Romans 13:4 (NIV) "For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer." Instead, in too many nations we have seen the terrorists punishing innocent men, women, and children.

In Isaiah 5:20-21 (NIV) we find this admonition, "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight." Are not these words very descriptive of the actions and the attitude of contemporary terrorists?

The Christians of the 1st Century also faced terror and persecution. The Lord inspired the Apostle Peter to write these words in I Peter 3:14-15 (KJV) "But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear."

The Apostle John wrote about the victims of terror in Revelation 20:4 (NIV) "And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God." May we honor those who have had their lives taken by terrorists because they said yes to Christ and follow the Lord's command to "pray for those who persecute you." (Matthew 5:44) NIV.



And may we remember these words found in II Corinthians 5:11 (KJV), "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men." May we pray that many terrorists come to know the Lord.



Mission and Ministry

News from the Church of the Brethren

1451 Dundee Ave., Elgin, IL 60120; 800-323-8039; www.brethren.org

March 2015

Nigeria Crisis Fund donations meet matching challenge

More than \$500,000 has been raised for the Nigeria Crisis Fund, meeting a matching challenge issued by the Church of the Brethren Mission and Ministry Board last fall. As of Dec. 31, 2014, the fund received \$506,100.50.

“Once again the Brethren have amazed me,” said general secretary Stan Noffsinger. “At a time of year when there are many demands on our finances, members of the church have generously given. We are part of a family of churches that span the globe and when one is in crisis, all join with them. We will walk with the Nigerian Brethren through this time of turmoil so they are not alone.

“We hear frequently from Samuel Dali, president of EYN, that the e-mails and letters and financial assistance serve as a tremendous encouragement at a time when Nigeria is frequently overlooked by the international community,” Noffsinger added. “They know their church family cares for them, cares for the displaced people, the orphaned children, and the widows.”

The Nigeria Crisis Fund supports the crisis relief effort of the Church of the Brethren and Brethren Disaster Ministries working cooperatively with Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN, the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria).

In Oct. 2014, the Mission and Ministry board challenged Brethren to raise a half million dollars for the crisis in Nigeria, pledging to match with funds from denominational reserves. At that time the board also committed \$500,000 from reserves, and approved an allocation of \$500,000 from the Emergency Disaster Fund.

Also last fall, an allocation of \$500,000 was received from the Brethren Disaster Relief Auction, given to the denomination's Emergency Disaster Fund with flexibility for part or all of it to support the Nigeria Crisis Response, as the rapidly changing situation in Nigeria requires.

With the matching challenge now met, the Church of the Brethren has more than \$2 million in funds donated or allocated to the Nigeria crisis response effort.

For more information about the work in Nigeria, go to www.brethren.org/nigeriacrisis.

Many people and churches have contributed to Nigeria fundraising

Donations toward the matching challenge for the Nigeria Crisis Fund have come from individuals and congregations, church groups holding special fundraisers, and events in support of EYN and its members and neighbors.

Carl and Roxane Hill, co-directors of the Nigeria Crisis Response, shared this story of how “one small church with a big heart” raised money:

“During December, they decorated their Christmas tree with a Nigerian emphasis, topping it with an angel in Nigerian clothing. This church does a ‘mug dump’ each month. The idea is to put all your daily loose change into a mug and then at the end of the month bring it to church and dump into a larger container. December was designated for Nigeria. They gathered \$1,700. This money is enough to purchase over 60 bags of grain. Each bag will feed a family of six people for six weeks. So their little ‘mug dump’ will feed 364 people for six weeks. Who would think loose change for a month could do so much?”

International Food Banks *by Tim Hammerly*

Around the world, 800 million people do not have enough to eat, yet one-third of the world's food is wasted. Food banks offer a powerful alternative. They work with the food and grocery industries to rescue safe and nutritious surplus food before it is wasted, in order to feed those in need. The Global FoodBanking Network (GFN) is an international nonprofit dedicated to fighting hunger and food waste through food banking. In 2014, GFN worked in 34 countries, and its international network of food banks rescued 1.1 billion pounds of food for the hungry. Food from GFN's network went to support the work of 25,500 faith-based and social service organizations, including churches, school feeding programs, refugee camps, orphanages, and many others. To learn more about how your congregation can help, please contact Tim Hammerly at thammerly@foodbanking.org or at 312-782-4560.

—E-news of the Global Food Crisis Fund
of the Church of the Brethren, Winter 2015

Mission and Ministry
replaces *Tapestry* as the newsletter
reporting on Church of the Brethren
denominational ministries.

Summer Camps

by Brenda Weller



The Christian Education Committee encourages parents of school-age students to consider summer camp at one of the Church of the Brethren camps.

Shepherd's Spring Outdoor Ministry is located along the C&O Canal in Sharpsburg. They offer camping sessions for ages kindergarten through 12th grade. For more information on Shepherd's Spring, visit www.shepherdsspring.org or call 301-223-8193.

Camp Mardela is located on 125 wooded acres in Denton, Maryland, on Maryland's Eastern Shore. While a bit more rustic, Camp Mardela offers Christian camping opportunities for kindergarten through 12th grade. For more information on Camp Mardela, visit www.campmardela.org or call 410-479-2861.

Camp Joy-El is located in Greencastle, Pennsylvania, and offers day camp as well as overnight camps. Day camps are for ages kindergarten through 5th grade and bus transportation is available. Overnight camps are available for 1st through 12th grades. For more information on Camp Joy-El, visit www.joyelcamps.org or call 717-369-4539.

Additionally, **Child Evangelism Fellowship** will hold Good News Camp at Maranatha Brethren Church from July 6-10, 2015. For more information, visit www.cefmaryland.org.

The Christian Education Committee recognizes the benefit in attending a summer camp and learning Biblical principles, in addition to outdoor activities. The church will help pay tuition for a child to attend one session of camp per

Updates from Missionaries

From Daryl Carlson ...

I was surprised when I opened my inbox the other day. It was a notice from SEND International letting me know that this is my 15th year with the mission. 15 years? So much has happened in that time ... marriage, three kids, moving between six ministry assignments (either actual or hopeful), and now working part-time from Illinois. God is always faithful despite change and uncertainty. I am certainly hopeful for my current assignment and the impact it can have. I want to assure everyone that I am accountable on a weekly basis with my supervisor, Steven Hall. I thought it would be good if you heard directly from him.

Building relationships and sharing information are key elements to running a church—this is true no matter the size of your congregation. Church media departments are important because they are the voice of the church, informing members of events and bringing new people into the life of the church.

A missions organization needs a media department in much the same way. Our media department should be dynamic and compelling. It is key to telling SEND North's story of God's work through our 95 missionaries by way of the 60/70 Window.

Daryl Carlson, as the head of our media department, is actively connecting our missionaries and ministry partners. Daryl maintains a conversational flow through social media. He works with missionaries in our field to help them better communicate their ministries. Daryl engages in evangelism, making contacts and effectively participating in integral media circles.

Yes, he is working part-time for the time being. However, the bottom line is this: we need Daryl as our communication specialist. The combination of his

knowledge of the field and our staff and his essential tech skills benefit SEND North and God's kingdom work here. Thank you to everyone who stands with the Carlson family. Your support of them during this time is vital, and I appreciate it.

Steven Hall, Director of Partnership Development

From Bob & Judy Kay ...

Bob and I smiled at each other as Jose got up to preach on Sunday. By his own admission, he was once so shy and reticent that he would go into a room by himself when family came to visit. He just felt awkward talking to others. But Jose completed the three-year leadership training course that Bob finished last summer. As Dominican leaders and Bob mentored him, Jose began to develop his God-given gifts. Now he was preaching his second sermon—well-prepared, well-structured, and well-delivered!

Like Jose, five other men at the Primera Iglesia Biblica Cristiana de Santiago (or Central for short) completed the training courses and have engaged in more ministry—joining the preaching team and serving others as small group leaders. Two have started a new ministry in an area where few dare to tread—adolescents!

We are involving adolescents, bringing them from La Yaguita to play basketball at the farming community of Amina. Adult interest is picking up as Pastor Ramon resumed his Bible study. And while drinking freshly brewed homemade coffee, Bob learned and laughed as the locals taught him several words and shared stories.

New ministries include teaching Haitian church leaders how to study God's Word. Please ask God for wisdom as we will begin preparing several couples to serve as marriage mentors to younger couples in the church.

Parish Nursing Program

What is Parish Nursing?

Parish Nursing was developed by a Lutheran minister, Dr. Granger Westberg, in the early 1970s. He recognized that the church has promoted health and wholeness for centuries through worship, music, sharing, and caring, and that it is the only human institution in our society that interacts with individuals from birth through death. The Parish Nurse's presence promotes an intentional health ministry.

What is a Parish Nurse?

A Parish Nurse or Faith Community Nurse is a Registered Nurse (RN) who has had educational preparation in wholistic ministry and who provides special health promotion services with a given faith community. She/he assists individuals in gaining optimal mental, physical, and spiritual health by complementing the ministry provided by the pastor(s) and other lay ministers. Faith Community Nursing is a specialty practice in nursing as endorsed by the American Nurses Association.



Parish Nurses perform different services from church to church, based on the congregation's needs. Some of the services/programs might include:

- Screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, glaucoma and overall fitness;
- Classes for all age groups offered on health-related issues (e.g., advance directives, nutrition, exercise, parenting, caring for elderly parents, stress management, CPR, etc.);
- Hospital, nursing home and home visits for assessment of health care needs;
- Special prayer services;
- Referrals to appropriate community resources;
- Health tips in newsletter, bulletin or informational board.

A Parish Nurse serves as a bridge to better **HEALTH** in the following roles:

Health counselor and promoter (provides screening clinics or health fairs);

Educator of wholistic health (seeks to promote understanding of the relationship between lifestyle, attitudes, faith and well-being);

Advocate/resource/referral agent (answers questions related to health and care);

Liaison with community services (refers individuals to appropriate health or community agencies);

Teacher of volunteer/support groups (educates on health and wellness topics and supports volunteers);

Healer of spirit, mind and body (serves as a leader in the congregation, and in partnership with the pastor(s), meets the wholistic healing mission of the church).

The Parish Nurse Programs in our tri-state area are supported by Meritus Health, Inc.

The Parish Nursing Program at Broadfording was inaugurated by Linda Humbert, Clinical Nursing Instructor in Community Health with Towson University. Currently, Cearfoss Senior Connection attendees benefit from the services provided by Linda and her nursing students.

The Light of the World

We read in John 8:12 that Jesus said, "*I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.*" When we follow Jesus, the true Light, we can avoid walking blindly and falling into sin. He lights the path ahead of us so we can see how to live.

We appreciate the young people of our congregation who serve as acolytes but have we really thought about the symbolism in the lighting of candles for our worship services?

At the beginning of the service, a flaming candlelighter is carried into the sanctuary to symbolize bringing the Light into our midst. After lighting the altar candles, the candlelighter flame is extinguished but the candles continue to burn throughout the service.

At the close of the service, before extinguishing the candles on the altar, the acolyte lights the candlelighter from one of the burning candles and carries the flame out of the sanctuary to symbolize taking the Light into the world.

Here at Broadfording, the practice of using acolytes began during the time that Rev. William Gould served as an interim pastor from August 1986 to April 1987. He and Mrs. Gould donated the robes that are still being used today.



Special Worship Services



Holy Week

Sunday, March 29, 10:30 a.m.

Palm Sunday Worship Service

- Music by children's handbell choir.
- Presentation by Cearfoss Drama Connection, "Necessities."
- Sermon by Pastor Len, "The Lord Needs You" (Matt. 21:1-11).

Thursday, April 2, 7:00 p.m.

Love Feast and Communion Service

- "Symbols..." is the theme for this service of foot-washing, agape meal, and bread and cup communion.

Friday, April 3, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service

- Sermon by Pastor Len, "Words of Desperation" (Matt. 27:35-56).

Sunday, April 5

7:00 a.m.

Sunrise Service

- Message by Pastor Len, "Good News!" (Mark 16:1-8).
- Breakfast following.

10:30 a.m.

Worship Service

- Sermon by Pastor Len, "Our Refresher Course" (Acts 17:1-9).
- Music by adult choir, chimes choir, handbells choir.



***Please join us as we commemorate
the death and resurrection
of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.***

The Broadfording Church of the Brethren Fellowship

BENEFIT CONCERT AND HYMN SING

FEATURING PIANO MUSIC BY TERESA SMITH



Sunday, May 3, 2015

7:00 p.m.



Free-will offering for Nigeria Crisis Fund.

The Broadfording Church of the Brethren Fellowship

Mystery Dinner Theater

Saturday, May 16, 2015

6:30 to 9:00 p.m.



Mable's kidnapping disrupts the joyous celebration of a new product line from Caitlyn's Candies. The kidnapper is demanding that a guilty employee publicly confess! Who is this kidnapper? Which charlatan must profess their dastardly deed? Will he/she save Mable and spill the truth in front of everyone? And if so, can Mable be found in time?

Will you be able to solve this dual mystery?

Join us for a delicious night of FUN!

Cost: (with meal) \$10 adults / \$5 ages 5 & under.
For tickets contact Sharon Reese at 301-797-5747.

Proceeds benefit Dominican Republic missions trip.

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FIRST CLASS MAIL