

Banner

We are a sharing, loving fellowship of Christian believers, rooted in biblical faith, that actively seeks and celebrates God. We desire to praise, love and serve with all our hearts in our faith community and to reach out to our neighbors, continuing the work of Jesus peacefully, simply, together.

In God we find the source of all our joy. Hallelujah!

May 2019

Pomona Fellowship Church of the Brethren

Vol. 43, No. 5

From our Pastor...

We celebrated the resurrection of Jesus on April 21, but the liturgical season of Eastertide continues until Pentecost on June 9. In the continuing spirit of the Easter season, I wanted to share a special take on a favorite Easter candy: jelly beans. As you enjoy these little treats, you can think of the Easter story and how God was made known to us through Jesus.

RED for the wine Jesus gave his friends,
promising a kingdom to come.

GREEN for the garden where Jesus wept,
knowing he was all alone.

YELLOW for the crown of Pilate,
the governor who washed his hands.

PURPLE for the robe they dressed Jesus in,
once they'd whipped him and made him stand.

ORANGE for the sky as the sun went dark,
a cross on his back, thorns on his head.

WHITE for the cloth they wrapped him in,
when his body was taken down dead.

PINK for the Sunday morning dawn when the women went back again.

BLACK for the tomb—empty inside! Jesus is risen! Alleluia! Amen!



Grace and peace,
Pastor Lauren



...those limited or confined for health reasons: **Cathy Banks, Faith Eikenberry, Marcheta Pletcher.**

We also uphold these members, friends and family members of our congregation who have prayer concerns:

Eva Davis' family
Linda Lovelace's father, Richard
Rochelle Lovelace
Bob Morris' family

May Host, Ushers, etc.



Hosts: Graham Lovelace
 Ushers: Frank & Shirley Ness
 Offering: Bill Lemon
 Hymn Leader: Peggy Redman

FROM SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Thank you for your continued response in our effort to support the local food bank. Our food emphasis for **May is Rice & Canned Vegetables**. As always, staple items are always needed and welcome.



Our giving emphasis for **May is**
Ministry & Mission Board of COB.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 6) Jakeh Landrum
Peggy Redman
- 7) Bill Lemon
- 10) Linda Shappard
Rochelle Lovelace
Casey Deal
- 21) Kathy Gilbert
- 22) Cody Smith
Winter Dellenback
- 28) Samuel McKellip
Shirley Ness

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 22) Paul & Linda Lovelace 1976

District Prayer Calendar – May

- May 5 Reedley Cornerstone Church of the Brethren
- May 12 Pomona Fellowship Church of the Brethren
- May 19 Glendale Church of the Brethren
- May 26 Pastors and their spouses who will be on retreat together this week



Please join us for our next **Congregational Business Meeting on Sunday, May 5**, immediately after worship. We will meet in the Ida Howell Room. The agenda includes an update on the property sale. and electing our District Conference delegate Following the meeting we will share in a potluck lunch. Please bring a lunch dish to share and your own place setting.



In memoriam
Eva Mae Williams Davis 1919 - 2019

Eva Mae Williams was born on November 10, 1919 in Trent, Texas to Clara Elizabeth and Benjamin Franklin Williams. Eva was the fourth of five children; three older brothers, Coy, Cecil, Clifford and a younger sister, Frances. All of Eva's brothers and her sister preceded her in death.

Eva's Dad was a farmer in Texas and when she was 13 the family moved to California to work in booming Kern County. Eva went to school in Bakersfield and then moved to McFarland when she was 15.

Eva met Paul Davis in church and spent time together in church youth activities and soon became inseparable. Paul and Eva were married in 1940 and moved to San Diego to start their lives together and had their son, Wesley, there. They moved back to McFarland where they added 3 more children to the family, Betty, Shirley, and Ronald. Eva and Paul were active members of the McFarland Church of the Brethren where Eva was the wedding coordinator for many years.

In 1950, Paul bought 250 acres of land in McFarland from his brother, Albert, and after 51 years of working together on the farm they retired and moved to Hillcrest Homes in La Verne. They worked together for many enjoyable years in the Hillcrest Thrift Shop until Paul's health forced them to stop.

Paul died in Pomona Valley Hospital in May, 2013, leaving Eva to continue on without him after being together for 79 years. Eva passed away in Woods where she was moved 4 days before her death. She said she was going to live to be 100 years old but missed it by 7 months. Eva was the last surviving member of the 1938 graduating class at McFarland High School. She loved going to church, singing the old hymns and listening to the organ. One regret she had was that it got too difficult for her to go but enjoyed having the bulletin and Banner read to her.

Eva was laid to rest on April 13 in the North Kern District Cemetery next to her beloved Paul.

An invitation from the La Verne Church of the Brethren

Jubilee! a concert by the La Verne Church of the Brethren Sanctuary Choir takes place Saturday, May 11 at 7:00 p.m. at 2425 E Street in La Verne, 91750. The choir will perform works by the Jubilee Singers and others inspired by their legacy including “Ain’-A That Good News!,” “Deep River,” “Nobody Knows the Trouble I’ve Seen” and other spirituals. Arrangements by Moses Hogan, William Dawson and André Thomas are among these favorites as well as new arrangements by Shawn Kirchner that reflect the mission of the La Verne Church of the Brethren. Come hear the program that celebrates the enormous contribution of the Jubilee Singers to American music, the music we now know as spiritual music. Contact the La Verne Church of the Brethren business office for more information- (909) 593-1364.

The name, Jubilee Singers, was taken from the figure of speech used by many enslaved Americans in prayers for emancipation over countless years past. “Jubilee” comes from the Old Testament “year of jubilee” found in the Old Testament book of Leviticus- “Set this year apart as holy, a time to proclaim freedom throughout the land for all who live there. It will be a jubilee year for you...” 25:10-11. (NLT)



Fun Facts from the Pages of Our History

In 1916, after years of Brethren frowning on the use of instrumental music in worship, the Pomona congregation acquired its first piano

PFCOB STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION Through March 2019

2019 Annual Budget	\$217,946.00
Giving '19	\$28,316.00
Interest & Other Income '19	\$21,953.30
Total Budget Income thru Mar.	\$52,269.30
Total Budget Expense thru Mar.	\$(58,560.17)
Plus Budget overage from 2018	\$29,304.84
Budget Balance thru March	\$23,013.97
March Special Non-Budget Offerings	
Capital Fund	\$200.00
IVHP Hunger	\$25.00
Women's Fellowship Pennies	\$40.00
Deacons Assistance	\$165.00
COB One Great Hour of Sharing	\$795.00
Women's Fellowship Birthday Dinner	\$330.00

The Pomona Fellowship Church of the Brethren seeks to glorify God and to promote Christian life and character through worship, instruction, evangelism, fellowship, and service to this community and to the world at large.

The *Banner* is published by the
Pomona Fellowship Church of the Brethren
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Services & Activities

Sunday Worship	Sunday, 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School	Sunday, 10:45 a.m.

Rev. Lauren Seganos Cohen	Pastor
Janet Short	Moderator
Acia Jernigan	Admin. Assistant

The *Banner* is published once a month. Articles and announcements to appear in the next issue of the *Banner* are due in the church office by the 20th of each month.

Housing allowance is upheld by appeals court

The housing allowance provision providing ordained ministers, including pastors and retirees, with a tax benefit for their housing expenses is constitutional. That decision was announced March 15 by the Seventh Circuit Appeals Court in Chicago.

The case was heard by the appeals court last Oct. 24. It originally was heard by Wisconsin District Court Judge Barbara Crabb, who ruled in favor of the Freedom From Religion Foundation that the housing allowance was unconstitutional. However, in its 29-page ruling, the Seventh Circuit Appeals Court cited a number of court cases and actions by Congress. "We conclude (Internal Revenue Code, Chapter 1, Section 107 that describes the housing allowance) is constitutional. The judgment of the district court is REVERSED."

"Although FFRF can appeal this decision and ask that the US Supreme Court hear this case, the decision by the Chicago appeals court is a major victory for pastors, regardless of denominational affiliation," said Nevin Dulabaum, president of Brethren Benefit Trust.



Three Brethren Volunteer Service workers have completed the first BVS "fast track" orientation, allowing for quicker filling of openings at projects and earlier placement of volunteers. **Cory** (Smithtown, N.Y.) and **Mykal Alwais** of Community of Joy Church of the Brethren in Salisbury, Md., are serving with incredible in Richhill, Northern Ireland. **Alyssa Parker** of Midland (Va.) Church of the Brethren is serving with Harrisburg (Pa.) First Church of the Brethren.



Disaster programs respond to floods

Hheavy snowstorms this spring led to extreme flooding in the midwest and plains states. Disaster response coordinators from Western Plains and Northern Plains Districts reported no known damage to Church of the Brethren buildings or member homes as of mid-April.

In early April, Material Resources made shipments to Nebraska on behalf of Church World Service: 600 blankets, 150 school kits, 540 hygiene kits, 540 tubes of toothpaste, and 350 cleanup buckets were shipped to Omaha; 360 hygiene kits, 360 tubes of toothpaste, and 360 cleanup buckets went to Fremont.

On April 5-6, Children's Disaster Services sent a team to care for children at the Multi Agency Resource Center in Valley, Neb. Additional deployments were expected as flood waters receded.

Brethren Disaster Ministries is planning to support long-term recovery and home repairs in some of the affected communities.

Personnel notes

Amy Beery resigned April 30 as program director of youth engagement at Bethany Seminary. She began employment in July 2016 as an admissions counselor and was named to her current position on Nov. 1, 2017. Beery graduated from Bethany in 2013 with a master of divinity and an emphasis in youth and young adult ministry.

Debbie Butcher began March 25 as employee benefits specialist at Brethren Benefit Trust. She comes to BBT after working for 24 years at a publishing company, providing customer service.

Stanley J. Noffsinger began in early March as chief executive officer of Timbercrest Senior Living Community in North Manchester, Ind. He is a former general secretary of the Church of the Brethren (2003-2016) and director of the Office of the General Secretariat for the World Council of Churches

(2016-2018). Previously he was executive director of the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, Md. (1999-2003). He is a graduate of Manchester University.

Dan Poole has been named assistant professor of Ministry Formation at Bethany Seminary, beginning July 1. He began employment in August 2007 as coordinator of Ministry Formation and in July 2018 was named visiting instructor of Ministry Formation. He also was advancement associate 2009-2014 and has held the title of director of Educational Technology since 2014. Poole holds degrees from Manchester University, Bethany Seminary, and Columbia Theological Seminary.

Vita Olmsted resigned April 1 after a little more than a year as director of Information Technology for the Church of the Brethren, to accept another position.

MAY 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			01	02	03	04
			8:00 am Breakfast @ Roberta's 9:00 am Knit Wits 7:30 pm Choir	6:30 pm Stewards		
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
10:30 am Cong Business Mtg & Potluck		7:30 pm LTG	8:00 am Breakfast @ Roberta's 6:30 pm M & W 7:30 pm Choir	6:00 pm S & O		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		7:30 pm LTG	8:00 am Breakfast @ Roberta's 7:00 pm Choir	6:45 pm Executive Comm		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	BANNER ARTICLES DUE	7:30 pm LTG	8:00 am Breakfast @ Roberta's 7:30 p.m. Praise Team (no Choir)	6:45 pm Church Board		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	OFFICE CLOSED	7:30 pm LTG	8:00 am Breakfast @ Roberta's 7:30 p.m. Choir			

Sunday Schedule: Worship 9:15 a.m., Sunday School 10:45 a.m.



POMONA FELLOWSHIP
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