

2024

Retiree News

The annual update on Eder Retirement Plan retirees



Eder Financial

From the president's desk

Hello Retirees!

It's great to be back with you this year. After a short hiatus in 2023, reading through your submissions has felt like catching up with old friends. I'm happy to see that everyone seems as busy as ever. So busy, in fact, we might need to think about changing the name of this publication to *Retiree Adventures*! Whether it be travel, celebrating your grandchildren's accomplishments, big moves to be closer to family, or settling into Brethren retirement communities, you've all been on the move one way or another, and we're thrilled to celebrate all your retirement adventures with you.



Mary and I on our recent Mediterranean anniversary adventure. Herculaneum's ruins and Mt. Vesuvius behind us!

Life took me on two big adventures over the course of the last year as well. First, I accompanied my dad (who has an entry in this publication) to London to help him fulfill an item on his bucket list. From visiting the codebreakers headquarters to Churchill's war rooms to sitting in the Quire of St. Paul's Cathedral during an evensong service, and all of the other touristy sites to see in the city, it was great to take Dad to the land I first visited as a student abroad. The second adventure was an anniversary trip with my spouse, Mary, through a handful of countries in the Mediterranean. What a beautiful part of the world, and what a relaxing time! This picture was taken in the ancient city of Herculaneum, which like Pompeii, was buried in 30 feet of ash when Mount Vesuvius, seen behind us, erupted in 79 A.D. in what today is modern day Italy.

Staying engaged with the activities you love, at whatever age, is the secret to thriving. Whether it's celebrating milestones with family and friends, staying active, or knowing when to relax, this balanced approach is key. I share this belief in a holistic lifestyle that nurtures mind, body, and soul, keeping faith at the forefront as a sustaining force.

At Eder Financial, we embody this philosophy in our services and stay committed to serving pastors, church workers, and organizations with unwavering dedication. Our team just celebrated our 2nd Annual Eder Day on July 12, 2024, and believe that the foundation built on our Brethren values is our strength, allowing those we serve to flourish. Witnessing you thrive well into your retirement continues to fuel our dedication to make a powerful impact for those we serve and in all we do.

Thank you once again for allowing us to be a part of all your celebrations and adventures. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me. We are here for you if you need anything.

Nevin Dulabaum

Nevin Dulabaum
President, Eder Financial

Your News

Robert and Linda Alley

Retirement years offer special opportunities as well as routine ones. Linda continues a very meaningful ministry in spiritual direction serving 15-20 directees monthly either in person or via zoom. In May, Robert published his third genealogy book: The Gutshall-Funkhouser Story Descendants & Ancestors of Jacob Gutshall & Julian Funkhouser. These are Robert's great-great-grandparents. We thoroughly enjoyed numerous weeks devoted to hosting grandchildren. In the fall, we helped care for our daughter Linetta's children while she was on sabbatical walking the 600 mile El Camino pilgrimage beginning in France, across Spain, to Santiago and then on to the coast. In September, Robert was invited to preach and lead worship including communion at Hebron Lutheran Church near Madison, VA. Hebron is the oldest Lutheran Church built and in continuous use by Lutherans in the United States. Robert's ancestor Peter Weaver helped establish this church in 1740. Robert also attended Annual Conference with daughter Linetta and her children and the Germanna Reunion in July. There were several visits to Linda's mother in Lititz, PA; she turns 97 on June 30, 2024.

Ina Rummel Allison and Richard Allison

My name is Ina Rummel Allison. I retired eight years ago, and I remarried. I met my second husband at a senior center, and we've been married for eight months. I have six grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. I now live at 231 West Forrest Avenue, in Shrewsbury, PA, 17361. I'm doing very well. God bless all of you.



LeRoy and Clara Mae Baker

This year finds us both healthy and still serving the Lord in the

two churches where we are active in the music program. LeRoy still plays piano and organ at Harmony Church of the Brethren near Myersville, MD, which we still call home. Clara Mae plays the Moller pipe organ at Washington Square United Methodist church in downtown Hagerstown. Sometimes other churches call and ask us to join them to play at their churches and we try to accommodate them. We have many friends in many churches. LeRoy has retired from his barber shop, but he still has a few loyal customers who come by the house for a haircut. LeRoy was called by a local funeral home and has begun a new adventure. He greets and welcomes people when they come for viewings and helps at the gravesites. He finds it interesting to see how many people have their own traditions and variations. He enjoys meeting with the people and being involved in serving. Clara Mae is still working at a local church two mornings a week and finds it very satisfying. We still travel a bit when we can. We plan to visit the beach this spring. A trip is planned to visit Sight & Sound in Pennsylvania with a group of fellow travelers. We will be celebrating 61 years of marriage on April 7. God has been and still is being very good to us. Praise the Lord.



Ken and Debbie Bomberger

As 2023 ended it marked the 10-year anniversary of Ken's autologous stem cell transplant that placed his amyloidosis into remission but left his kidneys in renal failure. For the last 8 years we've been snowbirds

spending four winter months in our Palm Springs condo in Florida and eight months in our Sanatoga Ridge Community home. Ken tends to become obsessive when working on a project. When he decided to organize his photos taken at civil war sites he visited, it meant we had to stop at unvisited civil war sites. Soon one album became five, each approximately 700 pages. After working for 10 years on this project in 2023 we added the finishing touches visiting Gettysburg on July 1, 2 and 3 and Sharpsburg on September 17 on the days these two battles were fought in 1862 and 1863. We participated in the 53rd Annual Church of the Brethren worship service held in The Dunker Church on the Antietam battlefield. Ken managed to pull on the handrail and Debbie pushed from behind as we climbed to the top of the observation tower at the Sunken Road. Increasing expenses was a big reason for us to put our Florida condo on the market to sell. Another reason had to do with a hopeful sign that Ken was about to receive his long-anticipated kidney transplant. This required remaining near Temple University Hospital where the procedure would be performed. February 19, 2024, the long-awaited call came, and the kidney transplant was successful. Recovery has been a challenge, and an additional challenge has been Debbie's knees; one needed astrosopic surgery in June. We have been blessed with eleven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. While we don't go out much, we are committed to being present at our grandchildren's special events. Our granddaughter, Allie, graduated in May from

Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana and by God's grace we made it there and back. We are blessed to be welcomed at Providence Church of the Brethren. Our pastor is from Nigeria and our ministry has become one of encouragement, highlighting those who are doing things right. We like to think of ourselves as cheerleaders for the church as they model and witness to the gift of the Kingdom of God.



John and Sharyn Bowman

We've been living in Lititz, PA now for seven years as of August 2024 and we're grateful to be

here. In a 20-minute stroll we can be in Lititz Springs Park, at our physician's office, the bank, or a grocery store. Walk 30 minutes and we're at the Lititz Library. We have good neighbors and a pleasant home. Aside from a few non-threatening health issues we are in good shape (for the shape we're in) and enjoy our life together. Our children and grandchildren bring a special joy into our lives when we visit with each multiple times a year. We are grateful for our nearly 20-year association with Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren and that congregation strives to live the love of God through a practice of peace, service and openness to all. As the days roll along, we are of an age when we see signs which remind us of the limitations of our mortality. These signs serve to invite us to relish whatever remains for us, be it a day or a decade. Each day is filled with opportunities, beauty, and satisfactions. It reminds us of *The Mason Williams Phonograph Record* which included a song whose lyrics are: "Isn't life beautiful? Isn't life gay? Isn't life the perfect thing to pass the time away?" Yes, a short song. Sharyn is engaged in two monthly reading clubs and values the conversations of both. She loves to read and especially non-fiction books. She is a true life-long

learner, and she says learning is fun and easy. It's remembering that increasingly requires greater effort. She is active in a local group that encourages the school board to serve all students. Sharyn serves our congregation as one of the lay visitors working under the direction of the deacons. Since October 2017, John David has been meeting weekly with his brother, Robert C. Bowman, and his nephew, Christopher D. Bowman. This meeting, via internet connection, is an hour of reading and discussing the Greek New Testament, exchanging playful banter over their varied translation choices, and enjoying family connections. He also finds satisfaction in his church's monthly men's group meeting. He has published adult curriculum and some bulletin cover items for Brethren Press this year.

Edward and Phyllis Carl

It has been some years since I retired, and we moved to West-central Kentucky. Phyllis and I have been enjoying our free time and our leisurely lifestyle. Since there are no CoB churches in our area, we have been part of the Christian Church-Disciples of Christ in Madisonville and occasionally I have filled Disciples pulpits in the West KY area. Last January, I was asked to fill a pulpit in the Roaring Springs Christian Church. A few weeks later the congregation called me as their part-time pastor. So, I guess I am no longer retired. Roaring Springs is a small rural community near the Kentucky-Tennessee border. The town was decimated when Fort Campbell military base expanded in the late 1970s, absorbing much of the land around it. The church building and a volunteer fire house are the only two remaining commercial buildings. A few scattered homes and most of the surrounding farmland is leased to large farmers from the area. Roaring Springs Christian Church-Disciples of Christ was founded in 1841 and is among the earliest Disciples' congregations in Kentucky. The congregation is small, and their future is limited. They are content to have a part-time pastor doing worship on Sunday mornings and

pastoral care as needed. We enjoy the people and I appreciate having the weekly routine of preparation. Our family continues to move ahead as well. Our son, Jason, continues as an athletic trainer at North Hopkins High School. Our granddaughter, Brianna, was married June 1, and I officiated at her wedding. Our grandson, Zachary, has finished one year at the University of Kentucky.

Bob and Sue Chase

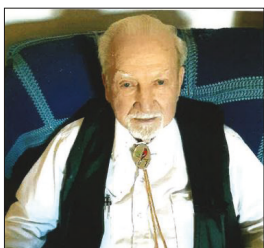
Sue and Bob Chase continue to enjoy retirement in Madison, WI, spending time playing scrabble in their Japanese garden, kayaking, gardening and walking in the area's many nature preserves. Bob has stayed connected to the global fair-trade community as the Chair of the World Fair Trade Organization member certification committee. In addition to delivering food to families in need regularly, he has also taken on the role of chair of the Leadership Council of Open Doors for Refugees, Madison's refugee resettlement support organization. Despite relatively severe arthritis, Sue enjoys daily aqua-aerobics and many friends she has made at the local YMCA. Bob and Sue value their regular trips to their favorite Wisconsin's Northwoods resort, Holiday Acres, where Bob enjoys fishing and Sue spends hours doing Sudoku by the lake. They especially enjoy their annual Northwoods family August vacation which provides a rare opportunity to spend time with their 14-year-old grandson.



Merle and Jean Crouse

It is a peaceful life we live in St. Cloud. Our five adult children support us in many ways. The youngest, Tim, lives with us enabling us to live in our home of 51 years. We live on five acres which include palmetto clumps, tall oaks, pines, cypress, magnolia, maple and gum trees. There also is a pond with turtles, bass, four kinds of catfish,

gar and other kinds of fish and wildlife. Merle fishes daily. In June he caught 50 bluegills, most too small to keep. A lifelong birdwatcher, he keeps a list of birds he sees. Some recent highlights have included white winged doves, a green heron, whistling ducks, an anhinga, a scissor-tailed kite and a pileated woodpecker (among other more regular sightings). Jean enjoys riding a tri-wheeler six miles, six mornings a week accompanied by sons Tim or Pete and other family that may be visiting. Our biggest happy news since our last update is the birth of our first two great grandchildren: Arabella, daughter of William and Adriana Morris from Springfield, Virginia, born in February 2023; and Julian, son of Philip and Kira Morris from Omaha, Nebraska born in September 2023. Another highlight this Spring was when our oldest daughter, Karen, attended a 50th year reunion of the Alliance Academy, the school where she and three of her siblings attended when we were part of the Church of the Brethren mission in Ecuador. We are thankful to be worshiping at New Covenant Church of the Brethren in Gotha, Florida. We look forward to reading news from others and pray God's blessings for everyone.



James Daughtry

This past year has been a very good year with many changes. My health has held up very well and I still live independently.

There have been a few unexpected changes though. My youngest son has moved in with me due to his health problems. My family keeps growing though. I had three more great grandchildren and another great-great grandchild. I still share in a "care ministry" to some of our church family since we had to close our church congregation here in Tuscan. Some who are unable to attend other churches keep me as a close friend. This year, I celebrated my 70th year as an ordained minister for the Lord as a CoB

minister and I remain proud to serve Him in the CoB. Thank you for sharing the news of the brotherhood.



Ralph Detrick & Joyce Stoltzfus

Our home at Masonic Village gives us freedom to enjoy both being and doing. Our couple activities include gardening, hiking, biking, concerts, local

theater, travel and streaming things like Young Sheldon, Grantchester, Father Brown and Madam Secretary. Gardening includes fantastic heirloom tomatoes and black currants. Hiking includes the many great Lancaster Conservancy trails along the Susquehanna River. Biking with new electric assist bikes on wonderful rails to trails in PA. Travel included an Alaskan adventure where Joyce did an Artic Plunge and a trip to see the eclipse. Ralph's routine includes daily afternoon naps, weekly check on 12 (of the 70) Bluebird boxes at Masonic Village and regular hobby of roasting free trade green coffee beans from many places in the world. He continues working with the Racial Justice Working Group at the Elizabethtown CoB. Joyce volunteers in the mailroom and visits hospice patients in the Health Care Center. Daughter Sara Beth continues as Director of Admissions at Methodist Children's Home in Waco, TX. Son David does freelance consulting, is engaged to Beth Cady, and lives in Sterling, VA.



Dale and Christy Dowdy

We continue to enjoy retirement, which includes volunteer opportunities in the local area, fellowship with friends and traveling. As we look back to 2023 and what has transpired

in our lives this year, we are grateful for the many ways in which we have been blessed. Our first travel event involved a trip to Bradenton, Florida in March to visit my brother and his wife, Doris and John, who have now made their home there after living many years in Hawaii. What fun to see their new home which they have worked diligently on together with their excellent carpentry and design skills.

April travel was a combined trip to the Midwest; after a fun overnight stop to visit Jerry and Becky Baile Crouse in MO, we arrived in Lincoln, NE for the memorial service of a dear church friend from our Antelope Park ministry days; so good to see friends from those early years of ministry. We then headed south to spend time in the area where I grew up, South Central Nebraska to spend time with family members. We also stopped in McPherson, KS where we enjoyed time with friends. Our last stop included seeing our daughter in law, Natalia, receive her Ph.D. at The Ohio State. What a memorable and celebratory weekend. It indeed was the year of graduations for our family, as Christy's brother's twins, graduated from their respective Boston area high schools the first weekend of June. It was a wonderful party of friends and family who came to celebrate. Christy's sister and her husband, Carrie Ann and Tom, also were there to celebrate, so it was a fun family weekend! Just two weeks later, we were on an airplane, headed to Montana for a reunion with friends Colleen and Scott. Christy met Colleen in the fall of 1974 as they traveled halfway around the world on World Campus Afloat. They treated us royally: relaxing days at their home and beautiful area of Hamilton, MT, in Spokane, WA with their two grown children and 1 year old grandson, and the last wonderful days spent in Glacier National Park. The beauty of the trip and the relationships are treasured memories. We had only been home for a couple of weeks and learned of the death of my nephew, Stan, of early onset dementia. Thus, we made a quick decision to return

to Nebraska to be with family. It was God's good timing, as the evening following Stan's service, my 106-year-old Aunt Lois died. We always appreciate staying with Marla, my sister-in-law, appreciating her hospitality and the beauty of the Nebraska sky and fields. We were able to get the laundry done and the car ready prior to our next long awaited road trip to Prince Edward Island, Canada at the end of July. The plans had been carefully laid to finally be able to meet our daughter-in law, Lily's parents in person. We packed so much into a great weekend though the highlight was certainly being together as we experienced the River Clyde Pageant, which Lily helped co-direct as a part of her summer work. The energy, life-sized puppets, stilt walkers, creativity and important message of environmental care was a powerful message for all. Our friend Carol Leland and our son Mark were also able to travel with us. We enjoyed exploring the island and Anne of Green Gables territory. We were then able to spend some time with our son Stephen in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he and his spouse, Lily live. So much more to see. The National Older Adult Conference in Lake Junaluska, NC was our next travel highlight the first weekend of September. We enjoyed the great worship services, powerful Bible study, meaningful conversations, along with great music and lots of laughter with great friends filled the week. The fall brought visits from traveling friends, along with our "usual schedule" of working out at the Mennonite Retirement Wellness Center as well as visits with local friends and Bridgewater Church of the Brethren worship and activities. I also trained to be a guide at the Brethren and Mennonite Heritage Center in Harrisonburg, which has a welcome center with a number of other buildings that help interpret the history of the Shenandoah Valley, especially during the civil war. A brief update on our family: We have a wedding coming up this fall. Our son Mark will be married to Elizabeth Himes on October 5 at the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. They both will make their home in Harrisonburg. Mark works for a

software company that services colleges and universities. Lizzy works as part of a consulting team that studies medication efficiency. Our middle son now lives in Gainesville, Florida with his spouse, Natasha, who teaches Russian at the University of Florida. Micah received his RN degree before Christmas, passed his boards, and works in trauma ICU at the University hospital.

Our youngest son, Stephen, lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia and works as a supervisor for a solar installation crew. His spouse Lily works in the world of theater as a writer, actor and creative work with children. I am grateful for Retiree News and those who piece everything together. Until next time!!!



Willard “Duly” Dulabaum

Last year was my first ever attendance at a trade show: the Chicago Auto Show

2023. Quite impressive! Next was a lowlight: I had COVID-19 and haven’t swallowed comfortably since. I had it again this year; harder this time. Grandchildren’s graduations were highlights: Seana Gould Dulabaum, from Elgin Community College May 20, to be a day care teacher, and Zachary Bohrer, from Augustana College, followed by an internship with Disney World. Next came Annual Conference last year in Cincinnati, where I was a delegate, and I was proud to cast a vote of confession to the mistreatment of indigenous peoples for centuries, with a vow to do better! On August 28, 2023, the Elgin Public Library observed 60 years since the March on Washington in 1963 with a program featuring Howard Royer and myself giving firsthand accounts. Then came a bucket list item: my first trip to England. Nevin used sabbatical days to escort me to London for ten days, from which we did day trips as far away as Dover and Stonehenge. Among

many high points was Saint Paul’s Cathedral where we sat on the steps and sang “Feed the Birds,” and later were invited to sit in the choir at a vesper service among the many lamps. In December, I was once again the most senior participant in TubaChristmas at the Palmer House. A special high point in June was officiating at the marriage of my eldest grandson, Nathaniel Bohrer, and his bride, Anne. Wishing all a healthy, happy year!



Roger and Mim Eberly

Our photo was taken in July 2023 at Hocking Hills State Park in Ohio where we spent a few days after Annual Conference in Cincinnati. It’s a beautiful park with challenging trails where we saw rock

formations that included a huge cave that some Native Americans had once used as a home for several families. Earlier in the year we enjoyed time in nature with our entire family of ten at Houston Woods State Park in Ohio. In July, we again traveled to Ohio where we celebrated the 200 years of the barn on the farm where Mim grew up near Ashland. It was a reunion for lots of Mim’s Dohner relatives. September found us at Lake Junaluska for NOAC, after which we experienced our first forest bathing at Sylva, NC. We are very thankful for our health that lets us keep enjoying hiking and riding our tandem bike despite us continuing our cancer treatments.



Jim and Sue Eikenberry

A big thanks to those who send in updates so we can read what you are doing. We last

shared with you in 2020. Wow! A lot has happened since then. COVID-19 shut a lot of things down. We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in 2023. I included our official anniversary photo with this article. It was

taken by one of our pastor's wives, Naomi Boyer Photography. Our older granddaughter Audrey graduated a few weeks ago summa cum laude in electrical engineering from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and now has a job in Anchorage. This fall our younger granddaughter Amber begins her third year in biomedical engineering at Johns Hopkins. In 2022, our younger son Steve left his ten-year stint in Alaska and moved within 15 minutes of us. We continue to mentor younger Christian leaders, occasionally preach or teach, and serve the District (Atlantic Northeast) in various capacities. We both participate in groups that bring Christian leaders from different denominations together to fellowship around Jesus. Jim continues to tutor the Imam of the Lebanon Valley Mosque in English and participates weekly in a Shabbat service at the synagogue in the City of Lebanon. When they ask why, Jim tells them that he is a follower of Jesus and believes Jesus wants him to come and love them. The Imam told the Rabbi that this is really strange to them because they always expect Christians to hate them. Health wise, we have had some challenges, but so far, we have been able to navigate around them. We appreciate the younger Brethren leaders who openly love Jesus, put Him at the center of their ministries, and want others to know Him. They give us hope for what God is doing in His church.



W. Ethmer Erisman

Dear Friends: My life flows on and now my 99th birthday is over

and gone. I was blessed on November 12, as my church family and friends came together for a time of worship and the dedication of three great grandchildren, with a fellowship dinner following. Life is full of things I can do. I have fellowship and meals with the senior community group in Leeton and also the Leeton Methodist Church. I have friends

there since I served my denomination, as pastor, in the Leeton community for a number of years. I attended the McPherson College Homecoming in October and had dinner with Phil and Pearl Miller in their new home at The Cedars in McPherson. Phil and Pearl became a part of our family during their time in Warrensburg. I still enjoy farm life and spending time on the farm. I had to learn to give up some things and learned to do new things. I am blessed with two ladies named Lorna and Jan who provide daily care I need. I look forward to hearing from you and hearing what's going on in your life. I enjoy my many friends and hope I can be a friend to all. Merry Christmas.

Bill and Martha Faw

We have just moved into an independent-living duplex in the Bridgewater Retirement Community. Bill finally retired at age 72 in 2012, from teaching psychology, after a first-half career as a Church of the Brethren pastor. Martha retired from various office jobs a few years before. We moved in 2014 to Harrisonburg, Va, about 11 miles north of Bridgewater. Since Valentine's Day 2024, we've lived at 104 Wayside Dr, Bridgewater, Va 22812. Martha's cell phone: 912-282-3218, and Bill's is 912-585-4956. Our joint email address is billmarthafaw@gmail.com. We both like to text, email, and talk on the phone with good folks like you. Check us out! Bill is an active member of the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren and Martha of the Harrisonburg Unitarian-Universalist. Interestingly, both of us serve on our respective church boards. Martha's HUU is lay-led, so Bill has preached there a dozen times and has been the worship facilitator twice. We were made welcome here at Bridgewater Retirement by the one HUU member and dozens of BWCOB members who live here. The presence of the BWCOB and the BRC retirement village are the major reasons we retired here in the Bridgewater/Harrisonburg area. We turn 84 (Bill) and 85

(Martha) this year. We have our share of cognitive and physical problems of aging, and with doctors' visits and pill-taking for old geezers. Instead of boring all of you with a recitation of woes, we'll save that for anyone of you who inquire. Martha maintains avid fiction and diverse non-fiction reading and book club involvements, and her church tasks. Bill is a past president of the area Interfaith Association and submits almost monthly open forums (long, presumptuous letters to the editor) to our local newspaper – covering political, psychological, and/or religious/philosophical themes: three forums on Gaza since that war began. We are both involved – as are both of our churches -- in the community organization Valley Interfaith Action. We are also involved in various peace and justice vigils from time to time, most recently joining a prayer vigil for Gaza with students and faculty of Eastern Mennonite University.



Reid and Julie Firestone

The last few years have been eventful for me (Reid). After losing Terri to pancreatic cancer in 2021, I was blessed

to find a new love. Julie and I married in 2023. She is a wonderful, believing lady, and a retired Christian school teacher. We enjoy travelling to Florida in the winter and staying at our vacation home in Wisconsin during the other seasons of the year. We enjoy travel in general! I continue to serve as lead chaplain for the Ashland Police Department, still do some occasional preaching via pulpit supply, serve on the Ashland Theological Seminary Foundation Board, and the Board of Directors at the Farmers Savings Bank in Spencer, Ohio. I still (attempt to!) golf and enjoy reading. Julie enjoys travel, nature and grandchildren.

Lerry and Linda Fogle

Linda and I are well. We rejoice in God's blessings and goodness. I am very busy as chair of the Leadership Team at the Frederick Church of the Brethren, navigating the challenges and opportunities for ministry and service to the Lord. I continue to do pulpit supply when available. Our website, www.SourceOfTrueLife.com, has been visited by over 15,000 people since it was launched. We have successfully communicated with more than 1,000 of them from many countries and every walk of life. Please join us in prayer that more people will learn of Jesus through this ministry.



Tom and Retta Fralin

In 1978, we settled down in Brownsville, Maryland, as a family of four and one dog. Since then, our family has increased

to 15, plus four dogs. We celebrated our last grandchild's high school graduation in May. As we enter the mid 80's in age, our health challenges continue to increase. We are still able to live in our own home, thanks to our daughter and son-in-law who live nearby. It is a joy to be active members of Hagerstown CoB, home for four retired CoB ministers. Retta continues to bowl in 2 senior leagues. Tom has retired from funeral work and as chaplain of Boonesboro Rescue Squad Co. 69, having served 39 years. We had to cancel last summer's travel plans because of Tom's emergency small bowel blockage surgery. We continue to travel to Sight and Sound productions. We look forward to celebrating our 61st wedding anniversary in Williamsburg, our honeymoon destination.

Rick and Carol Gardner

Among the highlights of the past year was celebrating our grandson Chandler's

graduation from high school. Chandler was just two when we returned to Illinois in 2007, and we have enjoyed living close enough to be part of his growing up years. The past year also included excursions to Wisconsin to see Frank Lloyd Wright's famed Taliesin; Cook Forest in northwestern Pennsylvania for family reunions; and to Lake Junaluska for the National Older Adult Conference. More recently we made a trip to Pennsylvania to attend the memorial service for Carol's older sister Joyce, whose death marked the loss of the last family member with shared memories of earlier years. Our life in retirement continues to revolve around two centers – our 55+ community in Huntley (where Carol enjoys the camaraderie of several women who like to swim), and the Highland Avenue Church of the Brethren in Elgin (where Rick is part of a weekly men's breakfast group that is engaged in two outreach ministries). Rick has also kept busy with various writing projects, the most recent of which was a volume in the Covenant Bible Studies series entitled *Passion of Jesus*, a sequel to his earlier study, *Birth of Jesus*. Like many other seniors, we're dealing with the aches and pains of growing older, but grateful that we are still thriving.

J.D. and Becky Glick

J. D. and Becky Glick continue to travel in their motorhome. After attending the 2023 Annual Conference in Cincinnati, we drove to Colorado and Wyoming. We visited ten national parks and drove 7,000 miles. In September we attended NOAC at Lake Junaluska. After attending the 2024 Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, we plan to spend the rest of July driving around Lake Superior. J. D. continues to preach regularly, including half the Sundays in 2023. Serving as a tour guide and board member at the Brethren & Mennonite Heritage Center in Harrisonburg is one of his favorite activities. In February 2024, Becky had triple bypass heart surgery and has made a good recovery. She enjoys sewing school kit bags for CWS and singing in several groups. We walk 30 minutes on most days.

Esther Hamer

I am Esther L. Hamer. I continue to live at Timbercrest Senior Living Community, North Manchester, IN, in my own apartment in the main Manor. As far as I know, it will be a rather quiet year for me. The only trip that I know I'll be taking is when my older daughter, Harriet, and her husband, Abe Bergen, take me at the end of April to Dearborn, MI, where we will visit the Dearborn Museum and the Ford Museum. I play bid Euchre with friends three evenings each week. Timbercrest shows two movies each month. My older daughter, Harriet A. Hamer, who lives in South Bend, IN, and works as an anesthesiologist, comes off and on to visit me and helps me do other things. Her husband, Abram Bergen, lives in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. They go back and forth with their commuter marriage. When Abe is in South Bend, he also comes to visit me. My younger daughter, Krista K. Hamer-Schweer, lives in Cölbe, Germany. Krista works for Bank of New York Mellon in Frankfurt, Germany. Krista and her husband, Thomas Schweer, came to visit me, Harriet, and Abe in November 2023. We all flew (via Atlanta) to New Orleans where we spent about 3 days. Harriet remembered some things about New Orleans as she had lived there for one year when she did an Emergency Room residency at New Orleans City Hospital.



Francis and Jean L. Hendricks

On Valentine's Day 2023, Jean's mother, Eloise Lichty, passed away, as the last of our four parents to leave this earth. She would

have loved seeing all the family members gathered for her memorial service! NOAC 2023 was our excuse for a fall road trip! En route we visited places new to us, like the World's Fair site in Knoxville, Jefferson's home in Monticello, Gettysburg cemetery, the Lincoln Museum, plus lots of Pennsylvania

landscapes. We visited college and seminary friends and with them, enjoyed a Baltimore Orioles game and a tour of Brethren sites like the Germantown church and cemetery. We very much enjoyed the speakers at NOAC as well as reconnecting with “old” friends there! In March, we make our annual trip to Surprise, Arizona, to enjoy baseball spring training. Then, during summer months we are in Minneapolis where we watch a grandson pitch in his high school baseball games. Our overall health is okay (Francis now has two artificial knees!). We swim, work out, walk, play golf and a little ping pong or pickleball. We spend a few hours tutoring - in an elementary after-school program; Jean with a middle school Ukrainian boy learning English. We very much enjoy socializing with good friends at McPherson Church of the Brethren where we actively participate. (Photo: Our two children and five grandchildren; December 2023)

Tom and Jean Hurst

In some ways, the past twelve months have been relatively the same. I continued to teach more than full-time at McPherson College and Jan continues to edit, design and help people self-publish their books. However, in summer 2023, we did make what we thought at the time was our only international trip. We attended a friend's 10-hour wedding in an incredible castle in Sligo, Northern Ireland, and then had personal guides show us around, for two weeks, many areas of Scotland including some of Jan's family's ancestral sites. We now know that international trip was not the only one of our lifetime. Jan and I are entering BVS in late July and, following training, will go to Ballycastle, Northern Ireland, where we will spend a year serving with the people at Corrymeela Community. This is a way for us to continue to live out our faith and, as we minister to the thousands of guests who come to Corrymeela for retreats and peace-building training, to explore faith in ways that will be new to us. We look forward to this opportunity to serve for many, many reasons. If Northern Ireland

is on your itinerary from September 2024 until early August 2025, let us know. Stop in to visit!! As we head to Corrymeela, Jan will stop her Author's Voice business, and I will stop teaching until we return, when I will semi-retire and only teach one course per semester. My time of working and serving with Church of the Brethren entities such as being a BVSer, Executive Director of On Earth Peace, pastor, Camp Program Director and for Heifer International seem like a lifetime ago. Getting the Retiree News helps keep me aware of so many friends and colleagues from the past, and I am grateful for this. We do notice that more of a variety of “older age” ailments are beginning to be a bother, and we try to eat and live in ways that will promote health. We celebrate our McPherson Church of the Brethren Community. We celebrate the fact that McPherson College is booming like no one really thought was possible relatively recently, and we celebrate the town of McPherson itself which offers us a life that is good and blessed.

David and Patricia Hykes

We celebrated our 65th wedding anniversary on August 23, 2024!

Clyde and Betty Jane Hylton

I (Clyde) will soon be 92 years old. Betty and I have been married for four years. She is diabetic and has multiple problems. Married promises took on a new turn. I do most of the housekeeping, cooking, laundry, etc. I help her get around. We both fall. Now, we live next door to my daughter and grandson who helps us get up. We depend on others for transportation. I asked God, “What do you want me to do?” He said, “Take care of Betty.” Whether it is shots, dressing, washing or 100 small things, I do what God wants. Faith and following orders have taken on new meaning—so has foot washing. We love and care with thanks to family nearby.

We are honored to include this article, submitted by Clyde Hylton prior to his passing on July 31, 2024. We extend our heartfelt condolences and blessings to his family during this difficult time.



Barbara Landers Kesselring

I haven't responded for the past few years. I am still living at The Palms of Sebring in the independent apartments in Sebring, FL. My husband Lester will have been gone for 13 years this year. I also lost

my son Tony, in August of 2023, who had a lot of heart-related health problems. Bonnie and Dawn still live in Sebring. I still work one day a week at Lampe & Kiefer Hearing Aid Center, organizing patient records. I also still do the Celebration Center at the Church of the Brethren. Our church name was changed from The Sebring Church of the Brethren to Lighthouse Community Church of the Brethren. Other things that keep me busy are working with The Palms Auxiliary Shop, taking in used clothing that we resell in the shop; serving on The Palms Foundation Board; serving as Chairperson of the Deacons at the church; and doing puzzles in the lobby of our apartment building with other tenants. I attended the National Older Adult Conference in Junaluska, NC this past September with Bonnie, it was so good to see old friends from the denomination. I appreciate the pension I get from Lester's Church of the Brethren; it is so helpful to me.

Ronald G. and Ila M. Lutz

On March 19, 2019, we moved into Peter Becker Community where we have made a lot of friends. We still attend Ambler CoB where we have a lot of "old" friends. Ila continues her ACoB jobs under the banner of Creative Arts. She is also taking two painting classes here at PBC, from two different artists and enjoying this experience very much. Ron continues his membership in the Wissahickon Faith Community which is an association of Jews, Christians (Catholic and Protestant), Muslim, and community organizations, housing, food cupboards, counseling, spiritual coaches, etc. Our latest venture was *A Night with the Mystics (Spiritual Voices From the Ages)* held in

the Julia Ball Auditorium at Gwynedd Mercy University. We are anxious to begin gardening in the PBC garden program. We grow a variety of vegetables and nasturtiums in raised beds. We distributed 282 bouquets to the PBC residents last summer. We are looking forward to hearing about your continuing journey.



Ralph G. McFadden

One of the delights of growing older is that there are some things that I simply cannot remember –

such as, when was the last time I submitted news to *Retiree News*? There is one thing that happened that I know I didn't report in the past. In February 2022, with family and friends, I celebrated my 90th birthday. Son Joel, his wife Laura, my granddaughter Emma, my daughter Jill and her wife Anne, came to Elgin, IL – and in the Highland Avenue church fellowship hall, we celebrated. My partner Keo, and some of his Lao friends joined in the party. There were close to 100 folks in and out that afternoon. A good friend, from the church, baked two large cakes for the gathering. One was my favorite – a banana cake. My mother used to make a banana cake for my birthday when I was a kid. One of the other unique features was that I invited out-of-state friends and a dozen were able to come. It was wonderful to see them. Several of my extended family, distant friends, and even close by friends have developed 'keeping in touch' precedents. The arrangement varies, but with regularity there are, for instance, three Manchester University classmates (1955) that I talk with monthly. There is one friend from way back – a former Swiss exchange student who lived in our home in the early 70s – Beat – and we talk every other week. A friend in Indiana and I talk regularly – and arrange to see each other about two or three times a year. Here in Elgin, there are a number of very good friends, and individually, I see them for breakfast or lunch. This process will keep up as long as

I am able to drive (sometimes one of them will come by and pick me up). It is good for my soul to keep in touch. And they also claim that it is enriching for them. I still sing in the Highland Avenue choir. Though it is becoming more difficult. Our director, Jonathan Shively, is a good friend and an excellent director. I wonder, with this writing, if this will be my last year to sing.

Family: I mentioned son Joel, Laura and Emma, and daughter Jill and Anne. I have a slightly older brother, Wilbur, with whom I talk regularly. He is currently in Health Care at Timbercrest retirement village in North Manchester, IN. And I have four nephews and nieces, and their extended families. I see Dan regularly, but the others are too distant – so we can keep in touch with emails, and Facebook. Of significance, daughter Jill was diagnosed with cancer. That was mid-February, as I recall – and is undergoing regular chemo. There are some side effects. Jill and I keep in touch by phone, and I will, in the next few weeks, fly to Boulder, CO to see her. Son Joel also lives close – Thornton, CO. Keo, my partner, and I have been together since 1999. We have taken 6 trips to Lao, his home, and we have a lovely garden, vegetables, flowers, and a Koi pond... all because of the excellent work of Keo. Right now, early April, I can hardly wait for the blossoming yard and garden.

Health: I won't say much. I am tired of talking about the many concerns that a 91-year-old man has. The good news is that almost daily, I go to the Elgin Rec Center and walk. I am still able to drive, and I can and do take care of myself; I don't need home assistance. I eat well and healthily, and for the most part I get good sleep. Of great importance, I have many excellent physicians who keep me semi-healthy, ambulatory, and active enough. Primarily, I have Multiple Myeloma – in remission. I have had a second heart valve transplant, and all is well. In the past two or three years, our travel has been minimal. Our most pleasant times are travels into Wisconsin

and Michigan. A lot of lakeshore hiking, visits to Door County in WI, and significant time in the Upper Peninsula, and the area around Mackinaw City. As the weather warms up, soon, we will take some of our two- or three-day car trips. And as mentioned, I alone or Keo and I, will travel to Colorado by plane within the next few months.

A final note: I have been doing some writing recently. I have been working on five or six articles. When I complete an article to my satisfaction, I submit it to one of five magazines – usually senior focused – that accepts submissions, usually not for pay. I simply enjoy the writing.



Ron Morgan

On April 27, 2024, my 4 daughters threw a bash for my 90th birthday. We had 80 guests from family,

church friends, and my golf buddies. They came from 9 states, both coasts, and 2 countries. I'm humbled by the outpouring of affection from these "GEMs" in the photo: Gay Ella, Gail Elaine, Glee Eileen, and Gwen Ellen, and from 6 of my 7 stepsons. I am blessed with good health and a loving wife of 7 years, Dottie. (Olmsted Falls, Ohio, Bethany Class of 1960)

Clarence M. Moyers

Greetings to all Alumni from Bethany Seminary. On January 25, 2024, I (age 95) moved from Park Village Independent Living to Crestwood Assisted Living at Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community (VMRC) in Harrisonburg, VA. I have been a resident there for 31 ½ years. My wife, Elizabeth, died two years ago from dementia in a nursing care unit. For 4 ½ years, I was with her every day except during COVID-19. There are 15 residents in this unit. I have a room across the hall from the dining room with a

beautiful view to the east of the Massanutten Mountain. I have two children, two grandchildren, and four great grandchildren (another one due in August). All live near the Bridgewater/Harrisonburg area. I have more trouble getting around even with my rollator walker and I attend (when able) the Harrisonburg First Church of the Brethren and when not able, our worship services at VMRC. I thank God for my experience at Bethany Seminary, many years ago and for a fruitful ministry for 45 years. May the Lord bless you and keep you.

We are honored to include this article, submitted by Clarence Moyers prior to his passing on July 1, 2024. We extend our heartfelt condolences and blessings to his family during this difficult time.



Ed and Brenda Palsgrove

Greetings from New Windsor, Maryland! Brenda has been retired nine years. She

enjoys quilting with friends at church, she's the treasurer for Pipe Creek Cemetery and Union Bridge CoB Early Learning Center and she serves on the Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response Auction Committee. Ed has been retired ten years. He drives a truck for the Brethren Service Center as needed, drives part-time for a local charter bus company, and is an active responder and treasurer with the New Windsor Fire Company. Last August, we traveled to Alaska with New Community Project on their Denali/Kenai Fjords (Alaska) Learning Tour. What a wonderful way to experience the great outdoors (including tent camping) but alarming to see the devastating impact global warming is having on our planet! We MUST change our ways. In September, we traveled to Lake Junaluska, NC to attend NOAC, a special time with kindred folks. We have each dealt with relatively minor health issues. Medicare and modern medicine are amazing and allow us to be active in our community and enjoy our four grandchildren (ages 8-15). If New Windsor is your destination, we have a guest room waiting for you.

D. Jean Petre

January 4, 2024, I began my 28th year at Bridgewater Retirement Community. This is a wonderful place to spend the rest of my life. On May 1, 2024, I helped celebrate Bridgewater Retirement Community's 59th birthday by "giving back" to the community. I chose to help deliver mail to the Nursing Households that day. I still sing with the Village Choir, attend Bridgewater CoB and participate in village activities. At 91 years old, I still drive for groceries and local appointments. I'm reluctant to give up my independence but will likely stop driving this year. Good wishes to all my former co-workers at Brethren Service Center.



Ron and Bev Petry

You might say we started off the year with a bang. While we were attending a memorial service for one of Bev's brothers in our childhood church in Akron, Ohio, Bev

had a serious fall which resulted in a broken shoulder and a concussion. Thankfully, she has recovered from both quite nicely, though it took most of the year before sensitivity to light and noise disappeared. Ron had difficulty walking for several months, but that was resolved with therapy, so he can now be back on the golf course. On a completely different note, we were fortunate enough to complete seventy years of marriage in August. See the attached photo. Our kids, Marv Petry, Bren McCollough and husband Dave, Ellen Salmon and husband Greg, and Julie Petry, planned and managed a wonderful time of family togetherness and celebration in September. We experienced once again, in many special moments, the love that has surrounded us through these many years. We are blessed. Our hearts go out to many friends who have lost loved ones during the year. We wish all of you well and pray God's gift of peace on you and all our brothers and sisters throughout the world.



Ed and Marge Poling

Our last report to you in 2022 confirmed that we were surviving the COVID-19 pandemic. It feels now like a small

bump in the road compared to more recent events. At Christmas time 2023, tests revealed several metastatic lesions in Ed's body. But it wasn't until Valentine's Day that he started treatment for urological cancer. Fortunately, the hospital close by has a Cancer Center where he receives excellent, almost weekly, medical treatments. It has become his second home. But the result has been to hasten the aging process for him. The once hale and hearty runner has slowed down significantly to an occasional daily walk. But Marge has been a great support and encouragement for him. She recovered well from back surgery last fall herself. As a result, life looks different for both of us. We continue to live in our home which we designed a quarter century ago to accommodate our aging parents. (We are now the aging parents.) Fortunately, we can participate weekly in worship with our church family. Our camping trips have slackened but we still look forward to occasional visits with family and friends. Marge put pottery-making on the back burner in 2023 so she could focus on decluttering the house. (It's a good thing she did.) Last year's highlights were to celebrate the graduation of our son Travis with a master's degree from Miami University of Ohio, and that of our oldest grandson, Elias, from high school in Bennington, Vermont. Earlier this year (2024), we were able to experience the total solar eclipse in Richmond, Indiana with family. (Yes, it was awesome!) And this June we celebrate our 55th wedding anniversary. Contacts from friends and colleagues over the years have been especially meaningful to us. The prayers and expressions of concern have been felt deeply by both of us. We trust you too are weathering the storms of life and finding hope and resilience. We send our love.

Lowell and Nellie Ritchie

Two years ago, having sold our house, we moved into an assisted living institution called Eternal Spring of Gilbert, AZ, just in time for both of us to contract first COVID-19, then pneumonia. It was months later when we began to feel normal again. I was soon asked to conduct non-denominational religious services. Starting with five or six interested souls, we have expanded to about 20 attendees from many different church traditions. I love this end-of-life ministry; it gives me a new perspective on one of my old, favorite pastoral duties: funerals. They respond well to "we did not come to this place to die, but to cap off a well-lived life." Health, in the ninth decade of our lives, is a challenge for both Nellie and me. Joint pains, short memories, and shameful body bulges reduce our life-joys to the dining hall and the TV screen. Our frequent "outings" are mostly trips to various doctor's offices. Anyway, I still enjoy preparing sermonettes, making wooden doodads, researching church history, and writing a book that I still hope to publish. We continue to enjoy talking to each other, comparing and contrasting our Brethren heritage with modern trends. And we still sing "This is my Father's World" with gusto, and sometimes, with defiance...while we await our "graduation."



Anet D. Satvedi

Enjoying my blessed life pilgrimage of 88 years! Out of these 88 years, I had 66 years (1958-2024) serving

and ministering — 14 years teaching in India together with Honorary Church Service, 14 years as Missionary in EYN Nigeria and 38 years of Pastoral Ministry in USA. Retired but still very active, abundant joy to serve people and glorify God! As a Globetrotter, I have travelled all over India, Europe, Middle East (Syria, Turkey, Greece, Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Arab Emirates), USA, Canada, Australia, Jamaica, and Costa Rica.

Three generations in our Satvedi family have entered the Lord's ministry. All those who studied at Bethany Seminary are the late Rev. Dr. G. K. Satvedi, Rev. Dr. Anet Satvedi, the late Mrs. Violet Anet Satvedi, Rev. Valentina Satvedi and Rev. Purvi Morrison Satvedi. What a blessed family I have – three grown children: Veronica (Steve), Allwyn, Morrison (Purvi); nine grandchildren – Sarah (Matt), Jessica (Gabe), Jennifer, Micah, Josiah, Noah, Caleb, Shayna, Serena, and FOUR great-grandchildren – Violet Rose, Michael James, Scarlett Grace, and Campbell Dottie. All continue to grow physically and spiritually. Grandson Caleb graduated with a B.S. in computer science and is continuing his masters. Granddaughter Jenny completed a M.S. in Nursing and Jessie will complete hers this year. Jenny, my granddaughter, got engaged to a fine young man, Ian, on May 23, 2024, and are preparing for their Holy Matrimony in coming months.

I was blessed to watch the total solar eclipse TWICE in my life – August 21, 2015 in Bloomfield near Carrier Mills, IL and again on April 8, 2024, in Newton, IL – right geographical locations – 3+ minutes of darkness during the daytime. A new ministry, Gujarati Fellowship Bolingbrook/Naperville. I completed two years and on May 18, 2024, we had SIX Indian Churches come together to worship in Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi and Telugu languages plus an Indian gospel singer, Thomas Puthoor, who involved the audience of 170 to sing with him and all enjoyed a banquet meal. I continue my Free Ministry as a mentoring pastor at the Panther Creek CoB, attend Mayor's Prayer Group on Thursday mornings, and Bloomington Bible Fellowship on Friday evenings. I assist Wheatland Salem and Neighborhood CoB and I preach, when invited, to bring the Word on Sundays. For all these blessings and good health, I praise and glorify God. Amen.

Alta Faye (Tyree) Shaver

My dear husband, Rev. Dr. B. Eugene Shaver, went to his Heavenly Father on February 28, 2023. He served as a pastor from the time he was in college. We served the longest pastorate at Emmanuel CoB. While there, the new church was built. God blessed our ministry. He served in the U.S. Army as a Medic (he was drafted). We have four children; Byrl, who is a pastor at Nappanee CoB; Paul as IT at Seminary; Michael plays and sings in church; and our daughter was a nurse until she had to have her right leg removed.

Harry and Ada Spaeth

Twenty years ago, we sold our home and moved to the Continual Care Retirement Community (CCRC) Homewood in Martinsburg, PA. We continue to thoroughly enjoy life here with its many amenities and full activity schedule. We are both in fairly good health. Harry is known for his speed, agility, and astuteness. Ada has some vascular dementia but is able to keep it hidden fairly well. We are most thankful to still be together at ages 91 and 92.



Carol Strickler

Year 2023 found me babysitting my youngest great grandson Atlas, I started when he was 3 months old. I would go to my grandson's home to watch him. Summer found

me also watching his 5-year-old brother. A good summer. Atlas is 21 months old and in 2024, I have only been watching him 2 days a week. On Tuesdays, he spends the night with me. Fortunately, he sleeps all night. October 2023, I took a trip to Branson, MO with a friend. December 14, 2023, I had my second back surgery. I had a disk above my L5S1 fusion bulge and went flat. The surgery was done in Baltimore, and it was microscopic. My

doctor was a very strong Christian and prayed for me. Spent 5 days at my son's home after surgery. Christmas Eve and day was spent with my son and family. My granddaughter-in-love graduated May 18th with a master's in forensic science. My youngest Grandson graduated from ASU on May 4th with a degree in being a drone pilot. He also has his commercial pilot license. I attended both graduations, one in Baltimore and one in AZ. Following grandson's graduation, with his parents, I flew to Boulder, MT where they now live. (They bought a home that had been an Episcopal Church until the 1950's). We spent a week there and then my daughter and I flew back to Baltimore, and she spent 2 weeks with me, visiting our East coast family.

Fred and Nancy Swartz

Nancy and I are in our 21st year as residents of Bridgewater Retirement Community (BRC) and we have not regretted one minute of our choice to make this our retirement home. Both of us have benefitted by being in a continuing care community; most recently my right hip was replaced to match the new joint in my left hip! The marvels of today's medical science never cease to amaze me. Nancy and I celebrated our 65th wedding anniversary last year with a trip to Alaska. We visited Hawaii for our 60th, so now we've joined the privileged group of people who have visited all fifty US states. We are very active in volunteering in our community -- Nancy sings in two choirs, and I sing in three. We both have leadership positions in our Residents Association at BRC and we are active in the Church School and other ministries of Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. Our daughter, Terrie, retired from teaching special education this year and our daughter Connie continues as a pediatrician in the Hampton, Va. area. Our three granddaughters are all about to finish their education: Rose is a Registered Nurse at the University of Virginia Hospital, Meredith is nearing completion of an engineering degree at Old Dominion

University in Norfolk, and Josie just graduated with a master's degree from the University of Miami. Our grandson, Clark, will graduate from high school in 2025. Our sons-in-law, Tim and Sonny, have also retired and are busy with boat building and woodworking projects respectively. Nancy and I plan to attend the 2024 Annual Conference in Grand Rapids. It will be my 62nd in a row. The consecutive attendance record is held by the late Paul White at 63. It will be interesting to see if I can match that!

Loyal and Suzanna Vanderveer

We will soon be coming upon eight years since we moved to Fahrney-Keedy Home and Village. We have enjoyed living here and sharing life with people in the community. This past March, Loyal voluntarily began taking part in a two-year clinical research study to investigate the drug, Tinzapant, for the treatment of Geographic Atrophy - Macular Degeneration. Geographic Atrophy is an advanced form of dry age-related Macular Degeneration. This is a disease that affects part of the back of the eye called the macula. In this disease large areas of tissue cause central blind spots which affect the center of one's vision where visual acuity is the highest causing difficulty in reading or recognizing faces. The hope is that the drug will help slow the process of Macular Degeneration. Loyal is meeting regularly with his retina specialist during this research. In April, Loyal and Sue visited her brother and wife and family, and our new grandnephew, near Tucson, Arizona. While in Arizona, we visited the Grand Canyon, a meteor crater, a volcano area plus other sights. We were also fascinated by the very deep but narrow and winding canyon formed by the Little Colorado River. This is not as famous as the Grand Canyon but is very interesting. We had a wonderful experience. We thank God that we are both doing remarkably well as we continue to age. We do enjoy reading, resting, eating and sleeping. We enjoy attending our church and being

with friends. We feel really blessed as we celebrated 60 wonderful years of marriage on June 13.



John and Marilyn Ziegler

We continued with our canoeing and camping again this past year. The

weekend paddling/camping trips included the Mekan, Kickapoo, and Namekagon rivers. We also visited friends at their lake cabin in Minnesota in August. In September, we spent a week camping and exploring in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. John keeps himself busy volunteering with different organizations but tries to stay off their boards. Two board positions are enough. He is involved in 5 different organizations. Marilyn is involved in three of the organizations. She also gets together with some of the neighborhood ladies and four classmates from grade school. Our dog Sadie occupies a fair amount of time with 2 to 3 daily walks and just giving her attention. The year's highlight was when we attended the Ziegler family reunion. 2023 was the 100th anniversary of this reunion and it was well attended.

Levi & Helen Ziegler

We are sure that you are feeling and saying the same thing as we are: already that time to share news with everyone we note as Retirees. The year has gone rapidly. Life for Levi & Helen has not changed very much during the last year, except we do acknowledge that we are a year older – at least that is what the calendar indicates. Our health remains good. Helen walks a half hour each day, which is about a mile. When the weather is not favorable to walk outdoors, she can walk inside as well. Levi also is walking about the same distance; he will get angina pains if the air is cold. Helen continues to do the laundry (including ironing) and the



cooking. We both prefer home cooking (can control the additives). Levi also continues to teach a Bible class once a week, 9 months of the year, as well as sharing a 15-minute meditation with residents in the Courtyards (extended care units). He is a volunteer for the mail service and for delivering meals (Meals on Wheels). Last year was a

special year for us when Levi led the 100th Levi C. Ziegler family reunion with about 125 people in attendance. Both sons, John and Robert, and Robert's wife, Sarah, were very much involved in helping their dad. (Levi & Sarah Ziegler are the grandparents who began the reunions 101 years ago.)

Words of Wisdom

— Road sign in North Carolina

Robert and Linda Alley

“Do not let being RIGHT keep you from being KIND.”

— Road sign in North Carolina

Robert and Linda Alley

“With God all things are possible.”

— Matthew 19:26

Ken and Debbie Bomberger

Ubuntu is an African way of being. Fundamental is: “I am because we are.” It is about the core connection of all humanity, a tapestry of vibrant diversity, connecting all of us in a great web. Suffering and rejoicing together springs from our common humanity. There is synergy in community, especially diverse community. The self-made person doesn't exist. Ayn Rand's ethic of selfishness is the opposite of the ethic of Jesus.

Ralph and Joyce Stoltzfus Detrick

“Life is like a roll of toilet paper, the closer to the end the faster it goes.”

— Charles Osgood

Willard “Duly” Dulabaum

“I encourage taking advantage of opportunities along the way because I now know many are no longer even possibilities.”

Roger and Mim Eberly

"I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise
shall continually be in my mouth."

— Psalm 34:1

Lerry and Linda Fogle

Doing many things for one's wife teaches
the value of following Jesus Christ.

Clyde and Betty Jane Hylton

We are honored to include these Words of Wisdom, submitted
by Clyde Hylton prior to his passing on July 31, 2024.

*"Serve the Lord with gladness...serve
one another with love."*

Anet Satvedi

"So we are convinced that every detail of our
lives is continually woven together to fit into
God's perfect plan of bringing good into our
lives, for we are his lovers who have been
called to fulfill his designed purpose."

Romans 8:28 Passion Bible

Carol Strickler

"Smile as much as you can. There is no better way to greet another
than with a smile. There is no more effective way to sing God's
grace than with a smile. The best way to combat discouragement
is with a smile. So, smile!"

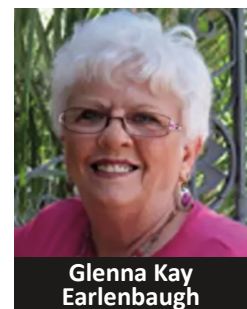
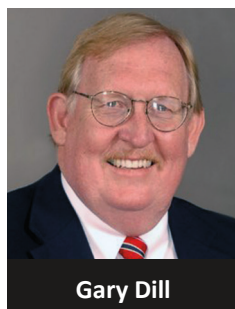
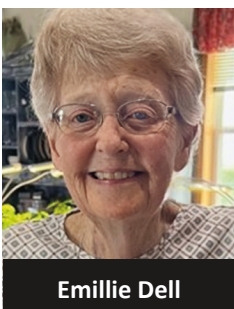
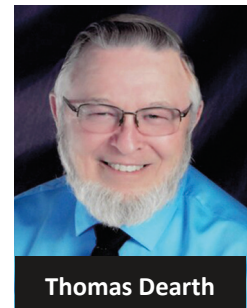
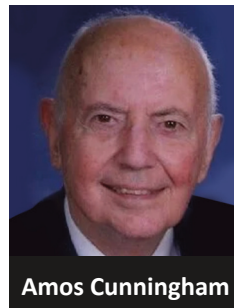
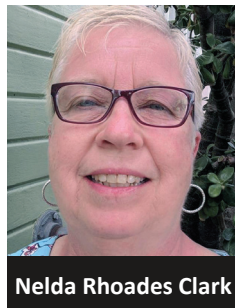
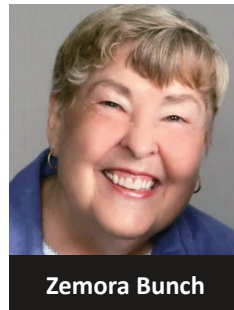
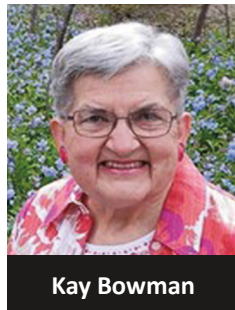
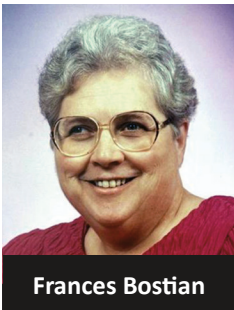
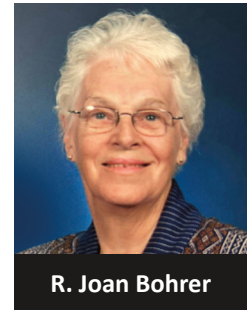
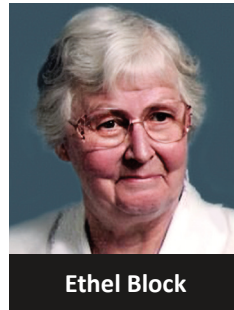
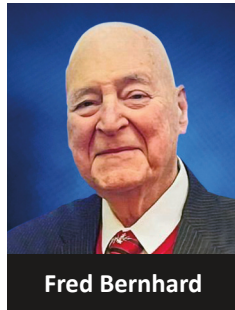
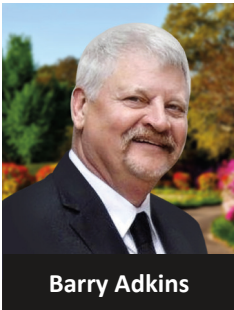
Fred and Nancy Swartz

*"Continue to give God the praise due him
and keep on breathing or life will come
to an end."*

Levi and Helen Ziegler

In Memoriam

Honoring national Church of the Brethren leaders and surviving spouses who passed away between June 1, 2023 and May 31, 2024.





J. David Eberly



R. Glenn Elgin



Carolyn Elmore



Nancy Farringer



Glen Faus



Juan Figueroa



Emerson Fike



Helen Fisher



Barbara Fleak



Dorothy Gassman



Wayne Gerber



Dolores Glick



Benjamin Godfrey



Kenneth Gresh



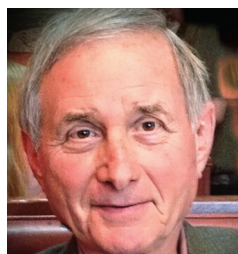
John Jack Harpold



Cecil Haycock



Phoebe Hayes



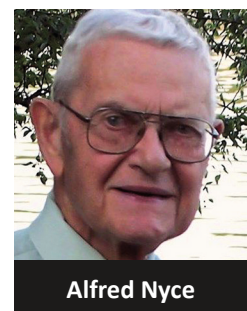
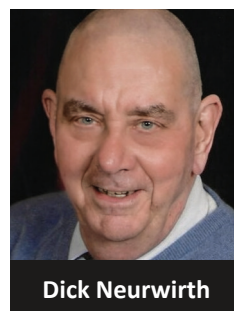
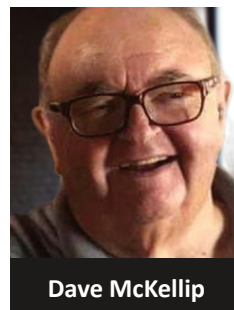
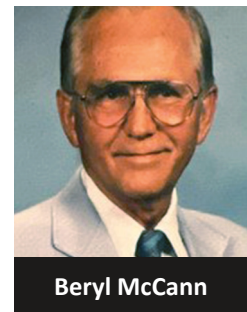
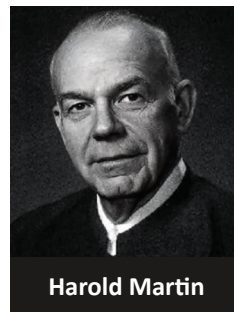
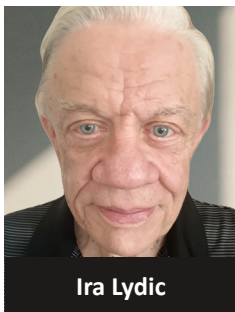
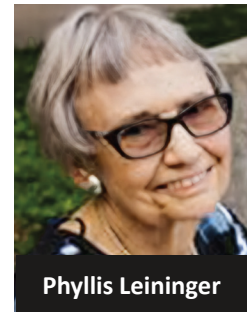
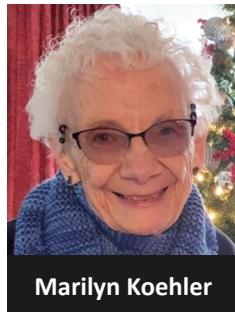
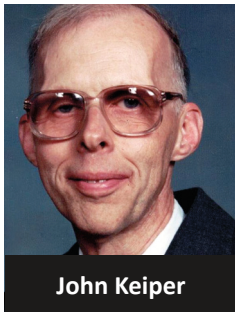
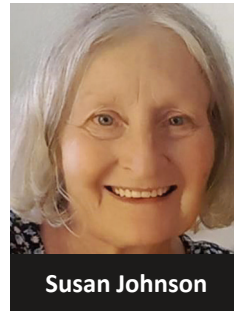
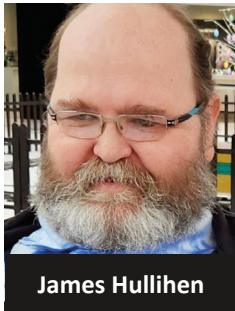
Carl Herr



Kenneth Holderread



Donald Hoover





Barbara Ober



**Berwyn & Kathryn
Oltman**



Joan Pelletier



Larry Poling



William Purdum



Daniel Ringgold



Quentin Rissler



Donald Robinson



Patricia Ronk



Ronnie Ross



Lorna Rummel



B. Eugene Shaver



**Carmon
Sollenberger**



J. Leon Swigart



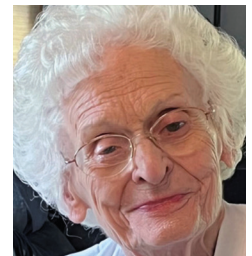
Rodger Thomas



Phillip Troxell



Peter Twentey



Ruth Wagner



Charles Whitacre



Carol White



Dawn Wild



Emma Jean Woodard



Ruth Wright

(Not pictured: Margaret Moeller and Sue Spaulding)

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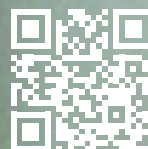
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