

The Scroll

*Notes and News
from the
Brethren Academy for
Ministerial Leadership*

August, 2013

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INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL CARE

With the ever-increasing technology in the world today, the Brethren Academy offered "Introduction to Pastoral Care" in two locations simultaneously during May. The instructor, Anna Lee Hisey-Pierson, taught on location at McPherson College in McPherson, Kansas, with three students participating. In St. Petersburg, Florida, a group of four students participated via webcast.



Photo by Lowell Flory

Pictured at McPherson, left to right: Enten Eller (director of electronic communications, Bethany), Ellis Boughton (EFSM, Illinois-Wisconsin), Joshua Leck (EFSM, Illinois-Wisconsin), Jack Storne (TRIM, Pacific Southwest), Anna Lee Hisey-Pierson (instructor)



Photo by Enten Eller

Pictured at St. Petersburg, left to right: Leah Hileman (TRIM), Mary Mueller (earning CEUs), Janice Shull (TRIM) and Meredith Hudson-Bourdeau (TRIM). All four participants are from the Atlantic Southeast District.

MINISTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL



Photo by Jenny Williams

On May 8, 2013, the Ministry Advisory Council met at Bethany Seminary in Richmond, Indiana.

Pictured left to right: David Steele (DE, Middle Pennsylvania), Julie Hostetter (executive director of the Academy), Beth Sollenberger (DE, South-Central Indiana), Mary Jo Flory-Steuery (associate general secretary, Office of Ministry), John Gingrich (higher education rep, Pacific Southwest), Dana Cassell (Church of the Brethren), Kevin Kessler (DE, Illinois-Wisconsin), Tara Hornbacker (professor of ministry formation, Bethany), Steve Schweitzer (academic dean, Bethany)

2013 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Pre-Annual Conference Directed Independent Study Unit



One graduate student and four TRIM students chose to participate in a directed independent study unit (ISU) offered June 28-29, 2013, in conjunction with the CoB Ministers' Association Pre-Conference Continuing Education Event in Charlotte, North Carolina. The Rev. Dr. L. Gregory Jones made three two-hour presentations focused on the topic of "Faithful Christian Leadership in the Twenty-First Century."

Students met for an hour prior to the Ministers' Conference and for one hour after the event. Thus far, the following have been written by each student:

- a reflection paper on *Resurrecting Excellence: Shaping Faithful Christian Ministry* by Jones and Kevin R. Armstrong
- a paper comparing and contrasting leadership in the movie *Hotel Rwanda* with *Forgiving as We've Been Forgiven: Community Practices for Making Peace* by Jones and Celestin Musekura
- journal entries from chapters on *God's Troublemakers: How Women of Faith Are Changing the World* by Katharine Rhodes Henderson

The students are participating in two post-conference multi-frame Skype calls and individual consultations with the instructor, Julie Hostetter. Each of them will also be planning, implementing, and assessing a project on leadership in their congregations. Feedback will be provided by congregational members.

The next edition of *The Scroll* will include participants' responses to this ISU educational opportunity!

2013 TRIM GRADUATES HONORED



Photo by Marilyn Lerch

Three TRIM graduates were honored at the 2013 Bethany Theological Seminary Annual Conference Luncheon.

Pictured left to right: Rhonda Dorn (Northern Indiana), Mary Etta Reinhart (Atlantic Northeast), Diane Mason (Northern Plains)

Graduates who did not attend Annual Conference include Marilyn Koehler (Northern Plains), and Traci Rabenstein (Southern Pennsylvania).

CHRISTIAN GROWTH INSTITUTE

The Christian Growth Institute is an Academy Certified Training Systems ministry training program that serves the Virlina and Shenandoah Districts. The administrative board and CGI staff have spent the past few years reviewing, revising, and rewriting their materials for recertification. Staff from the Mission and Ministry Board, Bethany Seminary, the Brethren Academy, and the Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center perused the materials, offered feedback and approved final documents. At Annual Conference 2013, CGI received its recertification certificate, which is good for five years. Annual reports will be filed with the Academy, and the recertification process will need to be completed again in 2018.



Photo by Mike Hostetter

Pictured left to right:

Back - Mary Jo Flory-Stuery (associate general secretary, Office of Ministry), Steven Schweitzer (academic dean, Bethany), John Jantzi (DE, Shenandoah), Jim Wood (director of ministry formation, CGI)

Front - Donna McKee Rhodes (executive director, SVMC), Julie M. Hostetter (executive director, Academy), Sarah Long (Shenandoah Center coordinator), Judy Mills (Roanoke Center coordinator)

Not Pictured - David K. Shumate (DE, Virlina), Sue Morris (Southern Center coordinator)



Photo by Jenny Williams

During the Bethany Seminary-Brethren Academy Luncheon, Julie Hostetter facilitated conversation on "Transitions: A Moment in the Life of Bethany Seminary." Jeff Carter, president, and Ruthann Knechel Johansen, president emerita, shared information, ideas, and insights from their perspectives on theological education, the church, and Bethany's role in both.

RECOGNITION OF LOWELL FLORY

During the Bethany Seminary-Brethren Academy Luncheon at Annual Conference, Lowell Flory was recognized for his years of working with the Sustaining Pastoral Excellence program. Flory served as coleader of the Advanced Foundations of Church Leadership track. Jonathan Shively and Lowell facilitated three cohorts of pastors; Julie Hostetter and Lowell facilitated one cohort of district executives and another of pastors. Here he receives a book of letters, e-mails, and pictures from those who participated in the program, expressing their appreciation for his leadership.



Photo by Jenny Williams

SUSTAINING PASTORAL EXCELLENCE – AFCL PASTORS



The Sustaining Pastoral Excellence-Advanced Foundations of Church Leadership pastors group completed their two-year training on June 21, 2013, in Richmond, Indiana.

Pictured left to right:

Back - Mike Martin, David Hendricks, Martin Hutchison, Roland Johnson

Front - Mary Fleming, Robin Wentworth Meyer, Marty Doss

This completes the Sustaining Pastoral Excellence initiative funded by Lilly Endowment Inc. The Sustaining Ministerial Excellence Advanced Seminar—funded by Wieand grants from the Mission and Ministry Board and Bethany Seminary and administered by the Brethren Academy—will begin in early 2014.

We are pleased with the election at Annual Conference of Donita Keister (Mifflinburg, PA), a TRIM student, to the Mission and Ministry Board!

TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND - JUNE 3-14, 2013

Dan Ulrich, Bethany's Wieand Professor of New Testament Studies, and TRIM coordinator Marilyn Lerch accompanied a group on a twelve-day trip to the Holy Land in June. Stops included Jericho, Qumran, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Cana, the Sea of Galilee, and Jerusalem. In addition, the group spent time in intercultural learning about Israelis and Palestinians through various speakers and daily travel. All agreed it was a very memorable experience in a safe environment. Singing one's way through the Holy Land is just incredible!

Graduate-level and TRIM students earned credit on this trip, and ordained ministers earned continuing education units.



Travelers on the Brethren Academy study trip to the Holy Land pause on the Mount of Olives overlooking Jerusalem for a photo. Pictured left to right:

First Row - Dale Ulrich, Roger Elkins, Chris Stover-Brown, Cheryl and Paul Thomas

Second Row - Martha Delaney-Hotz, Amy Bell, Denise and Julie Ann Ott, Marilyn Lerch, Linda Buterbaugh, Margie Yoder Fultz, Anita Smith Buckwalter

Back Row - David Bell, Dan Ulrich, Barb Lewczak, Vicki and Larry Ehret

Not pictured - Gail Datesman

Paul and Cheryl Thomas share two amazing events they experienced: *"The first one was being baptized in the Jordan River. Neither one of us ever thought we would have this experience in Israel. To be baptized in the same river as Jesus--it was just an exceptional highlight. The second experience was renewing our marriage vows at Cana where Jesus performed the miracle of turning water into wine at the marriage feast. How special was that!!!"*



SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY MINISTRY CENTER BOARD



Photo by Del Keeney

The SVMC Board met in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, on April 17. Those representing partnership groups were present (from left to right): Ron Beachley (DE, Western Pennsylvania), Steve Schweitzer (academic dean, Bethany), Julie Hostetter (executive director, Academy), David Steele (DE, Middle Pennsylvania), Georgia Markey (interim DE, Southern Pennsylvania), Craig Smith (DE, Atlantic Northeast), and Donna McKee Rhodes (executive director, SVMC).

WELCOMING ERIKA FITZ TO SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY MINISTRY CENTER

Please welcome Erika to the position of program coordinator for the Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center. Erika was raised in the York First Church of the Brethren in the Southern Pennsylvania District and is currently affiliated with the Lancaster Friends Meeting. Erika has an extensive educational background including an MDiv from Union Theological Seminary and a PhD in Hebrew Bible from Emory University. She enjoys art, knitting, bicycling, and hanging out with her dog and two cats.





Upcoming Academy Level Courses:

Courses are open to TRIM students, pastors (earn 2 CEUs) and all interested persons

Please note: While we continue to accept students beyond the Registration deadline, on that date we determine whether we have enough students to offer a course. Many courses have required pre-course readings, so students need to be sure to allow enough time to complete those. Please do not purchase texts or make travel plans until the Registration Deadline is passed, and you receive a course confirmation.

*Bethany Experience **Brethren College Experience
Courses noted as "SVMC" need to be registered for through
the Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center at SVMC@etown.edu, 717-361-1450
TRIM designations: BT (Bible/Theology credit) MS (Ministry Skills credit)

2013:

"Ministry with Youth/Young Adults" Online Instructor: Instructor: Russell Haight, Professor of Christian Education and Director of the Institute for Ministry with Youth and Young Adults, Bethany Theological Seminary, August 19 – October 11, 2013 (MS) Registration Deadline: July 22, 2013

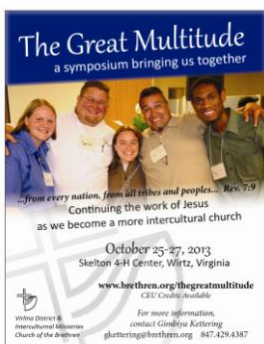
"Introduction to Theology" Online Instructor: Malinda Berry, Assistant Professor of Theological Studies and Director of the MA Program, Bethany Theological Seminary, Oct 14 - Dec 13 (no class Thanksgiving week), 2013 (BT) Registration Deadline: September 16, 2013

2014:

**** "But Who Is My Neighbor? Christianity in a Global Context"** Students will attend this synchronous (live) online course via the Adobe Connect program. Instructor: Kent Eaton, Provost and Professor of Cultural Studies at McPherson College, Two weekend sessions of 10 hours each. Hours listed are Eastern Standard Time: Thursday, January 9, 8-10PM; Friday, January 10, 8-10PM; Saturday, January 11, 10AM-5PM with a 1-hour break at 1PM; Thursday, January 23, 8-10PM; Friday, January 24, 8-10PM; Saturday, January 25, 10AM-5PM with a 1-hour break at 1PM. (BT) Registration Deadline: December 6, 2013

"Introduction to Old Testament" Online, Instructor: Craig Gandy, January 27 – March 21 (BT) Registration Deadline: December 16, 2013

****"History of the Church of the Brethren"** Young Center, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA, Instructor: Jeff Bach, March 7-8, 21-22, 2014 (BT) SVMC

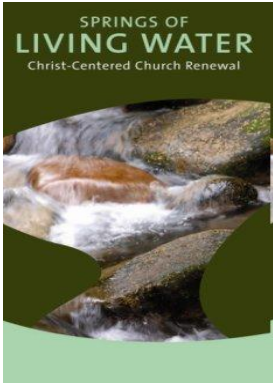


TRIM/EFM Intercultural Possibility and CEUs for Ordained Ministers

"The Great Multitude: A Symposium Bringing Us Together" will be taking place October 25-27 at Skelton 4-H Center in Wirtz, Virginia. For more information, please visit www.brethren.org/thegreatmultitude.

Springs of Living Water Academy in Church Renewal

Registration Now Open for Fall 2013 Courses



The Springs of Living Water Academy for pastors offers courses with formal learning objectives which participants localize in their setting. Program features include:

- Five interactive two-hour phone conference calls with practical training and focused discussion over a twelve-week period.
- Assigned readings
- Individual contacts between calls
- Laypeople in the church participating with the pastor
- A seminal paper reflecting course content and application
- CEUs available.

With positive response to the initial offering, the following two courses are available fall 2013:

Level 1. Foundations for Christ-centered Church Renewal

Using a spiritually grounded, servant led approach, learn to

- ✓ enlist a congregation in renewal, spiritually discern and train a renewal team;
- ✓ help a congregation enter a spiritual journey with disciplines folders;
- ✓ use servant leadership from scripture to approach the life cycle of a church;
- ✓ implement a seven fold path for renewal where a church builds on its strengths;
- ✓ help a church spiritually discern a scripture, vision, and ministry plan;
- ✓ assist a congregation to implement a renewal plan of focused ministries.

Dates: Wednesdays - Sept. 11, Oct. 2, Oct. 23, Nov. 13, and Dec. 4 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Participants call an 800 number every three weeks. Please register as soon as possible. The cost will be \$185 plus \$10 if CEUs are desired.

Level 2. Servant Leadership and Application to Church Renewal

Using primary sources in spiritually oriented servant leadership, participants will:

- ✓ study in depth the leadership style of Jesus from John 4 and other passages;
- ✓ go deeper in servant leadership through scriptures and application in renewal;
- ✓ learn dialogue, discernment, conceptualizing, foresight, and the role of the leader;
- ✓ take a deeper look at the life cycle of a church and how to intervene with servant leadership;
- ✓ learn how servant leadership helps reach out to current members and newcomers ;
- ✓ learn how to build servant led, spiritually vibrant Christ-centered congregations.

Dates: Starting in September with five sessions over a twelve-week period; days and times determined by participants. Instructors for courses are Dr. David S. Young and guests. In both courses, participants are invited to practice daily disciplines.

For a fuller description of courses and a Springs of Living Water Academy in Church Renewal brochure, please e-mail davidyoung@churchrenewalservant.org or call (717) 615-4515. The Springs website is www.churchrenewalservant.org.

From the Executive Director's Desk



*Help is to help each other, Lord, each other's load to bear,
that all may live in true accord, our joys and pains to share.*

*Help us to build each other up, your strength within us prove.
Increase our faith, confirm our hope, and fill us with your love.*

*Together make us free indeed – your life within us show,
and into you, our living Head, let us in all things grow.*

*Drawn by the magnet of your love we find our hearts made new.
Nearer each other let us move, and nearer still to you*

from *Hymnal: A Worship Book*, Brethren Press, 1992, #362.

The Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership is based on a partnership. It was created as a ministry training partnership of the Church of the Brethren General Board and Bethany Theological Seminary. The name of one of those entities has changed but the joint programming and funding continue.

In this edition of *The Scroll*, I am struck by how many partnerships we are privileged to be involved in. We work with our denominational and educational sponsors as well as with the Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center and the Mennonite Education Agency (for SeBAH-CoB - Seminario Biblico Anabaptista Hispano). The BAML has representation on the denominational Ministry Advisory Council. With the TRIM and EFSM programs, we partner with districts, congregations, students, faculty and instructors, district TRIM coordinators and EFSM supervising pastors. The Academy Certified Training Systems offer connections with district coordinated training programs, district staff and instructors, students and congregations.

Our continuing education opportunities also extend the network of relationships and possibilities for connecting with others. We partner with denominational agencies, districts, congregations and other groups to provide experiences for maintaining ministers' spiritual, intellectual, relational, emotional and physical health. The BAML is part of the Association of Leaders in Lifelong Learning for Ministry (ALLLM) formerly the Society for the Advancement of Continuing Education for Ministry (SACEM).

In the past I have served in settings where more of a "silo" mentality was present. Individuals were more focused on "my" ministry or on what "I" have done. I am thankful for the encouragement, creativity, accountability and community from being in a setting where we are in ministry and mission together. As we continue in ministry training, I trust that we will move nearer to each other and more importantly, nearer to God.

Blessings on the journey!

Julie H.

A ministry training partnership of the Church of the Brethren
and Bethany Theological Seminary
<http://www.bethanyseminary.edu/academy>



Executive Director
Julie M. Hostetter
765-983-1820

hosteju@bethanyseminary.edu or
jhostetter@brethren.org

Coordinator for Training in Ministry
Marilyn Lerch
814-623-6095
lerchma@bethanyseminary.edu or
m1erch@brethren.org

Administrative Assistant
Fran Massie
765-983-1824
academy@bethanyseminary.edu or
academy@brethren.org

**Coordinator of Seminario Biblico
Anabautista Hispano - de la Iglesia
de los Hermanos (SeBAH-CoB),
Jennifer Quijano**
quijaje@bethanyseminary.edu