

## *The Scroll*

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

*December 2012*

# **Christmas Blessings**



### **THE JOURNEY**

*Joseph [and Mary] went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem..." Luke 2:4*

*For Mary and Joseph the journey was geographical.  
For those in ministry the journey is spiritual and strategic.*

*The Brethren Academy is privileged to accompany you as you prepare for ministry and continue on the path of lifelong learning.*

*We wish you a blessed Advent and joyous Christmas celebration!*

*Julie Maudin Fran Jennifer Linda Glenn*

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## August 2012 Orientation

Left to Right: Doug Potvin, Barbara Wood, Ray Hadley, Charlotte Bear, Jack Storne, Mike Yingst, Dean Foster, Ellen Adney, Sie Brock, Don King, Mark Bowyer (District TRIM Supervisor)



### EFSM/TRIM AT FIRST GLANCE

By Sie Brock

As I was preparing to further my call by attending the TRIM/EFSM orientation at Bethany during the week of August 9<sup>th</sup> I must admit I was both nervous and excited at the same time. I was quickly put at ease, however, for the coordinators of the programs made every effort to ensure that I knew what was going on and how to plan. Upon arrival it was great to meet others in orientation and to find out that we came from coast to coast with one person even Skyping from Alaska! This was a week where we engaged in learning about the various programs that the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership offered and what each one entails. I began to feel even more comfortable as various Bethany staff members provided mini-sessions for all of us covering different topics. Both Marilyn Lerch and Julie Hostetter incorporated times of devotion throughout the orientation which seemed to bring us together more as a family rather than as separate individuals. During orientation we enjoyed a visit with President Ruthann Knechel Johansen. She made this a heartwarming experience as we engaged in a round table discussion, sharing stories and testimonies of our faith and desire to continue and enrich our spiritual paths. Many friendships and relationships were established by the week's end, and I must say that this was only the beginning of an amazing experience at Bethany.

## Wisdom from Three TRIM Graduates

**Barbara Wise Lewczak**  
**Pastor, Stover Memorial Church of the Brethren**  
**Des Moines, Iowa**



My TRIM experience was an awesome spiritual rollercoaster ride with highs and lows and some short spaces of calm. All that being said I would not trade a moment of the experience. I use what I have learned in TRIM constantly in my ministry as pastor, as the Northern Plains district ministry commission chair, the Camp Pine Lake program director, and in the community as an after school program director. I feel so blessed that our beloved denomination offers this alternative to those of us who cannot attend seminary. The variety of options such as online classes, on campus and on site intensives, and Bethany classes to name a few, gave me an opportunity to complete my studies while continuing family and community commitments. The best advice I could give to anyone contemplating ministry training options is first and foremost listen to God and the Holy Spirit's leading. If TRIM is your best path to ministry then go with it knowing that there will be tough times, times when you question your sanity, and times when you see God at work in ways that you could not have imagined. Be patient with yourself, adjust your goals when needed and establish an excellent working and prayer relationship with your mentor and TRIM Coordinator. I have formed lifelong spiritual friends that I cherish deeply. I have grown in my faith beyond anything that I could have imagined and I am so blessed to be about God's work.

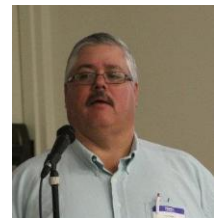
**Carolyn Schrock**  
**Missouri Arkansas District Administrator**  
**Mountain Grove, Missouri**



It's a challenge to take courses and maintain a job at the same time. That's why it took me seven years to complete TRIM. But the learning was so much more relevant because it applied to my current work as I was reading, discussing, and expanding my experience.

One part of my work that frightened me was preparing a sermon. I never feared public speaking, but figuring out what was enlightening enough to bother to say, was the problem. So as I planned my internship, I purposefully included a goal of preaching sermons, lots of sermons. The wonderful part of this stressful experience was that, when forced to prepare over and over, I learned that the study was invigorating. I learned how to use the internet as a resource for a wide variety of commentary on the given text. I grew to love the time spent in preparation. Now, as the District Executive for the Missouri/Arkansas District, I do not fear going to a church to worship with our people and to be the one assigned to bring the reflections for the day. Thank you, TRIM, for giving me a challenge and delivering me through that challenge to victory on the other side.

**Jon Tuttle**  
**Pastor, Prairie View Church of the Brethren**  
**Two miles west of Friend, KS**



I feel my experience in the TRIM program was a very good one. I appreciated the opportunity for the online classes because of my location in Western Kansas where it is over one hundred miles to the closest school to get the training I needed. I was able to travel to several weekend intensives and received much insight and learning from those as well. The "face to face" learning is very valuable. I have been able to use my training immediately as I have served as a full-time pastor since the beginning of my TRIM training. I have been able to implement new ideas and learnings "on the job" if you will. I would encourage anyone contemplating a call to the ministry to explore the option of entering the TRIM program as a way to explore that call and at the same time become qualified for ordination. I continue to serve in the church where I was called in June of 2004 and have been blessed by a wonderful, loving congregation who has helped me grow spiritually and has confirmed my call to pastoral ministry.

TRIM was a great experience for me. I loved every class I took and even now that I've completed the TRIM requirements, I'd like to just keep on studying.



**Jennifer Quijano,  
Coordinator of SeBAH /  
Coordinadora de la  
Programa SeBAH**

## **SeBAH-CoB Updates**

I am pleased to announce that the third SeBAH cohort has been established in the Atlantic Southeast District in Puerto Rico. Orientation for this cohort began on November 8<sup>th</sup> in Aibonito, Puerto Rico. The two new COB students Dharma Paris Millan and Severo Romero Marrero, in addition to seven Mennonite students began. The orientation went smoothly and was filled with excitement and anticipation of the first course, "Understanding the Bible".

The six students from the Atlantic Southwest District as well as the fifteen students from the Atlantic Northeast District have started their third course in the program, "Anabaptist and Mennonite History and Theology".

It has been a joy to work with the students around the United States and Puerto Rico. The spirit of community is strong and the students passionate about their call to the ministry in the COB and beyond.

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## **Actualizaciones de SeBAH**

Me complace anunciar que la tercera cohorte de la programa SeBAH se ha establecido en el Distrito Atlántico Suroriente en Puerto Rico. Orientación para esta cohorte se inició el 8 de noviembre en Aibonito, Puerto Rico. Los dos nuevos estudiantes de la Iglesia de los Hermanos Dharma París Millán y Severo Romero Marrero, y siete estudiantes Menonitas comenzaron. La orientación se desarrolló sin contratiempos y se llenó de emoción y anticipación del primer curso, "Comprendiendo la Biblia".

Los seis estudiantes del Distrito Atlántico Sudoccidental, así como los quince estudiantes del Distrito Atlántico Noreste han comenzado su tercer curso en el programa, "La historia anabaptista y menonitas y Teología".

Ha sido un placer trabajar con los estudiantes de todo los Estados Unidos y Puerto Rico. El espíritu de la comunidad es fuerte y los estudiantes apasionados por su llamado al ministerio en la Iglesia de los Hermanos y más allá.





## **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](mailto:SVMC@etown.edu), 717-361-1450  
TRIM designations: BT (Bible/Theology credit) MS (Ministry Skills credit)

### **2013:**

\* **"The Word Alive: An Introduction to Preaching"** Bethany Theological Seminary, Richmond, IN. Instructor: Dawn Ottoni-Wilhelm, Professor of Preaching and Worship, **January 7-11, 2013**. (MS) Registration Deadline: December 10, 2012 (The class has enough registrants to proceed, additional students are welcome)

**"Introduction to New Testament"** online Instructor: Susan Jeffers **January 28 – March 2, 2013** (BT) Registration Deadline: January 7, 2013

**"The Book of Jonah"** online, Instructor: Susan Jeffers, **February 11 – March 22, 2013** (BT) Registration Deadline: February 1, 2012 **SVMC**

**"Story of the Church: Reformation to the Modern Age"** Lewistown, PA Instructor: Craig Gandy, **February 28 – March 3, 2013** (BT) Registration Deadline: February 14, 2013 **SVMC**

**"Evangelism: Both Now and Not Yet"** online Instructor: Tara Hornbacker, Professor of Ministry Formation, Bethany Theological Seminary, **April 8 – May 31, 2013** (MS) Registration Deadline: March 11, 2013

**"Introduction to Pastoral Care"** Two locations: Instructor onsite at McPherson College, Kansas (will qualify for a Brethren College experience); course also available electronically in Florida; Instructor Anna Lee Hisey Pierson, **May 2-5, 2013** (MS) Registration Deadline: April 1, 2013

### **2013 Educational Travel Experiences:**

- May: **Iona, Scotland** led by Professor Dawn Ottoni-Wilhelm - **Course Full**
- June 3: **"Journey Through the Bible"** A 12 day trip to the Holy Land (Israel) led by Bethany Theological Seminary's Professor of New Testament Studies, Dan Ulrich and TRIM Coordinator Marilyn Lerch. With a starting price of \$3198, included are round trip international airfare from JFK, New York, first class hotels, guided sightseeing, entrance fees, breakfast and dinner daily and more. TRIM/EFSM students may earn course credit for this trip. Course requirements will include preparatory reading and journaling during the trip. Ordained ministers may earn 4 CEUs for participating. The trip is open to all interested travelers: students, those in set apart ministry and lay people. **All travelers need to have a passport by Feb. 15 that extends through the end of 2013, those needing to apply for a new passport should do that before the end of 2012.**

**Please contact the Brethren Academy Office to express your interest** in either trip and for more details.  
[academy@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:academy@bethanyseminary.edu)

**"Annual Conference Directed ISU"** Charlotte, NC Course created around the Ministers' Association speaker Dr. Greg Jones (BT) **June 28-29, 2013**

**"But Who Is My Neighbor? Christianity in a Global Context"** McPherson College, Kansas, Instructor: Kent Eaton, **Fall, 2013** (BT)

## Sustaining Pastoral Excellence

Photos by Del Keeney



The Sustaining Pastoral Excellence- Advanced Foundations of Church Leadership - Pastors cohort met October 8-11, 2012 at the Quaker Hill Conference Center, in Richmond, Indiana. Time together included worship, study, recreation opportunities and fellowship. The focus was on the Leadership Practices Inventory where participants received feedback from parishioners and colleagues. Del Keeney, pastor of the Mechanicsburg CoB, facilitated the process and conversation.

Pastors in the cohort traveled to Bethany Theological Seminary for the LPI sessions so that pastor Mary Fleming could attend via Skype.



Participants included Mary Fleming (on screen), David Hendricks, Roland Johnson, Mike Martin, Marty Doss, Martin Hutchison, Robin Wentworth Meyer and Lowell Flory (pictured). Julie Hostetter and Del Keeney (not pictured) were also part of the group.



# Stuart Murray Williams

## Living the Biblical Vision of a Multi-Voiced Church

**No pre-registration. No fee.**

### **Webinar 1: Monologue or Multi-Voiced Learning?**

Date & Time: Tuesday, January 22, 2013 at 12:00-1:30 pm Pacific/3:00-4:30 pm Eastern

### **Webinar 2: The Vision for a Multi-Voiced Church**

Date & Time: Tuesday, January 29, 2013 at 12:00-1:30 pm Pacific/ 3:00-4:30 pm Eastern

**CEU:** 0.15 for live sessions only

**Description:** The New Testament indicates that the early churches were multi-voiced, participative and expected that the Holy Spirit would speak through all the members of the community. First-generation renewal movements (such as the Anabaptists) have typically been multi-voiced as well, recovering this New Testament characteristic. But institutionalization has persistently reduced such diversity of participation and resulted in many aspects of church life becoming mono-voiced or restricted to only a few voices.

The webinars will survey mono-voiced and multi-voiced expressions of church. Murray Williams will offer insights and engage participants in a discussion on the biblical and missional basis advocating for a multi-voiced church, and exploring practical ways of developing multi-voiced communities today.



**Presenter:** Stuart Murray Williams

Stuart Murray Williams is highly regarded as one of the world's leading advocates for contemporary forms of Anabaptism. Murray Williams is a scholar, trainer, mentor, writer, strategist, and consultant with particular interest in urban mission, church planting and emerging forms of church. He is the founder of [Urban Expression](#), a pioneering church planting agency with teams in the United Kingdom, Netherlands, and United States. He has served as Director of Church Planting and Evangelism at Spurgeon's College, London. And, he still finds time and energy with his other activities to serve as an associate lecturer at the Baptist College in Bristol. Murray Williams has a Ph.D. in Anabaptist hermeneutics.

Murray Williams has written several books on church planting, urban mission and the contribution of the Anabaptist tradition to contemporary missiology. His two most recent books are titled, *The Power of All* and [The Naked Anabaptist](#).

He is married to Sian. He has two grown sons and two grandchildren. Stuart and Sian reside in Bristol, England.

### **More Information:**

Stan Dueck

800-323-8039 ext. 343 or [sdueck@brethren.org](mailto:sdueck@brethren.org)

A collaborative resource offered by:

[Congregational Life Ministries](#) of the [Church of the Brethren](#), Electronic Communications of [Bethany Theological Seminary](#), and [Brethren Academy](#)

## Springs of Living Water Academy in Church Renewal Being Launched in 2013; Registration Now Open



The Springs of Living Water Academy for pastors and church leaders will offer courses with formal learning objectives which participants localize in their setting. Readings are assigned. Five interactive two hour phone conference calls of teaching will occur. A few persons in the congregation walk alongside the participant. A seminal solidifying paper will reflect both course content and application in a local setting of ministry. CEUs will be available through the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership.

### Foundations for Christ-Centered Church Renewal

The first course offered will be “Foundations for Christ-Centered Church Renewal” as done in seminary. Basic texts are ***Springs of Living Water, Christ-Centered Church Renewal*** by David S. Young with foreword by Richard J. Foster and ***Celebration of Discipline, the Path to Spiritual Growth*** by Richard J. Foster.

Learn to:

- ✓ Enlist a congregation in renewal, spiritually discern and train a renewal team
- ✓ Help individuals and churches in a spiritual journey using disciplines folders
- ✓ Use servant leadership from scripture to approach the life cycle of a church
- ✓ Be a renewal pastor in all its dimensions: modeling, equipping, shepherding
- ✓ Guide in 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.

Saturday morning dates are Feb. 9, Mar. 2, Mar. 23, Apr. 13 and May 4, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. eastern time. Prompt registration is helpful, but the deadline is Jan. 30, 2013. Cost: \$185 plus \$10 for CEUs. Partial scholarships are available if needed. Registrants will call a toll free number to participate. The instructor is Dr. David S. Young with guests telling stories of churches. Participants will engage in spiritual disciplines using folders during the journey.

For a fuller description of this course and for the Springs of Living Water Academy in Church Renewal brochure, please contact David Young by emailing [davidyoung@churchrenewalservant.org](mailto:davidyoung@churchrenewalservant.org) or by calling (717) 615-4515. The Springs' website is [www.churchrenewalservant.org](http://www.churchrenewalservant.org).





## *From the Executive Director's Desk*



*We are pilgrims on a journey, we are trav'lers on the road.*

*We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.*

*from Will you let me be your servant (307);*

*Hymnal: A Worship Book published by Brethren Press*

+ On Wednesday afternoon, October 31, Tara Hornbacker and I were returning to Bethany Seminary after a three day conference in Nashville. As we traveled on I-65, five utility trucks and workers from Louisiana passed us, heading north then east to assist with the recovery efforts after super storm Sandy.

+ On Wednesday morning, December 12, I was driving from my home near Dayton, OH to Bethany Seminary. As I traveled west on I-70, nine utility trucks and workers from Colorado passed me, heading home from assisting with the recovery efforts after super storm Sandy.

+ What motivates people to drive across the country to help and support others? Orders from management...a spirit of adventure...responding to the call of God... overtime pay...a sincere desire to help their neighbors...one of these?...all of these?

As we begin a new year, we continue on a journey of lifelong learning. Some of us are in ministry training programs; others are engaged in continuing education. These experiences take many forms: classes, seminars, onsite and online learning, independent study units, learning in community, interacting with a mentor and spending time in solitude. They assist us with intellectual, spiritual, relational and emotional growth.

On your journey of lifelong learning, please take the time and make opportunities to link head, heart and hands in the service of God and your neighbors. Let our commitment for the new year be...

*I will hold the Christlight for you in the nighttime of your fear.*

*I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.*

*I will weep when you are weeping, when you laugh I'll laugh with you.*

*I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.*

*When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,*

*Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.*

*Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?*

*Pray that I will have the grace to let you be my servant too.*

*from Will you let me be your servant (307); Hymnal: A Worship Book published by Brethren Press*



A ministry training partnership of the  
Church of the Brethren and  
Bethany Theological Seminary

<http://www.bethanyseminary.edu/academy>



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