

Vol. 52 • Issue 3

## Inside

Together . . .	<a href="#">1</a>
Parish Paper	<a href="#">2</a>
<b>District Conference</b> November 7-9, 2014	
• Coming . . .	<a href="#">4</a>
Highlights!	
• Ballot	<a href="#">6</a>
• Business Book	<a href="#">6</a>
• Peace Poles	<a href="#">6</a>
NYC wrap-up	<a href="#">4</a>
Youth Cabinet	<a href="#">5</a>
Ideas that work	<a href="#">5</a>
Ordination	<a href="#">6</a>
Outreach	<a href="#">1</a> & <a href="#">6</a>
Newsline	<a href="#">7</a>
Palooza	<a href="#">8</a>

## www.pswdcob.org

**Editor:** Joe Vecchio  
Administrative Assistant  
FrontDesk@pswdcob.org

**Publisher:** Joe Detrick  
District Executive/Minister  
DE@pswdcob.org

New Life Subscriptions (a \$10 value) are **Free**. New Life, the newsletter of the Pacific Southwest District of the Church of the Brethren, is sent to all of our ministers, church officials, and others who request it.

**Address changes to:**  
Pacific Southwest District  
Church of the Brethren  
P.O. Box 219  
La Verne CA 91750-0219  
FAX (909) 392-4056  
Voice (909) 392-4049  
FrontDesk@pswdcob.org

## Together, Building for the Common Good . . .

The above title is the theme of the Church of the Brethren outreach planning packet for 2015. Several weeks ago, every congregation received this packet containing important information and colorful materials describing the various ministry partners of our district and denomination. (Ask your pastor, board chair, stewards chair, or treasurer for this information.) Congregations are asked to faithfully consider various giving opportunities to support ministries of compassion and care, each uniquely making a vital contribution as part of the Body of Christ.

As your congregation considers faithful stewardship for this coming year, I would like to illustrate with a true story. In the winter of 2003, the *Golden Venture*, sailing with refugees from around the world, ran aground near Long Island (NY). Some died in the frigid water, most were caught and jailed. Many were sent to a holding prison near our home in Pennsylvania. It so happened that a call went out from the organization, *People of the Golden Venture*, inviting area families to host refugees being released from the York County Prison. We received two men, Frank Goa, from China, and Abbdou Tseyey, from Monrovia, Liberia.

I picked up Abbdou from the prison and then proceeded to purchase some ethnic food as well as essential clothing. At a local bank we cashed a check for \$250 that amounted to all of Abbdou's worldly assets. As we exited the bank Abbdou counted out 10% of the money.

"This amount belongs to God," Abbdou exclaimed. "Give it to your church!" I responded, "I think you need it more than our church does. You have nothing. At least keep this amount to help you get a new start in life."

"No", countered Abbdou passionately, "You don't understand, I have been giving back to God a portion of all that I earn. My family has done this for as long as I can remember."

The following week our church received Abbdou's "tithe" offering for the Community Outreach Fund.

Abbdou, having nothing, first gave to support the ministry of Jesus Christ. Abbdou, having nothing, had everything! He had the love of Jesus within his heart and then gave generously and faithfully as a result of that love.

As individuals and congregations enter this season of financial discernment for 2015, I can't help but be reminded of the importance of ALL our lives being dedicated to God - our talents and treasures, our devotion and commitment, all supporting a rich variety of Christ-centered ministries of compassion within our churches, our district, and beyond toward the larger family of God.

**Observation:** In reviewing the total congregational giving, as reported in the 2013 district conference booklet, eighteen out of twenty-six congregations contributed financial support to district ministries. Consider this challenge for the balance of 2014 and for planning for 2015: Prayerfully decide to make a contribution to the Ministry Investment Plan with a goal of 100% participation!

As individuals and congregations join together for the 51<sup>st</sup> District Conference, let this be a time of remembering. Remember that God gave and continues to give the gift of life. Remember persons like Abbdou, who, having little, gave much. (Sounds like the widow's mite!)

May all our giving flow from the heart, because God's blessings have ALREADY been so lavishly spread upon us! May God continue to use ALL of us to create joy and beauty and hope and compassion for God's children, everywhere! Amen!

Faithfully Yours,  
*Joe Detrick*  
Interim District Executive Minister.



# THE PARISH PAPER

## IDEAS AND INSIGHTS FOR ACTIVE CONGREGATIONS

Coeditors: Herb Miller and Cynthia Woolever – [www.TheParishPaper.com](http://www.TheParishPaper.com)

September 2014 - Volume 22, Number 9

Copyright © 2014 by Cynthia Woolever

### Back to School: How Churches Can Partner with Local Schools

Every healthy community builds on the resources of local churches and schools. The vitality of these two key institutions tells the larger story of the community's overall quality of life. Historically, churches and schools formed partnerships that benefited children, their families, and the development of future leaders. Today's schools face unprecedented challenges—such as declining funds, poverty, performance pressures, and violence. What can churches do to strengthen their relationship with local schools?

#### It's Not a New Program

The successful initiative is not about starting a new program—it is about beginning a relationship with others in your community. Starting and growing any relationship requires an investment of time and listening. Leaders can take the first step by learning about the community and its schools. Get to know as much as you can about community needs, what others are doing, and potential partners—the school district, social service agencies, community non-profits, local government, and other churches. Be open to hearing and learning about the most crucial needs. Identify the individuals (the school principals and other key administrators) who are the primary players in any successful school-church partnership. Finally, find ways to build a relationship of trust and respect.

#### Ideas for Relationships and Partnerships

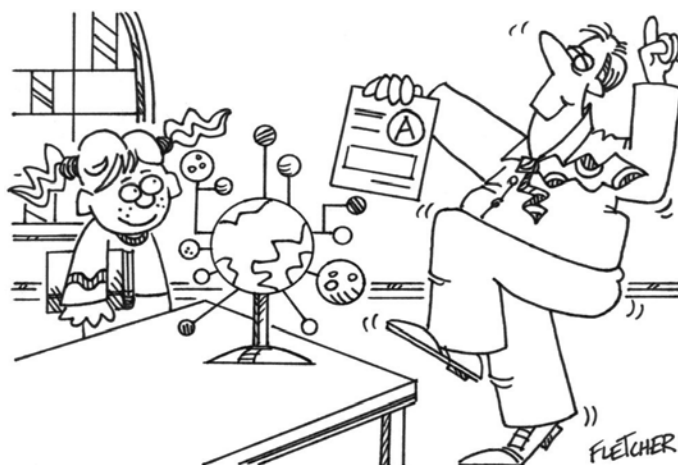
Dr. Lovett Weems, Lewis Center for Church Leadership, identifies four categories that provide a framework for thinking about church/school partnerships. Congregations can (1) help students succeed, (2) assist with student needs, (3) support and affirm teachers, and (4) advocate for schools and education.<sup>1</sup>

**Helping students succeed.** The most common partnering role by churches involves volunteer mentors or tutors, or after-school programs. Many communities already have these programs in place and churches link members to existing opportunities to volunteer. Other options include offering space for a homework club, computer labs, practice space for music or art, a

community garden, and other school-related activities. Some churches help college-bound students with test preparation, college forms and applications, and college selection.

**Assisting with student needs.** Because student enrollment reflects the community, the percentage of schoolchildren that receive free or reduced-cost school lunches is one important indicator of area poverty. In many schools across the country, 100 percent of the attending children qualify for the free/reduced-cost lunch program. Once the figure reaches 40 percent or more, the number of children and their families requiring support and assistance is significant. These children often do not have some of the basic necessities to succeed in school—adequate nutrition, books and supplies, or school clothing and uniforms.

Some examples of ways that congregations partner with local schools to meet student needs include collecting and distributing school supplies as a new school year begins and assisting with the purchase of school uniforms, shoes, or sports uniforms. Because many children are at risk of hunger when school is not in session, some churches offer a summer lunch program or organize a backpack food program for the weekends (see the excellent starter toolkit for the Backpack Food Program by Hunger



PASTOR TED QUESTIONED THE AFTER-SCHOOL TUTORING PROGRAM'S EFFECTIVENESS UNTIL HE GOT AN "A" ON LISA'S SCIENCE PROJECT.

Free Colorado: <http://www.hungerfreecommunities.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/HFC-Toolkit-for-starting-a-BackPack-Food-Program.pdf>).

### ***Supporting and affirming the work of teachers.***

Teachers receive more blame and disrespect in political debates about public education than they deserve. Teachers welcome any positive words or actions to bolster their calling as educators. At the beginning of the school year, worship services can honor teachers, celebrate their contributions, and bless their future work. Create a community event at the end of the school year to celebrate the accomplishments of students and teachers. Other ideas from school-partnering churches include contributing or funding supplies used in the classroom, hosting a thank-you lunch for teachers, and providing volunteers for the classroom, lunchroom, or playground.

***Advocating for schools and education.*** No single congregation can do everything, but every congregation can do something. If a congregation does ministry *with* their community (rather than *to* their community), they create solutions and possibilities together. Encourage members to become advocates for public education. Track the actions of local school boards and educational policies at the district, state, and federal levels. Invite a principal or panel of educational leaders to speak at your church. Congregations can help community leaders identify the root causes of economic injustice and how inequality affects children and their schools. Church leaders can also assist with organizing parents and teachers to create better schools.

### **Three Necessary Questions**

A successful partnership between the church and community must meet three criteria by answering yes to the following questions.<sup>2</sup> First, do our efforts fit with our church's mission? Many wonderful initiatives and options exist but not all make theological sense for a local church. Second, what are the real needs of our community's children? Are we considering plans that satisfy and reward our members? Or, have we strategically identified where our partners and we might make the most difference? Third, what do we do well as a church? Do we have the passion, assets, and volunteers to carry out a successful partnership? When we lack the necessary capabilities even though our efforts fit with the church's mission and meet significant community needs, burnout and failure are the result. When real needs are overlooked or unmet even though our efforts fit with our mission and we possess the required strengths, irrelevance and disappointment are the result. Doing what is best does not require great

strength. But great strength is required to choose the right path.<sup>3</sup>

### **A Few Cautions**

When children are part of the picture, additional assurances must be considered.

- All church-school partnerships must put child safety first. Train all volunteers to follow the guidelines for appropriate adult-child interactions. Check that church facilities are free of hazards and safe for children of all ages.
- Churches must honor church and state boundaries and refrain from evangelizing in the school context. Trust that your actions speak louder than words.
- To avoid setbacks, churches should begin small—by initiating a partnership with one classroom teacher, one school principal, or the parent leaders in a classroom. Long-term success relies on careful thinking about sustainability, accessibility, and scalability. In other words, if our efforts succeed, will we be able to meet future needs without exceeding available resources?

### **The Bottom Line**

After World War II, the city leaders of Pittsburgh brought in Frank Lloyd Wright for a consultation. They were concerned about the downtown's dreary appearance stemming from steel manufacturing. They said to him, "What shall we do with Pittsburgh?" He studied the matter and then gave them this reply: "Bury it!" But those leaders stayed with it because they had a vision for their city. Pittsburgh became one of the most beautiful and livable city centers.

Unfortunately, many leaders have given up on public education and feel a proper burial is in order. People of faith can remain steadfast in their vision of how public schools are the best investment to create healthy communities and the next generation's leaders.

- 
1. See the Engaging Local Schools Resource at <http://www.churchleadership.com/serveyourneighbor/EngagingLocalSchools.asp> for extensive material about how churches work with local schools.
  2. Dr. Lovett Weems, "Identifying Strategic Initiatives" in Engaging Local Schools CD (2014).
  3. Elbert Hubbard, American editor, publisher, and writer, 1856-1915.

Copyright © 2014 by Cynthia Woolever  
[www.TheParishPaper.com](http://www.TheParishPaper.com)

Congregations within our PSDW jurisdiction do NOT have permission (a) to delete the copyright notice on page 2; (b) to re-write, paraphrase, or change the wording of sentences and paragraphs; or © to give ANY THIRD PARTY, – other than your staff and constituents, – permission to photocopy or reprint (in any quantity, no matter how small, whether for free distribution or for sale).



God enfolds all creation in the Spirit,  
 cradles and carries us,  
 invites and challenges us to be part of a healing movement . . .

Yearning for more justice, love, peace and joy for God's world,  
 She whispers and sings, swirls and swoons as she goes . . .

"Dance and play, serve and sing, with me, and one another and strangers, too.  
 Take up your shovel and pick, basin and towel, signs of protest, cups of cold water . . .  
 'Till all creation be fresh and green again.  
 Wholeness at hand, for all . . .  
 True salvation, come at last."

## The Time is a Comin' . . . November 7-9, 2014 !



Friends in Christ!

The *Spirit of God is Mooovin'* us along to District Conference - quick! A wonderful weekend awaits us November 7-9 in La Verne on the Hillcrest campus as we worship, fellowship, do the business of the district, and learn and grow from insight sessions on various topics of district business, ministry ideas and more. David Steele, the new 2015 moderator of our denomination will be joining us! There will be opportunity to enjoy an ice cream social Friday evening after worship and greet David. Other denominational staff and district leadership will be present to talk with you and listen throughout the weekend.

*Be sure to check out our meal opportunities!* They are conveniently located on the Hillcrest campus, and many include presentations and speakers to help us all explore areas like: *what it means to be in ministry as a clergy person, how our district can continue to grow in understanding and living into what it means to be intercultural, time for dialogue with Messenger editor, Randy Miller, and more!*



There are fun and service oriented activities for children and youth. Our youth are leading worship Saturday evening including a time for anointing. Come one and all for a weekend of spiritual growth and relationship building as sisters and brothers in this our shared, beloved Pacific Southwest District! **Intrigued?** Questions?

Check out [www.pswdcob.org/distconf](http://www.pswdcob.org/distconf) or contact the district office. And while you are on the website, *why not check out the moderator's BLOG* on visits to various churches and experiences in other leadership situations!

[www.pswdcob.org/moderator](http://www.pswdcob.org/moderator)

Come and be *surprised, renewed, and enriched* as you deepen relationships across the district, learn of good things

happening, gain a few ideas to take home, all as we ride the wings and fill with fresh breath from *The Spirit of God Moving* among us as we are gathered. Hope to see you there to share in this marvelous time together!

With you on the journey,

*Erin Matteson,*

District Moderator/Chair of Program Committee

[www.pswdcob.org/distconf](http://www.pswdcob.org/distconf)

## NYC July 2014



Thank you for your prayers and support that sent 63 youth and advisors to **National Youth Conference** in July. Our Youth were engaged and enthusiastic about worshiping and gathering together with 2,300 Brethren kids from around the country. They were curious and open-hearted while learning about each other's varying beliefs and Brethren backgrounds demonstrating the unique ability of encouraging each other's authentic expressions of faith and being a true community to each other. Stay tuned for a report from our Youth during business at District Conference on Saturday, November 8, 2014.



Dawna Welch, PSWD Youth Advisor  
 909-267-5477 [youth@pswdcob.org](mailto:youth@pswdcob.org)  
[www.pswdcob.org/youth](http://www.pswdcob.org/youth)



PSWD Youth at NYC

## Congratulations !



2014/15 Youth Cabinet: Rudy Amaya, Príncipe de Paz; Harley Edwards, Modesto; Rayna Harrison, La Verne; Jake Hoover, La Verne

It is my pleasure to introduce the PSWD Youth Cabinet!

**Rudy Amaya** is an extremely talented High school Senior who worships in Santa Ana at the *Príncipe de Paz Church of the Brethren*. Rudy has been active in the Youth Program. He performs with the Youth Band, and provides leadership on the Youth Ministry Team. More than anything Rudy loves helping others and speaking to people in need of God. His favorite scripture is Joshua 1:9.

**Harley Edwards** is and incredibly energetic and mature 8th grader who worships at the *Modesto Church of the Brethren*. Harley is active with her Youth Group and participated in her first district event as a 7th grader. She is an enthusiastic addition to the Youth Cabinet and brings an excitement about helping bring the Youth of the PSWD together. Harley LOVES reading and is very curious and inquisitive about most everything! Harley's favorite Bible story is the birth of Jesus.

**Rayna Harrison** is a strong and compassionate young woman, gifted with natural leadership skills. She is a 12th grader at Upland High School and worships with the *La Verne Church of the Brethren*. Rayna demonstrates leadership with effective organizational and time management skills allowing her to play an active role in school, sports and her Youth group at La Verne, including Explore Your Call through the national office! Rayna loves spending time with friends and seeks to develop and grow in Church leadership. Her favorite scripture is 1 Corinthians 13:1-13.

**Jake Hoover** is a kind and caring High school Senior who worships with the *La Verne Church of the Brethren*. Jake has a strong sense of community. He enjoys providing leadership and planning activities that bring Youth of the Church of the Brethren together. Jake has been involved in national, district and local youth programs over the past few years. This is his third and final term on the PSWD Youth Cabinet. Jake loves to play soccer and sing. His favorite scripture is Psalms 139:13-18.

The week end of August 29-31 the new Youth Cabinet

met to plan for district conference and Youth opportunities throughout the year. During our time together we worshiped at Príncipe de Paz, Friday evening and toured Hillcrest Homes.

In preparation, Youth had prayer and participated in a devotional activity suggested in Moderator Erin Matteson's resource package. Later we met with Moderator Elect, Eric Bishop to plan the Saturday evening worship service at District Conference.



[www.pswdcob.org/spirit](http://www.pswdcob.org/spirit)

Youth attending District Conference can look forward to a Youth planned and Youth led worship that will feature some favorite songs from *National Youth Conference* and reflections on the *Spirit of God* moving in their lives.

For fun and fellowship all Youth grades 7-12 will worship together, have time to be together in the Youth Lounge, and have a blast at an outdoor Carnival that will include an inflatable obstacle course bouncy house, fun group activities and a barbeque lunch!

Overnight accommodations are available for Youth in grades 9-12.

Dawna Welch, PSWD Youth Advisor

## Ideas that Work



As I travel around the district, I am discovering that churches are doing a variety of creative activities.

### *How to share these ideas with one another?*

1. Send your electronic newsletters and/or hard copies to other churches.
2. Send a unique activity to the district office for inclusion in our district newsletters.
3. Invite other Churches of the Brethren in your immediate area to attend one of your local events. (Example: The 4th International Food/Festival at Príncipe de Paz on Sunday September 28.)
4. Send delegate/s to a neighboring Brethren church's local event and bring home some ideas.

While we are spread out geographically, we CAN share ideas with one another in order to enrich, encourage, and feel a sense of connectedness within our family of faith in PSWD.

*Joe Detrick*

Interim District Executive Minister  
de@pswdcob.org 909-392-4052

## Five Year Ordination Review has begun

[www.pswdcob.org/ethics](http://www.pswdcob.org/ethics)  
[www.pswdcob.org/publications/ministerial-leadership-manual](http://www.pswdcob.org/publications/ministerial-leadership-manual)

Church of the Brethren, ordination credentials are reviewed by the Ministry Commission every five years. The process began with October's "Healthy Boundaries: Ministerial Ethics Training" in Northern California, Southern California, and Arizona.

Early in 2015 each ordained minister will receive a questionnaire in the mail. Congregations will receive a similar questionnaire for each minister with membership at the congregation. All ordained ministers regularly fill out CEU summaries and send them to the district office. The CEU guidelines and forms are available on the web in the "Ministerial Leadership Manual" (link above) or call the district office for a paper copy. At the end of the process the Ministry Commission will review all of the materials and send out the new ordination cards.

If you have any questions related to this, please contact Joe Detrick at 909-392-4052 or [de@pswdcob.org](mailto:de@pswdcob.org)

## District Conference: Business Book & Ballot

[www.pswdcob.org/distconf/business-book](http://www.pswdcob.org/distconf/business-book)

The web version of the Business Book is available to everyone on the web. Read ahead and see what the district's boards and committees have accomplished since the last District Conference. Church of the Brethren agencies have also posted reports. Especially take time to read the business items in the appendices:

- Approve the 2013 **District Conference Minutes**
- **Ballot for 2014-2015** from Nominating Committee
  - Ballot Background Information
- **Accountant's Review** of 2013
- **Ministry Investment Plan (MIP)** A 5 Year Review of income and expenses including a budget for next year, and a projection through 2017.

## Peace Poles for PSWD Congregations

On Earth Peace has teamed up with Maurice Flora of La Verne Church of the Brethren to offer a free "Peace Pole" to every congregation that views itself as a "Living Peace Church." Bill Scheurer, Executive Director of On Earth Peace, will be at District Conference for the presentation of Peace Poles on Saturday, November 8, 2014. The Pacific Southwest District is the first district to try this "Living Peace Church" witness.

The On Earth Peace report to the delegates is on our website as part of the Business Book (see the story above). Read about the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of On Earth Peace with a year-long "Visions & Dreams of Building Peace" party, to which you are invited!



Photo from [www.cob-net.org](http://www.cob-net.org)

## Congregational Outreach Forms

**Due 12/1/2014**

Copies of the form are available on the brethren.org website at [www.goo.gl/Y4qxUo](http://www.goo.gl/Y4qxUo)



Details of the packet mailed to your church including the special inserts from Mission & Ministry Board, On Earth Peace, University of La Verne, Bethany Seminary, Camp La Verne, and Hillcrest are available on the [pswdcob.org](http://pswdcob.org) website at [www.goo.gl/yh53fk](http://www.goo.gl/yh53fk). Get some "outreach" inspiration from Joe's story on *New Life's* front page. Watch for Form A, Form B, and the Statistical Forms in the coming months. Your congregation's forms help us plan District and National Church of the Brethren programs that fit your congregation.

District Conference  
 November 7-9, 2014  
 at Hillcrest in La Verne

[www.pswdcob.org/distconf/reg](http://www.pswdcob.org/distconf/reg)

Details on the web



## PSWD in Newslines

[www.brethren.org/news](http://www.brethren.org/news)

*Newsline 9/26/2014:* – **The Bittersweet Gospel Band** will tour from Oct. 22-26 on the East Coast. The Bittersweet Gospel Band, made up of Church of the Brethren musicians, uses a variety of music styles to communicate a message of hope for all ages. The band's ministry began as an outreach of Bittersweet Ministries to young people to combat a drug and alcohol culture, and now touches on justice issues and serves as a ministry of spiritual renewal. **Gilbert Romero (Los Angeles, CA)** and **Scott Duffey (Staunton, VA)** write most of the music. Find the band at [www.bittersweetgospelband.blogspot.com](http://www.bittersweetgospelband.blogspot.com) and on Facebook. Read the full story at: [www.brethren.org/news/2014/brethren-bits-for-sept-26.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2014/brethren-bits-for-sept-26.html)

*Newsline 9/16/2014:* – Members of **First Church of the Brethren in San Diego, Calif.**, have a new partner in the Islamic Center of San Diego, which has joined in efforts to offer support and comfort to those suffering from violence in Nigeria. **Linda Williams of San Diego Church of the Brethren** reports that the Islamic Center has been raising funds to support the Nigerian Brethren and other victims of the violence perpetrated by the Boko Haram insurgent group. The intent is to reach out to the Christian victims of Boko Haram violence in Nigeria, said Williams. Allali is a graduate student at the University of San Diego's School of Leadership and leads a Muslim Girl Scout Troop which meets at the mosque, where her husband is imam. Members and children at the mosque also have written notes of compassion to be sent to the Nigerian Brethren.

Read the full story at: [www.brethren.org/news/2014/newsline-for-sept-16-2014.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2014/newsline-for-sept-16-2014.html)

*Newsline 8/26/2014:* – PSWD held a "Healthy Conversations Workshop" in September at the **University of La Verne** led by **Dawna Welch** and **Reba Herder** of the **La Verne CoB** "Have you ever felt frustrated, hurt, or discouraged by another's words?" asked an invitation. "In this workshop you will discover what happens in unhealthy conversations and what you can do to get different results." The workshop goal is to create a foundation for conflict resolution, relationship building, and spiritual growth. Jesus gave us the key to thriving and conflict resolution 2,000 years ago. Love God with your heart, mind, and soul and love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22: 37-40).

Read more at: [www.brethren.org/news/2014/brethren-bits-for-aug-26.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2014/brethren-bits-for-aug-26.html)

*Newsline 7/30/2014:* – Remembrance: **Anne Haynes Price Fike**, a psychotherapist with the Saddleback Pediatric Medical Group in Mission Viejo, Calif., and a leader with the Church of the Brethren program Children's Disaster Services (CDS), died on July 17. A long time member of **La Verne CoB**, she passed away at her home at **Hillcrest**. Read more at: [www.brethren.org/news/2014/brethren-bits-for-july-30.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2014/brethren-bits-for-july-30.html)

*Newsline 7/30/2014:* – **PSWD seeks a District Executive** to fill a full-time position available Jan. 1, 2015, with interviews concluding before District Conference. PSWD includes 26 congregations and 1 church plant in California and Arizona. It is geographically, ethnically, and theologically diverse, with several Spanish-speaking congregations. . . . Qualifications include a clear commitment to Jesus Christ demonstrated by a vibrant, mature spiritual life; a commitment to New Testament values; a commitment to Church of the Brethren faith and heritage; passion about the potential of the Church of the Brethren and openness to the leading of the Holy Spirit . . . Read more at: [www.brethren.org/news/2014/brethren-bits-for-july-30.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2014/brethren-bits-for-july-30.html)

*Newsline 7/16/2014:* – Production of a new **minister's manual** for the Church of the Brethren is underway. Twenty one years after the publication of "For All Who Minister," the task team working on a new manual is seeking input through an online survey at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/2MManual](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2MManual)

Read more at: [www.brethren.org/news/2014/brethren-bits-for-july-16.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2014/brethren-bits-for-july-16.html)

*Newsline 7/30/2014:* – Annual Conference declares the church is not of one mind on Climate Change. The response to the query on Guidance for Responding to the Changing of Earth's Climate was defeated in a close vote, and the query was returned to **PSWD** and **Circle of Peace** where it originated. Read more at [www.brethren.org/news/2014/query-on-climate-change-returned.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2014/query-on-climate-change-returned.html)

*Newsline 6/25/2014:* – This past summer's Youth Peace Travel Team includes **Christopher Bache (La Verne CoB)**, Christy Crouse, Jake Frye, and Shelley West. They traveled to Church of the Brethren camps and conferences to share peacemaking skills with youth.

Read more at: [www.brethren.org/news/2014/brethren-bits-for-june-25.html](http://www.brethren.org/news/2014/brethren-bits-for-june-25.html)

# New Life

Pacific Southwest District of the  
Church of the Brethren  
P.O. Box 219  
La Verne CA 91750-0219

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
SAN DIMAS, CA  
PERMIT NO. 78

Address Service Requested

---

## 2014 District Conference Youth Event (grades 6-12)

Your new Youth Cabinet (*photos on page 5*) did a wonderful job planning both fun and worship. Come and enjoy a great weekend of fellowship, worship, and activities with other youth from the PSWD! To sign up for Youth Events you need to register for conference (\$30) and the Youth Activities (\$30). Snacks, some meals and activities are all included with your fees.

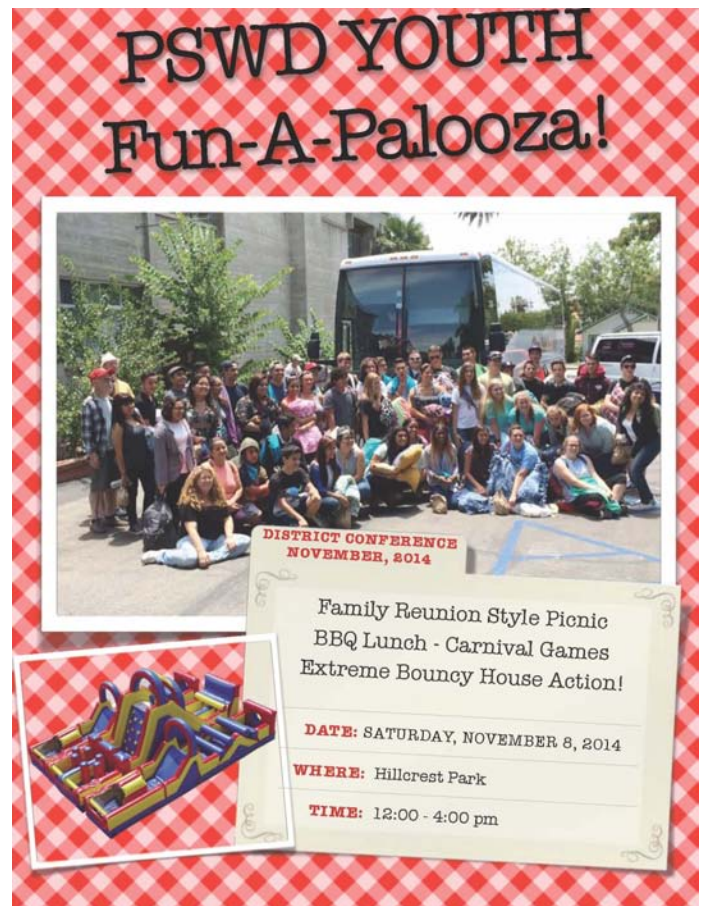
Highlights of our time together will include catching up with friends from National Youth Conference or summer camps, participating in the Youth planned worship service Saturday night and, of course special activities just for the youth!

Youth Housing is available for high school aged youth in grades 9-12. If there are more than 3 youth from a congregation, your church needs to register an adult advisor who will be present at all youth events through the weekend, (including the overnight "sleep over"). For the chaperone registration code,

Call or email Dawna Welch

909-267-5477 or [youth@pswdcob.org](mailto:youth@pswdcob.org)  
[www.pswdcob.org/distconf/reg/youth](http://www.pswdcob.org/distconf/reg/youth)

The middle of the November 7-9 Youth Event is our:



**PSWD YOUTH  
Fun-A-Palooza!**

**DISTRICT CONFERENCE  
NOVEMBER, 2014**

Family Reunion Style Picnic  
BBQ Lunch - Carnival Games  
Extreme Bouncy House Action!

**DATE:** SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2014  
**WHERE:** Hillcrest Park  
**TIME:** 12:00 - 4:00 pm

The poster features a red and white checkered border. At the top, the title "PSWD YOUTH Fun-A-Palooza!" is written in a large, black, stylized font. Below the title is a photograph of a large group of youth posing in front of a blue bus. A small caption below the photo reads "DISTRICT CONFERENCE NOVEMBER, 2014". In the bottom left corner, there is a small image of a colorful bouncy house. The bottom right corner contains a list of activities and event details in a white box with a decorative border.