

Pre-Conference Meetings

Tuesday, July 8

1:00-5:00pm

Annual Conference Officers Meeting
Marriott, Dominion

6:30-9:00pm

Program & Arrangements Committee Meeting
Marriott, Dominion

Wednesday, July 9

8:30am-noon

Program & Arrangements Committee Meeting
Marriott, Dominion

2:00-9:00pm

Standing Committee Meeting
Marriott, Salon E

5:30-6:30pm

Standing Committee Dinner
Marriott, Salons C-D

Thursday, July 10

8:00am-6:00pm

Council of District Executives Meeting
Marriott, Salons 6-7-8

8:00am-9:00pm

Standing Committee Meeting
Marriott, Salon E

Friday, July 11

7:00-8:30am

**General Board Executive Committee and
Leadership Team Breakfast**
Marriott, Dominion
(By Invitation Only)

8:00am-6:00pm

Council of District Executives Meeting
Marriott, Salons 6-7-8

8:00am-9:00pm

Standing Committee Meeting
Marriott, Salon E

8:30am-4:00pm

General Board Executive Committee Meeting
Marriott, Jefferson/Monroe

9:00-10:30am

Annual Conference Coordinators' Meeting
Marriott, Salons 1-2-3

Friday, July 11

12:00-1:30pm **General Board Executive Committee Luncheon**
Marriott, Dominion
(By Invitation Only)

12:45-4:45pm **Ministers' Association Child Care**
Convention Center, E-20

1:00-4:30pm **Ministers' Association Conference**
Convention Center, E-21-A-B

3:00pm **Conference Walk-in Registration Opens**
Convention Center, Registration Lobby

5:00-6:30pm **General Board and Leadership Team Dinner**
Marriott, Dominion Commonwealth
(By Invitation Only)

6:00-9:00pm **General Board Elected Members Meeting**
(Elected members only)
Marriott, Madison

6:45-9:15pm **Ministers' Association Child Care**
Convention Center, E-20

7:00-9:00pm **Ministers' Association Conference**
Convention Center, E-21-A-B

Saturday, July 12

8:00am-noon **Council of District Executives Meeting**
Marriott, Salons 6-7-8

Standing Committee Meeting
Marriott, Salon E

8:00am-2:30pm **Church of the Brethren Credit Union Board Meeting**
Marriott, Madison

8:30am-4:00pm **General Board Meeting**
Marriott, Salons C-D

8:45am-12:15pm **Ministers' Association Child Care**
Convention Center, E-20

Saturday, July 12

9:00am-noon	Ministers' Association Conference Convention Center, Room E-21-A-B
9:30am	Service Blitz Morning and All Day Shifts Location: Convention Center, B-15-C (Meet in the staging area prior to departure from the Marshall Street bus pickup zone)
noon-1:30pm	Nominating Committee Luncheon Marriott, Monroe General Board Luncheon Marriott, Commonwealth (By Invitation Only)
12:30pm	Service Blitz Afternoon Shift Location: Convention Center, B-15-C (Meet in the staging area prior to departure from the Marshall Street bus pickup zone)
1:00-2:30pm	Fellowship of Brethren Genealogists Meeting Marriott, Dominion
2:00-3:00pm	Church of the Brethren Credit Union Members' Meeting Marriott, Salons A-B
3:00pm	Annual Conference Exhibit Hall Opens Convention Center, Halls A-B-C
3:30-5:00pm	New Attendee Orientation Marriott, Salon E
4:15-5:15pm	Choir Rehearsal Coliseum, Stage
5:00-6:30pm	International Welcome Dinner Marriott, Salon 3 (By Invitation Only)

Italicized events in the following schedule are gatherings planned in conjunction with Annual Conference by various agencies and interest groups related to the Church of the Brethren.

2008 Church of the Brethren Annual Conference Program

Saturday Evening

- 5:30-9:30pm **Early Childhood Services**
Convention Center, E-11-A-B-C
- 5:45 pm **The Richmond Coliseum**
Gathering Music
- 6:00 pm Announcements
- 6:15 pm ***The Worship Service**
Worship Leader: David Shumate
Preacher: Jim Beckwith
Sermon: Begin with Surrender
- 8:00pm **National Christian Choir Concert**
The Richmond Coliseum
- 9:00-10:30pm **Junior High Activities**
Convention Center, E-24-A-B
- 9:30-10:30pm **Nurses/Parish Nurses Networking**
Convention Center, B-18

Delegate Packet Preparation
Convention Center, B-15-A-B

Bible Study Electives

1. **"August 29 - Gather the Lumberjacks"**
Scripture: Haggai 1:1-11
Location: Convention Center, Room E-21-B
Leader: Glenn McCrickard
2. **"Yo me rindo a ti"**
Scripture: Lucas 9:22-27; Filipenses 3:7-11; Romanos 6:3-14
Location: Convention Center, Room E-21-C
Leader: Nancy and Irvin Heishman

**Hearing on Review & Evaluation Implementation
Committee Recommendation**
Marriott, Salon F

Hearing on Modern-Day Slavery Resolution
Marriott, Salons 4-5

Saturday Evening

9:30-10:30pm

Hearing on Ethics in Ministry Relations

Marriott, Salon E

Hearing on Urging Forbearance

Marriott, Salons 6-7-8

Senior High Activities

Convention Center, E-25-A-B

9:30-11:00pm

Ice Cream Social

Convention Center, Exhibit Hall

Young Adult Activities

Convention Center, E-23-B

Single Adult Activities

Convention Center, E-23-A

Sunday Morning

7:00am

Brethren Benefit Trust Fitness Challenge

A 5K race for runners and walkers of all ages.
(Register with BBT office or at the BBT booth)

7:00-8:15am

Clergy Women's Breakfast

Marriott, Salons A-B-C-D

Coordinators: Dana Cassell & Beth Sollenberger-Morphew
Title: A Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Ordination
Rights for Women

7:30-8:30am

Spiritual Formation

Marriott, Salon 8

Topic: An opportunity to experience a new prayer practice
to deepen our spiritual journey.
Speaker: Connie Burkholder

8:00-8:30am

Choir Rehearsal

Coliseum, Stage

8:00-8:45am

Wellness Ministry Networking

Convention Center, B-18

8:45-11:45am

Early Childhood Services

Convention Center, E-11-A-B-C

Sunday Morning

- 8:55am **The Richmond Coliseum**
Gathering Music
- 9:20am Announcements
- 9:30am **Joint Worship Service**
Worship Team: Arden Gilmer, Shanthi Edwin,
& Chris Bowman
- 11:00am **Meet the John Kline Riders**
(immediately following worship)
Outside the Richmond Coliseum
- 11:30am-4:45pm **Children's Activities K-2**
Convention Center, E-10-C-D
- Children's Activities 3-5**
Convention Center, E-10-A-B
- 11:50am-12:50pm **Living with Chronic Illness Mutual Help Group**
Convention Center, B-18
- Families Living with a Loved One in Prison Mutual Help Group**
Convention Center, B-19

Sunday Afternoon

- noon-1:30pm *Bridgewater College Alumni Luncheon*
Marriott, Salon E
- Elizabethtown College Alumni Luncheon*
Marriott, Salons 1-2
- Juniata College Luncheon for Alumni and Friends*
Contact the Juniata College Campus Ministry Office
for location and more information.
- Manchester College Alumni Luncheon*
Marriott, Salon F
- McPherson College Alumni Meet and Greet*
Marriott, Salons 4-5
- University of La Verne Alumni Luncheon*
Marriott, Salon 3
- Brethren Revival Fellowship Prayer and Fasting Session**
Convention Center, B-13

Sunday Afternoon

1:00-2:00pm

Living with Families Who Have Lost a Loved One through Suicide Mutual Help Group
Convention Center, B-18

1:15-4:45pm

Early Childhood Services
Convention Center, E-11-A-B-C

1:30 – 2:15pm

An Experience of Brethren Faith Journeys - Part 1

1. Expressing Brethren Faith through the Written Word

Location: Convention Center, Room B-15-A

Enjoy a fascinating traipse through Brethren literature to explore our devotional, ethical, historical, doctrinal, and poetical writings.

Presenters: Kenneth M. Shaffer, Jr., & Wallace B. Landes, Jr.

2. Without Fear and Hesitation (also with Spanish translation)

Location: Richmond Coliseum

See a multimedia presentation with focus on the themes, as well as European and North American sites, that led to the creation of Brethren churches that trace their roots to Schwarzenau, Germany.

Presenter: Nevin Dulabaum

3. An Experience of Contemporary Music with a Brethren Twist

Location: Convention Center, Room B-21-A

Experience a Brethren sampling of contemporary worship elements and share in a discussion of the strengths and challenges of this form of worship.

Presenter: Mike Woods

4. Meet International Brethren – Western Hemisphere

Location: Convention Center, Room B-21-B

Use this opportunity to talk face to face with Brethren from other countries in the Western Hemisphere.

Presenters: Brethren from the Western Hemisphere
Hosts: Ken Hunn & Stan Noffsinger

5. Brethren History 101

Location: Marriott, Salon A-B-C-D

Learn from an overview, via PowerPoint, of the Brethren movement from its origins to the present, with separate attention to the Church of the Brethren and the Brethren Church after the division of 1881-1883.

Presenters: Dale Stoffer and Leslie Frye

Sunday Afternoon

1:30 – 2:15pm

An Experience of Brethren Faith Journeys - Part 1

6. Meet the Brethren: Panel 1

Location: Convention Center, Room B-21-C

Hear a panel of representatives from the various Brethren bodies respond to the question: How does your church embody the heritage of the Schwarzenau movement?

Presenters: Brethren from sister denominations

Moderator: Jeff Bach

7. Hispanic-American Brethren Stories

Location: Convention Center, Room B-15-B-C

Hear firsthand stories of Hispanic Brethren in ministry.

Presenters: Juan Carlos & Maria Miranda and Gilbert & Barbara Romero, Host: Scott Duffey

8. Fearless and Dramatic Beginnings

Location: Convention Center, B-10

Be moved by stories in word and image of the struggle and courage of the early Brethren in Europe.

Presenter: James H. Lehman

9. Intercultural Forum: Panel 1

Location: Convention Center, Room E-21-A-B-C

Be inspired by intercultural members of the Brethren Church and Church of the Brethren as they respond to the question: What makes your Brethren witness distinctive from other Christian groups, and what about this witness appeals to you?

Presenters: Intercultural Brethren, Moderators: Miguel Antunez & Duane Grady

10. Brethren at Prayer

Location: Marriott, Salons 6-7-8

Reflect on the central role of prayer in Brethren life and ministry; join in prayer for the church and the world.

Presenter: Ed Poling

1:30-4:30pm

Junior High Activities

Convention Center, E-24-A-B

Senior High Activities

Convention Center, E-25-A-B

Sunday Afternoon

2:30 – 3:15pm

An Experience of Brethren Faith Journeys - Part 2

1. **A Legacy of Beauty: Fabric and Lettering Arts in the Church of the Brethren**

Location: Convention Center, Room B-15-A

Learn about historic and contemporary examples of fabric and lettering art forms in the Church of the Brethren.

Presenters: Rachel Brown & Rosanna McFadden

2. **Musical Drama: A Simple Feast**

Location: Richmond Coliseum

Be inspired through a musical drama that looks like a musical about the past but really concerns a congregation struggling with the issues that Brethren face today and offers suggestions for the future.

Presenters: Steve Engle & Frank Ramirez

3. **The Singing Brethren**

Location: Convention Center, Room B-21-A

Learn about the practice of Brethren hymn singing from its European origins through the 1900s.

Presenter: Peter Roussakis

4. **Surrender and Abundance: The Transformed Life**

Location: Convention Center, Room B-21-B

Explore the conference biblical text (John 12:24 – 26a) and its meaning for the church.

Presenter: Robert Neff

5. **History of Brethren Women**

Location: Marriott, Salon A-D

Remember the contributions of women in missions and ministry that helped shape where we are today and the historical events that supported or hindered their efforts.

Presenters: Vickie Taylor and Donna Forbes Steiner

6. **Meet the Brethren: Panel 2**

Location: Convention Center, Room B-21-C

A panel of representatives from the various Brethren bodies will focus on the question: From within your faith perspective, what from the original Brethren heritage do you see your denomination carrying into the future?

Presenters: Brethren from sister denominations

Moderator: Brian Moore

Sunday Afternoon

2:30 – 3:15pm

An Experience of Brethren Faith Journeys - Part 2

7. Exploring the Past, Living in the Present, Preparing for the Future

Location: Convention Center, Room B-15-B-C

Hear members of the Youth Heritage Travel Teams, who have spent the year visiting congregations across the country leading worship and educational events, share pieces of the Brethren story and some of their own stories as they reflect on where and how those stories connect and what it means to them to be Brethren.

Presenters: Members of the Church of the Brethren Youth Heritage Travel Teams

8. The Church of the Brethren during the Civil War

Location: Convention Center, B-10

Learn about the impact of the divided national house on the Brethren.

Presenter: Steve Longenecker

9. Intercultural Forum: Panel 2

Location: Convention Center, Room E-21-A-B-C

Intercultural members of the Brethren Church and Church of the Brethren will respond to the question: What does your intercultural experience bring to or have to offer Brethren identity?

Presenters: Intercultural Brethren

Moderators: Miguel Antunez & Duane Grady

10. Celebración Historica

Lugar: Centro de Convenciones, Sala de Exposiciones D (Exhibit Hall D)

Celebración Historica será tiempo para la celebración del aniversario Brethren A través de la adoración, la oración y el estudio en el idioma español.

Ponentes: Daniel D'Oleo y otros hispanos Brethren

3:30 – 4:15pm

An Experience of Brethren Faith Journeys - Part 3

1. True Tales of Brethren You Might Not Know

Location: Convention Center, Room B-15-A

Hear storytellers from the Song & Story Fests share stories of Brethren who have witnessed to their faith in extraordinary ways.

Presenters: Debbie Eisenbise, James H. Lehman & Sue Overman, Storytellers,

Convener: Ken Kline Smeltzer

Sunday Afternoon

3:30 – 4:15pm

An Experience of Brethren Faith Journeys - Part 3

2. Musical Drama: A Simple Feast (Repeat)

Location: Richmond Coliseum

Be inspired through a musical drama that looks like a musical about the past but really concerns a congregation struggling with the issues that Brethren face today and offers suggestions for the future.

Presenters: Steve Engle & Frank Ramirez

3. Raising Our Voices Together: Singing Great Hymns and Songs of Faith

Location: Convention Center, Room B-21-A

Sing great hymns of our faith heritage: a hymn sing featuring favorite congregational music of the Church of the Brethren and the Brethren Church.

Presenters: Tom Schiefer and Joan Fyock Norris

4. Meet International Brethren - Eastern Hemisphere

Location: Convention Center, Room B-21-B

Use this opportunity to talk face to face with Brethren from countries in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Presenters: Brethren from the Eastern Hemisphere,

Hosts: Ken Hunn & Stan Noffsinger

5. Tracing Our History through Three Centuries: From New Taufer to Brethren at the Dawn of the 21st Century

Location: Marriott, Salon A-B-C-D

View, through PowerPoint, places, documents and people that have moved the Brethren along their faith journey from there and then to here and now.

Presenters: Steven C. Harroff and Brad Wiedenhamer

6. Meet the Brethren: Panel 3

Location: Convention Center, Room B-21-C

Be informed by a panel of representatives from the various Brethren bodies as they focus on the question: What distinctive qualities does your denomination bring to the Brethren witness?

Presenters: Brethren from sister denominations

Moderator: Brenda Colijn

7. African-American Brethren Stories

Location: Convention Center, Room B-15-B-C

Hear brief sketches of historical African-American Brethren individuals and congregations as well as a contemporary personal testimony.

Presenters: Jack Lowe & Rickey Bolden

Sunday Afternoon

3:30 – 4:15pm

An Experience of Brethren Faith Journeys - Part 3

8. “True Conservators”: The Division of the German Baptist Brethren 1880 – 1883

Location: Convention Center, B-10

Hear an analysis of the individuals, issues, and historical contexts of the Brethren three-way division in the 1880s.

Presenter: Aaron Jerviss

9. Intercultural Forum: Panel 3

Location: Convention Center, Room E-21-A-B-C

Be inspired by intercultural members of the Brethren Church and Church of the Brethren as they respond to the question: How is your faith heritage shared with younger generations, and what aspect of being Brethren connect best with the various generations in our churches?

Presenters: Intercultural Brethren

Moderators: Miguel Antunez & Duane Grady

10. Celebración Historica

Lugar: Centro de Convenciones, Sala de Exposiciones D (Exhibit Hall D)

Celebración Historica será tiempo para la celebración del aniversario Brethren A través de la adoración, la oración y el estudio en el idioma español.

Ponentes: Daniel D’Oleo y otros hispanos Brethren

4:00pm-8:00pm

Blood Collection

Convention Center, Exhibit Hall

4:30-6:30pm

Reception for Retiring Brethren Benefit Trust President Wil Nolen

Marriott, Salons F-G-H-I-J

4:45-5:45pm

Choir Rehearsal

Coliseum, Stage

5:00-6:00pm

Families of Children with ADD/ADHD Mutual Help Group

Convention Center, B-18

5:00-6:30pm

Association of Brethren Caregivers Recognition Dinner

Marriott, Salons 4-5

Speaker: Laura Pole

Title: Finding Your Healing Gifts

Messenger Dinner

Marriott, Salon E

Speaker: Tom Ehrich

Title: On a Journey: Encountering God in Everyday Life

Sunday Evening

- 6:45-9:15pm **Early Childhood Services**
Convention Center, E-11-A-B-C
- Children's Activities K-2**
Convention Center, E-10-C-D
- Children's Activities 3-5**
Convention Center, E-10-A-B
- 6:45-10:30pm **Junior High Activities**
Convention Center, E-24-A-B
- Senior High Activities**
Convention Center, E-25-A-B
- 7:00-8:30pm **Joint Celebration of Our Missions**
The Richmond Coliseum
Missionaries from various countries will provide different media presentations including various styles of music and dress.
- 8:45pm **Transatlantic Crossing Simulation (Pre-registration required)**
Location: Convention Center, E-20
Become a passenger and face challenges experienced by transatlantic travelers in this light-hearted interpretation of a voyage during the time early Brethren came to America. Sign up to be a passenger at the Anniversary Committee booth in the Exhibit Hall.
Presenters: Members of the Annual Conference Anniversary Committee
- 9:30-10:30pm **Bible Study Electives**
1. "September 21 Lay the Foundation"
Scripture: Haggai 1:12-15a
Location: Convention Center, E-21-B
Leader: Glenn McCrickard
 2. "Jesús, transformame"
Scripture: Romanos 12:1-21; Gálatas 5:13-26
Location: Convention Center, E-21-C
Leader: Nancy and Irvin Heishman
- 9:30-11:00pm **Young Adult Activities**
Convention Center, E-23-B

Sunday Evening

9:30-11:00pm

Ice Cream Social
Convention Center, Exhibit Hall

Single Adult Activities
Convention Center, E-23-A

Monday Morning

7:00-8:00am **Standing Committee Meeting (Tentative)**
Convention Center, B-17

Bible Study Electives

1. **A Parable of Surrender**
Scriptures: Luke 15:11-32
Location: Convention Center, E-21-A
Leader: David R. Miller
2. **Waving The White Flag**
Scriptures: Luke 9:18-27 and Luke 18:9-14
Location: Convention Center, E-21-B
Leader: Tom Zuercher

Theological Study

Location: Convention Center, E-21-C
Title: What does it mean to have a “listening heart”?
Scripture: Matthew 7:21-27; 1 Kings 3:3-15
Leader: Christina Bucher

7:00-8:15am ***Brethren Revival Fellowship Advisory Council Breakfast***
Marriott, Salon 3
(By Invitation Only)

Brethren Press Breakfast
Marriott, Salon E
Speaker: Donald B. Kraybill
Title: Amish Grace: Writing the Story of a Tragedy

Brethren Benefit Trust Congregational Advocate Breakfast
Marriott, Salons 1-2

7:30-8:30am **Spiritual Formation**
Marriott, Salon 8
Topic: An opportunity to experience a new prayer practice to deepen our spiritual journey.
Speaker: Linda Alley

7:45am-noon **Early Childhood Services**
Convention Center, E-11-A-B-C

Monday Morning

8:10am	The Richmond Coliseum Gathering Music
8:25am	Announcements
8:30 am	The Worship Service Worship Leader: Sheri Weaver Preacher: Mary Jo Flory Steury Sermon: "It's All About You"
9:00am-6:00pm	Blood Collection Convention Center, Exhibit Hall
9:30am	Service Blitz Morning and All Day Shifts Location: Convention Center, B-15-C (Meet in the staging area prior to departure from the Marshall Street bus pickup zone)
9:45am-11:45am	Junior High Activities Convention Center, E24-A-B
9:45am-4:00pm	Children's Activities 3-5 Convention Center, E10-A-B
9:45am-4:45pm	Children's Activities K-2 (Session 1 & 2) Convention Center, E10-C-D
9:45am-10:30pm	Senior High Activities Convention Center, E25-A-B
9:55-11:45am	Business Session The Richmond Coliseum
11:50am-12:50pm	Mental and Emotional Illnesses Mutual Help Group Convention Center, B-18
noon	Single Adult Activities Convention Center, E23-A

Monday Afternoon

noon-1:30pm	<i>Brethren Revival Fellowship Luncheon</i> Marriott, Salon F Speaker: Jordan Keller Title: 25 Years of Brethren Mission Work in Maine
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Monday Afternoon

noon-1:30pm

Brethren Life and Thought Luncheon

Marriott, Salon 5

Speaker: Dale R. Stoffer

Title: Cross-Cultural Conversation - Hearing from a
"Kissing Cousin"

Denominational Deacon Luncheon

Marriott, Salons G-H-I-J

Speaker: Ray Donadio

Title: Grief, Hope & Healing

Cross-Cultural Luncheon

Marriott, Salon E

District Board Chairs Luncheon

Marriott, Salons 1-2

(By Invitation Only)

Brethren Volunteer Service Luncheon

Marriott, Salon 4

Speaker: Jim Lehman

Title: Oaks of Righteousness, BVSers in the 21st Century

12:30pm

Service Blitz Afternoon Shift

Location: Convention Center, B-15-C

(Meet in the staging area prior to departure from the Marshall
Street bus pickup zone)

12:30-1:30pm

Insight Sessions

**1. Sabbatical Gleanings: Ministry in the Church Now and
Not Yet**

Location: Convention Center, B-16

Focus: In this anniversary year, there has been much conversation about how the past shapes the future. In light of recent sabbatical experiences, join Bethany faculty members as they reflect on how new models of ministry are connected to and shaped by the past.

Presenter: Bethany Theological Seminary Faculty - Steve Reid, Academic Dean (Lower Miami CoB, Southern OH); Tara Hornbacker, Associate Professor of Ministry Formation (Pleasant Hill CoB, Southern OH); and Dan Ulrich, Associate Professor of New Testament (Richmond CoB, South-Central Indiana)

Agency: Bethany Theological Seminary

Agency Representative: Marcia Shetler

Monday Afternoon

12:30-1:30pm

2. **The Axis of Common Good:
Brethren Partnership in North Korea**
Location: Marriott, Salon 7
Focus: Members of a recent Church of the Brethren delegation to North Korea reflect on three of that nation's foremost challenges: Rehabilitation, Reconciliation, and Reunification.
Presenter: Bev Abma, Young Son Min, Tim McElwee and Howard Royer
Agency: General Board
Agency Representative: Howard Royer

3. **Congregational Renewal through Mission, Part III:
A Workshop (0.1 ceu)**
Location: Convention Center, B-15-B
Focus: Take home a toolbox of resources to help you build holistic sustainable mission connections with your congregation or small group. Explore your gifts for connection, and identify your passions toward fostering long-term reciprocal relations with overseas programs.
Presenter (s): Janis Pyle, Carol Mason
Agency: General Board - Global Mission Partnership, Congregational Life Ministries
Agency Representative: Janis Pyle

5. **Innovations in Communication: Technology for
Theology**
Location: Convention Center, B-11
Focus: In this session we will explore some of the newer forms of communication from podcasting and blogging to Web sites and wikis then discuss how these tools are beginning to play a role in helping Bethany present its theological education and ministry preparation far beyond its own walls to many places . . . perhaps even to you.
Presenter(s): Enten Eller
Agency: Bethany Theological Seminary
Agency Representative: Enten Eller

Monday Afternoon

12:30-1:30pm

6. Slavery, Iraq War, Poverty - More Than Resolutions

Location: Convention Center, B-14

Focus: At annual conference we pass resolutions calling on the church to address specific issues of justice. Join in a dialogue around how we move forward in active witness to the voice of the church and the living of our faith. The Modern Day Slavery resolution of this conference will be used as a model for our conversation.

Presenter(s): Anna Speicher, Phil Jones

Agency: General Board Brethren Witness/Washington

Agency Representative: Phil Jones

7. Being Financially Fit ... at 50 and Beyond

Location: Convention Center, B-12

Focus: Things to consider regarding retirement planning, the value of long-term care insurance, and personal estate-planning matters.

Presenter(s): Randy Yoder, Steve Mason, Jay Wittmeyer

Agency: Brethren Benefit Trust

Agency Representative: Cindy Bravos

8. Learn S'More About OMA

Location: Convention Center, E-21-C

Focus: Exciting things are happening in Outdoors Ministries Association! Come to join with other camp supporters to talk and to learn some new games.

Presenter(s): Rex Miller and Marlin Houff

Agency: General Board - Youth/Young Adult Ministry

Agency Representative: Chris Douglas

9. Mona's Media Waves: Bullying Goes from the Playground to the Computer

Location: Marriott, Salons A-B

Focus: Ramona Pence, principal of a public elementary school, will help parents, educators, and church leaders become aware of the "cyber-bullying" children are increasingly experiencing in various online environments such as MySpace or Friendster. Come learn more about keeping our kids safe on the Internet!

Presenter(s): Ramona Pence

Agency: General Board

Agency Representative: Becky Ullom

Monday Afternoon

12:30-1:30pm

10. Passionate Spirituality (0.1 ceu)

Location: Convention Center, B-17

Focus: "Is the spiritual life of the members characterized by prayer, enthusiasm and boldness?" asks the Natural Church Development process. How do we invoke Romans 12:11-12 and intensify our relationship with Christ expecting His transforming grace?

Presenter(s): Stan Dueck

Agency: General Board/Congregational Life Ministries

Agency Representative: Carol Mason

11. Seeking Peace in Asia: The Historic Peace Churches and the Decade to Overcome Violence

Location: Convention Center, B-13

Focus: A report, video and conversation about the Church of the Brethren's recent involvement in the Historic Peace Church Pan-Asian Conference in Indonesia. Special attention will be given to the work and witness of the Brethren in India.

Presenter(s): Donald Miller, Scott Holland, Stan Noffsinger, and others

Agency: Bethany Theological Seminary & General Board

Agency Representative: Scott Holland

12. Sharing the Good News Within and Beyond our Communities of Faith (0.1 ceu)

Location: Marriott, Salons C-D

Focus: Are you interested in proclaiming and living the work of Jesus with those in your community who have not heard or hesitate? Join the conversation which will examine the "average" congregation, taking you beyond the challenges of your church size and staff constraints as we explore options for reaching and embracing the unchurched of all ages.

Presenter(s): Jan Glass King

Agency: Congregational Life, General Board

Agency Representative: Jan King, Carol Yeazell

Monday Afternoon

12:30-1:30pm

13. What I Wish Every Christian Knew About Islam

(0.1 ceu)

Location: Convention Center, Room E-21-A

Focus: Sunni? Shi'a? Terrorist? Insurgent? We've heard a lot about Islam, particularly since 9/11. But what do Muslims really believe? Join us for a crash-course on Islam, and take away some facts and stories that will equip you to better understand the news and your American Muslim neighbors.

Presenter(s): George F. Pickens, Ph.D.

Agency: On Earth Peace

Agency Representative: Gimbiya Kettering

14. Working for Peace in the Middle East (0.1ceu)

Location: Convention Center, E-21-B

Focus: Hear firsthand reports from conversations with Israeli and Palestinian peacemakers and experiences in Palestine this year.

Presenter(s): Members of January 2008 delegation to the Middle East, led by Bob Gross

Agency: On Earth Peace

Agency Representative: Bob Gross

15. Is Your Church's Youth Ministry Good Enough to Last the Next 300 Years?

Location: Marriott, Salon 6

Focus: Fads come and go. But new approaches to tried-and-true Brethren practices can motivate young people to come and stay at your church--then go into the world, empowered to live for Jesus. Highlighting the practice of volunteer service, this session offers short presentations, testimonies, time for Q&A, and discussion about ideas to start or improve your ministry with young people.

Presenter(s): Russell Haitch, Chris Douglas, Jeanne Davies

Agency: Bethany Theological Seminary & General Board

Agency Representative: Russell Haitch

1:00-2:00pm

Living with Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease

Mutual Help Group

Convention Center, B-18

Living with Addictions Mutual Help Group

Convention Center, B-19

Monday Afternoon

- 1:00-2:00pm **Transatlantic Crossing Simulation (pre-registration required)**
Location: Convention Center, E-20
Become a passenger and face challenges experienced by transatlantic travelers in this light-hearted interpretation of a voyage during the time early Brethren came to America. Sign up to be a passenger at the Anniversary Committee booth in the Exhibit Hall.
Presenters: Members of the Annual Conference Anniversary Committee
- 1:15-4:45pm **Children's Activities 3-5**
Convention Center, E10-A-B
- 1:30-4:30pm **Junior High Activities**
Convention Center, E24-A-B
- 1:45-4:45pm **Early Childhood Services**
Convention Center, E-11-A-B-C
- 1:55-4:45pm **Business Session**
The Richmond Coliseum
- 4:30-5:30pm **Mutual Aid Association Annual Members Meeting**
Marriott, Salons G-H-I-J
- 4:45pm **Transatlantic Crossing Simulation (pre-registration required)**
Location: Convention Center, E-20
Become a passenger and face challenges experienced by transatlantic travelers in this light-hearted interpretation of a voyage during the time early Brethren came to America. Sign up to be a passenger at the Anniversary Committee booth in the Exhibit Hall.
Presenters: Members of the Annual Conference Anniversary Committee
- 4:55-5:45pm **Choir Rehearsal**
Coliseum, Stage
- 5:00-6:00pm **Families Living with Asperger's and Autism Mutual Help Group**
Convention Center, B-18
- Bereavement and Loss Mutual Help Group**
Convention Center, B-19

Monday Afternoon

5:00-6:30pm

General Board Reorganization Dinner

Marriott, Salon 3

(By Invitation Only)

Global Ministries Dinner (0.1 ceu)

Marriott, Salon E

Speaker: Baldemar Velásquez

Title: Immigration and Farm Labor: Toward Faithful Policy

Gather 'Round Reception

Marriott, Salons A-B-C-D

Monday Evening

6:45-7:45pm

1. And Now What Should I Do?

Location: Convention Center, B-16

Focus: Are we headed for a recession? What will happen to the investment markets? How will this affect your personal portfolio? This panel discussion will cover these basic issues. Following brief presentations by the panelists, there will be time for questions and answers.

Presenter(s): John Waggoner, Deb Romary, Gail Habecker

Agency: Brethren Benefit Trust

Agency Representative: Cindy Bravos

2. Another Way of Believing - A Conversation with Dale Brown (0.1ceu)

Location: Marriott, Salon 4

Focus: Dale Brown's book, *Another Way of Believing*, describes a "Brethren theology." In this interview-style session, Dale will highlight essential elements of his work.

Presenter(s): Dale Brown, Interviewer: Greg Laszakovits

Agency: On Earth Peace

Agency Representative: Bob Gross

3. **Connected in Christ: Brethren Disaster Ministries in Angola**
Location: Convention Center, B-11
Focus: For the last six years Brethren Disaster Ministries has been partnering with SHAREcircle and the Evangelical Congregational Church of Angola to help with recovery from nearly 30 years of civil war. Roy will share about progress seen on a recent project monitoring trip. Guerra Freitas, from central Angola, will share how Brethren efforts have helped support a vision for building a university in Angola.
Presenter(s): Roy Winter, Executive Director, Brethren Service Center Guerra Freitas, President, SHAREcircle and Angolan Citizen
Agency: General Board
Agency Representative: Roy Winter

4. **Temperament-Understanding Your Child's God-Given Individual Nature (0.1ceu)**
Location: Marriott, Salon 1
Focus: God has gifted each of us with unique personal characteristics. As parents, grandparents, and others who relate to children, how can we understand children's individual differences and celebrate them as strengths that can help children throughout their lives? This session will help those engaged with children in any capacity to begin to think differently about temperament and to appreciate the uniqueness of each child.
Presenter(s): John D. Kinsel
Agency: Association of Brethren Caregivers--Family Ministry
Agency Representative: Kim Ebersole

5. **Will Our Children Be Stewards?**
Location: Marriott, Salon 2
Focus: Children and youth are under tremendous pressure to buy and spend in our consumer-driven culture. The church remains largely silent in this area of faith formation and education. Come experience and understand these pressures, the responsibilities of church leadership, and the difference money choices can make in the world. Participants will leave with new ideas and resources.
Presenter(s): Carol Bowman, Chris Douglas, Jan King, Kate Spire
Agency: General Board
Agency Representative: Carol Bowman

6. **Peace in Our Land**
Location: Convention Center, B-12
Focus: Participants in the Historic Peace Church Pan-Asian Conference will report on the event with video and stories.
Presenter(s): , Donald Miller, Scott Holland
Agency: General Board, Bethany Theological Seminary
Agency Representative: Stan Noffsinger

7. **Are You an Invited Guest?**
Location: Convention Center, B-10
Focus: In the context of Matthew 25:1-13, this workshop considers the merits of advanced planning for congregations and suggests key elements of such a plan.
Presenter(s): Steve Mason,
Agency: Brethren Benefit Trust
Agency Representative: Cindy Bravos

8. **Kassel House, Katrina, & Karbela: The WWII Brethren Service Explosion and Possibilities for Long-Term Recovery after Katrina and the Iraq War.**
Location: Convention Center, B-13
Focus: This session will build from the heritage of Church of the Brethren involvement in rebuilding Europe after World War II to examine current initiatives and needs related to Iraq and the Gulf Coast. What could a significant vision for rebuilding look like in Iraq and along the Gulf Coast?
Presenter(s): Ken Kreider
Agency: Bethany / BLT (Brethren Life & Thought)
Agency Representative: Karen Garrett

9. **Dialog with a President**
Location: Marriott, Salons 7-8
Focus: An open "meet the president" gathering. Ruthann will make a few opening remarks about the seminary, the church, and theological education, then open to questions and conversation from session participants about curiosities, concerns, or counsel they offer in conversation with the leadership of Bethany Theological Seminary.
Presenter(s): Ruthann Knechel Johansen
Agency: Bethany Theological Seminary
Agency Representative: Lowell Flory

10. **Singing and Proclaiming Peace to a Troubled World**
(0.1ceu)
Location: Convention Center, B-17
Focus: In a time of war, terrorism, and fear, the church needs to plan worship services on the theme of peace. We will sing hymns and songs on peace from *Hymnal: A Worship Book*, *Hymnal Supplement*, and other resources, and talk about worship resources on shalom.
Presenter(s): Barb Sayler and Nancy Faus-Mullen
Agency: On Earth Peace
Agency Representative: Barb Sayler

11. **Portrait of a People: A Summary of the Brethren Member Profile**
Location: Convention Center, B-16-A
Focus: Sociologist Carl D. Bowman reports the findings of the largest ever survey of Church of the Brethren members.
Presenter(s): Carl Desportes Bowman
Agency: General Board / Brethren Press
Agency Representative: Wendy McFadden

12. **Exploring the Ministers' Medical Insurance Crisis: Sharing Stories and Resources**
Location: Convention Center, B-15-B
Focus: A conversation about the "Resolution on Ministers' Medical Insurance Crisis," hearing pastors' stories of the past year, and sharing resources and ideas for the future.
Presenter(s): Mary Jo Flory-Steury, Randall Yoder, Kendal Elmore, Lisa Hazen, Paul Roth & others
Agency: Church of the Brethren General Board Office of Ministry & PCBAC
Agency Representative: Mary Jo Flory-Steury

13. **Still Counting the Cost: Stories of Brethren Following Christ in Courage, Hope, and Love.**
Location: Convention Center, B-14
Focus: A presentation depicting stories of Brethren today who are still counting the cost of following Christ, as our forebears did in 1708. Shown in a varied, multimedia format that is intended to be uplifting, educational, and inspirational. Time will also be spent sharing personal stories in interactive, small groups.
Presenter(s): The Committee on Interchurch Relations.
Agency: General Board
Agency Representative: Jon Kobel

14. Engaging our Communities with Jesus (0.1 ceu)

Location: Convention Center, B-15-C

Focus: How are Brethren congregations impacting their communities? Hear the stories of three congregations and learn ideas to help yours.

Presenter(s): Jeff Glass

Agency: General Board - Congregational Life Team

Agency Representative: Jeff Glass

15. The High Cost of Not Managing Your Health

Location: Marriott, Salon 6

Focus: Join an informative session that details how we each contribute to the sickness of our health-care system when we do not care for ourselves. A diverse panel will share facts and perspectives along with some solutions for your consideration.

Presenter(s): Dr. Verne Greiner, Willey Hisey-Pierson, Mary Lou Garrison

Agency: Association of Brethren Caregivers and Brethren Benefit Trust

Agency Representative: Mary Lou Garrison

16. Deacons Guiding us Toward Peace (0.1 ceu)

Los Diáconos y Las Diaconisas Guiándonos Hacia la Paz

Location: Convention Center, E-21-A

Focus: It's true! Conflict is a normal part of congregational life! How can our deacons help us accept this fact and assist us to have an open, healthy attitude in the midst of conflict? Learn how deacons can take an important role in preventing conflicts from getting out of hand, and promote a spirit of congregational unity. (The session will take place simultaneously in English and Spanish.)

Enfoque: *Es cierto que el conflicto en el ministerio es algo normal! Como, entonces, pueden los diáconos y las diaconisas ayudarnos a entender esta realidad y apoyarnos a tener una actitud sana y abierta en medio del conflicto? Aprende como los diáconos y las diaconisas pueden asumir un rol importante en prevenir que los conflictos lleguen a estar fuera de control, promoviendo un espíritu de unión congregacional. (Esta sesión va estar en los idiomas de inglés y español.)*

Presenter(s): Carrie Cesar and Annie Clark

Agency: On Earth Peace

Agency Representative: Annie Clark

New Church Welcome Reception

Marriott, Salon 5

Monday Evening

7:45-9:15pm

Early Childhood Services
Convention Center, E-11-A-B-C

8:00pm

Ken Medema Concert
The Richmond Coliseum

9:15-10:30pm

Junior High Activities
Convention Center, E-24-A-B

9:30-10:30pm

Bible Study Electives
1. **October 17 Remember When?**
Scripture: Haggai 1:15b 2:9
Location: Convention Center, E-21-B
Leader: Glenn McCrickard
2. **Lléname con tu poder**
Scriptures: Lucas 4:14-30; Hechos 2:1-13;
Romanos 8:1-11
Location: Convention Center, E21-C
Leader: Nancy and Irvin Heishman

Emergent Brethren Conversations
Marriott, Dominion

9:30-11:00pm

Ice Cream Social
Convention Center, Exhibit Hall

Young Adult Activities
Convention Center, E-23-B

Single Adult Activities
Convention Center, E-23-A

Tuesday Morning

7:00-8:00am

Standing Committee Meeting (Tentative)
Convention Center, B-17

Tuesday Morning

7:00-8:00am

Bible Study Electives

1. A Parable of Transformation

Scripture: Luke 16:1-13

Location: Convention Center, E-21-A

Leader: David R. Miller

2. You Can Tell the Root by the Fruit

Scriptures: Romans 11:11-24; 8:1-17-15

Location: Convention Center, E-21-B

Leader: Tom Zuercher

3. What do we do when we find it difficult to love?

Scriptures: Matthew 5:43 48; Ruth 1:14 19

Location: Convention Center, E-21-C

Leader: Christina Bucher

7:00-8:15am

Brethren World Mission Breakfast

Marriott, Salon 4

On Earth Peace Breakfast

Marriott, Salon E

Speaker(s): Jordan Blevins, Anna Lisa Gross, Elizabeth Keller,
Gimbiya Kettering

Title: Beginning Our Fourth Century of Peace Witness

General Board Executive Committee Breakfast

Marriott, Madison

(By Invitation Only)

Chaplains' Breakfast

Marriott, Salon 6

Speaker: Kathy Reid

Title: Who are you going to call?"

Bethany Theological Seminary Board Breakfast

Marriott, Salon 3

(By Invitation Only)

7:30-8:30am

Spiritual Formation

Marriott, Salon 8

Topic: An opportunity to experience a new prayer practice
to deepen our spiritual journey.

Speaker: Paul Roth

7:45am-noon

Early Childhood Services

Convention Center, E-11-A-B-C

Tuesday Morning

- 8:00am-4:45pm **Children's Activities K-2**
Convention Center, E-10-C-D
- Children's Activities 3-5**
Convention Center, E10-A-B
- 8:10am **The Richmond Coliseum**
Gathering Music
- 8:25am Announcements
- 8:30am **The Worship Service (Children Singing)**
Worship Leader: Stafford Frederick
Preacher: Bob Neff
Sermon: The Story of Wind and Fire
- 9:00am-6:00pm **Blood Collection**
Convention Center, Exhibit Hall
- 9:30am-10:30pm **Junior High Activities**
Convention Center, E-24-A-B
- Senior High Activities**
Convention Center, E-25 A-B
- 9:55-11:45am **Business Session**
Coliseum, Stage
- 11:50am-12:50pm **Families of Gays/Lesbians Mutual Help Group**
Convention Center, B-18

Tuesday Afternoon

- noon-12:20 **Consecration Rehearsal Time**
The Richmond Coliseum, stage
Time for Photographs to be Taken
- noon-1:30pm **Ecumenical Luncheon**
Marriott, Salons 4-5
Speaker: Dale R. Stoffer
Title: How the Closed Brethren Became Open
- Outdoor Ministry Association Luncheon*
Marriott, Salons 1-2-3

Tuesday Afternoon

noon-1:30pm

Bethany Theological Seminary Luncheon

Marriott, Salons E-F

Speaker: Ruthann K. Johansen

Title: Once in Awhile

Womaen's Caucus Luncheon

Marriott, Salons A-B-C-D

Speaker: Doris Abdullah

Title: Future Recognition of the Inherent Dignity and Equal Right of all Members of the Human Family

12:30-1:30pm

Insight Sessions

1. Faith and Action

Location: Marriott, Salon I

Focus: Wake up with a cup of Equal Exchange coffee and important conversation. Learn how the Church of the Brethren is involved in the shaping of public policy. Hear and discuss the latest on current issues that impact the communities in which we live and worship.

Presenter(s): Phil Jones, Rianna Barrett

Agency: General Board Brethren Witness/Washington

Agency Representative: Phil Jones

2. Have You “Checked” Us Out Lately?

Location: Marriott, Salon J

Focus: Celebrating its 70th year, the Church of the Brethren Credit Union offers many services, including checking accounts with debit cards, a variety of savings plans, and vehicle and personal loans. CoBCU offers great rates you want and Brethren values you trust.

Presenter(s): Dennis Kingery

Agency: Brethren Benefit Trust

Agency Representative: Cindy Bravos

3. Church Endowments: A Primer

Location: Marriott, Salon 7

Focus: This workshop provides a model for establishing an endowment, including sample documents.

Presenter(s): Steve Mason

Agency: Brethren Benefit Trust

Agency Representative: Cindy Bravos

Tuesday Afternoon

12:30-1:30pm

4. **Evangelism/Inner City (0.1 ceu)**
Location: Marriott, Salon 8
Focus: Inner cities have concentrations of people who live in ways that are out of God's intention for His creation. Inner city residents are in an urgent need to see God's power transforming their lives. God's mercy, love and grace are at work when evangelism is presented to rescue those that many times are forgotten. In this session you will listen to the stories of what happens when the power of the gospel visits the Inner City in Los Angeles, CA, and Harrisburg, PA.
Presenter(s): Gilbert Romero & Marisel Olivencia
Agency: General Board, Congregational Life Team
Agency Representative: Ruben D. Deoleo

5. **Exploring Your Faith Through Games (0.1 ceu)**
Location: Convention Center, B-11
Focus: Think games are just for the youth group? Think again! Join us for interactive games that will spark your imagination and re-ignite your faith in the God of perfect love. (People of all physical abilities are encouraged to participate.)
Presenter(s): Marie Rhoades
Agency: On Earth Peace
Agency Representative: Marie Rhoades

6. **Pursuing the Full Kingdom Potential of Your Congregation (0.1 ceu)**
Location: Convention Center, B-15-B
Focus: Help congregations by engaging in a Spiritual Strategic Journey that helps them live into the future story of the excellent ministry God has for them. This is not a church growth or health approach. It is about discerning, discovering, and developing the unique ministry future for congregations, one at a time.
Presenter(s): George Bullard
Agency: General Board-Congregational Life Ministry
Agency Representative: Carol L. Yeazell

Tuesday Afternoon

12:30-1:30pm

7. **Getting in the Way: Active Christian Peacemaking with CPT (0.1ceu)**

Location: Convention Center, E-21-B

Focus: Following the "Way" of Jesus calls us to "get in the way" of violence. Envision with God a world without war. Hear stories of gutsy active nonviolence, a taste of that world. Put yourself in the shoes of a CPTer practicing the skills of peacemaking.

Presenter(s): Carol Rose and other CPTers

Agency: On Earth Peace

Agency Representative: Annie Clark

8. **LTC with TLC (0.1ceu)**

Location: Marriott, Jefferson

Focus: Long-term care is a stewardship-of-life and financial resource issue facing all of us. The time to consider long term care needs is now. This insight session will explain what long-term care insurance is and what to consider in choosing a plan that fits the needs of you or your loved one. Join us for information and discover this important resource. It is a matter of "Tender Loving Care" for God's gift to us all.

Presenter(s): Renee Krider

Agency: Brethren Benefit Trust & Association of Brethren Caregivers

Agency Representative: Randy Yoder, Kathy Reid

9. **Ministry with Young Adults**

Location: Convention Center, B-12

Focus: A panel of young adults will share about their experiences in congregational life. How can our churches be more welcoming to young adults?

Presenter(s): Chris Douglas and a panel of young adults

Agency: General Board

Agency Representative: Chris Douglas

Tuesday Afternoon

12:30-1:30pm

10. Exploring Steps to Intercultural Ministry (0.1ceu)

Location: Convention Center, B-13

Focus: Continuing the work of Jesus peacefully, simply, and together? Separated no more! With the growing diversity in the U.S., this is one of the key challenges for the church in the 21st century: How do we live out the vision of Revelation 7:9 of one body worshiping God together within our diversity? This session explores steps needed to be able servants as we join hands with brothers and sisters of different cultures to worship and serve God together.

Presenter(s): Darla Kay Bowman Deardoff

Agency: General Board, Congregational Life Team

Agency Representative: Ruben D. Deoleo

11. Prayerful Community Change (0.1ceu)

Location: Convention Center, B-17

Focus: On September 21, 2007, more than 100 congregations, colleges, and other groups associated with the Church of the Brethren participated in the International Day of Prayer for Peace. This session will provide stories and examples about how Christian peace witness has continued in some of those communities since last September.

Presenter(s): Congregational leaders from across the denomination; Matt Guynn, moderator.

Agency: On Earth Peace

Agency Representative: Matt Guynn

12. The Legacy and Character of Deacons (0.1ceu)

Location: Marriott, Salons G-H

Focus: The legacy and character of Brethren deacons is a mixed story. For some folks the deacon story is remembered as a cherished tradition. For others, deacons are enforcers of rigid behavior codes. Thus, in this 300th anniversary year, it is timely to review the legacy and character of deacons as we enter another century of opportunities to serve and to care.

Presenter(s): Jay Gibble

Agency: Association of Brethren Caregivers

Agency Representative: Kathy Reid

13. Is Our Brethren Heritage Worth Preserving?

Location: Convention Center, E-21-C

Focus: A candid look at what's been happening to our Brethren Heritage.

Presenter(s): Phillip S. Stone

Agency: Brethren Revival Fellowship

Agency Representative: Linda Williams

Tuesday Afternoon

12:30-1:30pm

14. A Heritage of Health - Reclaiming Our Well-being (0.1ceu)

Location: Marriott, Dominion

Focus: We come from hardy stock, yet our lifestyles and choices have left many of us with reduced energy, chronic diseases, and sometimes even "sin sick souls"! Explore together how the church can lead the way and support renewed well-being.

Presenter(s): Dr. Tana Durnbaugh

Agency: Association of Brethren Caregivers

Agency Representative: Mary Lou Garrison

1:00pm

Transatlantic Crossing Simulation (pre-registration required)

Location: Convention Center, E-20

Become a passenger and face challenges experienced by transatlantic travelers in this light-hearted interpretation of a voyage during the time early Brethren came to America. Sign up to be a passenger at the Anniversary Committee booth in the Exhibit Hall.

Presenters: Members of the Annual Conference Anniversary Committee

1:00-2:00pm

Living with Prostate Cancer Mutual Help Group

Convention Center, B-18

Care for the Caregivers Mutual Help Group

Convention Center, B-19

1:45-4:45pm

Early Childhood Services

Convention Center, E-11-A-B-C

1:55-4:40pm

Business Session

Coliseum, Stage

2:00-4:00pm

Single Adult Activities

Convention Center, E-23-A

Young Adult Activities

Convention Center, E-23-B

4:45-5:45pm

Choir Rehearsal

The Richmond Coliseum, stage

5:00pm

Association for the Arts (AACB) Quilt Auction

Convention Center, Exhibit Hall

Auction begins 15 minutes after close of business.

5:00-6:00pm

Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse Mutual Help Group

Convention Center, B-18

Tuesday Afternoon

5:00-6:00pm

Prison Ministry Networking

Convention Center, B-19

Brethren Revival Fellowship Dinner

Marriott, Salons E-F

Speaker: James F. Myer

Title: Connecting the Dots of the Mackathites

Committee on Interchurch Relations Dinner

Marriott, Salon 6

(By Invitation Only)

Congregational Life Ministries Dinner (0.1 ceu)

Marriott, Salons 1-2-3-4-5

Speaker: Rev. George Bullard, D. Min

Title: Launching a Spiritual Strategic Journey

Tuesday Evening

6:45-7:45pm

Insight Sessions

1. **A Public Theology: What Are We Teaching about Seeking Cultures of Peace?**

Location: Convention Center, B-10

Focus: For 300 years, the Church of the Brethren has continued to evolve in its understanding of the creative relationship of Christ and culture. What are we currently teaching about a public theology seeking cultures of peace in a violent world?

Presenter(s): Scott Holland, along with Bethany faculty and students

Agency: Bethany Theological Seminary

Agency Representative: Scott Holland

2. **A Proclamation of Peace in the Old Testament (0.1 ceu)**

Location: Convention Center, B-12

Focus: As a peace church, we have often looked to the New Testament to support our peace stance. In the process, however, we have ignored the proclamations of peace that ring out in the Old Testament. Join us as we focus on one such proclamation, Isaiah 65:17-25, and learn how this text and other Old Testament peace texts are relevant to today's society.

Presenter(s): Dave Leiter

Agency: On Earth Peace

Agency Representative: Annie Clark

3. **Prepared to Care - Challenges & Changes in Disaster Ministries**
Location: Marriott, Salons 7-8
Focus: The session will begin with a review of current disaster response activity, including both Children's Disaster Services and home rebuilding. The majority of the session will focus on current trends in disaster response and how Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) is rising to these new challenges. The session will end with time for the audience to give input into future directions of BDM.
Presenter(s): Judy Bezon, Zachary Wolgemuth, Roy Winter
Agency: General Board
Agency Representative: Roy Winter

4. **60 years of Brethren Volunteer Service**
Location: Convention Center, B-13
Focus: Volunteers from the seven decades of BVS will share stories. Alma Long, of the first unit, will share her story of asking AC leadership in 1948 to open the agenda so that BVS could be brought before the conference.
Presenter(s): A panel of BVSers from the 7 decades
Agency: BVS/ General Board
Agency Representative: Dan McFadden

5. **Global Warming and the Environment**
Location: Marriott, Madison
Focus: The reality of global warming affects us all. The science is there. The political will to address the warming of our earth is shifting. Can we as faithful global citizens begin the work necessary to make an impact? Let's talk.
Presenter(s): BW/WO Staff, Jordan Blevins - NCCC, Shenandoah District Eco-Justice group
Agency: Brethren Witness/Washington Office
Agency Representative: Phil Jones

6. **Sudan Initiative Update**
Location: Convention Center, B-17
Focus: What is Happening in the Sudan Initiative? How is the vision unfolding?
Presenter: Bradley C. Bohrer
Agency: General Board, Global Mission Partnerships
Agency Representative: R. Jan Thompson

7. **"I'm spiritual, but not religious:" Finding God in Church!**

Location: Convention Center, B-15-B

Focus: This session will explore what spirituality means for the church today. There is a hunger for spiritual awakening in the North American church today. The culture leads us toward spiritual practices, but often away from religious traditions. Many people, particularly younger generations, want to participate in a church that more visibly places the expectancy of a transforming God at the center. Explore with us how we understand how God's Spirit moves within the daily life of our Church of the Brethren congregations, what it means to courageously follow the movement of God's Spirit, how spirituality is understood by various generations and theologies within our own denomination, and how might we answer these questions through our Anabaptist-Pietist heritage. The Church of the Brethren has something unique to offer the world - where spirituality is grounded in a living faith tradition - where religion is spiritual.

Presenter(s): Elizabeth Keller, Amy Gall Ritchie

Agency: Bethany Theological Seminary

Agency Representative: Elizabeth Keller

8. **Inside Iraq With Christian Peacemaker Teams**

Location: Convention Center, B-16

Focus: Members of Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) will share stories of their experiences in Iraq and discuss the current situation there along with the possibilities for reconciliation and transformation.

Presenter(s): CPT-Iraq members Cliff Kindy and Peggy Gish

Agency: Southern Ohio District

Agency Representative: Rick Polhamus

9. **Living Within Your Means**

Location: Convention Center, B-14

Focus: How to use debt responsibly, as well as steps for dealing with excess debt. The Brethren tradition of simplicity versus the world's message of consumerism and its effects on personal finances and family life will also be discussed.

Presenter(s): Dennis Kingery

Agency: Brethren Benefit Trust

Agency Representative: Cindy Bravos

10. Positive Futures for Youth: Alternatives to the Military

(0.1 ceu)

Location: Convention Center, B-11

Focus: Why are so many young people within our church and in the broader culture attracted to the military? What can people of faith do about it? This session will offer information on how some communities are providing a challenge to military recruitment by educating youth about enlistment. Participants will also explore how communities can provide realistic alternatives for young people in their communities.

Presenter(s): Matt Guynn

Agency: On Earth Peace

Agency Representative: Matt Guynn

11. Retirement - What?

Location: Marriott, Salons G-H

Focus: Even if your retirement is decades away, there are some questions that you should ask now. Learn the answers to those questions, which may help you plan for your future.

Presenter(s): Deb Romary

Agency: Brethren Benefit Trust

Agency Representative: Cindy Bravos

12. The Civil War in Virginia: Brethren, Mennonites, and the Burning of the Valley

Location: Marriott, Salons I-J

Focus: Researchers present new information about Brethren and Mennonites during the Civil War in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. The story includes persecution, conscientious objection, Unionism, and widespread burning of homes and farms.

Presenter(s): Norman R. Wenger, David S. Rodes, Emmert F. Bittinger

Agency: General Board / Brethren Historical Committee

Agency Representative: Ken Shaffer

13. **The ARCs of Church Property and Annual Conference Polity**
Location: Marriott, Monroe
Focus: What is the Annual Conference polity regarding church property and financial resources when a congregation disorganizes or a majority group of the congregation vote to leave the denomination? What does it mean that the district "holds, in trust" the property of a congregation?
Presenter(s): A panel of denominational staff and district executives.
Agency: General Board
Agency Representative: Nancy Knepper and Judy Keyser
14. **Passing on Sacred Legacies: Memory, Identity and Ritual (0.1 ceu)**
Location: Marriott, Salon B
Focus: Legacies have been described as the "footprints we leave behind," -evidence that our lives have meaning and that we have made a difference. Members of ABC's Older Adult Ministry Group will share specific ways participants can identify, reclaim, and communicate the sacred legacies they wish to bequeath to loved ones and to future generations.
Presenter(s): Kim Ebersole, Deanna Brown, Bill Cave, Sonja Griffith, Myrna Wheeler
Agency: Association of Brethren Caregivers--Older Adult Ministry
Agency Representative: Kim Ebersole
15. **The Time Is Surely Here: 50 Years of Women's Ordination**
Location: Marriott, Salon C
Focus: A celebration of the 50th anniversary of Annual Conference's 1958 decision to allow women full and unrestricted access to ordination in the Church of the Brethren.
Presenter(s): Dana Cassell
Agency: General Board, Office of Ministry
Agency Representative: Dana Cassell

Tuesday Evening

7:45-9:15pm

Early Childhood Services
Convention Center, E-11-A-B-C

8:00-9:15pm

Life is Great. Yea! Drama
The Richmond Coliseum

9:30-10:30pm

Bible Study Electives
1. **December 18 A New Horizon**
Scripture: Haggai 2:10-23
Location: Convention Center, E-21-B
Leader: Glenn McCrickard
2. **Los sueños de Dios para el futuro**
Scriptures: Juan 14:8-14; Hechos 2:37-47;
Mateo 28:16-20
Location: Convention Center, E-21-C
Leader: Nancy and Irvin Heishman

P&AC Reorganization Meeting
Convention Center, B-16

9:30-11:00pm

Ice Cream Social
Convention Center, Exhibit Hall

Young Adult Activities
Convention Center, E-23-B

Single Adult Activities
Convention Center, E-23-A

Wednesday Morning

- 7:00-8:10am **Fourth Century Donors Recognition Breakfast**
(By Invitation Only)
Marriott, Salons 1-2-3-4-5
Speaker: Alexander Mack, Sr.
Title: Count Well the Cost
- Annual Conference Coordinator Appreciation Breakfast**
Marriott, Salon D
(By Invitation Only)
- Brethren Academy Sustaining Pastoral Excellence Breakfast**
Marriott, Salons G-H
- 7:00-8:15am **Bible Study Electives**
- 1. A Parable of Empowerment**
Scripture: Luke 16:19-31
Location: Convention Center, E-21 A
Leader: David R. Miller
 - 2. Where Did All the Signs and Wonders Go?**
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, Acts 12:11-17,
1 Peter 4:1-11
Location: Convention Center, E-21 B
Leader: Tom Zuercher
 - 3. How can "holding fast to our integrity"
illuminate a dark world?**
Scriptures: Matthew 5:14 16; Job 42:7 10
Location: Convention Center, E-21-C
Leader: Christina Bucher
- 8:45-11:15am **Early Childhood Services**
Convention Center, E-11-A-B-C
- 9:00am **The Richmond Coliseum**
Gathering Music
- 9:20am Announcements
- 9:30am **Joint Worship Service**
Worship Team: Shawn Flory Replogle, Dr. Leroy Solomon,
Melissa Bennett
- 11:45am-5:00pm **Brethren Benefit Trust Annual Board Lunch and Meeting**
Marriott, Salons C-D