

Intersections

June 2009

All are welcome

Sunday school at 9:15,
fellowship time at 10am
& worship at 10:30



A newsletter for the Richmond
Church of the Brethren

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1 SW 17th Street • www.richmondcob.org • 765.966.1930

June Calendar

all events at the Richmond CoB unless otherwise noted

- 1 Community yoga class, 5:30pm
Conversation and dinner at
the McKimmys', 7pm
- 2 Senior breakfast at the Roops', 8:30am
Loops of Love at the Unwind Yarn
Shop (921 E Main), 5-7pm
- 6 Building in use for wedding
- 7 Pastor Matt preaches
Bring food for Community Food Pantry
- 8 Conversation and dinner at
the McKimmys', 7pm
- 10 Congregational meeting (salty snacks
provided, bring dessert), 6:30pm
- 13 Rummage sale, fellowship hall, 9-3pm
- 14 Pastor Matt preaches
Potluck after worship
Richmond Community Schools
graduation, 2:30pm
Qi gong, 2-4pm
- 15 Community yoga class, 5:30pm
Conversation and dinner at
the McKimmys', 7pm
- 18 Ministry team meeting, 6:30pm
- 21 Pastor Matt preaches
Bike-to-Worship Day
Father's Day, First day of summer
- 22 Conversation and dinner at
the McKimmys', 7pm
- 24-30 Pastor Matt at Annual Conference
- 28 100-mile radius potluck, Glen Miller Park

A Heart to Know Me

Our impulses can lead us astray. I've had that experience driving in an unfamiliar city: I come to an intersection. I must decide which way to go. My inner sense tells me to turn right – whoops, another wrong turn!

The same can happen at other decision points in life, everyday decisions or major decisions. Our impulses may cause us

* to choose food that adds weight rather than nutrition,

* to buy a car that impresses others rather than serves our needs,

* to select friends that offer drama rather than substance.

The prophet Jeremiah announces God's gift to us: I will give them a heart to know me (Jer. 24:7). When we hear the word "heart", we associate that with the source of feelings – love, hate, anger. But for Jeremiah the "heart" is the location of our impulses, our decisions. Thoughts and feelings flow into the heart; decisions and actions flow from the heart.

Jeremiah reminds us that a heart that knows God, a good heart, is not the result of our effort. A heart that leads us in the right paths comes as a gift, a gift from God.

Yes, I'll still have to consult a map, a GPS, or ask directions when driving in an unfamiliar city. But the satisfying life as well as the successful trip depends on a heart that desires the right path, a heart that knows God. Acting out of a "good" heart requires me each day to receive a heart that knows God. Sometimes I don't accept God's gift. Those turn out to be bad days. Eugene F. Roop

Living Well, Living Simply Peaceful Summer Mowing

Last year I mowed my lawn exclusively with my own power. I used a push reel power instead of a noisy gas mower. For about the past eight years I've been using a Brill Luxus push reel mower. Not only have I saved on gas, but the push reel mower has hardly needed any maintenance, and doesn't turn my shoes green.

Once we added a garden, I was able to complete mowing the yard in about 20 minutes. The old design of push reel mower has a blade that pushed against a cutting bar. Brill's Modern design is easier to push and doesn't require blade sharpening for 5 to 8 years, because the blade doesn't actually contact the cutting bar. New push reel mowers are light, easy to adjust and pleasant to use. Consider a reel mower to save gas and money. Your neighbors may thank you for the

peaceful,
quieter
weekends.



Mark Stosberg

UPDATES AND EVENTS

Mediating Conflict

Unsure where tension in the congregation comes from, why there is friction over seemingly little things, or why certain issues never get discussed in the church? Attend "Mediating Conflict in Faith Communities," a full-day workshop on Thursday, June 4, to look for answers. Presenters are Patricia Bertschler, PCC, and John Bertschler, Ph.D., of Northcoast Conflict Solutions of Seven Hills, Ohio.

The training is arranged by Conflict Resolution Center and will be held at Richmond First United Methodist Church. The workshop is underwritten by The Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis, Reid Hospital Community Benefit program, and Wayne County Foundation.

Standard registration fee is \$50; early-bird registration (by May 28) is \$35/person or \$100 for three people from one parish or ministry. Contact Barry Cramer, 765-973-8511 or Barry@ConflictResCenter.org.

Health screening

Prevention is the key to protecting your health – and your life. That's why Reid Hospital & Health Care Services is partnering with Life Line Screening to offer a series of preventative screenings that can detect potential problems in time. These fast, painless, non-invasive tests use Ultrasound to screen for stroke, vascular disease and osteoporosis. The results will help you and your doctor protect your health.

Where: Reid Hospital - Lingle Hall
1100 Reid Parkway

When: Thursday, June 4

Stroke (carotid arteries)	\$45
Abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA)	\$45
Peripheral arterial disease (PAD)	\$45
AFIB test (irregular heartbeat)	\$45
All 4 screenings above)	\$139
Osteoporosis (bone density)	\$35
Pre-registration required, call 1-800-779-6353.	

Dear Richmond Church of the Brethren faith family,

Thank you for the amazing ways that you supported me on April 19th when I was ordained as a minister in the Church of the Brethren! I'm grateful that so many of you witnessed my consecration that afternoon. I especially want to thank Delora, Jenny, and the choir for singing two wonderful anthems. The music added so much to our worship together! I also want to thank those who made cookies for the reception; Eten for recording the service; and Matt, Amy, and Christina for participating in worship. Lastly, I want to thank you for blessing my life in so many ways. Please continue to hold me in your prayers as I seek God's wisdom for ministry, and I will continue holding you in my prayers as well. Blessings for God's deepest joy and peace!

Paula Ulrich

Offerings Received to Date

The offerings received through the 19th Sunday of this year (May 10, 2009) totaled \$28,545, for an average of \$1502 per week. If we continue that average for the remainder of the year, the total will be \$78,104, which would fall short of the annual budget by \$12,783. The commitment of our people and our church's ministries continues to be impressive. With such dedication, we believe that we can achieve our budget for the year.

Anna Lisa Gross

Our congregation bids farewell (for now) to Anna Lisa Gross. Anna Lisa has been our Office Manager for three years, and has spent this past year as a Ministry Formation intern, working on issues of inclusion and hospitality. She brings such joy and creativity to her work for justice and openness for all people. Anna Lisa will spend the summer in Portland, Oregon as a chaplain intern (CPE), and will return to Richmond in the fall. On

Sunday, May 24 at noon we gathered to celebrate her time with us as Office Manager and Ministry Formation intern. Lots of folks brought delicious dishes for the sharing and made heartfelt comments of appreciation and admiration at the gathering. On behalf of many others, Amy Gall Ritchie presented Anna Lisa with a beautiful Mandevilla plant, which the Ritchies will care for until she returns. Thank you, Anna Lisa, for everything!

New Office Manager



We welcome to the church staff, Adrienne Lowe, as our new office manager. Adrienne is currently a student at Earlham School of Religion, and brings to this position a love for community outreach and service as well as a love for all people. She is skilled in office work, management, and organization. Her office hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 10am-12pm. She begins solo on June 1. Welcome Adrienne!

Happy June Birthdays and Anniversaries!

6 William Ralston ('89)	16 Kim & Jonathan Shively
Valerie & Curtis Healton	17 Ashley & Lee Saylor
7 Donna Hollenberg	Ruth & Harold Spitzer
9 Carol & Mark Stockdale	18 Karen Poling
Holly Julnes Dehner	19 Nwadi Ekwealor
12 Margaret & Malcolm Buroker	21 Becky & Matt McKimmy
13 Donna & Al Hollenberg	Tasha & Doug Veal
14 Harry Faucett	23 Anne Marie Roderick
	30 Dreama Dill

CONGREGATIONAL UPDATES

Matt's Musings – Holistic Faith

I've been thinking a lot recently about wholeness. In the midst of this beautiful yet broken world, being truly whole often seems just beyond our reach. Yet it seems to me that there's more than the world's brokenness that contributes to our difficulties.

Holistic thinking is somewhat at odds with our modern, rational, scientific mindset. We love to dissect and reduce things to their smallest constituent components, whether they be molecules and atoms, vitamins and nutrients, or cells and DNA strands. In the process of dividing and drilling down in such a way we sometimes lose sight of the big picture.

Two examples I find useful, one from the field of medicine and the other from food: our reductive thinking manifests itself in how we describe problems we encounter with our bodies. We might say "I have a sore finger" or a stiff back, yet holistic thinking would say that we have pain in our bodies that is manifesting itself in our finger or back. With food, we think that in order to make informed decisions on what to eat we must consult the nutritional information or other labeling (low-fat, all-natural, etc.) which reduces food to its most basic parts, yet for thousands of years humans have based their eating habits on cultural customs and norms. They didn't need scientists to tell them what was and wasn't good to eat.

Sometimes we fall to a similar temptation when it comes to faith. Too often we experience faith only with our head, and not with our hearts, our guts, and our whole selves. We devalue faith experiences that can't be reasoned rationally or scientifically explained, even though many of us have had such experiences.

Holistic faith means engaging all we are in living into God's mission. It means allowing our faith to flow through every fiber of our being and every action we take.

Whether you're washing the dishes, walking the dog, going to work, going shopping, or cooking dinner, consider how it might be an expression of your faith. Together, we can follow the ways and teachings of Jesus, loving God and loving all our many neighbors as ourselves, not only with our minds, but with all we are!

June Worship Series - "Creation, Continued"

Our relationship with our environment and all the other creatures that inhabit it is a favorite subject in our community. We care deeply for the earth as we support minimizing our energy usage, bicycling instead of driving, preserving and protecting nature from pollution and perversion. During the month of June, we will explore what underpins our beliefs and values about creation. Come worship and explore how God continues to be active in creation!

Bike to Worship June 21st

As part of our June worship series on creation and the environment, let's see how many of us can bike to worship on June 21st! The past few weeks we've had quite a few bikes in the rack on Sunday mornings, so we're off to a good start. If you need help finding a safe route or other advice and support, ask one of the many bike riders in the church or check out <http://www.bikerichmond.org>.

Updated Office Hours



Mark A. Hicks, illustrator

We are pleased to announce new office hours for
Pastor Matt and Office Manager Adrienne!

Pastor Matt: 9:30am—12:00pm Tuesday-Thursday
Adrienne: 10:00am—12:00pm Tuesday-Thursday,
additional as needed

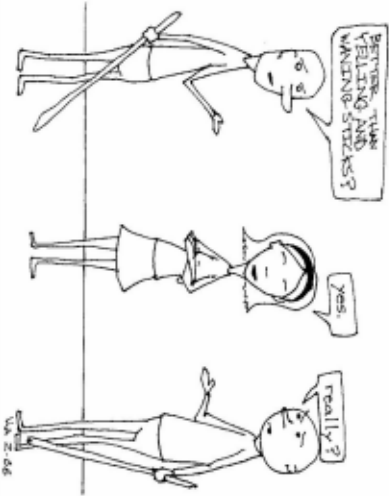
Fellowship of Reconciliation Open House & Fund-raiser
Wednesday, June 3rd, 4-6pm at First Friends Meeting
2010 Chester Boulevard, Richmond Indiana

Come to an open house and fund-raiser for Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) on June 3rd at First Friends Meetinghouse on North 27. There will be exhibits, brochures, and other info available, as well as light snacks. FOR is an interfaith organization that has organized programs and projects concerning domestic and international peace, justice and conflict resolution issues since 1915. More info about FOR can be found online at <http://www.forusa.org>. Please direct questions to Dortha Meredith at 765.966.4283 or dortham@earlham.edu.



Richmond Church of the Brethren
1 SW 17th Street
Richmond, Indiana 47374

**Need a better way
to work it out?**



Conflict Resolution Center

www.conflictresolutioncenter.org
973.8511 • IU East, Springwood Hall



A full bike rack is a lovely sight on Sunday morning!

Contact Kurt Ritchie at 993.9819 to donate bikes to a community bike project.

FREE CAMPING SCHOLARSHIP!

We are offering a scholarship for a fabulous camping experience for a girl or boy in this neighborhood at Camp Alexander Mack in northern Indiana.

Choose from among the twelve different events listed below. The scholarship will cover the total fee for the camp. If you are interested in being considered, pick up an application form at the church office, 1 SW 17th St., or call 966-1930. Fill it out and return it by June 7, 10:00am, when we will have a drawing to choose the winner. Check out the camp at: [http://www.campmack.org!](http://www.campmack.org)

- Beginners (Have completed 1st grade) June 14-16
- Samplers (Have completed 2nd or 3rd grade) July 26-28, August 2-4
- Seekers (Have completed 3rd or 4th grade) July 26-31, August 2-7
- Finders (Have completed 5th or 6th grade) July 26-31, August 2-7
- Followers (Have completed 7th-9th grade) July 26-31
- Sailing Camp (Have completed 6th-9th grade) July 26-31
- Peddle and Paddle (Have completed 6th-9th grade) July 5-11
- Survivor Camp (Have completed 5th-8th grade) August 2-7
- H2O Camp (Have completed 5th-8th grade) August 2-7
- Eco Adventure (Have completed 5th or 6th grade) June 14-19
- Odyssey (Completed 9th-12th grade) June 14-19
- Youth Camp (Have completed 9th-12th grade) July 12-18

***** Free yoga class! *****

We continue to offer a free yoga class, open to all, on the 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month at 5:30pm. We hope you can join us this month on June 1 & 15! The class is taught by Certified Yoga Teacher (CITYOGA, Indianapolis) Stephen Johnson, a former Army Ranger, competitive cyclist, and life-long runner.



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