

REFRIGERATOR NEWS

January 12, 2014



This Week at Lincolnshire

Monday, January 13

9:15 a.m. Women's Bible Study Resumes

Wednesday, January 15

7:15 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, January 16

9 – 11:00 a.m. Calling & Discernment

1:30 p.m. Pastoral Support

Next Sunday, January 19

Potluck Dinner

When we feel love and kindness toward others, it not only makes others feel loved and cared for, but it helps us to also develop inner peace and happiness.

Less is more...

What if we took our lengthy lists of changes we want to make in the new year and narrowed them down – WAY DOWN? Rather than making a half dozen or more commitments that we're unlikely to keep, how about zeroing in on a single word that captures the essence of what we want to achieve or become?

North Carolina pastor Mike Ashcraft encouraged church members to each one find one word that described a characteristic or vision they wanted to achieve in the year ahead. The experiment turned into a movement, with ideas and testimonials available at myoneword.org.

What would your one-word resolution be?

Believe.
HOPE.
Encourage.
PERSEVERE.

Dear Lincolnshire Church:

Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of the Church of the Brethren. It's due to your generosity that ministries grow, programs are sustained, and lives are changed as we work together to continue the work of Jesus.

Thanks to your dedicated support, two new units of Brethren Volunteer Service were trained; over 800 people attended Nat'l Older Adult Conference, and hundreds of volunteers served in dozens of different communities through work camps. You help support the work of our partnerships in Haiti, Nigeria, South Sudan and many other places around the world. You uplift ministries that speak peace with our Brethren voice and take part in extending Jesus' table through so many other dynamic programs and ministries.

I thank you for sharing your prayers, time, skill, gifts and your generous hearts with us. We are honored to be part of your life and faith journey.

In God's shalom and Christ's peace,

Stanley J. Noffsinger

General Secretary of the Church of the Brethren

FOUND...two pair of men's gloves. One pair is black leather and the other pair is rubberized work gloves. Also found a gray sock cap. These items can be picked up at the nametag/hospitality area.

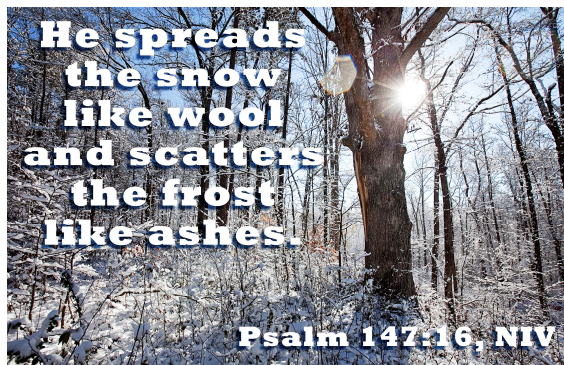
We need...plastic bags and paper grocery bags. The plastic bags are used for bread distribution and the paper bags are for food pantry distribution. Both types go quickly! Please bring them to the church kitchen. And thanks much!

Due to extreme weather conditions, no food bags have been given out. As a result, there is a surplus of bread which continues to increase each week. Please help reduce this burgeoning supply by taking a loaf or a bag home to share with family and friends!

The Lincolnshire Book Club will meet at 7:00 on January 30 at the home of Ruth Strole. The book of the month is "The Orphan Train" by Christina Kline.

It's also time to subscribe or renew your subscription to the **Messenger**, the magazine of the Church of the Brethren. You can do this by stopping by the Hospitality desk and picking up a form. It can also be done at www.brethren.org/messenger or by calling Subscription Services at 800-323-8039, ext. 327. Call the church office if you have any questions.

The Communion service scheduled for January 19th has been cancelled. The next scheduled service is February 16th.



What's an E3?

An E3 is not a tax form. It is not a new Mercedes Benz series. It is not E to the third power.

E3 is a team of creative church consultants with a passion for bringing vitality and revitalization to congregations. The mission of E3 is to walk with congregations by engaging in spiritual conversations to discover and discern God's vision, to bring excitement into ministries through learning modules and spirit-filled exercises, and to realize growth, change, and transformation.

We have called upon the services of E3 to encourage and equip us in an aspect of ministry which is largely missing at Lincolnshire—faith sharing. We are a *welcoming* community, but not an *inviting* one. The single most important aspect of church growth is extending invitations. People who are not invited to church and to the Christian faith do not come. It's hard to welcome people who aren't here! To some Christians, offering invitations and sharing faith in a winsome, non-threatening way comes naturally. For most of us it does not. Sharing our stories is a learned behavior that takes time, practice and encouragement.

The key words of the E3 faith sharing module are, **Embody... Entrust... Evangelize**. The goal is to help us grow in spirit, in courage, and in numbers by building relationships with others and finding words for your faith. Everyone has a bad evangelism story. We know about the methods that don't work, but the combination of Jesus' Good News and great relationships will unleash vibrant life.

Beginning in February, a consultant/coach will lead us through a two-month learning process. It will include church school classes, small groups, worship services, and learning skills. The textbook for the faith sharing module is written by Jeremy Ashworth. Preceding these activities there will be a prayer emphasis as we ask God to prepare our hearts and minds to be open, receptive, and involved in this important opportunity.

Further information will be shared over the next four Sundays. The success of E3 at Lincolnshire will depend upon two things—God's blessing and the involvement of everyone in the church family. The first is a done deal. The second? That's up to you!

~ Pastor David