

Hello my partners in Youth Ministry,

Below is an example of how District Youth activities were communicated “back in the day” before THE internet! Yep, a District Newsletter was sent via snail mail as the primary means of communicating about district youth activities. The means of sharing information about activities has changed but the need to share is still very important!

I would like to share some history with you regarding the upcoming Brethren Disaster Relief Auction and the opportunity for senior hi youth and mature junior hi youth to SHINE THEIR LIGHTS hopefully reflecting its origins with youth and young adults.

Back in 1971 and for a few years after that the YOUTH of the District, under the guidance of a Youth Cabinet of the then Atlantic Northeast District, held several benefit auctions to support various needs. If you do the math, you will see that the current Disaster Relief Auction is celebrating its 49th anniversary which would put its beginnings in 1977. It could be argued that the earlier youth auctions gave birth to the Disaster Relief Auction we know today. I like that thought.

As I was preparing to attend the 2026 National Youth Conference in Estes Park, Colorado, this year and wanting to provide an opportunity by which our youth could allow the “LIGHT WITHIN” to shine, we gave thought to perhaps encouraging youth and their advisors to “SHINE” by serving (volunteering) in some form at this year’s Disaster Relief Auction at the Lebanon Fair Grounds, particularly on Saturday, September 26th. Service through methods like volunteerism and simple expressions of Love and compassion are certainly a way to let your “LIGHT WITHIN” shine for the Glory of GOD and our neighbors’ good.

Throughout history youth have led the way, so let’s provide them the opportunity to SHINE in the form of serving at the 49th Annual Disaster Relief Auction.

This is the time for us all to become the hands and feet of Jesus and show love and compassion toward those who are in need. Please consider involving yourself and your youth in some form of service on September 26 at the Disaster Relief Auction.

Registration information is available in the [“Events” area of the district website](#).
Registration deadline is September 14th!!

Hope to see you there!

-Ed Haldeman

Appalachian YOUTH

ATLANTIC NORTHEAST DISTRICT YOUTH
OF THE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Vol. 1 No. 4

March, 1972

District Youth To Hold Annual Auction April 1

By now, everyone should be well aware of this year's up-coming auction. Each church in the District has been contacted with the information concerning the April 1st activity. We are hoping that all churches are already busily making preparations for the soliciting and collection of salable items.

The April 10th auction of last year netted a total profit of \$2,927.52. Approximately \$2,357.00 went to the Harrisburg First Church of the Brethren Community Project. The money helped with the purchase of supplies needed by the Community Project. The remaining \$590.00 was used by the District Youth for work camps such as the one to Gould Farm, a half-way home for troubled people.

This year's auction will again be held at Root's Country Market and Auction, Manheim, Pa. This year we are hoping for the highest profit of any previously held auction, simply because of the project being supported. The majority of the proceeds (80%) will go to the Appalachian Development Fund for the revival of this depressed area. Since over 270 Church of the Brethren congregations are located in Appalachia (1/3 of the total membership), we are especially hopeful for the commitment of the Atlantic Northeast District in uniting to support this mission in Appalachia.

This Fund will support community business and associations for the development of the economic, occupational and educational aspects of community life in Appalachia. Community groups will be able to organize or advance their own corporations or cooperatives in an effort of rebuilding. The remaining proceeds (20%) will again be used by the district youth.

How can you help? Start now by encouraging your youth group and church to collect items and store them until April 1st. The best articles to collect are: toys, antiques, coins, china, paintings, books, rugs, furniture, musical instruments, games, quilts and other hand-made items. Items to avoid are old living room suites, unsalable goods or just plain junk. Involve and unite your youth group in the making of or collection of items. Encourage the ladies of your church to make homemade baked goods. Foods are a great seller. You can also ask for your congregation's involvement and commitment in supporting the Annual auction. Resources to strive for outside of your church membership includes: factories, stores, restaurants, flower shops, gas stations etc. These organizations will be more than glad to give something if you explain where the proceeds will be going.

Only one person is directly responsible for the outcome of this year's auction. YOU! If every person receiving this newsletter acts now and is able to collect \$5.00 worth of salable goods, we will have over \$6,000.00 raised. Only a few weeks remain before the auction so act now and get those items collected. Advertise the auction within your community and urge your neighbors' attendance. Remember, only you are directly responsible for this year's auction success.

Your cooperation in helping to carry through these plans will be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions or need any assistance, feel free to call the following chairmen: Carl Frysinger, 5505 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, Pa. 17111. (717. 545-8349); Linda Kreider, R.D. 1, Quarryville, Pa. 17566 (717 284-4517). Hope to see you there!

Leadership Workshop

The December 3, 4, and 5 leadership workshop at Camp Swatara, led by Professor Donald Miller of Bethany Theological Seminary, turned out as a success in all aspects. The group worked on collages and, by dividing up into smaller groups, had some very meaningful discussions. On one occasion, a set of articles was given to each group. The individual groups created skits using all of the articles given to them. A full day of work and discussion was followed by group singing Saturday night. The few criticisms voiced were pointed toward the duration of the workshop. Because of the limited time, total involvement and free sharing were just beginning as the weekend came to a close. Of course the recreation was great and there was plenty of good food.

Leadership Remarks

The main accomplishment of the weekend was the fellowship that was shared. We were able to find, through the use of small group discussion, collages, and other learning tools, more about ourselves and what others think of us. This idea alone was helpful in showing us our strong and weak points which, in turn, help in developing leadership. The only fault was the fact that by the time we really became free and involved, the weekend was over. As for the food and recreation, they were really great! The group brought out new and different ideas that can and will be used in future youth activities.

Delmas Keeney

Leadership Remarks

The leadership workshop at Camp Swatara this past December was one of the best retreats I have ever attended. I met and learned to know many new people, including myself. The volleyball was great and the food delicious. I am looking forward to the next such activity.

Paul R. Wagner