



Serving by preserving and sharing our heritage

Recorder

A quarterly publication devoted to preserving the heritage of all Brethren Groups

Spring, 2021

Volume 18, Number 1

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Preserving

Brethren Historical Materials

for Future Generations

A word from the Interim Director:

After a lapse of several years, we are incredibly pleased once again to have the quarterly Recorder back with this second issue.

Like most other institutions, the Brethren Heritage Center has had a difficult time through the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Apart from a few weeks during the past summer, the center has been closed to the public for a year. That said, a small group of volunteers continue to work on Saturdays when we welcome visitors by appointment only. Other days can be arranged if necessary.

Donated items have been coming in, but at a much slower pace than previous years. With the closure of the Bear Creek and Mack Memorial Churches of the Brethren congregations here in Southern Ohio, their records and artifacts have been assimilated into our collections. From Bear Creek, we are excited to add items that once belonged to missionary and author Anna Eby Lichty.

Have you visited our website lately at brethrenhc.org? In addition to the New Bookstore, we have recently added 47 pages to the Used Bookstore, many by Brethren authors, along with some genealogical books. When searching, books beginning with an 'A' and the word 'The', these are listed by the word following in the title.

A very big thank-you to those who have renewed as Friends of the BHC, some of whom have given a much larger donation than the twenty-five dollars. A benefit of becoming a Friend is a 10% discount when purchasing books. For those of you who have not responded, please consider. The center relies totally on your help to continue in its functions.

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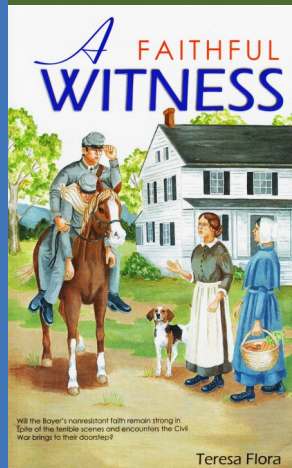
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Latest Book Added to BHC Bookstore

A Faithful Witness

The Civil War was a terrible time for our nation, where approximately 620,000 men lost their lives from battle and disease. The Brethren were tested for the beliefs while suffering the same hardships that others were dealing with, such as lack of basic necessities for every day existence.

In *A Faithful Witness*, Teresa Flora, a member of the Old German Baptist Brethren, has written a very compelling novel about the Bayer family in Maryland during the Civil War. Mrs. Flora has managed to incorporate historical facts that informs the reader about this devastating war, without being a text book.

Neighbors owned slaves, and helped slave catchers; all were forced to furnish supplies to the military and many times the armies just took them. You had to scrape hard to get the basic necessities of life or do without them. The Bayer's faith was tested many times. There was a lot to fear.

This is a book for children and adults. The characters are well drawn and believable. The descriptions of events are hard to read but are accurate.

You may find when you start reading, you will want to read it in one sitting. It is also a great book to read aloud to the whole family. As an added benefit, these books are signed editions.

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Author: Teresa Flora

Published: 2019

Softcover: 251 pages

Price: \$ 12.00 (plus tax in Ohio)

Shipping: \$ 3.00



Be On The Lookout!



Our Brethren heritage could be going out with the trash! All of our Brethren bodies have keepsakes that can help complete the Brethren Heritage Center's collection. Many times family members fail to recognize the significance of these items or do not wish to save them. Before throwing these precious items away, please let the Brethren Heritage Center know about them. We are interested in clothing, church dinnerware, family Bibles, books, early publications, personal correspondence, church records and minutes, primitive church benches, artifacts from outreach programs, missionary memorabilia, drawings and photographs, and the list goes on. Even in these times, we will work with you to get them to us. These are the essential things that make us the Brethren Heritage Center.

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Can You Contribute To Our Future?

Are you aware of anyone who would consider contributing worthy, titled vehicle(s) or other valuable(s)? Vehicles would include ATVs, boats, cars, motorcycles, RVs, snowmobiles, trucks, or construction and farm equipment. If you wish to donate, please call 937-833-5222.

All donations are subject to the BHC's approval.

Food For Thought ...

Love

Joy is love overflowing

Peace is love resting

Longsuffering is love stretching

Gentleness is love correcting

Goodness is love reaching in

Faith is love reaching out

Meekness is love behaving

Temperance is love disciplining and restraining

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The purpose of the Brethren Heritage Center is to collect, preserve and provide access to primary and secondary source materials of the various persons and institutions tracing their heritage to the baptism near Schwarzenau, Germany in 1708:

- ◇ Church of the Brethren
- ◇ Conservative Grace Brethren International
- ◇ Dunkard Brethren Church
- ◇ Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches
- ◇ German Baptist Brethren
- ◇ Old Brethren
- ◇ Old Brethren German Baptist
- ◇ Old German Baptist Church
- ◇ Old German Baptist Brethren Church
- ◇ Old German Baptist Brethren Church — New Conference
- ◇ Old Order German Baptist
- ◇ The Brethren Church.

If you decide to donate to our worthy cause, helping out the Brethren Heritage Center, please do not forget to include the inside insert response form with your contributions.

The Brethren Heritage Center has a rich "heritage" and is a historical archive for printed materials and artifacts connected to a variety of Christian groups that trace their roots to a specific group baptism in Schwarzenau, Germany in 1708.

Upcoming Events

- **We continue to be available to help!**

Even though the Brethren Heritage Center remains closed as requested by the CDC and the Governor of Ohio, we are available to help as needed. You can reach us at:

- * Phone: 937-833-5222 (Leave a voicemail message and we will return your call)
- * Email: mail@brethrenhc.org
- * Blog: www.brethrenhc.org/contact

We will reply as soon as possible. Stay healthy and stay safe!

The Brethren Heritage Center Staff



Get Involved?

Q: How can I assist?

A: BHC welcomes volunteers with an interest in history and genealogy. We have many things a volunteer can do.

Some possibilities are:

- * Answering the phone
- * Greeting visitors
- * And much more!

You can stop by during normal hours and enjoy a volunteer group lunch at noon.

Don't worry if you cannot make it sometimes. After all, this is volunteering—not a job.

To become a volunteer, contact Gale Honeyman at 937-833-5222.



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