



The Journey

The Brownsville Church of God Quarterly Newsletter

July-September 2022

A Message from the Pastor

Pastor Victor Johnson

A Look Back Into the Past; A Glimpse Into The Future

several have followed our Lord into the waters Baptism, and we have received several new members into fellowship. We have seen God change life situations for many people and healed the sick in our midst. Brownsville, we have truly been blessed.

At present, we are continuing the journey of building a "Healthy Multiethnic Church. A Church where People from all ethnic backgrounds are coming to Christ; Growing in Christian Maturity; and serving the Lord together. Our vision is as follows:

The Vision - God's will is that we at Brownsville, build a "Healthy Multiethnic Church: One where people of diverse ethnicities and backgrounds are welcomed, *coming together, walking together, working together, loving each other, and serving God together.*

In our world, there is so much division and issues that people are divided over, however, we believe that if people can come together and talk to one another, learn from each other, and

It seems as though time is going so fast. Half of the year has already passed before us. During that time, we have seen souls come to Christ;

grow together, there can be unity that bring peace through the love of Christ.

Though Satan is a defeated foe; he desires to hinder the work of the Church. We stand firmly on the words of Jesus, "*The Gates of Hell Shall Not Prevail Against His Church*". **(Matthew 16:18)**

John 3:16 KJV, tell us that, *16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.* We have the greatest message on earth to share. We thank God for such an opportunity to serve the Lord and work in His vineyard.

There will be some challenging days head, But the Lord, God who we serve is omnipotent (*that means that He is all powerful to do all things*). As we go forward; join me in prayer. Let us stay faithful, steadfast, and unmovable in the ways of the Lord. Let us live our lives daily to the glorify God. We may not know the future; but we know and trust the God who hold the future in His hands.

We believe that at Brownsville, God will continue to save and bring people together from all ethnic backgrounds. ***We invite you to come and be a part of what God is doing.***

Blessing to You!
Pastor Vic

Brownsville Church of God
6390 Lincoln Way East
Fayetteville, PA 17222
717-352-9535
www.brownvillecog.com



SUNDAY
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.
Nursery provided during worship service.
Worship Service - Online
6:00 p.m. (Facebook)

WEDNESDAY
Bible Study - Online (Facebook) 7:00 PM

THURSDAY
Bible Study - On-site
7:00 PM

Parade of Tables

The Parade of Tables event, organized by the BCOG Deacon's Wives, took place on March 19, 2022. This year's theme was "This Fruit is Always in Season" focusing on the Fruits of the Spirit. Below are a few photos of the tables featured at this year's event. The deacon wives decorated each table to reflect the event theme. To the right, is a snapshot of the day's events.

PARADE OF TABLES AGENDA*	
This Fruit is Always in Season	
9:50 a.m.	Doors open
10:00-10:45 a.m.	Table Viewing
10:40-10:45 a.m.	Welcome - Countdown Sister Dorothy McGraw
	Opening Prayer - Sister Mary Dennis
Introduction of Speakers	Sister Sheri Boyd, Sister Sarah Gaither, and Sister Michelle McNew
Sister Ann Armstrong	<i>Love (1), Patience (4), Gentleness (8)</i>
Break (5 minutes) - Video Song	
Servant of the Lord Ramona Torres	<i>Joy (2), Peace (3), Goodness (6)</i>
Lunch Break - Video Song	
Pastor Linda Davis	<i>Kindness (5), Faith (7), Self-Control (9)</i>
Sister Ann Armstrong	<i>Manifestation (Forgiveness)</i>
Thank You's and Presentations:	Sister Dorothy McGraw, Sister Mary Dennis and Sister Shelly Moore
Closing Prayer	Sister Katherine Johnson

Parade of Tables Program

We had three guest speakers that spoke on the Fruits of the Spirit. Those fruits are: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faith, Gentleness, and Self-control (Galatians 5:22).

We thank all those who took part and to our guest speakers. We look forward to seeing you again next year!



Multiethnic Conversations Small Group Study Cohort #7: From the Perspective of a Cohort Member By Sister Barbara Johns

Multiethnic Conversations Small Group Study Cohort – the title of this class sounds challenging in a good way, right? It sounds interesting also, right? Curiosity got the best of me, and I am so grateful I could be included in Cohort #7! The material is presented concisely and honestly. At times I felt as if I were present in the moment of history and scriptures, learning various aspects of why I am the way I am with regards to my interactions with others of various ethnic backgrounds. The facilitators (Sister Amy Hawkins, Brother Bob Hewitt, and Sister Nicole Hewitt) are very knowledgeable about the material and present it well to everyone.

The time required to complete the material daily can be minimal. However, if you like history and scripture, Jesus will help you delve deeper into your heart and mind in the presence of the Holy Spirit. I learned not only the honest grasp of my feelings but (and most importantly), the feelings of others. Sharing life experiences and what has been learned from them as a group, I found to be touching at times as well as exciting. I hope my newfound friends and lessons learned will be with me for a long, long time.

I would highly recommend this course to anyone wanting to broaden their minds to more and better multiethnic relationships pleasing to God, particularly in His church. 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Ephesians 4:2-3.



Fun Night at the Hewitt's': Members of Multiethnic Conversations Cohort #7

BCOG Youth News



Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF)

From Dan Russell, Director, Franklin/Fulton Counties



What is a Good News Camp Dollar?

As you may know, Good News Camp is not the same as Church Camp. At Church Camp most of the children already go to church - hence the name. At Good News Camp many children do not go to church; these are boys and girls who need to hear the Good News about Jesus.

Something you may not know is that every week we have a missionary who shares about missions and has a project for the week. Last week the project was sponsoring a child the missionary knew, and the boys and girls learned what it was like to live in Honduras.

After hearing about a child getting money to go to school and to have clean water, a little girl wanted to bring an offering. However, when she asked her parents for money, they told her that they don't give money to those things; and that she would have to do something herself.

So, the little girl decided that she would

make a "Good News Camp Dollar" for missions. It was very precious to see her offering in the bucket on Friday, and I had to take a picture of it. While the government frowns on making your own money, God wants us to give what we have.

My heart is touched, too, by your church - the Brownsville Church of God, which gives so that kids can attend our camp. Sometimes the gift is graham crackers for snacks, basketballs for recreation, or paper towels for clean up. I am especially thankful for the way we can use your parking lot as a bus stop.

It is because people give God what they have that Good News Camp is so affordable that anyone living in the county can have access. Visit our website www.franklincef.com for more information.

We want every boy or girl to have a memorable week of camp where they hear about Jesus.

Thank you,
Dan Russell, CEF Director



Kids Corner

Come and join us as our kids experience God's presence through His Word.

Children going into kindergarten through 2nd Grade are invited to come to **Kids Corner** every Sunday during Worship Service. An area is reserved in the back of the sanctuary in front of the sound booth. We will leave the sanctuary during offering. Parents are welcome to sit with their children until they leave.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
July 25-29, 2022



Betty Spoonhour Rideout Portrait Unveiled, Scholarship Had Been Established in Her Memory

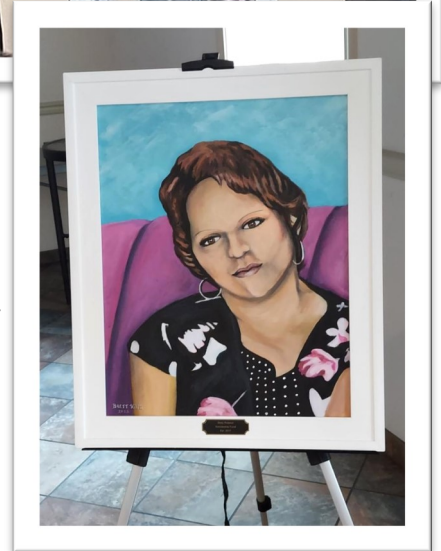
The Brownsville Church of God and Betty Spoonhour Rideout Scholarship Committee unveiled a memorial portrait of Betty Spoonhour Rideout during a ceremony on Sunday, June 11, 2022, in the lobby of the Brownsville Church of God.

Betty was a registered nurse in the Chambersburg, PA area and a member of the Brownsville Church of God who died in September 2007 of breast cancer.

The Brownsville Church of God membership, family and friends have established the Scholarship using seed money from co-workers at the South Mountain Restoration Center, Mont Alto, PA to help graduating seniors who are advancing their education in college or trade school.

Ruth Delauder, President of the Betty Spoonhour Rideout Scholarship Committee, said, "Most portrait unveilings recognize an individual's career and achievements over a lifetime."

We are grateful to the family for giving us this opportunity to establish a scholarship and we appreciate the generosity and spirit of this family.



Scholarships Given at Annual Betty Spoonhour Rideout Scholarship Luncheon



On June 18, 2022, five scholarships were given to local high school graduates continuing their education. Adeline Carrillo, Devin Johnson, Allison List and Rosemerline Rubio all received a \$1,000 scholarship each. Ed and Sheila Kimple, the grandparents of Cameron Kimple, accepted her scholarship since she was unable to attend.

For additional information on the Betty Spoonhour Rideout Scholarship, please contact Ruth Delauder at 717-263-4449 or rdelauder@aol.com.

Final thoughts

Good Friday Service was held on April 15 with brief sermons shared by the pastors and the elders at Brownsville along with several touching videos and songs.

On Easter Sunday, our Pre-Kindergarten through 5th Graders participated in service as they joined the Worship Team as they sang and the youth interpreted using sign language. The youth also participated in a skit showing the joy of transformation that comes with giving your heart to Jesus Christ.

On Saturday, May 7, the church sponsored a bus trip to Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA for the play "David". It was enjoyed by all who attended.

On June 11 we held our Annual Church Picnic and Friends and Family Day with food, fun and fellowship. We also held baptism during the picnic – five candidates who were scheduled and three who decided to be baptized that day.

Our Pre-Kindergarten through High School youth participated in our **Youth Feet on the Street** held twice – June 15 and June 29. It was exciting to see our youth share in spreading the Gospel in nearby neighborhoods. Look for this article from our Youth Education Ministry in our next Quarterly Newsletter coming in October.

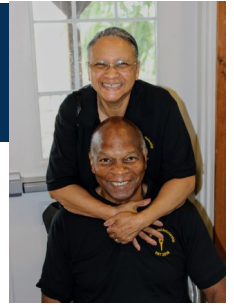
On June 18 we held our annual Betty Spoonhour Rideout Memorial Scholarship Luncheon with five graduating high school seniors receiving a \$1,000 scholarship. (See the article within this newsletter.)

The seventh Multiethnic Conversation Class was held this past quarter of 2022; those cohorts received their certificates of completion on Sunday, June 26. Three Multiethnic Forums were also held this past quarter inviting all those who had completed classes to attend.

The stage will be set and decorated for our Vacation Bible School Kickoff on Sunday, July 24 with VBS songs, introduction of volunteers and our buddies.

Our closing program for Vacation Bible School will be held Sunday, July 31; please plan to attend and invite family and friends.

On August 21, we celebrate our church anniversary; more information is forthcoming.



**Pastor Victor &
Sis. Katherine
Johnson**

Upcoming Events

July 24
VBS Kickoff Program

July 25 - 29
Vacation Bible School

July 31
VBS Closing Program

August 21
Church Anniversary

*Layout/Design by
Priscilla Shirley*

Our Vision: We envision a community of faith where: People are coming to Christ, finding love, acceptance, forgiveness, and experiencing Christian growth.

**Brownsville
Church of God**

*WE EXIST for the purpose of Worshipping God,
Loving all people, making disciples for Christ.*