

The 2021 District Potluck presents:

“Extending Charity”

Hosted by the Neighborhood Church of the Brethren

Tuesday through Friday, March 16th, 17th, 18th & 19th 6:30 to 8:30 PM each evening

Saturday 10:00 AM to noon March 20th

Worship: March 16th @ 6:30 pm & March 20th @ 11 am

Please note: the Zoom sessions will open at 6:20 pm for the evening sessions or 9:50 am for the morning session, please be logged in no later than 6:27 or 9:57. This way we will get everyone in before the sessions start.



Extending Charity

to the least who are members of my family

Matthew 25:40

This year's District Potluck is going to be 100% virtual. We are doing this as a caution. It is our plan to offer a wide menu, an extended menu of sessions to attend. It is our prayer that you will set aside these five days to join your other sisters and brothers of the District of Illinois and Wisconsin in fellowship, discernment, learning and worship. We will open and close the Potluck in worship. You won't want to miss any! We gather on Zoom. Many of the sessions will be interactive. See the list of sessions, their topics and leaders. It is a who's who. You will be enlightened, challenged, encouraged and filled.

Please plan to join us. Look for more information in coming weeks.

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**2021 District of Illinois & Wisconsin Potluck
Workshop Descriptions**

Tuesday – Mar 16th

7:30 PM Central

Bible Study

Led by Christina Singh

The theme for our District Potluck this year is asking us to Extend Charity to Others: Matthew 25:40. Come join Pastor Christina Singh, Pastor of Freeport Church of the Brethren. 2020 has taught us all lessons of humility, and has driven home the idea that we are all reliant on each other. It is far too easy to forget this when we are so busy and always seeking the next task. COVID has isolated most of us, and now we find ourselves craving time to talk with our brothers and sisters. During this Bible study, we will explore the rich teachings of Jesus to love and support others. Come join Christina at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, and add your important voice and meditations to our Bible study together.

Wednesday – Mar 17th

6:30 PM Central

Racism

Led by Jackie Hartly

Last summer, millions of Americans of all races participated in Black Lives Matter protests making them the largest in U.S. history. More recently, we watched as an overwhelmingly white mob, one member bearing a Confederate flag, broke into the U.S. Capitol. How did we get here? And how do we, as individuals, and we, as a body of believers, move beyond good intentions to do the work of racial justice?

7:30 PM Central

Indian Spices and easy recipes

Led by Purvi Satvedi

When I first joined the denomination, I was told that “Brethren love Potlucks”! So do I! I love to cook & enjoy many varieties of Ethnic cuisines. As I continue to learn & cook varieties of types of Ethnic foods, I increasingly cherish my heritage of Indian cooking passed down from many generations.

Today I would like to share about the Indian Spices. Indian Spices have a special connection with the Land of USA! You may wonder: HOW? Well, remember Columbus wanted to find a new route to India and other east countries so that he would be able to bring back rich cargoes of spices. But instead, he found this beautiful land!

Indian Spices are not just spices to make food tasty but also considered as herb, a good source of dietary additives provided by God in our nature.

Today I would like to share about how to use these full of aroma Indian spices, with some easy recipes that everyone can enjoy. There are some special ‘surprise -spice’ sprinkled to this program, that you will find through the session.

2021 District of Illinois & Wisconsin Potluck Workshop Descriptions

Thursday – Mar 18th

IT and the Church

The pandemic has forced most of us to take worship online. For this workshop, we will discuss the theological and technological potholes and potentials this new form of worship presents, as well to look at what the data indicates that church life may look like going forward. Please bring your own questions and stories of success as we learn from both the presenter and each other.

6:30 PM Central

Led by Enten Eller

7:30 PM Central

Leader Limits: Helping Your Pastor Thrive

In the Fall of 2020, during a pandemic, cultural unrest, and a contentious election cycle, over 100 pastors were surveyed about their greatest challenges and deepest joys. Hear results of that survey and gain insight into what it means to be a leader in the church today. The workshop will leave you with suggestions for helping your pastor not only survive, but thrive.

Led by Jonathan Shively

Friday – Mar 19th

Sex Trafficking

In our post-modern world, there is misconception that human trafficking no longer exists. This understanding is wrong. In fact, the business of human trafficking is growing rapidly. Hundreds of people are trafficked globally, where they are tortured, abused, beaten, threatened, and sexually exploited for commercial purposes. Come explore my research into this unspeakable topic. (see detailed synopsis attached)

6:30 PM Central

Led by Vivek Solanky

7:30 PM Central

Train to Age

Joni Grant is a retired IT executive who started a second career as a personal trainer when she turned 62. She is currently 65 and wants to share with you what she discovered about aging. Do you think getting older means getting weak and, losing your balance? Do you know there is something you can do that may help protect you from dementia? Do you want to be able to live independently for as long as possible? Are you willing to work for a future that sees you fit and active into your 80's and 90's? Do you think that since you are only 40 or 50 it is too soon to talk about aging? You are wrong. We will discuss all this and more in this presentation

Led by Joni Grant

Saturday – Mar 20th

Worship as Art: How Community Energizes Practice

This workshop will explore worship as a form of communal art. From the process of its creation to the content of its gathering to its live enactment, worship is at its best when it glorifies God as a heartfelt expression of the gifts of God's people. We'll look at a process for designing worship services infused with creativity, and share tips for pulling off the plan together while still allowing room for the Holy Spirit!

10:00 AM Central

Led by Jonathan Shively