



**Bridgewater College**

**Winter 2023**

## The Light that Leads

Life on earth has several twists, turns, ups, and downs. Oftentimes, life seems dark, deceitful, and full of sin. Through the darkness, we have hope through our faith, firm foundation, and uplifting community of believers that enables us to support one another to fight through these struggles, a Light that Leads. “You, LORD, keep my light burning; my God turns my darkness to light.” (Psalm 18:28). Jesus led a tiny group of fishermen, many at their lowest points of life, and led them with mighty courage and strength to do much more. I believe this is an instrumental example of how critical it is to live your life by Jesus’s side and through His teachings. Christ’s spirit is fluid in our surroundings. All you have to do is ask for His help, and He will always deliver, even in the darkest of days. It is hard to fathom how accessible Christ’s help is and how easy it is to have a personal relationship with Him. You may not realize this, but Christ dwells in your heart. He knows every hair on your head and every thought you have ever had, and He is there to uplift you every step of the way. It’s not that you are close with Jesus, but rather you are one with Jesus. This allows the relationship to become stronger and more intimate than we may ever know. So, in those times of uncertainty and doubtfulness, remind yourself that Jesus is right there with you and you should never ever be afraid to ask for His help. He will always deliver whether that be through opportunities to witness, personal relationships, or just giving a smile to someone as you walk by them on the sidewalk. Christian contemporary group DC Talk said it perfectly, “I hear you whispering my name, you said, ‘My love for you will never change.’” No matter where you have been or where you are, the Lord will guide you to get to where you are going. He is the foundation; we only need to trust in his plan and follow the Light that Leads. “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it” (John 1:5). ~ Jacob Jones



# Roundtable 2023

Roundtable 2023 will soon be here. We hope to see you **February 24-26** at **Bridgewater College** for an awesome weekend of gathering with other Brethren youth from all over the east coast. Unlike the last 2 years that were highly altered by the pandemic, this year's Roundtable will be completely on the campus of Bridgewater College. Our speaker, **Michaela Alphonse**, will share on the theme of "Unashamed." Michaela is a pastor in sunny Miami, Florida, and will bring plenty of warmth and light to her messages.

Roundtable is a regional youth conference and will be a weekend full of fun and fellowship, including worship, music, workshops, small groups, a variety show, morning watch, vespers, recreation, and more!

We hope you and your friends and advisors will be there, and we also want you to be involved. We'll have the traditional variety show where you can share, but we would also like you to create and submit a short, unique video, which could be shown in worship or in the variety show. Just let us know you're sending a video.

We can't wait to see you all and worship our God together! So get registered, get packing, and start preparing for a great weekend with old and new friends.

ROMANS 1:16

# UNASHAMED



## Roundtable Offering: World Vision's Clean Water Project



The Church of the Brethren has always been willing to help those in need. Our offerings go to organizations, places, or people in need of

help. This year, our offering at Roundtable will be for World Vision's Clean Water Project. They want to follow Jesus' example of showing unconditional love to all. This organization works hard to ensure that people (specifically children) around the world are getting clean water, sanitation, and hygiene. Helping World Vision show the love of God goes to all. Let's help give the world a better place to live.





## Retreats

IYC loves to lead retreats in your Districts or area. Our retreat theme this year is “What Next, What Now?” We have 3 sessions focusing on where we developed our faith, what is currently engaging us in our faith, and finally, what we will do to further our faith in the future! We will learn more about ourselves in relation to our faith and how we can spread it onto others.

Retreats are one of IYC’s highlights each year. We love working with youth on a deeper level and having the ability to form connections with you all! You will find many activities at retreats. We play games, make friends, and have a ton of fun! See if your District is hosting us this winter or spring; if not, contact IYC to set one up. If you have any questions or need more information, please reach out to our retreat coordinator Mandie Hamilton at [mhamilton2@eagles.bridgewater.edu](mailto:mhamilton2@eagles.bridgewater.edu). Be sure to visit our social media pages on Instagram and Facebook for amazing IYC adventures and additional retreat information!



## FaithX Workcamps



Hey Roundtable people! Have you ever had the desire to go make a difference in this world, but haven't had a clear opportunity? Well, here it is! For years, the Church of the Brethren has organized mission trips through an organization now known as FaithX (Faith Outreach Expeditions). This program enables people who are willing to serve around the world and spread God's love through action and community. As a youth, I was blessed to be able to serve in South Dakota, Georgia, Florida, and Arkansas. Each placement has such a unique vibe and will provide you with new skills while building relationships with amazing people. Your responsibilities will range from working outside to provide for others, cooking for poverty-stricken communities, and rebuilding family centers. These week-long adventures will bring you closer to Christ in ways that can't even be put into words. We are the hands and feet of God and it's such a beautiful thing to see our efforts build His kingdom here on Earth. If you have any questions or want to learn more, come find me at Roundtable! Hope to see you soon! ~ *Ben Riddle*

Find out all the info you need and registration for FaithX workcamps @ [brethren.org/faithx/](http://brethren.org/faithx/)

Want to hear more about Roundtable, retreats, IYC, and a lot more? Check us out on Facebook and Instagram! We also have a website for Roundtable info and updates, and an email address.

**Instagram:** @interdistrictyouthcabinet

**Facebook:** Interdistrict Youth Cabinet

**Website:** <http://iycroundtable.wixsite.com/iycbc>

**Email** us at [iycroundtable@gmail.com](mailto:iycroundtable@gmail.com)



*Continuing the Work of Jesus  
Peacefully, Simply, Together.*

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## Messiah Mishmash

Unscramble the mishmash of letters below into words related to Roundtable and IYC, most of which can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

OAMNRS	_____	HPOOSRSWK	_____
ACITYNIRITSH	_____	GTAREIWEBDR	_____
ENTRHREB	_____	SSEUJ RISTHC	_____
SVTEE SREIP	_____	ICRTRIEINSDTT	_____
ADAMHEUSN	_____	THOUY	_____
RWIPSHO	_____	ITBECNA	_____
AYKLA SNELPAHO	_____	SMALL RUPSOG	_____
ESPVSER	_____	EBLIB	_____