

Today let's talk about the call to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Think about the parable of the Good Samaritan. In the Samaritan's response to a stranger in need, we find the true nature of what loving our neighbor is. This man is broken and bruised and is left and ignored by his own people. The Samaritan goes out of his way to help a man that is supposed to be his enemy. He saved an enemy.



You see, "neighbor" goes way beyond our simple local community; it includes every person we encounter in our life, including those we don't agree with and who are different than us. Just as the Samaritan went beyond societal and religious boundaries to extend love, so are we called to embrace all of those who are around us.

As Christ's ambassadors on Earth, we have been entrusted with the responsibility of being the living body of Christ and as Christ would, as the Samaritan would, we must be actively mending brokenness, uplifting the fallen, and embodying God's great power of love.

For in loving our neighbors, we draw closer to our God, realizing that the lengths of God's love is woven through every soul we encounter.

~~ Maya Michael-Lee



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, as well as an email address.

Instagram: @interdistrictyouthcabinet Facebook: Interdistrict Youth Cabinet Website: http://iycroundtable.wixsite.com/iycbc Email us at iycroundtable@gmail.com





Continuing the Work of Tesus Peacefully, Simply, Together,

Roundtable 2024

Get ready for Roundtable 2024 at Bridgewater College during the weekend of February 23-25! Our theme for this year's Roundtable is "Who is My Neighbor?" based on Luke 10:25-29, and IYC is pleased to announce that Chelsea Skillen and Tyler Goss will be our speakers for this great event! Chelsea is the director of Brethren Volunteer Service, and Tyler is the Director for Student Engagement and Leadership Development at Eastern Mennonite University. Chelsea and Tyler are a sister and brother duo who are both graduates of Bridgewater College and have played a huge role in many Church of the Brethren youth events including, but not limited to, National Youth Conference, Junior High Conference, and of course being a part of Roundtable. Tyler was even on the Interdistrict Youth Cabinet when he was at Bridgewater College! Roundtable is a Regional Youth Conference and a weekend filled with fun, fellowship, worship, games, workshops, vespers, Bible studies, small groups, a variety show, amazing speakers, and an all-around good time! We hope you will make plans to join us for Roundtable 2024 February 23-25! Stay tuned for registration info in the near future!

Roundtable Offering Project

The offering for Roundtable 2024 will be for the Global Food Initiative. This organization is the primary way that the Church of the Brethren assists the hungry both locally and globally. Since 1983 they have raised over \$8,000,000 for community projects in numerous countries. One of the most recent projects the Global Food Initiative has undergone is in Llano Grande, Ecuador, where they

installed a sprinkler system and built a cistern. "Kindness shown to the poor is an act of worship." -Proverbs 14:31.



Retreats

Have you never ever been to Roundtable? Have you been to Roundtable, but long for the fun, worship, and connection other times of the year? Do you enjoy meeting new people in your district or seeing friends that you only see at Roundtable? Do you miss your favorite IYC member? Do I have news for you! Interdistrict Youth Cabinet is planning some incredible retreats. If you or your youth group are interested in gathering with other youths in your district, contact an IYC member, and we will work together to bring a retreat to your area.

IYC has been working hard to create games, workshops, and activities to fill up as little as a day and as long as a weekend, all centered around bringing youth together in faith, fun, and fellowship. We have everything planned, all that's required from you would be a place for us to run the retreat! This can be your church, a favorite summer camp, whatever best suits the convenience of the youth of the area. The other necessity would be for you to bring your church youth group, their friends, and invite other youth groups in the district – anyone interested in a fun retreat.

Contact your favorite IYC member or email us at <u>ivcroundtable@gmail.com</u> to learn more or to get a retreat set up. Hope to hear from you soon!

Meet MC



Ewan Benjamin is a junior at Bridgewater College. He is majoring in History and Political Science. Ewan is from Franklin County, Virginia, and attends Antioch Church of the Brethren. He loves hiking and creek stomping

outside. His second favorite flavor of ice cream is brownie batter.

Piper Brown is a junior at Bridgewater College majoring in Elementary Education. She is from Harrisonburg, Virginia. Her home church is Montezuma Church of the Brethren. Piper's favorite outdoor activity is playing with her dog. A fun fact about Piper is that she decided to stay in Virginia while her family moved to Florida.





Tate Martin is a sophomore at Bridgewater College. He is from Mt. Crawford, Virginia. Tate's home church is Mill Creek Church of the Brethren.

He is majoring in Computer Science and Data Analysis. Tate's favorite outdoor activity is kickball. He works part time at Target.

Maya Michael-Lee is a sophomore at Blue Ridge Community College. She is majoring in Environmental Engineering. Maya is from Mount Solon, Virginia, and goes to Emmanuel Church of the Brethren. Her favorite thing to do outside is kayaking. Maya's fun fact is that she is one of six children in her family.

Josh Payne is a sophomore at Bridgewater College. He is majoring in History. Josh's home church is Summit Church of the Brethren. He is from Dayton, Virginia. His favorite thing to do outside is mowing. Josh loves learning about his family history and genealogy.

Steve Spire graduated from Bridgewater College in 1992 with Math and Philosophy & Religion majors. He is from Tennessee and preaches at Sangerville Church of the Brethren. Steve's favorite thing to do outside is play Molkky. He also loves skunks.

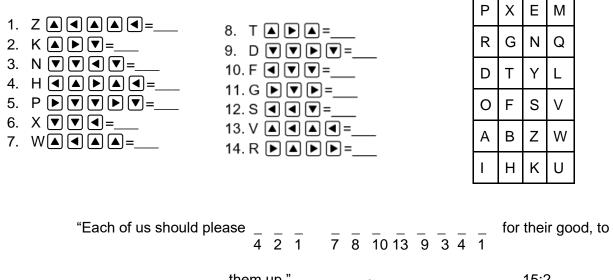




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