

The Transformation Training Team would like to announce that the Leadership Team of the Western Plains District, by recommendation of a group of people that have been planning the Gathering, has voted to bring the Gathering to its conclusion.

There are several reasons for this decision including declining attendance, increased cost of the hosting facility, and the current medical emergency.

We will plan an event to celebrate the Gathering sometime in the future. We will also be in discussion about another type of event to bring us together as Christians.

Coming together as a fellowship of Christians is what maintains a feeling of family.

The Gathering was designed to be a yearly event for five years, but 2019 was event number fifteen. I would like to give a great big "Thank-You" to the original group that put this event together. It takes a great deal of planning and a tremendous amount of effort from several people to plan this event.

Does anyone, besides me, remember the dynamic duo of Dale Minnich and Chris Stover-Brown, in their costumes, bringing attention to this event at District Conference? What a hoot!

For the past fifteen years, the Gathering introduced our district to that years Church of the Brethren Moderator as well as many different Pastors from our Denomination, inviting them to speak to the Western Plains District during worship services.

There have been instructional workshops as well as a fall retreat for both our youth and young adult age groups.

Meals and housing were also furnished by the events' host facility, the Webster Conference Center in Salina, KS. Weather permitting, there was a campfire one evening, along with ice cream and dessert, along with plenty of fellowship the other evening.

It has been my privilege to be the Chair of an extraordinary group of individuals that came together to plan and present this event to the Western Plains District the last few years. We look forward to working together and planning for the future of the Western Plains District.

The event will be missed by many, but the future is always just a heartbeat away.

With faith in Jesus Christ and the future of His fellowship,

Darrell Barr
Chair Transformation Training Team
Chair Gathering Planning Team