

From: Bethlehem Farm <caretakers@bethlehemfarm.net>

Subject: September Hang Out Weekend, Hello and GoodBye, and Other News from the Farm

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SAVE THE DATE:

December 10, 2011

Bethlehem Farm's Annual Winter Benefit
Chicago, IL

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SEPTEMBER RETREAT
WEEKEND!

**Come Away to
Rest and Play**

September 2011

Friday, Sept. 23rd @ 7pm -
Sunday, Sept. 25th @ 1pm

Sleep in, play a game, go on a hike,
loungue on a hammock, sing around
the campfire, and eat delicious food!

Participants must be at least 18
years old.

[Reserve your bed now!](#)

1. Fill out the [registration form](#) and
email it to
retreats@bethlehemfarm.net, or mail
it to the address on the form.



HOW YOUR DONATION HELPS: MEET NICK AND ELIZABETH
BY MOIRA

We had the pleasure of working alongside Nick and Elizabeth Richmond of Keaney Mountain this summer to put up the walls of their new home. Nick is applying for full custody of his two year-old daughter, Winter, and needs his own residence so Winter will have a place to call



Richmond's Before

her own. Nick and his father, Randy, had built a two bedroom apartment above their workshop, but needed some helping hands after Randy had a heart attack and Nick injured his back and hip working construction. Enter Bethlehem Farm volunteers. In three group weeks, we had taken the apartment from a frame to finished walls! "It means the world to us, being able to get some help. It was

2. We are asking a \$40 suggested donation to cover room and board. Donate online by clicking on the [JustGive icon](#) or send it to:

Bethlehem Farm
P.O. Box 274
Pence Springs, WV 24962

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Richmond's After

pretty cool, having kids that had never done this before-they learned [carpentry]", Nick said. It was our pleasure to work with Nick and Elizabeth and Nick's parents Randy and Connie on this new home!



IT'S BEEN REAL, B-FRESH

Bye, bye Mr. Tennessee Guy, drove his Explorer off the Farm when the season was dry... We were sad to see Brent Fernandez leave us this summer after giving the Farm almost two years of his life. Brent was instrumental in the creation and maintenance of the Loaves and Fishes' gardens while serving as the Director of the Loaves and Fishes Thrift Store. Brent will be remembered for his music, his corny jokes, and his truly entertaining breakfast announcements, complete with microphones and magic tricks (with string attached, of course). As for what's next? Brent has moved back to his hometown of Nashville, TN where he will be teaching high school theology at his alma mater, Father Ryan High School. We think they are lucky to have him. We know we were.

AND WELCOME TO TWO NEW CARETAKERS: M&M

Moira Reilly, originally of Maine, joined us in May after 4 years of working with West Virginia University college students through St. John's University Parish in Morgantown. She first became familiar with the Farm after a young adult retreat in February 2009, and has since been a summer servant in 2009 and 2010, as well as brought students from WVU on group weeks to the Farm.

Moira has been hard at work learning and leading home repair, caring for the animals, reaching out to the community, and planning retreats and other spiritual events.



Moira and Mariana

At the end of the summer, Mariana Lo, originally from California, moved in, after a year-long service term with CapCorps in Chicago where she worked as an educational assistant at an all girls Catholic high school. She will put her skills to use at the Farm as the office manager, home repair site leader, newsletter editor, and sustainability coordinator. We are very excited to have Moira and

Mariana join us in our community!



MAKE YOUR INTERNET SEARCH AND SHOPPING COUNT

Do you ever search the internet? Well, now you can help earn Bethlehem Farm a penny every time you search! By going to www.GoodSearch.com, and choosing Bethlehem Farm as your charity, you can be fundraising for the Farm daily! If you'd like a shortcut, you can simply [download the toolbar](#), so you can just search directly from your internet browser. If you shop online, you can also have part of the proceeds of your purchase go towards Bethlehem Farm as well. To check out eligible vendors, click [here](#). Whenever you are using GoodSearch or GoodShop, just remember to choose Bethlehem Farm as your organization of choice. And feel free to let your friends and us know who you are searching for by tagging us in a post on Facebook or Twitter.



SUMMER SERVANTS AND ALL THAT THEY DO

This space is too small to thank all of our summer servants for all that they have done. So, I'll just give you some highlights. We had 21 summer servants spend up to 11 weeks of their summer at the Farm. Along with their many hours spent in the garden and doing dishes, they also led and co-led work sites during group weeks, built a new gate for the chicken yard, assisted in coating the barn roof, planned prayers, updated the database and contact sheets, helped preserve the harvest, and took many trips to cool down in the river. Many thanks to our 2011 summer servants: Veronica Bustoz, Brittney Sidoti, Francis Mahlie, Anna Robertson, Tim Pisacich, Katie Wiggins, Brent Brown, Maggie Henderson, Mary Renda, Teresa Kuppinger, Carley Knapp, Jessi Beck, Lauren LaCoy, Elizabeth Reid, Chelsea Tanous, Jenna Cucco, Michael Deines, Paul Gawlas, Richard Storey, James Haskell, and Colleen Doyle. If you are interested in sharing your time with us next summer, applications are always due **February 15**. [Applications](#) will be posted later this fall.



Colleen, Chelsea and James with some fruits of their labor



If you have questions about this newsletter, or would like to submit an article for a future publication, please feel free to contact Laura or Mariana: caretakers@bethlehemfarm.net.

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