

This Year's Family Theme Night



"THE OLD WEST"

Saturday, March 28th at 5 PM
(held in the multi-purpose room)

This is always an extremely *fun* night
you won't want to miss!

Please join us for
Crafts – Games – Food – Fun!

Jan Kline, Special Events Coordinator

LOOKING AHEAD IN 2010!

April 1 – LOVE FEAST

April 3 – EASTER EGG FAIR

April 4 – EASTER

April 25 – 27 – Spiritual Life Services

May 8 – MOTHER/DAUGHTER BANQUET

June 5 – STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

June 21 - 25 – TEEN WEEK

June 26 – MEN'S QUOIT PITCH

June 29 – July 4 – CREATION

July 3 - 7 – ANNUAL CONFERENCE

July 11 – Guess Who's Coming to a Picnic ?

July 17 – HYMN SING

July 17 - 22 – National Youth Conference

July 24 – 31 – Arizona Mission Trip

August 8 – ALL CHURCH PICNIC

August 9 - 13 – MUSICAL DAY CAMP

August 14 – CHILDREN'S MUSICAL



Lasting Hope



In the past couple of months, as an outreach for the Senior High Youth, we have made several trips to the House of Hope, outside of Danville. The House of Hope is a house for teenage girls that have attempted to do bodily harm to themselves. These girls have done anything from cutting to being sexually abused. The House of Hope is a place where they stay and get physical, mental and emotional support.

On our first visit, the youth group took food that we got from La Primavera. The look on the girls' faces looked like "Why are these people here? They brought food?!" You could tell that they were not sure of what we were doing there. Once we ate, we had a time of worship and fellowship. By the end of the night, the girls did not want us to leave. They were afraid that we would never come back.

The next month, November, we took a Thanksgiving feast to them. They loved how we came back and brought more food! The girls were very excited just to have us come back a second time. Some people believe that meeting a person only once can leave a lasting impression; others think that it is better to build a relationship. With these girls, the youth group feels that we want to build a lasting, strong relationship with each and every one of those girls. Pastor Matt plans on taking us once a month, if possible, so we can keep this relationship going.

Please keep the girls at House of Hope in your prayers along with the youth group as we continue to minister to them in the months and maybe years to come.

Hannah Pursel

Featured Family of the Month



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BE A HERO: LIVING LIKE JESUS

Don't miss it!! **Summer Camp** at Camp Eder. See the narthex table or Fay Richard for a brochure. Hope you campers of all ages get your camp of choice!!

Remember to **sign up early** as some camps fill up quickly!! Any questions or to have your registration form signed, contact Fay at (570) 966-0182 or frichard@dejazzd.com.

In His Service,
Fay A. Richard, Camp Eder Rep



Lighthouse Prison Ministry

Have you met Precious or LJ while attending services at Buffalo Valley? These beautiful children are part of a ministry that serves women in prison who have had their babies during their prison terms. The goal of the families caring for these children is to offer a loving environment in a Christian home until the mothers are able to be reunited with their children. The length of outreach to these little ones can range from short to long range terms.

Precious is residing with the Tim and Sherri Maxfield family and LJ is with Denise and Matt Christ. Ways to extend care alongside these families is prayer support and if so led, a pack of wipes, diapers; newborn and size 4 or 5 which can be placed in the prison ministry basket located under the church mailboxes. We also invite you to send a card or letter of encouragement to LJ's mother who recently accepted Christ.

Jennie Jackson (mother of L.J.)
#ON7859
PO Box 180
Muncy PA 17756

Denise Christ



ARIZONA MISSION 2010

JULY 24 - JULY 31

The team for this summer mission opportunity is forming and we invite YOU to be a part of a group who witnesses and serves our Navajo friends in Holbrook, Arizona. We will be leading VBS, doing some indoor construction projects and reaching out into the community.

If you are interested, please see Vicki for an application or more information. Applications should be returned ASAP. Consider serving the Lord on this mission. Unable to go, please consider helping the team financially.

Vicki Bastian
AZ team Leader



MODERATOR'S TRAVELS

Visiting all 43 district congregations of the Southern Pennsylvania Church of the Brethren for worship during this year as moderator is both a challenge and a rewarding experience.

Challenging because of the many miles traveled each week and more importantly it is a challenge because it takes Jane and I away from Buffalo Valley for most of the Sundays for the year. I miss attending our Sunday school classes, the chats with seniors on the bench in the narthex and the weekly hand shakes and hellos that help sustain relationships.

Rewarding because of the opportunity to visit people from the district that we have learned to know over the past 30 years and to experience their diversity of worship and ministry.

Yes there is decline in membership in the district and a few churches have closed. But there is reason for optimism because of the vital ministry and outreach that is evident in the congregations.

A few highlights of the fascinating and enriching visits are: Participating in Love Feast in the basement of the Free Spring congregation; Attending the Christmas Eve service at Bunkertown and hearing the pastor give a personal and challenging sermon on love; Being asked without advance notice to lead the congregation in prayer as we knelt to close the service at Falling Spring and having the opportunity to tell many of the congregations about the theme for the 2010 District Conference at Black Rock "**The Command...Love God, Love Others, Love Well**".

Eli Mast
Buffalo Valley & District Moderator



COME TOGETHER

Love Feast and Communion will be held at **7 pm on Thursday evening, April 1**. Please plan to attend this important service of our church. Join us as we remember what Christ did for us on the cross. You will be glad you came.

Easter Egg Fair



All children through fifth grade are welcome!

**SATURDAY,
APRIL 3RD**

**10:30 AM TO 12:30
PM**

COME AND GO!

**7 activity stations! Prizes!
Easter Egg Hunt Station!
Inflatable bouncy castle!**

A FREE hotdog lunch
will be served with chips and drink.



We will be using the Resurrection Eggs to share the Gospel with those attending.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers will be needed for set up, tear down and the event hours.

We are requesting candy donations check your mailbox for details.

We do not need eggs this year due to your past generosity!



If you can volunteer or have any questions, please contact the Children's Pastor **Donita Keister @**

(570) 966-1183 (church)
or email her at
missdonita@bvco.com

Tracy Ericson,
Children's Ministry Team



Ministry Coordinating Team News Update

Brian Hurst has been called to represent the Ministry Coordinating Team (MCT) on the Executive Team. We welcome Brian to our team. This team consists of Eli Mast, Pastor Randy, Brian Hurst and myself. The primary functions of the team are to plan the MCT meetings and handle personnel issues.

The Executive Team recently conducted a review with all three of our pastoral staff. We solicited input from the MCT and then met with each pastor to discuss their ministry looking back through 2009 and ahead to 2010. Each pastor then submitted a Philosophy of Ministry (POM) for 2010 to the MCT which approved them. These POMs serve as an outline for how each minister approaches his/her ministry. If you are interested in seeing their POMs, I would be glad to share them with you. Needless to say our Pastoral staff has been very busy over this past year and covets your prayer support.

There will be a **MCT retreat February, 26th and 27th** here at the Church. We are continuing our envisioning process and seeking God's guidance as we "together passionately pursue and demonstrate the transforming life of Christ." What does this vision statement mean for our faith community? What will be our focus? How can we build a sense of community into God's call?

We have set aside **Saturday morning (8:00 am to 1:30 pm)** of the retreat to meet with the **extended team members** to gain input into this envisioning process. If you are serving on one of the 9 teams we invite you to set aside this time to come and **participate in the process**. We really need your input.

Please be in prayer for this process, the retreat and the planning that leads up to it.

We also approved the renewal of Randy's ordination as required every 5 years by the District.

Brian Keister, MCT Chairperson

Youth Fundraising News!!!!

Ham & Cheese sandwiches are being sold by the youth to support Creation 2010 and the National Youth Conference in Colorado this summer. Sandwiches are \$3.75 and can be ordered through any youth or by signing your total to the order form in the back of the church. Orders are due by February 28 and will be ready for pick-up **March 4th** between 6 and 8 pm.



We are also offering peanut **butter and coconut eggs** for .75 each. Specialty eggs of a larger size are available with names for \$4. Orders due by March 28 and pick is scheduled for **April 1st**, just in time for Easter. A sign-up sheet is also located in the rear of the sanctuary for egg orders.



On **March 13th**, the youth will sponsor a **spaghetti fundraiser** here at the church. The cost is \$6 and will include an all you can eat spaghetti, bread, salad, drink and a dessert. If anyone is willing to donate spaghetti, sauce, bread, salad, or desserts, please have items in the kitchen by March 10th marked youth. The fundraiser will start at 4 pm and conclude at approximately 7 pm.



There will be opportunity for you to have any outdoor or indoor chores completed by youth with accompaniment of an advisor. These can range from painting, cleaning, and stone removal from yards, garage clean-up, and any other safe-related projects. This is a donation basis. Contact Pastor Matt at (570) 246-8196 to arrange for a team to report to your job site or email at pastormatt@bvcob.com with details of your request.



With that in mind, we have ten youth, young adults, and advisors attending **National Youth Conference** and if you have been considering placing an envelope marked NYC in the offering plate, we would greatly appreciate your donations by March 28th.

Pastor Matt

From the Pastor,



“...I was in prison, and you visited me.”
Matthew 25:36

Have you ever been to Cresson, Pa.?

Cresson is in western Pennsylvania not far from Pittsburgh.

Cresson State Penitentiary is on top of Cresson Mountain. This state prison houses about 1500 prisoners - one of whom is Dustin Conrad, grandson of Carl and Vivian Haines.

Dustin is about 6' 2", slender with a big smile and a big heart. He has earned his GED and is a certified auto body technician. Dustin is currently working towards his auto mechanic certification.

I was delighted to travel with Carl and Vivian to Cresson to visit Dustin. We met with him in a large room set aside for visitation. A prison guard sat behind a desk at one end of the room. The wall behind us was lined with food vending machines, soda machines, and micro- wave ovens.

Dustin faces challenges every day. He tries to exercise his Christian faith in a world that hates Jesus Christ. He tries to pray, read his Bible, and worship the Prince of Peace in a violent world.

Dustin asked me to express to you his heartfelt thanks for the Christmas cards he received from you. He is so grateful.

And I want to thank you for your support and prayers on his behalf. And please continue to pray that the Lord will continue to work in his life.

May the Lord watch over all the Christian prisoners around the world.

Peace,



PRAYER & SYMPATHY



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Dear God....

Please keep this list handy throughout the month and pray for these members of our church family **along with the additional prayer requests listed in the bulletin each week.**



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Our prayers for others are an encouragement. Remember to lift these people up in prayer often.



BABY NEWS



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From Our Youth Pastor,



Any youth considering attending this year's **Creation Festival** from **June 29th to July 4th**, we have placed the sign-ups on the narthex youth table and will need your \$55 by March 7th in order to secure the tickets. Please mark an envelope Creation and place in the offering envelope. This event is for students currently in 6th grade and graduating.

Ever wonder where to find out about upcoming youth events. BVCOB youth are now listed on **facebook**, as well as information updated on **www.bvcobyouth.com**. Schedules are also located on the **youth table** in the narthex. Emails are typically sent weekly to the news line at the church and you can always feel free to call myself or any advisor.

We aim week in and week out to provide a safe, nurturing environment for your student to engage spiritually and build a community of accepted and valued youth together serving and bringing honor to the Lord.

Student Leaders are encouraged to attend the upcoming training events held on March 15th with Dave Coryell & PA Christian Endeavor from 11 am to 3 pm. There is pre-course work to be completed so if you have not had the opportunity to complete these forms, please see Pastor Matt ASAP.

Another training event for advisors and student leaders will be held at Messiah College on March 27th. A brochure would have been placed in your mailboxes and it is important to note which two seminars you would like to attend by March 1st to Pastor Matt. Departure for this event will be announced.

Looking ahead to this summer, **Teen Week** 2010 will be held **June 21st to June 25th**. This year we will focus on living a sold out life for Christ. Items of discussion will include worship, prayer, and discipleship. Mark your calendars for this exciting event that amps up your Christian walk.

This summer will also be featuring **Family Sundays** at the Christ Cottage. We invite youth and their families to the cabin along Penns Creek for a time of quality interaction and informal Bible study on bringing up today's teens. The time will be held over dinner hour of 6 pm, so bring a covered dish if you like and roast a hot dog or cook a mountain pie over the fire. Within the youth ministry and throughout the context of our body of believers we desire to build relationships and offer opportunity to passionately pursue and demonstrate the transforming life of Christ.

Pastor Matt



Men's Outreach & Fellowship

We have received cards of appreciation and thanks from the families that we were able to help with a monetary gift from the proceeds of our chicken barbeque and our Annual Kettle Cook this past fall. They wanted to thank us for our kindness and help in their time of need. Wow, look at what making & selling some chicken and soup has done for others. Just think what could happen if we all gave our all!

Upcoming Events:

- April 24 - Chicken BBQ
- May 8 - Mother/Daughter Banquet
- May 22 - Chicken BBQ
- June 26 - Men's Quoit Pitch Tournament
- August 7 - Chicken BBQ
- Sept 19 - Archery Shoot
- Oct 24 - Clay Bird Shoot
- Nov 27 - Kettle Cook & Craft Fair

As you can see this is a full and aggressive schedule that will require much help from both men and women, so please mark your calendar and please join us with your help and participation.

Doug Diehl



Wedding Bells

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The Lamplighter

Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren
46 Brethren Church Rd
Mifflinburg PA 17844

Return Service Requested

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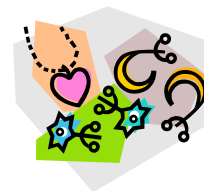
Pastor – Rev. Randall C. Fiske
(570) 966-1112

Matthew S. Christ, Youth Pastor

Donita J. Keister, Children’s Pastor

Editors – Jeff & Vicki Bastian
Church Office/Kitchen (570) 966-1183
brethren@dejazzd.com

8:00 AM - Worship Service
9:00 AM - Fellowship Time
9:20 AM - Sunday school
10:30 AM - Worship Service



BENEFIT SALE

Looking for that perfect piece of jewelry at that perfect price? Grand Illusions will be hosting a two day jewelry sale at **Cross Keys Village** – The Brethren Home Community. The sale will be taking place in the Nicarry Meetinghouse from **7 am – 7 pm** on Thursday, **March 11** and Friday, **March 12**. The proceeds benefit The Brethren Home Community Auxiliary.