

The Lamplighter

Buffalo Valley
Church of the Brethren

November 2016
Volume 32 No. 10

Pot Luck Meal & The Meeting of the Minds



The **Fall Church Council Meeting** is scheduled for Sunday, **November 6th** from **1 to 3 pm**.

The meeting will be preceded **at noon** by a **potluck meal**. Bring a dish or two to share and enjoy good food and fellowship with your church family. Childcare will be provided during the meeting.

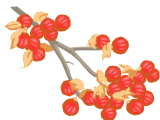
Agenda items are:

- **Verbal reports** by the **pastors**
- **Treasurer's report**
- **Capital Fund Report**
- Reports from our **district and denominational involment**
- **Approval** of the 2017 proposed **budget**.

Compiled reports and financial documents will be made available in the main entry in the weeks prior to the meeting. They will also be available on line at BVCOB.com.

Your presence and participation in this **time of fellowship and decision-making** will enhance the ministry of the church.

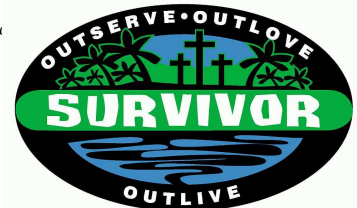
Dale Lehman, Moderator



God is using you for His special purpose.
To **Shine** His light.
To **Share** His love.
To **Shape** His People.



Don't Miss It



CHILDREN'S RETREAT

At Crystal Springs Retreat Center

October 28 - 29, 2016

5 pm to 7 pm

for any kids in **1st - 5th grades***

*Kindergarteners welcome if parent attending as well

Check out kids.bvcob.com or the children's table for more information! If interested in volunteering please see Donita Keister or Teresa Chambers.

Teresa Chambers for Children's Ministry Team



CHURCH CALENDAR

Please remember that the calendar in The Lamplighter is only a copy from the church events calendar. For the complete view of the current official calendar including facility in use items visit the church website, www.bvcob.com.

It's a Rollerskating Party!!!



November 13
from 4:30 - 7 pm

Kids, family, friends, siblings of BVCOB are invited to Sunset Skating Rink in Shamokin Dam for a fun time.

ADMISSION IS FREE!

A DJ and snack bar is on site.

There is a small fee for skate rental.

Sign up on the Children's Ministry table!

Teresa Chambers for Children's Ministry Team



Did You Miss A Special Event?

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner was a huge success! There were 5 host families and a total of 49 participants! Everyone I spoke to who participated had a great time and are looking forward to next year's event, which by the way is scheduled for Sunday, October 8th 2017 at 5 pm! Thanks to all who came out for this event. A special thank you to the ladies who coordinated it all...Karen Beiler, Dawn Benner and Fay Richard.

Upcoming Special Events

All Church Caroling/Party - Sunday, December 11th

January 3rd, 2017 will be the **Red Cross Blood Drive** at the church.

And get ready for **Winter Wonderland!** This will be the theme for our annual **Family Theme Night**. This year it is being held on Saturday, **January 21st**.

Check back for updates on the 2017 events.

Thank you,
Pam Kline, Special Events Coordinator

From Your Lead Pastor,



Who Won the Election?

As I write this letter I don't know which presidential candidate has won the election. On November 8th one of the candidates is going to be declared the next president of the United States. But today, October 12, I know Who has really won the election. God has won the election. As a sovereign God, He is in charge of whoever is elected by leading the United States or any other nation as well. Romans chapter 13 says that the leaders of this world are appointed by God and whether they know it or not, they do business the way that God has ordained them. The President of the United States and the Dictator of North Korea are part of God's plan for this world. God has a plan that will culminate in the return of Jesus Christ, on His timing....and yet every election, and every other event also, is leading down the path to Christ's return.

In my second sermon on the election that I preached on the first Sunday in October I encouraged each of us to win the election. We can also win the election regardless of which candidate we vote for. How we interact with people, especially those we disagree with, can help us to "win" the election. I really believe this. We have a great opportunity as followers of Jesus to show that our true home is not here and that we can serve Jesus Christ no matter who is elected to be president.

Please look for opportunities to be an ambassador for Christ in the week before and in the weeks after the election. If your candidate wins, let your humility flavor your words and your Facebook/Twitter posts. If your candidate loses, resist the temptation to pronounce gloom and doom on the nation. You can win the election and perhaps help someone to see the ultimate winner...Jesus!

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



PIT

Passionate for,
Intimate with,
Transformed by CHRIST

BVCOB Youth Ministry

We strive to be a youth group *Passionate* about, and *Intimate with* Christ and those around us, and to be continually *Transformed* by Christ and *transforming* our community.

How? The only way any of these three things will happen is through relationship with Jesus Christ, so we try to facilitate that relationship through several venues:

Sunday Morning Sunday School: Students are divided into 3 age groups for smaller classes. We use the same curriculum for each class but each teacher molds the lesson toward the age group they teach. We cycle through 3 different curriculum plans from Group Publishers, so that students will look at major topics (aka doctrines and philosophies) from the Bible, get an overview of the entire Bible, and see what Jesus in particular says about everyday struggles.

Sunday Evening Youth: Most Sunday evenings, we have youth from 5 - 8:30 pm. Junior High (6 - 8 grade) have an active / interactive lesson, then Senior High (9 - 12 grade) join us for a group game and meal until 7:15. This is a great time of building friendships and release from the pressures of school and life. JH then leave and SH has a lesson, sometimes breaking into small groups for discussion.

Monthly Activity: We try to have both service (leaf raking, caroling), and fun (roller skating, Advisor Hunt) activities. The service is to keep us in the habit of serving others; fun activities provide a time to deepen friendships and invite other students who might be intimidated by "church".

Youth Leadership Team: We have recently developed the Youth Leadership Team for youth to take ownership in our church and train in leadership and service. We meet the 2nd & 4th Sundays before youth, and each week on Monday after school at the library for "DEEP"er Bible study. Any youth are welcome to join us to check it out.



Pastor K



Buffalo Gals

Women's Ministry would like to thank all those who donated duffle bags, socks and underwear to children in our local Foster Care program. Your donations will assist with the children's basic needs and are much appreciated.

There's still time...**Dresses for Africa** will be mailed out later this month. If you haven't started your dresses or you've made dresses but haven't yet turned them in, please contact Tricia Dreese at 570-768-2370

November 21st from **6 - 8 pm** is when we will gather at Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren (BVCOB) to make **pies for the holidays**. See Donita Keister for further details.

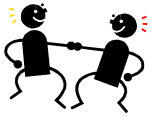
Our **basket ministry** is in need of the following donations: puzzle books, small candles, homemade jam, home canned spaghetti sauce and \$10 gift cards from Weis Markets. You can drop off your donations in the bin at our Women's Ministry table. For further details, see Heather Reid.

Dresscember participants help spread awareness about a world issue by committing to the challenge of wearing dresses all month. During the month of December, those who participate spread the word about what they're doing and why, compelling many others in their lives to contribute to the cause by making a (tax deductible) monetary contribution. See Sarah Kauffman for details.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, **December 10** from **9 - 11 am**. We will gather at BVCOB for our **Christmas Brunch and Secret Sister Reveal**. Check our bulletin board in November for sign-up sheet.

Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.
2 Corinthians 4:1

Tricia Dreese



Outside Our Walls

Operation Christmas Child

The shoeboxes are almost complete! The last collection day is Sunday, November 6th.

We are still in need of several things to complete the boxes:

- Coloring Books - 253
- Construction Paper pads - 137
- Hand Size Balls - 17
- Matchbox Cars – 138
- Pencil Sharpeners – 97
- Plain Paper Pads (6x9 or similar) - 64



Your donation can be dropped off at the Christmas tree at the Mission Ministry Team table.

Thank you for your continued support of this important mission!



Westernport Mission Opportunity

A Team will be traveling to Westernport COB on Saturday, **November 5th** for a **Children's Fall Festival**. If you've been curious about Westernport but have been unsure about committing to a week-long summer mission, this one day trip is a good starting point. Join the Team as they visit Westernport and minister to the children with fun, games, and food! See Vicki Bastian for more information.

Can/Metal Recycling

We will take your soda cans, pie plates, aluminum foil, and (almost) anything else that contains metal for recycling. This is an easy way to help contribute the \$3,164.00 (452 shoe boxes x \$7 shipping for each box) needed to ship Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes!



Long-Term Missionaries

BVCOB is in the very fortunate position to have four long-term missionaries serving in the mission field. **Missy Hunsberger** is currently serving at **Oasis of Hope** ministering to girls who are victims of abuse and human

trafficking. **Jason** and **Nicole Hoover** will soon leave to serve indefinitely in the **Dominican Republic**. Also, **Austin Walter** is leaving in January to serve with **YWAM**.

These Missionaries need our support through prayer and finances. Please prayerfully consider how you may be able to help.

Brenda Eberhart

The Misplaced Priority of Prayer

If I were to ask all of you who are reading this article right now, "Do you think prayer is important?" I think everyone would answer "Yes". But if each of us were to total up the amount of time we spent in prayer, I believe that the time we totaled would not be in right proportion to the priority we say we have in relation to prayer. Why is this? I suppose that each of us has to answer this question for ourselves. My own personal feeling is that most of us don't pray because we don't really think that prayer works. Most of the things we pray for do not work out the way we want. We just don't see a real benefit to prayer so we stop it....or we pray a little bit at meals or when we travel or before a bible study.

Most of us need a new emphasis on the priority of prayer. For three Sundays in November we are going to look at Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane. We are going to answer three questions:

1. Why Did Jesus Need to Pray?
2. How Did Jesus Pray?
3. Did Jesus' Prayer Work?

I hope that as we look at Jesus' prayer in the Garden and the circumstances that surrounded that prayer, we will rethink the priority that many of us place on prayer.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric





What's Cooking at Buffalo Valley

It is Autumn, and one of my favorite things to do this time of the year is bake. I love to try new recipes. This month's recipe is Dottie Chapman's **Pumpkin Bread** recipe found on page 108 of **Come to the Table** cookbook.

- 3 ½ C. - flour
- ½ tsp. - baking powder
- 2 tsp. - baking soda
- 1 ½ tsp. - salt
- 1 tsp. - nutmeg
- 1 tsp. - cinnamon
- 4 - eggs
- 3 C. - sugar
- 1 C. - cooking oil
- 1 ½ C. - pumpkin
- ¾ C. - water

Preheat oven to 350° F. Grease and flour 2 loaf pans. Combine flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, nutmeg and cinnamon and set aside. Beat eggs. Add sugar and oil gradually; add pumpkin and water. Gradually mix in dry ingredients. Divide into 2 pans. Bake 60 - 90 minutes until toothpick comes out clean. Remove from pan onto cooling rack; wrap when cool.

This recipe is one of five pumpkin bread recipes in **Come to the Table** cookbook. And it is delicious. Instead of preparing in the two loaf pans, I baked mine in nine 3 ½-in x 5 ½-in mini loaf pans. That reduced the baking time to 45 minutes. These small loaves made great "welcome to Autumn" treats for my co-workers.

There are a variety of quick bread and yeast bread recipes in **Come to the Table** cookbook. **I've been informed that there are less than 150 of these cookbooks available for purchase!** If you haven't yet purchased a cookbook for yourself, you can pick one up at the Welcome Center for \$10. They make great Christmas gifts for that young baby sitter, a new neighbor, new co-worker, mail carrier, hair stylist, friends and family. Perhaps you could prepare a recipe from the cookbook, present the dish and cookbook as a gift.

Proceeds from the purchase of **Come to the Table** cookbooks go toward the building fund.



The Mystery Chef

Family Kid Connection



GINGERBREAD HOUSE NIGHT

December 2 @ 6 PM

Please Reserve Your House(s)
By Sunday, November 13

(Everyone will receive the same size house.)

AGAIN THIS YEAR:
sign ups are **ONLINE ONLY** at

kids.bvcob.com

Sign-up for decorating supplies will soon be available on the tables in the Main Entry or the Narthex, or feel free to bring any contribution to add to our decorating supplies.

All are welcome to participate, even those younger and older than our usual Friday night group. Adults without kids are welcome, too!

Preschoolers must be accompanied by their own personal teen or adult decorating assistant. School-age kids may attend with or without a parent.

~Please note~

The **November 14th deadline** will be the **absolute last date** for sign-ups.

After that date, we will only be able to put you on a cancellation list for any houses that may come available.

Teresa Chambers for Children's Ministry Team

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

Return Service Requested

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46 Brethren Church Road
Mifflinburg PA 17844
www.bvcob.com

Lead Pastor – Rev. Eric S. Reamer
(570) 837-9393

Donita J. Keister, Associate Pastor
for Children & Pastoral Care

Eric M. Kauffman, Associate Pastor
for Youth & Young Adults

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

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



Yes! It Is Back!

Friday Fun Night: November 4, 11 & 18

Monday Funday: November 28

Teresa Chambers for Children's Ministry Team