

The Lamplighter

*Buffalo Valley
Church of the Brethren*

*August 2016
Volume 32 No. 7*



A Time of Celebration



On Sunday, July 17, **Donita J. Keister** was ordained as pastor in the Church of the Brethren. District Executive Bill Waugh performed the ordination during the Sunday morning worship services. Please encourage her in her continued ministry through our congregation.

We're There!

The Westernport Team left Saturday morning, July 23rd and is getting ready for the children to arrive on Monday morning. **Please pray** for all of us that we can be God's hands and feet this week to children who need to see His love. We will return on Friday, July 29. Your prayers for our ministry are appreciated!

Vicki Bastian,
Team Leader



Park & Ride Campaign Has Concluded

Our effort to raise money for a Toyota Landcruiser for ministry in the South Sudan and to pave a portion of our parking lot has ended. You have graciously given \$31,710 to this campaign with the money being split evenly between the Landcruiser and the parking lot. Because of your efforts and the efforts of some other churches, more than \$30,000 has been raised for the Landcruiser which is now on order. As this vehicle is used to transport individuals to medical care and other important places, and used to respond to emergency medical and food crises, you can know that you have helped make each of those trips possible.

The Ministries Coordinating Team (MCT) is considering now how to proceed with the other half of the money. We did not raise the entire amount needed for paving the portion of the lot that was being proposed. You will hear more on this at a later time. Thanks again for your generosity in giving to "Park & Ride".

Pastor Eric, Lead Pastor

We Will Be Hosts

The Southern Pennsylvania District of the Church of the Brethren will be holding its **District Conference** on **September 16 and 17**. The conference will be held right here at the Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren. We will be the host congregation for this event. If you would like to help us host this event please contact Eli Mast for more details.



SPECIAL REPORT

Dateline: July, 2016; Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren

Reports are reaching Lamplighter staff that eight people affiliated with Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren are now receiving what sources are calling, "Distinctively Christian Care."

One of the eight Care Receivers** is quoted as saying, "I am so glad that I have someone to talk to regularly. In just six weeks, I feel more connected to God, and the church."

Another** notified **Stephen Ministry** Leaders that she "appreciated the help and encouragement" she was receiving.

A so-called caregiver, also known as a "Stephen Minister," additionally noted, "I thought I would be 'blessing' my Care Receiver, but I'm the one being blessed through this ministry!"

The Stephen Ministers have apparently completed 50 hours of training and now are meeting twice a month to receive supervision to improve their skills in meeting with the Care Receivers. All eight ministers are caring for one person each, providing approximately 8 - 10 hours of care cumulatively throughout the week. One-to-one visits last about an hour each week.

In just the six weeks since the Stephen Ministers were commissioned, there have been weekly contacts through phone calls, texts, Facebook Messenger, cards and 1:1 visits, with these contacts exceeding over 100 opportunities to demonstrate the love and care of Jesus Christ.

Stay tuned for further updates about this new dynamic **Stephen Ministry**. To receive—or give—care, please contact:

Alicia Showers or Tracy Ericson,
Stephen Leaders

**Identities of Care Receivers are confidential. Quotes by Care Receivers are adapted from several sources and changed to maintain confidentiality.



GUYS NEEDED!

When we were preparing to find Care Receivers for our recently commissioned Stephen Ministers, we were presented by the

Spiritual Life Ministry Team with a list of **TEN MEN** who needed care.

This list reflects **TEN MEN** who fall into these types of categories:

- Homebound
- Widower
- Caring for wife with chronic illness/disability
- Have a disability
- Have family problems
- Have no real connections in our church
- Have their own illness

These **TEN MEN** are part of our faith community.

These **TEN MEN** need a listening ear.

These **TEN MEN** need encouragement to keep turning to Jesus.

These **TEN MEN** may not even include other men in our congregation who feel they need 1:1 support to do life.

These **TEN MEN** need male care givers to minister to them.

Guys, these **TEN MEN** need you.

Contact us to find out how you can be one of **TEN MEN** to help these **TEN MEN**.

Grace and peace,
Tracy Ericson & Alicia Showers
Stephen Leaders





Musical Day Camp 2016



Concludes with Performances on

SATURDAY, August 13

7:00 PM

SUNDAY, August 14

9:30 AM

Nicole Hoover, for Children's Ministry Team



*Our deepest appreciation to all of the volunteers, parents, and kids who participated in our summer Kid Connection!
Thanks so much!*

Nicole Hoover



IT'S BACK.....

GET READY.....AFTER A LONG HIATUS IT'S COMING BACK!!!

DO YOU LIKE TO EAT.....EXPERIENCE ANTICIPATION AND LOTS OF FELLOWSHIP???

IF SO....JOIN IN.....COMING IN OCTOBER AT A HOUSE NEAR YOU!!!

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner??? Is an evening set aside for you and one-two-or three or more families to fellowship together in a home. You will get to choose to be a host or a guest. If you chose to be a host, you will be asked to prepare a meat and a beverage. You will be told how many to expect but not who! That surprise will come when the doorbell rings.

If you choose to be a guest, you will be asked to prepare a potato dish, rolls, a vegetable or a dessert and how many to prepare for. On the Sunday morning of **October 9th** you will receive an envelope with your destination inside. Your sincere honesty will enable you to wait one hour before leaving to open your envelope!

You are guaranteed a **fun filled evening!** So please participate! More details to follow!

Mark your calendars for the evening of Sunday, **October 9th**, 2016.

Pam Kline, Special Events Coordinator



Work for the Lord

Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

Paul, the Apostle



Only Four Months to Go!

When the fireworks disappear from the store shelves, we know what that means! It's time for back-to-school supplies and to stock up for **Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes!** (Items with an * are on sale now!)

This is a great time to fill our boxes with all of those terrific back to school items that are now on special. Here's a quick breakdown of what is still needed:

Item	Amount Needed
Bar Soap – FULL SIZE!	204
Coloring books	333
*Construction paper pads	147
Baby dolls/stuffed animals	16
*Pens	104
*Ruled Tablets/ Composition Books (6x9)	97
*Glue Sticks	117
*Colored Pencils	101
Hand-size balls	50
*Crayons	189
Matchbox cars	163
*Pencil Sharpeners	347
*Plain Paper Pad (6x9)	78
*Pencils (2 per box)	625
Washcloth	357

Please prayerfully consider how you can be a part of this important mission. Remember, too, that you can always **'adopt a box'** for \$20 and the Mission Ministry Team will be happy to do the shopping for you!

Brenda Eberhart



"Jesus is the giver of what people are cursing!"



Camp Eder Corner

Thank you Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren for your **faithful financial and prayer support for campers and staff** at Camp Eder!

As of the time I am writing this article, Casey Snook is the only one who completed her week at camp. (Several others will be returning soon). So, I asked Casey to let us know about her time at Senior High Camp. I hope you enjoy reading her post as much as I did!

"Eder was amazing! The sense of community is really strong in our senior high group, and there wasn't even close to a shortage of laughs. There's always an adventure to be had, even if that means running through a deluge of rain. To that I would also add that there's always something to do for everyone; some even get encouraged by the group to do something they've never done before. I always feel closest to God when we take the hike up to Vespers. The combination of the view and the moment of silence we take gives everyone time to experience peace that they might not get anywhere else."

Thank you to Casey for sharing about her experiences with Camp Eder.

Any questions about Camp Eder, our church camp near Gettysburg, feel free to look online www.campeder.org or contact Fay Richard, our church camp representative!

Fay Richard



What does it take to make your life all about Jesus?

From Your Lead Pastor,



Pokemon Go...But....

As I write this letter the latest fad and craze is “Pokemon Go”, an app that takes people around the land looking for Pokemon characters they can capture and use to play the game. It is definitely taking the country by storm though I don’t think it is going to take the writer of this letter by storm.

Anyway, at the risk of sounding like an old man saying, “Get off my lawn”, I want to make a comment about “Pokemon Go”. It sounds like an interesting thing to do. Of course, drivers shouldn’t do it and you need to be careful not to walk off a cliff or into traffic while searching for the Pokemon characters but what struck me is how easy it is for us to find time to do something new, when the new something appeals to us. We read and hear all the time about how busy we are as a society, both adults and children. We hear how we have no spare time to spend together as a family because of work, sports, etc... and yet when something like “Pokemon Go” comes along, people have the time to “go” and do it.

I have a suggestion. Before you go in search of Pokemon characters, good deals at the store or even to find dragons, take time to spend with God in His word. Again, at the risk of sounding like a grumpy old man, it concerns me that followers of Jesus have so much time for so many activities and yet surveys indicate we have almost no time for reading God’s word and spending time in prayer. Wouldn’t it be better to spend time finding God instead of fictional characters? You don’t have to search for God or risk running into a telephone pole. You just need to open a bible, or a bible app, and find God. So, it’s OK to play “Pokemon Go” but can I suggest finding God first?

God Bless,
Pastor Eric





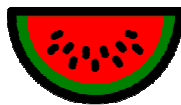
Breaking the Power of Fear

Many times in the Bible we are told to “not fear” or “do not be afraid”. Unfortunately, fear is a powerful emotion that destroys relationships and is a catalyst to destructive behavior. But what is fear and how can we break its power in our lives? Beginning August 22nd, we will spend about five weeks looking at fear from a biblical perspective, especially from the words of Jesus in the New Testament. When Jesus said, “do not be afraid”, what were the circumstances surrounding those statements and how do we apply them today?

I do not believe that God desires any of His children to be a slave to fear or even to have fear play a controlling role in our lives. I know that God gives us, in His word, truth about fear that we can use in our day to day lives. I hope that you will be with us as we enter into the fall season with a look at fear.

Go ahead and invite a friend...don't be afraid!

Pastor Eric, Lead Pastor



Anyone can devise a plan by which good people go to heaven. Only God can devise a plan whereby sinners, which are His enemies, can go to heaven.

Lewis Sperry Chafer



SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF PIZZA PARTY!

Join us for a kickoff to the new Sunday school year on **Sunday, August 28th directly after 2nd service**. Children and parents will have the opportunity to chat with the Sunday school teachers, check out their classrooms, and join in other fun activities. Pizza will be provided!

Children will report to their “new” classroom if “moving up” on Sunday, September 4th.

Nicole Hoover



Don't Forget!!



Bring all your aluminum cans for recycling and place them in the blue barrels at the BBQ pit. Especially during the summer we often have plenty of cans, so bring them to the church and help support Operation Christmas Child. The money from the recycling of these cans helps with the shipping costs for mailing the shoeboxes.

Also any metal that you have that can be recycled, please talk with Jake or Scott Myer.

Thank you for your help in supporting Operation Christmas Child! Help make a child smile this Christmas.

Vicki Bastian



What's Cooking at Buffalo Valley

Ginny Hartman's **Chicken Tetrazzini** recipe is found on page 90 of Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren's ***Come to the Table*** cookbook.

- ½ C. - celery, chopped
- 1 tsp. - dry minced onion
- 4 T. - margarine
- 1 tsp. - salt
- ½ tsp. - pepper
- 4 T. - flour
- 2 C. - chicken broth
- 1 C. - milk
- 1 (10.75 -oz) can - cream of chicken soup
- 1 C. - cheddar cheese, shredded
- 2 C. - chicken, diced, sautéed or baked
- ½ lb. - spaghetti, cooked

Sauté celery and onions in the margarine. When done, add salt, pepper, flour, chicken broth and milk. Cook until slightly thickened. Add the soup, cheese and chicken. Stir together and set aside. Cook spaghetti; drain and rinse. Place spaghetti in a sprayed 8 x 10 - inch casserole dish. Add chicken mixture and stir. Cover with foil. Bake at 360° F for 50 minutes.

I've never made a tetrazzini before! I sure will make this recipe again! I had some roasted chicken breast meat left over from another meal I prepared. So, I decided this would be a great recipe to try. I didn't have margarine on hand, so I used butter instead. I also used low sodium chicken broth and whole grain spaghetti. After removing from the oven I let it sit for 15 minutes before serving. It was perfect!

With fresh produce stands all around us, cucumbers are very accessible. I am planning to try Jodi Kurtz's **Refrigerator Cucumbers** recipe that is found on page 37 of ***Come to the Table*** cookbook.

Many from our church family have contributed recipes to the ***Come to the Table*** cookbook. You can pick up a copy at the Welcome Center for just \$10. The cookbook is packed with a great variety of recipes.



The Mystery Chef



Seeking Nursery Volunteers



The Children's Ministry Team is

currently **seeking volunteers** for our **nursery** schedule. If you have a heart for caring for babies and toddlers, please join us in this ministry! For more information or to volunteer, contact the nursery coordinator, Jessica White, at jmowery87@gmail.com.

Nicole Hoover

LOOKING AHEAD IN 2016!

- September 11 – 14 – Women's Beach Retreat
- September 16 & 17 – District Conference
at Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren
- September 18 – Freebirds Picnic
- September 30 – Family Hay Ride



- October 2 – LOVE FEAST
- October 9 - Guess Who's Coming to Dinner
- October 15 – Corn Maze/Dinner Freebirds
- October 16 – Trap Shoot
- October 29 & 30 – All Church Retreat

- November 3 – Sight & Sound Freebirds
- November 6 – Fall Church Council Meeting
- November 13 - Rollerskating
- November 26 – Kettle Cook

- December 11 – All Church Christmas Party



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.

The Lamplighter

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

Return Service Requested

The Lamplighter

Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren
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



"Feed the Bin"

Remember to place your gently used clothing, linens and books, if they are bagged, into the Community Aid Bin. Your donations help with Operation Christmas Child. If you have other items that cannot be put in the bin, please contact Vicki Bastian or the church office.