



The Lamplighter

Buffalo Valley
Church of the Brethren

September 2016
Volume 32 No. 7



District Conference Coming to Buffalo Valley

We have the privilege of hosting District Conference on **Friday and Saturday September 16th and 17th**, 2016. More than 200 delegates and guests will be here for business sessions, worship and meals. Different churches host this conference each year. The last time the Southern Pennsylvania District Church of the Brethren Conference was held here was in 2000.

As you can imagine **lots of help is needed** to make meals, provide housing, setup the facilities etc. for an event this size.

Please let me know where you could use your talents and gifts to serve for this event.

Eli Mast, On Site Coordinator



Operation Christmas Child

Thank you for your continued support of this important mission. Back to School items are still on sale and this is a great time to purchase items at a reduced cost to fill up our shoe boxes.

Some things that are still needed:

- colored pencils - 99
- construction paper pads – 147
- crayons – 100
- glue sticks – 117
- pencils – 625
- pencil sharpeners – 345
- plain paper pads (6x9) – 78
- ruled tablet (6x9) – 83

Brenda Eberhart



IT IS NOW TIME!

It is now time to turn in your calendar dates for the **2017 Church Calendar**. If you or your group or team has **practices, events, activities, meetings, meals, etc.** that you wish to hold **either here at the church or offsite**, please provide the information to the appropriate ministry team leader. The calendar helps prevent events from competing for our time. Use of the church also needs to be scheduled to prevent conflicts for space and for the best use of our facility. (Ministry team leaders please turn in your dates to the church office for the proposed calendar.)

A **Church Calendar ADDITION Form** needs to be completed for **every church activity** so that none are missed. Be sure to include the start & end times, preparation start & end times, and rooms to be used. Just because your event or meeting was on the calendar in the past, please do not assume anything. Again don't forget to submit offsite activities.

A **Facilities Use Agreement** needs to be completed for private use of the church facility. This and other forms can be found in the church office or by going to **www.bvcob.com**.

Thank you for keeping your church family informed of the where and when of church life. Please call the church office if you have any questions.

Note: In order to give priority to church functions and ministries, calendar dates for 2017 must be submitted from the ministry teams by October 1, 2016. No outside groups will be permitted to schedule any events for 2017 (with the exceptions of weddings) until after November 1, 2016.



CHOCOLATE LOVER'S DELIGHT

Our **Ninth Annual Candy Making Project** for our church **Building Together Fund** has begun.

Order forms are available at the Welcome Center in the Main Entry. Order **deadline** is **October 9** following the Second Service. If you have any questions, please see Jane Mast or Cheryl Ilgen.

Candy making date is **Friday, October 21** with pick up on Sunday morning, October 23.

The candy makes great gifts and stores well!

Candy Committee,
Cheryl Ilgen & Jane Mast





Happy Anniversary!

It's been a year since your Stephen Leaders, Alicia Showers and Tracy Ericson, completed training at the Leadership Training Conference in Pittsburgh, returned and were commissioned by you, the faith community of Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren (BVCOB).

Since that point, there have been many opportunities for us to let you know what it is about, and to discuss the best means of adding it to our ministries here. Next came the advertising for potential Stephen Ministers, interviewing and selecting trainees, 50 hours of training and finally in May, the commissioning of 8 people to begin ministering to people in our congregation.

That first group is undergoing supervision twice a month and we are in process of doing the second round of interviewing, selecting and training more Stephen Ministers. A lot has happened during this year, and we are excited to see what year two brings us.

We continue to ask for your prayers as we select and train Stephen Ministers, as well as identify people needing to receive care.



The traditional gift for first anniversaries is paper; the modern gift is a clock. In honor of BVCOB's first anniversary as an official Stephen Ministry congregation, here is a clock on paper.

Congratulations!

Grace and peace to you all,
Tracy Ericson & Alicia Showers
Stephen Leaders



Freebirds

The Freebirds next event is **September 18th** at noon at **Halfway Dam**. We will provide the meat and drinks and everyone should bring a covered dish and salad or dessert. There will be a sign up so we know how much meat to provide.

The October event will be at Ard's for the **corn maze and dinner**, the time will be announced later and that is **October 15th**.

Our final event will be Thursday, **November 3rd**, and we are going to **Sight and Sound and Shady Maple** for lunch. I reserved a 56 passenger bus and 56 seats at Sight and Sound. As of now we have 39 signed up and a few more interested that I am waiting to hear back from. There are still some seats available. I am excited to have a bus and am looking forward to a spirit filled ride to and from. We will be planning some fun activities on the bus ride. Come and join us as we fellowship together. The cost will be \$68.00 for Sight and Sound ticket and the meal at Shady Maple (that includes tax and tip). The bus was \$865.00 for a 56 passenger bus. We had someone donate towards the bus, which made the bus cost to each passenger \$7.00. (Hopefully we fill the bus). So, the total cost for each person will be \$75.00. I think the price is reasonable for all that we got.

The itinerary is as follows (I will get to each one of you that are signed up a schedule of times). We will leave Mifflinburg (place to be determined) at 9:15 am. The bus will be there 9 am. We will arrive at Shady Maple approximately 11:30 am. Depart Shady Maple at approximately 1:30 pm (that should give you plenty of time to eat and then walk off all those calories by shopping in the gift shop). We will arrive approximately 2:15 pm at Sight and Sound for a 2:45 pm show and then return back to Mifflinburg approximately 7:30 pm. If anyone is interested let me know ASAP.

Blessings,
Linda Buttorff



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



Have You Purchased a WEIS CARD?

The Weis Gift card program has been a great success. You get to spend 100% of your money on groceries and the profits still go to the "Building for Ministry" fund.



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



We're Famous!

Do you know that we have a very popular **Community Aid Bin**? Apparently, from those who are 'in the know', our bin is a hot-spot for drop offs! Thank you for filling the bin and helping those in need through your gently used donations. Now that the seasons are changing, it's a great time to go through the clothes that you didn't wear all summer and donate them to a worthy cause!

Brenda Eberhart

Our lives as followers of Jesus should be lived with a constant and consistent awareness of those who are not followers of Jesus.



Mission Completed!

On Friday, July 29, the Westernport Mission Team returned from a week long VBS/Day Camp at the Westernport Church of the Brethren in Westernport, MD. This was the third year for the Team to serve in Westernport in this way.

In previous years, our highest total of children (K - Middle School) was approximately 50. This year, God blessed this mission in a BIG way and we had a total of 98 children enrolled!

It was an exciting week of serving children and being the hands and feet of Jesus outside our walls! Our mornings were busy with Bible time (taught by our very own Pastor Reamer), Craft, an Imagination Station, Games, & Kid Vid Cinema. Our afternoons were occupied with water inflatables, a trip to a local gym on a rainy day, and, of course, the West Virginia, Piedmont Pool.

Some blessings:

- A conversation was overheard between two boys that this 'was the best church ever'. When they were asked why, they enthusiastically answered: "Because we get three meals a day this week!" These children arrive in the morning hungry for breakfast, they come to their morning snack hungry, and soon they're asking what's for lunch. Not long after that, they're eagerly anticipating afternoon snack and then they're curious to know what snack they'll be taking home with them. Although the purpose of this week is to give them heart-knowledge of Jesus, we also minister to their soul through their bellies!

- Linda Miller was our Imagination Station Leader. She led this station with enthusiasm, energy and love. The children adored her! At the beginning of the week, a little girl who was no more than five, told Linda that she didn't want to hear about Jesus and she didn't want to know about Jesus. By the end of the week, she told Linda that she loved Jesus! Wow!

- Pastor Diane May of Westernport shared that 148 children/families attended the VBS program during church and stayed for the meal afterward. This is a record! Some comments she heard were, "You have no idea what you've done for my grandchild this week." And, "My child talks about Jesus all the time!"

Thank you for your prayer support for this important mission and, if you're curious to know what Westernport is all about, you're invited to join us again this Fall as we spend the day in Westernport for our Fall Festival playing games and ministering to the hearts of the children and their families. Information will be coming soon!

Brenda Eberhart, Day Camp Director



Taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me."

Mark 9:37



Discernment is not a matter of simply telling the difference between right and wrong; rather it is telling the difference between right and almost right.

Charles H. Spurgeon

From Your Lead Pastor,



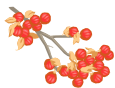
A Bit of Nostalgia...

September 2016 marks the four year anniversary of being installed as the lead pastor here at Buffalo Valley. At this time in 2012 I was very excited about the new adventure and challenge that awaited me here. These past four years have been an incredible blessing in my "career" as a pastor. Getting to know you and having the privilege to serve you have been great blessings. (I know this sounds like the part where I say...but now I feel God leading me to something new...but I'm not going to say that!!!) Rather, I'm going to say that I am very excited about the next year and the year after that and the years after that...

I really believe that our greatest days of influence and ministry are ahead of us. As our society draws further away from a biblical understanding of God and His activity, we have an increasing opportunity to stand firm and stand out as examples of love, grace, truth and forgiveness. As our society moves to the left and right, we have an increasing opportunity to show how Jesus Christ can bring people together as He brings them to Himself.

Four years ago I had no idea the impact you and this church family would have on me. I want to encourage you to be open to what God has for you in this next year. God is always working in the world around us and each day of our lives is an opportunity to join Him in that work. Thank you for allowing me to serve Jesus together with you. I appreciate your prayers for me, my family and your church family.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



In Christian service, the branches that bear
the most fruit hang the lowest.

Anonymous

Every job is a self-portrait of the person who does it. Autograph your work with excellence.

Anonymous



What Are You Afraid Of?

There are over 700 known and identified “fears” in psychological writings. Fear is a very powerful emotion that can negatively shape the lives of people for decades. Since fear is such an important emotion we would expect that God would have a lot to say about fear and He does. The bible has much to say about fear and starting August 21st, we will talk about “What Am I Afraid Of?”

August 21st we will talk about 2 Timothy 1:7 and how God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love and a sound mind. God doesn’t simply say, “Do not be afraid”. Rather, God tells us how to replace fear with other truth in our lives.

August 28th we will talk about how the future shapes our fear and how fear can be moved out of our lives through the future promises of God.

September 4th is a focus on how the presence and power of Jesus Christ can literally drive fear out of our lives.

September 11th we wrap things up with a look at the only time in the recorded words of Jesus that Jesus actually tells us to fear something or someone. Come this week to find out what that means for us.

We all know people who are afraid of various things. Why not plan to invite someone to attend with you as we talk about fear. Perhaps the word of God and the Spirit of God could change their lives.



Pastor Eric

Walk each day in the simplicity
of trusting God's love
and the wonder of watching Him
work in marvelous ways.

Roy Lessin



Family Hayride Event

September 30th

6:00 – 8:30 pm



Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren
(rain date October 7th, 6 pm)

All children and families are
welcome to attend.

Preschoolers should be accompanied
by their own hay ride and activity
attendant.

Food!

Inflatables!

Crafts!

FUN!

Nicole Hoover for Children's Ministry Team



What's Cooking at Buffalo Valley

Linda Buttorff shared her **Cheddar Meatloaf** recipe in BVCOB's **Come to the Table** cookbook. It is found on page 60 of the cookbook and is shared below.

Meatloaf

- 2 lbs. - hamburger
- 1 lg. - onion, chopped
- 1 C. - quick oats
- 2 C. - cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1 ½ C. - milk
- 2 - eggs
- salt & pepper to taste

Topping

- 1 ⅓ C. - ketchup
- 1 C. - brown sugar
- 2 tsp. - mustard

Mix together all meatloaf ingredients. In a 13 x 9 - inch pan, form meat into a loaf. Mix topping ingredients and spread over meatloaf. Bake at 350° F for 1 hour or until done.

I have a new favorite meatloaf recipe! This meatloaf is amazing. It's moist, tasty and a cinch to prepare. The meatloaf right out of the oven does not "slice" well. It's better served with a large spoon. However, once it is chilled, it is easy to slice and makes great meatloaf sandwiches. As we enter September, and cooler days are ahead, this is a great comfort food on those cool Autumn days.

Myrna Goss shares her **Mustard Dip** recipe on page 13 of **Come to the Table** cookbook. I've prepared this dip and it is quite delicious! It's a great pretzel and cracker dip.

If you would like to see more recipes similar to those mentioned in this article, you can purchase your own **Come to the Table** cookbook at the Welcome Center for \$10. It's not too early to think about purchasing them as a Christmas gift for your mail and newspaper carrier, neighbors, co-workers, etc. They make great gifts!



The Mystery Chef



Seeking Nursery Volunteers



The Children's Ministry Team is

currently **seeking volunteers** for our **nursery** schedule, especially during 2nd service. 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, **Jesica White**, at jmowery87@gmail.com.

Nicole Hoover

LOOKING AHEAD IN 2016!



- 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 - Roller skating
- 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.

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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
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Church Office/Kitchen (570) 966-1183
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8:00 AM - Worship Service
9:00 AM - Fellowship Time
9:20 AM - Sunday school
10:30 AM - Worship Service



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 Scott Myer.

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

Vicki Bastian