

Calling for Deacons

The Spiritual Life Ministry Team consists of all deacons, and all ordained and licensed ministers. This team is responsible for the coordination of pastoral care, deacon activity, and Bible Study/Life Groups in order to oversee the ongoing spiritual growth and health of the congregation.

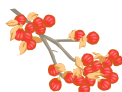
Deacon qualifications are found in 1 Timothy 3:8-13. Deacons will be called to three-year terms with unlimited tenure.

On August 27th you should receive information regarding a calling for Spiritual Life Ministry Team members. The Spiritual Life Ministry Team annually evaluates the number of deacons needed to maintain effective ministry and notifies the Gifts Discernment Team if more members are needed. It was determined that **six to eight new members would help this ministry serve the congregation more effectively.**

You will have a few weeks to be in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you submit names for this important position. While only members are involved in the naming, we covet the prayers of all who join in worship and ministry here at Buffalo Valley.

Calling Sunday will be **September 17th**. Your list of names will be collected that day. If you cannot be here that Sunday you may put your form in Dale Lehman's church mailbox.

Marsha Libby for the Gifts Discernment Team



IT IS NOW TIME!

It is now time to turn in your calendar dates for the **2018 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 2018 must be submitted from the ministry teams by October 1, 2017. No outside groups will be permitted to schedule any events for 2018 (with the exceptions of weddings) until after November 1, 2017.

CHOCOLATE LOVER'S DELIGHT

Our **Tenth Annual Candy Making Project** for our church **Building Fund** will soon begin.

Order forms will be available in your church mailbox and at the Welcome Center in the Main Entry starting September 10. The order **deadline** is **October 8** following the Second Service. If you have any questions, please see Jane Mast or Cheryl Ilgen.

Candy making date is **Friday, October 20** with pick up on Sunday morning, October 22.

The candy makes great gifts and stores well!

Candy Committee,
Cheryl Ilgen & Jane Mast



Free As a Bird

Our next event is **September 10th** at **Half-Way Dam** at **12:30 pm**. Bring a covered dish/dessert or salad to share. Meat will be provided.

On **November 9th** we have reserved a bus and tickets to American Music Theater for **The Christmas Show 3 pm**, we will eat **lunch** at 11:30 am at **Shady Maple** and then you will have a little time to shop at the gift shop and relax before the show. We have 56 tickets and meals reserved. If you are interested please see Linda Buttorff, she will hold a seat.

This is open to anyone that would like to join us. For those who joined us last year, encourage others to come and join the fun. There will be games, prizes and maybe a sing-a-long or two. The price is \$75 a person for everything.

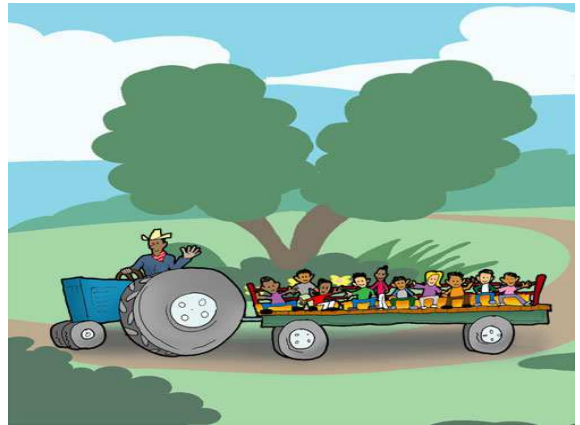
Blessings,
Linda Buttorff and the Freebirds



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!

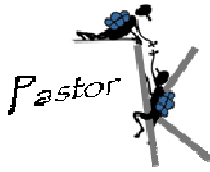
Crafts!

FUN!

Teresa Chambers for Children's Ministry Team

PIT – Youth Ministry

Passionate for,
Intimate with,
Transformed by CHRIST



At our recent Youth Retreat, August. 4 - 6, we explored and discussed the “Radical Love” of Jesus in the face of “Extreme Religion” or hate, and will continue on that theme this coming year. And now we have a fresh lens to view through, thanks to Charlottesville, and other clashes. There should be no question that hateful speech toward another human being for race, gender, sexual identity, ...heck, you name it is wrong.

Paul and Jesus don't take words lightly – Ephesians 4:29 (coming up in our memory verse on Instagram) says, “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.” And Jesus warned the Pharisees in Matthew 12:36, “I tell you that people will have to give account on the Day of Judgment for every careless word they have spoken.” It's hard to remember to apply this to ourselves. Calling out racism and hateful speech, I would say does build others up. Hateful speech in response to hateful speech does not. This is where the radical love of Jesus comes in to challenge our response to events/powers like what happened in Charlottesville.

Jesus and John the Baptist did use strong language to condemn others (keep in mind it was the religious teachers oppressing the masses), but Jesus also offered hope and had followers among them. So how do we respond? Yes, speak up because we can – that racism is wrong, but make sure to try and cross other power divides with gracious speech: income, athleticism, clubs, school, church, religion, etc. Racism doesn't start with violence in a protest; that is the end result of small actions every day. I'm praying for you as your youth and family enter ministry every day at school and work.

Peace,
Pastor K



Operation Christmas Child (OCC)

Did you know that the **cost to ship each shoebox** for OCC is **\$9**? Our goal this year is to ship **480 shoeboxes**. (Yes, that's \$4320!)

How can you help with that expense? There are two easy ways that won't cost you anything!

1. You can bring your aluminum cans and other metals to the **recycling**



2. You can also place your gently used but no longer needed clothing and linen items in the **Community Aid bin** behind the church.



Money from these two resources goes directly to covering the shipping of shoeboxes! And, of course, if you prefer to make a cash donation for this purpose, that is always welcome too!

Jo Hurst for the Mission Ministry Team





Back to School

This time of year brings a mix of emotions. Some people Love it while others hate it. But one thing I think becomes evident all around is scheduled activities. In the summer we stay up late and wake up the same, but if you have children in your home you now are on a schedule!

The Youth & Young Adult Ministry Team (YaYA MT) hopes that you place us on your schedule for your 6th - 12th grade students. **Every Sunday Night** (with only a few exceptions) we wish to spend some time with your youth. We hope to help you in preparing your young person to succeed in a world which is getting farther and farther away from God's original plan for us. We gather around **6 pm** and spend time in fun activity and Devo along with a meal every night, and then they are all yours again around **8 pm**. If you have any questions please talk to Pastor K or any of the advisors.

Another change that you may be experiencing, is a lack of a child living in your home due to them being away at College. **Parents (and/or College Students)** we would love to keep in touch with your students this year. Please see, Text (570-768-7461) or email (cutsncrops5@gmail.com) Kristy Heintzelman with the address of your student(s) who are living away from home, or who would benefit from hearing from us while at college. This is something we have done in the past but not as consistent as we would have liked it.

We will also be looking for **congregation attendees** to help with this undertaking. We would like people to help **keep in touch with our young people away from home**. Details will come soon so keep your eyes and ears out if God has given you a desire to keep in touch with our future leaders.

Kristy Heintzelman

Sunday Night Youth Schedule:

ALL YOUTH (6 - 12 grade): 6 - 8:30 pm
6 - 6:45 pm - Activity/Worship Time
6:45 - 7:30 pm - Meal
7:30 - 8:30 pm - Interactive Lesson/Small Groups

Remaining August Youth Events

August 27 - Worship & Games @ Pond

September Youth

September 3 - No Youth - Labor Day Weekend
September 10 - (YLT Meets -4pm)
 Deep (Worship & Small Groups)
September 17 - Possible Field Trip?
September 24 - Game Night (board & Wii)

October Youth

October 1 – No Youth – LOVE FEAST
October 8 - No Youth
 Guess Who's Coming To Dinner
October 15 - Deep (Worship & Small Groups)
October 22 - "Wide": Games and Lesson
October 29 - Deep (Worship & Small Groups)

Parents, we also send weekly emails, Facebook posts and monthly Newsletter about upcoming events – if you are not getting them, you may miss something – let the office know!

Pastor K



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.

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,



Mistaken Identity

In the aftermath of the riots in Charlottesville, VA many people took to social media to identify the faces of the white supremacist marchers. One man was identified and reportedly was fired from his job. Another man was allegedly disowned by his family. I don't have any problem with doing this. If you are foolish enough to engage in a march like this, then you should accept the consequences. But what if you were identified as being there and you weren't there? This is the story of a professor from Arkansas named Kyle Quinn. Kyle is a professor of biomedical engineering at the University of Arkansas. One of the marchers looks very, very similar to Kyle Quinn and was wearing an "Arkansas Engineering" t-shirt. On Saturday afternoon Kyle and his wife received a phone call from the University of Arkansas telling him that he had been identified on Twitter as a marcher. Soon after, Kyle's twitter account was filled with threats and cursing from around the country. The University of Arkansas received calls to fire Quinn. Quinn's address was published on Twitter and Quinn and his wife left their home to stay at a friend's house for their safety. Kyle Quinn was not the man in the picture but he was a case of mistaken identity.

I had two thoughts when I read this. First, isn't it sad that people are so quick to curse and actually threaten other people that they have never met? And for what purpose? Does tweeting or posting threats release pleasure chemicals in the brain for the one posting? Do people consider that they might be wrong or even if they are right, that they are in no position to do anything about it? Calling the University of Arkansas seems like a reasonable thing to do but not with cursing and threats.

Second, I'm glad that in Christ there is no "mistaken identity". John writes about this in 1 John chapter 5: *11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.*

Jesus knows who belong to Him. We might not be able to establish the Christian identity of someone else, but we can know for ourselves and

we can know that God knows us. There is no mistaken identity with God. That gives me confidence, assurance and peace...How about you?

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



Buffalo Gals

Our next session of **Secret Sister** is underway. Please be sure to keep your secret sister in prayer. In addition, periodically surprise her with a card or small token of your appreciation for her.

We would like to thank Meg and Keith Phelps for hosting our Annual Garden Tea Party. Although the weather was a little humid, we were able to enjoy fellowship, food and fabulous tea. Special thanks to Keith for sharing his testimony with us.

ALL women at Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren (BVCOB) are invited to join us for the upcoming fellowship events scheduled below. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS...**

BVCOB **Women's Annual Beach Retreat** is scheduled for Bethany Beach from **September 10 - 14**. If you have any questions, *contact Carol Pursel* as soon as possible!

November 10th and 11th we have an opportunity to attend a **Lysa TerKeurst women's conference** titled "**Women of Purpose**". This will be held in Hershey, PA. We're planning to stay overnight Friday evening in Hershey. A sign-up sheet is posted on Women's Ministry bulletin board. See *Carol Manbeck* for more details.

Our **Basket Ministry** is in need of \$10 gift cards. If you would like to help sponsor the gift cards or any other part of the basket ministry, you can always earmark funds in the offering for "basket ministry" (we will then purchase the \$10 cards through the monthly Scrip orders). Any questions, see *Heather Reid*.

Women's Ministry will continue to collect **pill bottle donations**. We ask that you remove labels from prescription or over the counter bottles, clean bottles and lids, let them completely dry and then return lids to top of bottle. Put them in a clean bag and deposit them in our bin at women's ministry table. We will be accepting ongoing donations throughout the year. Any questions, see *Lynda Jarrett*.

**Discipleship Reconciliation Ambassadorship
Mission Authenticity**

Mark 16: 15-16 - *He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.*

As women, how are we sharing the gospel with our families, community and the world at large? **How can we be more intentional?** Find a friend this month and discuss your responses with one another.

Many Blessings to every Sister in Christ!
Tricia Dreese

? Guess Who's Coming to Dinner ?

Sunday **October 8th** somewhere **between 5 - 6 pm** at "somewhere"!!!

This event we use to do years ago and we tried it again last year. It was a great success and everyone involved said they had a great time! Approximately 49 people attended the evening.



More details coming!!!

Blessings,
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.

We Want You at Our Bazaar

Do you craft? Are you a consultant for Thirty-One, Pampered Chef, Mary Kay, Lularoe, Norwex, etc.??? If so, **we'd like to invite you to participate** as a vendor.

Our **craft bazaar** is currently scheduled to be held at BVCOB on **Saturday, October 14th from 9 am – 3 pm**. Contact Gaye Stahl of details.

We have an application available. Pick one up at the Women's Ministry bulletin board and return to Gaye as soon as possible. (Note: the application placed in your mailbox had an incorrect contact number for Gaye. The corrected applications are now placed at our Women's Ministry Table). Vendor space is available on a first come basis. **Partial proceeds** from this bazaar will **benefit Next Door Neighborhood Outreach**, as well as **Expectations**.

Tricia Dreese



Westernport 2017

The team of 29 returned from Westernport a little tired, but with the feeling that we were used by God as servants to the children that we ministered to while we were there. We met and interacted with 95 children who had heart-breaking stories. Children living in homes with no electricity or running water. So many things that we take for granted are beyond the reach for many in this impoverished area. The children love when we come and are able to interact with them and show them love that many are lacking in their own homes. We fed them spiritually and physically. This was a great team that worked so well together and helped in meeting the needs of these precious children.

Interested in a day trip to Westernport?? The Fall Festival is coming on Saturday, October 28. Please see me if you are interested in being a part!!

Vicki Bastian



The Marriage Marathon

Then a man of Benjamin ran from the battle line the same day, and came to Shiloh with his clothes torn and dirt on his head.

1 Samuel 4:12

Earlier this year (2015?), 2,200 runners participated in the first Bible Marathon. It was held in Israel and followed the path of the runner in 1 Samuel 4:12, from Eben Ezer to ancient Shiloh - a distance of 26 miles.

Similar to running a marathon - marriage and running both require commitment, dedication and a focus on finishing well. During a long-distance run, there are officials, family members and friends along the course to provide water, to call out encouraging words and to provide medical care if needed. In marriage, we also need to have those moments of refreshment, to hear kind and affirming words and to bind one another's hurts when distress or sorrow enters our lives.

Marathon runners often fear hitting "the wall" the moment when their energy level drops so drastically that it becomes difficult to remain in the race. But through proper preparation and training, a runner can continue on through "the wall" and finish the run. At times in marriage, couples hit "a wall" that seems difficult to overcome; but with God as the coach and the Bible as the training manual, husbands and wives can make it through that challenging time and experience newfound joy in marriage.

David Jeremiah

Love is not a feeling, but a determined act of will...

John MacArthur



What's Cooking at Buffalo Valley

Amy Bastian's **Raspberry Almond Mini Muffins** recipe is found on page 104 of ***Come to the Table*** cookbook.

- 2 C. – all-purpose flour
- $\frac{2}{3}$ C. – sugar
- 2 tsp. – baking powder
- $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. – salt
- $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. – cinnamon
- $\frac{1}{2}$ C. – butter, melted
- 1 – egg
- $\frac{3}{4}$ tsp. – almond extract
- $\frac{2}{3}$ C. – milk
- $\frac{1}{4}$ C. raspberry preserves

Preheat oven to 400° F. Combine flour, sugar, baking powder, salt and cinnamon. Stir melted butter, egg and almond extract into dry ingredients alternating with milk, mixing until well combined. Spray a 24 - cup mini muffin tin with spray. Fill muffin cups a little less than half full. Spoon $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. of preserves into each muffin cup. Add remaining batter to each muffin cup, covering preserves. Bake 10 – 12 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean. Makes 24 mini muffins.

I just tried this recipe last month. We were expecting guests and I needed something quick and easy. I was pleasantly surprised at the outcome of this recipe! The muffins were delicious, and perfect for an evening dessert with fresh strawberry lemonade. I had some black raspberry jelly on hand, so that's what I used. I think using red raspberry jelly would be delicious as well.

There are nearly 40 “breads and rolls” recipes in the ***Come to the Table*** cookbook. Donita Keister's **White Bread** recipe is one of them! If you don't have a copy of the cookbook, you can pick one up at the Welcome Center. They make great gifts or “go to” cookbooks for simple and tasty recipes.



The Mystery Chef



In the Heat of the Moment

On August 20th we began a four week series titled, “In the Heat of the Moment”. All of us face “heat of the moment” moments in our lives. There are times when because of bad choices, good choices or just circumstances of life, we find ourselves in a place where the heat is turned up. We have to make a decision on how to act or what to say and we aren't sure how it is going to turn out. This is how this series will unfold:

August 20 - Our first “heat of the moment” moment is found in the life of Abraham as he is told by God to sacrifice his son, Isaac. What do you do when God is telling you to do something but you're really not sure you can do it or that you even should do it?

August 27 - “Heat of the moment” moment number 2 is from Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego as they faced the fiery furnace. What do we do when we face persecution for our Christian beliefs?

September 3 – Moment number 3 answers the question “How do you know if an opportunity or “open door” that arises in your life is from God?” We will look at an example from the life of David for this moment.

Septmeber 10 – Our last “heat of the moment” moment focuses on how to endure suffering. We will look at advice from the apostle Paul.

Sunday, September 17 will be a one week sermon on the idea of God “calling” us to serve Him. And then we begin a series of messages on 1 Peter. If you want to start reading ahead, I encourage it! Welcome back to those of you who were away most of the summer. Hope you can be with your church community on Sunday mornings.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



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

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(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

July Offerings Summary

General Fund	\$43,893.53
YTD Offerings	\$284,024.05
Needed YTD	\$315,024.48
Behind Budget	- 30,779.43

Other Deposits

Children's SS	44.64
CMT	30.00
Scrip Cards	3,025.00
Weis Cards	7,775.00
Wenger Cards	1,575.00
Dominican Missionary	695.00
Day Camp Offerings	525.46
Westernport Missions	1,775.00
Youth SS Offerings	30.00
Next Meal	500.00
Ambit energy	55.50
Beach Retreat	100.00
Facility Use	570.00
LIFT Basket	70.00
Cook Book sales	20.00
Copier Donation	11.35
OCC Metal Recycling	60.00
AMEX Reimbursement	42.37
Youth Events	75.00
Linen rental	30.00
Youth Westernport (Turkey Supper)	1,061.05
Community Aid	242.00
Cemetery Grave opening	300.00