

## Spiritual Life Services in March

Every year we invite a guest preacher to Buffalo Valley to share God's word with us in something we call, "Spiritual Life Services". This year's services will be **Sunday morning and evening, March 4<sup>th</sup>** and **Monday evening, March 5<sup>th</sup>**. The evening services will begin at **7:00 p.m.**

This year's speaker is Eric Chase, the Executive Director of Children's Aid Society. Children's Aid Society is an organization that provides services for at risk children in the York area and other surrounding areas and has close ties with the Southern PA District Church of the Brethren.

You may remember that each year for the past few years we have done a diaper and paper goods collection called "Fill Jane's Van" to benefit Children's Aid Society.

Eric is an engaging speaker who will be sharing with us along the lines of a child like faith. We believe you will be challenged and encouraged. Please plan to attend these services on **March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>**.

Eric Reamer



The same God who guides the stars in their courses, who directs the earth in its orbit, who feeds the burning furnace of the sun, and keeps the stars perpetually burning with their fires—the same God has promised to supply thy strength.

Charles Spurgeon



## NO TARANTULAS!!!

I can promise you that there are no tarantulas in Westernport, and there are no plane rides to get there and there are always flush toilets, BUT there are needy children who need to feel loved, cared about and are open to hugs, sharing laughter, and learning about Jesus.

Are you looking for an opportunity to step out and serve? Would you consider being a part of the team? The Westernport Mission Trip is **Saturday, July 14 to Friday, July 20**. We are looking for **two groups** of people to serve during this week. There is lots of help needed for the **Day Camp** for the children and we are also looking for people who would like to be part of a minor **construction/fixer upper** team.

Please see me for an application or if you have any questions. The cost is only \$150 which includes your lodging and I promise you, delicious food!

Please don't wait if you are interested. Applications with a \$50 commitment fee need to be returned by March 18 so that we can begin to plan.



Vicki Bastian,  
Westernport Team Leader

Jesus is the Center of our Faith  
Community is the Center of our Life  
Reconciliation is the Center of our Work



## Camp Eder Corner

Reminder: **Sign up for summer camp** at Camp Eder! Make sure you check with Fay Richard to get the generous financial portion from the church.

We are working to have one or more camp staff come for a moment in mission. Think of those questions!!

Get excited for a great week of camping and growing closer to God! Look soon for brochures on the table in the Main Entry. In the meantime, **register online at [campeder.org](http://campeder.org)**.

Camp Eder's Mission Statement: "Camp Eder, Christian Camp and Retreat Center, supported by the Southern Pennsylvania District Church of the Brethren, seeks to offer a place where persons can learn to know Jesus Christ through Bible based ministry in an outdoor environment."

Fay Richard, Camp Rep  
frichard@dejazzd.com





## Have Some Fun for a Cause

### Annual Church Auction - March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Starting at **3 pm** food will be available, **silent auction** tables will open and you can look through the **order of sale** and review the hundreds of items that are donated. The **live bidding starts at 4 pm** with Auctioneer Jeremy Waite. At 5:30 pm we will take a break in the Main Gathering and sell large furniture and other items in the Main Entry. **All proceeds** of the auction go directly to our **building debt retirement**.

If you have any additional items to donate please contact Jake Myer or Steve Richard (570) 452-4854 as soon as possible. All items must be at the church by 8 am on **March 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

Steve Richard



### Chocolate Rolls are Coming!!!!

Delicious crème filled chocolate rolls will be available to purchase just in time for Easter!! These rolls make a great dessert, or to give as a gift. You will be able to **taste test** this confection during the fellowship time on **Sunday, March 11!**

Order forms are available now and orders are due by **March 18**. Cost is \$10 per roll and due at time of pick-up.

Chocolate Rolls will be freshly made and ready for **pick up on Sunday, March 25**.

All proceeds from this sale are used to offset the **cost of shipping** for the **Operation Christmas Child (OCC) shoeboxes**.

Amy Bastian for Mission Ministry Team



## 2018 Men's Ministry Schedule



### March 16 - 18 - Men's Retreat

at Timberwind Log Cabin Lodge in Livonia, PA. Starting 6 pm Friday night with dinner and ending at 11 am on Sunday. The Theme is: **Guard Your Heart ... Stay the Course**. Come and join us when you can. Costs are \$50 per man for the weekend and \$25 for Saturday. Randy Reddinger has agreed to come and share what GOD has laid on his heart. Men from 18 to whatever older age, you are invited to attend. You are encouraged to bring a snack to share.

**May 5 - Sisters in Christ Banquet**. The men will be setting up and serving, and cleaning up for the banquet. We will need your help to serve our Sisters in Christ.

**July 28 - Brothers in Christ Picnic & Games**. This is the annual quoit pitch tournament and playing any lawn & table game you would like to bring along. We will share fellowship, food and fun. Boys and men are welcome. The location has not been determined yet so if you know of a location that can handle us and 20 cars just let us know.

**September** will be a **Men's Conference** on a Saturday from morning to sometime in the afternoon. The theme will be on Allowing the Holy Spirit to Live and Work In and Through Us. Lunch will be served. Matt Christ has agreed to come and share what GOD has laid on his heart.

**November 23 & 24** will be the **Annual Kettle Cook for the Medical Needs Fund**. Jake & Scott Myer and the gang of men will make, stir, and stir until the soup is ready. This is an awesome way to help reach out to those in need without leaving the comforts of the Church property. So, basically no man has much of an excuse not to help prepare or cook or stir or serve for others.

As you can see this is a schedule that will require much help to make it all happen so please mark your calendar and plan to join us with your help and participation.

Who knows what relationships you will make there for eternity.

Doug Diehl for Men's Ministry



## Church Email Lists

Members, friends and attendees of the Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren (BVCOB) are invited to participate in email lists to communicate with the church family. Listed below are the email addresses to be used when sending an email.

**Prayer List** ([prayer@bvcoob.com](mailto:prayer@bvcoob.com)) is used to share **prayer concerns and updates**.

**News List** ([news@bvcoob.com](mailto:news@bvcoob.com)) is for **church-related news and announcements** only. Emails to this list are normally generated from ministry team leaders and those who are planning events and activities.

**Share-Ads List** ([share-ads@bvcoob.com](mailto:share-ads@bvcoob.com)) is used to provide a forum for sharing **news-worthy info** not directly associated with the church that might benefit our church family. Examples: giveaways, used appliances, vegetables from your garden, yard sales, for sale items, etc.

### Email List Etiquette

1. Avoid using backgrounds and graphics in your messages to the email lists.
2. Stay on topic. Lists have a specific purpose and should be used accordingly.
3. Include a subject. Messages without a subject line will be rejected as spam.
4. Do not send attachments, solicitations or advertisements, except as permitted.
5. Do not forward chain letters, email petitions or virus warnings.
6. Replies to a message will go directly to the sender of the message. **Please do not reply all.**
7. To contact the church office, email [churchoffice@bvcoob.com](mailto:churchoffice@bvcoob.com).

**Linda Miller**

Hospitality & Communications Ministry Team Leader

(If you would like to join one of these lists or be removed from one of these lists, please contact the church office.)

## Visit from Your Missionary Family



Jason and Nicole Hoover will be here at Buffalo Valley on **March 25**. We will be hearing from them in a **Moment in Mission** during the worship services that day. Please plan on joining us to hear more about their work in the Dominican Republic.

Jo Hurst, for Mission Ministry Team

## Supporting Your Youth!

The Youth & Young Adult Ministry Team (YaYA MT) would like to **thank all the people who helped us raise money** through the Turkey Dinner on February 3. Thank you to those who donated turkeys, corn and all of the delicious cakes/cupcakes! With your **donations** we were able to cut our costs and in turn have our profit increase. A huge thank you to those who gave up time in their day to help **prepare** the food, **serve** the food, or **clean up** after the meal! Without you I don't know if we would still be awake and functioning! Thank you also to everyone who came out to **eat** and to those who **invited others** to also attend. We were able to fundraise a little over \$1,125.00 through this one event! **Thank you so much!**

We are on our way to being able to pay for the Youth going to both **Westernport** and those heading to **National Youth Conference (NYC)**. Please also mark your calendars for our **next Turkey Dinner** scheduled for **April 28**. If you would, please be in prayer for our youth who are looking forward to these opportunities this summer. If you would like to assist us in any way for our next dinner please see myself or Pastor K to know what is needed and be prepared to say yes if we ask for a donation.

Thanks again

Kristy Heintzelman

*From Your Lead Pastor,*



What Do You Do  
If You Want to Leave the Church?

I hope that title was an “attention grabber”! After spending some time in the Dominican Republic each year I always come away being impressed by the sense of community that I see in the church there. People really need each other to survive and they form bonds of friendship and spiritual care. But what about when those bonds get strained or even broken? In the rural places where we’ve served, there are not that many options for church “belonging”. You need to try to work it out. But things are different here. There are many churches in our area alone and when relationships get strained it seems way too easy for people to just leave; often without even mentioning they have left.

I’d like to see that change. If you are a member or have been attending Buffalo Valley for a long time, and if even now you are thinking of leaving our church family, would you please contact me or someone else and have a conversation about it? I find that many times, even if a relationship is damaged to the point where a separation needs to occur, talking about it, though uncomfortable, benefits both parties. In fact, here at Buffalo Valley we are beginning to put together a “reconciliation team” that will have the privilege and responsibility of reaching out to people who have stopped attending to see why and if there is a way we could bring them back. I think this is a very biblical approach to conflict and strife in the church. In fact, if this kind of ministry is appealing to you, I encourage you to contact me and we can talk about your desire to help us.

We don’t have a lot of people who leave Buffalo Valley but everyone who does is important and if there is anything we can do to get them back, or to help prepare them for their next church family, we want to do it.

God Bless,  
Pastor Eric



*God Cares, Do You?*

“...the Bible contains 2,350 verses on how to handle your money and possessions. You might be surprised to learn that 15 percent of everything Jesus Christ said had to do with it. In fact, He talked more about money than almost any other subject. He knew money would be a challenge for all of us and He cared enough to show us how to handle it wisely.”

Howard Dayton  
From, Your Money Map

If how we handle money and possessions is this important to God, why do we get upset when people discuss money in church?

## PIT – Youth Ministry

Passionate for,  
Intimate with,  
Transformed by CHRIST



*“A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.” --Matthew 2:18*

*...In a society and world saturated with violence and violent images, we recommit ourselves to the challenge of the Apostle Paul in Romans 12:21 to, ‘ . . . not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.’”*

*--From “Children and Violence,” a 1999 resolution of the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference*

After another tragic week with the school shooting in Parkland, FL we also see another heartbreaking battle on social media around guns. Is this the way it has to be? We have hope for a future where we beat our “swords into plowshares,” a future where we do not fear for ourselves and our children’s physical safety. Can we agree that is our desire and what we are working toward? It is also a future we can start on now - By mourning and praying with those families who have lost someone to gun violence, these events trigger deep emotions; reach out personally to them in these times. By loving our neighbor in small acts of kindness, including a listening ear and kind response. And by remembering that our first allegiance is with Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace who called the little children to Himself. And as much as possible, work peacefully toward peace.

Pastor K

God is using you for His special purpose.



To **Shine** His light.

To **Share** His love.

To **Shape** His People.



What an awesome God we serve!!

## Youth & Young Adult Lineup

### Youth (6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Regular Sunday Evening Times:

(All youth together)

6 - 6:45 pm - Game/Activity

6:45 – 7:30 pm - Meal

7:30 - 8:30 pm - Lesson Time

March 4 - DEEP: Religions, which way to God?

March 11 - Islam - is doubting for believers?

March 18 - DEEP: Christianity- religion?

March 25 - Spring Retreat!

DEEP (youth small group) is now meeting weekly after Family Connection meal at church. We are walking (sometimes literally) through Matthew.

Events:

March 23 - 25: **Spring Peace Retreat**

June 27 - July 1: **Creation**

### Young Adults:

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday: Wing Night

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Night: PB&J

(Pizza, Blockbusters & Jesus)

Pastor K



### Spring Cleaning



As (we hope) Spring is right around the corner, it's time for many of us to start cleaning out our closets to get them ready for warmer weather. Don't forget that you can put your unwanted, gently used clothing in the **Community Aid bin** in the church parking lot.

Proceeds from this bin are used to help pay the shipping costs for **Operation Christmas Child**.

Jo Hurst, for Mission Ministry Team

## Dominican Republic Mission Team

This year's Dominican Republic mission trip was February 3 - 12. Our team consisted of Jeff Bastian, Ken Beiler, Marlin Yoder, Darryl Fetterolf, Anthony Phelps, Pastor Eric Reamer, Tom Styers, Braden Hurst, Clarissa Styer, Pastor Donita Keister, Ashley Wetzels, Jason, Nicole, Ethan, and Miriam Hoover.

Last year on the second part of our trip we started building a church in the village of La Batata by laying block and pouring concrete for the walls. This year our group traveled back to La Batata and did some more construction work on the new church building by nailing boards and forms up and tying rebar together so the concrete workers could pour the concrete roof. The church building is still in need of more construction work, but I can definitely say it is looking more like a place to worship our Lord and Savior. While some people were doing construction work others did crafts and read stories to children at two different schools and also to the children in the village.

At the end of our trip those of us who worked with the children had the chance to tour one of the oldest Dominican Republic Church of the Brethren church buildings and also socialize with the pastor. We all also had chance to go to the beach and surf the waves (Well, tried to!!!).

Our team has a lot to be thankful for this year. We are thankful to have the chance to travel back to La Batata and do some more construction work on the new church building and also to have the chance to worship with the village people again. We are also thankful that nobody got majorly sick on our trip. Thank you to everyone who prayed for and supported our team!!!

Ashley Wetzels



## Are Your "Roots" Showing?

In our sermon series titled "Roots", we have been looking at some core beliefs of Anabaptists. These core beliefs also represent the foundation of many of the beliefs of the Church of the Brethren and many of us here. We will finish this series at the end of February and mid-March as we look at the work of Reconciliation. Our first sermon will be on the need to be reconciled to God. The second sermon will be on the need to be reconciled to each other as members of the church and the third sermon will focus on our role of reconciliation in our world and how nonviolent forms of reconciliation flow from the life of Jesus.

After the "Roots" series we will have a two or three week Easter series. Easter is early this year, April 1<sup>st</sup> (no fooling) and so you are highly encouraged to plan now to invite friends/family to our Easter services.

God Bless,  
Pastor Eric



## LOOKING AHEAD IN 2018!

April 1 – EASTER

June 9 – Strawberry Festival

June 27 – July 1 – Creation

July 4 – 8 – Annual Conference

July 14 – 20 – Westernport Mission Trip

July 21 – National Youth Conference

July 29 – All Church Picnic/Baptism

July 30 – August 4 – Musical Day Camp

September 9 - 12 – Women's Beach Retreat

September 14 & 15 – District Conference

November 3 – 4 – Children's Retreat

November 4 – Church Council Meeting

# Easter Egg Fair



Saturday,  
March 31<sup>st</sup>

**All children  
through  
fifth grade  
are welcome!**

10:30 am to 12:30 pm

**Come and go!**

**Activity stations! Prizes!  
Easter Egg Hunt Station!  
Inflatable amusements!**

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



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



If you can volunteer or have any  
questions, please contact the  
Children's Pastor  
**Donita Keister** @  
(570) 966-1183 (church)  
or email her at  
[pastordonita@bvcob.com](mailto:pastordonita@bvcob.com)

**We will soon be requesting  
candy donations.**

Watch your mailbox for upcoming details!

Teresa Chambers, Children's Ministry Team



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.



## 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.



**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  
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Donita J. Keister, Associate Pastor  
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Editors – Jeff & Vicki Bastian  
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[churchoffice@bvcob.com](mailto:churchoffice@bvcob.com)

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