

## Don't Waste Your Gifts

**Would you like to know your spiritual gifts and how to use them?** Every follower of Jesus has been given spiritual gifts. These gifts are given to us by God to enable us to serve Him and others inside the church and in our world. These gifts are combined with our personal style and passions to help us to serve in ways that are helpful and in ways that energize us and bring us joy.

Here at Buffalo Valley we use a material called "**Network**" to walk you through finding your spiritual gifts and putting them to use. We are having a two session workshop to go through the material. The first session will be Sunday, **October 14<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 4 p.m.** The second session will be Sunday, **October 28<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 4 p.m.** So, in six hours you will be equipped to know your gifts and explore possibilities of how to use them. You will also be offered the opportunity to meet one on one with someone at a later time to go over your results and questions on an individual basis.

If you'd like more information about Network and/or would like to sign up for the classes, please contact the church office.

Pastor Eric



Appreciate where you are in your journey, even if it is not where you want to be.

He has a purpose for every season.

Toby Mac, Speak Life



## IT IS NOW TIME!

It is now time to turn in your calendar dates for the **2019 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 2019 must be submitted from the ministry teams by October 1, 2018. No outside groups will be permitted to schedule any events for 2019 (with the exceptions of weddings) until after November 1, 2018.



BAPTISM!



We praise the Lord for the following people who were baptized in the Keister pond on Sunday afternoon, July 29: **Lynda Jarrett, William Jarrett, Faith Kessler, Rhyann Kurtz, Donald Neidig** and **Addison Vonada**.

Please show your support with a warm welcome to these new members of our congregation.



## More Ways to Reduce the Building Debt

There will be an **indoor estate yard sale August 30 - September 1** at the church with all proceeds going to the building fund for debt reduction. We will be setting up on Wednesday August 29<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in helping with setup on the 29<sup>th</sup>, or at the yard sale or food stand August 30 - September 1 please let me know. There are large numbers of Christian reading materials and recordings as well as household items, jewelry, tools, furniture, and all the other types of things you find in a home. Please plan on attending and bringing along some friends.

Thank you to all of you who routinely buy **gift cards** to support our debt reduction. The next online **order is due** Tuesday, **September 4<sup>th</sup>** for pick up on Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.

We will not be making and selling candy this year as profits and volunteers have dwindled over the years. Thank you for your past support and we encourage you to assist in other ways as we continue to pay down our building debt.



Steve Richard

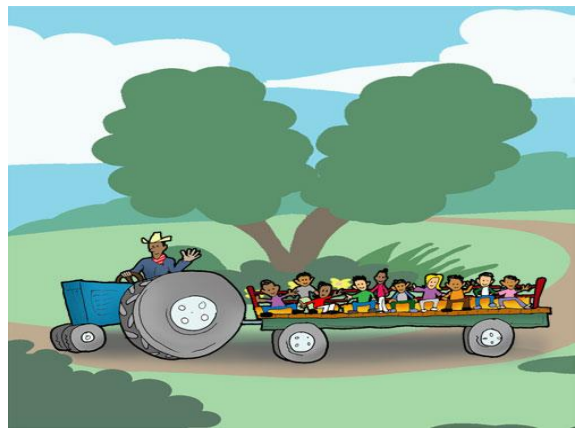
A proverb is a principle, but not necessarily a promise!



## Family Hayride Event

September 28<sup>th</sup>

6:00 – 8:30 pm



Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren  
(rain date October 5<sup>th</sup>, 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



### Something New

The Mission Ministry Team is working on  
something new and delicious!

Stay tuned for details about homemade  
pumpkin rolls available for purchase this fall!

Jo Hurst for Mission Ministry Team

## Youth & Young Adult Lineup

### Young Adults:

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday: Wing Night  
4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Night: PB&J  
(Pizza, Blockbusters & Jesus)

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

#### Regular Sunday Evening Times: 6 – 8 pm

Note: There are some slight changes to our  
PIT Youth Sunday evenings:

- Slightly shorter and more focused
- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: FUN Sunday;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: Junior High focused (6 - 8<sup>th</sup> grade: more intro level)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday: Senior High focused (9 - 12<sup>th</sup> grade: deeper)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Celebration Sunday (worship, *Love Feast* type)
- Each month will have a focused issue

#### September: Mental Health

September 2 - *Labor Day Weekend* (No Youth)

September 9 - Fun fights depression  
(Bounce House & Ultimate Frisbee)

September 16 - Healthy Thinking (Wide)

September 23 - Depression - Who Needs it?  
(Deep)

September 30 - Celebration Sunday  
(Lifting Thoughts: Worship)

#### Events:

October 21 – **Youth Family Gathering**  
(Lunch & Social Media workshop)  
11:45 am – 2 pm

November 2 – 4 - **Winter Retreat**  
(Crystal Springs)

Pastor K



God has never promised to solve our  
problems. He has promised to go with us.

Elisabeth Elliot



### 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. It is **not just aluminum!**

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



### Just think,



You're not here by chance,  
But by God's choosing.  
His hand formed you  
And made you  
The person that you are.  
He compares you to no one else -  
You are one of a kind.  
You lack nothing  
That His grace can't give you.  
He has allowed you to be here  
At this time in history  
To fulfill His special purpose  
For this generation.  
To everything there is a season,  
and a time to every purpose under the heaven.  
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Roy Lessin, Dayspring co-founder



## Buffalo Gals

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

Our **next LIFT Brunch** will be held **Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>** from **9 - 11 am** in the Son Room. **ALL Women** who attend Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren are invited to join us for fellowship, brunch and a devotion. Please plan to bring a dish to share.

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 lid 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.

*So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10 NIV*

May you find strength from God's word, no matter what season of life you find yourself in!

Many Blessings~

Tricia Dreese for Women's Ministry



## Feed the Bin"

Please don't forget to add you're gently used clothing, linens, etc. to the Community Aid bin in the church parking lot.

Funds raised from the donation of these items is used to pay for the shipping of shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Jo Hurst for Mission Ministry Team



## Seeing God Move

God was definitely moving in Westernport! We saw evidence every day. The team was asked to watch for Him in various ways and then in the evening we shared what we saw. We called them "God Sightings" and I would like to write a series of articles to share with you some of the ways that we saw God at work in Westernport.

"A little one was very concerned that Mr. Jake couldn't go the pool to have fun, but it was good he was helping other people."

"I saw God all week in a team willing to help each other in so many different ways."

"I saw God when a shepherd, without hesitation removed her earring backing to give to a child who had lost hers."

"I saw God today in the children that were quickly accepting of me...much quicker than I am to accept others."

"I saw the heart of God in a child who encouraged a peer with her words."

"I saw pure joy in the kids praising God's name with dancing!"

"The quiet reflection of some of the children as they placed their "sin" upon the cross."

"God has provided affirmation as to why I am here and encouraged me to dig deeper in God's calling for my life."

"I saw God today when several kids helped another boy find his shoes during outside game time."

"I saw Jesus in the smiling eyes of a child, so happy with the food we served."

"I saw God when His Word spoke directly to my worries and fears."

"I saw the strong help the weak."

As you can see God was definitely moving through us and around us. Do you see God moving?

Serving Him,  
Vicki Bastian, Team Leader

From Your Lead Pastor,



If God Is Your Portion...

I couldn't think of anything to write on this month so I resorted to one of those tried and true methods...just open up the Bible and see what falls out! My first attempt landed on Jeremiah chapter 50 and the destruction of Babylon; however, I wasn't in the mood to write and reflect on destruction. You'll have to forgive me if that was what God intended and I refused. I settled on Lamentations 3:22-24. Here are the verses: *"Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is your faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, says my soul, therefore I hope in Him."*

What I focused on was the word "portion". This word was meaningful to me not that long ago when I was reading through the hymn, "His Eye is On the Sparrow" and this same word was used in reference to Jesus. If the Lord is your "portion" is that enough for you? Let's be honest, in most things we enjoy larger "portions" don't we? Larger bowls of ice cream are better than smaller bowls, 16 oz. of steak is better than 8 oz., etc... But are we content with God as our portion...especially when it seems like we're eating off the kids menu when we want a bigger steak? The writer of Lamentations is the prophet Jeremiah and Lamentations is written in a somewhat somber mood. The last verse states: "The Lord is my portion says my soul, therefore I hope in Him." I'm encouraged by that. When the Lord is my portion I can have hope; regardless of what the circumstances around me look like. I can have hope. Everything else fades in importance. It's not that other things are unimportant or that my needs are unimportant, but if God is my portion, if Jesus is my portion then I will choose to be content with that portion and whatever earthly manifestations arise from it.

I hope that this month you choose the contentment available to you when you know that Jesus is your portion.

God Bless,  
Pastor Eric



Do you see yourself as an agent of change in your world?

## PIT – Youth Ministry

Passionate for,  
Intimate with,  
Transformed by CHRIST



### Holy Events, Holy Moments

(From daily Instagram reflections)

“He who gathers crops in the summer is a prudent son, but he who sleeps during harvest is a disgraceful son.” Proverbs 10:5

*‘Harvesting is preparing for the future and is hard. It necessitates saying no to other fun things and going to bed early. What are you investing your time in?’*

Summer for many of us is supposed to be more relaxing and time for vacation. But for farmers it is GO time! They stay up late and get up early to beat rain or get the work done. Farmers often miss other events due to “getting the harvest in.” And they often sleep whenever they can, rarely staying up late for “something fun” during harvest time.

Outside of the agricultural arena, we have different types of pressures and deadlines. We set our priorities to get to work / school on time; we put off homework or sleep for band/sports/other activities. The question that challenges me (and I invite you into) is this: farmers make sacrifices to bring in the harvest and prepare for the future, and they do so for a limited time. Why do we keep hectic schedules? What are we investing in? Is what we are investing in worth what we are sacrificing?

Peace,  
Pastor K

## 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.



## Freebirds

The next Freebird event is the **picnic at Halfway Dam** on **September 16<sup>th</sup>**. We will be starting at **12:30 pm**.

**October 20<sup>th</sup>** we will be having a **fall festival type event**. More details to follow.

Then on November 1<sup>st</sup> is the bus trip to Sight and Sound. The bus is full, which is great news.

Hope to see you at the next 2 events, watch for sign-up sheets so we can plan accordingly.

Thank you and Blessings,  
Linda Buttorff, (Freebirds)



## Men after God's Heart

The **next men's event** will be the **Kettle Cook** to benefit “unpaid medical expenses”. November 23 & 24 will be the dates. **November 23** we will be **preparing** what goes into the soup and on **November 24** we will **cook** the soup. There will be a lot to do both days. Please volunteer and make some soup. If you have questions ask Jake or Scott Myer, our master soup makers.

We are also looking for some men who would like to help Craig Gabel & Doug Diehl plan, prepare for, and hold the men's events. If you can assist us please feel free to contact Craig or Doug.



Doug Diehl

Whenever you are outdoors, take time to reflect on the artistry of God. His handiwork is visible in every pine cone, every leaf, winding trail and wildflower. Lift up your eyes, notice His workmanship and sing His praises!!

David Jeremiah



## Camp Eder Corner

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

Here are some comments from some of our BVCOB 2018 campers!

**Carly Dye:** "I want to thank my church family in helping me go to Camp Eder. This was my 4<sup>th</sup> year. For two years, I did dance. One year of Mad Science. This past year I went to Culinary camp. I have had so much fun and met so many friends. One of my favorite things to do there is the game Gaga Ball and I like to bake. This is one of the highlights of my summer!!"

**Kaitlyn Bridge:** "I love going every summer! The counselors are great! Fishing and all the other activities are lots of fun. My favorite part this year was sleeping outside by the campfire for two nights. I want to work at camp when I'm old enough. Thank you church for helping to send me there."

**Miriam Hoover:** "I really liked going on that swinging thing. There were two docks and a rope that you had to use. My other favorite thing was going creek stomping."

**Ethan Hoover:** "My favorite things were playing Gaga ball, swimming at the pool, and that we had awesome food!"

**Both Hoovers:** "Thank you for paying for part of our cost to go to Camp Eder."

**Cara Snook:** "My weeks at camp have always been awesome! I always look forward to going back each year and seeing familiar and new faces. The counselors are always the best people to be around and consistently know how to make the week the best week for their campers! My week at camp had a great pastor; he was enthusiastic and had a great message about God. Even with all the rain during my week, it was a blast!!"

**Katerina Shultz:** "Building a train model and watching movies (it flooded the week she went) were my highlights! I also enjoyed learning about the prophets during the Bible lesson."

Thank you to these six of our seven campers for sharing about their experiences with Camp Eder. Any questions about Camp Eder, our church camp near Gettysburg, feel free to look online [www.campeder.org](http://www.campeder.org) or contact Fay Richard, our church camp representative!

Fay Richard



## If We Just Get This Right...

This is sort of a strange sermon title but it reflects my thinking on an important stretch of teaching in the Bible. The portion we are going to look at is chapters 14-17 from the gospel of John. These chapters contain the last major block of teaching that Jesus left behind before His arrest and crucifixion. John is the only gospel writer to record most of this teaching.

We are going to walk through these chapters pretty slowly. I anticipate this taking us into the first month or so of 2019. We will look at topics such as Jesus' teaching that He is the way, the truth and the life, the need to abide in Him, our relationship to fellow believers, the work of the Holy Spirit, our relationship to the world and His prayer for the disciples (which includes us). We'll go verse by verse through this material to dig deep into what Jesus is teaching us and the implications that His words have for us today.

God Bless  
Pastor Eric

## LOOKING AHEAD IN 2018!



October 3 – Family Connection resumes

November 2 – Friday Fun Nights resume

November 3 – 4 – Children's Retreat

November 4 – Church Council Meeting

November 24 – Kettle Cook



## 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](http://www.bvcob.com).



**The Lamplighter**

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

Return Service Requested

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