

Christmas PEACE

Peace is an important part of Christmas. This year during advent season we will take a look at some qualities of Christmas peace and how those qualities are evident in the Christmas story and in our lives today. Each Sunday of advent and Christmas Eve will feature one of the letters of the word "PEACE":

- P: Praise
- E: Expectation
- A: Acceptance
- C: Commitment
- E: Eternal hope

Plan on joining us each Sunday and for Christmas Eve (services at 5:00 pm and 6:30 pm) for a look at Christmas Peace.

During advent we will have a children's sermon each Sunday and the children will receive ornaments for their tree.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric

Heaven

Heaven is the place...

- Where everything lasts forever
- Where love fills every heart
- Where praise never stops
- Where pain never enters
- Where joys never cease

No eye has seen, nor ear heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared.

1 Cor. 2:9

On the Journey Together

Our new quarter of **Sunday school** begins Sunday, December 1. Please explore our topics on the Sunday school board in the Main Entry. We welcome you to join us for fellowship, studying, and growing in our faith together.

Our winter classes are as follows:

Overcomer with Vicki Bastian

International Lesson (Call in the Gospels)
with Linda Dorman

Discipleship with Eric Reamer

The Upside Down Kingdom with Eli Mast

Issues Surrounding Adoption and Fostering
with Zack and Alicia Showers

I and II Timothy and Titus
with teacher yet to be determined

Also, don't stress if you aren't able to come every single Sunday of a quarter! You are welcome and encouraged to jump in as you are able. We hope to see you!

Sarah Kauffman



Never Judge!



A little girl was holding two apples; her mother asked for one. The girl quickly bit one apple and then the other. Her mother held back her disappointment. Then the girl handed one to her saying, "Here, this is the sweeter one!"



What's Cookin'?

As many of you are aware, there is an Annual Kettle Cook held at the front parking lot of the church on the first Saturday after Thanksgiving Day.

The Kettle Cook is just like it sounds. Ok, so you get the Kettle part, but what are they cooking??? Soup, and lot of it!!! Yummy, good Soup!!! It is chicken corn rivel, vegetable beef, and ham & bean.

Several men in the church provide their expertise in preparing the ingredients for the soup and also in cooking it. So, what does that have to do with you? I'm glad you asked!

We **need** men, women, boys and girls to provide the **help** in preparing and cooking it (stir, stir and stir). The **preparation** of the ingredients will be **Friday morning** on November 29th. **Starting at 8 am**. We can even teach you to make rivils. Just ask Doug Diehl, Craig Gabel, Jason Hoover and Kurt Ilgen. It's gooey, but lots of laughs.

The cooking starts early **Saturday morning** on **November 30th** at 7 am and **usually is ready** to be put into the customers containers by **10:30 am**. Piping hot soup for a cold day!!!

The cost of the soup is a donation. The money raised from the donations will be used to offset the outstanding medical bills of many area individuals.

Participating medical offices are contacted and they provide the outstanding billing amounts. Then the proceeds are used to pay as much as possible towards each bill. Usually the bill is paid in full. This outreach has grown to be so much more and blesses so many lives that it needs to be shared by all who desire to help.

Please plan to come out and be a blessing. Any questions please contact Jake Myer at 570-966-0099 or Scott Myer at 570-966-1975.

Doug Diehl for Men's Ministry

PIT – Youth Ministry

Passionate for,
Intimate with,
Transformed by CHRIST



Advent Calendar in Reverse

'Advent Calendars': an excuse /opportunity to eat chocolate in the morning! If you put verses with it – like we did last year with the "Jesse Tree", it is also a neat devotional time leading up to Christmas. But have you ever done a "Reverse Advent Calendar"?

We are participating with MACY to do one this year, the proceeds will go to "The United Way" to help people in Union County who need some extra aid. Basically, each day, as you open a little door and take a chocolate (optional), you take an item and put it in a basket/bag to bring in to church each Sunday that we will then take to the United Way. It is a way of encouraging us to think of others as we wait to celebrate the birth of someone who thought of others his entire life – yes, Jesus. Below is a list of things we are collecting. On my Instagram/FB posts through Christmas, I will try to put a verse up each day to go with each item, to help direct our thoughts. I look forward to sharing together. (Items can be brought to the Youth Table each Sunday).

"Reverse Advent Items:"

- 1) canned vegetables
- 2) canned fruit
- 3) canned stew/ soups (complete meal as possible)
- 4) canned beans
- 5) chicken broth
- 6) beef broth
- 7) spaghetti sauce
- 8) salsa
- 9) canned tuna
- 10) canned chicken/ other meat
- 11) toilet paper
- 12) paper towels
- 13)laundry detergent
- 14) fabric softener
- 15) toothpaste (not brushes)
- 16) body wash
- 17) shampoo
- 18) hand soap
- 19) deodorant
- 20) lotions, diffusers & calming scents
- 21) pony tail holders
- 22) combs & brushes
- 23) feminine products

Peace, Pastor K



For the first time ever here at Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren (BVCOB) we are going to be organizing a **disaster relief trip through Samaritan's Purse**. If you are not familiar with Samaritan's Purse, it is a Christian organization that is really well known for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Not only does Samaritan's Purse organize disaster relief trips and Operation Christmas Child but they also do other mission projects.

This trip will be taking place from **February 9 - 15, 2020** in Horry County, South Carolina. We will be rebuilding houses destroyed by Hurricane Florence in 2018. Because of Hurricane Florence, over 2,000 homes had been destroyed and 11,000 people had been displaced in South Carolina. We are looking for 8 people to go (4 women and 4 men). We are only looking for people to help with construction work. You do not need to be a skilled carpenter to participate in this trip, but you do need to be able to handle physical work. Samaritan's Purse provides all the tools, food, and lodging. All that we need to do is show up. The cost to go on this trip is \$50 per person. Youth who are interested in going on this trip must be at least 14 years old and have a parent or chaperone with them.

Anyone who is interested in going on this trip, please pick up a brochure at the Mission Ministry table in the Main Entry. If you have any additional questions or are interested in going please contact me at (570) 541-5298 or by email ashwet13@gmail.com. I would really like to have a full team by Sunday, December 22, 2019.

I personally have been on several disaster relief trips through Samaritan's Purse and I am always amazed at how Samaritan's Purse spiritually feeds the homeowners, community, and volunteers. Not only do they help homeowners rebuild and clean out houses they also give them journals, Billy Graham training bibles, and other resources and their time to help them grow in their faith. I am truly excited to see where God will lead us on this trip!!!

God bless,
Ashley Wetzel

From Your Lead Pastor,



The Importance of Community

The newest community or faith circle that I am part of is a group of men who meet on Wednesdays from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. It is a group of six people who have been meeting each week for about 8 weeks. This past Wednesday one of the men showed up an hour late, just as we were wrapping up our discussion of the sermon and getting ready to leave.

He said that he knew he was late and that he knew everyone would be leaving but he decided to drop by anyway. He was having a difficult day. He didn't stop by for an insightful Bible study. He didn't stop by to ask an important question. Why does someone show up an hour late when he knows he is only going to be there for a few minutes? He does it because he wants to be with his community of people. He does it so that he can be prayed over and because he knows that the other men in that room genuinely care about him. Those other men couldn't do much practically to reduce the difficulty of the day, but that didn't really matter.

This is an example of why we spend so much time and energy at Buffalo Valley exhorting everyone to be a part of a church community. Would you consider joining a faith circle or even starting a new one? The Christian life is intended to be lived in community. I hope you desire to experience all that God has for you and I hope you see the important role that others can play in your life.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



Operation Christmas Child



Thank you to our church family for generously supplying the items for our **500 shoeboxes** for Operation Christmas Child!! What a blessing to the children who receive these gifts.

Family
KidConnection



GINGERBREAD HOUSE NIGHT

December 6 from 6:00 – 8:30 pm

Young Adult Lineup:

Game Nights (Church Wide ALL AGES)

1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday
from 5:00 – 8:30 pm
December 4 & December 17

Wing/Pizza & Movie Night

2nd Thursday from 6:30 - 8:30 pm
December 12



Youth (6th - 12th grade)

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

December Theme: Pursuing Christmas

December Sundays:

December 1 - [DEEP]: Advent in Reverse
December 8 - [MACY]: Cookie Baking
2 – 4 pm
December 15 - [Family]: Caroling
3 – 6 pm
December 22 - [WIDE]: Christmas Party!!
5 – 8 pm
December 29 [after lock-in: Probably no youth]

ALSO: Friday Night Hang Outs:

*During Friday Fun Nights, 6 - 9th graders
hang in the PIT, pool, video game
tournaments, devos, food, other games.*

Youth Events:

December 27 – Lock-In from 8 pm – 8 am

Pastor K

Do You Get All The News You Need?

Contact the church office to receive:

Church News

news@bvcob.com

Prayer Concerns

prayer@bvcob.com

Share Ads

share-ads@bvcob.com



Men's Retreat 2019

Our 2019 **Men's Retreat** will be held on **March 27 - 29**, from Friday evening through Sunday morning. The retreat will be at Timberwind Log Cabin Lodge near Livonia, PA.

The retreat topic and focus are still to be determined but we know that Pastor Eric will lead the retreat. We will also have other men participate in the retreat. The cost will be \$50 for the weekend or \$25 for Saturday only. Food and drinks will be provided and each man is asked to bring a dish or snack to share.

We are asking/praying that the Holy Spirit will guide us as we worship, pray, learn and laugh together. Watch for additional info over the next month or two but please consider putting the retreat on your calendar. You won't regret it. If you have any questions, please contact Craig Gable, Doug Diehl or Pastor Eric.

Doug Diehl



To My Church Family

Once again I would like to thank each and every one of you for your support, help, patience, and understanding these past six years of my tenure as Building and Grounds Ministry Team Leader. Just like at home, unexpected problems arise, such as no heat in the Sonroom the other Sunday. Your willingness to adapt and understand was most appreciated.

I very much enjoyed serving you these past six years and ask that you give the same consideration to your new team leader, Marlin Yoder.

May you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, and Blessed New Year.

Serving Him,

Bill Baker



Friday Fun Night Schedule

Programming is from 6:30 – 8 pm, with
Open gym/activity time from
6 to 6:30 pm and 8 to 8:30 pm.

Friday Fun Night (FFN) is open to any kid
currently in K through 5th grades.

Each night is divided between organized
game/activity time and Bible learning, with a
focus on understanding how the Bible fits
together and is applied to our lives.

Kids are encouraged to bring their Bibles,
bring their friends, and bring an attitude ready
for **FUN!**

Snacks Provided

December KidConnection Schedule

6th - Family Gingerbread Night
13th - Bring a buck night
20th - Jesus's Birthday Party
27th - Pajamas night

January KidConnection Schedule

3rd - Bring a Friend to Friday Fun
10th - Bring a Buck
17th - Glow Night
24th - Crazy Sock Night
31st - Crazy Hair

Teresa Chambers for Children's Ministry Team



More than One Way to Give



Coming in mid- December, please
look for the "COOKIES - SIGN-UP-
BOARD" in our Main Gathering.
Then, list your name and number of dozens
you will bake for the **Blood Drive**, happening
on **January 7, 2020**, from **1 pm – 7 pm**. You
may drop the **cookies** off at the Church
Kitchen on Sunday, January 5th, or bring them
along with you when you give a pint of your
blood to the American Red Cross.

Thank you,
Karen Beiler

FALL CHURCH COUNCIL

After enjoying a delicious potluck meal on
Sunday November 3rd. some 45 members
gathered for the Fall Church Council Meeting.

The budget was approved for 2020.
Included in the budget were two notable
improvements for the facility. The Main
Gathering lighting will be replaced with
dimable LED fixtures. A **PA system** will be
installed making it possible to make
announcements to all the occupants of the
facility.

The Council gave approval for a
playground to be installed outside the
northwest side of the Main Entry. The funds
for this project will be raised off budget and the
Ministries Coordinating Team will be
responsible to give oversight for the project.
We hope to see the many children among us
enjoying this new addition soon.

Eli Mast
Moderator



Oh, Come let us adore Him!!
Christ the Lord!!!



Buffalo Gals

Women's Christmas Tea will be held on Saturday **December 7th** at 9:00 am. We will gather at the home of Carol Manbeck on Airport Road in Lewisburg. Please join us for a potluck brunch and a delicious variety of teas. Sign up on the Women's Ministry board in the Main Entry.

The Secret Sister reveal will be held in January. Watch the announcement sheet for the date and time.

Carol Pursel



Bowling Adventure!

January 19th 1:45 - 4 pm

BVCOB families

with kids in our KidConnection Ministry

(birth - 5th grade) are invited to
our Bowling Afternoon!

You can bring the older ones as well!

Come out for bowling, fellowship and fun!



Location: Lewisburg Lanes

*Look for sign-ups at the Children's tables
coming in December*

Teresa Chambers for the Children's Ministry



Creation

What will you be doing **June 23 - 28, 2020**? The Youth and Young Adult Ministry Team (YaYAMT) is planning on being at the Agape Farm in Mount Joy Pa with a group of people who are looking to grow closer together and with Jesus.

That is, **If** we have 15 people signed up with their ticket payment of \$75.00 by December 15, 2019. We want to make sure that we have enough interest before we buy our tickets this year and before the cost for the tickets begins to rise.

This invitation to go is for **anyone** who would like to go, **not just for youth or young adults**. We want to experience this coming Creation with people of all ages.

So, if you are interested in signing up for **Creation 2020**, please see Pastor K with your \$75 and bring your friends and their \$75 to make sure we have enough people to commit to going. (If we do not get 15 people we will not be going and all payments will be returned. If after signing up and after we have purchased the tickets, you find out you can't go after all, payment will only be returned if someone else can go in your place.)

So, again, if you are interested in going to Creation in 2020, please see Pastor K as soon as possible.

Kristy Heintzelman for the YaYAMT

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