

Are You Thirsty? Come to the Waters

Women's Winter Retreat is coming on
March 8 - 10 at Timberwind Lodge in Livonia.

Please join us as we study:

- *Symptoms of spiritual hydration
- *How to rehydrate through the Word, prayer and fellowship with other believers
- *The role of the Holy Spirit in spiritual refreshment
- *Why "never being thirsty again" only applies to certain people.

Engage in soul watering activities.

Time for fellowship and personal space.

Come for all or part of the retreat.

Sign up on the Women's Ministry Bulletin board. The whole weekend is \$60. Friday evening and Saturday is \$45 and Saturday only is \$25.

Watch for more information to be posted on the bulletin board and in the bulletin and announcements.

Any questions, contact Carol Pursel, 570-713-8035 call or text; or Cheryl Ilgen in the church office.

Carol Pursel for Women's Ministry



Men's Retreat Date Now Set

Last year the men hosted a retreat at Timberwinds Lodge and those who were able to attend were blessed, encouraged, challenged and....very well fed! We have set the dates for this year's retreat at the same place. The dates are **Friday, March 29 through Sunday, March 31st**. We will spend time together in teaching, talking, praying, playing and of course, eating. The theme of the retreat will be determined soon but please consider putting this on your calendar and joining us for all or a portion of the retreat time.

Pastor Eric for Men's Ministry



Yes, It's That Time!!!

To Serve Others in Westernport!

Plans are underway for the **Summer Mission Trip to Westernport, MD**. We will be serving the children and their families the week of **July 13th to 19th**. Do you want to be part of a team that works together to feed these children both physically and spiritually and make a difference in their lives? Consider being part of the Westernport team this year and experience being the hands and feet of Jesus.

Please contact me for more information or an application.

Vicki Bastian, Team Leader



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@bvcob.com) is used to share **prayer concerns and updates**.

News List (news@bvcob.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@bvcob.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@bvcob.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.)

PIT – Youth Ministry

Passionate for,
Intimate with,
Transformed by CHRIST



Holy Events, Holy Moments
(From daily Instagram reflections)

“And the child (Jesus) grew and became strong, and the grace of God was on him.”

Luke 2:40

This is referring to Jesus between 8 days and 12 years old, just after he was blessed by Simeon and Anna (See BVCOB Youth Facebook page for complete story), and before his incident of getting “lost” at the temple. Before, this reference always struck me as making Jesus unique, as the Son of God. But this time, I am seeing that it shows His humanity. We would say this about most children - especially our own: they grow strong and too fast, and we are sometimes amazed that they survive childhood. The grace of God is on them.

“The grace of God was on him.” What does this mean? Was Jesus curious and into mischief? Did he play jokes on his siblings? Was He strong willed and thought He knew best? Did that grace shine through Him in kindness to others? Did all other adults look at Him and marvel at how well-behaved He was? Was the grace of God on Him in the same way we consider it on “our” children - it’s surprising that they haven’t gotten hurt more than they have, considering how much they climb and push the limits? Or is it the grace we see in others’ children - well-behaved, kind and considerate? (Ok, maybe I speak in slight hyperbole, but you get my point).

Don’t get me wrong, Jesus was a unique child, and Luke says repeatedly that Mary quietly treasured these things in her heart. Hopefully you treasure moments with your children as well. Look for moments of grace in your child - to yourself, and others. May the grace of God be on you.

Peace,
Pastor K



Friday Fun Night:

February

- 1st The Great Escape - by an Israelite Family
- Wear your fastest sneakers.
- 8th Better Safe Than Sorry by Moses
- Wear something red for Valentine’s Night.
- 15th Following the Crowd - By Aaron
- Inside Outside Upside Down Night
- Don’t follow the crowd tonight.
- 22nd I Am Not Afraid! - by Caleb Family Friday Night
- Don’t be afraid to ask your parents.

March

- 1st Our Blood Runs Bold - by Joshua
- Wear your favorite band-aid
no showing blood tonight.
- 8th Through God’s Eyes - by Samuel
- Wear your favorite Sunglasses.
- 15th God’s On My Side - by David
- Bring your favorite rock to decorate.
- 22nd The Best for the Best - by Mary
- Bring your best friend tonight.
- 29th Because I Love You - by Jesus!

Easter Egg Fair:

April 20th
10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Teresa Chambers for Children’s Ministry Team

♥ The Lord is near. Jesus will touch your heart in ways that no one else can and with the tenderness that only He can bring. The times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.
Acts 3:19

From Your Lead Pastor,



Are You Ready?

As I sit at my desk writing this letter our area is in preparation for a large snowstorm that is scheduled to impact our area on Saturday. As the time has gotten closer, I've noticed that a lot of people and organizations are "getting ready" for the storm. Some events have been cancelled or rescheduled and not a single snowflake has fallen from the sky. My wife told me that Target has been shipping out more sleds than usual. People are going to the grocery store to get "bread and milk". I imagine that by tomorrow afternoon the grocery stores will be empty of milk and bread. Perhaps if we had more monster storms the dairy price would go up? Anyway, there are many preparations going on; well before the storm hits. Why? Well, the weather forecasters are predicting the arrival of the storm and people believe those forecasts enough to spend time and money getting ready and often these preparations mean great inconvenience.

Can I ask you to consider the question, "Are you ready?" in relation to the return of Jesus? Though Jesus hasn't returned, the "forecast" of His return has been around for 2,000 years. I think the Bible is more reliable than the weather forecaster. The Bible doesn't give us an exact date for Jesus' return. The world would be chaos if we knew the date. However, there is a certainty to the promise of His return. Are you ready? Are you making preparations? You don't need bread and milk, but you will need to have received Jesus as Savior. If I read the Bible correctly, once Jesus returns there will no longer be an opportunity to receive Him or that opportunity will be very difficult. So, get ready for the coming storm, but even more importantly, get ready for the coming of Jesus!

If you want to talk about getting ready for Jesus' return, please talk to me.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric

Youth & Young Adult Lineup

Young Adults:

2nd Thursday: Wing Night
4th Wednesday Night: PB&J
(Pizza, Blockbusters & Jesus)
(6:30 – 8:30 pm)

Youth (6th - 12th grade)

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

February Theme: Love, Dating, Etc.

February 3 - Superbowl Sunday [No Youth]
February 10 - [Man hunt]
Love vs. Sex
February 17 - [Painting & Games]
The Downside of Hooking Up
February 24 - [Rag Ball]
True Love & Questions

Youth Events:

March 30 – WinterJam
April 5 – 7 - Spring Retreat @ Camp Eder
May 11 - **Turkey Dinner**
June 25 - 30 - Creation

Pastor K



Subcommittee Needed

The Mission Ministry Team is forming a subcommittee to explore the possibility of **planting a Spanish speaking church** in our area. If you have any interest in being a part of this process, please contact Pastor Eric.

Jo Hurst for Mission Ministry Team

Raising Money While Having Fun



Our highly successful and entertaining Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren **Annual Church Auction** is **March 2nd** and we are busy **collecting items for the sale**. Please let Jake Myer or Steve Richard (570-452-4854) know as soon as you have an item for the sale so we can begin to advertise the hundreds of items or services that we will have to sell. We accept **most anything of value** (new or used) to be sold at our popular silent auction tables or at the live Auction. If you would like to donate a theme bag or a themed basket we have some baskets available for your use or you can provide your own.

The details for the auction are much the same as last year. It will be **Saturday, March 2nd** and while we strongly prefer to know about the items ASAP, all items must be to the church by 8 AM that morning. 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. All proceeds go directly to our **building debt retirement**.

Steve Richard



The Importance of Love

More than anything else, we all need to be loved and to love. These are two of man's most basic desires. We are shaped by those who love us or refuse to love us and by whom we love or refuse to love. Love is crucial! This is no news to God – He created us for love. And Jesus said our love for God and for our neighbor is the fulfillment of all the law of God.

The world cries out for genuine love, love that encourages and unites, love which even heals.

Love is essential to our emotional, physical, mental and social well-being.

David Jeremiah



Camp Eder Corner

Yes, it is quite cold out these days so what better time than now to start thinking about **summer camping at Camp Eder**? Brochures will probably arrive in the next month, but feel free to register online. Make sure you check in with Fay to get the financial portion from the church. If you are a regular attender here at Buffalo Valley COB, a significant portion of your tuition will be paid!

Peace Works: SUMMER 2019 Empowering the Next Generation of Peacemakers

“Camp Eder provides a fun, enriching, spiritual, and biblically-based camp experience for campers of all ages. Peace is a prayer for some and a life’s work for others. It’s a blessing we share with others and longing within each of our hearts. Scripture is filled with the stories of peace and justice and camp is the perfect place to share them. Peace isn’t always easy, but it’s always worth the effort, because we know that peace works!”

Some great camps, including:

*Barefoot, Kids’, Junior, Senior High Youth, Junior High Youth

*Kids’ Farm, Colorful Creations, Explorers,

*Jr. Culinary, Outback, Gone Fishin, Shining Stars, Rock Climbing, Wet N Wild

How does Roller Coaster Adventure camp or Adventure Mystery Extreme Challenge camp sound? Many more regular or special camps available.

Any questions about Camp Eder, our church camp near Gettysburg, feel free to look online www.campeder.org or contact Fay Richard, our church camp representative!

A quote from their site: “Above all, we, at Camp Eder, are about sharing the message of Jesus Christ and impacting communities everywhere with the hope we have in Him. We hope camp inspires you, encourages you, and uplifts you!”

Please consider camp for your child!

Fay Richard, Camp Rep
frichard@dejazzd.com



Operation Christmas Child Shipping

Please continue to help us raise money to ship shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child (OCC) by donating to our recycling bin as well as the Community Aid bin.

The Community Aid bin is for gently used clothing as well as other soft household items (linens, etc.).

Recycling is for so much more than just aluminum cans. Look for flyers in your mailbox that will provide a list of the many items that we are able to recycle.

Thank you for your help with these two projects!

Jo Hurst for Mission Ministry Team

Life Lessons from Dr. Seuss



Through the month of February we will continue to look at “Serious Sermon Stuff from Senor Seuss”. Some of the titles that are on tap are “Horton Hears a Who” and Horton’s words: “A person is a person no matter how small.”; “Sneetches” and the importance of identity in Jesus Christ and “The Lorax” and how greed can lead us down a very bad direction.

Hopefully these sermons have allowed you to think about how biblical truth can be learned from many different sources. There is only one inspired Scripture but the lessons from that Scripture filter into many other aspects of life.

As we enter into March we will begin a series of messages from the gospels pointing us to our Easter celebration in April.

Pastor Eric

Please Pray for Dominican Mission Trip



On **February 8 - 17, 2019**, the people listed below will be serving in the Dominican Republic, in the city of Santo Domingo:

Heather Buttorff	Ashley Wetzel
Meghan Wetzel	Lynda Jarrett
Jo Hurst	Jeff Bastian
Chris Graham	Tom Styers
Eric Reamer	Dan Manbeck
Kurt Ilgen	Jim Libby
Gaylord Hoover	

This group will be working on constructing a church building, as well as, attending the Dominican Annual Conference. Please pray that the trip would be encouraging to our Dominican brothers and sisters and spiritually growing for all the team members.

Here is a way to remind you to pray for the group. Since the high temperatures in the Dominican will be in the 80s each day, consider praying for the group as you put on your coat or gloves or boots. The team won't have any need for those items, but they do need your prayers as you bundle up. Perhaps this will remind you to pray for the ministry of the team

Pastor Eric



Freebirds:

By the time you read this you will have missed dinner at Hoss's and bowling at Hoopla's (Of course that depends on the snow storm that could produce 0 - 85 inches).

Our next event is scheduled for March 8th, which is movie night at the church. Although I believe we have a conflict with the Women's Retreat that weekend. So that will probably be moved to another night. We will keep you posted.

Linda Buttorff for the Freebirds

The Bible's revelation from God is intended for ordinary people in ordinary life.

Pastor Eric





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.

LOOKING AHEAD IN 2019!



March 2 – Annual Church Auction
March 8 – 10 – Women’s Retreat
March 17 & 18 – Spiritual Life Services
March 29 - 31 – Men’s Retreat

April 18 – LOVE FEAST
April 20 – Easter Egg Fair
April 21 – EASTER

May 5 - Church Council Meeting

June 8 – Strawberry Festival
June 12 - Summer Kid Connection Begins
June 21 – 22 - MifflinServe
June 25 – 30 – Creation

July 3 – 6 – Annual Conference
July 13 – 19 – Westernport Mission Trip
July 28 – All Church Picnic/Baptism

August 3 - Men's Quoit Pitch
August 5 – 9 - Musical Day Camp

September 20 & 21 – District Conference

October 6 – LOVE FEAST
October 20 - Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

November 3 - Church Council Meeting
November 30 – 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.



The Scriptures are radiant with divine wisdom. This wisdom shines with the glory of God.

John Piper

The Lamplighter

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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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



Couples Banquet



February 16th from 6 – 8:30 pm

\$26.00 per couple

Reservations due by February 3th!

Sign-up in the Main Entry.

Any questions, contact Karen Beiler or
Linda Miller