

The Lamplighter

Buffalo Valley
Church of the Brethren

July/August 2019
Volume 35 No. 6



Don't Forget.....



The **All-Church Picnic/Baptism** is scheduled for Sunday, **July 28th, 12:30 pm**. Bring along a warm casserole & dessert to share. Men's Fellowship will have a **pig roasted** for this event. Plates, napkins, cups, plastic ware is provided. Drinks and **soft ice cream** will also be provided. Ice cream should be ready to serve after the baptism. Bring along your lawn chairs & towels for swimming in the Keister Pond. Please, sign up in the Main Entry, if you know you are coming. Hope to see you there!

Karen Beiler
Special Events Coordinator

Dominican Republic Ministry

We need your prayers!



Pastor Eric is still in the planning stages of our 2020 trip to the Dominican Republic. However, this is proving to be a difficult task.

A large part of these complications comes from the divide that has formed between the Dominicans and the Haitians within our denomination there. In an effort to not be a part of any problems, one option is to put off the mission trip for a year. We ask for you to pray for guidance as we determine the best way to help our Dominican brothers and sisters at this time.

Jo Hurst for Mission Ministry Team



Westernport...Here We Come!!!

We continue to prepare for our week in Westernport from **July 13 – 19**. We will be ministering to the children through a Day Camp, where they will learn about Jesus with Bible story time with Pastor Eric, have interactive time with Linda Miller at the Imagination Station, Craft time, Game time with Pastor K and have their hungry bellies fed by the kitchen crew and be loved by all the team.

What a blessing to be a part of a team that is willing to serve and love the little ones that are hungry in so many ways. Please take time to pray for the 30 people on this team as we serve and reach out in Westernport.

The team members are: Pastor Eric, Pastor K, Brenda Eberhart, Kaye Hoover, Janice Shively, Stacy Mast, Carol Manbeck, Zach Showers, Hannah Pursel, Heather Reid, Darryl Fetterolf, Chloe Gemberling, Jeff Bastian, Linda Miller, Cindy Kelly, Briahna Heintzelman Lynda Jarrett, Nancy Keefer, Holly Lehman, Keely Mast, Amanda Reid, Robin Shultz, Jake Myer, Chuck Smith, Megan Reid, Myessiah Herrold, Dakota Heintzelman, Chris Graham, Chris Gemberling and myself.

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25:40

Vicki Bastian, Team Leader



Let's never miss an opportunity to share the Gospel.

Franklin Graham



Men after God's Heart

At our Men's Retreat in March we had a wonderful prayer time where we felt the presence of God in a special way. Each man shared five requests and took a couple of minutes sharing those requests with the group. We then took turns laying hands on each man and having two or three men praying for those requests. We had a wonderful time as we prayed, laughed and cried together.

We met again for a prayer night on June 13th and experienced the presence of GOD and the Holy Spirit moving. There was witnessing of what GOD did through the prayer night at the Retreat and we look forward to the witnessing from the June 13th prayer night. We will keep you informed when the next prayer time will be.

Also, it will soon be time for the **Men's Picnic**. This will be held rain or shine on **August 3rd** from **3 pm** to whenever we are finished. There will be the Quoit Pitch Tournament, Corn-hole, and any other yard and table games you wish to bring along. Please bring your sons & friends. Last year we had several young men there.

Please bring a dish or snack to share. Meat, drink, toppings, and utensils/plates will be provided. Bring lawn chairs and lounge if you wish to. This can be an awesome time for all. Maybe we can talk Gary Kline & Steve Buttorff into making homemade ice cream like they did at the retreat!!!

Doug Diehl for Men's Ministry



Summer Day Camps Continue

July 10, 17, 24

Preschoolers: 2 ½ to pre-K
9:30 am – 12 pm

K5: those who have completed kindergarten
through 5th grades
9:30 am — 4 pm

REGISTER ONLINE – kids.bvcob.com

Efforts for New Church Plant



Many of you have heard at least something about Buffalo Valley's efforts to begin a new church plant in the Penns Creek area. Rich Miller is going to lead this effort. We hope to have the first meeting of this church in September. I wanted to take some time to update you on the progress and to give you some details.

This new church will be more along the lines of a "house church". This is not a new idea...many would say that this is very similar to the church experience of the book of Acts in the Bible. We are going to begin a new community of believers who are committing to really do life together. We are praying that people who do not already know Jesus Christ as Savior or who are not currently involved in a church family will want to come into a relationship with Jesus and then "be the church" for each other...to do life together...to grow as disciples...to make disciples.

From the very beginning, the "DNA" of this church will be "multiplication". When the group reaches a size of 25-30, the group will split into two groups. If you are interested in watching a brief video which has more information about this effort, we encourage you to go to YouTube and search "wearechurch". The first video is about 20 minutes and will give you an overview of what we are anticipating will happen.

Buffalo Valley will have a role in beginning this new church. We are going to ask for volunteers to help pass out flyers to advertise the church, to participate in some community events to serve the Penns Creek area and to get out the word about the new church. Also, it might be possible that a small number of people from Buffalo Valley may feel led to help get this new church off the ground.

This is an exciting time as we seek the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to make an effort like this succeed. Please be in prayer for God's activity in the lives of people who will find out about the new church and who will be interested. Please pray for Rich as he leads this new effort, under the supervision of the Mission Ministry Team and Ministries Coordinating Team. If you have any questions, please ask Rich, Sarah Hockenbrocht or me.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



**BRETHREN
Disaster Ministries**

We are still looking for **2 more men** to sign up for our **Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) trip** which will be **October 6 - 12**, in **Lumberton, NC** to help **rebuild houses** that were destroyed by Hurricane Matthew in 2016. We are only looking for people to help with construction work. You do not have to be a skilled carpenter to participate in this trip.

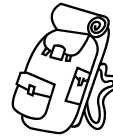
I want to share with you all a God moment I had from last year's trip: last year my job was to help clean out a house that had been destroyed by Hurricane Florence. The owner of this house shared her story with us. In 2016 her husband had passed away and then after that Hurricane Matthew came through and destroyed her home. After that she had a group come in and help clean out her home. Rather than going through everything and figuring out what is salvageable and not salvageable they just took everything and threw it out. After that she hired a so called "contractor", had already paid the person and here it ended up being a scam. Then BDM came and rebuilt her house. She lived in it for 4 months and then hurricane Florence came through and destroyed it again. After that BDM came back to the home and helped clean it out. At the end of the week the homeowner stopped by the house and she was so happy because we took the time to make a pile of things that are salvageable, not salvageable, and sure if they are salvageable or not, where other groups in the past did not do that. My God moment from last year's trip was seeing the homeowner smile.

The whole point of this trip is to share the love of Christ with people in need (you do not have to be a skilled carpenter to do that). Any men who are interested in this trip can sign up on the sign-up sheet at the mission table in the main entry. You can also pick up a brochure. I would like to have a full team by the beginning of August.

We will be working with a group of 7 people from the Virginia District.

Any questions please call, text, email, or talk to me at church. (570) 541-5298 or ashwet13@gmail.com.

Thank you,
Ashley Wetzel



Fun & Growth at Camp Eder!

Young people are headed for fun and growth at Camp Eder!

There is still time...register soon!!

For those going to camp, get ready for an awesome time! Remember this is a wonderful place to make some great Christian friends, maybe even establish some lifetime bonds!

May God bless you with friendships and joy as you get to know others and Christ better!! Prayers for campers and staff appreciated.

If you want to carpool, let me know when you are going....registering online means I don't always know who is going and when!! Thanks!

God is good, all the time!

Fay A. Richard, Camp Representative



Musical Day Camp 2019

*For kids who have
completed*

Kindergarten through 6th grade

**Monday, August 5
through
Friday, August 9**

9 am to 1 pm daily

Performances Held

**SATURDAY, August 10 - 7:00 PM
SUNDAY, August 11 - 9:30 AM**

Teresa Chambers, for Children's Ministry Team

From Your Lead Pastor,



The Beauty of “Busy”

I’m very busy. There are so many things going on here at Buffalo Valley that I have a part in seeing happen. Every once in a while I find myself beginning to feel a little overwhelmed. This happened yesterday as I began to think about my role in MifflinServe, Annual Conference, Westernport, and the day to day things that happen. And then a wonderful thing happened. I realized that I am blessed to be so “busy” about the things that are happening here at Buffalo Valley. We are busy because we are making a difference in the lives of people in our community and around the world.

There is a true beauty to being busy when you believe that your “busyness” is doing effective “business” for the kingdom of God. When I put my head on my pillow most nights, I feel like something good has been accomplished. I think of the word “worthwhile”. When something is “worthwhile” it means that something was worth the “while” that it took to accomplish. Of course, there are boundaries that everyone needs to put in place, but when we are busy doing what we believe is what God desires us to do, the tiredness and exhaustion, either physical or mental, is buffered by a true sense of accomplishment. And honestly, even if we don’t see any direct results of our labors, we still know that “our labor is not in vain in the Lord”.

Don’t be afraid to be busy. You have been created for good works which God has prepared beforehand for you. So let’s do the good works. They will take time. These works will tire us out. But there is beauty in busy.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric

How many of our sleepless hours might be traced to our untrusting and disordered minds. They slumber sweetly whom faith rocks to sleep.



Charles Spurgeon



Think how wonderful we’ll feel when our footsteps tread heaven’s streets. Whether by death or by the Lord’s sudden return, there’s a great reunion ahead of us. Christ’s victory over sin and death gives us an eternal home and what a celebration awaits us!

David Jeremiah

From Condemnation to Completion

On June 16th we began a new series of sermons titled, "From Condemnation to Completion". This series is based on Romans chapter 8. The chapter begins with the phrase: "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus" and ends with "Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us" and we are told that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. We go from condemnation to completion in this one chapter.

Our sermon titles for the first five weeks will be:

- The Good News of Condemnation
- Are You In Your Right Mind?
- New Identity and New Inheritance
- Groaning for Glory
- The Holy Spirit and Prayer

I hope you will plan to join us and I hope you will read Romans 1-7 in preparation for our time together in God's Word. You will benefit from knowing the context and you will benefit from reading and re-reading the text. Please pray for God's Holy Spirit to be active in all of our lives as we study Romans chapter 8.

Pastor Eric

What Special Event Will You Attend?

Many thanks to ALL who came out with yummy Strawberry desserts to share at our annual Strawberry Festival/Hymn sing. Thanks to those who tore down, and reset chairs up for worship. Voices sounded so beautiful praising God, together, that we could put them in a bus, hit the road, as a "Singing Praises Tour" across the country.



READY? SET! GO!

We've set a date for a "**Guess Who's Coming To A Picnic?**". Sunday, **August 18, 2019**, we will need Hosts and Guests.

Hosts get to choose their favorite picnic spot, and provide meat & beverages for their guests. Guests will be asked to provide either a potato or pasta dish, a vegetable dish or pickle tray, bread and/or dessert to share. Guests will also be asked to bring a game or devotion for the evening.

You will receive forms in your mailboxes in July. Please return those "filled out forms" to my mailbox by, no later than August 11th.

Thank You,



Karen Beiler, Special Events Coordinator



Community Aid

Thank-you for all of your donations to our Community Aid bin. The money earned from our donations is used to pay the **shipping costs** for our **Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes**.

Going forward, Community Aid will no longer accept any items with an inner layer, or items that are stuffed. This would include, for example; stuffed animals, quilts, pillows, and bean bag chairs. Thank you in advance for your help with this change!

Jo Hurst for Mission Ministry Team

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

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Editors – Jeff & Vicki Bastian
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8:00 AM - Worship Service
9:00 AM - Fellowship Time
9:20 AM - Sunday school
10:30 AM - Worship Service