

The Lamplighter

Buffalo Valley
Church of the Brethren

February 2020
Volume 36 No. 1



Spiritual Life Services



Our **Spiritual Life Services** will take place Sunday morning **March 1st** and then Sunday **through** Tuesday evenings, **March 3rd**. Our speaker this year is Nathan Rittenhouse, a speaker with Ravi Zacharias International Ministries. He also is a cohost on a podcast called "Thinking Out Loud". It's a great listen. Nathan graduated from Bridgewater College with a double major in physics and philosophy and religion and a minor in mathematics...sounds like he didn't skip too many classes...He also has an M.Div. from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. Nathan is an active member of a Brethren Church in West Virginia.

Our Sunday morning service will be a normal schedule. The Sunday evening service will be at 6 p.m. and the services Monday and Tuesday will be at 7 p.m. There will be time for Questions and Answers during the evening sessions. We are right now pulling together the themes for Nathan's time with us so if you have any ideas, please pass them on to Pastor Eric.

Pastor Eric

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



Getting Ready to Serve!!

We are making plans for the **summer mission trip to Westernport, MD** and we would love to have you be a part of it. If you are a Christian who is willing to share your faith, if you want to be the hands and feet of Jesus to hurting children, if you want to be a blessing to others and receive more than you can imagine in return, then this is your opportunity to serve!

We will be leaving **Saturday, July 11** and **return Friday, July 18, 2020**. Save these dates and make plans now!

We have so much to be thankful for and what a joy to spread the love for our Savior to those who need to feel that love. We minister through Bible stories, feeding the hungry, one on one conversations and hugs and more!! You can help make a difference in a child's life!

Applications are ready as of February 2 and need to be returned by **Sunday, March 22**. Please do not delay. Please see me for an application.

Serving Him,

Vicki Bastian, for the Mission Ministry Team



In contrast to the darkness and death, tears and trauma, sorrow and stress, the blessings of God drop like quiet dew...
Jewels from Heaven's treasure store.

Anne Graham Lotz

Raising Money While Having Fun



Our highly successful and entertaining BVCOB **Annual Church Auction** is **March 7th** and we are busy collecting items for the sale. Please let Eli and Jane Mast or Steve Richard 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 7th. 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



Men's Retreat Date Now Set

For the past two years the men have hosted a retreat at Timberwinds Lodge in Livonia. This has been a weekend of encouragement and challenge as the men have spent time together in study, prayer, games and of course, eating.

This year's retreat begins **Friday evening, March 27** and will go **through Sunday morning, March 29**. There will be four sessions focused on the book of Colossians with the theme: "Putting Christ First". Join us as we study, laugh and even cry together. If you are planning to attend, please sign up at the men's ministry bulletin board. The details are in a flyer that is available there as well.

Pastor Eric



Community Aid

Brrrr!!! It's cold outside! The temptation is to put on those flannel jammies and crawl under a warm blanket until spring. However, the Community Aid bin is still waiting for your **gently used clothing, shoes, and soft household goods** so now is a great time to sort out all of those winter things. Your donations to the bin help the Mission Ministry Team **help others within our walls and beyond our walls!**

Some things to remember:

1. Only *soft* household goods can go in the bin. (Clothes, sheets, towels, coats. Shoes are also acceptable.)
2. Please put your donation into smaller, Wal-Mart type bags. These fit the easiest in the bin opening.
3. If the bin is full, we will still take your donation. Just drop off your donation during regular church office hours and let someone know that you have a donation but the bin is full.
4. **IMPORTANT:** We will ***not*** take donations of furniture, dishes, lamps, etc. If you have these types of donations, they must go directly to the Community Aid store in Shamokin Dam.
5. Spread the word about our bin! There are many other Community Aid bins out there, however, only donations made to our bin benefits BVCOB mission!

Through your donations, we generate cash dollars to put toward the **shipping/handling costs** of the Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes.

Your donations are making a difference!

Vicki Bastian, for the Mission Ministry Team

From Your Lead Pastor,



How Do the Outsiders View the Insiders?

In the book of Acts we have two interesting commentaries on how those outside the Christian church viewed those inside the church. In Acts chapter 2 verse 47 we are told that the followers of Jesus “*had favor with all the people.*” Then in Acts 5:13 we read, “*Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly.*” That’s an interesting phrase. Those outside the church esteemed those in the church “very highly” but dared not join them. That is very interesting to me.

It’s pretty clear that the church had a good reputation with the people. But what does it mean that “none of the rest dared join them”? I confess that I don’t know for sure what it means. But I wonder if it means that those on the outside saw the love and the sacrifice of the community of believers and knew it was good; knew it was to be desired; but knew that the source of this love and sacrifice was something that came from the inside; not the outside.

Is it possible that they “dared not join them” because they knew they couldn’t match that level of sacrifice or love on their own? It’s sort of like how much I’d like to be a professional football player but I don’t have what it takes. If you asked me to join the team; though I love football, I’d be scared to join the team because I think I’d be seriously hurt. I don’t have what it takes to play on the field with NFL players. I would really not dare to join them.

Is it possible for us to live in such a way that those outside the body of Christ esteem us highly but dare not join us...without a relationship with Jesus Christ? This is my desire. I don’t desire for people outside of Christ to think they are like us. I desire to be so different and live in such a way that others want it, but know they can’t have it without Jesus. I hope you desire the same thing as well.

God Bless, Pastor Eric



The sacredness of the church building is not found in the architecture, but in the occupants.

PIT – Youth Ministry

Passionate for,
Intimate with,
Transformed by CHRIST



Young Adult Lineup:

Game Nights (Church Wide ALL AGES)

1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday
from 5:00 – 8:30 pm
February 5 & February 18



Wing/Pizza & Movie Night

2nd & 4th Thursday from 6:30 - 8:30 pm
February 13 & February 27

Youth (6th - 12th grade)

Regular Friday Fun Times: 6 – 9 pm

February Theme: Winter Struggles

February Friday Fun Nights
(Short Lesson, Hang Out & Activities)

January 31 - Turkey Dinner Prep
(peeling potatoes)

February 7 - Relationship Life Hacks

February 14 - Romance?

February 21 - Movie Lesson Night

February 28 - "In Love" with God

Youth Events:

February 1 Saturday, 4 – 6 pm
Turkey Dinner MEAL FOR EVERYBODY;
Join in for the real fun for 2 - 4 hours
helping prepare!

February 16 Sunday, 11:45 am - 1:30 pm
Youth Family Lunch

Pastor K



Will you trust God to unfold your life
as He sees fit?



A group of six people from Buffalo Valley will be traveling to Horry County, South Carolina to help rebuild houses that have been destroyed by Hurricane Florence in 2018 through Samaritan's Purse. We will be working in South Carolina from February 9 - 15. Please be praying for these individuals:

Ashley Wetzel
Karen Beiler
Kurt Ilgen
Cody Heintzelman
Dan Creamer
Jeff Bastian

Also please pray for the homeowners, Samaritan's Purse staff, and also for good weather when traveling.

God Bless,
Ashley Wetzel

What Do You Support?

"There are many good things that need to be done in our world," says John Rinehart, "but proclaiming the Gospel is exclusive to the people of God. No one else will do it, and no one else will fund it."

We receive solicitations from organizations every day, asking for money. The requests come by mail, email, social media, TV, advertisements and telephone. Though some requests are shams, many represent genuine causes worthy of support. BUT, only God's people will fund the extension of the Gospel. That is exclusive to believers.

If your desire is to see the Gospel taken to those who need it – participate in funding that which will reach people with the Good News.

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 soon, but feel free to register online at campeder.org. If you are a regular attender here at Buffalo Valley COB, a significant portion of your tuition will be paid!

Here's what is offered during the **first week** of camp this summer: **June 21 - 26**

Senior High (Grades 9 - 12) \$335

2020 Senior High Camp will be a week to remember! You will spend your days at camp meeting new friends, playing crazy games, exploring camp's 400+ acres and making memories that will last a life time. Senior High Camp is all about discovering more about God and yourself while being supported by great counselors and friends.

Junior High (Grades 7 - 8) \$335

Join us for a week of fun! Jr. High Camp is a week of excitement and discovery as campers meet new friends, climb the climbing wall and engage in classic camp activities with a new twist of fun.

Rock climbing (Grades 7 - 12) \$360

Have you ever wondered what it's like to climb real rock? At Outdoor Rock Climbing Adventure campers will learn basic climbing and safety skills at camp and then explore local climbing spots. Learn to rappel, belay, and how to safely set up a top roping system for outdoor climbing. This week will culminate with a one night camping trip and climbing adventure. This is an adventure you will not want to miss!

This camp is physically challenging

Shining Stars (Ages 15+) \$335

Shining Stars camp (formally known as Bumblebee Camp) is for campers with special needs ages 15+. This time at camp will focus on having fun through doing classic Camp Eder activities and making memories while doing so. Campers will stay in Tree of Peace Lodge and attend activities at their own pace. (Contact camp office for more information)

Please consider camp for your child!

Fay A. Richard, Camp Rep
frichard@dejazzd.com



Moments in Matthew

For the month of February we will use our sermon time to look at the gospel of Matthew. Each person is invited to read two chapters of Matthew each week until Easter Sunday. The sermon will focus on some aspect of those two chapters. Here are some of the upcoming topics:

January 26: "Wrong and Right Righteousness"

February 2: "Right Judgment"

February 9: "The Compassion of Jesus"

We have also established a BVCOB Sermon Group where you can comment on what you read and comment on anything in the sermon for that week. It is my desire that the sermon time is not something that only lasts for thirty minutes on Sunday morning; but rather is an important part of your spiritual growth during the week. I welcome your comments and feedback.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



Recycling!!



Wow! In 2019 we recycled over 13 tons with an income of \$2,000!!! Thank you for your support!

Bring your aluminum cans and any metal that you have, even appliances, piping, old metal ladders, car parts and even old tools can all be recycled.

There is a trailer by the shed where you can place your items. If you have any questions, please talk to Jake or Scott Myer.

Help support Operation Christmas Child by bringing in these items. The money from the recycling helps pay for shipping the shoeboxes.

Vicki Bastian, for the Mission Ministry Team

Are You Using the Correct Email List?

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 **BVCOB 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.

Hospitality & Communications Ministry Team

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



Friday Fun Night Continues

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

Teresa Chambers for Children's Ministry Team



He answered prayer - not in the way I
sought, Nor in the way that I had thought
He ought, But in His own good way; and I
could see He answered in the fashion best
for me.

Unknown

LOOKING AHEAD IN 2020!

February 22 – Couples Banquet

March 1 - 3 – Spiritual Life Services

March 7 – Annual Church Auction

March 13 – 15 – Women's Retreat

March 27 - 29 – Men's Retreat

April 9 – LOVE FEAST

April 11 – Easter Egg Fair

April 12 – EASTER

May 3 – Spring Church Council Meeting

May 16 – Mother/Daughter Banquet

June 13 – Men's Picnic

June 13 – Strawberry Festival

June 17 - Summer Kid Connection Begins

June 19 & 20 - MifflinServe

June 23 – 28 – Creation

June 27 – Freebird Picnic

July 1 – 5 – Annual COB Conference

July 11 – 17 – Westernport Mission Trip

August 10 – 14 - Musical Day Camp

August 16 – All Church Picnic/Baptism

October 4 – LOVE FEAST

October 18 - Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

October 23 & 24 – Children's Retreat

October 23 – 25 – Fall Youth Retreat

November 1 – Fall Church Council Meeting

November 12 – Freebirds Sight & Sound Trip

November 25 – Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 28 – 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.



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

Return Service Requested

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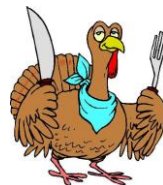
Lead Pastor – Rev. Eric S. Reamer
(570) 837-9393

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



Turkey Dinner
Support the Youth in Mission

February 1
4:00 - 6:00 pm

\$9.00

Buffet Style
Eat In or Take Out

Cake donations and help are needed.
If you would like to help or have any
questions, contact Stacy Mast.