

The Lamplighter

Buffalo Valley
Church of the Brethren

October 2021
Volume 37 No. 9

LOVE FEAST & COMMUNION



Sunday, October 3 at 6 pm

Come for a special time of
Fellowship and Remembrance

Impact of Meeting for Prayer

For a few months some of us have been gathering in the Sonroom on the **third Wednesday night of the month** from 7 - 8 p.m. for prayer. Our group is small, 6-12 people, but I think our impact is large. Here is how our prayer meeting works. You can bring requests or pray for the requests that are listed on the white board or add other things that come to mind while you are sitting there. Each item is prayed for by about 3 people. You are encouraged to pray 30-60 seconds about each item but no one is forced to pray...we don't simply go around the room. By praying this way we spend a few minutes on each request before moving on to the next one.

My goal for this is to reach 50 people gathered together for prayer. As I mentioned in my letter elsewhere in the newsletter, prayer precedes almost every significant activity of God in the book of Acts, the history of the early church. I don't think God has changed His method of operation. If we really want to see God's supernatural activity, we must pray together. Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, October 20th**. I hope you put it on your calendar.

God Bless, Pastor Eric

FILL THEM WITH



We Need Your Help!

Time is running out and the Mission Ministry Team needs your help to gather the items for the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. We are in need of quite a few items yet to fill the shoeboxes. Our goal is to send **500 shoeboxes**. These shoeboxes are sent to children all over the world through Samaritan's Purse. Every box contains the Gospel message and what a blessing to know this is one way that children can hear about the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ!

The **last Sunday** to bring in items for the shoeboxes is **Sunday, November 7th**.

All the items on the list below can be purchased at the Dollar Tree or wherever you prefer.

Here is the list of items and the amount needed:

- Toothbrushes – 282
- Bar Soap – 395
- Washcloths – 301
- Combs – 193
- Bandanas – 108
- Construction Paper – 116
- Scissors – 171
- Pens – 147
- Crayons – 61
- Colored Pencils – 73
- Pencil Pouch – 146
- Matchbox Cars – 57
- Play Doh – 31
- Small Balls – 249
- Jump Ropes – 14

Please consider how you can help meet this goal! I know we can do it!

Vicki Bastian for Mission Ministry Team



Submit Your Dates Now!

It is now time to turn in your calendar dates for the **2022 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 **Facility 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 2022 must be submitted from the ministry teams by October 1, 2021. No outside groups will be permitted to schedule any events for 2022 (with the exceptions of weddings) until after November 1, 2021.



I am His. I am redeemed. I was one way and now I am completely different. The thing that happened in between was Him.

The Chosen



Nursery has been **opened back up** for families as of September 5th, during the first service.

Family Hayride Night

September 24th 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
@ The Keister pond

Bring a friend and invite a neighbor. This is a fun filled night of inflatables, food, craft, scavenger hunt and pumpkins.

Children's Ministry Sleepover

October 22nd 5 pm - **23rd** 5 pm
@ Crystal Springs Retreat
166 Mossy Oak Lane Mifflinburg PA 17844

Have your child bring a friend for a sleepover and lots of fun activities to do.

Remember to bring a bible and flashlight.

Friday Fun

November 5th 6 pm - 8:30 pm
(Unless CDC guidance changes)

We will need volunteers! Let Donita know you want to help.

Gingerbread Night

December 3rd 6 pm – 8 pm

This event will be open to the public (unless the CDC guidance changes).

Angela Zimmerman for Children's Ministry Team



Updates from the Finance Team

We (the Finance Ministry Team) made some decisions at our last meeting with some exciting outcomes that we'd like to share with you!

In order to be more transparent and give a more accurate representation of the church's financial standing, we will be periodically publishing our year-to-date offerings versus expenditures, and the net operating revenue. Currently we focus on the offerings needed to meet the budget, and consequently how far behind we are... **However**, our church body as a whole spends less than was budgeted, which is great! We are a generous church, and we are giving enough money to support what is being spent, plus some to give away to other causes! Keep it up!

The pandemic resulted in getting a little behind schedule on paying back the church's debt. The church auction, which helps to pay off a large portion of the church's debt every year, was canceled. The budgeted amount to pay off was also significantly cut. We crunched some numbers and we are still in good shape! We came up with a **plan to pay off our debt in less than 10 years** from now, but we need your help! To hear details of the plan, we encourage you to attend the **Church Council Meeting** on **November 7th**, or ask someone who attended about it afterwards!

Elaina Richard for Finance Ministry Team



Church Auction Date

March 5, 2022

Mark your calendars and start saving your donations. If you have items to donate that you cannot store, please contact me. We also are looking for new people to step forward to help plan and work this fun event. Call or text me at 570-452-4854.

Steve Richard

From Your Lead Pastor,



Is Prayer Really Important?

As I skimmed recently through the book of Acts, I was reminded of the importance of prayer. Just about every major event/decision that is recorded for us in Acts is preceded by prayer. Here are some examples: As the disciples picked a replacement for Judas we are told in Acts 1:24 that they prayed. In Acts 2:42 we read that the church continued daily in prayers. After Peter and John were released from prison for preaching the gospel of Jesus we are told in Acts 4:24 that they gathered with the believers and prayed for boldness...and the place they were in was shaken. In Acts 6 we are told that the disciples prayed over the men they had selected to help with the ministry. When Peter received his vision about going to Cornelius's house in Acts chapter 10, Peter was praying. In Acts 12 Peter was supernaturally released from prison by an angel. Before his release we are told that the church offered up constant prayer to God on Peter's behalf. The church in Antioch sent Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey after fasting and prayer.

I could go on but I think you understand the point. Prayer is really important. I hope that personal prayer is an important part of your relationship with God and I exhort you to make corporate prayer that as well. In another place in the Lamplighter this month there is an article on our monthly prayer meeting on the third Wednesday of each month. I hope you will make it a priority to be there in prayer

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



Great Illustration!!

Man to Little Boy -

"If you can tell me something that God can do, I'll give you a shiny red apple."

"Sir, If you can name something that God cannot do, I'll give you a whole box!"



Why Be Blessed?

As a young man, Robert G. Le Tourneau made God his business partner early in his career. He went on to design and manufacture a wide range of heavy equipment used for clearing land, building roads and transporting heavy machinery. He and his wife founded Le Tourneau University in Texas and gave ninety percent of their large income to the Lord's work, living on the remaining ten percent.

No doubt Le Tourneau asked his Partner for advice, guidance and blessing in his work.

If you ask God for His blessing, consider what you will do with that blessing when it comes. God blesses us so we may become a blessing to others.

David Jeremiah

Continuing In "The Chosen"

Through the month of October we will continue our sermon series on "The Chosen". I hope you have been enjoying the sermons and I also hope that you are watching the series on computer, TV, phone or wherever you watch things. Each Sunday we focus on one episode of the series. We don't simply rehash or discuss what happened in the episode, rather I focus on one particular aspect of the episode and use the bible text that the episode covers or a related bible text.

We are also commenting on this series in our Facebook sermon group. I hope you are following along there and I appreciate your comments on that page. Though you don't have to watch the episodes to benefit from the sermon or the Facebook page, I think that watching the episodes will enhance the experience. You can watch the episodes on your phone via "The Chosen" app or you can watch the episodes commercial free at www.thechosen.tv.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



Did you Know??



We accept all types of metal for recycling??

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 Myer.

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

Vicki Bastian for Mission Ministry Team



Camp Eder Corner

Five children and youth connected to Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren, headed off to camp this past summer. Two went to Outback Camp, one to Junior Camp, one to Sports Camp, and one to Junior High Camp. Pastor K enjoyed week 4 of camp with several campers he knew quite well! (His son Atticus and friend Luke) "I had a blast doing the activities with the campers. The program is structured to nurture relationships between campers and counselors. And just being in God's creation and a new environment opens students and others to new questions about God and how we interact with God. A week at camp Eder is a concentrated week of being open to God."

Despite the literal storms, including power outages and clean up, reports of campers' experiences were still positive!

As I mentioned in last month's article, the Richard Family stayed at Tree of Peace Lodge for a weekend in August; we thoroughly enjoyed our hiking, fishing, canoeing, playing games, campfires, snipe hunting and a lot of good food. The steep climb to see the moose tree was well worth the rough terrain! Other highlights included seeing the new Moose Shack, covered wagons, Eder rock, the water hole, and the marriage tree!

We got to know Denny (one of the co-directors) who shared some interesting history of the Camp. In upcoming Lamplighter articles, I'll be including some of that history (found in a published book).

If you'd like to spend a day at Camp, consider venturing down to Fairfield, Pennsylvania for the **annual fall festival**. **Saturday, October 16**, 10 am to 3 pm will be a day of safe, family fun! Hay rides, live auction, kids' activities, craft and yard sale vendors, and Eder made apple butter! Come for the outdoor seating for the pork meal (served 11 am – 2 pm).

Any questions, contact Fay Richard, BVCOB Camp Rep, 570-716-2442.



Outside Our Walls

Please Feed the Bin!



Please bring your clean gently used clothes in a bag and place them in the bin. The bin is emptied every week and we will receive credit for your donations. The money received will help pay for sending the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Thank you in advance for your clothing and shoe donations!

Baby Bottle Drive

The baby bottle drive will be from November 21 to December 5. More information coming soon.

Samaritan's Purse Disaster Trips

Are you interested in serving on a disaster mission trip? The Mission Ministry Team's new contact person, Kornelius Reimer, is looking into some possible upcoming trips.

Solid Rock International

Please remember to keep Jason and Nicole Hoover and family in your prayers as they serve with Solid Rock in the Dominican Republic.

Vicki Bastian
Mission Ministry Team Leader



Did you buy your gift cards?



Family Connections Wednesdays

October 6 - November 24

Meal served: 5:30 - 6:15 pm
Buffet-Style Meal
\$4/person \$12/family

LOOKING AHEAD



November 5 – Friday Fun Nights return

November 7 – Fall Church Council Meeting

November 24 – Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 27 – Kettle Cook

December 24 – Christmas Eve Services

March 5, 2022 – Church Auction



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.



The very practice of reading the Bible will have a purifying effect upon your mind and heart. Let nothing take the place of this daily exercise.

Billy Graham

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

Return Service Requested

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Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren
46 Brethren Church Road
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Lead Pastor – Rev. Eric S. Reamer
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Donita J. Keister, Associate Pastor
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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