

Your Input Is Needed

The **Spring Church Council Meeting** will be held Sunday **May 2nd** at **1 pm**. All those active in the life of the church are welcome to attend. The agenda will include the normal items like the approval of the November 2020 meeting minutes, Treasurers reports and reports from our Pastoral staff.

The one unique item will be approval of how to spend the funds raised during our recent special mission stimulus fund campaign.

A zoom meeting link will also be made available for anyone who wishes to participate but cannot attend in person.

Steve Richard



Fill the Pak N Play!!



Children's Aid Society has updated their MOST Recent wish list for our upcoming collection. The Fill the Pak 'n Play drive (formerly fill Jane's Van) is scheduled **May 16th** and **23rd**.

The Wish List for 2021: **Adult masks, hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, glue sticks, large popsicle sticks, baby wipes, Size 4-5-6 diapers, paper towels, toilet paper, water base paint, play doh, paint brushes and modeling clay.**

A Pak 'n Play will be inside the main entry doors for you to help fill! Did I mention that monetary donations from those not wanting to shop can be placed in an envelope marked CAS. Thank you for your help.

Leni Springfield for Mission Ministry Team



Jesus is Best!

We are in the middle of a sermon series in the book of Hebrews titled, Jesus is Best. The book of Hebrews is primarily written to a Jewish audience who is tempted to look back to their old Jewish ways. The writer of Hebrews reminds his readers, and us today, that Jesus is best. Jesus is the best revelation and representation of God. Jesus is the best messenger of salvation. Jesus is the best high priest...and on and on and on.

Do you believe that Jesus is best? Does your calendar reflect that Jesus is best? Does your bank account reflect that Jesus is best? The real way to achieve a life centered around the truth that Jesus is best is not to try to remove those things that may take preeminence over Jesus. That will be very difficult, painful and likely will be inconsistent.

Rather, the way to achieve a life centered around the truth that Jesus is best is to exalt the person of Jesus. Allow Jesus to push away, push out or minimize the other things in your life and then that process will not be as difficult, painful or inconsistent...because Jesus is doing the work through His Spirit, not you.

I hope you will engage with this sermon series by reading the book of Hebrews yourself as we go along, and also I hope you will join our Facebook sermon group. We've had some great discussions on this group already during our time in Hebrews and we are just getting started.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



Outside Our Walls

The Mission Ministry Team thanks you for **your generosity** in giving \$34,428 toward our Mission Stimulus Fund. We believe these funds will be a huge blessing to those who receive them. The Mission Ministry Team is finalizing its recommendation to Ministries Coordinating Team (MCT) on how to use the money. MCT will present this to the congregation at the **Church Council meeting** on Sunday, **May 2nd**.

There may be some in the congregation who have not yet received their stimulus payments and would still like to contribute toward this fund. We are keeping the fund open until April 30 to allow time for those who wish to donate. May your cup overflow with blessings for your thoughtfulness in giving to this worthwhile project.

These are exciting times when we are able to give to further the Kingdom of God both here in our area, as well as, in other parts of the world.

Serving Him Outside Our Walls,
Vicki Bastian, Mission Ministry Team

Thank You to the Volunteers



The playground is almost completed. I would like to thank the following people for their assistance with the playground and parking lot: Brian Keister, James Gorham, Eli Mast, Jake Myer, Scott Myer, Pastor K. & Atticus, Pastor Donita, Kurt & Cheryl Ilgen, Doug Rishel, Gaylord Hoover, Kevin & Lane Zimmerman, Bill Jarrett and Dave Lohr.

I sincerely apologize if I forgot anyone. Without the willingness of those above, these projects could not have been done. Your help was very much appreciated.

Bill Baker, Building & Grounds Ministry Team

Though the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the most important event of human history, the important question is, "Is the resurrection the most important event in **your** history?"



Camp Eder Corner

Don't forget to check out summer camping at Camp Eder! Camps are for Elementary children through, and including High School youth. Register online at campeder.org. If you are a regular attender here at Buffalo Valley COB, \$250 of your tuition will be paid by the church! There are also scholarships.

Week #2 June 27 - July 2

Wet and Wild (Grades 7 - 12) \$400

Get ready for some wild water fun! Wet & Wild Adventure is for those who love water sports and adventure. Spend your week alongside friends white-water rafting, Canoeing, floating creeks on rafts and having a grand ole time exploring unique water excursions.

Junior Camp I (Grades 4 - 6) \$335

Come experience a week filled with adventure. Learn about God's gracious love, camp out under the summer sky, swim in the stream, play gaga ball in the mud. Junior camp is sure to be the best week of your summer and a week to remember for a lifetime.

Culinary (Grades 4 - 6) \$360

Spend a week learning delicious recipes and culinary secrets from Camp Eder's finest. Campers will experience making foods from different cultures from start to finish. This camp is a tasty treat you certainly will not want to miss.

Sports Camp (Grades 4 - 6) \$350

Sports Camp is a new addition to this summer's line up. Come to Eder and spend a week of action-packed sports fun. Your mornings will be spent exploring different sports and having a blast with friends!

Any questions, contact Fay Richard at 570-716-2442.

Fay Richard, BVCOB Camp Rep

BVCOB Youth:

PIT

(Youth and families striving to be more Passionate about, Intimate with, Transformed by Christ)

Love

For a particular object

Guides our actions toward that object

As well as other objects around us.

It provides a rule of life by
which to make decisions

So that we don't cause harm, even unintended.

Love also compels us to act instead

Of being frozen in fear of

becoming that harm. Imagination
enough to see another perspective, and trust

that they can forgive you as well
as you forgive them. Even if
they is the world.

May Youth & Young Adult Activities:

We continue a revised schedule for Youth activities. Young Adults are meeting individually in small groups - if you are interested, contact Pastor K.

Youth Sunday school - 9:30 am in the PIT
with Eric Kauffman and Terry Ruhl.

Youth Sunday Afternoons

(Theme: *Healthy bodies, healthy souls*)

- May 2 - Spring Church Council (no youth)
- May 9 - Mother's Day (no youth)
- May 16 - Rock Climbing
- May 23 – YaYA
(Youth & Young Adult Ministry Team Meeting)
- May 30 - Make up Youth
(service? - more drive-by blessings?)

Peace,
Pastor K



Church Auction

We spent the last several weeks considering an outside auction in late August or early September. Ultimately, we decided to hold off and plan for the auction at its normal time in March 2022. The **tentative date** would be **March 5, 2022** but stay tuned for more details.

There are several things we would ask you to begin doing.

- Begin saving, planning, making **items for the auction**. We do not have unlimited storage but if you have items that must be stored, please let us know.
- Consider **volunteering** – we are in need of additional people to help plan, starting in early 2022, individuals who can collect and haul items, individuals who can help categorize and list auction items and many hands the day before and the day of the auction. If you are interested, please let me know.

Steve Richard



Paying It Down

Money can be designated to the building debt by labeling your donations as **“Debt Service”**. These funds will go directly to help **retire the building debt**.



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**.

From Your Lead Pastor,



Is It Really that Simple...and Powerful?

Through 27 years of being a pastor there is a simple and powerful truth that has been true again and again. When I counsel with people who are struggling with sin it is almost always the case that this person is not regularly reading the Bible, involved in a church community and praying. I cannot actually recall an exception to this though perhaps there have been a few exceptions. When I say "regularly" I mean about thirty minutes each day in Bible reading and prayer and weekly or bi-weekly in a group that gathers to discuss the Bible and life. This has been true in those who struggle with any aspect of sin.

In my own life I have also found that by spending more time with God I can overcome the spiritual slides and disappointments that have entered into my life. So the question is, "Is it really that simple...and powerful?" The answer is "YES". The starting point for dealing with sinful thoughts and actions or even overcoming depression and anxiety is God's word, God's presence and God's people. Of course, I'm not stating that counseling and medication cannot be helpful and at times necessary. But these should be added on top of God's word, God's presence and God's people.

So why not start there? What is so important in our day that we could not devote thirty minutes a day at least to God's word and God's presence and then devote an hour or two each week to being in community with God's people? There is no financial cost involved. There is little other activity that must be removed; at least not in the way that there is no time for necessary daily activities. If you are unwilling to start there I think you must ask yourself the question "Why?" Why am I unwilling to do these simple and powerful things?

Finally, if you are prioritizing God's word, God's presence and God's people, are you sharing that with others? They need the simple and powerful answers as well...and they may need to start with a relationship with Jesus Christ. You can be the one to share the good news of what Jesus Christ has done for you and who He is. It really is that simple...and powerful!

God Bless,
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



The resurrection of Jesus Christ should impact everything you do!



This summer we are excited to plan a different kind of **Day Camp** experience for our kids. All the uncertainty surrounding the direction of the pandemic, the use of the Mifflinburg Park and pool, and staffing have pushed us to some new ideas with a slightly shifted focus. An important part of the past ministry has been to reach beyond our doors so that we might share the good news of Jesus beyond our doors reaching as many children as we could from the community.

This year we are planning a day camp ministry that we hope will help us to have the best experience for our kids amid the ongoing uncertainties of the pandemic. Day camp will still be on **six Wednesdays**. We will still offer it to **children age 3 - grade 5** (younger children may be present if their parent is also present). But this year there will be some changes.

First, Day camp will be **planned as a total outdoor program** and held at the Keister Farm, moving indoors at the church only if the weather prohibits outdoor activities. Second, rather than working to provide space for as many kids as humanly possible, our intention this year is to have a smaller scale day camp, so we will be limiting enrollment to **20 preschoolers and 40 K - 5th graders**. We want to focus on discipleship of the children beyond Sunday morning and focus on building a deeper bond and relationship with families who see BVCOB as their church family.

We will give all the children lunch. We encourage families to stay for the afternoon and enjoy pond activities together, but this will be up to each individual family as the Children's Ministry Team will not be supervising swimming and other afternoon pond activities. There may be times when we have supervised afternoon activities for K - 5th grade, such as a field trip, or we may take them into the pool on occasion as a group, but

this will be decided after we have a better feel for the overall program, status of the town pool, and the number of registrations.

We hope you will sign your kids up for Day Camp. You will receive an email soon with a signup app imbedded. When you sign up you will be signing up for the entire 6-week time, although we realize that families take vacations etc. and may not be able to attend every week. Whatever the case, if you would like a space for your children, please sign up as soon as possible. If you have not been receiving Children's Ministry activity emails, please email the church office at bvcobchurchoffice@gmail.com.

Summer Day Camp

Dates: June 16th through July 21st
Time: 9:30 am through 12:30 pm
Sign-ups will be emailed.

(Zoom Bible Club & Storytime have been cancelled.
We loved sharing the time with all of you.)

Fireside Friday's

We are pleased to be starting this event for our families to connect.

Date: May 14th
Time: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Sunday Worship

Jr. Worship 8:30 - 9:30 am
for Pre-k – 5th grade

Sunday School 9:30 - 10:30 am
for Pre-k- 5th grade

*For God gave us a spirit not of fear but
of power and love and self-control
~ 2 Timothy 1:7*

Angela Zimmerman for Children's Ministry Team

The Lamplighter

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

Return Service Requested

The Lamplighter

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46 Brethren Church Road
Mifflinburg PA 17844
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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