

Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren

> June 2021 Volume 37 No. 5

## Summer Adult Sunday School

Adults of all ages are invited to participate in **Fearless Conversation** during the summer Sunday school quarter where we will discuss the radical nature of Jesus.

Jesus loved getting people to think. He asked provocative questions, such as "What do you want?" and "Who do you say I am?" Jesus rarely offered simple, pat answers. Instead, He helped people wonder about and wrestle with the hard questions of life and faith.

In this Sunday school experience, you will engage in conversation about questions that do not have easy answers, such as:

- Why did God come as a baby?
- Can we really beat temptation?
- Was Jesus racist or sexist?
- What if God wants more than I want to give?
- How can I believe in a literal resurrection?

This class will meet in the Main Gathering Area. No sign-ups are necessary.

We hope you join us for this series that **grapples** with tough questions, is **grounded** in Scripture, and will help you **grow** as a follower of Jesus.

Stacy Reitenbach

Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.



Paul, the Apostle

## Strawberry Festival/Hymn Sing

We would like to invite you to an outdoor event that includes strawberries and singing on Saturday, June 12 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm.

Bring your favorite strawberry dish to share. You have the opportunity to participate in the hymn sing selections by emailing your top 3 hymns to dhlehman91@gmail.com or complete the invitation in your church mailbox and return to Holly Lehman. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held in the main gathering.

Everyone is welcome and invite your friends and family. Hope to see you all there!

Holly Lehman, Special Events Coordinator

Just think,

You're not here by chance,
But by God's choosing.
His hand formed you
And made you
The person that you are.

He compares you to no one else -

You are one of a kind.

You lack nothing
That His grace can't give you.

He has allowed us to be here

At this time in history

To fulfill His special purpose

For this generation.

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 Roy Lessin, Dayspring co-founder

# A New Prayer Opportunity for You

We are now holding a praying meeting in the Sonroom on the third Wednesday night of each month at 7 p.m. Each request that is brought up is prayed for by three or four people and then we move on to the next request. At our first meeting in April the time went by very, very quickly as we heard different people take these requests to the Lord. We prayed for people to be saved, to be healed, and for wisdom and discernment.

I exhort you to come out and pray. When you read through the Bible you will see that God seems to be very pleased and active when His people gather together for prayer.

If you would like to meet for prayer but the third Wednesday is unavailable for you, please let me know and we can schedule a second night of prayer at a different day and time. Also, if you have a particular request that you would like the group to pray for but you cannot attend, please pass that to me the week of the meeting and I'll make sure the group prays for that request.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric

Prayer Changes things!! God is as close as your next breath!!

LOVE GOD

LOVE OTHERS

LOVE WELL



# 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.

Please note that Pastor K will be the Camp Pastor for Week # 4. He'd love to have you join him that week!

Weeks 1 and 2 were featured in past Lamplighters.

Week #3 July 11 - 16

Family Camp (New)

Kids' Camp (Grades 1 - 3)

Colorful Creations (Grades 1 - 3)

Zoology Camp (Grades 1 - 3)

Kids' Camp Sports Camp (Grades 1 - 3)

Week #4 July 18 - 23
Pastor Eric Kauffman (Camp Pastor)

Junior Camp II (Grades 4 - 6)

Outback Camp (Grades 4 - 6)

Adventure Mystery Extreme Challenge Camp (Grades 4 - 6)

AT Trekkers (Grades 7 - 12)

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

Fay Richard, BVCOB Camp Rep



Take time to thank your heavenly Father for all He has done for you.



We are pleased to offer amazing programs to you and your family.

## Summer Day Camp

Dates: June 16<sup>th</sup> through July 21<sup>st</sup> Time: 9:30 am through 12:30 pm

This event is held at the Keister Pond, with the option of going to the church if it rains. Sign-ups will be emailed. If you have not received an email about this event, please reach out to churchoffice@bvcob.com

# Fireside Friday's

Dates: June 11<sup>th</sup>, July 23<sup>rd</sup> & August 20<sup>th</sup> Time: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

This event is outdoor at the Keister pond. There will be hotdogs, smores to roast on the fire along with refreshments and snacks. Activities will include yard games, bounce house, fishing, craft, and a devotional time. This is combined with the youth so bring all the kids.

# Sunday Worship

Junior Worship 8:30 - 9:30 am & 10:30 -11:30 am for Pre-k-5<sup>th</sup> grade

Sunday School 9:30 - 10:30 am for Pre-k- 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Do not tire of doing what is good. At just the right time, if you do not give up, you will reap a harvest of blessing.

~Galatians 6:9

Angela Zimmerman for Children's Ministry Team

#### **BVCOB Youth:**

#### PIT



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

"I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them..." - John 17:14-17.

Do you ever feel like you are out of place and do not fit? I do- quite a bit, often wondering why I am here. Jesus attracted people who felt misfit, and gave them a place to belong, a part to play, a meaning to their life. These verses have been both comforting and disturbing, to me over the years. May they be so to you as well. When I feel lost and without purpose, they remind me of my place in God's kingdom; that I have a part to play. When I feel like a mistake that should be erased, it reminds me God sanctified me (set me apart) and has reason for me to continue. Being set apart can makes lonely. it also us compassionate to the lonely; maybe reaching out ourselves. How does this passage feel to you?

## June 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: Connect as Community)

- June 6 Life Lessons
- June 13- Dinner & a Movie
- June 20 Father's Day (No Youth)
- June 27- YaYA Ministry Meeting

Peace,
Pastor K

# Following God's Financial Plan

"Jesus tries to lead His disciples away from worrying about money in Matthew 6 when He explains what God is like. God takes care of all the animals and the plants on earth, none of whom work for a paycheck. Jesus says we should trust God to do the same for us. Security doesn't come from money, it comes from God.

When you believe God is looking out for you, your anxiety about money decreases. One way Christians throughout history have reminded themselves of God's provision is by saying prayers of thanksgiving before meals. Try this: before you eat, pause and say either silently or aloud, 'Thank you God for giving me this food.' As you remind yourself that God is taking care of you now, you will start to believe that He will provide for you in the future."

 Excerpt from Anxiety about Money, by Theology of Work Project, Inc.

Elaina Richard, for Finance Ministry Team

# Touching a Child's Life

Are you thinking about Christmas yet? The Mission Ministry Team is!

Operation Christmas Child is well under way.

We need donations to fill 500 shoeboxes!

Check out the list of needs at the Mission table and see how you can help. You can then place the items in the marked tub at the Mission area of the Main Entrance.

Don't like to shop? No worries! You can **Adopt a Shoebox** for \$20. Just put your 'adoption fee' into an enveloped marked for Operation Christmas Child and we'll do the rest!

Mission Ministry Team

# From Your Lead Pastor,



### A Highly Recommended Video

If you've been around me lately you have likely heard me talk about the relatively new video series called "The Chosen". As I write this there have been 12 episodes released, 8 in season one and 4 in season two. The shows can be viewed without charge on various platforms. My favorite is www.thechosen.tv as there are no commercials. There is also an app you can download and the shows are available on YouTube.

I have often said in sermons that I wish that we had video for the events that are given in the Bible. Simply reading the text removes so many important factors in communication. We can't see facial expressions. We can't hear tone of voice. Are those talking standing close together or far away? What I've found in The Chosen is a very faithful account to the text of the Bible, yet in a visual medium that really makes the text come alive. Sure, the writers of the show take liberties with many details that we are not given in the Bible. Did the disciple Thomas really work with a wine maker before following Jesus? Did Nicodemus have an emotional struggle as to whether or not to follow Jesus? Did Matthew first begin to wonder about Jesus after watching Jesus heal a lame man? These are details that are in the show that are not However, these details don't in the Bible. contradict any teaching from God's word and in my opinion, they offer possibilities that help tie people's stories together.

I think that watching this show, which seems to be roughly following the outline of the gospel of John, AND reading the text of the Bible, can really help to make the text come alive. Also, the writers give Jesus some really interesting lines such as "Get used to different"...which you'll see me wearing as a T-shirt and "Sometimes you've got to stir up the waters". The way that Jesus is portrayed in this show is fantastic and in my mind is a great fit for how Jesus is revealed in the biblical text.

I encourage you to watch the show. Everyone from Buffalo Valley who has spoken to me about the show has given it a very positive review.

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



Did you buy your gift cards??

#### Jesus is Still Best...

We will continue with our sermon series in the book of Hebrews through the month of June. In June we will look at the importance of faith in Hebrews chapter 11 and then some amazing practical advice that we are given in chapters 12 and 13.

For the summer we will have a series of sermons based on other sermons in the Bible. ľm going to title the sermon series, "Secondhand Sermons". Recently I read an article about a pastor who got into trouble for using other people's sermons without giving them any credit. That's not a good idea. But after reading that article I was wondering about the benefit of using some of the great sermons in the Bible and thinking about how those sermons would apply to us today. We will look at some Old Testament and New Testament exhortations to God's people. Of course, I will be sure to give proper credit to the writer of that sermon and we'll see how that sermon can still exhort us today, many years after it was originally given.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



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.



For online giving to BVCOB, go to bvcob.com and click on the green box "Set Up/Manage Online Giving".



# Any Metal??



Are your soda cans piling up? Have you been cleaning out and find that you have metal items that no longer work or are of no use? Do you have a dead mower? Tools that can no longer be used? Well...The Mission Ministry Team has a solution for you!

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

## LOOKING AHEAD IN 2021



June 12 – Strawberry Festival/Hymn Sing

June 16 - Summer Kid Connection Begins

June 30 – July 4 – Virtual Annual Conference

August 2 – 6 - Musical Day Camp

August 8 – All Church Picnic/Baptism

September – 12 – 15 – Women's Beach Retreat

September – 17 – 18 – District Conference

October 3 – Love Feast

October 29 & 30 - Children's Retreat

November 7 – Fall Church Council Meeting

November 24 – Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 27 – Kettle Cook

December 24 – Christmas Eve Services

### The Lamplighter

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

Return Service Requested

## The Lamplighter

Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren 46 Brethren Church Road Mifflinburg PA 17844 www.bvcob.com

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