

# The Lamplighter

Buffalo Valley  
Church of the Brethren

August 2021  
Volume 37 No. 7



## Come Gather

The All-Church Picnic & Baptism is scheduled for **Sunday, August 8, 12:00 - 4:00 pm**. The event will be held at the Keister's farm and pond. The church will be providing roasted pig, paper products, beverages and the ice cream machine. You can bring a covered dish and dessert to share and feel free to bring your bathing suits and fishing gear.

Please sign up in the Main Entry, if you can join us. Hope to see you there!

Holly Lehman,  
Special Events Coordinator

## Secondhand Sermons Continues

We are continuing with our series on sermons from the Bible and how they apply to our lives today. August will feature mostly New Testament sermons from Peter, Paul and Jesus. I hope that you find these sermons meaningful and applicable to your lives.

**Starting in September** we will begin a **new series of sermons** based on the content from the Bible and the series "**The Chosen**". This is going to be very interesting, but a little different than anything we've ever done before...get used to different!

God Bless,  
Pastor Eric

A day without reading the Bible  
is a wasted day!

C.H. Spurgeon



## Camp Eder Corner

### Awesome Times at Camp Eder

Camp Eder summer camps may be winding down, but the fun memories and spiritual learning will not be forgotten by many! Prayers for those who were challenged while at Camp Eder! May they continue to grow in their faith.

Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren sponsored five children and youth for summer camps. For information on how their weeks went, contact Kaitlyn Bridge, Zayden Keefer, Miles Mast, Atticus Kauffman and his friend Luke Faschnadt.

And don't forget to ask Pastor Eric Kauffman about his week as he was Camp Pastor for week 4! Thank you Eric for your leadership at camp!

What a great summer with the return of campers to our church camp near Gettysburg. Plan now to make Camp Eder a part of your family activities!

Our (Richard) families used to go often for a weekend of camping fun during the offseason at Camp Eder. This August we are planning a reunion of sorts. Our children as well as our nieces and nephews who went as young children are now looking forward to having their spouses/children experience a weekend/ great times in the outdoors. (Although our Tree of Peace accommodations won't be quite as rustic as the cabins used to be...fine by me!!).

Camp Eder offers something for everyone! Check online at [campeder.org](http://campeder.org).

God is good, all the time!

Fay A. Richard, Camp Representative



## 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



## Leading the Way

I am looking for someone to take over the Samaritan's Purse Disaster Relief trips. I will no longer be available to organize these trips anymore. If anyone is interested in taking this over please let me know and I will help you get started.

Thank You,  
Ashley Wetzel



If you have not attended a Fireside Friday yet you are missing some great fun. Hope to see you at the next event.

### Next Fireside Friday

Dates: August 20<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

This event is outdoor at the Keister pond. Everyone is welcome. Bring your favorite ingredients to share in the fun of mountain pie making. There will be hotdogs, smorgasbord for mountain pie making, smores to roast on the fire along with refreshments and snacks. Activities will include yard games, bounce house, fishing, craft, and a devotional time.

### 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

*I pray that God, the source of hope will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.*  
Romans 15:13

Angela Zimmerman for Children's Ministry Team

## August Youth & Young Adult Activities

**Game Nights** will be starting again in the PIT on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday** of each month, 5 – 8 pm. Whatever your age, join us for adventure board games of many different kinds!

The **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays** are **movie nights** in the PIT at 6:30 pm, where we enjoy a movie and food together along with much conversation and discussion of life and faith around the movie.

**Youth Sunday School - 9:30 am** in the PIT with Eric Kauffman and Megan Wetzel with the theme of "Finding God" through worship and exploring personal interests.

**Youth Sunday Afternoons & More**  
(Theme: Connect as Community)

- August 1 - (Sunday) Youth at the pond, 4 - 6 pm
- August 5 - (Thursday) Concert (I Am They) @ the West End Fair
- August 8 - (Sunday) All Church Picnic & baptism, 12 – 3 pm
- August 14 - (Saturday) "Lake Augusta" (Susquehanna Marina) youth & families, 10 am – 1 pm. [tubing, fishing, kayaking, lunch]
- August 18 - (Wednesday) First Day of School (Pass out donuts?)
- August 20 - Fireside Friday, 6 – 8 pm church families @ Keister pond
- August 29 - (Sunday), no youth  
YaYA Quarterly Planning Meeting & meal, 4 – 6 pm

Peace,  
Pastor K



Did you buy your gift cards??

## **BVCOB Youth: PIT**



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

*A story to encourage us to do what we can  
(kind of a modern day 'boy with 5 loaves & 2 fish'):  
(from, It's Our World, Too!: Young People who are  
making a difference. Philip Hoose.)*

At 10 years of age, Justin Lebo loved to ride  
BMX bikes around town, and even race them in a  
league his dad took him to. He also loved the time  
after the races of repairing and fine-tuning the bikes  
with his dad. One day at a garage sale, he spotted  
a bike being sold for really cheap that looked like,  
with a little tender care, it had much more life in it.  
He bought it, took it home, sanded and repainted it,  
replaced a few parts and had a "new" bike for a  
fraction of the normal cost. He soon found another  
bike and did the same thing. He realized he loved  
fixing the bikes up even more than riding them, but  
now he had a problem - a growing collection of  
bikes. He found a nearby group home for boys,  
and with his parent's help, scheduled to drop the  
bikes off. The boys loved taking turns riding around  
the parking lot and riding with Justin; they were  
ecstatic to realize Justin was leaving the bikes  
there!

Then Justin realized there might be a problem -  
there were 21 boys at the home, and only 2 bikes.  
After thinking about it, he committed to having 21  
total bikes to the boys by Christmas (only 6 months  
away). He bargained with his parents to help buy  
bikes from garage sales; but he quickly realized  
that not every bike would work. He estimated he  
might need as many as 60 bikes to salvage parts  
and have 19 working bikes. By the end of July, he  
had 10 bikes stripped down and was starting to get  
worried.

Then a neighbor learned what he was doing  
and contacted a local paper; an interview was  
written up and things began to change - "There  
must have been a hundred calls." Justin says.  
"People would call me up and ask me to come over  
and pick up their old bike. Or people would drop  
their bikes off at my garage." By the start of school,  
the garage was overflowing with BMX frames.  
Pyramids of pedals and seats rose in the corners.  
His generosity inspired the local bike shop he went  
to for more serious repairs - they began to help him  
out and give him deals on bulk bike parts. By

December he delivered the 19 remaining bikes to  
the boy's home.

"And once again, their joy inspired Justin. They  
reminded him how important bikes were to him.  
Wheels meant freedom. He thought how much  
more the freedom to ride must mean to boys like  
these who had so little freedom in their lives. He  
decided to keep on building." In 4 years he repaired  
and gave away nearly 200 bikes (women's shelters,  
children's homes, hospitals, etc). "Once I  
overheard a kid who got one of my bikes say, 'A  
bike is like a book; it opens up a whole new world.'  
That's how I feel too. It made me happy to know  
that kid felt that way. That's why I do it."

Actions like this can inspire and make us feel  
good on their own, but they also open opportunities  
for relationships and to share our hope. It is a way  
that Jesus' light can shine through our act - like it  
did for the boy who shared the few small loaves  
and fish he had. We live in a place and time, where  
physical needs are sometimes less apparent. But  
people are lonely and anxious. We might need to  
get creative to find ways that we can connect with  
people. We have the ultimate Creator with us - let's  
ask what ways we might connect with people in our  
community - and be Jesus in our neighborhood.

Peace,  
Pastor K



### **An Opportunity for Prayer**

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. 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

*From Your Lead Pastor,*



Jesus is Coming Soon...So what?

I'm writing this letter sitting at the sound board helping to get ready for this Sunday's songs. One of the songs is "Even So Come". This song is about the return of Jesus. The chorus is "Like a bride waiting for her groom, we'll be a church ready for you...every heart longing for our king we sing, even so come, Lord Jesus come".

As I sit here I am reflecting on whether or not this reality really impacts how I live my life. I fully believe that Jesus is returning. But I admit that I'm not sure that this fact; or the idea that Jesus's return could be soon, is an important factor in my life. I wonder if I've heard for so many years that Jesus is coming soon; and He hasn't come yet, that it's become a little like the boy who cried wolf...and then no wolf came.

How does the church get ready for Jesus's return? I think that in some ways we should be living our lives today in the same way as if Jesus is returning tomorrow or ten thousand years from now. I mean, does it really matter in terms of how I live? Is there a higher level of obedience or love for Jesus that I should have if Jesus is coming tomorrow versus a level that I should have if He doesn't return until generations after I pass away? I don't think so. I feel like I should be the same witness for Jesus no matter when He returns.

Or is there something else here? Is the "juice" in the return of Jesus not really related to the timing of Jesus's return but rather the reality of Jesus's return? The reality of the return of Jesus and the consummation of His kingdom on earth, and perhaps more importantly, the consummation of His kingdom in my life is the "juice" that is worth the squeeze [as the saying goes]. The issue is not a change in behavior or intensity of the timing of Jesus's return. That's not the point at all. Rather, the point is the glorious belief that Jesus will return and all that this means for my eternity and how to prepare for it.

God's people are to live in expectancy of the sure and certain return of Jesus. The fact that He is returning is way more important than when He returns. I hope you will join me in considering the reality of the return of Jesus impacts the reality of how I live my life.

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



If the Bible calls it a sin, our opinion doesn't really matter.

Tobymac#speaklife

## Christmas Shoebox Outreach Ministry



Hello folks and Merry Christmas to you! Did you know that there are less than 160 days until the big day for celebrating our Lords birth! That means, we have even less time to fill our bins full of the treasures that will be packed into the boxes for the children and to get them ready in time to ship.

Join the Mission Ministry Team in sharing some fun, some necessities and most of all, the story of our Savior. Please glance over the shopping list located at the mission table for the items that are being given to the children.

Take note, some are new items for this year, and some items that we have typically done in the past have been removed from the list. Next week you will receive an updated list of what we are requesting from you, our very generous church family.

Thank you to those who have donated already, we appreciate your kindness. Remember, all items can be purchased at any of the local Dollar Tree stores.

Thank you in advance for your generosity, and Happy Shopping!

Tracie Diehl, for Mission Ministry Team



**Church Auction Date Set**  
**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



## Men's Breakfast Is Back

We are back to meeting on the **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays** of **each month** at **7 AM** for Men's Breakfast at Sam Beiler's house. Join us for a tasty breakfast made by Sam, lively fellowship, and time in the Word together. We would love to have you there!

Zach Showers, for Men's Ministry

## LOOKING AHEAD



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

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](http://www.bvcob.com).

**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](http://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](mailto:churchoffice@bvcob.com)

8:00 AM - Worship Service  
9:00 AM - Fellowship Time  
9:20 AM - Sunday school  
10:30 AM - Worship Service