



## How Can We Be Fully Faithful When We're Fully Flawed?

Did you know that talking about a topic makes it *nine times* more memorable than just reading about it or hearing it?

This summer, adults of all ages are invited to join us during the Sunday school hour where we will talk about topics surrounding the question "How can we be fully faithful when we're fully flawed?"

Each week there will be a different guiding question, as well as a different facilitator. We will tackle timely questions such as:

- What do I do when God's people are enemies of each other?
- What is God's role in war and politics?
- David was a liar, adulterer, and murderer...so why is he a hero of our faith?
- What does God want my legacy to be?

These studies from 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 Chronicles, and Psalms are intended to be **relational** by helping us build Christian friendships. **Experiential** activities and discussions will increase our learning. Finally, these studies are **applicable**, equipping us to be doers of God's Word, not just hearers.

Discussions will begin on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> in the Main Gathering Area. No sign-ups are necessary.

Please join us for conversations that will help us grow in our faith.

Stacy Reitenbach  
for the Adult Sunday School Team



## Strawberry Festival/Hymn Sing



We would like to invite you to a church event that includes strawberries and hymn singing on **Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>** from 6:00 - 7:30 pm.

Bring your favorite strawberry dish to share. Everyone is welcome and invite your friends and family. Hope to see you all there!

Holly Lehman, Special Events Coordinator

## Serving Others in Westernport



We have a team of 27 people ready to serve the week of July 9 to 15 at the Westernport Church of the Brethren in Westernport MD. We have not been there since the summer of 2019 so we are excited to see what God has in store for us.

We will be providing a Day Camp where children are fed spiritually and we provide two meals and snacks each day where they are fed physically. They are also shown love and caring through relationship building and fun activities together.

Your prayers are so very appreciated as we work to prepare for this week of serving!

Vicki Bastian, Team Leader

## Brethren Brunch



June 5



## An Invitation to/of a Lifetime!

I think we would all agree that some invitations are better than others. We might consider some invitations to be “invitations of a lifetime”, perhaps a rare or even once in a lifetime chance to see an event or meet a person. Other invitations can be “for a lifetime”. I suppose a marriage proposal would be an example of this. If you accept that invitation it is life changing and hopefully it lasts a lifetime.

In June we will begin a new sermon series focused around some of the invitations that Jesus offers. Jesus made some invitations that were literally to/of a lifetime; and I think that in most cases, those invitations that He made are still relevant to us today. We will look at Jesus’s invitation to become fishers of men. We will consider His invitation to come to Him for rest and also His invitation to Peter to walk on the water. We will also look at Jesus’s invitation to a rich young ruler to follow Him and His invitation to come to Him for the bread of life and Jesus’s invitation to abide in Him.

I hope you will join us for this look at the invitations of Jesus.

God Bless,  
Pastor Eric



## Time to Clean Out!



Bring all your metal to the open trailer, including aluminum cans for recycling. **The price of recycling cans is currently up!** If you have any questions about any items, please talk with Jake Myer.

Don’t forget to “Feed the Bin”!! Bring your gently used clothing and shoes and place the bagged items in the bin.

Thank you for supporting the bin and recycling! The money received helps pay the shipping costs of our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.

Vicki Bastian, for Mission Ministry Team



*“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works.”*

~Ephesians 2:8-9

## Summer Day Camp

Dates: June 15<sup>th</sup> through July 20<sup>th</sup>  
(Wednesdays)

Time: Pre-K 9 am to 12 Noon  
K - 5<sup>th</sup> grade 9 am to 4 pm

We are excited to offer this event to the public again. Preregister you child @ <https://bvcob.com/camp-sign-up/>

All children are welcome to attend. Please fill out a helping hand on the Children’s Ministry table if you can help at any point during the summer.



## Fireside Friday’s

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. We hope to see you there.

Dates: **June 24<sup>th</sup>, July 29<sup>th</sup> & August 26<sup>th</sup>**

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Angela Zimmerman for Children’s Ministry Team



## Camp Eder Corner

It's not too late to register!

Register online at [campeder.org](http://campeder.org). If you are a regular attender here at Buffalo Valley COB, \$280 of your tuition will be paid by the church (\$280 is for full week camps; \$150 for barefoot camps).

### Week 1 June 19 - 24

Senior High (Grades 9 - 12)  
Junior High (Grades 7 - 8)  
Rock climbing (Grades 7 - 12)  
Shining Stars (Ages 15+)

### Week 2 June 26 - July 1

Wet and Wild (Grades 7 - 12)  
Junior Camp 1 (Grades 4 - 6)  
Culinary (Grades 4 - 6)  
Sports Camp (Grades 4 - 6)

### Week 3 July 10 - 15

Kids Camp 1 (Grades 1 - 3)  
Colorful Creations (Grades 1 - 3)  
Zoology Camp (Grades 1 - 3)

### Week 4 July 17 - 22

Junior Camp II (Grades 4 - 6)  
Outback Camp (Grades 4 - 6)  
AT Trekkers (Grades 7 - 12)

### Week 5 July 24 - 29

Dream It, Build It Camp (Grades 4 - 6)  
Kids Camp II (Grades 1 - 3)  
Puddle Jumpers (Grades 4 - 6)  
Barefoot (Wednesday - Friday)  
for young campers

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



The church is continually maturing in her  
expression of love until Jesus returns!

Pastor Eric



## ONLY FIVE MONTHS TO GO!

Wow Church Family! Did you realize we are almost half way through the year? Which means that we have less than five months to purchase the remaining items for the shoeboxes we have committed to filling. A few items have sporadically been coming in, but we still have a long way to go.

Type in the following link:  
**[www.bvcob.com/occ](http://www.bvcob.com/occ)** on your smartphone or computer and it will reveal all the items and the quantities that are left to purchase. Keep in mind *Amazon* is a great way to buy in bulk!

Any questions, please contact Cowell Gemberling, or check the mission ministry table in the main entry area for more information.

Cowell Gemberling for OCC Project



## Affirmations of New Leaders!

The congregation overwhelmingly affirmed the following people from our most recent calling:

**Joan Hofmann** for female representative for the Gifts Discernment Team,

**Stacy Mast** for a second term as the Youth & Young Adult Ministry Team leader,

**Vicki Bastian** for a second term as the Mission Ministry Team leader,

**Terry Ruhl** for Church Clerk,

**Nancy Keefer** for District Conference delegate, and

**Jeff Bastian, Kurt Ilgen and Linda Miller** for Spiritual Life Ministry Team members.

Gifts Discernment Team

## **BVCOB Youth:**

**PIT** *"together passionately pursue & demonstrate the transforming life of Christ."*



### **June Youth & Young Adult Activities:**

Clay Frank and I (Pastor K) are working at scheduling some movie and wing nights, but we realize that schedules are crazy. I am meeting individually with several Young Adults, and would love to meet with more. Last summer we were able to have a book study group that read "The Great Divorce"; I hope to do a similar meeting this summer. Always feel free to text me @ 570-369-0533

### **PIT Youth Schedule**

June 5<sup>th</sup> - YaYA Meeting  
June 12<sup>th</sup> - End of School Celebration (TBA)  
June 19<sup>th</sup> - (No Youth) Father's Day Appreciation  
June 24 - 25<sup>th</sup> - Canoe/Kayak Trip  
down Penns Creek?

July 3<sup>rd</sup> - YaYA Meeting  
July 10<sup>th</sup> - (No Youth) Westernport Mission  
July 17<sup>th</sup> - (No Youth) Returning from Westernport  
July 24<sup>th</sup> - Keister Pond (food, games, water!)  
July 31<sup>st</sup> - TBA

*"Camp Eder exists to be used by God to transform the lives of people for God's purpose and God's glory."*

Camp began changing my life at age 11, when I first crested "Peter's Mountain" between Dauphin and Halifax, on my way to Camp Hebron's "Father-Son Canoe trip." The Susquehanna River Valley, in full view at that point, would affect the rest of my life geographically, relationally, and spiritually.

That canoe trip was by many criteria a disaster: as novice canoers, my father and I were frustrated by rocks and currents that we didn't understand, ending in our aluminum canoe being wrapped around a rock in a powerful rapid. But we also experienced God through the beauty of nature, the kindness and patience of others, and had open and honest conversation about our relationship.

I returned as a camper for 3 summers, and learned that the church was much broader, deeper, and more diverse than my small community. I began to experience God on my own, instead of just depending on my parent's and community's

faith. The counselors were a fun bunch of young people who seemed to really see me as a person, and pushed me to grow; I was determined to work at camp someday.

I returned as a lifeguard in the summer of 1998 to Camp Hebron, and found friendships that would last for the rest of my life. If you are looking for a concentration of people passionate about experiencing God in nature and relationships, summer camp is an excellent place to start. As a farmer, I knew what hard work was, but at camp I learned how to push into service of others, and discovered not only the "good weariness," but fulfilling love that helped make up for the hundreds of dollars we gave up in regular summer employment. I was often pushed to my limits and found the chinks in my character where Jesus could alternatively shine through and repair.

Camp, like most ministries, is not all sunshine and roses; there are thorns and miserable rainy days: people that seem to be there for selfish purposes, or are just well-meaning but inconsiderate. Our family continues to work at healing from some things we experienced. But this last week I had the opportunity to hike 20 miles of the Appalachian Trail with 2 friends that I found in my early days of camp. The connection that camp forged enabled us to share deeply and authentically about our struggles, hopes and dreams, and encourage one another in our continued life. Yesterday our family ran a 5k at Camp Hebron, where Sarah and I met almost exactly 24 years ago. We could laugh and cringe and remember specific events that shaped our relationship – the mountain path we sprinted each morning getting ready for soccer season, the pool chairs (now different) we used to scrub, the path Sarah first hit me in the head with a rock, etc.

If I could wish anything for our children and youth, it would be the type of relationships I found at camp - authentic, long-lasting friendships, deep communion with God, and ability to find God in both the quiet aloneness of nature, and the noisy busyness of people. So, I am excited to be returning to Camp Eder this summer as Camp Pastor. My boys are joining me, as are a few friends. Pastor Donita is putting out an invitation for others to join us that week. I extend that invitation - if not our week at Camp Eder, another week, or another camp.

Peace, Pastor K

## *From Your Lead Pastor,*



### Civility Lost...or at Least in Danger

An easy definition of civility is: "Formal politeness and courtesy in behavior and speech". Two recent examples have shown me that we are losing this. First, when the leaked draft opinion from the Supreme Court on the Dobbs case was revealed, about 100 protesters marched on the private homes of Justices Kavanaugh and Coney-Barrett. The Barrett's have seven children and I would estimate that at least four of them still live at home. Can you imagine how frightening it must have been for those children to hear the crowd shouting about their mother? I'm sure there are other examples of similar behavior from the other side of the ideological aisle as well.

Yesterday I read how the family of a prominent basketball player from the Phoenix Suns was heckled and even physically touched while they were in Dallas watching their husband and father play. One fan, who looked to be about 16, was escorted out of the arena. I don't know what was said but I think we can assume that the family was not being reminded of how awesome their loved one was on the basketball court.

These incidents are just the latest examples of how civility is breaking down in our world. Social media plays a part but what social media does is enflame the base passions of the human heart. To some extent this is nothing new, but it seems like the civility is decreasing. I hope that I am wrong. Why write about this?

I think that the followers of Jesus have a great opportunity to be different in this world. We will have very strong convictions about certain things like abortion (hopefully not basketball) or other important topics and I think there is a place for those opinions to be expressed in the public square. However, there is never a reason to protest or proclaim to a point where others' basic privacy or safety are compromised. We don't have to do that. If civility breaks down in the rest of civilization, it is up to the followers of Jesus to hold it up. I hope that you will consider how your actions and words represent Jesus. The world needs truth and the world needs to be confronted; but never in a way that compromises safety. Don't give people whose opinions or values you oppose, a reason to feel like they are your opposition. They are not the opposition.

God Bless, Pastor Eric



Someone once asked Billy Graham, "If Christianity is valid, why is there so much evil in the world?" To this the famous preacher replied, "With so much soap, why are there so many dirty people in the world...?"

Christianity, like soap, must be personally applied if it is to make a difference in our lives.

## Continuing Camp Eder History (part 7)

David Lehigh, James Poling, Joel and Nancy Knepper, George Detweiler and Senior Citizens' Days, do any of these sound familiar to you?

David Lehigh was a storyteller, bringing his expertise concerning nature and combining it with knowledge of the Bible. In 1970, he was employed by the camp to speak to the campers regarding plants, animals, and the created world, reminding campers "The Lord took man and put him in the garden to till it and care for it." Genesis 2:15. David led campers on walks through the woodland, pointing out creatures such as "walking sticks", ants and flies.

James Poling became the part time camp manager in 1969, serving part-time (60% time as pastor with West York congregation, and 40 % to lead the district's camping program). Under his leadership, camp representatives attended camp management workshops and learned more about camps for physically and mentally handicapped children. An intentional emphasis on peace became a part of the campers' discussions.

In 1972, Joel and Nancy Knepper became the new camp co-managers. (At that time, James Poling had begun full-time pastoral ministry at West York.) The Kneppers noted new ventures in camping ministry, with the United Church of Christ renting the camp for its camp sessions one year and then sending their campers to Camp Eder's regular sessions the following year. Outdoor Environmental Camps and Camps for those with Special Needs were added. Local schools sent their fifth graders to be part of the Outdoor program.

Senior Citizen Days started at camp in 1973 with forty-nine senior citizens who came to enjoy fellowship together with a highlight of singing old-fashioned hymns led by George Detweiler. These days continued with many enjoying the outdoors and seeing old friends and meeting new ones from the district churches.

Next month, we will look at the continued emphasis on outdoor ministry, the building of Schwarzenau and the naming of the campsite sections of Camp Eder.

Fay Richard



## Big Thank You for Your Appreciation!

I just dropped off the teacher appreciation cards that you wrote and which contained gift cards or certificates of \$20 to local businesses. In my interaction with the staffs of all four of our schools, I received a lot of "thank you"s for this.

I want to thank you for your willingness to write the cards and to donate the funds that were used. This was a church family wide effort and for this I am very, very grateful.

God asks His people to be salt and light in the community. This was one way in which we could do that.



God Bless,  
Pastor Eric



Did you buy your gift cards?

## LOOKING AHEAD IN 2022

July 9 – 15 – Westernport Mission Trip

July 31 – Church Picnic

September 16 – 17 – District Conference

October 2 – Love Feast

November 6 – Church Council Meeting

November 26 – Kettle Cook

December 24 – Christmas Eve Services



## 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

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