

The Lamplighter

Buffalo Valley
Church of the Brethren

August 2022
Volume 38 No. 7



Come Fellowship & Celebrate

The **All-Church Picnic & Baptism** is scheduled for **Sunday, July 31**, from **12 - 4 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.

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

Holly Lehman
Special Events Coordinator

Men's Ministry

Backyard Bash & Quoit Pitch

Saturday, August 6th

4:00 – 8:00 pm

Steve & Fay Richard's House

More Information & Sign-Ups to follow in July.

See Men's Ministry Board for Details.



Any concern too small to be turned into a prayer is too small to be turned into a burden.

Corrie Ten Boom



Buffalo Gals

The Women's Ministry would like to renew its goal of building community through being women who come together regularly for spiritual and emotional support, as well as biblical study, fun and fellowship.

Here are some upcoming events, more details will be announced as they get closer.

AUGUST - Garden Party at the Keister Farm on **August 11th** from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER - Beach Retreat at Bethany Beach, Delaware **September 11 - 14th**.

OCTOBER - Brunch on **October 22nd** from 9 - 11 a.m. at the church.

NOVEMBER - Christmas Gathering on **November 30th** from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

DECEMBER - uncertain, perhaps a caroling evening, feel free to text Sheri with ideas at 570-939-0448.

JANUARY – Brunch or dinner out, date and time TBA.

FEBRUARY - Winter Retreat is being planned, dates and location TBA.

Wednesday Bible studies to resume in August, Tuesday evening Bible studies to resume also. Please jot these dates into your calendars, together we can continue to deepen bonds and be better helps to each other.

If childcare would be an issue for any of these events, let us know, some of us are in different seasons of life and are willing to help watch children so you can find encouragement here at BVCOB. ♥

Sheri Reimer, Women's Ministry Coordinator

Giving During Hard Times



Most of you may have noticed some increases in your grocery bills, electric bills, credit card bills... any kind of bill really. When this happens, it can cause us to re-think what we're doing with our finances. It's easy to start by thinking of where we can sacrifice and spend less so that we can cover the increased bills while still keeping the same amount of money going towards retirement, the mortgage, or our monthly restaurant or hobby budgets.

Church offering is an easy target of an expense to lighten up on during hard times, but the Bible challenges us to give the first of whatever we have to the Church, and then follow God's lead with the rest. We can see you, the congregation, taking up that challenge! Even during hard times we are staying on track and continuing to give generously to causes that arise. Thank you!

That being said, no one is immune to needing help sometimes. If you are ever in need of financial assistance, please don't hesitate to contact the church office or one of the pastors. Your church family is here for you!

Elaina Richard for Finance Ministry Team

August 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. Always feel free to text me @ 570-369-0533.

PIT Youth Schedule

August 7th - YaYA Meeting

August 14th - Pond Gathering at Keister's

August 19th - Friday 8:30 am – 9 pm:

Sight & Sound Outing

August, 21st - No Youth

August 28th - Family Picnic @ RB Winter State Park

Pastor K



Camp Eder News

How exciting for Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren and Week 5 at Camp Eder!

We have thirteen children and youth going for that week; and Pastor Eric Kauffman will also be there, serving as the Camp Pastor July 24 to July 29!

This is the largest crew we have sent in the past five years!

Please take time now and each day of Week 5 to pray for our campers and Pastor K.

Many of our campers are new to Camp Eder; therefore parents/grandparents may also need some extra care while their children are away.

Those going include: Isaac Buttorff, Sophia Buttorff, Luke Fauschnadt, Ethan Hoover, Miriam Hoover, Atticus Kauffman, Finn Kauffman, Zayden Keefer, Addie Kline, Myles Mast, Evan Ulrich, Abby White and Lena Zimmerman.

Their camps range from Barefoot Camp, "Regular Camps" to Dream It/Build It and all will include memorable experiences with worship, swimming, hiking, friends and campfires.

Next month, we look forward to hearing of their God sightings and adventures from Camp!

Thanks for your support!

Fay Richard, Camp Eder Rep for BVCOB



SPECIAL REPORT 2021

In 2021, Samaritan's Purse continued to declare God's glory in more than 100 countries and territories through Operation Christmas Child—including among many unreached people groups at the very ends of the earth. We praise God that more than 9.1 million shoebox gifts were distributed to children in need at over 81,000 outreach events!

"Every shoebox represents an opportunity to reach one more child with the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

—Franklin Graham

We praise God that in 2021 over 4 million children were discipled through The Greatest Journey, where over 2.3 million made decisions for Christ. In addition, over **10.5 million** gifts were packed, collected, and processed to bless even more boys and girls in 2022!

Time and again, we saw God work wonders to open doors for ministry and open hearts to receive His love. As one Regional Team Leader said: "With Operation Christmas Child, God upsets social habits, overturns traditions and customs, and acquires a people for Himself. Through this ministry, the impossible becomes possible by virtue of God." Amen!

To read more about the Operation Christmas Child program, feel free to check out their website: samaritanspurserg.org

And don't forget to refer to your "shopping list" that was previously placed in your church mailboxes, or type in your browser www.bvcob.com/occ to see what items are still needed to fill our 370+ boxes we committed to for this year.

Cowell Gemberling for OCC Project

BVCOB Youth & Young Adults: Pastor



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

"For now we see in a mirror indirectly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, just as I have been fully known."

And now these 3 remain, faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." - 1 Cor. 13:12-13

We just finished our mission week at Westernport, MD. Our youth and adults got to experience kids seeking their attention, and repeatedly asking us to "Watch me!" "Look at this!" As they jumped into the pool or painted a picture. Alongside this I reflected on another theme I am preparing for another camp: "Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, just as I have been fully known." Coming at the end of a whole chapter about love, is this what love is? To see and to be seen? To know and be known?

As another poet wrote, "love is not love which alters when alteration finds." We don't consider it loving to try to change another person to fit what we want - we call that controlling or selfish. If someone does that to us, it does not feel like love. God seems to follow this model: "For God so loved the world that He gave His Son." God saw us, and gave of Himself to repair the relationship. Jesus saw people and gave of His time, energy, and life to meet them where they were.

Psalm 139, reflects in wonder at this, "O Lord, you search me and you know me, you know when I sit and when I rise; You perceive my thoughts from afar." Talk about "being seen!" As youth reflected on this in Sunday school class today, we realized that this is ultimately a Love Psalm. We all want to be seen - inside we regularly cry out, "Watch Me!" "Look at this!" We feel loved when someone recognizes us. The good news is that God does see us! And we can see others.

Who do you "see"? Who could use some recognition and acknowledgement in their life?

Peace, Pastor K



Westernport... Wonderful Serving Time!

Our team of 26 people returned on Friday evening, July 15th, tired, but feeling fulfilled to the calling of service. We truly had a wonderful week feeding the children spiritually and physically. We had 13 "new" people join the team this year and we truly were blessed by how the whole team worked so very well together.

Diane May and her husband, Walter treated us to an evening at a State Park on Thursday. The weather could not have been more perfect and it also gave us a great opportunity to celebrate Ben Reimer's 16th Birthday!

We all appreciated your prayers during the week!! Maybe next year you will consider serving as well! The team is asked to watch for God Sightings during the week. I will share a few this month and more later.

Some God Sightings that the team shared:

- * Little hands that slip into ours – a sign of trust.
Help mine to remain in Yours.
- * Forgiveness in ACTION!
- * "Are you coming back next year to do this again?"
- * A quiet child that shared her mother has cancer.
- * An older boy helped a younger boy open his chips when he was struggling.
- * Hudson's smile. Ethan's laughter. Olivia's confidence.
- * Holding the little ones through the storm.
- * Hearing one of our former campers that said this week was the best week of her life. She's now 22 years old.
- * Kids coming to Imagination Station jumping up and down with excitement.

We are so thankful for each child that comes and it is our prayer that we have made a difference in their life and have led them closer to Jesus!!

Vicki Bastian, Team Leader

From Your Lead Pastor,



Thoughts on Prayer

I'd like you to help me with something I've noticed about prayer. I am genuinely interested in what you might think about this, and would appreciate your answers/thoughts.

When I am in a group of people having a conversation, it is rare for one person to finish their sentence before someone else jumps in. Many people are very quick to share their thoughts, opinions and ideas verbally. However, when we have a time of prayer where people are asked to pray a short, one or two sentence prayer...or longer if they desire...very few people will say anything.

Why is this?

Is there something that I have taught or the church has taught that discourages people from praying out loud? When we have a time of prayer and almost no one says anything, is it fair to assume that all the others in the room are quietly praying and just not saying anything out loud?

When volunteers are requested to simply pray before a meal, very few people volunteer. Why are there not 10 people who immediately speak up for the opportunity?

I'd really like to see this change at Buffalo Valley but I'm confused as to why people are so reluctant...can you help me?

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



The good thing about giving frequently and generously is that we don't have time to get attached to what is not ours.

David Jeremiah

A "Psummer" of Psalms

Throughout the month of August we will be in a series of messages focused on the book of Psalms. Each week we will look at a psalm and attempt to find the significance of how the psalm applies to our lives.

In the psalms we have more of an inside look at the thoughts and feelings of the writer. It is our hope that you will see yourself and be able to hear the Holy Spirit's leading in your life.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



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: **July 29th & August 26th**

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Angela Zimmerman for Children's Ministry Team



Did you buy your gift cards?

Please Don't Forget!



Metal recycling



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.



Feed the Bin



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
Mission Ministry Team

LOOKING AHEAD IN 2022

September 11 – 14 – Women's Beach Retreat

September 16 – 17 – District Conference

October 2 – Love Feast

October 22 – Women's Brunch

November 6 – Church Council Meeting

November 26 – Kettle Cook

November 30 – Women's Christmas Gathering

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.

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46 Brethren Church Rd
Mifflinburg PA 17844

Return Service Requested

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Church Office/Kitchen (570) 966-1183
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8:00 AM - Worship Service
9:00 AM - Fellowship Time
9:20 AM - Sunday school
10:30 AM - Worship Service