

The Lamplighter

Buffalo Valley
Church of the Brethren

September 2022
Volume 38 No. 8



Want a Visit?

The pastoral team is always ready and willing to visit you anytime you would like and for any reason. Yes, we are all busy but I promise you we did not get into the pastoral ministry to sit behind a desk...we answered God's call to serve people and part of that is spending time in whatever meaningful way that would be for you.

So, if you'd like a visit, for any reason at all, just let one of us know and we'll make an appointment very soon.

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: **August 26th**
Time: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Angela Zimmerman for Children's Ministry Team



IT IS NOW TIME!

It is now time to turn in your calendar dates for the **2022 Church Calendar**. If you or your group or team has **practices, events, activities, meetings, meals, etc.** that you wish to hold **either here at the church or offsite**, please provide the information to the appropriate ministry team leader. The calendar helps prevent events from competing for our time. Use of the church also needs to be scheduled to prevent conflicts for space and for the best use of our facility. (Ministry team leaders please turn in your dates to the church office for the proposed calendar. Please continue to do so as new dates arise or as changes are made throughout the year.)

A **Church Calendar ADDITION Form** needs to be completed for **every church activity** so that none are missed. Be sure to include the start & end times, preparation start & end times, and rooms to be used. Just because your event or meeting was on the calendar in the past, please do not assume anything. Again, don't forget to submit offsite activities.

A **Facility Use Agreement** needs to be completed for private use of the church facility. This and other forms can be found in the church office or by going to **www.bvcob.com**.

Thank you for keeping your church family informed of the where and when of church life. Please call the church office if you have any questions.

Note: In order to give priority to church functions and ministries, calendar dates for 2023 must be submitted from the ministry teams by October 1, 2022. No outside groups will be permitted to schedule any events for 2023 (with the exceptions of weddings) until after November 1, 2022.

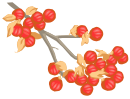


Reminder to Mark Your Calendar

On **October 2nd** at **6 pm** we will be sharing in a time of **Love Feast** here at the church. If you have any questions or are interested in knowing more please contact the church office or a Spiritual Life Ministry Team (SLMT) member for more information.

Blessings,

Linda Buttorff on behalf of SLMT



Grieving?

Have you lost someone who was very close to you? Are you feeling stuck after the death of a loved one? Perhaps you feel overwhelmed with grief that seems to never end.

Griefshare may be able to help you move forward with your life. **Griefshare** is a **support group** that helps us understand grief and how it impacts us and how to begin to move forward in life. It is a **safe place** where someone can share very personal and deep feelings in the confidence and support of others and find that you are **not alone in grief**. No one is ever forced to talk or embarrassed for what you may share.

The format for the evening consists of sharing a light meal together, a time of open sharing and watching a video about some aspect of grief with the goal of finding healing for our life. Our next Griefshare **begins September 6** at 6:30 pm in the Sonroom and runs for thirteen weeks.

If you know someone that would benefit from Griefshare please invite them to attend or perhaps volunteer to come with that person. This is an opportunity to bless someone who may be grieving silently and has never come to terms with their situation.

Jim Brubaker

LOOKING AHEAD IN 2022

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





Learn and Grow

Fall means back to school. For me, that also means the return to routine, which is something I find myself missing in the chaotic summer months of travel and warm weather activities.

Fall also means the return of our **regular Adult Sunday School classes**. Even if your routine does not usually include Sunday school, I would encourage you to check out one of our class options. This fall, we have the second edition of a popular parenting class from the spring quarter, the return of a book club-style discussion-based class, and a new opportunity to participate in Pastor Eric's Discipleship (DISC) class. We are working on a few other options, as well.

The Sunday School Team tries to make sure there is something for everyone. If you feel there isn't something for you, send me a suggestion for a future class and we will try to make it happen.

Watch for announcements with more detailed descriptions of the class topics and sign-up sheets in the narthex over the next few weeks!

The **Fall Sunday School Quarter** will be underway on Sunday, September, 11th.

Stacy Reitenbach,
Adult Sunday School Coordinator



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.



Desire comes second to doing what is right.
Cindy Woodsmall

Ours & Yours, Time & Money

Financial Stewardship is about doing, not just about giving. Members of the church should be part of the mission and not just funding it. I believe two of our most valuable resources are time and money and we need to be intentional and to seek and trust God's direction in these areas.

Finance Ministry Team: Just as you plan and monitor your personal financial lives, we too on the finance team review and monitor the finances and financial practices of the church. Some of our responsibilities include monitoring policy guidelines for how we reimburse expenses, handle cash and counting, paying the bills and handle non-budget requests. We review funding strategies, debt repayment planning, and monitor and safeguard financial systems. We also review insurance policies for the church property, staff and congregation. The annual budget is a key part of our Church's mission and operations and our ministry teams are currently reviewing their numbers year to date and discussing programs for 2022 and adjusting their budget line items appropriately to plan for 2023.

Fall is a good time of year to sit down as an individual or family and look over your budget and schedule for the coming year. Are there expenses against your budget or time that should be removed? Are there new priorities that have come into your lives that time or money need to be allocated to? Have you been holding off or apprehensive to step up in a volunteer role because you are stretched too thin? Write down your commitments and responsibilities and seek God's discernment in these areas. Set specific goals and timelines and find a way to be held accountable – whether through your spouse, a trusted friend, church member, or leader you are comfortable talking to.

We are the church. We are meant to do life together. If you need assistance with budgeting or you are interested in learning about volunteer opportunities at the church, please reach out to our team and we would be happy to guide you or connect you with the appropriate resources and people.

Love God, Love Others, Love Well
Respectfully, Heather Buttorff



Camp Eder Excitement

Last month I announced that we had 13 children and Pastor Kauffman all going to camp for Week 5 at Camp Eder!

Now, let's hear from Pastor K and some of the campers!

Pastor K: It was so fun to see our kids mixing with others, making new friends. Our van was rocking with camp songs most of the way home!

Atticus Kauffman: I loved building a wooden go-cart that we the got to ride down the Camp Eder hill.

Finn Kauffman: Thanks for letting us do fun stuff like the creek walk.

Lena Zimmerman: I liked the creek stumping and the water hole because you got to find crayfish and swim in the water hole. I learned lots of new songs and to look up to God. I can't wait to go back next year!

Abby White: I enjoyed camp, especially spending time with my friends and swimming. I also really liked the spin art. I appreciated being with friends and meeting new friends. Thank you for helping us go to camp.

Zayden Keefer: I learned about God more and loved building a derby car. His Mom, Nancy emphasized that "Zayden loved camp this year".

Isaac Buttorff: I really liked GaGa Ball because all the camp counselors played with us and I even won one time! My favorite camp song was "Pharaoh, Pharaoh"!

Sophia Buttorff: I liked making new friends, playing GaGa Ball and Four Square. My favorite camp song was "Our God is an Awesome God"!

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

Thanks for your support!

Fay Richard, Camp Eder Rep for BVCOB



Transition of Sermon Topics in September

On September 4th and 11th we will continue with our series on Psalms. September 18th will be a different kind of service as we anticipate ordaining Pastor K. in that service.

On September 25th we will begin a new series of messages based on the book, "Love Your Church: 8 Great Things About Being a Church Member". Every once in a while we come across a book that helps us with a sermon series. This book captures many of the themes that the pastoral team considers to be important to our church family. We will cover belonging, welcoming, gathering, caring, serving, honoring, witnessing and sending. Of course, though the book provides a skeleton, the meat of the sermons will come from God's word.

This series will take us through mid-November as we then will likely turn to Christmas. If you have any ideas for sermon topics, please pass them on.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric

September 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 28th - Family Picnic @ RB Winter State Park

September 4th – YaYA Meeting

September 11th – Mini Golf in Shamokin Dam

September 18th – PIT Youth

(Games & Discussion: Succeed in School

September 25th – Movie Night

(TBA – determined in SS)

Pastor K



BVCOB Youth & Young Adults:

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

"It was God who gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, that is, to build up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of faith and of knowledge of the Son of God- a mature person, attaining to the measure of Christ's full stature."

- Ephesians 4:11-13

Many of you have walked with me in this path to becoming an ordained pastor. I appreciate the encouragement, constructive criticism, questions, and challenges that have helped me grow to where I am today. I hope that I am not the only one who has grown. I hope that we have all grown together - toward the full stature of Christ - "the unity of faith and of knowledge of the Son of God." Of course this is a life-long pursuit, maybe eternal pursuit. And I have come to be even more excited by that.

The path to "Christ-likeness" has many challenges and sacrifices, as we lay down things we thought were precious to us, so we can share the burdens Jesus asks us to carry and walk the way Christ leads. This sacrifice may be more difficult for some of us who have a bit more to lose. But the joy and freedom that comes with that journey proves to be worth it. I look forward to continuing to walk with you on this path of self and God discovery!

Peace,
Pastor K



Family Hayride Night

September 23rd from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
(Rain date October 7th)

Bring a friend, invite your neighbor. This is a community event. The activities will be a craft, inflatables, hayride, and food will be provided.

The **Summer Day Camp** was well received by the community. The children had a lot of fun doing crafts, building friendships, and playing. The preschool group got to enjoy the playground. They loved craft time and story time.

A huge thank you to all our volunteers who help for our events.

Camp Eder was expressed by the children as "so much fun". Thank you, Pastor K, for keeping all the children connected with their families and all you did for camp.

"Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life" - Psalm 143:8

Angela Zimmerman for Children's Ministry Team



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,



The Potential and Pitfalls of Change

I'm sure you've all read/heard that Janet and Angela have moved to Florida to live with my son, Micah. We are trying this arrangement for a number of reasons that I mentioned in the letter that you have all received. I don't want to repeat the reasons here. My thoughts in this letter go more to how to process and handle change.

Change is inevitable in all of our lives. Sometimes we are the instigators of change and sometimes we respond to change because of the actions of others or simply a change in the circumstances around us. Obviously when you've been married for 36 years and have spent 20 years with a child in your house, having them leave the house is a significant change. You've all had change in your life happen. What are the potential and pitfalls of change?

The answer is usually, "I don't really know". I can list what I hope are the potential benefits for the change in my family. I hope that Angela finds joy and contentment in new surroundings. I hope that Janet is able to help our oldest son get more established. I also hope there is the potential for some of Janet's physical difficulties to lessen in a warmer climate. But none of this is guaranteed. I can think of several pitfalls for this change. Will the three of them be able to live together? Will something happen to Janet when I'm not there to help immediately? I could go on and on.

What I've done as I've processed this change, before and after the decision was made, was to determine that I thought this was in line with what God desired. This is how I've tried to process change that I've initiated. How consistent is this with what I think God desires? If you are confident in this, then you won't be subject to quick second guessing if the results don't turn out the way you want right away. It's not usually a good idea to evaluate change immediately. What you might see as a pitfall could be the potential for positive outcomes.

I'm not a psychiatrist and I don't play one on TV, but please involve the leading of the Holy Spirit as you evaluate change in your life. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would guide us into all truth. Let's take advantage of that amazing process as we go through the inevitable change that comes our way.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric

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