



Is God in Control of My Life?

What is happening in the Summer Quarter of Sunday School?

Jesus never quizzed his followers on basic facts. He didn't pass out worksheets for them to complete so he could check to see if they had the right answers. He wanted people to think and wrestle with the hard questions of life and faith through relationships and dialogue.

Adults of all ages are invited to participate in **Fearless Conversation** during the summer Sunday School quarter where we will tackle timely questions that don't have easy answers such as:

- How can we live with integrity in a world that doesn't?
- How does my sin impact others?
- Why does God use tragedy as part of His plan?

These studies from Joshua, Ruth, and Esther 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 be held in the Main Gathering Area starting on **Sunday, June 11th**. No sign-ups are necessary.

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

Stacy Reitenbach & the Adult Sunday School Team



"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." ~Colossians 3:16

Summer Day Camp

Dates: June 14th, 21st & 28th
July 12th, 19th & 26th
(Wednesdays)

Time: Pre-K 9 – 9:30 am to 12 Noon
K - 5th grade 9 – 9:30 am to 4 pm

Preregister your child at <https://bvcob.com/camp-sign-up/>. Please tell your neighbors and friends.

Want to help? Please fill out a "helping hand" on the Children's Ministry table if you can help at any point during the summer.

Angela Zimmerman for Children's Ministry Team



The birth of Jesus did not eliminate suffering in this world, but provides a way to exist eternally in a world without suffering.

Pastor Eric



Sermon Series in Matthew

We will continue with our series in Matthew through the month of June. June will begin with the baptism of Jesus and carry us through the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew chapter 5. This **verse by verse** approach allows us to systematically learn about the life of Jesus while covering many different topics.

I think this will be an exciting time and it will give you a chance to really dive deeply into the life of Jesus to apply it to your life. If you are on Facebook, I encourage you to join the sermon group so that you can follow and contribute to the discussion there as well.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric

Great News from Community Aid



We have been encouraging everyone to "Feed the Bin" and now we have been rewarded with an **increase in what we receive for our donations!** The amount of money that we receive has gone from 4 cents a pound to 11 cents a pound! This is a huge increase and will benefit us very well. They accept gently used clothing, shoes and accessories in the bin.

The other good news is that if you have **other items** like household goods, toys and working electronics, they **can be taken directly to the store** and when you give our bin number of 30003, we will also receive credit. Do you have leftover items perhaps from a yard sale that fit into these categories? Please deliver them directly to the store for our credit.

Any questions, please let me know.

Vicki Bastian, for Mission Ministry Team

Brethren Brunch



A Brethren Brunch will be held on Sunday, **June 4 during the Sunday school hour.**

Please sign up on the Adult Ministries board so we can get a somewhat accurate account for the meal.

Thanks,
Zach Showers



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: **May 19th**
June 23rd
July 28th
& August 25th

Time: **6:00 pm – 8:30 pm**

Angela Zimmerman for Children's Ministry Team

Church Email Lists

news@bvcob.com
BVCOB church news & events

prayer@bvcob.com
prayer requests

share-ads@bvcob.com
requests for help (moves, yardwork, rides, childcare, etc.), yard sales, items for sale, etc.

Updates from Church Council Meeting

The Ministries Coordinating Team (MCT) brought the following motions to our May Church Council Meeting which were approved by the council.

- "Both MCT and Pastor K see mutual benefit in continuing ministry with the church in a part-time capacity. MCT recommends employing Pastor K part-time as a minister for approximately 30 hours/month in exchange for living in the parsonage. The scope of work for Pastor K. will be divided into the areas of youth ministry, live streaming, pastoral team, and preaching. MCT will reevaluate this agreement at the end of August 2023."

Pastor Eric Kauffman will commence serving immediately. The Youth & Young Adult Ministry Team is looking forward to his support.

The Youth & Young Adult Ministry Team has also expanded its membership and is looking for additional support. If you have an interest in supporting our youth and young adults, please talk with Stacy Mast or other members of the team. We all know navigating life can be challenging. Your involvement can have a real impact.

- "MCT recommends establishing a special designated fund titled, "Dominican Agricultural Fund". This fund will receive donations for agricultural ministry in the Dominican Republic overseen by Jason and Nicole Hoover. Money will be used for periodic trips by Jason to the Dominican Republic for agricultural projects. The money will be used for travel expenses, equipment purchase, seeds, education and other related expenses. Buffalo Valley will receive the funds and disperse funds as they are required for the mission. The Mission team will oversee each trip's purpose, itinerary and funding requirements. At the discontinuation of this ministry the Hoovers will seek to designate any remaining funds for agricultural projects in the Dominican Republic."

Jason, Nicole, Ethan and Miriam Hoover will be returning to Buffalo Valley this summer. I would encourage you to welcome them back. I'm sure it will take some time for them to acclimate living here after spending many years in the Dominican. Don't

be surprised to see Jason wearing a hoody in summer.

Pastor Eric Reamer reported at the Church Council Meeting that Janet will be extending her stay in Florida through December to continue to help Angela become self-sustaining. Continue to pray for that situation and for Janet's health as she is having difficulty walking. She recently returned to working for Target as a cashier. Eric will be making several more trips there and will be using his vacation time and if necessary special circumstances days while he is away.

It is MCT's intention to bring a recommendation to Council in the fall if Eric and Janet would want to extend this arrangement past December.

Brian Keister

Ministries Coordinating Team Chairperson



Hey, Parents of K thru 5

We have challenged children to collect enough items for **10 OCC shoeboxes**. This fall, we will have the children, as a group, pack their shoeboxes. OCC is a great opportunity to help our children participate in and understand the important role mission plays in spreading the gospel! So, parents ask your kids what they are collecting for their part of the mission!

Kelsey Zimmerman, OCC Coordinator



Strawberry Festival/Hymn Sing



We would like to invite you to a church event that includes strawberries and hymn singing on **Saturday, June 10th** 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!



God has given us two hands, one to receive with and the other to give with.

Billy Graham

Youth & Young Adult Ministry Team (YaYA)



Youth Updates!

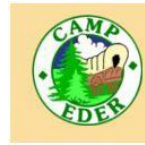
Team Update - We are excited to have Pastor K back with us on a part-time basis! He will attend planning meetings as well as the two youth events that we have each month.

Pastor K resigning at the beginning of 2023 caused a lot of anxiety for our team. We have several parents who are core members of our team and help out with most events (Kathy Kuhns and Doug & Kammy Frank). We are also fortunate to have some younger members on our team (Terry Ruhl, Megan Wetzell, and Clayton Frank) who help as well. We also have two youth representatives on our team (Ben Reimer and Kirsten Kuhns). However, without Pastor K to guide us the team was feeling that we did not have someone with the strength of leadership to guide the group during actual youth events. Having Pastor K back in a part-time capacity will help in the areas that we feel are our biggest need at this time.

We did welcome Brent Ulrich to the team and are very excited to have his experience and ideas. Brent's oldest son will be transitioning to youth this summer. We are also still hoping to add two or more additional members to our team. We are open to anyone joining our team. If you are a parent of a soon to be youth this might be a great opportunity to help on a team. And we also feel that individuals who are NOT parents of youth are a great asset to our team as well. Often it is good for our youth to hear the voices of more than just their parents and form relationships with trusted adults beyond just their own parents. Another area of need we have is assisting with our young adult ministries. Please feel to reach out if you are willing to learn more about serving on our team.

Stacy Mast,

Youth & Young Adult Ministry Team Leader
570-412-7198, kyesmommy04@yahoo.com



Camp Eder Corner

****Summer camps start in June!** We have over 10 campers registered. **Remember our church pays a large portion of tuition for "our BVCOB" campers! 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, \$280 of your tuition will be paid by the church (\$280 is for full week camps; \$150 for barefoot camps). There are also scholarships for our church camp, near Gettysburg. Please let me know (and Stacy Mast-for youth), if you are going!

We are hoping more children/youth will register.

If you have any questions on how to include your children in this awesome summer experience, please let me know. I'd be happy to help you get them registered!

Week 1 June 18 - 23

Senior High, Junior High, Rock Climbing
& Shining Stars

Week 2 June 25 - June 30

Wet and Wild, Junior Camp 1, Outback Camp
& Film Camp

Week 3 July 9 - 14

Kids Camp 1, Little Gardeners & Camp All Out
Barefoot (July 12 - 14 for Kindergarten)

Week 4 July 16 - 21

Junior Camp II, Dream It, Build It
& AT Trekkers

Week 5 July 24 - 29

Kids Camp II, Mad Science Camp
& Puddle Jumpers

Hope you check out the summer adventures being planned for your child's Christian camping experience at campeder.org.

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

From Your Lead Pastor,



Protection from Evil?

While listening to a sermon in my car this afternoon (with the top down because of the sunny, warm weather) I heard a quote from Jonathan Edwards, a famous Puritan pastor of years gone by. The quote as I remember it was like this: "God protects us from evil, not evil things". As my sermon this week is on a very evil event in Matthew chapter 2 I latched onto this sentence and I believe it is very, very true.

God doesn't promise to protect us from evil things. All of us experience evil things, some more than others, but we all experience evil things in some way or another. To say that God protects us from evil things doesn't match up with lived experience. However, the idea that God does protect us from evil is intriguing. Evil things can impact our lives but it is not guaranteed that they will produce evil in us or that the evil thing has the ability to force evil upon us.

We have many promises about evil in God's word. Psalm 127:8-9 states: *"The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore."* In the model prayer we ask God to keep us from evil or the evil one. God keeps this promise. God is powerful enough to keep us from evil but He does allow evil things.

When an evil thing impacts your life, look to God for protection and provision. There is a reason why the evil thing has occurred. You need not be taken captive by the evil in the evil thing. I know that I'm going to think about this for a little while. I offer it to you as well.

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



For me, opening up God's Word is like a banquet feast...nourishment for my soul.

Charles Swindoll

Upcoming Events for Youth in June!

June 4 - YaYA Planning Meeting (No Youth)
June 11 - Drive By Blessings 3 - 5 PM
June 18 - NO YOUTH FATHER'S DAY
June 25 - Keister Pond 3 - 5 PM

Attention Students Finishing Fifth Grade

- you can start to join our youth events in June. We look forward to meeting all incoming youth and having them become part of our group! (Please note - Sunday School transition will not take place until September.)

Stacy Mast

Youth & Young Adult Ministry Team Leader



Did you buy your gift cards?

LOOKING AHEAD IN 2023

July 8 – 14 – Westernport Mission Trip



August 6 – Church Picnic

September 17 - 20 – Women's Beach Retreat

October 1 – Love Feast

October 28 – Women's Brunch

November 5 – Church Council Meeting

November 25 – Kettle Cook

December 6 – Women's Christmas Party

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.

The Lamplighter

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

Return Service Requested

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46 Brethren Church Road
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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