

Celebrate Baptism



On Sunday morning, September 15th we celebrated baptism during the Sunday morning worship service.

Baptized were **Sarah Davis, Chloe Gemberling and Megan Wetzel.**

Please show your support with a warm welcome to those who expressed their faith in Jesus Christ.



Do This in Remembrance of Me

For those of you new to Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren, we are having our semi-annual **Love Feast on Sunday, October 6 at 6 pm.** This is a time of gathering together as a church family to partake in singing, feet washing, communion and a small meal (similar to Jesus and His disciples and the Last Supper). If you are uncomfortable with feet washing, you are welcome to observe.

We will provide childcare and a light meal/snack will be provided. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Main Entrance, please also note how many children will be needing childcare.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact one of the pastors or a deacon.

We hope you will plan to join us as we celebrate in a humble way the love of our Lord and Savior.

Blessings,

Linda Buttorff for Spiritual Life Ministry Team



There Is Still Time to Join!

It's hard to believe that the summer is almost over! Fall Adult Sunday School classes will begin on **Sunday, September 8th and run through November 24th.**

Pastor Eric will be offering a second opportunity to participate in **The After Party** study from the summer. This course will help you navigate political discussions and shift your focus from the "what" of politics to the "how" in a small group setting.

Mark Hofmann will lead a class on **Ecclesiastes**. Mark warns that you might find this study to be somewhat depressing, but you will also come out of it with a clearer perspective on your earthly strivings.

We will continue our New Testament book studies with a look at **Hebrews**. Dani Sommers will lead a study about how Jesus fulfills all of the Old Testament promises and prophecies as our Prophet, Priest, and King.

Karen Arneson will offer **Your Divine Design**, a class that will help you focus in on your unique role in the body of Christ. This class was offered several years ago and is highly recommended by past participants.

Finally, Michelle Herman will facilitate a class around the book **Uncommon Ground**. This book study will provide practical suggestions for how Christians can interact with those around us in ways that show respect to those whose beliefs are different while remaining faithful to the gospel.

Watch for the Sunday school handout in your mailbox or the email I will send out next week for more details about these classes!

Stacy Reitenbach,
Adult Sunday School Coordinator



Don't Delay!

It is now time to turn in your calendar dates for the **2025 Church Calendar**. If you or your group or team has **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. We also need to make sure that heating/cooling is set for the area(s) you want to use. (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.)

You will need to complete a **Church Calendar ADDITION Form** for a **single church activity** or a **MULTI-EVENT Form** for **multiple activities** so that none are missed. Be sure to include the start & end times, preparation start & end times for each activity, and rooms to be used. You can also use a **calendar Google form** to submit dates. If you are interested in submitting your dates in this way, **contact the church office for the link**. 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**. The forms can be located by going to "Resources" then "Forms".

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 2025 must be submitted from the ministry teams by October 1, 2024. No outside groups will be permitted to schedule any events for 2025 (with the exceptions of weddings) until after November 1, 2024.

Thank you,

Cheryl Ilgen, BVCOB Ministry Assistant

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.



Buffalo Gals Updates

Thank you to everyone who prayed for the beach retreat, and everyone who took on extra responsibilities to allow the beach retreat to happen. It was a wonderful time of sunshine, fellowship, and recharging. Rising costs have caught up to the retreat, so the total cost of the **2025 retreat** will be \$300 per individual, with a \$150 deposit being due in May. The earlier opt-in date will hopefully allow us to have a larger selection of condos to choose from so we can be as close together as possible.

The next **Women's Brunch** is **October 12th** from 9 – 11 am in the Son Room. There are typically 15-20 women that attend, sitting 5 per table. We will enjoy a delicious meal together with time for a short devotional and sharing prayer requests or anything else you'd like. Please consider joining us!

If you ever want to host an event for other women from our church - even if it's as simple as gathering for a few hours during an afternoon - don't hesitate to reach out, or just post a flyer on the Women's Ministry board and make sure it gets announced. It takes all of us to build a close-knit community!

Contact Elaina Richard with any questions or comments - (elaina.miller008@gmail.com, 717-979-6732)

Elaina Richard for Women's Ministry



A Huge Thank You!

Thank you, Church Family, for your help in a time of need!

The linens and monetary donations that you contributed to help in the **Westfield Disaster** show what a wonderful Church Family you are!

We Are Serving Him!

Vicki Bastian for Mission Ministry Team



Invite a Friend, Be a Friend

I started attending Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren shortly after the services were moved from the old white church to the present building. My first experience with Love Feast was in our current building. I admit I was afraid of attending the service.

Back then (1994 - 1995) the women wore head coverings for Love Feast. I probably did not participate in the Love Feast service until I had been attending regularly for a year. I agreed to go when Gaye Richard invited me personally and told me she would meet me there and stay with me the entire time and tell me what I should do. Having someone with me made it so much easier to attend the first time.

Love Feast is a meaningful way of participating with our faith community in remembering and obeying the commandment of Jesus to "do this in remembrance of Me."

Hope to see you there.

Joan Hofmann



Sermon Topics

We continue with our series on Matthew. Remember to join the sermon group on Facebook if you have not already done so. Below is the schedule through the end of October:

September 22 nd :	Matthew 18:15-20
September 29 th :	Matthew 18:21-25 Pastor K
October 6 th :	Matthew 19:1-9 (part 1)
October 13 th :	Matthew 19:1-9 (part 2)
October 20 th :	Matthew 19:11-12
October 27 th :	Matthew 19:16-30

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



Camp Eder Corner

Camp Eder's 46th Annual Fall Fest will be held on Saturday, **October 19**, from **10 am to 4 pm**. It's a celebration designed for the whole family.

There is a **live auction** starting at 10:30 am and a **pork meal** served from 11 am to 3 pm. **Other highlights** include barrel train rides, hayrides, kids' activities, craft vendors, Eder made apple butter, yard sale vendors, and live music!

It would make a great day trip for those able to go. Fun and fundraising going hand in hand!

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

From Your Lead Pastor,



What do Posts about Politics Reveal?

It's impossible to be on social media these days without reading political posts. There are three things that strike me about these that I think are connected to spiritual formation so at the risk of upsetting someone, perhaps in a good way, let's think through these.

1. **Sharing Things Without Context.** This happens all the time. People share memes or snippets of things that are taken out of context and therefore communicate something that is not true. Recently I've seen things that were not true about a proposed tax policy and something not true about the performance of the stock market under a president. It only takes a few minutes to find out these things are not true, but if an organization or individual is willing to initially put out something that is untrue or misleading then doesn't that say a lot about the organization or individual who puts it out? Sure, you might share it unknowingly but then you've become complicit in the deception. Be careful. This is why I exhort all of you to read God's word and never to take verses or words out of context. Be thankful that when in context, God's word is trustworthy...at times confusing...but trustworthy.

2. **Personal Attacks and Calling Names.** EVERY time you call the Republicans stupid or the Democrats an idiot...or any particular person... you have sinned. Yes, you now have sinned against God in doing that. Though I tend not to do this too much, someone that I know posted a meme that equated Hitler with Kamala Harris. I sent a comment back asking that person if they had really thought about that and if Jesus would have posted that. Thankfully they took the meme off their wall. But doing something like that is sinful...every time. It goes against so many commands and statements of God and how His people are to engage with others. It's Ok to say that you think a policy is harmful or that you think a person would be bad to lead the country or the county but when you and I cross the line into personal name calling we have sinned...do you really want to do that? Can you really not refrain from that? If not, what does that say about your heart? Yes, I know that Jesus called the Pharisees vipers. When you can multiply food, walk on water, heal the sick and raise the dead, then go ahead and call names. Until then...don't.

3. **Avoid Saying That the Sky Will Fall if he/she is Elected.** The truth is that you and I don't have a clue as to how God intends to grow His kingdom on earth. The United States is about 4% of the world's population. Do you really think that whoever is elected President for four years matters that much on the kingdom of heaven scale? No...it doesn't. I'm not saying that elections are unimportant...they do matter...but the sky is not going to fall...or if a portion of the sky falls perhaps that is exactly what God desires. Also, we have no idea which leader or leaders will best help grow the church. The early church did quite well under repressive government that persecuted the church regularly. Perhaps the church needs that again? God is on His throne no matter what. The hope of the gospel never changes no matter who is in the White House. Be active in politics...advocate for what you think is best...but don't fall into the trap of thinking that the world will end if you and your issues lose the day. The world will end when God decides it will end...and then a glorious new beginning begins! The sun is still coming up tomorrow and it might shine on some things that we need to see.

Ok...that's enough for one article. I'd welcome the chance to talk with you if you disagree. Please take these words to heart over the next weeks as you consider how to talk to people in words, memes or otherwise. Others are watching those who claim the name of Jesus and more importantly, we can serve the Lord each day as we humbly trust Him and serve Him

God Bless,
Pastor Eric



Wednesdays
October 2 – November 20

Meal served: 5:30 - 6:15 pm
Buffet-Style Meal
\$5/person \$15/family

Operation Christmas Child

We are **down to the last month** of our collection! Please continue to bring in the needed items and place them in the bin at the Mission table. You are also able to place a check or monetary donation in an envelope marked "OCC" in the black offering box if you'd like us to do the shopping for you!

Don't forget there is also an Amazon shopping list available for quick online shopping!

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/39GBA3ZETVJJB?ref_=wl_share.

Take a look at the display in the Main Entry to see what we still need to reach this year's goal! The **final day for collection** will be **Sunday, October 27, 2024**.

Kelsey Zimmerman



Youth News

Upcoming Youth Events in October!

October 6 - LOVE FEAST NO YOUTH

October 13 - Youth from 3 – 5 pm

October 14 - Pie Dough Making 10 am - 3 pm

October 19 - Pie Making Day from 9 am - 3 pm

October 27 - Planning at 11

Please let Stacy Mast or Pastor K know if you have any questions!

"CoLIEgE sTuDeNtS" - The YaYA team has not received any college addresses. Even if your address did NOT change please just send an email to confirm this. We want to bless you very soon so we need addresses ASAP. You can send them to Stacy Mast at kyesmommy04@yahoo.com as soon as possible.



Apple Pie Fundraiser

The deadline to order your delicious apple pies is quickly approaching! All orders are due by **October 6**. You can sign up on the online sign up genius OR on the order form on the youth table. Money raised through this fundraiser helps to pay for youth and advisors to participate in the Westernport Mission Trip or to go to Sight and Sound.

*Reminders - walnuts are used in the crumb topping so if you have an allergy do not order our pies! We can't guarantee that there hasn't been cross contamination.

**Pie info - pies are unbaked and will be ready to either bake or freeze to bake later. Pick up is October 19 between 2 and 4 PM.

Stacy Mast, Youth & Young Adult Ministry Leader

The Lamplighter

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

Return Service Requested

The Lamplighter

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8:30 AM - Sunday school
9:45 AM - Worship Service