

Thursday, April 17th

LOVE FEAST & COMMUNION



Sunday, April 20th

EASTER! – He has risen!
He Has Risen Indeed!



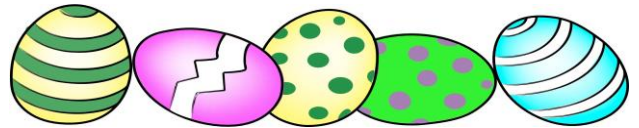
Sermon Topics

In April we will continue our study of Matthew. We are not going to have a typical sermon series highlighting Easter topics this year because we will get there in a few months in Matthew. Besides, if someone only attends a worship service on Easter Sunday, they will hear a different sermon topic than they are used to hearing...though our service on Easter will prominently feature the resurrection. Here is the schedule:

March 30 th :	Matthew 25:1-13 (Pastor K)
April 6 th :	Matthew 25:14-30
April 13 th :	Matthew 25:31-46
April 20 th :	Matthew 26:1-13
April 27 th :	Matthew 26:14-31

God Bless,
Pastor Eric

Easter Egg Fair



April 12th 10:30 am - 12 Noon

Bring friends, family, and neighbors.

A hotdog lunch is provided. There are games, an egg hunt, bouncers, craft, and prizes.

Volunteers: Sign-up at the bulletin board with Angela Zimmerman. We need help with set-up, game stands, ticket booths, bounce houses, kitchen help and then clean up.

"But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God." ~ Mark 10:14

Angela Zimmerman, Children's Ministry Team



July 16 - 19

Applications for Assistance
are available at the
Welcome Center.



Grief Support Group

13 Weekly sessions
March 4 - May 27
6:30 - 8:30 pm

at: Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren

Questions:
Contact Jim Brubaker
570-713-4183
jnbru@dejazzd.com

Preregistration is suggested
call - 570-966-1183
email - churchoffice@bvcob.com



Friday Fun Nights

6 pm - 8:30 pm

April 4th, 18th, 25th (ends the season)

Bring friends!



Mission Ministry Spotlight

In 2025 Buffalo Valley began to financially and prayerfully support the Barrs family, missionaries to Mexico. The Barrs (TC, Kelly and their three children) are in language and cultural training in Mexico as they prepare to live with a people group in Mexico that does not have a Bible in their language. The Barrs plan to spend several years with this group while learning their language, giving the people a written language, translating the Bible and sharing the gospel with the people group among whom they will live.

If you'd like to see some pictures of the Barrs family you can see this update on Facebook by clicking on this link: [Barrs Family Update](#) (if you are reading this in print and would like to read the update you can get there via a March 11 prayer email or contact Pastor Eric).

Here is a list of their prayer requests and praises from the update:

Prayer Requests

1. That we would progress in the Spanish language as a family and have wisdom to help the kids pick up more words
2. For safety on our upcoming trips to Creel and Queretaro as we visit with friends and get more experiences of Mexican culture in different regions of the country
3. That we would establish good and healthy routines as a family and individually
4. For relationships with our neighbors, coworkers, and church family to deepen and be Gospel-centered
5. Safety for all missionaries especially those in remote locations as the political/cartel situation escalate

Praises

1. For the successful quick trip back to States and the encouragement from seeing friends, family, and supporters
2. For new friendships and more opportunities to practice Spanish
3. For a stable amount of monthly support over our first year on the field
4. For the care and support we have received from our coworkers and local church friends in the ups and downs of the last year
5. For fresh and cheap eggs from a local farm!

Please pray for the Barrs' as they serve Jesus in Mexico! Thanks for your financial support of this missionary family.

Pastor Eric for the Mission Ministry Team

Welcome Mat



The Hospitality & Communications Ministry Team (HCMT) continues to tweak things to make our church a welcoming place for each of you as well as for visitors.

Sunny Kahley has now joined our team to oversee supplies in restrooms, please let her or myself know of any items that may be nice to include or are running low.

You may have noticed a few changes in the main lobby area. Donita had the idea for some banners to help direct folks to the Welcome Center as well as some others, you will notice them changing according to events, holidays and seasons. I welcome any feedback about the lobby specifically, to help aid flow and atmosphere.

We have one very **big need!** We are needing volunteers to help clean the drink area in the lobby after services each week. It doesn't take long, and entails loading the drinks and creamers onto a cart, transporting them to the kitchen, dumping and cleaning the containers. If we had a few folks willing, we can do a rotation so you may only be needed once every month. It would be a great help to Karen Beiler who so faithfully arrives early on Sundays to prepare and provide your coffees, hot water, cold water, and other seasonal drinks. Please text me at (570) 939-0448 or see me at church, and we will get a schedule begun!

Thank you,
Sheri Reimer for the HCMT



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

It's that time of year to sign up for the **Beach Retreat!** It will be **September 7-10**. See the women's ministry board for all of the details.

Our **next brunch** will be **May 10th**. It would be great to see some new faces! There's always plenty of food and laughs. It's a great way to relax on a Saturday morning, to be able to forget about responsibilities for a few hours, and to deepen relationships.

We would love to see you at one of our women's Connections gatherings! They have been very meaningful and refreshing times for those that have attended - even those who had some reservations but decided to give it a try. There's no obligation to participate in anything we might be doing, and you can come and go as you need to. There is time for games, catching up, or other activities, and then some time for sharing prayer requests.

If you have an interest or hobby that you'd like to share in with others or try for the first time, don't hesitate to reach out! Please contact me with any comments or questions. I'd love to hear from you!

For Spring: Spring teaches us that renewal is not a single event but a process unfolding in God's perfect timing. Similarly, He works uniquely in each heart, according to His wisdom and our individual journeys. As people of faith, we're called to confidence in what He has promised to do. Spring reminds us that His faithfulness is as certain as the changing seasons. "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." - Hebrews 11:1

- Elaina Richard

(elaina.miller008@gmail.com, 717-979-6732)



It's hard to throw stones when you are busy washing feet.

Love Like Jesus

Outside Our Walls

Missionaries

As always, please be in prayer for our missionaries. You can see detailed information about these missionaries on the Mission Ministry Team bulletin board in the Main Entry.

Community Aid



It's (finally) Spring! And you know what that means.....Spring Cleaning! While you're tugging that reluctant child or yourself into last year's clothes to see what still fits, remember that the Community Aid bin is waiting for your donation. Proceeds from the bin go to support Operation Christmas Child shoebox shipping!

Westernport



We are continuing to put together a team to serve the children of Westernport from **July 12 to 18**. We serve them in a variety of ways. Time in the Bible, Imagination Station, Crafts, Games and of course, good food several times in a day. If you step out of your comfort and meet the children and their families, you will not be disappointed. They are always so happy to see us and spend time with us. If you are interested, please don't wait, get an application now. Please see me for an application.

Baby Bottle Drive

Our Baby Bottle Drive to benefit Expectations Women's Center will start in April and end on Sunday, June 1st. Please take a bottle and fill it with coins, a check or cash. This is a great way to support Expectations.

Serving others is serving Him!

Vicki Bastian

Mission Ministry Team Leader

From Your Lead Pastor,



The Resurrection Changes Everything!

In the month of April we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This month is special for me because Easter will be celebrated on the third Sunday of April, which is when it should always be celebrated. Currently I think that the date for Easter is determined by whether or not the Easter bunny sees his shadow when the moon is full in the seventh house. Ok, I know that's not how the date is set. Easter is always the first Sunday after the first full moon that falls on or after March 21. That means it can be as early as March 22nd which is way too early!

Anyway, since we don't know what day the resurrection of Jesus took place let's consider celebrating the resurrection of Jesus EVERY DAY! The resurrection of Jesus is an event that really changes every other event in our lives. The reality that Jesus rose from the dead, and offers a similar resurrection to His followers, changes the way that His followers approach death, disappointment, fear, celebration...it changes everything.

The popular Easter hymn, *Because He Lives*, has the following words as its chorus:

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because He lives, all fear is gone,
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives!

This chorus reminds us that the resurrection does impact every day of our lives, yesterday, today and tomorrow. The power of Jesus Christ over death is the same power available to you at death but also, and just as importantly, it is the same power to energize your life today. Romans 8:11 reads: *"But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you."*

If this is not your experience I'd like to get together with you. I don't know what resurrection power would mean for you each and every day but God does...and I promise you it is good.



God Bless,
Pastor Eric

BVCOB Youth & Young Adults:

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



Speaking the Word

There is a power to the spoken word that other forms lack.

"And God SAID, 'Let there be light...'"
(Genesis 1:3)

"In the beginning was the Word..."
(John 1:1)

These words have brought life and light for 2,000 - 3000+ years, meticulously written and copied. That writing has preserved truth as close as possible to that originally written. Yet, left on the page to be read, even repeated, they can become stagnant cisterns of stale water that humans may be proud to possess, but hesitant to partake.

We now have audio versions, and even podcasts hosted by scholars that skillfully stir those waters; they may even spray knowledge out en masse. Yet, isolated in our earbuds, this fountain can become a mere shower washing over us- refreshing but unchanging.

Something happens when we drink that water and let it alter what is inside of us. It aids in the digestion of all other experience and knowledge. That water cleanses and helps us rid toxic waste. In surprising ways it can change how we feel and act.

Don't let that living water flow by without changing you, or simply store it up, hidden away in stale cisterns. Memorize, recite, contemplate and conversate. Let it soak in and become part of you. It will begin to seep out; you won't be able to stop it.

(Deuteronomy. 6:6): "Keep the words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise..."

Peace, Pastor K

Hidden Treasure?

"Deep and wide, deep and wide, there's a fountain flowing deep and wide..." Hearing the song from my 2-year-old fills me with joy. He learned it in Sunday school. How special it is that he is learning about Jesus at such a young age!

I believe that Sunday school at Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren is a hidden treasure for children and adults alike. There are so many opportunities to learn new things, to be challenged, and to build relationships with others in our faith community. There are also classes for all ages—so two year olds through octogenarians and beyond can find a place to connect.

I think that's one of the reasons I agreed to work with Jamie Manbeck to be the Sunday school coordinator(s). I long for places to build meaningful relationships for all of us. If you've never jumped in to Sunday school, I invite you to join us! There are classes for everyone. Roxanne Waite and I are currently the youngest members of this quarter's class focused on retiring well—and we're fine with it!

Jamie and I are going to be looking for ideas for classes as well as people to teach...or co-teach...or mentor a new teacher.... So please send us a message if you or someone you know might have an interest in helping out with Sunday school. Feel free to nominate someone to teach! (They can always say no.) Email or cell phone works; if you send a message, please include both of us.

Michelle Herman — (570) 713-8240
chelle0207@gmail.com

Jamie Manbeck - (570) 954-0029
jamie.manbeck@gmail.com

Michelle (& Jamie) Sunday School coordinators

The Bible was the only book that Jesus ever quoted.

Leon Morris



Youth News

Upcoming Youth Events

April 6 - Youth 3 - 5 PM

April 13 - Planning (following the service)

April 20 – Easter (no youth)

April 27 - Youth 3 - 5 PM

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

Youth Retreat Highlights

From Youth:

Coy - I really liked this retreat because we all got to work together as a team and learn skills that made us work better together. I also liked the spiritual aspect of getting out in nature and thinking to ourselves. I enjoyed the physical activities where we were moving around so we did not have to sit around the whole entire time.

Ethan - I enjoyed playing capture the flag and spending time with friends.

Abby - I liked how much room we had to hang out with friends and playing the outside games and werewolf.

Mariah - the end of the day games were fun.

Evan - being able to spend time with each other and playing capture the flag.

From Adults:

Brent - watching the kids work together as a team when it came to the activities.

Pastor K - their excitement to pitch in and help with meals and cleaning up and some of the powerful growth action of considering others - how they spoke to each other or stopped speaking to ask and listen to others.

Megan - Evan falling off the top bunk (And Brent adds that it wasn't even his bunk). I also really enjoyed seeing the kids engaged with their Bibles. When we did the 30 minute quiet time it was neat to see them writing things down, reading, and later on asking questions about things.

Stacy Mast, Youth & Young Adult Ministry Leader

Young Adult Activities

Young Adults (18 - 30 yrs)

We continue to check in on an individual basis, to listen and share our journeys. I look forward to more in 2025!

We have a couple groups of Young Adults meeting:

Megan Wetzel is organizing a Bible Reading & Discussion group. Presently we are reading through Genesis. To prepare for the discussion, we read a chapter each day, and then meet on the **4th Sunday, right after Church** for discussion. Our first meeting is March 23rd; we will meet again on April 27th.

Pastor K meets with Young Adults on the first Wednesday of the month, 6:30 pm, to test food, listen to each other's lives, and ask challenging faith questions. Usually it is the 1st Wednesday, but in April it will be the 2nd Wednesday, April 9th, at Axemann Tavern in Selinsgrove.

Pastor K



Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to all who have contributed to OCC so far this year! As we head into April, now is a good time to scoop up some deals on spring/summer items such as jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, foldable Frisbees, and sunglasses. Also keep in mind, after Easter, there are usually discounts on stuffed animals!

Any donations can be placed in the bin in the Main Entry.

As a side note, if anyone is planning a trip in 2025 to the area of Pigeon Forge, TN, we might have something you could benefit from! Contact me for more information.

Kelsey Zimmerman



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.

Week 1 June 15 - 20

- Senior High (Grades 9 - 12)
- Junior High (Grades 7 - 8)
- Rock Climbing (Grades 7 - 12)
- *New Wet and Wild (Grades 7 - 12)
- Shining Stars (Ages 15+special needs)

Week 2 June 22 - June 27

- Wet and Wild (Grades 7 - 12)
- Junior Camp 1 (Grades 4 - 6)
- Outback Camp (Grades 4 - 6)
- Horse Camp (Grades 4 -6)

Week 3 July 6 - 11

- Kids Camp 1 (Grades 1 - 3)
- Camp All Out (Grades 1 - 3)
- Barefoot (July 9 - 11 for Kindergarten & 1st)
- Junior Camp 2 (Grades 4 - 6)

Week 4 July 13 - 18

- Dream It, Build It (Grades 4 - 6)
- Culinary Camp (Grades 4 - 6)
- Puddle Jumpers (Grades 4 - 6)
- Kids Camp 2 (Grades 1 - 3)

Week 5 July 20 - 25

- AT Trekkers (Grades 7-12)
- C&O Biking Trip* (Grades 7 - 12)
- (*note this camp is physically challenging)

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



LOOKING AHEAD IN 2025

- May 4 – Church Council Meeting
- June 7 – Strawberry Festival
- June 18 – Day Camp Beginnings
- July 2 – 6 – COB Annual Conference
- July 12 – 18 – Westernport Mission Trip
- July 16 – 19 – Sun Area Work & Witness
- August 3 – Church Picnic
- September 19 – 20 – COB District Conference
- October 5 – Love Feast
- November 2 – Church Council Meeting
- November 29 – Kettle Cook
- December 16 – Women’s Christmas Party

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

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

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

Recycling

As a Church family you have been doing an amazing job of bringing your metal recycling to the church trailer. So far just in the month of March we have made \$871.75!! There have been many trips to the Recycling Center with all types of metals. Thank you and please keep up the great job. All types of metals are accepted, but we would ask that if you bring cat food cans, please rinse them before placing on the trailer.

We have recently had the opportunity to clean out someone's sheds and out buildings. There was a lot of metal that we were given permission to recycle.

A big Thank You to Kurt Ilgen and Doug Rishel.

Vicki Bastian