



The Lamplighter

Buffalo Valley
Church of the Brethren

July 2009
Volume 25 No. 6



PLEASE WELCOME!

On Sunday, June 7th we received **23 new members** into our congregation at Keister's Family Pond. They were received through transfer of letter and/or baptism. A picnic and fellowship followed the baptism.

Received through transfer of letter and reaffirmation of faith through baptism:

Brian Chambers, Teresa Chambers, Seth Kurtz, and Paul Maurer.

Received through baptism:

Athena Berkheiser, Troy Berkheiser, Dakota Heintzelman, Jason Hoover, Nicole Hoover, Isaac Ilgen, Jessica Keefer, Cynthia Kelly, Landon Kline, Morgan Kline, Jodi Kurtz, Sierra Martin, Vanessa Martin, Victoria Martin, Aaron Pursel, Hannah Pursel, Amanda Reid, Megan Reid, and Taylor Stamm.

If you have not already done so please give them a warm welcome.



PRAYER APPRECIATED

Please keep the Arizona Mission Team in your prayers as they prepare to share the Gospel in Holbrook and on the Navajo Reservation. Pray that we will be used by God in a mighty way and that the heart of the Navajo will be open. We leave on July 25th and will return August 1st.

Vicki Bastian

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO A PICNIC?



HOPEFULLY YOU ARE!!

On **Sunday, July 12th** plan to participate in **Buffalo Valley's Annual Guess Who's Coming to a Picnic?** This is a time where 2, 3 or more families gather together at a specified location for a picnic.

If you choose to be a **HOST**, you decide the picnic location (for example, you may choose to have it at your home) and prepare the meat for the number of guests that will be coming. If you choose to be a **GUEST**, you will be asked to bring a beverage, covered dish or dessert and on the day of the picnic, you will be given directions to your destination. Everyone will be guessing until the last minute who will be coming or where you will be going for a picnic.

This event is great for getting our church family into a smaller group setting. More detailed information explaining this event and reservation forms have been placed in your mailboxes. It is also posted at the special events area in the Narthex.

I hope you will be a host....or a guest!!

Jan Kline
Special Events Coordinator



Only the person who is not rowing
has time to rock the boat.

Anonymous

Family of the Month



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## MANY THANKS

A huge thanks to all who supported the "Material Gifts" project for **Children's Aid Society (CAS)** during the month of May. We were able to send **\$1,141.52** to help with the on-going services of this agency.



This year the Youth Sunday School kids were given a challenge of raising \$200.00 with an extra \$100 added if they reached that goal. With the \$100 they raised \$441.67. Great job, YOUTH.

The Children's Department collected \$180.68. It's so AWESOME to see our kids help other kids in this way.

The Adult Sunday School collected \$518.17 in two Sundays.

Again, thanks for your continued interest in this Southern PA District ministry.


Jane Mast,  
Contact for CAS

## YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

July 10 – Harrisburg Senators Baseball Game


July 18 – Picnic & Hiking @ Ricketts Glen 

July 24 – Outdoor Movie Night @ Keister's Pond

August 1 – Float Trip on Penns Creek 

August 7 – WGRC Day @ Knoebels

August 14 – Mini Golf & Ice Cream 

August 29 – Bowling 

Contact Paul Maurer for details

## Address Changes/Additions

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Wedding Bells



We extend our congratulations to **Elias and Christianna (Kiser) Maurer** on their recent marriage. Their wedding took place on Saturday, June 20. We wish them God's blessing as they begin their new life together.

Hoss's Day Is Back

Many of you participated the last time, so Hoss's day for the Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren is back. Take the Hoss's community day card that will show up in your church mailbox and take some friends to Hoss's on Wednesday **July 8th**. **Twenty percent** of your meal costs will be **donated** to the **Building for Ministry Fund**. Any questions, contact Steve Richard, Extra cards will be available in the church office.

Steve Richard

You're Invited to our

HYMN SING AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL



Saturday, **August 8th** at 6 PM
in the multi-purpose room



Please join us for an evening of worship and ice cream! What two combinations could be better!

Please bring your own ice cream to share (store bought or homemade) in a cooler or freezer. Toppings, snacks and drinks will be provided.

See you on August 8th!! (You will be getting more information in your mailboxes closer to the event.)

Jan Kline, Special Events Coordinator

(This event is sponsored by the Adult Ministry Team)

Where is God Calling Us?

Approximately 50 people attended our Congregational Think-Tank on June 1st in the Multipurpose room. While enjoying desserts, we spent some quality time looking at where we are and where we feel we need to go. A big thank you goes to all those who participated. The results will be quite helpful in understanding where we feel led in our ministries. The responses from the think-tank have been distributed to the Ministries Coordinating Team (MCT) who will be laying out the next steps in determining where God is calling us. Please continue to pray for our leadership team.

We all have an important role to play in fulfilling God's purpose for our faith community. It is exciting to see all of us gathering together to worship and serve.

As we reach out we are experiencing the rich blessing of an ever expanding circle of servants for Christ. In the last two years over 50 people have affirmed their love for Christ and committed to joining together with us in serving Him. So keep passionately pursuing and demonstrating the transforming life of Christ!!

MCT Chairperson
Brian Keister



LOOKING AHEAD IN 2009!

August 8 – Hymn Sing & Ice Cream Social
August 10 – 14 – MUSICAL DAY CAMP
August 23 – FAMILY NIGHT IN THE PARK

September 13 – ALL CHURCH PICNIC
September 18 & 19 – District Conference

October 4 – LOVE FEAST
October 23 - 24 – Church Candy Company
October 23 – 25 – CHILDREN'S RETREAT

November 1 – CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
November 8 – ROLLER SKATING
November 25 – Thanksgiving Eve Service
November 28 – Kettle Cook / Craft Show

SPLASH TUESDAYS for Preschoolers

Dates: June 16 – July 21

Time: 9:30 am – noon

Preregistration is preferred, but not required, and you can attend on any or all of the dates.

Friends (ages 3 - pre-K) are ALWAYS welcome.

Special Note: There will not be a hot lunch served this year, but we will be providing a substantial snack.

Register online @ kids.bvcob.com

Making Right Choices

BIBLE VERSE:

“We must obey God rather than men.”
Acts 5:29b

KEY CONCEPT:

God wants us to make right choices.

KNOW WHAT:

Children will review the stories of the disciples listening, Jonah, the leper who returned to say “thank You,” Daniel, and the Good Samaritan.



SPLASH WEDNESDAYS for those who have completed K - 5th grades

Dates: June 17 - July 22

Time: 9:30 am – 4 pm

Preregistration is preferred, but not required; you can attend on any or all of the dates.

Friends who have completed K - 5th grades are ALWAYS welcome.

Special Note: Weather permitting, we will go to the town pool at 1 pm (if not, we'll “STAY & PLAY” at the church). You may attend all or any part of the day. Lunch is at noon.

The Parable of the Sower

BIBLE VERSE:

“Let your roots grow down into Him and draw nourishment from Him so you will grow in faith.”
Colossians 2:7

KEY CONCEPT:

We need to prepare our hearts to hear God's Word.

KNOW WHAT:

Children will review the Parable of the Sower using stories from the book of Acts which demonstrate the types of soils.



During the full week of this camp, children who have completed Kindergarten through 6th grade will prepare a full length musical with a biblical message.

Camp Dates: August 10 - 14 (Monday - Friday)
9 AM to 1 PM

Participants must also be available for performances on Saturday, August 15 at 7 pm and Sunday, August 16 at 9:15 am at the Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren.

Camp Fees:

- \$20 for the first camper
- \$10 for each additional child in the same family



Participants will receive a recorded copy of the musical and all scripts about 1 month prior to the musical camp. It is hoped that when they begin camp on August 10 they will be quite familiar with the songs and will have speaking parts memorized.

Pre-registration is required for this camp.

Questions?

Contact the church office at (570) 966-1183 or Donita Keister (570) 966-1388 or missdonita@bvcob.com

Tracy Ericson,
Children's Ministry Team

LOVE GOD
LOVE OTHERS
LOVE WELL

From the Pastor,



Our congregation recently called five people to serve as deacons.

The Spiritual Life Ministry Team consists of all the deacons and ordained/licensed ministers. They are responsible for the coordination of pastoral care and the spiritual health of our congregation. The deacons oversee Love Feast and baptisms.

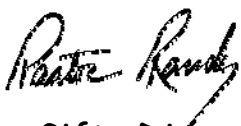
The Spiritual Life Ministry Team asked the Gifts Discernment Team to put forth a call for new deacons.

The Gifts Discernment Team led us in a time of discernment culminating in a list of persons that the congregation felt should be called.

The Gifts Discernment Team, following much prayer and discernment, extended the call to several persons.

Five persons responded to the call and were presented to our congregation for a final affirmation. Our congregation affirmed all five.

The new deacons are: Dale Lehman, Holly Lehman, Carol Pursel, Craig Pursel and Gina Spaid.



Gifts Discernment Team



BABY NEWS

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PRAYER & SYMPATHY



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Faith is deliberate confidence in the character of God Whose ways you may not understand at the time.

Oswald Chambers

HAVE YOU BEEN TO EDER ROCK?

Camp Eder...some have already gone this summer and some still to go!!

Twenty-four campers, 2 counselors and one assistant program director—that's the current total count for those heading to Camp Eder from our Buffalo Valley area this summer!

From Barefoot, Raven and Junior Camps to Falcon Art and Wilderness Camp, our youth will have many stories to tell. If you'd like to hear some news about the fun and learning at Camp Eder, check in with someone whose name is on the poster in the narthex.

If you still have questions about possible camp openings, contact the Camp Eder office at (717) 642-8256 or check with Fay Richard at (570) 966-0182.

May God bless all the campers with friendships and joy as they get to know others and Christ better!! Please remember Camp Eder staff and campers in your prayers.

God is good, all the time!

Fay A. Richard
Camp Representative



HELP NEEDED

We are very much in need of more volunteers to be Sunday morning greeters. Three different times are available to choose from.

This is a very important service and one of the easiest jobs to do. If interested see or call Myrna Goss or let someone at the Welcome & Information Center know you're interested.

God Bless,

Pam Kline,
Hospitality & Communication
Ministry Team



Family Night In The Park

The Worship & Music Ministry Team is gearing up for our annual **Family Night in the Park** event on **August 23rd** at **Mifflinburg Park & Pool**. As we have in previous years we are working together with the Children's Ministry Team. The Splash Camp Celebration will be starting off the evening at 5 pm with food and refreshments available beginning at 5:30 pm. Praise and Worship time for all ages begins at 6 pm led by our own Buffalo Valley Praise Team members. Kingdom Kids puppet ministry will be sharing at 7 pm and the group Adonai's Fire is scheduled to close our time in worship at 7:45 pm. There will be something for all ages to take part in.

We will again be inviting the community to come and join us by taking part in the Mifflinburg Fireman's Parade on July 25th. Again we are looking for volunteers to walk in the parade. Please let Kristy Heintzelman know if you are planning on walking. We will be meeting in front of the Mifflinburg High School at 4 pm. Water will be provided. This event is a wonderful way that we can reach out to all ages in our community.

We still need volunteers to help with the refreshments on August 23rd. Please let Diane Heintzelman know if you are interested in helping. Flyers will be distributed on a Sunday morning soon for you to use as an invitation to give to another family.

Please come and invite someone to come along!

Diane Heintzelman

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Check the church calendar at www.bvcob.com.

Find Youth Ministry activities at www.bvcobyouth.com.

Children's Ministry activities can be found at www.kids.bvcob.com.

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

Return Service Requested

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Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren
46 Brethren Church Rd, Mifflinburg PA 17844
www.bvcob.com

Pastor – Rev. Randall C. Fiske
(570) 966-1112

Matthew S. Christ, Youth Pastor

Donita J. Keister, Children's Minister

Jerry Shields, Licensed Minister

Editors – Jeff & Vicki Bastian
Church Office/Kitchen (570) 966-1183
brethren@dejazzd.com

8:00 AM - Worship Service
9:00 AM - Fellowship Time
9:20 AM - Sunday school
10:30 AM - Worship Service



Computer Geeks and Sound Techs

The Worship and Music Ministry Team is looking for persons who are interested in learning how to serve as computer operators and sound techs. We need more volunteers in these areas. If you are interested in learning what it takes to be a volunteer in either of these areas, please contact Diane Heintzelman at (570) 966-0527 or druth40@ceinetworks.com.

Diane Heintzelman