

E-HEADLINER

CREATIVE MEASURES SUSTAINING WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY

Several Virlina District congregations are streaming services online during this time of quarantine and social distancing. Some congregations are posting on their church websites; some are broadcasting through Facebook, and others are using meeting software such as Zoom. Be sure to download the application needed to view services in the format the specific church is utilizing in advance of the service times, where applicable.

Please advise us of your online streaming and so on by e-mail to ehedliner@aol.com. We will attempt to list them in a similar format to the evangelistic services calendar.



PANDEMIC MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT

The Virlina District Pandemic Management Team met on Friday, March 20. They reported the following actions or recommendations:

Emma Jean Woodard will serve as Acting District Executive Minister if the District Executive Minister is incapacitated.

The District Resource Center will remain open for the time being. Staff persons may work at their own risk. The staff will enter by the backdoor and visitors will stay in the lobby area during their visit. All visitors must call ahead.

Staff members at the District Resource Center, other than the District Executive Minister, have been advised that their employment is suspended effective June 30, 2020.

Fellowships and congregations using facilities directly owned or used by the district board are to refrain from meeting on site.

All of our congregations should comply with governmental guidelines and directives.

A survey of our congregations and pastors will be undertaken to determine what creative measures they have implemented.

All April meetings will be moved to a video conferencing format.

All April events sponsored by the district are cancelled.

The frequency of the E-Headliner will be increased to once weekly as time and circumstance permit.

The Headliner, printed and mailed on odd-numbered months, will be discontinued during the pandemic.

MINISTRY RESOURCES WEBPAGE FOR USE DURING PANDEMIC

A new webpage with resources for congregations and church leaders during the COVID-19 pandemic has been posted at www.brethren.org/discipleshipmin/resources.html. This webpage, which will be updated on a regular basis, is focused on ministry resources to support congregations and church leaders during a time when congregations may not gather in person. Brethren Disaster Ministries continues to offer a webpage with guidance for emergency planning by churches and measures for prevention and mitigation of the spread of the virus at www.brethren.org/bdm/covid-19.html.

Here are two easy guides put together in English and Spanish by the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy for how people can get supports and services to survive. For the English version click here

<https://www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/English-COVID19-Community-Supports-for-Congregations.pdf>. Para la versión en español, haga clic aquí:

<https://www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Spanish-COVID19-Community-Supports-for-Congregations.pdf>.

FINANCIAL HELP FOR PASTORS AND CHURCH EMPLOYEES

Brethren Benefit Trust through the Church Workers Assistance Fund has created a COVID-19 Emergency Grant program. The program has a streamlined application process to provide financial support to church workers (pastors, office staff, etc.) whose financial situation is adversely affected because of COVID-19 related issues. This would include help for bi-vocational pastors whose non-church work is eliminated or reduced. Inquiries should be directed to Debbie Butcher at (847) 622-3391 or pension@cobbt.org. If you have questions on applying for this you may also contact David at the District Resource Center.

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE SUSPENDS KIT COLLECTION

In accordance with CDC guidelines, Church World Service is postponing all kit collections and depot activity through May 31. They've been getting daily requests for hygiene kits for vulnerable groups. But without collections in the near future, they're running out of supplies. Please visit or bookmark <http://cwskits.org/covid19-update/>. It has information for people who are still able to give...and for those who need this time to heal.

FREE RESOURCES AVAILABLE FROM BRETHERN PRESS

We know that many congregations are cancelling services as the COVID-19 virus spreads. Brethren Press wants to make it as easy as possible for your congregation to study and worship together – even from afar. Therefore, each week during this outbreak brethrenpress.com will be updated with free resources to help people in your church stay connected. We have begun by making the pdf and epub versions of our Lenten devotional, *Holy Manna*, available for download. In addition, we will be adding pdf files for the weekly lessons of our *Shine Multiage* curriculum and *A Guide for Biblical Studies* adult curriculum. The weekly worship resource from the back of our bulletin series will also be made available.

These resources may be found at <https://www.brethrenpress.com/SearchResults.asp?Cat=245>.

You may continue to order from Brethren Press. At this point, we are still able to ship without delay. If you have any questions, our customer service team is available at (800) 441-3712 or brethrenpress@brethren.org.

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC CREATES SCHEDULING CHANGES

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, a number of previously scheduled events have been cancelled or postponed. Other events continue to be scheduled, but with changes to format. Please review this mailing and make careful note of the changes.

AWAKENING 2020 - POSTPONED

Awakening 2020, scheduled to be held at the Cloverdale Church of the Brethren beginning on Sunday, March 29 - April 1, has been postponed. This postponement includes the evening worship services Sunday through Wednesday, as well as the Bible Studies from Monday through Wednesday. Further details concerning rescheduling will await the ability of the Awakening Committee to meet.

DISTRICT RESOURCE CENTER CLOSED - APRIL 9-13, 2020

In observance of the Easter Holiday, the Virlina District Resource Center will close at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 9, and re-open at 9 a.m. on Monday, April 13. We will, as always, monitor e-mail at <virlina@aol.com>.

CALLING THE CALLED 2020 - POSTPONED

The Calling the Called 2020 event scheduled for April 17-18 at Camp Brethren Woods has been postponed. Calling the Called is a weekend event organized by the Shenandoah and Virlina Districts. It is an intentional time away from the routine of life to discern what it means to be called by God to the set-apart ministry. It has been rescheduled for April 16-17, 2021.

NORTHERN AREA WOMEN'S SPRING RETREAT - CANCELLED

The Northern Area Women's Spring Retreat scheduled for Saturday, April 25, has been cancelled.

CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP SEMINAR - CANCELLED

Due to the continued concerns related to the coronavirus, Christian Citizenship Seminar (CCS) 2020 has been cancelled. Had the event taken place as planned on April 25-30, more than 40 youth and advisors from 11 districts would have gathered in New York City and Washington, D.C.

MINISTRY AND MISSION DAY IN VIRLINA DISTRICT - MAY 2, 2020

"Ministry and Mission Day in Virlina District" will be Saturday, May 2, at the Fairview Church of the Brethren on Route 40 between Rocky Mount and Ferrum (4638 Franklin Street, Rocky Mount, Virginia). Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The hymn sing and worship starts at 9:00 a.m.

The featured speaker for worship is Annual Conference Moderator Paul Munday. Seven helpful and timely workshops following worship are available for participants. Each workshop provides 0.1 CEU for ordained ministers.

Workshops for 2020 are as follows:

Children's Ministry: Inside And Out will examine how to effectively reach children in Sunday School, in chapel/church services, and in the community. Participants will receive a combination of resources to create a vital Christian Education program in their congregation. The Children's Cabinet of the Commission on Nurture will lead this workshop.

The Matthew 18 Mandate will review the wisdom and effectiveness of "Matthew 18:15-20." Conflict is rampant in our relationships, families, churches, and culture. We often attempt to avoid conflict by going to "third parties", engaging in gossip and idle talk. In Matthew 18 Jesus counsels us to go directly to persons with whom we have difficulty. In addition, Jesus provides other valuable peacebuilding skills. Paul Munday, 2020 Annual Conference Moderator, will lead this workshop sponsored by the Commission on Ministry.

Help! There's Too Much Month at the End of my Money! This informative session will help participants look at cash management and budgeting from a Christian perspective, with an eye toward stewardship and simple living. Know the difference between financial planning and budgeting, and find out how to do both.

Your Ticket to Retirement will explore methods for determining retirement income, projecting a desired retirement date, and planning for life expectancy issues. Participants will discuss the impact of taxes and inflation on retirement. The workshop will highlight the development of a model to project a savings strategy for a secure financial future. Ed Shannon, the Retirement Planning Consultant for Brethren Benefit Trust will lead this and the preceding workshop, both sponsored by the Commission on Stewardship.

Iglesia Del Buen Pastor: A New Addition to the Blacksburg Community will feature Raul and Lidia Gonzalez, pastors of this new and growing fellowship, presenting the needs and opportunities for Hispanic Ministry in the New River Valley of Virginia. This is sponsored by the New Church Development Committee.

Growing Young addresses the absence of youth and young adults in our congregations. Reaching young people happens when all of us, across the generations, grow young. The key to this progression is understanding the six

facets of growing young, along with honoring, understanding and eventually bridging generational distinctives. Paul Munday, 2020 Annual Conference Moderator, will lead this important presentation sponsored by the Commission on Witness.

Learning for Life--Continuing Education for Ordained Ministers will review the requirements for Continuing Education for ordained ministers in the Virlina District and how those experiences are reported. The leader for this presentation will be Bruce E. Huffman, Director of Continuing Education for the Commission on Ministry.

Following the workshops, lunch will be provided on-site. After lunch, Moderator Paul Munday and our Standing Committee delegates will hold the **Annual Conference Briefing** at 1:30 p.m. for pastors and delegates to learn more about what to expect at Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The briefing will conclude at 3:00 p.m. Plan now to attend this day of worship, learning and fellowship.

NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY – “THROUGH MY FEAR, I TRUST IN GOD” - MAY 3, 2020

National Youth Sunday for the Church of the Brethren is May 3, 2020. “Through my fear, I trust in God” is the theme taken from Psalms 56:1-4. For more information and worship resources, go to <http://www.brethren.org/yya/national-youth-sunday.html>.

NEW AND RENEW: REVITALIZE – PLANT – GROW! – RESCHEDULED

“New and Renew: Revitalize – Plant – Grow!” is our denominational church planting and church revitalization conference. Due to the current circumstances, it has been rescheduled for 2021. The theme is “The Reward of Risk” based on Matthew 25:28 in The Message: “Take the thousand and give it to the one who risked the most.” This event will be held at the Church of the Brethren General Offices in Elgin, IL on May 12-14, 2021.

YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE - MAY 22-25, 2020

The National Young Adult Conference (NYAC) will be held on May 22-25, 2020 at Montreat Conference Center (North Carolina). The 2020 theme, based on Romans 12:9-18, is "Love in Action!" This conference offers persons ages 18-35 a chance to enjoy fellowship, worship, recreation, Bible study, service projects and more... with other fantastic young adults! Registration opened January 20, 2020. For more information on this event go to the website at <http://www.brethren.org/yac/>. If you have any questions, contact Nolan McBride, the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Assistant, at nmcbride@brethren.org or (847) 429-4385.

WIDENING THE WELCOME OF YOUR CHURCH - JUNE 6, 2020

"Widening the Welcome of Your Church" will be held on June 6 at the Summerdean Church in Roanoke, Virginia (6604 Plantation Road, NE in Roanoke). Fred Bernhard, co-author of "Widening the Welcome of Your Church" and a well-known leader in the Church of the Brethren, will be speaking on the importance of hospitality and how to achieve a vital and thriving congregation. This event is sponsored by the Good News Team of the Virlina District - Commission on Witness. More details about the schedule and program will be available soon. Save the date!

SECOND ANNUAL CHOIR FESTIVAL - SEPTEMBER 11-12, 2020

The Second Annual Virlina District Choir Festival will be held at the Central Church of the Brethren in Roanoke, VA on September 11-12, 2020. Full choirs, one-time choir members, or people who just love to sing in a group are encouraged to attend.

Our first event in 2019 was well received and we anticipate even greater participation this year. S. Reed Carter, IV, Minister of Music at the Salem Presbyterian Church and director of the Salem Choral Society, will join us again as the guest director.

Participants will learn four or five anthems. A closing worship open to the public will take place on Saturday, September 12, featuring these anthems. The festival registration fee, to be determined, will cover lunch on Saturday and the anthems to take home.

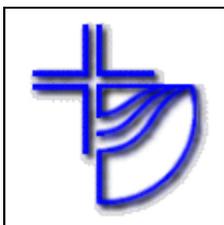
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We're on the web
www.virlina.org

*Continuing the work of Jesus.
Peacefully.
Simply.
Together.*



These anthems will be featured at the opening worship for District Conference on Friday, November 13 at the Bonsack Baptist Church. More information will be shared soon.

WEST RICHMOND SEEKS CHILDREN/YOUTH DIRECTOR

The West Richmond Church seeks a part-time director of children and youth ministries. A full position description, compensation information and the application process may be accessed at www.wrcob.org.

OAK GROVE SEEKS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Oak Grove Church of the Brethren (2138 McVitty Road, S.W., Roanoke, VA) is hiring a part-time (25 hour/week) Administrative Assistant to provide administrative and clerical support for the pastors, prepare and distribute church materials to members, coordinate the church calendar, schedule building usage, and other related responsibilities. The position will begin on or about May 18, 2020.

The complete position description, with information on how to apply, is available at <https://www.oakgrovecob.org/2020/03/10/job-opening-for-administrative-assistant/>.

LENTEN SERVICES IN BASSETT AREA HAVE BEEN CANCELLED

Lenten Services for 2020 have been cancelled.

WORLD HUNGER WALK AT ANTIOCH - APRIL 26, 2020

The World Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, April 26 starting at 3 p.m. This six-mile walk starting and ending at Antioch Church raises awareness of and generates funds for world hunger. Walkers walk for money that has been pledged to them or may make a contribution. The walk starts and finishes at Antioch Church of the Brethren and includes rest stops along the way with refreshments provided. You can download your registration and sponsorship form <http://www.worldhungerauction.org/events>.

A NICE PRINTABLE VERSION OF THIS IS ON THE VIRLINA.ORG WEBSITE

For those of you who desire an attractive, printable version of this E-Headliner, please go to the www.virlina.org website later today and download it from the button on the opening page.

