

HEADLINE

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

SEPTEMBER

Newsletter

2017

"Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches."

- Revelation 3:13, NRSV

Can you visualize the apostle John as he looked out over the waters of the Aegean Sea? Can you imagine the broad range of his emotions as he endured isolation and separation from the beloved saints in the church at Ephesus? Surely his accommodations were not those of a luxurious sea resort. As we peer into his heart and mind, we can certainly detect thoughts of his awareness of his own mortality and a certain discomfort with his current plight. But we can also see, in his mind and heart, his memories of his life with Jesus and the wondrous miracles and teachings which were presented with the authority of the One who is God.

As John worships "in the Spirit," the One who loves him dearly appears and gives him instruction concerning what he is to share. John is overcome and finds himself in a position of submission at His feet. He is to record messages and give them to the seven churches in Asia Minor which are listed in the book of Revelation. Could these be messages simply for those existing churches in that day, or for others in that time in history? Or could it be that we are, as well, the intended recipients of these messages? I prefer to believe that the Word of Christ is for all time and for all people.

In Revelation 3:13-22, which is the scripture for our district conference theme, "Listen to the Spirit," we read the words of Jesus: "Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what He is saying to the churches." As we read these words, we must understand that He is speaking to us both corporately and individually. Twice in this particular passage we are admonished to listen and understand, underscoring the importance of listening. It is imperative that, in the midst of competing voices, the voice of Jesus is the One which resonates most clearly and takes precedence in our lives over all others.

We live in a culture that seeks to consume us as we seek to consume the benefits of that culture. If we are listening to Jesus, He teaches us that our desire to consume all that the world has to offer will ultimately lead to our destruction.

Conversely, if we allow ourselves to be consumed by the One who has created all things, we will obtain a life and a relationship that does not destroy but gives life, and a Holy energy that overcomes the destructive nature of our earthly existence. Simply stated, we will live. So, how shall we live?

In the tension of conflict, not only in the world but also in the church, we are called by Christ to imitate Him as we engage with each other in the church and with the world at large. Surely, we are passionate about our beliefs! Surely, we believe intensely that He has spoken to us through the study of scripture, prayer, and the fellowship with the saints! Can we be as passionate and intense about our calling to become engaged in the ministry of Jesus Christ to the "least of these"? Can we become so passionate about His ministry that all else would pale in comparison? Can we actively engage in ministry in such a way that indicates that we have been listening to the Holy Spirit of God? The world is watching and waiting, yearning for life which is sustained only by the power of that Spirit. When the world sees the church in disarray and division, it sees a church that is, perhaps, more concerned with its own image than the needs of a dying world.

Can we listen to the Spirit, understanding that the conversation is never over? Can we speak the truth of Christ in love after having listened to the sweet voice of Jesus? Can we reason together, at the feet of Jesus, as we explore the mysteries of God? He has much to tell us! I hear His voice speaking to me. He tells me that too many have suffered and died in isolation and emptiness because I have not listened passionately and intently and then responded to His voice. Our Lord is calling out to this generation. Do you hear Him calling? "Listen to the Spirit!"

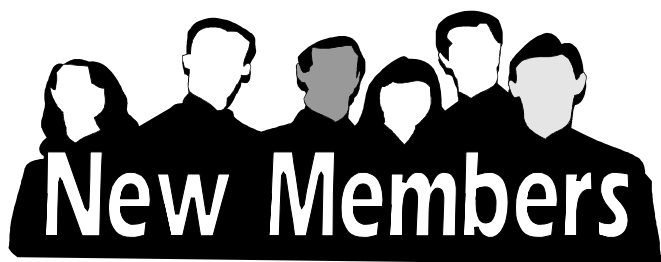
Timothy Emmons

2017 District Conference Moderator

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Tabitha H. Rudy, INTERIM ASSOCIATE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE
GARY L. BASHAM, DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY FORMATION
James R. Kropff, COORDINATOR OF DISASTER RESPONSE



Beaver Creek - Cecil Brown, Deana Brown, Atalie Brown, Steve Slaughter and Melody Slaughter by letter April 23, 2017. Adam Crawford, Kayla Crawford, Stacy Thompson, Bryce Thompson, Brent Thompson, and Angel Keffer by reaffirmation April 23, 2017. Chad Ravert, Ian Schofield and Danica Schofield by reaffirmation May 21, 2017. Brian Boyd, Kaitlyn Boyd, Will Marble, Rasheed Carter and Coen Pratt by baptism June 11, 2017.

Cedar Bluff - Anthony Mancine by baptism July 16, 2017. **Concord, Living Faith** - Kyle Rapoza by baptism July 2, 2017. Kurt Kuhne by reaffirmation July 23, 2017.

Copper Hill - Luke Whitlock by baptism on July 29, 2017. **Fairview, Rocky Mount** - Ronald Hall and Janice Hall by letter April 9, 2017. Betty Jones by letter May 7, 2017. Nicholas Young, Jordan Young and Anna Marie Young by baptism May 28, 2017.

Green Hill - Richard Camper and Sylvia Camper by letter June 18, 2017. Elaine Carver by letter July 30, 2017.

Hopewell - Shante Mechelle Brown by baptism on July 23. **Rocky Mount, First** - Charlotte Sloan by baptism June 11, 2017. Paige Hicks by baptism July 16, 2017.

ANNUAL REPORT FORMS (as of July 20, 2017).

It is important that the listed forms below be completed and returned as they comprise the mailing list for the HEADLINER and for other important information of congregations. If your congregation is listed in the delinquent list, please get the information mailed as soon as possible. An asterisk* indicates partial report received.

Form A - Directory Information (was mailed from the General Offices in Elgin and is due back May 15, 2017):

Bethany, Bethlehem, Blacksburg-Iglesia del Buen Pastor Fellowship, Boones Mill, Crab Orchard, Danville-Emmanuel, Duncan Chapel, Fairview (Floyd), Fairview (Rocky Mount), Floyd-Iglesia Cristiana Renacer Fellowship, Fraternity, Good Shepherd (Blacksburg), Henry Fork, Jones Chapel, Masons Cove, Mount Bethel, Mount Union, New Bethel, New Covenant, Olean, Parkway, Peters Creek, Red Hill, Red Oak Grove, Roanoke-Central, Saint Paul, Schoolfield, Shelton, Smith Chapel, Smith Mountain Lake, Spruce Run, Trinity, Wakefield Chapel, West Richmond

Form B - Mailing Address Information (was mailed from the General Offices in Elgin and was due back December 31, 2016):

Blacksburg-Iglesia del Buen Pastor Fellowship, Blue Ridge, Copper Hill, Crab Orchard, Danville-Emmanuel, Fairview (Floyd County), Fairview (Rocky Mount), Ferrum, Floyd-Iglesia Cristiana Renacer Fellowship, Jones Chapel, Laurel Branch, Maple Grove, Masons Cove, Mount Bethel, New Covenant, Oakvale, Parkway, Peters Creek, Red Hill, Red Oak Grove, Roanoke-Iglesia Cristiana Renacer Fellowship, Saint Paul, Shelton, Spruce Run, Wakefield Chapel, West Richmond

Form E - Congregational Outreach Report (was mailed from the General Offices in Elgin and was due back

December 5, 2016): If your congregation is listed below, please get the information mailed as soon as possible.

Bethlehem, Blacksburg-Iglesia del Buen Pastor Fellowship, Coulson, Crab Orchard, Fairview (Floyd County), Ferrum, Floyd-Iglesia Cristiana Renacer Fellowship, Good Shepherd (Blacksburg), Henry Fork, Jeters Chapel, Laurel Branch, Lynchburg, Maple Grove, New Hope, Oakvale, Olean, Parkway, Red Hill, Roanoke-Central, Roanoke-Hollins Road, Roanoke-Ninth Street, Roanoke-Oak Grove, Roanoke-IglesiaCristiana Renacer Fellowship, Saint Paul, Schoolfield, Shelton, Spruce Run, Vinton, Virginia Beach-Christian Church Uniting, Wakefield Chapel, West Richmond

Statistical Form (was mailed from the General Offices in Elgin to all congregations in January and was due back March 15, 2017):

Blacksburg-Iglesia del Buen Pastor Fellowship, Blue Ridge, Boones Mill, Cedar Bluff, Copper Hill, *Crab Orchard, Fairview (Floyd County), Floyd-Iglesia Cristiana Renacer Fellowship, Henry Fork, Jones Chapel, Lynchburg, Maple Grove, Masons Cove, Mount Bethel, New Covenant, Newport News-Ivy Farms, Oakvale, Olean, Pleasant Valley, Red Hill, Red Oak Grove, Roanoke-Central, Roanoke-Hollins Road, Saint Paul, Schoolfield, Shelton, Smith Chapel, *Spruce Run, Trinity, Vinton, Virginia Beach-Christian Church Uniting, Wakefield Chapel, West Richmond

PASTORAL PLACEMENT REPORT

BETHEL - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit Supply.

CHRISTIANSBURG - Full time position, profile circulating - Glen H. Sage serving as Interim Pastor.

DALEVILLE - Part time position, profile pending - Douglas E. O. Veal has resigned effective September 1, 2017.

GERMANTOWN BRICK - Full time position, profile circulating - Bruce E. Huffman is retiring effective November 30.

HOPEWELL - Part time position, no profile available - R. Wayne Pennington serving as interim pastor.

MAPLE GROVE - Part time position, no profile available - Timothy Sink serving as interim pastor.

OAKVALE - Part time position, no profile available - James J. Stade continues as pastor and Joshua N. Lucas as pulpit supply.

PLEASANT VIEW - Part time position, profile pending - Pulpit supply.

RED OAK GROVE - Part time position, profile pending - Pulpit supply.

ROANOKE - HOLLINS ROAD - In negotiation, trial sermon and vote on August 27, 2017.

SAINT PAUL -Part time position, no profile available - Mark A. Bolt is serving as interim pastor.

SAUNDERS GROVE - Part time position, profile circulating - Pulpit supply.

SHELTON - Part time position, no profile available - Joseph D. Smith serving as interim pastor (nb).

SMITH CHAPEL - Part time position, no profile available. Pulpit supply.

SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE COMMUNITY - Full-time position, profile circulating (P). Edward C. Woodard is serving as interim pastor.

TRINITY - Part time position, profile circulating - J. Neil Varner is serving as interim pastor.

WEST RICHMOND - Full time position, profile circulating - Tracy K. Hartman, professor at Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond, is serving as interim pastor.

NEWS & EVENTS

PRAYER SERVICE FOR NIGERIA - SEPTEMBER 3, 2017

There will be a Prayer Service for the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria at Camp Bethel on Sunday, September 3, 2017 at 6:15 p.m, following the annual Labor Day potluck. Prayers will be offered for the Chibok girls who have returned home, those who are still missing, and the ongoing threat of violence experienced by the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria and the trauma it causes. This service will be led by members of the Peace Affairs Committee of the Virlina District Witness Commission.

PRAYER FOR PEACE SERVICE - SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

The Annual Day of Prayer for Peace Service will be held at the Lighthouse Church (just off U.S. 220 in southern Roanoke County) on Sunday, September 17, 2017, at 3pm. The service's theme will be "Together for Peace." Daniel Rudy, pastor of the Roanoke, Ninth Street congregation will share about his participation in a Christian Peacemaker Team delegation while he was a student at Bridgewater College. This service is sponsored by the Peace Affairs Committee.

RENACER HARVEST BANQUET - SEPTEMBER 23, 2017

Save the date: The Renacer Harvest Banquet will be on Saturday, September 23rd at 6:00 p.m. at Summerdean Church of the Brethren (6604 Plantation Road - Renacer's new location). This year's Banquet theme is "Gratitude!" We want to thank each of the partner congregations, and individuals, who have supported our ministry through these church planting years.

Seeking sponsors: Renacer Harvest Banquet is looking for individuals, congregations or businesses who would like to sponsor a table for this year's banquet. We are inviting you to help us underwrite this event by sponsoring tables for the guests of the banquet. Each table will seat 10 guests and may be sponsored for \$200.00 each. For an additional \$100.00 contribution, you may host a table and receive ten tickets for guests you wish to invite to the banquet. For more information please contact: Daniel D'Oleo at (540) 892-8791 or renacer.dan@gmail.com.

HUNGER WALK RESCHEDULED - SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

The World Hunger Walk has been rescheduled for Sunday, September 24 at 3:00 p.m. It will begin in the Antioch Church parking lot located at 2996 Callaway Road, Rocky Mount, VA. Again this year, there will be a match of \$100 for youth under 18 years old who come to registration with that amount in donations. All ages are encouraged to join in the effort, but it is a special opportunity for youth groups to make an impact. We were blessed with many inches of rain on the original walk date. We look forward to blessings raining down as we walk and fellowship together in September.

"CREATED TO CREATE" - SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

"Created to Create," a spiritual development retreat, will take place on Saturday, September 30, in the House of Pillars at Camp Bethel. The scripture focus will be Isaiah 64:8 (NRSV), "Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand." Stephanie L. Connelly, artist, former Pilgrimage

Retreat Coordinator, and member of the New Covenant Church of the Brethren, will be the retreat leader. A flyer with details and registration form has been sent to your pastor or you may contact us for your own copy at <eheadliner@aol.com>.

"CHURCHES IN THE SKY BUS TOUR" - OCTOBER 14, 2017

Our Brethren Heritage bus tour is planned for Saturday, October 14, 2017. This year's fall foliage outing is entitled "Churches in the Sky" and will include visits to a number of North Carolina and Virginia congregations in South-eastern and Virlina Districts. Among those visited will be New Haven, Mount Carmel, Peak Creek, Little Pine, Shelton and Saint Paul. Several historical presentations will be a part of this tour and continuing education credits will be available for ordained ministers.

The cost, including the luncheon meal and refreshments, is \$39.99. The tour will depart from the District Resource Center in Roanoke at approximately 8 a.m. and will make an intermediate stop near Dublin. The luncheon meal will be available at the Peak Creek Church as they are having their annual Fall Festival that day! We plan to be back in Roanoke by 6:30 p.m.

Over thirty seats have been taken at this time. Please contact Betty M. Wills at the District Resource Center to reserve your spot and make your check out to Virlina District Board - Church of the Brethren (put "Heritage Tour" in memo spot).

"CHILDREN'S MINISTRY IN ACTION" - OCTOBER 21, 2017

Join us on the morning of Saturday, October 21, 2017 at Williamson Road Church for a training event focused on ministering to children. Members of the Children's Cabinet of the Virlina District Nurture Commission will present on ways to minister to children during Sunday School, Children's Church/Chapel, Worship and through Community Outreach. Light refreshments will be provided. Registration for the event is requested. For more information, call the Virlina District Resource Center at (540) 362-1816, or visit the district's website, <www.virlina.org>.

DISASTER VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION - OCTOBER 22

The annual Disaster Response Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will be held at the Germantown Brick Church on the evening of Sunday, October 22. Invitations will be mailed to volunteers, but all persons interested in disaster response or those who have supported disaster response through making kits, financial aid, or prayers are invited to attend. 2016-2017 volunteers will be recognized as part of the program. To reserve your place, contact the District Resource Center at (540) 362-1816, (800) 847-5462, or <virlina2@aol.com>.

ITEMS DUE FOR NOVEMBER ISSUE - SEPTEMBER 25

PLEASE NOTE: All items for publication, either for the HEADLINER or for the E-HEADLINER, should be sent to <EHeadliner@aol.com>.



DISTRICT OFFICE
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
 3402 Plantation Road NE
 Roanoke, VA 24012

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 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Roanoke, Virginia
 Permit Number 78

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2017

3	6:15 PM	Prayer Service for Nigeria - Camp Bethel (THR)
4		LABOR DAY - DISTRICT RESOURCE CENTER CLOSED
5	6:30 PM	Roanoke, Renacer Steering Committee (DKS)
11	8:30 AM	N. Area Ministers Meeting (DKS/THR)
14	9:00 AM	Disaster Response Committee (THR)
15	2:00 PM	Historical Committee (DKS)
16	9:00 AM	District Board Meeting - Cloverdale (DKS/THR)
17	11:00 AM	Blue Ridge Church - 130th Anniversary (DKS)
	3:00 PM	Prayer for Peace Service - Lighthouse (THR)
18	6:00 PM	S. Area Ministers Meeting (DKS)
	7:00 PM	Program and Arrangements Committee (THR)
19	6:00 PM	Mission Resourcing Committee (DKS/THR)
22	10:00 AM	Calling the Called Committee - Lynchburg (DKS)
23	6:00 PM	Renacer Banquet - Summerdean (DKS/THR)
30	9:00 AM	Spiritual Development Retreat - Camp Bethel (THR)

OCTOBER 2017

2	6:30 PM	Lake Side Steering Committee (DKS)
6	6:00 PM	Commission on Ministry (DKS)
7		Heritage Day at Camp Bethel
9	8:30 AM	Northern Area Ministers Meeting - (DKS/THR)
12-13		Council of District Executives Committee - Greenville, OH (DKS)
14		"Churches in the Sky" Bus Tour (DKS)
16	5:30 PM	Floyd, Renacer Steering Committee
	6:00 PM	Southern Area Ministers Meeting - Maple Grove, NC (Tentative)(DKS/THR)
17	10:00 AM	Awakening Committee (DKS)
	6:00 PM	Mission Resourcing Committee (DKS/THR)
20-22		"Justice Like Waters" NCD Retreat - W.E. Skelton 4-H Center - Wirtz, VA (DKS)
20	7:00 PM	Commission on Stewardship (DKS)
21	9:00 AM	Children's Ministry in Action - Williamson Road (THR)
22	10:45 AM	Green Hill Church - 100th Anniversary (DKS)
	5:00 PM	Disaster Response Volunteer Appreciation Dinner - Germantown Brick (THR/DKS)
27-28		Pastoral Comp and Benefits Advisory Committee - Elgin, IL (DKS)
31	6:30 PM	Roanoke, Renacer Steering Committee (DKS)

VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE



2017 Virlina District Conference
Grandin Court Baptist
November 10th & 11th
2660 Brambleton Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia 24015

Join us!

"Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches."
(From Revelation 3:13-22)

o FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10 o

Ministers & Spouses Dinner
Registration - 4:30 p.m.
Meal - 5:00 p.m.

Registration, Hospitality & Exhibits
5:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

All District Choir Rehearsal
6:00 p.m.
Director: Paul Brockman

Hymn Singing and Worship
7:00 p.m.
Preacher: David Steele, Church of the Brethren
General Secretary

o SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11 o

Registration, Hospitality & Exhibits
Opens at 7:30 a.m.
Also during lunch and breaks.

Hymn Singing and Worship
8:15 a.m.

Preacher: Samuel Sarpiya, 2018 Annual
Conference Moderator

Business Sessions
9:10 a.m. - 12:00 noon & 1:20 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Moderator: Timothy H. Emmons
Moderator-Elect: Deborah S. Humphrey
Clerk: Pamela K. Clark

o DELEGATES & NON-DELEGATES o

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR DELEGATES

A registration form has been mailed to the pastor or contact person of every congregation. Please send a check made payable to Virlina District and the completed registration form to the Virlina District Resource Center.

REGISTRATION AT DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Registration for delegates and non-delegates will take place in the Welcome Area of the Ministry Activities Center. Registration will be open from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. and following the worship service on Friday evening. It will open again at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. Delegates will receive their delegate packet at registration.

CONFERENCE BOOKLET

Booklets will be mailed to congregations in October. Pastors or contact persons are asked to distribute the booklets to the delegates. Delegates should bring their booklets to conference. The 2016 District Conference Minutes will be published in the 2017 District Conference Booklet.

CONFERENCE CHOIR

An all district choir will sing at the Friday evening worship service. There will be one rehearsal on Friday evening, November 11, 6:00 p.m., at Grandin Court Baptist. A flier has been mailed with the pre-registration information to each congregation.

Forms and information are available online!
<http://virlina.org/district-conference.html>

VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

o MEALS o

MINISTERS AND SPOUSES DINNER - Reservation required!

The Ministers and Spouses Dinner will be held on Friday, November 11, at the Grandin Court Baptist Church in the Fellowship Hall. Registration will begin at 4:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m. The cost will be \$15.50 per person. Country Kitchen of Christiansburg will cater the dinner. Following dinner, Samuel Sarpiya, the 2018 Annual Conference Moderator, will have the program. An invitation with reservation form has been mailed to all ministers.

LUNCH ON SATURDAY - Reservation required!

The menu for Saturday's box lunch is grilled marinated sliced chicken breast with herb mayo served on a sub roll with lettuce and tomato, broccoli salad, chips, a fruit cup and cookie. Bottled water with Crystal Light flavor sticks is included. A gluten free option is available. The lunch is catered by Henry County Schools and the cost is \$10.00 per box lunch. Reservation forms have been sent to congregations. Meal tickets will be distributed on Friday evening and Saturday morning at the meal ticket table. The deadline for lunch reservations is October 27th.

o GENERAL INFORMATION o

EXHIBIT AREA

The Exhibit Area will be in the gymnasium on the lower level of the Ministry Activities Center. The Exhibit Area will be open Friday from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and following worship. It will be open from 7:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. on Saturday. To reserve table space, contact Tabitha Rudy at (540) 362-1816, (800) 847-5462, (540) 797-3044 or <virlina2@aol.com>. Exhibits may be set up after 1:00 pm on Friday and removed by 2:00 p.m. on Saturday.

HOSPITALITY AREA

The Hospitality Area will be located in the gymnasium on the lower level of the Ministry Activities Center. On Friday evening the Hospitality Area will be open with refreshments from 5:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. On Saturday refreshments will be available from 7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. (prior to morning worship), from 9:50 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. (during morning break) and 12:00 noon - 1:15 p.m. (during lunch time). Refreshments will be provided by CONNECT!, a group of young adults in the district

LOCATION

Grandin Court Baptist is located at 2660 Brambleton Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia. The church building is located approximately 1.5 miles north of the intersection of US-221 (Brambleton Avenue) and VA-419 (Electric Road).

PARKING

Grandin Court Baptist has four parking areas which will be available to us throughout our conference time. The first parking lot is located beside the church building. That lot includes six designated handicap parking spaces and is the entrance to the Ministry Activities Center, which is ground level. The second parking lot is across the street from the church building. The third parking lot is directly behind the church building and contains nine handicap parking spaces. The fourth parking lot is across Sweetbrier Avenue behind the church building and has six handicap parking spaces. There are a total of 220 parking spaces and 16 are designated as handicap parking spaces.

Forms and information are available online!
<http://virlina.org/district-conference.html>

CAMP BETHEL

DONATE TO REPLENISH THE "CAMBERSHIP" FUND

In summer 2017 we granted full or partial Camperships to 87 children totaling \$25,715 which exceeds available funding by \$10,792. We need your help! Please consider donating \$310, the 2017 cost for a child to attend a week camp. Mail checks with memo "Camperships" or donate at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate>.

MINI-VAN & COUCHES TOP CAMP'S WISH LIST

We urgently need a working mini-van, and new or gently used couches. Other needs include chest coolers w/ handles; digital cameras; a "GoPro" video camera; new (in-the-box) bike helmets and horse helmets; kayaks, paddles & new lifejackets; brooms w/ dustpans. View our needs or donate at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate>. Gifts to Camp are tax-deductible!

WELCOME TO ELIZABETH HALEY!

Elizabeth began employment as Food Services Coordinator on August 1. She grew up in Roanoke, graduated from William Fleming High School, and she earned two Associates Degrees from VWCC. She has been cooking since she was a child, and for several years more formally with her own catering business and as the Hospitality/Food Services Leader for Jesus Is Lord Assembly of Love in Roanoke.

She and husband, Gene, and their children own a home in Roanoke, so she will commute to and from camp. Elizabeth "loves people, cooking, and singing" and she said, "I'm excited to serve others and use my God-given gifts to meet others' needs through planning and preparing meals." Husband Gene says of her, "If she could, she would cook for the whole world!" Please welcome Elizabeth and her family with a note or card mailed to: Elizabeth Haley, c/o Camp Bethel, 328 Bethel Road, Fincastle, VA 24090, or e-mailed to <CampBethelArk@gmail.com>.

CAMP DIRECTOR'S 2017 SUMMER CAMP SUMMARY:

Our 91st consecutive summer camp season ended on July 28 after 7 Sprit-filled weeks of "Branching Out: Connected Through Christ" 1,181 campers registered in 76 program choices, including 253 participants in our six Traveling Day Camps and 32 participants in our Family Fun nights. We are blessed with excellent staff, helpful partner organizations, and dedicated volunteers who served as Chaplains, counselors and helpers. 197 children received Good-As-Gold funding from Virgina congregations totaling \$46,212. Camper families gave summer offering of \$1,600 toward our "Seed, Scattered and Sown" campaign. From May 29-August 19, Brigitte's and Elizabeth's kitchen team served a total of 26,000 individual meals during 179 meal times, and 1,350 out lunches and Home-in-the-Woods cookouts. Announcing our 2018 Summer Camp theme: "Boundless Belief: God's Universe." Registration opens January 8! <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/camps>.

LABOR DAY FAMILY WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 1-4

Activities include an old-fashioned Colonial-style "called" barn dance on Saturday, pot-luck dinner and Peace Prayer service on Sunday, a concert, and football games. Contact Beth before August 24 at <CampBethelOffice@gmail.com> to re-

serve meals and your campsite. Bring bikes, hiking shoes and swim suits as we end summer together. <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/labor-day-family-weekend>.

33RD HERITAGE DAY FESTIVAL, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

Camp Bethel's 33rd Brethren Heritage Day Festival is Saturday, October 7. Breakfast will be served from 7:30 until 9:00a.m. in the Ark. Booths and activities will open at 9:00 a.m. and end at 2:30p.m. Encourage everyone in your congregation to attend and assist this vitally important fund raiser for Camp Bethel. Tell your friends and help us advertise. Heritage Day forms, fliers and information are available at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/Heritage-Day>, or from your Pastor or Camp Representative.

FALL VOLUNTEER WORKDAY IS NOVEMBER 4!

Please help on Fall Volunteer Day, November 4! The day begins in the Ark at 7:30 a.m. with free breakfast and includes a free lunch at 1:00 p.m. Your help is needed to prepare camp for the winter conference season. There are workday projects (rain or shine; indoor and outdoor) for all skill levels and all ages. RSVP meals by October 29 to (540) 992-2940 or <CampBethelOffice@gmail.com>. Details may be found at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org>.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR MONTHLY E-NEWS:

Sign up for our fun and colorful eNewsletter at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/subscribe>. Find Camp Bethel on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube as "CampBethelVirginia."

JUSTICE LIKE WATER RETREAT - OCTOBER 20-22, 2017

"Justice Like Water" is the theme for the Virgina District New Church Development Retreat to be held October 20-22, 2017 at the W.E Skelton 4-H Center in Wirtz, VA. Be inspired, encouraged and motivated with other brothers and sisters longing to grow and help others in the process of church planting. The sessions will be led by Gimbiya Kettering, Director of Intercultural Ministry for the Church of the Brethren. Lodging is available at the center with three meals included. The cost is \$150.00 (double room for 2 nights), \$110.00 (double room for 1 night), \$135.00 (single room 1 night), \$210.00 (single room for 2 nights), \$80.00 (commuter for 2 days). Meals are included with registration and special consideration will be made for those with food allergies. Participation is welcome and encouraged from all of our congregations, fellowships and projects.

For more information or to request a brochure, please contact Anne Mitchell at (540) 345-5030. Please e-mail questions to <raptured527@verizon.net> or <nuchurch@aol.com>. Brochures can also be found online, <<http://virlina.org/news/district-news.html>>.

UPCOMING CONGREGATIONAL ANNIVERSARY SREVICES

Blue Ridge Church of the Brethren will celebrate their 130th year at their 11 a.m. service on Sunday, September 17.

Green Hill Church of the Brethren in Salem, Virginia will celebrate their 100th Anniversary at 11 a.m. on Sunday, October 22.

VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

LODGING AND MOTELS

Camp Bethel, 328 Bethel Road, Fincastle, Virginia - (540) 992-2940
Baymont Inn and Suites - 179 Sheraton Drive, Salem, Virginia - (540) 562-1912
La Quinta Inn - 140 Sheraton Drive, Salem, Virginia - (540) 562-2717
Holiday Inn Express and Suites - 991 Russell Road, Salem, Virginia - (540) 562-3229
Hampton Inn - 1886 Electric Road, Salem, Virginia - (540) 776-6500
Comfort Suites Inn - 2898 Keagy Road, Salem, Virginia - (540) 375-4800
Holiday Inn - 4468 Starkey Road, Roanoke, Virginia - (540) 774-4400
Sleep Inn - 4045 Electric Road, Roanoke, Virginia - (540) 772-1500
Hilton Garden Inn - 4500 South Peak Boulevard Roanoke, Virginia - (540) 776-3400

o AGE GROUP ACTIVITIES o

CHILD CARE (Infant - Pre-K) - During Worship and Business Sessions - Pre-Registration Required!

Friday 6:45 - 8:30 p.m.; Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 12:10 noon and 1:10 - 4:10 p.m. A registration form has been sent to congregations. In order to secure child care workers, children must be pre-registered by October 31st.

CHILDREN (Grades K - 5) - During Business Sessions on Saturday - Pre-Registration Required!

The activities for children are Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 4:10 p.m. Activities will include a Bible lesson, crafts, recreation, music, snack and an off-site trip to Lee-Hi Lanes Bowling Center. The cost is \$10. Children will need to bring a packed lunch and booster/car seats will need to be left with the leaders. A registration form with more information has been sent with the pre-registration information mailed to each congregation. The deadline for registration is October 31st.

JUNIOR HIGH (Grades 6 - 8) - During Conference

Details with registration and permission forms have been mailed to congregations.

SENIOR HIGH (Grades 9 - 12) - During Conference

Details with registration and permission forms have been mailed to congregations.

YOUNG ADULT S - Friday evening following worship

CONNECT! Young Adult Activity: An ice cream social will follow the worship service in the fellowship hall at Grandin Court Baptist.

Forms and information are available online!

<http://virlina.org/district-conference.html>



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