

H E A D L I N E R

C H U R C H O F T H E B R E T H R E N

JULY

Newsletter

2022

"Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray." Proverbs 22:6 (NRSVUE)

"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4 (KJV)

Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day were observed by society this year on May 8 and June 19 respectively. Since then, I've been pondering the importance of the parental role in the development of such crucial factors as conscience, faith and maturity. Almost all of us have had parents or parental figures. Sometimes these were present, sometimes absent; sometimes strict, sometimes easy going, sometimes serious, sometimes playful, and sometimes defied description. Whether we were raised by birth parents or by adoptive parents, it is difficult to overestimate the importance of their role in preparing a child or children for life in this world. This is true both in the sacred and the secular sense.

In remembering my own parents, I am thankful that they tried to raise me "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." While church activities such as Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and worship services were an important part of my upbringing, it was what I heard and saw at home that deeply impacted me and provided lifelong wisdom. While my parents were not perfect, they tried to model godly life before me. It often seemed that my mother had a cliché available to answer every question I could put to her. While some of these were folk sayings, such as "Rome wasn't built in a day," others were biblical quotes and allusions.

Many of these quotes were from the wisdom literature of scripture. This literature includes Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and the Song of Solomon in the Old Testament. In the New Testament such teachings are found in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) and James. Such teachings give practical instruction for living a Godly life in this world. They illustrate circumstances of life that provide opportunities to be grasped and those that should be avoided. The Hebrew people of ancient time believed that life could be observed, analyzed and understood. Through this rational process wisdom could be distilled over time from the events and experiences of everyday life. Behavior which was observed to have good consequences was treasured. Any action that brought heartache and tragedy was to be avoided. This was the path of wisdom.

A constant thread throughout the scripture is the role of parents in passing on faith from generation to generation in word and deed. While primarily directed at the parents of children, it can be understood as a responsibility of one generation to another. The actions and the restraint or self-control of adult role models

reinforce words of wisdom that are spoken. This is particularly true not only of parents, but also the behavior and actions of political, religious and societal leaders.

As a father of an autistic child I have found that my example is still seen and acted upon by my child. I grew up hearing about the evils of wasting food and the necessity to clean one's plate. It was often difficult for me as a parent watching my child picking over his food. To help him along I'd pick things off of his plate. That came back to me when, while eating out, he would try (and sometimes succeed) to pick items off of the plates of strangers.

One of the greatest lessons I learned from my father was the time he made a "not so good" comment to another man in his Sunday School class. His conscience began work and he got up from the dinner table, called the man and apologized. That example was more powerful than ten thousand words.

Not everyone is a mother or a father. Yet even those who are not parents in the literal sense are of great importance in the development of children. I often think of my Aunt Irene. She did not have children, but she took a particular interest in me. She could get me to act in ways (and not in others) that my mother or father could not. She taught me by questioning things that I would say or do. She got me a subscription to Highlights, perhaps for me to see Goofus and Gallant in their contrasting ways of being. She enriched my life with travel and cross-cultural experiences.

All of us have a moral obligation to teach both ordinary and sacred wisdom to the young amongst us. This ministry of Christian education finds its center in the home and its helpers and assistants in the church and classroom. Brethren have, from the beginning, as with wider Christianity, emphasized the importance of continuing, consistent faith nurture from infancy onward. As recently as 1966, the Annual Conference stated that "... love between parents and children a sacred gift from God. When the relationship between parents and children is lost, then the continuity between generations is impaired (Exodus 20:12). Parents who love their children will instruct them in the way of the Christian life, and children who love their parents will honor and respect them, even when they disagree (Ephesians 6:1-4; Colossians 3:20,21). The instruction of no church or school can replace that of the parents."

David K. Shumate

District Executive Minister

David K. Shumate, DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER
Mary Sink St. John, DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT CONFERENCE, NURTURE AND WITNESS
Cathy S. Huffman, DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY FORMATION
Ed and Susan McKimmy, COORDINATOR OF DISASTER RESPONSE



VIRLINA DISTRICT RESOURCE CENTER
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LOCAL INTEREST



Concord, Living Faith - Charlie Kirby by baptism, Wanda Kirby by reaffirmation. Amy Biggerstaff, Reagan Furr, Dillon Yoder, Matthew Yoder, Pam Johnson, Dennis Johnson and Jim Broy by baptism. Merle Heckman and Rose Heckman by letter. Andrew Ludwick by reaffirmation. All received May 22, 2022.

Mount Hermon - Annie Sheppherd and Roger Nolen by baptism February 13, 2022. Michael Koloda by baptism February 27, 2022. Jenna Stacy Mehalso by transfer March 29, 2022.

Pleasant Valley - Michaela T. Gallimore by letter March 12, 2022. This is to correct May 2022 Headliner listing.

Roanoke, Hollins Road - Ennis Stump and Peyton Booth by baptism on June 26, 2022. Charlene and David Greer by letter on June 26, 2022.

Topeco - Caleb Hubbard by baptism May 15, 2022.

White Rock - Steven Durham and Dona Durham by reaffirmation May 15, 2022. Michael Greene and Amanda Scott Greene by letter May 22, 2022.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILY OF

Richard Elwood Mills, aged 51, of Pensacola, Florida passed away on Sunday, April 24, 2022. He was the son of Judy D. Mills, licensed minister of the Virlina District and former pastor of the Trinity Church of the Brethren.

Doris "Dee" McVey Mehta, aged 66, passed away at her home in Bassett, VA on May 5, 2022. She was the sister of Pastor Roy McVey of the Collinsville Church. Graveside services were held on May 16, 2022 at the McVey Family Cemetery near Sullivan, WV, Pastor Roy McVey officiating.

Virginia Bittinger Whitten, aged 95, of Bridgewater, VA passed away Tuesday, May 10, 2022. She is survived by her husband, Hubert N. Whitten, Jr, three daughters and one son (David, pastor of the West Richmond Church). A Celebration of Life was held on May 19 at the Bridgewater Church with David Whitten and Erin Dalrymple officiating.

Kelda L. Welch, aged 85, entered her eternal rest on May 11, 2022. She was the mother of Terri Welch Luzynski, licensed minister of the Roanoke, Williamson Road Church.

Sarah Elizabeth Mason Moyers, aged 92, of Harrisonburg, VA died on May 30, 2022. She was the wife of Clarence M. Moyers. He was once pastor of the Rocky Mount, First Church and Troutville/New Bethel Church. Services were conducted at Harrisonburg First Church of the Brethren on June 4, 2022 with Paul Roth, Ron Wyrick and Carmen Miller officiating.



BASSETT - Full time position, profile pending - *R. Douglas Jones serving as pulpit supply.*

BETHANY - *In negotiation, vote date on July 10.*

BETHLEHEM - *Timothy H. Emmons has been called on a part-time basis effective August 1, 2022.*

FAIRVIEW (ROCKY MOUNT) - Part time position, no profile available - Various persons serving as pulpit supply.

GREEN HILL - Part time position, profile available (P) - J. Michael Varner serving as interim pastor.

LIGHTHOUSE - Part time position, no profile available - Don D. Street, lay speaker from Mount Hermon, serving as pulpit supply.

LYNCHBURG - *Part time position, profile pending - Karen B. Cassell has resigned effective May 24, 2022.*

MAPLE GROVE - Part time position, no profile available - Jeremiah Beasley serving as pulpit supply.

MASONS COVE - Part time position, no profile available - Charles DeHart serving as pulpit supply.

MONETA, LAKE SIDE - Part time position, profile circulating (P) - Christian J. Becker (FGBC) continues as pulpit supply

MONTE VISTA - Part time position, no profile available - *Gina Wright-Hawkins serving as interim pastor effective June 1, 2022.*

NEW BETHEL - Part time position, no profile available - Various persons serving as pulpit supply.

NEWPORT NEWS, IVY FARMS - Part time position, profile circulating (P) - Pulpit supply.

OAKVALE - Part time position, no profile available - Josh Lucas continues as associate pastor.

OLEAN - *Part time position, no profile available - Rodger L. Boothe is retiring effective August 7.*

PLEASANT VIEW - Part time position, no profile available - *John P. Reed, Sr. serving as interim pastor, effective May 1, 2022.*

RED OAK GROVE - Part time position, no profile available - *Richard W. Thomas, Sr. is retiring effective August 31.*

ROANOKE, IGLESIA CRISTIANA RENACER - Part time position, profile pending - Pulpit supply.

SAINT PAUL - Part time position, no profile available - Congregation not currently meeting

SELMA - Part time position, no profile available - Alvis Jackson serving as pulpit supply.

SHELTON - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.

SPRUCE RUN - *Plural ministry position, no profile available - Rodger L. Boothe is retiring effective August 14.*

TRINITY - *Part time position, profile available by request - Judy D. Mills has resigned effective June 5, 2022.*

NEWS & EVENTS

FRAUD PREVENTION WORKSHOP AVAILABLE

Among the well-attended workshops at Ministry and Mission Day in Virlina District on May 7 was a presentation by Zach Tabor, a member of the Nineveh Church of the Brethren, and Doug Harrison related to "Scammer and Spammer Fraud Prevention." The handout for that workshop was sent to pastors and contact persons with the June 2022 MEMO FOR MINISTERS. If your congregation or a group within your congregation would like to have Zach and Doug do a presentation, you may contact Zach at <zach_tabor@hotmail.com> or (540) 309-1784.

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE FORMED AND WORKING

A search committee has been formed to conduct the search process for the next District Executive Minister. The committee consists of JW Rhoades (Chairperson-Trinity), Carol Elmore (Vice Chairperson-Roanoke, Oak Grove), Lupita Ortiz (Secretary-Iglesia Cristiana Nueva Vida), Greg Fleshman (Mount Union), Gayle Harms (Jones Chapel), Anne Mitchell (Lighthouse), Sam Riner (Pleasant View), Dewey Williard (Fraternity), and Jim Worline (Lynchburg).

The group has been actively meeting and is currently in a phase of gathering feedback from individuals throughout a district-wide survey form. The group is working closely with Nancy S. Heishman, Director of Ministry for the Church of the Brethren and Hannah Jarrett, Virlina District Board Chairperson.

The Virlina Search Committee for our next DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER recently undertook a survey that netted 119 responses from 55 congregations. This material, one part of an overall process, will contribute to the formation of the district profile. We ask that you be in prayer for the process, as we ask God to work through it. Virlina is a special place and we want a leader to help us continue the work of Jesus... Peacefully. Simply. Together. And, we thank you!

CONTRIBUTE TO THE CHURCH WHEN YOU SHOP AMAZON

If you or someone you know shops online with Amazon, Amazon will contribute .5% of your purchase to the Church of the Brethren. There is no cost, simply sign up and Amazon does the rest. .5% is not much, but spread across all of the Amazon shoppers in our denomination, it would certainly add up. Click on "Account" then go to "Your Lists" and finally click "AmazonSmile Charity Lists". From there just follow the prompts and select Church of the Brethren, Elgin, IL. The only thing you need to remember is to shop at "smile.amazon.com" in the future instead of just "amazon.com", but all of your information transfers automatically.

VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE - NOVEMBER 11-12, 2022

The 2022 Virlina District Conference will be held Friday, November 11- Saturday, November 12 at the Grandin Court Baptist Church located at 2660 Brambleton Avenue in Roanoke, Virginia. Friday night's featured speaker will be the president of Bethany Theological Seminary, Jeff Carter. The speaker for the Friday evening Ministers and Spouses Banquet will be David Steele, General Secretary

of the Church of the Brethren. Brother Steele will also be the Saturday morning worship speaker. The 2022 District Conference Moderator is Lynn N. Myers, a member of the Antioch Church of the Brethren in Franklin County, VA.

Pastors and congregations will receive a mailing in August which will include details of the conference, registration forms for delegates and meal and age group information. The Virlina District website, <www.virlina.org> has a District Conference tab that details conference plans and/or changes as soon as they are updated. The September Headliner will also include all finalized plans and information. Contact Mary StJohn, Director of District Conference, Nurture and Witness, <virlina2@aol.com> or (540) 362-1816 with questions or concerns.

DISTRICT BOARD MEETING REPORT - JUNE 18, 2022

The Virlina District Board met at the Crab Orchard Church of the Brethren near Beckley, West Virginia on Saturday, June 18. Participants in the meeting were welcomed by the pastor, Norman Hamm. Ed Woodard, interim pastor of the Smith Mountain Lake Community Church of the Brethren led the devotional service based on Elijah's confrontation with the prophets of Baal.

Under the leadership of Hannah M. Jarrett, chairperson of the board, a number of reports were received and business transacted. These included the following:

-Amy S. Vilelle, a member of the Roanoke-Central Church, was appointed to fulfill an unexpired term on the board.

-Samuel C. Foster, a member of the Cloverdale Church, was appointed to fulfill an unexpired term as Financial Secretary beginning September 1.

-A revised position description for the District Executive Minister was approved effective January 1, 2023.

-A resolution was adopted that the new District Executive Minister be compensated according to education and experience on the Salary Table.

-Donna G. Hornsby, a member of the Roanoke-First Church, was interviewed and approved for commissioning to the ministry pending the vote of the congregation.

-A resolution calling for a congregational disorganization was referred to the District Conference in November.

-Preparation of a "quitclaim" deed for the aforementioned congregation was authorized.

-A resolution in memory of Wanda W. Lovern was read and adopted.

The hospitality offered and the meal provided by the Crab Orchard Church was wonderful and received numerous laudatory comments from the attendees.



DISTRICT OFFICE
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 2022

1	10:00 AM	Christian Growth Institute Staff Meeting (DKS)
4		District Resource Center Closed
5-6		Travel Days (DKS)
7-9		Council of District Executives - Omaha, Nebraska (DKS)
10-14		Annual Conference - Omaha, Nebraska (DKS)
14-15		Travel Days (DKS)
18	6:30 PM	Moneta, Lake Side - Steering Committee (DKS)
25	5:30 PM	Blacksburg, Iglesia EL Buen Steering Committee (DKS)

AUGUST 2022

1	9:00 AM	Discipleship and Reconciliation Committee (DKS)
	1:00 PM	New Church Development Committee - Christiansburg (DKS)
2	10:30 AM	Awakening Committee (DKS)
3	1:00 PM	Ministry Advisory Council - Video Conference (DKS)
6		Christian Growth Institute Class - DRC (DKS)
8	2:00 PM	Historical Committee - DRC (DKS)
9	6:00 PM	Race Education Team - MSS
13		Practice of Ministry Day - Broadway, VA (DKS)
16	1:30 PM	Christian Growth Institute Admin. Comm. - Buena Vista (DKS)
	6:30 PM	Commission on Witness (MSS)
20	10:00 AM	Program and Arrangements Committee - Zoom (MSS)
27	9:00 AM	District Board Executive Committee Budget Meeting (DKS)
30	7:00 PM	Commission on Stewardship - Roanoke, Ninth Street (DKS)

NEWS & EVENTS

CHRISTIAN GROWTH INSTITUTE - ROANOKE CENTER
Beliefs and Practices of the Church of the Brethren (also known as Brethren Life and Thought) class will be offered this August and September with David Shumate, Executive Minister, as instructor. Textbooks for the class are: **Church of the Brethren: Yesterday and Today**, edited by Donald F. Durnbaugh, Brethren Press, 1986 and **Fruit of the Vine**, Donald F. Durnbaugh, Brethren Press, 1997.

Please note the class will meet in person on Saturdays with location yet to be determined. The class dates are August 6 and 20 and September 19 and 24 from 1:00 p.m. until 5:15 p.m. Tuition for the class will be \$100.00 and students are responsible for obtaining or purchasing the necessary textbooks.

For more information or to obtain a registration form please contact Donna Hornsby, CGI Coordinator: Phone: (540) 266-0733, E-mail: <dshornsby912@gmail.com>. Make checks payable to VIRLINA DISTRICT and mail with the registration form to arrive by August 7 to: Donna Hornsby, 420 Bluebell Lane, Apt 304, Roanoke, VA 24012. CEU credit is available for ordained ministers taking the class.

PRACTICE OF MINISTRY DAY - AUGUST 13, 2022

One of the requirements of Christian Growth Institute is participation in Practice of Ministry Day. The 2022 event is entitled "Pastoral Care in Time of Loss." and will be held at the Linville Creek Church of the Brethren in Broadway, Virginia on August 13th beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at 3:15 p.m.

The morning session will include registration, devotions and a funeral home visit. The purpose of this visit is to better understand the ministry of funeral directors, the process of making final arrangements, and the various ways that human remains are handled.

Following lunch, Nancy Shomo, Coordinator of Grief and Loss Services for Sentara Rockingham Memorial Hospital in Harrisonburg, VA, will focus on ministering to persons experiencing grief and loss.

The cost, including the luncheon meal, is \$75 for CGI students and \$35 for ordained ministers attending for continuing education. Participation in the event provides .45 CEU's.

MINISTERS AND SPOUSES RETREAT - MARCH 10-11, 2023

Our annual MINISTERS AND SPOUSES RETREAT is scheduled for March 10-11, 2023 at the Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center on U.S. 501 near Lynchburg, VA. Leadership for the retreat will be David Radcliff, Director of the New Community Project and former denominational staff person. Registration forms will be available prior to the end of the year.

This retreat is sponsored by the Commission on Ministry of the Virginia District Board. It is for all ordained, commissioned and licensed ministers of the Virginia District, as well as lay speakers, and spouses. There is much time for fellowship and quiet reflection, in addition to worship and the program. CEU's are available for commissioned

and ordained ministers. The 2023 event has been scheduled to avoid conflict with the annual Youth Roundtable at Bridgewater College and the Christian Growth Institute's Spiritual Development Retreat at Brethren Woods. Make sure to save the date!

OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILIES OF:

Clyde Wood Bowman, aged 95, of Boones Mill, VA, died on Thursday, May 26, 2022. Sister Bowman was a lifelong member of Bethlehem Church of the Brethren where she was organist for 50 years. She was very creative and artistic and many people were the recipients of her talent. Funeral services were held on May 31, 2022, at Bethlehem Church of the Brethren with Horace D. Light officiating. Interment followed in the church cemetery.

Jennifer Ann Babcock, aged 30, of Willis, VA, passed away on Wednesday, June 1, 2022. Graveside services were held on Saturday, June 4, 2022 at the Duncans Chapel Cemetery with Stanley Hawkins officiating.

Hugh Haldane "Junior" Kingery, Jr, aged 83, of Buchanan, VA, passed away on Tuesday, June 7, 2022. He had retired from James River Limestone as a heavy equipment operator. Brother Kingery was a member of the Mount Joy Church of the Brethren. Funeral services were held on June 11, 2022 with Michael L. Tabor officiating. Interment followed in Fairview Cemetery at Buchanan.

Nelson Thomas "Tom" Huffman II, aged 83, of Roanoke, VA, passed away on Friday, June 17, 2022. He was raised in Bridgewater, Va., graduated from Bridgewater High School, and attended Bridgewater College. Tom had a long career in television production and wrapped up his career as a Producer/Director at Virginia Tech's Video/Broadcast Services. He sang in the Rockingham Male Chorus, in his church choir, and in the car. Tom was a member of Central Church of the Brethren. A memorial service was held on June 24, 2022 at the Central Church of the Brethren in Roanoke, VA.

Dorothy Elizabeth Janney, aged 98, of Copper Hill, VA, passed away Saturday, June 18, 2022. Dorothy was a graduate of Check High School. She was a long time employee in the payroll department of an overall factory later known as Imperial Reading. She made and gave away many afghans and was also known for her pound cakes and green beans.

A funeral service was held on June 22, 2022 in Floyd, VA, with Jerry Hylton and Darren Landon officiating. Interment followed at the Stonewall Cemetery.

Phyllis Jean "P.J." Hawley, aged 87, of Moneta, VA, passed peacefully into the presence of her Savior on Sunday, June 19, 2022. She was both an active and founding member of Smith Mountain Lake Community Church of the Brethren where she served tirelessly and was affectionately known as "the biscuit lady." Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. with visitation one hour prior on Monday, July 27, 2022, at Simpson Funeral Home & Crematory, Peters Creek Road Chapel. Interment will follow at Blue Ridge Memorial Gardens.

N E W S & E V E N T S

WORLD HUNGER AUCTION - AUGUST 13, 2022

The World Hunger Auction will be held on Saturday, August 13, 2022 starting at 9:00 a.m. This is the culmination to our year-long fund-raising activities. The World Hunger Auction, is held each August at Antioch Church of the Brethren, 2996 Callaway Road, near Rocky Mount, VA. The auction includes the sale of crafts, quilts, toys, produce, baked and canned goods, special services and much more. Come early for the best selection. Let the highest bidder win, for doing what we can opens the door for God to do much more.

The purpose of the World Hunger Auction has been to provide as much funding as possible to those facing hunger related issues. With the exception of some expenses, all the money that is raised goes to organizations working toward that goal. The ten congregations of the Church of the Brethren that sponsor the auction are blessed with the opportunity to serve. However, they do not receive any of the funds. Funds received are distributed to local, national and worldwide programs that address hunger. You are invited to take part in this opportunity to touch those in need.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILIES OF

Wanda Weddle Lovern, aged 71, of Floyd, passed away on Thursday, May 19, 2022. She was a member of Topeco Church of the Brethren where she was the organist and had previously served as choir director for the Copper Hill Church of the Brethren. Wanda was also a faithful member of the Virlina District Board where she served on the Commission on Nurture.

Funeral services were held on May 24, 2022, at the Topeco Church of the Brethren with Ted Turner and Mike Varner officiating. Interment followed in the Topeco Cemetery. Donations may be made in Wanda's memory to the Topeco Church of the Brethren Organ Fund, 3460 Floyd Hwy S, Floyd, VA 24091.

BRETHREN BENEFIT TRUST NOW EDER FINANCIAL

Brethren Benefit Trust (BBT), which has been serving Church of the Brethren employees and organizations for up to eight decades, is now known as Eder Financial

On May 4, the State of Illinois officially changed the corporate name of Church of the Brethren Benefit Trust Inc. to Eder Financial Inc. This transition accomplished one of BBT's strategic goals: to adopt new names to better serve its members and clients. At the same time, the names of its two affiliates were also changed. Brethren Foundation Inc. became Eder Deferred Gifts Inc. and Brethren Foundation Funds became Eder Organizational Investing Inc. These new identities reflect BBT's heritage and will resonate with Church of the Brethren members while being attractive to others outside the denomination who are of like mind.

The familiar services of BBT are not changing. Nor is the staff or the board. The only thing that is changing is the name. Eder Financial will continue offering retirement solutions to employees of Brethren congregations and affiliated organizations, employee-based insurances to employees of

Brethren congregations and affiliated organizations, deferred gifts management and long-term-care insurance to all Brethren members, organizational investing opportunities for Brethren congregations and affiliated organizations, benevolent grants for pastors and church and district employees who find themselves in severe financial difficulty, educational workshops and opportunities, as well as an investment platform that conforms to Eder Values Investing screens (formerly known as Brethren Values Investing) and promotes advocacy initiatives to encourage for-profit companies to be respectful of God's creation.

The difference is that Eder Financial will now begin serving members and clients of like mind that are outside the Church of the Brethren. "With changing demographics and affinity within the Church of the Brethren, a move to serve Anabaptist organizations and others of like mind will allow Eder Financial to fulfill its commitments to its members for decades to come," said Nevin Dulabaum, president.

What will be the distinctives of the Eder way? Great products, concierge service, competitive fees, values that come from being a faith-based organization, a proactive mindset to partner with our members and clients through their personal or organization's journey, plenty of investment choices to meet their needs, strong investment returns, a firm moral compass, and a passion to serve.

The identity change is actually the last of Eder's five strategic goals to be launched. The first was to change operations to be in a growth rather than maintenance mode. The second was to open up the firm's marketing and promotional efforts in a new way. The third was to have the right positions, and the right people in those positions, a transition that began in January. The fourth was to become a permanent work-from-home organization, which now will allow Eder to hire staff from across the country.

Eder Financial has a small suite of offices at the Church of the Brethren General Offices in Elgin, Ill, although staff members are now operating in a work-from-home arrangement. The company employs 25 people of faith who are committed to serving others. It currently is seeking directors of Pension, Marketing, Communications, Sales, and Data.

Eder Financial is overseen by a 12-member board of directors. They may serve up to two four-year terms. Board members have organizational, financial, accounting, legal, HR, or ministry backgrounds and experience. The organization began in 1943 with the creation of the Brethren Pension Plan. Brethren Insurance Services was added in the 1950s, and organizational investing and deferred gifts in 1990.

The foregoing is adapted from the May 26, 2022 "Brethren Newline."

CAMP BETHEL

SUMMER CAMPING CONTINUES THROUGH JULY 29

Our 2022 summer camps are in full swing with an excellent staff team following multiple health and safety adaptations. Camperships are still available. Register as soon as possible in an available program at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/camps>.

GIVE A CHILD A CAMBERSHIP FOR SUMMER CAMP

Every year Camp Bethel grants Camperships to an average of 108 children for an average total of \$27,165 (2010-2019). These funds are underwritten by our annual "Sow the Seed" Banquet, endowment income and individual gifts. This year we were not able to have the banquet and investment income is nil. As an individual, we ask that you consider giving \$390. This represents the current cost for a child to attend one week of camp. Mail checks with memo "Camperships" or donate at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate>

LABOR DAY FAMILY WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 2-5, 2022

Labor Day Family Weekend is scheduled for September 2-5, 2022. We look forward to gathering again this year. For updated information, check out <<https://www.campbethelvirginia.org/labor-day-family-weekend.html>>.

CAMP BETHEL PEP! 5K, SEPTEMBER 3, 2022

Our new 5K Course covers some of the many trails, fields, and forests on the 470 acres of Camp Bethel. Our \$35.00 entry fee includes fully stocked water/aid stations, a race t-shirt, pre-and-post-race snacks, 10:15am BRUNCH, fun, fellowship, and Barry's bad jokes. Sponsor the run to make it more fun! 5K fundraiser for "the PEPPIEST gang around!" Plans, sponsors, and registration at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/5K>.

BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT, SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

Golfers and sponsors are needed on Wednesday, September 28 for our 2022 Golf Tournament at Ashley Golf Course. Tee off is at 12:30pm. \$75 per person includes green fees, cart, and a delicious boxed lunch. Updated plans, plus registration and sponsor information is at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/golf>.

HERITAGE DAY FESTIVAL - OCTOBER 1, 2022

Our annual Heritage Day Festival returns "in person" on Saturday, October 1, 2022. Please encourage everyone in your congregation to participate and help in this vitally important fundraiser for Camp Bethel. Heritage Day forms, fliers and information are available at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/HeritageDay>.

FALL VOLUNTEER WORKDAY IS NOVEMBER 5, 2022

Our fall volunteer workday will be Saturday, November 5, 2022 beginning with a free breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Volunteers will also receive a free lunch at 1 p.m. We need your help preparing camp for the winter conference season. There will be workday projects for all skill levels and all ages. This event will be held rain or shine, inside or out. Please reserve your meals by October 30 <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/workday>.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES!

Camp has benefitted in recent years from several Eagle Scout projects. With several new trails opening, we need several new

foot-and-bike bridges. Portable benches are another excellent addition to campus. Contact Barry LeNoir for information and locations: <CampBethelOffice@gmail.com> or (540) 992-2940.

MAKE A BIG IMPACT AT CAMP BETHEL!

Experiences at Camp Bethel make a lasting impact on our campers, our summer staff, and our guests. Like a drop rippling outward on the Spring Pond, ordinary gifts become extraordinary experiences. Please give a donation in 2022, for summer camps, for summer staff, and for all the little things required to continue doing what we do: **Together with God, each other, and creation.** Please give today at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate>. Thank you!

FUNDRAISING CONCERT FOR CAMP BETHEL - AUGUST 20,

A concert to raise funds for Camp Bethel will be held on Saturday, August 20, 2022, beginning at 6:30 pm at the Summit View Pavilion next to the Germantown Brick Church of the Brethren between Boones Mill and Rocky Mount, VA.

Several musical groups from around the district will perform. It should be a great show! Come on out and support two great causes; local musicians and Camp Bethel! This is a rain or shine event.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF A SERVANT OF GOD

Sylvus Dean Flora, aged 93, of Franklin County, Virginia, went home to the Lord on June 30, 2022. One of ten children, Sylvus was born in Sulphur, Texas on December 10, 1928 to the late Norman and Lizzie Flora and raised in Quinter, Kansas. He sensed a call to ministry as a teenager. After graduating high school in Quinter, he completed a BA degree at McPherson College and graduated from Bethany Theological Seminary in 1954. In 1988 he completed a Doctor of Ministry in Peace Studies.

Throughout his 36 years of Church of the Brethren ministry, he pastored churches in Missouri, North Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, and Virginia. For 12 of those years, he served as District Executive for the West Marva District. At the time of his death, Sylvus was one of the two remaining elders in the Virginia District. He was advanced to the eldership by the Southern District of Missouri in 1956.

He was a loving husband to the late Martha Mae Flora for 69 years. He was also predeceased by daughter Linda Diane Flora and by grandson Andrew Flora. His life is celebrated by his children Sharon Reece (Everett), Jan Steil, Wayne Flora (Alisa), Carolyn Reynolds (Bill), and Kurtis Flora (Anne); by his grandchildren Melissa Moses (Ben Cook), Deanna Flora, Emily Hicks (Stephen), Megan Flora (Nathan Downs), Tyler Flora (Jessica), Matthew Foster (Jessica), Nathan Flora, and Jacqueline Steil; by his great-grandchildren Marleigh Flora, Liam Foster, Wyatt Hicks, Remington Hicks, Ellie Flora, and Teegan Hicks; and by his sister Angie Fishburn.

Funeral services were held at the Germantown Brick Church of the Brethren on Sunday, July 3, 2022 with Greg Broyles officiating, assisted by Bruce E. Huffman and David K. Shumate. Interment followed at the church cemetery.

NURTURE OPPORTUNITIES

UPCOMING NEW COMMUNITY PROJECT TOURS

The NEW COMMUNITY PROJECT sponsors learning tours to different parts of our nation and our world. Some that are upcoming include:

Arctic Village, Alaska - August 11-18, 2022

Leaders: Charlie Swaney, Sarah James, David Radcliff
Cost: \$875 (plus airfare to and from Fairbanks)

Visit this north-of-the-Arctic Circle community—Gwich'in by birth, caribou by culture. Meet Arctic advocacy groups in Fairbanks: learn about the threat of drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and the impacts of global warming. Then travel by small plane (included in registration) to Arctic Village. Hike and camp in sight of the Brooks Range, eat traditional foods, experience Gwich'in life and customs, maybe see migrating caribou. Spectacular!

Kathmandu, Nepal - January 9- 20, 2023

Leaders: David Radcliff, Shakti Samuha staff
Cost: \$995 (\$895—student) (plus airfare to and from Kathmandu)

Participants will be hosted by the anti-sex-trafficking group and NCP partner Shakti Samuha. Visit cultural and religious sites. Meet women and girls NCP grants support for economic development and education, Visit Chitwan National Park, home to preservation efforts for rhinos, elephants and Bengal tigers. Take an overnight trek to an awe-inspiring view of the Annapurna Range (moderately strenuous, alternative transportation available). Discuss environmental challenges of the region. Bask in the glory of the Himalaya.

These (and other NCP learning tours) provide great experiences of the planet and its people with good traveling companions. Safe but simple accommodations. Open to all ages. Please register as early as possible, as trips may be canceled if there are insufficient registrations.

For more information please contact David Radcliff, New Community Project Director, by telephone at (540) 855-1199 or (844) 804-2985 (toll-free), by e-mail at <dradcliffncp@yahoo.com>, or by U.S. Mail at New Community Project, 117 Nature Road, Blue Ridge, VA 24064

PRAYING FOR PEACE - SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

The Annual "Prayer for Peace" Service will be held on Sunday, September 25, 2022, at 3 p.m. Details about this event will be forthcoming including location and speaker.

HEADLINER DEADLINE ON JULY 25, 2022

Deadlines for submission of material for the September 2022 HEADLINER is July 25th. All items for publication, either for the HEADLINER or for the E-HEADLINER, should be sent to <EHeadliner@aol.com>. The same address may be used if you wish to be added to the E-HEADLINER e-mail list. The E-HEADLINER provides more frequent updates about our ministry and events.

NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE BUS TRIP

We have 70 youth and adults registered for the Virlina District two-coach bus trip. We are excited to include a group from the Southeastern District and a group from the Mid-Atlantic District as well as 13 of our own Virlina District congregations. We will be traveling with a third bus from the Shenandoah District

As we travel across the country, we want to provide snacks to our bus riders. If you would like to be a snack sponsor for our trip, please send your donation to the Virlina District with a note and memo line on the check designating NYC snacks. If you have questions about donations, please call Tara Riddle at (540)352-2217. If you would like to follow along with our trip and pray for us along the way, please send your email address (labeled prayer partners) to Tara Riddle at <timtarariddle@gmail.com>. You will receive trip updates and can pray for our experiences as we travel. Thank you for your support for this growth experience for our youth!

PIANIST NEEDED AT OAK GROVE - SOUTH

The Oak Grove - South Church of the Brethren is seeking a pianist to play for their Sunday morning worship service and as needed in other services. Interested people seeking this paid position should call Adam Bunn at (276) 732-0275 or Tony Robertson at (540) 238-8150.

ANTIOCH SEEKS OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Antioch Church in Rocky Mount, Virginia, is seeking to fill the position of Office Administrator. This paid position requires 10 hours per week with a schedule to be worked out with the Pastor and church leadership. It will require a mix of in-office time and online/phone availability.

The Office Administrator should have a high school diploma or equivalent, current computer skills and familiarity with basic word-publishing, communication, scheduling, and social media software and applications (and/or willingness to learn new technology), familiarity with Christian faith and respect for the Church of the Brethren heritage, ability to keep confidences, and a willingness to cooperate with church vision in positive spirit.

For a full job description or to send a resume, please contact Ian Benjamin at <ianbenjamin77@gmail.com>

AVAILABLE ON THE WWW.VIRLINA.ORG WEBSITE

Our district maintains a website with many resources for our congregations and membership at <www.virlina.org>. Just a few of the items include the Virlina District Prayer Calendar (issued quarterly), the HEADLINER (issued six times each year), the E-Headliner (issued roughly every two weeks), the Memo for Ministers (issued six times each year for pastors and district leaders), and many other helpful documents. Check it out!