

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

SEPTEMBER

Newsletter

2022

"We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister."

1 John 4:19-21 (NIV)

Even in light of the variety of challenges that we face in these days and times, the Program and Arrangements Committee is planning to go forward with a "live" District Conference where we can be together, sing together, and fellowship together. We will meet at the Grandin Court Baptist Church on November 11 and 12. You are encouraged to attend and hear about the district programs and activities as well as information from the larger church. Jeff Carter, Bethany Seminary President, will be the speaker for the Friday evening worship service, and David Steele, General Secretary, will speak at the pastors' gathering on Friday and the Saturday morning worship service.

The conference theme, "Bound Together by Love", is based on 1 John 4:19-21. It is a visionary idea as opposed to the world in which we now live. All believers should hope, pray and work for a time when we are more concerned about loving each other and less concerned about the matters that drive us apart. There are great divisions and less than loving discussions permeating our local churches, district, and denomination. However, to be a Christ-follower, we are admonished by these verses to love each other, and we can do that without agreeing on every issue and topic.

Verse 21 is very direct and leaves no options. We are advised that to love God, we must love our brothers and sisters. Our words and deeds must reflect love if we claim to love God. If Christ is to live through us, we are to be "Bound Together by Love". Transformation is the first step in changing our life from one that leads to dissension to one that leads to Christ's love shining through us. A significant aspect of transformation centers on how we look at ourselves. If we are not brutally honest, we will feel that there is no need to be transformed. We can translate the scripture in such a way as to justify our actions as opposed to adjusting our actions in such a way as to reflect scriptural guidance. Being brutally honest with ourself and God can be a challenging experience.

Our actions, deeds, and words often lead others to question our faithfulness. In a 2017 article, Paige Magee, a young Chicago based blogger, cited an Indian philosopher, Bara Dada, who stated, "Jesus is ideal and wonderful, but you Christians, you are not like him." Magee continues, "When reflecting on Dada's statement, I have come to one explanation: we are flawed, imperfect people, and I am no exception. With that imperfection, comes Christians not acting very Christ-like". Consider those words; honestly appraise them; and consider if transformation is needed.

To be transformed, we need to identify our shortcomings and consider if our "wants" stand in the way of our relationship with Christ and loving our sisters and brothers.

We need to address our willingness to share our resources as opposed to our desire to hoard them. The manner in which we manage our money may reflect the love we have for our brothers and sisters. Recently, a fellow Sunday school class member shared thoughts on giving his legacy funds to organizations that needed support as opposed to giving them to his children who have good jobs and are doing well. Thought provoking to say the least Consider what potential for good we hold in our hands.

We need to do what we can to transform our society to create a more civil environment. Civility is one of the principal victims of our current social condition. Derogatory and demeaning words that were once off-limits are now common place in some gatherings and interactions. They are displayed on lawn signs, roadside bulletin boards and bumper stickers. Consider how we can love our brothers and sisters while attempting to cleanse the rhetoric.

We need to mend partisan-provoked broken relationships. Sometimes, good ideas and concerns are shared with words that create a tone that is divisive. It is tragic that many family, church, and business relationships have suffered because of disagreements that did not allow for honest sharing which stopped short of brokenness. Consider ways to mend the fences and spread the love of Christ

And, while we must address our areas of concern, we recognize that love is being expressed in many ways. Teams are going where there is need to repair properties damaged by natural disasters. Churches are sponsoring blood drives for the Red Cross. Congregations are serving meals to the hungry while other are providing clothes and essentials to those in need. One of our churches has opened an urban worship center which is an excellent, new approach to church planting. Brethren are volunteering with other organizations to provide supplies and meals for school children. Most importantly, countless acts of kindness happen every day as visits, calls and contacts are made where needs exist

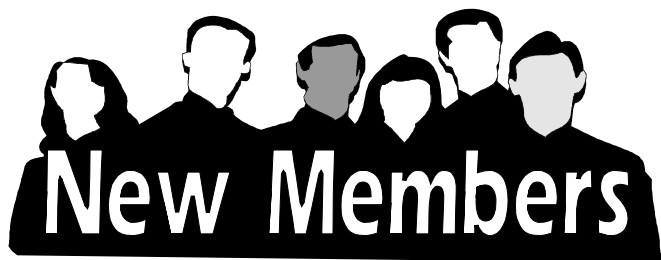
May we continue to spread love where we can while considering areas where transformation is needed. May we live in such a manner as to be the personification of the old hymn so that "they will know we are Christians by our love".

Lynn N. Myers
2022 District Conference Moderator

VIRLINA DISTRICT
3402 Plantation Road, NE
Roanoke, Virginia 24012

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DAVID K. SHUMATE, DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER
MARY SINK ST. JOHN, DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT CONFERENCE, NURTURE AND WITNESS
CATHY S. HUFFMAN, DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY FORMATION
JOY A. MURRAY, COORDINATOR OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES
ED AND SUSAN MCKIMMY, COORDINATORS OF DISASTER RESPONSE



Bassett - Landon Michael King Mills by baptism July 17, 2022.

Christiansburg - Lea (Nancy) Mosley and Carol Wall by affirmation of faith July 24, 2022.

Pleasant Valley - Cooper Amos Akers, Cole Easton Dulaney and Jacqueline D. Radford by baptism August 7, 2022.

Poages Mill - William Carroll by letter August 28, 2022.

Topeco - Karlie Nichols by baptism July 17, 2022.

REMEMBERING THE WITNESS AND SERVICE OF

Betty Ann Sowers, aged 92, of Vinton, Virginia, entered into the fuller presence of God on Wednesday, July 27, 2022. She was the widow of Graham Sowers who served in pastoral roles with the New Hope, Pulaski-First, Hiwassee, Blue Ridge and Roanoke-Ninth Street congregations. A memorial service was held on Monday, August 8, 2022, at the Ninth Street Church of the Brethren with Daniel L. Rudy officiating

Patricia Breedlove, aged 85, of Botetourt County went to her Heavenly home on Thursday, August 4, 2022. She was formerly a member of the Masons Cove Church of the Brethren and had been involved with the Brethren Disaster Ministries. A graveside service was held on August 8, 2022

James Alva "Jim" King, Jr., aged 89, of Roanoke County, VA, passed away on August 5, 2022. He was a charter member of Williamson Road Church of the Brethren. His service there included being board chairman, a church school teacher and deacon. Funeral services were held on on August 17, 2022 with Terri W. Luzynski officiating.

Mary Sue (Proctor) Viar, aged 88, of Bedford County, VA, passed away on Friday, August 19, 2022. Sue was a member of Ninth Street Church of the Brethren, where she participated in choir, aerobics, and leading youth trips.

Charlie Ann Flora Oliver, aged 93, of Roanoke, VA, passed away on Monday, August 22, 2022. She was an avid member of the Central Church of the Brethren where she was a deacon to many and a friend to all. A memorial service was held on August 27, 2022 at the Central Church of the Brethren.

Bennie Ludwick Boone, aged 91, of Roanoke County, VA, passed away on Thursday, August 25, 2022. He was a retired conductor for Norfolk Southern with 35 years of service. Bennie was a member of the Oak Grove Church of the Brethren. Funeral services were conducted on Tuesday, August 30, 2022 with Timothy P. Harvey officiating.



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

BETHANY - *Emma Jean Franklin Woodard began as pastor on September 1, 2022 with Patricia A. Ronk as associate pastor.*

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 - Pulpit supply.

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 - Christian J. Becker serving as pulpit supply

MONTE VISTA - Part time position, no profile available - Gina Wright-Hawkins serving as interim pastor.

NEW BETHEL - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.

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

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

OLEAN - Part time position, no profile available.

PLEASANT VIEW - Part time position, no profile available - John P. Reed, Sr. serving as interim pastor.

RED OAK GROVE - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.

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

ROANOKE, WILLIAMSON ROAD - Part time position, profile pending - *Harvey S. Leddy has resigned effective September 30, 2022.*

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.

SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE - Part time position, profile circulating - Edward C. Woodard serving as interim pastor.

SPRUCE RUN - Plural ministry position, no profile available.

TRINITY - Part time position, profile available by request - *Elizabeth Anne Mitchell serving as interim pastor effective October 1, 2022.*

N E W S & E V E N T S

OFFERING A SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR WORKSHOPS

At Ministry and Mission Day in early May, two workshops were jointly presented by Spiritual Development Retreat Committee and Virlina Disabilities Ministries Committee. Entitled "When sorrows like sea billows roll...and ...it is well with my soul", the two workshops addressed the long-term effects and losses of Covid-19 on ourselves and our congregations. The first workshop engaged the participants in a process of lamenting the losses, and the second provided a worshipful way of encouraging finding hope in the midst of the sorrow, in order to affirm ourselves that "whatever our lot, (we have been) taught to say it is well with my soul"

These workshops are now available to be repeated with your congregation(s). If you would like to discuss this opportunity and have these leaders from the Commission on Nurture's committees to visit your congregation, please contact Mary St. John at the District Office at <virlina2@aol.com> or by calling (540) 362-1816.

ANNUAL PEACE SERVICE - SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

Join us for a time of worship, music, support, and education on bringing peace to the world. In true Brethren fashion, fellowship and snacks-including ice cream!-will be provided after the worship service. We will gather for worship at the Antioch Church of the Brethren amphitheater (2996 Callaway Road, Rocky Mount, VA) for the annual "Day or Prayer for Peace" worship service on Sunday, September 25 at 3:00 p.m.

The theme is Mental Health Awareness, a topic of increasing importance in a time when relationships and institutions that provided stability have been either unavailable or of uncertain strength and vitality. Pat Davidson, retired counselor from Blue Ridge Behavioral Services and a member of the Williamson Road Church of the Brethren, will be the guest speaker. Music will be provided by the Oak Grove Church of the Brethren jazz ensemble. Please save the date and plan to attend! For more information please contact Mary Sink St. John at (540) 352-1816 or <virlina2@aol.com>.

PETERS CREEK FALL BAZAAR - OCTOBER 15, 2022

The Women's Fellowship of Peters Creek Church is holding a Fall Bazaar on Saturday, October 15, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with a variety of vendors who will have many items to sell making this a great time to shop! There will also be a Bake Shop with goodies provided by the Women's Fellowship. The Peters Creek Cafe will provide breakfast and lunch. This event will be held rain or shine!

Spaces for rent are still available and if interested you may register by contacting the church office at (540) 562-4346. If no answer, please leave your name and phone number for a return call.

MINISTERS AND SPOUSES - MARCH 10-11, 2023

Our annual MINISTERS AND SPOUSES RETREAT is scheduled for March 10-11, 2023. 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 Virlina District Board. It is for all ordained, commissioned and licensed ministers of the Virlina 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.

CHELSEA GOSS SKILLEN BECOMES BRETHERN VOLUNTEER SERVICE DIRECTOR

Chelsea Goss Skillen, who was nurtured by the West Richmond Church of the Brethren, has been hired by the Church of the Brethren as the Director of Brethren Volunteer Service (BVS). She is a graduate of Bridgewater College with a bachelor of science degree and Regis University with a master's degree in Organizational Leadership. Chelsea will begin working from the General Offices in Elgin, IL on October 24, 2022.

Chelsea served two years as a BVS volunteer, one as the orientation assistant in the BVS office. She has also served through New Community Project, Camp Bethel, and a refugee program in Australia. Her recent work experience includes co-founding a small business to empower and educate authors to share their stories and helping to run a productions and publishing company. Chelsea has been a keynote speaker at Church of the Brethren events such as National Junior High Conference, National Young Adult Conference, and Annual Conference in 2021.

REMEMBERING THE FAITHFUL WITNESS OF:

Sarah Jean Powers Flowers, aged 85, of Vinton, passed away on July 24, 2022. She was a devoted member of Jeters Chapel Church of the Brethren. A celebration of her life was held on July 29, 2022 officiated by Paul J. Stover, Jr. and Glen H. Sage.

Wilson Joshua "Will" Morris, aged 93, died on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, at his home in Copper Hill, Floyd County, Virginia. Will was a long-time member of the Copper Hill Church of the Brethren congregation where he served in many roles and enjoyed singing in the choir. He was the husband of Sue Morris, ordained minister and former Southern Area Center Coordinator for Christian Growth Institute (CGI). A Memorial Service is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Thursday, September 15, 2022, at the Copper Hill Church of the Brethren with Bill Hinton and Dan Johnson officiating.

HEADLINER DEADLINE ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

Deadlines for submission of material for the November 2022 HEADLINER is September 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 the ministry and events of the Virlina District and the Church of the Brethren.



**DISTRICT OFFICE
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

3402 Plantation Road NE
Roanoke, VA 24012

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2022

5		LABOR DAY - District Resource Center Closed
12	8:30 AM	Northern Area Ministers Meeting - Camp Bethel (DKS)
	6:30 PM	Moneta-Lake Side Steering Committee (DKS)
13	6:00 PM	Race Education Team (MSS)
17	9:00 AM	District Board Meeting - Eden, First (DKS/MSS)
18-21	6:45 PM	Awakening Services - Cloverdale (DKS)
19-21	9:00 AM	Awakening Bible Study Series - Various Locations (DKS)
19	2:00 PM	Virginia Council of Churches Steering Committee - Video Conference (DKS)
	6:30 PM	Disaster Response Committee (MSS)
25	3:00 PM	Day of Prayer for Peace Worship Service - Antioch (DKS/MSS)
26	6:00 PM	Southern Area Ministers and Spouses at Jones Chapel (DKS)
30	6:00 PM	Commission on Ministry (DKS)

OCTOBER 2022

2		Living Faith Church Mortgage Burning Service (DKS)
3	6:00 PM	Northern Area Ministers Association - Roanoke, Central (DKS)
6-22		VACATION (DKS)
11	6:00 PM	Race Education Team (MSS)
15	10:00 AM	Program and Arrangements Committee - Video Conference (MSS)
17	6:00 PM	Southern Area Ministers and Spouses - Boones Mill
18	10:30 AM	Awakening Committee - District Resource Center
24	5:30 PM	Iglesia El Buen Pastor Steering Committee - Meadows of Dan, VA (DKS)
28	1:00 PM	Ministry Advisory Committee - Video Conference (DKS)

*Virgina District Conference
Grandin Court Baptist Church, Roanoke, VA
November 11-12, 2022*

VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

*"...And He has given us this command:
Anyone who loves God must also love
their brother and sister." - 1 John 4:21*



BOUND TOGETHER BY LOVE

o FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11 o MINISTERS AND SPOUSES DINNER

The Ministers and Spouses Annual Dinner will take place near the gym of Grandin Court with dinner provided by Reminis Italian Restaurant, with guest speaker, David Steele, General Secretary of the Church of the Brethren. Reservations for the dinners are due October 21. Seating begins at 5:00 and the meal begins at 5:15 PM.

(Childcare is 5:00 - 6:45. Bring a packed supper and a stuffed animal for a "Teddy Bear Picnic".)

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Delegates register by September 30 with \$30.00 fee made out to: Virlina District - 3402 Plantation Road, NE, Roanoke, VA 24012.

Non-delegates may request report booklets by September 30. Supplies limited on-site.

WORSHIP 7:00 PM - 8:15 PM

The Worship Leader is Moderator Lynn Myers, The Keynote Speaker is Jeff Carter, the President of Bethany Theological Seminary. Special music will be provided by the Lavender Family Ensemble. On-site child care provided, 6:45 - 8:15.

2022 VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE
November 11-12
Grandin Court Baptist Church
2660 Brambleton Avenue, Roanoke, VA

o SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12 o REGISTRATION 7:45 - 8:15 AM

Pastors and delegates received their business booklets in the mail. Please bring to Saturday's business session. Sign in at the Ministry Activities lobby near the entry carport. Pick up information packets before entering sanctuary. Please distribute delegate packet inserts to the appropriate leadership in your congregations.

2022 CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Children must preregister for on-site activities and have permission slips for going to Camp Bethel for lunch and outdoor fun. Please provide a car seat and appropriate dress for outdoors in November.

Youth will be meeting at Camp Bethel for a work project, lunch, and fellowship. Preregister through the conference forms or by contacting Joy Murray at <virlinayouthministries@gmail.com>.

As in the past three years, activities and plans are subject to change based on what is best for the health and safety of those in attendance.

BUSINESS SESSIONS

8:15 AM - 12:00 PM
1:20 PM - 3:30 PM

LUNCH BREAK

12:00 pm - 1:20 PM

Hymn singing and worship with Worship Leader Moderator-Elect Noel Naff and guest speaker, General Secretary David Steele. Business sessions are open to every interested person; however, delegates are expected to sit in the designated areas in the main floor sanctuary for voting and accepting the reports. Non-delegates and friends may choose to sit in the balcony or perimeter areas in the sanctuary. - Thank you.

VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

~ DELEGATES AND NON-DELEGATES ~

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR DELEGATES

A registration form has been mailed to the pastor or contact person of every congregation. Please send the completed registration form and a check made payable to VIRLINA DISTRICT to Virlina District Office, 3402 Plantation Road, NE, Roanoke, VA 24012. Registration for delegates closes on September 30. After signing in at the registration table, Friday evening or Saturday morning, all delegates will receive a district information packet. Delegates will be voting on-site this year during the business sessions. On-site lunch requires a separate registration.

NON-DELEGATE REGISTRATION AT DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Registration for non-delegates will take place at the delegate table during the scheduled registration times. Limited conference booklets and district packets will be available. Children's and Youth activities require a separate registration.

CONFERENCE BOOKLET

Booklets will be mailed in October to each congregation. Pastors or contact persons are asked to distribute the booklets to the delegates. Delegates should bring their business booklets to conference. The 2021 District Conference minutes are published in the 2022 District Conference booklet, as well as the biographies of persons on the ballot. Books are ordered based on how many delegates register by the September 30 deadline. A limited number of books will be reserved for non-delegates and officers. Portions of the booklet will also be available on the website once those pages are finalized.

~MEALS~

MINISTERS, SPOUSES, and FRIENDS DINNER - Reservation by October 21 is required!

The Annual Ministers and Spouses Dinner will be held on Friday, November 11 in the downstairs fellowship hall at Grandin Court Baptist Church. Delegates and friends are invited. Check-in will begin at 4:45 PM and dinner will begin at 5:15 PM. The cost is \$18.00/person. Remini's Italian Restaurant is catering the dinner. Free childcare is provided on Friday by the Children's Cabinet. Children are asked to come with a packed supper and drink, and to bring a teddy bear or stuffed animal for a Teddy Bear picnic! The guest speaker is David Steele, General Secretary. An invitation has been mailed to all congregations and is also on the Virlina District website.

ON-SITE LUNCH ON SATURDAY - Reservation by October 21 is required!

A limited number of boxed lunches, provided by Firehouse Subs Restaurant, will be on-site for those who pre-order, for OMC members and for elected reorganizing board members. Boxed lunches are \$12 and will include choice of a Firehouse ham or turkey sub, chips, cookie, and assorted drinks. A vegetarian option will also be offered. There are also numerous restaurants near the church. Lunch is scheduled from 12:00-1:15 P.M. Reservation forms have been sent to each congregation by mail. Meal tickets will be distributed on Friday evening and Saturday morning at the registration table.

~GENERAL INFORMATION~

EXHIBIT AREA

The exhibit area will be in the gymnasium on the ground floor. The exhibits will feature Church of the Brethren agencies and show some of the work of our Virlina committees and congregations. Exhibits will be set up after 3:00 PM Friday and are to be removed by 2:00 PM on Saturday. To reserve a space, fill out the form available at <http://virlina.org/district-conference.html> or contact Mary StJohn.

HOSPITALITY AREA

A space for visiting with coffee and snacks will be located on the perimeter of the Gymnasium on the ground floor. There will be light refreshments served after worship on Friday until 9:00 PM.

2022 WORSHIP AND BUSINESS SESSIONS AVAILABLE

All worship and business sessions will be available on flash drives or DVDs. Contact the District Resource Center to borrow a copy.

2022 SUMMER CAMPS REPORT

Our Counselors provided excellent care during our summer camping season from June 12 through August 5! The Holy Spirit used our summer material, "What's in a Name?" to help us recognize our encounters with the miraculous and the mundane, and the mundane made miraculous.

785 campers registered, including 54 for the return of Carilion Camp Too Sweet June 26-July 1 and 33 participants in our return to Parent-Child Overnight Camp June 3-4. By comparison, we had 554 total campers in 2021. 106 campers received Good-as-Gold funding from Virginia congregations totaling \$35,426. 97 families chose the "Sustainers Fee" for their campers, donating an additional \$4,850 to Camp Bethel. 2022 marked the first time that 262 campers' were at Camp Bethel (33%).

The schedule for Summer 2023 is coming soon at www.CampBethelVirginia.org/camps, and 2023 Summer Staff applications are available at www.CampBethelVirginia.org/staff.

HERITAGE DAY FESTIVAL AGAIN REPLACED BY CONGREGATIONAL EVENTS

After a District-wide survey and much discussion, we made the difficult decision to wait until next year (Oct 7, 2023) for a return to an "on-site and in-person" Heritage Day. We know that Heritage Day is fully dependent on willing-and-able congregations providing many work hours to prepare and bring a booth. Many congregations' ability to do this has changed since our last on-site Heritage Day in 2019, and COVID-19 concerns persist. Staff and the OMC will encourage and recruit returning and "new" congregations to reboot and restart Heritage Day in 2023. We are so grateful for many congregations who are holding individual fund-raisers, meals, or food/craft sales in honor of Camp Bethel's Heritage Day. Please participate with an event. We love and appreciate each of you! Check www.CampBethelVirginia.org/HeritageDay for a list of events, or contact our office, CampBethelOffice@gmail.com or (540) 992-2940.

FALL VOLUNTEER WORKDAY - 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.

GIVE A CHILD A CAMPSHIP FOR SUMMER CAMP

We did not hold an in-person Sow the Seed Banquet, so please give instead. In 2022 we granted camperships to 41 campers totaling \$14,395. Please give \$390, which was the 2022 cost for a child to attend one week of camp. Mail checks with memo "Camperships" or do-

nate at www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate.

MEND MICKEY'S MOWER MISERY!

Camp Bethel's Facilities Manager, Mickey Nichols, doesn't ask for much. So when he DOES express a need, we know it's legitimate! Sadly, our old lawn mower died this year, and we ask for YOUR help in purchasing a new mower for Mickey and his excellent team. His research pointed us to a Cub Cadet Pro X 160S with Mickey's preferred Kawasaki motor. We're \$9,371 away from our funding goal. Please help at www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate, (choose New Mower Fund).

BARRY LENOIR TO LEAVE CAMP BETHEL

The Outdoor Ministries Committee of the Virginia District Board announces that Barry LeNoir will depart his role on June 30, 2023. He began his service on August 19, 2002.

Barry writes, "After 38 years of camp staff experience including 20 years at Camp Bethel, I am ready to hand over responsibilities to the next Camp Director. I have loved all of it, our Camp Bethel. I especially treasure the relationships with coworkers, summer staff, campers and families, congregations, committees, volunteers, guest groups, business partners, and peers in camping in Virginia and across the country."

OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILIES OF

William "Bill" Lawrence, aged 91, of Floyd, VA, died peacefully at his home on Wednesday, July 13, 2022. Bill was a member of Red Oak Grove Church of the Brethren for 50 years. During that time, he was a deacon, choir member, treasurer, and trustee. A graveside service was held on Saturday, July 23, 2022 with the James Hubbard, Kevin Daggett, and Richard W. Thomas, Sr. officiating.

Pamela Bohn DeWease, aged 75, of Roanoke County, Virginia, went peacefully to her Heavenly home on Saturday, July 23, 2022. She was a member of the Masons Cove Church of the Brethren. Funeral services were conducted on Friday, July 29, 2022.

Lula Mae Belle Honaker, aged 94, of Roanoke, VA, passed away on August 28, 2022. She was a member of Peters Creek Church of the Brethren for over 50 years. Funeral services were held on Friday, September 2, 2022 with John Thompson and Walter Eanes officiating.

Carey Morgan Johnson III, aged 74, of Boones Mill, VA passed away on Sunday, August 28, 2022. He was retired from Norfolk Southern and was a member of Boones Mill Church of the Brethren. Funeral services were conducted on Wednesday, August 31, 2022 with Jerry W. Naff officiating.

Merlin Wayne Keith, aged 84, entered into his heavenly home on Thursday, September 1, 2022. He was a member of the Fairview Church of the Brethren in Floyd County, VA. Funeral services were held on Sunday September 4, 2022, with Jason Pratt officiating.

VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

~ DISTRICT CONFERENCE LOCATION~

GRANDIN COURT BAPTIST CHURCH-2660 Brambleton Avenue, SW, Roanoke, Virginia 24015

From I-581, continue on US 220S to the Colonial Avenue/Virginia Western Community College exit. At the roundabout on Colonial Avenue, turn onto Persinger Road. At the light, turn left onto Brambleton Avenue. The church building is located on the left after Fishburn Park and before The Coffee Pot restaurant. Traveling from 419, Electric Road, pass Tanglewood Mall to the Brambleton Avenue intersection. Turn right at the light. Church is 1 ½ miles on the right.

PARKING

Parking for the registration and sanctuary entrance, with 6 handicap parking spaces, is near the covered entrance of the Ministry Activities Center. A second parking lot is located behind the building, with 10 handicap parking spaces and a ramp or steps for that door. The third parking lot extends to the edge of the property and is behind the building across Sweetbrier Avenue with 6 handicap parking spaces.

~AGE GROUP ACTIVITIES~

CHILDCARE: Infants - Pre-K

Childcare will be available for infants-through 5th grade during the Ministers and Spouses Dinner and during Worship Friday (6:45-8:15 PM) and for infants through Pre-K during Business Sessions on Saturday (8:00 AM - 12:00 noon and 1:15 PM - 3:45 PM.). Please fill out a registration form and return it to the District Office by October 21!

CHILDREN: Kindergarten - 5th Grade

The Children's Cabinet will be leading the children in crafts, Bible devotions, and a visit from the nearby Roanoke County EMS Fire and Rescue station. They will spend time exploring rescue vehicles and will meet some of our emergency responders. After lessons, the children will go to Camp Bethel for lunch and outdoor or gym play. Please dress children suitable for outdoor and indoor play. Booster/car seats must be provided! The cost is \$7.00/child or \$20.00 for 3 or more family members. Registration forms are online or in the conference packet mailed to the churches. Please register by October 21!

MIDDLE SCHOOL AND SENIOR HIGH YOUTH: 6TH - 12TH Grade

Youth are invited to worship at 7:00 PM on Friday evening to hear Jeff Carter, President of Bethany Seminary and former NYC speaker. On Saturday, participants will meet at Camp Bethel by 9:00 A.M., play games, go on a short hike, and do outdoor work projects for camp. Lunch will be in the ARK. Please wear appropriate clothing for being outdoors, shoes, gloves, and a snack to share. The cost is \$10.00/participant. Leaders from each participating church are needed to help drive and chaperone. Registration forms are online and have been sent to each congregation. Please register by October 21!

**ALL REGISTRATION FORMS AND INFORMATION
ABOUT DISTRICT CONFERENCE ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE!**

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

In addition, each congregation has been mailed forms to print and share.