

VIRLINA DISTRICT

Church
of the
Brethren



MEMO FOR MINISTERS

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 2022

- 1 Discipleship and Reconciliation Committee/Office/New Church Development Committee - Christiansburg
- 2 Awakening Committee/Office
- 3 Staff Meeting/Ministry Advisory Council (Z)/Office
- 4 OFF
- 5 Office/Commission on Ministry
- 6 Teach - Christian Growth Institute Class at Roanoke, First
- 7 Preach at White Rock (Floyd)/Travel to Elgin, IL
- 8 Annual Conference Officers /Program and Arrangements Committee in Elgin, IL
- 9 Program and Arrangements Committee in Elgin, IL
- 10 Program and Arrangements Committee/Worship Team Leadership Team in Elgin, IL
- 11 Leadership Team in Elgin, IL
- 12 Travel to Roanoke, VA/Office
- 13 Practice of Ministry Day - Linville Creek Church in Broadway, VA
- 14 Worship Undetermined (AM)/Licensing Service at Roanoke, Hollins Road (PM)
- 15 Office
- 16 Office/Christian Growth Institute Admin. Comm. - Buena Vista, Stone Church
- 17 Staff Meeting/Office
- 18 OFF
- 19 Office
- 20 Teach - Christian Growth Institute Class at Roanoke, First
- 21 Worship Undetermined
- 22 Office/Iglesia El Buen Pastor Steering Committee at Meadows of Dan
- 23 Office
- 24 Staff Meeting/Office
- 25 OFF
- 26 Office
- 27 District Board Executive Committee
- 28 Worship Undetermined
- 29 Office
- 30 Office/Commission on Stewardship - Roanoke, Ninth Street
- 31 Staff Meeting/Office

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

- 1 OFF
- 2 Office
- 3 Open
- 4 Worship Undetermined
- 5 Holiday - District Resource Center Closed
- 6 Office
- 7 Staff Meeting/Office
- 8 OFF
- 9 Office
- 10 Teach - Christian Growth Institute Class at Roanoke, First

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 fundraising 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.

Throughout the three decades of the World Hunger Auction, the purpose 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 congregations of the Church of the Brethren that sponsor the auction are blessed to serve. They do not receive any of the funds. The money is distributed between Heifer International for international and domestic programs, Roanoke Area Ministries, the Church of the Brethren Global Food Crisis Fund, and Heavenly Manna, a food pantry in Rocky Mount, Virginia. You are invited to take part in this opportunity to touch those in need. Let the highest bidder win!

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SCHEDULE - SEPTEMBER 2022

- 11 Worship Undetermined
- 12 Office/Lake Side Steering Committee
- 13 Office
- 14 Staff Meeting/Office
- 15 OFF
- 16 Office
- 17 District Board Meeting - Eden, First Church
- 18 Worship Undetermined/Awakening Service at Cloverdale Church
- 19 Awakening Bible Study - Troutville/Office/Awakening Service at Cloverdale Church
- 20 Awakening Bible Study - Roanoke, Oak Grove/ Office/ Awakening Service at Cloverdale Church
- 21 Awakening Bible Study - Roanoke, First; Office/ Awakening Service at Cloverdale Church
- 22 OFF
- 23 Office
- 24 Teach - Christian Growth Institute Class at Roanoke, First
- 25 Worship Undetermined
- 26 Office
- 27 Office
- 28 Staff Meeting/Office
- 29 OFF
- 30 Office

MARY SINK ST. JOHN - SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 2022

- 2 Office
- 3 Staff Meeting/Office/Peace Affairs Committee - Roanoke, Oak Grove
- 4-5 Office
- 9 Office/Race Education Team
- 10 Staff Meeting/Office
- 11-12 Office
- 16 Office/Commission on Witness (Z)/Commission on Nurture
- 17 Staff Meeting/Office
- 18-19 Office
- 20 Program and Arrangements Committee (Z)
- 23 Office
- 24 Staff Meeting/Office
- 25-26 Office
- 30 Office
- 31 Staff Meeting/Office

MARY SINK ST. JOHN SCHEDULE - SEPTEMBER 2022

- 1 Office/Spiritual Development Retreat Committee (Z)
- 2 Office
- 5 Holiday - District Resource Center Closed
- 6 Office
- 7 Staff Meeting/Office
- 8-9 Office
- 12 Disaster Response Committee
- 13 Office/Race Education Team
- 14 Staff Meeting/Office
- 15-16 Office
- 17 District Board Meeting - Eden, First
- 18-19 Awakening Service - Cloverdale
- 20-21 Office/Awakening Service - Cloverdale
- 22-23 Office
- 25 Peace Affairs Service - Location TBA
- 26 OFF
- 27 Office
- 28 Staff Meeting/Office
- 29-30 Office

BRETHREN FAITH IN ACTION GRANT FUND

Formed by funds generated from the sale of the upper campus of the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, the Brethren Faith in Action Fund provides grants to fund outreach ministry projects that serve their communities, strengthen the congregation, and expand the reign of God. Such ministries will honor and continue the legacy of service that the Center has epitomized while also addressing the dynamics of the present age.

Grants of up to \$5,000 per congregation or ministry project per year are awarded, with a maximum of \$15,000 allocated to any one ministry project over multiple years. Roanoke-Central, Germantown Brick and the Concord-Living Faith congregations have received grants. Any United States Church of the Brethren congregation, fellowship or project may apply. Guidelines and application form may be obtained at <<http://www.brethren.org/faith-in-action/>>.

DISTRICT RESOURCE CENTER HOURS

Due to vacations and other absences, the District Resource Center hours for August 8-12, September 6-9 and October 10-14, the District Resource Office hours will be 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

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PASTORAL PLACEMENT REPORT

- **BASSETT** - Full time position, profile pending - R. Douglas Jones as pulpit supply.
- **BETHANY** - *Emma Jean Woodard called as pastor on a part-time basis effective August 1, 2022.*
- **BETHLEHEM** - *Anthony E. "Tony" Emmons called as pastor on a part-time basis effective August 1, 2022.*
- **FAIRVIEW (ROCKY MOUNT)** - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.
- **GREEN HILL** - Part time position, profile available by request (P/I) - 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.
- **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.
- **NEW BETHEL** - Part time position, no profile available - 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.
- **OLEAN** - Part time position, no profile available - Rodger L. Boothe has retired effective August 7, 2022.
- **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 - Richard W. Thomas, Sr. (CBC) has resigned effective August 31, 2022.
- **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 August 31, 2022.*
- **SAINT PAUL** - Part time position, no profile available
- **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 COMMUNITY** - Part time position, profile pending - Edward C. Woodard serving as interim pastor.
- **SPRUCE RUN** - Plural ministry position, no profile available - Rodger L. Boothe has retired effective August 14, 2022.
- **TRINITY** - Part time position, profile available by request - Pulpit supply.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE SUMMARY AND ELECTIONS

- The Annual Conference 2022 Summary of Actions and the Elections and Appointments are attached. Since a number of our congregations were not represented, we thought that it would be helpful to share this information.

BRETHREN LIFE AND THOUGHT CGI CLASS BEGINS AUGUST 6, 2022

- 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 at the Roanoke, First Church of the Brethren located at 2001 Carroll Avenue, NW in Roanoke, VA.. The class dates are August 6, August 20, September 10, and September 24 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. Tuition for the class will be \$100.00 and students are responsible for 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: 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.

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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.

THE MINISTER AS THEOLOGIAN - SEPTEMBER 7 - NOVEMBER 1, 2022

The Brethren Academy will offer this online course, The Minister as Theologian, from September 7-November 1, 2022. Joelle Hathaway, assistant professor of theological studies at Bethany Theological Seminary, will be the instructor and TRIM students will receive one credit in Bible/Theology upon completion and the BTS experience. EFSM students may create a Learning Unit for the course.

As an introduction to theological thinking, this course will cover some of the "big topics" that Christians talk about, including: God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, humanity as the image of God, and Christian hope. We will read multiple genres, including sermons and poetry, to help us explore the deep, imaginative interconnections between various aspects of the Christian faith.

The deadline to register for this course is August 3, 2022. For registration information please contact the Brethren Academy at <academy@bethanyseminary.edu>.

ETHICS FOR SET-APART MINISTRY - BASIC COURSE - SEPTEMBER 10, 2022

The Brethren Academy has set a date for the next training session of *Ethics for Set-Apart Ministry: Basic Course*, created by James Benedict. This training using Zoom, an online conferencing platform, is for newly licensed ministers and others seeking basic clergy ethics training. The training will be held September 10, 2022, via Zoom, from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. EDT with a break for lunch.

If you are in pre-license year, a licensed minister or a student in Christian Growth Institute (CGI) and have not had the basic course, please register for this and participate as it is required.

The registration deadline to participate is August 30th. This allows time to mail the workbooks to participants. Registrations and payment must be received by our office by this date. For registration information please contact the Brethren Academy at <academy@bethanyseminary.edu>.

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. We are hoping to have the service in the Franklin County area. In light of the war in Ukraine and the general world situation it is time for earnest prayer.

THE SHAPE OF MINISTRY IN A HIGH-TECH WORLD COURSE - NOVEMBER 2022

The Brethren Academy will offer this Zoom intensive course, The Shape of Ministry in a High-Tech World, in November 2022. Dan Poole, assistant professor of Ministry Formation at Bethany Theological Seminary, will be the instructor and TRIM students will receive one credit in Ministry/Ministry Skills upon completion and the BTS experience. EFSM students may create a Learning Unit for the course.

From the barrage of social media platforms to website presence, to electronic communications, to a 24/7 cultural expectation of availability, the role of a ministerial leader has shifted. In this digital age, how can one ensure that the practice of ministry remains grounded in the core principles of pastoral care and discipleship? This seminar-style course will explore the relationship of ministry to technology and investigates the practical tools that exist to enhance ministry.

The deadline to register for this course is October 7, 2022. For registration information please contact the Brethren Academy at <academy@bethanyseminary.edu>.

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.

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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.

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 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 and the Christian Growth Institute's Spiritual Development Retreat at Brethren Woods. **Make sure to save the date!**

SMALLER MEMBERSHIP CONGREGATIONAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Grants up to \$1,000 are available from the Smaller Membership Congregational Committee for qualifying congregations. These grants exist to provide monetary aid to a congregation who has less than fifty members and less than \$30,000 yearly giving. It is available to help expand ministry, provide outreach opportunities, assist with building projects, update technology, purchase music, and many more uses that smaller membership congregations may struggle to afford. Applications need to be made in writing, filling out a simple application form when making the request. A representative of the Smaller Membership Congregational Committee will make arrangements to visit the applicant's congregation to be supportive and aware of the needs and opportunities afforded by this grant.

Please return the attached or enclosed application form to SMCC Assistance Grant, Virlina District Resource Center, 3402 Plantation Road, NE, Roanoke, Virginia 24012. If you have questions about qualifications, please contact Mary StJohn at <virlina2@aol.com> or by calling (540) 362-1816.

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.

2023 SALARY GUIDELINES AND TABLE

The 2023 Salary Guidelines and Table prepared by the Pastoral Compensation and Benefits Advisory Committee and approved by the Annual Conference will be posted in the next two weeks. The recommended cost of living increase is 8.2%.

BUCHANAN COUNTY FLOOD OFFERING

Congregations desiring to assist with rebuilding in Buchanan County, VA after the recent flooding may send offerings to us. Please mark these as Buchanan Offering /Account #33503.

SELF-ALLOCATION/FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

The final Virlina District Financial Secretary Report for June 30, 2022 is attached. Please review your congregation's self-allocation giving for 2022 in consultation with your treasurer and draw any discrepancies to our attention. We try to post giving accurately and want to give credit where credit is due.