

E-HEADLINER

UKRAINE DISASTER RESPONSE OFFERINGS RECEIVED

We have been receiving offerings from congregations for disaster relief in Ukraine. If your congregation wishes to receive an offering for this purpose, please mark the check memo as "Ukraine – 33502" and forward to the District Resource Center. We will forward this through denominational or ecumenical channels.

NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY - MAY 1, 2022

"FOUNDATIONAL" is the theme for National Youth Sunday in the Church of the Brethren tomorrow, May 1, 2022. The theme is based on Colossians 2:5-7. Worship resources will soon be available at <https://www.brethren.org/yva/national-youth-sunday/>.

UPCOMING EVENTS RELATED TO MINISTRY – MAY 2022

William J. "Bill" Hinton, pastor of the Copper Hill Church, will be installed there at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 1.

Naomi Powers, co-pastor of the Daleville Church, will be ordained there at 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 1. The service will be hybrid. While in person attendance is encouraged, the zoom link is available by e-mail at tom.powers.cob@gmail.com

Carlton R. Hodges, pastor of the Red Hill Church, will be ordained there on Sunday, May 15, at 4 p.m.

SPIRITUALITY ON THE SCREEN – MAY 2, 2022

The May offering from Ventures in Christian Discipleship will be "Spirituality on the Screen," held online on Monday, May 2, at 6 p.m. Central. The course will be presented by Walt Wiltschek.

Even while culture seems to be drifting away from organized religion, according to many recent surveys, faith pops up all over the place in television and film and elsewhere in media culture. How are God and other parts of faith being portrayed? And are these intersections a good thing? The course will dig in deeper and discuss together.

Walt Wiltschek started last year as a part-time district executive minister for Illinois & Wisconsin and currently lives in Lombard, Illinois. He also does part-time chaplaincy work for Illinois Wesleyan University. He previously served as pastor of Easton (Maryland) Church of the Brethren, campus pastor at Manchester University in Indiana, and editor of Messenger magazine, for which he still does some writing and editing. He enjoys traveling, camp ministry, puns and wordplay, and cheering for various sports teams.

Continuing education credit is available for \$10 per course. During the registration process, you will have the opportunity to pay for CEUs and give an optional donation to the Ventures program. To learn more about Ventures in Christian Discipleship and to register for courses, visit www.mcpherson.edu/ventures.

WHEN THE STORMS OF LIFE ARE RAGING: LEADING OUR CONGREGATIONS IN A TIME OF PANDEMIC AND PARTISANSHIP – MAY 6-7, 2022

This season of the church's life has been one of learning new skills and adapting to uncertain times while also lamenting our losses and wondering if things will ever "return to normal." As we emerge from the pandemic—in times that are as polarized as ever—how do we proceed?

Co-sponsored by Part-time Pastor, Full-time Church and the Virlina District, When the Storms of Life Are Raging is

designed for pastors, lay leaders, and congregation members who want to develop strategies about returning to familiar patterns of congregational life and faithfully enter new times and territory while rebuilding our connections with God, community, and one another. We do this knowing some members have been lost and some attitudes have hardened in our 21st century hyper-politicized environment.

Our retreat leader is Jeff Smith, CEO of Voltage Leadership Consulting in Roanoke. Jeff has over 20 years of experience working with both secular and religious organizations, helping them expand their leadership potential. He is an active member of Second Presbyterian Church in Roanoke and has served in several positions of leadership and on pastoral calling committees.

This conference will be added to Ministry and Mission in Virlina. Sessions will be held on Friday evening, May 6 and Saturday afternoon, May 7, at Fairview (Rocky Mount) Church of the Brethren. 0.3 CEU's will be available for this event.

There is no fee for this conference. We do ask for preregistration with the District Office in order to plan for spacing, food, and handouts. If you plan to attend Ministry and Mission (and we hope you will!!) you will also need to register and preorder lunch through the District Office.

PART ONE: WHAT IS RIGHT FOR ALL OF US? DISCOVERING A SHARED MISSION

Friday, May 6: 6:00 – 7:00 and 7:15 – 8:30 PM

- What does “doing well” look like?
- How does it differ from our current reality?
- How can we help our congregations come along on our journey to achieve our common mission?

PART TWO: HOW DO WE HAVE THIS CONVERSATION WITH OUR CONGREGATION?

Saturday, May 7: 3:00 – 4:00 PM

- This is not the first time we've encountered difficulties. What have we learned from the past?
- What holds us back from a more preferred future?

MINISTRY AND MISSION DAY IN VIRLINA DISTRICT – MAY 7, 2022

Ministry and Mission Day in Virlina District is scheduled for Saturday, May 7 from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Fairview Church of the Brethren on Virginia Route 40 between Rocky Mount and Ferrum. Although this has been an annual event for over two decades, circumstances during the last two years have forced us to hold virtual events. We are excited to finally get together again for a day of worship, workshops, lunch, and the Annual Conference Delegate Briefing.

The worship service begins at 9 a.m. It will be led by Patrick Starkey, pastor of the Cloverdale Church of the Brethren, who will speak on the 2022 District Conference theme, "Bound Together by Love" from 1 John 4:21. In addition, each of our district commissions will be hosting workshops, most of which will provide CEU credit for pastors. Among these will be workshops on grief and recovery, as well as Deacon Training. The Commission on Witness' Race Education Team will host a workshop outlining events and books that they will use to resource district congregations. A workshop concerning common financial scams will be held by the Commission on Stewardship. All participants are invited to attend the wrap around event described in the preceding headline, "When the Storms of Life are Raging!"

The event requires a lunch reservation not later than Wednesday, May 4. This may be obtained by calling Betty Wills of the District Resource Center at (540) 362-1816 or by e-mail at virlinasecretary@gmail.com. The pre-ordered lunches are \$10 each and may be paid for at the event.

Beginning at 1:30 p.m., the Annual Conference Delegate Briefing will be conducted by David Sollenberger, 2022 Annual Conference Moderator, and the Standing Committee Delegates from our district. All conference delegates and church leaders are encouraged to attend! More information or questions about events may be directed to Mary St. John at (540) 362-1816 or virlina2@aol.com.

PART-TIME PASTOR, FULL-TIME CHURCH SPEAKER – MAY 17, 2022

The Office of Ministry's "Part-time Pastor, Full-time Church" program is hosting Peter Chin online Tuesday, May 17, at 8 p.m. (ET). Chin wrote an article that appeared online in Christianity Today entitled, "I've Reached My Breaking Point as a Pastor." He is the senior pastor at Rainier Avenue Church in Seattle, Washington, and the author of "Blindsided by God," a memoir of his wife's fight against breast cancer while pregnant with their third child. Register by clicking https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bKB6kj5nRgO0ZaWEUIWXuA.

HISTORICAL PRESENTATION TO BENEFIT WORLD HUNGER AUCTION – MAY 19, 2022

"A Multimedia Historical Story of the Franklin County Brethren from 1773 to 1799" will be presented on Thursday, May 19, 2022 in order to benefit the World Hunger Auction. This event will take place in the Fellowship Hall of the Antioch Church of the Brethren from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m.

The cost is \$25.00 and includes the program, coffee and desserts. Attendees can pay at the door.

Please contact Bea Naff Bailey at cbeatri@g.clemson.edu in order to reserve a seat! The Antioch Church is located at 2996 Callaway Road, Rocky Mount, VA 24151

NATIONAL YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE - MAY 27-30, 2022

The theme of the 2022 National Young Adult Conference (NYAC) is "I Am because We Are" based on Romans 12:5. NYAC is scheduled for May 27-30, 2022 at the Montreat Conference Center in Montreat, North Carolina. This event offers people ages 18-35 a chance to enjoy fellowship, worship, recreation, Bible study, service projects and more... with other fantastic young adults! For more information go to <https://www.brethren.org/yva/yac/>.

ETHICS FOR SET-APART MINISTRY: BASIC COURSE – JUNE 4, 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, students in Christian Growth Institute, and others seeking basic clergy ethics training. The training will be held June 4, 2022, via Zoom, from 10:00-4:00 EDT with a break for lunch.

The registration deadline to participate is May 23rd. This allows time to mail the workbooks to participants. Registrations and payment must be received by the Brethren Academy office by this date. A brochure containing all the information and instructions for registering is available at nuchurch@aol.com.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE WITNESS TO THE HOST CITY – JULY 10-14, 2022

Each year, Annual Conference chooses to bless the host city through a special donation. When Annual Conference takes place in Omaha, Nebraska, July 10-14, there will be an effort to provide support for Girls, Inc. of Omaha. The Annual Conference website states, this organization has been serving girls ages 5-18 for over 45 years and are "Committed to nurturing girls to be strong, smart, and bold, they offer homework help and enrichment classes in music, art, and science; encourage exercise and good nutrition; provide clothing and hygiene supplies; and equip girls with basic life skills related to budgeting and banking, public speaking, voting and citizenship, and how to apply for a job." Click <https://www.brethren.org/ac2022/activities/witness-to-the-host-city/> to see what supplies are needed.

TEMPERED RESILIENCE – JULY 9-10, 2022

Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership is offering Tempered Resilience: How Leaders are Formed in the Crucible of Change. This in-person class, in conjunction with the Annual Conference, features Tod Bolsinger, author of "Tempered Resilience: How Leaders are Formed in the Crucible of Change." The class will take place on July 9-10. Register online by June 6. Download an informational flyer at <https://files.constantcontact.com/071f413a201/1624f306-61fe-44f1-baf2-b9472e5589b9.pdf>.

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www.virlina.org

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



ARK TREASURE HUNT!

We are excited to present an event for congregations, families, groups, and adventure enthusiasts in our district to go and explore together! The Treasure Hunt or THE ARK, began on April 1st in Henry County, VA; and will begin on June 1st in Franklin County, VA, and on July 1st in Roanoke County. Your quest is to find five ARKS OF THE COVENANT hidden outdoors in plastic containers. In each ARK are different color rubies or stones. Collect five different color rubies and receive a prize from the Virlina District Resource Center suitable for a family or small group. The Bible is necessary for some of the clues.

Your first clue will be posted on-line the first day of the month at noon. Solve it, and you are on your way exploring and being an ARK seeker. A paper copy of the clues will be available from the District Resource Center. This fun project originated from our Moderator-Elect, Noel Naff, to provide opportunities for togetherness, fun, and Bible Study. Visit the www.virlina.org website or contact Mary St.John, Director of District Conference, Nurture, and Witness at (540) 362-1816 or virlina2@aol.com.

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE E-HEADLINER IS PROJECTED FOR MAY 14, 2022



**Embracing
one another
as Christ
embraces us**
Romans 15:7