

E-HEADLINER



LEADING IN A TIME OF CRISIS - MODERATOR'S TOWN HALL - OCTOBER 15, 2020

We are excited to announce the next Moderator's Town Hall on October 15th, 2020, at 7:00 PM EDT. The featured speaker will be Phillip C. Stone, President emeritus of Bridgewater College.

The focus of the Town Hall will be: "Leading in a Time of Crisis." Whether pastor, lay leader, Sunday School teacher or parent, we are all called to give guidance during challenging times, especially during our current season of polarization and pandemic. To that end, leadership principles will be shared that are applicable to both clergy and laity alike.

A native of Bassett, Virginia (and the Mount Hermon Church of the Brethren) and a graduate of Bridgewater College, Phil Stone attended the University of Chicago Graduate School of Economics and received a law degree

from the University of Virginia. After 24 years in private law practice in Virginia, he became President of Bridgewater College in 1994. Mr. Stone retired from that position on June 30, 2010, and was named President emeritus.

In 2015, Phil Stone was asked to save Sweet Briar College, whose permanent closing was in progress. To that end, he was elected president of Sweet Briar and served in that role until 2017. The effort was successful, and the college is still operating. Phil Stone's mantra while serving as president of Sweet Briar—"the impossible is just another problem to be solved"—became a rallying cry as he led the college successfully through a season of crisis.

Phil Stone is also a distinguished churchman, having served as Moderator of the Church of the Brethren and the chair of the General Board (now Mission and Ministry Board) of the denomination along with many other positions within the life of the church.

During his law practice, Brother Stone was president of several bar groups, and in 1997 he served as President of the Virginia Bar Association. During his tenure as president of Bridgewater College, he was elected Chair of the NCAA Division III Presidents Council and Chair of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (the accrediting agency for 11 southern states). He also received the association's James Rodgers Award for Outstanding Leadership.

Phil Stone is the recipient of various awards and recognitions including four honorary doctorates. In 1997, he was named Distinguished Virginian by the Exchange Club, and in 1987 he was named Churchman of the Year by the Religious Heritage Foundation. Upon his retirement from Bridgewater College, the General Assembly of Virginia passed resolutions honoring him for his lifelong contributions to education and the community. Another resolution was passed by the General Assembly when he retired from Sweet Briar College. He and his wife Cherrill live in Harrisonburg, Virginia. They are the parents of four children and grandparents of four grandchildren.

You may register at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_AfK82qTUT_uK9oknifD2iw Please sign up

early, as the event is limited to the first 500 registrants.

The Town Hall will once again feature a Question & Answer format. You are invited to submit your questions for Phil Stone during the Town Hall, or you can send them in advance. To send your questions prior to the Town Hall, please email: cobmoderatorstownhall@gmail.com. Though we cannot commit to answering every question, we'll do our best to use what is submitted. Questions or issues related to registering for the Town Hall can be emailed to cobmoderatorstownhall@gmail.com as well.

CAMP BETHEL IS OPEN FOR FAMILIES AND GROUPS

In accordance with Virginia's Phase 3 guidelines, facilities and RV/Tent campsites are available to reserve. Hiking/biking trail maps and Self-Guided Adventure packets are on our office porch. For more information go to www.CampBethelVirginia.org/groups

FALL VOLUNTEER WORKDAY IS NOVEMBER 7, 2020

We need your help on Fall Volunteer Day on Saturday, November 7. The day begins in the Ark at 7:30 a.m. with free breakfast and includes a free lunch at 1:00 p.m. Your help is needed to prepare camp for the winter season. There are workday projects (rain or shine; indoor and outdoor) for all skill levels and all ages. RSVP meals by October 31 by calling (540) 992-2940 or e-mail CampBethelOffice@gmail.com. Details may be found at www.CampBethelVirginia.org.

CONFERENCE ARTWORK PROJECT FOR CHILDREN OF VIRLINA

Show us how creative the children in your congregation can be! Since we will not be holding an in-person conference, with our traditional fun activities for children, the Commission on Nurture's Children's Cabinet invite all children and youth to study this year's District Conference theme, "Radical Hope: Glimpses of the Kingdom", from Matthew 6: 9 -10, and then create art depicting their interpretation of the theme. What does God's kingdom look like? Children are invited to use play dough, drawings, painting, sidewalk chalk...anything that shows a creative interpretation. Download or take a photo of the art project, include the child's name, age, and congregation, and send it to Mary St. John at virlina2@aol.com or mail the art to Mary St. John, 3402 Plantation Road, NE, Roanoke, VA, 24012. The art will be featured on the online presentation of District Conference beginning November 13 on www.virlina.org. Deadline to submit the art is October 15, 2020.

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY ONLINE

Joy Murray, Coordinator of Children, Youth and Young Adults, is planning an online Bible study with special guests speakers from the InterYouthCabinet (IYC) of Bridgewater College. This will be a recorded message beginning November 13, so it can be viewed at your convenience on www.virlina.org.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE OFFERING

The 2020 District Conference Offering will be used to offset conference expenses and to help support the work of the Virlina District. Please indicate your contribution as being applied to District Conference expenses and mail or deliver to 3402 Plantation Road, NE, Roanoke, VA 24012. Service offerings in kind will benefit the Disaster Response Ministries. Clean-up buckets, school supplies, hygiene kits, and Individual Kits of Comfort will be collected at the District Resource Center and delivered to New Windsor for disaster site distribution. Thank you for your support.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE BALLOTS, DELEGATE BOOKLETS, AND PACKETS

All information concerning the 2020 District Conference will be mailed during the early part of October to the congregations who have paid their registration fees and presented the names of the delegates. The ballots will be included in the mailing, and must be filled out and returned by November 2. The Head Tellers will come to the District Resource Center and will count the ballots. The results will be announced on the recorded version of the District Conference, which will go online on November 13, and be available through the end of the year.

Our District Conference leadership and the Program and Arrangements committee have put together a unique and diverse worship service, with multiple speakers and musicians who will help us learn more about "Radical Hope: Glimpses of the Kingdom." The worship and business portions of conference will be available on www.virlina.org. If your congregation needs a recording of the conference in DVD, please contact Mary Sink St. John.

PILGRIMAGE XXIV RESCHEDULED – MARCH 26-28, 2021

Although the severity of COVID-19 is different in various locations, we still are not to the place where we could have a large gathering in one room, sit together for meals and in small groups, give hugs, etc. So, for the safety of all, the Pilgrimage Committee has decided to postpone Pilgrimage. The new date is March 26-28, 2021, which is typically when it is held each year. There will be more information closer to the time if you would like to register.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN GREENSBORO - 2021

The Program and Arrangements Committee of the Church of the Brethren has set the registration fees for the 2021 Annual Conference in Greensboro., N.C. The fees for registration will remain \$125 for non-delegates and \$305 for delegates. The hotel costs will be \$119/night (+tax) for the Sheraton Hotel at Joseph S. Koury Convention Center and includes free parking.

NOMINEES FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE BALLOT

The denomination is in need of nominees for these openings: Annual Conference Program and Arrangements Committee; Mission and Ministry Board (MMB) from Areas 3 and 5; Bethany Seminary, one representing Church of the Brethren affiliated colleges and one representing laity; Brethren Benefit Trust Board; On Earth Peace Board; and Pastoral Compensation and Benefits Advisory Committee.

All the details needed to make nominations are online at www.brethren.org/ac. From this page, click the button "2021 Nominations" to make nominations and see details about the open positions. You can make a nomination quite quickly if you have your nominee's e-mail address. You may nominate people for several or all positions. You do not need to have the nominee's permission to nominate them. However, you might discuss the possibility with the person to gauge their interest.

After you complete the nomination process, the Annual Conference Office will contact the potential nominee and ask them to respond with some additional information before being put on the initial ballot. Their information will be shared with the Nominating Committee for discernment and possible inclusion on the Annual Conference ballot in 2021. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Susan Starkey, a member of the committee from Virlina District, at skc002@gmail.com or (540) 992-1067.

432 PIECE JIGSAW PUZZLE OF THE EDER RIVER

For the first eight Brethren the Eder River in Schwarzenau, Germany, signified a beginning. On that morning in 1708, they went into the waters of baptism and came up new creatures in Christ with a new vision in a new community. This puzzle celebrates that beginning and reminds us of our rich biblical heritage.

The picture used for this 432 piece, 18" x 24" jigsaw puzzle was taken by Glenn Riegel. The puzzle comes in a custom printed, easy storage cannister with a reusable plastic pop-top lid. Made in the USA

The price is \$38.99 and the puzzle may be ordered from Brethren Press, 1451 Dundee Avenue, Elgin, IL by calling (800) 441-3712 or through the website at www.brethrenpress.com.

WORLD HUNGER AUCTION UPDATE

The supporters of the World Hunger Auction have been very generous during the most recent auction cycle, and their participation is greatly appreciated. They raised \$35,629.25 which will be shared as follows:

**Virilina District
Church of the Brethren**

3402 Plantation Road, NE
Roanoke, Virginia 24012

Phone: 540 362-1816
Fax: 540 362-1817
Toll Free: 1-800-VIRLINA
E-mail: EHeadliner@aol.com

We're on the web
www.virilina.org

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



Heifer International	\$17,300
Roanoke Area Ministries	\$ 8,620
CoB Global Food Initiative	\$ 3,450
Heavenly Manna	\$ 1,775
Stepping Stone Mission	\$ 1,775
Lake Christian Ministries	\$ 1,775
His Cupboard	\$ 500

The Heifer portion will be directed to the East Africa Youth Inclusion Program which works with young people learning technical and financial management in agricultural programs.

From the first auction in 1984 through 2020, \$1,550,590 has been disbursed to agencies addressing hunger issues.

Bruce Huffman, former pastor of the Germantown Brick Church, has answered the call to serve as chairperson for the committee. Planning is already in progress for next year's events. We give thanks for his service and look forward to great things in the future.

ROANOKE VALLEY CROP HUNGER WALK – OCTOBER 11, 2020

The Roanoke Valley CROP Hunger Walk scheduled for Sunday, October 11, will be VIRTUAL. The planning committee is still finalizing details. We are planning a zoom meeting for team captains on Thursday, September 3, at 7pm. Please go to the Roanoke Valley CROP FB page for more information! You can also reach out to Tabby Patterson (Roanoke First COB) at tabbycat6380@gmail.com with any questions.

“MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER” – OCTOBER 21, 2020

“Moving Forward Together” is a webinar sponsored by the Virginia Council of Churches on October 21, 2020 from 11:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. A distinguished panel of church leaders from many denominations will discuss systematic racism and how the church can move beyond making statements to making real change in our society. You may register for this event now by going to this link: <https://fs7.formsite.com/VACouncil/form47/index.html?1601928048543>

NEW COMMUNITY PROJECT LEARNING TOURS FOR 2021

2021 NCP Learning Tours: go, meet, learn, grow, change – yourself and your world! God-willing and COVID-permitting, the New Community Project will offer Learning Tours in 2021 to Myanmar (January); the Ecuadorian Amazon (June); the Dineh Reservation and Shenandoah National Park (July); Denali National Park and Arctic Village, AK or Yellowstone/Tetons (late July). Good company, simple-but-safe accommodations, low price, and a great experience of God's world! For more information contact the New Community Project at www.newcommunityproject.org or (540) 855-1199.

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE E-HEADLINER IS PROJECTED FOR OCTOBER 24, 2020.