

## Teachable Spirit

I'll blame it on fat fingers. I like that excuse. My fingers are too big and the keyboard is too small. This is why I make spelling and grammatical errors as I type. It's not *me*; it's the people who designed this confounded thing in the first place. It has nothing to do with my inattentiveness during grammar lessons in school. Why, the very idea that *I* might be the culprit is almost inconceivable.

I know, I know. Some of you are thinking I am delusional. You want to pull me aside and lovingly say, "Brother, just admit it. You can't spell." But please stop telling me this. Tell me what I want to hear. Fix my problem for me. That's what my computer does. It doesn't waste its time teaching me. It conveniently fixes the problem for me. So feel free to fix my errors, but stop telling me the truth. Stop trying to teach me.

Sometimes I wish God would do the same. Sometimes I wish God would just "fix me" rather than "teach me." But that's not how discipleship works. He doesn't magically make me into the person I need to be. In my relationship with God, there is no "autocorrect" function which takes my sin and turns it into holiness. If I actually desire to be a follower of Christ, at some point, I will need to humbly confess my sinfulness. I am in need of a Savior. That is the truth I need to hear. This is what the Lord needs to teach me.

*Lord, I bring myself to you, placing my life—everything—in your hands. Forgive me. Lead me with your truth. Teach me your paths.*

—Gregory L. Jones, pastor  
West York Church of the Brethren  
York, Pennsylvania

**Text for today:** "To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. Make me to know your ways, O Lord; *teach me* your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord! Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees" (Psalm 25:1-10, NRSV). **Bible readings for today:** Deuteronomy 30:9-14; Psalm 25:1-10; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37.

07/10/16. Printed in the USA  
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# Teach me

# BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

at Worship May 28, 2017 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

## GATHERING

**PRELUDE** (8:30) With Happy Voices Singing *Faithful*  
The Lord Is My Shepherd *Thomas Koschat*  
His Sheep I Am *Orien Johnson*  
Shepherd of Love *John W. Peterson*  
He Will Hold Me Fast *Robert Harkness*

(11:00) Cantilene (Sonata in d) *Joseph G. Rheinberger*  
Sheep May Safely Graze *J. S. Bach*

**CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER** Jeff Carr

Please sign and pass the *Friendship Register* pad located at the inside aisle of the pew. Signing helps us learn the names of those worshipping near us. After all have signed, the pad can be passed back to the inside aisle.

## PROCLAIMING

**SCRIPTURE READING** Psalm 23 *NRSV*

\* **HYMN # 352** *Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us* GENTLE SHEPHERD

**CHILDREN'S TIME** (11:00) Tony Stovall

Children of ALL ages are invited to the front of the sanctuary for a time of building upon and connecting to faith through stories and interactions.

**ANTHEM** (11:00) Joy in the Morning *Natalie Sleeth*

## OFFERING

**Invitation** *Moment for Mission: Habitat Build Update*

### Offertory

(8:30) We bring our tithes and offerings to the worship center.

Safe Am I *Mildred L. Dillon*

(11:00) Ushers receive our tithes and offerings.

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” *Alice Jordan*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Chris Zepp

**HYMN # 519** *Shepherd me, O God*  
(The congregation sings the refrain, following the reading of each verse)

**SCRIPTURE READING** John 10:1-10 *NRSV*

\***HYMN # 589** *My Shepherd will supply my need* RESIGNATION

**SERMON** “The Good Shepherd” Jeff Carr

## RESPONDING

**REFLECTIONS** (8:30) Music for contemplation, followed by conversation.  
Gentle Shepherd *William Gaither*

\* **HYMN # 170** *The King of love my shepherd is lead us* ST. COLUMBA

## \*BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** (8:30) Take My Hand O Father *Berens*

(11:00) SICILIAN MARINERS *Alfred V. Fedak*  
 (“Lord Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing”)

\* Rise as able in body and spirit.

## MEETINGS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & NURTURE

May 28-June 3, 2017 (All events are p.m. unless noted)

This is a church events calendar and does not include all building events use.  
Please be sure to schedule ALL EVENTS through the church office.

<b>Today</b>	9 a.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
<b>Mon.</b>		Church Offices Closed – Memorial Day	
<b>Wed.</b>	2:00	Pastor's Book Study	Lounge
	7:00	TAHS Baccalaureate	Sanctuary
<b>Thurs.</b>	7:30	Sanctus Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

### NEXT SUNDAY– June 4, 2017 – Pentecost Sunday

**Worship:** 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary

Pastor Jeff Carr, preaching

Sermon: “What does this mean?”

Scripture Reading: Acts 2:1-21

**Bell Choir Rehearsal** – 9 a.m. – Choir Room

**Sunday School** – 9:45 a.m. – Classrooms

**Youth Fundraiser Lunch** – Noon – Social Hall

(Menu: Breakfast for Lunch)

### ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP FOR SUNDAY: 05/21/17

**Worship Attendance: 8:30 – 30 11:00 – 193 Sunday School: 127**

Pledges & Envelope Giving	\$6,777.75
Loose Offering	494.75
Vacation Bible School	20.00
Building Repair Reserve (for sanctuary roof repair)	10,000.00
Backpack Program (from children's offering)	36.47
Altruistic Sunday School Class	76.05
Hazel Heisey Memorial Fund	150.00

**GIVING STATEMENTS** for the first quarter of 2017 are available for pick up in the greeting hall today. Any help delivering statements to neighbors, friends or family is greatly appreciated!

## BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

*An inclusive family of faith seeking to follow Jesus  
and live the love of God.*

### ***Our Mission...***

*As an inclusive community of faith, we commit ourselves to embody the love of God and to share our diverse lives and gifts with each other and the world. Through faith formation, worship, mission, and fellowship we boldly proclaim the peace and love of Christ. Together we work for justice, extend grace, and partner with God to offer abundant life, healing, and hope to our community and the world.*

### ***Our Values...***

*Sharing life together and including all persons in our common life.  
Growing in faith, compassion, and understanding.  
Serving one another and our neighbor's good.  
Sharing the love of God and the God that is love.*

### PASTORAL MINISTRY STAFF

**Jeff Carr** – Senior Pastor

**Chris Zepp** – Associate Pastor

### ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITIES MINISTRY STAFF

**Fortunato Correa** – Custodian

**Phil Flory** – Treasurer

**Shannon Puffenbarger** – Administrative Assistant

**Leon Rhodes** – Head Teller

**Glenna Wampler** – Business Manager

### PROGRAM & MUSIC MINISTRY STAFF

**Kathleen Arndt** – Child Care Center Administrator

**John Barr** – Organist

**Jim Benedict** – Bell Choir Director

**Jeanie Eye** – Christian Education Director

**Mary Beth Flory** – Pianist

**Marianne Houff** – Children's Choir Director

**Ellsworth Neff** – Sound, Light, Video Coordinator

**Curtis Nolley** – Sanctus Choir Director & Music Coordinator

**Clarke & Hope Staton** – Youth Ministry Coordinators

### CONTACT INFORMATION

420 College View Drive, Bridgewater, VA 22812

[www.bwcob.org](http://www.bwcob.org) / (540) 828-3711

Normal office hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-Noon, and 1-5 p.m.

## SUNDAY MORNING INFORMATION & TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

### **HOSPITALITY CENTER in the Greeting Hall**

Nametags; large-print Bibles, hymnals, & bulletins; listening receivers; and information are available here.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 a.m.**

*All Are Welcome* brochures, available in the pews and literature rack, list specific Christian Education opportunities and locations.

**PARKING ASSISTANCE:** 10:30-10:55 a.m. every Sunday.

### **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!**

Children are always welcome among us and in our corporate worship gatherings. Activity bags are available in the greeting hall for their use and enjoyment. Additionally, childcare for children ages birth to kindergarten is available as well as a "cry room" for those who wish to listen and see the worship service in a separate room from the sanctuary. Ushers are more than willing to help you locate these resources.

**Pianist** (8:30) – Loreen May

**Fellowship Host** – Don Remnant

**Head Usher** – Kevin Keplinger

**Sound/Light Assistant** – Michael Overman

**Decorators** – Linda Dean & Bea Miller

**Deacon Caregiver** – Amanda Zepp

**Van Drivers** – Melvin Wampler & Palmer Lee Berry

### **TODAY'S ANTHEM TEXT: N. Sleeth**

Joy, there'll be joy in the morning, there'll be joy!

There'll be joy in the morning on that day,

For the day-light will dawn when the darkness is gone,

There'll be joy in the morning on that day. There'll be joy!

There'll be peace and contentment evermore,

Every heart, every voice will rejoice.

There'll be peace and contentment evermore. There'll be joy!

There'll be love and forgiveness everywhere,

And the way of the Lord on that day will be restored.

There'll be peace and contentment,

There'll be love and forgiveness evermore. There'll be joy!

Hallelujah, there'll be joy!

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## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WILL SOON BE HERE!**

This year's VBS will be held June 19-22 with the theme of "Building God's Neighborhood."

Plans and preparations are well underway, and here are three ways you can help and get involved now:

### **Donate Used and Recycled "Building Supplies"**

On the opening night, we will be building a "neighborhood" in our Greeting Hall, and we need a wide variety of supplies to support our creative minds! To visualize the kinds of things needed, most buildings will be the size of half a shoebox. Things that have made our list include boxes, lids, interesting recyclables, old CDs, small wood scraps, cardboard and plastic, etc.

### **Donate Gently Used Books and Magazines**

These will kick start the "Little Free Libraries" we will be installing around town. Books of all kinds and for all ages are needed!

### **Loan or Purchase Specific Needed Items**

Browse the display in the Greeting Hall to find out more. Registration materials can also be found there.

Thank you for helping us  
"Build God's Neighborhood" together!

**Psalm 23**  
**The Divine Shepherd**  
*A Psalm of David.*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>3</sup> he restores my soul.<sup>[b]</sup>  
He leads me in right paths<sup>[c]</sup>  
for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk through the darkest valley,<sup>[d]</sup>  
I fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff—  
they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup> Surely<sup>[e]</sup> goodness and mercy<sup>[f]</sup> shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
my whole life long.<sup>[g]</sup>

**John 10:1-10 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**  
**Jesus the Good Shepherd**

<sup>10</sup> “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup> The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup> Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup> So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.