

## AUTUMN CELEBRATION

On Saturday, October 14, Fellowship & Recreation Commission will host a special evening of fun for the whole family in the social hall. Bring friends, family, or anyone else who needs to have a fun evening. Also, bring a sandwich or equivalent for everyone in your family; finger foods and beverages will be provided. At 5:00 p.m. the pumpkin carving contest will begin. To enter, bring your pumpkin, any tools you will need to carve with, and a container to collect money in. If you cannot bring a pumpkin but want to participate in the contest, please call Palmer Lee Berry at 828-2386 and he will provide a pumpkin for you. At 6:00 p.m., when dinner begins, people can vote on their favorite carved pumpkin by donating money in their respective containers. The pumpkin that raises the most money will be declared the winner. All proceeds will benefit the John Kline Homestead Trust. After dinner, around 7:00 p.m., we will begin music, games, and fun for the whole family. Everyone is welcome. For more information or if you want to participate, contact Palmer Lee Berry. Let's make this Autumn well worth celebrating!



## "SITTING IN THE GAP" – NOW OFFERING ONLINE SCRIPTURE STUDY GUIDES

Our new intergenerational Sunday School class, "Sitting in the Gap," is now up and running! Each week is a self-contained discussion for anyone interested in deeper exploration of and reflection on the scriptures and topics guiding our worship each Sunday. We follow a rabbinical model of spiritual formation – using the questions we bring to a scripture text to guide discussion, as we sit together and discuss how to interpret the scriptures and how to apply them to our lives. The class meets in the Gap Room (down the hall near the fish pond) and begins promptly at 9:45ish, with Pastor Chris providing facilitation and guidance. For those wishing to study or reflect on the scriptures ahead of time (or after the fact!), a weekly online study guide is now being offered on our website [www.bwcob.org](http://www.bwcob.org) and follow the menu links from Faith Formation -> Sunday School -> Adult Classes -> Sitting in the Gap. Each study guide will link directly to the week's text(s), highlight a selected commentary, link to additional resources, and offer a few questions for reflection. Even if you aren't able to join the class for live discussion, it might be something worth checking out ...

## PASTOR'S BOOK STUDY

Pastor Chris invites you to join him for continuing discussions on Wednesday afternoons, 2-3 pm, October 4 and October 18, on *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by The Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu with Douglas Abrams (2016). We will be discussing "Days 2 & 3" (through page 190) on the 4<sup>th</sup> and rest of the book on the 18<sup>th</sup>. You do not need to have read or purchased the book to participate (though it is, of course, very helpful!)

*Looking Ahead* – The next Pastor's Book Study will be November 1 and 15 and will focus on *Days of Awe and Wonder: How to Be a Christian in the Twenty-First Century* (2017) by the late scholar and theologian Marcus Borg. "Provocative and uplifting, this anthology illuminates Borg's explorations of the miraculous and wonderful, his understanding of conviction and fulfillment, and his contention that we must keep an open mind and question assumptions and certainties in all our religious journeys." Order your copy through our office at an estimated cost of \$16 (if ordered no later than October 18) OR obtain your own copy.

## NOTES OF THANKS

*Thank you for your support of Inter-faith Peace Camp (IPC). The visit was great! Your hospitality was so welcoming and the food was good, too...*

*~ IPC Super Staff*

*Thank you to our church family for the many kind and loving expressions of support shared with our family at the loss of my mother, Doris Nolley Markle.*

*~ Curtis, Andrea, & Ryan Nolley*

*Thank you for your generous contributions to Church of the Brethren ministries. Many are blessed by the ways in which your congregation has given out of the abundance of its resources and gifts. You are a living testimony for your community and the world, and it is a privilege to partner with you...As a living peace church, the Church of the Brethren is a caretaker of the rich and diverse tradition of proclaiming the gospel of peace. Through word and action we witness to the possibilities of reconciliation, transformation, peace, and justice in our local communities and around the globe...With gratitude,*  
*David Steele, General Secretary*

## JUBILEE CIRCLE...

...will meet on Wed., Oct. 11 at 2:00 in the Smith Room of Maple Terrace at the Bridgewater Home. Our speaker will be Beth Bland. She is the director of Valley Program for Aging Services. She participates in our Alternative Christmas Fair. Come to learn more about the services they provide. All are welcome.

## WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. on Sundays

October 1—17th Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*

Scripture Readings: Psalm 25:1-9; Matthew 21:23-31;

Philippians 2:1-13

Sermon: *"Kneading Faith"*

October 8—18th Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: *Pastor Chris Zepp*

Scriptures: Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

Sermon: *"Learning to Walk in the Dark"*

October 15—19th Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*

Scripture Readings: Matthew 22:1-14; Philippians 4:1-9

Sermon: *"Learned, Received, Heard and Seen"*

October 22—20th Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*

Scripture Readings: Matthew 22:1-14;

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Sermon: *"Grace and Peace, Power and Privilege"*

October 29—21st Sunday after Pentecost

*Bridgewater College Travel Team*

**GIVING STATEMENTS** through the third quarter will be available for pick up on Sundays, October 8 and 15. Help save postage by delivering to a friend / neighbor.



## CROP MEAL / CROP WALK

On Thursday, October 27, from 5-7 p.m., the community is invited to the Bridgewater College **CROP Meal**, where anyone can purchase and enjoy meals surrendered by B.C. students in the college's Kline Campus Center Dining Hall, with all proceeds going to Church World Service's hunger education and relief programs in 80 countries around the world.

On Sunday, October 29, at 2 p.m., the Bridgewater / Dayton area **CROP Hunger Walk** will bring help and hope to God's hungry children across the street and around the world. Prior to that day, members of area churches and Bridgewater College (B.C.) students will ask others to sponsor them for every kilometer of the 6K (3.7 mile) route they will walk. On that day, they will gather at the Bridgewater Community Center to enjoy good fellowship, good exercise, and the good feeling of knowing they are making a life-saving difference.

If you would like to attend the CROP Meal or participate in the CROP Hunger Walk, please contact our church CROP recruiter, Alice Lee Hopkins, at 828-2059 or B.C. Chaplain Robbie Miller at 828-5383 or [rmiller@bridgewater.edu](mailto:rmiller@bridgewater.edu).

## BRIDGEWATER HOME AUXILIARY LUNCHEON

When: Wednesday, October 4, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Where: Social Hall  
Cost: \$6 (carry-outs available)  
Menu: Lasagna, Broccoli, Breadsticks, Caesar Salad,  
Cookies, Iced Tea & Coffee  
Prepared and served by Bridgewater Retirement  
Community Staff It's Never 2 Late Technology.

## WHAT IN GOD'S GREEN EARTH

It takes 95% less energy to recycle an aluminum can than it does to manufacture a new one.

Source: Hancock County Planning Commission

## CPS/BVS...

...will have a gathering at Thomas House in Dayton on Monday, October 5, at 11:30 am. Dick Stutzman will be our convener. Contact Fonda by **October 1** if you plan to attend. You may contact her at 828-3883 or email her at [FondaErdman@verizon.net](mailto:FondaErdman@verizon.net) If you wish to come but aren't on the list you are still most welcome to come.



## SIMPLIFY: A SIMPLE LIVING WEEKEND

Brethren Woods is sponsoring a weekend conference on the historic Anabaptist value of simple living. Keynotes will focus on themes such as what nonconformity looks like in a globalized economy and a Biblical theology of simple living. Workshops will look at how to hypermile your car to get 10-50% more miles to the gallon, how technology affects our spiritual life and what to do about it, how to make your home more sustainable, a look at plain dress yesterday and today, living simply as it relates to ministry, and so much more. Learning begins on Friday night, November 10, with registration at 6 p.m., followed by worship, conversation, and fellowship. Saturday, November 11, will include workshops, keynotes, and lunch. Registration forms are available from the literature rack in the greeting hall. Or you may call Brethren Woods for more information at 296-2741; website: [www.brethrenwoods.org](http://www.brethrenwoods.org).

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY WITH CASA FOR CHILDREN

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for Children is a non-profit agency that recruits, trains and supervises community volunteers who advocate for abused and neglected children in our local foster care system. For every child who needs us, CASA for Children envisions a trained volunteer to advocate in the community and in the courtroom for a safe, permanent home and a promising future for that child. Because of the large number of children in foster care in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, we currently do not have enough volunteers to serve all of the children who need us. We are accepting applications for the fall class of CASA volunteer training, which begins in October. Applications can be obtained through our website ([www.casa4children.com](http://www.casa4children.com)) or by contacting Margaux Beri at 540-383-2565 or at [margaux@casa4children.com](mailto:margaux@casa4children.com). Please consider how you can make a difference, one child at a time, by volunteering with CASA for Children.

## **BWCOB OCTOBER EVENTS PROGRAM CALENDAR**

This is a church-related program calendar and does not include all building use. Please be sure to schedule ALL EVENTS and building use through the church office. All events are at BWCOB unless otherwise indicated.

- 1 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.  
Children’s Worship during Worship at 11  
Youth Fundraiser Lunch – Noon  
(Menu: Spaghetti & Salad)  
Sr. Hi. Movie Night – 5 p.m. – Home of Zepps
- 2 Executive Committee – 7 p.m.
- 4 Pastor’s Book Study – 2 p.m.  
Cherub Choir Rehearsal – 5:15 p.m.  
Carol Choir Rehearsal – 5:45 p.m.  
Yorffs Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.  
Fellowship & Recreation Commission – 7 p.m.  
Ministerial Services Commission – 7 p.m.  
Mission & Service Commission – 7 p.m.
- 5 Brethren Student Movement – 6 p.m. – Carter Center  
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 8 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.
- 9 Finance Commission – 7 p.m.
- 11 Office Staff Meeting – 10:30 a.m.  
Cherub Choir Rehearsal – 5:15 p.m.  
Carol Choir Rehearsal – 5:45 p.m.  
Yorffs Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
- 12 Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Autumn Celebration – begins at 5 p.m.
- 15 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.  
Blood Pressure Clinic – 9:30 & 10:30 a.m.  
Children’s Worship during Worship at 11  
Youth Play, Create, & Unwind – Noon
- 17 Foundation Board – 7 p.m.
- 18 Pastor’s Book Study – 2 p.m.  
Board of Administration – 7 p.m.
- 19 Brethren Student Movement – 6 p.m. -- Carter Center  
Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.  
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 20-22 Power and Privilege Conference

- 22 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.
- 25 Cherub Choir Rehearsal – 5:15 p.m.  
Carol Choir Rehearsal – 5:45 p.m.  
Yorffs Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.  
Witness & Renewal Commission – 6:30 p.m.  
Executive Committee – 7 p.m.
- 26 Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.  
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 28 Youth Trip to Jamestown
- 29 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.

## **OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS**

- 3 Bridgewater Interchurch Food Pantry – 7 p.m.
- 4 Bridgewater Retirement Community Auxiliary  
Luncheon – 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- 6-8 BC Family Weekend
- 9 Ret. Ministers & Spouses – 5 p.m. – Maple Terrace
- 11 Bridgewater Area Ministers – 8 a.m. – Maple Terrace
- 17 Bridgewater Interchurch Food Pantry – 7 p.m.
- 19 Interfaith Association – Noon – EMU
- 26 CROP Meal – 5-7 p.m. – Bridgewater College
- 27-28 District Conference at Mill Creek CoB
- 27-29 BC Homecoming Weekend
- 29 CROP Walk – 2 p.m. – B’water Community Center





## For Our Prayers during the Month of October 2017

Each month a prayer list with opportunities for directed prayer is included with our newsletter. In addition to highlighting specific prayer requests, we are invited to pray with particular mindfulness of the persons connected with our congregation and community. Additionally, focusing thoughts and prayers around the following may be helpful as a guide:

### *Our Congregation and its Ministries, Vision and Mission*

#### *Those who are...*

- Recovering, rebuilding and grieving from natural disasters
- Preparing for and participating in Shenandoah District Conference
  - Facing financial hardships
  - Living with illnesses, both chronic and acute
  - Seeking spiritual renewal
- Carrying heavy burdens at work, home, or within
- Struggling with depression or suicidal thoughts
  - Finding peace and contentment
- In difficult relationships or experiencing the loss of relationship
- Criticized, belittled and demeaned because of their beliefs and understandings
  - Seeking a new church home
  - Advocating for justice and righteousness
  - Wrestling with their faith

#### *We also lift up in prayer and mindfulness specifically...*

*...Our Nation and World amid transitions of power and leadership*

*...those in Nigeria... facing violence, kidnappings, and deep unrest...and for those committing these atrocities*  
We continue to pray specifically for Hauwa Abdu, one of over 200 girls and young women kidnapped in April 2014.  
We give thanks for the release of 82 of these girls in May of this year.

*...our congregation, district, and denomination*

*...victims of hate crimes, violence, racism, and intolerance*

*...those who grieve, especially the families and friends of...*

*Margaret Strata, mother of Sarah Rees, who died August 29*

*Doris Nolley Markle, mother of Curtis Nolley, who died August 25*

*Virgie McIntyre, mother-in-law of Phil Flory, who died July 22*

*Barbara "Bobbi" Georg, wife of Marvin Georg, who died August 18; Dolores Poling, sister of Margaret Garner, who died June 25*

*...those who have had surgery, been hospitalized, receiving treatments, recovering from illness or are in rehabilitation...*

*Courtney Judd, Jo Wampler, Berlyn McElwee, Allen Clague, Paul Graham, Beth Day-Miller, Denny Eye, Valley Keplinger, Delores Simmons, Anna Mae Will*

*...those requiring long-term healthcare, specifically... in Bridgewater Home*

*...those in Volunteer Service, specifically... Stephen Miller (Japan)*

*...those in Military Service, specifically... Seth Flory, Tyler Hopkins, Kent Hutchinson*

*...those who are requesting prayer specifically or have been on the prayer chain recently...*

*The Carl and Samantha McIntyre Family in the destruction of Hurricane Harvey*

*For these and all God's Children we pray...*

