



EASTER SUNDAY

Sunrise worship on the hilltop at CrossRoads Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center, 6:45 a.m.

Congregational Worship at 11 a.m., including singing of
the *Hallelujah Chorus*
(no 8:30 worship gathering Easter Sunday)



DIRECTORIES NOW AVAILABLE!

The wait is over – our 2017 Pictorial, Congregational Contacts, and Organizational Directories are now available! Pick yours up at the directory table in the Greeting Hall, or contact the church office to obtain your copies.

APRIL WORSHIP FOCUS ON THE GUIDING VALUES OF OUR CONGREGATION

In 2013, our congregation adopted an identity statement that outlined our vision, mission, and guiding values. After five years, we believe the time is right to revisit these statements and explore how they still articulate who we are as a family of faith and whether they still speak to God's call in our life together. To that end, after Easter Sunday on April 1, we will be dedicating the remaining four Sundays of April to a worship focus on the four "Guiding Values" of our congregation. The sermons will continue to follow the lectionary scriptures – specifically the assigned texts from the epistles, which all come from 1st John and which we think you will find have an uncanny resonance with our stated values. We are excited to reengage with these stated values, and look forward to seeing how they might reenergize our community in being *an inclusive family of faith seeking to follow Jesus and live the love of God...*

~ Pastors Chris and Jeff

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

More than we can Imagine

It's amazing how much potential is stored in a single seed, or how big a difference one person can make. Though we may not always recognize areas of potential in life, God is always behind the scenes making incredible and wonderful things happen. When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you participate in the great vision God has for our communities and for our world. With God's help, your gifts, and the dedication of faithful volunteers, God accomplishes far more than we could ever imagine. Thank you for giving with hopeful expectation of what God will do.

How You Can Give:

- Place contribution in the offering on **Sunday, April 22** (envelopes available in the literature rack)
- Visit www.brethren.org/giveoffering
- Write a check to the Church of the Brethren with "One Great Hour of Sharing" in the memo line

NOTES OF THANKS

The family of Kathryn G. "Kitty" Mason wishes to express sincere appreciation to all who showed care and support surrounding her death on February 19. We appreciate all of your expressions of love and sympathy, as well as so many who joined with us for the memorial service.

Thank you,

~ Michael Mason, Sr. and Mary Kaye Wright

I would like to thank everyone for all the cards, food, calls, and expressions of sympathy shown to our family at the passing of my Mom, Catherine Wampler. It is so nice to have such a caring and loving church family.

~ Elaine Huffman

Thanks to the many people who donate books to our church library. These gifts add new life to the collection and are enjoyed by many people, young and old. Sometimes we receive books that we do not add to the collection for a variety of reasons. Please know that if you choose to donate books we appreciate you and will share books with others that we do not use. Some go to our Little Free Library, some to BookSavers and some get routed to other libraries. If you make a donation and want us to return books that are not being added to the collection, please let the library staff know that when you make your donation.

~ Library Staff

Thank you for the many ways you cared during the illness and death of Wayne. Your cards, hugs, calls, and the many ways you supported me are a reminder to me of how blessed I am to be a part of such a caring church family.

~ Pat Judd

I would like to thank every one for their prayers, cards, and words of comfort and concern during my surgery. Special thanks to Pastor Jeff for his visits.

~ Betty Propst

WORSHIP SERVICES

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

April 1—Easter Sunday

Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*

Scripture Reading: John 20:1-18

April 8—Second Sunday of Easter

Preaching: *Pastor Chris Zepp*

Scripture Reading: 1 John 1:1-2:2

April 15—Third Sunday of Easter

Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*

Scripture Reading: 1 John 3:1-7

April 22—Fourth Sunday of Easter

Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*

Scripture Reading: 1 John 3:16-24

April 29—Fifth Sunday of Easter

Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*

Scripture Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

CDS KIT OF COMFORT

Bridgewater COB now has an updated and refurbished Kit of Comfort that is available for use with children being served by Children's Disaster Services. In honor of her commitment to CDS and her 90th birthday, the family of Esther Bittinger has provided the church with this kit to be used by any of our trained CDS volunteers who are deployed. A "Kit of Comfort" is the suitcase of toys and supplies that volunteers use to set up play centers for the children being served. Many thanks for Esther's dedicated service and to her family for this wonderful gift.

Our recently trained CDS volunteers include Linda Alley, Alice Lee Hopkins, Elizabeth Nelson, Phil & Sue Hutchison, and Gladys Remnant. If you or a family member have been trained and are currently eligible to serve, please let the church office know.

CHURCH VEGETABLE GARDEN

Our church is involved in helping to address a wide variety of needs in our community and the world. We help address food insecurity through the Food Pantry, the backpack program, the CROP walk and more. Now, you might notice that out from the back of the church building, just past the playground and the tree row, some ground has been plowed on our newly acquired property. Tim Kreps and some Bridgewater College students are organizing a volunteer-run garden that will be providing fresh foods to local food pantries using sustainable techniques. If you would like to know more about the project or would like to help in any way, feel free to contact Tim at tkreps@bridgewater.edu or 828-0186.

You're Invited To:

Lauren Flora's Senior Art Thesis

Exhibition Reception

Monday, April 23, from 5-8 p.m.

Location: Alexander Mack Library 2nd Floor

Artists' Talks

Tuesday, April 24, from 7-9 p.m.

Location: Boitnott Room

HELP SOLVE A MYSTERY!

Have you ever heard of Elva Flynn? When we look at the cards in the back of many of the books in our church library we see her name. She was a prolific reader from the 1970s to the early 1990s and the library staff is looking for the rest of this story. Contact Eleanor Bowman at 828-4556 or clb.elb@juno.com.

FUNDRAISER MEAL FOR BSM AT JALAPEÑOS

On Thursday, April 26, from 4-9 pm, Jalapeños Restaurant in Bridgewater will be hosting a Fundraising Meal for Brethren Student Movement (BSM). All you need to do for BSM to benefit when you purchase your meal is to drop your receipt in the GroupRaise.com donation box at the restaurant. When you do, 15% of your meal will be donated back to Brethren Student Movement! Plus you will probably get to enjoy some pretty good company J

We do need some RSVPs to hold the event, so if you plan to attend, please go to our event page at <https://www.groupraise.com/events/51826> to register your intent. It will only take a few seconds and there is no obligation – it simply assures the restaurant that there will be viable participation. But our participation is unlimited, so even if you don't RSVP in advance, come out and support BSM. The more receipts in the box, the more Jalapeños contributes to BSM! Thanks in advance!

PASTOR'S BOOK STUDIES

Our final session with Brian McLaren's *The Great Spiritual Migration* (Part III) will be held on Wednesday April 4, at 2 p.m.

Our next book study will meet on May 2 and 16 (Wednesdays at 2 pm) and will focus on an older but (hopefully) still relevant book – *Why Religion Matters: The Fate of the Human Spirit in an Age of Disbelief* (2001). "Huston Smith, the author of the classic bestseller *The World's Religions*, delivers a passionate, (still?) timely message: The human spirit is being suffocated by the dominant materialistic worldview of our times. Smith champions a society in which religion is once again treasured and authentically practiced as the vital source of human wisdom." Order your copy through our office at an estimated cost of \$12 (if ordered no later than April 15) OR obtain your own copy. We will discuss Part 1 (thru p. 134) on May 2.

YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE 2018

Young Adult Conference (YAC) is coming up soon! This year, it will be held right in our own backyard at Camp Brethren Woods over Memorial Day weekend, May 25-2, with the theme "Teach with your Life." YAC is open to all young adults ages 18-35. To register, go to www.brethren.org/yac/, register online, and pay your initial \$65 deposit. Full cost is \$130, but BWCOB will pay the remaining \$65 balance for any BWCOB Young Adults who register, pay their deposit, and submit a request to Pastor Chris by April 30. Full need-based scholarships are also available by request.



BWCOB APRIL 2018 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 Easter Sunday**
- 2 Church Offices Closed – Easter Holiday**
- 3 Executive Committee – 7 p.m.**
- 4 Pastor’s Book Study – 2 p.m.**
 Cherub Choir Rehearsal – 5:15 p.m.
 Wednesday Night Meal – 5:30 p.m.
 Carol Choir Rehearsal – 5:45 p.m.
 YOrffs Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
 Christian Education Commission – 7 p.m.
 Fellowship & Recreation Commission – 7 p.m.
 Worship & Music Commission – 7 p.m.
- 5 Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.**
 Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 6-8 Roundtable at Bridgewater College**
- 8 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.**
- 9 Mission & Service Commission – 7 p.m.**
- 10 Finance Commission – 7 p.m.**
- 11 Cherub Choir Rehearsal – 5:15 p.m.**
 Wednesday Night Meal – 5:30 p.m.
 Carol Choir Rehearsal – 5:45 p.m.
 YOrffs Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
 JOY Circle – 7 p.m. – TBA
- 12 Brethren Student Movement – 6 p.m. – Carter Center**
 Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
 Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Light Your World 5-K – 8 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
- 18 Cherub Choir Rehearsal – 5:15 p.m.**
 Wednesday Night Meal – 5:30 p.m.
 Carol Choir Rehearsal – 5:45 p.m.
 YOrffs Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Administration – 7 p.m.

- 19 Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.**
 Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 20 BSM Picnic – 4:20 p.m. – Wildwood Park**
- 21 Youth Picnic & Hike to Dark Hollow Falls**
- 22 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.**
 Worship & Music Appreciation Reception – Noon
 Youth Play, Create, Unwind – Noon
- 25 Cherub Choir Rehearsal – 5:15 p.m.**
 Wednesday Night Meal – 5:30 p.m.
 Carol Choir Rehearsal – 5:45 p.m.
 YOrffs Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
 Witness & Nurture Commission – 6:30 p.m.
- 26 BSM Fundraiser at Jalapeños 4-9 pm**
 Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
 Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 29 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.**

OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 3 Bridgewater Interchurch Food Pantry – 7 p.m.**
- 4 Bridgewater Home Auxiliary Lunch – 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**
- 5 Interfaith Association – Noon – EMU**
- 9 Ret. Ministers & Spouses – 5 p.m. – Maple Terrace**
- 11 Bridgewater Ministers – 8 a.m. – Maple Terrace**
- 13 Shen. Valley Choral Society Concert – 7:30 p.m.**
- 15 Shen. Valley Choral Society Concert – 3 p.m.**
- 17 Bridgewater Interchurch Food Pantry – 7 p.m.**



SCOUTS PLAY IT FORWARD

Scouts Play it Forward is an Eagle Scout Service Project, created by Ben Neher, that is designed to collect gently used and new musical instruments to be donated to local school music programs. Monetary donations will be used to refurbish donated instruments and to purchase additional new and/or used instruments.

The *Scouts Play it Forward* instrument drive will include two public collection events, as well as a continuing collection site at the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren. He will be collecting brass, woodwind, percussion and string instruments, as well as keyboards and recorders. At this time, pianos and organs cannot be accepted. Any instruments not utilized by local schools will be donated to other school systems or music programs.

Monetary donations will be accepted during the instrument collection dates or you can make donations at any time through the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren - please make checks payable to BWCOB and indicate that your donation is for *Scouts Play it Forward* in the memo line of your check. You may also donate through his GoFundMe page at www.gofundme.com/scouts-play-it-forward.

Please share and follow the progress of *Scouts Play it Forward* on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Scouts-Play-it-Forward-143457056481005/

GUEST SPEAKER

Carol Scheppard will present a seminar, "Reflections of a Past Moderator," on Thursday, April 12, at Bridgewater College (Bowman 109) at 3:30 p.m. Admission is free; all invited. The sponsor of the event is the Forum for Brethren Studies. For information contact Steve Longenecker.

WHAT IN GOD'S GREEN EARTH

Additional income women working full-time would have earned in 2016 had they been paid the same hourly wages as their male counterparts: \$42 billion.

Source: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

SHENANDOAH VALLEY CHORAL SOCIETY SPRING CONCERT

The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society, under the direction of Curtis Nolley, will present its 48th annual spring concert on Friday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, April 15th at 3:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. The "Haydn Fest" concert will present choral and instrumental works by the classical giant Franz Josef Haydn. Featured works include *Te Deum #2 in C*, *Trumpet Concerto in E flat*, *Symphony #2 in C*, and *Mass in E Flat (Great Organ Mass)*. The SVCS choir will be accompanied by the SVCS chamber orchestra and guest soloists.

Tickets are available at the door, locally from Choral Society members, Red Front Supermarket (Harrisonburg), Bridgewater Foods, on-line at www.singshenandoah.org, and at the door. Admission is \$15 for adults/\$12 for seniors and students.

INGLENOOK DESSERTS

Many of you purchased copies of *The New Inglebrook Cookbook* when Brethren Press published it five years ago. Brethren Press is continuing the Inglebrook cookbook tradition by publishing *Inglebrook Desserts*, which will offer over 175 delicious new recipes along with reflections on traditions and celebrations of the feature desserts. Cost: \$25. Requests forms to purchase the book, along with more information, are available from the literature rack in the greeting hall.



LIGHT YOUR WORLD 5K

Bridgewater Church of the Brethren Youth Ministry

FRIDAY NIGHT, APRIL 13

7pm Music, Food, Bounce House
and Glow Games Begin

7:30pm Kids Dash

8pm 5K Run/Walk

**Harrison Park (Bridgewater Lawn Party Grounds)
Green Street, Bridgewater, VA**

Registration Fee: \$25

Includes sporty t-shirt (if registered by April 3), snacks and refreshments, and a chance to win a medal within your age group: 12 and under, 13-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60 and over

- \$5 discount for teams with 4 or more members
- For \$10, you may purchase a "Lamp of Inspiration" to honor a person or group that brings light into your life. Lanterns will be displayed during the event.
- \$5 "all-you-can-play" wristband for games (under 3, free)

**Kids Dash: \$5 without a shirt
\$20 with a race shirt**

Packet pick-up Thursday, April 12, 5-8 pm
Bridgewater Church of the Brethren
420 College View Drive

Register at racesonline.com, search "Light Your World".



*Glow in the dark,
blinking or lighted
accessories and
costumes encouraged.
LED and glow
accessories will be
available for purchase
at the race site.*

Proceeds from the race benefit the youth ministry of the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren and go toward travel expenses for Workcamps and National Youth Conferences.

Visit us at <http://bwcob.org/5k/>



RUNNERS LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

For Our Prayers during the Month of April 2018

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...

Undergoing significant life changes
Living with illnesses, both chronic and acute
Seeking employment and who have lost work
Finding peace and contentment
Feeling lonely
In difficult relationships or experiencing the loss or lack of relationship
Struggling with mental illness, anxiety, depression and or thoughts of suicide
Criticized, belittled and demeaned because of their beliefs and understandings
Survivors, Victims, Witnesses, and Perpetrators of violence, intolerance, racism and hatred
Advocating for justice and righteousness
Wrestling with their faith

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

...Our Nation and World

...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.

...our congregation, district, and denomination

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

Valley Keplinger, wife, of **Cliff Keplinger** and mother of **Donna Miller**, **Karen Hess**, **Julie Huffman**, and **Kevin Keplinger**, who died March 21

Elsie Janthey, who died March 18

Jesse Robertson, husband of **Wilma Robertson**, who died March 8

Janet Sohn, who died February 25

Elaine Smith, sister of **Jesse Robertson**, who died February 21

Jenny Swett, daughter of **Bill & Mary Ludwick**, who died February 20

Kathryn "Kitty" Mason, mother of **Michael Mason, Sr.**, who died February 19; **Wayne Judd**, husband of **Pat**, who died February 14; **Lorine Sheffer**, sister-in-law of **Patty Figgs**, who died February 11; **Lois Stover** who died February 10; **Catherine Wampler**, mother of **Elaine Huffman**, who died February 7; **Brydon DeWitt**, brother-in-law of **Jerry Wampler**, who died January 25; **Wallace Lutz**, brother of **Kathleen Gardner**, who died February 2; **Iris Shank**, mother of **Kelly Good**, who died January 16; **Gloria Liskey**, sister of **Norman Liskey** and **Phyllis Lambert**, who died January 8; **Eunice Pugh**, mother of **Mike** and **Barry Pugh**, who died January 1; **Carolyn Pettis**, sister of **Linda Clem**, who died December 25;

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

Margaret Garner, **Berlyn McElwee**, **Olive Mae Grove**, **Nellie Gentry**, **Nelson Seese**, **Betty Propst**, **Dick Stutzman**

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

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

...those in Military Service, specifically... Tyler Hopkins, Kent Hutchinson

...those who are requesting prayer specifically or have been on the prayer chain recently... A co-worker of Beth Michael injured from a falling tree

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

