



## **Bridgewater Church of the Brethren**

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(540) 828-3711; 828-2641

Web Site: [www.bwcob.org](http://www.bwcob.org)



### **A VERY SPECIAL NOTE**

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing us to experience a sampling of Bridgewater's Brethren "valley" hospitality. Your warm, friendly, and inviting gestures wormed their way into our hearts these past nine months. Your many acts of kindness and words of encouragement allowed us to quickly "feel at home" away from home. Former acquaintances and newly formed relationships have been forged into lasting friendships. Though we will be separated by spatial distance our thoughts and prayers for you will continue. Your congregation, with its rich history and deep commitment, is poised to experience a future crawling with God-breathed, exciting possibilities. You have strong, committed leadership. Our prayer is that you will allow the free wheeling winds of the Holy Spirit to lead you into uncharted territory to accomplish the work Christ is calling you to do.

May God's blessings be with you,  
**Fred & Joice**

### **FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR FRED & JOICE**

Please join us for a farewell reception in the social hall from 7-8 p.m. on Saturday, **February 13**, to express appreciation for Pastor Fred's ministry and to wish him and Joice well as they conclude their interim ministry among us. Light refreshments will be provided and a short program will raise our spirits beginning at 7:15. If you would like to share a brief and light-hearted anecdote or two, please contact Pastor Chris to add your name to the program.

### **THIS SUNDAY**

#### **SOUPer BOWL SUNDAY BRUNCH**

Don't forget to join us for a soup and sandwich fellowship luncheon immediately following Worship at 11. The soup (beef vegetable & potato) will be served at your table and you can build your own sandwich according to your dietary needs. Drinks and dessert are also included. Baskets will be available for freewill donations with proceeds going to Haitian relief.

*Note: Don't forget to pick up your pre-ordered soup from the Sojourners Class.*

#### **Alt. Worship – Portraits of Love**

**Sunday, February 14**

**Carry-In Meal – 5:30 pm**

**Worship – 6:30 pm**

On this day, we shall celebrate love!  
Bring a dish to share in a meal at 5:30  
(drinks and place settings provided).  
Then come and worship the One who is love incarnate.  
Be thinking of a story or an experience that has  
exemplified love to you –  
there will be a time for sharing!

#### **GAME NIGHT**

Fellowship & Recreation Commission invites everyone to the church on **Saturday, February 20, at 6:30 p.m.** to enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship. Bring your favorite games and snacks to share. Childcare will be provided.

## THANK YOU NOTES

*Thank you to everyone who participated/supported Angel Tree this past Christmas. Christmas was a little brighter for 45 children/25 families. A special thank-you also to Ada Longenecker, Doris Harsh, and Shannon Puffenbarger for their assistance throughout the project.*  
~ Jeannie Turner

*Thank you for letting us use your beautiful church for our Candyland Lock-In. We truly appreciate it! Thanks again! From,* **Girl Scout Troop 472**

*We all enjoyed and appreciated the gifts of flowers during January, from the following:*

\* *The family of Anna Wright, who shared a lovely arrangement in her memory.*

\* *Bridgewater Retirement Community, who honored Jeff Carr with an arrangement.*

\* *Esther and Emmert Bittinger*

*Many thanks for sharing!*

~ **The January Decorating Committee,**  
**Ann Monger and Lori Lineweaver**

## FEBRUARY BOOK CLUB MEETING

The book club selection for February is Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. All are welcome to join in the discussion in the lounge on Monday, **February 22**, at 7:00 p.m.

## MESSENGER RENEWAL MONTH

Our congregation provides an every-family subscription to *Messenger* for members in our congregation (regular \$14.50; student \$10.50). *Messenger* keeps readers abreast of national & international news relative to Church of the Brethren life, mission, and service. The *Messenger* subscription list is now being updated. If you are not currently receiving *Messenger* or if you are receiving the magazine but would prefer not to, please be in touch with our *Messenger* Representative – **Kay Dove** – at **434-1255** or [Missykdove@aol.com](mailto:Missykdove@aol.com) by Friday, **February 19**.

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE CD AVAILABLE

The Information Packet (CD version) for this year's Annual Conference in Pittsburg, PA, July 3-7, is now available in the church office. Registration opens **February 22**.

## CWS HAITI EMERGENCY RESPONSE

On January 12, the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince was devastated by a severe earthquake, the worst in 200 years. Estimates of casualties at this point are still very rough, but the number of deaths may exceed 200,000 – an enormous human tragedy in one of the poorest countries in the world. Church World Service has been working with partners in Haiti for many years. With pre-positioned CWS Blankets and Kits in neighboring Dominican Republic, CWS was able to respond quickly. Additional emergency supplies are on the way. CWS-supported efforts will also include the construction of temporary water systems, providing water purification materials, tents and food packages. After the initial emergency response phase is over, Church World Service will remain, working with partners to support the Haitian people as they rebuild their lives and livelihoods. For more information, visit [www.churchworldservice.org](http://www.churchworldservice.org).

## CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

“It is my great pleasure to welcome your congregation as a member of the CWS New Millennium Donor Society, which celebrates our most generous and loyal contributors for their exemplary support of our mission and work. Your congregation’s dedicated support of Church World Service enables life-saving work around the world in our continuing struggle to eradicate poverty and hunger, and generate opportunities for advancement for impoverished families and their communities....Again, thank you for your loyal support. Yours in service,

**Rev. John L. McCullough**, Executive Director & CEO

**TO KNOT OR NOT TO KNOT?,"** an eye-opening seminar for couples in an ongoing relationship (but not engaged), will be held on **February 14** (Valentines Day!) at EMU's University Commons, room 212, from 2-5 p.m. Cost is \$10 per couple, free to EMU students. Contact [byron.peachey@emu.edu](mailto:byron.peachey@emu.edu) or call 432-4132 to register.

## SDDRA KICKOFF DINNER

The Disaster Response Auction Kickoff Dinner will be held Saturday, **March 6**, in Kline Campus Center at Bridgewater College. Tickets are \$20.00 and can be purchased from Teresa Crawford (828-2095 or 246-3120). Anyone wishing to make donations for the auction should contact LeeAnn Wittig at 828-5297.

## FEBRUARY IS HEART HEALTH MONTH

When you engage in a fun activity with family or friends everybody benefits! And so does your heart. Being active is a great way to bond and boost your health at the same time. Here are some ideas to encourage you and loved ones toward a healthy lifestyle. Get your whole family moving:

- Magic 60. Ideally children should get at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day. Adults, two times thirty equals 60 -or six times ten. Exercise can be done in whatever time increment it takes to get the job done. All kinds of activities count! Get moving by walking fast, running, dancing, jumping rope, riding bikes, swimming, playing ball, climbing stairs, yard work and even vacuuming and washing windows! It's the movement that counts.
- Active outings. Plan active weekends and take your next vacation to a place with lots of outdoor activities.
- Take a walk. Start a tradition of taking a walk together after meals. Drive less, find routes to fun places and try walking to them instead (assuming your destination isn't too far away!).
- Create activity spaces. Set aside a room that can be a comfortable, safe place to be active! Fill it with balls, hula-hoops, and other active games and don't be embarrassed to join in the fun!
- Set limits. Take part in activities that involve moving. Set limits on time spent watching TV, playing video games, and surfing the Internet. W-ii fit of course can be a fun addition to your exercise routine!

~ *Health & Wellness Committee of  
Women's Fellowship*

**NEW MEMBERS** will be received into the fellowship of our congregation during worship on **February 21**. Contact Pastor Chris or the church office if you are interested in joining.

## SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE MEALS

Bridgewater Home Auxiliary will host its annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Brunch & Supper on Tuesday, **February 16**, in our social hall. **Lunch** will be served from **10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**, and **supper** will be served from **4-7 p.m.** Menu: Plain & Buckwheat Pancakes, Sausage Gravy, Chicken Gravy, Applesauce, Fruit Cup, Tea, Coffee. Donations will go to the Auxiliary to benefit Bridgewater Home residents.

## ALZHEIMER'S HBO DOCUMENTARY

Join the Alzheimer's Association Central and Western Virginia Chapter and the Boar's Head Inn for a screening and discussion of HBO's Emmy Award Winning four part documentary - The Alzheimer's Project - on Monday, February 8, in the Boar's Head Pavilion. Doors open at 6 p.m. Brain-healthy light hors d'oeuvres will be served. The screening will begin at 7 p.m. and will be followed by a panel discussion featuring internationally recognized Alzheimer's researcher and Dean of the University of Virginia School of Medicine, Dr. Steven T. DeKosky, Dr. Carol Manning, & Dr. David Geldmacher. Call the Boar's Head at (800) 476-1988 for information or the Alzheimer's Association at 973-6122.

## UPCOMING EVENT AT BRETHERN WOODS

### *Sweet Life Café Women's Retreat – February 19-20*

Women of all ages are invited to savor time with God and friends at this annual retreat. Take time to relax, make new friends, worship God, and savor your relationship with Jesus. Cost: \$70 per person. Registration due February 5. For more information on this event, contact Brethren Woods at 269-2741 or [camp@brethrenwoods.org](mailto:camp@brethrenwoods.org).

**BLUE RIDGE MINISTRIES** is offering the upcoming retreats:

Feb. 27 *Deepen Prayer during Lent: Explore The Interior Castle with Teresa of Avila* led by Lucy O'Meara at Trinity Presbyterian Church

May 1 *Sensing God in the Garden* led by Dr. Vigen Guroian at JMU Arboretum. Dr. Guroian is an Armenian Christian with a passion for gardening and is Professor of Religious Studies at UVA. Brunch included. Register early as space is limited to 40.

For more details or for personal spiritual direction, contact [blueridgeministries@yahoo.com](mailto:blueridgeministries@yahoo.com) or (540) 560-1605.

Thank you to  
commission members who  
completed terms in 2009!

## 2010 LEARNING TOURS FROM NEW COMMUNITY PROJECT

These intergenerational trips are reasonably priced and promise eye-opening experiences of our world and its people. The 2010 schedule:

- El Salvador, March 19-25 (visit poor communities and participate in conference commemorating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Oscar Romero's death)
- Ecuadorian Amazon, May 11-22 (take a trip into the rainforest, guided by Siona shaman Delio; see impacts of ranching and oil drilling; visit land being preserved by NCP)
- Guatemala, July 14-23 (visit poor but gracious communities; learn about Guatemala history and current realities; visit NCP-supported tree nurseries)
- Denali/Kenai Fjords, August 3-11 (camp in Denali; see moose, bear, wolves, caribou, lynx; travel to Kenai Fjords for sea life cruise)
- Sudan & Nepal in early 2011 (visit two of the most poignant places on earth—resourceful and resilient people struggling for a decent life)

For more information, visit the NCP website or contact David Radcliff ([dradcliff@newcommunityproject.org](mailto:dradcliff@newcommunityproject.org); 888-800-2985).

## BOOKS TO CHECK OUT IN THE LIBRARY

- Church of the Brethren Mission in China – compiled by Dr. Eugene Wampler – “No Greater Love: Centennial of Church of the Brethren in China 1908-2008”
- The Longest Patrol – “A U-Boat Gunner's War” – Author is our own **Greg Owen**. It is a remarkable account of Karl Baumann's life and is a complement to the long list of books about the 1939-1945 war at sea.
- The First Advance by John Foster
- Little Genie – Castle Magic by Miranda Jones is a delightful juvenile book.
- Mayo Clinic Family Health Book (This book is on the reference shelf and can only be used in the library.)
- Grace Goes to Prison by Melanie Snyder (This book is being used by the Book Club.)

## CoB 2010 NATIONAL WORKCAMP

The 2010 Church of the Brethren youth and young adult workcamp schedule is now posted on the website, [www.brethren.org/workcamps](http://www.brethren.org/workcamps). This year's theme is “With Glad and Generous Hearts” from Acts 2:46. In the early church, people were passionate about the good news of Jesus. They worshiped, ate, served and celebrated together. They shared everything in common so that no one was in need. This small community of believers changed the world. Come to a Church of the Brethren workcamp this summer - bring your glad and generous heart! We can still change the world for the better! There are seven junior high workcamps, two Brethren Revival Fellowship senior high workcamps, an intergenerational workcamp, a young adult workcamp, and a We Are Able workcamp. Custom workcamps for your extended family or your congregation can be arranged through the workcamp office. **Registration is now open.** Brochures are available in the church office. For more information, call the workcamp office at 1-800-323-8039 x 286, e-mail us at [cobworkcamps@brethren.org](mailto:cobworkcamps@brethren.org).

## FEBRUARY WORSHIP PERSONNEL

**Sound/Light Operator:** Ellsworth Neff

**Ushers:** David Evick, leader

Palmer Lee Berry	Harold Jennings
Devin Bowman	Jim Lane
Rick Fawley	Michael Mason, Sr.
Chad Flora	Stephen Miller
Leroy Harsh	Bill Miracle
Missy Hipps	Jonathan Nicholas
Chuck Horn	Fred Showalter

## IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Congratulations to **Bill Miracle** who has been appointed to the state “Task Force on Mental Health Issues in Higher Education.” The task force was created by the General Assembly's “Joint Commission on Health Care and has been charged to study two primary aspects of mental health care at colleges and universities in the state: one is legal issues in college mental health, which includes the roles and responsibilities of colleges in responding to possible mental health crisis; and, the other key issue is access to mental health services by college and university students. Miracle was appointed to the group examining legal issues in college mental health.

## ALT. WORSHIP UPDATE & CLARIFICATION

From our “Imagining Gathering” on January 10 and from multiple comments and questions that have been fielded by our church leadership, the need has become apparent to clarify what Alt. Worship does and does not mean for our congregation. To that end, Alt.

Worship:

- Is NOT just another name for a “contemporary” and/or “praise and worship” service
- Is NOT intended to replace any of our current worship gatherings
- Is NOT envisioned as an alternative to our primary worship gatherings
- Is NOT primarily a “youth and young adult” worship service

But Alt. Worship is:

- Intended to provide space for worship opportunities that are more participatory and multisensory than our Sunday morning gatherings could allow
- Envisioned as an opportunity for exploring new and/or experimental worship expressions
- A supplemental and expanded worship opportunity for all ages using an alternative approach to worship design

At present, our plans for Alt. Worship include:

- 6:30 p.m. gatherings on the second Sunday of every month through May (2/14, 3/14, 4/11, and 5/9)
- Coming up with a better name for this worship gathering than “Alt. Worship” (suggestions welcome!)
- Developing a leadership and design team (volunteers encouraged!)

If you have questions or concerns regarding Alt. worship, or would like to volunteer or learn more, please contact Pastor Chris.

## IN MEMORIAM

We celebrate the lives of

- **Dr. Eugene Nolley**, father of **Curtis Nolley**, who died on Tuesday, January 26
- **Arlene Angleberger**, mother of **Wayne Angleberger**, who died on Thursday, January 28

## WORSHIP SERVICES

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

### February 7 – *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*

Bridgewater College Deputation Team will plan and lead both worship services.

### February 14 – *Sixth Sunday after Epiphany*

Pastor Fred preaching

Sermon: “Playing the Game of Touch”

Scripture: Luke 5:1-10

*Children’s Worship – Worship @ 11*

### February 21 – *Seventh Sunday after Epiphany*

Pastor Chris preaching

Sermon: “The Word: It is Written”

Scripture: Luke 4:1-13; Romans 10:8b-13

### February 28 – *Eighth Sunday after Epiphany*

Guest Preacher: Rev. Wayne Judd preaching

Sermon: “Pastoral Changes”

Scripture: Titus 2 & 3 (selected)

*Children’s Worship – Worship @ 11*

## BRETHREN AUTHOR TO SPEAK

Melanie G. Snyder, author of the book [Grace Goes to Prison](#) (published by Brethren Press) will be in Harrisonburg on Saturday, **February 20**, to talk about her book, which tells the true story of Marie Hamilton, a lifelong Church of the Brethren member, who was a volunteer in state prisons for over 30 years.

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at Earth & Tea Cafe, 120 S. Main Street in Harrisonburg

The Fairfield Center for restorative justice (in Harrisonburg - formerly the Community Mediation Center) is partnering with this event. It will be a great opportunity to meet and talk with people interested in restorative justice, hear inspiring stories about one woman’s efforts to promote restorative justice in prisons over the past 30 years, and help raise money for a great cause: the Fairfield Center and their mediation and restorative justice programs. (oh, and you can sample Earth & Tea Café’s great food and drinks, too!)

[THIRSTING FOR GOD](#) is the title of this year’s Lenten devotional booklet, written by Amy S. Gall Ritchie. Copies are available from the literature rack in the greeting hall.

## **FEBRUARY CALENDAR**

All events take place at the church unless otherwise noted.

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

**Worship – 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.**

- 1** Spanish Conversations – 9:30 a.m.
- 2** Food Pantry – 7 p.m.
- 3** Another Voice – 2 p.m. – Maple Terrace  
Children's Ensemble – 3:30 p.m.  
YORFFS – 4 p.m.  
Puppet Practice – 4:30 p.m.  
Brethren Student Movement – 6:30 p.m. – Carter Center  
Christian Education Commission – 7 p.m.  
Mission & Service Commission – 7 p.m.  
Properties Commission – 7 p.m.  
Witness & Renewal Commission – 7 p.m.
- 4** Interfaith Association – Noon – EMU  
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 5** VBMHC Annual Meeting – 6:30 p.m.  
– Lindale Mennonite Church
- 7** Sustainable Living – 8:30 a.m.  
Jr. Hi. Youth Paint Ceiling Tiles – Noon  
Souper Bowl Lunch – Noon
- 8** Spanish Conversations – 9:30 a.m.  
Retired Ministers & Spouses – Noon – Maple Terrace
- 9** Executive Committee – 7 p.m.
- 10** Bridgewater Ministers – 8 a.m. – Maple Terrace  
Another Voice – 2 p.m. – Maple Terrace  
Children's Ensemble – 3:30 p.m.  
YORFFS – 4 p.m.  
Puppet Practice – 4:30 p.m.  
Brethren Student Movement – 6:30 p.m. – Carter Center  
JOY Circle – 6:30 p.m. – Home of Janet Shank
- 11** Leaveners – 10:30 a.m. – North River Library  
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 12-13** BSM Lock-In (6:30 p.m.-10 a.m.)
- 13** Farewell Reception for Fred & Joice Bernhard – 7-8 p.m.
- 14** Children's Worship – Worship @ 11  
Friendship & Jubilee Circles – 3 p.m.  
Alternative Worship Portraits of Love  
Carry-In Meal – 5:30 p.m.  
Worship – 6:30 p.m.
- 15** Spanish Conversations – 9:30 a.m.  
Stewardship Commission – 7 p.m.

- 16** Shrove Tuesday Pancake Meals – 11-1, 4-7  
Foundation Board – 7 p.m.
- 17** Another Voice – 2 p.m. – Maple Terrace  
Children's Ensemble – 3:30 p.m.  
YORFFS – 4 p.m.  
Puppet Practice – 4:30 p.m.  
Brethren Student Movement – 6:30 p.m. – Carter Center  
Board of Administration – 7 p.m.  
Food Pantry – 7 p.m.
- 18** Cub Scouts – 6:30 p.m.  
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 20** Men's Fellowship – 7:30 a.m.  
Game Night – 6:30 p.m.
- 21** Blood Pressure Clinic – 9:30 & 10:30 a.m.  
Another Voice – evening event
- 22** Spanish Conversations – 9:30 a.m.
- 23** VBS Meeting – 6 p.m.  
Child Care Center Board – 7 p.m.
- 24** Another Voice – 2 p.m. – Maple Terrace  
Children's Ensemble – 3:30 p.m.  
YORFFS – 4 p.m.  
Puppet Practice – 4:30 p.m.  
Brethren Student Movement – 6:30 p.m. – Carter Center
- 25** Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 26** Cub Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
- 27** Jr. Hi. Night @ the Movies – 6:30 p.m.  
– BC Boitnott Room
- 28** Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.  
Children's Worship – Worship @ 11

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Connections is published by Bridgewater Church of the Brethren  
Collating/Mailing: Brittany Lovell,  
Clayton & Jackie Towers, Glenn Felix, Harold Jennings  
Next Newsletter – March 2010

**Information is due by noon on Monday, March 1.**

Church Staff: Interim Pastor Fred Bernhard  
Associate Pastor Chris Zepp  
Christian Education Director Jeanie Eye  
Administrative Assistant Shannon Puffenbarger  
Business Manager Glenna Wampler  
Custodian Fortunato Correa  
Sr. Hi. Youth Mentors Josh & Erin Eye  
Jr. Hi. Youth Director Heather Galang-Ellerbee  
Child Care Center Administrator Kathleen Arndt

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