



**Bridgewater Church of the Brethren**

420 College View Drive  
Bridgewater, VA 22812  
(540) 828-3711; 828-2641



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

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Offering will be received on March 6.  
Envelopes are included in this mailing.



**TIME CHANGE**

Daylight Saving Time begins on  
Sunday, **March 13**.  
Spring FORWARD one hour.

**LENTEN SERIES**



**Coming Soon:**

Explore the gospel lectionary through the ancient practice of Lectio Divina.  
Organized activities for the kids as well!  
Every Sunday evening 6:30 – 8 p.m.  
March 13 through April 17

**ADULT INQUIRER'S CLASS**

A class will meet from 6:30-8:30 p.m. **March 8, 22, 29, and April 5** for persons interested in learning more about basic understandings of the Christian faith and how those inform basic Brethren thoughts and practices. Topics will include: God Who? (Creator, Jesus, and Spirit); Buildings and Beyond (The who and what of Church); Baptism, Bread, and Belief (Christian Identity); and Brethren Practice (Church of the Brethren in a nutshell). This course will coincide with the youth inquirer's class being offered this spring. This class is not required for baptism or membership, nor is membership or baptism an expected outcome of participation. All are welcome. A sign-up sheet is available at the hospitality desk or you can contact the church office.

**INTERFAITH PEACE INITIATIVE  
COFFEEHOUSE**

**March 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall**

Special guests, JMU Professor Dr. Rabie (from Egypt) and Rabbi Robert Bersson from the **Interfaith Initiative for Peace and Justice in Israel / Palestine** will share with us from their perspective. With recent events happening in Egypt, we may discuss and learn more about that issue.

Childcare will be provided for younger children. Light snacks will be available. Bring your interest, your eagerness to learn more, and questions that you feel a need to understand. ~ *The Peace Committee*

## THANK YOU NOTES

*This message comes to thank the members of this congregation for their loving concern and support to the family of David Metzler during his illness and death. Your visits, gifts of food, cards, and prayers have been true blessings coming from a very caring church community.*  
~ **Doris Metzler**

*The family of Voiletta Null Gordon Huffman wishes to express to you how much we appreciate the kindness received from you. Your expressions of sympathy, prayers, cards, food, and flowers meant a great deal to us during this difficult time.*

*We greatly appreciated the luncheon provided by the Sisterhood Committee on the day of our Mother's service. It gave us more time to spend with our family and friends. A very special thank you to Pastors Jeff and Chris for your visits with Vo.*

~ **Vickie and Terry Slaubaugh**  
~ **Sandy and Bill Shomo**

*I would like to thank you so much for all your prayers during the loss of my beautiful wife Felicia. I greatly appreciate your donations to help with my expenses. Thanks again. Sincerely*      **Steven Correa & Family**

## ONE EARTH – ONE WORLD

“The Earth is the Lord’s” and its care has been entrusted to us. Each year for 40 years Earth Day has been observed in April to focus awareness on our responsibilities to help care for the earth. As the beauty of spring unfolds, let us continue to seek to protect the environment from misuse and/or destruction.

### **Reviving a Tradition**

Last year our congregation “re-discovered” our Earth Bowl and issued an invitation for you to contribute symbols and memories from your experiences. This will be a focus in a spring worship service. The Earth Bowl is a reminder of our connectedness not only to the environment, but also with brothers and sisters in other locations around the world. You are invited to be a part of this revived tradition by bringing a small earth-related item from your travels and briefly sharing your spiritual connection to that place. To put your name on the list as a contributor, call Esther Bittinger, 828-6998.

## RELAY FOR LIFE

We are again this year working to raise money for the American Cancer Society through the Relay for Life event. Each of us knows someone who has been touched by cancer, directly or indirectly, and often wondered what we could do to help. Relay is a great way to raise support, not only for larger research, but for those in our local community as well. If you would like to support the BWCOB Agape Love team, there are a variety of ways to help.

**Walk!** – The Relay this year is on Friday May 6<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 6am. Wow! That’s a long time you say? Well, even if you can only make it for part of the event we’d still love to have you as part of the team. It’s a great experience and a lot of fun too.

**Luminaries** – One important aspect of the Relay for Life is the opportunity for people to come together to remember loved ones lost to cancer and honor those who have won their battle. One of the most moving parts of the event is the Luminaria Ceremony. If you would like to honor, support or remember someone special in your life, you can do so with a luminary in honor of that person for a \$10 donation to Relay. You can decorate your own luminary or someone from the team can decorate it for you.

**Relay Auction** – On Sunday March 20<sup>th</sup>, following worship, we will be having a meal and auction with all donations and purchases going to Relay for Life. You can support this event by donating items or services for the auction itself, or by coming out to share a meal and bid on some great items. Or both!

**Relay Coffeehouse** – This year’s coffeehouse fundraiser will be on Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup>. Always a good time, the coffeehouse is a chance to show off your talents and enjoy others (maybe Pastor Jeff will serenade us again with his version of Sweet Caroline). And don’t forget the chance to try out some of the best baking and sweets the church has to offer. Mmmm...

**Donations** – Not everyone has the time to commit to a particular event, but they still want to support the cause. Monetary donations are always welcome and can be given to any member of the Relay team, or our co-captains Hope Staton & Brenna Layne. Checks should be made payable to the American Cancer Society.

So if you’d like to help our Relay team in any way, you can see Hope or Brenna after Sunday service at our Relay for Life table in the greeting hall, or call 540-290-8624

## **WORSHIP SERVICES**

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

### **March 6 – *Transfiguration Sunday***

Pastor Jeff preaching

*Sermon:* “What Now?”

*Scripture Reading:* Exodus 24:12-18

*Gospel Reading:* Matthew 17:1-9

### **March 13 – *First Sunday of Lent***

Pastor Chris preaching

*Sermon:* “To eat or not to eat?”

*Scriptures:* Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Matthew 4:1-11;  
Romans 5:12-19

Children’s Worship – Worship @ 11

Lenten Evening Worship – 6:30 p.m.

### **March 20 – *Second Sunday of Lent***

Pastor Jeff preaching

*Sermon:* “What We Know”

*Gospel Reading:* John 3:1-17

Lenten Evening Worship – 6:30 p.m.

### **March 27 – *Third Sunday of Lent***

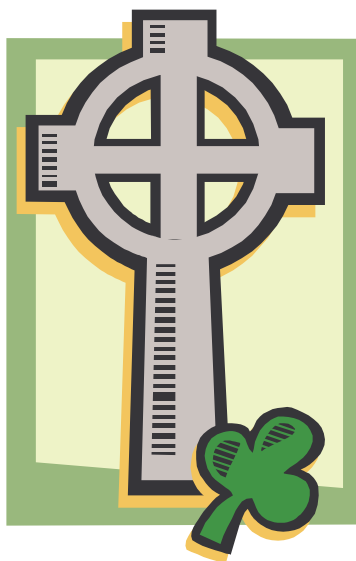
Pastor Jeff preaching

*Sermon:* “Food, Thirst, Past and Future”

*Gospel Reading:* John 4:5-42

Children’s Worship – Worship @ 11

Lenten Evening Worship – 6:30 p.m.



## **LENTEN LECTIONARY**

Since Advent, our worship services have incorporated most of the lectionary readings each week. For the period of Lent the Gospel readings will be the primary focus. Individuals have expressed appreciation for the multiple readings. You will find the lectionary readings for Lent below; you may wish to use these for devotional reading or preparation for Sunday worship opportunities.

### ***Ash Wednesday, March 9***

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalms 51:1-17

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

### ***First Sunday in Lent, March 13***

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Psalms 32

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11

### ***Second Sunday in Lent, March 20***

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalms 121

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17

Matthew 17:1-9

### ***Third Sunday in Lent, March 27***

Exodus 17:1-7

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

**BAG-IT-UP** is a Girl Scout and Goodwill joint effort to collect old, slightly used clothing, shoes, toys and household items. Bags in which to place your items were distributed earlier this month, but you may use any bag you have. Please return filled bags to the Junior High Room by Sunday, **March 20**, and **Troop 3063** will deliver everything to the Goodwill store. You may also take your bags to a Goodwill store on Saturday March 26, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. If you do so, please make sure to go to the front of the store and let the store employee know to credit **Troop 3063**. Thanks to all who participate; it is greatly appreciated.

## CPS / BVS LUNCH

All those who were in CPS, BVS (past & present), and alternative service are invited to a luncheon on Thursday, April 7, in one of the Mack rooms in Maple Terrace. Lunch will be at 12:30 p.m. at a cost of \$7.50. Please call Fonda Erdman at 828-3883 or email [ferdman@verizon.net](mailto:ferdman@verizon.net) by April 4 if you plan to attend. **Wendell Smith** will be guest speaker.

## MISSING SOMETHING?

If you know you're missing something (i.e. coats, umbrellas, books, kitchen items, etc.), please check in the coat closets, congregational office, and kitchen to pick up anything that might be yours. All items not retrieved by March 1<sup>st</sup> will be properly disposed of.

## 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 Tuesday, **March 1**.

## VBMHC ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLES AUCTION

*To preserve a legacy and support your heritage center*

**March 26 – 10:00 a.m.**

Social Hall of Garbers Church of the Brethren  
1275 Garbers Church Road, Harrisonburg

The sale will include a live and silent auction of antiques and collectibles. Food and drink will be for sale during the day, as well as baked goods to take home. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the mission of the center. To donate antiques and handcrafted items, contact the CrossRoads office )438-1275 or [info@vbmhc.org](mailto:info@vbmhc.org)) or bring your sale items to the CrossRoads Welcome Center, 1921 Heritage Center Way, Harrisonburg, by March 23.

## MARCH WORSHIP PERSONNEL

**Decorator:** Heather Barkey

**Sound/Light Operator:** Ellsworth Neff

**Ushers:** John Hipps, leader

Justin Carpenter	Riley Metzler
Drew Cabbage	Beth Day-Miller
Walter Erdman	Rod Miller
Courtney Flory	Ann Monger
Clif Keplinger	John Monger
Kevin Keplinger	Eli Quay
George Mason	Don Remnant
Burton Metzler	Fred Zimmerman

## POEMS OF THANKSGIVING

At the Board of Administration meeting on November 17, 2010, members were asked to write a Poem of Thanksgiving for our congregation.

- Being  
With a  
Community  
Of  
Believers
- GOD  
You are always here.  
You give me hope, grace, and love.  
You guide and nurture.  
Thanks.
- Shared  
Hospitality  
Altruism  
Reverence  
Enthusiasm  
Devotion
- BWCOB  
Healthy, diverse, followers  
My friends on the way
- Christ centered  
Oneess  
Meeet persons where they are  
Musically talented  
Unity  
Nurturing  
Integrity  
Thanks Giving  
Yes to Openness

## MARCH CALENDAR

All events take place at the church unless otherwise noted.

### 1-7 Harrisonburg-Rockingham Thermal Shelter (HARTS)

- 1** Esther Study – 7 p.m.  
Food Pantry – 7 p.m.  
Stewardship Commission – 7 p.m.
- 2** Children's Choir Rehearsal – 4 p.m.  
Puppet Practice – 4 p.m.  
YORFFs Rehearsal – 4:45 p.m.  
Brethren Student Movement – 6:30 p.m. – Carter Center  
Christian Education Commission – 7 p.m.  
Ministerial Services Commission – 7 p.m.  
Mission & Service Commission – 7 p.m.  
Witness & Renewal Commission – 7 p.m.  
Worship & Music Commission – 7 p.m.
- 3** Esther Study – 9:30 a.m.  
Interfaith Association – Noon – EMU  
College Ministry Committee – 6:30 p.m.  
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 5** Disaster Ministries Auction Kick-Off Dinner – 6 p.m.  
– KCC @ BC
- 6** Simpler Life Network – 8:30 a.m.  
Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.  
Youth Inquirers Class – Noon
- 8** Shrove Tuesday Pancake Meals – 10:30 -1 & 4-7 p.m.  
Adult Inquirers Class – 6:30 p.m.  
Esther Study – 7 p.m.  
Fellowship & Recreation Commission – 7 p.m.
- 9** Bridgewater Ministers – 8 a.m. – Maple Terrace  
Character Builders Circle – Noon – Maple Terrace  
Children's Choir Rehearsal – 4 p.m.  
Puppet Practice – 4 p.m.  
YORFFs Rehearsal – 4:45 p.m.  
Ash Wednesday Service – 6:30 p.m.  
Friendship Circle Bingo at BH – 7 p.m.  
JOY Circle – 7 p.m. – Home of Lori Lineweaver
- 10** Esther Bible Study – 9:30 a.m.  
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 12** Peace Committee Coffeehouse – 6:30 p.m.
- 13** *Daylight Saving Time Begins*  
Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.  
Children's Worship – Worship @ 11  
Lenten Evening Worship – 6:30 p.m.
- 14** Retired Ministers & Spouses – Noon – Maple Terrace
- 15** Peace Feast – 6:30 p.m. – Linville Creek CoB  
Esther Study – 7 p.m.  
Food Pantry – 7 p.m.

- 16** Children's Choir Rehearsal – 4 p.m.  
Puppet Practice – 4 p.m.  
YORFFs Rehearsal – 4:45 p.m.  
Brethren Student Movement – 6:30 p.m. – Carter Center
- 17** Cub Scouts – 6:30 p.m.  
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 18** Junior High Music Festival – 8 a.m.
- 18-20** Roundtable @ Bridgewater College
- 19** Men's Fellowship – 7:30 a.m.  
District Evangelism Event – 8:30 a.m.  
Bridge of Hope Mentors – 10 a.m.
- 20** Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.  
Blood Pressure Clinic – 9:30 & 10:30 a.m.  
Agape Love Relay for Life Lunch & Auction – Noon  
Youth Inquirers Class – Noon  
Lenten Evening Worship – 6:30 p.m.
- 22** Adult Inquirers Class – 6:30 p.m.  
Child Care Center Board – 7 p.m.
- 23** Children's Choir Rehearsal – 4 p.m.  
Puppet Practice – 4 p.m.  
YORFFs Rehearsal – 4:45 p.m.  
Brethren Student Movement – 6:30 p.m. – Carter Center
- 24** Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 27** Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.  
Children's Worship – Worship @ 11  
Lenten Evening Worship – 6:30 p.m.
- 28** Book Club – 7 p.m.
- 29** Adult Inquirers Class – 6:30 p.m.  
Food Pantry Coordinating Committee – 7 p.m.
- 31** Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.

---

Connections is published by Bridgewater Church of the Brethren  
Collating/Mailing:

Clayton & Jackie Towers, Harold Jennings  
Doris Metzler, Jeanne Neff  
Next Newsletter – April 2011

**Information is due by noon on Monday, March 21.**

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

---