

Web Site: www.bwcob.org



Bridgewater Church of the Brethren

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

SHENANDOAH DISTRICT DISASTER MINISTRIES AUCTION

May 20 & 21, 2011
Rockingham County Fairgrounds

Proceeds go to CoB Disaster Ministries

Friday, May 20:

Arts, Crafts, Baked Goods, Plants
Silent Auction – begins at 1 p.m.
Oyster-Country Ham Dinner – 3-7:30 p.m.
Art, Furniture,
Selected Handwork Auction – 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, May 21:

Breakfast – 7-10 a.m.
Sales – 8 a.m. until...
Worship Service – 8:45 a.m.
Main Auction – 9 a.m.
New & Used Items – 10:30 a.m.
Lunch – begins at 11 a.m.

VBS 2011 – Shake It Up Café

Mark your calendar to join us in carrying out God's recipe at the Shake It Up Café Vacation Bible School, **June 20-23**, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Children ages 2 years to those who have completed 8th grade are invited to attend. If you are able to help or if you have questions about VBS, please contact Laura Evick at 828-6921 or by email at levick@hooverpenrod.com.

YOUTH WORKCAMP AUCTION & LUNCH

Please join the Youth traveling to Workcamps and National Jr. High Conference this summer as we host a *Youth Workcamp Auction with a Spaghetti Lunch* on Sunday, **May 22**. All donations will support our travel expenses.

Here's how you can help:

1. **Donate One-Pound Items.** Members of the church can donate items that weigh approximately 1-pound. Examples of 1-pound item donations may include One-pound of Candy, Coffee, Tea Bags, Jelly Beans, etc. You may also attach money or gift certificates if you wish. Items should be wrapped so that the contents are not visible, with a note to indicate what's inside for our organizing.
2. **Donate Other Auction Items.** Items will be on display during lunch for church members to view before bidding.
3. **Bid on the Services of the Youth.** Members of the youth groups will make their services available for purchase to complete household tasks, yard work, etc. If you need four-hours of yard work, bid on one of our youth for a set price or price/hour to complete weeding or lawn care. If you need help clearing out closets for spring-cleaning, our youth can help!
4. **Bid and Have Fun.** The Pound Auction, which will take place near the end of lunch, is all about having fun. It is possible you could bid back and forth for 1-pound of Candy, 1-pound of rice with a gift certificate for Rosetta Stone Products, or 1-pound of flour with a \$50 bill attached. It will be a surprise, it will be fun, and it will benefit a great cause! The rest of the auction is more "typical" and will immediately follow the Pound Auction. All proceeds will benefit the Youth Workcamp Travel Fund.

THANK YOU NOTES

I would like to thank the Prayer Chain for the many prayers during my hospitalization several weeks ago. I especially appreciate Pastor Jeff's visits while I was at RMH. As some of you may know, I have decided to move from my home on Wayside Drive in the Village and move into the Wampler Wing at BRC.

~ **Gerald Fawley**

Thank you for the lovely flowers sent during my hospitalization. Many thanks to the church family for the cards and notes during my recovery. Also thanks to all who visited me and special thanks for the prayer shawl. It warmed me physically, emotionally, and spiritually. I continue to cherish it. Sincerely,

Elaine Albright & Kathryn Albright

To you, our church staff, family and friends, we sincerely want to express our deep appreciation for all the ways you have been there for us during the illness and death of our sister Hazel. Also, through Bob's surgery. Your prayers, visits, calls, cards, food, and understanding have demonstrated such love. We sincerely want to express our heartfelt "Thanks!" You are all loved and appreciated. Pastor Jeff, your visit to UVA and the time you spent with our daughters and me during Bob's surgery took extra effort and was truly special! During this long while, it would seem we have neglected calling, sending cards, and sharing ourselves with lots of you in some of your trials. This was not a lack of caring – just limited time and strength. Please forgive us! We did keep you in our thoughts and prayers and we surely thank you for all of yours. Sincerely,

Bob & Eva Reeves

Hospitalizations and home confinements have personally kept us in absentia from sanctuary worship for many months. However, thanks to the wonders of BCoB and BRC's closed-circuit TV channel, we have been faithful "Brethren by Remote" and staying closely connected to our church family and congregation. Your presence has truly been felt through countless acts of kindness and concern. Each prayer, visit, phone call, card or letter, gift of food or friendship received, brought a healing touch of its own – along with tremendous encouragement and much joy to my spirit. God has blessed us abundantly as shown through the thoughtful actions of a loving, caring congregation and staff. My genuine love and thanks to all,

Margaret Garner

THANK YOU NOTES CONTINUED

Thank you to everyone for the prayers, thoughts, chocolate, and cards on the death of John's father.

~ **John & Ann Monger**



WOMEN'S MAY EVENT
Wednesday, May 11, 6 pm

Saddle up and head on over to Happy Trails Ranch for an evening of good food, fun and fellowship. You're sure to enjoy the Chuckwagon fare of:

Purple sage tortilla chips & salsa

Cowboy stew w/red eye gravy

San Antonio rice

Calico baked beans

Ranch biscuits/Big sky cornbread

Slow poke fruit cobbler

Gold rush tea/Lucky lemonade

Then sit back and imagine sitting around a campfire on the range under a starry sky and listen to some good old cowboy songs played by String Along. Reservations are required. Adult tickets \$9, children 4-12, \$4.00 & children 3 & under are free. Look for reservation envelopes in the Greeting Hall on April 24. Deadline is Sunday, May 8th.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Postponed because of rain last week, we will meet to paint/repair Child Care equipment on Saturday, **April 30**, at 9:00 a.m. Bring paint brushes and small buckets to hold paint.

MAY BOOK CLUB SELECTION

The book club has selected Half Broke Horses: A True-Life Novel by Jeanette Walls for discussion at the May Book Club meeting. Come join in the discussion on Monday, **May 23**, in the church library. The Book Club will take a summer vacation and reconvene in September.

EARTH BOWL CELEBRATION: May 1

“We are strangers no more, but members of one family. . .” These words reflect the ways that members of our congregation have related this year to others here at home and in distant places. On Sunday, **May 1**, during Worship at 11 we will spend a few moments to reflect on our relationship to the environment as it connects to these experiences. The Earth Bowl is a reminder of the importance of our relationships with others and of our responsibility to care for the environment. You are invited to bring a small earth-related item from your travels and share your spiritual connection to that place. Call Esther Bittinger (828-6998) if you are willing to participate in this celebration.

AUXILIARY LUNCHEON

When: Wednesday, **May 4**, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Where: Social Hall

Cost: \$5.00 (carry-outs available)

Proceeds will benefit the Bridgewater Home Auxiliary Peaceful Living Program on Second Floor Nursing Care.

GIVING STATEMENTS for the first four months of 2011 will be available for pick up on May 8 & 15. Statements not picked up by May 16 will be mailed. Your help in delivering statements to family and neighbors will be greatly appreciated.

B.C. FINAL CONCERT OF THE YEAR

Bridgewater College Choirs and Handbell Choir

Final concert of the year

May 1 at 7:30 in the Carter Center

Church members involved: Courtney Flory and Kyle Remnant, and associate member Marianne Houff.
AND . . . director Jesse Hopkins and accompanist Mary Beth Flory

HOPES, DREAMS, VISIONS, QUESTIONS

On the first Sunday of March, I shared a rather lengthy list of hopes, dreams, visions and questions for the church which I composed from comments I had heard in my first year as Senior Pastor. Many of you have asked to see a copy of that list. Copies are available in the literature rack in the church greeting hall and on the church website. If you would like a copy, but are unable to pick one up please contact the church office for a copy to be sent to you. Some excerpts from that list include: *Changes and updates to the plan of reorganization; A desire for increasing intergenerational activities; A hope for more mission opportunities, both far away and in our own backyard; wanting sermons and worship services webcast; Having a common stock kitchen that uses only environmentally responsible materials and products; being good stewards of our resources; strengthening our witness and model of peacemaking; focusing on hospitality; and continuing to grow as disciples, followers and being a church where the gospel is preached, the love of Jesus and God is shared with all.* This list is just a beginning point for a visioning process. I welcome your ideas, comments and feedback as we work together to set the course for the future mission and vision for our congregation.

~ *Pastor Jeff*

SODIUM SENSE

Sodium is an essential mineral in our daily diets.

Unfortunately average Americans consume over twice what they need. Many consume an average of 3400-4000 mg per day. Too much!

Truths:

- 75% of our daily dietary sodium comes from sodium added in processing
- 5-10% comes from adding salt at the table or while cooking
- Replacing processed convenience foods with freshly prepared meats, eggs, vegetables, fruits, and breads and cereals with less than 100 mg sodium per serving will reduce your overall sodium intake.

Tips for reducing sodium:

- Use fresh herbs instead of salt
- Drizzle foods with lemon juice
- Eat unsalted nuts and fresh fruit for snacks
- Limit ethnic foods to 2-3 times weekly

For more information on appropriate sodium intake, consult your physician or a registered dietician.

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

MIDWEEK EMAIL UPDATE

In the very near future the church office will be sending out a midweek email update. The update will include congregational announcements, prayer information updates, and other pertinent information. If you would like to receive this email bulletin please contact the church office with your most current email address. You can email churchoffice@bwcob.org. In addition, we are looking for a good name to call to this weekly update. Please submit your ideas to the church office for consideration.

SPECIAL THANKS

During the month of April we were blessed by **beautiful bouquets** from Dan Myers and the families of Hazel Garber, Norman Wagenschein, and Don Clague; **Easter Banners** made by Lori Lineweaver, Jan Matteson, Kathleen Gardner, & Mary Miller; **Potted Spring Flowers on Easter** arranged throughout the church by Jeanie & Denny Eye, Lev Norford, & Kathy Simmons; **A meaningful Easter Worship Center** by Bea Miller and entry table by Naoma Clague. Special thanks also to Leroy Harsh and Tony & Dwynn Stovall who work “behind the scene” fixing, taking down & putting up crosses, banners, moving screens, etc...

~ **April Decorating Committee Coordinator**

MAY WORSHIP PERSONNEL

Decorator: Bea Miller

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

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Congratulations to **Dr. Steve Longenecker** for being the first recipient of the *Faculty Scholarship Award* at Bridgewater College. The award was presented to Steve at the Founders Day event on April 5.

WORSHIP SERVICES

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

May 1 – *Second Sunday of Easter*

Pastor Jeff preaching

Sermon: “World”

Scripture Readings: Genesis 1, Psalm 24

May 8 – *Third Sunday of Easter & Mother’s Day*

Pastor Jeff preaching

Sermon: “Enduring or Living”

Scripture Readings: 1 Peter 1:17-23, Luke 24:13-35

Children’s Worship – Worship @ 11

C4 Worship – 6:30 p.m.

May 15 – *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Pastor Jeff preaching

Sermon: “Leading, Following, and Guiding”

Scripture Readings: Psalm 16, John 10:1-10

Children’s Worship – Worship @ 11

May 22 – *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Pastor Jeff preaching

Sermon: “Jesus Loves the Little Children”

Scripture Readings: Ephesians 5:8-14, Mark 10:13-16

C4 Worship – 6:30 p.m.

May 29 – *Sixth Sunday of Easter*

Pastor Chris preaching

Sermon: “So close...yet so far away”

Scripture Readings: Acts 17:22-31, John 20:1-18



CHILDREN’S CHURCH

The children have been studying prayer this year in Children’s Church. We said prayers, sang prayers, and even wrote prayers. The children are very good at talking to God through prayer. Our last Children’s Church services for this school year will be **May 8** and **May 15**. We will have a picnic following the May 15th service. The children will also be participating in Worship at 11 on May 22nd. We would like to thank the congregation for encouraging the children and supporting their activities throughout the year.

MAY CALENDAR

All events take place at the church unless otherwise noted.

MAY CALENDAR

- 1** Simpler Life Network – 8:30 a.m.
Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.
Potato Bar Lunch – Noon
Council – 1 p.m.
- 3** Food Pantry – 7 p.m.
- 4** Auxiliary Lunch – 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Children’s Choir Rehearsal – 4 p.m.
Puppet Practice – 4 p.m.
YORFFs Rehearsal – 4:45 p.m.
BSM Picnic – 4 p.m. – Wildwood Park
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.
- 5** Interfaith Association – Noon
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 8** *Mother’s Day*
Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.
Children’s Church – Worship @ 11
C4 Worship – 6:30 p.m.
- 9** Retired Ministers & Spouses – 5 p.m. – Maple Terrace
- 10** Jr. Hi. Fundraiser @ Papa John’s [Bridgewater] – all day
BRCS Handbell Concert – 6:30 p.m.
Fellowship & Recreation Commission – 7 p.m.
- 11** Bridgewater Ministers – 8 a.m. – Maple Terrace
Puppet Practice – 4 p.m.
YORFFs Rehearsal – 4:45 p.m.
May Women’s Event – 6 p.m.
- 12** Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.
- 15** Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.
B.C. Baccalaureate – 10 a.m. – Nininger Hall
Blood Pressure Clinic – 9:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Children’s Church – Worship @ 11
Children’s Worship Picnic – Noon
B.C. Commencement – 2 p.m. – Campus Mall
- 17** Food Pantry – 7 p.m.
Stewardship Commission – 7 p.m.
Gifts Discernment Committee – 7:15 p.m.
- 18** Board of Administration – 7 p.m.
- 19** Sanctus Choir – 7:30 p.m.
- 20** C4 Worship Planning Team – 3 p.m.

20-21 Shenandoah District Disaster Ministries Auction
– Rockingham Fairgrounds

21 Men’s Fellowship – 7:30 a.m.

22 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.
Youth Workcamp Auction – Noon
100 Men in Black – 3 p.m.
C4 Worship – 6:30 p.m.

23 June Newsletter article submission deadline – Noon
Book Club – 7 p.m.

24 BRCS Vocal Concert – 6:30 p.m.
Child Care Center Board – 7 p.m.

25 Puppet Practice – 4 p.m.
YORFFs Rehearsal – 4:45 p.m.
Pre-School Graduation – 7 p.m.

26 Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.

27 Meg Riner / Frank Oncken Rehearsal – 5 p.m.

28 Riner / Oncken Wedding – 4 p.m.

30 Church Offices Closed – Memorial Day Holiday

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

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

Information is due by noon on Monday, May 23.

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-Ellebee
Child Care Center Administrator, Kathleen Arndt
