

STAFFING TASK TEAM FORMED

At its September 19 meeting the Board of Administration approved the formation of a Task Team to study possible staffing models and relationships in our congregation. This task team grew out of a recommendation first presented to the Executive Committee and the Ministerial Services Commission from our pastors suggesting that we move to a team model of ministry. This opportunity is afforded by the close relationship and long tenure of our pastors as well as changes among our current staff, including the retirement of our Business Manager, the hiring of an Interim Financial Secretary, and the upcoming retirement of our Christian Education Director. Therefore, the Board has empowered a task team of Steve Watson and Bill Miracle (Executive Committee), Bea Miller and Erin West (Ministerial Services Commission) and Josh Eye (Christian Education Commission) to work along with our pastors as we further explore this possibility. We will continue to provide the congregation updates as we envision new possibilities for the staffing and ministry of our congregation.

~ *Steve Watson*, Board Chair

INTERIM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR SEARCH

With the announced retirement of Jeanie Eye as our Christian Education Director at the end of this year, and considering the formation of the staffing task team announced above, BWCOB is now looking for someone to fill this position on an interim basis. Specific details are still being determined, but the initial term of the interim will be for six-months beginning in January of 2019, with the basic job responsibility of maintaining the Christian Education ministry of the congregation through the remainder of the current school year. The Board has commissioned a Search Committee to hire this interim staff position. Chris Zepp will chair the committee, and he will be joined by Erin Dalrymple (Christian Education Commission), Gladys Remnant (Board / Executive Committee), and Mike Fike (At Large). Our hope is that we might find this person within our membership – someone already familiar with many of the persons and programs of our congregation. If you are interested in this position, please contact Chris Zepp.

JOURNEY BAGS

The children of our church are very caring and loving. They always want to help others, especially other children. For our Fall children's offering and our Christmas project we are collecting monetary donations so that we can purchase items for Journey Bags. It is a wonderful ministry and we hope the congregation will help us.

A Journey Bag is a small bag or backpack to help to provide comfort to children and youth as they enter the foster care system. These bags provide essentials for the first few days in a new place, as well as comfort items to ease a scary transition. Every child deserves to know they matter. When a child receives a Journey Bag, they not only receive new items they can keep during their journey, but it also helps provide them with dignity and the notion that someone cares about what they are going through.

GREETERS NEEDED!

We are looking for volunteers to serve as GREETERS for worship, needed at both the North and South entrances. Your responsibility will be to arrive 20-25 minutes before the service begins and welcome folks as they arrive. Feel free to include your family or someone else if you so desire. Some serve one Sunday at one entrance and another Sunday at the other entrance. To sign up, please contact Margaret Horn at 540-908-2585 or Mhornf@gmail.com or visit our church website (www.bwcob.org) and follow the links from the Main Heading Menu: "Connect" → "Volunteer!" → "Sunday Morning Greeters."

BACKPACK PROGRAM

This school year, we are continuing to help children with food insecurities at Mountain View Elementary School by providing food for the weekend. According Rachael Stebbins-Trissel, guidance counselor and backpack coordinator at MVES, the request for assistance more than doubled this year. Therefore, she is asking her community partners, like BWCOP, to provide food for a month instead of each week for the year. In October, BWCOP will donate food to 88 children (in 58 families). This will be a huge undertaking, but it's something we think we can manage—with your help. We try to provide the children with enough food for three suppers (including Friday), two breakfasts, and two lunches, plus anything extra (special treats just to hopefully bring them a bit of joy). When we begin the process of providing food for all 88 children, volunteers will be needed to help sort the food and pack the bags. We provide one bag of food per child each week for the month. This is a ministry that is so important to the children of MVES who are in need and in our community. If you are willing and able to help with this program, please be in touch with Shannon in the church office. It is planned that the first sorting and packing will take place on Wednesday, October 3, at 2 p.m. As always, monetary donations are accepted, as are food items such as canned fruit, peanut butter, jelly in plastic containers, pop tarts, saltine crackers, canned chili, rice & beans, juice boxes or pouches, cracker packs, oatmeal packets, canned pasta, and granola bars. If you have questions regarding what is or isn't usable, feel free to contact Shannon. THANK YOU for your willingness to help these children who are in this unfortunate situation.

UPDATED DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Please make the following corrections and additions in your 2018 Congregational Contacts Directory:

Megan Button
17125 Mistflower Lane
Urbandale, IA 50323

Laura Evick
PMB 115
1666 E. Market Street, Suite C
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
levick@hooverpenrod.com

Timothy (Timbo) & Heather Hartwell
681 John Tyler Circle, Apt. 104
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
Heather: gentry.hl@gmail.com

Steve & Claire Martindale Cell Numbers
Steve: 540-607-4578 / Claire: 540-607-2096



WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Everyone is welcome to join in these meals, served in the Social Hall most Wednesday Nights 5:30-6:30 p.m. through mid-May. Catering will be provided by local restaurants and in-house chefs on a rotating basis. Check the bulletin, mid-week emails, or the church website for menu and schedule. A free-will offering supports the cost of these meals, with a suggested donation based on the catering/menu. **Volunteers are needed to help with set-up, clean-up, and dishes.** To sign-up, please contact the church office or go directly to the online volunteer calendar by visiting the church website and following the link for Wednesday Night Meals found under the "Fellowship" menu. Contact the church office with any questions (or to suggest menu options!)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS IN OCTOBER

Will be catered by:

October 3: Subway Restaurant

October 10: Bridgewater Food Store

October 17: Francesco's Italian Restaurant

October 24: Nikki Watson

WORSHIP SERVICES

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

October 7—20th Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*

Scripture Reading: Genesis 2:18-24

Sermon: "A Fish in the Bowl"

October 14—21st Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: *Pastor Chris Zepp*

Scripture Readings: Mark 10:17-31 & Hebrews 4:12-16

Sermon: "Keep it 100"

October 21—22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*

Scripture Reading: Job 38:1-7, 34-41

Sermon: "Job Well Done"

October 28—23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*

Scripture Readings: Job 42:1-6, 10-17 & Mark 10:46-52

Sermon: "Like Job, We Remember"

AUTHOR IN CONGREGATION

Kay M. Bowman's published devotional book, *Tears in My Heart*, is available in the church library and for purchase on amazon.com. Kay also co-authored with her daughter, Dr. Darla Kay Bowman Dearthoff, *Beneath the Tip of the Iceberg*, an English as a second language study book.

AUTUMN CELEBRATION

On Saturday, October 27, 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 in which to collect money. 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 Bridgewater Interchurch Food Pantry, celebrating the success of the Food Pantry Garden begun this year. 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!



For Our Prayers during the Month of October 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...

Facing financial hardships

Starting new ventures, jobs, establishing new homes and new rhythms

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 recovering and reclaiming life after storms

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

Kathryn Roller, sister of **Janet Coffman**, who died September 17

David Will, who died September 15

Dorothy Dellinger, sister of **Charlotte Harvey**, who died September 14

Glendon Shank, husband of **Mildred**, who died September 12

Lowell Miller, husband of **Peggy** and father of **Robbie Miller**, who died September 2

Fred Garst, husband of **Sue Garst**, son of **Freda Garst** and brother of **Marsha Garst**, who died August 16;

Tammy Wassmann, mother-in-law of **Carl McIntyre**; **Richi Yowell**, pastor of Mt. Olivet Church of the Brethren;

Nadia Hijeb, a student from John Wayland Elementary

... those under the care of Hospice, Palliative Care and Comfort Care

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

Glenda Wampler, **Fred Swartz**, **Mary Lee Spangler**, **Denny Eye**

...those requiring long-term healthcare, specifically... in Avante, Bridgewater Home, Sunnyside, & White Birch Estates

...those in Volunteer Service, specifically...Lauren Capasso (Houston, TX), Lauren Flora (Elgin, IL) Stephen Miller (Japan)

...those in Military Service, specifically...Tyler Hopkins, Kent Hutchinson (on active deployment)

...those who are requesting prayer specifically or have been on the prayer chain recently... The Figgs Family

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

BRIDGEWATER HOME AUXILIARY LUNCHEON

When: Wednesday, October 3, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Where: Social Hall
Cost: \$6 (carry-outs available)
Menu: Baked Potato Bar, Southwestern Salad, Cookies,
Iced Tea and Coffee
Prepared & served by Bridgewater Retirement Community
Staff.

BRETHREN ENCYCLOPEDIA

The library has an extra copy of The Brethren Encyclopedia, volumes 1-3 to share. There is no charge, but a donation to the library would make the library staff smile. See Shannon in the church office if you are interested.

PASTOR'S BOOK STUDIES

This month's book study with Pastor Chris will meet on Wednesday afternoons, 2-3 p.m., October 3 & 7, and will focus on *Forbearance: A Theological Ethic for a Disagreeable Church* (2017) by James Calvin Davis, Presbyterian minister and professor of religion at Middlebury College.

What happens when we approach disagreement not as a problem to solve but as an opportunity to practice Christian virtue? In this book James Calvin Davis reclaims the biblical concept of forbearance to develop a theological ethic for faithful disagreement. Pointing to Ephesians and Colossians, in which Paul challenged his readers to bear with each other "in spite of differences, Davis draws out a theologically grounded practice in which Christians work hard to maintain unity while still taking seriously matters on which they disagree. The practice of forbearance, Davis argues, offers Christians a dignified, graceful, and constructive way to deal with conflict. Forbearance can also strengthen the church's public witness, offering an antidote to the pervasive divisiveness present in contemporary culture.

If you have not already ordered a book through the church office, you should obtain your own copy. We will discuss the first five chapters (thru page 109) on October 3.

CROP MEAL / CROP WALK

On Thursday, November 1, 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, November 4, 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.

FUNDRAISER MEAL FOR BSM AT JALAPEÑOS

On Thursday, November 1, 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.

We do need some RSVPs to hold the event, so if you plan to attend, please register your intent by visiting www.groupraise.com/events/69583. 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!

BWCOB OCTOBER 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.

2 Executive Committee – 7 p.m.

3 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.
Fellowship & Recreation Commission – 7 p.m.
Mission & Service Commission – 7 p.m.
Worship & Music Commission – 7 p.m.
Ministerial Services Commission – 7:30 p.m.

4 Brethren Student Movement – 6 p.m. – Carter Center
Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.

6 Memorial Service for Lowell Miller – 11 a.m.

7 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.
Children's Worship during Worship at 11
Youth Fundraiser Lunch & Summer Faith Formation
Reports – Noon
Sr. Hi. Movie Night & Discussion – Zepp's Home

9 Finance Commission – 7 p.m.

10 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. – Home of Kathleen Gardner

11 Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.

13 Memorial Reception for Glendon Shank – 2 p.m.

14 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.
BSM Leadership Team – 8:30 p.m.

16 Foundation Board – 7 p.m.

17 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.
Board of Administration – 7 p.m.

18 Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.

19 Brethren Student Movement – 6 p.m.

20 Youth attend JMU Parade of Champions

21 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.
Blood Pressure Clinic – 9:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Children's Worship during Worship at 11
Shenandoah District Youth Fall Fest – 5 p.m.

24 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.

25 Brethren Student Movement – 6 p.m. – Carter Center
Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.

27 Autumn Celebration – 5 p.m.

28 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m.

31 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.

OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS

2 Bridgewater Interchurch Food Pantry – 7 p.m.

3 B. H. Auxiliary Luncheon – 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

4 Interfaith Association – Noon – EMU

5 Alzheimer's Benefit Concert – 7 p.m.

7 Acapella Benefit Concert for VBMHC – 7 p.m.

8 Ret. Ministers & Spouses – 5 p.m. – Maple Terrace

10 Bridgewater Ministers – 8 a.m. – Maple Terrace

16 Bridgewater Interchurch Food Pantry – 7 p.m.

21 District Conference Delegate Briefing – 4 p.m. –
Pleasant Valley CoB