

Keep the Lord Before You

The alarm clock sounds and unread text messages and e-mails flood your phone. News alerts and social media pings capture your attention. The morning silence surrenders to the demands of another day, as prayer and devotions are hurried or skipped. What used to be a “thoughtful hour” can easily become a “mindless minute” as time with God is stealthily swapped for the false god of busyness.

Many obstacles keep us from praying, thus stealing the vitality from our devotional experience: busyness of life, complacency and lack of interest, discouragement and disillusionment.

A person’s prayer life is indicative of the state of his or her walk with the Lord. Regular, earnest prayer is the breath of the soul that busyness can easily choke out. No one was as busy as Jesus. From his hectic ministry, we see an unwavering commitment to prayer and quiet time with God.

One day, Jesus was spending a quiet morning alone with God. But a sea of people quickly gathered around him, and his time was interrupted by a multitude of ministry needs as he spent the day healing, teaching, and being with the people. But we must not miss the personal discipline demonstrated by Jesus in caring for his own soul. As daylight faded, Jesus sent the multitude away, including his disciples, in order to reclaim the solace of quietness on the mountain and live in the joyful awareness of the Father’s presence (see Matthew 14:13-23).

Early in my ministry training, Pastor Harold Moyer, my mentor, and I were in one of our regular meetings when he inquired, “How is your prayer life?” After sharing numerous things vying for my time, I exclaimed, “I am too busy to pray!” He replied in his stern but loving way, “Son, you are too busy not to pray!”

—Eddie H. Edmonds, pastor
Moler Avenue Church of the Brethren
Martinsburg, West Virginia

Text for today: “The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. I *bless the LORD* who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure” (Psalm 16:5-9, NRSV). **Bible readings for today:** Daniel 12:1-3; Psalm 16 (7); Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25; Mark 13:1-8.

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Bless the LORD



BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
at Worship November 18, 2018 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

GATHERING

PRELUDES (11:00) Variations on: *John Barr*
"Now Thank We All Our God"
Marche Triomphale *S. Karg-Elert*
"Now Thank We All Our God"

CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER *Jeff Carr*
Please sign and pass the *Friendship Register* pad located at the inside aisle of the pew. Signing helps us learn the names of those worshipping near us. After all have signed, the pad can be passed back to the inside aisle.

CHORAL INTROIT (11:00) *John Barr*
Fanfare on "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP Mark Hayes & Tim Hughes, adapted
One: Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness
All: Opened our eyes, let us see.
One: Beauty that made this heart adore You
All: Hope of a life spent with You.
One: Here I am to worship, Here I am to bow down
All: Here we are to say that You're our God.
One: You're altogether lovely, Altogether worthy
All: Altogether wonderful to us.
One: King of all days, Oh so highly exalted
All: Glorious in heaven above.
One: Humbly You came to the earth You created
All: All for love's sake became poor.
One: Here I am to worship, Here I am to bow down
All: Here we are to say that You're our God. Amen.

YORFF ENSEMBLE (11:00) Canon in Doran *Brent Holl*

PROCLAIMING

CHILDREN'S TIME (11:00) *Josh Eye*
Children of ALL ages are invited to the front of the sanctuary for a time of building upon and connecting to faith through stories and interactions. Following the Children's Story, all children preschool through 5th grade are invited to attend Children's Worship in the Agape Room.

***HYMN # 94** *Come, ye thankful people* ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 16 *NRSV*
Mark 13:1-8

ANTHEM (11:00) *We Plow The Fields* *Donald McCullough*
Andrea Nolley, Flute

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Bill Faw*

SERMON "Glad Hearts and Big Buildings" *Jeff Carr*

RESPONDING

HYMN # 385 *What gift can we bring* ANNIVERSARY SONG

REFLECTIONS (8:30) ...a time for conversation.

OFFERING

Invitation

Offertory

(8:30) We bring our tithes and offerings to the worship center.

(11:00) Ushers receive our tithes and offerings.

We Gather Together *Martha Sobaje*

Prayer

***HYMN # 86** *Now thank we all our God* NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE (11:00) *Now Thank We All Our God* *J. S. Bach*
(from Cantata 79) arr. *Claude Means*

* Rise as able in body and spirit.

MEETINGS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & NURTURE

November 18-24, 2018 (All events are p.m. unless noted)

This is a church events calendar and does not include all building events use.
Please be sure to schedule ALL EVENTS through the church office.

- Today** 9 a.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal Choir Room
9:30 & 10:30 a.m. Blood Pressure Clinic Office Reception
Children's Worship during Worship at 11 – Agape Room
- Tues.** 7:00 Food Pantry Social Hall
- Wed.** 2:00 Pastor's Book Study Lounge
- Thurs.** Church Offices & Building Closed
Blessings for a wonderful Thanksgiving!!
- Fri.** Church Offices Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday

NEXT SUNDAY– November 25, 2018 – *Reign of Christ Sunday*

Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary

Preaching: Pastor Jeff Carr

Sermon: "Endings and Beginnings"

Scripture: Revelation 1:4b-8

Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m. – Choir Room

Sunday School – 9:45 a.m. – Classrooms

Reception for Jeanie Eye – Noon – Social Hall

Senior High NYC Reunion Lunch – Noon – TBD

Junior High Youth Fellowship – 5-8 p.m. – Youth Room

BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

*An inclusive family of faith seeking to follow Jesus
and live the love of God.*

Our Mission...

As an inclusive community of faith, we commit ourselves to embody the love of God and to share our diverse lives and gifts with each other and the world. Through faith formation, worship, mission, and fellowship we boldly proclaim the peace and love of Christ. Together we work for justice, extend grace, and partner with God to offer abundant life, healing, and hope to our community and the world.

Our Values...

*Sharing life together and including all persons in our common life.
Growing in faith, compassion, and understanding.
Serving one another and our neighbor's good.
Sharing the love of God and the God that is love.*

PASTORAL MINISTRY STAFF

Jeff Carr – Senior Pastor

Chris Zepp – Associate Pastor

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITIES MINISTRY STAFF

Fortunato Correa – Custodian

Phil Flory – Treasurer

Karissa Hunt – Interim Financial Secretary

Shannon Puffenbarger – Administrative Assistant

Leon Rhodes – Head Teller

PROGRAM & MUSIC MINISTRY STAFF

Kathleen Arndt – Child Care Center Administrator

John Barr – Organist

Jim Benedict – Bell Choir Director

Josh Eye – Interim Christian Education Director

Mary Beth Flory – Pianist

Marianne Houff – Children's Choir Director

Ellsworth Neff – Sound, Light, Video Coordinator

Curtis Nolley – Sanctus Choir Director & Music Coordinator

Clarke & Hope Staton – Youth Ministry Coordinators

CONTACT INFORMATION

420 College View Drive, Bridgewater, VA 22812

www.bwcob.org / (540) 828-3711

Normal office hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-Noon, and 1-5 p.m.

SUNDAY MORNING INFORMATION & TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

HOSPITALITY CENTER in the Greeting Hall

Nametags; large-print Bibles, hymnals, & bulletins; listening receivers; and information are available here.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 a.m.

PARKING ASSISTANCE: 10:30-10:55 a.m. every Sunday.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!

Children are always welcome among us and in our corporate worship gatherings. Activity bags are available in the greeting hall for their use and enjoyment. Additionally, childcare for children ages birth to kindergarten is available as well as a "cry room" for those who wish to listen and see the worship service in a separate room from the sanctuary. Ushers are more than willing to help you locate these resources.

Decorator – Heather Barkey

Deacon Caregiver – Andrea Miracle

Fellowship Host – Tim Kreps

Head Usher – Palmer Lee Berry

Pianist (8:30) – Cindy Fike

Van Drivers – Melvin Wampler & Palmer Berry

Worship Leader – Bill Faw

TODAY'S CHORAL INTROIT TEXT: See Hymnal #96, v. 1

TODAY'S ANTHEM TEXT: See Hymnal #96

ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP FOR SUNDAY: 11/11/18

Worship Attendance: 8:30 – 40 11:00 – 234 Sunday School: 131

Pledges & Envelope Giving	\$19,352.00
Loose Offering	765.00
Church User Fees	300.00
<i>Messenger</i> Subscription	14.50
Brain & Behavior Research	100.00
Wednesday Night Meals	290.00
Nigeria EYN	100.00
Women's Fellowship	300.00
Youth Programs	470.00
College Care Packages	180.00
Jubilee Circle	16.10
Kay Rittenhouse Memorial Fund	500.00

CHRISTMAS GIFT GIVING PROJECT

BWCOB is partnering with Harrisonburg-Rockingham Social Services to provide gifts for local children and elderly and disabled adults. To participate, select a gift tag from the display in the Greeting Hall **today**, purchase the gift(s) requested (\$25 range), and return the wrapped gift(s) to the Greeting Hall by **next Sunday, November 25**. It is very helpful that each wrapped gift have the gift tag firmly attached and that any additional packages have the identifying number and names.

HISTORY OF HYMNODY

Join the Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center this evening at 7 p.m. at Ridgeway Mennonite church for a "History of Hymnody" singing event with Nancy Faus Mullen. Fliers with more information are available from the literature rack in the greeting hall.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

We are continuing to collect donations (both items and financial) for our annual end-of semester care packages through November 25. Please also contact the church office by the 25th to report current mailing addresses! More information – including a suggested shopping list – can be found in the Literature Rack or by contacting Pastor Chris.

A GIFT FOR OTHERS

Your gift for those less fortunate may only take two hours of your time. There are sign-up sheets on the greeting hall hospitality desk for you to staff the Salvation Army booth at Bridgewater Foods Market. Dates are Thursday-Saturday, November 29-December 1, from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. each day. You can staff the booth by yourself for two hours or perhaps sign up with a friend and each **ring the bell** for an hour. Thank you for your participation!

INVITATION TO HELP DECORATE FOR ADVENT

Help in preparing for our Advent is needed in many ways and times! Is there a slot that you can fill in this busy season?

Mon., Nov. 26, 6:30 pm - Strong arms needed to put up four trees

Wed., Nov. 28, 5:15 pm - decorating trees in the Greeting Hall & Children's wing. MANY hands of all ages are needed!

Cherub, Carol & YOrff Choir parents and siblings, and all Wed. Night dinner attendees are invited to help decorate.

Fri., Nov. 30, 9:30 am - noon - Sanctuary decorating, wreaths, garlands & Crèche - both manual and artistic help is appreciated!

Sat., Dec. 1, 9 am - noon - Finish preparations for the First Sunday of Advent, sanctuary, doors, and tables.

Psalm 16
Song of Trust and Security in God
A Miktam of David.

¹ Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

² I say to the LORD, “You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you.”^[a]

³ As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble,
in whom is all my delight.

⁴ Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;^[b]
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.

⁵ The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.

⁶ The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.

⁷ I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.

⁸ I keep the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.

¹⁰ For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.

¹¹ You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Mark 13:1-8 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)
The Destruction of the Temple Foretold

13 As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him,
“Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!”

² Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not
one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.”

³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple,
Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ “Tell us,
when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are
about to be accomplished?” ⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them,
“Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my
name and say, ‘I am he!’^[a] and they will lead many astray. ⁷ When
you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must
take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸ For nation will rise against
nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in
various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of
the birth pangs.