

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Got the winter blues? Then come have fun and laughs at church when the Fellowship and Recreation Commission hosts a Family Game Night on Saturday, February 23, beginning at 6:30 p.m. As always, the active games, such as half court basketball and Ping-Pong, will be located in the Social Hall, while board and card games will be in the Greeting Hall. Drinks will be provided. In case of snow, the alternate date will be Saturday, March 2.

Got a game to play? Bring it!

Got a snack to share? Bring it!

Got friends to bring? Bring them!

All by yourself with nothing to do? Just come and LET'S PLAY!!!

PASTOR'S BOOK STUDIES

The next book study with Pastor Chris will meet 2-3 pm on the first and third Wednesday afternoons of the next two months – February 6 & 20 and March 6 & 20 – and will focus on *Unbelievable: Why Neither Ancient Creeds Nor the Reformation Can Produce a Living Faith Today* by John Shelby Spong (2018).

Five hundred years after Martin Luther and his Ninety-Five Theses ushered in the Reformation, bestselling author and controversial bishop and teacher John Shelby Spong delivers twelve forward-thinking theses to spark a new reformation to reinvigorate Christianity and ensure its future. ...Spong contends that there is mounting pressure among Christians for a radically new kind of Christianity—a faith deeply connected to the human experience instead of outdated dogma. To keep Christianity vital, he urges modern Christians to update their faith in light of these advances in our knowledge, and to challenge the rigid and problematic Church teachings that emerged with the Reformation. There is a disconnect, he argues, between the language of traditional worship and the language of the twenty-first century. Bridging this divide requires us to rethink and reformulate our basic understanding of God.

If you have not already ordered a book through the church office, you should obtain your own copy. We will discuss parts I-III (thru page 76) on February 6.

SRMH FREE eCARDS TO PATIENTS

Sentara has a site that offers free eCards to those who are in their hospitals. The website is: sentaraecards.com. This might be a good way for you to share your love, concern, and prayers with a patient without having to send a physical card. Think about it!

BWCOB FEBRUARY 2019 **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.

1-2 BSM Lock-In

3 Children's Worship during Worship at 11
Youth Fundraiser Lunch – Noon
Youth Super Bowl Party – 6 p.m. – Zepp Home

4 Gifts Discernment Committee – 7 p.m.

5 Executive Committee – 7 p.m.

6 Auxiliary Luncheon – 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.
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.
Properties Commission – 6:30 p.m.
Yorffs Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
Fellowship & Recreation Commission – 7 p.m.
Mission & Service Commission – 7 p.m.
Ministerial Services Commission – 7:45 p.m.

7 BSM – 6 p.m. – Carter Center
Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.

10 Sr. Hi. Youth Chillax Afternoon

11 Finance Commission – 7 p.m.

13 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.

14 Youth to TAHS Musical
Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.

15 BSM – 6 p.m.

15-16 Jr. Hi. Youth Lock-In

17 Blood Pressure Clinic – 9:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Children's Worship during Worship at 11

20 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.

21 BSM – 6 p.m. – Carter Center
Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.

23 Family Game Night – 6:30 p.m.

24 Jr. Hi. Youth Fellowship – 5 p.m.

27 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.

28 Youth to Spotswood Musical
Puppets Rehearsal – 6:30 p.m.
Sanctus Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m.

OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS

5 Bridgewater Interchurch Food Pantry – 7 p.m.

7 Interfaith Association – Noon – EMU

11 Retired Ministers & Spouses – Noon – Maple Terrace

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

19 Bridgewater Interchurch Food Pantry – 7 p.m.

BITS AND PEACES

[brought to you by Peace Committee and
Mission & Service Commission]

An act of love may tip the balance.

~ Elie Wiesel

Happy are those who find wisdom,
and those who get understanding....

Her ways are ways of pleasantness,
and all her paths are peace.

~ Proverbs 3:13, 17, NRSV

NOTES OF THANKS

Thank you to our church family for the love and support you have shared through your visits and cards and prayers during Kay's illness and death. Thanks to Pastor Jeff for conducting the memorial service "just the way Wilbur wanted," which was also the way Kay would have wanted. Thanks to John Barr for the beautiful organ music and to Josh Eye for the delightful children's story. Thanks, also, to the Stovalls for preparing the food for our family meal, which gave us further opportunity to share with one another. With appreciation,

The Family of Kay Rittenhouse

Thank you so much for the lovely packages you have sent me since I came to Bridgewater College. Best wishes,
Syrga Kanatbek Kyzy

Thank you for allowing friends and family of Karen Hedrick to gather in your facility for her Celebration of Life service. Bridgewater CoB was wonderful in helping us! Thank you!

Jan Stover Miller

WORSHIP SERVICES

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

February 3—4th Sunday after the Epiphany
Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*
Scripture Readings: Luke 4:21-30 & 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Sermon: "*The Greatest of These*"

February 10—5th Sunday after the Epiphany
Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*
Scripture: Luke 5:1-11
Sermon: "*Digging Deep*"

February 17—6th Sunday after the Epiphany
Preaching: *Pastor Chris Zepp*
Scripture Reading: Luke 6:17-26
Sermon: "*Plain Words for Poor People*"

February 24—7th Sunday after the Epiphany
Preaching: *Pastor Jeff Carr*
Scripture Reading: Luke 6:27-38
Sermon: "*What to do*"

REMOTE MEDICAL CLINIC

Remote Area Medical (RAM) is a major nonprofit provider of mobile medical clinics. Their mission is to prevent pain and alleviate suffering by providing free, quality healthcare to those in need. They do this by delivering dental, vision, and medical services to underserved and uninsured individuals. With financial support from the RMH Foundation and the United Way of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, the Rockingham County Fair Grounds will host a two-day RAM clinic on March 2-3.

How to get involved:

JOY and Friendship Circles have both agreed to make 100 sandwiches for this event to be given to those receiving medical services.

Other opportunities for being involved would be to assist financially by providing funds for the lodging of participating medical professionals who will be staying two nights in a motel at \$80 per night.

Should you wish to support this effort, you may send your monetary donation to RMH Foundation, 2010 Health Campus Drive, Harrisonburg, VA 22801. Please be sure to include "RAM Lodging" on the memo line of your check. For more opportunities to participate, including day-of volunteering visit www.ramusa.org > Get Involved > Volunteer With Us > Register to Volunteer.

COMPELLING VISION SESSIONS

In February the Shenandoah District will continue a series of sessions to participate in and help shape the Compelling Vision being formulated for the Church of the Brethren. Kevin Daggett, pastor of Dayton CoB and a member of the Compelling Vision Process Team, will lead the sessions. All of the sessions are on Sunday afternoons, 3-5 p.m.

February 3 - Cedar Grove (616 Cedar Grove Road, Ruckersville)

February 17 - Bridgewater Retirement Community's Huffman Healthcare Center 3rd floor multi-purpose room
(302 N. Second Street, Bridgewater)

February 24 - New Hope (12768 Frost Road, Dunmore, W.Va.)

Attendance is not restricted to those in each section. Instead, you are encouraged to choose a session (or more than one) that is conveniently located and aligns with your schedule. Districts across the denomination are holding similar gatherings, hearing from Brethren what they envision for the Church of the Brethren of the future.

For Our Prayers during the Month of February 2019

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...

Hopeful for and anticipating fresh starts and new opportunities in 2019

Recovering, rebuilding and grieving from natural disasters

Undergoing significant life changes

Living with illnesses, both chronic and acute

Finding peace and contentment

In difficult relationships or experiencing the loss of relationship

Struggling with mental illness, anxiety, depression and or thoughts of suicide

Survivors, Victims, Witnesses, and Perpetrators of violence, intolerance, racism and hatred

Wrestling with their faith

Facing financial hardships

Yearning to find someone with whom they can share love

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

Otto Grau, husband of **Monika Grau**, who died Oct. 16, 2018

(*Otto was pastor of Emmaus Gemeinde Lutheran Church in Cuxhaven Germany, with whom BWCOB began a sister relationship around 1978 and has included several exchange trips throughout years.*)

Denny Eye, husband of **Jeanie** and father of **Jason** and **Josh**, who died Dec. 5; **Karen Glick Hedrick**, daughter of **Becky** and **J.D. Glick**, who died Dec. 1; **Cliff Keplinger**, father of **Donna Miller**, **Karen Hess**, **Julie Huffman**, & **Kevin Keplinger**, who died Nov. 18; **John Sayre**, who died Nov. 8; **David Flora**, father of **Steve Flora** and brother of **Sam Flora** who died Nov. 5; **Kay Rittenhouse**, wife of **Wilbur Rittenhouse** and sister of **Karen Wyrick**, who died Oct. 25; **Emma Nicholas**, daughter of **Kajsa Svarfvar** & **David Nicholas**, sister of **Jonathan Nicholas**, who died Oct. 24;

... *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, specifically ...*

Wilbur Rittenhouse, **Philip Hutchinson**, **Jackie Towers**, **Walter Erdman**, **Bea Miller**, **Betty Propst**, **Jeff Quay**,
Donnie Fulk, **Miriam Holl**, **Ermina Petcher**

... *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**

... *those who are requesting prayer specifically or have been on the prayer chain recently...*

The Figgs Family, **The Duncan Family**, **Harvey Leddy and Family**, **Mattie Barnhartt**, a 4 year-old diagnosed with leukemia

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