

H E A D L I N E R

C H U R C H O F T H E B R E T H R E N

JANUARY

Newsletter

2021

*"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven."*

Matthew 6:9-10 (NRSV)

"Radical Hope: Glimpses of the Kingdom" was the 2020 Virlina District Conference theme taken from Matthew 6:9-10. The conference, originally scheduled to take place at the Bonsack Baptist Church east of Roanoke on November 13-14, was shifted to a virtual format due to the ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic. While this shift was a challenge to the established pattern, the Program and Arrangements Committee chaired by Moderator Cathy S. Huffman rose to the occasion. This provided an opportunity to view worship and the business of the delegate body online at the district website using YouTube and Vimeo at www.virlina.org and portions are posted on the Virlina District Resource Center on Plantation Road FB page. A video message was provided from the 2021 Annual Conference Moderator, Paul Munday, as well as presentations for youth from the Interdistrict Youth Cabinet sponsored by Bridgewater College.

The 2021 Worship Service featured musicians from several congregations in Franklin County, Virginia. These offered a broad range of sacred music including instrumentals, hymns, and modern praise. The speakers were Adam Stultz, associate pastor of the Roanoke, Summerdean Church; Ted M. Turner, pastor of the Topeco Church; Emily Laprade Van Pelt, a member of the Antioch Church; David Radcliff, from Blue Ridge and the Director of the New Community Project, and John Thompson, pastor of the Peters Creek Church. Each speaker shared short vignettes about the Radical Hope they've witnessed and how God's Kingdom is seen here on earth.

Written reports were presented in the conference booklet by all of the district commissions and committees, as well as from the denominational and ecumenical partners. Included in the booklet are the minutes and statistics from the 2019 District Conference, the district and Camp Bethel 2021 budgets, the biographical information of those who ran on the ballot, and district staff reports. Conference booklets containing all reports and other items of interest are still available from the District Resource Center by contacting us at virlina2@aol.com or (540) 362-1816.

There were two items of business:

The 2021 Virlina District budget remains unchanged from the 2020 budget, and therefore it was supplied as a matter of information. The members of the 2020 District Board affirmed the budget for 2021.

Ballots were included in the booklets that were mailed to congregations that registered delegates. The election of leadership

for district conference, board and camp was facilitated by mail-in ballots. These were counted under the supervision of Pam M. Hodges, the Head Teller and a member of the Fairview - Rocky Mount Church. The results were announced in the business session presentation on Saturday, November 14, by the Moderator-Elect, Greg Fleshman.

The election results were as follows:

Moderator-Elect (term ending 2022)
Lynn N. Myers (Antioch)

District Board (Term ending 2023):
Dallas L. Bailey (Henry Fork)
Vonda J. Naff (Boones Mill)
Myrna M. Ferguson (Jones Chapel)
Hannah M. Oakes (Roanoke, Summerdean)
Leah O. Harness (Lynchburg)
Laura H. Harrington (Cloverdale)
Robert F. Iseminger, Jr. (Roanoke, Central)
Daniel L. Johnson (Copper Hill)
Wanda Lovern (Topeco)
Jarrod Roberts (Green Hill)

Outdoor Ministries Committee (Term ending 2023):
Peggy Sink (Germantown Brick)
Scott Yingling (Roanoke, Oak Grove)

Program and Arrangements (Term ending 2023):
Tabitha H. Rudy (Smith Mountain Lake)

Nominating and Personnel (Term ending 2023):
Fern S. Baker (Bassett)
Brian W. Turpin (Pleasant Valley)
Andrea B. Mundy (Mount Bethel)

There were 192 delegates from 60 congregations registered including 52 pastors. In-kind offerings received included 11 Disaster Response Clean Up Buckets and 100 Personal Hygiene Kits.

Following his installation, Moderator Greg Fleshman announced that the 2021 theme will be based upon Isaiah 40:31. This verse reads "...but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint" The 2021 Virlina District Conference will be held, if the Lord wills, at the Grandin Court Baptist Church in Roanoke, Virginia on November 12-13, 2021. Let us pray that it is so!

VIRLINA DISTRICT
3402 Plantation Road, NE
Roanoke, Virginia 24012

Ph. (540) 362-1816
Fax (540) 362-1817
1-800-VIRLINA Toll Free

DAVID K. SHUMATE, DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER
MARY SINK ST. JOHN, DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT CONFERENCE, NURTURE AND WITNESS
CATHY S. HUFFMAN, DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY FORMATION
JOY A. MURRAY, COORDINATOR OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES
ED AND SUSAN MCKIMMY, COORDINATORS OF DISASTER RESPONSE



Fraternity - Randy Nelson by letter - October 11, 2020, Rhonda Ballance by letter on October 18, 2020, and Ellie Sonafrank by baptism on October 25, 2020. Elaine Craddock by letter on December 6, 2020.
Red Hill - Mike Wray by letter August 2, 2020.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILIES OF

Rudolph N. "Rudy" Poe died on October 29, 2020. He was a son of the late Madeline Riley Poe and John Robert Poe. Rudy is survived by his wife, Rebecca Crumpacker Poe; two sons, Rudolph N. Poe, Jr. (Carol) and Jonathan Mark Poe (Kathy); two daughters, Judith Ann Poe, and Pamela P. Parker; six grandchildren, four great-grandchildren; and a brother, Clarence M. Poe. He is also survived by the mother of his children, Joyce Lamotte.

Rudy was a contractor by trade and built Holmes Circle and Woodbine Village Townhomes, along with several other individual homes in the Boonsboro area. He volunteered and built several Habitat for Humanity homes, and restored houses in Daniels Hill.

Graveside services were held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, at Evergreen Memorial Park, Roanoke, Virginia, with Carol Elmore officiating.

Robert Hugh "Robbie" Kornegay, III, aged 49, of Rocky Mount, Virginia, passed away on Sunday, August 23, 2020. He is survived by his wife, Marsha Sink Kornegay. Memorial services were conducted from the Antioch Church of the Brethren on Wednesday, August 26, 2020 with Andrew C. Duffey officiating.

Anna Jeanne May Driver, aged 88, of Blue Ridge, Virginia, left this earthly realm peacefully, at home, on Thursday, November 5, 2020. She was the widow of Frederick Anthony Driver. She is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Linda and Glenn Suter; her four children and their spouses, David and Hester Driver, Annette and Rudy Taylor, Donovan and Sheri Driver, and Lanae and Bob Gillespie; grandchildren and spouses, Jeremy and Britnee Taylor, Nathan and Natasha Taylor, Emily and Greg Myers, Kristen and Ryan Dunagan, and Brett and Courtney Driver; and great-grandchildren, Vivian Taylor, Owen Dunagan, Madison May Myers, and Anna Kate Driver.

She was a faithful Christian and loving pastor's spouse, mother, sister, and later in life, a pediatric nurse. Anna and Fred served several congregations of the Church of the Brethren including Dunning's Creek and Spring Run in Pennsylvania, and Middle River, Peters Creek, and Germantown Brick in Virginia. She exemplified love and nonjudgmental acceptance. A private memorial and graveside service was officiated by Patrick C. Starkey.



BETHANY - Part time position, no profile available - Emma Jean Woodard serving as interim pastor.

BETHEL - Part time position, no profile available - **Marla B. Abe resigned effective September 13.**

BETHLEHEM - Full time position, profile pending - **Horace D. Light, Jr. began as interim pastor on October 1.**

EDEN, FIRST - Full time position, profile circulating (P/I-7) - Edward C. Woodard serving as interim pastor.

FRATERNITY - Full time position, profile circulating - **Harold E. Sonafrank and Robert L. Williard serving as interim pastoral team.**

GREEN HILL - Part time position, profile pending - **J. Michael Varner began as interim pastor on September 1.**

JETERS CHAPEL - Part time position, profile circulating (P/I)- Pulpit supply.

LIGHTHOUSE - Part time position, no profile available - Don D. Street, layspeaker from Mount Hermon, serving as pulpit supply.

MAPLE GROVE - Part time position, no profile available - **Chad Beamer serving a pulpit supply.**

MONETA, LAKE SIDE - Part time position, profile circulating (P) - Christian J. Becker (FGBC) continues as pulpit supply.

MONTE VISTA - Part time position, no profile available - **Barry D. Sink passed away on 2020, Pulpit supply.**

NEW BETHEL - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.

NEWPORT NEWS, IVY FARMS - Part time position, profile circulating - Pulpit supply.

OAK GROVE, SOUTH - Part time position, profile not available - **Chris C. Foster resigned effective December 31, 2020.**

ROANOKE, IGLESIA CRISTIANA RENACER - Part time position, profile pending - Pulpit supply.

SAINT PAUL - Part time position, no profile available - **Mark A. Bolt resigned as interim pastor effective September 29.**

SELMA - Part time position, no profile available - **Alvis Jackson serving as pulpit supply.**

SHELTON - Part time position, no profile available - Joseph D. Smith is serving as interim pastor.

TRINITY - Part time position, profile available by request (P) - **Anne Mitchell serving as interim pastor.**

HEADLINER DEADLINE ON JANUARY 25, 2021

Deadline for the March 2021 HEADLINER is January 25, 2021. Forward items to <EHeadliner@aol.com> or to **3402 Plantation Road, NE, Roanoke, VA 24012.** We continue to have mail sent to our pre-2013 address. Please make sure to change our address if you have not done so!

432 PIECE JIGSAW PUZZLE OF THE EDER RIVER

For the first eight Brethren, the Eder River in Schwarzenau, Germany, signified a beginning. On that morning in 1708, they went into the waters of baptism and came up new creatures in Christ with a new vision in a new community. This puzzle celebrates that beginning and reminds us of our rich biblical heritage.

The picture used for this 432 piece, 18" x 24" jigsaw puzzle was taken by Glenn Riegel. The puzzle comes in a custom printed, easy storage cannister with a reusable plastic pop-top lid. Made in the USA

The price is \$38.99 and the puzzle may be ordered from Brethren Press, 1451 Dundee Avenue, Elgin, IL by calling (800) 441-3712 or through the website at www.brethrenpress.com.

SEED, SCATTERED AND SOWN - DECEMBER 21, 2020

Seed, Scattered and Sown: Reaching Beyond This Generation, the mission resourcing campaign of the Virlina District, has attained 284 pledges which total \$584,765. As of the above date we have received \$508,695 toward the fulfillment of these pledges.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILIES OF

Henry Naranji Solanky, passed away on November 5, 2020, two months shy of his 100th birthday. He was born in Valsad, India. He attended the Agricultural College in Pune, and then Wilson College in Bombay. He also received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, Virginia. He and his wife helped establish the secondary school in Khergam, Gujarat State, India.

As a young man he hunted big game and backpacked across Europe even venturing behind the then "Iron Curtain" on his way back home from the United States. He was passionate about organic farming. His heart was owned by his family, by the underserved in his community in India and the Church of the Brethren in India.

He was predeceased by Ansuya Solanky, his wife of 60 years. He is survived by his daughter, Asha Solanky; son, Ashok Solanky; daughter-in-law, Donita Solanky, his beloved grandsons, Sean Solanky and Adam Solanky; and his sister, Lillian C. Rajwadi. A memorial service was held at the West Richmond Church of the Brethren on November 14.

Frank Fleming Epperly Jr., aged 82, of Moneta, Virginia, passed from this world on Wednesday, November 11, 2020. Born on May 24, 1938, Frank was the eldest child of Frank Fleming Epperly and Marie Turman Epperly. He was a member of Saunders Grove Church of the Brethren where he served as deacon.

Frank worked at American Bridge Works and the Norfolk and Western Railway. He also farmed to provide for his family. He owned and operated Walnut Creek Auction Service. His favorite were the cattle sales. This led him to pursue his dream of running a livestock market. In 1986, he and family established the Springlake Livestock Market.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents, and a half-sister, Sylvia Spangler. Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Nadine; sons, Albert (Susan), Eddie (Cindy); and daughter, Edria (Chris Wimmer), his brother, Sheldon; sisters, Ann (George Ferrell), Linda Bowles, and Gloria Epperly; and his grandsons, Joe Epperly (Kelly), Will Epperly (Ally), and Hunter Wimmer (Kandace). A graveside service conducted by Glenn D. Stevens was held on Saturday, November 14, 2020.

DISTRICT BOARD FALL MEETINGS

The District Board met on September 19 at the Oak Grove Church of the Brethren in Roanoke, VA. Among the actions taken were:

- 1) Amy Vilele of the Roanoke, Central Church was approved to fulfill an unexpired term on the board. In addition, 22 committee and commission appointments were approved
- 2) Affirmed a policy concerning affiliation of licensed, commissioned or ordained ministers with a body pursuing division within the Church of the Brethren.
- 3) Approved the 2021 Camp Bethel budget. As with the district budget, this will remain the same as in 2020.
- 4) Approved the lease renewal of the Virginia Interfaith Child Care Center, a tenant of the Backsburg Facility owned by the district.
- 5) Terminated the ordinations of two ministers.
- 6) Continued review of the Personnel Policies.

The District Board met on December 12 following reorganization by video conference. Among the items of business approved were the following:

- 1) A "Principles of Service" policy to assist board members in avoiding divided loyalties or dual relationships was affirmed.
 - 2) A "Conflict of Interest" procedure for dealing with apparent breaches of the principles of service was affirmed.
 - 3) A "Congregational Withdrawal Policy" was affirmed,
- All of the foregoing were developed by the Long Range Financial Planning Committee during the past few months. The same committee is currently revising the pandemic plan of the district to incorporate lessons learned during COVID-19.
- 4) Two ordinations were terminated.
 - 5) Forwarded a proposal to disorganize the Parkway Church to the 2021 District Conference.
 - 6) Appointed Freda Horn, a member of the Smith Mountain Lake Church, to fulfill an unexpired term on the board

- 7) Amended the vacation policy for district staff persons.
- 8) Received the auditor's review of the district financial accounts as of December 31, 2019.



DISTRICT OFFICE
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
 3402 Plantation Road NE
 Roanoke, VA 24012

Non-Profit
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Roanoke, Virginia
 Permit #78

Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 2021

1		District Resource Center Closed for New Year's Day Holiday
2	9:00 AM	District Board - Virtual (DKS/MSS)
4	7:00 PM	Northern Area Ministers - Virtual (DKS)
11	6:30 PM	Moneta - Lake Side Steering Committee (DKS)
16	9:00 AM	Program and Arrangements Committee - Virtual (MSS)
16	10:00 AM	Nominating and Personnel Committee - Virtual (DKS/MSS)
18	6:00 PM	Southern Area Ministers - TBD (DKS)
19	6:00 PM	Race Education Team - Virtual (MSS)
25-28	10:00 AM	Council of District Executives - Virtual (DKS)

FEBRUARY 2021

1	9:00 AM	Northern Area Ministers - Virtual (DKS)
	1:00 PM	New Church Development Committee - Virtual (DKS)
5	6:00 PM	Commission on Ministry - TBD (DKS)
8	5:30 PM	Blacksburg, Iglesia Del Buen Steering Committee (DKS)
	6:30 PM	Disaster Response Committee (MSS)
9	1:00 PM	Council of District Executives - East (DKS)
15	6:00 PM	Southern Area Ministers - TBD (DKS)
16	1:30 PM	Christian Growth Institute Administrative Committee - Virtual (DKS)
	6:00 PM	Race Education Team - Virtual (MSS)
20	10:00 AM	Nominating and Personnel Committee - Virtual (DKS/MSS)

And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. Romans 5:5 (NIV)

WITNESS OPPORTUNITIES

WORLD HUNGER AUCTION DISTRIBUTION - 2020

The supporters of the World Hunger Auction have been very generous during the most recent auction cycle, and their participation is greatly appreciated. They raised \$35,629.25 which will be shared as follows:

Heifer International	\$17,300
Roanoke Area Ministries	\$ 8,620
CoB Global Food Initiative	\$ 3,450
Heavenly Manna	\$ 1,775
Stepping Stone Mission	\$ 1,775
Lake Christian Ministries	\$ 1,775
His Cupboard	\$ 500

The Heifer portion will be directed to the East Africa Youth Inclusion Program which works with young people learning technical and financial management in agricultural programs.

From the first auction in 1984 through 2020, \$1,550,590 has been disbursed to agencies addressing hunger issues.

Bruce Huffman has answered the call to chair the committee as planning is already in progress for next year's events. We give thanks for his service and look forward to great things in the future.

NEW COMMUNITY LEARNING TOURS FOR 2021

2021 New Community Project Learning Tours: go, meet, learn, grow, change - yourself and your world! God-willing and COVID-permitting, the New Community Project will offer Learning Tours in 2021 to Myanmar (January); the Ecuadorian Amazon (June); the Dineh Reservation and Shenandoah National Park (July); Denali National Park and Arctic Village, AK or Yellowstone/Tetons (late July). Good company, simple-but-safe accommodations, low price, and a great experience of God's world! For more information contact the New Community Project at www.newcommunityproject.org or (540) 855-1199.

THE REWARD OF RISK - A VIRTUAL NEW AND RENEW EVENT - MAY 13-15, 2021

"The Reward of Risk" is a virtual NEW AND RENEW EVENT sponsored by Discipleship Ministries of the Church of the Brethren. This online event will provide a space to explore new forms of mission, church planting, church renewal and shaping community. This year, the keynote speakers will be Christiana Rice and José Humphreys. Offered in at least three languages, we will be providing opportunities to network with others as we learn and grow. An interpretive document is available - in Spanish, Haitian Creole and English. If you want a copy, please contact us at nuchurch@aol.com

Registration opens February 1, 2021. Further information will be sent in the new year. The website link for all things related to the 2021 NEW AND RENEW EVENT including registration for the conference and updates is <https://www.brethren.org/discipleshipmin/newandrenew/>.

RACE EDUCATION TEAM

The Commission on Witness invites all congregations to get to know its newest committee, the Race Education Team.

Like many other committees in our district structure, the Race Education Team is made up of five members from various churches in Virgina. The Team is open to recommending reading material, coming to Sunday School classes or mid-week Bible Studies, or answering the invitation to anyone who needs to talk about or seek knowledge about anti-racism, historic conflicts, etc. It is the Team's desire that we become better witnesses to the world as we become better equipped to be welcoming to all in our congregations. Contact Mary Sink StJohn at District Resource Center by phone at (540) 362-1816 or by e-mail at virlina2@aol.com to schedule time with the team.

VIRLINA DISTRICT DISASTER RESPONSE MINISTRY

Although pandemic restrictions have limited "hands on" disaster relief opportunities in 2020, five persons from Virgina District (two from Hollins Road and three from West Richmond) journeyed to the coastal area of North Carolina for a project in November. In addition, the Disaster Response Committee has made a number of grants this year. These include \$5,000 to the Newport News - Ivy Farms Church to repair storm damage, \$3,500 to the Hiwassee Church to replace roof and repair interior damage, and \$10,000 to the Brethren Disaster Ministries.

BRETHREN DISASTER MINISTRIES VOLUNTEER AND PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

Brethren Disaster Ministries continues to provide the opportunity for all interested individuals to serve in a meaningful and helpful way during the coming year. While persons with building trade experience are always needed, there is also a need for persons without apparent construction skills such as gofers, helpers and cooks. The following weeks have been set aside as designated weeks for disaster work in North Carolina and Dayton, Ohio, in 2021. Please note the dates, if you are interested in serving for one or more weeks.

Coastal NC	1/17-23	OPEN - Half group - Need 8 people.
Coastal NC	2/28-3/6	Virgina - Half group - Committed to 8.
Coastal NC	3/21-27	OPEN - Half group - Need 8 people.
Dayton, OH	4/4-10	Virgina - Full group - Hollins Road
Dayton, OH	6/6-12	OPEN - Half group - Antioch - 8 people
Dayton, OH	8/8-14	OPEN - Full group - Need 14 people
Dayton, OH	10/10-16	OPEN - Half group - Need 8 people
Dayton, OH	12/5-11	OPEN - Half group - Need 8 people

In addition to providing volunteers for disaster projects, we continue to receive kit supplies, cleanup buckets and school kits at the District Resource Center. During these challenging times we can continue to share our call to serve others in Christ's name through disaster response. By doing so, we allow the love of Christ to shine through in a unique way.

If you want to help in any way with this ministry please contact our Disaster Coordinators, Ed and Susan McKimmy at (540) 354-5345 or virlinadrc@gmail.com. Disaster response is one of the ways that we are Continuing the Work of Jesus: Peacefully, Simply, and Together. Won't you come with us?

NURTURE OPPORTUNITIES

PILGRIMAGE XXIV RESCHEDULED - MARCH 26-28, 2021

Although the severity of COVID-19 is different in various locations, we still are not to the place where we could have a large gathering in one room, sit together for meals and in small groups, give hugs, etc. So, for the safety of all, the Pilgrimage Committee has decided to postpone Pilgrimage. The new date is March 26-28, 2021, which is typically when it is held each year. There will be more information closer to the time if you would like to register.

FAITHQUEST IN A BOX - MARCH 11-12, 2021

This year, in lieu of the traditional FaithQuest that we typically offer for youth in Grades 9-12, we are offering, "Quest For Faith: A Self-Led Exploration Of Faith For Youth."

Due to the continuing pandemic, we believe that FaithQuest cannot be held in the normal manner in order to keep people safe. As we pondered what to do we realized that the continuing true purpose of FaithQuest is to help youth connect with God and with one another. God can connect with us wherever we are.

Therefore, we developed "FaithQuest in a Box." This "Quest for Faith" in 2021 will come packed with devotionals, fun activities, as well as spiritually reflective information for youth to complete on their own or with their small youth groups.

"FaithQuest in a Box" will be available for pick-up, for those who register for the activity, at the District Resource Center on March 11 and March 12, 2021 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. We are also able to ship boxes upon request.

OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF

Carl Ernest Stump, aged 100, of Roanoke, Virginia, who went peacefully to his eternal home on Saturday morning, December 12, 2020. He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 76 years, Gladys Carter Stump; and his parents, Cleophas P. and Junia Stump. Having grown up in a minister's home in the Bent Mountain Community, he was nurtured in faith by the Mount Union Church of the Brethren. He was a faithful member of Peters Creek Church of the Brethren since 1959, where he taught Sunday School with his wife for many years. Carl and Gladys also gave significant time camping and leading at Camp Bethel and on disaster response projects. Graveside Services were conducted on Tuesday, December 15, 2020, at Sherwood Memorial Park with Pastor John Thompson officiating.

Gladys Carter Stump, aged 95, of Roanoke went peacefully to her heavenly home on Saturday, November 21, 2020. She was preceded in death by her parents, George and Mattie Carter; five brothers and sisters and their spouses, as well as, a special grandson, Wes Epperly. As can be seen from her husband's obituary, Gladys served alongside of him as a partner in mission. Graveside services were held on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at Sherwood Memorial Park with Pastor John Thompson officiating.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILIES OF

Garland O. Bowman Sr. of Roanoke, Virginia, aged 93, passed away on Tuesday, August 18, 2020. He was born on March 6, 1927 in Franklin County, Virginia to the late Noah M. and Hattie H. Bowman. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Betty Rakes Bowman, their son, Garland O. Bowman Jr. and his wife, Susan H. Bowman, and their daughter, Kerri Glenn Bowman; and their daughter, Betty B. Thurman and her husband, Milford W. Thurman, and their son, Justin Wood Thurman. He is also survived by his sister, Vivian B. Prillaman; his brother, Jack A. Bowman; his sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Sandra and Robert McMinnis.

Garland's childhood home was across from Antioch Church of the Brethren. After his marriage, he was asked to come to a congregation newly planted by the district, the Rocky Mount - First Church of the Brethren, to lead the music. This church was in the center of their lives for the next 45 years. Following their move to Roanoke, the Central Church of the Brethren was their church home.

Garland graduated from Callaway High School and attended Bridgewater College. He worked at Colonial American Bank as a computer operator, then spent most of his life in real estate building his own rental property business. He was a member of the Rocky Mount Rotary Club and, in 2016, was recognized for 50 years of perfect attendance. He added two more years afterward. A private memorial service was held.

Barry Dean Sink, aged 65, died on Saturday, November 14, 2020. He was born on March 29, 1955 in Roanoke County, Virginia. He was serving as pastor of the Monte Vista Church at the time of his death. He was the son of the late Cleveland C. and Lillian Key Sink. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Judy Craig Sink, and sons John (Tara) and Benjamin (Rena), and grandchildren Kaleigh Alford, Taylor Alford, Khaylah Sink and Jaxon Sink.

Barry was a 1973 graduate of the Lucy Addison High School in Roanoke, VA., and a 1977 graduate of Bridgewater College. He was a graduate of the Christian Growth Institute. He was licensed at the Williamson Road Church of the Brethren in 1977 and ordained there to the Gospel Ministry in 1982.

Brother Sink served as a pastor at numerous congregations of the Church of the Brethren including: Oak Grove - South (1977-1981), Bethany (1981-84), Paxton, PA (1984-86), Ligonier, PA (1987-93), Moorefield, WV (1993-97), Mount Hermon (1997-2001), Jones Chapel (2001-12), and Monte Vista (2013-20).

Barry was a good and faithful pastor. He was an active worker in the district, having served on the district board and as a camp director. Over the years he enjoyed wood-working, gardening and camping. He was widely known as a Christian illusionist. Graveside services were officiated by Greg Broyles and Eric Anspaugh at the Germantown Brick Cemetery on November 18, 2020.

CAMP BETHEL

CAMP BETHEL IS OPEN FOR GROUPS AND FAMILIES

In accordance with Virginia's Phase 3 guidelines, facilities, food services, and conference rooms are available to reserve. Cyclists, hikers, walkers, and day-visitors are always welcome; hiking and biking trail maps are on our office porch. Disc Golf coming soon! <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/groups>

WE ARE INSPIRED AND BLESSED BY YOUR GENEROSITY

We are inspired and blessed by generous donations and sponsorships from hundreds of individuals, families, and groups. Our April 2020 Sounds of the Mountains "At Home" Story Festival Videos were viewed 2,300 times and raised \$28,396. Our 4th annual "Camp Bethel PEP!" 5K was held in person with health and safety protocols, and it was our most successful 5K to date with 124 participants (ages 1-80), 10 volunteers, and 5 sponsors raising \$7,077. Our 26th annual Camp Bethel Benefit Golf Tournament was also held in person with health protocols, and it was also our most successful golf event ever with 116 golfers and 35 sponsors raising \$21,650. 14 congregations and several individuals held fund-raisers, offerings, or food/craft sales in honor of Heritage Day, raising \$24,686 thus far.

We still need help to remain viable into 2021. This year and this pandemic has challenged us deeply and altered all aspects of our mission and day-to-day operations. Your gift can help us pivot our programming, adapt our food services, and safely open for facility rentals. Please give and encourage others to give at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate>. Thank you!

DISC GOLF COMING SOON TO CAMP BETHEL

Thanks to a generous gift from Stottsberg Engineering <www.StottsbergEng.com> and with help from the Roanoke Disc Golf Club, we will soon install the "front nine" of our new Camp Bethel Disc Golf Course along the fields and forests of our southern acreage. Hole Sponsorship opportunities! <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/discgolf>.

TREE COOKIES NEEDED

Please help supply THOUSANDS of Tree Cookies for our year-round programs. Ideal "cookie" is hard wood, cross-cut showing tree rings, 2.5"+ diameter and less-than 0.5" thick. Contact us at (540) 992-2940 or by e-mail at <CampBethelOffice@gmail.com>.

REQUESTING PROPOSALS FOR RV VILLAGE

We have approval from Botetourt County, and we have initial funding provided by your gifts to the "Seed, Scattered and Sown" campaign, so now it is time to build! Updated site layout and images for Camp Bethel's long-planned 15-site "RV Village" area are at VirlinaFuture.org. Plans include water, electric, sewer, picnic table, campfire ring, and parking for 2-3 cars. Contact Barry LeNoir at (540) 992-2940 for information!

CAMP SUPPORTER WORKSHOP - FEBRUARY 6, 2021

Please ensure that at least ONE person from your congregation attends. 10:00-11:30 a.m., all Camp Representatives,

pastors, youth leaders, OMC, friends and supporters of Camp Bethel are encouraged to attend our FREE Camp Supporter Workshop (online via Zoom). Register by February 4 at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/rep>.

SPRING VOLUNTEER WORKDAY - APRIL 3, 2021

Spring Volunteer Workday begins with free breakfast at 7:30 a.m. and includes free lunch at 1 p.m. Your help is needed! Workday projects (rain or shine; indoor and outdoor) for all skill levels and all ages. Please reserve meals no later than March 22 to (540) 992-2940 or <CampBethelOffice@gmail.com>. You will find more information at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org>.

SOUNDS OF THE MOUNTAINS ONLINE - APRIL 17, 2021

Our big 20th Annual Sounds of the Mountains will be online on Saturday, April 17, 2021. Donald Davis returns to our amazing "all-headliners" festival including Dolores Hydock, Kevin Kling, Bil Lepp, Barbara McBride-Smith, and Donna Washington. Plans are underway for a dynamic, creative, fun, and truly unique online storytelling event 2020 videos are still available, and 2021 performer bios and Sponsorship information is at <www.SoundsoftheMountains.org>.

SUMMER CAMP IN 2021

We ARE planning for SAFE and FUN 2021 resident camps, adventures & trips, and day camps using our "Small Group Unit" model with dozens of health and safety adaptations. Tentative schedule, safety info, and more at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/camps>.

SUMMER 2021 COUNSELORS & KITCHEN STAFF

We seek hard-working and resilient young adults for our 2021 Summer Camp Staff. Counselors serve May 31 through July 24, and Kitchen Staff serve May 28 through August 14. Position descriptions, videos, and applications are at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/summer-staff>.

SUMMER STAFF ADOPTION FOR 2021

We ARE planning to have adapted Summer Camps in 2021, and we seek groups, congregations, and individuals to adopt one of 40 Summer Staff Members with a commitment of prayer, letters, and \$100. This program benefits everyone involved: it helps Camp Bethel recruit and secure the highest quality Counselors for our Campers, and it helps these excellent young adults to accept God's call to summer ministry in what will be an unusual (adapted-for-COVID-19) program. <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/adopt>.

CAMP BETHEL WISH LIST

Infrared forehead thermometers; backpack disinfectant sprayers; Clorox wipes, face masks, hand-sanitizer; road-worthy mini-van or 15-passenger van (2010 or newer); clothes dryer; kitchen refrigerator; chest coolers w/ handles; play parachute; digital cameras; GoPro video camera; portable LCD projector; gas grill; laptop computer (Windows 10); LED light bulbs; new (in-the-box) first-aid kits; new (in-the-box) bike helmets & horse helmets; working vacuum cleaners; brooms & dustpans; 3'x8' plyboards for under bunk mattresses (any thickness or quality); "Tree Cookies;" disconnected smart phones (with their charging cables) for use as a cameras and video cameras.

NEWS & EVENTS

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN POLITY COURSE - MARCH 10 - MAY 2, 2021

The Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership is offering a course on Church of the Brethren Polity from March 10 - May 4, 2021. Academy students will receive one credit in Bible/Theology upon completion and pastors will earn 2 CEU credits. The instructor for this online course will be Torin Eikler, District Executive Minister for the Northern District of Indiana.

In the Church of the Brethren, polity is intertwined with our history, practices, and ecclesiology (who we are as a church). Talking about polity as ministers and members of the Church of the Brethren naturally uncovers who we are, what we do, and how we shape our lives together. In this course, we will engage the current and past polity of the Church of the Brethren in order to understand how it has, and continues to, shape "another way of living." ...Torin Eikler

A brochure is available by contacting us at nuchurch@aol.com. Please give consideration to participating in this class. The deadline to register is February 3.

Successful completion of the course requires

- Meeting the attendance requirement set by the instructor,
- Completion of the assigned reading,
- Engagement in the course through participation.

A CEU or PE student is not required to complete assigned papers or exams. However, any student who completes papers or exams can expect feedback from the instructor. CEUs are awarded after the instructor has notified the Brethren Academy of successful completion of the course. Questions about taking an Academy course for CEU's or personal enrichment may be directed to Academy Director, Janet Ober Lambert at oberlja@bethanyseminary.edu or (765) 983-1820. Please contact Janet if you have any particular questions about the course.

DEFINING SET-APART MINISTRY WITHIN THE MULTIVOCATIONAL REALITY - APRIL 7 - JUNE 1, 2021

The Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership is offering Defining Set-Apart Ministry Within the Multivocational Reality online from April 7 - June 1, 2021. Participants will receive one credit in Ministry Skills upon completion. The instructor for this online course will be Sandra Jenkins.

Multivocational ministry is a reality in many denominations. It is not only a calling, but a necessity; part-time ministry placements often outnumber full-time placements. This class will explore the set-apart ministry within the multivocational context, including the rewards and challenges for both pastor and congregation.

Please give consideration to participating in this class. The deadline to register is March 3, 2021.

BRETHREN FAITH IN ACTION FUND GRANTS

Formed by funds generated from the sale of the upper campus of the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, the Brethren Faith in Action Fund provides grants to fund outreach ministry projects that serve their communities, strengthen the congregation, and expand the reign of God. Such ministries will honor and continue the legacy of service that the Center has epitomized while also addressing the dynamics of the present age. Grants of up to \$5,000 per congregation or ministry project per year are awarded, with a maximum of \$15,000 allocated to any one ministry project over multiple years.

Who May Apply

Any United States Church of the Brethren congregation, fellowship or project.

Application Process

Grants will be awarded as determined by the Grant Oversight Committee each month. A grant application will require basic information such as amount requested, description of the project, budget, affirmation that congregation will provide match as recorded in the minutes of the congregation's decision-making body, and a statement of support from the district executive.

For details

Go to <https://www.brethren.org/faith-in-action/>

OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF

Dallas Leon Hubbard Sr., aged 79, of Floyd, Virginia, passed away on Saturday, August 15, 2020. He was born on April 2, 1941, and was preceded in death by his parents, Earnest and Ruby Hubbard; a grandson, Enoch Hubbard; and nephews, Scott and Lyndon Hylton. He is survived by his devoted wife of 57 years, Margaret Harman Hubbard; sons, Dallas "Leon" Hubbard Jr. (Annette) and Terry Harman Hubbard (Mariellen); grandchildren, Jamie, Kyle, Caleb, Bethany, Ryan and Quinn Hubbard; sister, Darlene Hylton; niece, Trina H. Minter (Steve); great-niece, Meredith; and numerous other great-nieces and great-nephews.

Dallas graduated from Willis High School in 1959 and began working in his father's lumber company. Together they formed Hubbard Lumber Corporation. In 1991 he retired from working with timber and returned to his first love, which was farming and working with cattle. He was a longtime member of Topeco Church of the Brethren having joined at age 14. He was a member/chairman of several committees. He was selected to be a deacon and served in that capacity until his illness prevented it. A private graveside service was held with Ted M. Turner, Jr. and J. Michael Varner officiating.