

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

JULY

Newsletter

2021

"If your brother sins against you, go to him and show him his fault. But do it privately, just between yourselves. If he listens to you, you have won your brother back. But if he will not listen to you, take one or two other persons with you, so that every accusation may be upheld by the testimony of two or more witnesses, as the scripture says. And if he will not listen to them, then tell the whole thing to the church. Finally, if he will not listen to the church, treat him as though he were a pagan or a tax collector...For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them."

Matthew 18:15-17; 20

The very first Brethren were strongly pietistic. Faith was a matter of the heart for them. Their spirituality was marked by a strongly individualistic outlook. They considered organized religion to be corrupt and a stumbling block to spiritual growth. More importantly, however, they were committed to be obedient to the teachings of Jesus. As they read these words from Matthew 18, in their uncritical but wholehearted manner, they realized that Jesus intended his people to form a body. Why else would he say "tell the whole thing to the church?" The outgrowth of this conviction was the formation of the Church of the Brethren in 1708.

As Christians we accept Christ and our brothers and sisters in His Body. Perhaps this is why this reading from Matthew was read to baptismal candidates for much of our history. The Lord reminds us that we are accountable one to the other. The Christian life is not just a solitary walk with the Lord. It is also a walk with the Lord's people together. Unfortunately, we forget that far too often when we are confronted by our differences. We give far better care to our buildings than to our people. When the tidiness of the church kitchen is more important than the spiritual well being of our youth, we have failed. When looking good is more important than doing good, we are faithless. When winning as individuals or as a group is of more value than edifying or building up the whole body, we have missed the mark. Our failure to take our corporate nature seriously is one reason that far too many of our congregations and even our denomination are marked by continuing, consuming conflict. A church can exist without a building, organization or financial resources; but not without God's people.

Jesus' words illustrate a process by which we may resolve our personal difficulties with one another. When we have a problem with our brother or our sister we are to go to them alone and to seek reconciliation. We must go in the spirit of humility. We are to expect to correct difficulties and we are to expect to receive correction. So often we become convinced with the righteousness of our words and

and deeds that we forget the worth of those who differ with us. Every individual is of sacred worth to God. For God created us in the beginning and God has recreated us in Jesus Christ. Thus, when we must confront brothers and sisters, we do so telling the truth in love. There is no replacement for the "right" spirit

If reconciliation is not achieved at first the offended individual must consider whether the problem is sufficient to go to the next step. The next step is to take witnesses. This is in keeping with the Jewish law which allowed no one to be condemned without the testimony of two or more witnesses. Those who go are not merely advocates for our view point but also insure fairness and equity in our approach to the offending person.

If after this the problem is still sufficient to destroy or impair relationship, we are to take it to the church. He is not referring to unimportant disagreements between persons, but serious issues. It is the church's obligation to work with those involved to effect reconciliation between all parties. It is not the church's role to judge individuals. If discipline must be carried out it must be equitable for all. And it behooves us to remember that Jesus loves the pagan and the tax collector.

In this time of division amidst discussion of separation, this scripture reminds us of the need for communication and discussion. Jesus calls those who follow him to mutual respect even in midst of disagreement. We are a part of one another as his body. Hiddenness and secrecy have no place in Christian life.

The church is not made of brick nor block, wood nor organizational chart - the church consists of those who are called out from the world to serve the risen Lord. Let us witness in this age of hyper-individualism, to the corporate nature of His body. Let us learn to tell one another directly, candidly and with love those things which block or impair relationships. This glorifies God and builds the Body of Christ.

David K. Shumate

District Executive Minister

David K. Shumate, DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER
Mary Sink St. John, DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT CONFERENCE, NURTURE AND WITNESS
Cathy S. Huffman, DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY FORMATION
Ed and Susan McKimmy, COORDINATOR OF DISASTER RESPONSE



VIRLINA DISTRICT RESOURCE CENTER
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Mount Hermon - Tommy Martin and Sarah Martin by baptism May 9, 2021.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILY OF

James John "Jim" Stade, aged 72, of Blacksburg, VA. died May 30, 2021. He was a carpenter, teacher, preacher, newspaper delivery man, and loved people with a whole heart. He was a son, brother, cousin, husband, father, uncle, and affectionately known as "Grumpy" to his grandchildren. He grew up in Fort Lauderdale, FL. He attended Concordia Teachers College in River Forest, IL, and Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS.

He worked long and hard. He learned carpentry from his father, and then became a minister in churches from Alabama to Ontario, Canada, and finally in Virginia and West Virginia. He delivered the Roanoke Times for more than 16 years, making friends with fellow delivery people and customers, all before his day jobs. He was an avid newspaper subscriber and reader. He also supported his family by working in construction and home renovation. He taught in several schools. He ministered in five congregations beginning in 1988. At the time of his death he was serving as pastor of the Oakvale Church of the Brethren in Mercer County, WV.

Jim treasured his family through his entire life and despite distances. He carried them in his heart. He loved his remarkable wife of 43 years, Sue, the most. He liked to compare sunrises to sunsets with her every day. He could dabble beautifully on the piano and the harmonica. In the last few years, he sent quirky, daily text messages of "...love...!" to his family and friends on his flip phone. He doubtlessly looked forward to seeing his beloved parents again.

He is survived by his wife Sue Stade, of Blacksburg; brother JT and sister-in-law Marion Stade; son Trevor and daughter-in-law Jessica Stade; daughters Chrystie, Natalie, Laura, and sons-in-law Scott Greges and Kahlil Detrich; and grandchildren Isla and Avery Stade, Claire Greges, and Roan and Starlie Detrich.

A private ceremony with family will take place at home per Jim's wishes. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Rescue Mission of Roanoke.

He had a peaceful ending, surrounded by his family at home. His characteristic expressions of love will be missed, to say the least. In his final days when asked for life advice, Jim simply replied, "Keep going."



BASSETT - Full time position, profile pending - *Paul Maynard Baker will be retiring effective August 28.*

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

BETHEL - Part time position, no profile available - *John P. Reed, Sr. serving as interim through August 31.*

BETHLEHEM - Full time position, profile circulating (P/2-1) - Horace D. Light, Jr. serving as interim pastor.

CHRISTIANSBURG - Full or part time position - *Paul J. Stover, Jr. has resigned as pastor effective September 30, 2021 to accept the call of the Jeters Chapel Church..*

COPPER HILL - Full time position, profile pending - *William J. Hinton, Sr. will begin as interim on July 1, 2021.*

FRATERNITY - Full time position, profile circulating (P/3-1) - *In negotiation, trial sermon and vote on July 11.*

GREEN HILL - Part time position, profile pending (P) - J. Michael Varner serving as interim pastor.

JETERS CHAPEL - *Paul J. Stover, Jr. will begin as pastor on October 1, 2021.*

LIGHTHOUSE - Part time position, no profile available - Don D. Street, lay speaker 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 - Edward C. Woodard providing pulpit supply in July

NEW BETHEL - Part time position, no profile available - Greg Hedrick serving as interim pastor through December 31, 2021.

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

OAK GROVE, SOUTH - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.

PLEASANT VIEW - Part time position, no profile available - *Galen Daniel Ludwick has resigned effective May 31, 2021.*

PLEASANTDALE - Part time position, no profile available

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

ROANOKE, SUMMERDEAN - Full time position, profile pending - *Allen C. Lenker has resigned effective June 16, 2021. Adam C. Stultz serving as transitional pastor effective June 1, 2021.*

SAINT PAUL - Part time position, no profile available -

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

SHELTON - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.

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

NEWS & EVENTS

CHRISTIAN GROWTH INSTITUTE - ROANOKE CENTER

Beliefs and Practices of the Church of the Brethren (also known as Brethren Life and Thought) class will be offered this August and September with David Shumate, Executive Minister, as instructor. Textbooks for the class are: Church of the Brethren: Yesterday and Today, edited by Donald F Durnbaugh, Brethren Press, 1986 and Fruit of the Vine, Donald F. Durnbaugh, Brethren Press, 1997.

Please note the class will meet in person on Saturdays with location yet to be determined. The class dates are August 14 from 1:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and September 11 and 25 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tuition for the class will be \$100.00 and students are responsible for purchasing the necessary textbooks.

For more information or to obtain a registration form please contact Donna Hornsby, CGI Coordinator: Phone: (540) 266-0733, E-mail: <dshornsby912@gmail.com>. Make checks payable to VIRLINA DISTRICT and mail with the registration form to arrive by August 7 to: Donna Hornsby, 420 Bluebell Lane, Apt 304, Roanoke, VA 24012. CEU credit is available for ordained ministers taking the class.

MINISTERS AND SPOUSES RETREAT - OCTOBER 15-16

The 2021 Virlina District Ministers and Spouses Retreat will be held on October 15-16, 2021 at the W.E. Skelton 4-H and Conference Center located at 775 Hermitage Rd, Wirtz, VA 24184. Steven J. Schweitzer, Academic Dean and Professor at Bethany Theological Seminary in Richmond, Indiana, will lead the event. The focus is "Science Fiction and Theology."

Born into an observant Catholic family, Schweitzer's parents joined the Assembly of God when he was in 8th grade. Through high school and college, he was an active member in the Assemblies of God. After college he, along with his wife, Jill, attended a non-denominational Pentecostal church in St. Paul for five years. In 2000, they moved to South Bend, Indiana and began attending Prince of Peace Church of the Brethren. During this time, their three children (Luke, Anna, and Benjamin) were born and he completed his degree at Notre Dame. He taught at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana for three years as Assistant Professor of Old Testament. After nine years in that congregation in South Bend, he and his family moved to Richmond, Indiana when he became Academic Dean at Bethany. They are currently participating in the Cedar Grove Church of the Brethren in the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District.

This event provides .6 CEU credits for ordained or commissioned ministers. The cost of the event is \$150 for couples (or double occupancy), \$100 for single occupancy and \$50 for commuters (meals included). A registration form/brochure will be forthcoming.

VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE - NOVEMBER 12-13, 2021

The 2021 Virlina District Conference will be held Friday, November 12- Saturday, November 13 at Grandin Court Baptist Church on 2660 Brambleton Avenue in Roanoke, Virginia. Friday night's featured speaker will be the 2022 Annual Conference moderator, Dave Sollenberger. Our District moderator is Greg Fleshman, pastor of Mount Union Church of the Brethren.

We do plan to hold worship and business sessions in person. though we are unable to provide details of the conference at this time. The district Program and Arrangements committee, chaired by Moderator-elect Lynn Myers of Antioch Church of the Brethren, has been monitoring the CDC guidelines as well as watching the current climate of potential COVID cases and its variants in our region. The Program and Arrangements committee is committed to providing a safe and meaningful conference experience.

Pastors and congregations will receive a mailing in August which will include details of the conference, registration forms for delegates and meal and age group information. The Virlina District website, <www.virlina.org> has a District Conference tab that details conference plans and/or changes as soon as they are updated. The September Headliner will also include all finalized plans and information. Contact Mary StJohn, Director of District Conference, Nurture and Witness, <virlina2@aol.com> or (540) 362-1816 with questions or concerns.

PIANIST NEEDED

Oak Grove, South COB is seeking a Pianist to play during Worship Service and as needed in other services. Interested people seeking this paid position should call Adam Bunn at (276) 732-0275 or Tony Robertson at (540) 238-8150

GOOD BOOKS FOR SALE

We have a surplus of good, new books, formerly bought as textbooks for Christian Growth Institute, at the District Resource Center. Our price is 25% below the list price on Amazon. If you would enjoy perusing the list, please advise us at <ehedliner@aol.com> and we will send it to you. Many are good books about the Good Book!

CONTRIBUTE TO THE CHURCH WHEN YOU SHOP AMAZON

If you or someone you know shops online with Amazon, Amazon will contribute .5% of your purchase to the Church of the Brethren. There is no cost, simply sign up and Amazon does the rest. .5% is not much, but spread across all of the Amazon shoppers in our denomination, it would certainly add up. Click on "Account" then go to "Your Lists" and finally click "AmazonSmile Charity Lists". From there just follow the prompts and select Church of the Brethren, Elgin, IL. The only thing you need to remember is to shop at "smile.amazon.com" in the future instead of just "amazon.com", but all of your information transfers automatically.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 2021

1-4		Annual Conference Online (DKS/MSS)
5		District Resource Center Closed
6	10:00 AM	Awakening Committee - Roanoke, Hollins Road Church (DKS)
13	10:00 AM	Christian Growth Institute Staff Meeting (DKS)
	6:30 PM	Smaller Membership Congregational Committee - Boones Mill Church (MSS/DKS)
17	10:00 AM	Program and Arrangements Committee (MSS)
19	6:30 PM	Moneta, Lake Side Steering Committee (DKS)
20	6:00 PM	Race Education Team (MSS)
22	4:30 PM	Spiritual Development and Disabilities Ministries (MSS)
27	6:30 PM	Long Range Financial Planning Committee-Germantown Brick Church (DKS)

AUGUST 2021

2	9:00 AM	Discipleship and Reconciliation Committee (DKS)
	1:00 PM	New Church Development Committee (DKS)
6	6:00 PM	Commission on Ministry (DKS)
7	9:00 AM	Practice of Ministry Day (DKS)
9	5:30 PM	Iglesia El Buen Pastor Fellowship Comm. - Blacksburg (DKS)
10	1:30 PM	Christian Growth Institute Comm. - Buena Vista (Stone) (DKS)
	6:00 PM	Commission on Witness (MSS)
15-21		VACATION (DKS)
17	6:00 PM	Race Education Team (MSS)
24	6:30 PM	Commission on Nurture- Germantown Brick(MSS)
	7:00 PM	Commission on Stewardship (DKS)
28	9:00 AM	District Board Executive Committee (DKS)
31	7:00 PM	Peace Affairs Committee (MSS)

NEWS & EVENTS

BRETHREN ACADEMY LEADERSHIP CLASSES

The Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership is offering ***Ancient & Medieval Church History*** from August 25-October 19, 2021. Participants will receive one credit in Bible/Theology upon completion, along with a Bethany Experience. The instructor for this online course will be Ken Rogers, Professor of Historical Studies at Bethany Seminary. The deadline to register is July 21.

The Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership will offer, ***Interim/Transitional Ministry: More than Mere Maintenance***, from September 15-November 9, 2021. Tara Hornbacker will be the instructor and TRIM students will receive one credit in Ministry Skills upon completion and the BTS experience. EFSM students may create a Learning Unit for the course. This course will explore the necessary tasks for successful interim/transitional ministry and the personality characteristics most helpful to develop for the practice of this specialized area of congregational leadership. The deadline to register for this course is August 11. CEUs are awarded after the instructor has notified the Brethren Academy of successful completion of the course.

The Shape of Ministry in a High-Tech World on October 13, 22-24 and November 3, 2021. This seminar-style course will explore the relationship of ministry to technology and investigates the practical tools that exist to enhance ministry. The class participants will examine the responsible engagement of these digital tools in the work of serving God's people as ministers of the Gospel. Dan Poole will be the instructor of this Zoom course. The deadline to register for this course is September 17, 2021.

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.

SHALOM: PEACE WITH OURSELVES, WITH OTHERS, WITH GOD AND HIS WORLD

Lombard Mennonite Peace Center is offering Shalom: Peace with Ourselves, with Others, with God and His World - This series of six stand-alone webinars explores issues of peace and justice from various perspectives, such as peace with God, peace with creation, and peace with our neighbors. You may register for one session, or take all six and pay for just five (a savings of \$30). Each 90-minute session (10:30am to 12 noon Central Time) will be taught by a member of the LMPC staff or board. The available dates are July 13, July 28, August 10, and August 24. Learn more or register at <www.LMPeaceCenter.org/all-events/>.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST NEEDED

The Church of the Brethren would like to announce a new open position for Information Technology Specialist at the General Offices in Elgin, Ill. The job posting is available by contacting us at <ehedliner@aol.com>. Interested applicants should send their resume to <COBApply@brethren.org>.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILIES OF:

Ina Dean Mullins Layman, aged 85, of Rocky Mount, VA, passed away Tuesday, May 18, 2021. Ina was a mama and granny to many children in the area over the years as well as an avid seamstress and gardener. A member of Fairview (Rocky Mount) Church of the Brethren, she was a light to all who knew her. A memorial service and burial was held at the Fairview Church on Saturday, May 22 with Jeff Wray officiating.

Robert "Bobby" Noel, aged 86, of Daleville, Virginia, went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, May 18, 2021. He attended the Daleville Church of the Brethren, a graduate of Virginia Tech, Class of 1957, and retired from Lord Botetourt High School after teaching for 34 years. Bobby was a member of the National FFA, advisor of the National Young Farmer's Association, and a member of Troutville Lions Club. A funeral service was held on Friday, May 21, 2021 with Pastors Tom and Naomi Powers officiating. Interment followed in the Daleville Cemetery.

Martha Ann Hodges Stilwell, aged 95, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, June 24, 2021. Martha was born on June 10, 1926, in Franklin County.

Martha's life revolved around her church and her family. She was a dedicated member of the Vinton Church of the Brethren at the time of her passing.

Funeral Services were conducted on Wednesday, June 30, 2021, with Angella Haranzo officiating. Burial services followed at the Monte Vista Cemetery in Callaway, Franklin County, VA.

Doris Jean Hill Noel, aged 83, of Daleville, Virginia, went to be with her Lord on June 28, 2021. She attended Eagle Rock High School and graduated from Jefferson High School in Roanoke. Doris and her husband, Bobby, made their home in Daleville where they attended Daleville Church of the Brethren. She was postmaster at Daleville for over 30 years and a member of the National Association of Postmasters.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband of 64 years, Robert "Bobby" Noel (5/18/21); son, Robert Noel II (8/22/20); mother, Helen Dalton; half-brother, Lloyd Dalton; and loving aunt, Elva All.

A funeral service was held on July 2, 2021 with Tom and Naomi Powers officiating. Interment followed in the Daleville Cemetery.

N E W S & E V E N T S

PRACTICE OF MINISTRY DAY - AUGUST 7, 2021

One of the requirements of Christian Growth Institute is participation in Practice of Ministry Day. The 2021 event is entitled FROM POLITY TO PRACTICE. Presented as a "Zoom" event, this Practice of Ministry Day will:

- 1) Describe the origins, development, and underpinning values of the Church of the Brethren governance.
- 2) Analyze/discuss current stresses, ambiguities and issues emerging out of current day practice.

Session One will be presented by David K. Shumate, District Executive Minister for the Virginia District. His presentation will focus on "History and Development of Church of the Brethren Governance."

Session Two will be presented by John Jantzi, the District Executive Minister of the Shenandoah District. The focus of his program is "Authority, Covenant, and Accountability in Current Practice: The Stresses and Debates."

WORLD HUNGER AUCTION - AUGUST 14, 2021

The World Hunger Auction will be held on Saturday, August 14, 2021 starting at 9:30 a.m. This is the culmination to our year-long fund-raising activities, The World Hunger Auction, is held each August at Antioch Church of the Brethren, 2996 Callaway Road, near Rocky Mount, VA. The auction includes the sale of crafts, quilts, toys, produce, baked and canned goods, special services and much more. Come early for the best selection. Let the highest bidder win, for doing what we can opens the door for God to do much more.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILIES OF

J. Harlan Bowman, aged 95, of Boones Mill, VA. passed away on Saturday, May 1, 2021. He was preceded in death by his wives, Edna Tenney Bowman and Mary Williams Bowman.

Harlan had many hobbies such as wood working, working with model trains, and bee keeping. Harlan started working at Franklin County Animal Breeders, later Select Sires, in 1947, retiring in 1991, while operating a small family farm. He was in the Civilian Public Service during World War II. A lifetime member, Harlan served Bethlehem Church of the Brethren in many capacities. A graveside service was held at Bethlehem Church of the Brethren Cemetery, on Friday, May 7, 2021 with Bill Hinton and Horace Light officiating.

Roy Lee Forbes, aged 93, of Roanoke, Virginia, walked into the arms of Jesus on Tuesday, May 18, 2021. He was a founding and foundational member of the Summerdean Church. Roy served as the chorister for the congregation for nearly its entire existence.

He is survived by his children, David Forbes (Susan), Cindy Jones (Bruce), and Steve Forbes (Mary). He was blessed with six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. A celebration of his life was conducted on Saturday, May 22, 2021 at Summerdean Church of the Brethren.

NATIONAL OLDER ADULT CONFERENCE (NOAC) ONLINE - SEPTEMBER 6 - 10, 2021

The 2021 NOAC Planning Team is hard at work making plans for the first online National Older Adult Conference. Although we wish we could be together in person at Lake Junaluska in September, we are grateful for the technology that allows us to gather "virtually." One of the benefits of holding NOAC online is that those who have been unable to travel to Lake Junaluska for NOAC due to finances, health, or schedule conflicts, may be able to participate online.

Online registration is now open at <www.brethren.org/NOAC>. Cost per person is \$100 and per couple is \$150. Paper registration forms are available upon request by calling: (800) 323-8039 ext 303. The registration fee will provide access to all sessions, worship services, workshops, and recorded archives. We hope each person/couple who plans to attend will register and pay the fee so that we can continue to provide a meaningful experience for all.

NOAC 2021 will begin on Monday, September 6 at 7 p.m. with announcements, NOAC News and worship. It will end on Friday, September 10 at 9 a.m. with worship.

The daily schedule Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday will include: (all times are eastern)

- o 8:30-9:30 a.m. Morning Bible Study led by Joel Kline
- o 9:45- 11:30 a.m. Keynote Speakers will include Karen Gonzalez, Lisa Sharon Harper, Ted Swartz and Ken Medema
- o 1:30- 2:45 p.m. Workshops and Virtual Field Trips
- o 3:15- 4:30 p.m. Workshops and Virtual Field Trips
- o 7:00 p.m. Announcements, NOAC News
- o 7:30 p.m. Worship with preachers Christy Dowdy, Paula Bowser, Andrew Wright, Don Fitzkee, and Eric Landram
- o 8:30 p.m. Virtual Ice Cream socials with Outdoor Ministries Association, Bethany Theological Seminary and our Brethren colleges/universities

We are hoping that districts and congregations will organize viewing parties (keeping in mind COVID safety protocols). Perhaps a Sunday School class or Bible Study group could plan to meet at the church or in someone's home. We are working with our retirement communities to provide opportunities for viewing, especially for those in assisted living and nursing care units.

There are opportunities for giving- we will have a Virtual "Fundraising Walk around the Lake" which will raise funds for the Emergency Disaster Fund and assist congregations which have been impacted by the COVID pandemic. We are also raising funds to provide books for the Lake Junaluska Elementary School Donations may be made through Brethren Press. Watch for more information about these giving opportunities.

We have a webpage at <www.brethren.org/NOAC>. We are also on Facebook at "Church of the Brethren NOAC." Both are updated on a regular basis.

CAMP BETHEL

SUMMER CAMPS RETURN IN 2021

The sights and sounds of summer camp have returned to Camp Bethel! Children are laughing and singing, splashing in the pool, sharing meals, and worshipping around a crackling campfire. We reopened on June 13 for safe and fun resident camps, adventures, and day camps with multiple health and safety adaptations. Camps continue through July 31. For more information go to <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/camps>.

FOOD SERVICES COORDINATOR AT CAMP BETHEL

Camp Bethel is accepting on-line applications for a full-time, salaried, year-round Food Services Coordinator. Application and complete information is at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/jobs>. We are blessed to have kept Wesley Shrader as long as we did, and we celebrate with a big "Thank You!" to Wes for three excellent years of service in Camp Bethel's Ark Dining Hall.

GIVE A CHILD A CAMPSHIP FOR SUMMER CAMP

We couldn't hold our 2021 Sow the Seed Banquet, so please give instead. We annually grant Camperships to an average of 108 children for an average total of \$27,165. Please give \$380 for a child to attend one week of camp. Mail checks with memo "Camperships" or donate at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate>

LABOR DAY FAMILY WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 3-6, 2021

Labor Day Family Weekend is scheduled for September 3-6, 2021. We look forward to gathering again this year. For updated information, check out <<https://www.campbethelvirginia.org/labor-day-family-weekend.html>>.

CAMP BETHEL PEP! 5K - SEPTEMBER 4, 2021

In-person safety adaptations include "wave-starts," physical distancing, pre-wrapped food, and more at our annual 5K fundraiser for "the PEPPIEST gang around!" Plans, sponsors, and registration at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/5K>.

BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT, - SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

Golfers and sponsors needed on Wednesday, September 22 for our adapted 2021 Golf Tournament at Ashley Golf Course. Tee off is at 12:30pm. \$75 per person includes green fees, cart, and boxed lunch. Updated plans and safety adaptations, plus registration and sponsor information is at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/golf>.

HERITAGE DAY FESTIVAL - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

Please encourage everyone in your church to participate and help in this vitally important fundraiser for Camp Bethel. 2021 plan is for "in-person and on-site!" Heritage Day forms, fliers and information are available at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/Heritage-Day>.

FALL VOLUNTEER WORKDAY IS NOVEMBER 6, 2021

Our fall volunteer workday will be Saturday, November 6, 2021 beginning with a free breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Volunteers will also receive a free lunch at 1 p.m. We need your help preparing camp for the winter conference season. There will be workday projects for all skill levels and all ages. This event will be held rain or shine, inside or out. Please reserve your meals by October 31 <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/workday>.

CHRISTMAS TOGETHER BANQUET - DECEMBER 9, 2021

Camp Bethel's Christmas TOGETHER Banquet will be held on Thursday, December 9, at 6:30 p.m. This includes an excellent dinner and fun Christmas program in our festive, decorated Ark Dining Hall. Your \$50 gift (larger gifts accepted) provides needed year-end funding. Please reserve meals for your family or group by December 2 by calling us at (540) 992-2940 or by e-mail at <CampBethelOffice@gmail.com>.

CAMP BETHEL WISH LIST

Clorox wipes, disinfectant sprays; road-worthy mini-van or 15-passenger van (2015 or newer); clothes dryer; refrigerator (full or mini); 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. Please help our Amazon wish-list at <<https://a.co/5qG5JYq>> or <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate>. Tax-deductible!

PROPOSALS NEEDED FOR RV VILLAGE CONSTRUCTION

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 for details on how to bid in this project.

HEADLINER DEADLINE ON JULY 25, 2021

Deadlines for submission of material for the September 2021 HEADLINER is July 25th. All items for publication, either for the HEADLINER or for the E-HEADLINER, should be sent to <EHeadliner@aol.com>. The same addresss may be used if you wish to be added to the E-HEADLINER e-mail list. The E-HEADLINER provides more frequent updates about the ministry and events of the Virlina District and the Church of the Brethren.

NURTURE OPPORTUNITIES

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PROJECT OPPORTUNITY

The NEW COMMUNITY PROJECT just launched a campaign to purchase bunkbeds and mattresses for school-girls in Malawi attending high school 30 and 50 miles from home. Last fall we raised funds to build hostels for them; now they have requested help purchasing these bedding supplies. 20 beds and 40 mattresses are needed, at a cost of \$147 and \$45 each – but of course any amount is welcomed. And a donor has offered to match any gifts, doubling the love! The project is highlighted on this page of our website and on the NCP Facebook page. This could perhaps be a good option for VBS or other summer focus. Malawi is also the site of our A Girl and A Bike campaign, and we always welcome support for this as well.

YELLOWSTONE LEARNING TOUR - AUGUST 18-25

Yellowstone Yes! The world's first National Park is one of the gems of God's creation, and we've got spots on our August 18-25 Learning Tour – in fact we need a couple participants to make this trip a go. We'd be happy for you to put this out to folks of all ages in your congregation. Contact David Radcliff for information about these offerings of New Community Project at <dradcliffncp@yahoo.com>

PRAYING FOR PEACE - SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

The Annual "Prayer for Peace" Service will be held on Sunday, September 19, 2021, at 3 p.m. This event will be held outdoors at the Hollins Road Church of the Brethren picnic shelter. The featured speaker will be Eric Landram, pastor of the Lititz Church of the Brethren in Lititz, PA. Eric is a graduate of Bridgewater College and has spoken at National Youth Conference, Roundtable, National Young Adult Conference and many other events.

The 2021 theme is "Weltschmerz." This is a German word that literally means "world-pain." Many of us have spent the past eighteen months in a state of weariness. This is related to how we hope the world would be as opposed to how we see it differ from our ideals. Participants will gain a better understanding of how Jesus leads us to peace even in the midst of grief over world events and difficult circumstances. Fellowship and refreshments will be offered based on the safety protocols in effect in September. Please save the date and plan to attend!

PILGRIMAGE - OCTOBER 8-10, 2021

Pilgrimage: A FaithQuest for Adults will be held October 8-10, 2021 at Camp Bethel. Pilgrimage is a spiritual retreat for adults of all ages, and God is working through this ministry in wonderful ways. The structure of the weekend includes talks, small groups, fun times, inspiring worship services, and much more. God knows where we are on our spiritual journey and meets us right there. Whether you need peace, or joy, or forgiveness, or encouragement, or hope, or revival, or a little extra time with Him...He gives more than we even desire. It is difficult to put into words how wonderful the weekend is. The only way to truly understand what Pilgrimage has to offer is

to experience it! Prayerfully consider if this is your year to attend. If you would like more information, go to <www.experiencepilgrimage.com> or contact Karen Haynes at (336) 765-5263 or <haynesmk1986@yahoo.com>.

OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILIES OF

Elsie Marie Boothe Wright got her voice back to sing with the Lord on June 1, 2021. She was born on December 31, 1931 the child of Irene and Clyde Boothe of Thaxton, Virginia. She was devoted to her husband of 62 years, Wesley Wright, who survives.

Elsie was a 30-year veteran of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, now Verizon. She was devoted to the Lord and the Boones Mill Church of the Brethren, where she served on many committees (Deaconess, Church Board, Music Worship and Fellowship). She tried not to miss a Sunday service and enjoyed the fellowship with her church family. A celebration of her life was held on Saturday, June 5, at the Boones Mill Church of the Brethren

Nancy Helen Blankenship Hillsman, aged 62, passed away in Durham, N.C., on Friday, June 11, 2011. Born and raised in Martinsville, Virginia, Nancy graduated from Laurel Park High School in Martinsville in 1977, then earned a B.A. from King College (now King University) in Bristol, Tennessee, in 1981. She later earned her Master of Library Sciences degree from North Carolina Central University in 2014.

A long-term resident of Durham, North Carolina, Nancy worked in several departments at Duke University from the 1980s, most recently with the Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations, retiring in December 2020 from her last position as Assistant Director of Research and Stewardship in Foundation Relations.

A founding member of the Peace Covenant Church of the Brethren in Durham, she served the congregation in many capacities, most recently as treasurer. She had served on the Virlina District Board and most recently as a member of the Long Range Financial Planning Committee.

She is survived by husband, Philip Hillsman; son, David Hillsman; daughter, Amy Hillsman Pearce; and a sister, Delia Blankenship Olson. A memorial service was held on Friday, June 25, 2021, in Durham.

AVAILABLE ON THE WWW.VIRLINA.ORG WEBSITE

Our district maintains a website with many resources for our congregations and membership at <www.virlina.org>. Just a few of the items include the Virlina District Prayer Calendar (issued quarterly), the HEADLINER (issued six times each year), the E-Headliner (issued roughly every two weeks), the Memo for Ministers (issued six times each year for pastors and district leaders), and many other helpful documents. Check it out!