

VIRLINA DISTRICT

Church
of the
Brethren



MEMO FOR MINISTERS

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 2021

- 1 Preach at Mill Creek (SED)
- 2 Discipleship and Reconciliation Committee/New Church Development Committee/Office
- 3 Office
- 4 Staff Meeting/Office
- 5 OFF
- 6 Office/Commission on Ministry
- 7 Practice of Ministry Day (Z)
- 8 Worship Undetermined
- 9 Office/Iglesia el Buen Pastor Steering Committee at Parkway
- 10 Office/Christian Growth Institute Administrative Committee at Buena Vista (Stone)
- 11 Staff Meeting/Office
- 12 OFF
- 13 Office/Historical Committee
- 14 World Hunger Auction at Antioch/Teach CGI Class
- 15 Preach at Pulaski, First
- 16-20 VACATION
- 21 Chicken Fry at New Bethel (Pittsylvania County)
- 22 Preach at Roanoke, First
- 23 Office
- 24 Office/Commission on Stewardship
- 25 Staff Meeting/Office
- 26 OFF
- 27 Office
- 28 District Board Executive Committee
- 29 Worship Undetermined
- 30-31 Office

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

- 1 Staff Meeting/Office
- 2 OFF
- 3 Office
- 4 Open
- 5 Worship Undetermined
- 6 District Resource Center (Closed for Labor Day)
- 7 Office
- 8 Staff Meeting/Office
- 9 Virginia Council of Churches S/C - BGCVA in Richmond, VA
- 10 Office
- 11 Teach CGI Class
- 12 Worship Undetermined
- 13 Northern Area Ministers Meeting/Office
- 14 Office
- 15 Staff Meeting/Office
- 16 OFF
- 17 Office
- 18 District Board Meeting at Smith River
- 19 Preach at Bethel (Homecoming)/Peace Day Service at Roanoke, Hollins Road

BRETHREN FAITH IN ACTION GRANT FUND

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. Roanoke-Central and the Concord-Living Faith congregations have received grants. Any United States Church of the Brethren congregation, fellowship or project may apply. Guidelines and application form may be obtained at <http://www.brethren.org/faith-in-action/>.

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SCHEDULE - SEPTEMBER 2021

- 20 Office
- 21 Awakening Committee/Office/Long Range Financial Planning Committee at Germantown Brick
- 22 Staff Meeting/Office/Council of District Executives (Z)
- 23 OFF
- 24 Office
- 25 Teach CGI Class
- 26 Worship Undetermined
- 27 Office/Moneta, Lake Side S/C
- 28 Office
- 29 Staff Meeting/Office
- 30 OFF

MARY SINK ST. JOHN SCHEDULE - AUGUST 2021

- 3 Office
- 4 Staff Meeting/Office
- 5-6 Office
- 10 Office/Commission on Witness
- 11 Staff Meeting/Office
- 12-13 Office
- 17 Office/Race Education Team
- 18 Staff Meeting/Office
- 19-20 Office
- 24 Office/Commission on Nurture
- 25 Staff Meeting/Office
- 26-27 Office
- 31 Office/Peace Affairs Committee

MARY SINK ST. JOHN SCHEDULE - SEPTEMBER 2021

- 1 Staff Meeting/Office
- 2-3 Office
- 8 Staff Meeting/Office
- 9 Spiritual Development Retreat Comm./Office
- 10 Office
- 13 Disaster Response Committee
- 14 Office
- 15 Staff Meeting/Office
- 16-17 Office
- 18 District Board Meeting at Smith River
- 19 Peace Day Service at Roanoke, Hollins Road
- 21 Office/Race Education Team
- 22 Staff Meeting/Office
- 23-24 Office
- 28 Office
- 29 Staff Meeting/Office
- 30 Office

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.

Throughout the three decades of the World Hunger Auction, the purpose has been to provide as much funding as possible to those facing hunger-related issues. With the exception of some expenses, all the money that is raised goes to organizations working toward that goal. The ten congregations of the Church of the Brethren that sponsor the auction are blessed with the opportunity to serve. However, they do not receive any of the funds. The money is distributed between Heifer International for international and domestic programs, Roanoke Area Ministries, the Church of the Brethren Global Food Crisis Fund, and Heavenly Manna, a food pantry in Rocky Mount, Virginia. You are invited to take part in this opportunity to touch those in need. Let the highest bidder win! Doing what we can opens the door for God to do much more.

STAFF MEETINGS AT THE DISTRICT RESOURCE CENTER

Our weekly staff meetings at the District Resource Center are held on most Wednesday mornings beginning at 10 a.m. and ending at lunch time. As a result, we do not answer the phone during these hours as we review prayer concerns, share devotional time, coordinate the calendars and prioritize the work list. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

PASTORAL PLACEMENT REPORT

- **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-I) - 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. began as interim on July 1, 2021.*
- **COULSON** - Full time position - *Harold E. Boyd has resigned effective September 13, 2021.*
- **FRATERNITY** - *David A. Ansley will begin as pastor on August 16, 2021.*
- **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 as 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.
- **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.
- **OAKVALE** - Part time position, no profile available - Josh Lucas continues as associate.
- **PLEASANT VIEW** - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.
- **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/I) - Anne Mitchell serving as interim pastor.

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 Virlina 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."

• Registration forms are available by contacting us at nuchurch@aol.com. The cost of this event, whether for Christian Growth Institutes students, continuing education or personal enrichment is \$25. Please mail the registration form and a check made out to Virlina District Board to Donna Hornsby, CGI Coordinator, Virlina District, 420 Bluebell Lane, Apt. 304, Roanoke, VA 24012.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE SUMMARY AND ELECTIONS

• The Annual Conference 2021 Summary of Actions and the Elections and Appointments are attached. Since a number of our congregations were not represented, we thought that it would be helpful to share this information.

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BRETHREN LIFE AND THOUGHT CGI CLASS BEGINS AUGUST 14, 2021

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 VIRGINIA 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.

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.

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 this year.

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. All district ministers have received the detailed schedule in the MEMO FOR MINISTERS.

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.

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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: A FAITHQUEST FOR ADULTS - OCTOBER 8-10, 2021

Pilgrimage 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.

MINISTERS AND SPOUSES RETREAT - OCTOBER 15-16, 2021

The 2021 Virilina 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.

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.

2022 SALARY GUIDELINES AND TABLE

The 2022 Salary Guidelines and Table prepared by the Pastoral Compensation and Benefits Advisory Committee and approved by the Annual Conference is attached. Please copy and share with your board chairperson or equivalent and any other relevant congregational leader. The recommended cost of living increase is 2%.

SELF-ALLOCATION/FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

The final Virilina District Financial Secretary Report for June 30, 2021 is attached. Please review your congregation's self-allocation giving for 2021 in consultation with your treasurer and draw any discrepancies to our attention. Please remember that your offering plate is the offering plate of the district and denomination.