

VIRLINA DISTRICT

Church
Of the
Brethren



MEMO FOR MINISTERS

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 2021

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Office/Christian Growth Institute Staff/Commission on Ministry |
| 2 | OPEN |
| 3 | Preach at Christiansburg |
| 4 | Virginia Council of Churches Coordinating Cabinet (Z)/Office/
Northern Area Ministers at Roanoke, First |
| 5 | Office |
| 6 | Staff Meeting/Office/Teach Bible Study at Jeters Chapel |
| 7 | OFF |
| 8 | Office |
| 9 | OPEN |
| 10 | Worship Undetermined |
| 11 | CODEAST at Weyers Cave |
| 12 | Office |
| 13 | Staff Meeting/Office/Teach Bible Study at Jeters Chapel |
| 14 | OFF |
| 15 | Office |
| 16 | OPEN |
| 17 | Worship at Durham, Peace Covenant/Council Meeting |
| 18 | Office/Southern Area Ministers and Spouses at Laurel Branch |
| 19 | Office/Awakening Committee |
| 20 | Staff Meeting/Office/Teach Bible Study at Jeters Chapel |
| 21 | OFF |
| 22 | Office |
| 23 | OPEN |
| 24 | Worship at Roanoke, Hollins Road/Council Meeting/Temple
Dedication of Iglesia Cristiana Nueva Vida at Meadows of Dan |
| 25 | Office |
| 26 | Office/Long Range Financial Planning Committee at Germantown
Brick |
| 27 | Staff Meeting/Office |
| 28 | OFF |
| 29 | Office (AM only) |
| 30 | OPEN |
| 31 | Worship Undetermined |

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 2021

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Office/Discipleship and Reconciliation Committee/New Church
Development Committee at Roanoke, Ninth Street |
| 2 | Office |
| 3 | Staff Meeting/Office/Ministry Advisory Committee (Z) |
| 4 | Virginia Council of Churches Annual Assembly (Z) |
| 5 | Office |
| 6 | OPEN |
| 7 | Worship Undetermined |
| 8 | Office/Iglesia El Buen Pastor Steering Committee |
| 9 | Office |
| 10 | Staff Meeting/Office |
| 11 | OFF |
| 12 | Office/District Conference at Grandin Court Baptist Church |
| 13 | District Conference at Grandin Court Baptist Church |
| 14 | Worship Undetermined |
| 15 | Office/Historical Committee/Moneta-Lake Side Steering Committee |
| 16 | Office/Christian Growth Institute Administrative Committee (Z) |
| 17 | Staff Meeting/Office |

NECESSARY CONVERSATIONS - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2021 - BY ZOOM

"Stories That Need To Be Told" with special guests CURTIS AND KATHLEEN CLAYTOR will be presented via Zoom on October 10th at 7 p.m.

Meet Curtis Claytor, the author of "The Ultimate Black History Trivia Book," and his wife, Kathleen. Join us as we sit down with the Claytors to learn about their story and to explore the importance of establishing relationships across racial lines. Participants will be invited to join in the conversation. Copies of Curtis' book are available at the District Resource Center for purchase (\$25) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays during office hours. If you find it difficult to come to the office, please contact us by electronic mail at <virlinaret@gmail.com> so that we can arrange to ship the book to you.

Please find the poster for this event, sponsored by the Race Education Team of the Commission on Witness, attached. For questions or further information contact Jennie L. Waering at (540) 314-1157.

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MINISTER SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 2021

18	OFF/NRHS Roanoke Chapter
19	Office
20	OPEN
21	Worship at Waynesboro (T)
22	Vacation
23	Vacation
24	Vacation
25-26	District Resource Center Closed for Thanksgiving
27	Vacation
28	Vacation
29	Vacation
30	Vacation

MARY SINK ST. JOHN SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 2021

1	Office
4	OFF
5	Office
6	Staff Meeting/Office
7	Office
8	Office
10	Race Education Team (District Event) - (Z)
11	OFF
12	Office
13	Staff Meeting Office
14	Office
15	Office
18	OFF
19	Office/Race Education Team - (Z)
20	Staff Meeting/Office
21	Office/Spiritual Development/Disabilities - Future Grief Event (Z)
22	Office
25	OFF
26	Office
27	Staff Meeting/Office
28	Office
29	Office

MARY SINK ST. JOHN SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 2021

1	OFF
2	Office
3	Staff Meeting/Office
4	Spiritual Development Retreat Committee (T)/Office
5	Office
8	OFF
9	Office/Staff District Conference Packets
10	Staff Meeting/Office
11	Office
12-13	District Conference - Grandin Court Baptist Church
15	OFF
16-21	VACATION
22	OFF
23	Office
24	Staff Meeting/Office
25-26	District Resource Center Closed for Thanksgiving
29	OFF
30	Office

SOUTHERN AREA MINISTERS AND SPOUSES - OCTOBER 18, 2021

The Southern Area Ministers and Spouses plan to meet at the Laurel Branch Church of the Brethren in Floyd County, Virginia on Monday, October 18, 2021. The program will be presented by Pastor Angela Carr on the "Part time Pastor, Full Time Church" initiative of the Church of the Brethren. She serves as the "circuit rider" for this initiative in our area. Please contact Angela at <carrfamily@swva.net> in order to reserve your meal.

Officers for the Southern Area for 2021-22 at Harold E. Boyd, President; William J. "Bill" Hinton, Vice-President; Emma Jean Franklin Woodard, Secretary; and Roy A. McVey, Treasurer.

NORTHERN AREA MINISTERS MEET OCTOBER 4

The next meeting of the Northern Area Ministers is scheduled for Monday, October 4, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at First Church of the Brethren at 2001 Carroll Avenue, NW. This will be a "no meal" meeting in the sanctuary of the church. The program for the evening features Nancy S. Heishman, Director of Ministry, presenting on the Part-Time Pastor, Full-Time Ministry initiative. For further information, contact Donna G. Hornsby, NAMA president at <dshornsby912@gmail.com>.

The Part-Time Pastor; Full-Time Church program is a grant-funded initiative through the Church of the Brethren Office of Ministry designed to offer support and encouragement specifically for multi-vocational pastors. Pastors who participate are paired with a regionally based "Circuit Rider," a minister with gifts of deep listening and encouragement. Circuit Riders come alongside pastors to listen to their joys and challenges and then help to connect them with resources that will be helpful in their particular situation.

PASTORAL PLACEMENT REPORT

- **BASSETT** - Full time position, profile pending - *Allen Alderman and Clyde Hylton serving as pulpit supply.*
- **BETHANY** - Part time position, no profile available - Emma Jean Woodard serving as interim pastor.
- **BETHEL** - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.
- **BETHLEHEM** - Full time position, profile circulating (P/3-I) - Horace D. Light, Jr. serving as interim pastor.
- **CHRISTIANSBURG** - Full or part time position - *Pulpit supply.*
- **COPPER HILL** - Full time position, profile pending - William J. Hinton, Sr. serving as interim.
- **COULSON** - Full time position - *Pulpit supply.*
- **GREEN HILL** - Part time position, profile pending (P) - J. Michael Varner serving as interim pastor.
- **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 - Jeremiah Beasley 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.
- **ROANOKE, HOLLINS ROAD** - *Full time position, profile pending - E.B Shoemaker has resigned and will begin on a full-time basis at Waynesboro Church of the Brethren in Shenandoah District on November 1, 2021.*
- **ROANOKE, IGLESIA CRISTIANA RENACER** - Part time position, no profile available - Pulpit supply.
- **ROANOKE, SUMMERDEAN** - *Adam C. Stultz began as pastor on a full time basis effective August 16, 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** - *Judy D. Mills has been called on a part-time basis effective November 1, 2021.*

PILGRIMAGE: A FAITHQUEST FOR ADULTS - POSTPONED

- Pilgrimage: A FaithQuest for Adults was scheduled for October 8-10, 2021 at Camp Bethel. However, due to concerns about the recent outbreaks of COVID-19, the event has been postponed and will be rescheduled.
- For more information, you may contact Karen Haynes at (336) 765-5263 or haynesmk1986@yahoo.com.

FALL VOLUNTEER WORKDAY - 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 at <www.CampBethelVirginia.org/workday>.

VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE - NOVEMBER 12-13, 2021

- The 2021 Virlina District Conference is currently scheduled to 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.

- We hope to hold worship and business sessions in person, although plans for the conference may change at any time. The Program and Arrangements Committee, chaired by Moderator Greg Fleshman of Mount Union 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 for all attendees.

- Pastors and congregations were recently sent a mailing that included 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. Please contact Mary St. John, Director of District Conference, Nurture and Witness, virlina2@aol.com or (540) 362-1816 with questions or concerns.

BRETHREN ACADEMY FOR MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP CLASSES

The Brethren Academy is offering an intensive travel course, A Place of Refuge: Ministry in an Urban Context, January 3 - 13, 2022. This course will take place in Atlanta, GA, with Josh Brockway as instructor. Josh is the director of spiritual formation and co-coordinator for Discipleship Ministries for the Church of the Brethren.

Those who enroll for Continuing Education or Personal Enrichment will be learning alongside TRIM and EFSM students as well as graduate students, who will be engaged in their own version of the course, taught by Bethany faculty member, Dan Poole. Anyone taking the course for continuing education credit (CEU) will earn 2 credits.

This course will explore the ministries of faith-based groups in metro Atlanta, exposing students to a variety of styles and strategies for addressing the complex issues of ministry in urban contexts.

To help with the cost of the course, the Brethren Academy will reimburse each Academy student \$300 of their travel expenses.

Due to the nature of this course, space is limited. The Academy has five (5) spots available. The registration deadline is November 1; but don't delay!

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.

CLERGY TAX SEMINAR - JANUARY 29, 2022

Clergy, students and anyone who deals with clergy finances such as congregational treasurers are invited to participate in this online Zoom seminar. Learn how to prepare clergy taxes correctly and legally. Comply with regulations while maximizing tax deductions.

Clergy can earn 0.3 CEUs - for the morning session only.

The annual Clergy Tax Seminar will consist of two sessions:

Morning Session, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. EST, will focus on the rules surrounding Clergy Tax Returns, including who is subject to these rules, what income is subject to tax, and how to reduce total tax liability using various methods, including housing allowance, business expenses and medical reimbursement plans. Credit for 0.3 CEUs will be available for attending Session 1 only. According to the new webinar policy, CEUs may also be earned by viewing the recording and filling out the report form. (Registration is required to receive the recording.)

Afternoon Session, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. EST, participants will complete a clergy tax return using H&R Block's highest tier (Premium and Business) downloadable software.

This seminar is highly recommended for all clergy and anyone who deals with clergy finances who wish to understand clergy taxes, including treasurers, steward commission chairs, and church board chairs. It is sponsored by the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership, the Church of the Brethren Office of Ministry, and Bethany Theological Seminary

Seminar Schedule

11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. EST: Morning session
2:00 p.m. -2:30 p.m. EST: Lunch on your own
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. EST: Afternoon session

Registration and Cost

Registration is \$40 per person (generally nonrefundable to keep fees and overhead low). Current Brethren Academy, Bethany Theological Seminary and Earlham School of Religion students may attend the seminar at no cost, although registration is still required to allow us to provide you with web access to the seminar. Instructions and handouts will be sent a few days prior to the event. Registrations are not complete until payment is received. For quality reasons, registrations may be capped at eighty-five persons. Prompt registration is advised at the registration deadline is January 19, 2022. A Zoom link will be sent prior to the seminar.

MINISTERS AND SPOUSES RETREAT - SCIENCE FICTION AND THEOLOGY - FEBRUARY 25-26, 2022

The Virilina District Ministers and Spouses Retreat is scheduled to be held on February 25-26, 2022 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." of Old Testament.

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. After nine years 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. All of our ministers and spouses are encouraged to take advantage of this entertaining and informative event. 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 is attached and scholarships are available.

NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE - JULY 23-28, 2022

National Youth Conference 2022 (NYC 2022) will focus on Colossians 2: 5-7 (NRSV) and the theme "Foundational." The event will be held July 23-28, 2022; the registration fee, which includes food, lodging, and programming, will be \$550. This does not include transportation, however, Virilina District is working to help provide this. Tara Myers Riddle, a member of the Antioch Church of the Brethren, has been called by the district as coordinator. Youth who have completed ninth grade through one year of college at the time of NYC (or are age equivalent) and their advisors will gather at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado. Online registration will open on December 1, 2021.

The theme scripture from Colossians 2:5-7 reads "For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, and I rejoice to see your morale and the firmness of your faith in Christ. As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."

"Throughout the Bible, God is revealed as a foundation for our lives in many ways. Some examples of this are the cornerstone, the way God can be seen as an anchor for our lives, and how we remain rooted in God in all circumstances," wrote Erika Clary, 2022 NYC Coordinator.

Members of the National Youth Cabinet include Ben Tatum (Virilina), Bella Torres (Atlantic Northeast), Elise Gage (MidAtlantic), Geo Romero (Illinois/Wisconsin), Hayley Daubert (Shenandoah), and Luke Schweitzer (Southern Ohio/ Kentucky). Advisors include Kayla Alphonse (Atlantic Southeast) and Jason Haldeman (Atlantic Northeast). The Cabinet is led by Erika Clary and accompanied by Becky Ullom Naugle, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

Watch for NYC 2022 updates at <www.brethren.org/yya/nyc/> and on social media (Facebook: National Youth Conference; Instagram: @cobnyc2022).

REMEMBERING DALE BROWN

Dale Brown, a widely known and beloved minister, theologian, writer, teacher, peacemaker and 1972 Annual Conference Moderator in the Church of the Brethren, died on August 30, 2021. Dale's first pastorate was Stover Memorial Church of the Brethren (Des Moines) from 1949 until 1956. Afterwards he completed a Ph.D. focusing on Pietism (published as Understanding Pietism in 1978), taught and worked at McPherson College, and then taught at Bethany Theological Seminary for 30 years. Many of us sat at his feet learning about Anabaptism and Pietism as seminary students and/or in continuing education events. His book "Another Way of Believing" is an excellent guide to our theology. Among his many life works, A remembrance was published on September 3 in the Brethren Newslines.

SELF-ALLOCATION/FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

The Virilina District Financial Secretary Report for August 31, 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.