

## CHURCH LEADERS - 2017

PASTOR.....David Grimes

### MINISTRY TEAMS

Administration.....Chris Imler

Christian Education.....Tonya Dibert

Deacon.....Barry Snyder

Evangelism.....Tina Jesk

Fellowship.....Linda Trivelpiece

Maintenance.....Wes Waltower

Mission.....Ruth Dibert

Pastoral Support.....Jeff Dibert

Worship.....Carla Manges

BOARD CHAIR.....Evelyn Creps

CHURCH CLERK.....Bev Hershberger

FINANCIAL SECRETARY.....Darla Brady

TREASURER.....Della Watters

GIFTS DISCERNMENT.....Tina Imes

## VALLEY TIES STAFF

Doris Dibert.....Tina Imes

Heather Koontz.....Carla Manges

### MAILINGS

Shirley Foor.....Mereta Imes

Tina Jesk.....Rock Manges

Marcella Morgret.....Gary Trivelpiece

## OFFICE HOURS

SECRETARY – Sue Geyer

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday – 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Deadline for Bulletin Items is Wednesday, 4:00 PM

## SNAKE SPRING VALLEY

### Church of the Brethren

1411 Lower Snake Spring Road

Everett, PA15537-6658

Return Service Requested

NONPROFIT

ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

PERMIT NO. 33

A free showing of the movie **THE SHACK** will be shown on the church lawn, **Friday, July 7, 9:00 PM**. Bring your own chairs and join us for this community wide event.

July/August 2017

VOLUME 21.4

# VALLEY TIES

Seeking You . . . With GOD'S Good News

### SNAKE SPRING VALLEY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



*"God's Family Celebrating His Love"*

Morning Worship 9:25 AM

Sunday School 11:00 AM

652-5074

ssvcob@embarqmail.com

ssvcob.com

### FROM THE PASTOR

#### BEING RIGHT...OR BEING LIKE JESUS

It's a privilege to be a citizen of the "good ole' U.S. of A." Our nation was founded on faith in Jesus, perseverance, hard work and rugged individualism. These values make us great. One problem is that the things which make us great can actually make us weaker. Take the concept of rugged individualism. It teaches us to work hard if we want to accomplish our goals and that we shouldn't sit around waiting for handouts. These are good things. But, in some ways, we've taken it too far. Research shows the United States is the most

individualistic nation in the history of the world. Many Americans are far more interested in "looking out for #1" than they are in looking out for the good of others or even being civil.

Die-hard conservatives can't find anything President Obama or the Democrats did right. Die-hard liberals can't find one thing President Trump or any Republican does right. Some parents treat referees like criminals when they make a call against their child. Many Americans have nothing good to say about any immigrant who migrates to our country. Let's be honest. In many ways, our rugged individualism is creating selfishness which leads to arguments and, in some cases, violence.

God calls us to a higher standard than this. Colossians 3:12-14 says, "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity." As Christians, we aren't called to look out for #1. We're told to look out for each other – and to be civil about it.

Pastor Dave

## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

**Welcome to all!** The Snake Spring Valley congregation extends a sincere invitation to all to worship with us each Sunday at 9:25 a.m. This is followed by time in the fellowship hall to greet each other and enjoy snacks, a drink or cup of coffee. Sunday school classes for all ages are from 11:00 to 11:45 a.m. We would love to have you join us!

**Child Dedication, May 14** – Mother’s Day was a fitting day for Pastor David to dedicate these children, brought forward by their parents, as members of the congregation affirmed their promises to help nurture and rear them in the arms of the church:

Alydia Hope, daughter of Becky Dillsworth and Christian Davis; grandparents are Bill & Bev Creps, Jayden and Reagan, daughters of Amanda & Trent Barkman.



**Memorial Sunday, May 28** – A special time of remembrance was held for loved ones who have passed from our midst during the past year. Candles were lit for Rex Morgret, Janice Kennedy, Marjorie Shaffer, Dale Grimes, Sandra McConahy, Joseph Imler Sr., Darlene Morse, Elias Corle, Alexander Osborne, William Rizer and Betty Frederick.

**Graduation Sunday, June 4** – Honored as recent graduates were *Isaac Barkman* from Bedford High School, son of Spence & Angie Barkman. Isaac has been a “farmer in training” since age four, and his plans are to continue his work on the family

farm, to “help keep the corn growing and the farm to prosper!”

*Amber Dibert*, daughter of Mary & Dan Dibert, graduated from Wilson College in Chambersburg with a degree in veterinarian medicine. Future plans will depend upon job openings, but Amber says she enjoys working with both small and large animals.

Our best wishes for the future are with both of you!

**Birth announcements** - Congratulations to these new arrivals and their families!

Avala Grace Foor, daughter of Danielle & Jesse Foor, born May 9. Grandparents are Steve & Tina Imes, and great –grandmother is Mereta Imes.

Addalyn Rose Edwards, daughter of Janelle & Jordan Edwards, born May 26. Grandparents are Mike & Janice Dunkle.

**Mission trip to Greece, July 19-30** – Keep in your thoughts and prayers those from our congregation participating in this trip during July: Debbie Koontz, Donna Uhlig, Chelsie Spade, Rock Manges, Tonya & Jeff Dibert, Chris & Joe Imler, Dean & Michele Dibert, David & Stephanie Grimes. Also joining our group are Dottie & Harry Smith from Breezewood. The group has spent many hours learning about the country they will be visiting and the refugee situation, preparing for crafts and lessons, collecting supplies and raising funds for the trip. You will all be remembered daily, as we pray for you a rewarding experience and safety.

**Church board report** – At the June 12 church board meeting, Bonnie Imler, representing Camp Blue Diamond, presented **“Upon This Firm Foundation,”** a capital campaign for our church camp, with a financial goal of \$650,000 over the next five years. Improvements to the camp would include a large multi-purpose building, and renovations to the camp office and campground

area (replacing the electrical and water lines and building a new bath house). A Reserve for Replacement Fund would also be created. Please

## DENOMINATIONAL NEWS

*“Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.”* Hebrews 10:23



**Annual Conference 2017, June 28 – July 2, Grand Rapids, MI** – Conference is now over, led by moderator Carol Scheppard. Her chosen theme was “Risk Hope,” based on the scripture above from Hebrews. She came to the Church of the Brethren through a very different route from those raised in the COB. Formerly of Connecticut, and working in the field of special education, she learned of the Brethren through our church in Putney, Vermont, attracted by our teachings in social justice, peace and service. Carol received her Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary and did her doctorate work in religion at the University of PA. Before her year as moderator, she has been a professor at Bridgewater college in Virginia, serving there previously as Vice President and Dean. Carol was ordained to the ministry in the Southern PA district and is currently an active member of the Lebanon congregation in Mt. Sidney, VA.

Our called delegate to conference, Wes Waltower, was unable to attend, so our congregation was represented by Doris Dibert. The next issue of *Valley Ties* will introduce you to the new moderator, Samuel Kefas Sarpiya, formerly of Nigeria, and a brief summary of conference.

Future conference dates and sites will be: 2018 in Cincinnati, OH; 2019 in San Diego, CA; 2020,

back in Grand Rapids, MI; and 2021 in Greensboro, NC.

## Brethren Service Center, New Windsor, MD –

Those who remember traveling to New Windsor for BVS training, to process clothing for refugee relief or to volunteer in the SERRV warehouse preparing items to be sold in the International Gift Shop will feel a twinge of sadness to know that the buildings and upper campus have been sold.

The former Blue Ridge College campus, opened in 1850, was purchased by the Brethren in 1944 as the home for many organizations. In recent years, because of changing programs and the expense of care and upkeep of the buildings, it has not been feasible to keep the valuable real estate property. Selling the property has provided better stewardship of our assets. The COB will still keep the warehouse at the lower end of the campus for ongoing programs. The property now will be the location of a private, co-educational boarding and day school for grades 5-12.

A closing worship to say good-bye and reflect on the many good things that came from the Brethren Service Center was held there on April 30. For an interesting look back at New Windsor, check out the articles in the June issue of *Messenger*.

**Nigerian update** – In May, the terrorist group Boko Haram released 82 girls in a prisoner swap. They were among the 270 abducted from the school in Chibok, begun by the Church of the Brethren before becoming a school run by the government. The Brethren *Newsline* internet issue of June 3 gave a listing of names of 60 of the girls released who were from families who attend congregations of EYN (the COB in Nigeria). All of them had been held in prayer by Brethren congregations in the US. Sadly to say, our Anthonia Yahonna was not among those who were set free. It is unknown if the released girls have yet been returned to their homes. Continue

to hold tightly in your heart the hope that all will be released. Keep them in your prayers.

For more information on recent situations, how funds from the US are being used and progress made, go to [www.brethren.org/nigeriacrisis](http://www.brethren.org/nigeriacrisis).

**Fellowship Team  
Linda Trivelpiece**

**Snake Spring Valley Church of the Brethren –  
Ice Cream Festival  
Saturday, July 15, 2017  
4 – 7:00 p.m.**



Ice Cream Festival

Our annual festival began back in 1976 as a project of the Women's Fellowship. Now an all-church event, it attracts many from the surrounding area, as well as Morrison's Cove, who come yearly to enjoy good food, homemade ice cream and the chance to linger around tables in the pavilion for fellowship.

The menu includes ham sandwiches, sloppy-joes, grilled hot dogs, potato and macaroni salad, baked beans, green beans and applesauce. For dessert there's a tempting assortment of delicious homemade cakes and pies, plus eight flavors of ice cream to choose from!

This year we'll again be accepting donations for the food (instead of a set price for each item), so give as your heart leads! Beverages will be \$1.00 each, and ice cream at \$.75 a dip. The church board has voted that all proceeds from the festival this year will be divided between two important community ministries: the Breezewood Trucker-Traveler Ministry and the Bedford County Food Bank.

Plan to come on Thursday evening, July 14 at 6:00 p.m. to help churn the ice cream – a family affair! Lots of volunteer help is needed the day of the festival for set-up, to serve food and for clean-up afterwards. This is a wonderful summertime event, so invite your family, relatives and neighbors to enjoy this time of fellowship as well as supporting community ministries.

**Mission Team  
Ruth Dibert, Leader**

*"Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ."*

Colossians 3:23-24

This team keeps active all year long with many projects that give us opportunities to share with those in need around the world:

**Blanket Sunday** special offering, taken on June 25, \$857 plus the church budgeted gift of \$ 500 (rounded up to \$1400) , was sent to Church World Service.

**Pennies for Witness** truck bank will be out on July 2 and Aug. 6 to support local ministries.

**Our Own Coats & Shoes Chicken BBQ** will be held on Saturday, July 22, with proceeds being divided between Bedford, Everett and Northern Bedford elementary schools. These funds help to purchase warm clothing and shoes for our own local children in need, along with school supplies, etc. for the coming school year. Tickets are \$9.00 each and must be purchased by July 16. If you have not yet signed up or been contacted, call Ruth at 652-9289. Your support is appreciated.

**The Village at Morrisons Cove** will hold its annual *Christmas in July* event on Friday, July 28 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. On Friday, August 25, the Auxiliary will hold its annual *Peaches & Cream*

*Fest* from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Both events are held in the Activities Hall.

**Love INC's next chicken BBQ** will be on Saturday, Aug. 26, prepared here in our BBQ pit by Dennis Dibert and the Royal Rangers. Dinners are \$8.50 each and can be picked up here at the church. Call Ruth for a ticket. They wish to thank everyone for supporting the Royal Rangers and Love INC. Reminder: Love INC yard sales are held weekly on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Food Outreach** – Most of us shop weekly for food items, yet our church Food Bank cupboards have seemed a bit sparse lately. Please consider a purchase for the Food Bank list on your next trip to the grocery store.

**July** – Spaghetti, spaghetti sauce and Parmesan cheese; hot and cold cereals, powdered and shelf-stable milk, fruit in its own juice and fruit juice.

**August** – Vegetable or tomato soup, canned stews and crackers; pancake mixes and syrup, tea and coffee.

Staples such as flour, sugar, salt and pepper and condiments as ketchup, mustard and mayonnaise are needed. Any non-perishable foods are accepted; just watch expiration dates. Avoid foods packaged in glass.

### CAMP BLUE DIAMOND NEWS

**Senior Adult Day, June 2** was enjoyed by two members of our church, Doris Dibert and Valarie Smith. Over 70 attendees from various churches in the district were challenged by David Radcliffe's message. As director of New Community Project, he has a passion for God's people and the created world, which inspired him to find ways to change the way we relate to the planet and His people. Through this non-profit organization,

David will be leading learning tours to these places in 2017-2018; the Navajo reservation in New Mexico, Alaska, Nepal and the Ecuadorian Amazon in South America.

In thinking about David's message and how we can make our world a better place, we are suggesting that families talk with their children about how we can join this effort. Through such simple acts as conserving paper products (Save our trees!), eliminating food waste (Don't take more than you can eat!), buying less, planting a garden and involving your children in using our recycling bins, we can make a difference!



**23rd Annual Brethren Open Golf Tournament, Aug. 8** – Our church will be represented at the Iron Masters Golf Course by team members Bill and Brian Creps, Joe Hershberger and Gary Trivelpiece. Let's wish them good luck and a fun day of golfing!

**Family Camp, Aug. 18-20** – Why not consider a mini-vacation with your family at our church camp? The emphasis this year is on singing and story-telling. Other activities available are swimming, the Climbing Tower and the giant swing. It promises to be a great weekend! See the bulletin board for more details

**Heritage Fair, 2017** – Save the date of Sept. 23 for this annual event. More details to come.

**Camp Blue Diamond 2017 Participants** – Some have already been to camp, others are scheduled to attend:

**Quilt & Craft Camp, Apr. 28-30** – Jackie & Heather Koontz (plus the rest of the family, to enjoy the weekend at camp)

**Workday, Apr. 22** – Rod & Kyle Duvall

**Senior Adult Day, June 2** – Doris Dibert & Valarie Smith

**Kiddie Camp, June 3-4** –Carter Frederick & dad Ian, Brooklyn Baker & Grandmother Shirley; **June 15-16** – Bennet Spitzer Koontz & mom Heather

**Jr. High 1, June 18-23** – Tess Koontz

**Creative Arts Camp, June 25-30** – Lauren Duvall & Arissah Mickey

**Pioneer Camp, July 5-7** – Riley Vent

**Jr. High 2, July 23– 28** – Zachary Vent

**Wild OLS (Outdoor Living Skills), July 23-28** – Kyle Duvall

**Family Camp, Aug. 18-20** – Heather Koontz & Todd Spitzer, daughters Tess & Bennet

**Camping Memories – by Tess Koontz**  
“Arts and Crafts and Snakes Oh My!”

Camp Blue Diamond is one of my favorite places to spend my week. I have been a camper there since I was four years old, but even after eight years I still do new things, meet new people and create amazing memories.

This was my first year in Junior High camp. It was certainly very difficult from the younger kids' camps and OLS (outdoor living skills). We got to choose our own activities and when we did them. Every morning at 7 we woke up and went on a polar bear swim. It was always very cold. Then we had morning watch, which is more than just a Bible Study. One day we meditated, on another we created a covenant; one day we were all given a paper plate, and we wrote nice things about each person on the plate. We got to do Arts & Crafts – this year we made a dreamcatcher and a silhouette. There were two nature sessions, an hour session and a 30 minute session. Once we pretended we were bears trying to bring food to

our dens, and once we played “Oh Deer,” a game to show the ratio of resources to deer. The last activity we scheduled was lake time. During lake time we got to use canoes, surf bikes, paddle boards, and more! We also went swimming and played volleyball!

Swimming was very refreshing after the long hike up Tussey on Tuesday. We got to pick which trail to go on: Indian Steps (easy), Tussey Trail (my trail, medium), or Brewer (difficult). We headed out right after breakfast with a packed lunch that we ate at the lookout. After lunch we headed up to the campground where we would stay the night. On the way there we ran into a rattlesnake that we saw from a not-very-safe distance. We were less than feet away and almost stepped on it when we heard the deafening rattle. We were all safe and found a separate route to take. When we got to the campground we made fajitas. We laid our sleeping bags (that the van carried) on a tarp and slept under the stars. On Wednesday morning we had French toast and headed down. It seemed a lot shorter heading down than up.

Camp Blue Diamond is an amazing place to create new memories and make new friends. All of my cabin mates were very nice. If you ever get the chance, then you should totally visit Camp Blue Diamond.

### MIDDLE PA DISTRICT NEWS

Our district has been without a full-time District Executive since David Steele was called as the General Secretary of our denomination, beginning Sept. 1, 2016. An interim team of four persons has been providing leadership and stability for the past year as the district continued to function smoothly. At present, there are around 12 churches seeking pastoral leadership.

David Banaszak, pastor of the Clover Creek congregation near Martinsburg, has recently been called to serve as our new District Executive Minister. Since he has been a part of our district for 25 years, he is no stranger to our churches and district happenings. We wish him God's blessing in this new role. David's wife, Linda, currently serves as Chaplain at the Village at Morrisons Cove.

be in prayer for our congregation as we discern and respond to our role in supporting this campaign.

**Congregational business meeting** – On Sunday, July 9, following Sunday school, a special congregational business meeting will be held to approve completion of the playground project.

**In our thoughts and prayers** – During these busy summer months, remember to reach out to those confined to their homes, and to those in care facilities: Steve Shuss, Ruby Calhoun, Margaret Snyder, Joyce Tenley and Mary Ann Winesickle. We must still pray for Anthonia Yahonna, the Nigerian schoolgirl abducted from the Chibok School by Boko Haram, still in captivity.

**Church visitor** – Jackie Koontz will be assisting Pastor Dave with visitation, especially with senior members.

With Heartfelt  
*Sympathy*

**Sincere sympathy** is extended to the Paul Wagoner Family.

**On June 26,** - Pastor Dave & Stephanie hosted a picnic lunch at the church, enjoyed by 26 of our senior members. It was so nice to gather as a

generational group for good food and fellowship that it was decided to meet every two months. After some interesting suggestions for a name, the group chose *Senior Servants*, and will meet on September 11 at 1:00 p.m. at the church. All are welcome! Thank you, Pastor Dave & Stephanie, for a tasty meal and nice afternoon!

### MINISTRY TEAMS

**Christian Education Team**  
Tonya Dibert, Leader



**Vacation Bible School** – *Maker Fun Factory* was the theme for VBS, held June 19-23, attended by an average of 53 children and youth and 39 helpers. Over 100 enjoyed the Friday night program and ice cream social. The week's offerings of \$300 will go to Camp Blue Diamond for the Capital Improvement Fund. Many thanks to all who gave of their time, creativity and leadership to help in nurturing our children.

**Movie under the stars** – The first movie night was held in June on our church lawn. Over 60 movie lovers brought lawn chairs and blankets to enjoy “*Beauty and the Beast*” and snacks. Mark the dates of July 7 for “*The Shack*” and August 25 (to be announced) on your calendar to enjoy another movie night with our church family, starting at 9:00 p.m. In case of rain, it will be shown inside.

**Playground committee** – The group organized to raise funds and create a playground on our church grounds have finalized plans for the layout of the new playground. It is hoped to be in place for children of the church and community to enjoy

before the end of the year. The committee would like to thank all who have purchased cookies and chicken dinners, and donated money towards this project. The playground will be used and appreciated by our next generations of children. There is nothing more rewarding than watching children smiling, laughing and playing together!