

Bush Creek Church of the Brethren
4821A Green Valley Road
Monrovia, Maryland 21770
Address Service Requested

What's Happening at Bush Creek..“The Bridge”



***Bush Creek Church of the Brethren
4821A Green Valley Road
Monrovia, Maryland 21770
301-663-3025***

***office@bushcreekchurch.org – Church office
<http://bushcreekchurch.org/> - website***

***Sunday School – 9:15 – 10:15 am
Worship – 10:30 am – 11:30 am***

***Pastors:
Leo and Melissa Barnes***

The Bridge – August 2017 Volume 49, Number 8

***CENTRAL VISION FOR BUSH CREEK
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN***

***Because of our commitment to Jesus Christ, we are a
spiritual family which shows love, acceptance
and concern for all persons.***



Ponderings by Pastor Melissa

Enjoy the Journey!

We like to canoe, mainly on lakes and tidal rivers. We definitely enjoy the calmer water, not the white water experiences! Since we choose calmer settings, we also can choose the rhythm with which we paddle. We can paddle rapidly – stroke! stroke! stroke! – and cover a good distance in a fairly short time – but we possibly wear ourselves out in the process. Or we can take a more relaxed approach – stroke ... pause / glide ... stroke ... pause / glide ... stroke. We won't cover as great a distance, but the “journey” is so much richer. We have time to look around and enjoy what we see – herons, cranes and bitterns; fish darting beneath the canoe and leaping from the water; turtles sunning themselves; bright blue dragonflies dancing over the water's surface; wildflowers and butterflies on the shore; birds flitting in the trees. We can enjoy the sounds around us – waves lapping on the shore; leaves rustling in the breeze; birds singing and chirping. Even the water smells good!



Heron at Lake Marburg

Life is a “journey” also. While we cannot choose the events which come into our lives, we can choose how we will travel through this life. Will we cram the most we can into every part of every day? Or will we literally take time to smell the roses? Will we recognize the blessings that our loving Father brings into our lives and find contentment in them? Will we spend time with Him, thanking Him and praising Him? In Psalm 16:11, David wrote “You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.” (NKJV) Enjoy the journey which He has set before you!

IN THE NEWS AT BUSH CREEK..

*Board meeting will be held Monday, August 7 @ 7:30 pm. Please mark your calendar. Reminder to all commission chairs – 2018 budget information is due at this meeting. Thank you.

*Please continue to pray about donating to the Projection System Fund to acquire a system to display slides and video in the sanctuary (to eliminate having to use a portable screen or to relocate to the fellowship hall). Donations to date - **\$6,020**. If you are interested in making a monetary donation to this fund, please make check payable to Bush Creek Church and mark in memo line “projector system”.



***Children's Book Collection** – The Missions and Service Commission sponsored a collection of children's books recently. Pastors Leo and Melissa delivered the books to Annual Conference where they will be later delivered to Flint, Michigan. Every aspect of life has been affected by the water crisis in Flint – including literacy. **Thank you** for your generous donations of books.

(Left - See Pastor Leo delivering the books in the Annual Conference Center in the photo).



*I wish to thank the congregation for all the lovely cards, all the encouraging words, the many gifts that were given, and the visits, but mostly all of your prayers on my behalf. The unexpected journey that Jim and I are on has not been easy, but all of your warm regards for the both of us has been most welcome. Sincerely and with much love, **Linda Walker***

*An Annual Conference Summary is located on the program table. Please feel free to pick up a copy to be well informed of the Church of the Brethren Annual meeting. **The wrap-up DVD, which includes Bible Studies by Bob Bowman, is available in the church office to borrow and return.**



***Bittersweet Gospel Band** in concert at Hagerstown Church of the Brethren, Wed., August 23 @ 7 pm. See bulletin board for further detail or check out bittersweetministries.org.



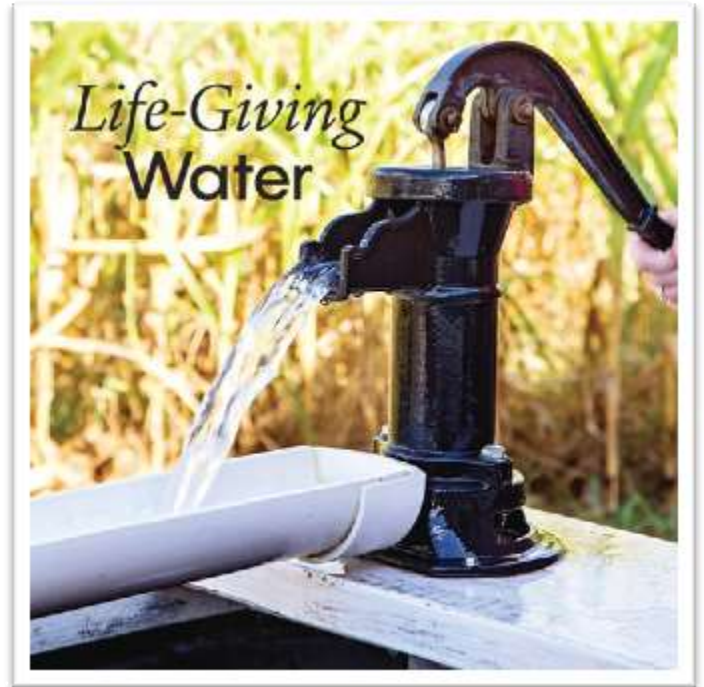
Older Adult Sunday – September 17:
Bush Creek Church values our older adults! To show our appreciation, we are planning a special worship service, followed by an **ice cream social**.

We hope to incorporate a number of favorite hymns into the service, through congregational singing and through special music. In order to include as many hymns as possible, we will begin the **morning with a hymn sing at 10:20 am. Come early and enjoy!**

We take clean water for granted in the United States. Many counties including Peru do not have the luxury of turning on a faucet to have clean water to drink, cook or bath.

Imagine rising at dawn, grabbing a large bucket, and heading down to the muddy banks of the river to get your family's water for the day. The water you pull up is brown, murky, and filled with sediment. This is the daily reality for countless villagers throughout Peru.

For just \$5 you can help provide clean water for an entire year for a child in a remote Peruvian village! Through a partnership between *Group Cares* and *Living Water*, we can reach thousands of thirsty kids and families with **life-giving water**.



Any and all donations of any amount will be appreciated. You will be assisting the Vacation Bible School children with their mission project. VBS received \$130 in donations so far. **Please make checks payable to Bush Creek COB but mark them "Pour Out Living Water" on the memo line.**



Please consider helping these children from Peru and their families to have clean water.

MISSIONS AND SERVICE COMMISSION NEWS:



During the month of **July and August** the Food Bank will collect school supplies for needy children in the Monrovia, New Market, Urbana and Ijamsville schools. Suggested donations include large backpacks, three and five subject spiral notebooks, one and two inch binders, binder dividers, post-it notes, index cards, compass and protractor, graph paper, USB flash drives and ear bud headphones (from dollar stores). You may also view specific supplies needed for the schools listed in the areas above at fcps.org. Please bring donations to the coat room and deposit in the large container **through August 13**. Thank you for your generosity – Missions and Service Commission

Heifer International Collection – **Thank you** for all donations to benefit Heifer International during the month of May. A total of **\$315** was collected and will be sent to Heifer to purchase various animals for families in underprivileged countries. – Missions and Service Comm.

Greater Urbana Food Bank – during the month of **September** the Missions Commission will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Food Bank. Please bring all donations to the coat room and deposit in the container.



Annual Fall Festival, Sat., Oct. 7 here at Bush Creek. Mark your calendars now and check the attic, basement, etc. for auction donations. Also consider making a specialty basket to donate or baked items. Homemade apple dumplings, food and bake sale, and a silent auction will also be featured.

Entertainment will be the Rohrersville Band and Jessica Snyder. More detail available soon...

All proceeds benefit Brethren Disaster Ministries.



***Bazaar meeting – Wed., August 9** we will be meeting at **noon** to discuss the upcoming bazaar. This meeting is open to everyone. We would love to have you come and share your ideas. Don't worry if you are not a crafter – there are many areas in which we can use you. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship as we plan this fun event. We will meet in the basement Sunday School room across from the quilting room. We hope to see you there – The Bazaar Comm.

***Women's Fellowship quarterly lunch and meeting, Wed., Sept.13.** Bring a dish and dessert to share. All are welcome.

***The Women's Fellowship will be holding their annual Craft Bazaar on Sat., Nov. 11.** If you have a talent for making crafts and would like to donate a few items it would be greatly appreciated. Also, to our **gardeners** out there – fresh produce and plants sell very well so please plan accordingly to have extra to share. Thanks so much in advance – The Bazaar Committee

Women's Fellowship sponsors school kit project:

The Women's Fellowship is asking for your help in making school kits to send to the Church World Service which will distribute them to children in impoverished schools, refugee camps, or other difficult settings which leave them without access to the basic items needed for school. A processing/shipping fee of \$2 is needed for each kit. Please put cash in an envelope marked for Women's Fellowship. Checks may be made payable to Bush Creek Women's Fellowship. Please place all payments in Anna Mae Poole's mailbox. (If you cannot donate the fee, the Women's Fellowship will supply it).

The items needed for each kit are:

- One pair blunt metal scissors (rounded tip only) – removed from package)
- Three 70-count spiral notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (no loose leaf paper)
- One 30-centimeter ruler (12")
- One hand-held pencil sharpener, removed from package
- One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers)
- Six new, unsharpened pencils with erasers, removed from package
- One box of 24 crayons

Please pack all items inside a cloth bag – there are bags in coat room for the kits to go in. Please put the kits in the designated container in the coatroom. We will be collecting school kits through September, at which time we will return to collecting hygiene kits. Thank you.

Vacation Bible School was a great success this year with 23 children in attendance. Many volunteers donated their time and talents during the week of July 10 through the 14th. Beth Green led VBS with great enthusiasm and devotion to the children of Bush Creek and the neighborhood. Many thanks to Beth; the Christian Education Commission, all the Bush Creek commissions for meal assistance, and volunteers. Special thanks to Sam Weinberg – VBS Photographer.







CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

*Check out what is happening with the
Bush Creek youth and children.
Spread the good news!*



Summer is here! The Beverly Hillbillies Summer Sunday School series has started. Would you be willing to lead a discussion? There will be a set of DVDs in the downstairs classroom with the TV/VCR. We will have a list of which video to show each Sunday – but they can be switched around and do not have to be shown in any particular order. There is a discussion guide for each Sunday. This should be a fun way to teach and learn about Bible teachings. Location – Second Level in the Coffee House. [Please see sign up on program table](#) – Christian Ed. Comm.

Youth Coffee House – The next scheduled coffee house will be **August 13**. The coffee house is located on the second floor – first door on the right. Coffee, hot chocolate, hot tea, donuts, comfy new surroundings will welcome our youth. Various speakers from the congregation will be invited to share with the youth.

Breakfast with Santa and Baby Jesus – Saturday, December 2. Activities include: Interactive Nativity story, a visit with Santa, crafts, games, breakfast. A really fun time for the whole family.

Special events are also planned throughout the year including mission projects, youth conferences, movie nights, coffee house-type meetings, pumpkin patch visits, swim parties, car washes, bake sales, caroling, service projects in the neighborhood, etc.



THE YEAR AHEAD

August

- 08/07 - Board meeting @ 7:30 pm
- 08/09 - Bazaar meeting @ noon
- 08/14 - 08/27 Leo & Melissa vacation
- 08/26 - Thews family reunion - hall reserved

September

- 09/09 - Shipe Family reunion - hall reserved
- 09/10 - Deacon meeting after worship
- 09/11 - Commission meetings @ 7:30 pm.
- 09/13 - Women's Fellowship meal and meeting @ noon
- 09/28 - Deacon meeting/bread making @ 6 pm

October

- 10/01 - World Communion Sunday
Love Feast & Communion - 6:30 pm
- 10/02 - Board meeting @ 7:30 pm
- 10/07 - Fall Festival - hall reserved 9 am - 3 pm
- 10/13 & 10/14 - District Conference - Frederick COB
- 10/15 - Homecoming Worship & Carry-in meal
- 10/28 - Turkey, Oyster & Ham Dinner - 12 noon - 5 pm

November

- 11/05 - Memorial Sunday
- 11/06 - Commission meetings @ 7 pm
- 11/11 - Bazaar
- 11/12 - Bazaar held after worship
- 11/19 - Fall Council after worship

December

- 12/02 - Breakfast with Santa
- 12/03 - First Sunday in Advent
- 12/04 - Board meeting @ 7 pm
- 12/10 - Family Christmas Meal after worship
- 12/13 - Women's Fellowship meal & meeting
- 12/24 - Christmas Eve service @ 7 pm
- 12/25 - 12/31 Leo & Melissa vacation

Bible Study @ 10 every Wed. September thru June
Quilting every Wed. @ 8:30 pm
BSA meetings every Wed. August - June @ 6:30 pm
Choir Rehearsal schedule to be announced





Preparing for Worship August – 2017

Sunday School: 9:15 am. – 10:15 am

Morning Worship: 10:30 am – 11:30 am

Date	Message and Scripture	Preaching	Other Notes	Greeters
6	A Godly Reset Galatians 3:1-14	Pastor Melissa	Worship Assistant: Art Frank CCW – Beth Green Special Music: Wanda Embrey Nursery: Elwood Hipkins	Bob and Becky Farmer
13	Why Did We Need the Law? Galatians 3:15-25	Pastor Leo	Worship Assistant: Devin Clark CCW: Sam Weinberg Special Music: Sherry Kemp & Linda Spohn Nursery: Diana Frank	Earl & Carolyn Kline
20	Pastors Leo and Melissa on vacation	Pastor Fred Bernhard	Worship Assistant: Anna Mae Poole CCW – Helen Roberts Special Music: Jane Musselman & Jennifer Wilson Nursery: Jean Hipkins	Elwood & Jean Hipkins
27	Pastors Leo and Melissa on vacation	Pastor Linda Lambert	Worship Assistant: Jessica Musselman Special Music: Damascus Road Nursery: Helen Roberts	Johnnie & Barbara Emmett