



Pastoral change on the way: transition set for May

Editor's note: This is the text of a letter sent to the congregation February 13 by Pastor Glenn. A letter from Leadership Team Chair Brad Eckard follows.

February 13, 2017

Friends of Beaver Creek,

Nearly twenty-four years ago, Debbie and I moved into the parsonage of Beaver Creek, and became your pastoral couple. It is hard to believe that so many years have passed, and yet it seems that we have spent our whole lives here. During that time, we have been nurtured, loved, encouraged and welcomed as family. The deep roots and love that we have for everyone at Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren makes it especially difficult to share that I have accepted the call to become pastor at Mill Creek Church of the Brethren. I will officially end my time as pastor of Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren on May 31, 2017. In order to facilitate my transition into a new congregation, my final Sunday with you will be Sunday, May 21, 2017 and I will use vacation time to finish out the month.

The call to Beaver Creek congregation provided a wonderful place for God to affirm my gifts, engage in ministry, and develop me as a spiritual and executive leader. I feel incredibly blessed and grateful, yet God has made it clear that is time for me to accept another call. I want to assure everyone that this was not a decision that was made lightly, but was made by Debbie and me through prayer and intentional discernment of God's leading.

Beaver Creek is a wonderful congregation that will always carry a special place in our hearts. I know that whoever becomes the next pastor for this congregation will experience the same country hospitality and love that you shared with us.

News of transition is never easy; I hope that you will take the time to talk with me individually about any concerns you may have. It is my goal to end my time as your pastor on a positive note and to do what I can to assist the congregation in preparation for the transition ahead. District Executive John Jantzi - and the Pastoral Placement Team of the Shenandoah District are aware of the transition that is ahead for Beaver Creek, and have procedures in place to guide the process.

Although it is difficult to say good-bye as your pastor, I thank God for the 24 years that we did have together. Debbie and I appreciate the words of support and encouragement that we have already received from many of you. Know that Beaver Creek will continue to be in our prayers, even as we make the transition to another congregation. Peace, blessings, and love to each and every one of you.

Glenn E. Bollinger

As you already know, Pastor Glenn has accepted a call to become the senior pastor at Mill Creek Church of the Brethren in Rockingham County. His trial sermon was this past Sunday, February 12th. The vote was almost unanimously affirmative. His last Sunday at Beaver Creek will be May 21.

On behalf of the Leadership Team and the congregation, I would like to thank Glenn and Debbie for their unwavering support and faithful service over the past twenty-four years. They are now, and will always be, considered family.

We have already been assigned a placement contact by the Shenandoah District of the Church of the Brethren, John Glick. John will guide us through the process of getting an interim pastor and searching for a new pastor on a longer term basis. John will be meeting with the Leadership Team to get us started when we find a suitable date.

Over the next couple of months there will be a great deal of work to do, decisions to make, and goodbyes to say. Please join us in prayer that this will be a time of growth and fellowship for all.

Yours Faithfully,

Brad Eckard

Ordination service set for March 5



Left, LaDawn Knicely became a licensed minister in the Church of the Brethren in 2015 with District Executive Minister John Jantzi presiding. Following completion of the remaining requirements, LaDawn is to be ordained during the morning worship service at 11 a.m. March 5. LaDawn has earned masters' degrees from Eastern Mennonite University and Eastern Mennonite Seminary.

**Come
join
us!**

Worship starts at 11 a.m. ♦ Sunday School 9:45 a.m. (30 minutes earlier beginning in June). ♦ Church office 540 828-2767, email secretary@beavercreekchurchva.org, office hours 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday ♦ <http://beavercreekchurchva.org> ♦ Twitter: @beavercreekers ♦ Facebook: **Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren** and **Beaver Creek COB Youth**

Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren-March Calendar

March 2017						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Scheduled church events in March:
March 5, 9:15 a.m. Coffee fellowship time with breakfast food
March 5, 11 a.m. Worship service including ordination of LaDawn Knicely
March 5, Caregivers' Conversation at 4 p.m., Lenten Campfire dinner at 5 p.m. and vespers at 6 p.m.
March 7, 6 p.m., Women's Fellowship Sunset Group
March 16, 7 p.m., Leadership Team meeting with District placement representative
March 18, 2 p.m., Baby shower for Amy (Hoover) and Chris Saum
March 19, All Team luncheon after worship, followed by Leadership Team meeting
March 26, All Church Birthday Party after worship

Birthdays in March:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Tonya Keller
 3 Josh Eye
 4 Reba Kline
 6 Isaac Grove
 8 Daniel Over
 10 Katie Houff</p> | <p>14 Mike Plaughter
 16 Steve Miller
 18 Tami Plaughter
 25 Dan Rhodes, Elizabeth Eye
 29 Abbie Shiflet
 31 Savannah Cox, Charlotte Wampler</p> |
|---|--|

**Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren
 Leadership Team Meeting
 January 19, 2017**

Present: Brad Eckard, Bill Eckard, Joe LaPrade, Darlene LaPrade, Diane Miller, Ann Healy, Reba Kline, Theresa Eckard, Jeanette Hess. Ex-officio: Glenn Bollinger – Pastor, Dana Suter-Church Clerk. Absent: Deanne Dastoli, Donna Miller – Treasurer.

Brad Eckard called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Glenn led the group in devotions and a prayer. The minutes from last month's meeting and the Treasurer's report from last month's meeting were approved.

Calendar Update: Feb. 5 – First Sunday Offering – Open Doors, Feb. 12 – Pulpit Supply and Special Music – Regina Harlow, Apr. 15 – Men's Fellowship Chicken Barbecue

Focus Team Reports:

Christian Education & Discipleship: Darlene reported the following re-organization for their team. Mitch Moore – Chair, Amy Saum – Secretary, and Darlene LaPrade – LT Representative.

Finance: Joe reported that the Finance Team will be beginning the process of the financial review. The Finance Team received a request by the Facilities Team for approximately \$1500 to purchase a water softener to alleviate ongoing issues with the ice maker. The Finance Team recommends that the Facilities Team take the money out of their \$4700 budget. Joe presented a recommendation from the Finance Team to terminate counting the loose offering after Sunday worship service as it provides no benefit. After some discussion, the LT passed the motion.

Facilities: Bill reported that problems with the ice maker were due to hard water deposits. A water softener was recommended as a solution and the Facilities Team is looking for additional options to fund the purchase. Bill reported that a Sunday school room upstairs needs painting and some lights at the church and parsonage need repair. The road signs directing traffic to the church will be repaired by Eddie Edwards Signs. At the parsonage, the chimney needs to be cleaned and a phone box outside needs repair.

Outreach: Diane reported that the Outreach Team will have a contact person listed in the 2017 church directory for widows who may need assistance with small home maintenance issues. The contact person will then pull from a list of volunteers to fulfill the request.

Worship: Ann reported that the loud noise during church the last several weeks was due to the headset microphone. A new headset has been purchased from the tape fund savings.

Pastor's Report: Glenn reported that he had attempted to contact some people listed in the church directory who are no longer attending Beaver Creek. Glenn presented a list of names to the LT and Brad recommended that the names be removed from the directory. Bill seconded the motion and the motion passed. The year-end reports will be made available to the congregation this Sunday.

New Business: The following agenda was proposed and accepted by the LT for the February Congregational Business Meeting:

Opening
Minutes of Previous Council Meeting
Treasurer's Report
Financial Secretary's Report
Focus Team's Reports
Leadership Team's Reports
Pastor's Report
Acceptance of Reports
New Business
Approval of Ordination for LaDawn Knicely
Adjournment

The date for Homecoming is Sept. 10. The LT will discuss possible names at next month's meeting to assemble a committee to organize Homecoming.

The LT discussed changing the date for LT meetings from the third Thursday to the third Sunday after worship. An anonymous donor has made a cash donation to feed members a light lunch after worship and then have the LT meeting begin around 1:00. After some discussion, Ann made a motion that LT have a trial period of four months of meetings on Sunday and then revisit the suggestion at that time. Joe seconded the motion and a ballot vote was taken with a 6-2 vote in favor of the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

The next Leadership Team meeting will be Sunday, February 19 at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dana Suter – Church Clerk

Caregiving conversations set

From Ann Healy:

Many of us in the Beaver Creek Congregation care for elderly parents or other loved ones. It affords us the rewarding opportunity to show our love to those who have been a blessing to us. But there are times that the duty is demanding and can be stressful. With this in mind, I have begun talking with some fellow caregivers about possibilities for us to support one another. Through these conversations I have already found that I am not alone. In this type of church family "chatmosphere" we can serve and be served. Sometimes all you need to do is to be a good listener.

I would like to suggest that we get together -- as many of us who can who are engaged in caregiving.

These get-togethers could include anything from Bible studies with focus on caregiving, group prayer, time for sharing problems and coping strategies that may help. There is even the possibility that we could find some speakers who are willing to share their expertise.

To explore some of these options, I would like to suggest that we get together -- as many of us who can who are engaged in caregiving. Let me stress that this is just for conversation and connection. No plans have been made on any particular kind of programming because **we want to hear each other's thoughts first.**

We have set three dates for these caregiving conversations:

- Sunday, March 5, at 4 p.m. (one hour before vespers that same day)
- Thursday, April 20, at 7 p.m.
- Sunday, May 7, at 1 p.m. following a joint carry-in lunch with the Deacons.

Contact Ann Healy if you're interested or if you have questions.

Fundraiser for the Seaman/Shiflet family

With the birth of Lauren Renee coming 6 weeks early she required (and is still requiring) special care at UVA. Care like that comes at a price. There is insurance but that doesn't always cover everything.

The Women's Fellowship (with the men's help too) plan to have a Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser open to all the community on Saturday, April 29 from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Beaver Creek fellowship hall. We hope you will mark your calendar and be sure to come out to show your support to the family. There is no set charge; it will be a free will offering.

Beaver Creek
Church of the Brethren
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Bridgewater, VA 22812-3378

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Glenn Bollinger, Pastor
Brad Eckard, 2017
Leadership Team Chair

Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren is a loving, caring and authentic fellowship of believers empowered by the Holy Spirit and called to be God's church: to worship, humbly serve others and proclaim Jesus Christ.

Lenten observances scheduled

“Three Lenten Campfires” will return for 2017. Each campfire includes cookout food followed by singing, Scripture reading and meditations appropriate to this season that leads up to Easter. We will meet at the parsonage and, weather permitting, we'll be on the deck the whole time. (The parsonage living room is available if the weather does not cooperate.) Main courses will be provided, so bring a side dish or dessert and join the campfire circle! Here are the dates and times:

- Sunday, March 5, 5 p.m. dinner with 6 p.m. vespers
- Sunday, March 26, 5 p.m. dinner with 6 p.m. vespers
- Saturday, April 8, 5 p.m. dinner with 6 p.m. vespers

Also set for the Easter season are the following events:

- Palm Sunday worship 11 a.m. April 9
- Full Love Feast with communion 7 p.m. April 9
- Easter Sunrise Service followed by breakfast 7 a.m. April 16
- Easter Sunday worship 11 a.m. April 16

Facilities news

The Facilities Team reports the following project news:

- A water softener was set for installation in late February. By reducing unwanted mineral content in the church water supply, this should improve the life and performance of elements of the church plumbing system and make it possible to restart the icemaker.
- Vendors are being consulted about possibilities for replacing the church signs. See Roger Simmons if you have suggestions.
- Tile has been placed at the front door of the church to prevent the door from dragging on the carpet.

On February 12, morning worship featured a message from Regina Cyzick Harlow and music from “Mom and Them.” Thanks for coming to be with us!

*Photos by
Douglas Wood*



Beaver Creek bits

◆ Coffee fellowship time with breakfast foods is set for 9:15 a.m. (before Sunday School) March 5. ◆ The First Sunday March offering goes to the Bridgewater and Stokesville area food pantries. ◆ Becca Shiflet will be giving the church nursery a facelift for her major project, on the way to Girl Scouting's prestigious Silver Award. ◆ The All Church Birthday Party is set for March 26. ◆ The Men's Fellowship will be having a chicken barbecue (with secret sauce!) on April 15. ◆ Spaghetti dinner and freewill fundraiser for Seaman/Shiflet family is set for 4-7 p.m. April 29 (story, p. 3).
