



## Pastor Ryan Cooper accepts call from Beaver Creek

*Pastor Ryan's term of service at Beaver Creek begins on November 11.*

In a called congregational business meeting August 18, Pastor Ryan Cooper accepted a call to become pastor of Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren, effective November 11. The call followed a trial sermon, "Put Out Into the Deep," based on Luke 5:1-11. Pastor Ryan and his family expect to move into the parsonage after selling their Bridgewater house.

Our Search Committee worked more than two years evaluating candidates to succeed former pastor Glenn Bollinger. For a biographical sketch of Pastor Ryan and family provided by the Search Committee, see page 2 of this newsletter.

Effective August 18, the committee's work ended and the committee was dismissed with the thanks of the congregational business meeting.



### Pastor Elaine concludes interim service

On August 25 Pastor Elaine Hartman McGann preached the last sermon of her interim pastorate at Beaver Creek. The congregation expressed its enthusiastic thanks at a carry-in lunch afterward. Her service began on June 1, 2017 and, in her final report to the Leadership Team, Elaine reported that she had worked an average of about 29 hours per week during that time. Her work included Sunday worship services, visitation, coordination of the church's ministries during the search for a new pastor. – and a lot more. Thank you, Pastor Elaine!

### Pinch pastor appointed

With the help of the Shenandoah District, our worship focus team has completed arrangements to cover all Sundays between Pastor Elaine's service and our new pastorate. The District has appointed Ron Wyrick of Bridgewater to serve as pinch pastor, covering about half of the Sundays during the gap. On other Sundays, members of the congregation will bring the Sunday message.

Ron has served our denomination in a variety of capacities, including a term of service as pastor of Harrisonburg First Church of the Brethren (2003-2011). He holds masters and doctoral degrees in from Bethany Theological Seminary.

Inspired by the baseball term "pinch hitter," Beaver Creek came up with the term "pinch pastor" a few years ago to describe someone who serves as "more than a guest speaker, but not as much as an interim."

### Men's Fellowship meeting set

The Men's Fellowship will meet at 7:15 a.m. Saturday, August 31 at Thomas House, Dayton. This is an important meeting for planning fall activities. All guys who are members or friends of Beaver Creek are welcome. Funds raised by the Men's Fellowship go to support service and outreach projects year-round.

### Homecoming planned for September 22

Beaver Creek Church will have its traditional Homecoming Sunday on September 22. Our guest speaker will be Ken Wright, Assistant Pastor for Children and Family at Cornerstone Chapel in Leesburg. Ken is the son of John and Joyce Wright. Ken will be introduced by that Sunday's worship leader, his cousin Brad Eckard.

In morning worship, we will honor the memory of those who have passed on since our last Homecoming. After the Sunday service we will have a carry-in lunch and time to visit with everyone who comes. Anyone is welcome, but especially those who were associated with Beaver Creek in the past.



*Ken Wright*

### Come join us!

Worship starts at 11 a.m. ♦ Sunday School 9:45 a.m. (30 minutes earlier June through August). ♦ Church office 540 828-2767, email [secretary@beavercreekchurchva.org](mailto: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-Monthly Calendar

<b>September 2019</b>						
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					

**Scheduled church events this month:**

**September 1, 9:15 a.m., coffee fellowship with breakfast food; regular hours resume**

**September 3, 6:30 p.m., Women’s Fellowship Sunset Group**

**September 8, Deacon meeting with carry-in lunch**

**September 19, 7 p.m., Leadership Team**

**September 22, Homecoming with lunch after worship**

**September 28, 4-7 p.m. Steak Dinner at Mt. Crawford Ruritan**

<b>Birthdays in September:</b>	
1 Louise Shirkey	14 Sean Newman
2 Cheyenne (Cline) Rhodes	17 Ryan Evans, Burkely Wampler
3 Sandy Bennington	18 Evy Kaye Sandin
4 Malena Hoover	20 Bill Wood
5 Joe Wampler	21 Alma Long
7 Jesse Hoover, Eli Harlow	25 Hannah Hensley, Nicky Southerly
8 John Bennington	26 Tamara Bennington
9 Dick Miller	27 Ann Simmons
11 Shirley Miller, Abby Wampler	29 Bob Healy
13 Liz Rhodes	30 Janet Stepp

### Meet Pastor Ryan Cooper and family

Our incoming pastor, Ryan Cooper, is originally from Syracuse, N.Y. While he was in middle school and high school, he participated in an activity called Bible Quiz, where he memorized 17 books of the New Testament! This turned into a deep love for Scripture and a call to set-apart ministry. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies from Valley Forge Christian College, as well as a minor in music. He toured as part of the concert choir and is proficient in piano. When he graduated, he returned to Syracuse and served as the volunteer children’s pastor for two years at his father’s church plant, Destiny Christian Center Assembly of God.

After three years, he sensed a call to continue his education at Regent University. There he received a Master of Arts in Biblical Interpretation (pre-doctoral degree). His degree focused on Biblical studies, especially the Biblical languages. It was during his time at Regent that Ryan met Heather, and they married in 2008. Furthermore, while at Regent, Ryan served as young adult minister for a church plant in Virginia Beach.

In 2009, Ryan and Heather moved to the Valley and shortly after began to attend Staunton Church of the Brethren. After three years in restaurant management, Ryan and Heather together served as the youth director at Staunton COB beginning in 2012. For the last four years he has been serving as full-time minister of Emmanuel congregation.

Ryan is actively involved in district ministries. For the last six summers he has volunteered as dean at Brethren Woods. He has taught three courses for the Christian Growth Institute – New Testament, Old Testament and Biblical Interpretation. Ryan has been serving on the Ministerial Leadership Team since 2017, and currently is serving as chair. He is also a member of the District Leadership Team and CGI Advisory Committee. He has served four consecutive years as table facilitator at Annual Conference, and in 2017 was asked to be one of the preachers for District Conference.

Ryan has been married to Heather for 11 years. She grew up in Windber, PA, and was an active member of Rummel COB. She served two years in Brethren Volunteer Service at Brethren Woods, graduated from Bridgewater College and Regent University. She is currently a 7<sup>th</sup> grade language arts teacher at Beverly Manor Middle School. Ryan and Heather have adopted two children through foster care. Samantha, 14, is a freshman at Ft. Defiance High School and is active in cross country, basketball and soccer. Katherine (Kate), 12, is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Wilbur Pence Middle School. She also runs cross country, is a member of the Knightingales choir, is involved with the school musical and theater, and regularly dances at InMotion School of Dance. Ryan and Heather are therapeutic foster parents and hope to foster more children in the near future.



*Pastor Ryan tells the children’s story on August 18.*

## CROP Walk set for November 3



*Editor's note: This is from local CROP Hunger Walk coordinator Robbie Miller.*

This is the 50th anniversary of CROP Hunger Walks ( see <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/Static/About-Us>) that help end hunger by raising funds to support local food programs and the international anti-hunger work of Church World Service. For over 30 years, Bridgewater College and the local community has sponsored what is now called the Bridgewater/Dayton Area CROP Hunger Walk.

In recognition of the CROP Hunger Walk's 50th anniversary, we invite your church to participate in this year's CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, November 3 at 2 p.m. at the Bridgewater Town Center. All materials are provided and all that's needed is one individual from your church to promote and recruit for the BC CROP Meal and CROP Hunger Walk in your congregation. If interested in participating or more information, please contact me at [rmiller@bridgewater.edu](mailto:rmiller@bridgewater.edu).

### Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren Leadership Team Meeting July 18, 2019

Present: Chris Dastoli, Deborah Hoover, Joe LaPrade, Marlin Simmons, Kenny Wheelbarger, Reba Kline. Ex-Officio: Elaine McGann – Interim Pastor, Darlene LaPrade – Church Clerk. Absent: Theresa Eckard, Amy Saum, Zack Wampler, Bill Wood, Donna Miller – Treasurer.

Chris called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Kenny opened with prayer.

The minutes from the June meeting were approved.

**Calendar Roundtable:** August 4 – First Sunday breakfast (8:45), August 4 – In Motion dance group will perform during the service, August 9-10 – Church camping retreat at Natural Chimneys

The Treasurer's report was accepted.

**Matters for Leadership Team:** Homecoming is set for September 22, 2019. Suggestions for the Homecoming Committee are Denise Shiflet, Ann Healy, Denny Miller. Chris will follow-up with these members to see if they are willing to serve. Reba will check with Joyce Wright's son Ken about being the Homecoming speaker. There will be a carry-in lunch after the service.

The Finance Team has requested that the parsonage rent be placed in a designated fund. The following recommendation was presented from the Finance Team: The Church Treasurer will set up a designated account to deposit the rent money. This account should be tracked separately in the Treasurer's reports. The funds should be used strictly for parsonage repairs and up-keep. This recommendation was approved by the Leadership Team.

**Pastor's Report:** Elaine had a concern about the parking at the parsonage. Joe will ask the renters to not park on the side of the house next to the church office. Elaine reported that she is using elementary children as worship leaders. Everyone she has asked has been willing to participate. Elaine presented the Leadership Team with her letter of resignation as of August 31, 2019. She stated that she has enjoyed her time at Beaver Creek.

**Search Committee Report:** Chris reported that we are at a very important point in the process. More details will be available at the next meeting. The committee is working on negotiations with a candidate.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

**Next meeting – August 15, 2019**

**Devotions – Zack**

Darlene LaPrade – Church Clerk



### **Inspirational Dance**

The InMotion Summer Dance Team performed at Beaver Creek August 4, telling the Gospel story through dance. Thanks for coming to share with us!

*Photos by Douglas Wood  
and Bill Wood*

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Beaver Creek  
Church of the Brethren  
5651 Beaver Creek Rd.  
Bridgewater, VA 22812-3378

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Chris Dastoli, 2019  
Leadership Team Chair

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*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.*

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## Happy (Sunday School) New Year

The New Year in Sunday School programming at Beaver Creek kicks off Sunday, September 1. Beaver Creek has Sunday School opportunities for all ages. The Sunday School hour starts at 9:45 a.m., with regular morning worship to follow at 11 a.m. On September 1, children will move up to their new classes. Visitors and newcomers are always welcome, and our greeters can provide directions to the Sunday School rooms.

## Vespers and fellowship at retreat

*Right, Ann leads vespers at the annual church retreat at Natural Chimneys. Below right, the kids chase bubbles from a bubble machine. Below, the Pidge Express was popular with the kids. Ann's vespers highlighted a weekend that included great food, swimming, and campfire time.*



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## Beaver Creek bits

◆ Coffee fellowship time with breakfast is at 9:15 a.m. September 1. ◆ Summer hours resume September 1, with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. and worship at 11 a.m. (Hours are 30 minutes earlier June through August.) ◆

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