

## MEMO ANNOUNCEMENT

***Welcome to our bi-monthly newsletter, Issue 3.***

For **2026**, please send all MEMO submissions to me directly by or before the following dates:

**Issue 4: July 3 deadline** (for July 7 release, including Annual Conference Fort Wayne Wrap-Up)

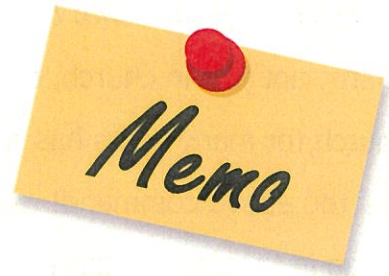
**Issue 5: August 25 deadline** (for September 1 release)

**Issue 6: October 27 deadline** (for November 1 release)

Send electronic submissions to [westmarvade@gmail.com](mailto:westmarvade@gmail.com), call or text 540-742-2457, or send mail correspondence to the District Office at 384 Dennett Rd, Oakland MD 21550

*Include anything you'd like the district churches to know about, learn about, pray about, support, copy, or otherwise enjoy!*

- ✓ **service times, special occasions/events, fundraisers,**
- ✓ **prayers/poems/devotionals/liturgies/responsive readings,**
- ✓ **book/study recommendations,**
- ✓ **church or pastor anniversaries/homecomings/milestones,**
- ✓ **favorite potluck recipes,**
- ✓ **updated website, social media, or contact information**
- ✓ **obituary links or other remembrances of recently departed friends, and**
- ✓ **anything else that would be wonderful to share with your district brothers and sisters.**



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## LETTER FROM THE MODERATOR

"Be filled with the Spirit" a quote from Ephesians 5:18 is the theme for this year. It is in the imperative tense meaning a command. So, when was the last time you asked God to fill you with His Spirit? Stop and think about that. For me it was this morning and again as I write.

Every true Christian has the presence of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:9), but most of us rarely if ever are filled as in overflowing. Jesus after His resurrection and before His ascension told His disciples not to leave Jerusalem but wait for the power of the Holy Spirit. Most know this happened at Pentecost (Chpt.2). Most do not remember there was an encore in 4:31. *"And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak the word of God with boldness."* Among the

many reasons for the necessity of the Holy Spirit this verse highlights the most important: "*They spoke the word of God with boldness*". This is not just necessary for preachers, but all Christians, not just in church, but at business, school, recreation and at home. The main reason the church for many years has not made much impact on society is we have not seen the need to obey the above command!

I grew up in the church, but it was not till in college, of all places WVU among a group of students that I first heard of being filled with the Holy Spirit as a norm for all Christians. It does not matter how uneducated, backward, introverted or handicapped in any way, God can use you if; 1. Repent of sin (including depending on oneself rather than the God), 2. Ask to be filled, 3. Believe God will do it. "*And this is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.*" I John 5:14-15.

Do not go any further into the day until you have taken those steps. And ask the Holy Spirit to remind you tomorrow.

If you want more information there is a booklet called *How You Can Be Filled With The Holy Spirit*. Get it at; [customerservice@crustore.org](mailto:customerservice@crustore.org) or call 800-827-2788 or call me 304-851-7728 (Danny Ludwick is our Moderator and currently serves the Elkins congregation with his wife Amy).

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## **NEWS AROUND THE OFFICE**

**D. E. LEAH J. HILEMAN HAS A NEW HOME ADDRESS:** I have relocated to within the district footprint to 5127 Emoryville Rd, Elk Garden WV 26717. Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 11, 1pm-3pm – District church members are invited to an Open House at my new home to visit the house, meet the pets, see the spectacular view, eat some food, and mingle with other district friends.

**LEAH SCHEDULING CHURCH VISITS FOR 2026:** I am available now for church visits, pulpit supply, concerts, milestones, and revival meetings in the second half of the year. Text/Call or Email to get me on your calendars. 540-742-2457, [westmarvade@gmail.com](mailto:westmarvade@gmail.com). I will be visiting churches but also seeking a home congregation to join for my own discipleship. Long-term, the goal will be to be able to visit every church in the district once or more per year while also being able to attend a home church twice monthly.

**DIRECTORY UPDATES:** Please update your copy of the 2026 Directory to include the Physical Address of Sugarlands, 2569 Sugarlands Rd, Hambleton WV 26269.

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**SHARE YOUR CHURCH DIRECTORY:** We'd love to have a copy at the district office! Email a digital version to [westmarvade@gmail.com](mailto:westmarvade@gmail.com) or send a paper copy to West Marva District, 384 Dennett Rd, Oakland MD 21550.

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**RED BRETHREN HYMNALS:** Moorefield has donated surplus Red Brethren Hymnals (1951, reprinted 1968) that are available to any church who would like to borrow or keep them. Pickup at the District Office on Tuesdays, or delivery can be arranged. These can be used for home Bible study or worship, to replace damaged copies, for camp/retreat/revival gatherings, for outdoor worship services.

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## **NEWS AROUND THE DISTRICT**

**BEAVER RUN CHURCH** Hosted its 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Gospel Sing on Saturday, May 2 with eight artists, and on Sunday, May 3 for National Youth Sunday kickstarted its first monthly Youth Worship Service at 6pm. All are welcome. Stay tuned for future dates or visit their Facebook page.

**DISTRICT YOUTH MINISTRY** is being revived. High School students are encouraged to register for our District Conference in September to participate in a youth rally during the business session.

**WESTERNPORT** has started two new ministries geared toward children and youth. The first is during the morning Sunday School hour called "J.A.M. Session" (Jesus And Me), the second is Sunday evenings at 6:30pm, a contemporary worship service called CrossTalk.

**SOUTH MILL CREEK** will host its annual Mother's Day Community Picnic Sunday, May 10, at 5pm.

**2<sup>ND</sup> BED BUILD SCHEDULED** for Saturday, September 26 (one week after District Conference). Use this QR code or link to sign up now. Stay tuned for additional resources, like bulletin inserts and flyers to use in your congregations.  
LINK: <https://x.gldn.io/e/caSSkxvMS2b> QR CODE:



**LAUGHLIN** invites all of you to join them weekly at 4pm for their Gospel music-infused worship gatherings with prayer and preaching, giving and laughter. 2867 Amish Rd, Grantsville MD 21536.

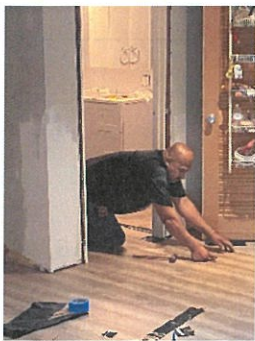
**DEACON TRAINING SAVE-THE-DATE:** Mark calendars now for Saturday, August 15, 10am-1pm at Keyser COB. Lunch will be provided. This is open to all current and prospective deacons, pastors, and churches who do not have active deacon ministry and would like to know how to increase care-

giving and service ministries. It will be team-taught by Robin Smearman and Leah J. Hileman. We will look at Deacon Ministry from a traditional perspective and an adaptive model for current times to see what works best for your church.

**DISTRICT BOARD MEETING DATES:** July 25 at Bear Creek, September 19 at Moorefield following District Conference for reorganization, October 17 at Living Stone-Cumberland (noon, a later start-time prior to a district worship event being planned the same day at the church).

**WOMEN'S CAMP SAVE-THE-DATE:** Women's Camp is on the calendar at Camp Galilee the weekend of August 21-23. More details to come in the next MFMQ.

**BRETHREN DISASTER MINISTRIES** is calling for volunteers to be *on call*. Denny Skeweris is building a list of willing and available volunteers that he can notify when there are opportunities to serve both within the district footprint and at BDM sites nationwide.



Here is a report from recent activity: "The week of April 27 - May 2 a crew of 11 volunteers from BDM came to volunteer their time in the Westernport Flood Recovery. The group was from the Southern Pa. district. They were able to work at 4 different locations during their stay. The West Marva district trailer has been put to use hauling and storing materials for the job sites. We were able to help with transporting household furniture for one of the survivors from Christian Crossings to their Westernport home. We are still in need of volunteers. 1 day, 2 days or 3 or more. Painting, flooring, some yard fencing to install.

Please contact: District Coordinator Denny Skeweris, 301-616-0013, [denskew@gmail.com](mailto:denskew@gmail.com).



All members and attendees of West Marva congregations 18 and older (16 with parental approval and supervision in some circumstances) are asked to prayerfully consider having your name added to Denny's growing list of able-bodied volunteers to call when needed.

### **WEST MARVA MINISTRY TRAINING PROGRAM**

Are you discerning a calling on your heart into an area of ministry? Do you want to grow more in your theological knowledge and understanding? Are you looking for a group of folks to study with and learn from? You may be looking for a way to challenge what you think you know.

Look no further than the West Marva Ministry Training Program! This 3-year rotational program offers classes including Brethren History and Practice, Old and New Testament, Mission and Evangelism, Preaching and Pastoral Care, and more. **The next class will be offered Preaching and Worship on May 30, taught by Allie Crowe and Jennifer Kreighbaum.**

Students must ensure tuition for the 2026-2027 year is paid by May 15, 2026. The tuition covers four classes and includes a small stipend for educators. Classes are from 9 AM-3 PM (4 PM at the latest). All classes are held at the Westernport Church of the Brethren in Westernport, Maryland. 198 Oakview Drive.

Anyone can audit a class, especially if you are looking for continuing education units. Each class will be half a credit. To count, you are expected to participate and support the students in the program by contributing to the conversation and sharing your subject-matter experience.

I want to encourage churches to identify individuals who may be interested in the three-year program. This does not mean students are looking to be licensed or ordained. Someone may have a calling for a commission to task, a type of leadership specific to their gifts. Maybe someone would like to be a deacon, and this course of study could provide guidance and resources to explore that calling. Someone may want to learn in a new environment for personal growth. This is not about a minister production line; it is about lifelong learning opportunities that help you grow in your relationship with Jesus.

\*Begin 2026-2027 Tuition Year\*-Tuition Due May 15, 2026

Preaching and Worship: May 30 (Allie Crowe and Jennifer Kreighbaum)  
Practical Applications/Brethren Beliefs and Practices Date TBA (Diane May)  
Prayer and Spiritual Growth: Date TBA (Leah Hileman)

For any questions, please contact Allie. [allie.crowe.07@gmail.com](mailto:allie.crowe.07@gmail.com), 608-215-8619

**CAMP HOPE REPORTS** that they are in need of another trustee. Dorcas Moore has not agreed to continuing this year. She is staying on as an interim trustee until we can find someone and will help with some things but felt she could not stay on as trustee for another 5-year term. We really need a man who could devote time and effort to camp. Kevin Leadbetter also will be stepping down from being a trustee after this year and also will no longer direct the youth camp after this year. So we will need to fill this position next year. Please pray with us concerning this issue.

We just completed our Spring Candy Egg fundraiser which was a big success. And we are still waiting to find out if we will be awarded the AMLER grant we applied for, this would pay for the dorm replacements we need as well as other upgrades to our facilities. With the grant we could pay for labor to complete these projects, however if not we are back to square one as far as labor, not having enough funds for materials as well as paying a contractor. Please pray for these needs as well.

Our theme this year is "Put on the Full Armor of God," Eph 6:10-20.

**2026 CAMP HOPE SCHEDULE** (See later in the MEMO for the Registration form)

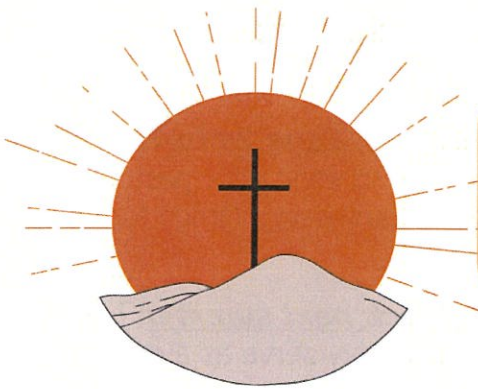
Camp	Grade this fall	Dates	Cost	<b>With Early Registration Discount</b>	Directors	Pastor in residence
Youth	8-12 or grad	July 5-9	\$90.00	\$65.00	Kevin Leadbeater	Kevin Leadbeater
Junior	5-7	July 12-16	\$90.00	\$65.00	Tammy Phillips	Tammy Phillips
Primary	K-4	July 19-22	\$75.00	\$50.00	Myranda McDaniel	TBA

**CAMP GALILEE CLEANUP WEEKEND** scheduled for May 15-17. “There are jobs for folks of all capabilities! Good food, fantastic fellowship, and hours of fun are promised! And campfire!” Call 304-789-6712 for details.

**CAMP GALILEE SUMMER SCHEDULE:** Youth Camp (9<sup>th</sup> grade through just graduated) – July 5-11. Jr. High Camp (6<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup>) – July 12 – 18. Junior Camp (3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>) – July 19 – 24. Primary Camp (Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup>) – July 24 – 26.

**NEW TABLE PROCESS** is an initiative started by Council of District Executives, in partnership with Lon Schwartzentruber of Design Group Int’l, to lead all levels of Church of the Brethren in a discernment process. Your district executive Leah is part of this process, and will be bringing listening sessions and other information in the latter half of 2026 to get your input. Here are some questions to consider:

- 1) What are the primary needs of our congregations? What about your specific church?
- 2) What resources would be most helpful for our churches to have from the district and denomination?
- 3) Are there ways we could restructure our church, or reimagine how we are doing and being church, that would be more efficient, fruitful, and affordable?
- 4) What are our district churches willing to do to develop greater spiritual devotion, discipleship, leadership, pastors/teachers/deacons/leaders/elders, better mutual encouragement, friendship, collaboration, resource sharing, and fellowship? Think creatively! Pray fervently. Love God and people.



# WMMTP

West Marva Ministry Training Program

## Invoice

- Invoice #A2026

Invoice Date: 3/21/2026  
Due Date 5/15/2026

- Remit Payment: West Marva District Office

384 Dennett Rd  
Oakland, MD 21550

## May 2026- March. 2027 Fees

### Courses

- Preaching and Worship
- Practical Applications/Brethren Belief and Practices
- Prayer and Spiritual Growth
- Christian Faith and Ethics

Total

**\$75**

Note : Please make the payment by the specified due date and include student name

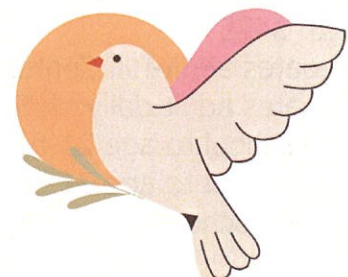


**Church of the Brethren**  
Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.

Dr. Allie Crowe

608-215-8619

allie.crowe.07@gmail.com



## **NEWS FROM AROUND THE DENOMINATION**

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026 will be in Fort Wayne, IN from Sunday, June 28 to Thursday, July 2.** It is not too late to register a delegate to represent your church or to send your pastor as a non-delegate for learning and fellowship. Scholarships available; call the Conference Office for information. <https://www.brethren.org/ac2026/registration/>

**Please plan, pray, and budget to send a delegate to Daytona Beach next summer.** Let's get full participation from our district churches. Any member in good standing may serve as a delegate. Pastors benefit from several continuing education events as well.

If your congregation has not sent a delegate since 2020, please have your pastor or congregational contact check their email (or SPAM folder) for a message from the district office about an opportunity for you to send a delegate or to send your pastor as a non-delegate. We'd love to have all our congregations present and representing the voice of the district.

Church of the Brethren  
**ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
 June 28-July 2, 2026



### **ANNUAL CONFERENCE FEES AND HOTEL INFORMATION:**

#### **Annual Conference 2026 fees, hotel, and schedule details for Fort Wayne**

##### **Advance registration (March 4-June 7)**

Delegate: \$350

Nondelegates adult-full Conference: \$175

Nondelegates adult-daily: \$55

Post-high school to age 21-full Conference: \$50

Post-high school to age 21-daily: \$20

Current high school and younger: free (age group activity registration fee is additional)

##### **Onsite registration (opens June 27)**

Delegate: \$425

Nondelegates adult-full Conference: \$210

Nondelegates adult-daily: \$55

Post-high school to age 21-full Conference: \$50

Post-high school to age 21-daily: \$20

Current high school and younger: free (age group activity registration fee is additional)

**Virtual registration (nondelegate only)**

Adult (until June 10)-full Conference: \$220

Group/institutional-full Conference: \$500

— Rhonda Pittman Gingrich is director of Annual Conference. Debbie Noffsinger is Conference assistant. Find out more about Annual Conference 2026 at [www.brethren.org/ac2026](http://www.brethren.org/ac2026)

**WEDNESDAY EVENING CONFERENCE CONCERT:** Did you know? Leah J. is presenting music with two other musical artists for a post-worship concert the Wednesday night of Annual Conference. Please attend and show support. It may also stream online – if it does, a link will be sent that day via email so those of you unable to attend in person can watch from home.

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**BRETHREN VOLUNTEER SERVICE** Greetings! I hope this email finds you all well! My name is Virginia Rendler, and I am one of the new Brethren Volunteer Service Co-Directors along with Marissa Witkovsky-Eldred. I wanted to introduce myself to our district contacts and let you know that we have begun recruiting 2026 volunteers.

As you probably know, BVS offers year-long service opportunities for anyone over 18. We also have opportunities for retired individuals and married couples! The service opportunities are located throughout the US and abroad, and each year we are adding new projects. You don't have to be a member of the Church of the Brethren to join, as long as you are committed to sharing God's love through acts of service.

BVS will be hosting Zoom sessions for anyone who'd like more information about what becoming a volunteer looks like. The next meeting will be on March 17 at 8 pm EST. Here is the link to register: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/z4AtJE1AQxyyM5rzs-IDQ>

You can always check out the BVS website at [BrethrenVolunteerService.org](http://BrethrenVolunteerService.org) or email us at [BVS@brethren.org](mailto:BVS@brethren.org). If you would like a BVS representative to Zoom in and speak with a group in your district, please don't hesitate to reach out. This helps us spread the word about BVS! A majority of volunteer join BVS because someone they know encouraged them to apply, so we rely on our community for support in recruiting.

Please let me know if you have any questions at all. I look forward to getting to know you in this new role! Thank you!

Virginia Rendler **Volunteer Coordinator** [vrendler@brethren.org](mailto:vrendler@brethren.org), (612) 750-9777 or (847) 429-4387

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**UPCOMING ONLINE EVENTS: Part-Time Pastor, Full-Time Church** Coordinator Ryan Braught sent this message to all districts for our MVP's (Multi-Vocational Pastors, which is nearly all of our pastors): First we will be offering 3 different online listening sessions throughout the summer. These listening sessions will give opportunity to MVP's to meet with other MVP's, share their thoughts, ideas, and ways that our program can be helpful and supportive of their lives and ministries.

The first one will take place on Tuesday May 27 from 7:00-8:30 PM and individuals can sign up for this listening session here: <https://forms.gle/iQcLx5bLMyjPhPvm8>

The second one will take place on Wednesday July 29 from 7:00-8:30 PM and individuals can sign up for this listening session here: <https://forms.gle/LANW8VRXVc938S1FA>

The third one will take place on Tuesday August 26 from 7:00-8:30 PM and individuals can sign up for this listening session here: <https://forms.gle/fuzTdcg5rc9KrpVj8>

Second, we will be offering an in-person listening session at Annual Conference. We will be offering this listening session on the morning of Tuesday June 30. I'm not exactly sure of the exact time and location but the Conference schedule will have all of that information.

Lastly, we will be offering an equipping session on Tuesday night June 30 from 8:30-9:30 PM entitled *Betwixt and Between: Following Jesus in the Midst of Liminality*. That will take place in Jefferson A.

**EDER FINANCIAL ONLINE WORKSHOPS** weekly beginning Thursday, May 7 at 1pm. See information and register online at <https://ederfinancial.org/Nonprofit-Toolkit-Webinar>.



**Eder Financial**

BOLD. BALANCED. TRUSTED.

## Nonprofit Toolkit Webinar Series: Strengthen Your Church Organization's Financial Future

**Dates:** Thursday, May 7, 14, & 21 | **Time:** 12PM CST, 1pm EST

Financial strength fuels your church organization's mission. In this three-part webinar series, Eder Financial's in-house experts will share how you can build stability, improve stewardship, and enhance your organization's financial health. The three sessions will cover:

- Creating a Financial Wellness Strategy
- Effective Strategies for Donor Engagement & Stewardship
- Executing Your Fundraising Strategy

**TO: THE BRETHERN BIBLE INSTITUTE**

155 Denver Road  
Denver, PA 17517

Date \_\_\_\_\_

( ) PLEASE SEND \_\_\_\_\_ PACKET(S) OUTLINING MORE COMPLETELY THE 2026  
SUMMER BIBLE INSTITUTE (APPLICATION FORMS INCLUDED)

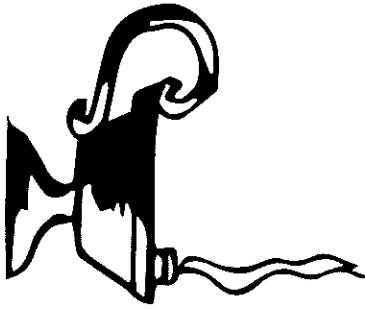
**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

# 53RD ANNUAL BRETHERN BIBLE INSTITUTE



**SUMMER TERM**  
**JULY 27-31, 2026**  
**(ON THE CAMPUS OF**  
**ELIZABETHTOWN COLLEGE,**  
**ELIZABETHTOWN, PA)**

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“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the  
word of God.” - ROMANS 10:17

Sponsored by the  
**BRETHERN REVIVAL FELLOWSHIP**

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGY** - Every Christian thinks about God, so every Christian is a theologian. Theology is the study of God. This course will encourage us to think about God in a biblical manner, from the information provided in the Scriptures. We will seek to further understand some major theological ideas from the Anabaptist-Pietist viewpoint and explain those ideas.

**THE BOOK OF PSALMS** - Within this collection of songs and prayers lie expressions of the deep passions of humanity. The psalmists cry out in despair, pour out his soul in confession, and express exuberant praise for his God. Through the peaks and valleys of human experience, the Psalms guide us to praise our loving Creator.

**A STUDY OF ABRAHAM** - Father of the faithful and a friend of God. His life serves as a profound study in covenant theology, testing the boundaries of faith, sacrifice, trust, and ultimate devotion to the One Creator. In this session we will study the character of Abraham, identify pictures of Jesus Christ, and apply truths and insights into our lives.

**THE CULTS AND FALSE RELIGIONS** - This study will look at the beliefs of a variety of cults and false religions that are prevalent in America today. These false beliefs will be contrasted with Biblical truth along with ways to respond when confronted by followers of these cults.

**WOMEN IN THE EARLY CHURCH** - You've heard about Paul and Silas, Peter and John. But, what about Priscilla? Chloe? Phoebe? and Lydia (a strong woman who "prevailed" on Paul, Silas and Luke in Philippi)? Because of its focus on the ones that others rejected, tax collectors, Samaritans and women, Jesus and later the early church attracted the outcasts into their followers. This class will focus on the women who influenced the early church and the role of women in the church today.

**NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY** - A general survey of the entire New Testament, which includes a panoramic view of all 27 books. Note will be made of leading characteristics, main ideas of thought, and summary outlines of each book. Each book will be related to the total message of the New Testament.

**STUDIES IN JOHN'S LETTERS** - A detailed look at epistles that emphasize the relationship of the Christian to the father through the Lord Jesus Christ. The themes of assurance, obedience, love and truth in the Christian life will be drawn from our study.

**THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES** - Perhaps this book should include the subtitle, Sage Advice for Life. Unlike the despondent reputation that many give this book, the recurrent theme is joy: finding pleasure in life despite the troubles that often plague it. Those who fear the LORD should experience this joy. There is a time to be born and a time to die (3:2). And between these events there is a time to live well.

# JULY 27-31, 2026

## BRETHREN BIBLE INSTITUTE COURSES

8:50 - 10:20

**INSTRUCTORS**  
**Craig Alan Myers** – Ordained minister...serving as pastor in the Blue River Covenant Brethren Church in Indiana...assistant editor of BRF WITNESS...BRF chairman...on the executive board of CBC...M. Div. from Ashland Theological Seminary.

**Eric Brubaker** – Ordained minister...serving in the Middle Creek Church...editor of BRF WITNESS...self-employed draftsman...M. Div. from Evangelical School of Theology.

**Carl Brubaker** – Ordained minister in the Covenant Brethren Church...BRF treasurer...BMF treasurer...evangelist for revival meetings.

**Wilmer Horst** – Ordained minister in the Hade's Brethren Church...high school teacher at Maranatha Christian School..

**John Minnich** – Post High Sunday School teacher at White Oak Church...retreat leader and speaker...a technologist in the Cardiology Department at Lancaster General Hospital.

**Steve Hershey** – teacher, speaker, mentor, storyteller at White Oak Church...field services specialist for Lancaster DHIA...dairy farmer.

### Principal/Coordinator

**Kenneth Leininger** – Ordained minister in the Atlantic Northeast District of the Church of the Brethren...antiquarian book dealer...BRF event coordinator.

INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGY PT 1 .....(Myers)  
THE BOOK OF PSALMS..... (Horst)  
A STUDY OF ABRAHAM .....(Minnich)

10:30 - 12:00

INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGY PT 2 .....(Myers)  
THE CULTS & FALSE RELIGIONS ....(Carl Brubaker)  
WOMEN IN THE EARLY CHURCH.....(Hershey)

1:30 - 3:00

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY PT 1 .....(Eric Brubaker)  
STUDIES IN JOHN'S LETTERS.....(Myers)  
THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES .....(Horst)

3:00 - 4:30

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY PT 2 .....(Eric Brubaker)

### COST

Dormitory Students.....\$300.00  
Commuting Students.....\$125.00

### TO REGISTER

For application forms, write to:

**Brethren Bible Institute**  
155 Denver Road, Denver, PA 17517

Please send for an application form early.

**Your application process must be completed by June 25, 2026.**

## BRETHREN BIBLE INSTITUTE

BBI is intended to provide systematic instruction in the Bible for any person 16 years of age or older. Students may take one, two, or three courses. The cost is the same regardless of how many courses are taken. It is expected that dorm students take at least three classes, unless special arrangements have been made with the principal prior to the opening of the institute.

Students will meet for chapel each morning at 8:10 AM with classes to follow. Classes meet every day, Monday through Friday. Each class is 1½ hours in length.

Total cost for dormitory students (including room/board/tuition) is \$300.00 for the week. The cost for commuting students is \$125.00.

### SCHOLARSHIP AID

Scholarship aid is available to students who cannot afford the tuition. To apply for the scholarship aid you should write a letter requesting the aid, and supply the name, address, and phone number of your pastor, elder, minister, or other church leader to whom you are accountable. Send requests to the BBI address.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS

A certificate of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be offered for ordained ministers at a rate of one tenth of a CEU for each hour spent in class. Therefore, each completed course will count as .75 CEU. Ministers should request the certificate when they register.

### LICENSED MINISTER TRAINING

The Introduction to Theology class and the New Testament Survey class can be applied toward licensed ministers training for ordination within the Covenant Brethren Church and the Church of the Brethren. Both classes are double periods. Plan to attend both periods. Call Kenneth Leininger at 717-336-1287 for details.

### DISCLAIMER

BBI is sponsored by the Brethren Revival Fellowship. Elizabethtown College is not affiliated with and does not necessarily endorse the opinions, beliefs, statements, writings, methods, or philosophies expressed by this conference/event or its individual participants.

# CAMP HOPE

Multi-denominational  
Christian Camp



**CAMP HOPE**  
**139 Camp Hope Rd**  
**Belington, WV 26250**  
**304-694-6127**

Long Run Rd, E of 92  
 Approx. 2.5 mi N of Belington, WV  
 (24 mi S of US Rt. 50 on St. Rt. 92)

Jackie Henderson  
 32 Snowball Bush Ln  
 Fairmont, WV 26554  
 304-366-8345

Jackie Henderson  
 32 Snowball Bush Ln  
 Fairmont, WV 26554

PLACE  
 POSTAGE  
 HERE

**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED!**

No camper will be registered in a camp outside his/her grade level.

Camp	Grade this fall	Dates	Cost	With Early Registration Discount	Directors	Pastor in residence
Primary	K-4	July 19-22	\$75.00	\$50.00	Myranda McDaniel	TBA
Junior	5-7	July 12-16	\$90.00	\$65.00	Tammy Phillips	Tammy Phillips
Youth	8-12 or grad	July 5-9	\$90.00	\$65.00	Kevin Leadbeater	Kevin Leadbeater

## 2026 CAMP HOPE SCHEDULE

**CAMP SESSIONS** begin on Sunday with sign in starting at 3:00 PM. Primary Camp closes on Wednesday at 8:00 after the evening meal and program. Youth and Junior Camps close Thursday at 8:00 after the evening meal and program. The camp offers a welcome to campers regardless of race, color, disability, gender, national origin or religion.

**BRING TO CAMP:** Bedding, toiletries: towels, warm clothing, extra pair of shoes, rainwear, modest bathing suit, Bible, notebook, pencils, flashlight.

## REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade this fall \_\_\_\_\_ Circle M or F Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Current Age \_\_\_\_\_

Parent /Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Circle T-shirt Size: Youth: Small Medium Large X Large Adult: Small Medium Large X Large XX Large XXX Large

Circle Session Primary Junior Youth Camper Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Circle: cash or check. Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Church/Organization if scholarship \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Church Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Who other than parent can pick up the child? \_\_\_\_\_

**TO GET ACCURATE NUMBERS IN PREPARATION OF EACH CAMP WE NEED YOU TO RETURN THIS FORM (with or without payment) TO THE ADDRESS BELOW BY 06/14/26. THIS WILL ALLOW YOU TO RECEIVE THE EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT AND A T-SHIRT FOR THE CAMPER.**

**~~ HELP OUR CAMP TO GROW, BRING A FRIEND TO CAMP WITH YOU! ~~**

**THERE WILL BE A FAMILY NIGHT COOK OUT AND PROGRAM AT 6:00 ON THURSDAY NIGHT FOR YOUTH AND JUNIOR CAMPS AND WEDNESDAY NIGHT FOR PRIMARY CAMP. THE CHILDREN WILL BE RELEASED AFTER THE EVENING PROGRAM. WE HOPE ALL PARENTS WILL ATTEND.**

**How many will attend family night \_\_\_\_\_?**

**DRESS CODE:** As in 1 Timothy 2:9 Christian modesty in apparel will be the rule. Shorts should be at fingertip end and should not be low at the waist to expose skin. Clothing should not have holes to expose skin. No tank tops with spaghetti straps and they must have closed sides, no short tops that expose the midriff. Clothing should not be excessively tight. No undergarments, cleavage or private areas should be visible. May not contain any offensive words or images. Girls bathing suits can be one piece or modest two-piece top and short style with no midriff visible. If bathing suit is deemed inappropriate you will be required to wear a dark t-shirt over it. Boys will not wear speedo swimwear.

**STANDARDS OF CONDUCT** expected at all times. Any substance abuse (tobacco, alcohol, or drugs) is prohibited. Swearing, leaving camp grounds without permission, non-cooperative, etc., are considered poor conduct. Do not bring candy, gum, soft drinks, or any food to eat in the bunkhouse. Food will attract rodents. The camp will not be responsible for loss of personal items. No cellphones allowed. If you bring a cellphone the director will keep it until camp is over. No fireworks allowed due to safety issues. Campers may be sent home if they do not feel that they can abide by the rules.

I agree to abide by all policies governing personal conduct and use of camp property. I am aware that I am expected to cooperate and participate in all camp activities. I will do my best to fulfill this expectation.

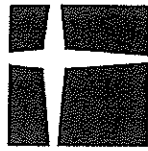
**Camper Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the statement on camp policies regarding personal conduct and use of camp property and am aware that my child has agreed to abide by them. I understand my child may be photographed at camp. These photos may be used for promotional purposes.

**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPLETE AND MAIL TO: Jackie Henderson, 32 Snowball Bush Ln, Fairmont WV 26554  
304-366-8345 or 304-694-6127 cell [camphopebelingtonwv@gmail.com](mailto:camphopebelingtonwv@gmail.com)**

**MUST BE RECEIVED BY 06/14/26**



# Eder Financial

BOLD. BALANCED. TRUSTED.

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **EDER FINANCIAL ANNOUNCES TRANSITION OF EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND INVESTMENT SERVICES TO EVERENCE® FINANCIAL**

**Eder Financial to transform into a benevolent ministry supporting sustainability and  
vitality initiatives across the Church of the Brethren**

**ELGIN, ILLINOIS** – April 14, 2026 – Eder Financial announced a significant organizational transition following action taken on Monday, April 13, when the Church of the Brethren Standing Committee, meeting in special session, endorsed Everence® Financial as the denomination’s employee benefits and organizational investing provider of choice. The action, requested by Eder Financial, will transition these services from Eder to Everence, with the process beginning later this year and expected to conclude by March 2027.

Eder Financial has served the Church of the Brethren and its members for 83 years by providing retirement, insurance, deferred gift, and money management services to pastors, church workers, congregations, and affiliated organizations. The organization has also administered a benevolent fund to assist pastors and church workers experiencing extraordinary financial needs.

“This is the most important announcement I have ever made in this role,” said Nevin Dulabaum, President of Eder Financial. “After deep reflection, prayer, and months of discernment, our Board concluded that this transition is the most responsible and faithful path forward for the members and organizations we serve.”

#### **Changing Demographics and Financial Realities**

Like many small, independent organizations, Eder Financial has faced increasing challenges since the COVID-19 pandemic. Shifts in denominational demographics have significantly reduced the pool of full-time, benefits-eligible pastors. Today, approximately 70 percent of Church of the Brethren congregations are served by part-time pastors who are unable to access full benefit packages. As a result, only about 200 congregations currently have employees actively contributing to the Eder Retirement Plan.

Although Eder continues to serve districts, regions, denominational offices, and some Brethren retirement communities, its overall client base has declined substantially. At the same time, the organization’s staffing, product offerings, and service expectations have expanded, creating financial pressures that are no longer sustainable.

“We cannot continue to operate the way we have,” Dulabaum said. “Our client base has declined, while the scale required to offer competitive pricing and expanded services has grown beyond what we can sustain independently.”

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# Eder Financial

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## **Protecting Members and Selecting a Partner**

In 2024, Eder sold its retirement plan annuities to ensure that members' accrued benefits would never be reduced, protecting participants from outcomes experienced by some retirees in earlier decades. In 2025, Eder distributed excess funds to former retirees, reflecting favorable market conditions following the annuity sale.

While benchmarking showed Eder's fees aligned with the services provided, with annuity obligations resolved, the Eder Board determined it could responsibly seek a partner capable of offering lower fees, additional products, and broader access for all Brethren members. After a comprehensive search, the Board selected Everence Financial, the benefits ministry of the Mennonite church.

Everence manages assets approximately 16 times larger than Eder and employs more than 400 staff members, compared with Eder's fewer than 30. These economies of scale enable Everence to offer lower fees, a broader range of products, and socially conscious investment options, while serving both employees and non-employee members. Everence already serves a number of Brethren individuals, congregations, and organizations.

## **Eder's New Mission**

As part of the transition, Eder Financial will transform into a benevolent ministry. Drawing on reserve funds originally established when Eder operated a self-insured medical plan in the 1990s — funds that have grown over the past three decades — Eder plan's to use investment earnings to support sustainability and vitality initiatives across the Church of the Brethren.

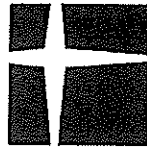
In addition, Eder will continue administering the Church Workers' Assistance Plan and establish a renewed benevolent fund to support congregations and church-related organizations.

"This news may come as a shock and may be disappointing to some," Dulabaum acknowledged. "Emotionally, we wish we could continue serving in the ways we always have. But rationally and faithfully, we know these next steps are clear. The church of today and tomorrow is not the church of yesterday, and we must be realistic about the opportunities before us."

Eder Financial will continue serving members and clients during the transition period and will provide advance notice before accounts are moved to the Everence platform. Frequently asked questions and regular updates are available on Eder's website.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to serve pastors, church workers, congregations, and organizations for 83 years," Dulabaum said. "We look forward to continuing meaningful service within the denomination in a new way."

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# Eder Financial

BOLD. BALANCED. TRUSTED.

April 2026

## **Eder Financial Announces Transition of Employee Benefits and Investment Services to Everence®**

Eder Financial announced a significant organizational transition following action taken on Monday, April 13, when the Church of the Brethren Standing Committee, meeting in special session, endorsed Everence® Financial as the denomination's employee benefits and organizational investing provider of choice. The action, requested by Eder Financial, will transition these services from Eder to Everence, with the process beginning later this year and expected to conclude by March 2027.

Enclosed is the full news release. To view the video announcement and read FAQ's, please visit [ederfinancial.org/transition](https://ederfinancial.org/transition).

### **WHAT HAPPENS NOW?**

Eder members/clients should continue to engage with Eder as they normally do. We are working with Everence to ensure a seamless transition. We will keep you informed as our work progresses.

### **WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?**

There is nothing you need to do right now. You will be notified when there is something you need to do.

### **WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?**

While planning and coordination are underway, we do not expect to have detailed answers to share until early June 2026. We will continue to update the FAQ's located on our website. If you need to reach out, please email us at [customerservice@eder.org](mailto:customerservice@eder.org).



*Bake it till  
you make it.....  
Bake it  
happen.....*

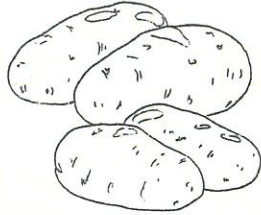


*Flour power  
whisk me away..  
Let me bake  
another day....*



## Scalloped Potatoes

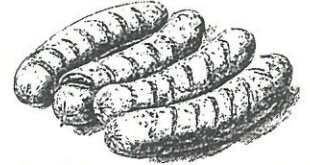
- 4 cups sliced potatoes
- 1/2 cup minced onion
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 cup shredded cheese
- Paprika
- 1 tbsp butter
- Dash of pepper
- 1 can cream of celery soup



Combine milk, soup, pepper, potatoes, and onion. Butter a casserole dish and arrange alternate layers of soup mixture and cheese. Dot with butter and sprinkle with paprika. Bake covered at 375 degrees for 1 hour. Uncover and bake for 15 minutes.

## Sausage Bake

- 1 lb. unseasoned or seasoned sausage
- 6 eggs
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. dry mustard
- 2 slices white bread, cubed
- 1 cup grated sharp cheese
- 2 cups milk



Fry sausage. Drain off grease and set aside. Beat eggs. Add milk, salt, mustard; beat again. Place in greased dish—a layer of bread, a layer of sausage, and a layer of cheese. Pour egg mixture over top. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.

### ***A reminder to all church members that anyone can receive the MEMO via email or snail mail.***

Just fill out the bottom portion and mail to the district office at 384 Dennett Rd, Oakland MD 21550, or email Leah directly at [westmarvade@gmail.com](mailto:westmarvade@gmail.com).

For EMAIL: Add "ADD ME TO THE MEMO" in the Subject line.

For SNAIL MAIL:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive a hard copy of the MEMO 6 times per year.  
(Please consider a small donation to cover the cost of printing and postage; though it is not necessary, it does help the district).

Mail to West Marva District, 384 Dennett Rd, Oakland MD 21550