

THE VISITOR

OCTOBER 2026

PUBLISHED BY:
OAK GROVE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

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Deadline for November newsletter is
October 15.

Church Secretary Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

let us build
a house where
Love can dwell

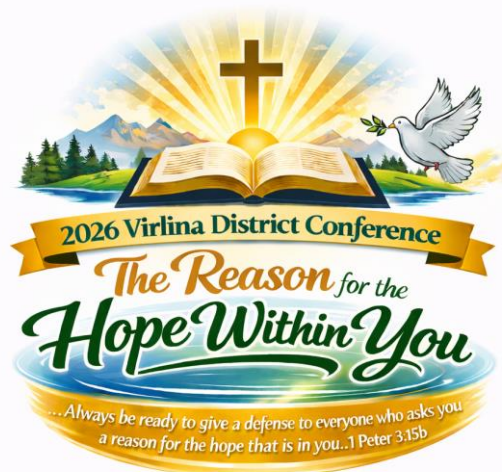
Join us on Sundays
Sunday School-9:45 a.m.
Worship-11:00 a.m.

October Sermons and Scripture

October 4	<i>Do not judge</i> Matthew 7:1-5
October 11	<i>Dogs and pigs</i> Matthew 7:6
October 18	<i>The Golden Rule</i> Matthew 7:12
October 25	<i>The Narrow Gate</i> Matthew 1:13-14
November 1	<i>Wise or Foolish?</i> Matthew 7:21-28

Looking Ahead...

November 1	Love Feast after church.
November 8	Council Meeting after church.
November 13-14	Virgina District Conference



Church News

Prayer concerns since the last Visitor:

...Wyatt (friend of Brent & Sherrie White), cancer
...Garland Brown, had G.I. procedures



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August 24, 2026

Pastor Tim Harvey
Oak Grove Church of Brethren
2138 McVitty Road, SW
Roanoke, VA 24018

Dear Pastor Harvey,

On behalf of everyone at Bradley Free Clinic, we extend our heartfelt appreciation for your recent donation of \$100.00. Your generosity is truly invaluable, enabling us to continue our mission of providing compassionate and comprehensive healthcare to underserved members of our community. Every dollar you give directly changes lives.

Mike, one of our longtime patients, worked at a local convenience store and came to us with knee pain and shortness of breath. After a thorough evaluation, we referred him to the local hospital, where doctors discovered two arteries blocked by more than 95%. Thanks to timely intervention, they placed a stent, and Mike made a full recovery.

This life-saving outcome was possible because of Bradley Free Clinic's ability to act quickly and our strong partnerships with the local hospital system. Stories like Mike's remind us that our work profoundly affects the lives of our patients—often in ways we may not fully realize.

Thank you for standing with us in our commitment to delivering quality care to those in need. Together, we are not only providing healthcare but also building a stronger, healthier community. We are deeply grateful for your support and for being such an integral part of this journey.

With heartfelt thanks,
Randall R. Rhea, M.D.
Randall R. Rhea, M.D.
Board President

Janine L. Underwood
Janine L. Underwood
Executive Director

Because we are a registered 501(c)(3) organization, your donation is entirely tax-deductible. In compliance with IRS regulations, this letter also confirms that you received no goods or services in connection with this donation.

Happy Birthday

- 1- Tyler Chumbley
- 3- Brent White
- 4- Cooper Purcell
- 6- Julie Ann Pullen
- 6- Carolyn Morris
- 9- Diane Tyler
- 10- Nancy Reichard
- 10- Craig Wallace
- 12- Dan Hylton
- 19- Clara Micolupo
- 22- Michaela Tyler
- 27- Charlie Purcell

Happy Anniversary

- 2- Mike and Diane Tyler
- 3- Dave and Carol Jones
- 15- Bill and Becky Fowler
- 29- Brian and Brooke Harmon

September Outreach

- Two individuals assisted through our Good Samaritan Fund.
- Food for one family through our Food Pantry.
- Four SHP Bed Builds providing beds.
- Backpack Ministry every Monday.

Heritage Day Needs

Heritage Day is October 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Camp Bethel. This is an important fundraiser for Camp Bethel, and we're looking forward to once again having an Oak Grove cobbler booth as part of the festivities.

We'll need plenty of cobblers and volunteers to make the booth a success. Sign-up sheets for cobblers and volunteers are available in the fellowship hall. We'll also need volunteers to help transport the cobblers and booth supplies to and from Camp Bethel and to help serve throughout the day. If you can help, please sign up! Also, we are still in need of a coordinator for the booth.

If you are interested, contact Rhonda Marcum or Ellen Phillips.



You are invited to join the "Bridge Builders of the Roanoke Valley" for an outing to the International Civil Rights Center & Museum (ICRCM) on Saturday, November 7.

Contact Randall Eakin for tickets and information.

The museum is in Greensboro, NC.

Fred Porter
by Nancy Reichard

As many of you know Fred has been attending Oak Grove for a while and now he has become an official member as of September 6, 2026. Fred comes to us by transfer of letter from Central Church of the Brethren where he served as music director. He also used to sing in the Roanoke Opera. We love having him in our choir singing tenor.

Fred is a Miracle man. In 2017 he almost died. He was a young man with young children at home. Members of Central COB prayed for him, and we are so happy that he has lived through all his health issues. He is a blessing to us all. He has dialysis 3 times a week. He works in maintenance at the Hampton Inn on Plantation Rd.

He has been married to his lovely wife, Sarah, for 31 years and they have 4 adult children and two grandchildren. Sarah works for Roanoke Animal Hospital.

Fred is very friendly and outgoing so talk with him and you can learn more about him.



Krystal King

Oak Grove welcomes Krystal King as our newest employee as a Child Care Worker. She brings passion and love for children to her work in our nurseries. Our children are benefiting from Krystal's solid experience and education in this field.

We are so glad you're here, Krystal!



COB Team Participates in Interstate Church of God Tournament by Todd Marcum

Oak Grove recently sponsored a team in the Interstate Church of God Tournament, which raises money for missions in Paraguay, South America. The sponsorship was paid through an honorarium given in memory of Bill Whitlow, a longtime coach of the Oak Grove softball team.

The tournament emphasizes sportsmanship and Christian fellowship, with games opening and closing in prayer. It is among the largest tournaments of its kind, attracting participating churches from 13 states.

The COB team included Oak Grove representatives Tyler Chumbley, Trenton Marcum, Landon Elmore, Andrew King, and Todd Marcum, as well as Caleb Quinn from Ninth Street and several friends who play with them in the city league. The city league team still carries the COB name—an homage to the original Church of the Brethren teams, which date back at least 50 years.

The COB team had one win, one close loss, and a tie in Saturday's pool play, and two wins and two losses in highly competitive bracket play at Moyer Sports Complex in Salem.

Playing on the softball team was one of the first ways I bonded with people from the church. Back then, Jerry Twigg was pitching, while Wayne Cook and Neil Mussleman alternated at first base. Greg Broyles and Mike Elmore patrolled the outfield. I played third base, and Kent Garno was our shortstop.

I could go on, but those are cherished memories for me and an important part of my Oak Grove journey. I am happy to see the tradition carrying on.



*Below: Tyler Chumbley
praying before team play.*



FALL Bazaar

Saturday
Oct.
17

8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Baked goods, produce and canned goods in
the Country Store, pottery, quilts,
wooden crafts, candles and
other crafts for sale!

Oak Grove Church of the Brethren

2138 McVitty Road SW - Behind Starbucks

Community Festival!

All activities FREE!

Bounce house 10-2 pm
Lunch 11:30-12:30 pm
Pumpkin painting 12:45-2 pm
Music 11 am-2 pm
and more!



Fall Bazaar
October 17, 2026
8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Oak Grove's Fall Bazaar will be held Saturday, October 17, 2026, from 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. We will have handcrafted items from Christmas decorations to pottery, candles, wood items and more! There will also be a bountiful bake sale, Country Store and “next to new” booth.

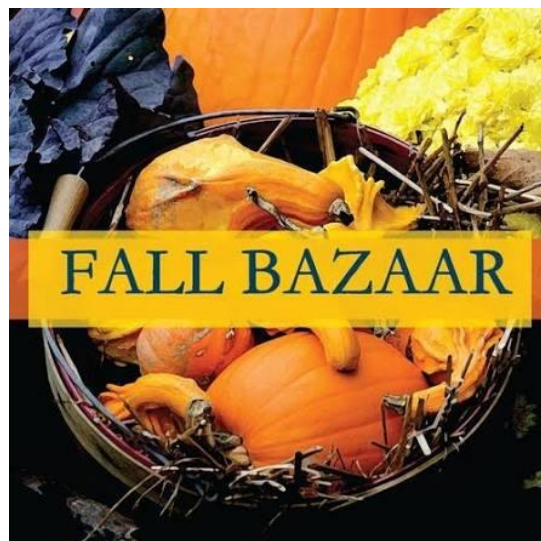
It takes many good cooks, bakers, talented crafters, jelly makers and organizers to have a successful bazaar. A number of our crafters have been meeting regularly throughout the year enjoying creating fellowship and unique items. We are counting on the church family to add their items.

The Country Store is always popular and there you will find jellies, jams and fresh produce. There are also areas for potted plants and pumpkins. The shifts for volunteers in the different areas are 7:45 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. We will also need volunteers to help the cashiers.

We will be setting up in the fellowship hall for the Bazaar after church, October 11th. Tables and many chairs need to be moved as well as racks and items brought down from upstairs. Starting October 12th volunteers from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. each morning can help set-up the displays in the different areas.

The proceeds will support the Good Samaritan Fund here at Oak Grove. These funds are used to help members of the community with rent, utilities, and payments for medications, etc.

We have many talented people in our congregation and this is an excellent opportunity to share your talents, fellowship with others, and with guests who come to shop. Please contact Rena' Brown (540) 525-8726 to reserve your time for volunteering.



Roanoke Justice Ministries House Meeting – October 8, 2026

The newly formed Oak Grove Roanoke Justice Ministries Team will be hosting a House Meeting on October 8 in the fellowship hall. We will serve a light meal at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting from 6:00–7:30 p.m.

So, what is a house meeting? A house meeting is an important first step in the work of Roanoke Justice Ministries (RJM). It is an opportunity to gather together and identify issues in our community that concern us—what RJM describes as the things that are “keeping us up at night.”

During the meeting, we will talk about the issues and problems we see in our community and what we believe need attention. Everyone is encouraged to attend and be part of the conversation.

Roanoke Justice Ministries is a coalition of faith communities working together to address systemic issues affecting our neighbors through research, relationship-building, and collective action. By bringing diverse congregations together, RJM seeks practical, lasting solutions to challenges facing the Roanoke Valley.



Oak Grove CoB's
Roanoke Justice Ministries Team
invites you to a

HOUSE MEETING



During the House Meeting, we will gather to talk about the issues and concerns in our community that are “keeping us up at night” and that we believe need attention. This is an opportunity to share your thoughts, listen to others, and help identify issues that Oak Grove and Roanoke Justice Ministries might work on together.

Thursday October 8, 2026

5:30 PM Meal - RSVP to Ellen Phillips
(540-761-7754)

6:00 PM Meeting - In-person and via
Zoom

Watch for the Zoom link in the church's email communications, or contact Ellen Phillips for the Zoom link. Everyone is encouraged to attend and be part of the conversation!





END HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

THE ROANOKE VALLEY **CROP HUNGER WALK**



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FOOD**



**CLEAN
WATER**



**SAFE
HOMES**



SIGN-UP, START A TEAM, OR DONATE TODAY AT
CROPHUNGERWALK.ORG/ROANOKEVA



Sunday, October 11th

REGISTRATION AND KIT BUILDING: 1:30PM
SEND-OFF: 2:00PM



FIRST EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2101 JEFFERSON ST SW, ROANOKE VA



Contact Susan Simmons for more information!

Camp Bethel News



Go to campbethelvirginia.org for more information!

October

FALL Bazaar

Saturday
Oct.
17

8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Baked goods, produce and canned goods in the Country Store, pottery, quilts, wooden crafts, candles and other crafts for sale!

Oak Grove Church of the Brethren
2138 McVitty Road SW - Behind Starbucks

Community Festival!

All activities FREE!

Bounce house 10-2 pm
Lunch 11:30-12:30 pm
Pumpkin painting 12:45-2 pm
Music 11 am-2 pm
and more!

October 2026 Highlights

- 3- Heritage Day Festival at Camp Bethel 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- 3- SHP Bed Build at Elks Lodge at 8:30 a.m.
- 9- District Hymn Sing at Germantown Brick at 6:00 p.m.
- 10- SHP Bed Build at Mohawk Dr. at 8:30 a.m.
- 11- Leadership Team Meeting at 12:30 p.m.
- 11- Crop Hunger Walk starts at 2101 Jefferson St. at 2:00 p.m.
- 15- Finance Commission is meeting at 5:30 p.m.
- 17- SHP Bed Build at Red Valley UMC at 8:30 a.m.
- 17- Fall Bazaar and Community Festival 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- 21- Munch Bunch meeting at 11:00 a.m. at 611 Steakhouse.
- 31- Trek or Treat at Camp Bethel from 4:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Munch Bunch is October 21st at 11:00 a.m. This month the group is dining at 611 Steakhouse.



WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

Roanoke Valley
CROP HUNGER WALK

October 11, 2026

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA



SCAN HERE

Mission and Ministry Board considers future of General Offices

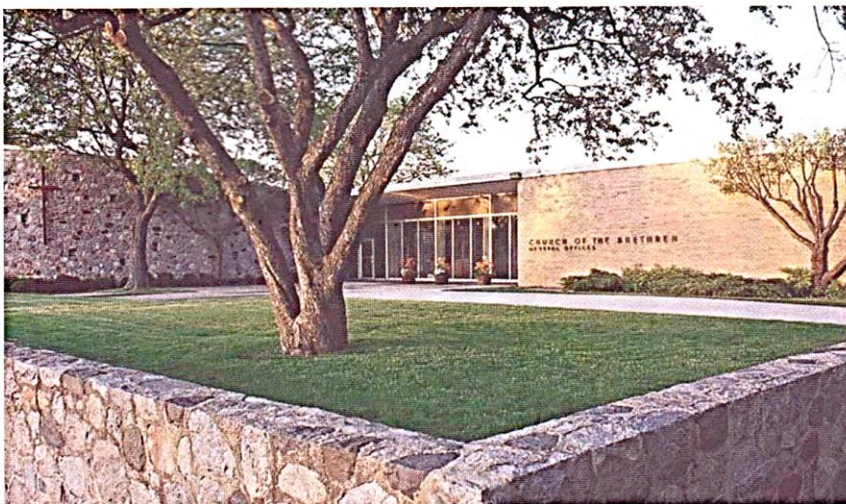
The Mission and Ministry Board of the Church of the Brethren on June 17 approved a Statement of Intent regarding the future of the General Offices in Elgin, Ill., which is the denomination's headquarters.

According to the statement, "the board is exploring options for relocation of the denominational headquarters and will be pursuing the responsible sale of the current headquarters property."

The decision follows years of discussion about the changes affecting the Church of the Brethren, how best to carry out the ministry of the denomination, and what responsible stewardship requires.

Board chair Kathy Mack presided at the Zoom meeting; the statement was approved with one abstention.

The timing of the June 17 decision was intentional to disseminate the information before Annual Conference and give Conferencegoers the ability to bring informed questions, sugges-



tions, and dreams to the event, according to board leadership.

Consideration of details related to the sale of property or relocation of headquarters and staff has not yet begun. There will be no immediate changes to staff roles, jobs, or locations. The process that has been put in motion with the Statement of Intent is expected to take a significant amount of time.

Pacific Northwest members face evacuations

"Please join us in praying for our brothers and sisters in the Pacific Northwest District," stated an Aug. 3 Facebook post. Fast-moving wildfires forced evacuations across Okanogan County, Wash. Members of the Whitestone and Ellisforde Churches of the Brethren, along with their neighbors, were ordered to leave their homes as firefighters worked to contain the fires.

Catholic Medical Mission Board begins renting space at Brethren Service Center

The Catholic Medical Mission Board (CMMB) has begun renting warehouse space at the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, Md., in an area formerly occupied by the Church of the Brethren's Material Resources program.

"We are very excited to welcome CMMB to the Brethren Service Center. They have provided opportunities for some of our former Material Resources staff," said Shawn Flory Repogle, executive director of Organizational Resources for the Church of the Brethren. He added that the presence of CMMB brings the Brethren Service Center to full occupancy, helping ensure its long-term sustainability.

"CMMB was searching for a new home for our Access to Medicines distribution program and couldn't be more pleased to partner with the Church of the Brethren to extend our mission," said Mary Beth Powers, CMMB president and CEO.

CMMB is a faith-based nonprofit that works with local partners to strengthen healthcare systems and expand access to medicines and medical supplies in underserved communities around the world. Through its Access to Medicines Program, the organization has distributed more than \$6.3 billion in donated medicines and medical supplies to 114 countries over the past 25 years.

Learn more at cmmmb.org.



Courtesy of Global Mission

Members of the Church of the Brethren's South Sudan team.

South Sudan pastors ordained for Church of the Brethren ministry

A growing Church of the Brethren congregation in the Mangateen Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp in South Sudan celebrated the ordination of two pastors in June: **Daniel Mawer** and **Paul Makuar**.

Mawer and Matthew Gatluak helped establish the congregation after being displaced from their home area of Unity State. Although neither reside in the camp, their wives and children remain in a refugee

camp in Gulu, Uganda.

Pastor and bishop Expert Bukene, together with Felicien Nkuzimana, district executive of the Church of the Brethren in Burundi, led training for pastors and evangelists in Juba before the ordinations. Gatluak returned to Mayom, Unity State, to be with his mother during her final illness and was therefore unable to participate in the ordination.

Mawer and Gatluak plan to continue leading the Mangateen congregation, while Makuar will begin a new church in Amadi, outside Juba.

Athanasus Ungang, Church of the Brethren Global Mission country director for South Sudan, reported that the Mangateen congregation began last year with about 50 worshipers meeting in a community center and has since grown to about 240. While the congregation hopes to build a church, resources remain limited, and like many pastors in the region, Mawer and Gatluak also plan to learn vocational skills to support themselves while continuing their ministry.



Courtesy of Global Mission

Daniel Mawer Gatpan and Paul Makuar Gatduel.

Remembrance: Suely Zanetti Inhauser

Suely Zanetti Inhauser, 75, died on July 22 after living for several years with a progressive motor neuron disease. With her husband, Marcos Inhauser, she was a longtime leader of Igreja da Irmandade (the Church of the Brethren in Brazil).

Both studied at Bethany Theological Seminary, where Suely earned a Master of Arts in theology. She served as assistant pastor of a Church of the Brethren congregation in Michigan, where she was ordained to the pastoral ministry. After returning to Brazil, she pastored the Mennonite Church in Campinas from 1993 to 2003. In 2000, the Inhausers launched a church-planting effort and later served through Global Mission as national co-directors and then co-coordinators for Brazil. In 2013, Suely preached at the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference.

In more recent years, after her diagnosis, "more than 600 people... came to visit her and tell her how significant her life and ministry was," her family wrote in a remembrance shared on Facebook. "Couples testified to her that they remained married because of her teachings and therapy. God gave her the opportunity to hear these testimonies firsthand two years after the diagnosis." She is survived by her husband of 52 years, three children, and grandchildren.

Personnel

Jeff Thomson began June 22 as director of Brethren Disaster Ministries. Thomson brings extensive disaster response experience, having deployed to more than 20 disaster sites, often in leadership roles. His professional background includes work in cabinet making and the hospitality industry. He will work remotely from his home in Kansas, where he attends a Baptist church.

Mark Watson resigned as Client Services manager for Eder Financial.



Post this page You are welcome to photocopy these news pages. For more Newline stories, go to www.brethren.org/news

Pastor's Column for October 2026

Our Men's Bible Study is currently exploring a series of topics that I might loosely call *Things We Wonder About*. The topics came from suggestions generated during our September planning meeting. One of those topics came as no surprise to me, as I've heard variations of it throughout my ministry: "How can I forgive someone who won't change their behavior?"

Forgiveness is a complex subject because each person's experience of giving and receiving forgiveness is unique. Any thoughtful answer to this question must, at the very least, take into account several things:

- The nature and seriousness of the offense and the injury it caused.
- The closeness of the relationship prior to hurt.
- The culpability of the wrongdoer.
- The willingness of the wrongdoer to make things right.
- What kind of relationship is desired or possible after the hurt.

Any answer we offer about forgiveness must begin here. But what do we do when the person who hurt us refuses to acknowledge or change their behavior?

To this I would add one more point to consider:

- Do you understand that *forgiveness* and *reconciliation* are two different things?

Most of the time, people wrestling with this question to me aren't clear about this distinction and assume that any definition of forgiveness must include "fixing" the relationship or making things like they were before. But that is not necessarily the case.

Forgiveness focuses on the feelings and attitudes of the person who has been hurt. My definition of forgiveness is:

To release angry or hurt feelings toward someone who has wronged us
and recognize the possibility of a new future with them.

When I forgive someone, I open the door to freedom from negative feelings, the desire for revenge, and for my future to be defined by something someone did to me. A new future might be possible but creating that future requires the sincere participation of the person who caused the hurt. If they are unwilling to change, their behavior will limit, or even make impossible, a renewed relationship. Obviously, that can present a host of other issues, but those issues are separate from forgiveness.

If you're struggling to forgive someone, I offer the following steps as a way forward:

- Work through the points listed above. Make sure you clearly understand the nature of the hurt and the culpability of the person who hurt you. You may want to work through this step by keeping a journal, talking with a trusted friend, or seeing a counselor.
- Consider the response of the person who hurt you. Have they offered a sincere apology without qualifications or excuses? Are they willing to do what is necessary to repair the damage?
- Pray for the person who hurt you. Are you able to honestly pray that God would bless them? Are you able to pray that you *want* God to bless them?
- Keep the difference between forgiveness and reconciliation clear. Forgiving someone does not necessarily mean restoring the relationship to what it once was. Reconciliation requires the willingness and participation of all parties to a conflict.

If you ever need to talk these things through, I'm here to listen.

Pastor Tim

Leadership Team News

Connie Bierly, Leadership Team Chair

If you have questions, suggestions or would like more information, please contact me by text/phone: 540-314-5862 or email: cnbierly@gmail.com

All commissions/committees have begun planning for the 2027 Budget. The finalized, proposed 2027 budget is scheduled for members' vote at Council Meeting on November 8. If possible, please make time in your already very busy life to attend this important meeting. This is the council meeting where we vote on our slate for the upcoming year and our budget.

I am delighted to report that Pastor Tim has begun conversations with the Leadership Team and Ministry and Worship Commission for planning a 9-week Pastoral Sabbatical for 2027. You can read all about the Church of the Brethren's policy on sabbaticals at this link:

- <https://www.brethren.org/ministryoffice/wp-content/uploads/sites/15/2018/09/guidelines-sabbath-rest.pdf>

Topics discussed at our September monthly meeting include:

Pastor Tim: As I read (and listened) to Tim's report on September 13th, I had to chuckle to myself. Why did I chuckle? Because I can't begin to imagine any pastor has anything close to what I'd consider a "normal rhythm" of life. If you're curious or perhaps taken aback by my chuckle, I'd be happy to explain in more detail. Just ask me. That said, Tim reports that "the normal rhythm of congregational life has returned: Sunday morning, midweek Bible study, various meetings, visitations, and outreach." He notes there are both joys and concerns in our congregation. One concern: we see an increase in the numbers of congregational members who are struggling with health or financial matters within their lives. One joy: we see an increase in Sunday School attendance. This increase is especially notable in The Friendship Class and is, in large part, thanks to the leadership of Greg Broyles. Tim's work at the district level: (1) serves as Chairperson of the District's Peace Affairs Committee; (2) he and Lynette are the coordinators for the District Conference Pastors' CEU event and are (3) coordinators for the Districts' Ministers and Spouses Retreat. His work on our denominational level includes (1) progress on the Sermon on the Mount devotional book and (2) plans to begin writing the teachers' introductions for the SHINE Sunday School curriculum this winter.

Minister of Nurture and Music: I'm guessing her normal rhythm of congregational life is like Tim's: Sunday morning, mid-week Bible Study, meetings, visitation, and outreach. More specifically, Carol coordinates activities for our children/families, our youth, and directs our music. We are blessed with lots of talented musicians and singers who share their gifts with us each Sunday and at special occasions throughout the year. It does, however, take time and a gifted person to coordinate all that talent. For us that person is Carol! She also works closely with our Christian Education Commission to coordinate the many activities for our children and youth including worship services, Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, FaithX, and National Youth Conference. FaithX is the workcamp held in Hershey, Pennsylvania, July 5-10 where four youth and three chaperones served at a therapeutic riding program. July 14-25, took Carol, one additional chaperone, and two youth to Colorado and on the Virginia Bus Trip. Carol is also active on the district and denominational level. She serves as our 2026 moderator-elect for District Conference which means she'll be our 2027 District Conference Moderator. (I'm thinking our conference theme in 2027 might be something musical.)

Deacon Board: Our Deacons continually review, update, and revise our shepherding list to ensure we all have a Deacon on whom to call upon as needed. Do you know who your Deacon is? Did you know you have a Deacon? If you answer no to either question, please reach out to me or to Todd Marcum. Todd is our very hardworking, dedicated Deacon Board Chairperson. Deacons assist Pastor Tim with visitation needs and work diligently to plan our Bread and Cup Communion services and our Love Feast and Communion services. Currently plans are underway for our next Love Feast scheduled for November 1 following worship service and will be a bit different than in the past. While holding fast to our Biblical beliefs, we will be washing hands rather than feet at this service. Mark your calendars now for the November 1st service.

Christian Education Commission: Krystal King has been hired to help with children from ages infant to third grade each Sunday from 9:30 to 12:30. Krystal began her work with us on August 23. In addition to Krystal, six volunteers are needed to ensure complete coverage of our childcare needs throughout the year. One Sunday School teacher is needed for our PreK class. If you can help, please contact either Lisa Newell, Commission Chairperson, or Gloria Harmon, Nursery Director.

Evangelism and Membership Commission: We continue to work on plans to be a part of the fall Church Bazaar. Activities planned by this commission include food, a bounce house for kids, and other games. Serving in their role as Nominating Committee, this commission has begun work for our 2027 slate and are continuing discussions for our 125th Anniversary in 2027. One idea considered is a "let's play Brethren trivia" during an after church fellowship time.

Finance Commission: Finance Commission meets each month to review financials, discuss future financial needs of the church, and assist Pastor Tim to plan the annual Stewardship. The Finance Commission will work with all the commissions to finalize our 2027 proposed budget for Fall Council Meeting. On August 20, the resignation of Shelly Haas as our church treasurer was accepted effective September 3, 2026. Due in large part to the transition of our bookkeeping and payroll responsibilities to Neely's Accounting Services, there are no current plans to fill this vacancy. Carolyn Morris and Becky Fowler have agreed to volunteer their time to support this plan. If you have questions, please contact either Carolyn Morris, Finance Commission Chair or Connie Bierly.

Ministry and Worship Commission: We continue to ensure our pulpit is filled each Sunday when Pastor Tim is away. With plans for an upcoming pastor's sabbatical, 2027 is shaping up to be a bit busier than usual for this team. The commission has also brainstormed ideas for the 125th anniversary. Their brainstorming has resulted in lots of good ideas including: children creating a large poster with their hands to display, have one of the "older" hymns sung each Sunday ("older" for example from our Red Hymnal), asking Carol to do a solo, creating a "Tim and Friends" program, offering flower/church decorations to our decorating committee, asking various congregation members to read a special prayer or a piece of history during a worship service.

Missions & Service Commission: Please mark your calendars for our church picnic in 2027! Reservations are made for July 18, 2027, for the Shelter by the Spring at Camp Bethel. We will have the pool from 1 to 3 and plan on eating at 4pm. Tim and the men's crew cooked breakfast for August 30th back-to-school kick off. Everyone reported having a wonderful time. Coordinator is needed for our Cobbler Booth on October 11 at Camp Bethel's Heritage Day. If you are available, please contact Rhonda Marcum, Chair of the commission, or Ellen Phillips. Susan Simmons and Evan Jacobs have agreed to serve as co-chairs for this year's CROP walk on October 11, 2026. Want to walk or to donate? Please see Susan or Evan.

Peace and Justice Committee: Mark your calendars to come to church on October 8 for our House Meeting to continue our participation with Roanoke Justice Ministries. We will enjoy a light meal at 5:30pm with a bit of fellowship time followed by our 6:00 p.m. meeting. Our meeting will be a time for us to talk about what we believe are priority issues and concerns within the City of Roanoke and surrounding areas that Roanoke Justice Ministries might work towards improving. Questions? Please reach out to Ellen Phillips, Pastor Tim, or Connie Bierly.

Property Commission: Our current parsonage tenant continues to be on month-to-month lease with an expected end date in November. To give us an idea of what maintenance might be needed before a new tenant can move in, Long & Foster has scheduled a home inspection. The new furniture has been placed in our side entryway and additional new furniture for the vestibule area is also in place. Changes are planned for our internet services and phone services. Changes to the internet are expected to not only reduce our monthly expense but also improve our ability to broadcast Sunday worship service. Leadership Team has approved the appointment of Fred Porter to our Property Commission. Questions? Please talk to Mike Tyler, Chair of the commission.

Do you find the Leadership Team News article helpful? If you do, I'd like to hear from you. If you don't, I'd love to hear from you. The goal is to provide everyone with a bit more detail about what your elected Leadership Team discusses at each monthly meeting.

Virlina District Hymn Sing
Friday October 9, 2026
Germantown Brick Church of the Brethren

Robin Lavinder is the host.
Begins with dinner at 6:00 p.m.
Mark your calendar. Spread the word!

Virlina District Conference Choir
Singing on November 13, 2026
Rehearsals are October 18 at
3:00 p.m. at Peters Creek CoB &
6:00 p.m. on November 13 (before
conference starts.)
Everyone welcome to join!

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Bryana will be on vacation through October 7th.</i>				1 10 a.m.- Women's Faith Study Group 2 p.m.-Games 5:30 p.m.- Commissions Meeting 6:30 p.m.- Christina Ed.	2	3 7:30 a.m.- Heritage Day 8:30 a.m.- SHP Bed Build at Elks Lodge
4 9:45 a.m.- Sunday School 11:00 a.m.- Worship	5 9:00 a.m.- Crafts	6 6 p.m.-Peace and Justice	7 10 a.m.- Handbells 6 p.m.-Men's Bible Study 7 p.m.- Choir	8 10 a.m.- Women's Faith Study Group 2 p.m.-Games 5:30 p.m.- Roanoke Justice Ministries House Meeting	9 6 p.m.- Hymn Sing Germantown Brick	10 8:30 a.m.- SHP Bed Build at Mohawk Ave.
11 9:45 a.m.- Sunday School 11:00 a.m.- Worship 12:30 p.m.- Leadership Team 2 p.m.-Crop Walk	12 9:00 a.m.- Crafts 12:30 p.m.- Backpack 7 p.m.- Brethren Disaster Meeting <i>Bazaar Set-up in Fellowship Hall</i>	13	14 10 a.m.- Handbells 6 p.m.-Men's Bible Study 7 p.m.- Choir	15 10 a.m.- Women's Faith Study Group 2 p.m.- Games 5:30 p.m.- Finance Meeting	16	17 <i>Fall Bazaar 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Community Festival 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m.</i> 8:30 a.m.- SHP Bed Build at Red Valley UMC
18 9:45 a.m.- Sunday School 11:00 a.m.- Worship	19 9:00 a.m.- Crafts	20	21 10 a.m.- Handbells 11 a.m.- Munch Bunch 6 p.m.-Men's Bible Study 7 p.m.- Choir	22 10 a.m.- Women's Faith Study Group 2 p.m.- Games	23	24
25 9:45 a.m.- Sunday School 11:00 a.m.- Worship	26 9:00 a.m.- Crafts 12:30 p.m.- Backpack	27	28 10 a.m.- Handbells 6 p.m.-Men's Bible Study 7 p.m.- Choir	29 10 a.m.- Women's Faith Study Group 2 p.m.- Games	30	31 <i>Trek or Treat at Camp Bethel 4-6:30 p.m.</i>