



Heavenly Whispers

New Beginnings Covenant Brethren Church (NBCBC)

Where everyone is welcome and Jesus is Lord!!

Newsletter Date **10/8/2023**

Tenth Edition
Design: Eddie Moser
Contributors: Lay Leaders and Pastor Karen

New Beginnings Covenant Brethren Church Mission & Vision Statement: (Matthew 28:19)
Making, growing, equipping and sending disciples of Jesus Christ to proclaim the kingdom of God.

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Karen Grossnickle
<https://www.nb-cbc.org>

Prayer on this Hillside by Darlene Moser

New Beginnings Church will never forget the summer of 2020 when we spent 14 weeks on a beautiful scenic hillside off of Valley View Road, on a piece of property called Dale Haines Hill. Mr. Haines made the offer, and apologized for not having a roof to protect us from bad weather. As our Father would have it He showered us with (cont'd on Page 2)

Isaiah 13:4 (NIV) Listen, a noise on the mountains, like that of a great multitude! Listen, an uproar among the kingdoms, like nations massing together! The Lord Almighty is mustering an army for war.

LAY LEADERSHIP HAPPENINGS

Prayer on the Mountain (Cont'd from Page 1) His love and protection by not sending rain, that summer, on any Sunday morning, until we found our next new home.

We have always been so grateful for our time on the hill and have continued to remain attached to this beautiful property for special gatherings and worship. One of the latest most meaningful times we've had was an evening of praise, worship, and prayers that lasted for over two hour. Within that time over 20 some believer came to the microphone to share their prayers for family, friends, the lost, our churches, our Nation, and the world. Some of our gifted singers, lead us in praise and worship, and many shared uplifting scriptures and words from the Lord to bless the people with love and hope in this time of troubles bringing faith to our souls instead of fear. I am happy to share this report with you to let you know that we are planning another event on October 28 at 1 p.m. on the same property so that more people may join us in this precious experience on the Hillside of praise and worship.

Karen's Korner, by Pastor Karen As I sit and think about the last three months, I wonder how time goes so fast. The days are a blur sometimes and I find it hard to even pray every day as I should because of the accelerated times we live in. We, as a church have been on the fast track ourselves, moving into a new church, starting new groups, seeing lots of new people, working on the Fall Faith Festival. I have been overwhelmed with the love and commitment that this church has for one another and your willingness to reach out to others, your caring ways and compassion for all who come through those doors. I pray this never changes, we have something special, we still have our first love who is Jesus and if we ever lose that we will end up like a lot of churches that are now sick and dying. I will pass along to you what I believe the Lord is calling us to do as a church. This is very important, and it will change all of our lives. For the last few weeks especially, I have felt the great need for more prayer. More time in prayer, more teaching on prayer, more preaching on prayer! If Jesus, Himself took time to go away and pray how much more do we need to follow His example.

I want to challenge each of you for the next three months to take one hour a day and pray. If you find that hard to do, start with the Lord's Prayer or the Prayer Challenge scripture that Andy will be putting in the bulletin each week. I will also be giving out a calendar that has specific prayers for our children each day. We MUST become a people of prayer!! That is the key to hearing and knowing the voice of our Lord!!

I believe that this is crucial for the next part of New Beginnings journey. We must catch this vision of prayer; it will lead us into all Truth!! We will see more miracles happen and we will learn to trust Jesus in a way we have never experienced before!!

Church!! Our Lord has seen us through so many things!! He has been faithful and true!! Now he is calling us to go deeper with Him, He is calling us to prayer!! Prayer that will humble us yet empower the church!! We will see Gods hand in all things, and we will ALL begin to know WHO GOD IS!!

Matthew 26:40-45. Jesus said to Peter " Couldn't you watch with me even **one hour**? Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing but the body is weak."

Get ready church!! If we are faithful in prayer, we will see God move in mighty ways!! He will give more than we can think or imagine. We will walk in the gifts that He has promised for His church!!

I pray He stirs up a hunger and a thirst in all of us for more of Him and less of ourselves!!

Blessings, Pastor Karen

Worship Team by Bernie Tregoe: I would like to thank everyone on our worship team, Pastor Karen, worship leaders, set up team, video techs (Chris & Cathy), greeters, acolytes, children's Sunday school teachers and musicians and anyone else I may have missed. Without all of these people our Sunday morning worship just couldn't happen.

Also thanks to all the teams that have been working on getting things ready for the Fall Faith Festival. I am amazed at how the teams are putting so much time and effort into spreading the Gospel and glorifying Christ. This is our mission from God and it is showing at NBCBC. Praise God!

Romans 12:11 (NIV) Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

LAY LEADERSHIP HAPPENINGS (Cont'd)

Fellowship Team by Judy Abel The fellowship team arranged a wonderful potluck lunch in July at the church and also after the baptism service in August, and were instrumental in arranging the Prayer On The Hill night in September with ice cream provided by Christ's Cream. What an amazing night of worship that was. We have a wonderful team who work together, along with the congregation, to assure our fellowship events are well planned and executed while lifting God's name on high. Thanks to all our team members and the congregation for your support and help.

Board of Trustees, Eddie Moser—Chair: The Trustees encourage you to continue in prayer about God's provision and particularly for His guidance concerning our own church facility. We have formulated and have preliminary approval for a new Lease Agreement with our Seventh Day Adventist brothers and sisters and we are so fortunate to have such a nice facility in which to worship. May God continue to richly bless this arrangement.

Financial Management Team, by Tammy Fisher Budget update through September 30, 2023: We have reached 82% of our general offering budget; \$74,961 year to date on a budget of \$91,500. With 13 weeks left in the year we expect to hit, or exceed, that budget number. Our total budgeted expenses for 2023 are \$92,406. We have spent \$69,257, approximately 75% of the total budget.

Several months ago, we decided to open a money market account and a 9-month CD for the building fund. We deposited \$120k to the CD and \$5,333 to the money market. Since July we have earned \$901 in interest on the CD and \$52 on the money market.

The Finance Team met with the Leadership Team in September to discuss the 2024 budget. The budget was approved by the LT. It will be distributed to the congregation on October 22 to review in advance of the congregational meeting on November 5. Questions during that two-week review period should be directed to a member of the finance team; Tammy Fisher, Ruthie White, Wayne Grossnickle, Glenn Routzhan, or Kathy Fisher.

Kathy Fisher has decided to step down from the finance team in 2024. We will need a new member to join the team in early 2024.

Gifts and Discernment Team by Darlene Moser -

Virginia and I were informed a few months ago that there are going to be three replacements needed for positions on three different teams by this coming year, 2024. We have been praying for direction and have been declined by the ones we felt were good candidates, only to find out they felt their plates were already full or that they do not feel qualified for these particular positions. If there is someone reading this right now that is feeling that the Holy Spirit has been nudging them to get more involved in the work and growth of New Beginnings Church please make yourself known to either Pastor Karen, or Virginia Lewis, or Darlene Moser of the Gifts and Discernment Team. We would be glad to answer any questions you may have. We covet your prayers for the replacement of these important positions. God bless and direct our dear church with new workers for the glory of His Kingdom. We thank you all for your help.

Paul writes in Romans 15:17 (NLT) So I have reason to be enthusiastic about all Christ Jesus has done through me in my service to God.

LAY LEADERSHIP HAPPENINGS (Cont'd)

Information Technology by Eddie Moser: The setup team members have been trained on the setup and reset of the sound board as well as the setup of the church facility for worship service. Along with the setup responsibilities, they also have to put the sound board and facility back to the status they were found. There is a checklist in the back of the red binder in the pew near the sound board we are using to assure we don't miss anything during setup and reset.

Children's Church by Wendy Drum: God's children gathered the last few months, singing, praying, coloring, crafting and most of all learning about our God. We have journeyed through the book of Genesis, the Beginning, Noah, the tall Tower of Bable, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, how Joseph saves his family and more. We now embark into adventures through Exodus and learning about the Wordless Book, and the most important book of their lives, the Bible. We are excited as we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus during this special time of year with Thanksgiving and celebrating the birth of our Saviour. Please pray for our children, those here and far to know him and grow personally in relationship with our Lord. We give thanks and glory for sending the children to learn, follow, and carry the light into the world.

All children are welcome to join Sunday mornings during worship for more adventures through the Bible. At any time during the service the nursery to the rear of the sanctuary is available as needed for quiet space. It is equipped with a pew, a rocking chair, a window and a speaker so the message can be both seen and heard. During a designated time in the worship service, children are dismissed from the sanctuary with the teachers and invited to attend downstairs in the Sunday School room. Thank you to all the parents, grandparents, and friends in playing a critical role in your children's Christian education. Blessings. If you have questions, please reach out to Wendy Drum at 240-409-8635 or Gloria Green at 240-446-0421.



Emergency & Safety Response Team by Jerry Fogle

After receiving valuable input from church leadership, the Emergency and Safety Response Team (ESRT) drafted a revision to the Emergency and Safety Action Plan (ESAP), Rev. 0, which covered use of facilities at the Amvets in Middletown and Burkittsville Ruritan in Burkittsville. Before the revision was finalized, New Beginnings (NBCBC) entered into a trial six-month lease at the Middletown Valley Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Since this was a new church facility to the congregation, a separate ESAP was drafted covering use of the SDA church. Both versions of the ESAP were approved by the Leadership Team in August 2023 and training on the documents was completed in September 2023. The ESRT will monitor the implementation of these plans and make any appropriate revisions when necessary. It is our goal to keep worship and other activities at NBCBC as safe as possible.

Luke 6:40 (NIV) The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher.

LAY LEADERSHIP HAPPENINGS (Cont'd)

Leadership Team report by Pastor Karen: The Leadership Team has been busy in these last few months meeting with the FMT about the budget and with the Trustees as they revamp the contract with Seventh Day Adventist. They have had many decisions in these last six months to make to assure this body of Christ can do what it is called to do which is to go out and make disciples!! This team truly has learned what it is like to agree to disagree!! They pray and trust the Holy Spirit as they try to discern what is best for New Beginnings Church and it's future. I have been a part of all their meetings and what I love about this team is the respect they show to each other. I want the congregation to know they can go to anyone on this team with a concern and I can assure you it will be addressed!! For me, it's an honor to serve the Lord with all of them and I appreciate their dedication in everything they do. Please be in prayer for this team in the coming year ahead!!

God Bless,
Blessings, Pastor Karen

1 Peter 5:2 (NIV) Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve;



August 12, 2023: Baptizing and re-baptizing believers in the creek at Doub's Park, Myersville, by Pastor Karen with assistance by deacon Wayne. After release of a public notice of the baptism, three (3) community members who knew Pastor Karen attended and were baptized....Hallelujah! In addition, Fred Neel and Kathy Fisher elected to be re-baptized and I'm sure the angels in heaven were rejoicing over all these saints affirming their faith in our savior Jesus Christ. The Fellowship Team orchestrated a wonderful fellowship meal after the baptism and I believe all in attendance may have over-indulged in the wonderful pot luck offerings provided. Entertainment and worship was provided by Bethany Norris and Fred Neel...a great time was enjoyed by all.

1 Peter 3:21 (NIV) and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

Remember the Date

New Beginnings Covenant Brethren Church – Calendar

9/23/2023

Standing Meetings

Financial Management Team Meeting	1 st Tuesday	6:30 pm	Each Month	Tammy Fisher, FMT Chair
Deacon’s Meeting	TBD	6:00 pm	Each Month	Pastor and Deacons
Leadership Team Meeting	2 nd Monday	6:30 pm	Each Month	Kevin Fisher, LT Chair
Christian Education Meeting	3 rd Monday		Each Month	Pastor Karen & Team Chair
Team Chairs & LT Meeting	7/3	11:30	Quarterly	Kevin Fisher, LT Chair
Worship Team Meeting	Thursdays	PM	Twice Monthly	Bernie Trego

Classes	Location	Date/Day	Time	Event Organizer
Ladies’ Bible Study	Lutheran Church	Wednesdays	9 - 10:30 am	Cathy Hessong
Men’s Bible Study	Eddie Moser’s	Tuesdays	6 - 7:30 pm	Eddie Moser
Young Adult Bible Study	SDA	Alt Thursdays	6:30 - 8:00 pm	Kenton, Joseph & Ingrid
Come Alive Prayer	SDA	Friday	12:30 - 1:30	Darlene & Pastor Karen

2023 Events Schedule

Newsletter Publications	3/31, 6/30, 9/30, 12/31			Eddie/Lay Leaders
Maundy Thursday Service	4/6/2023	6:30 pm	Burkittsville Ruritan	Pastor Karen
Easter Worship Service	4/9/2023	9:30 am	Amvets Event Room	Pastor Karen
Congregational Business Meeting	5/7/2023 (Est)	11:15	Twice Annually	Moderator, Kevin Fisher, LT Chair
Congregational Business Meeting	5/28/2023	11:15	Vote on Seventh-day Adventist move Kevin Fisher LT	
Fellowship Meal	7/9/2023	11:30	Immediately after Church Service	
CBC Annual Conference	7/20—7/22	Various	Fairmont State University	
Baptism and picnic	8/12/2023	4:00 & 5:00	Doub’s Woods Park, Myersville	
Evening of Prayer on the Hill	9/2/2023	6:00 pm	Dale Haines’ Hill	Deacons & Pastor Karen
Fall Faith Festival	10/7/2023	12 - 4:00	Burkittsville Ruritan	Worship Team
Afternoon of Prayer	10/28/2023	1 - 3:00	Dales Haines’ Hill	Deacons & Pastor Karen
Congregational Business Meeting	11/5/2023	11:15	Twice Annually	Moderator, Kevin Fisher, LT Chair
Christmas Dinner	12/16/2023	5:30pm	Western Sizzlin, Hagerstown	
Love Feast	TBD		Twice Annually	Pastor Karen & Deacons
Communion	TBD	4X/Year	Times Annually	Pastor Karen & Deacons

Bold Denotes Completed
Denotes Standing Meetings

We are on: Facebook, YouTube, & email: look for us as New Beginnings Church
Our website: www.nb-cbc.org

Making and Equipping
Disciples of Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:19)

Hebrews 10:25 (NIV) not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Thank You Note from Bethany:

Dear New Beginnings Church,

8 /14/2023

I am blown away by your incredible generosity yesterday at church when you lovingly donated \$1,094.00 to me for my apartment needs. I was moved to tears by your one-of-a-kind thoughtfulness as I considered the special way the Lord chose to demonstrate His divine ability to provide through His faithful, giving people. Oh how He loves us!! Thank you for loving me too.

I cannot wait to see what the Lord will do in this next season. On August 30th I will officially begin my new position at GEMS Girls' Clubs as the content creator and Program Assistant in Wyoning, Michigan. This is an international girls' ministry committed to sharing Christ and the powerful gospel around the world. I have been assigned the joy of writing Bible Study Curriculum, helping with inner-city outreach and Bible Studies, and traveling to share Christ and to equip women to disciple Gen-2 girls. Please pray that the Lord would continue to open doors (specifically to the right apartment), that He'd lead me to a strong church to get involved in and that the transition would be smooth and full of growth as I learn to depend on the Lord on an even deeper level.

I am so grateful for you all! Remember, Christ's Good News is a message worth sharing. My mission field has changed, but we share the same message. Will you tell someone? (Romans 10: 9-10).

Love you all,
Bethany Norris

Who Is The Church? By Eddie Moser

Acts 14:27 (NIV) On arriving there, they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.

We see in this scripture in Acts that the church is comprised of the people, the living stones, of the church. They gathered the church together.... The people, not buildings. Sometimes we put too much emphasis on the mud and mortar of a church building and not enough on the actual church... the people. A church building without the people is just a building, an inanimate object taking up space. The living stones, the true church, is what God is all about and is where our focus needs to be as well. God loves his people, those who have surrendered their lives to Him, who serve Him, who worship Him, who spread His gospel, who love Him with all their hearts. Does this sound familiar?? I think these traits accurately describe the New Beginnings Church congregation. We do have a very lively, loving, willing, caring, serving congregation who do all these things to please God and Him alone. It is for His glory that we serve each other, and Him. Praise God!! I wouldn't want it to be any other way. May we continue to lift our faces to His throne for guidance, protection, and His love as we move forward in His name proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ. May we not grow weary spreading the Good News to all who haven't heard it so that upon His return all might be saved. Hallelujah!! I pray God will give us the strength and boldness to do His Will so that we might claim this scripture for our lives: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:7 (NIV))

Observation:

We are living in a time of great profession, but of little possession; of great progress, but of little prayer. But there is a great encouragement for us all in the next words:

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me" (Revelation 3:20).

Do you want to dine with Him??? Or just get caught up in the hum-drum world around you!!!

Acts 12:5 (NIV) So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.

Congregational Officers & Lay Leaders

Moderator – Linda Lambert
Alt Moderator – Kevin Fisher (1/2021)
Church Secretary – Cathy Hessong
Treasurer – Ruthie White
Financial Secretary - TBD

Leadership Team (5,3,2)

Kevin Fisher – Chair (1/2021)
 Kenton Grossnickle (1/2021)
 Linda Grossnickle (1/2021)
 Peggy Sanders (1/2023)
 Ronda Whitmore (1/2021)

Christian Education Team (5,3,2)

Donna Myers – Chair (1/2021)
Wendy Drum – Teacher (1/2021)
 Hazel Grossnickle – Teacher (1/2021)
 Kathy Fisher – Helper (1/2021)
 Terry Robinson – Helper (1/2021)

Witness & Outreach Team (11,3,2)

Ann Marie Edelen – Chair (5/2021)
 Wayne Fisher (1/2021)
 Kenton Grossnickle (1/2022)
 Patsy McGaha (1/2022)
 Fred Neel (1/2022)
 Diana Neel (1/2022)
 Terri Kline (1/2022)
 Peggy Sanders (1/2022)
 Joseph Sanders (1/2022)
 Stacey Shafer (1/2022)
 Ronda Whitmore (1/2021)

Child Evangelism Fellowship

Wendy Drum
 Karen Grossnickle
 Cathy Hessong
 Joseph & Peggy Sanders
 Ronda Whitmore

Fellowship Team (6, 3,2)

Judy Abel – Chair (1/2022)
 Anne Marie Edelen (1/2022)
 Garry Grossnickle (1/2022)
 Patsy McGaha (1/2022)
 David Ross (1/2022)
 Ruthie White (1/2022)

Music & Worship Team (4, 3,2)

Bernie Tregoe (1/2022)
 Carissa Adams (1/2022)
 Eddie Moser (1/2022)
 Fred Neel (1/2022)

Setup Team

Chris Myers
 Eddie Moser
 Andy Drum
 Dale Drum
 Kenton Grossnickle
 Fred Neel
 Joseph Sanders
 Kevin Fisher

As Approved: 11/20/2022

Hospitality Team (4,3,2)

Kathy Fisher – Chair (1/2021)
 Doug Miller (1/2022)
 Sally Routzahn (1/2022)
 Stacey Shafer (1/2022)

Annual Conference Delegates (2)

Pastor Karen Grossnickle
 Kevin Fisher

Deacon Ministry (7,3,0)

Kathy Fisher (1/2021)
 Wayne Fisher (1/2021)
 Gloria Green (1/2022)
 Cathy Hessong (1/2021)
 Virginia Lewis (1/2022)
 Joseph Sanders (1/2022)
 Jeanne Wolf (1/2022)

Financial Management Team (5,3,2)

Tammy Fisher – Chair (1/2021)
 Kathy Fisher (1/2021)
 Glenn Routzahn (1/2023)
 Wayne Grossnickle (1/2021)
 Ruthie White – Treasurer (1/2021)

Gifts & Discernment Team (5,3,2)

Virginia Lewis (1/2022)
 Darlene Moser (1/2022)

Information Technology (IT) Team (3,3,2)

Chris Myers (1/2021)

Communications Team (5,3,2)

Cathy Hessong – Director (1/2021)
 Joyce Guyton (1/2022)
 Terri Kline (1/2023)
 Kenton Grossnickle (1/2023)
 Joseph Sanders (1/2023)

Ushers (4,3,2)

Ron White – Chair (1/2021)
 Garry Grossnickle (1/2021)
 Wayne Grossnickle (1/2021)
 Judy Abel (1/2021)

Board of Trustees (3, Lifetime)

Ed Moser – Chair (5/2021)
 Fred Neel (5/2021)
 Ron White (5/2021)

Emergency and Safety Response Team (4,3,2)

Jerry Fogle (advisor) (1/2023)
 Trustee Team (1/2023)

Legend:

Red lettering signifies Changes since approval
Blue lettering signifies Congregational Approval Required
Bold Black signifies non-member

Term Explanations:

5,3,2
 Where 5= number of members, 3=term, and 2= # of terms

Covenant Brethren Church Annual Meeting & Worship Conference 2023



REGISTRATION STATISTICS

	2020	2022	2023
Congregations _____			81
Delegates _____		85	120
Non-delegates _____		173	166
Total _____	approximate 220	258	286
Pastors _____			71

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This past July eight of us from New Beginnings traveled to Fairmont, WVA for the CBC Annual Conference. One of the things that stood out to me most was that it was very evident that leadership listened to the evaluations from last year and there were quite a few changes for the better. Any time you start something new, there is a great need to listen to the discernment of the body of believers. I was thankful for that quality that this leadership team has. It's an exciting time in the Covenant Brethren denomination and the Lord is doing great and mighty things through them. My prayer is they continue to listen to the Lord, seeking His wisdom, keeping in step with His will and to nurture and to listen to Gods people. I pray for the humility that I see in them now to always be one of their greatest attributes. I pray they are very careful with whom they come along side in ministry and to always keep their ears in tune with the Word of God and His Holy Spirit. All in all, we had a blessed time together, learning to know others working for the same cause for Christ. The feeling of being in one accord was very strong and for that I was so very grateful. We need to continue to pray for the leadership, that they are strengthened for the journey that the Lord has put before them, and that they run their race with endurance and with joy in serving a Great and Mighty God!!!!

Blessings, Pastor Karen

