

## NEW CAMP BETHEL WEB SITE, SAME ADDRESS!

Take a look at <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org)> and also connect with Camp Bethel on social media: Facebook: "Camp Bethel Summer Camp and Event Center"; Twitter: @CampBethel; Instagram: @CampBethelVirginia and #CampBethelVirginia; YouTube Channel: CampBethelVirginia; Pinterest: Camp Bethel.

## SPRING VOLUNTEER WORKDAY IS APRIL 2!

Please help! 7:30am free breakfast; 1:00pm free lunch; Your help is needed to prepare camp for the spring and summer seasons. Workday projects (rain or shine; indoor and outdoor) for all skill levels and all ages. Bring rakes, blowers, drag tarps, chainsaws, wood splitters, safety gear, ladders, gloves, garden & landscaping gear, tools (construction, repair, electrical, plumbing, etc.), vacuums, flatbeds, trucks (especially 4x4), cleaning gear & chemicals, brooms, mops, rags, LED light bulbs (75-100 watt equivalent)... and bring friends! RSVP meals by March 29 to 540-992-2940 or [CampBethelOffice@gmail.com](mailto:CampBethelOffice@gmail.com).



## SUMMER CAMPS 2016: "NOT AFRAID, NOT ALONE: COURAGE IN COMMUNITY"



*"Peter said, 'I realize... God treats everyone the same... They received the Holy Spirit just as we have.'" ~ Acts 10:34-44*

Sunday: Genesis 12:1-8: God calls Abraham to create community.

Monday: The Book of Ruth: Ruth learns to trust Naomi, and everyone benefits.

Tuesday: Genesis 45:1-15: Joseph forgives his brothers so that God's work can continue.

Wednesday: Daniel 3 & Esther 4: God is with us when supporting God's people is a risk.

Thursday: Acts 10: Sometimes a community must change its plans to be faithful to God's story.

Friday: Matthew 28: Jesus calls us to invite all people to be a community of disciples.

Summer Camp brochure packets were mailed in February to all campers, churches, camp reps and pastors. Register early to guarantee your chosen program, and ask your camp rep about our new on-line registration for congregational Good-As-Gold recipients. Visit <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org/camps.html](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/camps.html)> for all Summer Camp information (brochure, forms, schedules) and program descriptions, including:

- Expanded Day Camps for Elementary and Middle School campers.
- New River Otters Paddlesports Adventure Camp.
- Free Traveling Day Camps in Roanoke (Peters Creek CoB & First CoB), West VA (Spruce Run CoB), North Carolina (Eden, First CoB), Franklin County (Antioch CoB) and Henry County (Mount Hermon CoB).
- Family Fun Tuesdays, Family Paddleboard Play Tuesdays, and Lil' Otters Wednesday Family River Trips.



## SOUNDS OF THE MOUNTAINS FESTIVAL, APRIL 15-16, 2016

Our 15th annual Sounds of the Mountains Festival of Music and Storytelling will feature nationally known tellers, Kevin Kling, Barbara McBride-Smith, Bill Lepp, Antonio Rocha, music by Carrington Kay, plus the Back Porch Studio Cloggers. This is one of Camp Bethel's most important fundraisers, so help spread the word. All information is at <[www.SoundsoftheMountains.org](http://www.SoundsoftheMountains.org)>.

## CAMP BETHEL WISH LIST, APRIL-MAY:

Digital cameras and/or a "GoPro" video camera; LCD projector; working mini-van and pick-up truck; LED light bulbs (75-100 watt equivalent); donations for camper scholarships, new furnishings in the New Cottage, and repairs to chimneys, floors and the Ark Pond. Donations are tax-deductible and are greatly needed. Thank you!



## SUMMER CAMP STAFF 2016: MALE COUNSELORS NEEDED!

*BEST. SUMMER. EVER.* See <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org/summer-staff.html](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/summer-staff.html)> for serving for serving as a Senior Counselor, Junior Counselor or Volunteer Counselor/CIT.

## SUMMER KITCHEN STAFF AT CAMP BETHEL:

Camp Bethel is looking for ministry-minded individuals to help prepare and serve meals for over 1200 campers this summer. We prefer staff who are able serve for all nine weeks of summer camp, June 12-August 13, plus additional training days during the weeks of May 30-June 11. For position descriptions, pay, and shift schedules, e-mail Brigitte Burton at <[CampBethelArk@gmail.com](mailto:CampBethelArk@gmail.com)> or call 540-992-2940. Apply at <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org/summer-staff.html](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/summer-staff.html)>.

"SEED, SCATTERED & SOWN: Reaching Beyond This Generation" is the theme of the mission resourcing campaign for Camp Bethel and the Virginia District Church of the Brethren through 2019. We seek to develop resources to fulfill Virginia District's commitment to ministry with our children, youth and young adults and to provide necessary enhancements to fulfill Camp Bethel's future potential. To learn how YOU can make a commitment, visit [www.VirginiaFuture.org](http://www.VirginiaFuture.org).



Seed, Scattered  
& Sown  
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## PLEASE DONATE TO REPLENISH DEPLETED "CAMPERSHIP" FUND:

2015 requests for camperships exceeded our available funds. Can you help? Please consider donating \$300, which is the 2016 cost for a child to attend one basic week of resident camp at Camp Bethel. Mail checks with memo "Camperships" or donate on line at <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate.html](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate.html)>.

## GET YOUR CONGREGATION'S 2016 CAMP PACKET NOW:

Distribute this crucial information to your congregation including bulletin inserts, Good-As-Gold information, Heritage Day packets, Golf Tournament forms, summer camp brochures and schedules, and more at <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org/Camp-Reps.html](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/Camp-Reps.html)>. Request a post-mail packet at 540-992-2940 or <[CampBethelOffice@gmail.com](mailto:CampBethelOffice@gmail.com)>.

### **MAY 18 FREE YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING:**

You are invited to a free day of Youth Mental Health First Aid training at Camp Bethel on Wednesday, May 18, 8:00am-5:00pm. Bring your own lunch OR enjoy a \$9 Camp Bethel lunch. RSVP to Jenna Stacy by May 1 at 540-992-2940 or [CampBethelOffice@gmail.com](mailto:CampBethelOffice@gmail.com). Youth Mental Health First Aid is an interactive 8-hour course teaching recognition and response to warning signs of mental health issues and crises in adolescents. <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org/events.html](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/events.html)>

### **MEMORIAL DAY FAMILY WEEKEND, MAY 27-30**

Check <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org/events.html](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/events.html)> for the schedule of activities and our concert schedule. Call Beth today 540-992-2940 or <[CampBethelOffice@gmail.com](mailto:CampBethelOffice@gmail.com)> to reserve a campsite and your meals, all at special-low rates.

### **FAMILY FUN DAY AND SUMMER CAMP OPEN HOUSE, MAY 28**

Camp Bethel invites you to come walk the grounds, meet other families and the camp staff, check a cabin, and enjoy refreshments in the Ark Dining Hall on Saturday, May 28 from 1:00-4:00. Meet at the Ark at 1:00pm; stay all day and enjoy Memorial Day Weekend free swimming and 7:30pm concert.

### **CAMP ACTIVITIES FOR VIRLINA'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY, JUNE 10-11**

Camp Bethel will be open June 10-11 for families wishing to enjoy expanded activities surrounding the program and lunch on June 11, "150 Year Anniversary Celebration of District Work in Virginia." Friday, June 10 evening activities include the 5:30pm Summer Staff Commissioning Dinner, open pool from 7-9:00pm, campfire songs and S'mores at 9:30pm, and available overnight lodging or camping. Saturday, June 11 activities include a 5:15am sunrise hike and devotion on Vesper Hill, 7:30am Morning Watch at the Spring Pond, 8:00am continental breakfast in the Ark, 9-Square and GaGa Ball, and open pool from 2-4:00pm. RSVP at <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org/events.html](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org/events.html)>.

### **22nd ANNUAL BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT IS AUGUST 24:**

FORE! Golfers and sponsors are needed on Wednesday, August 24 at Botetourt Golf Club for our 2016 Golf Tournament and Banquet. Tee off is at 12:45pm, and \$70 per person includes green fees, cart and dinner at camp (\$15 for dinner only). Become a Tournament Sponsor and provide much-needed support for our summer camp programs! [www.CampBethelVirginia.org](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org)

### **LABOR DAY FAMILY WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 2-5:**

Check <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org)> for facility availability and activities including a "called" barn dance and a concert. Contact Beth at <[CampBethelOffice@gmail.com](mailto:CampBethelOffice@gmail.com)> to reserve a campsite at special-low rates. RSVP meals by August 29.

### **32nd HERITAGE DAY FESTIVAL, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1:**

Please encourage everyone in your church to participate and help in this vitally important fund raiser for Camp Bethel. Heritage Day forms and information are available at <[www.CampBethelVirginia.org](http://www.CampBethelVirginia.org)>, or from your Pastor or Camp Rep.

### **A NOTE FROM BARRY LENOIR, CAMP BETHEL DIRECTOR:**

*"Peter said, 'I now realize how true it is that God treats everyone the same...' The believers who had come with Peter were **astonished** that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles... Then Peter said, '...they have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.'" ~ Acts 10:34-44*

*Astonished, or afraid?* Why are we ever surprised by God's desire to be in relationship with us? Why are we ever afraid to let God work upon us and through us for others? God is, after all, a community, a Trinity, a plurality of oneness, and we are created in that image: to be in relationship with God and with each other. Jesus himself assures us that "I am with you always." Surely we've learned by now through Scripture and experience that living as God's people in community requires our courage AND provides us with courage. Without higher quality material to work with, God relies on US to have the courage to "go and make disciples of all nations..." Scripture, experience and relationship don't just teach us, they indeed do something in us.

That's what makes Camp Bethel's "Experiential Christian Education" in the outdoors such a powerful tool in making disciples. Taking a cue from Peter, we mix kids and teens and young adults (and some of us "older adults" too) from diverse backgrounds into a Christian camp community intent on being in relationship with each other. Living and working and playing and worshiping together helps each individual see themselves as God sees them so that they aren't afraid to see *each other as God sees them*. These resulting relationships give us courage: to do the things we think we're incapable to doing; to love God and each other; to go and make disciples of all nations. *Astonished?* No. We're not afraid, because we're not alone.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AT CAMP BETHEL:**

May 18, 2016 (Wed): FREE Youth Mental Health First Aid Training, RSVP.  
May 24-26, 2016 (Tues-Thurs): Summer Leadership Team Training.  
May 27-30, 2016: Memorial Day Family Weekend & Concerts, RSVP meals.  
May 28, 2016 (Sat), Family Day/Summer Camp Open House, 1:00-4:00pm.  
May 30-June 10, 2016: Summer Staff Training.  
June 3-4 (Fri-Sat): Parent-Child Overnight Camp.  
June 10, 2016 (Fri) 5:30pm: Summer Staff Commissioning Service and Dinner.  
June 10-11, 2016: Special Family Activities and Overnight Availability.  
June 11, 2016 (Sat): Virlina District Celebrates 150 Years, event at Camp Bethel.  
June 12-July 29: Summer Camps & Family Adventures: "Not Afraid, Not Alone!"

August 24, 2016: 22nd Annual Benefit Golf Tournament.  
June 14-17, 2016 (Tues-Fri): CIT Training and Practicum.  
August 24, 2016: 22nd Annual Benefit Golf Tournament.  
September 2-5, 2016: Labor Day Family Weekend, RSVP meals.  
October 1, 2016 (Sat): 32nd Brethren Heritage Day Festival.  
November 5, 2016 (Sat), 7:30am: Fall Workday, RSVP meals.  
December 1, 2016 (Thurs): Christmas TOGETHER Banquet.  
December 3, 2016 (Sat): Virlina District Board & OMC Retreat.  
December 4-21, 2016: Schedule your Christmas Banquet at Camp Bethel.

