

# Valley Voice

*The Greater Buffalo Run Valley United Methodist Church  
Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World  
Pastor Calvin Miller*

*Office Phone: 814-355-2208 – Cell Phone 814-810-6738*

*April 2019*

## Working Together

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." *Henry Ford*

Besides the push-ups, sit-ups, running, and "loving" encouragement by our Drill Instructors, the most fun I had in basic training was the confidence course. Nothing gives you more confidence than struggling your way through individual obstacles, except struggling together as a team. There was no way that we would get through the team-building exercises unless we worked together as a team. The Church operates under the same premise.

We are individual children of God in need of God's Grace. To successfully navigate through our daily issues and struggles, we must fully rely on each other and on God. When we are a team, working towards a common goal, our focus is the same. In order for the Greater Buffalo Run Valley UMC to be the Fruitful and vibrant Witness God is Calling us to be, we must work together, claiming the Kingdom for ourselves and for our Community.



I praise God for team-building exercises. This training did not only help me in basic training, it has helped me my entire life. We are truly better together than we are apart; children of God that are walking with each other and their Savior, together, through all of life's struggles and strains, are truly better.

I encourage you to consider your walk with Jesus. Celebrate your connection to God through Christ on Easter Sunday; carry that connection throughout the rest of the year. We need Jesus on Easter Sunday, just like we need Jesus the other 364 days of the year. Fully lean on Christ and work together with Christ; live into God's Vision for you; live into God's Wholeness and Peace!

Blessings,

Pastor Calvin

Welcome  
To Our  
Church



**Greater Buffalo Run Valley  
United Methodist Church  
1667 Buffalo Run Road  
Bellefonte, PA 16823**

***MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR  
THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD***

**Sunday Worship at 9 a.m.  
Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.**

**If you are in need of prayer or would like to  
have a pastoral visit, please contact**

**Pastor Calvin Miller**

**Office Phone: 355-2208**

**Home Phone: 814-810-2106**

**Cell phone: 814-810-6738**

**Email: [cmiller@susumc.org](mailto:cmiller@susumc.org) or  
[millercalvin@comcast.net](mailto:millercalvin@comcast.net)**

**Parsonage address:**

**112 Trinity Court**

**Bellefonte, PA 16823**

**Phone & Internet Access Available**

The trustees have made several phones available for use when in the building without your cell phone or unable to get service. One is located in the office and the other is in the kitchen area near the coffee pot downstairs.

You can also connect wirelessly to the internet using the password gbrvumc1.

Thanks to the dedication, commitment and donations of many individuals, the restroom updates are nearly completed. A fresh coat of paint and new light fixtures make the area bright

and cheery. A call was made for donations toward the purchase of an infant changing table and almost immediately the scripture from Matthew 7: 7-8 was fulfilled ( Ask, and it shall be given you;...For every one that asks receives) when in a short time Dale received an outpouring of donations. The goal was reached and the new table will soon be installed providing a safe and sanitary opportunity for parents.

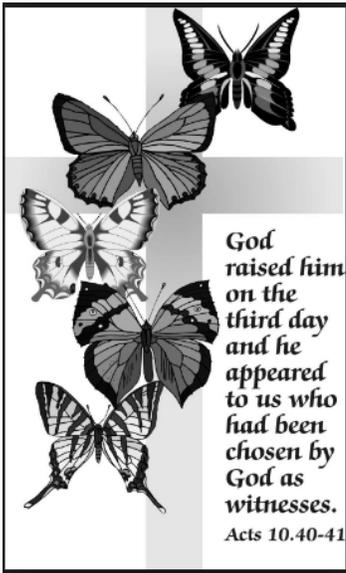
While the trustees and others strive to make the accommodations in our current House of Worship pleasant for all the Building Committee recently met discuss the ongoing plans for our new building. Blair Free will chair the committee with Will Houser serving as co-chair. Ashley Dalton has been asked to serve as secretary with Vicky Free as backup. Other members include: Dale Dixon, Deb Houser, Lisa Catherman, Barry Ishler and Gloria Lohr. Anyone else interested in being part of the group should contact Blair Free.



**Safety Concern**

**With concern for the safety of the congregation in light of recent events in the local area, the Ad Board has decided to further provide a safer sanctuary for the people attending. Beginning May 5<sup>th</sup> the front doors will be open until the start of worship and the side door off the paved parking lot will be open until 9:10 a.m.**

**Anyone arriving after 9:10 a.m. should ring the side door bell. In case of an emergency you can exit through any door. If you have any questions, you can contact Barry Ishler, Ad Board Chair or and Board member.**



## The Parable of the Butterfly

As a butterfly soared overhead, one caterpillar said to the other, "You'll never get me up in one of those things."

Yet for every caterpillar the time comes when the urge to eat and grow subsides and he instinctively begins to form a chrysalis around himself. The chrysalis hardens and you'd think for all the world that the caterpillar is dead.

But one spring morning the life inside the chrysalis begins to writhe, the top cracks open, and a beautifully-formed butterfly emerges. For hours it will stand stretching and drying its wings, moving them slowly up and down, up and down. And then, before you know it, the butterfly glides aloft, effortlessly riding the currents of the air, alighting on flower after gorgeous flower, as if to show off its vivid colors to the bright blossoms. .

Somehow, the miracle of the butterfly never loses its fascination for us. Perhaps because the butterfly is a living parable of the promise of resurrection.

On Easter morning the disciples saw Jesus' graveclothes lying on the cold slab still wrapped round and round the corpse. Only the corpse was gone, much like an empty chrysalis deserted by a butterfly who has left to soar free. "He is risen as He said," an angel told the incredulous disciples. Later that day he appeared to the disciples, and then, over the course of the next few weeks, to as

many as five hundred people at one time. Even "Doubting Thomas" didn't doubt for long that Jesus was really risen from the dead.

A few weeks ago I lost a friend who had become dear to me. Where she had been so full of life, now her body lay still, composed ever-so-carefully by the morticians. I looked at her and thought about my own mortality. One day I too, like her, may fight a losing battle with pain, and die.

What do we Christians say in the face of death? There are many mysteries. But two things we know for sure. First, death is an enemy. Away with the sentimentality that vainly seeks to disguise death's insult! But second, and more important, Jesus' resurrection from the grave is God's proof to us that death is not the end. The empty tomb and Jesus' Spirit within us testify that Easter morning is God's triumph over death. And ultimately, Jesus promised, God will raise from the dead us who believe in His Son.

Why do Christians gather on Easter morning? We gather to celebrate Jesus' victory over death itself. For since He is our Lord and our Savior, His victory is our victory. In celebrating His resurrection we celebrate our own assurance of ultimate triumph over death.

By Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

People try to use duct tape

to fix everything...God used nails.

