

**Daleville Church of the Brethren  
P.O. Box 85  
Daleville, VA 24083**



## **“A Church Off-Season?”**

As I sit down to write this article this month, one of the big events of the National Football League off-season is about to take place: the yearly draft of college players coming into the league for the first time. Over the years, this has taken on a life of its own, growing to be a massive production for television and spawning its own hordes of media analysts who try (and most times, fail spectacularly) to predict who various teams will draft to play for them over the next several years. The reason, of course, that this has become such an important event comes from the fact that there will be no more football games until August, and lands about halfway between the end of the Super Bowl and the beginning of the new season. Its an opportunity for folks to get a taste of the NFL in a time when there simply isn't much else going on. Off seasons in sports mainly feature such things as this and looking forward to how a particular favorite team will fare in the next season.

Now, you're probably wondering why I'm talking about this in a church newsletter. Well, we've passed through one of the busy times of the church year, that being Lent and its run-up to Easter. Oftentimes, when we think about the church year, we recognize the two busiest times of the year being around Easter and Christmas. And oftentimes, we think that the rest of the year might be likened to that of a sports off season: preparation for the next big thing to happen in the church.

But if we do so, we are mistaken. Being the church, part of the body of Christ, isn't just about the spectacular times in the life of a congregation. It is about the nitty-gritty, day to day reality of being followers of Jesus Christ. While there are certainly times in the life of faith that are less busy, there is no off season in the life of faith.

We are called, every day, to be in relationship with one another, with God, and with the community around us. This is a high, demanding calling that we have been given as part of our decision to follow Jesus. It's tempting for us to think that we only really need to turn things on for Easter and Christmas, the truth of the matter is that we are to be about the everyday work of loving God and loving neighbor. That is the true mark of discipleship. The true challenge of following in Jesus' footsteps.

In Christ,  
Pastor Doug



*Mother and Daughter  
Banquet  
Pajama Party*

*Date: May 7th*

*Time: 6:30pm*

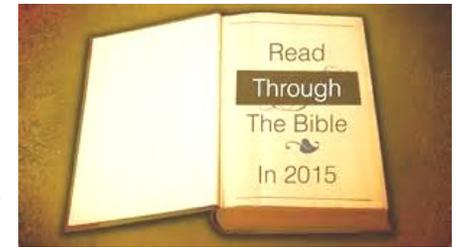
*Location: Fellowship Hall*

*Everyone bring a dish and invite  
your friends!*

*Sign up sheet in the narthex.*

**May Bible Readings**

- 1 Exodus 17-20
- 2 2 Samuel 5-9
- 3 Psalms 51-53
- 4 Job 35-36
- 5 Jeremiah 27-31
- 6 Mark 15-16
- 7 2 Corinthians 6-8
- 8 Exodus 21-24
- 9 2 Samuel 10-14
- 10 Psalms 54-56
- 11 Job 37-38
- 12 Jeremiah 32-36
- 13 Luke 1-2
- 14 2 Corinthians 9-10
- 15 Exodus 25-28
- 16 2 Samuel 15-19
- 17 Psalms 57-59
- 18 Job 39-40
- 19 Jeremiah 37-41
- 20 Luke 3-4
- 21 2 Corinthians 11-13
- 22 Exodus 29-32
- 23 2 Samuel 20-24
- 24 Psalms 60-62
- 25 Job 41-42
- 26 Jeremiah 42-46
- 27 Luke 5-6
- 28 Galatians 1-3
- 29 Exodus 33-36
- 30 1 Kings 1-4
- 31 Psalms 63-65



## Upcoming Events for May

Bring Canned Goods in on May 3rd to be collected.

**Mother/Daughter Banquet** is Thurs., May 7th here at the church at 6:30pm.

**Church Board Meeting** May 11th at 6:30pm.



**It's that time of year again! Our ANNUAL Church Yard Sale is just around the corner! If you can volunteer your time helping to sort and price the week prior and/or help on June 5-6 with customers, please let our stewards know. Also, we are always accepting "treasures" so start cleaning out! Let's make this year the biggest yet!!**

## May Scriptures and Sermons

May 3 1 John 4:7-21  
"God is Love"

May 10 Psalm 98  
"Sing to the Lord a New Song"

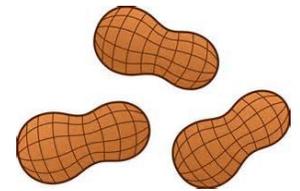
May 17 Camp Sunday, Jenna Stacy, intern at Camp Bethel, will provide the message

May 24 Acts 2:1-21  
"The Birthday of the Church"

May 31 Romans 8:28-39  
"Always Loved, Never Alone"



## **RX Corner** *with Dorothy Shumate*



### Five Things To Do This Month

1. Practice positive thinking. Focusing on your assets can help control pain.
2. Three exercise sessions per week should give you great health benefits.
3. Check to see if you need a colonoscopy. New prep will make the next one easier.
4. Open up to your doctor. It's important to your care.
5. Pick up some peanuts. They may extend your life.

(From Harvard Women's Health Watch, May 2015)

## **It's that time of year!**

There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for mowing volunteers. Please take a week and help us out! Also, there is a donation jug on the table if you'd like to contribute for mower gas expenses.



*Thanks so much!*