The Journey

The Brownsville Church of God Quarterly Newsletter **April—June 2025**

A Message from the Pastor

Pastor Victor Johnson

As you read this Newsletter, my prayer is that you and your families are doing well. Again, we thank you for your prayers, volunteer support and works of service at the Brownsville Church of God. Your every call, card, and word of encouragement means a lot to us.

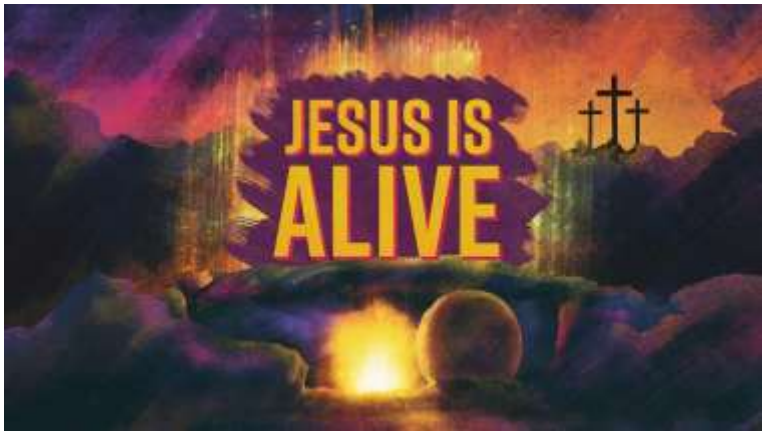
We have come to the most exciting time of the year for the Christian faith, Resurrection Sunday. The "Event that changed the world." Jesus, the Son of God died on the cross for our sins and rose triumphantly from the dead. His resurrection from the dead was a display of God's immense power and presence; it is the very foundation of the Christian faith.

Without the resurrection --- There is No Savior; No Sure Word of God; No Salvation; we are without hope beyond the Grave. The Apostle Paul stressed the importance of this fact in **1 Corinthians 15:14-17 NASB**,

...and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain. Moreover, we are even found to be false witnesses of God because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.

The disciples came to the tomb and realized that Jesus was not there. Because Jesus is alive it proves that He is who he says He is. Because Jesus is alive there is hope for our darkest days and forgiveness for our sin. Because He lives, death is conquered, and you have a family of brothers and sisters forever in Christ. You and I have a home in Heaven. Rejoice in these realities because Jesus is alive! Let us tell the resurrection story in word and actions in every situation, every circumstance, every day of our lives, everywhere we go.

Blessings to each of you.
Pastor Victor T. Johnson



Brownsville Church of God
6390 Lincoln Way East
Fayetteville, PA 17222
717-352-9535
www.brownsvillechurchcog.com
Churches of God
General Conference

SUNDAY
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.
Nursery provided for all the above.

WEDNESDAY
Bible Study - 7:00 PM

CHECK IT OUT!

We are excited to announce the launch of our new church website! Designed with you in mind, the site provides an easy-to-navigate platform to stay connected with our church community. In the near future, it will also feature online sermons.

Whether you're a longtime member or visiting us for the first time, our website is here to help you stay engaged and informed. Check it out and explore all it has to offer! Share the link!

www.brownsvillechurchcog.com

Soul Care Ministry Update

1. **GriefShare**
We are finishing up our first cohort of GriefShare, facilitated by Pastor John Bayer. GriefShare is a 13-week Support Group to help you navigate your grief journey.

Topics covered have included: 1) Is This Normal? 2) Your Grief Journey 3) Loneliness & Sadness 4) Self-Care 5) Fearful & Overwhelmed 6) Anger 7) Regrets 8) Grief & Your Household 9) Grief & Your Friendships 10) Questions for God 11) Stuck in Grief 12) Hope & Resilience 13) What Do I Live For Now?

We are so grateful for Pastor John's willingness to facilitate our GriefShare program – his gentleness, kindness & compassion have truly been a blessing to all who have participated over the past 3 months!

For more information and/or for any questions please check out https://www.griefshare.org/ or email John Bayer at johngbc@comcast.net. Registration for our Fall cohort will open later this summer.

We are also grateful to Sister Jocelynn Davis for her generous offer to send cards of encouragement to those who are grieving. If you know someone who could benefit from receiving a card, please send their name and address to Sister Jocelynn @ jdavis1701@aol.com

2. **Soul Care Sundays** (12:30-2pm on the following Sundays):

May 18th – "**Cultivating Healthy Connections**" for those feeling hurt, rejected, disconnected, isolated, or lonely. We'll share practical ways to heal and grow through the support of a healthy community. (to sign up please see Sis Michelle Tasker)
June 29th – "**Practicing Biblical Rest**" for those feeling overwhelmed, overbooked, stressed, tired, or exhausted. We'll explore how to practice various types of rest, including physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual, to find true renewal. (Sign up opens in May)
July 27th – "**Flourishing in Your Lament**" for those feeling discouraged, broken, weary, or lost. We'll be discussing how to express grief and pain in a way that leads to healing, growth, and a deeper connection with God. (Sign up opens in June)

3. **Volunteer Opportunities** – If you feel called to support those who are struggling or hurting please reach out to Michelle Tasker @ michelletasker.rdn@gmail.com We will be looking at ways to support our Young Adults, Middle/High School students, 3-5th Graders as well as Parents through our next Soul Care Event.

BCOG Youth News

"My experience at Camp Yolijwa was amazing. I met so many friends and even bunked with Saniyah ,Keionia, and Paris. I did a couple of classes that were fun and I attended the bean bag tournament. Also, my friend gave my some money to get some awesome chocolate AKA: Butterfingers and Peach rings. There was a fun trivia game at the coffee house. I played some cool games like Apples to Apples and The Christian meme game."

- Kelsey Colter

If you have any interest, questions, etc. about Camp Yolijwa or any of these activities, you may reach out to our Camp CIA, Karen Baugher at 717-404-0927.

My name is Keionia Miller. I recently attended the adult youth retreat on valentines weekend, in February. I've always been religious but over the years have definitely drifted further from my relationship with Christ than I wanted. I've recently been going to church again and trying to strengthen my relationship with the lord. When I was on the retreat, I had a lot of drama going on in my personal life and it was stopping me from enjoying the weekend how I wanted to. A friend that was also on the retreat saw me dealing with everything and asked this wonderful group of people running the retreat to pray for me and it was one of the most emotional things I've ever experienced, but it made my relationship stronger that day. The people were amazing, food was amazing, you can just feel the good energy when you walk in. I'm very grateful for the experience and the people I met, and I'll definitely be returning again next year!

Hi Everyone

I just wanted to share a quick update from my time at Camp Yolijwa – and wow what an amazing experience it was! Not only did I get to reconnect with friends from last year, but I also made more memories with folks from Brownsville Church of God. The leaders were welcoming, always ready to listen and created such a positive open environment.

The theme this year focused on the journey of following God with four powerful assemblies that really hit home. I also joined breakout sessions on:

- Wisdom for the Walk with God
- Financial Knowledge as a Christian
- The History of Pagan Worship

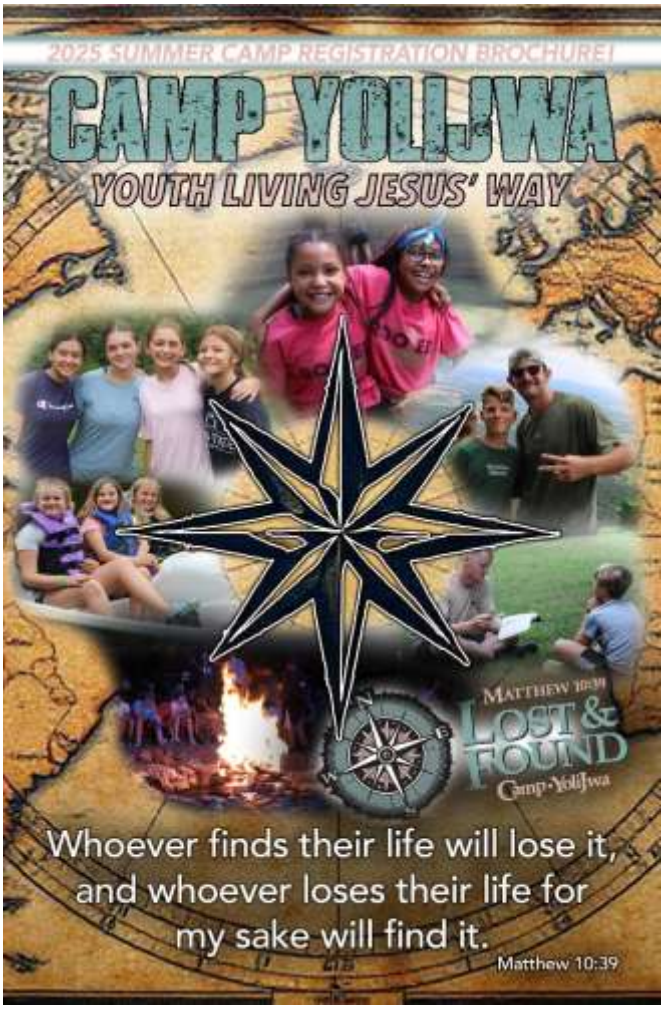
Each one offered fresh insight and practical wisdom.

All in all the Retreat was both fun and spiritually refreshing.

If you've ever thought about going to Camp Yolijwa, I say – Go for it! – Especially all you Young Adults out there – don't miss the next one!!!

Blessings,
Jonathan Jeffrey

Camp YoliJwa



CAMP YOLIJWA, the summer camping program of the Eastern Regional Conference of Churches of God, is held at Doubling Gap Center.

YoliJwa (**Y**outh **Li**ving **J**esus' **Wa**y) is designed to provide an opportunity for children, youth, and adults to share in Christian living experiences.

If you have any interest, questions, etc. about Camp Yolijwa, you may reach out to our BCOG Camp CIA, Karen Baugher at 717-404-0927.

CAMP YOLIJWA 2025 SCHEDULE NOW ONLINE!

For more information including online registration, visit www.campyolijwa.org

BCOG Youth News

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Scan the QR code below for details!

Names of God

N	R	U	E	L	O	H	I	M	F	S	V	V	A
A	R	D	E	L	N	U	R	Y	S	C	C	B	Y
B	I	T	J	I	L	J	L	A	Y	Z	R	L	F
S	A	J	I	N	Y	Z	W	K	A	W	A	Q	E
Y	D	E	G	G	X	A	A	G	B	H	P	A	L
U	O	L	I	A	W	C	W	O	Z	I	H	F	O
S	N	S	T	D	T	O	A	E	W	C	A	T	L
Q	A	H	E	H	S	X	M	M	H	T	E	F	A
N	I	A	I	L	T	B	C	J	W	M	R	U	M
H	K	D	J	O	E	E	P	G	Q	E	G	V	X
P	N	D	I	V	V	L	G	W	I	G	Z	A	L
A	U	A	R	Y	J	I	Y	F	L	L	V	E	V
V	J	I	E	Q	J	E	H	O	V	A	H	G	R
O	F	E	H	T	Q	J	G	R	N	S	C	P	H

ELOHIM
YAWEH
JEHOVA
ADONAI

EL SHADDAI
EL ELYON
EL OLAM

JEHOVA:
- RAAH
- RAPHA
- JIREH

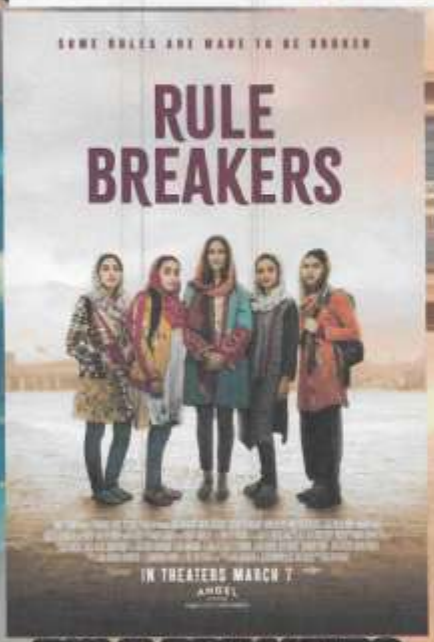
Bible Study Printables

WAYNESBORO

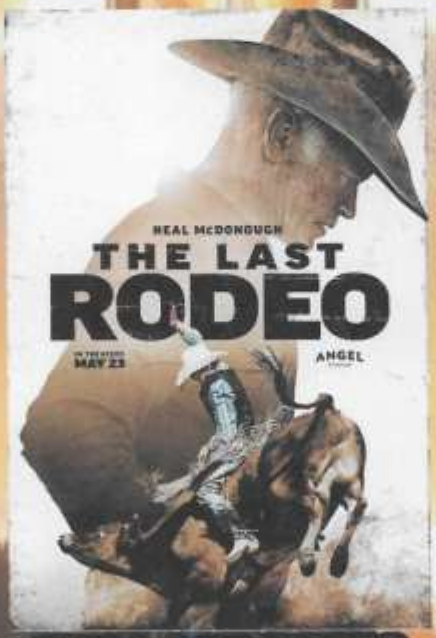
THEATRE

PRESENTS

FAITH & POPCORN SERIES



ALL GLORY to God



RULE BREAKERS

3/6/25 - 7 PM

3/7/25 - 7 PM

3/8/25 - 7 PM ✓

3/9/25 - 4 PM

KING OF KINGS

4/10/25 - 7 PM

4/11/25 - 7 PM

4/13/25 - 4 PM ✓

THE LAST RODEO

5/22/25 - 7 PM

5/23/25 - 7 PM

5/24/25 - 7 PM

5/25/25 - 4 PM

TICKETS:

$10 ADULTS

$10 KIDS

8th ANNUAL
BETTY SPOONHOUR RIDEOUT
Memorial Scholarship Awards Luncheon

SATURDAY, MAY 17TH 2025

"HELP US TO HELP THEM"
Ruth A. DeLauder, President

NORLO PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
3050 LINCOLN WAY- EAST
FAYETTEVILLE, PA 17222

ADULTS $20 YOUTH $10
CHILDREN BELOW AGE 8- FREE

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Kennedy Miller
CBS21 Morning News Anchor

SCAN FOR TICKET INFORMATION OR TO RESERVE SEATING

INFO@BROWNSVILLECOG.COM 717.352.9535

BROWNSVILLECHURCHCOG.COM/BSR-SCHOLARSHIP

Final thoughts

Pastor Victor & Sis. Katherine Johnson

Upcoming events

Betty Spoonhour Rideout Scholarship (BSRS) Luncheon – May 17, 12:30-2:30 Norlo Community Center, Fayetteville, PA (See a BSRS Committee Member for tickets)

Soul Care Event – May 18th following Sunday Worship service

Women's Fellowship – 9:00 - 11 a.m. Saturday, May 24th

Ladies Night – 7:00 p.m., Friday, June 6th

Annual Church Picnic & Baptism – June 14th (Please sign up in the lobby)

Vacation Bible School Meeting – June 22nd following Sunday Worship service

Women's Fellowship – 9:00 -11:00 a.m., June 28th

Burn the Mortgage Campaign ends Sunday – June 29th

Ladies Night, Friday, July 4th (May be cancelled) 7:00 p.m.

Vacation Bible School Opening Program – July 20th during Worship Service

Vacation Bible School – July 21-25th 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. each evening

Women's Fellowship – 9:00-11:00 a.m., July 26th

Vacation Bible School Closing Program – July 27th, during Worship Service

Women's Fellowship is held once a month at BCOG at 9 a.m. Join us to connect with other women spiritually, emotionally, and socially as we grow in Christ. It is a potluck fellowship so bring your favorite dish and a friend.

For more information contact Robin Tasker at yardknome52911@gmail.com or (717) 321-3469.

Upcoming Regular Events at Brownsville Church of God

Men's Breakfast /Bible Study
Every 2nd Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

Ladies' Night
Every 1st Friday at 7:00 p.m.

Women's Fellowship
Every 4th Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

Newsletter submissions should be emailed to Michaela Tasker at mgtask13@gmail.com by June 22nd.

Editor, Michaela Tasker
Layout/Design by Priscilla Shirley

Our Vision: We envision a community of faith where: People are coming to Christ, finding love, acceptance, forgiveness, and experiencing Christian growth.

Brownsville Church of God

WE EXIST for the purpose of Worshipping God, Loving all people, making disciples for Christ.