

2024 Shenandoah District Conference Slate

Ministerial Leadership Team Chair (2027)* — Phil Stone



(Linville, Va.) Phil is a member of Sunrise Church of the Brethren, where he has served as Leadership Team chair, moderator and deacon. He grew up in Rockingham County and graduated from Bridgewater College (1987). After practicing for two years as a CPA, he obtained his law degree from Washington & Lee University School of Law. He now practices with his father and brother, advising individuals, businesses and other organizations, including the Shenandoah District. He currently serves on the District's Ministerial Leadership Team.

Services Team Chair (2026) — Don Driver (Filling Unexpired Term)



(Timberville, Va.) A member of Timberville Church of the Brethren, Don has served as deacon chair, administrative board chair, and moderator. He retired as agency director of the Harrisonburg Rockingham Social Services District, where he had the opportunity and pleasure of working with many local organizations developing services for local citizens. He has served previously as Services Team chair. Don enjoys spending time cattle farming and woodworking.

Spiritual Formation and Leadership Development Chair (2026) — Mona Pence



(Port Republic, Va.) Ramona R. Pence was born and grew up in Port Republic, the daughter of Jack and Peggy Raines. She was baptized at Mill Creek Church of the Brethren where she met and married (51 years) Wayne Pence. Wayne was pastor at Pine Grove, Lebanon, and Mountain View, where Mona was an active member and served on district committees, the General Board and was the Television Awareness leader for the district and denomination. She served as principal at Elkton Middle and Ottobine Elementary for 18 years. She is happy in retirement to be with her children and six grandchildren.

*= Second Term

2024 Shenandoah District Conference Slate

Gifts Discernment Team (2027)* — Steve Spire



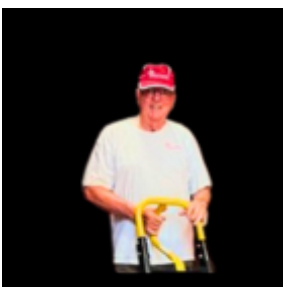
(Bridgewater, Va.) Steve Spire is the pastor of the Sangerville congregation and has served at churches in Tennessee, Alabama, Ohio and for churches in the Shenandoah District. He is also the advisor for the Interdistrict Youth Cabinet at Bridgewater College, which is the organization that leads the Roundtable youth conference and youth retreats. Steve has also served on the Standing Committee and has been active at Brethren Woods and with youth ministries. He and his wife Stephanie have two sons.

District Clerk (2027)* — Sally Jane Conner



(Bridgewater, Va.) Sally Jane Conner was born and raised in Manassas and was a member of the Manassas Church of the Brethren. Upon moving to the valley, she was a member of the Dayton Church of the Brethren and served over five years as the treasurer. She is currently a member of the Montezuma congregation and is a member of the choir. Sally Jane has more than 20 years of experience in philanthropy specializing in all aspects of fundraising for the Annual Campaign as well as special events. Sally Jane earned a BS from Bridgewater College and an MBA from Eastern Mennonite University

Standing Committee (2026) — Jerry Ruff



(Bridgewater, Va.) Jerry Ruff served in Brethren Volunteer Service (BVS) in Puerto Rico, then returned to the area to eventually become a pastor and interim pastor in many congregations throughout the Shenandoah District. He has also served with the District's Disaster Ministries, going on project trips, overseeing the Kit Depot and serving as the coordinator of the local response to national and area rebuilding and accessibility projects. Jerry is married to Bernice and allegedly retired, but he is always in the middle of something when he is called upon for assistance.

*= Second Term

2024 Shenandoah District Conference Slate

Program and Arrangements Committee (2027)* — Emily Shonk Edwards



(Nellysford, Va.) Emily is a family physician and has been a member of the Program & Arrangements Committee for both the Virgina District and the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference. She currently serves as the Camp Physician for Brethren Woods and the chairperson of the Worship & Fellowship Commission for the Staunton congregation.

Program and Arrangements Committee (2027) — Brian Mickelson

(Grottoes, Va.) Brian came to the Church of the Brethren in an unusual fashion. While attending a parade in McGaheysville, he was given a bottle of water being handed out by members from Mountain View Fellowship Church of the Brethren. Because of that contact, Brian, his spouse Kim, and their two sons, Derek and Gavin, began attending the congregation. Brian became involved at Mountain View in using his percussion gifts and audio/video engineering for the congregation. Brian is now a member at Pleasant Valley Church of the Brethren where he is the director of worship media. While Brian has a degree in music, his professional life has been largely spent in Information Technology. He is currently employed at Western State Hospital as an application developer in the IT department.

Program and Arrangements Committee (2027)* — Gary Shipe



(Edinburg, Va.) Gary lives in Edinburg and is a member of Wakemans Grove Church of the Brethren. He is retired from Shentel and currently serves as a member of the Disaster Auction Coordinating Committee. He is very active in disaster response projects and is essential in setting up and running the annual Disaster Ministries fundraising auction.

*= Second Term