

October | 2024



## Upcoming Events

- **MOSAIC: MLK**  
365 Knitting group: Tuesday, Oct 1, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., St. Paul's Baptist Church, West Chester
- **October chapter mtg:**  
Thursday, Oct 10, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Fugett M.S., West Chester **(NOTE: This is one week later than usual!)**
- **Chapter-wide Yard Sale Fundraiser:**  
Saturday, Oct 19, West Chester
- **CISV Connect:**  
Friday, Oct 25 to Sunday, Oct 27, Nashville TN (Open to all adults and JB in CISV USA. Contact us for more information!)
- **November chapter mtg:**  
Thursday, Nov 7, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Fugett M.S., West Chester
- **Overnight Lock-In:** Friday, Nov 15 (evening) to Saturday, Nov 16 (morning), West Chester
- **December**

## Chapter Membership Drive

Usually, our chapter does a big gala fundraiser event each fall. It's tons of fun—but also tons of work. This year, instead of putting our start-of-the-year energy into planning a big event with food, drink, speeches, raffle baskets, and auction items, we've decided to focus our efforts on a **chapter-wide membership drive**.



You've seen firsthand what a transformative experience CISV participation can be for both youth and adults. You know how amazing CISV is! You also know that for our chapter to continue to thrive as families age out of active membership, we need a steady stream of new families coming in.

**We're asking all BVerS—current JB and adults, chapter alumni, friends of BV—to help us recruit new members.**

Here are some ways you can help:

- Follow BV on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). Every time you see a BV post in your feed, please "like" it and share it to your own feed or story.
- Invite a friend to a BV meeting. (Transportation and scheduling can be obstacles for some families, so if you're able to offer your friend a ride, that might make all the difference in their ability to come to our meetings.)
- Ask your kid's principal if they'd be willing to share information about BV with their school community. (If you aren't sure how to approach the principal, reach out to the BV recruitment committee for ideas.)
- If you're connected to any social, religious, or community groups that might be interested in learning about BV, let us know! (We have lots of flyers and other materials to share, as well as a ready-to-go PowerPoint presentation that gives a great overview of CISV.)

If you have any other ideas for recruitment, let us know!

## Fall Fundraiser: BV Yard Sale!

Even though we aren't doing a big gala event this fall, we still need to do some fundraising to prepare for hosting our next program. So this fall, we are having a chapter-wide yard sale!

chapter mtg:  
Thursday, Dec  
5, 7 p.m. to 9  
p.m., Fugett  
M.S., West  
Chester  
(See our full calendar  
[here.](#))

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### CISV USA Photo Contest

Send in your CISV-  
themed photos for this  
contest! The deadline  
for submissions is  
October 10.

To see the rules and  
submit your photos,  
visit [this page.](#)

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### Renew Your Membership!

If you haven't yet done  
so, please renew your  
chapter membership  
(\$30/family or  
\$15/individual)! You  
can find the  
membership forms  
[here.](#)

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### Update Your Clearances!

Think you might want  
to volunteer/chaperone  
for BV this year?  
Contact [our  
clearances  
coordinator](#) to make  
sure your clearances  
are up to date.

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### Join the Adult Board

CISV is a volunteer-run  
organization, and we  
need your help so we  
can keep providing  
amazing CISV  
experiences to our



- **Saturday, October 19 (rain date: Sunday, October 20)**
- **8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**
- **Connor Road, West Chester**

Clean out your basements, your closets, and your storage units! Donate your gently used clothes, toys, gadgets, kitchen stuff, sports equipment, books, decorations, baby gear, and other items to the BV yard sale to raise money for our chapter! Bring your donations to the October chapter meeting or contact [Julie Manser](#) to make arrangements to drop them off.

**We need volunteers, too!** If you can, please sign up to lend us your folding tables, help price items the Friday evening before the sale, or work a shift (or two!) during the sale itself. **(JB can help with all of these tasks—consider signing up your whole family together!)**

[Click here to sign up to help with the yard sale!](#)

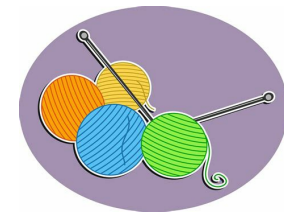
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## Upcoming Mosaic Activities

We have two exciting Mosaic activities lined up for this fall!

### BV Mosaic with the MLK 365 Knitting Group at St. Paul's Baptist Church

**Tuesday, October 1, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.,  
1 Hagerty Blvd, West Chester, PA  
19382.** (There is plenty of parking in the  
church parking lot.)



In partnership with the MLK 365  
Knitting Group, we will be knitting child  
and baby hats for the Chester County Maternal and Child  
Health Consortium and blankets and scarves for other  
community organizations.

**Any BV JBer or adult can participate! All ages welcome! No  
experience or materials needed.** Everything will be provided  
(but if you have materials that you would like to use, feel free to  
bring them). Please RSVP by September 25.

[Click here to register for the knitting Mosaic](#)

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**BV Mosaic at West Chester Food Cupboard**

members and to the participants in our hosted programs!

Some of the specific roles we need to fill are **adult board member-at-large** and **planner for our 2025 Passport Village day camp**.

Whether you're interested in one of those positions or want to help out in a different capacity, we'd love to hear from you!

**Saturday, November 9, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.**



Come tour WCFC's expanded space, learn about how they address food insecurity, and help with tasks such as stocking shelves. This Mosaic is limited to about ten participants and requires advance registration by November 2. (We'll give preference to those who have not previously attended a BV Mosaic at WCFC.)

[Click here to register for the WCFC Mosaic](#)

If you have questions about either of these events, please contact the JB Mosaic chair, [Evelyn M.](#)

## Junior Branch (JB) Report

We did "Get Loose" and "60s Party" for energizers. For the activity, the JB played four different card games, and the board members periodically switched them between groups in the middle of the games. The first group of kids had the card game explained to them, then were instructed to be silent during the rest of the activity while other kids were switched to a different game.



The point of the activity was to illustrate the experience of a refugee entering a new country. As part of the debrief we watched a video from UNICEF about a young boy who was displaced from his home and moved to a refugee camp. The JB then did a self reflection where they thought of things that remind them of home. Then the group came together and discussed the issues facing refugees and how we can help them. We saw some great discussion revolving around empathy and kindness.

—report by Molly B, JB secretary

For JB-specific news and updates, be sure to follow [the BV JB account on Instagram!](#)



*CISV is a worldwide, nonreligious, nonpolitical, nonprofit organization that enables participants age 10+ to build global friendships through local chapter meetings and international and domestic camps.*



**CISV USA**  
Brandywine Valley  
Building global friendship

CISV Brandywine Valley | 1050 Airport Rd. #5021 | West Chester, PA 19380-9998 US

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