

Tidings September 2024



Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Hagerstown Church of the Brethren is to celebrate the love of Jesus Christ and glorify the Lord by striving to live as Christ lived experiencing the power of God's healing in our lives. We seek to nurture our faith community through prayer, music and the proclaimed Word, while enthusiastically reaching out to others with compassion, respect and love for everyone so that we may grow in faith and commitment together.

VISION STATEMENT

The Hagerstown
Church of the Brethren, A Living Peace
Church: A caring community gathered
round the Risen Christ that
...Welcomes the stranger
...Empowers our neighbors
...Embraces the diversity among all
people as we continue the
work of Jesus
peacefully, simply, together.

Hagerstown Church of the Brethren 15 South Mulberry Street, Hagerstown, Maryland 21740 Telephone: 301-733-3565 Fax: 301-733-3598

> Office: Tuesday—Friday Flexible hours (appointments welcome/ call ahead)

Praise Worship 8:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship and Facebook Live at 10:45 AM

http:www.hagerstowncob.org facebook.com/hagerstowncob

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The Pastor's Pen

"Welcome her in the Lord in a way that is worthy of God's people, and give her whatever she needs from you, because she herself has been a sponsor of many people, myself included."

Romans 16:2 (CEB)

This month I want to share a few personal reflections on the 2024 Annual Conference which I attended as a delegate this time. I have served as a delegate a few times before. This conference was held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. I was grateful for having Don with me this time. We drove to and from Grand Rapids. He was not a delegate. Virginia Nalley was our other delegate. While Ginny and I attended the business sessions, Don caught up with people he has not seen in a while; and he relaxed while reading. Each day we had supper with Ginny which gave us a chance to debrief about our experiences of the day.

I attended the pre-conference pastors' seminar. Dr. Frank A. Thomas, professor of homiletics at Christian Theological Seminary and author, was the keynote speaker. His theme was on preaching. He encouraged us to be authentic, genuine, and appropriately vulnerable in our preaching. He wrote a book on this topic, "Listening for the Sound of the Genuine".

The theme for the conference was based on Roman 16:2, supporting the Annual Conference theme, "Welcome and Worthy". Madalyn Metzger was the moderator for the conference. I met Madalyn when she was a youth serving in youth denominational leadership. Along with Eddie Edmonds, I served as an advisor to the National Youth Cabinet. Madalyn, along with five others, were the youth serving on the cabinet. Madalyn, preaching on her chosen theme said, "We are yearning to be in community with and for each other...Being in community means walking beside each other even in disagreement...so that we can faithfully fulfill our calling to be Christ's hands and feet." (Messenger, page 15)

Don and I attended four of the five worship services. Because we wanted to drive home in one day, we missed the Sunday morning service. Worship was very meaningful. The band, led by Seth Crissman and Greg Yoder led the singing of old hymns and new songs. Seth told us that the theme song that we sang everyday as preparation for worship, was written on his way to Annual Conference. He simply was unable to compose something he felt was perfect for the theme before then. Seth said that although he felt some anxiety that he had not come up with a song before leaving for conference, "God was faithful and provided." Robin Mundey, Paul Mundey's wife was the conference organist.

The sermon shared by Brother Greg Broyles really spoke to me. He came to the pulpit dressed as a super hero. His message centered on sharing affirmations as a way of building and strengthening individuals and community. This challenged me to reconsider a practice I very reluctantly put aside in my weekly routine because I was trying to find ways to be more efficient with my time. Sending birthday cards with personal affirming messages was important to me for expressing my encouragement, appreciation and love, and God's love for each of you. Putting that ministry aside has not set-well with my soul. I was going to start it again at the beginning of the year, but I believe I will begin doing it again soon. I apologize to all of you that I missed here in 2024. "Happy Belated Birthday! You are special and loved!"

The business sessions were without a lot of controversy. The query, "A New Model of Denominational Structure" brought to the conference by the Miami Haitian Church of the Brethren stirred-up some controversial discussion. I'm going to quote the Messenger Magazine, page 12, to convey in summary the purpose of the query: "The query notes 'serious conflict and division around issues of human sexuality and biblical authority' and asks how a new model of denominational structure may give hope to those contemplating separation from the Church of the Brethren." A brief debate broke out at the microphones because some felt this was an opportunity to open the debate about human sexuality and the 1983 paper on this topic. This was not the intent of this query. A member of the delegate body and the Moderator called the discussion back to focusing on the query that was on the floor.

(continued on page 2)

Conference also gives us opportunities to serve while we are together. I was excited to find that we were taking an offering for, and building beds for the ministry of "Sleep in Heavenly, Peace". Thirty beds were built. This is the same ministry that our Bible School offering helped. We also learned that the third to fifth grade children's program tied fringes on handmade blankets; and delivered them personally to children in the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. They thought they had one for every child, but learned before leaving that they were a few short. The children were disappointed they didn't have one for every child. I don't remember if they did something to make up for the shortage; but something tells me they did.

These are a few of the highlights and reflections about my conference experience. There are Annual Conference Wrap-up sheets for you to pick up on the credenza in the sanctuary. There is also a wrap-up dvd available in the church office that you can sign-out to watch. Thank you for the opportunity to attend conference.

Blessings, Pastor Twyla



Sundays in September



Date	Pastor	Worship Leader	Sermon	Scripture	Greeter	Special
09/01/2024	Twyla Rowe	Don Rowe	"Spiritual Contamination"	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	Tina Mills	Food Pantry/ Fellowship Time
09/08/2024	Twyla Rowe	Jack Finniff	"Reputation"	Mark 7:24-37	The Gingrich Family	Parish Nurse/ Junior Church/ Teacher Apprecia- tion Sunday
09/15/2024	Pastor Steve Robinson	Sandy Clipp	"Time to Grow Up"	Mark 8:27-38	Suzie Wolfe	54th Dunker Church Service
09/22/2024	Pastor Eddie Edmonds	Diana Shepherd	"The Believer Tree"	Psalm 1:1-6	Suzanne Buhrman	Junior Church
09/29/2024	Twyla Rowe	Amy Clipp		Mark 9:38-50	Sandy Clipp	

Both services follow same sermon & text. All information subject to change without notice.

September is Alzheimer's and Drug Awareness Month

Flower arrangements have been placed in the sanctuary and fellowship hall recognizing these awarenesses and offering our support and prayers to those effected by these challenges.



Mid-Atlantic District Conference will be held Friday & Saturday, October 11 & 12 at Brownsville Church of the Brethren. 1911 Rohrersville Rd., Knoxville, MD 21758. This years theme is based on Ephesians 6:12.

More information can be found at: http://www.madcob.com/districtconference/



Save the Date!!

Community Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat which will be held on Saturday, October 19th from 1-4 pm. The Service & Outreach Team needs your help.



Fall Love Feast

October 6, 2024

World Communion Sunday Love Feast: Communion, feet/hand washing, agape meal



Pastor Twyla will be away on vacation September 14th through the 22nd. If you are in need of regular pastoral care, please contact your deacon. Pastor Eddie Edmonds will be on call for emergencies, his contact information can be found in the church directory.



4 Church of the Brethren Disaster Ministry

For those who are 18 years or older, and have a heart for

children, and may be interested in becoming Children's Disaster Services volunteers, training will be held at the Frederick Church of the Brethren on September 27th & 28th, 2024, Friday 4:30pm—Saturday 5:30pm.

Information can be learned at: http://www.brethren.org/cds.

For those wishing to register, click on the following link:

https://www.brethren.org/cds/training/dates.html.



"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Colossians 3:17 (NRSV)



The grief journey after losing a loved one is very painful, difficult, and lonely. Since everyone grieves in his or her own way and time, there is no magical endpoint to the grieving process. Fortunately, we have GriefShare, an encouraging seminar offering support after the



death of a loved one, no matter how recent. It provides a safe, welcoming space where people understand the heavy emotions of grief. At this 13-week group, you will receive valuable tools to help you navigate your personal path, as

well as support from others also on their grief journeys. If you or someone you know has lost a loved one, please share this information and consider attending. We encourage you to bring a family member or friend so they can better understand your loss and become a greater support for you.

Our fall session of GriefShare will begin on Monday, September 9, and continue through December 2, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Mullendore Room. You may join the program at any time during the 13 weeks, but we ask that you commit to attend at least 3 weeks. Cost of the program is free, but we gladly will accept a \$10 donation toward materials. Register at griefshare.org. If you have any questions about the program, see Pastor Twyla or Debbie



The first Sunday of every month is Food Pantry Sunday. Bring in your gift(s) of non-perishable food items, place them on the cart as you enter the west entrance, and a volunteer delivers the food. Our Food Pantry collection in September will be going to the September Community Breakfast.

We thank everyone for their continued support of this ministry to our community!

Just a reminder - all items should be either dry, boxed, or in cans. Please do not bring in anything in a glass jar that could break and injure a recipient or our volunteers.

Home Communion & Anointing

Persons desiring a pastoral visit, home communion, spiritual direction, or a service of anointing, are invited to call the church office at 301-733-3565.

Anointing with oil for the healing of body, mind or spirit is offered upon request. Please contact the pastor to receive this ministry of healing and faith commitment.

Intercessory Prayer is an important ministry of our congregation. If you have a prayer request, contact Judy Dahlhamer at 301-797-1326.

Cash for Causes/ Martin's Gift Card Program

Purchase Martin's gift cards to take to the store to pay for your groceries or gas, and 5% of the face value of the gift card is a donation to the church and goes toward your yearly charitable contribution.

To purchase a card, please contact Larry Kees, Jr. (301-331-0107). If you can't pick them up on a Sunday, we can make arrangements to leave cards in a church mailbox or snail mail them to you.

JUNIOR CHURCH

Junior Church will be held the second & fourth Sunday of each month.

This is open to ages Kindergarten through Grade 6. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a special time together.

Parents may, of course, opt to keep their child in worship with them especially if the child is uncertain about going, or parents may accompany them.

Christian Education Ministry Team



- 1 Hosea 8-14
- ♦ 2 John 10-12
- ♦ 4 Numbers 13-16
- ♦ 5 1 Chronicles 20-24
- ♦ 6 Psalm 105-107
- ♦ 7 Proverbs 22
- ♦ 8 Joel
- ♦ 9 John 13-15
- ♦ 10 Titus
- ♦ 11 Numbers 17-20
- ♦ 12 1 Chronicles 25-29
- ♦ 13 Psalm 108-110
- ♦ 14 Proverbs 23-24
- 15 Amos 1-4
- ♦ 16 John 16-18
- ♦ 17 Philemon
- ♦ 18 Numbers 21-24
- > 19 2 Chronicles 1-5
- 20 Psalm 111-113
- ♦ 21 Proverbs 25
- ♦ 22 Amos 5-9
- ♦ 23 John 19-21
- ♦ 24 Hebrews 1-4
- ♦ 25 Numbers 25-28
- ♦ 26 2 Chronicles 6-10
- ♦ 27 Psalm 114-116
- ♦ 28 Proverbs 26-27

September 2024 Schedule

Please check the weekly bulletin and the online calendar for changes as they happen. Our schedule is subject to rapid changes.

Sunday, September 1

Food Pantry Sunday
8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms

10:20 am Fellowship Time/Mullendore Room 10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Monday, September 2
Church Office Closed

Labor Day

Tuesday, September 3

7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, September 4

Administrative Assistant/Work from home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, September 5

5:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm Music Program Kickoff/Fellowship Hall

Friday, September 6

8:00 am Bulletin preparation time/Church office
1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3 pm)

Saturday, September 7 Pastor Twyla's day off Sunday, September 8

Junior Church

Teacher/Volunteer Recognition Sunday

8:15 am Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screening
8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:15 am Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screening
10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Monday, September 9 Church Office Closed

6:30 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, September 10

5:30 pm Service&Outreach Meeting/Mullendore Room

7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting/Mullendore Room

Wednesday, September 11

Administrative Assistant/Work from home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

6:30 pm CE Meeting/Fellowship Hall

Thursday, September 12

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room 7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

Friday, September 13

8:00 am Bulletin preparation time/Church office 1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3pm)

Saturday, September 14

Pastor Vacation Pastor Twyla's day off

8:00 am Community Breakfast/Fellowship Hall

(Breakfast is open to the public at 9:00am)

Sunday, September 15

Pastor Vacation

Pastor Eddie Edmonds/On Call Pastor Steve Robinson/Guest Preacher

8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall 9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms 10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

12:00 pm Newsletter deadline

3:00 pm 54th Annual Dunker Church Service/Antietam

National Battlefield

Monday, September 16

Pastor Vacation Church Office Closed

6:30 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room 6:30 pm Deacon Meeting/Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, September 17

Pastor Vacation

12:00 pm Mary Martha Group/Altruistic Room 7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, September 18

Pastor Vacation

Administrative Assistant/Work from home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, September 19

Pastor Vacation

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room 7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

Friday, September 20

Pastor Vacation

8:00 am Bulletin preparation time/Church office 1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3pm)

Saturday, September 21

Pastor Vacation Pastor Twyla's day off

12:00 pm Ashby Wedding Rehearsal/Lunch

Sunday, September 22

Pastor Vacation Junior Church

Pastor Eddie Edmonds/On Call Pastor Eddie Edmonds/Guest Preacher

8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall 9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms 10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

2:30 pm Ashby Wedding/HCOB

2:30 pm Growing Hope Globally Harvest Festival/

Myersville, MD

Monday, September 23

Church Office Closed

6:30 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, September 24

6:30 pm Leadership Team/Room 302 7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, September 25

Administrative Assistant/Work from home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, September 26

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room 7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

Friday, September 27

8:00 am Bulletin preparation time/Church office 1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3pm)

Saturday, September 28
Pastor Twyla's day off

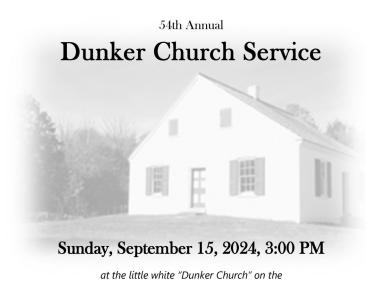
Sunday, September 29

8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall 9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms 10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Monday, September 30 Church Office Closed

6:30 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Hagerstown COB -5- September 2024 Tidings



Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, MD

Guest Speaker Gene Hagenberger "The Undiscovered Country"

Gene Hagenberger has pastored congregations of the Church of the Brethren and served as Mid-Atlantic District Executive Minister from 2009-2022. Since 2023 he does NPO fundraising.

Special music: Back Row Singers, Hagerstown CoB Carol Scheppard, bagpipes Adam Lane, vocal/guitar

All are welcome to worship with us.



MUSIC PROGRAM KICKOFF
We are kicking off our music program and inviting all music makers -

singers and ringers – to come together on Thursday, September 5th in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 PM. The evening will begin with a potluck style supper, followed by planning for the year ahead. If you're thinking about joining, or have a musical gift to share, this would be a great time to get started! Rehearsals will begin on Thursday, September 12th with Praise Band at 5:30, Brethren Bells at 6:30 and Temple Choir at 7:30.

Volunteers In Mission—Tri-State **Hope Builders**

On September 28, 2024 the VIM team (Volunteers In Mission) through Tri-State Hope Builders will be headed to Hindman in Eastern Kentucky. We will be helping to build new homes. From HCOB Gary & Sue Wright and John & Jenny Ferguson will be joining this team. We are staying in the Hindman, United Methodist church. This is what happened; on July 28, 2022, historic flooding impacted Hindman Kentucky. They had 14-16 inches of rain in a few days. Forty five people lost their lives. So many lost everything, their homes, vehicles, all their belongings and their loved ones. (Tri State Hope Builders) is accepting donations for building material, gas and food. To become a supporting member of the team, donations may be made to HCOB with Kentucky Mission written in the memo. Donations should be made by September 8th. Please keep us in prayer for safe travel and safety while building.

Thank you, Gary, Sue, John & Jenny.

Annual Conference Report

The theme for this years conference was to "Building Bridges in a Fractured World". Welcome + Worthy. Emphasis was placed This was presented by Audrey Hollenbergon the concepts of "Unity not Homogeny", Duffey and Janet Ober-Lambert. It led us encouraging everyone to embrace diversity through how to connect with others, espeof thought rather than insisting on sameness cially if we didn't see eye to eye. I also went of thought. The hope of forging a stronger to "Standing with People of Color" that had family through understanding and communi- several different presenters who spoke about cation was repeated with every scripture and their personal experiences in the Church of

For the business meetings, we each sat at from California, Virginia, and the table monitor was from the district in Indiana where my father had his first congregation. We had several table talks with reminders to aim to understand each other, not to try to convert each other to our own way of thinking. ent perspectives.

I went to a couple of "Equipping sessions" in between business meetings. I went

the Brethren as a person of color.

The Exhibit hall had many interesting a table with 6-8 others. My table had people booths. Some focused on COB history and others on current issues. I bought many interesting books at the Brethren Press tables. There was a silent auction and I won a quilt. They sometimes had live music or presentations in the Exhibit Hall as well.

I also enjoyed reconnecting with people I These were a good way to understand differ- haven't seen in a while and eating dinner with Pastor Twyla and Don. I look forward to the 2025 Annual Conference.

- Virginia Nalley



Saturday, September 14th, 2024 9:00—10:30 am

Our Community Breakfast is be held the second Saturday of each month.



If you watch us live on Facebook, please click the "like" button. This will aid us in keeping attendance.

Facebook.com/hagerstowncob

The Novel Bunch presents...

the Voice in the Mountains

the Voice in the Mountains

In the spring of 1966, in Shade Gap, PA, 17-year old Peggy Ann Bradnick got off the school bus with her siblings, only to be abducted by a masked man with a shotgun. Her 8-day ordeal sparked a multi-state manhunt and made international headlines.

This is Peggy's story in her own words. It is one of forgiveness and grace. Peggy Ann Bradnick Jackson is a woman of great faith whose quiet strength will astound you.

Even though this book focuses on a horrible crime, it is not graphic or gory. But it is a compelling story of a former victim turned survivor. And after 50-plus years, Peggy Jackson received a commendation from the FBI last year.

In the words of Mr. Lloyd Dell, a radio broadcaster who covered the story at the time:

"Peggy, through her speaking engagements and her life, shows mature Christian love, exhibiting mercy and grace to all, even those like William Hollenbaugh who have wronged her through the years."

by Peggy Jackson

ob Peggy Ann Bradnick

And the dedication page states:

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God.' "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God.' ~Romans 8:28 Peggy will be our guest author on Saturday, November 16, to discuss her book and answer your questions. We invite the congregation to meet Peggy Jackson and hear her story.

10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Luncheon to follow.

YES	OR	
NAME	Preferred contact information: Phone	Email

Please place in the designated basket in the west entrance once filled out. Thank you!

Book Club Team: *Jenny Ferguson, Kristal Bricker, Debbie Nycum, Kay Ogilvie, Jan Young



School Kits 2024 Annual Drive

Each kit needs the following:

- One pair of blunt scissors removed from the package (rounded tip,
 - only)
 Three 70-count bound notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages

(no loose-leaf or filler paper)

- One 30-centimeter / 12" ruler
- One hand-held pencil sharpener removed from the package
 - One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers)
- Six new, unsharpened pencils with erasers (remove pencils from the package)
 - One box of 24 crayons (only 24)

Cotton/canvas bags have already been made and are available to pick-up.

Optional: Loose school kit items may be placed in a large Ziploc type bag to keep them together. Remove the air, seal the bag and place inside of the cotton/canvas bag.

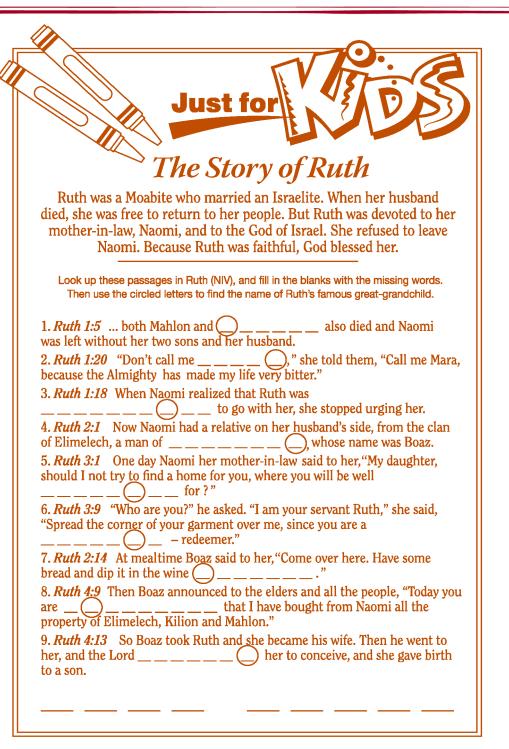
Value: \$15.00

Processing fee: \$2.00 per kit

Money for school kits can be placed in the offering. Please use a pew envelope and write "School Kit" on the outside, or write on your check "School Kit".

If you have any questions, please contact Sue Vanderveer.

The Puzzle Page for September 2024



Answer: Kilion, Maomi, determined, standing, provided, kinsman, vinegar, witnesses, enabled; King David

Grandparents have ears that really listen, arms that always hug & hold, love that's never ending, and a heart that's made of gold.

Happy Grandparents Day! (September 8, 2024)



National Grandparents Day is the first Sunday after Labor Day each September.

Treat your grandparents to a delicious and nutritious treat that you can make yourself.

What you need:

- 1 banana
- ice cream in your favorite flavor
- 1 cup milk
- blender
- ice cream scoop or large spoon
- tall glasses

How to make it:

- 1. Check with parents before you start!
- 2. Peel the banana, break it into 3 or 4 pieces.
- 3. Put the pieces in the blender along with a scoop of ice cream and 1 cup of milk.
- 4. Be sure to put the lid on the blender!
- 5. Blend it together and pour it into a tall glass.
- 6. Serve it to your grandparents!



Hagerstown Church of the Brethren 15 South Mulberry Street Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL— PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

> Hagerstown Church of the Brethren 15 S. Mulberry Street, Hagerstown, Maryland 21740 301-733-3565

Office: Tuesday—Friday Flexible hours (appointments welcome/call ahead)

Praise Worship 8:30 AM Sunday School for all ages 9:30-10:30 AM Worship and Facebook Live at 10:45 AM

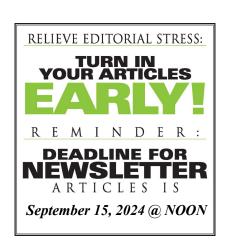
www.hagerstowncob.org www.facebook.com/hagerstowncob

> Twyla Rowe Pastor

Allyson N. McPeak Administrative Assistant

Burton Young Director of Music Ministries

Don Rowe Interior Esthetics Technician



BRETHREN TIDINGS is published monthly by the Hagerstown Church of the Brethren. All articles submitted for inclusion in the Tidings are subject to editing. All dates and times listed are subject to change without notice.



"Not Against Flesh & Blood"

2024 Annual **Conference Logo**

