

There Is a New Creation

The new creation has come—the old has gone, the new is here! I'm not a Bible scholar by any stretch of the imagination, but I do know, being trained as a scientist, that context is important. The context here is that the new creation has come for those who live in Christ—that is, for those whose hearts speak to love for each other, to what is good and pure in life. For me, the new creation is here and now. I contribute to that creation by my actions, interactions, and expressions of love. When I am true to who I aspire to be, the old is gone and the new is here—in each moment.

I adore being out in the natural world, admiring the creation in progress all around me—of which I am a part. I am also passionate about my relationships with others. We are all creating, one way or another, striving forward, occasionally stumbling backward. Think of all the ways you strive to create in the name of love. As a father and grandfather, I try to create loving, supportive relationships with my children and grandchildren. As a husband, I strive to create a continually evolving, loving bond with my partner. As a musician, I create from what I have learned from others, turning old into new. As a scientist, teacher, friend, human, I am a co-creator with our universe.

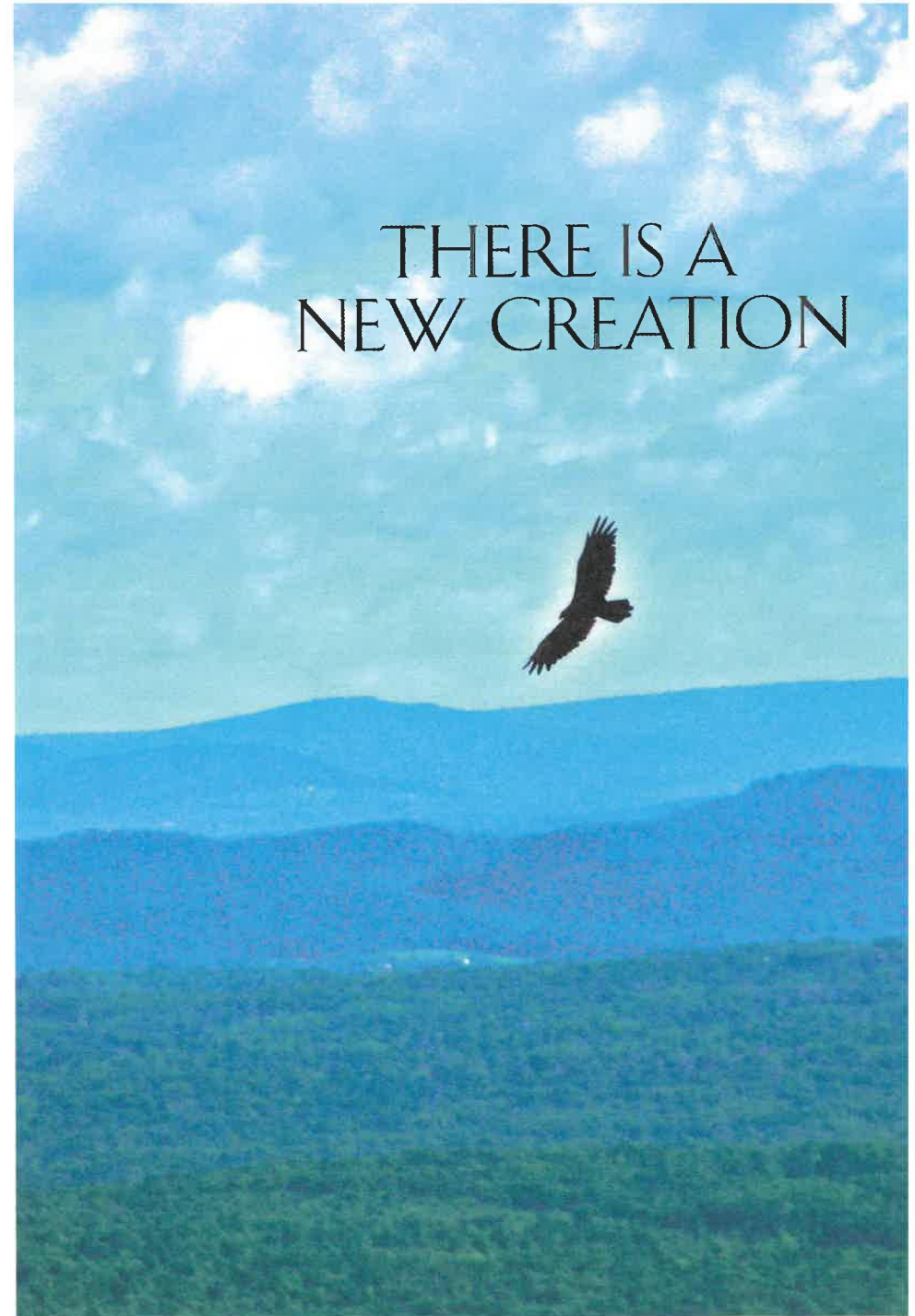
You may be familiar with the hymn “New Earth, Heavens New” (*Hymnal: A Worship Book*, No. 299). The lyrics invoke the joy in creation, of creatures, mercy, hope, strength, birth, nature—all in the image and spirit of love. Simple equation: creation = joy. We can all be partners in the joyful, continuous new creation that we all inhabit.

—Gregory Clark
North Manchester, Indiana

“So if anyone is in Christ, *there is a new creation*: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!” (2 Corinthians 5:17, *NRSVue*). **Today's Bible readings from the lectionary:** 1 Samuel 15:34 - 16:13 and Psalm 20; Ezekiel 17:22-24 and Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17; Mark 4:26-34.

June 16, 2024, Father's Day.

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CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

June 16, 2024
Father's Day

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Chris Stockslager, Worship Leader

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?

PRELUDE "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (Raney)
Becky Ernst and Rebecca Jackson - piano duet

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: God of covenant love,

*All: we praise you for planting seeds of your love within Abraham,
Sarah, and their descendants.*

One: God of incarnate love,

*All: we marvel at the magnificent family tree that your divine love
has created among us.*

One: God of welcoming love,

*All: we thank you that you have made a home for us within the branches
of your family tree.*

One: God of everlasting love,

*All: we worship you, we love you, and we honor you with all that we
are.*

***OPENING PRAYER**

Holy God, we humble our hearts before you in thanksgiving and awe. For by your mercy, we find ourselves at home in the branches of your family tree. We discover ourselves to be a people with a love that never fails. We find ourselves within your grand love story for all time and all creation. Whom can we thank, but you, for such great mercy? Bring your kingdom into our midst as we worship you this day. Amen.

***HYMN #106** "All hail the power of Jesus' name"

[Verse 1]

*All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all!*

[Verse 2]

*Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed of the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!*

[Verse 3]

*Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe, on this terrestrial ball,
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!*

[Verse 4]

*Oh, that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!*

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN

UNISON FATHER'S DAY PRAYER

Holy God, whom we call Father,
we give you thanks for the people who have been
our earthly fathers in this life,
and we pray for all sorts and conditions of fathers.

For fathers who have striven to balance the demands
of work, marriage, and children
with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice.

For fathers who, lacking a good model,
have worked to become a good father.

For fathers who by their own account were not always
there for their children,
but who continue to offer those children,
now grown, their love and support.

For fathers who have been wounded by the neglect
and hostility of their children.

For fathers who, despite divorce, have remained in their children's lives.

For fathers whose children are adopted,
and whose love and support has offered healing.

For fathers who, as stepfathers,
freely choose the obligation of fatherhood
and earned their stepchildren's love and respect.

For fathers who have lost a child to death,
and continue to hold the child in their heart.

For those men who have no children,
but cherish the next generation as if they were their own.

For those men who have "fathered" us in their role as mentors and guides.

For those men who are about to become fathers;
may they openly delight in their children.

And for those fathers who have died,
but live on in our memory and in the communion of your Saints,
whose love continues to nurture us.

All this we ask in the name of your beloved Son,
who is both father and mother to us all. Amen.

(—adapted from a mediation written by Kirk Loadman-Copeland)

HYMN #490

"Lord of the home"

[Verse 1]

*Lord of the home, your only Son received a mother's tender love,
and from an earthly father won his vision of your home above.*

[Verse 2]

*Help us, O Lord, our homes to make your Holy Spirit's dwelling place.
Our hands' and hearts' devotion take to be the servants of your grace.*

[Verse 3]

*Pray we that all who with us dwell, your love and joy and peace may know;
and while our lips your praises tell, may faithful lives your glory show.*

[Verse 4]

*Teach us to keep our homes so fair, that were our Lord a child once more,
he might be glad our hearth to share, and find a welcome at our door.*

[Verse 5]

*Lord, may your Spirit sanctify each house-hold duty we fulfill.
May we our Master glorify in glad obedience to your will.*

SERVICE OF GIVING

Call to Giving

When it comes to our resources, we build walls of security around ourselves with our money, time, energy and activity. We forget that our true home and our true security is found in God alone. May God transform our heart's desire until our actions align with God's will for our lives.

We joyfully give as one body, both gathered in his house of worship and gathered through virtual technology. We give by placing our offerings in the plate, mailing to or dropping off at the church, or using Paypal. Together, as we give, we declare our dedication to Jesus and our obedience to serve him.

Offertory "Take the Name of Jesus With You" (Barr)

***Doxology #119** "Praise God from whom"

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray. This is our heart's desire, loving God, that you would take our money and our time, our prayers and our service, and transform them into the currency of your kingdom. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS, AND HOPES

Please remember our worship is also on Facebook Live and our website.

Please do not share any personal information you do not want to be made public.

An usher will hold the microphone for you while you share.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MORNING ANTHEM "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" Temple Choir

SCRIPTURE READING 2 Corinthians 5:6-17 NT 181

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of

view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

MESSAGE “At Home in Jesus” Pastor Twyla Rowe

***HYMN #570** “We walk by faith”

[Verse 1]

*We walk by faith, and not by sight; no gracious words we hear of him who spoke
as none e'er spoke, but we believe him near.*

[Verse 2]

*We may not touch his hands and side, nor follow where he trod, yet in his
promise we rejoice and cry “My Lord and God!”*

[Verse 3]

*Help then, O Lord, our unbelief, and may our faith abound to call on you when
you are near, and seek where you are found:*

[Verse 4]

*that when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light we may behold you as
you are in full and endless sight.*

[Verse 5]

*We walk by faith, and not by sight; no gracious words we hear of him who spoke
as none e'er spoke, but we believe him near.*

***BENEDICTION**

After the Benediction, you may be seated.

Please continue in a spirit of worship as we listen to the Postlude music.

***POSTLUDE** “The Rejoicing” (Handel)

*Beu, B.J.; Scifres, Mary. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024 (p. 135, 137).
Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.*

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*Please rise — in body or spirit — as an act of worship
Thank you for joining us in worship today.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Happy Father's Day!



Hagerstown
Church of the Brethren
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown, Maryland
21740

301-733-3565
Fax: 301-733-3598

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

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

www.hagerstowncob.org

[www.facebook.com/
hagerstowncob](http://www.facebook.com/hagerstowncob)

Twyla Rowe
Pastor

Allyson McPeak
Administrative Assistant

Burton Young
Director of
Music Ministries

Don Rowe
Interior Esthetics
Technician

*We welcome you to our church and
Rejoice in your participation with us in
worship. It is our prayer that you will
experience the presence of God's Spirit and
that it will equip you for service and ministry
in the week ahead. Our Pastor, Deacons, and
Cluster Leaders are available after worship
and during the week to listen and assist you in
your Christian pilgrimage.*

THE ANNOUNCER **June 16, 2024**

If you placed someone on the prayer list and they are now celebrating a recovery and would like their name taken off the list, please contact the church office.

If you or a loved one has surgery scheduled, is hospitalized, or would like a visit from the pastor, please notify the church.

"Take a Moment" Let this be our daily "Take a Moment" prayer beginning, Sunday, June 16 - With the Summer season upon me, Creating God, I look forward to experiencing the opportunities this time of year affords me. I anticipate possible times of vacationing and relaxation...moments spent eating and playing with family and friends...pleasurable time spent gardening or doing other outdoor activities. I pray for those whose summer joy is threatened because their lives and plans have been shattered by hardship, illness or by the loss of a loved one. May they find peace and healing in the home that is You. And, as I move into the newness of the days ahead, full of possibilities, help me to never lose sight of where my heart finds home. It is in You...not the dangers and evil of this world. My soul sings songs of praise and gratitude for this blessed home. Amen.

Our thanks to Chris Stockslager for being our worship leader today, to Rebecca Jackson for filling in for Burt while he is away on vacation, to Becky Ernst and Rebecca Jackson for their piano duet and to our Temple Choir for our morning anthem.

Attendance. Please sign the attendance rosters found at the end of your pew, or possibly in the hymnal rack, and pass it down the row so everyone can sign.

The Service & Outreach Team would like to thank all of our church members and friends who helped us have a very successful Community Picnic held on Saturday, June 8th. Many of you volunteered to help us with the picnic, made baked beans, and donated gently used clothing. The parking lot was full of our neighbors, and they had a great time. A special thank you goes to Martins Grocery Store for donating bags of food. Thanks again, we could not have done this important ministry without you!! - S&O Team

Fellowship Time. We're in need of volunteers to provide goodies for Fellowship Time, held the first Sunday of each month from 10:20 am—10:40 am. Goodies may be your favorite recipe or a delicious store bought treat. Suggestions include cookies, muffins, or doughnuts (3-4 dozen of whatever you choose) and may be dropped off in the Mullendore Room (the room behind the wing of the sanctuary) that morning. Beverages and paper products are provided. Please sign up on the sheet located in the west entrance, or contact Kristal Bricker or Amy Hardy. Thank you for helping to make Fellowship Time possible!

Shepherd's Spring is still in need of Camp Counselors. They also need a nurse or nurses who will cover a week or a few of camp. If you are interested in making a difference in a child's life by going to camp, contact Shepherd's Spring at 301-223-8193.

Junior Church will be held next Sunday, June 23rd for children ages Kindergarten through the sixth grade. 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.) If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Brenda Shane. **Junior Church is held the second and fourth Sunday of each month.**

Our VBS this year from Brethren Press is **Seekers in Sneakers**. All children from **age 4 through those who have completed Grade 5** are invited. Invite your children, grandchildren, their friends or the children in your neighborhood to join us from **June 24 - June 28 beginning at 6 pm and ending at 8 pm**. The children will use investigative skills to discover Jesus. The Bible stories provide a model for asking hard questions, working together to solve problems, reaching across differences, caring for all people, imagining a better world, and trusting Jesus when things go wrong. The children will learn that everyone can make a difference. Through worship and drama, Bible Study, art and science activities, and active games, the children will learn how to follow Jesus' example in every part of life. Creative snacks will be provided, too! Questions? Contact Ann Platou at 301-790-3498.

Field of Hope/Growing Project. Field of Hope pledge forms can be found on the credenza in the wing of the sanctuary or in the fellowship hall for anyone desiring to make a pledge.



Our church website is under reconstruction! Mary Early will be reaching out to some of the Ministry Team Chairs and Sunday School Teachers in the coming weeks for information needed for the website, so please be on the lookout for an email from Mary—earlymec@gmail.com

Annual Conference will be held July 3 - 7 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The theme this year is “Welcome + Worthy” *Romans 16:2*. The June Tidings includes a message from conference moderator Madalyn Metzger.

Our next Community Breakfast will be held July 13th from 9:00—10:30am at Hagerstown Church of the Brethren. Our Breakfasts are held the second Saturday of each month, unless stated otherwise. All are welcome!

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). We can make arrangements to leave cards in your church mailbox or mail them to you.

The Church Directory. Now is a good time to update your information in the church directory. Please send any changes/updates/additions to secretaryhcob@gmail.com, or leave a note in Allyson’s mailbox. Also, if you’re not on the birthday and anniversary lists, please email that information, too! Please include the year, even though it is not published. If we don’t have the year, that piece of software defaults to the year 1900. Thank you!

Printed copies of Leadership and Ministry team meeting minutes are available in the west entrance. The holders are located on the wall beside the bulletin board.

Deadline for bulletins and newsletters. Announcements for the weekly bulletin need to be given to the administrative assistant before noon on Wednesday. Announcements for the monthly newsletters need to be given to the administrative assistant before the 15th of each month. Let’s help her out by meeting deadlines, and also by not asking for special exceptions. Announcements should continue to be emailed to secretaryhcob@gmail.com. Thank you!

When you leave items at the mailboxes for someone else to retrieve, please call or email them to alert them the item is there. Remember you may need to follow up with them to make sure they’ve gotten the item. Thank you!

Warm, sunny weather is here! We want to take this opportunity to remind you that in the warm weather many of the neighborhood children ride bikes, trikes, skateboards, and scooters, on our parking lot. They’re often low to the ground and moving fast so please be on the lookout for them when you visit the church. When on foot, please also be on the lookout for cars speeding through the parking lot to “beat the light” at the corner.

CALENDAR

Sunday, June 16

Father’s Day
Burt Vacation
8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Monday, June 17

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, June 18

12:00 pm Mary Martha Group/Altruistic Room
6:30 pm HCOB Softball/Field 2

Wednesday, June 19

Administrative Assistant/Work from home
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions
6:30 pm Wedding Planning Meeting/Mullendore Room

Friday, June 21

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

Saturday, June 22

Pastor Twyla's day off

Sunday, June 23

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

Remember our weekday schedule is subject to rapid change.

You may mail your offering to
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown MD 21740
OR
you can make a secure offering
donation on our website using
PayPal www.hagerstowncob.org

The church calendar is online at
www.hagerstowncob.org.
Click the calendar tab.



Age 4 – Grade 5

Date: June 24 – 28

Time: 6 – 8 pm

Location: Hagerstown Church of the Brethren

Corner of Washington and Mulberry Streets

Hagerstown, MD

Entrance on the side of the parking lot –

Look for VBS signs

Your child will make new friends, sing fun songs, do art projects, explore science, and play active games to learn about Jesus as a learner, their companion, teacher, example and helper.

They will also get creative snacks each evening.

This week we have Jesus' example of helping others! We are collecting money to benefit Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

Contact Information: Ann Platou, 301-790-3498

Donations Needed for VBS

- Small Bottles of Water
- Juice Boxes
- Small Boxes of Milk
- Large Box of Rainbow Goldfish
- 3 Bags of Plain Bagels
- 2 (8 oz.) Cream Cheese
- Large Box of Kix Cereal
- 2 Bottles of Ranch Dressing
- Large Bag of Swedish Fish
- Large Bag of Thin Pretzel Sticks
- 12 oz. Bag of Chocolate Chips
- 12 oz. Bag of Butterscotch Chips
- Large Box of Ritz Crackers

Green Grapes/Red grapes (for Monday - June 24)

Fruit that kids will eat during the week of VBS June 24 - 28

??Questions??? Contact Ann Platou at 301-790-3498

or annrebel@myactv.net