

They Filled Twelve Baskets

Over the years when hungry folks gather together, it's not been unusual for me to help cook for hundreds of people at a time. In these "feedings" we try to plan to come out about even with the food—to have enough, but not too much left over at any given meal. This is called "good planning" and helps to eliminate waste and unnecessary expense. Hungry folks come at each mealtime to be fed and to satisfy their hunger. We feed for life—filling tummies with food to live.

Not so with the Lord. Jesus is all about abundance—providing over and above what's needed for living. Twelve baskets overflowing with more than was needed!

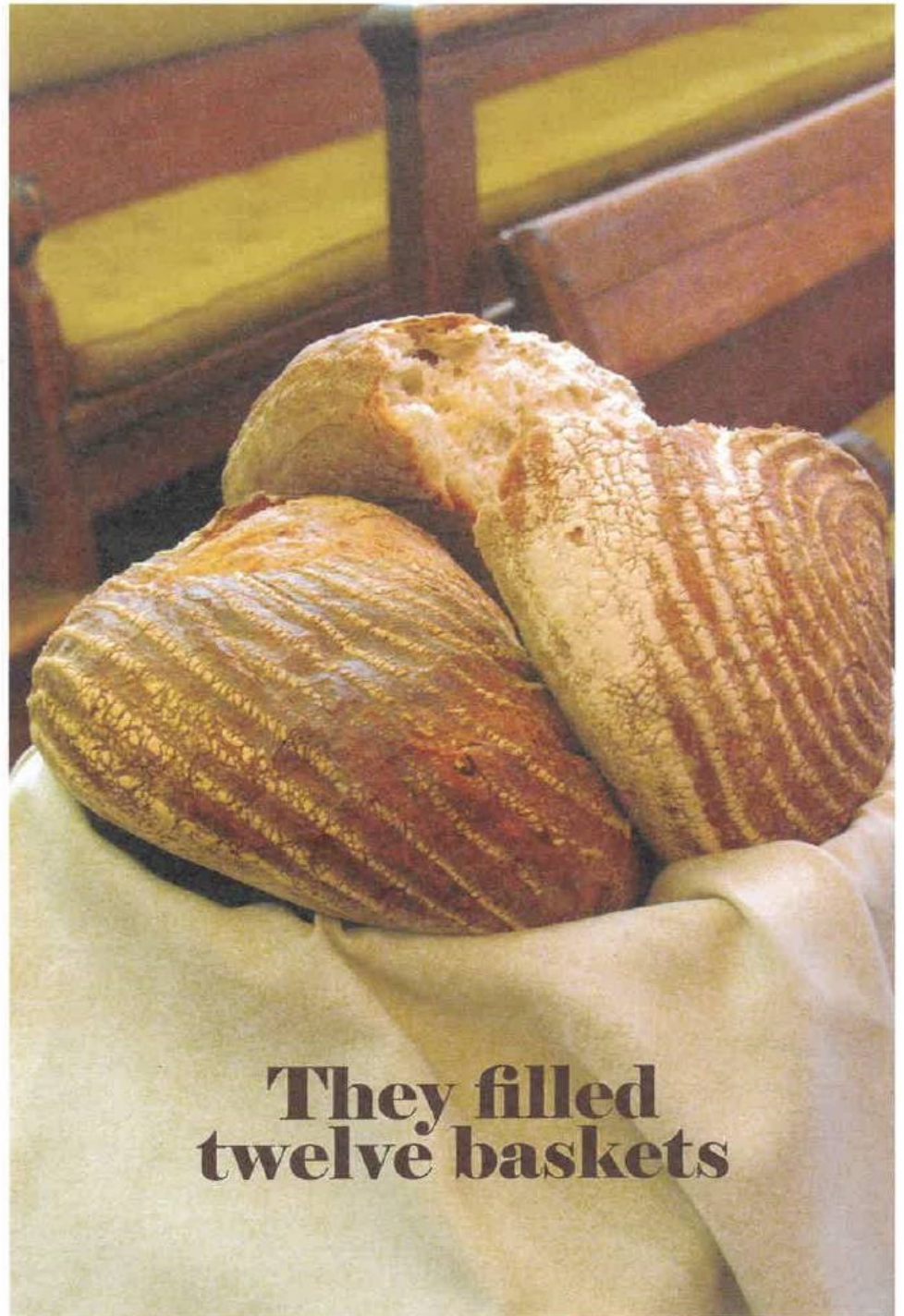
Several places in scripture Jesus talks about "more" and "over and above" what one would expect. In Luke 6:38 Jesus says, "Give and it will be given to you . . . pressed down, shaken together, running over . . ." In Mark 10:29-30 Jesus explains that whatever we've given up "for my sake and for the sake of the good news" we will "receive a hundredfold," and, keeping us humble, "with persecutions" as well. The good shepherd in John 10 gives life abundantly. The concept of loving enemies and those who hate you is, in a sense, "more."

Jesus is the bread of life (John 6:35), feeding us with life bread. The life that lives in love for God and neighbor is the abundant life Jesus offers and to which he calls us. Don't settle for the bread *for* life when you can have the Bread of Life—abundantly!

—Arlene Kindy
North Manchester, Indiana

"So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, *they filled twelve baskets*" (John 6:13, *NRSVue*). **Today's Bible readings from the lectionary:** 2 Samuel 11:1-15 and Psalm 14; 2 Kings 4:42-44 and Psalm 145:10-18; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21.

July 28, 2024. Photo by Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford © Church of the Brethren.
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**They filled
twelve baskets**

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

July 28, 2024

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Chris Herman, Worship Leader

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?

PRELUDE "O Come to My Heart, Lord Jesus" (Thygerson)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: This is the hour to bend our knee before God. This is a time to offer our best to our Creator.

All: We gather before God, who sees all our deeds. We open our hearts to One who knows all our thoughts.

One: Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God." We come together proclaiming, "God is with us!"

All: We come to be strengthened in our inner being. We seek to pattern our actions after Christ Jesus.

One: God's presence evokes our joyous worship. The Holy Spirit empowers our service.

All: To God be the highest glory in the church. To God be endless adoration in the world.

***HYMN #102**

"To God be the glory"

[Verse 1]

To God be the glory, great things he hath done, so loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life gate that all may go in.

[Refrain]

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done.

[Verse 2]

Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to ev'ry believer the promise of God. The vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

[Refrain]

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done.

[Verse 3]

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son, but purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

[Refrain]

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done.

***OPENING PRAYER**

We are seeking after you, loving God, for you are our refuge. Your power is at work within and among us, even when we are unaware. We want to respond, not as fools, but as faithful friends of Jesus. We have come to discover riches we did not know we possessed. We are here to offer our best for the good of all. Use us, we pray, to accomplish in and through this church, far more than we ask or imagine. All glory be to you amazing God, in this and every hour, forever and ever. Amen.

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN

SERVICE OF GIVING

Call to Giving

We have gladly taken more than our share of the world's goods. Let us give in proportion to the blessings we have received. May the church be at the forefront of feeding, healing, caring for, and loving God's people. We are the church, the body of Christ, making a difference in the world.

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

"Heavenly Love"

(Arr. Balcombe)

***Doxology #119**

"Praise God from whom"

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray. We join with Jesus in giving thanks for the little things we can see, that our eyes may be opened to the great possibilities we had not imagined. May our efforts be multiplied by your grace so there is more than enough for all – more comfort in sorrow, more relief from pain, more mercy to meet our treachery, more sense of presence amid our loneliness, more strength to overcome our weakness, more joy and enthusiasm to erase our apathy. 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.

CALL TO PRAYER #349 “Spirit of the living God”

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Amazed”

by Jared Anderson (video)

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 3:14-21

NT 193

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

MESSAGE

“The Bigger Picture”

Pastor Twyla Rowe

*HYMN #577

“O Love that will not let me go”

[Verse 1]

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee.

*I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer,
fuller be.*

[Verse 2]

O Light that follows all my way, I yield my flick’ring torch to thee.

*My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine’s blaze its day may
brighter, fairer be.*

[Verse 3]

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee.

*I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain, that morn
shall tearless be.*

[Verse 4]

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee.

*I lay in dust, life’s glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red, life that
shall endless be.*

*BENEDICTION

After the Benediction, you may be seated.

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

*POSTLUDE

“Fill Our Hearts With Thy Wondrous Love”

(Moore)

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\*Please rise — in body or spirit — as an act of worship

Thank you for joining us in worship today.

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Hagerstown
Church of the Brethren
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Hagerstown, Maryland
21740
301-733-3565

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 **July 28, 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, July 28 - I am amazed by you, O God. No matter what goes on in our world and in our neighborhood, you come to my open heart with the Holy Spirit to infuse me with power to strengthen my faithfulness to you. You fill my heart with love to overcome the voices insisting on the way of selfishness and division. Thank you for these. When the darkness of the world tries to penetrate my soul and steal my joy; the power and love you use to fill my heart reminds me that the fullness of your being is incomprehensible and powerful. Therefore, I know I do not stand alone to do battle with the forces of evil. With you empowering me, I can reject what is wrong and stand firm for the things that build Your kingdom. For this, I raise my heart and voice in praise and gratitude to you. Amen.

Our thanks to Chris Herman for being our worship leader today.

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.

Attention! The Altruistic Room is currently unavailable for use. Please do not enter or use the room until further notice. Thank you!

Junior Church will be held today 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.**

Don't forget to check your church mailbox for the second quarter contribution statements. Any left in the mailboxes after this week will be mailed. Please help us save money on postage by checking your mailbox. Thank you!

“Wrap Up” Annual Conference Reports can be found on the credenza in the wing of the sanctuary, in the fellowship hall and will be published in the August Tidings.

Next Sunday is our regular Food Pantry collection. Bring in your gift(s) of non-perishable food items and place them on the cart as you enter the west entrance, and a volunteer delivers the food. **The collection for August will be going to Holly Place.** 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. Thank you!

Would you like to place flowers on the altar in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion? The Flower & Altar Committee have an opening August 11th. If you would like to place flowers on the altar, please contact Susan Hughes at 717-749-7017 or 717-816-3447. Thank you!

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

HCob Student Scholarship Fund—The Service & Outreach Team is inviting students to apply for our yearly distribution of funds from the Student Scholarship Fund. A letter of interest needs to be addressed to Suzie Wolfe, Chair, by August 31, 2024. Please include where you will be attending and what your major is. Also, please include the school's address.

Save the Date!! - Please save the date for our 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.

CDS Training—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 27-28, 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>.

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.

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.

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.

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!

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.

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!

You can check the church calendar from your home computer or any Internet-enabled device, including your smartphone. The calendar can be viewed online by going to <http://www.hagerstowncob.org> and clicking on the Calendar tab. The calendar is updated continuously. We do our best to keep current by adding, moving, and deleting as information comes in.

Offering drop-off box is located in the west entrance by the double doors. This box can be used to drop off your offering or order forms. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

CALENDAR

Sunday, July 28

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

Monday, July 29

Church office closed

Tuesday, July 30

6:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting/Room 302

Wednesday, July 31

Administrative Assistant/Work from Home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions
6:30 pm HCOB Softball/Field 3

Friday, August 2

8:00 am Bulletin preparation/Church office
1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot

Saturday, August 3

Pastor Twyla's day off

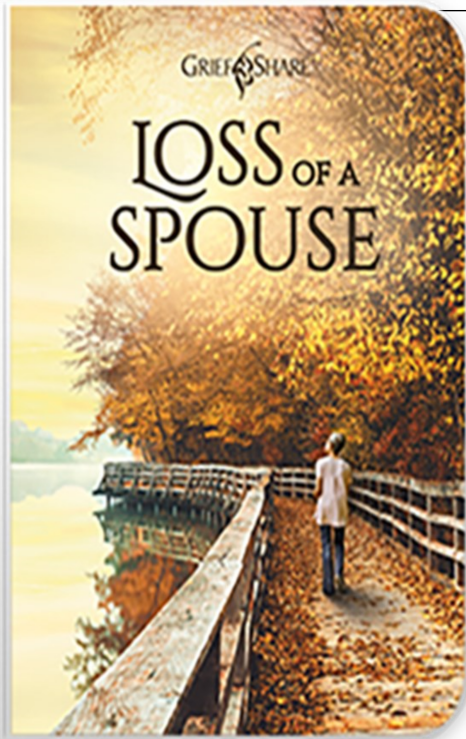
Sunday, August 4

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

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.



Grieving the death of a spouse?
Or do you know someone who is?

The death of a spouse brings a unique kind of pain. People who are widowed haven't just lost a loved one—they've lost an entire lifestyle once enjoyed with that special person.

We hope you will consider joining the HCOB GriefShare Team for a special 2-hr seminar which will address the challenges of this type of loss.

You may wish to bring a family member or friend so they can better understand your loss and become a greater support for you. If you have questions, please see Pastor Twyla or Debbie Nycum.

Date: Wednesday, August 21
Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Place: Mullendore Room

Register at www.GriefShare.org