

Tidings February 2025



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 secretaryhcob@gmail.com

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

"Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends.

(1 Corinthians 13:1-4)

This scripture is familiar to many Christians. We often hear it read at weddings; reminding couples that love is not merely a warm fuzzy feeling. Love takes commitment and hard work.

However, the Apostle Paul did not write this in a letter written to the Corinthians, specifically for lovers. He wrote these words for the believers of the church. Jesus commands us to love one another. He goes as far as to command us to also love our enemies. Paul tells us what this love involves. It is not hidden deep inside of us. It's something we do or don't do.

Loving some people can feel like a challenge, but if we believe what we read in 1 John 4:16, "So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them"; then we know we have the power of God's love in us making it possible for us to love even those we lack a feeling to love.

I'm not going to elaborate on each verse of the 1 Corinthians text. I think it is pretty-simple to understand. The harder part is accepting all of it and putting these merits into practice.

My thoughts were led to this scripture because on February 14th, Valentine's Day, we think about love. We usually associate Valentine's Day with romantic love or love between friends. I think we can also use this secular holiday as an opportunity to remind us of God's love and Jesus' command to love one another. I want to encourage you to read the 1 Corinthians text, perhaps several times on Valentine's Day. Meditate on it and allow God to speak to your soul to renew your commitment to loving everyone.

In Christian Love, Pastor Twyla

breeze

The Property & Finance Ministry Team has been researching a new database software for the church. With approval from the Leadership Team, they have chosen Breeze and will be implementing this new software in the coming weeks. Breeze includes a more efficient payment processor for giving your offering online and the fees are cheaper than PayPal. We will discontinue use of PayPal once Breeze is available. The manner in which you give through our website will stay the same, the processor will be Breeze instead of PayPal. We will keep you updated as we get closer to the roll-out of Breeze. If you have any questions, contact Chris Stockslager.



Sunday, March 2nd at 3:00 PM Hagerstown Choral Arts will be presenting "The Road Home" at Hagerstown Church of the Brethren

HCA's performances are free of cost. There is no ticket required. A free will offering will be taken during the event if you wish to support HCA.



Sundays in February



Date	Pastor	Worship Leader	Sermon	Scripture	Greeter	Special
02/02/2025	Twyla Rowe	Don Rowe	"God Knows Our Capabilities"	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Suzie Wolfe	Fellowship Time
02/09/2025	Twyla Rowe	Eileen Smith	"It's What Christians Do"	Luke 5:1-11	Suzanne Buhrman	Junior Church/Parish Nurse
02/16/2025	Doug Veal	Amy Clipp	"The Beatitudes"	Matthew 5:1-11	Sandy Clipp	Bread & Soup Sunday
02/23/2025	Twyla Rowe	Sandy Clipp	"Is This Possible"	Luke 6:27-38	Don & Roberta Maas	Junior Church

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



Saturday, February 8, 2025

The Service & Outreach Team will be having our annual Prayer Walk on Saturday, February 8, 2025. We will be preparing 160 bagged meals which we will be distributing to our neighbors in the downtown area. We are in need of hats, gloves, socks, blankets and small personal-care items. If you would like to donate any of these items, a box will be available in the west entrance. We welcome congregation members and non-members to come and help pack meals or distribute the meals to the community. Packing will begin at 10:00 am and distributing the meals will be at 11:00 am.

2025 Pocket Directory

The 2025 Pocket Directories are now available. Copies can be found on the credenza in the wing of the sanctuary & Fellowship Hall.

Please check your information and advise the church office if any changes need to be made.

Updates to the directory will be published in the monthly newsletters so you can update your copy of the directory.

Check out the church calendar at www.hagerstowncob.org
Click the calendar tab!

Inquirer's Class

An Inquirer's class is being scheduled for those who are interested in: being baptized, joining the church, by transfer of letter, learning more about the Church of the Brethren, or taking a refresher course. The class will be held for six weeks on Sunday mornings during the Sunday School hour (9:30-10:30) beginning March 2 and going through April 6. The classroom is yet to be determined. Pastor Twyla will be teaching the classes. At the end of the six weeks, you will be asked if you want to join HCOB and a date will be scheduled to receive new members during worship. Five people have already expressed interest in taking the class. If you are interested, please tell Pastor Twyla.



It's almost here! Our week to staff the REACH Cold Weather Shelter is March 9-16, 2025. We need to cover all roles Sunday. Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday that week. The most important responsibility we have is providing an evening meal each of those days. The Tuesday meal and servers are covered, and the Thursday meal is covered. We need servers Thursday, and we still need meals/servers on Sunday and Saturday. Also looking for volunteers to assist with Search, Laundry, and Hospitality. At this time of the shelter season, supplies are getting low. You will find a list of REACH needs in this newsletter on page 7. Starting February 16, and through March 9, we will be collecting donations of items on the list. Donations will be taken to REACH during our week at the shelter. Any donations will be greatly appreciated! Please contact Sandy Clipp at 240-291-8753 if interested in serving at REACH or if you have any questions.



We grieve many things in life, but the loss of a loved one is probably the most devastating. There is no magical timeline that points to the end of the grieving process, and healing from that loss often can last our lifetime. However,

HCOB offers GriefShare, a worldwide, faith-based, grief recovery support group ministry for those who have experienced the loss of a spouse, child, family member or friend. Grief-Share is a series of 13 weekly sessions that put grief into context in an understandable, life-affirming and manageable process, even if the loss is not recent.

Our spring session of GriefShare will begin on Monday, Feb. 17, and continue each Monday evening through May 12, but you may join the program at any time during the 13 weeks. If you were a previous participant in the GriefShare program and wish to repeat the classes, our team (*Pastor Twyla, *Debbie Nycum, Cinnamon & Brian Shay, Deb Long, Robin Davies, Brenda Shane) encourages you to do so.

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the Mullendore Room

There is no cost to attend. However, if you decide to participate, we ask you to consider giving a \$10 donation to offset the cost of a workbook and commit to attending at least 3 consecutive classes. If you or someone you know has lost a loved one and you are interested in this program, register at griefshare.org. If you have questions, see Pastor Twyla or Debbie Nycum.

Hagerstown COB -2- February 2025 Tidings



Bread & Soup Sunday

The Spiritual Nurture Team would like to have a fun Bread & Soup Sunday after church on February 16th, to

celebrate Valentines Day and the love for our congregation. If you would like to attend, please see the sign up sheet in the west entrance and Fellowship Hall. Sign up to bring a soup, bread, or dessert as well.

Daily Bible Reading



FEBRUARY

- 2 Exodus 10-12
- ♦ 3 Exodus 13-15
- ♦ 4 Exodus 16-18
- ♦ 6 Exodus 22-24
- ♦ 7 Exodus 25-27
- ♦ 8 Exodus 28-29
- ♦ 9 Exodus 30-32
- ♦ 10 Exodus 33-35
- ♦ 11 Exodus 36-38
- ♦ 12 Exodus 39-40
- ♦ 13 Leviticus 1-4
- ♦ 14 Leviticus 5-7
- ♦ 15 Leviticus 8-10
- V 13 Ecvineus 6 10
- ♦ 16 Leviticus 11-13
- ♦ 17 Leviticus 14-15
- ♦ 18 Leviticus 16-18
- ♦ 19 Leviticus 19-21
- ♦ 20 Leviticus 22-23
- ♦ 21 Leviticus 24-25
- ♦ 22 Leviticus 26-27
- ♦ 23 Numbers 1-2
- ♦ 24 Numbers 3-4
- ♦ 25 Numbers 5-6
- ♦ 26 Numbers 7
 ♦ 27 Numbers 8-10
- ♦ 28 Numbers 11-13



Saturday, March 8th

9:00—10:30 am

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

Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response Patron Ad.

It's time to sign up for a Patron ad for in the 2025 Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response auction booklet. Patron ads are for those individuals who want to support disaster relief. The annual auction is the district's largest fundraiser for this. Patron ads can be purchased for ten or more dollars. Please contact Lester Boleyn, Daryl Long or Arn Platou to place your ad, but do it quickly. We have an early deadline this year and all checks and forms need to be in Elgin before February 7th to be included in the booklet. Checks need to be made out to



HCOB T-Shirts, Sweatshirts, Hoodies, Tote Bags & Hats—Now on Sale!

HCOB T-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, tote bags & hats are now on sale. The Service & Outreach Team are taking orders through February 26th. The colors offered for shirts, sweatshirts, & hoodies are gray, royal blue and orange. Pricing starts at \$20.00. The tote bags (14x13x6.5) come in all black, black & gray, and black & blue. The cost for the tote bags is \$25.00. Two types of adjustable hats are also for sale. The cost for the hats is \$18.00. A sign-up sheet has been placed in the west entrance and fellowship hall. Please contact Suzie Wolfe if you have any questions.

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.

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.

JUNIOR CHURCH

Junior Church will be held the second & fourth Sunday of each month. This is open to ages Kindergarten through Grade 6.



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.

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.

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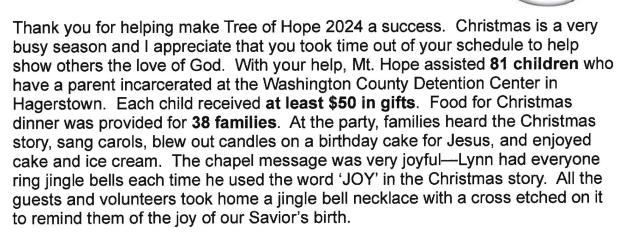
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Mount Hope Prison Ministry

25 Summit Avenue, P.O. Box 1511, Hagerstown, MD 21741-1511 Phone: (301) 791-2550 E-mail: glynnsingleton@msn.com

January 23, 2025

Dear Hagerstown Church of the Brethren,



Children have a special place in the heart of our Savior. In Matthew 19:14, Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Our goal wasn't just to give Christmas gifts and groceries, but to tell the children and their parents about the greatest gift ever given—salvation. Many of the families deal with a constant cycle of addiction, crime, poverty, and incarceration. Our prayer is that they come to know Jesus as their Prince of Peace, Mighty God, and Everlasting Father. He is the one who can forgive sins, calm the chaos, and give hope.

May God bless you for being a blessing to others!

Wands

Chaplain Wanda Singleton

Thank you for adopting 30 children and purchasing their gifts. Your church was a huge blessing!





140 W Franklin St, Suite 300 • Hagerstown MD 21740 Phone: 301-733-2371 • Fax: 301-250-7308

2024/2025 Reach's Cold Weather Shelter Needs List

Donations are accepted Monday-Thursday, 9am-4pm.
Thank you for your generous support!

<u>Personal Care</u>

Women's Underwear (sm-med)

Mens Boxers (M-XL)

Belts (of any size)

Deodorant

Flip-Flops (For Showers)

Hand Warmers

Ponchos

Shaving Razors

Individual Sized Hygiene Items (Shampoo, Toothpaste, Conditioner, Lotion)

Miscellaneous

XL Food Storage (Plastic containers or Tupperware – can be new or slightly used!)

Twin or Twin XL Comforters

Cleaning Supplies

39 Gallon Trash Bags 13 Gallon Trash Bags

Napkins

Laundry Pods

Toilet Paper

Tissues

Paper Towels

Mold & Mildew Cleaner Spray

<u>Food & Drink</u>

Coffee & Tea Bags

Sugar

Creamer

Cereal

Granola/Snack Bars

Pop-Tarts

Oatmeal (Single Packs)

(Items in **BOLD** are those which we are in greater need!)

*Due to an abundance of supply: No bar soap or feminine pads please **Due to limited storage space, we cannot accept clothing donations unless specifically noted on the list. Please take clothing donations to Trinity Lutheran Clothing Bank (Potomac & Randolph).

Updated 10/2024



A Perfect Day of Not Aging

AS WE'VE SEEN, EVERY INDIVIDUAL—INDEED, EVERY INDIVIDUAL BODY PART—AGES AT A DISTINCT RATE. BUT THERE ARE THINGS YOU CAN DO THAT MAY SLOW AGING OR, AT THE VERY LEAST, FOSTER HEALTHY AGING. HERE'S WHAT A DAY WITHOUT AGING MIGHT LOOK LIKE. WHO KNOWS—MAYBE YOU'LL WAKE UP TOMORROW THE SAME AGE YOU ARE TODAY!



6-8 a.m.

WAKE UP. Waking up between 6 and 8 a.m. is generally in sync with your body's circadian rhythm, which is the internal clock that regulates your sleep and wakefulness. The American Academy of Sleep Medicine recommends that you wake up no less than seven (and no more than nine) hours after you went to bed.



7-9 a.m.

MORNING WALK. Be sure to get some sunlight in the morning, which helps your body produce the vitamin D that may slow the aging process. Make a habit of walking the dog or doing light chores outside first thing in the morning, before the demands of the day trap you in your house, car or office.



9-10 a.m.

BREAKFAST. Start with a protein smoothie with mixed fruit. A highprotein breakfast is critical for maintaining muscle mass as we age, according to numerous studies. Research shows that getting 25 to 30 grams of protein in the morning is effective in preventing age-related muscle loss, also known as sarcopenia.



Manu

MEDITATION. Any calming activity, such as yoga or prayer, can help reduce the risk of cognitive decline by activating the prefrontal cortex, an area of the brain that is diminished in those with cognition difficulties. A study in the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease* found that just 12 minutes of meditation daily could make a difference.



1 p.m.

LUNCH. Have a mixed salad with salmon. A Mediterranean-style diet that is abundant in fruits and vegetables and omega-3 rich fish such as salmon can reduce inflammation, a culprit in biological aging, according to a review of studies in the journal *Nutrients*. Eating a wide array of plant foods boosts the microbiome, the master controller of gut inflammation.



3 p.m.

EXERCISE. Afternoon exercise may reduce the risk of premature death even more than morning or evening workouts, according to a study of more than 90,000 men and women published last year in *Nature Communications*. Walk briskly for 30 minutes or get some kind of cardio exercise at least five days a week, and use weights on the other two days.



4-6 p.m.

SOCIALIZE. Maintaining social connections is one of the pillars of antiaging, according to several studies. Social isolation in older people can increase the risk for dementia by about 30 percent, according to researchers at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the Bloomberg School of Public Health.



6 p.m.

DINNER. Dine on vegetable tacos with brown rice and beans. Eating during an eight- to 12-hour window of the day and fasting for the remaining 12 to 16 hours (including sleep time) has been shown to have numerous advantages associated with longevity and decreased incidence of disease, including cancers. Lean heavily on vegetables, fruits, nuts, grains and legumes—then close the kitchen until morning.



10-11 p.m.

BEDTIME. A U.K. study found that going to bed between 10 and 11 p.m. may reduce heart disease risk, especially in women. Other research indicates that deep sleep, which occurs from the hours of 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., represents the optimal time for the brain to clear out debris and reorganize itself, reducing one's risk of Alzheimer's disease.





2025 Communion Dates

Bread & Cup

June 2025 December 2025

Love Feast

April 17, 2025— Maundy Thursday Love Feast & Communion/Feet washing

October 5, 2025 — World Communion Sunday Love Feast & Communion/Feet washing



13th Annual HARC Hike for Hunger & Hope

Challenge Hike: Saturday, May 17, 2025

4K, 10K and Half Marathon Hikes: Saturday, May 31, 2025



Fellowship Time

February 2, 2025 10:20—10:40 am Mullendore Room



Please remember to turn the lights off when you leave an area in the church. Let's all be mindful of our utility costs.

Thanks!

February 2025 Schedule

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

Saturday, February 1

Pastor Twyla's day off

10:00 am Ed Poling Visitation/HCOB

11:00 am Ed Poling Celebration of Life Service/HCOB

Sunday, February 2 Food Pantry Sunday

8:30 am
9:30 am
Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:20 am
10:45 am
Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Monday, February 3
Church Office Closed
Tuesday, February 4

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

7:00 pm Worship Meeting/Zoom

Wednesday, February 5

Administrative Assistant/Work from home

12:00pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, February 6

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

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

Friday, February 7

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

Saturday, February 8
Pastor Twyla's day off

10:00 am Prayer Walk/HCOB

Sunday, February 9

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

Monday, February 10

Pastor Vacation/Church Office Closed

Tuesday, February 11

Pastor Vacation

5:30 pm S&O Meeting/Mullendore Room

7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 12

Pastor Vacation/Administrative Assistant Work from home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions 5:30 pm Spiritual Nurture Meeting/Outside Church office

Thursday, February 13

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, February 14

Pastor Vacation/Valentine's Day

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

Saturday, February 15

Pastor Vacation

12:00 pm Newsletter Deadline

Sunday, February 16

Pastor Vacation/Doug Veal_Guest Speaker

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 Bread & Soup Sunday/Fellowship Hall

Monday, February 17

Pastor Vacation/Church office closed/Presidents' Day

6:30 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, February 18

Pastor Vacation

12:00 pm Mary Martha Group/Mullendore Room

7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 19

Pastor Vacation/Administrative Assistant/Work from home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, February 20

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, February 21

Pastor Vacation

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

Saturday, February 22
Pastor Twyla's day off

Sunday, February 23 Junior Church

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 Nominating Committee Meeting/Mullendore Room

Monday, February 24
Church office closed

6:30 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, February 25

6:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting/Room 302

7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 26

Administrative Assistant/Work from home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, February 27

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

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

Friday, February 28

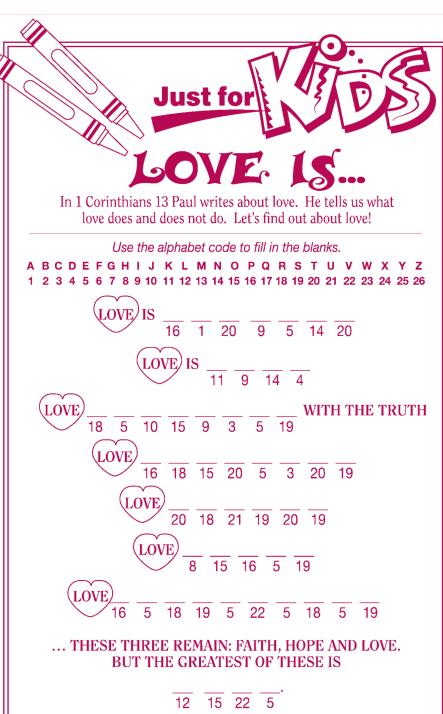
8:00 am
Bulletin preparation time/Church office
1:00 pm
Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3pm)
7:00 pm
Hag. Choral Arts Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall



Pastor Twyla will be away on vacation February 9th through the 21st. If you are in need of regular pastoral care, please contact your Deacon.

The Puzzle Page for February 2025





ЬЕВ'ЕЛЕВЕЗ' ГОЛЕ Vusmet: batient, kind, rejoices, protects, trusts, hopes,

ьевселеве; голе

LOVE IS AN ACTION!

Love is about doing for others. For this Valentine's Day (or any other time of the year), create a coupon book that helps you serve others with love.

Here is what you need:

- index cards or colored paper (as many as you need)
- stickers (optional)
- colored markers or crayons

Here is what you do:

- 1. Think of the different people you can show love to. For example, parents, brothers, sisters, friends, neighbors, teachers, grandparents, etc.
- 2. Make a list of different things (acts of love) you can do for these people to show them you love them.
- 3. On each index card or colored paper, write these words:



- 4. Write one "act of love" on each coupon's blank line.
- 5. Decorate each coupon with drawings, designs or stickers.
- 6. You can give people one coupon each or staple a few together into a coupon book to give to each person.

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

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

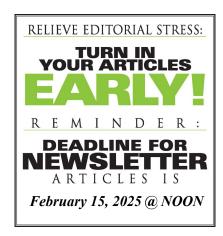
www.hagerstowncob.org www.facebook.com/hagerstowncob

> 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.

2025 Annual Conference Logo

