



Tidings

April 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

What is your favorite Jesus story? There are so many to choose from in the Bible. I find myself drawn to the story of the Woman at the Well and the Resurrection story.

During the season of Lent, we have been gathering on Wednesday evenings for a time of reflection. Each week someone from the congregation shares their personal faith testimony. We are mesmerized and inspired by their stories. They include great adventures, miracles, struggles, insecurity, doubts, and tragedy. **All of us have a faith story.** Every story is different. As we come to listen, we are anxious to hear what each person shares.

I wonder, is the Jesus story just as satisfying...mesmerizing...and inspiring to us? Or have we heard it so often that we have become desensitized to it? As we read or hear the Jesus stories again and again, do we tune into the Word and allow ourselves to hear it as if for the first time? Or do we zone-out...allowing our subconscious to say something like, "I know this story because I have heard it often?" Interestingly, I have heard many Sunday School teachers and Preachers say that one thing they like about teaching and preaching is that the preparation they do reveals new findings to them, even in the texts that are very familiar to them. This is a testimony to the power and infinite wisdom of the scriptures.

This is as it should be for everyone. Approaching the Jesus story with an open invitation to God to show us something new...revealing to us something missing in our walk of faith...reminding us of a valuable word to awaken and inspire us...and bring new life to the Jesus story. We connect with Jesus and give him a chance to be our Brother...our Friend and Guide...our Savior.

I am finding as I once again embark on a new adventure of reading the Bible in a translation I have not read before, that I am eager for the Spirit to show me new details that I overlooked all the other times I read the scriptures. Starting with Genesis, where Jesus was present with God (John 1), I am discovering new or forgotten gems of the Jesus story. I am grateful not only for the new knowledge I am acquiring; but I am excited about the intimate spiritual connection with Jesus growing deeper in me.

As the Lenten season comes to a close this month, and we move into Holy Week, we will hear the stories of Jesus' last days before his crucifixion. We will also have the opportunity to remember him and the events of that week as we participate in Love Feast and in worship on Good Friday. And, of course, we will come to worship together to remember the most holy of all days...the Resurrection of our Savior on Easter morning. This is the glorious culmination of the Jesus story. Of all the stories, this is the one that should connect most with us because it involves us. With a deep love that we cannot possibly comprehend, God sent His only Son to die for us and save us from sin. He sent Jesus to conquer the grave and testify for us that life is everlasting in the glorious presence of God.

The story of Jesus really is more than a story about him. It's more than interesting historical details or a great novel. In this Holy season, this should become clear to us. The Jesus story encompasses our story, too. It invites us into a faithful, trusting, obedient relationship with Jesus that will make a difference in our lives in this lifetime and for the lifetime to come.

Christ is risen! His death and resurrection are more than a good story. It has everything to do with life...our lives. Let us celebrate...not a story...but a Living Loving Savior we know. Let Jesus arise and live anew in your hearts.

Have a blessed Easter!

Pastor Twyla





Sundays in April



Date	Pastor	Worship Leader	Sermon	Scripture	Greeter	Special
04/06/2025 Lent 5	Twyla Rowe	Brenda Shane	“Anticipating Joy”	Psalm 126	Jan Young	Fellowship Time/Food Pantry
04/13/2025	Twyla Rowe	Don Maas	“Behold, He Comes!”	Luke 19:28-40; Ps. 118:1-2, 19-29	Jack Finniff	Palm Sunday/Junior Church/Parish Nurse
04/20/2025	Twyla Rowe	Candice Summers	“He Is Risen!”	Luke 24:1-12	Ginny Nalley	Easter Sunday
04/27/2025 Combined Worship	Twyla Rowe	Eunice Plank	“Moving Forward”	Acts 5:27-32	Emma Lyles	Junior Church/SS Orchestra

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



• Lenten Services will be held on April 2nd & 9th at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Our guest speakers are

as follows:

- April 2—Suzie Wolfe
- April 9—Bea Van Norden



HOLY WEEK

- Maundy Thursday/Love Feast will be held on April 17th in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm
- Good Friday Service will be held on April 18th in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm
- Easter Sunday Service is on April 20th



The HARC Hike/Run this year will be held on May 31, 2025 and is in memory of Ed Poling. If you would like to make a donation in memory of Ed, John & Mary Means will be participating. They can run for you! Just go to the HARC website and make your donation.



Older Adults Sunday May 4, 2025

Let's help get our college students across the finish line!!

It's that time again. The Christian Education Ministry Team is asking for donations that we will assemble into care packages for our college students. We are preparing for four students. The care packages are our way of showing love and support to our students as they prepare (or cram, perhaps!) for final exams as the spring semester comes to a close. We are asking for donations of non-perishable, pre-packaged, single serve items. (PLEASE...no homemade goods. Save those for when the kids come home at the end of the semester.) We are looking for items that would include chips, Doritos, cookies, crackers (again, single serve bags or packages, please), bottled water, granola bars, candy, gum, mints, microwave popcorn, etc. We know studying for finals can be stressful and we want to ease the stress as much as we can. So please use your imagination and add items like bubbles, Play Doh, a stress ball, etc as you see fit. There will be a specially-marked box in the lobby area of the West Entrance. Please have all donations to the church by Sunday, April 27th. If you have any questions, please direct them to any member of the Christian Education Ministry Team (Brenda Shane, Debbie Long, Tina Mills, Tracie Poteet, or Kay Ogilvie). Thanks for your help!

Sunday School Orchestra



The Sunday School Orchestra will be performing in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, April 27th at 9:00 am, Sunday School will follow at the normal scheduled time. There will be a combined service at 10:45 am in the Sanctuary.

Congregational Business Meeting May 4, 2025

Our May Congregational Business Meeting will be held on May 4, 2025 in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a potluck lunch after our Worship Service and then the Congregational Business Meeting will follow.

The Novel Bunch Presents...

Looking for Salvation at the Dairy Queen by Susan Gregg Gilmore. Saturday, May 17th from 10:00 AM—12:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Light refreshments will be served. If you would like to attend, sign up sheets can be found on the credenza in the wing of the sanctuary or in the Fellowship Hall.



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 Rainbow Room (#205) 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.

Parents/grandparents should pick up their children afterward at the stair/elevator area outside the sanctuary in the west entrance.

Christian Education Ministry Team

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



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

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.

Daily Bible Reading



APRIL

- 1 Judges 6-7
- 2 Judges 8-9
- 3 Judges 10-12
- 4 Judges 13-15
- 5 Judges 16-18
- 6 Judges 19-21
- 7 Ruth
- 8 1 Samuel 1-3
- 9 1 Samuel 4-8
- 10 1 Samuel 9-12
- 11 1 Samuel 13-14
- 12 1 Samuel 15-17
- 13 1 Samuel 18-20; Psalms 11,59
- 14 1 Samuel 21-24; Psalm 91
- 15 Psalms 7, 27, 31, 34, 52
- 16 Psalms 56, 120, 140-142
- 17 1 Samuel 25-27
- 18 Psalms 17, 35, 54, 63
- 19 1 Samuel 28-31; Psalm 18
- 20 Psalms 121, 123-125, 128-130
- 21 2 Samuel 1-4
- 22 Psalms 6, 8-10, 14, 16, 19, 21
- 23 1 Chronicles 1-2
- 24 Psalms 43-45, 49, 84-85, 87
- 25 1 Chronicles 3-5
- 26 Psalms 73, 77-78
- 27 1 Chronicles 6
- 28 Psalms 81, 88, 92-93
- 29 1 Chronicles 7-10
- 30 Psalms 102-104

Fellowship Time



April 6, 2025
10:20—10:40 am
Mullendore Room

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.



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.



Community Breakfast

Saturday, April 12th
9:00—10:30 am

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

Hygiene Kits Are Needed

The Service and Outreach Ministry Team and Sue Vanderveer are asking for supplies for Hygiene Kits. Kits are put together and delivered to Church World Service which will then send them to areas of need in the United States and other parts of the world.

Items needed are:

Hygiene Kits – you will need:

- ◆ One hand towel measuring approximately 15" x 28" to 16" x 32" (no fingertip or bath towels)
- ◆ One washcloth
- ◆ One wide-tooth comb removed from the package (Must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth, no pocket combs or picks, rattail and combs without handles are acceptable)
- ◆ One nail clipper removed from the package
- ◆ Ten standard size Band-Aids®

We have a supply of soap and toothbrushes, we are not in need of those things this year.

Place all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure, remove excess air from bag, and seal. Please do not add toothpaste to the Hygiene Kit. Tubes of toothpaste that have an extended expiration date will be added by others to the Hygiene Kit just prior to shipment. Items may be placed in the collection container in the West Entrance. Contact Sue Vanderveer if you have questions.

Hygiene Kit value: \$15
Processing/Shipping Cost: \$2 per Kit
Thank you!

Watch for a collection box in the west entrance, or contact Sue Vanderveer if you want to donate items.

The Christian Education Ministry Team is sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt for ALL children on Palm Sunday, April 13th at 2 PM at Linden Hall Farm (Brian and Nicole Forsythe's farm) located at 10226 Downsville Pike, Hagerstown MD.

We are in need of:

- Volunteers to fill eggs (see the tote in the west entrance)
- Volunteers to help the day of the hunt. We'll need folks to help hide the eggs, give out snacks and drinks and help with a craft.

We are also asking for donations of:

- Bottled water (small, please)
- Individual sized bags of various snacks
- Cash contributions that will be used to purchase special prizes.

While we can't provide a number of children who will attend, we do not anticipate a large number, perhaps 20 or so.

All children are encouraged to bring a friend. (Grandparents, your grandchildren are also welcome!)

Please have all donations brought to the church by Friday, April 10th.

If you'd like to help or have any questions, please see any member of the CEMT; Kay Ogilvie, Tina Mills, Tracie Poteet, Debbie Long, or Brenda Shane.

Thank you for helping us offer the children an afternoon of fun!!



Plant sale petal power!



This spring, let's harness the good in God's earth to help families who lose their homes to flooding and other disasters.

By planting a few extra perennials or annuals, or veggie, herb, berry and other plants, or groundcovers, trees, and shrubs, each of us can **GROW** money for Brethren Disaster Ministries!

Please pot and label each plant. Bring it to Arn Platou at HCOB on Friday, May 2, at a time to be announced or bring it to the **Plant Sale** at our District COB's Disaster Response fundraiser at Carroll County Ag Center no later than 9 a.m. on Plant Sale day, Saturday, May 3.



And, **stay awhile!** You may find new plants, as well as quilts and crafts to love and take home!!

Questions? Email Arn Platou at Arnwrite@myactv.net

April 2025 Schedule

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

Tuesday, April 1

6:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts Board Meeting/Room 302
7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting/Mullendore Room

Wednesday, April 2

Administrative Assistant/Work from home
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions
12:30 pm Hag. Choral Arts Women's Ensemble/Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm Lenten Service/Fellowship Hall

Thursday, April 3

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room
7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

Friday, April 4

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

Saturday, April 5

Pastor Twyla's day off
6:00 pm District Disaster Response Benefit Dinner/Bush Creek COB

Sunday, April 6

Fifth Sunday in Lent/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, April 7

Church office closed
6:30 pm Griefshare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, April 8

7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, April 9

Administrative Assistant/Work from home
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions
12:30 pm Hag. Choral Arts Women's Ensemble/Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm Lenten Service/Fellowship Hall

Thursday, April 10

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room
7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

Friday, April 11

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

Saturday, April 12

Pastor Twyla's day off
8:00 am Community Breakfast/Fellowship Hall
(Breakfast open to the public 9-10:30 AM)

Sunday, April 13

Junior Church/Palm 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
2:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt/Linden Hall Farm

Monday, April 14

Church office closed
6:30 pm Griefshare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, April 15

Tax Day
12:00 pm Mary Martha Group/Altruistic Room
12:00 pm Newsletter deadline
5:30 pm P&F Meeting/Mullendore Room
6:30 pm CE Meeting/Room 302

7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, April 16

Administrative Assistant/Work from home
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions
12:30 pm Hag. Choral Arts Women's Ensemble/Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm Spiritual Nurture Meeting/Mullendore Room

Thursday, April 17

Maundy Thursday
7:00 pm Love Feast/Fellowship Hall

Friday, April 18

8:00 am Bulletin prep/Church office
1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3pm)
7:00 pm Good Friday Service/Sanctuary

Saturday, April 19

Pastor Twyla's day off/Holy Saturday

Sunday, April 20

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

Monday, April 21

Church office closed
6:30 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, April 22

Earth Day
7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, April 23

Administrative Assistant/Work from home
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions
12:30 pm Hag. Choral Arts Women's Ensemble/Fellowship Hall

Thursday, April 24

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room
7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

Friday, April 25

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

Saturday, April 26

Pastor Twyla's day off

Sunday, April 27

Junior Church
9:00 am Sunday School Orchestra/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:45 am Combined Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Monday, April 28

Church office closed
6:30 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, April 29

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

Wednesday, April 30

Administrative Assistant/Work from home
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions
12:30 pm Hag. Choral Arts Women's Ensemble/Fellowship Hall



The Puzzle Page for April 2025



FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection helps us live with gratitude every day.

Use the picture and number code to fill in the blanks for Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV.

















- 1. Jesus
- 2. weary
- 3. endured
- 4. opposition
- 5. cross
- 6. endured
- 7. scorning
- 8. shame











- 1. Jesus
- 2. lose
- 3. pioneer
- 4. sinners
- 5. perfecter
- 6. him
- 7. faith
- 8. hand



- 1. eyes
- 2. us
- 3. joy
- 4. heart
- 5. right
- 6. grow
- 7. God
- 8. throne

"... fixing our  on , the  and  of . For the  set before  he  the ,  its , and sat down at the  of the  of .

Consider  who  such  from , so that you will not  and .

 and .

HEBREWS 12:2-3, NIV

Answer: "...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV

HOT CROSS BUNS

Make this traditional Easter recipe to remember how Christ gave his life for you.

What you need:

- 1 can (12 oz.) evaporated milk
- 1 stick (½ cup) butter, melted
- ½ cup sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 1½ Tablespoons yeast
- 1 egg, beaten
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- 5 cups flour
- Icing
- An adult to help

What you do:

1. In large bowl, combine the first eight ingredients.
2. Stir in flour, one cup at a time, to form soft dough. Knead on a floured surface until smooth and elastic (about five minutes).
3. Place in a greased bowl, turning once to grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled (about one hour).
4. Knead out air bubbles. Form six two-inch balls.
5. Place two inches apart on a greased cookie sheet. Cover and let rise until doubled (about 30 minutes).
6. Bake at 375 degrees until golden (13 to 15 minutes). Cool on wire racks.
7. Add icing in a cross shape. Enjoy!



"This year I'm prepared with my egg-hunting app."

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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2025 Mid-Atlantic District
Conference Logo



**CENTERED
ON CHRIST**

2025 Annual
Conference Logo



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Twyla Rowe
Pastor

Allyson N. McPeak
Administrative Assistant

Burton Young
Director of Music Ministries

Don Rowe
Interior Esthetics Technician

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS**

April 15, 2025 @ NOON

BRETHREN TIDINGS is published monthly
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