



Tidings

May 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

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." (Romans 12:12)

Sometimes, the unexpected happens. For example, the 2025 Easter weekend is one that I won't forget because of unexpected things that happened. After feeling perfectly okay on the Maundy Thursday, I very suddenly felt ill at the end of Love Feast and could not finish the service. (Thank you Pastor Paul Munday for finishing the service.) By Friday morning, I was fine.

The Saturday evening storm brought down huge tree limbs from our neighbor's tree onto our shed. The power went off making it impossible to cook our family's Easter dinner. With disappointment, the decision was made that our family would not make the trip to our place for dinner, and we decided to have it at another date. Our power was out for a few days, as it was for some of you. The church did not have power for the Easter Early Service and part of Sunday School. Fortunately, it came back on for the Late Service.

A pastor comes to accept that unexpected things happen that requires a change in their schedule or plans...especially before or soon after a vacation. It just happens...it is the nature of life. With all of this on my mind at this very moment, I turn to a Pastor's Pen to share with you that I wrote several years ago at the beginning of Covid. It is a relevant reminder for us for whenever the unexpected arises in our lives. This is what I wrote then:

It's a curious thing how in just a matter of moments, life events can shift quickly and take us an unexpected direction. Our decisions may surprise us with unforeseen twists and turns. Events occurring around us may startle us and demand unplanned actions, taking us down roads in life that are filled with sharp turns and bumpy terrain. Tragedies like a large boulder may drop in our life path, paralyzing us emotionally, making life difficult to manage even the simplest of tasks.

The unexpected may require us to make major adjustments in how we live. For example, the loss of loved ones near and dear to us inflicts our emotional and physical selves with grief and emptiness, forcing us to maneuver through daily living in radically new ways. Unexpected illness befalls some people necessitating treatments and lifestyle changes, shaking up what has been common and comfortable in one's life. Even the willingly made decision to move, as Don and I did when we moved to Hagerstown, produces unexpected anxiety, stress and frustration to navigate each day.

All of us have or will at some point in time experience one or all of these kinds of shifts in life or something similar to these. Uncertainty, challenges and heartbreak are all a part of life. God never promised us that our lives would somehow avoid these things; even if we are faithful. However, Jesus teaches us through his words and through his witness of dealing with his own vulnerability with hardships, that we can persevere, rise above and even conquer the grip of life's unexpected and unwelcome occurrences hold on us.

Jesus did this by turning his focus away from distractions and worries infringing on his emotional self, to caring for and serving the needs of others. Jesus won the battle by forgiving perpetrators threatening his integrity and life. Jesus surrounded himself with a community of friends also journeying on the twisty-turning road of faithfulness to God. Jesus worshiped God daily. Jesus never denied his need for God...turning to God in prayer; and even in his darkest hour, crying out with all honesty, his feelings of abandonment by God.

We too can persevere and overcome the very things that life throws at us when we least expect or want it by following Jesus' example of serving others, forgiving our enemies, actively participating in a community of believers like our church family at HCOB, worshiping God even when we do not feel like it, praying to God with all honesty about our burdens and with openness to God's intervention according to his will in our lives.

And, don't forget, Jesus' promise that while facing our adversities, we are never alone. Like him, hold on to the strong hand of God. Jesus assures and promises us that the unexpected and unwanted challenges that arise in our lives do not have the last word in determining the outcome of our journey in life; at least not when we have the power of God on our side.

Blessings and Peace to you,

Pastor Twyla



Sundays in May



Date	Pastor	Worship Leader	Sermon	Scripture	Greeter	Special
05/04/2025	Twyla Rowe	Chris Stockslager	"God Can Do It"	Psalm 30	Kirk & Diane Graham	CBM/Older Adult Sunday/ Fellowship Time/Food Pantry
05/11/2025	Steve Robison	Eileen Smith	"To Whom Do You Belong?"	John 10:22-30	Diana Shepherd	Mother's Day/Junior Church/Parish Nurse
05/18/2025	Twyla Rowe	Jan Young	"Listen to the Music"	Psalm 148	Amy Clipp	All Music Sunday/Combined Service
05/25/2025	Twyla Rowe	John Miller	"Jesus asked, 'Do you want to get well'"	John 5:1-9	Amy Hardy	Junior Church

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

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.

Music Sunday May 18th

Music Sunday will be held on May 18th. There will be no Morning Praise Worship Service. Sunday School will start at the normal scheduled time and we will then have a combined worship in the sanctuary at 10:45 am.

2025 Disaster Response Auction



The 44th Annual Disaster Response Auction will be held May 3, 2025 at 9:00 am., at the Shipley Arena at the Carroll County Ag. Center in Westminster, MD and will start at 9:00 am. Thanks for your support of the Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Program!

Grief Writing Workshop

Award-winning local author and former grief counselor Lisa V. Proulx will be conducting a workshop entitled Writing Through Grief: Finding Light After Loss at HCOB on Wednesday, May 7, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. This workshop is being hosted through the GriefShare group, but it is not limited to GriefShare participants. It is open to anyone who is interested in attending. **Content:** The workshop will include guided writing prompts, exercises for emotional release, and techniques for using writing as a healing tool. It's designed to create a safe, supportive space for self-reflection and connection with others on a similar journey. **Location:** Mullendore Room or Fellowship Hall depending on participation numbers. **Cost:** \$35.00/person. **Registration:** Make check payable to HCOB with "GriefShare Workshop" on the memo line. If you have questions, contact Debbie Nycum.

The Ed Poling Memorial



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 Adult Sunday May 4th

Cookies and cards from our youth will be handed out as you leave the sanctuary.



Sheryll Kees

Delete # 301-797-4237

Nancy Mullinex

Hagerstown Healthcare
750 Dual Highway (40)
Room 212

Julia Brown

Delete # 301-733-3464



May 11th



We extend a welcome to our new members, Brian Forsythe, William & Joanna Calimer, and Brook Crosby. We welcomed them to the HCOB family on April 20th and April 27th during our Worship Services.

Daily Bible Reading



MAY

- 1 2 Samuel 5; 1 Chron. 11-12
- ◇ 2 Psalm 133
- 3 Psalms 106-107
- 4 1 Chronicles 13-16
- 5 Psalms 1-2, 15, 22-24, 47, 68
- 6 Ps. 89, 96, 100-101, 105, 132
- 7 2 Samuel 6-7; 1 Chronicles 17
- 8 Psalms 25, 29, 33, 36, 39
- 9 2 Samuel 8-9; 1 Chronicles 18
- 10 Psalms 50, 53, 60, 75
- 11 2 Sam. 10; 1 Chron. 19; Ps. 20
- 12 Psalms 65-67, 69-70
- 13 2 Samuel 11-12; 1 Chron. 20
- 14 Psalms 32, 51, 86, 122
- 15 2 Samuel 13-15
- 16 Psalms 3-4, 12-13, 28, 55
- 17 2 Samuel 16-18
- 18 Psalms 26, 40, 58, 61-62, 64
- 19 2 Samuel 19-21
- 20 Psalms 5, 38, 41-42
- 21 2 Samuel 22-23; Psalm 57
- 22 Psalms 95, 97-99
- 23 2 Sam. 24; 1 Chron. 21-22; Ps. 30
- 24 Psalms 108-110
- 25 1 Chronicles 23-25
- 26 Psalms 131, 138-139, 143-145
- 27 1 Chronicles 26-29; Ps. 127
- 28 Psalms 111-118
- 29 1 Kings 1-2; Ps. 37, 71, 94
- 30 Psalm 119
- 31 1 Kings 3-4



Our Community Picnic will be held on Saturday, June 7th. We need a lot of help from our members and friends to help us with this event. We also need baked beans. A sign-up sheet will be available beginning May 4th. The Service & Outreach Team thank you in advance.

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.



Community Breakfast

Saturday, May 10
9:00—10:30 am

Our Community Breakfast is 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

Fellowship Time



May 4, 2025
10:20—10:40 am
Mullendore Room



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



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.

All items collected will be going to the Community Picnic.

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.

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.



May 2025 Schedule

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

Thursday, May 1

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

Friday, May 2

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

Saturday, May 3

Pastor Twyla's Day off
9:00 am District Disaster Response Auction/Westminster, MD

Sunday, May 4

Food Pantry Sunday/Older Adult 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
12:00 pm Congregational Business Meeting/Fellowship Hall

Monday, May 5

Church office closed/Pastor Twyla Vacation
6:30 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, May 6

Pastor Twyla Vacation
7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm Worship Meeting/Mullendore Room

Wednesday, May 7

Pastor Twyla Vacation
Administrative Assistant/Work from Home
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions
12:30 pm Hag. Choral Arts Women's Ensemble/Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm Grief Writing Workshop/Mullendore Room or Fellowship Hall

Thursday, May 8

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

Friday, May 9

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

Saturday, May 10

Pastor Twyla Vacation
8:00 am Community Breakfast/Fellowship Hall
(Breakfast open to the public 9-10:30am)

Sunday, May 11

Pastor Twyla Vacation/Junior Church
Pastor Steve Robinson_Guest Preacher
Mother's Day
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, May 12

Church office closed
6:30 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, May 13

7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 14

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, May 15

12:00 pm Newsletter Deadline
5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room
7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

Friday, May 16

Book Club Set Up/Fellowship Hall – All Day
8:00 am Bulletin prep./Church office
1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3pm)

Saturday, May 17

10:00 am Book Club/Fellowship Hall

Sunday, May 18

Music Sunday
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:45 am Combined Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live
2:30 am Growing Hope Globally's Blessing of the Seed/
Near Grossnickle COB

Monday, May 19

Pastor Twyla away/Brook Lane Board Meeting
Church office closed

Tuesday, May 20

Pastor Twyla away/Brook Lane Board Meeting
12:00 pm Mary Martha Group/Altruistic Room or
Mullendore Room

6:30 pm CE Meeting/Room 302
7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 21

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, May 22

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

Friday, May 23

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

Saturday, May 24

Pastor Twyla's day off

Sunday, May 25

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, May 26

Church office closed/Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 27

6:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting/Mullendore Room

Wednesday, May 28

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, May 29

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

Friday, May 30

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

Saturday, May 31

Pastor Twyla's day off



The Puzzle Page for May 2025



A Mother of Noble Character

In Proverbs 31 (NIV), God provides the best example of a godly woman. Write the number of the sentence in the space next to the character quality it best describes.

- 1 "A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies" (v. 10).
- 2 "She brings [her husband] good, not harm, all the days of her life" (v. 12).
- 3 "She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands" (v. 13).
- 4 "She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks" (v. 17).
- 5 "She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy" (v. 20).
- 6 "When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet" (v. 21).
- 7 "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised" (v. 30).

___ Caring ___ Godly ___ Prepared
 ___ Hardworking ___ Hearty ___ Priceless
 ___ Kind

Answers: 1. priceless, 2. kind, 3. hardworking, 4. hearty, 5. caring, 6. prepared, 7. godly

Thanks FOR YOUR EXAMPLE

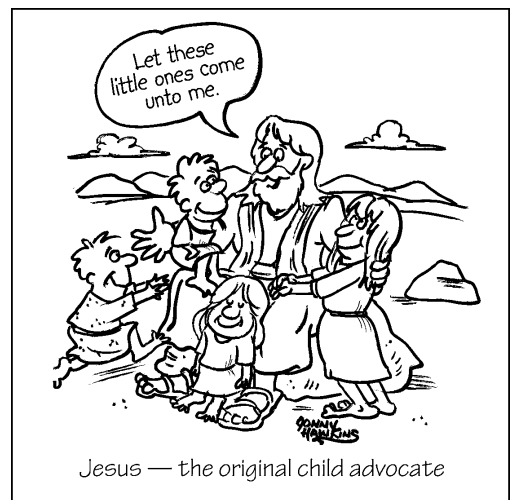
Mother's Day is a great opportunity to thank your mother, grandmother or any other woman who has been a wonderful example in your life. Make and give this craft to show how much you appreciate these special women.

What you need:

- An empty, glass, wide-mouthed jar (no lid needed)
- Acrylic craft paints (several different spring colors)
- Votive candle (optional)
- Flowers (optional)
- Small candies (optional)

What you do:

1. Make sure your glass jar is clean and dry.
2. Dip your pointer finger into one of the paint colors.
3. Using your finger as a stamp, make about five prints in a circle on the outside of your jar. These will be your flower petals. (Hint: Hold your jar by placing your hand inside it. Then you can turn the jar easily without messing up the wet paint.)
4. Dip your finger into another color and make a fingerprint in the center of your petals.
5. Make as many flowers as you want, using different fingers or your thumb to make different-sized petals.
6. Present this beautiful gift to a special woman this Mother's Day. There are many ways to use it:
 - Place a votive candle inside to make a candleholder.
 - Fill it with water and place flowers inside to make a vase.
 - Fill it with small candies to make a candy jar.



Jesus — the original child advocate

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

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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!**

R E M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS**

May 15, 2025 @ NOON

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