

Work for the good of all

Most of us would agree that we don't intentionally do good work solely to benefit ourselves. Instead, we seek out ways to help others and to do good for more than just ourselves. This is what Paul calls us to do. However, according to Paul, it is not enough to only do good for some others; we need to do good for all people. While Paul does give a special shout-out to do good for the family of believers, it does not take away from the fact that we are to do good for all people.

When I am looking to do good for others, I initially look at my immediate surroundings and the people I know to see how they can be served. Which means I am not looking at all people, and therefore neglecting part of Paul's teaching. While we can't always help all people, it is something we need to consider.

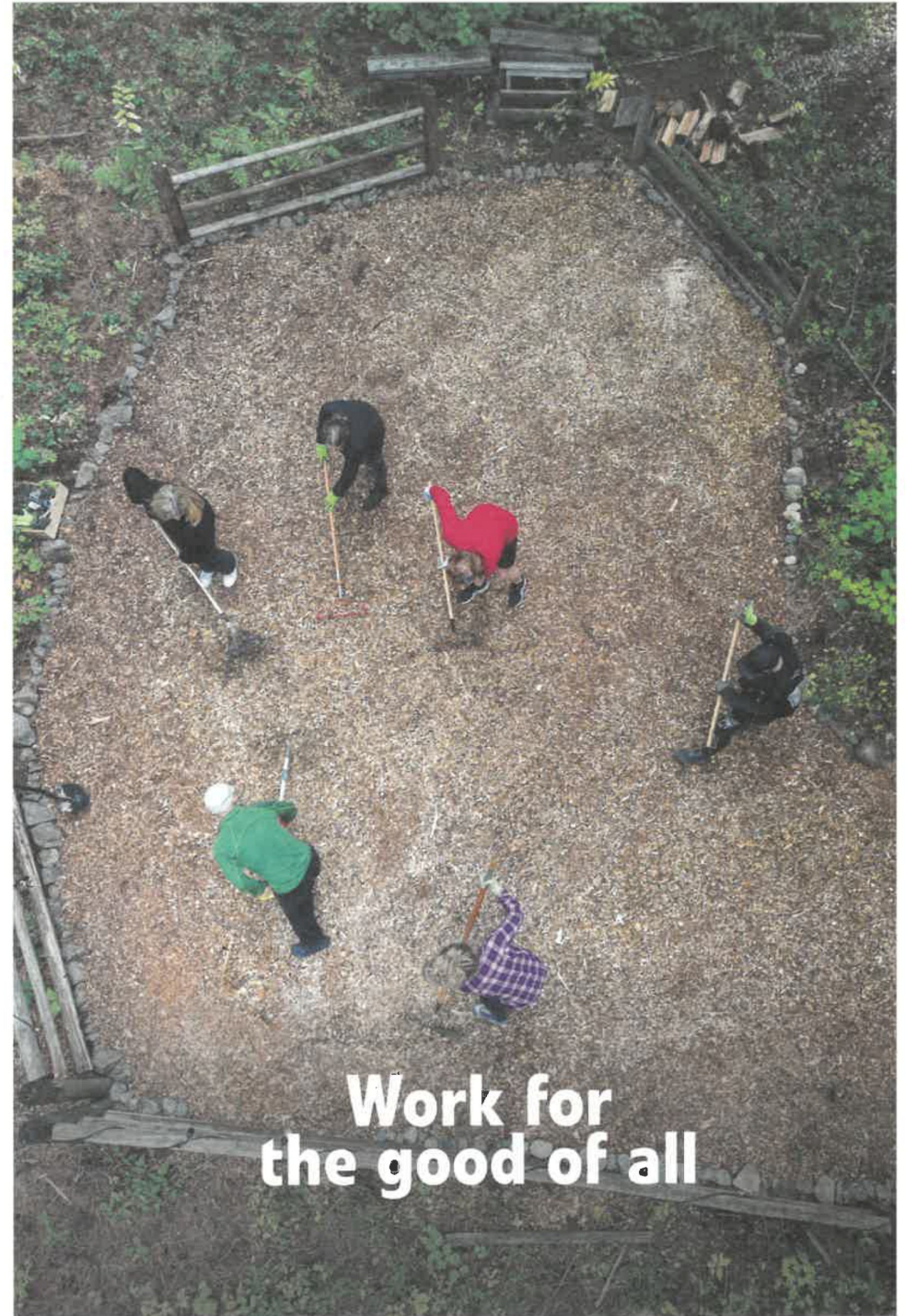
When we are looking to do good for others, we need to look outside our immediate surroundings and our own community of people. This means looking to do good for people we disagree with, or those who look different from us, or those who worship differently from us, and even those whom we might blame for their circumstances.

So, what does this look like? It doesn't mean we should stop doing good for those in our immediate community surrounding us or the people we spend the majority of our time with. It does mean that when we are looking to do good, we should expand our reach and go out of our way to do good for people in all walks of life, all beliefs, all circumstances. We work to do good for God's people—all people.

—Rachel Johnson
Elgin, Illinois

"So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us *work for the good of all* and especially for those of the family of faith" (Galatians 6:10, *NRSVue*). **Today's Bible readings from the lectionary:** 2 Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30; Isaiah 66:10-14; Psalm 66:1-9; Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20.

July 6, 2025. Photo of Brethren Volunteer Service orientation by Benjamin Hoffmann © Church of the Brethren. Living Word Bulletin Series © 2025 Brethren Press. Printed in the USA.



CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

July 6, 2025

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Katie Hardy, Worship Leader

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?

PRELUDE "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (Raney)
Becky Ernst and Becky Jackson, piano duet

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We gather together in the name of the One who bids us come.
All: We gather together to hear the words of the One who is Love.
One: We gather together to sing praises of the One who teaches peace.
All: Come, let us worship!

***HYMN #8** "Brethren, we have met to worship"
[Verse 1]

*Brethren, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God.
Will you pray with all your power while we try to preach the word?
All is vain unless the Spirit of the holy One comes down.
Brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.*
[Verse 2]

*Sisters, will you come and help us? Moses' sisters aided him.
Will you help the trembling mourners who are struggling hard with sin?
Tell them all about the Savior. Tell them that he will be found.
Sisters, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.*
[Verse 3]

*Is there here a trembling jailer, seeking grace, and filled with tears?
Is there here a weeping Mary pouring forth a flood of tears?
Brethren, join your cries to help them, sisters, let your prayers abound!
Pray, oh pray, that holy manna will be scattered all around.*
[Verse 4]

*Let us love our God supremely, let us love each other, too.
Let us love and pray for sinners till our God makes all things new.
Christ will call us home to heaven, at his table we'll sit down.
Christ will gird himself and serve us with sweet manna all around.*

***OPENING PRAYER**

Gracious God, we thank you for your promise to be with us and among us today as we worship you in a spirit of humility and holiness. We invite you to be our "true mirror," to hold up before us your Word in such a way that we see our true selves. Help us also to see in a new way the fullness of your ineffable glory and transcendent grace and mercy. We await in the next hour, your word to us, that by it we may be empowered to live in the world, announcing your rule of justice, reconciliation and peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Friend. Amen.

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN

HYMN #444 "Lord, I want to be a Christian"
[Verse 1]

*Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.*
[Verse 2]

*Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.*
[Verse 3]

*Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.*
[Verse 4]

*Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.*

SERVICE OF GIVING

Call to Giving

The way to Jerusalem was costly for Jesus. The way of Christian faithfulness is costly today. It requires nothing less than the full commitment of our lives. Our offering is a symbol of our life in the Spirit, our total commitment to the reign of God.

As we pass the offering plate here in the sanctuary, we also pass a virtual offering plate to those worshiping with us on Facebook Live. We invite you to give by mailing your offering to the church or dropping it off at the church during the week, or by going to the Hagerstowncob webpage.

Offertory "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship" (Hopson)

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray: Gracious God, we did not know it would cost so much or feel so good to follow Jesus. We are grateful that we have so much to give and so much yet to learn. We dedicate our offerings so that we and our neighbors may be equipped for life in your realm. 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

SPECIAL MUSIC "Great is Thy Faithfulness" (Kim)
Becky Ernst and Becky Jackson, piano duet

SCRIPTURE READING Romans 7:15-25 NT 158

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

MESSAGE "Mirror, Mirror" Pastor Eddie Edmonds

***HYMN #398** "I love to tell the story"
[Verse 1]

*I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true.
It satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.*

[Refrain]

*I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

[Verse 2]

*I love to tell the story. 'Tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.*

*I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy word.*

[Refrain]

*I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

[Verse 3]

*I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.*

[Refrain]

*I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

*BENEDICTION

After the Benediction, you may be seated.

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

POSTLUDE "Celebration" (Callahan)

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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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Welcome

Hagerstown
Church of the Brethren
15 S. Mulberry Street,
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 6, 2025**

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 6 - Each day I come to you, Lord, and you listen. You welcome to your listening ear, my praises and my gratitude, my complaints and my longings, my concerns and my requests for others. Hear now my prayers from my heart for _____. Thank you, Almighty and Compassionate God. Your Word says you will respond whenever I pray; but I confess that I am not always pleased with your response...nor am I always patient in waiting for your response. Help me, O God, to be patient and to trust you. Help me to remember that you are always faithful and righteous with your response. Amen.

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.

Our thanks to Katie Hardy for being our worship leader today, to Rebecca Jackson for filling in for Burt while he is away, to Rebecca Jackson and Becky Ernst for special music and to Pastor Eddie Edmonds for being with us while Pastor Twyla is away.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of our parents, James & Beulah Adams and George & Beulah Winner, given by Raymond & Wanda Winner.

Today is Food Pantry Sunday. Thanks to all for your gift(s) of non-perishable food items and your continued support of this ministry to our community. All items collected will go to Holly Place.

July Tidings are now available. If you did not receive an electronic copy please notify the Church office and you will be added to the emailing list. Printed copies can be found on the credenza in the wing of the sanctuary or in the fellowship hall.

We will be welcoming new members to our congregation during the late service on Sunday, August 24th. If you have taken the class and are interested in joining, please let Pastor Twyla know by Sunday, August 17th.

Would you like to go to a Hagerstown Flying Boxcars game as a group? We would like to have at least 20 folks together to enjoy an evening at the stadium. If you are interested, please email or call Jenny Ferguson at 301-964-1779 or jfergu7579@aol.com

In partnership with World Mission, our kids and adults have the opportunity to donate to Operation Kid - Kid. A \$5 donation can provide \$70 of new warm clothing and blankets for a child in North America. Questions Contact Kathy Kelsey



The Church Directory. Summer is here and that's a great time to update your information in the church directory. If you have recently changed phone numbers or emails, please send any changes/updates/additions to the administrative assistant at secretary-hcob@gmail.com or leave a note in her mailbox.

Church mailboxes. Everyone is welcome to use the mailboxes. If you would like to be added or taken off the list, please contact Mary Means. If you have a mailbox, we ask that you be willing to monitor it. Any mail that is left in the mailboxes after a three-month period will be disposed of. The mailboxes are located in the hallway of the church office.

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.

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!

HCOB has a YouTube Channel! Moving forward, all services will be uploaded to YouTube. This change is necessary due to Facebook's updated policy, which now only retains uploaded videos for 30 days. We have also met our goal of 50 subscribers! More information will be available in the coming weeks when we are ready to start streaming the services through YouTube. For the time being, we still encourage you to subscribe to the channel if you haven't done so already and share it with others and you can do so by going to www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob

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.

If you have changed your email address, and would like to continue to receive the bulletins, eTidings, and other church related news as it happens please send the change to secretaryhcob@gmail.com.

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!

Please remember to keep the administrative assistant updated on when and where meetings/events are being held. Please email or call the Administrative Assistant with information that needs added to the church calendar. **301-733-3565 or secretaryhcob@gmail.com**. Thank you!

Offering envelopes are located in the pew racks and at other convenient locations around the church. To assist our financial secretary, we ask that you use an envelope and please put your name and envelope number on the outside. Here's a tip - take a few envelopes home and stick one of those return address labels we all get on the outside. Then all you need to add is your number. Having your name and number on the outside of the envelope is a huge help to our offering counters. Thank you!

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!

CALENDAR

Sunday, July 6

Pastor Twyla/Annual Conference

Food Pantry Sunday/Guest Preacher Pastor Eddie Edmonds

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, July 7

Church office closed

Wednesday, July 9

Admin. Assistant/Work from Home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

6:30 pm Summer Handbell Ensemble/Sanctuary

Thursday, July 10

5:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

Friday, July 11

8:00 am Bulletin Prep/Church office

1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3pm)

Saturday, July 12

Pastor Twyla's day off

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

Sunday, July 13

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
Breeze www.hagerstowncob.org

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



"That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."

—2 Corinthians 5:19-20

Global Mission Prayer Guide

June 27, 2025

Nigeria

A request from Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN, the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria)

Dear brother and sisters,

Many greetings, peace, and blessings from the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria (EYN).

Despite the presence of military and some security agencies, life is becoming more and more difficult in many communities across Nigeria and within displaced persons camps. We pray for God's protection over all the world's nations, comfort for the many victims of violence, and wisdom and compassion guiding the leaders who are combating terrorism. May the Lord address the root causes of terrorism! We pray that hearts and minds may be changed and violence will cease. May lasting peace come.

Join us, too, in giving thanks to God for healing those who have been sick and also for some successes within the operations and among the leaders of EYN.

Know that we thank you very much for all your daily and constant prayers. Peace and blessings to you always.

Dominican Republic

A request from Comunidad de Fe de la Iglesia de los Hermanos (Community of Faith Church of the Brethren in the DR)

We request prayers of thanksgiving for our learning, experiences, and accomplishments at our June 2025 Assembly. We join with you in praying for the Brethren who are at the United States 2025 Annual Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina, next week. May God be at the center of all deliberations, decisions, and activities, and may He be the source of your blessings and growth



Childrens Hospital 1 administrative staff welcomes Grace Mishler to a planning meeting. Photo by hospital staff.

Vietnam

A request regarding the Retinopathy of Prematurity Vietnam (ROPVN) project

Grace Mishler, the former Global Mission and Service program volunteer and founder, advisor and advocate for ROPVN Social Work Support services, visited the ongoing ROPVN staff and volunteers from mid-February to mid-April. During her visit, the Childrens Hospital 1 Administrative Working Group developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the hospital and the ROPVN early intervention program to prevent infant blindness due to Retinopathy of Prematurity. From that visit, these prayer requests have emerged.

Due to governmental policy changes in program approvals, it will take six to nine months before we will be able to purchase a Retina Camera for the Eye Unit to assist doctors and nurses in making the most accurate diagnoses and recommending the best courses of treatment. Pray that this vitally important equipment will be brought online quickly so that accuracy and timeliness of diagnoses might not be compromised.

We offer and request your prayers of gratitude for the warm welcome Grace received and prayers of rejoicing that the MOU has been sent on to the local People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City for approval. Heartfelt prayers of thanks for the dedication of ROPVN team manager Doanh Thanh, who provided Vietnamese-English translation.

Prayers of thanksgiving and celebration are also offered that this ROPVN 2017 Project Initiative of the Church of the Brethren Global Mission continues to be sustainable. Without the social work team and the gifted surgeon hands of Dr. JD Ferwerda, retina surgeon, 98 infants/children would be blind today. Praise God for the assurance of the ongoing presence of compassionate hearts.

Markus Gamache, EYN Liaison with the Church of the Brethren USA; Francisco Santo Bueno, president of Comunidad de Fe de la Iglesia de los Hermanos; Grace Mishler, former Global Mission and Service program volunteer in Vietnam; Carole Davenport, Global Mission office manager.