

Teach me

When I look at this picture and the words "teach me," I wonder who was teaching whom in the photo. Any of us who have gone out on disaster response with Children's Disaster Services know that we learn more from the kids and families and our co-workers than we teach. In the psalm it asks God to "teach me . . . guide me"—to be safe, kind, merciful, humble, all words from this psalm (CEV).

Every disaster response is unique. One that was particularly humbling for me was serving at Fort Bliss in Texas/New Mexico with Afghan immigrants who had been evacuated from their country after the war, and brought to the US. These families had been through so much hardship—leaving their country suddenly, rushing to the planes, separating from family members, going to a tent city with 10,000 other people in a new country. We learned a lot from these families about hope and kindness, generosity and courage, and a bit of the Farsi language as well.

The kids were so generous. They were always giving us gifts—yarn and bead bracelets, pipe cleaner rings and head bands, tissue paper hair bows, pictures they drew. When we tried to say they could keep them, they handed them back and said, "No, you!"

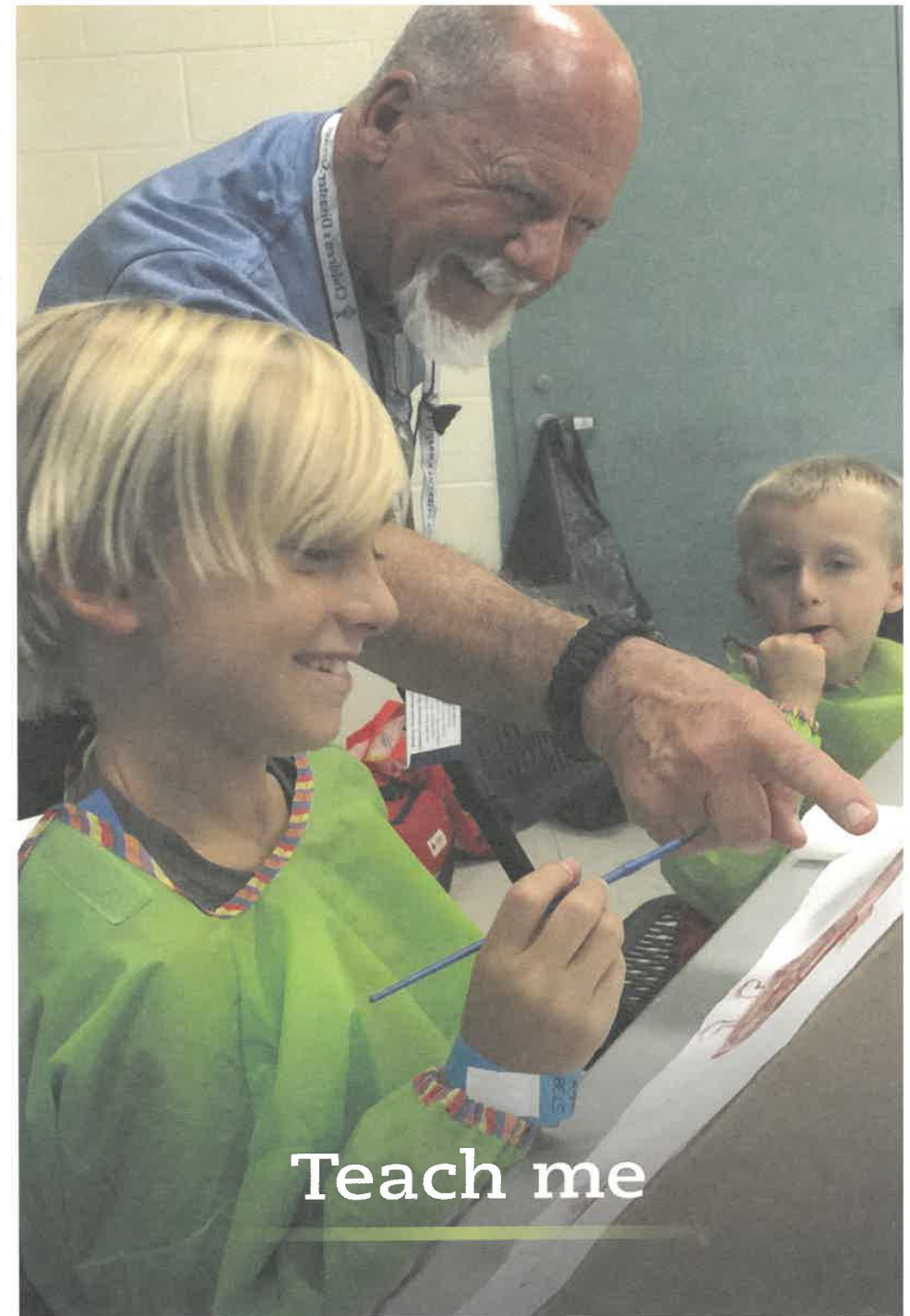
We hope that the families in the tent city learned something from us as well—that they were welcome here, that they were not alone, that people here cared.

May we all strive to be that calm and caring presence in the lives of children everywhere. Whether we are teachers or pastors or bus drivers or food service workers, parents or grandparents, camp counselors, or congregants in church together. When children see us and know we are safe, we are following the path that God has shown us.

—Kathy Fry-Miller
North Manchester, Indiana

"Make me to know your ways, O Lord; *teach me* your paths" (Psalm 25:4, *NRSVue*).
Today's Bible readings from the lectionary: Amos 7:7-17; Psalm 82; Deuteronomy 30:9-14; Psalm 25:1-10; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37.

July 13, 2025. Photo © Children's Disaster Services. Used by permission.
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Teach me

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

July 13, 2025

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Jack Finniff, Worship Leader

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?

PRELUDE Fantasia on "Azmon" (Krug)
Summer Handbell Ensemble

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: As people of Christ,
All: We seek to be of the same mind as Christ.
One: As people of Christ,
All: We seek to have the same love as Christ.
One: As people of Christ,
All: We seek to do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit.
One: As people of Christ,
All: We seek to look to the interests of others.
One: As people of Christ,
All: We come together this morning to proclaim Jesus Christ is Lord!
Let us worship joyfully!

***HYMN #71** "Joyful, joyful, we adore thee"
[Verse 1]

*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love. Hearts unfold like flow'rs
before thee, praising thee their sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive
the dark of doubt away. Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!*

[Verse 2]

*All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays, stars and
angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and moun-
tain, blooming meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to
rejoice in thee.*

[Verse 3]

*Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever bless'd, well-spring of the joy of
living, ocean depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in
love are thine. Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.*

[Verse 4]

*Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began. Love divine is reign-
ing o'er us, leading us with mercy's hand. Ever singing, march we onward, victors in
the midst of strife. Joyful music lifts us sunward in the triumph song of life!*

***OPENING PRAYER**

You are great in every way, O God, and greatly to be praised. Your mighty power is unfathomable for mere humans to understand. Even so, we know that you are present at all times and in all places. We dare to ask for whatever power we may need to live the best lives that may glorify you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN – VBS wrap-up

SERVICE OF GIVING

Call to Giving

You shall love God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and you shall love your neighbor as yourself. This love motivates our giving. As God has loved us, we return that love in our offering of energy, time, and resources.

As we pass the offering plate here in the sanctuary, we also pass a virtual offering plate to those worshipping with us on YouTube. 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 "In Heavenly Love Abiding" (Hegarty)

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray: May these gifts and our lives bear fruit in many good works, increasing among all people knowledge of God, patience and endurance, wisdom and understanding, love and joy. We would act with compassion toward one another and toward neighbors near and far. Thankful for the mercy you have shown us, we pledge ourselves and these offerings to extend mercy to all. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Day by Day" (Eithun)
Summer Handbell Ensemble

SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS, AND HOPES

Please remember our worship is also on YouTube 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

“Now Walk with God”

(Skillings)

Elaine Smith

SCRIPTURE READING

Colossians 1:1-14

NT 199

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

MESSAGE

“Do, Christian”

Pastor Twyla Rowe

*HYMN #415

“Forth in thy name”

[Verse 1]

*Forth in your name, O Lord, I go, my daily labor to pursue;
thee, only thee, resolved to know in all I think, or speak, or do.*

[Verse 2]

*The task thy wisdom hath assigned, oh, let me cheerfully fulfill,
in all my works thy presence find, and prove thy good and perfect will.*

[Verse 3]

*Thee may I set at my right hand, whose eyes mine inmost substance see,
and labor on at thy command, and offer all my works to thee.*

[Verse 4]

*Give me to bear thine easy yoke, and ev'ry moment watch and pray,
and still to things eternal look, and hasten to thy glorious day;*

[Verse 5]

*for thee delight fully employ whate'er thy bounteous grace hath giv'n,
and run my course with even joy, and closely walk with thee to heav'n.*

*BENEDICTION

After the Benediction, you may be seated.

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

POSTLUDE

“Be Strong in the Lord”

(Powell)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

*Please rise — in body or spirit — as an act of worship
Thank you for joining us in worship today.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~



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 13, 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 for the week beginning Sunday, July 13 - Almighty God, The storms of life are raging all over the world, and so, I join my voice with others, calling on you for help. Flooding in Texas has cut life short for men, women and children. Comfort those left behind with their grief, and the treasured memories of their loved ones. Assure them that their loved ones live on with you in the promised eternal heavenly place. Bring hope and perseverance to those who have lost homes and their livelihoods as they rebuild their lives. Thank you, for those who bring help to these broken lives. There are wars and threats of war, not only in the Middle East and the Ukraine, but in other areas of the world that we don't hear much about in the media. Protect the displaced and frightened people. Help efforts for peace making bring understanding and new beginnings for the people living in those devastated areas. Politics and policies of governments around the world...including here in the U.S....are causing division and pain. Please, call out to leaders in government to turn to you for wisdom and compassion. Awaken your church with your Holy Spirit where it is weary, to share the love and peace of Christ to help heal and unite our broken and lost communities and the world. And, Holy Father, as I hear of these

storms, I feel weighed down with sadness and worry. Refresh my spirit with joy and hope by the promise that my Savior is with me always. This is my prayer, in Jesus' name. 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 Jack Finniff for being our worship leader today and to Elaine Smith and the Summer Handbell Ensemble for special music this morning.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of my husband, Peter Marshall, given by Barbara Beachley Marshall.

Please check your church mailbox for the second quarter contribution statement. Please help us save money on postage by checking your mailbox. Thank you!

Junior Church will be held today for children ages Kindergarten through the sixth grade. **We will gather in the Rainbow Room (Room #205) or The Children's Sunday School Room (Room #203).** (Parents may, of course, opt to keep their child in worship with them especially if the child is uncertain about going.) Parents/grandparents should pick up their children afterward at the stair/elevator area outside the sanctuary in the west entrance. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Brenda Shane. **Junior Church is held the second and fourth Sunday of each month.**

Newsletter Deadline—All articles should be submitted to the Administrative Assistant **on or before July 15th.** You can submit articles by email or leaving a note in Allyson's mailbox. Thank you!

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.

HCOB is going to a Flying Boxcars Game on Friday, August 8th. Game starts at 6:30 pm. We are in section 213, undercover so we will be in the shade. Tickets are \$10.00 per person as long as we have at least 20 people sign up. Please text or email Jenny Ferguson at 301-964-1779 or jfergu7579@aol.com, if you would like to attend the game. Money must be given to Jenny or John by Sunday, July 27th. Please place your check or cash in an envelope with your names on it.



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 secretaryhcob@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.

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 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

Monday, July 14

Church office closed

Tuesday, July 15

12:00 pm Mary Martha Group/Altruistic Room or Mullendore Room

12:00 pm Newsletter deadline

5:30 pm Service&Outreach/Mullendore Room

6:30 pm CE Meeting/Room 302

Wednesday, July 16

Admin. Assistant/Work from Home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

6:30 pm GriefShare Planning Meeting/Mullendore Room

Thursday, July 17

5:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

Friday, July 18

8:00 am Bulletin Prep/Church office

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

Saturday, July 19

Pastor Twyla's day off

Sunday, July 20

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.