

Abundant mercy

Have mercy on us

O God

May your m

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Gently on the fields of our souls

Refreshing, awakening, abundant mercy

May our t

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Gently for our neighbors and enemies

Repentant, cleansing, compassionate tears

According to your

unfailing love

According to your

great compassion

Blot out our

transgressions

Blot away our

tears

Awaken our souls

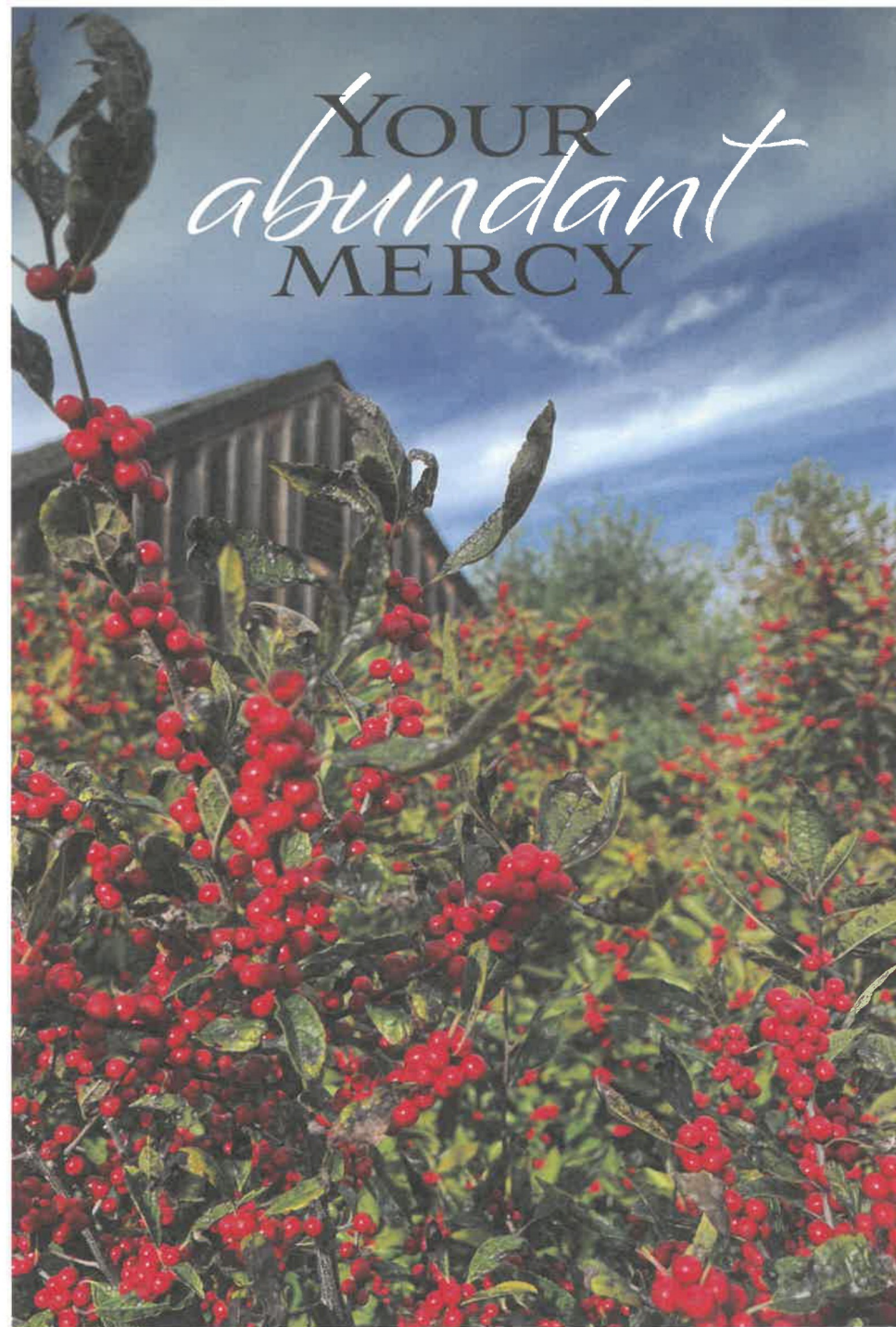
with the gift of

Your abundant mercy

—Audri Soay
North Manchester, Indiana

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to *your abundant mercy*, blot out my transgressions" (Psalm 51:1, NRSVue). **Today's Bible readings from the lectionary:** Exodus 32:7-14; Psalm 51:1-10; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10.

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CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

September 14, 2025

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Chris Stockslager, Worship Leader

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?

PRELUDE "All Is Safely Gathered In" (Blake)

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come together here in our worship and know of Christ's presence with us.

All: In our worship together, we yearn for hope and comfort.

One: Let us reach to the heart of Jesus, who is our life.

All: We encounter our Lord, who makes us whole.

One: Here we are welcome and loved and cherished.

All: Here we are the people of God. Let us rejoice and give God praise.

HYMN #14 "Come we that love the Lord"
[Verse 1]

*Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known.
Join in a song with sweet accord, join in a song with sweet accord,
and thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.*

[Verse 2]

*Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God, but children of the heav'nly king,
but children of the heav'nly king may speak their joys abroad,
may speak their joys abroad.*

[Verse 3]

*The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets, before we reach the heav'nly fields,
before we reach the heav'nly fields, or walk the golden streets,
or walk the golden streets.*

[Verse 4]

*Then let our songs abound, and ev'ry tear be dry. We're marching thru Immanuel's
ground, we're marching thru Immanuel's ground, to fairer worlds on high,
to fairer worlds on high.*

OPENING PRAYER

God of abundant grace, may your Holy Spirit be with us now as we worship you this day. Open our eyes to truly see one another, that we might discover your presence in the smile of a neighbor. Open our ears to the needs of the world, that we might hear your wisdom in the words spoken around us. And open our hearts to your grace and love, that we might find guidance and strength for the journey, for ourselves and for one another. Amen.

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE A CHILD "God of all learning" (see insert)

SERVICE OF GIVING

Call to Giving

We have the opportunity to join with God in providing for the poor and oppressed. Our gifts carry God's mercy to people who have not known God's love or discovered the joy of living in harmony with God's good earth and with their sisters and brothers.

As we pass the offering plate here in the sanctuary, we also pass a virtual offering plate to those worshipping with us on YouTube 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 website.

Offertory "God's Care" (Logan)

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray: Because we have been blessed by you, O God, we are delighted to share. Because there are many who do not enjoy your bounty, we search for ways to help them. Thank you for showing us the way of mercy and patient example, the way of generosity and self-forgetful service, the way of faithfulness and joyous celebration. Bless us and our offerings, we pray. Amen.

MORNING ANTHEM "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (Owenby)
Temple Choir

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

HYMN #143

"Amazing grace"

[Verse 1]

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

[Verse 2]

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

[Verse 3]

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.

'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

[Verse 4]

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,

I shall possess, within the veil, a life of joy and peace.

[Verse 5]

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine;

but God, who called me here below, will be forever mine.

[Verse 6]

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,

we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 15:1-10

NT 78

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

MESSAGE

"The Lost Sheep"

Pastor Twyla Rowe

HYMN #305

"Where charity and love prevail"

[Verse 1]

Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found; brought here together by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.

[Verse 2]

With grateful joy and holy fear true charity we learn. Let us with heart and mind and strength now love God in return.

[Verse 3]

Forgive we now each other's faults as we our faults confess, and let us love each other well in Christian holiness.

[Verse 4]

Let us recall that in our midst dwells God's begotten Son. As members of his body joined, we are in Christ made one.

[Verse 5]

Love can exclude no race or creed if honored be God's name. Our common life embraces all whose maker is the same.

BENEDICTION

After the Benediction, you may be seated.

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

POSTLUDE

"Eternal Father Strong to Save"

(Chesterton)

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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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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 YouTube Live at
10:45 AM

www.hagerstowncob.org

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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 September 14, 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, September 14 - Gentle Shepherd, I look to you for guidance today as I seek to do your will. When I find myself struggling or lost, I know you pursue me, and you are ready to help pull me close to you. You help me to remain faithful to the path you put before me. You fill me with confidence to face each endeavor put before me. Humbled by your never-failing love and guidance...I offer my thanksgiving and praise to you. Oh...how blessed I am to know you, Holy One, and have you by my side every moment of every day. 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 Chris Stockslager for being our worship leader today and to the Temple Choir for our morning anthem.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Jim Benner, Teresa Gearhart, and parents Glenn and Mary Barnhart, given by Gloria Benner and Beverly Gearhart.

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.**

The 55th Annual Dunker Church Service will be held today at 3:00 pm. The Dunker Church is located on the Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg, Maryland.

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

Non-Delegate Registration forms can be found on the credenza in the wing of the sanctuary or in the fellowship hall for those wishing to attend the 2025 District Conference on October 10th & 11th. The church office does not register non-delegates. The deadline to submit your registration form is **September 17th.**

NEEDED—If you have a small or medium sized dresser and or two (2) lamps and two (2) end tables to donate to a good cause, please call Jan Young. Her number is listed in the church directory. Thank you!

Sleep in Heavenly Peace—Jenny Ferguson is collecting used or new children's books for Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Thank you to everyone who has donated so far, please keep them coming. The box will stay under the table in the west entrance. If you could only see their faces when they get a bed and pick a book. Thank you!

Widows/Widowers Luncheon—You are invited to attend a luncheon for the Widows/Widowers at Hagerstown COB. The luncheon will take place this Thursday, September 18, 2025 at 12PM in the Fellowship Hall. We ask ALL that attend to bring a pot luck dish to share. We will provide paper goods and drinks. A sign up sheet will be placed in the west entrance for everyone to please sign up so we can get a head count. If you have questions, please contact Robin Davies, Ann Platou, Suzie Wolfe or Mary Means.

The Service & Outreach Team will once again be having our large community event—Fall Festival & Trunk or Treat—on Saturday, October 18th from 1 to 4PM. We need many helpers. We will have bingo, children's games, and crafts for the children. We will have hotdogs, baked beans, chips, popcorn, water, snow cones, and cotton candy. There will be a cake walk. We will have a costume parade for the kids and of course, Trunk or Treat. Do you love to meet new people and share the good news about our Lord and Savior? Here's your opportunity. We also need adult and children's prizes for bingo. If you have any appropriate items, you no longer use, please donate them for this event. We also need cakes for the cake walk, and cookies and candy.

If you would like to participate in the Trunk or Treat, let us know. There are sign-up sheets available in the west entrance. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Service & Outreach Team.

GriefShare® Our fall session of GriefShare will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 17, and continue each Wednesday evening through Dec. 17, from 6:30—8:30 in the Mullendore Room.

There will be no class on November 26 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. You may join at any time during the 13 weeks, but we ask that you commit to attending at least 3 consecutive weeks. Cost is free, but we gladly will accept a \$10 donation toward materials. The grief journey is painful and lonely. But the GriefShare ministry provides a supportive environment for anyone who has lost a spouse, parent, child, sibling or other family member or friend. If you or someone you know has lost a loved one, please share this information with them and consider attending. We encourage you to bring a family member or friend so they can better understand your loss and become a greater support for you.

Register at www.griefshare.org. If you have any questions about the program, see Pastor Twyla or Debbie Nycum.

*We also will offer a special 2-hr evening seminar, Surviving the Holidays, on Monday, November 3, from 6:30—8:30 p.m.

Growing Hope Global family fun Harvest Festival, near Grossnickle Church of the Brethren, will be held at the Grossnickle Farm, at 11720 Wolfsville Road, Myersville, Md., on Sunday, Oct. 12. The annual festival, which is in its 20th year, will begin at 2:30 p.m. with hay wagon rides leaving the barn. Then, beginning at 3 p.m., there's to be an outdoor worship and dedication program, followed by plenty of delicious foods, all at no charge. There will be American as well as special dishes made with recipes from Sierra Leone, one of the African countries where our fundraising will help communities learn to grow and store food for lean times of the year. The afternoon will also feature time for children to make scarecrows and to learn games that children play in Sierra Leone. And, for all, there will be a lot of sweet, sweet fun in the day's prime fundraising event: the live and silent auctions for cakes and other baked goods made by members of area churches supporting Growing Hope Globally!! For more information and/or rides to/from Harvest Festival, call Arn Platou at 301-790-3498.

If you have a church mailbox, please check it weekly. Mailboxes are now labeled for incoming ministry team members.



the stigma of seeking help. Our neighbors struggling with substance use and mental health issues need our prayers and support.

September is National Recovery Month. HCOB supports the efforts of Washington Goes Purple—a substance abuse educational movement to engage our community in preventing addiction and eliminating

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 14

Junior Church

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 & YouTube Live

www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob

3:00 pm Dunker Church Service/Antietam National Battlefield

Monday, September 15

Church office closed

12:00 pm Newsletter deadline
5:30 pm P&F Meeting/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, September 16

8:00 am Kramer's Piano Tuning/Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary
12:00 pm Mary Martha Group/Mullendore Room
5:30 pm Service&Outreach Meeting/Mullendore Room
6:30 pm Christian Ed. Meeting/Room 302

Wednesday, September 17

Administrative Assistant/Work from home
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions
6:30 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Thursday, September 18

12:00 pm Widow/Widower Luncheon/Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room
7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

Friday, September 19

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

Saturday, September 20

Pastor Twyla's day off

Sunday, September 21

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

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.

OUT OF OFFICE

The Administrative Assistant
will be on vacation September
29th through October 3rd.

The Novel Bunch presents...

The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post

by Allison Pataki



This book is historical fiction and reimagines the life of Marjorie Merriweather Post, heiress to the Postum Cereal Company, which eventually became General Foods. The book explores Post's life journey from her beginnings of gluing cereal boxes as a young girl to help her father, to becoming the very wealthy and influential businesswoman, socialite, and philanthropist whose legacy as a presidential hostess helped to shape the political scene in Washington, DC. It also delves into Post's personal life, her four marriages, and her professional challenges as she built her own influence. The novel is set against the backdrop of early 20th century America, and it examines the complexities of wealth, power, and changing roles for women. Pataki's story chronicles Post's rise to become one of the wealthiest women in the United States, her inheritance of a vast fortune, and it also highlights Post's acquisition of Russian art and jewelry that now forms the core of the much-visited Hillwood Museum outside of Washington.

Date: Saturday, November 1

Time: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Place: Fellowship Hall

Light refreshments to follow.

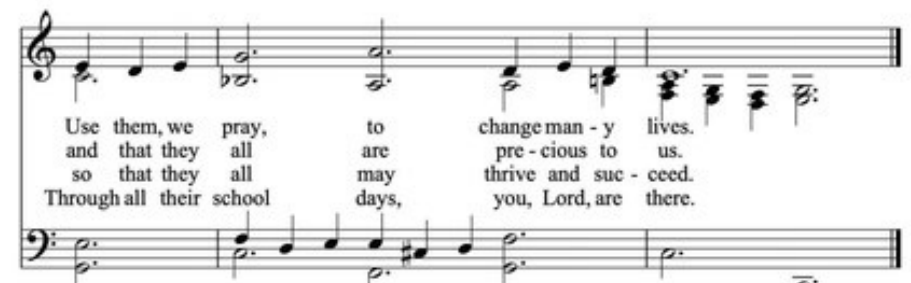
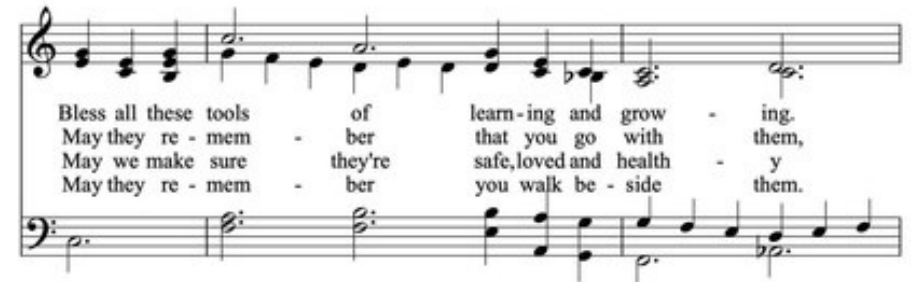
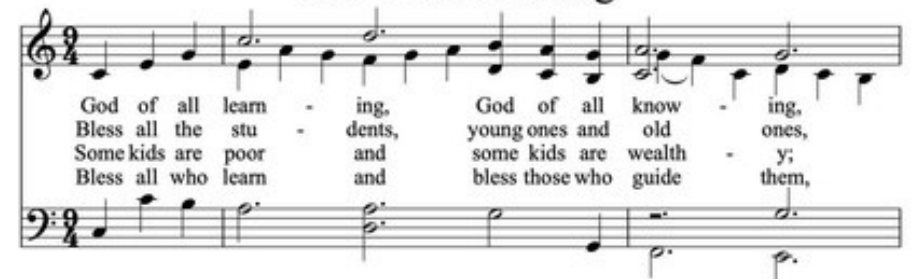
NOTE: If you have any questions or need assistance acquiring the book, call Jenny Ferguson at 301-964-1779. Please return the section below if you plan to attend.

NAME _____ I plan to attend _____ YES

Preferred contact information: Phone _____ OR Email _____

Book Club Team: *Jenny Ferguson, Kristal Bricker, Debbie Nycum, Kay Ogilvie, Jan Young

God of all learning



WORDS: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2015

MUSIC: Trad. Gaelic melody; harm. by Dean McIntyre, 2013

BUNESSAN

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