



Tidings

May 2026



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 YouTube Live at 10:45 AM
<http://www.hagerstowncob.org>
facebook.com/hagerstowncob
www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob

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Pastor's Pen

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)

“We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28)

It's hard to believe that it was a year ago that I shared with you that I would be retiring on May 31, 2026. Here it is now, May 2026 and I am writing my last *Pastor's Pen*. Many of you ask me if I'm counting the days. Or you remind me that I just did my last...Love Feast...Christmas Candlelight Service...Deacon Meeting...etc.

I haven't been counting the days, not in the sense that I'm anxious to finish my days of employment; but more in the sense that I am aware that a transition in my life is coming and I have things to complete and things to begin as my service as your pastor comes to a close.

I am aware that my responsibilities of planning weekly and special services, attending meetings, providing pastoral care are coming to a close. That leaves me with a feeling of sadness, but at the same time, I look forward to an old familiar freedom of worshipping with a congregation and participating in special events and services...without the responsibilities.

I am excited to have more time to be with Don. For 34 years, he has been by my side as a faithful pastor's spouse, which is not an easy task. He has made many sacrifices through the 34 years of my ministry. Now he will get to put up with me every day. It will be a life filled with new adventures, Babe, and I am looking forward to it.

At the same time, I will not stop listening to God's voice. A friend from the Westminster Congregation whom some of you know, Jeffrey Scott, used to remind the congregation that there is nowhere in the bible that says when we reach a certain age we get to stop serving God. I agree with that. But, there certainly will be things I will not be able to do here at Hagerstown COB, because you will have a new pastor to carry on pastoral responsibilities...but...in time...I will be free to work side-by-side with you through some ministries.

God has truly blessed me with the call to serve as your pastor. You are an amazing, faithful, serving, playful congregation...and your next pastor will be blessed and privileged to lead you, as I have been. During the interim, Pastor Eddie, will have that honor. I am praying for Pastor Eddie and for the Pastor who will be called to serve this congregation. Don and I will be looking forward to remaining members at HCOB...continuing the journey as brothers and sisters in Christ...to grow our faith and follow in obedience to God.

*God Bless You,
 Pastor Twyla*





Sundays in May



Date	Pastor	Worship Leader	Sermon	Text	Greeter	Special
5/3/26 Combined Service	Twyla Rowe	Dennis Browne	"Song of Life"	Psalm 50	Bob & Judy Long	All Music Sunday/ CBM/Food Pantry Sunday/Fellowship Time
5/10/26	Eddie Edmonds	Kathy Kelsey	"The Spirit is Not Spooky"	John 14:15-21	Jack Finniff	Junior Church/ Parish Nurse
5/17/26	Twyla Rowe	Wendy Browne	"Living Stones"	1 Peter 2:2-10	Amy Clipp	
5/24/26	Twyla Rowe	Larry Wisherd	"Flames of the Spirit"	Acts 2:1-21	Don & Roberta Maas	Pentecost/Junior Church
5/31/26 Combined Service	Twyla Rowe	Candice Summers		Matthew 5:8, 2 Corinthians 6:16	Eileen Smith	Twyla's last day

The Service & Outreach Team is organizing our Community Picnic which will be held on Saturday, June 13, 2026 from 11:30 am to 1 pm. We will need many of our members and friends to help us with this. We need help to set up on the parking lot at 8:30 am and take down at 1 pm. We need help with food servers, hospitality, welcome table, and a photographer. We also need 6 to 7 crockpots full of baked beans. They can be store bought beans. We have decided not to have the clothing giveaway but if anyone would like to take on this task, that is okay with us. Sign-up sheets will be available by the middle of May. We appreciate all you can do to make this a special day for our neighborhood.

**Congregational Business Meeting
May 3, 2026**

Our May Congregational Business Meeting will be held on May 3, 2026 in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a potluck lunch after the 10:45 AM Combined Worship Service and then the Congregational Business Meeting will follow.

**All Music Sunday—May 3rd
Sunday School Orchestra**

The Sunday School Orchestra will be performing in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, May 3rd at 9:00 am, Sunday School will follow at the normal scheduled time. There will be a combined worship service at 10:45 am in the Sanctuary. The Temple Choir, Early Service Praise Team, and the Brethren Bell Ringers will lead us in an inspiring musical worship service.

The Class of 2026!

It is our tradition to recognize our graduating high school seniors and those receiving college degrees in our immediate church family (yourself, spouse, child).

Please help us determine the members of the graduating class by filling out and returning this form to the church office no later than May 20.

Please observe the deadline so we can include the list in the June Tidings.

Name of Graduate: _____

School graduating from: _____

College attending next year and major, if decided: _____

For college or doctorate. No abbreviations, please. No one likes to guess at what ATPC might mean.



**Vacation Bible School
June 15th - June 19th**

The Christian Education Ministry Team is holding a meeting of all Vacation Bible School volunteers on Wednesday, May 6th at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. This year's VBS will be held from June 15th through the 19th and our theme is Tropical Trek. We are asking that all teachers and helpers be present, if possible, so that we can work toward finalizing our plans. If you are not able to attend but would still like to help, please reach out to any member of the Christian Education Ministry Team and we will be sure the appropriate information is sent your way following our meeting. CEMT members are Tina Mills, Chairperson; Debbie Long; Tracie Potect; Kay Ogilvie; and Brenda Shane.

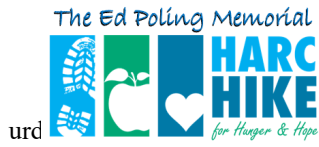
**Pastor Twyla's Retirement
Celebration**

Join us to celebrate Pastor Twyla Rowe's retirement on Sunday, May 31st from 12:30 - 3:00PM at Hagerstown Church of the Brethren in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP by May 17th by email (secretaryhcob@gmail.com) or by calling 301-733-3565. There will be a gift table set up during Twyla's Retirement Celebration and you may also place a monetary gift in the offering plate for Pastor Twyla's Retirement. If you are writing a check, please make your check out to Hagerstown Church of the Brethren and write "retirement" in the memo line.



**Mother's Day
May 10th**

World Vision Global 6k water walk/ run will be held on Saturday May 16th at Paramount Elementary School starting at 9:00AM—if you would like to participate or make donation you can go to: <https://global6k.worldvision.org/> and select teams 39506 or contact Mary Means.



Ed Poling Memorial HARC walk/run will be held on Saturday May 16th at Zion Lutheran Church. If you would like participate or make a donation you can go to: harccoalition.org/hike/ or contact Mary Means.

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 Children's Church Room (Room #203) 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

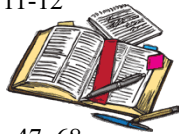


Hagerstown Flying Boxcars

HCOB is going to a Flying Boxcars game on Friday, May 22nd. There will be a sign-up sheet in the west entrance and fellowship hall for those who wish to attend. We need at least 20 people to go to this game for the price to be \$10.00 per person.

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 Psalms 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 Samuel 10, 1 Chron. 19, Ps. 20
- 12 Psalms 65-67, 69-70
- 13 2 Samuel 11-12, 1 Chronicles 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 Psalm 108-110
- 25 1 Chronicles 23-25
- 26 Psalm 131, 138-139, 143-145
- 27 1 Chronicles 26-29, Psalm 127
- 28 Psalms 111-118
- 29 1 Kings 1-2, Ps. 37, 71, 94
- 30 Psalm 119
- 31



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! **All items collected the months of May & June will be going to our Community Picnic.**

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.



The Service & Outreach Team asks that you "Save the Date" for two important events coming up in 2026. The Community Picnic will be held on Saturday, June 13th, and the Fall Festival/Trunk or Treat will be held on Saturday, October 17th. We will need your help with these events.

Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Auction

The Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Auction will be held on Saturday, May 2nd at Carroll County Ag. Center in Westminster, MD and will start at 9:00 am.

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 Donnie Maas (240-866-1077). 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.

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 Jan Young at 240-310-4101



Community Breakfast

Saturday, May 9th 9:00—10:30 am

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



Check out our YouTube Channel and subscribe by going to:

www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob

May 2026 Schedule

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

Friday, May 1

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

Saturday, May 2

Pastor Twyla's day off
9:00 am MAD Disaster Response Auction/Carroll County
Ag. Center

Sunday, May 3

All Music Sunday/Food Pantry Sunday
9:00 am Sunday School Orchestra/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:20 am Fellowship Time/Mullendore Room
10:45 am Combined Worship, Sanctuary & YouTube
12:00 pm Congregational Business Meeting & Luncheon

Monday, May 4

Church office closed
1:00 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Wednesday, May 6

Admin. Assistant/Work from home
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions
6:30 pm CE & VBS Volunteer Meeting/Fellowship Hall

Thursday, May 7

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

Friday, May 8

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

Saturday, May 9

Pastor Twyla's day off
8:00 am Community Breakfast/Fellowship Hall

Sunday, May 10

Pastor Eddie Edmonds/Guest Preacher/Junior Church/
Pastor Vacation/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 & YouTube

Monday, May 11

Pastor Vacation/Church office closed
1:00 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Wednesday, May 13

Pastor Vacation/Admin. Assistant/Work from home
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, May 14

Pastor Vacation/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 15

Pastor Vacation
8:00 am Bulletin prep/church office
12:00 pm Newsletter Deadline
1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3PM)

Saturday, May 16

Pastor Vacation
9:00 am World Vision Global 6k walk/run/Paramount
Elementary School

Sunday, May 17

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

Monday, May 18

Church office closed

Tuesday, May 19

12:00 pm Mary Martha Group/Room 208
5:30 pm P&F Meeting/Mullendore Room

Wednesday, May 20

Admin. Assistant/Work from home
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, May 21

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

Friday, May 22

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

Saturday, May 23

Pastor Twyla's day off

Sunday, May 24

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

Monday, May 25

Memorial Day/Church office closed

Tuesday, May 26

6:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting/Mullendore Room

Wednesday, May 27

Admin. Assistant/Work from home
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, May 28

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

Friday, May 29

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

Saturday, May 30

Ed Poling Memorial HARC walk/run/Williamsport Zion Lutheran Ch
Pastor Twyla's day off/Fellowship Hall in Use All Day

Sunday, May 31

Trinity Sunday
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:45 am Combined Worship, Sanctuary & YouTube
12:30 pm Pastor Twyla's Retirement Celebration/Fellowship
Hall

Puzzle Page for May 2026

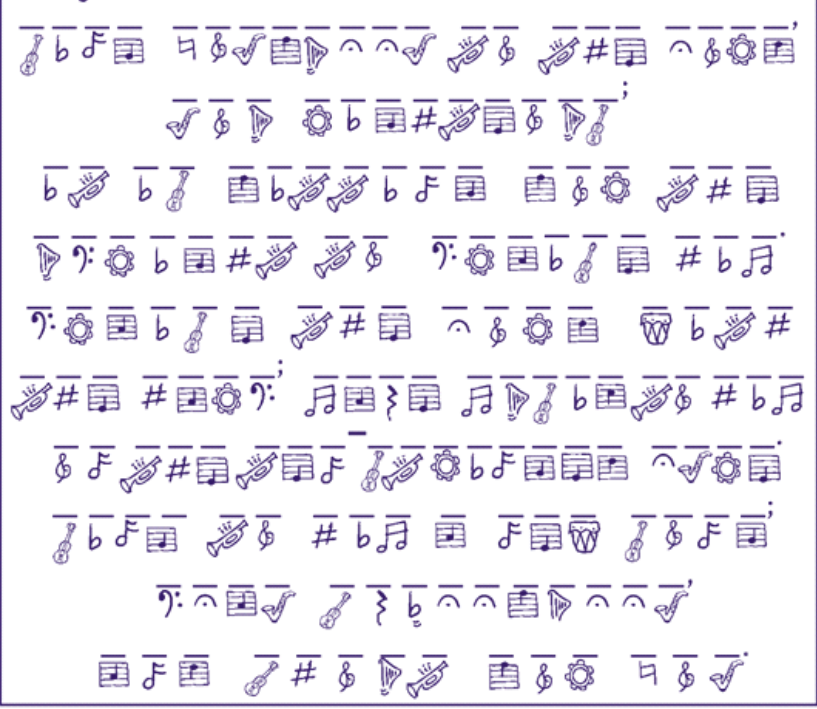


Just for KIDS

Psalm 33:1-3

Use the code to find the words to this joyful song.

=A	=B	=C	=D	=E	=F
=G	=H	=I	=J	=K	=L
=M	=N	=O	=P	=Q	=R
=S	=T	=U	=V	=W	=X
=Y	=Z				



Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him. Praise the Lord with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre. Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

Make a joyful noise

Here are two instruments that you can make.

A Humming Comb

You will need:

- a comb
- a piece of wax paper
- a small piece of tape

Cut the wax paper so that it is as long as the comb. Fold it over the comb. Tape to hold it in place – do not make the wax paper fit too tightly, though.

To play: put your Humming Comb between your lips and hum your favorite song.



Shoebbox Lyre

You will need:

- a shoebox
- large rubber bands

Remove the lid from the box. Place the rubber bands lengthwise around the box. Decorate the box with crayons or markers if desired.

To play: Pluck the rubber bands with your fingers.



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15 South Mulberry Street
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL—
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY



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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, 2026 @ NOON

BRETHREN TIDINGS is published monthly
by the Hagerstown Church of the Brethren.
All articles submitted for inclusion in the
Tidings are subject to editing.
All dates and times listed are subject
to change without notice.



District Conference 2026

October 9 & 10

Camp Mardela

Denton, MD

**2026 Annual
Conference Logo**

