

Blessed by association

Last year, my oldest son got caught up in a crime, committed by a friend with whom he was associated, He was arrested and convicted on a trumped-up charge while his friend got off scot-free.

I've had a lot of time to think about the grace that God has afforded me, since my incarceration and ultimate impending punishment. I thank God and my church daily for offering me that promise of God's grace.

Something I've considered is how often I, too, was guilty by association. And how I could have spent more time being blessed by association. Which would you rather be - guilty by association or blessed by association? Do you hang out with people who bless you by your association with them? Or curse you by association with them? And are you someone who blesses others by their association with you? It's an important question as we decide how to live out our belief in God, and how to be true servants of God!

And it's not the words that matter; it's what your actions prove you out to be. I pray that, as we live under the gift of grace, we can find ways to bless others by their association with us. Be blessed indeed ... and share the blessings, by association.

- Raymond Johnson
member, Manchester Church of the Brethren in Indiana,
under sentence of death in Oklahoma

"For sin will have no dominion over you, since *you are not under law but under grace*" (Romans 6:14, NRSVue). **Today's Bible readings from the lectionary:** Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42.

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You are not under law but under



grace



CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

June 28, 2026

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?

PRELUDE "Jesus Brings Light and Life" (Koury)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come, return home to our parent God.

People: We long for the loving arms to enfold us.

Leader: God's arms are open for his children.

*People: When we experience God's love, we know we
have failed to care for all his children.*

Leader: God's love is not meant to shame us but to call us
to love.

*People: We will offer our love to God and to all of his
children.*

***HYMN #94** "Come, Ye Thankful People"
[Verse 1]

Come, ye thankful people, come! Raise the song of harvest home. All is safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin. God, our maker, doth provide for our need to be supplied. Come to God's own temple, come. Raise the song of harvest home.

[Verse 2]

All the world is God's own field, fruit unto God's praise to yield; wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown. First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear. Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

[Verse 3]

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home, from the field shall in that day all offenses purge away, giving angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast, but the fruitful ears to store in God's garner evermore.

[Verse 4]

Then, O church triumphant, come. Raise the song of harvest home. All are safely gathered in, free from sorrow, free from sin; there forever purified in God's presence to abide. Come, ten thousand angels, come! Raise the song of harvest home.

***OPENING PRAYER (Invocation)**

We come into your presence to offer our praise and our lives to you, O God of love and compassion. You have nurtured us as in the womb. You have guided us and taught us how to find life. You have released us to receive us back in love. Help us to care as you care. Amen.

VBS PRESENTATION and WRAP-UP

SERVICE OF GIVING

Tithing is more than just giving away a part of your income; it's a meaningful practice that deeply connects with your faith and values and demonstrates obedience to God. Tithing can also have a powerful impact on your walk with Jesus - by giving away a portion of your income, you're putting your trust in God and stretching your faith. Finally, tithing can be a wonderful way to help support your church!

As we pass the offering plate here in the sanctuary, we also pass a virtual offering plate to those worshiping 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 "Close to Thee" (Vail)
***DOXOLOGY #119** "Praise God From Whom"

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

O God, you have blessed us in so many ways. May we never take our blessings for granted. Help us to remember that privilege always implies responsibility. Accept these offerings as tokens of our responsibility to serve others in your name. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "More of You" (Arr. Leatherman)
Elaine Smith

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 #41

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

[Verse 1]

Come, thou Almighty King, help us thy name to sing, help us to praise: Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious, come, and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

[Verse 2]

Come, thou Incarnate Word, gird on thy mighty sword, our prayer attend. Come, and thy people bless, and give thy word success; Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

[Verse 3]

Come, Holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour. Thou who almighty art, now rule in ev'ry heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.

[Verse 4]

To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be hence evermore. Thy sov'reign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:29-31

NT 35

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

MESSAGE

“When Christ Comes To Your House”

Pastor Eddie Edmonds

*HYMN #229

“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

[Verse 1]

Lord, you have come to the lakeshore looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones. You only asked me to follow humbly.

[Chorus]

O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me, kindly smiling, have spoken my name. Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me; by your side I will seek other seas.

[Verse 2]

You know so well my possessions; my boat carries no gold and no weapons; but nets and fishes - my daily labor.

[Chorus]

O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me, kindly smiling, have spoken my name. Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me; by your side I will seek other seas.

[Verse 3]

You need my hands, full of caring, through my labors to give others rest, and constant love that keeps on loving.

[Chorus]

O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me, kindly smiling, have spoken my name. Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me; by your side I will seek other seas.

[Verse 4]

You, who have fished other oceans ever longed-for by souls who are waiting, my loving friend, as thus you call me.

[Chorus]

O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me, kindly smiling, have spoken my name. Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me; by your side I will seek other seas.

BENEDICTION

After the Benediction, you may be seated.

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

POSTLUDE

“Let Praise Ring Forth”

(Smith)

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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 YouTube Live at
10:45 AM

www.hagerstowncob.org

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@hagerstowncob](http://www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)

Eddie Edmonds
Interim Pastor

Allyson McPeak
Administrative Assistant

Burton Young
Director of
Music Ministries

James “Jamie” Prather
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 June 28, 2026

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” - June 28, 2026—In your house, there is room for all; at your table, we find a place set for us. Yet we admit, Inviting God, that we find it difficult to be as accepting as you and we find it easy to shoulder others away from your feast. You fling wide the doors to your kingdom, Welcoming God, but we are quick to try to shut them to those who are different from us. Your heart is open so that all might experience your grace, and we reluctantly remember our ungracious words and deeds. Forgive us, God of Every Person: heal our broken lives; mend our fragmented souls. Open our hearts to your vision of the kingdom where all are welcome, all are affirmed, all are beloved — even as we receive these gifts from Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

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 Eileen Smith for being our worship leader today and to Elaine Smith for special music.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of my parents CW4 Howard Henson and Lois Brewer Kerns, given by Karolyn Martin.

Annual Conference will be held June 28—July 2 in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The theme this year is “Imagine!”. Please remember to pray for your delegates, Kathy Kelsey and Rebecca Jackson, and the conference.

A young couple attending our early church service is in need of a dryer and pots and pans. If you have a used dryer, one that is in good shape, and/or slightly used pots and pans that you are wanting to part with, please call Suzie Wolfe.

Junior Church will be held today for children ages Kindergarten through the sixth grade. **We will gather in the Children’s Church 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 Tina Mills. **Junior Church is held the second and fourth Sunday of each month.**

Our next Community Breakfast will be held Saturday, July 11th in the fellowship hall from 9:00-10:30 am. All are welcome!

Friends in Faith will be having a carry in lunch on Wednesday, July 15, 2026 at 12PM in the Fellowship Hall.

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). 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.

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!

Our services are streamed through YouTube! If you have not done so already, subscribe to HCOB's YouTube Channel and share it with others. You can do so by going to: www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob

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.

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!

Save the Date—Our Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat will be held on Saturday, October 17th. More details to come.

Printed copies of Leadership and Ministry team meeting minutes are available in the west entrance. The holders are located on the wall beside the bulletin board.

Offering drop-off box is located in the west entrance by the double doors. This box can be used to drop off your offering or order forms. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

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!

The Church Directory. Now is 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.

You can check the church calendar from your home computer or any Internet-enabled device, including your smartphone. The calendar can be viewed online by going to <http://www.hagerstowncob.org> clicking on the Calendar tab. The calendar is updated continuously. We do our best to keep current by adding, moving, and deleting as information comes in.

CALENDAR

Sunday, June 28

Junior Church
8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & YouTube
(www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)

Monday, June 29

Church office closed

Tuesday, June 30

6:30 pm Leadership Team Meeting/Mullendore Room

Wednesday, July 1

Admin Assistant/Work from home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, July 2

Pastor Eddie's in office day/Please call ahead to schedule an appointment

5:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

Friday, July 3

8:00 am Bulletin prep/Church office

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

Saturday, July 4

Independence Day

Sunday, July 5

Food Pantry 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 & YouTube

(www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)

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.