

Always enough

The photo on the front of the bulletin this week was taken at a Brethren Volunteer Service (BVS) orientation. Volunteers Ken, Pauline, and Anton smile out from the kitchen at Camp Koinonia, just before beginning their year of service. Everything about this photo is quintessentially orientation to me—the resilience zone diagram on the whiteboard, the games and Bibles stacked on shelves, and the many places set at the table.

I have been part of seven BVS orientations, and the shared meals are one of my favorite parts. We get to experience recipes from all around the world, meal traditions and prayers from a variety of backgrounds, and serious team bonding in the grocery store aisles.

It's hard not to think of the loaves and fishes during these meals. Volunteers are given the challenge of cooking for the entire orientation group with a budget of only \$1 per person per meal. The question always arises: will there be enough?

In short, the answer is yes. Community members often bring produce from their gardens and join us for a meal together. Local congregations host our group for potlucks. The table gets wider, and there is always, always enough.

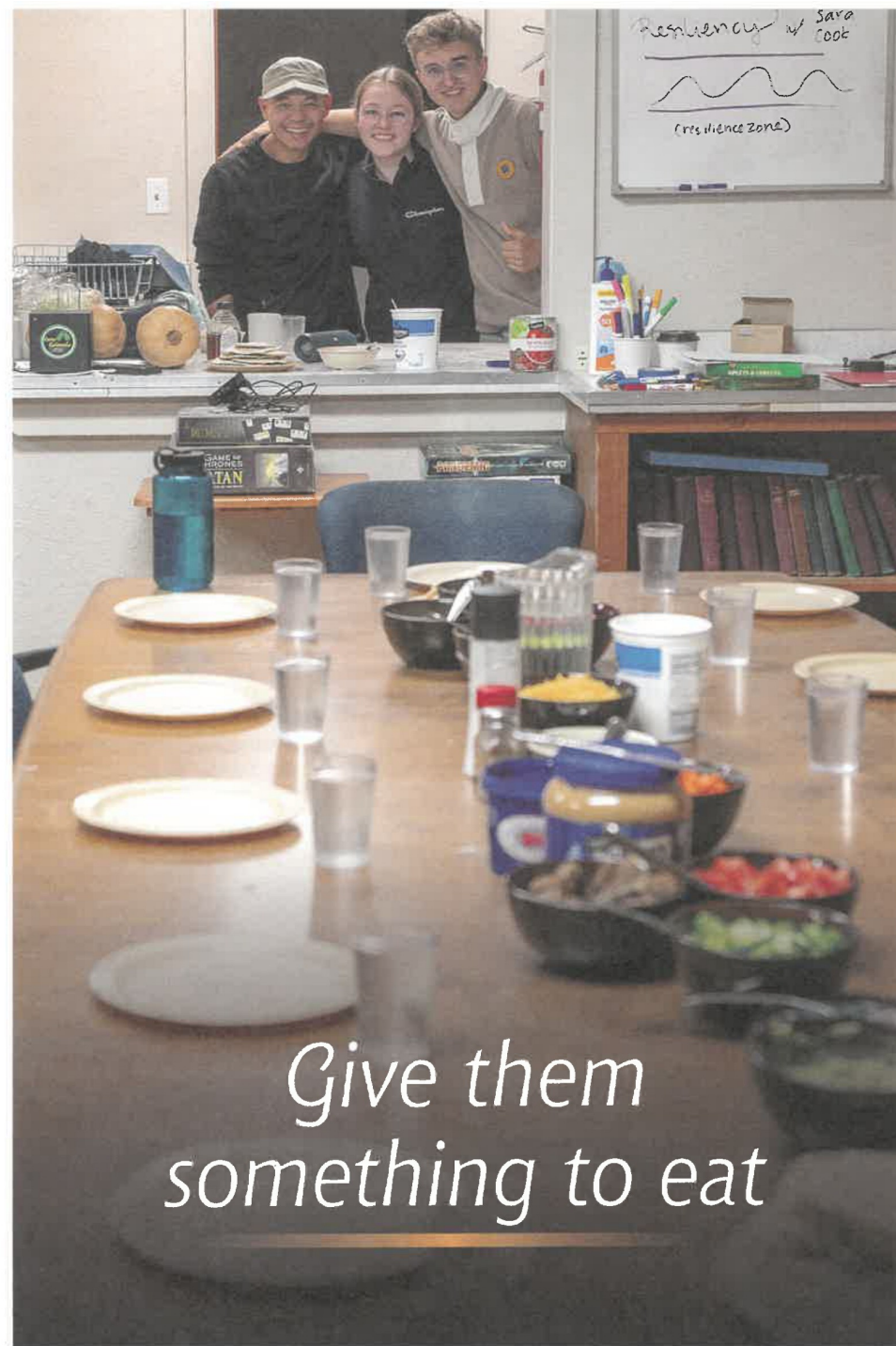
If any BVS alumni are reading this and thinking that their predominant memory from orientation was hunger, I can relate to that, too. Through this exercise, volunteers may experience a temporary, simplified version of something that is a consistent reality for many.

Sometimes, there is not an excess, as much as we wish there were. Sometimes, we feel the lack. Yet we continue to give thanks, and we continue to do our part to multiply the loaves and fishes until there is enough for everyone in line to eat.

—Virginia Rendler
North Manchester, Indiana

"Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you *give them something to eat*'" (Matthew 14:16, NRSVue). **Today's Bible readings from the lectionary:** Isaiah 55:1-5; Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21.

August 2, 2026. Photo of BVS orientation by Benjamin Hoffmann © Church of the Brethren.
Living Word Bulletin Series © 2026 Brethren Press. Printed in the USA.



Give them
something to eat

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

August 2, 2026

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?

PRELUDE "Preserve Me, O God" (Powell)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Come into the presence of God to be fed.
Come to call on God, who is eager to answer.

*All: We gather to seek God's face.
Let our eyes see all that is right and true.*

One: Incline your ears to hear all God would teach.
Seek to experience God's steadfast love.

*All: We are here to receive God's blessing.
God is our refuge in a frightening world.*

One: God is near to all who call and seek.
Come to praise God and receive a blessing.

*All: Open all our senses to pay close attention, O God.
We want to renew our covenant with the living God.*

***HYMN #106** "All Hail The Power Of Jesus Name"

***INVOCATION**

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY "O Love that Wilt Not Let Me Go" (Ritter)

***DOXOLOGY #119** "Praise God From Whom"

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

SPECIAL MUSIC "Where E're You Walk" (Handel)
Chris Stockslager, Tuba

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 #505** "I Am Thine, O Lord"

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 32:22-31 OT 30

MESSAGE "And the Winner Is ..." Pastor Eddie Edmonds

***HYMN #143** "Amazing Grace"

***BENEDICTION**

*After the Benediction, you may be seated.
Please continue in a spirit of worship as we listen to the Postlude music.*

POSTLUDE "The Grace of God" (Southbridge)

~~~~~

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

~~~~~

CALENDAR

Sunday, August 2

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)

Monday, August 3

Church office closed

Tuesday, August 4

10:30 am Meeting/Church office/Maternity Leave Prep
6:30 pm Worship Meeting/Mullendore Room

Wednesday, August 5

Admin. Assistant/Work from home
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions
5:30 pm P&F Meeting/Mullendore Room

Thursday, August 6

Pastor Eddie's in office day/Call ahead to schedule an appointment
5:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

Friday, August 7

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

Saturday, August 8

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

Sunday, August 9

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
(www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)

2:00 pm Special Event/Altruistic Room

Directory Update:

Suzanne Buhrman
Email:
brrman05@verizon.net

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.

Statistics

General Fund total	\$19,119.16
2026 weekly average needed	
53 Sundays:	\$6,934.39
8:30 AM attendance	28
Sunday School.....	39
10:45 AM attendance.....	72
YouTube views	37

The General Fund offering does not include monies given for any designated fund.
For total offerings, please review the financial statement provided by the Assistant Treasurer.



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

[www.facebook.com/
hagerstowncob](https://www.facebook.com/hagerstowncob)

[www.youtube.com/
@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 August 2, 2026

Prayer Concerns: Julia Brown, Judy Dahlgamer, Emmett and his family (friends of Arn & Ann Platou), Pamela Frusher, Nicole Forsythe, GriefShare Team & Participants, Nancy Gehr, Barbara Harrell, Rick Hutzell (Sandy Clipp's brother), Deanna & Jim Jennings, Bella Johnson, David Kirby, Karolyn Martin, Theresa Messer, Carol Miller, Nancy Mullinex, Daris Phillips, Eddie Strawderman (Nancy Gingrich's brother).

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.

This week please join us in praying for members of our congregation. Please pray for Ron & Linda Jacoby; Rebecca Jackson; Ronald & Lisa Hutzell; Richard & Gloria Hutzell; and Dorothy Hussey.

“Take A Moment” - August 2, 2026—Come to us, O Lord — you who created the mountains, silent and immovable. Ease the pounding of our hearts, as we recall those things in life we most fear. Quiet our anxious minds. Steady our frenetic, hurried pace with a calming vision of the eternal reach of time. Give to us, amidst the confusion and clamor of the day, the calmness of the everlasting hills. Teach us the art of seeing the world as you see it: as a place of beauty and wonder. Most of all, teach us to trust you in all things: knowing that, truly, you are our keeper. 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 Diana Shepherd for being our worship leader today and to Chris Stockslager for sharing special music with us this morning.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Atlee and Louise Keesecker and George and Mary Plank. From Ed & Eunice Plank.

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.

August 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.

Important Announcement—Allyson will begin her maternity leave in early September. If you have any supplies, Sunday school curriculum, or other materials that are ordered through the church office, please contact Allyson as soon as possible so your order can be placed before her leave. Thank you!

The breakfast planners are collecting school supplies for children that come to the August breakfast. We are in need of donations of: crayons, bookbags, pencils, wide ruled spiral notebooks, markers, dry erase markers, small size hygiene products (deodorant, hair brushes, mini toothpaste & toothbrushes). There will be a box made available in the west entrance. We thank you for your support.—*Jan Young*

Second Quarter Contribution Statements have been emailed. If you do not have an email on file with the church office, your statement will be mailed or placed in your church mailbox. By doing this, it will help us save money in postage and paper and will be a more convenient way for you to have access to your statements. If you do not have an email on file with the church office and wish to receive your statement via email, please contact Allyson (secretaryhcob@gmail.com or 301-733-3565) and she will add your email to the list.

If anyone has little bottles of shampoo, conditioner, soap, or lotion that are from hotels or ones that you have that are unopened, would you consider putting them in the box at the west entrance, marked hygiene to be handed out at the community breakfast. If you have questions, please call Jenny Ferguson 301-964-1779. -*Thank you, Spiritual Nurture Team*

56th Annual Dunker Church Service will be held on Sunday, September 20, 2026 at 3:00 PM at Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, Maryland.

If you bring any dishes or containers and leave them in the church kitchen, please make sure that your name is on the item. 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**. **UPDATE:** The Admin. Assistant will be using a new application to publish the bulletins & newsletters starting October 2026, due to the current application expiring. Please be patient with her during this time and if you see any mistakes or anything that needs changed, please contact her. Thank you!

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.

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

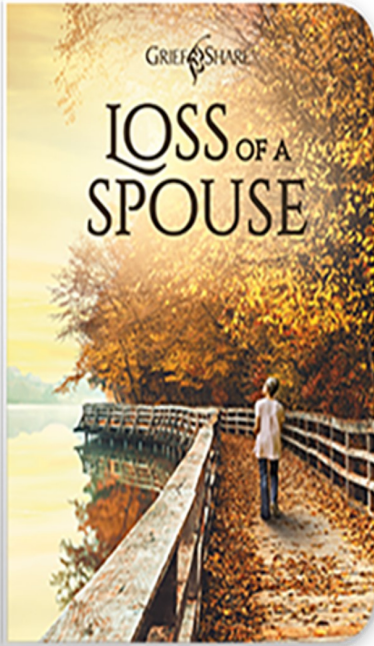
Church mailboxes. Everyone is welcome to use the mailboxes. If you would like to be added or taken off the list, please contact Mary Means. If you have a mailbox, we ask that you be willing to monitor it. Any mail that is left in the mailboxes after a three-month period will be disposed of. The mailboxes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

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

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> and 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.



Grieving the death of a spouse? *Or do you know someone who is?*

The death of a spouse brings a unique kind of pain. People who are widowed haven't just lost a loved one—they've lost an entire lifestyle once enjoyed with that special person. As a result, this grief is fundamentally different from other losses.

We hope you will consider joining the HCOB GriefShare Team for a special 2-hr seminar addressing the challenges of this type of loss. You may wish to bring a family member or friend so they can better understand your loss and become a greater support for you.

Date: Wednesday, August 19

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Place: Mullendore Room

Register at www.GriefShare.org

*Additionally, the fall session of GriefShare will be held September 23 - December 16 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Debbie Nycum and Twyla Rowe will be facilitating.

**Surviving the Holidays* is another special event to be hosted by the team on November 9 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

**If you have questions about any GriefShare event, please contact Debbie, Twyla, or any other GriefShare Team Member: Robin Davies, Deb Long, Wilma Moore, Brenda Shane, Cinnamon & Brian Shay.