

I am there among them

Call to worship

One: We gather in this place, trusting Christ's promise that where two or three are gathered in his name, he is there among them. Christ is with us in our extraordinary, mountaintop experiences and in the routines of church life. When youth gather in the mountains of Colorado and when older adults worship beside a North Carolina lake,

All: Christ is there among them.

One: When soup kettle volunteers share a meal with guests and when church family fellowships over a potluck meal,

All: Christ is there among them.

One: When children wave palms and shout "Hosanna!" and when families join on a street corner crying out for justice,

All: Christ is there among them.

One: When Sunday school classes assemble relief kits and when volunteers respond where disaster has struck,

All: Christ is there among them.

One: When campers sing beside a campfire, and when choirs sing in a sanctuary under stained glass windows,

All: Christ is there among them.

One: When congregations meet weekly for worship and when the larger body gathers annually for the "big meeting,"

All: Christ is there among them.

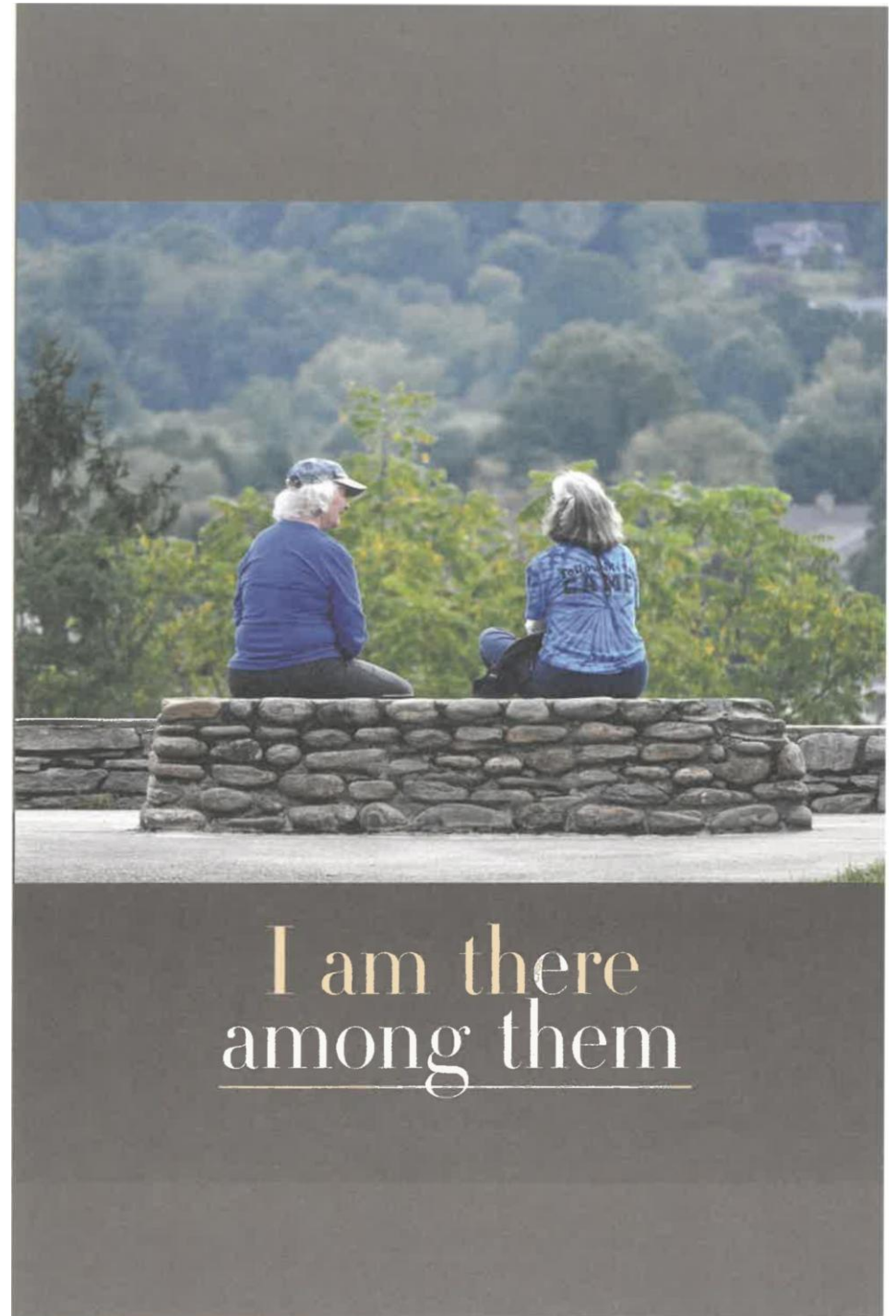
One: Ever-present God, we are grateful for the opportunity to gather in this place for worship and to hear your word. Open our hearts to Christ's presence here today, that we might declare with joy,

All: Christ is here among us! Amen.

- Nancy Miner
McPherson, Kansas

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, *I am there among them*" (Matthew 18:20, NRSVue). **Today's Bible readings from the lectionary:** Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20.

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CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

September 6, 2026

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?

PRELUDE "O Jesus, I Have Promised" (Ritter)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Tell the whole congregation of God's people:
This is a day for new beginnings.

*All: This is a time of God's appearing.
This is the moment for faithful response.*

One: Praise God in the assembly of the faithful.
Make melody to God and sing a new song.

*All: Praise God for life enriched by love.
Praise God for love that fulfills God's law.*

One: This is the hour to wake from our sleep.
The energy of God's love fills this place.

*All: Here we claim our identity as Christians.
Here we become the church of Jesus Christ.*

***HYMN #71** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

***INVOCATION**

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN

BIBLE PRESENTATION

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY "Autumn Glory" (Riggs)

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

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

SPECIAL MUSIC "Spirit of God" (Besig)
Temple Choir

SHARING OUR JOYS AND 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 #307** "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

SCRIPTURE READING John 3:1-12 NT 93

MESSAGE "Conversations of Jesus: Nicodemus"
Pastor Eddie Edmonds

A SERVICE OF ANOINTING

***HYMN #447** "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

***BENEDICTION**

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

POSTLUDE "New Faith, New Life" (Ritter)

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

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 Linda Baker for being our worship leader today.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the glory of God and in memory of my dear sister, Kaye, by Doris Smith.

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 6

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, September 7

Church office closed

Labor Day

Wednesday, September 9

Church office closed

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, September 10

Pastor Eddie in office/Call ahead to schedule an appointment

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room

7:30 pm Temple Choir/ Fellowship Hall

Friday, September 11

Bulletin prep/Church office

1:00 pm Islamic Center use of parking lot (1-3 pm)

Saturday, September 12

8:00 am Community Breakfast

Sunday, September 13

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.



wELCOME
"Continuing the work of
Jesus... peacefully,
simply, together."

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 September 6, 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, are hospitalized, or would like a visit from the pastor, please notify the church.

"Take A Moment" - September 6, 2026—

Loving God, your commands are simple. You ask that we love each other, and do no harm to each other. It might seem at first black and white, but ultimately our world is filled with gray. We want to do one thing, and yet, another causes us to have questions. Help us move away from making things too complex. Fill us with a simple passion for doing what you ask of each of us. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT—

Announcements for the bulletin and worship leader need to be emailed to hcobofficehelp@gmail.com. This email is for this purpose only. All other emails can go to the secretaryhcob@gmail.com.

If you would like an insert added to the bulletin while Allyson is on maternity leave, you will need to have it formatted the way you would like and printed for the ladies in the office to include in the bulletin. If you have questions, please contact the church office. 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!

Mailboxes are now labeled for the incoming Deacons. Deacon mailboxes are located going back the hall to the church office on the right hand side. Please check your mailbox weekly.

September Tidings are now available. If you did not receive an electronic copy please notify the Church office and you will be added to the email list. Printed copies can be found on the credenza in the wing of the sanctuary or in the fellowship hall.

Music Program—Music rehearsals have begun. Praise Band at 5:30, Brethren Bells at 6:30 and Temple Choir at 7:30. if you're thinking about joining, or have a musical gift to share, this would be a great time to get started! See Burt Young, organist, with any questions.

Our Food Pantry items collected this Sunday, September 6, 2026, will be delivered to Holly Place. **Possible items to donate are:** Cereal, canned vegetables, canned fruit, dry pasta and rice. Also appreciated are individual sized puddings, apple sauce, and Jello. Also needed are nutritional support items, toiletry items and hygiene products. Please no glass bottles. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry to our community!

Mission Trip—John & Jenny Ferguson will be leaving for a two week mission trip to Kentucky on Sept 26. They would appreciate your good thought and prayers for everyone's safety. If you would like to help them financially for gas, food and building material, you can write your check to Mt Nebo UMC. On the memo write Mission Fergusons. You may place it in the offering plate. Thank you HCOB for all your love and support. - *John & Jenny*

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 2026 District Conference on October 9th & 10th. The church office does not register non-delegates. The deadline to submit your registration form is **September 17th**.

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

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

Our Fall Congregational Business Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 15th. We will have a potluck lunch in the fellowship hall following our Worship, then following lunch, we will have our Congregational Business Meeting. **Ministry Team Chairs! Your reports for the Congregational Business Meeting are due to the church office no later than Sunday, November 1st.**

Altar and Flower Committee is looking for an Altar flower sponsor for December 27. If interested, please contact Cinnamon Shay

September is Alzheimer's and Drug Awareness Month—purple arrangements have been placed in the sanctuary and fellowship hall recognizing this and offering our support and prayers to those affected by these challenges.

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. Our next community breakfast is this Saturday, Sept. 12th. If you have questions, please call Jenny Ferguson 301-964-1779. -*Thank you, Spiritual Nurture Team*



The grief journey after losing a loved one is very painful, difficult, and lonely. Since everyone grieves differently, there is no magic endpoint to the grieving process. Fortunately, HCOB offers GriefShare, an international, faith-based 13-week seminar offering support after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend, no matter how recent. The GriefShare ministry team provides a safe, welcoming space where people understand the heavy emotions of grief. As a participant, you will receive valuable tools to help you navigate your personal path, as well as gain support from others also on their grief journeys. 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.

Our fall session of GriefShare will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 23, and continue each Wednesday evening through Dec. 16, from 6:30 – 8:30 in the Mullendore Room. Debbie Nycum and Twyla Rowe will be facilitating. There will be no class on November 25 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. You may join the class 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.

We also will offer a special 2-hr evening seminar entitled Surviving the Holidays on Monday, November 9, from 6:30 – 8:30.

Register at www.griefshare.org. If you have any questions about the program, see Debbie, Twyla, or any other GriefShare Team Member: Robin Davies, Deb Long, Wilma Moore, Brenda Shane, Cinnamon & Brian Shay.



2026 Growing Project Harvest Festival

Sunday, October 11 @ 2:30 pm

Growing Project Farm

11720 Wolfsville Road, Myersville, MD 21773

Please join in the fun as we gather to celebrate our **21st year** of serving our brothers and sisters in need around the globe!

Hayride tour of the farm leaves promptly at 2:30 pm

🍂 Service of Thanksgiving at 3:00 pm

🍂 Cake Auction immediately following

🍂 Sample Foods from Haiti Baie-de-Henne and Local Favorites

🍂 Scarecrow Workshop

🍂 Games

During 2026, we are supporting a program in Haiti Baie-de-Henne.

The Haiti Baie-de-Henne program focuses on increasing the resilience of families with regard to climate, security, and economic shocks, through the diversification of livelihoods. Training on soil conservation techniques helps increase the availability of safe water and agricultural production. Providing small loans to farmers help families diversify their livelihoods and earn an income during times of drought or between farming cycles to purchase food, pay school fees, and invest in seeds and other inputs.



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