

Justice is loving others

Last summer I had the opportunity to go on a FaithX workcamp trip to Boston with other youth and advisors. Throughout the week we served organizations such as a food pantry run by the American Red Cross, Cradles to Crayons (an organization focused on providing children with essential items such as clothing and school supplies), and Community Servings. At Community Servings, we put together meal boxes for people with food insecurity who had special dietary needs. I found it amazing that not only was Community Servings helping people with food insecurity but also ensuring that the meals met their diet. As a result, they would have what they need to be healthy without having to worry about the ingredients in the food.

Today's scripture, Leviticus 19:1-2 and 15-18, talks about treating those around you justly and ends with "love your neighbor as yourself." I think for most people the first thing that comes to mind when they hear the word "justice" likely has to do with criminals or rule-breakers being "brought to justice." However, it can also mean doing what is right to help others so that they have what they need.

This was the case on my FaithX trip, where we partnered with the organizations to serve the community. Whether it was bagging hundreds (and hundreds) of oranges at the Red Cross food pantry, sorting through children's clothing at Cradles to Crayons, or packing muffins at Community Servings, the theme stayed the same—that justice is not only people who have done wrong being held accountable, but also ensuring that people have what they need. We lived this through our service, by treating the people receiving help with justice and loving them as we would love ourselves.

—Julian Ballew
Keezletown, Virginia

"You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD" (Leviticus 19:18, NRSVue). Today's Bible readings from the lectionary: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46.

October 25, 2026. Photo of FaithX in Portland, Oregon © Donna Parcell. Used by pffflilUnion.
Living Word Bulletin Series ©2026 Brethren Press. Printed in the USA.



Love
your neighbor
as yourself

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

October 25, 2026

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *A Mighty Fortress* Wold

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: From the beginning, God has called creation into being, and all creation declares His glory.

All: We come to add our voices to the song of praise.

One: We come with different stories, different gifts, different joys, and different burdens.

All: Yet we are one people, gathered by one Lord and led by one Spirit.

One: When our lives feel harmonious, God is with us. When our lives feel unresolved, God is still with us.

All: We trust the One who is still writing our song.

One: So let us open our hearts to the Spirit who teaches, shapes, and transforms us.

All: Tune our hearts, O God, that our lives may sing of Your grace.

One: Let every voice rise. Let every heart listen. Let all that we are, bring glory to God.

All: Let us worship God together.

***HYMN #44** *When In Our Music God Is Glorified*

***INVOCATION**

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE A CHILD

SERVICE OF GIVING

Call to Giving

Offertory

Heavenly Love

Arr. Balcombe

***Doxology #119**

Praise God from whom

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

MORNING ANTHEM

Listen to God's Gift of Music
Temple Choir

McCartha

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 #521** *Come, Thou Fount*

SCRIPTURE READING Colossians 3:12-17 NT 201

MESSAGE Music of the Spirit
Brother Dennis Browne

***HYMN #580** *My Life Flows On*

BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE *Rejoice With a Song* Smith

~~~~~

*\*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 Dennis Browne for being our guest speaker and Candice Summers for being our worship leader.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the glory of God and in honor of the second birthday of Maelynn Marie Shay by her family.

CALENDAR

Sunday, October 25

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, October 26

Church office closed

Tuesday, October 27

6:30 pm Leadership Team/Mullendore Room

Wednesday, October 28

Church office closed

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, October 29

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room

7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

Friday, October 30

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

Sunday, November 1

Daylight Savings Time Ends

Food Pantry Sunday

Remembrance Sunday

8:30 am Sunday School Orchestra/Fellowship Hall

9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms

10:15 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.



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

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 October 25, 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”- October 25, 2026

Our Father, in some ways it has been a good week for us. Some of us have accomplished our work, have been loved by our family and supported by our friends, have escaped dangers, and enjoyed a measure of well-being. In other ways it has been difficult for us. Some of us have suffered financial setbacks, or have been involved in personal disputes, or have become emotionally tired or physically weak. We need this time together, and we need this sense of your special presence. We ask that our strength will be renewed, our vision will be restored, and we will once again bask in the peace of your presence.

Daylight Saving Time Ends next Sunday, November 1. Remember to set your clocks back.

The Service & Outreach Team thanks all our members and friends who helped us make the recent Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat a great success. Thank you to all who helped with set up and clean up, bingo and bingo prizes, and children's games and crafts. We appreciate those who made and served food, including goodies for the cake walk. This great community event gave HcoB the opportunity to minister to our guests while sharing fun and fellowship.

The Food Pantry items collected on Sunday, November 1, 2026, will be distributed during our Community Breakfast held on November 14th. Our guests love cereal, canned vegetables, fruits, soups, boxed potato, pasta and rice dishes. Martin's grocery store will also be distributing food. We do have some homeless folks who attend. Tuna and chicken salad packets, Vienna sausages, individual fruit packs, cheese crackers and snack bags are appreciated for them. Remember, no glass containers. We thank you so much for donating to our community.

Remembrance Sunday - November 1, 2026 - Please join us for a special worship Service of Remembrance as we celebrate the lives of those loved ones who have passed in the last year.

The Sunday School Orchestra will play Sunday, November 1, 9:00-9:30. Their concert will be held in the fellowship hall. Come and enjoy!

Friends in Faith, our fellowship group for widows and widowers, will be meeting Wednesday, November 4th, at 12:00, in the fellowship hall. A sign up sheet is in the West entrance. Please list what food you will be bringing. Any questions? Contact Ann Platou, Suzie Wolfe, Nancy Gingrich, Robin Davies, or Mary Means.

The Novel Bunch will meet Saturday, November 7 at 10:00 in the fellowship hall. The book for November is Waiting for Christmas by Lynn Austin. Flyers with more information are on the credenza.

November 14th Community Breakfast – The breakfast planners want to try something different in November at the Community Breakfast. We would like to serve breakfast casseroles. If you would like to help by making an 9x13 casserole please bring it to church either Friday, Nov. 13 with instructions for heating or, better yet, bring it that morning by 8:30 am, hot out of the oven to serve at 9:00 am. Please label what kind of casserole you're sharing. November is a time of giving thanks for all that we have and to pass our love onto our guests. If you can help see one of the planners: Jan Young, Jenny Ferguson, Jo Ellen Wisherd or Suzie Wolfe.

ARE YOU GOING TO BE HUNGRY on Saturday, Nov. 14? If so, how about filling up with a \$9 foot-long cold-cut sub, or an \$8 foot-long veggie sub, or a \$7 fresh turkey and Provolone cheese sandwich, or a \$5 country ham sandwich and/or a \$10 quart of homemade chicken noodle soup -- all to benefit Growing Hope Globally?!!! In this year's project, poor Haitian farm families will learn how to increase production and will receive small loans to start new ventures for income in the off-season. See Arn for order forms!! The deadline for orders is Wednesday, Nov. 4. Please return your completed form to Arn at church. Or, call him at 301-790-3498. Arn will deliver your orders for you to pick up at HCOB the morning of Saturday, Nov. 14. Thanks for helping!!

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. The business meeting will be held after the meal.

Ministry Team Chairs! Your reports for the Congregational Business Meeting are due to the church office no later than Sunday, November 1st.



The holiday season is rapidly approaching and while most of us look forward to the holidays, they are a time when the complex emotions of grief hit even harder. Consequently, grieving people need encouragement and support to make it through this season. This may be the first holiday after a loved one's passing, or perhaps it's been years since a loved one's death. Regardless of the time that has gone by, emotions can blindside a person who has suffered a loss. While Thanksgiving and Christmas focus on family gatherings, traditions, expectations, social events and "cheer," it's difficult to feel cheerful when that special someone is no longer here. However, the emotional fallout can be lessened somewhat by knowing what to expect and by being prepared.

The Hagerstown Church of the Brethren GriefShare team is planning a special event entitled Surviving the Holidays on Monday, November 9, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. You do not need to have been part of a previous GriefShare group to attend, and we encourage you to invite family and friends to attend with you. There is no cost to attend this event. If you have suffered the loss of a loved one and would like to participate in our Surviving the Holidays evening, register at www.griefshare.org. For more information, contact Debbie Nycum, Twyla Rowe, or any member of the GriefShare team. *Light refreshments will be served.*

Altar Flower Opening: There is an opening in the altar flower schedule on November 15. If you would like to sponsor that Sunday, please call Rebecca Jackson at 703-863-7284.

New Email for Pastor Eddie: Pastor Eddie has established an email address for church business and concerns. Please use pastorhcob@gmail.com.