

The Dunker

Grossnickle Church of the Brethren

February 2019

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER?

Do you want to get to know more people in our church, or learn to know old friends better? The Deacon Fellowship Committee is planning a fun adventure for Sunday evening, February 10th. We propose to pair a few individuals and families for dinner in each other's homes. It works like this: People sign up to either be a "host" or a "guest". The hosts will indicate how many guests they can accommodate, and the guests indicate how many from their family would be attending. Then the committee "matches" guests with hosts, but this information is kept secret until the day of the event. Each guest will receive a sealed envelope on that Sunday morning, and only the driver is allowed to see where they are going. The hosts will not know who is coming. Hosts will be responsible for the main course and guests will bring a side dish or dessert.



The hosts will not know who is coming. Hosts will be responsible for the main course and guests will bring a side dish or dessert.

We hope everyone will participate in this event; it can be a lot of fun, and a great way to broaden and deepen our relationships with each other. To join in this special fellowship event, please complete the sign-up sheet on page 10 in this issue of *The Dunker*, and then place it in the box on the narthex table by Sunday, February 3rd.

STORY OF RESCUE

John Unger to Speak February 24



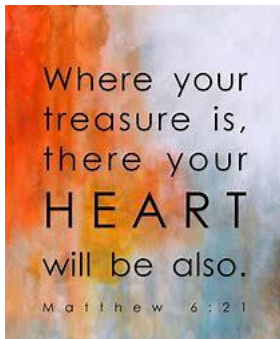
In July 2002 nine coal miners were trapped underground after an accident in the Quecreek mine in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. Their amazing rescue came after 77 hours in a flooded mineshaft. We learned after the headlines faded that some were members of the Church of the Brethren.

The deacons have invited one of those miners, John Unger, to share his testimony with us on February 24. He will speak during worship and then we will host John and his wife for a carry-in meal and further sharing and questions.

Brother Unger knows God has given him a second chance at life and is eager to share his story and his faith. We are eager to welcome him on February 24. This would be a good opportunity to invite friends and neighbors to come hear his inspiring story as well.

“STEWING ABOUT STEWARDSHIP”

HELP GROSSNICKLE COB BE HERE IN GENERATIONS TO COME



Remembering that stewing is cooking by slow boil, simmering, we want to think about Stewardship for a few paragraphs by letting it simmer. The stewing referred to in this article is not about worry or fuss. It is about “simmering”.

Paul wrote in 1 Timothy 6:10, “The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil.” Mark Allan Powell in his book, “Giving to God,” says, “Paul might have said this about the love of ‘status,’ or the love of ‘power,’ or the love of any number of other things. But he didn’t. He said money.”

Powell goes on, “These biblical figures knew something that is still true today. Money and material possessions are especially prominent candidates for idolatry, chief contenders for unwarranted affection. Martin Luther is reported to have said that humans need to experience three conversions: heart, mind and purse.”

The thesis of Powell’s book is, “What the Bible teaches about stewardship is good news. When we come to understand and practice what the Bible says about stewardship, we will have happier, better lives.”

That is something to “stew” about. How can I have a happier, more joyful life when it comes to the whole matter of money in my life?

Choosing one master, loving God and neighbor and self, not money, storing up treasures in heaven, practicing our faith through tithing and generosity - these are all teachings from Jesus and from the Old Testament about money. And they lead to life. They lead to freedom.

Money is required to live in this world. Enough money is needed to make a life. But it serves a purpose. When it becomes a “love” in life, when it becomes a master, we do well to pause, to rethink, to re-evaluate our priorities. For that love will lead to bondage. Money will own us. And that will not lead to joy or faithfulness.

Lent is a good time to “stew” about stewardship – to let the teachings of Jesus about money simmer for a time in our minds and hearts. Then we repent of the things we need to repent of and move forward seeking to live as Jesus calls us.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

The Outreach Commission invites you to participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring offering after the service on February 3rd. Your donations will help to fund **Middletown Valley People Helping People** and the **Nigeria Crisis Fund's** ongoing work of recovery and rebuilding.



Please note the monthly *My 2¢ Offering* will not be taken up this month. It is hoped you may consider donating your February *My 2¢ Offering* to the Souper Bowl of Caring.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

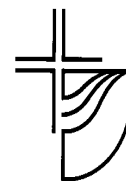


Please come and join in great fellowship and a scrumptious spaghetti dinner on Sunday, February 17, after church. The spaghetti dinner is made by the youth and is a fundraiser for workcamp trips this summer. You will enjoy unlimited spaghetti, salad, and garlic bread. There will be meat sauce, and vegetarian sauce for all, so come with an empty belly and let us fill you up!

MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

The pastors will be conducting a church membership class for middle school youth on Sunday evenings beginning February 24, 6:30-8:00 in the Parish Hall. Letters of invitation have been sent. The schedule is as follows:

February 24	Introduction: Jesus Calls Us
March 3	Our Heritage of Faith: The First Christians, Using the Bible
March 10	Brethren Christians
March 17	Worship and Prayer
March 24	Following Jesus: Another Way of Living
March 31	How Does the Church Work?



Church of the Brethren

The pastors will also be holding a church membership class for adults who wish to transfer their membership from another congregation. Scheduling is flexible. Please contact Tim or Donna to give input on the best time to meet.

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT DISASTER RESPONSE PATRON ADS AND AUCTION DONATIONS



Sign up during February to place a Patron Ad in the 2019 Disaster Response Auction booklet. Your support will enable our District's disaster ministry to provide assistance to disaster victims. Individual or family "patron ads" may be placed by Grossnickle COB members and friends. "Patron" contributions start at \$10. Names of contributors will be listed in the booklet. Look for the sign-up sheet located on the table in the entry hallway. Please sign up by Sunday, February 17 so we can meet the February 22nd deadline. Make checks payable to:

Grossnickle COB, "for auction patron". Questions? Contact the church office, 301-293-9516, or speak with one of the pastors.

Also, you can help disaster victims by contributing auction items such as antiques, valuable crafts, framed artwork, collectible toys, gift baskets, and fine woodworking. To donate, call John, 410-848-2720, or email a photo with description to auctionbooklet@comcast.net by February 22nd to have your donation published in the booklet.

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend the Auction on Saturday, May 4.

REACHING OUT TO HELP OTHERS ... OUR OUTREACH EFFORTS

Grossnickle Church of the Brethren serves the needs of its community and beyond in a variety of ways.

SENIOR SERVICE CIRCLE Please join us for Senior Service Circle on Tuesday, February 5 from 9-11:00 am. **We will be working on blankets for Blanket Sunday in May.** All are welcome as we enjoy fellowship while reaching out to assist our community. March and April meetings are planned for the 1st Tuesday of these months. Mark your calendar and join us! Call Wanda Rudman, 301-508-7530, or Pam Jouannet, 301-293-3629, if questions.

"YOUNG AT HEART" MEALS ON WHEELS The next meal for this monthly outreach effort (deliveries only) will be delivered Saturday, February 9 around lunch time. Reminder cards will be mailed the end of January. *If you do not receive a reminder card* and you wish to receive the February meal of **Slippery Pot Pie, cole slaw, apple sauce and dessert** or if you received a reminder card and do not want the meal, please call the church office, 301-293-9516, by Monday, February 4. To volunteer, speak with Kathy Gaver (kitchen help) at 301-416-8339 or Debbie Bussard (drivers) at 240-409-8061.

SENIOR

SERVICE CIRCLE

YOUNG-AT-HEART



OUTREACH COMMISSION UPDATE

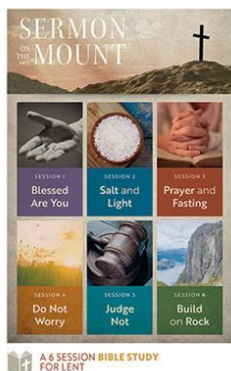
The Outreach Commission gathered recently for their first meeting of the new year. Dates were selected for several events being planned for 2019. Mark your calendar now for these events that have been scheduled for the first half of 2019.

UPCOMING OUTREACH EVENTS

Mar 2	Adopt-A-Road, 1pm (new time)
Mar 17	Spring Clothes Drive
Apr 28	Spring Food Pantry Drive
May 12	Blanket Sunday
Jun 1	E-Cycle Drive

LENTEN STUDY GROUP

Tuesday evenings, March 12 through April 9



The annual Lenten Study Group begins Tuesday, March 12 and runs through Tuesday, April 9. We're moving to Tuesday evenings this year to see if that will catch a few more folks with an available evening.

Our study is focused on **The Sermon on the Mount.** The goal is to better understand and to explore the teaching of Jesus which is so important and foundational to our faith. There will be opportunities to think about this material together, to share in discussion, to break into small groups. Each evening includes devotional moments, music and image power points, and reflections by Pastor Tim.

Lenten Study Group is a time of preparing for our celebration of Jesus' final week. Prayer, study and reflection will get us ready to see the Last Supper, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection of our Lord in new ways. Do plan to come share in this time of preparing. We meet in the Parish Hall from 7:00 – 8:30 each evening of the study.

PRAISING GOD TOGETHER... WORSHIP, MUSIC AND MORE



Join us each Sunday...

9:30 am – Sunday School (nursery through adult)

10:30 am – Worship



FEBRUARY 2019 WORSHIP INFORMATION & HELPERS

DATE	SERMON / SCRIPTURE	MESSAGE BY	WORSHIP LEADER	GREETERS	ACOLYTE
3	"Hometown Boy" Luke 4:14-10	Donna Ritchey Martin	Noah Grossnickle	Alan & Martha Harshman	Catherine Mahoney
10	"Calling Disciples" Luke 5:1-11	Tim Ritchey Martin	Emily Doney	Mindie Conway and Byron & Baylee Trevey	Grace Ellis
17	"Blessings and Woes" Luke 6:17-26	Donna Ritchey Martin	Dave Doyle	Joseph & Dierdre Mahoney	Declan Kehlbeck
24	Story of Rescue	John Unger, Guest Speaker	---	Leroy & Sandy Masser	Jackson Hanser

FEBRUARY DEACONS OF THE MONTH: Myralea Wiles and Pam & Tom Jouannet

NURSERY HELPER SCHEDULE

February 2019

3 – Katie Rudman
10 – Doris Grossnickle
17 – Christy Kehlbeck
24 – Pam Jouannet



To volunteer and for information, you may contact Carol Schroyer, 301-367-6393 or carsch57@live.com.

FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP



Want to provide flowers for Sunday morning worship? Sign-up now. The 2019 Flower Chart is posted on the hallway bulletin board.

February dates are still available.

Questions? Call the church office, 301-293-9516.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

We are hoping Sunday mornings this winter will be free of snow and ice. But, if it ever seems wise to cancel Sunday School and/or Sunday morning worship, there will be a message on the church answering machine (301) 293-9516 and the information will be posted on the website (gcob.org). We trust that people will use good judgment about traveling on winter roads and walking across a parking lot that may still be snow-covered. We want our church to be open and available for worship whenever safely possible. -- Church Board



FEBRUARY AT A GLANCE

5 – Senior Service Circle
9 – Meals on Wheels
10 – "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner"
17 – Youth-sponsored Spaghetti Lunch
24 – John Unger (Worship Speaker & Potluck Luncheon)
24 – Membership Class for Middle Schoolers



HELPING HANDS

This segment focuses on the many groups and individuals in the life of the Church who contribute a great deal to our life together. This space is an opportunity to learn more about these “helpers” and what they do.



Since 2005 our Church has been using an Audio/Visual system to support Morning Worship on Sundays. We sing from the screen, read from the screen, and are blessed by video from the screen. We also have opportunities to see summaries of events from our Church life on the screen. Various parts of the system, the computer, the projector have been updated several times along the way.

Recently some elements of the system decided to stop functioning on a Sunday morning. Under the able operating skills of **Carl Jouannet**, he was able to recover the system for that morning in worship. But by the following Saturday when Pastor Tim attempted to review the preparations for the next day's service, the system was down. **Glenn Lantz** came in on ten minutes notice and provided temporary arrangements for the next day. (**Andy and Lori Williamson** were spotted sitting on the front pew for worship due to the temporary arrangement.) The following day with help from **Steve Loiacano**, the system was repaired and is now as good as new.

It takes a lot of helping hands to be Church together. Thanks to Glenn for being available and willing on very short notice to make it possible to worship as we usually do with the assist of this wonderful technology. Thanks to Steve for jumping right in Sunday morning after worship to assist. Helping hands are a wonder to behold. And God uses them in wonderful ways in the Kingdom.



MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH NURSE

Pattie Hughes, RN

In a nod to Valentine's Day let's all take a minute to ensure our heart is in good shape to give away!



Exercise regularly.

Eat more veggies, fruits, lean meats, whole grain carbohydrates.

Take prescribed blood pressure and cholesterol lowering medications.

Get 6-8 hours of sleep.

Pray and meditate daily.

Smile....It makes them wonder what you're up to! 😊



CELEBRATION CORNER

January 2019

*Celebration Corner is a monthly column highlighting, with joy, events of the previous month. This month we celebrate **January** events.*

January is about digging out from Christmas celebrating and getting the New Year started. Two events signal efforts to accomplish both those tasks.

Advent and Christmas this year were marked by the use of **Reverse Advent Calendars** by the kids in our Church and several adults as well. Each day an item needed by one of the area Elementary Schools was designated on the calendar. Folks who were participating purchased that item, collecting all of the items and bringing them to put under the sanctuary Christmas tree.

One day during the first week of January, Carol Schroyer, Christian Education Commission Past-Chair, and daughter, Traci Hanser, our current Christian Education Commission Chair, and her daughter Mollie came to the Meeting House and sorted all of the items collected and given. The Church Library was filled with items to be donated to the schools. None of us realized how much there was until it was all spread out on the floor. (See the pictures below in the Celebration Corner Gallery.) The room was a marvelous display of generosity. How grateful we are to all the folks who shared by collecting items each day during Advent. So the sorting of all these items was kind of digging out from Christmas celebrating.

At GCOB the New Year always begins with **Bread and Cup Communion**. Sunday, January 6 we gathered for worship and at the close of the service came forward to receive Bread and Cup. We all found our seats again and quietly remembered our Lord through the breaking of bread and drinking from the Cup of Blessing as he commanded in the Upper Room. It is a time of renewal and recommitment to Jesus Christ and to his "Way," and to his body the Church. As always our thanks go out to Deacons who prepared for this special moment. Please see the pictures of bread baking which is a key part of the preparations made for Communion.

Digging out from Christmas. Getting the New Year started. God comes to be present in both kinds of activity. And we all are blessed. May 2019 be a year to celebrate the blessing in our lives!

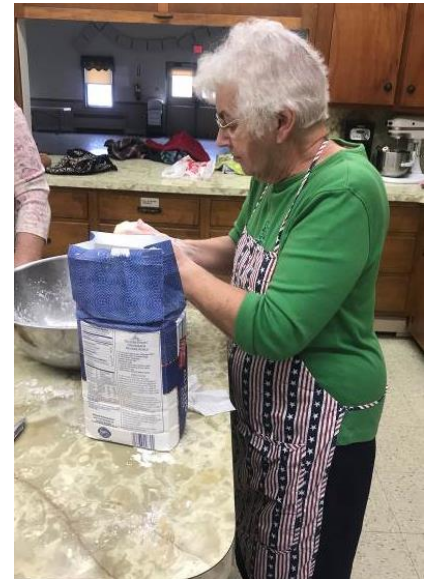
CELEBRATION CORNER PHOTO GALLERY

Reverse Advent Donations



CELEBRATION CORNER PHOTO GALLERY (continued)

Deacons
making bread for
Bread & Cup
Communion



PIG ROAST & SILENT AUCTION

Saturday, March 16, 2019

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend!

Donations of items of high-quality will be needed for the Silent Auction. Please start thinking now of items you can donate. Examples include quilts, wall hangings, paintings, hand-made crafts, wood crafts, lawn ornaments, gifts for gardeners, household décor, gift certificates, and services to be provided. Thank you!

KIDS KLUB

A mid-week group for Grades K-5

Wednesdays 6:30-8:00 pm

UPCOMING MEETINGS

February 6, 13, 20 and 27

**Contact the church office, 301-293-9516,
for more information.**

NOTES OF THANKS



THANK YOU FROM MERHLE & RUTH MOSER... *Thank you Kathy and the Meals on Wheels group for the wonderful meals. We really appreciate and enjoy the meals and conversation with the drivers.*

THANK YOU FROM TIM & DONNA... *Dear Church Family, We are grateful for the many blessings shared with us at Christmas. Thank you for the generous gift of money from the congregation. Thank you for sharing time and talents for the special activities of the season. Thank you for sharing the light of Christ in so many ways. We look*

forward to serving the Lord with you in this coming year.

THANK YOU FROM AMY & RON ELLIS... *Our thanks to everyone for all the cards, prayers and abundant food.*

THANK YOU FROM THE OUTREACH COMMISSION for the inspiring messages for the Rock Ministry for 2018. Those assisting were: Jr. High Youth Group, Christy Kehlbeck and Donna Grossnickle; Fred and Wanda Rudman; Angi Cornell; Marion and Sharon Leatherman; Donnie and Donna Grossnickle and Family; Debbie Bruchey and Diane Moser.

THANK YOU FROM SECRETARY KATHIE... *Dear Friends, Thank you for the various ways you offered Christmas blessings to me this past Christmas season. Your kindness and generosity are truly a blessing to me and Mike.*

THANK YOU FROM BRETHERN DISASTER MINISTRIES... *Dear Sisters & Brothers & VBS Participants at GCOB, As we celebrate the joy of the Christmas season, we thank you for the joy that your generous support brings to disaster survivors. Thank you so much for supporting BDM's project in Puerto Rico through your VBS offering. We pray that you will all have a blessed Christmas.*

THANK YOU FROM THE RELIGIOUS COALITION... *We want to thank your congregation deeply for your very generous Christmas gift of \$917.36 made in December. You've been a donor for over twenty years, and we are humbled by your generosity and your support! Faith communities like yours make programs like rent assistance, eviction prevention, life-saving medications, and our shelter operation possible through your donations and support. We depend on your generosity and altruism to provide for those most in need in our community. Your congregation's faithful giving enables us to serve individuals and families that are experiencing major challenges in their lives. Your congregation keeps the mission of the Religious Coalition operating daily, and we are so immensely grateful. (Nick Brown, Executive Director)*

THANK YOU FROM CHURCH WORLD SERVICE (CWS)... Notes of thanks have been received in appreciation for continued support of this organization through recent donations.

CHURCH FAMILY UPDATES



Our Christian Sympathy to...

June Himes upon the death of her brother, **Robert C. Yeakle**, Tuesday, January 8, 2019;
and to

June Himes upon the death of her husband, **Harry C. Himes, Jr.**, Sunday, January 20, 2019.



Our Congratulations to...

Tiffanie & Daniel Meinders on the birth of **Ian David Meinders**, December 14, 2018; 8 lbs. 7 oz., 21 inches. Paternal grandparents are David & Doris Meinders.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS



Spaghetti Dinner - Youth please join us on Sunday, February 17 to prepare salad, spaghetti and garlic bread for our church members. Check with Doris Grossnickle regarding arrival time to prepare the meal. This is a fundraiser for workcamps so please come and participate. Also please bring a dessert to share with your church family.

Upcoming event - The Silent Auction is our biggest fundraiser so please be talking to people about what they might want to donate to the auction planned for Saturday, March 16th.

THE 2019 FREDERICK SCHOOL OF RELIGION – LEARNING FOR LIFE

Classes on six
MONDAYS and TUESDAYS

February 25 – April 2

SNOW DATES: APRIL 8 & 9

Meeting at:

First Baptist Church, 7040 Bowers Road, Frederick, MD 21702

For additional information: 240-651-1865 or 203-918-5554

www.frederickschoolofreligion.org



Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?

Sunday, February 10, 2019



**YES! I want to get to know more people in our church,
or learn to know old friends better.**

Names of household members planning to attend:

I wish to be a:

Host. I can welcome _____ number of guests in addition
to my own household. I will provide the main course and
drinks.

Guest. There are _____ members attending from my
household. I will bring a _____ salad, or a _____ dessert.

*Please place completed sign-up sheet in the box on the
narthex table by Sunday, February 3rd.*

FEBRUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>Sundays</u> 9:30 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship					1	2 4p-9p PH reserved
3 Souper Bowl of Caring offering BP screenings (after worship)	4	5 9a-11a Sr. Service Circle (PH)	6 6:30-8p Kids Klub	7 7p Deacons meeting	8	9 7a-1p Meals On Wheels prep (PH) 3p-7p PH reserved
10 "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner"	11	12	13 6:30-8p Kids Klub	14	15	16
17 Youth-sponsored Spaghetti Lunch (after worship)	18	19	20 6:30-8p Kids Klub	21	22	23
24 John Unger Potluck Luncheon (after worship) 6:30p-8p Middle School Membership Class	25	26	27 6:30-8p Kids Klub	28		

Grossnickle Church of the Brethren

11301 Meeting House Road, P.O. Box 575, Myersville, MD 21773
 301-293-9516 ▪ <http://www.gcob.org>

Tim and Donna Ritchey Martin, Pastors
SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL – 9:30 am
FAMILY WORSHIP HOUR – 10:30 am

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
8:00 to 11:30 am

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Wed-Thu 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Phone – 301-293-9516
Church Secretary – Kathie Tucker

Website – <http://www.gcob.org>

Email: office@gcob.org
donnaritmart@gcob.org
timritmart@gcob.org
kathie.tucker@gcob.org

GIVING THROUGH TITHES & OFFERINGS

*"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
(2 Corinthians 9:7)*

Offerings to GCOB can be presented in the following ways:

Offering plate – Cash and checks may be placed in the offering plate during worship and Sunday school.

Online – Visit www.gcob.org and click on DONATE.

Mail – Send checks to Grossnickle COB, P.O. Box 575, Myersville, MD 21773. Indicate "offering" on check.

Make checks payable to "Grossnickle COB." Thank you!

Please submit news items for the **March 2019 issue of *The Dunker*** no later than Thursday, February, 14th.
Thank you!

THE DUNKER

Grossnickle Church of the Brethren
P. O. Box 575
Myersville, MD 21773-0575

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

February 2019