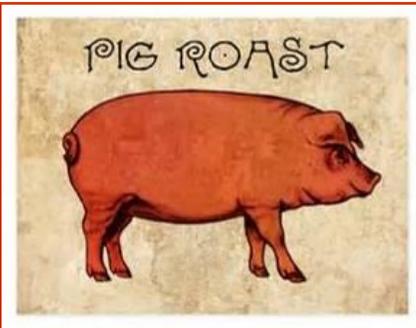


The Dunker

Grossnickle Church of the Brethren

March 2020

ANNUAL PIG ROAST & SILENT AUCTION



Plan now to attend this annual evening of fellowship on March 28th!

PIG ROAST

Invite your family and friends for a hearty meal on a cold winter's night! Ham and hog maw and home-made ham and bean soup are on the menu for the Pig Roast on Saturday, March 28, 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Place settings, hot coffee and iced tea will also be provided. Please bring hot or cold side dishes and desserts to share.

If you are a senior citizen who prefers not to drive at night and you do not have a personal contact to provide transportation, you may contact the Deacons of the Month, Patty and Jeff Hurwitz. They will be pleased to help make arrangements for you to attend.

Many thanks to Alan and Tina Spade who donated the pig, and to the Deacons for hosting this event! If you need more information, please speak with Cathie Clemson, 301-293-3637.

SILENT AUCTION

A special feature of the evening, again this year, will be a Silent Auction, sponsored by the Junior and Senior High Youth. Proceeds from the auction will be used to help defray expenses of attending summer workcamps.

Your donations of high-quality auction items are welcome! 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. To donate an item, please contact Doris Grossnickle by Wednesday, March 18. You may contact Doris at 301-293-2814 (home), 301-471-8199 (cell), and by text message sent to her cell phone.



Auction items may be dropped off at the Parish Hall March 26 or 27, or between 9–11:00 am on March 28. **Donated baked goods**, such as home-made cakes and pies, may be brought in anytime after 9:00 am on March 28. (Please remember to label the baked item with your name and the ingredients, and wrap securely.) We would like to have ALL items dropped off no later than 11:00 am Saturday; however, donated baked goods may be brought to the Pig Roast that evening. If you have a donated item but cannot drop it off, please call Doris to make arrangements for her to pick it up from you so that we have it ahead of time.

*Join us for a fun-filled night of great food, fellowship
and friendly “bidding competition” for the auction items. Invite your family and friends!*

A NEW SEASON... PASTORS TIM & DONNA WILL RETIRE IN AUGUST

“To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.” Ecclesiastes 3:1.



We are entering a new season in the life of our church. Our pastors, Donna and Tim, have decided that it is time for them to retire from the ministry. They have been at this for a long time, nearly 40 years, and they have given their life, time, love, and resources to the congregations they have served. Now, it is time for them to rest and focus on other interests. We rejoice with them as they enter this new phase of their lives.

Tim and Donna have submitted their resignation as pastors of the Grossnickle Church of the Brethren, effective August 2, 2020. Here is an excerpt from their letter to the Ministry Commission, dated February 10, 2020:

Twenty-one years ago this week, we were making arrangements for our first interview with the Grossnickle search committee. Since then you have become very dear to us. You helped us raise our sons and have generously supported us personally and professionally. Across these years we have shared many events in the lives of your families and we thank you for opening your lives to us as we have walked through both mountaintop experiences and deep, deep valleys. Our faith is that God has been present in the midst of these moments.

And, together, we have accomplished much for the Kingdom. The ministries of GCOB are alive and vital. They are Kingdom work and we pray God's blessing as you move forward with each of them.

We have been blessed to have had Donna and Tim as our pastors and friends over these last 21 years. We are glad we will have the opportunity to celebrate with them over the next six months, sharing memories and stories. We will also be looking ahead to the next phase of our church life.

Board Chair, Scott Grossnickle, and Ministry Chair, Patty Hurwitz, have already started working on next steps. They will be meeting with District Executive, Gene Hagenberger, to begin the process of transition planning and establishing a search committee when the time is right. The Church of the Brethren has a very solid, tried and true method for helping congregations select new pastors. We trust that Brother Gene will guide us as we journey through these next months together.

Some of us were involved twenty years ago when the Search Committee led the congregation in selecting Tim and Donna to be our new pastors. It was a good process and worked well to match our congregation's values and needs with those of Tim and Donna. We trust that the process will work effectively again to help us select new pastoral leadership.

We pledge to keep the congregation and friends of GCOB informed every step of the way, through this newsletter, emails, letters, or announcements in church. This is a journey that we embark on together, and everyone will have a chance to be part of the process. Scott, Patty, and the Ministry Commission members will be available to answer any questions or concerns that may arise as we go forward. Please keep Donna and Tim in your prayers, and pray for our church family as this next year unfolds.

Submitted by Patty Hurwitz, Ministry Chair, and Scott Grossnickle, Board Chair

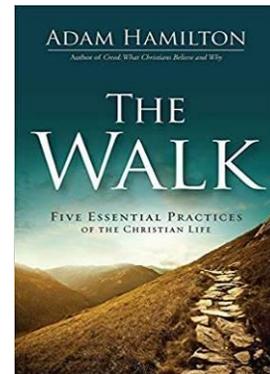
LENTEN STUDY GROUP

Thursday evenings, March 5 through April 2

The 2020 Lenten Study Group will gather Thursdays at 7:00 pm beginning March 5 and running through April 2. We meet in the Parish Hall.

Lenten Study Group is open to folks from Middle School through adult. All are welcome to join in. Our time together is marked by Devotions, Group Study, often sharing in groups of three, and concluding with moments of worship. Discussion is enlightening and growth comes as we reflect together.

This year the focus of our study will be a book by United Methodist Pastor Adam Hamilton titled, ***The Walk – Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life***. The schedule is as follows:



March 5 – Worship and Prayer: A Living Hallelujah
March 12 – Study: The Importance of Listening and Paying Attention
March 19 – Serve: Here I Am Lord, Send Me
March 26 – Give: Where Your Treasure Is....
April 2 – The Five Practices of the Cross

Please pre-register by emailing Pastor Tim at timritmart@gcob.org or calling the Church Office at 301-293-9516 and leaving a message. Thank you!

HANDS & HEARTS TOGETHER



Come, join us on Tuesday, March 3 from 9am-11am in the Parish Hall. Have some fun while working on projects that help those in need. This month, we will be making snacks for the Beacon House game night. There will also be blankets to tie. And we will be washing tables in the parish hall to help with the “housekeeping” around our church.

For additional information about this group, contact Wanda Rudman, 301-508-7530 or wandarudman@gmail.com, or Pam Jouannet, 301-293-3629 or pamjouannet@gmail.com.

ADOPT-A-ROAD CLEAN-UP



Help us keep Wolfsville beautiful and join us Saturday, March 7th for Adopt-a-Road clean-up of Harp Hill and Meeting House Roads! For cooler months (March and December) we meet at 1pm, to take full advantage of warmer temps.

Email MK Barnet at mawyle@gmail.com or call her at 404-723-8739 if you can help.

“YOUNG AT HEART” MEALS ON WHEELS



The next (and last) meal for the 2019-20 season of this monthly outreach ministry (deliveries only) will be delivered around lunch time on Saturday, March 14. Reminder cards will be mailed the beginning of March. The menu will be **Roasted Pork, Green Beans, Glazed Carrots and Watergate Salad**. *If you do not receive a reminder card and you wish to receive this meal or if you received a reminder card and do not want the meal, please call the church office, 301-293-9516, by Tuesday, March 10. To volunteer, speak with Kathy Gaver (kitchen help) at 301-416-8339 or Debbie Bussard (drivers) at 240-409-8061.*

NEW WINDSOR WORKDAY AT SERRV

Volunteers travel to New Windsor to assist at SERRV. Please consider sharing your time to help this worthwhile cause dedicated to fighting global poverty through fair and ethical trade. Volunteers work about 6 hours to quality check and sort new products. A free lunch is provided to volunteers.



The workday scheduled for Thursday, March 26 has been canceled, but please reserve August 6 and September 24 on your calendar for upcoming workdays.

SPRING CLOTHING DRIVE



Many, many thanks to Ron Ellis for his years of service as the wheels for the Clothing Drive! As he enjoys his well-deserved retirement, the Barnets are stepping in with their trailer to act as the new Clothing Drive sherpas. Additionally, as the scale of our donations now exceed the intake capacity of the Hagerstown Rescue Mission, all donations will now be given to the Frederick Rescue Mission, to be offered to those in need through their "Rescued Treasures" Program. All types of gently used clothing in good condition are gratefully accepted!

Clothing for the Spring Drive will be collected on March 28th and 29th. PLEASE take caution to only *partially* fill bags so they can be easily moved and won't rip. In the past some bags were very full and challenging to lift.

MEAT CANNING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

It is once again time for Meat Canning in Ephrata, Pa. This year we are scheduled to go on Tuesday, April 14 and Wednesday, April 15. We will leave from the parish hall parking lot at 6:45 each morning to arrive for the 9:00-2:30 shift.

If you would like to help with the 2020 Meat Canning Project, please contact Marion Leatherman at 301-293-4266.



YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

JUNIOR HIGH SUNDAY

Please join us for worship on March 15 for Junior High Sunday. The middle school youth have been in search of answers to the **Mystery of God and Life**. Jesus said in Luke 11:9 "So I tell you to ask and you will receive, search and you will find, knock and the door will be opened for you." We asked tough questions and sure enough, found many clues to the mysteries. Our "Holy Ghost busters" have searched and tracked down some amazing discoveries to share!



SUMMER WORKCAMP



Currently we have 10 Junior and Senior High youth and advisors signed up to attend three different workcamps this summer.

July 8th-12th, Brooklyn, New York – Lilly Rumpf, Madryn Hanser, Grace Ellis and Olivia Ziegler and advisor Kelly Rumpf, will have opportunity to interact with the Hispanic neighborhood of Brooklyn working at a soup kitchen or food pantry, visiting with senior citizens and participating in neighborhood street clean-up efforts. There will be opportunities to visit the Statue of Liberty and Times Square as well as other sites in the "Big Apple."

July 19th-25th, Santa Ana, California – Catherine Mahoney will travel with members from Manassas and Oakton to live, serve, and worship with our brothers and sisters at Principe de Paz, a Hispanic Church of the Brethren that reaches out to its neighborhood by helping the homeless and the hungry. Service could include volunteering at soup kitchens, with local homeless outreach programs, or with children's ministries. The campers' rec day may include a hike, visit to downtown Disney, and a visit to a local beach.

July 22nd-26th, Roanoke, Virginia – Andrew Leatherman, Jack Cornell and Patrick Mahoney accompanied by advisor Hank Kehlbeck will serve at the Roanoke Rescue Mission. Work here will include cleaning the shelter, serving meals, and helping in the thrift store. For 60 years Roanoke Rescue Mission has served the homeless population of this area providing shelter for women, men and children serving meals and assisting with clothing and shoes.



Graduate Sunday

May 31, 2020

The Christian Education Commission would like to have the names of students in our church family who will be graduating from high school or college this spring. Names are needed by March 29th so preparations can be made for the meaningful celebration we offer our graduates. Please provide this information to the church office now. Thank you.

MID-WEEK PROGRAMS

Kids Klub (for Grades K-5)

Junior High God Squad #JHGS
(for Middle School Youth)

Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 pm

UPCOMING MEETINGS

March 4 – Kids Klub & #JHGS

March 11 – Kids Klub

March 18 – Kids Klub & #JHGS

March 25 – Kids Klub

Contact the church office for more information.

PRAISING GOD TOGETHER... WORSHIP, MUSIC AND MORE



Join us each Sunday . . .
9:30 am – Sunday School (nursery through adult)
10:30 am – Worship

MARCH 2020 WORSHIP & HELPERS

Date	Sermon/Scripture	Message by	Worship Leader	Greeters	Acolyte
1	“Tempted” Matthew 4:1-11	Donna Ritchey Martin	Girl Scout Sunday	Brian & Arlene Skeen	Lilly Rumpf
8	“For God So Loved” John 3:1-17	Tim Ritchey Martin	Doris Grossnickle	Randy & Jeanine Harshman	Lane Routzahn
15	Our "Holy Ghost busters" will share amazing discoveries to the Mystery of God and Life.	Junior High Youth	Junior High Youth	Jeff & Patty Hurwitz	Emilee Flook
22	“Living Water” John 4:5-42	Donna Ritchey Martin	John Remsberg	Sophie Cornell & Collins Lethbridge	Caroline Ahalt
29	“Jesus Wept” John 11:1-45	Tim Ritchey Martin	Abby Grossnickle	Donnie & Donna Grossnickle	Shepherd Flook

Deacons of the Month: Patty & Jeff Hurwitz

NURSERY SCHEDULE
 March 2020

- 1 – Abby Grossnickle
- 8 – Amanda Ahalt
- 15 – Patty Hurwitz
- 22 – Traci Hanser
- 29 – Jennie Leatherman



To volunteer and/or for information please contact Traci Hanser at 240-357-8160 or traci.hanser@yahoo.com.

MARCH AT A GLANCE

- 1 – Fellowship Meal at Shroyer’s Tavern @ Maryland National Golf Club
- 3 – Hands & Hearts Together
- 5 – Lenten Study Group begins
- 7 – Adopt-a-Road
- 14 – Meals on Wheels
- 15 – Junior High Sunday
- 26 – New Windsor Workday at Serrv
- 28 – Pig Roast & Silent Auction
- 29 – Spring Clothes Drive



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



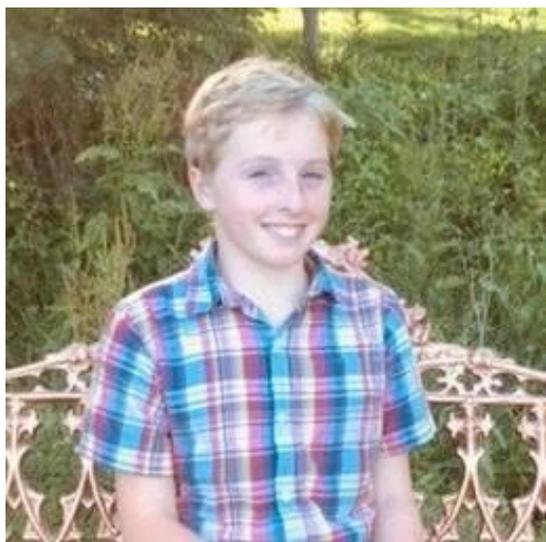
Please join us in April for Holy Week activities...

- April 5 – Palm Sunday Worship**
- April 9 – Love Feast, 7 pm**
- April 10 – Good Friday, 7 pm**
- April 12 – Easter Worship**

MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Eight youth were received into membership through creek baptism on August 25, 2019. These youth were interviewed for the New Members Dinner held in November 2019. Interviews will be shared in The Dunker throughout the year. In this issue we get to know a little more about the third of these eight newest members.

PATRICK MAHONEY . . . Patrick is the son of Joseph and Diedre Mahoney and the only brother to older sister Catherine and younger sister Shannon. They live just over the hill on Meeting House Road on a farm. They can often be seen walking to and from church. In his spare time Patrick enjoys playing Alliance Soccer and video games. His favorite food is pizza, especially meat lovers. His favorite movie is "Thor Ragnorok." When asked who he would like to meet, he said some famous soccer players so he can ask them questions about how they achieved their current status. Texas is where Patrick would like to visit because many family members live there. One thing that Patrick will never forget is his Jack Russell terrier, Gilly, who he loves very much because she is a good dog. His favorite church memory is being in Sunday School. His favorite Bible story is Jesus healing the blind man with mud. Being baptized as a member of Grossnickle is important to him because he said, "Becoming a member of our church is a nice feeling." Patrick became a member of the church on



August 25, when he was baptized in Middle Creek. Patrick, we welcome you, and it is certainly nice to have you join our church family and we look forward to serving Christ with you as part of the Grossnickle Church of the Brethren.

CHURCH FAMILY UPDATES

Our Congratulations to...



Leah (Ellis) & Austan Day on their marriage, February 14, 2020. Leah will continue her studies at South University. Congratulations may be mailed to Leah & Austan at 1800 Killian Lakes Drive, Apt. 4314, Columbia, SC 29203.

Our Congratulations to...



Kayla & Justin Riggs on the birth of **Noelle Kay Riggs**, January 30, 2020; 6 lbs 14 oz, 19 ½ inches. Big brother is Wyatt. Paternal grandparents are Karen & Robert Riggs. Paternal great-grandparent is Ernest Leatherman.

NOTES OF THANKS



THANK YOU! This year our Souper Bowl of Caring raised \$867.87, which was divided equally between Middletown Valley People Helping People and the Church of the Brethren Emergency Disaster Fund, earmarked for Puerto Rico Earthquake recovery. A big thank you to everyone who donated!

CELEBRATION CORNER

Celebration Corner is a monthly column highlighting, with joy, events of the previous month or two. This month we celebrate by sharing photos from January and February activities.



celebrate!



**MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT
DISASTER
RESPONSE AUCTION
Saturday, May 2, 2020**

**Carroll County Ag Center,
Westminster, MD**

*Come bid on this
quilt and others!*

**Quilt Auction begins at
12:00 noon**



CELEBRATION CORNER PHOTOS... Celebrating January birthdays at Fahrney Keedy (top row). Souper Bowl of Caring offering (center row). Recent message from the Rock Ministry (bottom left).

FAHRNEY KEEDY SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

8507 Mapleville Road, Boonsboro MD 21713 • 301-733-6284 • <http://fkhv.org/>
 Auxiliary Key Person for GCOB: Glenna Moser, 240-344-4431

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Calling ALL interested persons who would like to be or continue to be a member of the F-K Auxiliary. NOW is the time for Membership dues. Annual dues are \$2 and Life Membership is \$50. Our fundraising activities will be a food and bake sale in June and a yard, food and bake sale in September. At these two fundraisers we need HELPERS, BAKED ITEMS, and YARD SALE ITEMS.

So Sundays, March 15, 22 and 29, please see Glenna Moser or Martha Wiles to pay your dues.

We LOVE new members (\$2) and want to keep our current annual members (\$2) and Life members (\$50).

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED WITH FAHRNEY-KEEDY RESIDENTS



On Saturday, January 25th a January Birthday Celebration was held at Fahrney Keedy hosted by a group of "our" youth and adults; Olivia Zeigler, Brianna Blickenstaff, Patrick and Catherine Mahoney, Christy Kehlbeck, Donna Grossnickle, Vicki Grossnickle, and Karen Riggs. We prepared mini floral arrangements for each resident in attendance. An afternoon party was enjoyed by all! We shared scriptures, a poem on Winter's Artistry and had discussion on Snow Days of the past, as well as singing, including the Happy Birthday Song to the six Birthday guests in attendance. Karen entertained us with songs on the banjo while we enjoyed cake, fruit punch, snacks and candies! As always, it was a delightful afternoon with around 30 people in attendance. What a blessing to celebrate with our Fahrney Keedy friends and their staff helpers were great to work with also!

2020 Easter Flower Order Form



Let's fill the church with beautiful flowers on Easter Day, April 12. A variety of flowers are available from T&C Greenhouses. Please indicate the flowers and colors you want. Be sure to fill in the "In honor of" or "In memory of" and the "Given by" lines. Please also include the phone number(s) where you can be reached if there is a question about your order. A bulletin insert on April 12 will list persons honored and remembered.

Make checks payable to "Grossnickle Church of the Brethren." Indicate "for Easter flowers."

Please submit order forms to Vicki Linton or Jeanine Harshman **by the end of church on Sunday, March 1**. Orders may also be submitted by phone or email to: Vicki at 301-797-1094 or velquilter@gmail.com or to Jeanine at 301-293-1820 or jwharshman@wvnsupplyinc.com.

Please indicate number of each color in HONOR of a loved one:

- Daisy Mums:** \$ 8.50 each ___ yellow ___ purple
- Lilies:** \$ 9.50 each ___ white
- Tulips:** \$ 8.50 each ___ red ___ yellow ___ pink
- Hyacinths:** \$ 8.50 each ___ orange ___ purple ___ pink ___ white

In HONOR of _____

Given by _____

Please indicate number of each color in MEMORY of a loved one:

- Daisy Mums:** \$ 8.50 each ___ yellow ___ purple
- Lilies:** \$ 9.50 each ___ white
- Tulips:** \$ 8.50 each ___ red ___ yellow ___ pink
- Hyacinths:** \$ 8.50 each ___ orange ___ purple ___ pink ___ white

In MEMORY of _____

Given by _____

Name of person ordering: _____

Phone number/s of person ordering: _____

MARCH 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 "My 2-cents Offering" 12 noon Fellowship Meal at Schroyer's Tavern	2	3 9-11a Hands & Hearts Together (PH)	4 6:30-8p Kids Klub 6:30-8p #JHGS	5 7p Lenten Study (PH)	6	7 1p Adopt-a-Road
8 BP screenings, after worship	9	10 7p James Gang meeting	11 6:30-8p Kids Klub	12 7p Lenten Study (PH) Newsletter Articles Due	13	14 7a-1p PH reserved for Meals on Wheels
15 Junior High Sunday	16 7p Outreach Commission meeting	17	18 6:30-8p Kids Klub 6:30-8p #JHGS	19 7p Lenten Study (PH)	20	21
22	23	24	25 6:30-8p Kids Klub	26 7a New Windsor Workday 7p Lenten Study (PH)	27	28 6p Pig Roast (PH)
<i>Secretary Kathie on vacation through Tuesday, April 7.</i>						
29 Clothing Drive	30	31		<u>Sundays</u> 9:30 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship		
<i>Secretary Kathie on vacation through Tuesday, April 7.</i>						

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

Tue-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 **April 2020 issue of *The Dunker*** no later than Thursday, March 12.
Thank you!

THE DUNKER

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

March 2020