

# The Dunker

Grossnickle Church of the Brethren

February 2024

## **MESSAGE FROM PASTOR GREG.....**

Each year the Church of the Brethren suggests congregations observe a Sunday in which we highlight the theme of service; for us that will be January 28.

Service is near and dear to the Church of the Brethren. You might say its in our spiritual DNA. We serve one another in daily acts in our church family and local community, when we go on Faith X “workcamps”, at Disaster Relief projects around the country, and many other places. This service sometimes involves swinging a hammer, other times it’s as subtle as a word of comfort or a prayer behind closed doors. And of course, we serve around the table of love feast.

We serve because Jesus commanded it. We serve because we were served first. We serve because it is an act of gratitude for all we have received. And we serve because it grounds us in who we are as God’s people, those who follow Jesus. It is not predicated on race or nationality, whether we agree with someone’s theology or politics, feel like they deserve it, or even if we like them.

We serve because that is who we are, at the very core of our being.

The following poem reminds me of who I am as a servant. I hope it reminds you too. It is written by Carolyn Neher, Associate Director of Children’s Disaster Services for the Church of the Brethren.

I am your Beloved  
The sun on my face  
The wind in the trees  
The breath in my chest  
Your gifts given to me.  
So I give to others the gifts that I have  
My friendship, attention, laughter, and Love  
I share my belongings to work hand in hand  
My service in deed; small but yet grand  
Your presence a light guiding our way  
Beside one another  
Actions intentional  
Across many lands  
Sharing your love  
Finding our way  
Back to you

In Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Greg

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*Thank all of you for the beautiful Christmas poinsettia. It was so kind of everyone. I truly appreciate how nice this church is. I hope everyone has a peaceful New Year. Angie*

*My family and I would like to express our sincere gratitude to our church family and friends for all the love and support we received during the difficult loss of our Elwood. We thank you for your love and support for all the cards, food, calls, flowers we received. Thank you. We feel very blessed by your kindness.*

*The Stottlemeyer family: Lana, Andy, Amy, Natalie and Shepherd*

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Play put on at Christmas by members of the Church.



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## Snow Schedule for Worship

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- 1) If it is snowing at church but not in Greg's area, we will not open up the physical building (cancel face-to-face worship) and send out a recorded service through email.
- 2) If it is snowing at church and in Greg's area, same plan as above, with the building being closed and recorded services to be sent out.
- 3) If there is snow in Greg's area but not in Myersville, we would open our building and have worship as "normal," and Greg would be zoomed in for the sermon.
- 4) If we are in one of the above scenarios and have a guest preacher for Sunday, there would be a conversation earlier in the week with the Ministry Commission about the best way to worship.



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## **“SOUPER” BOWL OF CARING**

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Sunday, February 11, 2024

For over 30 years the Souper Bowl of Caring movement has been inspiring people across the nation to tackle hunger in their local community. This movement has created over \$193 million worth of support that stays completely local.



In 1990, a simple prayer.....(Lord, even as we enjoy the Souper Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat) was delivered during a church service at Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, South Carolina.

This year, Grossnickle Outreach Commission has decided to sponsor The Middletown People Helping People (MPHP) food bank. All the monies collected will go to help them purchase food to help our less fortunate neighbors. MPHP's need has doubled as people struggle to make ends meet. We thank you so much for your participation and your generous donations.

There will be people holding our "Soup Pots" when worship is over and you can drop money or checks (make payable to Grossnickle Church with Souper Bowl in memo line) in pot as leaving church. There will be no 2¢ worth collection this month.

### **Update from the board:**

At a recent board meeting, the board approved a contract extension for Pastor Greg. His contract, at 50% time, has been extended until the end of March. The board also formed a calling team to provide a focus for anchor ministry discussed in the October Dunker. The board appointed Dale Delauter, Pam Jouannet, Robert Riggs, Fred Rudman, and Holly Thomasson to be on the committee and initially focus on pulpit supply. If you are interested in helping to provide pulpit supply, please see a group member.

The board appreciates the congregation's prayers and support during the past year and asks for your continued prayers going into 2024. If at any time you have questions, concerns, or recommendations, please see a board member.

EASTER is very early this year and it's time to think about Easter flowers. Flowers presented in loving memory of or in honor of our cherished family and/or friends will brighten our sanctuary on Easter Morning.

## 2024 Easter Flower Order Form



Let's fill our worship space with beautiful flowers on Easter Day, March 31. A variety of flower options are available from T&C Greenhouses. Please complete the order information below. Also, please include a phone number where you can be reached if there is a question about your order. A list of persons honored and remembered will be included in the Easter worship bulletin.

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

Please submit order forms to Vicki Linton or Myralee Wiles **no later than Sunday, February 18**. Orders may also be submitted by phone or email to: Vicki 240-291-2473 or [velquilter@gmail.com](mailto:velquilter@gmail.com) or to Myralee at 301-293-1037 or [myraleegw@comcast.net](mailto:myraleegw@comcast.net).

Please indicate the total number of each color you are ordering:

**LILIES:** \$ 11.00 each \_\_\_\_ white

**TULIPS:** \$ 9.50 each \_\_\_\_ yellow \_\_\_\_ red \_\_\_\_ orange  
\_\_\_\_ purple \_\_\_\_ pink

**HYACINTHS:** \$ 9.50 each \_\_\_\_ purple \_\_\_\_ pink \_\_\_\_ white

**MUMS:** \$ 9.50 each \_\_\_\_ yellow \_\_\_\_ light purple

**Daffodils:** \$12.00 each \_\_\_\_

1) In **HONOR** or **MEMORY** of \_\_\_\_\_

(please circle one)

Flower & color: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

2) In **HONOR** or **MEMORY** of \_\_\_\_\_

(please circle one)

Flower & color: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

3) In **HONOR** or **MEMORY** of \_\_\_\_\_

(please circle one)

Flower & color: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please check here if continuing order on back or on a separate form.

.....  
Name of person ordering: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number of person ordering: \_\_\_\_\_

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## ENGAGING THE QUERY

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The Mid-Atlantic District has received a query from the Arlington congregation what will be included in the business for our 2024 District Conference. A query simply is a congregation asking a question of the broader denomination. As a district we are tasked with engaging with the information in the query prior to discerning and voting upon it. Should it be passed by the district next year, it would be considered for inclusion in the following year's business for Annual Conference.

The District leadership team created a Query Engagement Subcommittee, tasked with fulfilling our responsibilities as a district. To that end, regional and on-line engagement sessions have been arranged to provide more information, field questions, and share in meaningful conversations. Please encourage your 2024 delegates and any others who are interested in the ministry of this district to participate in at least one session.

Feb. 3, 2024	Brownsville Church of the Brethren	10:00-11:30 am
Feb. 20, 2024	Online via Zoom	7:00-8:30 pm

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## The James Gang

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The James Gang is looking to enlarge its members. We are a great group of folks who pray for others and send cards. We fall under the Outreach Commission.

A suggestion that came through the Deacons is to call on James Gang to help with keeping in touch with our fellow Church Members. This could be as simple as a card letting others know that the Church loves them and are lifting them up in prayer. It can bring light to a dark day to know others love them.

If you are interested in more information, or would like to join James Gang please contact Cathie Clemson at 301-293-3637.

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## Kids Club and Junior High God Squad

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Kids Klub and Junior High God Squad has started classes. Kids Klub and the Junior High God Squad (#JHGS) have much to offer to the younger ones of the congregation and community at large. **Kids Klub** meets weekly on Wednesdays and **#JHGS** meets bi-monthly on Wednesdays. Both groups meet from 6:30 pm until 8:00 pm.

If interested, please pick up a registration form and information letter in the Narthex or contact Traci Hanser, 240-357-8160 with any questions.

If you know of someone who may be interested, please have them contact the church office. Both groups will meet through the end of March, concluding with a special closing program on March 30th.

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## ■ Outreach ■

On January 9 several folks from our congregation traveled to the Frederick Rescue Mission to serve lunch to the less fortunate. Even though it was a dreary, rainy day, 111 people came to get a hot, nutritious meal. It was a wonderful way to share God's love as we served others. Those who went were: Lori Cline, Cathie Clemson, Suzanne Levitt, Rick and Denise Boyer and Marion and Sharon Leatherman.

### **Blessings in a Backpack** with Middletown People Helping People (MPHP)

This is a super fun project that helps children with food insecurities. Grossnickle has signed up for Tuesdays: February 13, March 26, April 9 and May 7 to help fill the bags with food. We need a minimum of 6 to 8 volunteers (more is always better). Please contact Pam Jouannet at 301-293-3629.

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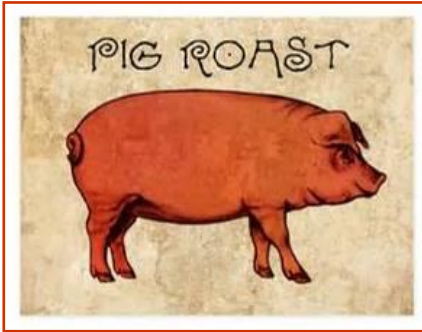
## Meals On Wheels

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The Meals on Wheels are rolling! We have lovingly prepared two meals so far. Many thanks to the wonderful folks who have helped prepare, deliver and who donated foods to make this ministry a reality.



Future dates of upcoming meals will be: February 10, 2024 and March 2, 2024. **March 2, 2024 will be our last meal.** If there is inclement weather (snow) we may cancel for the safety of our drivers. Pam will call you if this happens. Questions? Please call Pam Jouannet at 301-293-3629.



## PIG ROAST AND YOUTH SILENT AUCTION

Our Annual Pig Roast and Youth Silent Auction will be held on Saturday evening, February 17, at 6 pm in the Parish Hall.

Come enjoy a special feast of roast pork, homemade Hog Maw and Ham and Bean soup, accompanied by our famous Grossnickle

Church Pot Luck sides and desserts. 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.

Back by popular demand is the Youth Silent Auction. Everyone will have the opportunity to bid on a variety of items. Winners will be announced at the end of the Pig Roast. ALL money will go toward helping our youth attend Work Camp this summer. Thank you in advance from the Junior and Senior High Youth for your continued support. **If you have items for the Silent Auction, please contact Kelly Rumpf. Any items will be accepted, including homemade items, gift cards, themed baskets, services, etc.**

Please plan to fellowship with our church members and community friends, while enjoying delicious food and supporting our Youth work. We hope to see you there!

Work camps provide opportunities for our youth to assist persons in need as they serve in various non-profit organizations, soup kitchens, and food pantries throughout the United States.

We currently have 10 Junior and Senior High youth and advisors signed up to attend a work camp at Camp Mardela this summer in Denton, MD. June 9-14. They are: Lilly Rumpf, Allison Rumpf, Connor Rumpf, Madryn Hanser, Connor Grimm, Drew Leatherman, Paige Leatherman, Jack Cornell, Kelly Rumpf, Ethan Grossnickle

# February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Kids' Klub & JHGS Club	8	9 Prep for Meals on Wheels	10 Meals on Wheels
11 Souper Bowl of Caring	12	13	14  Kids' Klub  Ash Wednesday	15	16	17 Pig Roast & Silent Auction 6:00 pm
18	19	20	21 Kids' Klub & JHGS Club  Newsletter Crew	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Kids' Klub	29		
	<p align="center"><u>SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP &amp; SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>            9:30 a.m. – Sunday School    †    10:30 a.m. – Family Worship            A recording of the worship service will be made available by email and on Facebook on Sunday afternoons</p> <p align="center"><u>GENERAL IN-OFFICE HOURS</u>            Secretary Angie: Tue-Wed-Thu ▪ 9am-4pm;    Fri • 9am-2pm</p>					

**Kids' Klub:** Every Wednesday

**JHGS Club:** First and Third Wednesdays of each month



### **Deacons for 2024:**

January-Pam and Thomas	July – Scott and Doris
February – Myralee	August – Robert Lee and Betty
March – Patty and Jeff	September – Sharon and Marion
April – Danny and Kelly	October – Cathie Clemson
May – Dale and Sheila	November - Myralee
June – Fred and Wanda	December – Dale and Sheila

### **FEBRUARY WORSHIP HELPERS**

Date	Preacher	Worship Leader	Greeters
4	Dale Carver	Trina Delauter	Sandy and Leroy Masser
11	Pastor Greg	Sylvan/MK Barnet	Pam and Thomas Jouannet
18	Albert Lawrence	Brock Skeen	Jordyn & Collin Delauter, Ryann & Brooks
25	Pastor Greg	Judy Lohman	Sharon and Marion Leatherman

The QR code on the last page will take you directly to the church web site. You need a smart phone to activate the code. Turn on your camera and point at the code. Then touch the code on your phone and web site will appear.

## Grossnickle Church of the Brethren

### PASTOR GREG'S OFFICE HOURS

Wednesdays  
9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
pastorgreg@gcob.org

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL – 9:30 am  
SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP HOUR – 10:30 am

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tue-Wed-Thu 9 am to 4 pm & Fri 9 am to 2 pm

Phone – 301-293-9516

Church Secretary – Angie Kline

Website: <http://www.gcob.org>

General email: [office@gcob.org](mailto:office@gcob.org)

Secretary Angie's email: [angie.kline@gcob.org](mailto:angie.kline@gcob.org)

Parsonage

11318 Meeting House Road, Myersville, MD 21773

### 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](http://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 2024 issue of *The Dunker*** no later than February 20, 2024.

Thank you!



# February

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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