

A simple line drawing of a wooden bucket with a handle, sitting on a small wooden stool. The bucket is filled with water, and a small fish is visible inside. The stool has three legs and a flat top. The drawing is done in a simple, sketchy style.

March 2023

A cartoon illustration of a pig, colored in a reddish-brown hue, standing and facing right. Above the pig, the words "PIG ROAST" are written in a stylized, hand-drawn font. The entire illustration is set against a light beige, textured background and is enclosed within a thin red border.

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!

The **Outreach Committee** will be placing painted rocks in the parking areas frequented by fishermen along Middle Creek. The rocks will bear encouraging words, the Christian fish symbol and our church's web address. Many, many thanks to Carson and Suzanne Levitt who painted and decorated the rocks. They look amazing.

ADOPT A ROAD

Our first of 2023 will be March 4. If exercise was on your resolution list, this is the ticket. We walk, talk, pick up trash and make our piece of paradise a little cleaner. Interested? Call Pam Jouannet at 301-293-3629. Thank you!

HEARTS AND HANDS

On March 7, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am, we will meet in the Parish Hall. Activities will be announced at that date, but one thing is certain: we will engage one another in a spirit of friendship and service, and it is FUN! This is an opportunity to spend time with your church family while we help others. Please clear your calendars and join us!

If you need a ride or would like 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.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Back by popular demand!!

Our **Meals on Wheels** this month will be March 18. If you missed it and still want to sign up to help or know of someone who would benefit from a meal please call Brenda Thomasson at 301-293-2647 or Pam Jouannet, 301-293-3629.



Our first meal was on February 11. We prepared meat loaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit cocktail, and rolls. Our Hearts and Hands group made red velvet cupcakes for dessert. We prepared twenty-four (24) meals for our special friends. Many thanks to all who helped prepare and deliver our meals. Thank you to Denny and Kathy Moser for donating the beef for the meatloaf.

SPRING FOOD PANTRY

Our Outreach Commission invites everyone to participate in our Spring Food Pantry Drive on Sunday, March 26 to benefit Salem United Methodist Church Food Pantry.

Salem's Pantry is currently well stocked in most items, but we are told they could use the following: spam, chili, Vienna sausages, small cans of coffee or tea, canned fruit (esp. pears, pineapple, mandarin oranges), pickles, dish soap, small bottles of laundry soap, paper towels. Pantry staples like sugar, oil, cooking spray, and even basic seasonings or spices would also be welcome.

Thank you for your participation.

ACOLYTE AND CHOIR PRACTICE

There will be an **acolyte class** held on Wednesday, March 8 from 5:45 until 6:30 in the church.

There will be **choir practice** for both men and women on March 15, 22, and 29 from 6:00 pm until 7:00 pm. to prepare to sing for Easter Sunday. Please contact Tanya Miller or Robert Riggs for more information.

MID-WEEK PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH



KIDS KLUB (K-5th grade)

March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29

Program leader: Lois Ann Glessner

#JHGS (6th-8th grades)

March 1, 15, and 29

Program leader: Jeanine Harshman

Both groups meet from 6:30-8:00 pm through the end of March, concluding with a special closing program on March 29.



Calling All Kids

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 8th from 9-11. There will be light refreshments, the egg hunt, crafts and games. As always we will be having a cake walk and we need cake donations from anyone interested! Please drop them off the morning of the Easter egg hunt. We hope to see everyone there for this fun time!

MEAT CANNING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The **2023 Meat Canning Project** will be canning chicken at Christian Aid Ministries in Ephrata, Pennsylvania during the week after Easter. The goal of the canning project is to help feed people experiencing food insecurity, both locally and overseas.

Grossnickle Church has signed on to provide volunteers on Tuesday, April 11. We will leave from the parish hall parking lot at 6:45 in the morning to arrive for the 9:00-2:30 shift. If you would like to help with the 2023 Meat Canning Project, please contact Marion Leatherman at 301-293-4266.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS PROJECT FOR DISASTER AUCTION

The children and Youth Sunday School classes are collecting items to fill a "Children's Summer Fun Activities Basket" for the Disaster Auction to be held in May. This basket will represent our Grossnickle Church and will be auctioned off that day. If you would like to help, please bring your item(s) to church and place in the box that will be labeled as "Children's Summer Fun Activities." Suggestions are: sidewalk chalk, water toys, bubbles, jump ropes, any type of outside or inside game, etc. Just use your imagination! Please bring in your donation by April 30. Thank you so very much!

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

The board met recently and would like to provide the congregation with some updates. The first item of business was establishing the search committee to work with our district executive on finding our next full-time pastor, please see search committee members' names below. We look forward to hearing from this group as they gather information and let us know about the process. The board also voted to extend an offer for the Johnsons to rent the Parsonage until school ended. The Johnsons thanked us for the offer but declined. They have decided to move back home on February 27th. Finally, the board, along with the district executive, have entered negotiations with an interim pastor. Once the negotiations are finalized the board will share the outcome with the congregation. Our next meeting is March 7th at 7:00.

Search Committee Members: Denise Boyer, Trina Delauter, Scott Grossnickle, Ryan Harshman, Marion Leatherman, Brooke Smith and Holly Thomasson.

UPDATE FROM FINANCE COMMISSION

The **Finance commission** would like to keep the congregation informed about the financial health of our church. In 2022, the annual giving was higher than budgeted and resulted in a surplus of \$2,806 in giving. This surplus was further increased by expenses being held under budget by \$3,900, bringing the total surplus to \$6,706. During 2022, we used the capital improvements fund to replace the roof of the parsonage and to replace the sanctuary doors totaling \$12,425 for both. The church board approved using a \$9,900 distribution from the Earl Grossnickle Bequest to replenish, in part, the capital improvements fund. Overall, Grossnickle Church had a successful year financially and was able to use the surplus to continue to make important improvements to our facilities.

Looking forward, the 2023 budget was passed at the congregational business meeting with a net \$ -0- bottom line. We, as a congregation, are supportive of the ongoing funding needs between expanding programs and keeping pace with increasing costs to maintain the church and the facilities. It's important to remember that a budget increase in giving of 5.5% from the previous year of giving is significant and requires the support of current and future members to maintain. We encourage members to continue their support and continue engaging in open communication about the budget and its requirements. Together we can help ensure the continued success of Grossnickle Church. Thank you for your dedication and efforts to maintain the financial health for 2023.

"Be Thou My Vision"

2023 Lenten Services

Area 5 Church of the Brethren

Congregational Hymn Sing @ 6:45 pm

Worship Service Starts @ 7:00 pm

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Host Church:</u>	<u>Service Agenda</u>
March 5, 2023	Bush Creek COB	Speaker: Rev. Amy Bell, Pastor, Meadow Branch COB
March 12, 2023	Locust Grove COB (YOUTH SERVICE*)	Speaker: Rev. Dylan Rinehart, Member, Frederick COB
March 19, 2023	Meadow Branch COB	Speaker: Rev. Stan Diehl, Pastor, Piney Creek COB
March 26, 2023	Sam's Creek COB	Speaker: Rev. Glenn McCrickard, Pastor, Westminster COB

Child Care will be provided. Refreshments & Fellowship after each service, depending on COVID status

(*) Youth and families are to gather at 5:00 pm for practice and a pizza party

Offerings collected go to Shepherd's Spring Outdoor Ministry Center

ATTENTION: Graduate Sunday is May 21

If you, or a family member, are graduating from High School or college this spring, please contact Traci Hanser or Angie Kline. We will need the graduate's name, phone number and email information. Please have all names submitted by April 15th. Thank you.



MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT DISASTER RESPONSE AUCTION

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, May 6, 2023

9:00 am

Carroll County Ag Center, Westminster

Reflections

On January 31 the James Gang held their **Blue New Year Service** in the Sanctuary. What a beautiful service. We prayed, listened to music, and remembered our loved ones and those in the community. We lit candles in remembrance. Many thanks to all the James Gang members who worked hard to make this a meaningful evening. Thanks to Fred and Wanda Rudman who organized the service.

HEARTS AND HANDS group, part of GCOB Outreach Ministry met on February 7. What a great fun-filled, purpose-driven day. We assembled packages of love to our college kids and a few BVsers in Japan and Northern Ireland! We made cupcakes for Meals on Wheels for dessert. We made blankets for the "No Kid Sleeps on Floor" organization. "No Kid Sleeps on Floor" group builds beds for Children who are sleeping on the floor. They donate sheets, mattresses and top off with a blanket. This is where we come in with our blankets!

Souper Bowl of Caring was held on February 12. This will be our 17th year participating! This year's donations were divided between Brethren Disaster Ministries' Emergency Disaster Fund (EDF), and locally to On Our Own of Frederick, Maryland. On Our Own is a non-profit in downtown Frederick that empowers adults with mental health issues and substance use disorder to address emotional and basic needs by providing peer support groups, training, job services and rapid case management. Thank you to all who supported the **Souper Bowl of Caring**. This year we collected \$832 which was divided between the two organizations.

CELEBRATION CORNER PHOTO GALLERY

A look at some January and February activities...

Candles Lit for Blue New Year



Blankets by Hearts & Hands in use



Hearts and Hands at Work



Hearts and Hands at Work



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) and on Facebook. 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. -The Church Board

FERTILE SOIL

We welcome the gospel group "Fertile Soil" to our worship service on Sunday, March 26. They will share their Christian faith by sharing their beautiful gospel music through singing and playing their instruments. We look forward to hearing their lovely, inspirational music.

NOTES OF THANKS

The family of Sylvia Lantz thanks all for the many acts of love shown Sylvia in the past year. The "sunshine boxes" brightened her days as did the hundreds of cards she received. The meals provided and the gasoline cards were deeply appreciated. Sylvia took great delight in telling her medical team about the support she received from her faith family, she truly felt the love for her. Thanks too for the expressions of sympathy and love received since her passing, it means more than words can convey.

The youth would like to thank you for your generous support at our recent spaghetti luncheon. Thanks to you, we raised \$1,006! We have 12 work camp participants this year going to North Carolina. The work camp fee (not including travel expenses) is \$355 per work camper, so we greatly appreciate all of your donations. We are so excited to show God's love this summer.

THANK YOU FROM CHURCH WORLD SERVICE for the donation of hygiene kits and emergency clean-up buckets. You have given individuals and families touched by disaster the feeling that they are not alone and people do care about them and their situation.

THANK YOU FROM THE RELIGIOUS COALITION FOR EMERGENCY HUMAN NEEDS for helping us make an impact on the Frederick Community. Our work isn't possible without the incredible generosity of our donors and the gift of time from our volunteers, like you.

THANK YOU FROM BETHANY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY. Grossnickle's giving for calendar year 2022 totaled \$575.00.

THANK YOU ON BEHALF of Fahrney-Keedy residents, residents' families, associates, volunteers and Board of Directors for Grossnickle's generous \$575 contribution to the Fahrney-Keedy Benevolent Fund.

Kayla, Justin, Wyatt, and Noelle Riggs would like to sincerely thank all of the church members for all of the kind words, thoughts, prayers, meals, cards, and gifts that they have received during this difficult time in their lives. They feel blessed to be a part of such a caring and supportive church community. The road ahead of them is a long and turbulent one, but they have faith that God, the power of prayer, and the kindness of others, will get them through it.

THANK YOU FROM THE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN GLOBAL FOOD INITIATIVE for giving to the missions and ministries.

CHURCH FAMILY & COMMUNITY NEWS

OFFERING OUR CONGRATULATIONS

*We offer congratulations to Jonas and Kira Abbs on the birth of **Everett Lee Abbs**, December 2, 2022.
Grandparents: Steve and Marianne Abbs; Great Grandparents: Gene and Marilyn Gaver*

MARCH 2023

Deacons of the Month: Patty and Jeff Hurwitz

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30p-8p Kids Klub ▪ #JHGS	2	3	4 Adopt A Road
5 My 2¢ for Hunger Offering	6	7 9 am-11 am Hearts & Hands (PH) Board Mtg. 7:00 pm	8 6:30p-8p Kids Klub	9	10	11 Pig Roast & Silent Auction 6 pm (PH)
12 Daylight Savings Time Begins	13	14	15 Newsletter Deadline 6:30p-8p Kids Klub ▪ #JHGS Deacons' Mtg. 7pm	16	17 	18 Meals on Wheels 8:30 – 1:00 pm (PH)
19	20	21	22 NO Kids Klub	23	24	25
26 Spring Food Drive	27	28	29 Newsletter Crew 9 am 6:30p-8p Kids Klub ▪ #JHGS Closing Activities	30	31	
<p align="center"><u>SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP & 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>						

Be sure to set your clocks up one hour

MARCH WORSHIP HELPERS

Date	Greeters	Acolyte	Nursery
5	Alan & Martha Harshman	Grace Ellis	Abby Grossnickle
12	Dave & Pam Doyle	Caroline Ahalt	Doris Grossnickle
19	Deborah & Donnie Pugh	Layla Ahalt	Brooke Smith
26	Rick & Denise Boyer	Owen Smith	Katie Rudman

Grossnickle Church of the Brethren

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

Secretary Angie's email: 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 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 2023 issue of *The Dunker*** no later than Wed. March 15, 2023.

Thank you!

March 2023

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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