

# The Dunker

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Grossnickle Church of the Brethren

July-August 2023

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## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR GREG.....

Have you ever heard of liminal space? It's a fancy way of talking about when you are in-between two different things. Grossnickle Church is in a liminal space in a number of ways. In-between permanent pastors, most notably. In this liminal space we are still processing with one another, still healing. But that's not the only liminal space the church is in. Like all churches, we're still transitioning out of COVID times. Some are just now getting comfortable in large groups of people, the makeup of congregations has changed for a number of reasons, and we're adapting to do things in different ways.

Liminal space is scary because "we've never been here before." At the same time, liminal space is also an incredible opportunity for growth. Memorable Biblical liminal spaces: Jesus' 40 days in the desert, times when he retreated to the mountain or sea, and the time after Jesus' ascension when the disciples were figuring out where they were called next....the list can go on and on.

It's okay to be in liminal space for a time. At our best, when we come out of it, we have clearer direction, deeper commitment, and are ready to adapt to what comes next.

One great example of coming out of this transitory time was this last month at Vacation Bible School. The leaders did not know what to expect in our first real VBS since COVID. Volunteers and families had fallen out of the habit, and even forgot the joy and blessing of the event. In spite of these unknowns and challenges those leaders moved forward into the unknown, adapted as needed, and created an incredible ministry event!

May God continue to bless us in these important times in the life of our congregation!

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## NEW FLOOR IN PARISH HALL

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Recently, the floor in the parish hall was replaced. It is a job that needed to be done and it is such an improvement. A large portion of the payment was made by Glenn Lantz in loving memory of Sylvia. Thank you Glenn for your generous contribution to this project and for all you do for our church.

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## BRETHREN DISASTER MINISTRIES

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A Brethren Disaster Ministries trip is being planned. This year we will be traveling to Dawson Springs, Kentucky and working with Habitat for Humanity to rebuild homes damaged by a tornado in December. We will be leaving on Sunday, September 3 and returning on Saturday, September 9. If you are interested in going, please contact Marion Leatherman at 301-293-4266.

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## WORKCAMP CREW

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The workcamp crew leaves Sunday, July 30. I always take our suburban, but that died a few months ago so that is not an option. If anyone has a large SUV (Suburban sized) that we could use from July 30-Aug 4 to take to Winston Salem, NC please contact Kelly Rumpf. Thank you.

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## OUTREACH SUMMER PROJECT

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Summer is almost upon us. A time we think of sun, sand, sports. For some in the world it can be a time of storms, squalls, and struggle. To assist those in need we will be collecting **hygiene kits** to be distributed by CWS. Each kit should be placed in a one-gallon size plastic bag with zip closure and should include:

- One hand towel
- One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb (removed from package)
- One fingernail or toenail clipper (removed from package)
- One bath-size bar of soap (in wrapper)
- One toothbrush (in package)
- 10 regular band aids



Donations can be dropped off in the narthex through September 3. Please include a processing fee of \$2 for each kit donated to assist with the cost of sending kits overseas. Write your check to "GCOB" and on the memo line note "hygiene kits" then place your check in the offering plate. If you put cash please put cash in an envelope and mark the envelope "hygiene kits". (Please do not put money in the kits.) If you have any questions please contact Sharon Leatherman. Thank you!

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## CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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Viviendo el amor de Dios  
Viv Lanmou Bondye A  
Rayuwan Kaunar Allah  
Living God's Love

Ephesians 5:1-2  
Languages: Spanish, Creole, Hausa, English

This year, Church of the Brethren Annual Conference will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio July 4 – 8, 2023. This year's theme will be, "Living God's Love" based on Ephesians 5:1-2. Kelly and Danny Rumpf will serve as delegates for Grossnickle Church. Pastor Greg will also attend.



Annual Conference information is online at <https://www.brethren.org/ac2023/> for anyone who has interest in learning more about Annual Conference.

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## ADOPT A ROAD

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The next dates for "**Adopt A Road**" are September 9th, and December 2nd. 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. Please call Pam Jouannet at 301-293-3629 if you are interested or need more information. Thank you.



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## YARD SALE

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Just a heads up!!! We are still looking for donations for our **Farhney-Keedy Yard Sale** September 8 and 9. If you are in the process of downsizing, moving or still trying to Spring Clean, we would love to help take your treasured items off your hands. The profits help the Auxiliary. If you have questions, or donations please call Sara Wolfe (our fearless Auxiliary President), or Ruth Hinkle. Thank you so very much!

## Deacons for the Month of July: Doris and Scott Grossnickle

### JULY WORSHIP HELPERS

Date	Preacher	Worship Leader
2	Pastor Greg	Andrew Barnett
9	Reverend Ray Moreland	Holly Thomasson
16	Pastor Greg	Jack Cornell and Andrew Leatherman
23	Eddie Edmonds	Nancy Grimms
30	Pastor Greg	Glenn Lantz

Date	Greeters	Acolytes	Nursery
2	Charlie and Nancy Wisner	Shannon Mahoney	Kristie Delauter
9	Zene and Sara Wolfe	Jack Cornell	Abby Grossnickle
16	Jennie and Paige Leatherman	Patrick Mahoney	Doris Grossnickle
23	Tom and Pam Jouannet	Natalie Flook	Brooke Smith
30	Charles and Vicki Grossnickle	Shepherd Flook	Katie Rudman

## Deacons for the Month of August: Betty and Robert Lee Grossnickle

### AUGUST WORSHIP HELPERS

Date	Preacher	Worship Leader
6	Pastor Greg	Pepper Delauter
13	Youth-Work Camp Talk	Ali and Lilly Rumpf
20	Pastor Greg	Kevin Leatherman
27	Ed Poling or Sophie Lethbridge	Dave Doyle

Date	Greeters	Acolytes	Nursery
6	Brian, Jennifer & Brianna Blickenstaff	Caroline Ahalt	Sharon Leatherman
13	Elvin & Beverly Stottlemeyer	Layla Ahalt	Kristie Delauter
20	Johnny & Linda Graybill	Matthew Lewis	Abby Grossnickle
27	Tom & Lisa Westwood	Grace Ellis	Doris Grossnickle

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## A Big Thanks

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Dear Grossnickle brothers and sisters, thank you for your love and prayers. Kathy Tucker

A sincere thank you to the friends at Grossnickle Church for the many prayers, cards, phone calls, visits, and offerings of food during the recent illness and passing of Jane. Your kindness and support have been greatly appreciated. *With gratitude, Maynard Grossnickle and family.*



Thank You from Global Food Initiative Church of the Brethren to the Grossnickle Church of the Brethren for giving and all that you have done for those you may never meet. You are an important part of all the good work done to help train families in need to grow their own food.

A huge thank you to Vicki Linton who designed two quilt squares for the Church of the Brethren Annual Conference Quilt.



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## BLANKET SUNDAY

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On May 14th (Mother's day) we held BLANKET SUNDAY. We had a short skit in which Jennie and Paige Leatherman portrayed victims of a tornado receiving CWS blankets and health kits. Many thanks for their willingness to help.

We collected \$825.00!! What a blessing to be able to help our brothers and sisters in their time of need. We also collected many blankets made by our Hearts and Hands group and other members of our church family. The blankets were taken to two different places.

We donated the blankets to "Sleep in Heavenly Peace", an organization in Hagerstown MD that builds twin size beds for children who are sleeping on floors. When they deliver the beds they also supply a mattress, sheets, pillows, and blankets. The whole shebang!!

We donated the baby blankets to the Crisis Pregnancy Center along with many hats (baby and youth) made by Lois Johnson.

Thanks to all who participated in this worthy project.



One of the Blankets in Use



Many of the Donated Blankets



Congratulations to Laura Troxell who was honored recently by being voted Teacher of the Year at Myersville Elementary School.....anyone who knows her, knows that she very much deserved this honor! Everyone loves Mrs. Troxell.



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## *Our Christian Sympathy*

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*We extend heartfelt sympathy and prayers to family & friends of the following individual(s) on their recent death.*

To the family and friends of Carol Cornell who passed on May 31, 2023. Carol was the mother of Russ Cornell and mother-in-law to Angi Cornell.

To the family and friends of Robert Harshman who passed on June 21, 2023. Robert is survived by many nieces and nephews.



The Growing Project held their Blessing of the Seed service on Sunday, June 11 at the Growing Project farm. Our Growing Project is now in its 18th year; we support the efforts of Growing Hope Globally, an international foods security organization that funds smallholder agricultural programs in developing countries all around the world. Our funds are raised by generous folks who support an acre of land to grow crops locally. The money raised is then designated for an overseas program each year. In the past 18 years, our Growing Project has raised nearly \$500,000 and it is estimated that we have brought over 7000 people out of hunger to a place where they can support themselves. This year we are supporting a local farmers' program in Tanzania. For more information, please call Patty Hurwitz at 301-471-7810.

## *Blessing of the Seed*





### About the Tanzania Arusha Program

In 2021, Convoy of Hope worked with 408 women in the Arusha Region to help them farm a half acre of maize each. Through the provision of seed, fertilizer, pesticides, and technical assistance, each farmer saw exponential increase in their productivity and profitability. Average harvest was 1,000 kg of maize per ½ acre, whereas previous harvests in the area averaged 250-500 kg per ½ acre. Due to this success, Convoy of Hope is extending this program to assist a greater population throughout the Arusha Region. In 2022 the number of participants increased to approximately 600 women. Subsequent years will also increase the number of participants by about 50%.

### “Field of Hope”

#### Growing Hope Globally

#### Sponsor Form

I/We will sponsor \_\_\_\_ acres at the donation rate of \$250 per acre (1/2 acre \$125, ¼ acre \$62.50).

Persons sharing in sponsorship:

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**Total pledge \$**\_\_\_\_\_

All pledges due by October 30, 2023.

Please make checks payable to Grossnickle Church of the Brethren, designated “Field of Hope.”

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

#### Participants

Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren  
Christ Reformed United Church of Christ  
Edgewood Church of the Brethren  
Grossnickle Church of the Brethren  
Hagerstown Church of the Brethren  
Harmony Church of the Brethren  
Manor Church of the Brethren  
Myersville Church of the Brethren  
Pastorate of St. Francis, St. Mary and Holy Family  
Third Street Church of God (Washington, D.C.)  
Welty Church of the Brethren  
Catholic Daughters Court Mary Francis  
Knights of Columbus, Seton Chapter

Our thanks to Donnie and Donna Grossnickle, farmers for “Field of Hope”

# July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 My 2¢ for Hunger Offering  Health Kits (June/July/Aug)	3	4 Annual Conference Cincinnati, Ohio	5 Annual Conference Cincinnati, Ohio	6 Annual Conference Cincinnati, Ohio	7 Annual Conference Cincinnati, Ohio	8 Annual Conference Cincinnati, Ohio
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Board Mtg. 7:00 pm (PH)	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL

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.

## GENERAL IN-OFFICE HOURS

Secretary Angie: Tue-Wed-Thu • 9am-4pm; Fri • 9am-2pm



# August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 My 2¢ for Hunger Offering  Health Kits (June/July/Aug)	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20  Creek Baptism	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Newsletter Crew	31		

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## GENERAL IN-OFFICE HOURS

Secretary Angie: Tue-Wed-Thu ▪ 9am-4pm; Fri • 9am-2pm

If anyone would like to be a delegate please contact Danny Rumpf at [djrumf78@comcast.net](mailto:djrumpf78@comcast.net).



*Left window panel drawings submitted by the children of the Manassas and Fairview congregations.  
Right window panel drawings submitted by the children of the Friendship congregation.*

## Mid-Atlantic District 2023 District Conference

Friday and Saturday, October 6 and 7

Manassas Church of the Brethren

<http://www.madcob.com/districtconference/>

# We Are All God's Children

1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 25-27

Saturday morning Bible Study - Jody Gunn

Friday Evening Concert - Please Share Your Musical Gifts

We are seeking individuals or groups who would like to share their vocal or instrumental music selections with us either in person or via a recording. If you're a musician or part of a church music group, please send your submission for our Friday evening concert. Please follow this link to a letter sent to churches earlier this year that explains the details.

[Call for Friday Night Concert Performances](#)

## 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 **September 2023 issue of *The Dunker*** no later than August 15, 2023.

Thank you!

July-August 2023

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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