

The Dunker

Grossnickle Church of the Brethren

November 2020

Give THANKS...with a grateful heart

As we enter in to November is it hard for me not to look forward to **turkey, football, piles of leaves, turkey, cranberry sauce, sweaters, mashed taters, fires, turkey, crisp air...and did I say turkey?** The mood of the season can make us warm and nostalgic for the memories we share. Family gatherings..."Over the river and through the woods"...grandma's house... family traditions and more...and did I say turkey?

Thanksgiving, for many of us has a special place in our hearts and souls. We seem to be a little more gracious, our hearts a wee bit more tender. We begin to make time to be reflective of the blessings we are grateful for. We are often able to even see some of our challenges in a new light.



We find a table to gather around with family, friends and even a few strangers, who don't seem so strange this time of the year. A table that is surrounded with joy and laughter, some sadness and broken hearts for who is not in a chair this year, tenderness for all the memories that float around in our head of all we have experienced throughout the year.

Our eyes seem to have different lens with which to see. We seem to be more attentive to how we can support others, how we might share, and how we can make a difference.

Our hearts seem just a wee bit more grateful...no matter what circumstances we find ourselves in. I am reminded of the hymn:

*Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son....
And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us"....
Give thanks with a grateful heart (with a grateful heart)
Because of what the Lord has done for us
Give thanks
We give thanks to You*

This month we will be worshipping around the theme of "Thanksgiving." Learning how we move from a grateful heart to the act of living out our thanks everyday as a response to the blessings Abba has given us through Jesus. I hope you will join us in celebrating how "Thanksgiving" works in all our lives and in the life of our family of faith.

WORSHIP UPDATE & INDOOR GATHERING GUIDELINES

The church board has decided to move worship services indoors beginning on November 1. This decision was made after much thought, consideration, and planning on how we can permit a return to worship services indoors while still considering the health and safety of all who attend worship as much as possible in this environment.

First, in order to provide the best options for adequate social distancing, the board has decided that we will begin to hold two worship services on Sundays for the month of November. The first service will be at 9:30 AM in the sanctuary. The second service will be at 11 AM in the parish hall.

Members of the congregation are encouraged to consider taking their temperature at home before coming to indoor worship. If a temperature of 100.4°F or above is reported, please do not attend worship.

Wearing masks that cover the nose and mouth are required at all times while inside the church or parish hall. Please bring your own mask if possible. A limited number of disposable masks will be available. The CDC recommends masks for those age 2 and up.

There will be ushers available to assist those attending worship with finding an available seat that meets social distancing guidelines.

As with our outdoor services, there will be no singing at this time for indoor services due to the increased risk of spreading a virus to others.

In order to minimize the spread of germs and limit other's exposure, the water fountain in the church will be turned off. Members who may need a drink are encouraged to bring your own water bottle.

The nursery room will not be available for use.

Doorknobs, handrails, faucets, tops and ends of pews, parish hall chairs, or other surfaces that are frequently touched will be cleaned before every service.

One of the services each week will be recorded on video, and will be made available on Sunday afternoon via email link and the Grossnickle Church of the Brethren Facebook page.

We will be utilizing the FM transmitter as we have for outdoor services to broadcast the worship audio to anyone who prefers to stay in their vehicle. This will be available for both services.

There will be additional guidelines that will be followed for indoor worship services that will be distributed through email and other written communication.

These plans for worship location and schedule will be until further notice. The church board will solicit feedback from the congregation and will continue to assess how things are going as we begin to hold indoor services. Any adjustments to the worship schedule will be communicated as needed.

The church board is grateful for your cooperation, continued patience, and understanding as we work together through this transition.



REMINDER... Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, November 1. Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday night. This will be the first day we return to indoor worship. Services will be held at 9:30 am (Sanctuary) and 11:00 am (Parish Hall). Come join in... indoors or in your car (via FM broadcast).

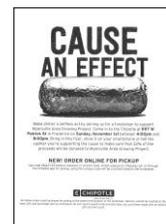
NOVEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DATE	MESSAGE	SCRIPTURE	NOTES
Nov 1	<i>Attitude of Gratitude</i>	1 Thessalonians 5:18	Return to indoor worship; 9:30 & 11:00 AM
Nov 8	<i>A Way of Living</i>	Matthew 5:14-16	
Nov 15	<i>Around the Table</i>	Hebrews 13:1-3; Luke 14:1, 7-14	Love Feast observed
Nov 22	<i>Celebrate Well</i>	Ephesians 5:19-20; Psalm 100	
Nov 29	<i>Candle of Invitation</i>	Luke 1:26-38	1 st Sunday of Advent

One of the services each week will be recorded on video and will be available Sunday afternoons by email link and the Grossnickle Church of the Brethren Facebook page.

GROWING PROJECT FUNDRAISER

GROWING PROJECT FUNDRAISER... Come to **CHIPOTLE** (997 West Patrick Street, Frederick) on Sunday, November 1st between 4pm and 8pm for dinner and support the Myersville Area Growing Project. To make sure that 33% of the proceeds will be donated to this effort, bring the flyer included at the end of this newsletter and present it to the cashier (or show it on your smartphone). See additional details noted on the flyer.



CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING



Our Annual Congregational Business Meeting will be held Thursday evening, November 5 at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary, with masks and social distancing.

Items of business will be to approve the slate of officers and to adopt a budget for 2021. These items will determine our priorities for ministry in the coming year. All members of the congregation have a voice in this meeting. We hope for good attendance and good discussion.

Another task of the Congregational Business Meeting is to call Deacons. Deacons serve as caregivers of our congregation and as those who prepare for communion and baptism. Please consider individuals or couples who could serve faithfully and well as deacons.

We will be calling five individuals or deacon couples. Those persons whose terms are expiring this year are: Cathie Clemson, Dale & Sheila Delauter, Kevin & Jennie Leatherman, (Robert & Mary Delauter have said this is their last term). All are eligible to be called again. We thank them all for their faithful service.

WOODCUTTING DAY



Volunteers will be needed Saturday, November 14 beginning at 8:00 am to help cut and split wood to share with households in the area who need a lift, in the name of Christ.

For additional information you may contact Robert Lee Grossnickle, 301-293-2109, or Kevin Leatherman, 301-293-2451.

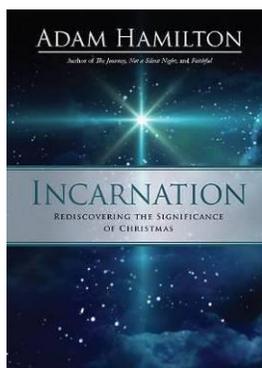
LOVE FEAST RE-IMAGINED

Unfortunately, with current safety protocols, we will once again be unable to fully participate in Love Feast as Brethren are accustomed to. On November 15th, in our worship experience, Pastor Sandi will reimagine a way that we as the body of Christ can reflect, surrender, celebrate and remember together what Christ has done for us, his disciples. We will share in and experience various elements of Love Feast together culminating in bread and cup communion. Join us on November 15th as we explore and experience ***Thanksgiving: Around the Table.***



ADVENT WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY

ADVENT 2020 is COMING...! Advent is right around the corner...beginning early this year on November 29th. In **worship** we will reflect on Mary's Journey of Light; walking with Mary through the Christmas story as she encounters Gabriel, Elizabeth, Joseph, Jesus, the Shepherds and the Magi...pondering along the way. We will be celebrating by lighting an Advent Wreath each week.



We will also have an **Advent Study** this year, based on Adam Hamilton's new study *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*, where he examines the names of Christ used by the gospel writers, exploring the historical and personal significance of his birth. We will meet 4 consecutive Tuesday evenings beginning December 1st @ 7:00 pm in the Parrish Hall, social distancing and wearing masks. We might also have a Zoom option as well...if Pastor Sandi can get technology up and working. If you might be interested in participating in this study please let Pastor Sandi know by, Sunday, November 15th, so she can make sure we have enough books for all who want to participate. Pastorsandi.gcob@gmail.com or 703-623-2138.

PASTORAL SEARCH UPDATE



As many of you know our Congregation has begun the pastoral search process to find our next full time pastor(s). As part of this process GCOB has established a search committee made up of diverse representation of the Congregation. The members include: Patty Hurwitz, Myralee Wiles, David Doyle, Brooke Smith, Ryan Harshman, Catherine Mahoney, and Danny Rumpf (Chair).

As part of the process, the search committee is responsible for gathering information about the Congregation, from the people in the Congregation. To gather this information, we asked that each knowledgeable person within the Congregation complete a survey. The information that was provided through the responses we received will be used to complete the Congregational profile.

We thank you for your time during this important season for our Congregation,
The search committee

PLEASE NOTE...

The Wolfsville area 2020 Community Thanksgiving Service has been cancelled.

MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Four individuals were received into membership during Worship on July 12, 2020. Each one will be interviewed and then their responses will be shared in this section over the next few months. In this issue we get to know a little more about...



BRANDY LEWIS . . . Brandy Lewis enjoys being a nurse at the Frederick Surgical Center in Frederick, Maryland. Her duties there include getting the patients ready for surgery and taking care of them as they recover from their procedures. She is married to Michael who is employed by Wastler and Son. They are the proud parents of two sons, Matthew and Luke. Both sons attend Wolfsville Elementary School. Matthew is in the fifth grade and Luke is in the second grade.

Brandy enjoys taking care of the animals and participating in the farming activities with her family. You can find her outside working in her flower garden and helping around the farm where needed. Her family really likes the beach and looks forward to trips to the Outer Banks.

When asked about her favorite food, Brandy said she loves a Wolfsville favorite---slippery dough pot pie. Her family looks forward to going to the Texas Roadhouse Restaurant together. "The Sound of Music" is her favorite movie. When asked where she would like to visit, Brandy said she would like to travel out west to Colorado, Montana, Wyoming and the other western states. When asked about something that she will never forget, she said that she will always remember with happiness and joy the day that she and Michael were married.

Her favorite memories of church have been attending Sunday School and being in the Youth Group. She remembers making taffy and apple butter with leaders Elvin Stottlemeyer and David Doyle. She liked attending Bible School where she remembers learning Bible stories, doing crafts, singing, and catching lightning bugs. One of her favorite Bible stories was of Jesus walking on the water. She also likes the story of Jesus telling the fishermen to cast their nets out on the other side of the boat to catch fish and what a surprise they had when their nets were full of fish.

Brandy has transferred her church membership from St. John's Lutheran Church. She looks forward to growing in her faith here at our Grossnickle Church. Brandy, we welcome you into our Grossnickle Church of the Brethren family. May God bless you and your family always.

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION

On July 12, 2020 our church family welcomed four new members. Ruby & Denny Webb were received by letters of transfer. Brandy Lewis and Steve Loiacono were received by reaffirmation of faith. Traditionally a New Member Dinner is held the first Sunday of November to fellowship with new members and get to know more about them. Due to continued concerns and guidelines to limit social gatherings due to the COVID-19 virus, the dinner will not be held this year. However, these new members are being interviewed and their responses will be shared in The Dunker beginning this month (see article above). Also, Ruby, Denny, Brandy and Steve will each receive the usual Welcome Packet along with, this year, a gift certificate to enjoy a meal at (or from) a selected restaurant.



CELEBRATION CORNER PHOTO GALLERY



2nd grade students received a Bible from the Christian Education Commission on Sunday, September 13. One of the students is seen looking through the Bible he received. On World-Wide Communion Sunday, October 4, folks who attended worship were invited to receive the Bread & Cup in a slightly different manner. The Rock message during mid-late October encourages all who pass by to “Grow Love, Harvest Peace.”

NOTES OF THANKS



THANK YOU! The Thomasson family would like to thank you for each phone call, card, and visit before and after the death of Aubrey Thomasson. Helen is very thankful for the support that she has received and continues to receive during this trying time. Thanks to Pastor Sandi for her calls and visits. -Helen, Carl, Brenda, Holly, Anna, Martin, and Joaquin

THANK YOU FROM ROBERT & MARY DELAUTER... Thank you for all the prayers, cards and phone calls from our church family and for your concerns for both of us. Your prayers got us through this.

CHURCH FAMILY UPDATES

Our Christian Sympathy to...



*The family of **Arthur T. Leatherman** on his death, September 22, 2020.*

*The family of **Grace L. (Grossnickle) Reeder** on her death, October 8, 2020.*

NOVEMBER 2020

Deacons of the Month: Kathy & Randy Gaver

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 "My 2¢ Offering" Growing Project fundraiser @ Chipotle 4p-8p	2	3 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Kathie off</div>	4	5 7p Congregational Business Meeting (Sanctuary)	6	7
8	9	10 7p James Gang	11	12	13	14 8a Woodcutting
15 Giving Tree items due December Newsletter deadline	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26  Happy Thanksgiving	27	28
29 1 st Sunday of Advent Poinsettia orders due	30				Sunday Worship 9:30 am – Sanctuary 11:00 am – Parish Hall	

GENERAL IN-OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Sandi: Tuesdays-Wednesdays-Thursday from 9am-3pm
Secretary Kathie: Tuesdays-Wednesdays-Thursday from 8am-4pm

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE



The volunteers from Middletown Valley People Helping People will be once again be having their annual Holiday Assistance Adopt-a-Family Program.

Last year through the generosity and help from the community they were able to provide toys, clothing, boots, shoes and gift cards to over 200 local children. This year due to COVID there are at least as many needy children but the distribution will look a bit different. To keep the holiday assistance as contactless as possible they are asking for donations of either gifts cards or money to purchase gift cards, a family puzzle or game. Each family will also receive a gift card to a grocery store to purchase some additional food items to make their holiday special.

Look for the list of gift cards to be purchased in the narthex on November 1st and 8th. When you make your selection please **sign your name** and tear off the corresponding tag of what you are to purchase. All gift cards need to be returned to Church and placed in the wood lockbox on the wall in the narthex located to the left as you enter the double doors. They can also be mailed or given to Pepper Delauter **no later than November 15th**. If you would prefer to make a cash donation that also can be dropped in the lockbox.

Thank you for supporting this cause. If you have any questions, please call or email Pepper Delauter at 301-293-1307 or delauterfamily33@comcast.net. MVPHP volunteers are always so overwhelmed at our generosity.



2020 Poinsettia Order Form



Christmas poinsettias will be displayed in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 22 to honor Christ's birth. A list of the persons whom you wish to dedicate them to will be distributed that day.

Poinsettias will come from T&C Greenhouse. The cost is \$8.75 each (6" pot with 5-6 blooms). Please make checks payable to "Grossnickle Church of the Brethren" and note "for poinsettias."

I would like to order _____ **red**, _____ **white**, _____ **marbled** poinsettias and dedicate them as noted below:

- 1) Color: _____ In memory or honor (circle one) of: _____
Given by: _____
- 2) Color: _____ In memory or honor (circle one) of: _____
Given by: _____
- 3) Color: _____ In memory or honor (circle one) of: _____
Given by: _____

Contact's Name _____ Phone Number _____

Please submit order form to Vicki Linton or Jeanine Harshman by Sunday, November 29, 2020. Thank you! (Orders may also be submitted by phone or email to: Vicki at 301-797-1094 or velquilter@gmail.com or Jeanine at 301-293-1820 or jwharshman@winsupplyinc.com. If we are unable to meet for services, checks can be mailed to: Vicky Linton, 20421 Splendor View Terrace, Hagerstown, MD 21740 or GCOB, P.O. Box 575, Myersville, MD 21773.)

**Praying in the “In-Between” Time...a Transformational Transition
November 2020 Gossnickle Church of Brethren**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Praying for a season of <i>Thanksgiving</i> ; living out our gratitude	Praying for Pastor Sandi as she enters in full-time @ GCOB	Praying for each other in this Season of Transition	Praying for Our Neighbors...ALL our Neighbors	Opening Ourselves to reviewing Ministries @GCOB	Praying for those who will enter into the search process	Praying for our future sharing life together in our family of faith
Seek your heart for any lingering hurts and prayerfully Forgive those who you need	Praying for the living out of our Mission to the community now.	Praying for those who we do not agree with, those we don't fully understand	Pray for yourself during this transition...how can you best invest your gifts in the body	Pray for Pastors Tim and Donna as they continue transition	Pray for the work and discernment of the Search Team as they gather	Praying for Board and church leadership as they seek to lead in this season of transition
Praying we honor and glorify God as we reimagine Love Feast	Continue to Pray for the whole body as we move thru this transition	Pray for Vulnerability & Openness within the family of faith	Discern your gifts; Claim, Own and invest them in the body of Christ	Pray for the Grace among the Body	Pray for the Search Team; as they begin to discern process	Continue to Pray for any conflict/tension the body may be experiencing
Where you still feel grief/pain in community pray for healing another step	Pray for the creating of our church profile for Search Teams work	Praying for Wisdom in this season of transition	Praying for the body as we reflect on all that God has done for us.	Reflecting on Gratitude... Celebrating <i>Thanksgiving</i> today	Pray that we can live into Hope in the midst of uncertainty	Choose one person on search team you will pray for daily.
As we enter into Advent...tender our hearts to the Journey together	Praying for our touch to our Neighbors... During Advent and Christmas					

DISASTER RELIEF Walk-a-thon!

November 1 – 15, 2020

The 40th Annual Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response Auction scheduled for May 2, 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19, but we can still safely raise much needed funds for the **Emergency Disaster Fund of the Church of the Brethren**

- “Steps for Disaster Relief” is a reflective 1 hour walk-a-thon done at your convenience.
- Recruit FAMILY and FRIENDS to walk with you and/or sponsor you.
- In that hour, intentionally walk in a disaster survivor’s shoes, imagining their plight, praying for them and for all those who in some way have, are and will continue providing relief.

New for 2020 (open and accepting volunteers) are:

Project 1 in Bayboro, NC rebuilding homes damaged by Hurricane Florence

Project 2 in Dayton, OH rebuilding homes damaged by the 2019 Memorial Day tornadoes

In 2019 the Emergency Disaster Fund supported:

Carolinas Hurricanes Rebuilding Projects • Midwest U.S. Flooding and Tornadoes • Jacksonville, Florida, Hurricane Rebuilding Project • Puerto Rico Hurricanes Rebuilding Project • Hurricane Dorian Bahamas Response • Southern Africa Cyclone Idai • Nigeria Crisis Response • South Sudan Mission Relief Program for Families • Democratic Republic of Congo, Shalom Ministry • IMA World Health – Ebola response • Typhoon Hagibis Japan

- **November 1 – 15, 2020:** Get sponsors using this form and independently walk for a total of 1 hour at your own pace some place safe. Goal: \$200 - \$2,000 per congregation.
- **November 29, 2020:** Money collected should be submitted to your congregation’s financial secretary to total, then send one check to the Mid-Atlantic District office noting EDF “Steps for Disaster Relief.” Payment questions, contact Jo Ann Landon 443-960-3052.

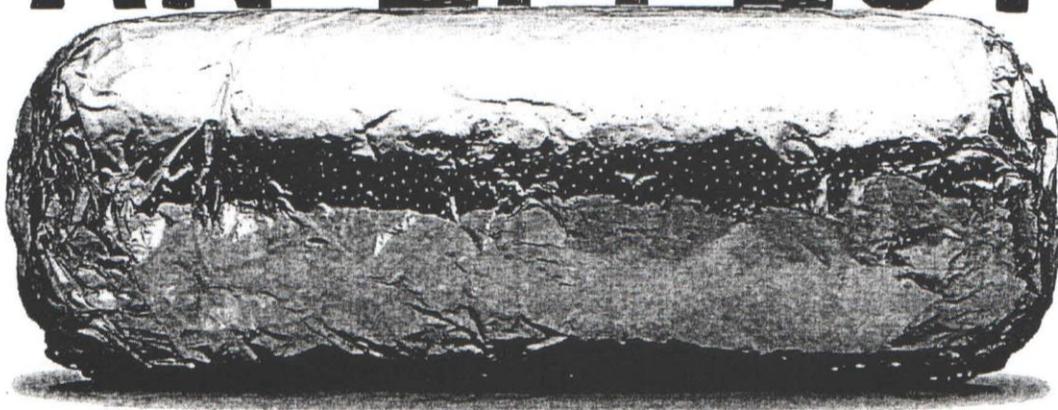
Participant’s Name: _____

Congregation (if affiliated): _____

Personal Goal: _____ Total Amount Raised: _____

Sponsor’s Name	Donation \$	Sponsor’s Name	Donation \$
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

CAUSE AN EFFECT



Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support Myersville Area Growing Project. Come in to the Chipotle at **997 W Patrick St** in Frederick on **Sunday, November 1st** between **4:00pm** and **8:00pm**. Bring in this flyer, show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 33% of the proceeds will be donated to Myersville Area Growing Project.

NEW! ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP

Use code **GMAZYZE** before checkout in 'promo' field. Orders placed on Chipotle.com or through the Chipotle app for pickup using this unique code will be counted towards the fundraiser.



MEXICAN GRILL

All online orders must be placed for pickup at the same time/location of the fundraiser. Delivery cannot be counted at this time. Gift card purchases during fundraisers do not count towards total donated sales, but purchases made with an existing gift card will count.

Sandi Evans Rogers, Interim Pastor

SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS

9:30 am (sanctuary) & 11:00 am (parish hall)

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday – Wednesday – Thursday
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

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

pastorsandi.gcob@gmail.com

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 **December 2020 issue of *The Dunker*** no later than Sunday, November 15. Thank you!

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November 2020
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