



Monocacy Church of the Brethren Congregation Newsletter

Volume 16 Issue 5 May 2023

You've been there. Waiting, just waiting, to see the first robin, or the first bud, or the first hint of green. We know it's coming, but it's just out of reach. It's the hope that Spring will soon bring light rain showers, pink flowers, and the sound of buzzing bees.

And so we wait. We wait and hope for spring because there is nothing, we can do to hurry it along. The coming of spring is out of our control. We jokingly look to a groundhog to tell us if spring is on its way, but we know it's really the God of the universe who brings each new season.

He brings newness after the gray of winter. A new life.

Spring is the perfect metaphor for the gospel. It is God's nature to make something new. Not only can we observe many attributes of God in the spring, but His gospel plan is plastered throughout creation.

God is Creative: When was the last time you really took a good look at a daffodil? What about a praying mantis? Or a bluebird? God is so creative; and He isn't just creative in nature (Romans 1:20). God is creative in story telling. YOUR story. No one else has a testimony just like yours. God brings people to Himself in different ways. You are unique.

Who would have thought that through death would come life more abundantly? Through the blood and death of Jesus comes eternal life. How creative! The old is gone, a new life is beginning. Spring. New life.

God is Joyous: Winter, while beautiful in its own way, can be dreary and cold. Still, and hard. After a long winter, when that first green leaf appears, joy explodes. All of a sudden you can see green in other places along with yellow, pink...and smiles. People begin to smile more in spring, have you noticed that?

Once a habitual life of sin is given over to the Lordship of Jesus, joy floods one's soul. It's indescribable! Believers in Jesus see the world differently and with more joy. The gospel transfers a soul from the dreariness of sin into the newness of life and brings unimaginable joy.

God is Faithful: We know without a doubt that spring will arrive to the land around us. The seasons, after all, are cyclical. Just as we know the sun will rise and set each 24 hours, we know that every 3 months we will have a new season. Spring will come. The God who created all of these nature cycles is faithful to bring them about.

God is also faithful and just to forgive us of our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. But many times we seem to forget this. We try to fix our lives on our own and everything becomes out of sync and out of the cycle of life. Just as spring is "right around the corner," God is "right there" when we mess up. He is ready to give us a new beginning and another chance.

In winter, when looking at brown leaves on the ground one might wonder why they had to die. Why did a living thing fall to the ground only to turn into dust?

It had to. The leaf had to fall and die. If it didn't then the new leaves would not be able to sprout. In the same way, we must die to ourselves. If we don't, then the new life God wants for us will never grow. We will never be able to serve God as He desires if we aren't willing to surrender it all. The gospel equals making Jesus Lord of our lives.

And with the death of ourselves comes the spring of eternal life.



May

A YEAR OF PROMISES OF GOD

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Job 33:4	Psalm 139:7-10	Psalm 37:18	Psalm 139:13	Luke 12:32	Numbers 6:25
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Psalm 119:105	Matthew 8:16-17	Romans 8:26	Philippians 4:13	Deuteronomy 31:6	Psalm 46:1	Psalm 12:7
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Psalm 5:3	John 16:15	Psalm 23:6	Isaiah 54:13	Hebrews 6:10	Proverbs 19:17	Deuteronomy 28:2
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Matthew 6:8	Isaiah 61:1	2 Peter 2:9	Psalm 30:5	Matthew 5:6	Matthew 13:11	Revelation 2:7
28	29	30	31			
1 Corinthians 2:9	Matthew 5:8	Philippians 1:6	Titus 1:2			



Alice Eyer 3rd
 Wilton Smith III 2nd
 Nancy Anders 9th
 RJ Smith 9th
 Wesley Wiser 13th
 Kathryn Carnes 15th
 Dale Reed 19th

Austin Smith 19th
 Greg Stambaugh 20th
 Elijah Moser 21st
 Alan Simpson 23rd
 Kayla Reed Petrosky 30th
 Pat Wiser 30th
 Linda Troxell 30th

Happy Birthday

HAPPY Anniversary!

Bernie & Dawn Hobbs 5th
 Nelson & Tina Smith 9th
 Wilton & Tammy Smith 9th
 Matthew & Kaylee Wiser 12th
 Josh & Tracey Gormer 19th

Email us at mcobnewsletter@gmail.com if we missed your Birthday or Anniversary!

Youth



Schedule:

May 14th – Ms. Deb
May 28th – Ms. Karen

Upcoming Pastor Schedule:



May 7th – Pastor Ed Robbins
May 14th – Pastor Larry Dentler
May 21st – Pastor Sam Martz
May 28th – Pastor Ed Robbins

Bible Study



Tuesday, May 2nd & 16th
at 7 PM



Thank you to all who
Donated & help make the
Spaghetti Dinner
Fundraiser & Silent
Auction Successful!



Check us out on the web & listen to sermons
<http://monocacychurchofthebrethren.org/>

Monocacy Church of the Brethren



Free Event!

Ages 5-14

Vacation Bible School 2023

Friday June 23rd

Drop Off 800 – 830 AM
Pick Up 300 – 330 PM

Lunch & Snacks Provided!



Mt. Tabor Park (Big Slide)
13616 Motters Station Road
Rocky Ridge, MD 21778



Register Online Today!

<https://monocacychurchofthebrethren.org>
Or Contact Kelly @ 240-405-9882

FEED HEAL FORGIVE PRAY REST



Continuing the work of Jesus.
Peacefully. Simply. Together.

MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Dear sisters and brothers, in Christ,

We are writing to update you on the search for a new District Executive Minister (DEM) for the Mid-Atlantic District Church of the Brethren.

Last October the phone calls began as the District Leadership Team recruited search committee members based on nominations from around the district. In November the appropriate number said yes. The persons called are Ruth Aukerman, Yakubu Bakfawsh, Britnee Linton, Paul Munday, Mandy Park, Dianne Nelson, Matt Rittle, Danny Rumpf (who is also liaison to the district Leadership Team), and Gene Walbridge.

In December we met for our first meeting over Zoom with Nancy Heishman our denomination's Director of Ministry, who serves as a consultant for our process. At that meeting Paul Munday was called as our chair, and Britnee Linton as our note-taker.

We have met every month since December learning what it means to be the search committee for a new District Executive Minister. We have attended District Leadership Team meetings to get necessary details, reviewed what other districts have done in the search process, and most recently sent to our district pastors, board chairs, and district leadership team a survey to get feedback from around the district of what they hope to see in our next District Executive Minister.

As the Search Committee we would like to express sincere appreciation to all of you, who took time to fill out the survey questions we recently sent you, even adding your own well thought out comments and questions. Your feedback (representing 50 churches and more) has been very helpful to us, and we do want to thank you for it. While we have been evaluating and tabulating this survey, we of course would welcome any further input you might have, and also still would love to hear from the very few congregations, who did not yet have a chance to respond.

Please continue to lift up the search process and our committee in your prayers! We are not taking our role lightly and are trusting the guidance of the Spirit as we discern with the District Leadership Team how we will move forward in this search process.

Thanks again,
Mid-Atlantic District DEM Search Committee

19 Bond Street - Westminster, Maryland 21157 - Phone: 443-960-3052 Fax: 410-848-0735

Community Events:



Saturday May 13th
Doors Open @ 5 PM
Bingo Begins @ 7 PM

Adult Sunday School Lessons:

LIVING WITH CONFIDENCE IN A
CHAOTIC WORLD



DAVID JEREMIAH

May 7 - Stay Constructive
in your Relationships
May 14 - Stay Challenged
in your Growth
May 21 - Stay Connected
to the Church
May 28 - Stay Centered
in Christ

Contact Information:

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Website:
monocacychurchofthebrethren.org

Have Information for the Newsletter?

Contact Kelly @ 240-405-9882
or
mcobnewsletter@gmail.com



thank you FOR YOUR SERVICE

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

Protect these soldiers. Be their constant companion and their strength in battle, their refuge in every adversity. Guide them, O Lord, that they may return home in safety.

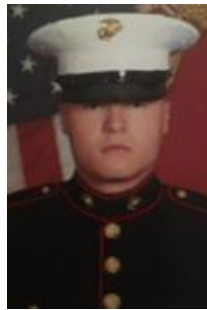
Amen

Military & National Guard

Tyler Ramey, Alex Nee, Travis Smith, Michael Hobbs, Robert Wolfe, Kara Stambaugh,
Ariel Vanderhout, Mike Vanderhout



Ethan Pennington
Navy



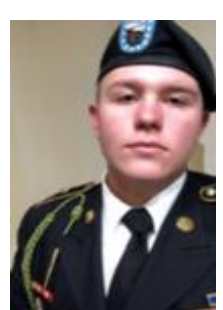
Bryce Estell
Marine



James Updegraff III
Marine



Matthew Stephens
Marine



Jacob Fannin
Army



Elijah Moser
4876 W Blodgett Lane
Apt. #101 Box 1 Slot 1
Boise, ID 83705



Corporal Caleb Peters
(Deployment Address)
CLB-13 det 1 Unit 89042
FPO AP 96610-4200



Kyle Petrosky
Navy



Joseph Speck
Navy



Isaiah Fannin
Marine



Handmade Afghan
Made by Pam Kaas
Winner: Ann Fox \$40



Lenox Bowl with Goodies
Donated by Bob & Linda Free
Winner: Diane Hoover \$10



Activity Basket
Donated by Judy Kelly
Winner: Tammy Smith \$25



Garden Basket
Donated by Nelson & Tina Smith
Winner: Ann Fox \$45



Americana Longaberger Basket
Donated by Jerry Free
Winner: Chris Kline \$45



Religious Basket
Donated by Pat & Tracy Wiser
Winner: Kelly Sumner \$20



Baking Basket
Donated by the Kaas Family
Winner: Will Smith \$14



Disney Pixar Basket
Donated by Tyler & Kelly Sumner
Winner: Chelsea Smith \$16



Craft Basket
Donated by The Kaas Family
Winner: Don Kaas \$10

Items Not Pictured:



Wash Basket
Donated by The Kaas Family
Winner: Paulette Mathias \$22



Coca Cola Recipes
Donated by Tyler & Kelly Sumner
Winner: Brenda Harbaugh \$15

Hanging Flower
Donated by Steve & Faye Wolfe
Winner: Jean Knipple \$25

Cinnamon Rolls
Made by Maxine Troxell
Winner: Richard Dinterman \$35



Garden Basket
Donated by Galg & Deb Eyler
Winner: Faye Wolfe \$28

Cake Carrier & Supplies
Donated by Maxine Troxell
Winner: Faye Wolfe \$20

Wooden Christmas Tree
Donated by Ron & Nancy Anders
Winner: Brenda Harbaugh \$15



Glass Cake Stands
Donated by Ron & Nancy Anders
Winner: Gloria Frushour \$20

Painted End Table
Donated by Ron & Nancy Anders
Winner: Ann Fox \$20

God Bless America Wreath
Made by Wanda Stover
Winner: Vic Kelly \$30

Watermelon Wreath
Made by Wanda Stover
Winner: Maxine Troxell \$30

Americana Wreath
Made by Wanda Stover
Winner: Ann Fox \$20

Total \$525



Lemonade Dispenser
Donated by Tyler & Kelly Sumner
Winner: Judy Kelly \$20

Silent Auction Winners

Thank you to all who donated!