

# The Dunker

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Grossnickle Church of the Brethren

June 2023

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## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR GREG

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, .... and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:1-2*

As you know, in early May I trekked 50 miles in, through, down, up, and around the Grand Canyon. Before I left I shared that, "There will likely come a moment in the adventure when I think, 'It's so hard. I'm so hot. I have nothing left to give. Can I really do this?'" And then from there I would remind myself of the wisdom I've learned through the years on these quests: Take the first step. Be smart. Rely on one another. Simplify the next step. Have faith.

Well, I'll tell you, there's one piece of wisdom that I overlooked that is reflected in the scripture above: ***Allow yourself to be carried by the cloud of witnesses that is with you in spirit.***

The support I felt from the cloud of witnesses here at Grossnickle, at home in Elizabethtown, and around the country was amazing. It was as if you were carrying me throughout the day.

To be clear, it wasn't just nice "rah-rah" support I felt from you. It was support that reflected unequivocal love. No fear of shame if I failed. The support I felt was life-giving, joyful, persevering.

Of course, the scripture in Hebrews refers to aspirations and callings infinitely more important than a middle-aged man's canyon trek. The "great cloud of witnesses" are those who have passed before us on the grand journey of faith and life. They are those who ran the race with grace and love, even willing to suffer and sacrifice for one another, as Jesus did.

Again, I remind you good people of Grossnickle CoB, this is the spirit I see shining in you. Not perfect in faith, but perfecting in faith, even through life's challenges. Leaning on the great cloud of witnesses who have already walked this way, then joining and rising together.

What a joy to be on this journey with you,  
Pastor Greg

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## GRADUATES

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Noah Grossnickle  
Waynesboro University  
BSBA Sports Management



Paige Leigh Bussard  
Master of Science in Engineering Management  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Gunner Thomas Crawford  
Bachelors of Science in Animal Science  
Texas A&M University

Seth Remsberg  
Catoctin High School

Ella Sage Troxell  
Middletown High School



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## ADOPT A ROAD

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The next dates for “Adopt A Road” are as follows: June 3rd, 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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## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 12-16



Please mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School for June 12-16 and plan to join us for this year's adventure.

Children from ages PreK through Grade 5 are invited to enjoy Bible stories, music, crafts, and fun!

If you are interested in being a helper for VBS, please contact Brooke Smith or Katie Rudman.



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## Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Auction

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Thanks to all those who supported the Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Auction on Saturday, May 6! Preliminary receipts indicate that the Auction raised approximately \$58,000, with some additional proceeds expected over the next two weeks. We could not have done this without everyone's generosity and continued support!

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## MEALS ON WHEELS

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Our **Meals on Wheels** will take a break over the summer and start back up in the fall. We look forward to serving 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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## NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY

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As we continue to grow and change over time, it has occurred to us (the Ministry commission) that we need a new photo directory. A pictorial directory is very helpful to new members as well as to new Pastors. This is a tool that allows pastors to put a name to a face. We are not coordinating with a company, but instead have asked Brooke Smith to share her talents with us, who has graciously accepted. She will be taking family/individual photos of members after church on the following Sundays: June 18 and June 25. I will have a sign-up sheet for each of these Sundays. Our hope is to put together google slides that can be shared with the congregation online and/or printed.



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## MUSIC AND WORSHIP COMMISSION

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The Music and Worship Commission invites you to share your favorite hymns/songs/praise songs with them as they prepare for a **HYMN SING** service on Sunday, June 25. We are looking forward to sharing a little background on each favorite hymn/song selected and to enjoy singing the hymns together. We are hoping for a joyful, musical Sunday!

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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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## *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 Joyce Harshman who passed away on April 27, 2023.

To the family and friends of Raymond Hinkle who passed away on May 3, 2023.

### **JUNE WORSHIP HELPERS**

**Deacons for the Month of June: Wanda and Fred Rudman**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Preacher</i>	<i>Worship Leader</i>
4	Paul Munday	Rick Boyer
11	Pastor Greg	Drew & Paige Leatherman
18	Pastor Greg	Wayne Wallach
25	Hymn Sing	Music & Worship

<i>Date</i>	<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Acolytes</i>	<i>Nursery</i>
4	Wanda & Fred Rudman	Jackson Hanser	Doris Grossnickle
11	Myralee & Grandchild	Owen Smith	Brooke Smith
18	Andrew Barnet & Kids	Landon Smith	Katie Rudman
25	Sharon & Marion Leatherman	Grace Ellis	Sharon Leatherman

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## A Big Thanks

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I would like to thank all the folks who participated in **Meals on Wheels** this season. There's a lot of behind the scene preparation that goes into making this gift happen...from our youngest members (Karen Riggs' Sunday School class) and their beautiful art work to our kitchen staff and drivers...A great big thank you.



Brenda Thomasson has done an amazing job sharing her culinary talents. Her dedication to making a healthy meal for our beloved members and community folks has been much appreciated.

Thank you again to everyone who has had a part in this ministry. We will be back in October!

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Thank you so much to all who donated to making our **"Summer Fun" activity basket for kids** for the Mid-Atlantic Disaster Auction! Whoever gets this basket is going to have tons of fun! Big thank you goes out to Myralee Wiles for collecting items and arranging the basket for eye appeal. Looks like a load of fun.

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I would like to thank Grossnickle Church of the Brethren for the fresh flowers that were given to me for Secretary's Day. They made my house smell like Spring. Thank you so much for being so kind and thoughtful. *Angie*

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I would like to thank everyone who helps make the special gift of a funeral meal possible. Having been on the receiving end of a meal I know how much it truly means. The kindness and generosity can be very emotional. Not having to worry or think about arrangements is really a gift at this most difficult time. From Leroy Masser, Stacie and Shane for cleaning the parish hall to LDS men setting up tables on their lunch hour... to all the willing workers before and after the meal... to the folks who willingly give of their time and resources to preparing a dish or buying something needed. A Hearty Thank You! This is a small gift of comfort that we share with the families to help the healing.

Much Love, Pam

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If you take notice you'll see the memorial garden looks quite different than it did. Most of the plantings were old and overgrown so several people decided it was time to do something about it. The burning bushes were cut back and many other shrubs were removed. Most of the shrubs were replaced with something a little different and new flowers were planted. There is still more to be done but we are getting there. Thanks to those who have put time into making the garden more attractive. Those include: David Doyle, Beverly Harshman, Vicki and Charles Grossnickle, Glenn Lantz, Marion Leatherman and Myralee Wiles.



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## PHOTO GALLERY - A LOOK AT SOME GCOB ACTIVITIES

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A Fisherman Wanted to Share What He Found



The "Summer Fun" Box for the Disaster Auction



Disaster Auction



Blanket Sunday





## 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”



# June 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Adopt A Road
4 My 2¢ for Hunger Offering  Start Health Kits (June/July/Aug)	5	6	7	8	9	10
11  Blessing of the Seed 3:00 pm	12  VBS Week to 16th	13	14	15  Newsletter Deadline	16	17
18  Outdoor Worship	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Newsletter Crew 9:00 (PH)	29	30	

## 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



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 **July-August 2023** issue of ***The Dunker*** no later than June 15, 2023.

Thank you!

June 2023

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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