



News From the Grove

May 2023

Serving Christ, Together!
Interim Pastor Deborah Horst

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668 Wakemans Grove Road, Edinburg, Virginia 22824

540-984-8383 (office)



Church of the Brethren

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

“Together, as the Church of the Brethren, we will passionately live and share the radical transformation and holistic peace of Jesus Christ through relationship-based neighborhood engagement. To move us forward, we will develop a culture of calling and equipping disciples who are innovative, adaptable, and fearless.” *Vision Statement 2021*

Church of the Brethren <https://www.brethren.org/>

Shenandoah District Church of the Brethren <https://shencob.org/>

[Continuing the work of Jesus: Peacefully. Simply.](#)

A continuation of reflecting on the COB tagline: Peacefully. Simply. Together. I wrote about Peacefully in the December 2022/January 2023 newsletter.

The following is taken from the Church of the Brethren website <https://www.brethren.org/about/>

“Another way of living

In the New Testament, the word “brethren” describes a community of men and women who chose another way of living: the way of Jesus. The Church of the Brethren, begun three centuries ago in Germany, still draws people who want to continue Jesus’ work of faithfulness and loving service.

Continuing the work of Jesus

Though the Brethren as a group have existed for three hundred years, we subscribe to no formal “creed” or set of rules. We simply try to do what Jesus did.

Jesus brought a message of life, love, and hope. But he offered much more than inspiring words: He understood that people’s spiritual needs also include day-to-day human ones — food, health, rest, comfort, friendship, and unconditional acceptance. “I am the way,” he told his followers. He showed them how to trust, how to care, and how to help.

Steadily, lovingly, even radically, Jesus went about saving the world — by serving its people. Because we believe his message, we seek to do the same.

Peacefully

Whether the conflict involves warring nations, racial discord, theological disputes, personal disagreement, or mere misunderstanding, Brethren listen conscientiously, seek guidance in the scriptures, and work toward reconciliation. We practice peaceful living.

Our longstanding commitment to peace and justice includes a deep regard for human life and dignity. Brethren reach worldwide to help repair the ravages of poverty, ignorance, exploitation, and catastrophic events. Along with our faith, we bring food, books, classes, tools, and medicine.

(cont on page 7)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- May 1 Carolyn Dove
- 1 Linda Holler
- 2 Brady Baker
- 2 Georgia Wakeman
- 3 Majesta Good
- 4 Lillian Shirkey
- 5 Gary Shipe
- 6 Gwyneth George
- 7 Pam McCubbin
- 8 Randie DeBoard
- 8 Donna Lear
- 9 Gail Payne
- 10 Jackie Hoffman
- 12 Nancy Miller
- 14 Mike Dirting
- 14 Todd Crowder
- 15 Cecil Holler, Sr.
- 18 Paula Lam
- 18 Elenor Bauserman
- 20 Andy Wakeman
- 22 Aaron Eberly
- 22 John Trelawny
- 24 Tom Myrtle
- 25 Rebecca Webert
- 25 Haylie McCaffrey
- 26 Earle Didawick
- 26 Jimmy Hollar
- 26 Alicia Bly
- 27 Sam Funkhouser
- 27 Angie Vann
- 27 Cole Baker
- 27 Gamaliel Cook
- 27 Ronnie Ross
- 28 George Daugharty Sr.
- 28 Bob Horst
- 30 Nathaniel Dirting
- 31 Quinn Neff
- 31 Luke Miller



Happy Birthday!

If your birthday or anniversary gets accidentally missed, please let Dawn Baker in the church office know.

Anniversaries:

- May 2 Mr. & Mrs. Weldon Funkhouser
- 8 Mr. & Mrs. John Dove
- 10 Mr. & Mrs. Sam Funkhouser
- 12 Mr. & Mrs. Kent Tamkin
- 14 Mr. & Mrs. Mike Webert
- 16 Mr. & Mrs. Rick Roberts
- 18 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Burner
- 20 Mr. & Mrs. Kenny Wakeman
- 25 Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Wakeman
- 27 Mr. & Mrs. Brent Miller

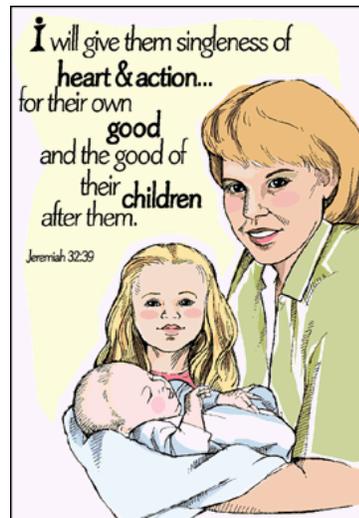


Winter Worship Schedule through May 28th

Please join us on Sunday Mornings at 11:00am for worship service.

10:00am Sunday School for all ages

We are also on YOUTUBE and FaceBook Live! Simply go to YouTube and search "Wakemans Grove Church"



Dear Church Family -
I would like to thank you for the
spring care box. I am also so grateful
for the scholarship I received for the
Spring Semester.
Thanks Again—Emma Eberly



Friends—Thank you for the prayers, visits,
cards and phone calls during my recent
surgery & recovery.
Sincerely—Ronnie Markley

There will be a **required informational meeting** on
Monday, June 12 at 6:30 p.m. for *all* prospective Lula
Wakeman Hardy Scholarship applicants for the **Fall 2023**
term. If the applicant is not a member of Wakemans
Grove Church of the Brethren, the applicant *must* be
accompanied by their WGC OB parent or
other WGC OB member of the
household where the applicant resides.



LWH Scholarship Committee -
Lynda Burner, Kathy Stewart & Crystal Hollar

Dear Church Family,

I wish to thank everyone for all the prayers,
calls, cards, food and visits while I was ill.
I have pretty much recovered, but still have a
little ways to go.

Thanks again—Betty Miller



Dear Church Family—
Thank you for the cards, phone calls, prayers
and visits. Also, thank you to the *Piecemakers*
for the lap quilt for mom.

Thank you,
Gary Kalwaytis
Eileen Shope

Vacation Bible School 2023—CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING!

Our theme for Vacation Bible School for 2023 will be “Keepers of the Kingdom!” You never know who will be assigned to *guard* The Grove! We will have Bible School Sunday through Thursday with our program on Thursday (**July 9—13**). Please consider helping with this wonderful event! If you would be interested in helping in some way, please let one of us know. Watch for additional details to come...

**Please contact one of the ladies on the Bible School Committee:
Mandy Tharp, Lacy Kreitzer, Karey Mullins, Melanie Payne or Kristi
Zirkle**



Bits and Pieces

CHORDIALLY YOURS

of the Shenandoah Valley

Mark your calendars for a special choral concert Mother's Day weekend. This 20-voice auditioned/invitational choir is directed by **Scott Zane Smith** and will be celebrating all those individuals in our lives who have been a positive influence with a motherly spirit.

The theme of the concert is "SEASON OF LOVE" and will be held **Saturday, May 13 @ 7:00 P.M. and Sunday, May 14 @ 3:00 P.M.** here at **Linville Creek Church**.

This season's concert is **FREE OF CHARGE** but we are asking for donations to cover expenses. The one-hour concert includes a women's arrangement of *The Rose* and a men's arrangement of *The Lion Sleeps Tonight*.

Enjoy additional selections including John Rutter's *For the Beauty of the Earth* and settings by composer Mark Miller entitled *I Believe* and *The Day is Coming*. The concert is accompanied by Elizabeth Williams on piano and Tyler Ende on percussion.

Shenandoah District Church of the Brethren 30th Annual Disaster Response Auction May 19 & 20, 2023

Schedule of Events:

Friday, May 19: Beginning at 1:00pm

Baked Items, priced items, plants for sale
1:00pm—3:30pm Inside Silent Auction #1
1:00pm—8:00pm Outside Tent Sale
4:00pm—6:30pm Plate Dinner
5:00pm—7:00pm Inside Silent Auction #2
6:15pm- Devotions and 6:30pm Livestock Auction
6:30pm- Auction: Arts, Furniture & selected handwork

Saturday, May 20: Beginning at 7:00am –10:00am Break-fast

8:00am—Baked Items, priced items, plants for sale
8:30am—11:00am Silent Auction #3
8:30am—until Outside Tent Sale
8:45am—Worship Service
9:00am- Main Auction Begins
10:30am—Second Annual Coin Auction
11:00am—Plate Lunch BBQ Chicken or Pork
1:00pm—Theme Basket Auction

Teams from the Shenandoah District will be making several trips to Brethren Disaster project sites in 2023. Volunteers are needed to create crews to serve. **Let Jerry Ruff (540) 447-0306 or Galen Halterman (540) 256-9356 or Henry Elsea (540) 271-1533** know that you are ready to make such a commitment to serve.

Prospective volunteers are needed for these service trips. Volunteers may use the website to download a volunteer form to sign up for work projects. Information may be typed and saved to your computer. The completed form may be mailed to Sarah Long at sarahlong@shencob.org. Please note that you will need to provide an original signature on the form before leaving on a trip.

Contact the District Office at 540.234.8555 to learn more about becoming involved in service project trips.

FROM THE WAKEMANS GROVE COOKBOOK:

Banana Pudding

~Submitted by Anna Knicely

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1 can fat free sweetened condensed milk
 1 large box instant vanilla pudding (fat free)
 3 C low fat milk
 8 oz. Cool Whip, fat free

Bananas
 Vanilla Wafers

Empty the dry pudding mix into a large bowl, stir in the 3 cups of milk, after which you blend in the sweetened condensed milk. Lastly, stir in the thawed Cool Whip. Place a layer of vanilla wafers, a layer of sliced bananas and then one half of your pudding in a deep casserole dish, repeat the layers again, ending with the pudding. Garnish with some crushed wafer crumbs. Oh! So good! - and not fattening!

Note: Church Cookbooks make GREAT gifts for graduates, new brides, mothers, etc. Cost is **\$8.00** each and money can be given to either Sharon Foltz or Dawn Baker in the church office. Cookbooks are located on the information table.

CBYF REPORT

The CBYF are getting excited about our trip to Momentum this summer. There will be 7 kids going with Adam and Kristi. We are leaving July 15 and heading to spend a couple of days in Cincinnati before traveling to IWU on the 18 th . We will be at Momentum until July 23 when we head home. Please keep us in your prayers. If you would like to be a part of a prayer team for the kids going to Momentum, please contact Kristi. We are going to be working with the Muncie Mission again but aren't sure what we will be doing. We will let you know of any needs as time gets closer.

This summer we are hoping to take a day trip to an amusement park. We will continue our Wednesday Bible studies until we leave for Momentum.

Watch the bulletin for any information on these!

Thanks for your support of our kids and their service projects!

In His Service, Adam & Kristi Zirkle, Advisors



THE GROVE NURTURE COMMISSION PRESENTS

LEARN

Salvation History

MAY

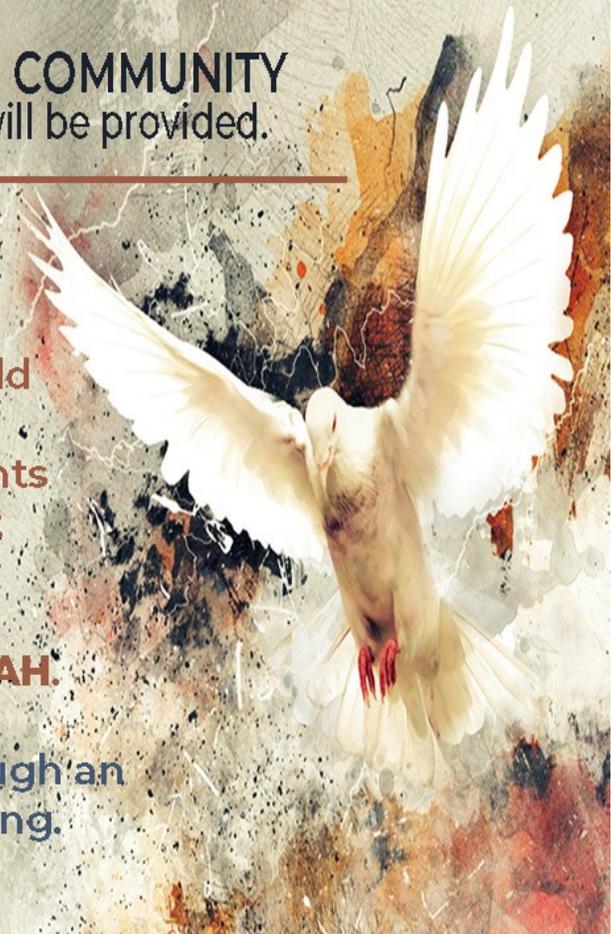
Wakemans Grove Church of the Brethren
668 Wakemans Grove Road, Edinburg, VA

13TH 2023
9:00am-11:30am

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY
Refreshments will be provided.

The **BIBLE** tells the story of **GOD'S PLAN** to save human beings from sin and bring them to eternal life. The history of that saving plan as told through the **SCRIPTURES** is called **SALVATION HISTORY**; scripture points toward the **GREATEST** turning point of all in salvation history: the birth, ministry, death, resurrection, and ascension of **JESUS THE MESSIAH**.

Pastor Deb Horst will lead us through an engaging and fun morning of learning. **BRING YOUR BIBLE!**



...Continued from cover

Living peacefully, to the Brethren, means treating each person with the attentive, compassionate respect that all human beings deserve.

Simply

Years ago, all Brethren were immediately recognizable because of their plain dress and reserved ways. Today's Brethren live very much in the world, work in a broad range of occupations and make use of the latest technology.

Continually, though, we try to simplify our lives. Practicing a modest nonconformity, we think carefully about our daily choices. The ideal of simplicity guides our decisions: How will we conduct our business, raise our children, spend our leisure time, tend our natural resources? How will we use our money, and why? How can we live comfortably, but without excess or ostentation?

For the Brethren, such considerations are not a requirement, but a privilege. As we seek to live intentionally, responsibly, and simply, we find a deep sense of purpose. And we find joy."

Beautifully written, and I do not have much to add to those words. The concept of living a simple faith brings to my understanding that of being uncomplicated and humble. What I believe about Jesus Christ should have an effect on how I live; my words and actions should be in unity. My faith and worship should not be checked at the door when I leave church on Sunday.

Dale W. Brown wrote in his book *Another Way of Believing*,¹ "We are saved not by our goodness, but by God's loving forgiveness through faith...we are not only accepted, but we can also be transformed. The God who is good enough to forgive us is powerful enough to change us." This is also known as sanctification, the gradual growth of grace and holiness in the life of the believer" p 27. Brown calls this "a unity of faith and life." Every aspect of my life is a testimony of God's loving forgiveness through Jesus Christ, and through the power of the Spirit I can live with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, Galatians 5:22.

I think this is much of what the New Testament writers were emphasizing; live your life in such a way that others will know that you are a follower of Jesus Christ. One of my favorite verses is Acts 4:13,

"When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished, and they took note that these men had been with Jesus."

This is my personal prayer; this is my prayer for all of you;

As we seek to live intentionally, responsibly, and simply, may we find a deep sense of purpose and joy.

Pastor Deb



SPRING REVIVAL IS COMING!!

The Witness Commission would love for you and your family to be a part of the upcoming Spring Revival with Pastor John Neff! He will be bringing the good news **starting Sunday, May 21** at the 11 am service, with a covered dish meal to follow-so please provide a shared dish and/or dessert and come fellowship with us all. He will return **Sunday evening at 7 pm and on Monday, May 22 at 7 pm.** (This is a condensed version due to some scheduling conflicts) Pastor Neff is excited to be joining us and we are looking forward to all he has to share with us. Please be in prayer for Revival and all involved with making this happen.

We will have a *special offering* on **May 28th** to benefit the earthquake recovery in Turkey and Syria. There will be envelopes available to use or earmark your donation as such. Please remember that you may make a donation at any time; it is not solely for what is collected on Sunday, May 28th.

The commission will be providing some information about Shenandoah University Theater presenting the play "*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat*" which will be performed Friday, July 28th thru Sunday, August 6th, 2023. If you or any of your family would like tickets, the commission would be willing to see if we could get a group rate. If we have enough interest for a particular day's performance and attend as a group. Look for more information to be posted on the bulletin board and in the bulletin. Or you may go to the website <https://www.ssmtva.org/2022/09/joseph-and-the-amazing-technicolor-dreamcoat/>.

As always, if you have suggestions, questions, or any concern with any of the work the Witness Commission does, please contact any of the commission members: Barbara Garber, Chair, Bryan Wakeman, Diane Burner and Missy Hollar, Secretary



May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 6:30 Nurture	3 9a Piecemakers 6p Worship 7p Prayer Mtg/Youth Band 8p Ad Choir	4 9:30 Morning Bible Study	5	6 8:00 Deacons Prayer Breakfast
7	8 7:00 Church Board Meeting	9 7 4-H	10 9a Piecemakers 6p Worship 7p Prayer Mtg/Youth Band 8p Ad Choir	11 9:30 Morning Bible Study	12	13 9 "Salvation History" Event with Pastor Deb
14 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY	15	16	17 9a Piecemakers 5 YC Cookout 7p Prayer Mtg/Youth Band 8p Ad Choir	18 9:30 Morning Bible Study	19 Disaster Ministries Auction— Rockingham County Fair- ground	20 Disaster Ministries Auction— Rockingham County Fair- ground
21 Spring Revival Service w/ Pastor John Neff 12 Covered Dish Luncheon 7 Revival	22 7 Spring Revival Service w/ Pastor John Neff	23 NEWS- LETTER ARTICLES DUE	24 9a Piecemakers 7p Prayer Mtg/Youth Band 8p Adult Choir	25 9:30 Morning Bible Study	26	27
28 Last Sunday of Winter Worship Schedule 4 UNDER THE OAKS	29	30	31 9a Piecemakers 7p Prayer Mtg/Youth Band 8p Adult Choir			June 3 8 Deacons Prayer Breakfast— all are welcome!

YOUTH CLUB COOK OUT

Attention youth & families, teachers, kitchen helpers, choir leaders, volunteers, church commission groups, etc. - everyone who may have been affiliated with Fall Youth Club 2022 and Spring Youth Club 2023 - you are invited to attend the upcoming **Youth Club Cook Out on Wednesday, May 17 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.** at the church. This will be our year end culmination event for this youth program. Then the planning for Fall Youth Club 2023 will begin!



The Youth Club Committee, under the direction of the Nurture Commission, remains committed to the this program and the youth of this congregation. Please join us in fellowship together, thanking all of the hard work and dedication of those who make such a vital program a success and celebrating the precious youth that we serve. *We hope that you can make it!*

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