

MANASSAS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER

Outdoor Child Dedication Service



On Sunday August 16th, we will be holding an in-person child dedication for the Barb family. We are looking forward to seeing you and celebrating together with our church family!

This shortened service will begin at 7:00pm and will take place outside on the field at MCOB.

All are invited to attend in-person or by watching the service live (in real-time) through Facebook Live.

Following the service, you will be able to view it on our YouTube channel, the church website, and our Facebook page.

For everyone's safety, we ask that all who plan to attend in person adhere to the following procedures:

1. If you are feeling ill, have been in contact with someone who is COVID-19 positive, have been out of the country, or have recently been in a USA 'hot spot', please do not attend in person.
2. Plan on bringing your own lawn chair or blanket and be aware that the church building will be closed, so plan accordingly to your needs.
3. Please wear a mask during set-up (Arrival) and clean-up (Departure). Pastor Mandy will give specific instructions on when it is safe to remove your masks.
4. Practice safe social distancing and maintain a 10 ft. distance from each other, except immediate family members.

Thank you all for helping to make this service safe for everyone! If you have any questions about this service, please contact Pastor Mandy or the church office. We are looking forward to seeing you in-person and celebrating with the Barb family!

Congregational Survey

The Church Board wants to hear from you! Take a few moments to complete this survey about our online worship and what you are thinking and feeling about in-person worship.

Click here to complete the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/63RPL7P>

If you need help, Please contact the office. Surveys were also mailed to folks who receive paper copies of the monthly newsletter.

Surveys are due by **August 5!**

From the Pastors' Study

As we enter into our fifth month of online worship, I know that staying connected with one another is getting harder and harder. Earlier in June, the deacons held a meeting online and we talked through how best to keep up with our relationships. I would like for us to challenge each other. Go through your directory, open it up to a random page and look at the names on that page. Pray for the names that you read, write a letter or an email to someone on that page. Make a phone call to someone on that page. Ask them how they are doing, tell them what you are up to, share your story with them and ask them to share their story with you. Take time to listen. Take time to talk. Take time to reconnect. Do this once a week. Do this everyday. Do this as the Spirit leads you and guides you, and as you have the time and energy for it.

My prayer is that these are the conversations that are going to keep us together. These are the connections that will keep us close to one another. It won't be another church program or another Zoom call, but rather our personal relationships. Think about your seat in the sanctuary... you know, your favorite pew... and think about the people who always sit near you, behind you and in front of you, the people who you greet each Sunday, and take the time to call them this month.

Then let us know how it goes. Give me a call or a text, or send me an email and let me know how you are connecting with one another. Let me know how I can pray with you. Let us be in conversation together as we continue to be a community of care, where our relationships matter, and our Christian discipleship counts. I'm praying for the day when we can be together in person again while I am also rejoicing in the ways that the Spirit continues to be present and move in our midst during this time apart.

~ Pastor Mandy

Worship Themes

August 2: Communion

Matthew 26:26-30
Preacher: Pastor Mandy
Worship Leader: David S.

August 9: Hymns of Creation

Genesis 1:1-2:3
Preacher: Pastor Mandy
Worship Leader: Jessica K.

August 16: Hymns of Faith

Hebrews 11:1-3, 12:1-2
Preacher: Pastor Mandy
Worship Leader: Jim F.

August 23: 125th Anniversary

1 Kings 10:1-10
"The Hard Choices of Opportunity"
Preacher: Rev. Fred Bernhard
Worship Leader: Pastor Mandy

August 30: Trinity Hymns

Ephesians 1:3-14
Preacher: Pastor Mandy
Worship Leader: TBD



July Stewardship by the Numbers

Average views of our online worship services:
Facebook: 95 YouTube: 104
Average Weekly Giving: \$3663.84

Online Giving

You can donate to our General Budget through our website: <http://www.manassasbrethren.org/donor-services/>. Donations can also be mailed to: **MCOB 10047 Nokesville Road, Manassas, VA 20110**

Worship



Worshipping Online with us on Sunday Mornings

Our worship together will continue to be online. We will worship together on our Facebook page, YouTube, and our website. Grab a cup of coffee or a cup of hot tea and join us! The worship service is posted by 7 am Sunday mornings!

The Church Board affirmed the Executive Committee's decision to keep worship online at least through Labor Day.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ManassasCoB>

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWI_0b6NQ1k_KmLxMm8TzsA

MCOB Site: <http://www.manassasbrethren.org/online-sermons/>

We are using worship leaders to serve in our online worship services. If you are interested and available to offer the Call to Worship and Opening Prayer, the Scripture Reading, the Invitation to Give and Prayer, or the Children's Story, please contact Pastor Mandy. We would love to include you and your voice in our services!

NOTE: PASTOR MANDY IS ON VACATION FROM AUGUST 8-14, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE.

Communion Sunday August 2nd!

On Sunday August 2nd, we will be holding "virtual communion" during our online worship service.

So grab a cracker, piece of bread, a potato chip, or make your own communion bread (see recipe) and some juice, water, or other drink of your choice and join us for worship and communion!

Communion Bread - Loretta Bryant-Kline

Ingredients:

- 1 c. heavy cream
- ½ stick of butter, cut into chunks
- 3 c. flour
- ½ tsp. salt
- 2 tbsp. sugar

Instructions:

Combine flour, salt, sugar, and cut butter into flour mixture. Add cream and form dough. Force dough into a ball, cover and let rest 5 minutes. Cut dough in half, roll out one half at a time; cut into strips, then cubes. Poke each cube with three-tined fork. Bake at 350 degrees 10-12 minutes or until lightly browned.



125th Anniversary Continues! Rev. Fred Bernhard Returning August 23rd



Rev. Fred Bernhard will be returning August 23rd to lead us in our online worship as our 125th Anniversary Celebration continues!

Rev. Bernhard's sermon is based on 1 Kings 10:1-10, and is titled, "The Hard Choices of Opportunity." Join us in welcoming Rev. Bernhard back!

You are all invited to attend a Meet and Greet Zoom Call with Rev. Bernhard and his wife, Joice, at 2pm. Look for more details to come!

Events & News



Virtual CAN: Join us online or on the phone for a time of fellowship, prayer and Bible Study on Wednesday nights at 7 pm. This is a great time to see all of our faces and get to hear each of our voices. This month, we are continuing our Virtual Summer Road Trip with stops at Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Mt. Rainier, the Great Smoky Mountains and Shenandoah National Park. Each week we tie the park with a spiritual theme for reflection. Themes include trust, grandeur, revelation, diversity and home. All are invited to join the journey!

Tuesday's Arby's Group

Are you interested in joining a small social group gathering? We don't always meet on Tuesdays and we certainly haven't met at Arby's anytime recently. However, we have met several times at the Weems Elementary picnic tables which allows us to be outdoors and continue our social distancing. We aim to meet once each week. The day of the week is selected by studying the week's weather forecast. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Mary Jane Pumphrey and she can put you on the "Important People to Notify" list to let you know the week's meeting time and date. Everyone brings their own lunch and we visit while we eat. We'd love to have you join us!

NOTE: Please let the office know if you are holding small, socially distant fellowship groups, or if you want to consider inviting your church friends to gather in fellowship.

MODERATOR'S TOWN HALL: "FAITH, SCIENCE AND COVID-19, PART TWO" SLATED FOR AUGUST 13, 2020

ELGIN, IL – Church of the Brethren Annual Conference Moderator Paul Munday has announced plans for another Moderator's Town Hall on August 13th, 2020, at 7:00 PM EDT. The topic will be "Faith, Science, and COVID-19, Part Two."

A special focus will be the current reality of the COVID-19 crisis and its impact on the reopening of churches.



Dr. Kathryn Jacobsen, Professor in the Department of Global and Community Health at George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia, will once again be joining Annual Conference Moderator Paul Munday to continue answering attendees' questions and share the latest information about the COVID-19 crisis. Dr. Jacobsen is a specialist in infectious disease epidemiology and global health who has consulted with a number of organizations during this pandemic. She is also a member of the Oakton Church of the Brethren, Oakton, Virginia, valuing her connection to faith and the Church of the Brethren.

To register for the town hall, please visit: tinyurl.com/modtownhallaug2020. Interested persons are encouraged to sign up early, as the event is limited to the first 500 registrants.

Questions about registering for this event or any other administrative matters can be emailed to cobmoderatorstownhall@gmail.com. Questions related to COVID-19, etc., are to be submitted the night of the event.



The Red Cross is in dire need of blood at this time due to the COVID-19 crisis. We want to help fulfill that need by hosting a blood drive for the Red Cross on Friday August 28th from 10:00am to 4:00pm. The Red Cross follows all CDC, FDA, and FEMA guidelines and the Blood Drives have been labeled an Essential Activity.

If you are able to donate blood, please use this link to sign up for a time slot:

[Click HERE to make an appointment at the Manassas Church of the Brethren in August](#)
We will need volunteers to work the blood drive. If you can help, please sign-up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090a45a5ad29abf94-blood>

Bible Delivery



On July 19, Pastor Mandy delivered bibles to all of our recent third graders. It's a tradition at the Manassas Church of the Brethren to give bibles to our third graders during Children's Sunday. This year we personally delivered the bibles to each of their homes. Bibles went to Anastasia P., Jack R., Stephen F., and Ashton S.



On July 20th, the day after, we received this note:

Dear Manassas Church of the Brethren,

Thank you for the bible you gave me. I always wondered what Jesus' life was like. Now I know all the happy stories and the sad stories of his glorious loving life. I loved reading all the good things that he did for others like being a loving man.

*Sincerely,
Stephen F.*

In Loving Memory

Remembering Carolyn Louise Dixon-Wright



Carolyn Louise Wright passed away at home on Monday, July 20, 2020 after a long struggle with congestive heart failure. She was 91.

Carolyn was born in Dansville, N.Y. on January 23, 1929, daughter of the late Fred and Genevieve Dixon. She is predeceased by her children's father of 28 years, Richard C. Allen and her brother, Jack Dixon.

She leaves behind her beloved husband of 32 years, Eric Joseph Wright (former Dansville schools Business Manager).

She is also survived by her brother, Jim (Elaine) Dixon of Sun City Center, Florida; and her children, Debra (Jerry Tindall) Tehrani, Linda Allen, Rick (Martha) Allen, Shawn Wright, Laurel (Mike) O'Donaghue, Kristen (David) Kriwox. Also, eight grandchildren, Derek, Justine, Abigail, Katherine, Andrew, Eric, Briana and Shawn and four great-grandchildren, Logan, Cassidy, Eliana and a boy due in August.

Utmost in Carolyn's life were her friends and family. She loved books, dancing, music, a good joke and planning surprises. She was adventurous and enjoyed travel and musical events, especially with her beloved Joe. She was a long time member of the Manassas Church of the Brethren.

A graveside service will be held at a later date at Greenmount Cemetery in Dansville, N.Y. In lieu of flowers contributions can be made to the American Heart Association or a local charity of your choosing.

More 125th Anniversary

For our 125th Anniversary, please enjoy exploring these items from the original Cannon Branch Church. A big shout out to Gilmer for building the lectern bottom, and putting together the church pew!



Cannon Branch Church Pew 1895-1953
&
Cannon Branch Lectern (top only) 1895-1953



Tin Cup and Tablespoon that were used for communion at Cannon Branch Church until 1953.



Back2School Drive

Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS)

Back2School Drive

By Tina Fisher, Community Outreach

Thanks to the generosity of donors and volunteers, about 2,000 school-age children will receive backpacks stuffed with school supplies for the new school year. The Manassas Church of the Brethren will be a host for this NVFS annual program on **Tuesday, August 11 and Wednesday, August 12**. Volunteers are needed for the times and activities listed below:

Tuesday, August 11, 1 pm - 4 pm

Backpack Unloading & Setup: Volunteers will help unload and stage backpacks for distribution to clients as well as break down and load up back packs.

Wednesday, August 12, 8:30 am - 1 pm

Backpack Distribution: Volunteers will assist with distributing backpacks to families in need.

Wednesday, August 12, 12:30 pm - 2 pm

Back to School Breakdown: Volunteers will help breakdown back to school site and load backpacks into truck to be transported to another distribution site.

Several new health and safety measures are being taken at the collection and distribution sites to minimize risk to volunteers and staff. Everyone will need to complete a health checklist and temperature check upon arrival. Face coverings must be worn while inside. Volunteer shifts are limited to ensure no more than 10 people are onsite at the same time. Plenty of cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer will be available as will disposable gloves. Every effort will be made to maintain proper social distancing to the best extent possible.

Additional Information: Volunteers must be at least 18 years old to volunteer independently; individuals that are 16-17 years old may volunteer with a parent/guardian. Due to the nature of the activities and elevated safety measures, anyone younger than 16 years old cannot volunteer for this drive. Moderate-to-heavy lifting, bending and extended periods of standing are required for this activity.

Volunteers will select and distribute backpacks to families using the provided slip information. Volunteers will select bags from one room and take them to another location outside to families. Volunteers will need to be able to lift as much as 20lbs and be able to be on your feet for duration of your shift.

To Volunteer for the Back2School Drive go to this link: <https://nvfs.volunteerhub.com/lp/back2school/> scroll down to the bottom of the page and select **Individual Opportunities**. Donations are also welcome.



Support our Community

Do you want to support your local health department and your community but don't know how?

By Tina Fisher, Community Outreach Coordinator

It has been a very challenging time for all of us, but especially for those who face food insecurity, physical and emotional health conditions, and homelessness. Please consider volunteering with one of the organizations below. You will make an impact on your community and maybe make a few new friends along the way.

ACTS Hunger Prevention Center needs help in the distribution center on Wednesdays and Fridays, and in receiving Monday-Friday. Drivers needed to pick up donations from grocery stores on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. **Note:** All volunteers must complete and submit the online volunteer application found at <https://actspwc.org/>. Please contact Shirley at scouteau@actspwc.org or call 703.441.8606 ext. 212

Habitat for Humanity Neighborhood Revitalization at East End Mobile Home Park in Manassas is a project in the early planning stages. Please visit <https://habitatpwc.org/portfolio-view/neighborhood-revitalization-kickoff/>

House of Mercy Food Drive There is an increased need for nonperishable items such as veggies, soups, mac and cheese, canned meats, etc. to re-stock their shelves. Please call 703.579.0279 or email scrooks@houseofmercyva.org

SERVE needs canned vegetables to provide healthy choices for their food assistance clients. Donations can be brought to SERVE's Hunger Resource Center loading dock on weekdays, 8am-4pm. Canned corn is the biggest need right now.

Prince William Food Rescue (PWFR) needs Food Rescue Heroes for ACTS and SERVE homebound clients. Home food deliveries are no contact and follow social distancing guidelines. PWFR is an app-based program enabling volunteers to pick up viable, close to expiration food from supermarkets, restaurants, food pantries, etc., and then deliver it to a program that can immediately use the food. More info on PWFR may be found at <https://pwfoodrescue.org/>.

Serve Our Willing Warriors in Haymarket needs volunteers age 21 and up to directly assist Warrior families during their check in and check out at the Warrior Retreat at Bull Run. Volunteers should be available Wednesday and/or Friday mornings. Just an hour of your time will be a meaningful way to thank our veterans who have given so much for our country! Please contact Sarah at sarah.ford@willingwarriors.org for more information.

Medical Reserve Corps volunteers are needed to support public health education and outreach, disease investigation, vaccine clinics, and more. Medical experience is not required. Bilingual volunteers are especially needed. Volunteers must be 18 years of age, complete minimum training and pass a state background check to serve. Please fill out an online application at <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/mrc/>.

The Alzheimer's Association is searching for volunteers to lead facilitation of some existing support and early stage groups in Manassas once the pandemic subsides. Volunteer Support Group & Early Stage Facilitators help group participants develop coping methods and encourage caregivers and family members to maintain their personal, physical and emotional health. Support groups provide a place for friends and family to share valuable information, caregiving tips and concerns about their loved ones with Alzheimer's. Experience working with Alzheimer's patients is desirable, training is provided. Please email bedonnelly@alz.org to learn more.

CDS KITS NEEDED

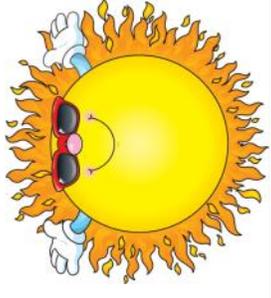
Children's Disaster Service (CDS) will be operating a little differently this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sadly, this year CDS will not be able to care for the children in person. CDS is putting together kits for the children to have on hand in case of a disaster. Each item was chosen specifically to go along with an active sheet for a parent to use with a child.

MCOB's Mission, Service and Outreach Ministry Team has set a goal of providing CDS with 200 kits. Please help us reach that goal by purchasing the items or donating money. Each kit costs \$17.

Here is the link to the Amazon list for the CDS kits. https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/27DVKFXNBLF51?ref=wl_share&fbclid=IwAR0qilwiEJWkIQuozAuAMH2Bd-PEbtjG1oQZjoo4WkB5BnkcECp_cuMU6P4

Do not purchase items that are not on the list. PLEASE note-the delivery address is set to be delivered to Mary Geisler. This will help with tracking and social distancing.

Red Cross anticipates CDS could need thousands of these packs for a busy disaster season with COVID restrictions still in place.



August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 11am—Online Worship w/ Communion	3	4	5 7pm—CAN Bible Study Zoom SURVEYS DUE	6	7	8 Pastor Mandy Vacation
9 11am—Online Worship Pastor Mandy Vacation	10 7 pm—Executive Committee Meeting Pastor Mandy Vacation	11 Pastor Mandy Vacation	12 7pm—CAN Bible Study Zoom Pastor Man- dy Vacation	13 7pm—Faith, Science, and COVID-19, Part Two Pastor Mandy Vacation	14 Pastor Mandy Vacation	15
16 11am—Online Worship 7pm—Child Dedication service	17 7 pm—Church Board Meeting	18	19 7pm—CAN Bible Study Zoom	20	21	22
23/30 11am—Online Worship	24/31	25	26 7pm—CAN Bible Study Zoom	27	28 10am—Blood Drive	29

MANASSAS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
10047 NOKESVILLE ROAD
MANASSAS VIRGINIA 20110

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



August Birthdays

1-JUSTIN K.	20-LOWELL F.
3-SUSAN D.	20-CAROL Z.
4-JIM F.	21-BILLY F.
4-SAMANTHA K.	21-ZACHARY H.
4-ALENE M.	21-SUSAN W.
4-ELLEN P.	22-DANA C.
5-LELAND F.	22-JULIE F.
5-MIKE H.	22-WAYNE S.
7-JORDAN R.	24-ABIGAIL P.
8-SUSIE L.	26-NICHOLAS R.
9-JIM C.	26-KIM C.
9-ABIGAIL C.	28-MALACHI M.
13-STEPHANIE P.	28-CHRISTOPHER A.
16-JEFF R.	29-ERIC A.
17-TODD P.	30-PATTY B.
18-EMIL L.	
20-BEVERLY V.	



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

4-KYLE AND MEGHAN F.
4-LYNN AND JOAN K.
9-HAROLD AND DONNA H.
11-JAMIE AND PATTY B.
12-JARED AND KRISTA K.
14-TRAVIS AND AMANDA
B.
15-PAUL AND PRISCILLA W. (64th)
18-BILL AND CHRISTIE K.
24-JIM AND DIANE F.
24-KEITH AND HEATHER
B.