

**MANASSAS
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
MAY 2021**



Moving Forward

While the country moves forward with vaccinations, and the weather warms, we have many events happening in May.

On Saturday May 1st, we will hold an outdoor work day! This is a time to beautify our building by raking leaves, picking up sticks, and lots of mulching. Bring your tools and work gloves. We look forward to seeing you there!

Also on May 1st, Scholarship applications are due. Please remember to apply.

On Sunday May 2nd, we will celebrate our graduating seniors with Senior High Sunday. The sermons will be given by our seniors, Elise G. and Ava K. . Our other Youth will provide music and scripture readings. In the evening of May 2nd at 7:30pm, we will hold a movie on the field with snacks, the movie is “Overcomer”, which is rated PG and is family friendly.

For Sunday School, we will continue our Compelling Vision adult bible study, and our kids will continue with the Shine Curriculum.

As always, if you are in need of prayer or if you would like to pray with someone, please contact our church office at office@manassasbrethren.org or contact Pastor Mandy or a deacon.



Brethren Disaster Ministry Sub Sale & Walk May 23rd

On Sunday, May 23rd, we will host an outdoor worship service at 11 am. After the service, there will be a sub sale and an outdoor, physically distant picnic. Everyone is welcome to walk the track and enjoy the fellowship as we support the Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Relief efforts. Look for more information to come about ordering subs. Financial support for Brethren Disaster Ministries can be made at the church. Checks can be made payable to MCOB with “Disaster Relief” in the memo line. This walk is to raise funds for Brethren Disaster Ministries, a ministry of the Church of the Brethren that offers a rebuild program, children’s disaster services, and a global response for communities affected by disasters.

Pastor's Page

One of the things that I have missed the most during these pandemic days is pastoral visits with members in-person. Now that the weather is getting warmer and many of our members are getting vaccinated, I'm looking forward to making more visits this spring. We have many members in assisted living and nursing home facilities who have been living in isolation for most of this year with many restrictions and guidelines for visitors. Some of the restrictions are being lifted and I already have two visits on my calendar for two of our beloved members living in these homes in the weeks ahead.

Words can't fully describe the sacred holiness that comes with visits to our older members, whose bodies are no longer working the way they once did years ago or whose memories are not quite as sharp and clear. As I listen to the stories from long ago, or as we sing a favorite hymn together, the Holy Spirit breaks into the fragile life on this earth and meets us in a place where God and humanity come together in the thin space.

These thin space moments haven't been the same this past year. Sharing these moments over Zoom through an iPad isn't quite the same as when we look each other in the eyes and hold hands. This month as the flowers are blooming and the trees are budding and new life is blossoming all around us, I'm hopeful for the new life that will come as these thin spaces become available to us once again.



~ Pastor Mandy

Worship Themes

May 2—Youth Sunday

Psalm 25:15-17

“Lonely and Afflicted”

Speakers: Graduating Seniors

May 9

1 John 5:1-6

“The Water and the Blood”

Preacher: Rev. Chris Bowman

May 16

2 Corinthians 13

“Putting People Together—
Think in Harmony”

Preacher: Mandy North

May 23—Outdoor Worship

Acts 2:1-21

“Filled with the Holy Spirit”

Preacher: Mandy North

May 30—Memorial Day

Galatians 5:1-12

“The Life of Freedom”

Preacher: Mandy North

Youth Sunday



**National Youth Sunday—May 2,
2021**

Online starting at 7 am

***“Turn to me and be gracious to me.
For I am lonely and afflicted” -***

~Psalms 25:15-17

We will celebrate our Youth on Sunday May 2nd! Our Seniors will give their Sermons, and the other youth will help with creating the worship service.



At 7:30pm we will watch a movie outdoors in the field. The movie is “Overcomer”, which has a PG rating, and during the movie we will serve snacks. Bring your own lawn chairs and blankets. Wear masks for set-up and clean-up. We will practice safe, physical distancing throughout the event. We hope to see you all there!

Congratulations Graduates!



Elise G.

Elise is looking forward to studying Engineering at Virginia Tech as a member of their Honors College Program.



Ava K.

Ava is planning to attend West Virginia University next fall and will be majoring in mathematics.



One of our newest families, who found us online during the Pandemic has two college graduates. **Jackson N.** and **Laura N.** Jackson is graduating Mer-

cer University and Laura is from U Penn.



Jessie K.

Jessie is graduating from James Madison University with a Bachelor's Degree in Media Arts and Design with a concentration in journalism and a minor in Political Communication

MADCOB Racial Justice Initiative

The Mid-Atlantic Church of the Brethren has started a new initiative on how we can support and love all people, in addition to taking an active role in racial justice. The Spirituality and Congregational Life Ministry Team (S&CLMT) has been tasked to find ways to support our congregations as they explore conversations on this issue.

Pastor Mandy is an active member of the S&CLMT as they partner with On Earth Peace for the best steps forward. The district was able to get a Healing Racism Grant from the Church of the Brethren Intercultural Ministries to support this effort.

In April, Pastor Mandy led two different Zoom calls with pastors and congregational leaders throughout the district to discern where congregations are along the spectrum of allies (see below.)

We are looking forward to compiling the information that we've gathered as we deepen our relationships with one another throughout the district and continue the conversation about racial justice. We are hopeful that this will help us resource congregations better as we engage our communities and become the Beloved Community together.

Spectrum of Allies

ACTIVE ALLY –Focus on changing policies; join specific organizing projects on a regular basis; follows racial justice movement leadership; involves many congregation members-not just one person's specialty; brings all in the congregation along, holds one another accountable, and calls people out by calling them in

PASSIVE ALLY - Values are aligned with racial justice movement goals, but little external action to contribute to those goals; includes books groups, educational opportunities with the main focus on learning

NEUTRAL FRIENDLY - Uninformed but curious and open to learning and hearing more; hold conversations centered around injustice generally; are okay with the racial justice actions of other congregations, but not actively working on this. This is the idea that racial justice action is okay as long as it's 'over there'.

NEUTRAL HOSTILE Are uninformed and are hostile to learning or the idea of racial justice; doesn't believe that racial justice action is the responsibility of the church; doesn't want to seem political.

PASSIVE OPPONENT Values are opposed to racial justice liberation, inclusion, equity, but take no public action; refutes news reporting about systemic racism; skeptical about racism being a problem in their congregation or community

ACTIVE OPPONENT Active publicly in opposing racial equity and liberation; denounces other congregations or groups for participating in racial justice advocacy.

MCOB History

Cannon Branch Lectern

As we were preparing for our 125th Anniversary, the tabletop lectern was given to the church from June Kline, who, along with husband Paul Kline, had rescued it from the old Cannon Branch Church. Gilmer Akers used a church pew from Cannon Branch, shortened it, then used extra wood from the pew, to make the base of the lectern.

We were able to use this beautiful lectern at June's memorial service this past fall, and on Easter Sunday this year for our outdoor worship service. Thanks to the Kline family, and to Gilmer for helping to preserve our history!



More History....



This toy train came from the nursery at Cannon Branch



This Cup and Teaspoon were used for communion at Cannon Branch

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS 2021

July 7-9



6-8pm with an optional dinner from 5-6 pm

This year's VBS will be a little different. We will be holding an evening, intergenerational program for everyone from 6:00pm-8:00pm, Wednesday July 7th through Friday July 9th. Anna W. has graciously accepted the VBS Director position.

In addition to the program, we are offering a meal at 5pm if you wish, or you can bring your own, and enjoy it outside before the VBS fun begins!

The menu will be:

Day 1- Sub Sale (turkey, ham, or both)

Day 2- Chicken Nuggets (4, 6, or 10-count)

Day 3- Cookout (hotdogs & ham/cheeseburgers)

Please send orders to the office no later than July 1st.

Come to the Table:

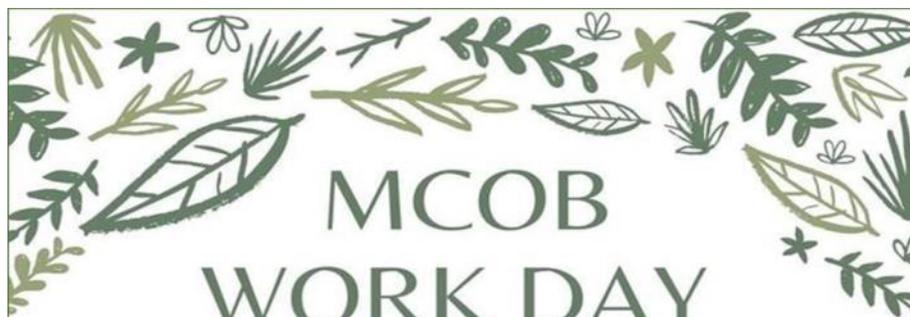
When you eat with Jesus, anything can happen!

Come to the Table, an interactive VBS where we learn that everyone is welcome at God's table!

The Bible stories in this curriculum explore stories about Jesus from the Gospels of Luke and John. These stories show Jesus eating with unexpected people, providing food for a crowd, demonstrating humility, and extending welcome and forgiveness. Through worship and drama, Bible study, hospitality-themed art projects, and active games, all are welcome to taste and share at God's table, where there is always enough! *Come to the Table* invites us all to see that God loves and welcomes all people and challenges us to share that same love and hospitality in our everyday lives.



Spring Work Day



MCOB WORK DAY

*Saturday
May 1st
9:00am*

You are invited to participate in the spring outdoor clean up at the church.

We need lots of hands to trim, pull weeds, spread mulch, and other projects that the Property Committee has selected to complete.

Bring your gloves and hand tools to join in the fun.

*In case of rain, we will reschedule.



Deacons Meeting

Sunday May 16th

12:30 pm

April Stewardship by the Numbers

Average Weekly Views:
Facebook-72, YouTube-80
Total Weekly Average-152

In-Person Easter Service:
Sunrise—34
Traditional—121

Average Giving: \$7688.00

Read the Bible in a Year

May

New Testament		Old Testament	
▶ MARK 1. <input type="checkbox"/> 9:33-50 2. <input type="checkbox"/> 10:1-16 3. <input type="checkbox"/> 10:17-34 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 10:35-52 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 11:1-11 6. <input type="checkbox"/> 11:12-26 7. <input type="checkbox"/> 11:27-33 8. <input type="checkbox"/> 12:1-12 9. <input type="checkbox"/> 12:13-27 10. <input type="checkbox"/> 12:28-34 11. <input type="checkbox"/> 12:35-44 12. <input type="checkbox"/> 13:1-13 13. <input type="checkbox"/> 13:14-31 14. <input type="checkbox"/> 13:32-37 15. <input type="checkbox"/> 14:1-11 16. <input type="checkbox"/> 14:12-31	▶ 2 COR. 1. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:1-11 2. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:12-24 3. <input type="checkbox"/> 2 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 3 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 4 6. <input type="checkbox"/> 5 7. <input type="checkbox"/> 6 8. <input type="checkbox"/> 7 9. <input type="checkbox"/> 8 10. <input type="checkbox"/> 9 11. <input type="checkbox"/> 10 12. <input type="checkbox"/> 11:1-15 13. <input type="checkbox"/> 11:16-33 14. <input type="checkbox"/> 12:1-10 15. <input type="checkbox"/> 12:11-21 16. <input type="checkbox"/> 13 ▶ GALATIANS 17. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 18. <input type="checkbox"/> 2 19. <input type="checkbox"/> 3:1-14 20. <input type="checkbox"/> 3:15-29 21. <input type="checkbox"/> 4:1-20 22. <input type="checkbox"/> 4:21-31 23. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:1-12 24. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:13-26 25. <input type="checkbox"/> 6	▶ PSALMS 1. <input type="checkbox"/> 95 2. <input type="checkbox"/> 96 3. <input type="checkbox"/> 97 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 98 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 99 6. <input type="checkbox"/> 100 7. <input type="checkbox"/> 101 8. <input type="checkbox"/> 102 9. <input type="checkbox"/> 103 10. <input type="checkbox"/> 104 11. <input type="checkbox"/> 105 12. <input type="checkbox"/> 106:1-23 13. <input type="checkbox"/> 106:24-48 14. <input type="checkbox"/> 107 15. <input type="checkbox"/> 108 16. <input type="checkbox"/> 109 17. <input type="checkbox"/> 110 18. <input type="checkbox"/> 111 19. <input type="checkbox"/> 112 20. <input type="checkbox"/> 113 21. <input type="checkbox"/> 114 22. <input type="checkbox"/> 115 23. <input type="checkbox"/> 116 24. <input type="checkbox"/> 117 25. <input type="checkbox"/> 118	▶ 1 SAMUEL 1. <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 2. <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 3. <input type="checkbox"/> 6-8 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 9-10 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 11-13 6. <input type="checkbox"/> 14 7. <input type="checkbox"/> 15-16 8. <input type="checkbox"/> 17-18 9. <input type="checkbox"/> 19-20 10. <input type="checkbox"/> 21-23 11. <input type="checkbox"/> 24-25 12. <input type="checkbox"/> 26-28 13. <input type="checkbox"/> 29-31 ▶ 2 SAMUEL 14. <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 15. <input type="checkbox"/> 3-4 16. <input type="checkbox"/> 5-7 17. <input type="checkbox"/> 8-10 18. <input type="checkbox"/> 11-12 19. <input type="checkbox"/> 13 20. <input type="checkbox"/> 14-15 21. <input type="checkbox"/> 16-17 22. <input type="checkbox"/> 18-19 23. <input type="checkbox"/> 20-21 24. <input type="checkbox"/> 22 25. <input type="checkbox"/> 23-24

We will hold our next Bible Scripture chat on Sunday May 23rd at 2:00pm via Zoom. Look for Zoom info in the weekly eNews! Please email the office with any questions!

May Events

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the Red Cross is in dire need of blood.

We want to help fulfill that need by hosting a blood drive for the Red Cross on **May 25th from 9:00am-3:00pm.**

Click here to donate: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive>

We also need volunteers! If you can help, please sign-up here: [Manassas Church of the Brethren: Blood Drive Volunteers \(signupgenius.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com)

The Red Cross follows all CDC, FDA, and FEMA guidelines and the Blood Drives have been labeled an Essential Activity.

The City Nature Challenge

By Tina Fisher

It's that time of year again for the City Nature Challenge. Washington D.C. has been participating in this event since 2017: <https://citynaturechallenge.org>. It is held on the last weekend in April and relies on citizen participation for its success. Participants use the iNaturalist app (<https://inaturalist.org>) on a smart phone or a computer to document their findings, get crowd sourced confirmation, and to upload the data to a web site.

All you need is a smart phone with the iNaturalist app, or a camera and a computer. Take a picture and the Artificial Intelligence component of the app will give you a suggested identification. The observation is then posted to the iNaturalist web site. This is a great resource for learning how to effectively use the iNaturalist app: <https://citynaturechallengedc.org/resources/>.

For more information about the iNaturalist App or the City Nature Challenge 2021, please contact Louis Harrell or Tina Fisher.



Sunday School

Compelling Vision Bible Study—Wednesdays at 7pm

This complete 13-session Compelling Vision Bible Study Series is now available at www.brethren.org/ac/compelling-vision/bible-studies.

Each session invites participants to gather around the Word as they explore a different word or phrase from the compelling vision statement, with the hope of deepening and enriching personal and communal understanding of each particular word or phrase and the compelling vision as a whole.

Each session has been written by a different writer, reflecting the rich theological, geographical, ethnic, and gender diversity within the Church of the Brethren. Not only does this broaden and enrich our collective perspective, but also fosters understanding—a value that has undergirded the entire process of discernment.

The sessions were written to be used in either a face-to-face or virtual environment. inspired by the Holy Spirit, to imagine what it might look like to live into the vision and become “Jesus in the Neighborhood.”

These Bible studies affirm the importance of God’s Word in our life together, God’s Word revealed in scripture, and made flesh in the life and ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, as we gather around the Word in the context of community, God still speaks to us.

MAY SPEAKERS:

May 5 - Luke C.,
May 12 - Melvin C.
May 19 - Melvin C.
May 26 - Christian S.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/7755683646?pwd=Yk9ISXdwTGE2NklMekVYQk55ZFNXdz09>

Meeting ID: 775 568 3646

Password: 932339

Sunday School Calendar

Our adult Bible study is on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm, our Jr. and Sr. High will do their Sunday School on Sunday night at 6:30pm, and our children in grades K-5 meet on Sunday mornings at 9:30am. Please contact the church office for more information.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/7755683646?pwd=Yk9ISXdwTGE2NklMekVYQk55ZFNXdz09>

Meeting ID: 775 568 3646

Password: 932339

May 2021



Sun **Mon** **Tue** **Wed** **Thu** **Fri** **Sat**

2 9:30am—Kids Sunday School Youth Sunday Worship	3 7:00pm—Executive Committee Mtg Pastor Mandy on Retreat	4 Pastor Mandy on Retreat	5 7:00pm—Adult Bible Study Pastor Mandy on Retreat	6 Pastor Mandy Out of Office	7 Pastor Mandy Out of Office	8	1 9 am—12 noon Workday
9 9:30am—Kids Sunday School Worship 6:30pm—Youth SS	10 7:00pm—Church Board Meeting	11	12 7:00pm—Adult Bible Study	13	14	15	
16 9:30am—Kids Sunday School Worship 12:30pm Deacons Mtg 6:30pm—Youth SS	17	18	19 7:00pm—Adult Bible Study	20	21	22	
23/30 23rd Outdoor Wor- ship—Sub Sale 9:30am—Kids Sunday School Worship 6:30pm—Youth SS	24/31	25 9 am—3 pm Blood Drive	26 7:00pm—Adult Bible Study	27	28	29	

**MANASSAS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
10047 NOKESVILLE ROAD
MANASSAS VIRGINIA 20110**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



1-LUCY C.
1-KIM K.
2-KEVIN C.
3-NANCY F.
3-KRISTINE H.
6-SAM K.
7-KIM B.
7-CHRIS E.
7-SHERRIE W.
8-LOIS W.
9-DEBBIE W.
10-RUTH J.
12-LEE M.
12- CAROLYN R.
13-BENJAMIN B.
13-ALISA H.
13-ILLANA N.
15-JOICE B.

19-LYNN K.
19-MANDY N.
22-JEFF C.
22-JOSEPH W.
22-PAUL W.
23-SAMANTHA N.
24-LORETTA BRYANT-K.
24-TONI M.
24-ALISON W.
24-LUDIE M.
25-JOHN B.
25-KIRSTEN S.
25-OWEN W.
26-ANN H.
27-RAMONA V.
27-ALI C.
27-FRED S.
29-SHELLEY T.
31-CONNOR S.

3-PAUL AND RAMONA V.
4-DALE AND MARGARET B.
10-SAM AND MELINDA C.
10-JAMES AND JUDY F.
19-CHRISTIAN AND KIM S.
20-NATHAN AND KRISTA S.
25-TINA FISHER AND CHRIS E.
27-CHARLES AND GINA M.
28-CHRIS AND SHERRY B.
30-EDGAR AND KATHY S.
31-JOHN AND BRENDA B.
31-CRAIG AND MARALEE P.