



MANASSAS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

AUGUST 2025 NEWSLETTER

August 2025

Welcome to August at MCOB!

We're excited for a full month of activities as we count down to our **130th Anniversary Celebration!** To learn more about the upcoming Anniversary Events, Click Here: <https://www.manassasbrethren.org/130th-anniversary.html>, you can also find details on page 10 of the newsletter.

Our regular monthly events are continuing as usual—check out pages 3 and 4 for the full schedule.

Kicking things off this month:

- **Saturday, August 2:** Join us at the **Workhouse Art Center in Lorton**. For more information, please contact Rebecca V.
- **Sunday, August 3:** Start your morning with a **Doughnut Breakfast**, followed by **worship led by Pastor Chris Bowman**.
- **Young Adults Lunch:** Right after worship on August 3—location to be determined.

Additional August Highlights:

- **Executive Committee and Church Board meetings** resume on **August 11**.
- **Forgetful Friends Chorus** will **not** meet this month.
- **Women's EmpowHERment Conference** on **Saturday, August 16**—**Girls Can Dream Big 2** is a local non-profit that aims to empower girls and women. Tina F. is on the board and Kim B. will be teaching a segment on using AI responsibility. See page 5 to register today!
- Interested in volunteering with **Children's Disaster Services**? See page 7 for training and certification info.
- On **Sunday, August 31**, we will hold a special **installation service for Pastor Mark**, with **District Executive Doug Veal** in attendance. A **cookie social** will follow. Details on page 4.

Thank You!

We had a fantastic Vacation Bible School! Special thanks to **Megan A.** and **Trish U.** (Midland COB) for leading a wonderful week. Check out the VBS Director's Report on page 6.

Looking Ahead:

- Help us prepare for fall worship—sign-ups for various roles are on page 8.
- We're also in need of **Sunday School teachers** for the fall semester (see page 5).
- **Kim B.** will be out of the office from **September 2nd–12th**. If you're available to assist, please refer to page 10.

We're looking forward to a meaningful and fun-filled August. **See you in September!**

From the Pastor's Study

July was a faith-flourishing month for me. It began with Annual Conference in Greensboro, NC. I had the honor to serve as a Community Observer during the morning Business Sessions, reconnect with old and new friends, and worship alongside siblings in Christ. When Annual Conference ended, I drove to Winston-Salem, NC with the twins, and two new friends from McPherson for FaithX through Spark'Dwell, where our senior high youth learned a lot about our unhoused neighbors. Then I was able to serve in worship with Dana Cassell, as she came back to Manassas as we continue to celebrate our 130th Anniversary! Immediately after worship, I traveled to Shepherd's Spring where I was able to serve as a camp counselor and be a pastoral presence for the week. Once we got back, Vacation Bible School started and I have been able to serve all week as a leader with our Jr High youth serving our community.

Often times, when I have the opportunity to serve as an advisor or a counselor for activities with our youth, people assume that I go to minister to them... shoot, that's the assumption that I make too... and yet, it never fails, their witness and faith minister to me in return.

This particular group of youth, I've known since they were born... I have watched them grow... I have had the honor to baptize some of them too... and now I get to see them shine. They shine God's love and light in all the places. If you ever need a faith pick-me-up, talk to the youth. Hear their stories. If you want to know what strength, courage, love, or creativity looks like, talk to our youth. We all have so much to learn from them and I pray that our hearts, minds, and ears remain open to learning and growing in faith alongside them. In August and early September, we'll have the opportunity to hear about their summer experiences, and I am looking forward to hearing from them, and I pray you are too!

And now, after 3 weeks of not sleeping in my own bed, but rather on the floor or in a bunk, I am greatly looking forward to a much-needed week of vacation. I will be out of the office July 26-August 2, and I am hoping to come back renewed and refreshed!

~Pastor Mandy

Worship Themes

August 3: 130th Anniversary
A Prodigal Family Homecoming
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
Preacher: Pastor Chris Bowman
Worship Leader: Pastor Mandy North

August 10:
Count the Starts
Genesis 15:1-6
Preacher: Pastor Mandy North
Worship Leader: TBD

August 17: Shepherd's Spring Sunday
Luke 5:17-26
Preacher: Pastor Mandy North
Worship Leader: Campers

August 24: Bluegrass Sunday
Psalm 103:1-8
Preacher: Pastor Mandy North
Worship Leader: Krista K.

August 31: Pastor Mark's Installation Service
By Faith
Hebrews 11
Preacher: Pastor Mandy North
Worship Leader: TBD

July Stewardship by the Numbers

Average Weekly Attendance: **79**
YouTube Views: **33**

Average Weekly Giving: **\$7,477.00**

Happenings



**AUGUST 7TH AND 28TH
THURSDAYS
1:00PM-4:00PM**

**MANASSAS CHURCH OF
THE BRETHREN**

**CARDS &
GAMES!**

WITH CONTRACT BRIDGE!

**ALL ARE
INVITED TO
JOIN!**



ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUP

**Sunday August 17th
12:00pm**

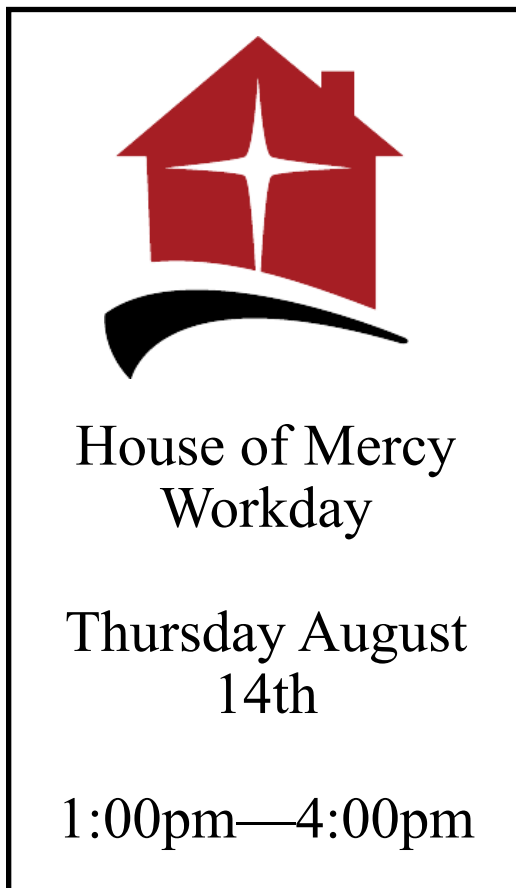
**Sunshine Ridge Winery
15850 Sunshine Rdg Ln,
Gainesville, VA 2015**



ADVENTURE GROUP

AUGUST 2ND - 11:00AM

**WORKHOUSE ARTS CENTER
9518 WORKHOUSE WAY
LORTON, VA 22079**



**House of Mercy
Workday**

**Thursday August
14th**

1:00pm—4:00pm

Events



Pastor Mark Installation Service August 31st 10:30am

By Doug Veal

The installation service is an important beginning to a pastor's service at a congregation. While Pastor Mark has already been working in the congregation, this service will be an important part of him joining into the ongoing work of the Manassas congregation. During this service, Pastor Mark and the congregation will each make vows to God and to one another to work together to further the ministry of God in that congregation. Often, the pastor officially becomes a member of the congregation at this service (though sometimes that can happen prior to it). The service helps to remind us of our Brethren commitment that while the congregation has called the pastor to leadership we are all called to be ministers of Jesus Christ. Through this service, the pastor and congregation are prayerfully making joint commitments to live out the good news of Jesus Christ.



Lovina Conner Circle Ladies Lunch

Thursday August 28th!

11:30am

Cracker Barrel

10801 Battleview Pkwy, Manassas, VA 20109



Retirees' Luncheon
Thursday August 21st
1:00pm

Great American Buffet
8365 Sudley Road

MANASSAS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
YOUNG ADULTS



Young Adult Lunch
12:00pm - August 3rd
Location TBD

Sunday School



From the Christian Education Team Sunday School Teachers Needed for School Year 2025-2026

Manassas Church of the Brethren is a community of care, where our relationships matter, and our Christian discipleship counts.

The Christian Education Team is tasked with supporting our education ministries by offering Sunday School options for all ages.

Our church members and friends attend offerings weekly that include Nursery (as needed), K-5, Jr. High, Sr. High, and adult Sunday School options of traditional Sunday School class on a variety of topics, such as book studies, Lenten and Advent devotionals, or attend Handbells, or the Cards and Caring Hands Class. We need teachers and leaders for all age groups. If you are willing to serve as a Sunday School teacher or facilitator for any of our classes, please reach out to the church office, Donna H., Christian Education Team Chair, Kim S., Nancy S., or Mark Pickens, Associate Pastor.



Women and Girls

Annual EmpowHERment Conference

SHE WILL SUCCEED

August 16th 2025 @ 10am EST

**Location: Manassas Museum
9101 Prince William St, VA 20110**



Tickets: \$55

Early Bird: \$40

Registration includes:

Swag bag, Lunch, Scholarships,
Raffles, Beauty Bar, Crafts,
Book Signing, Museum Tour,

Complementary Registration for Girls 10+
NOTE: Girls Must Register with an Adult

Hosts



Tina
Fisher



Dr. Maurine
Kwende



Kelly Mariah
Neff



Carmen Flores
Opening Keynote



Jinnae Monroe
Closing Keynote



Susan Furr
Artist Beauty Consultant



Karen Windholz
Sort Toss Repeat



Lilletta Hartem
My Natural Me



Ashley Hutson
HCCA



Endira Stewart
Your Affirmation Ally



Kim Beaty
MCOB

<https://girlscandreambig2.org/>

VBS Wrap-up by Megan A., VBS Director

The week of July 21-25 we hosted Vacation Bible School with our brothers and sisters from Midland Church of the Brethren. There were 24 children, or travelers, in attendance - toddlers through eighth graders. Each of these travelers experienced the love of God through our volunteers - of which we had as many as 26 on any given day. Altogether, there were over 40 people from both Manassas and Midland Churches who supported the planning for and fulfillment of VBS. Volunteers' efforts went beyond the three hour sessions of VBS. Volunteers prepared lessons, gathered materials, planned decorations, organized events for the Junior High, printed name tags, purchased necessary items, and countless other tasks to make the week of VBS a success.

Each morning travelers gathered in the sanctuary for Opening Assembly and Music. Navigator Amelia and Scout, a dog puppet, set the stage by sharing songs and the featured Bible story. They also used this time to review the Green Light Verse - *The Lord your God is with you wherever you go - Joshua 1:9* - and introduce Mile Markers - phrases that deepened understanding of the Green Light Verse. These Mile Markers coincided with the featured Bible story each day. Travelers actively engaged with these Bible stories when they visited the Bible Storyteller Station. The Green Light Verse and Mile Markers were further reinforced and repeated at each station throughout the mornings. Interests were piqued while at the Science Station; the Snack Station provided a place to re-fuel; the Craft Station provided a creative outlet where travelers constructed their own mementos for the week; and the Recreation Station provided the space to move, problem solve and cooperate. To get from station to station, Crew Leaders guided children safely with great love and care!

At VBS, we didn't simply hear about God's love. We had the opportunity to share God's love with others! While the elementary-aged children were engaged in the church building, our Junior Highers went out into the community. In addition, our Mission Project was to collect five suitcases worth of clothing and household items for Migrant Solidarity Mutual Aid - a group that offers long-term resettlement support to migrants - individuals who have been 'on the go' - who have chosen to make the DC area their home. We went above and beyond this goal!

Thank you for your support of this summer tradition!





Children's Disaster Services



Volunteer Training & Certification Program

CHILDREN'S DISASTER SERVICES (CDS) VOLUNTEERS...

are exceptional individuals with compassionate hearts for serving children. The specialized service they provide focuses on how children experience and react to disaster events.

CDS mobilizes teams of trained volunteers to care for children in communities affected by disaster. Volunteers set up on-site care centers giving children individualized attention that encourages self-expression through play, thereby starting the healing process.

Go to: brethren.org/cds/

The **CDS Training Program** is a 25-hour overnight training that equips volunteers with the skills needed to understand and respond to children who have encountered both human-caused and natural disasters.

Go to: brethren.org/cds/training/



Training Includes:

- * CDS Care Centers
 - > Setup and operation
 - > Safety procedures
 - > Self-care on site and after returning home.
 - > A shelter simulation



- * Types and phases of disaster
- * Children
 - > Their needs after a disaster
 - > Responding in a healing manner
 - > Using play to begin emotional recovery



Who can Be a CDS Certified Volunteer?

- > Volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds, including faith communities and community service organizations.
- > Anyone 18 years and over
- > Two personal references
- > Pass a criminal & sexual offender background check



Children's Disaster Services was founded in 1980 as a program of Brethren Disaster Ministries

410-635-8735 Main Office
 800-451-4407 ext. 4 Toll Free
CDS@brethren.org

Children's Disaster Services
 601 Main St. PO Box 188
 New Windsor, Maryland 21776-0188



Weekly Worship Helpers Sign-Ups

Ways to Serve!

Ushers



Sound Board



Acolytes



Children's Church



Nursery



Worship Leaders



Office Help Needed!



Church Office Volunteers Needed! September 2nd – September 12th

Our Church Office Administrator, Kim Beaty, will be on vacation from September 1st – September 14th. We're looking for someone to help cover the basics during that time: opening the church, bringing in the mail, answering the phone, and answering the door for visitors and deliveries. We are looking for someone to be in

the office from 9am—12pm.. If you're able to help on one or more of those days, please click here to sign-up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A45A5AD29ABF94-57553151-office>

**CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
NATIONAL OLDER ADULT CONFERENCE 2025
September 1-5, 2025 at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina**

NOAC is a Spirit-filled gathering of adults who love learning and discerning together, exploring God's call for our lives and living out that call by sharing our energy, insight, legacy, and faith with our families, communities, and the world.

Follow us on Facebook: Church of the Brethren NOAC

Register at: www.brethren.org/noac

Preachers

Greg Lazsokovitz
Rebecca Dali
Herb Smith
Samuel Sarpiya
Audri Svay

Keynote Speakers

Cole Arthur Riley
Ken Medema
Ted Swartz
Dominique Gilliard

Bible Study Leader- Chris Bowman

Early Morning Devotion Leaders- Martha Beahm, Frank Ramirez

Workshops

Field Trips

Service Opportunities

Outdoor Ministries Campfire

Seminary, College, University Reunions

Early Morning Chair Yoga

Garden Tours

Lake Boat Rides

Congregational Singing

Talent Show



Save the Date!

MCOB Fall Festival

Saturday October 25th

6:00pm—8:00pm

Look for more information
to come!



130th Anniversary

MANASSAS COB 130TH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND September 20-21, 2025

Saturday, September 20 Picnic Potluck

11am – Gather

12noon – Lunch*

1pm – 4pm – Games & Activities:

- Lawn Games
- Moon Bounce
- CROP Walk around the Track
- BUS Cardmaking
- 130 Years Interactive Timeline
- Ice Cream Sundae Bar

Sunday, September 21 Worship & Catered Lunch

9:45 am – Sunday School

11 am – Worship, Pastor Mandy preaching

12 noon – Catered Lunch in the Fellowship Center

*For the Potluck on Saturday, please bring a dish to share. Also, we are looking to borrow lawn games, such as corn hole, ladder ball, volleyball, spike ball, etc.

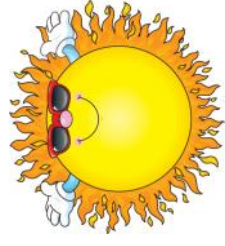
We have blocked rooms at Tru by Hilton for this weekend. Please look for a direct link to come to make a reservation.

130th Anniversary Committee: Mary Geisler, Carla Barb, Steve Hollinger, Rhonda Craighead, Linda Tax, and Pastor Mandy



Donate to our 130th Anniversary Fund!

Click Here to donate: <https://www.manassasbrethren.org/support.html>



August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:00am—Donut B' fast 10:30am—Worship w/ Chris Bowman 12:00pm—YA Lunch	4	5 12:00pm—Lunch Bunch @ Arby's	6	7 1:00pm — Cards & Games Club	8	9
10 10:30am—Worship	11 6:15pm—Executive Committee Mfg 7:30pm —Church Board Meeting	12 12:00pm—Lunch Bunch @ Arby's	13	14 1:00pm — House of Mercy Workday	15	16 10:00am— Women's Conference
17 9:00am—Property Listening Session 10:30am—Worship 12:00pm—Adult Fellowship Lunch	18	19 12:00pm—Lunch Bunch @ Arby's	20	21 1:00pm — Retirees' Luncheon @ Great American Buffer	22	23
24/31 9:00am—Property Listening Session 10:30am—Worship 10:30am—Worship	25	26 12:00pm—Lunch Bunch @ Arby's	27	28 11:30pm — Lovina Conner Lunch 1:00pm — Cards & Games Club	29	30
10:30am—Worship						

MANASSAS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
10047 NOKESVILLE ROAD
MANASSAS VIRGINIA 20110

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



August Birthdays

3-DAVID L.
3-SUSAN D.
4-JIM F.
4-SAMANTHA K/
4-ALENE M.
5-LELAND F.
5-MIKE H.
7-JORDAN R.
9-ABIGAIL C.
13-STEPHANIE P.
14-AMELIA B.
16-JEFF R.
17-TODD P.
18-EMIL L.
19-PAUL V.
20-BEVERLY V.
21-SUSAN W.
22-DANA C.
22-JULIE F.
22-WAYNE S.
26-KIM C.
27 -LAYLA H.
28-MALACHI M.
29-ERIC A.
30-PATTY B.



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

4-PAUL AND KATE M.
11-JAMIE AND PATTY B.
12-JARED AND KRISTA K.
14-TRAVIS AND AMANDA
B.
18-BILL AND CHRISTIE K.
24-JIM AND DIANE F.