

**44th Annual
Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response
Auction**

www.madcob.com/disaster-response-auction

**Handmade
Quilts &
Comforters**



**Baked
Goods,
Food & Gifts**



**Handcrafts,
Artwork &
Antiques**



**Plants, Tools,
Furniture
& more**

May 3, 2025

**Carroll County Agricultural Center - Shipley Arena
Westminster, Maryland**

Sponsored by the Church of the Brethren Mid-Atlantic District

Three Indoor Public Auctions

Saturday, May 3, 2025 - 9:00 a.m. Rain or Shine

Handmade Quilts, Comforts, Baby Quilts & Quilted Wall Hangings

Patterns such as:

Arabella's Courtyard, Dresden Sunbonnet, Heart of Roses, Autumn Leaves, Flower Star, Blue Sampler, Pink Cat Squares, Swiss Sheep, Millie Day Dresses, Sunflowers, Happy Batiks, Single Irish Chain, Maple Leaf, Fruity Fun, Nature Walk, My Mercantile Blocks, Wacky Zoo, Blue Flowers, Hearts & Feathers, Pin Wheel, Diagonal Rectangles and more!

Plus

Woodworking tools, handmade crafts, baked goods, folk art, glassware, furniture, garden and hand tools, small appliances, antiques, collectibles, pictures, toys, books, and more!

Plant Sale – 8:00 a.m.
General Auction – 9:00 a.m.
Specialty Auction – 9:30 a.m.
Tools in General Auction – 10:00 a.m.
Quilt Auction – 12:15 p.m.



Look for these Specialty Auction Items

Arariba Bowl with Walnut Foot, Red Moose Lodge Rental, 2007 Honda CH80 Scooter, Oak Coffee Table, Vintage Anchor Hocking Green Dishware, Antique Cradle, Silk Wreath, Wood Jewelry Cabinet, Adams English Ironstone Platter, Children's Painted Wooden Rockers, Williams-Sonoma Cookbooks, Homemade Cakes, Purple Heart Dried Flower Vase, Drop Leaf Table, Vintage Milk Glass, Children's Table with Bench, The Escape Cabin Rental, and much more!

Food Service

Breakfast 7:00-9:30 Lunch 10:30-2:00 All other food booths open at 10:00 a.m.

Homemade Pies, Donuts, Ice Cream, Soups, Hot Dogs, Vegetable and Fruit Salads, Turkey Barbeque and Country Ham Sandwiches, Dessert Stand, Bake Table, Drink Stands, Food Service, etc.

All proceeds from the auction go to:

**The Church of the Brethren Emergency Disaster Fund and
the Mid-Atlantic District transportation fund for disaster response.**

Terms: cash, check and credit card.

**Church of the Brethren Mid-Atlantic District, Robert Wilson, Sales Manager
ATM Machine located in Shipley Arena.**

Not responsible for any accidents on premises.

Cover photos (starting top, clockwise) BDM, Eglise des Freres au Congo, Debbie Noffsinger and Melodie Bernhard.

Thank You!

\$22,485 was raised through this booklet for the Disaster Response Auction.

Thank you to the churches, businesses, organizations and individuals that placed listings or ads in our Auction Booklet. We very much appreciate your support of the Disaster Response programs in this way.

**Please bring
your own
chair, seating
is limited!**



**Mark your
calendar for
next year's
Auction on
May 2, 2026**

Child Care Available

Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Be sure to pick up your children for lunch! We appreciate prompt pickup at 3:00 p.m. so the caregivers can clean up.

Thank you!



Photo courtesy of BDM

Can you help? Auction Day Volunteers Needed!!

If you want to help at the auction, call Jeff McKee at 443-547-5958 to make arrangements in advance, or, on auction day, go to the information booth to be assigned a task.

Many hands make the work light. Thanks!

Please visit our sister districts' Disaster Relief Auctions

Shenandoah District Disaster Ministries Auction & Sale – May 16-17, 2025
Rockingham County Fairgrounds, Harrisonburg, Va
www.shencob.org/disaster-auction-and-sale

Brethren Disaster Relief Auction in PA – September 26-27, 2025
Lebanon Valley Expo Center, Lebanon, Pa
www.brethren-disaster-relief-auction.org

Index of Advertisers, Articles and Information

<i>A Journey of Service</i>	91	Frederick Painting & Supply, Inc	26
Arlington Church of the Brethren	76	Glade Valley Church of the Brethren.....	54
Auction Committee Members	94	<i>Global Updates</i>	92
Auction Donation Guidelines	37	Grable's Commercial Painting	76
Auction Floor Plan	95	The Great Frederick Fair	67
Auction Volunteers.....	94	Green Hill Church of the Brethren	81
Baughner's Restaurant & Fruit Market	53	Grossnickle Church of the Brethren	71
Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren	54	Hagerstown Church of the Brethren	69
Beaver Creek CoB, WINGS.....	56	Hagerstown CoB, Christian Lifestyles Sunday School Class..	60
Blue Ridge Risk Partners	74	Hagerstown CoB, Contemporary Christian Conv Class....	26
Booth Sponsors and Supervisors	94	Hagerstown CoB, Morning Praise Worship.....	76
<i>Brethren Disaster Ministries 2024 Rebuilding Responses</i>	90	Hagerstown CoB, Ordinary People Class.....	43
<i>Brethren Disaster Ministries Bridges Newsletter</i>	89	Haller Blanchard & Associates.....	40
Brethren Mutual Insurance Company	77	Harmony Church of the Brethren	58
Broadfording Church of the Brethren	43	In Memory of Shirley & Jake Altvater	76
Bruchey Builders, Inc	41	In Memory of Suzette Dotterer	85
Bush Creek Church of the Brethren	61	In Memory of Lois Kretsch-Gemmill	13
Bush Creek CoB Dinner.....	29	Johnsontown Church of the Brethren	78
Bush Creek CoB, Women's Fellowship	68	Kipe's Upholstery	66
<i>California Wildfires</i>	86	LegalShield	32
<i>Children's Disaster Services 2024 Responses</i>	90	<i>Letter from Jeff McKee, Auction Chair</i>	33
<i>Children's Disaster Services 2024 Volunteer Trainings</i>	90	<i>Letter from Roy Winter, Executive Dir for Service Min.</i>	38-39
<i>Children's Disaster Services Volunteers Bring Comfort</i>	87	<i>Letter of Gratitude</i>	91
CoB Office of Mission Advancement	27	Locust Grove Church of the Brethren	84
Colonial Jewelers.....	44	Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren.....	57
Craft-Mart	31	Longmeadow Church of the Brethren	63
Darner Services.....	28	Manassas Church of the Brethren	60
David L. Haller Consulting Services	66	Manor Church of the Brethren	51
Denton Church of the Brethren	76	McCuller Family Dairy Farm	40
Diamond Electric	46	Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Auction Record ..	33
District Disaster Coordinator's Corner	45	Midland Church of the Brethren	80
Dorcus Construction Co.	54	Middletown Valley Bank.....	79
Downsville Church of the Brethren.....	59	Monocacy Church of the Brethren	63
<i>DR Congo Churches Receive Aid</i>	88	Musselman Excavating, Inc.....	80
Driving Directions to the Auction	95	Mutual Aid Agency.....	73
Easton Church of the Brethren	70	Nokesville Church of the Brethren	52
Fairview Church of the Brethren	62	Oakton Church of the Brethren	55
Fellowship Church of the Brethren	85	Oakton CoB, Women's Fellowship	47
First Church of the Brethren	72	Patron Ads	48-49
First CoB, Women of Action	70	Piney Creek Church of the Brethren	30
Flower Hill Church of the Brethren.....	79	Plant Sale.....	93
Fox Trucking	68	Pleasant View Church of the Brethren.....	40
Frederick Church of the Brethren	31	Plymouth Lodge	74
Frederick CoB, Friendship Class	64	Pretzel Jar Booth	50
Frederick CoB, Pathfinders Class.....	53	Quilt Auction.....	6-19
Frederick CoB, Women's Guild	80	<i>Rebuilding Updates</i>	89

Index of Advertisers, Articles and Information

Ridgely Church of the Brethren	82	Union Bridge Church of the Brethren	65
Sam’s Creek Church of the Brethren	83	Union Bridge CoB, Bible Sunday School Class.....	74
Seaview Construction Services LLC.....	66	Union Bridge CoB, Modern and Mature Sr Fellowship	53
Shelter Systems	58	Welty Church of the Brethren	64
Specialty Auction Items	20-25	Westminster Church of the Brethren.....	42
SunSet Supply.....	72	Woodberry Church of the Brethren.....	57
Thurmont Church of the Brethren	46	Woodbridge Church of the Brethren	75
Tools in the General Auction	34-36		

Please
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Show your appreciation for their contribution by **patronizing the businesses** who advertise in this booklet.

Make sure to tell them you saw their ad in this booklet!



The work of Brethren Disaster Ministries is made possible by the generosity of individuals and churches who support the Emergency Disaster Fund. Our prayer is that, through our combined efforts, more and more vulnerable people in helpless situations will be touched by heavenly grace as our vision and stewardship grow.

—Roy Winter, Executive Director for Service Ministries

Please stop by the Brethren Disaster Ministries booth to see the full scope of their ministry.

Quilt Auction



#100 Happy Batiks
108 x 118 - Multi



#101 Blue Flowers
101 x 112 - Blue, White



#102 Flower Star
102 x 110 - Beige, Brown



#200 Arabella's Courtyard
84 x 85 - Fall



#201 Blue Sampler
63 x 83 - Blues



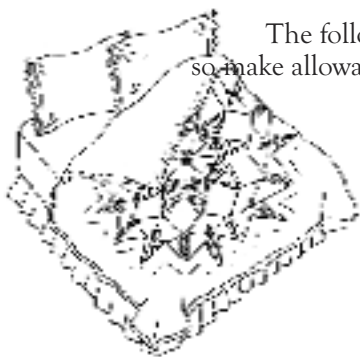
#202 Millie Day Dresses
57 x 68 - Multi

Quilt Auction

KING AND QUEEN QUILTS (OVER 80" X 100")

Lot#	Pattern	Size	Color	Quilter(s)/Donor	Bid\$
100	Happy Batiks	108 x 118	Multi	Union Bridge Nimble Thimbles Donor-In Memory of Naomi Dotterer	
101	Blue Flowers	101 x 112	Blue, White	Little Swatara COB Donor-Larry and Cathy Williams	
102	Flower Star	102 x 110	Beige, Brown	Friend of Auction Donor-Larry and Cathy Williams	
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What Size Quilt Do You Need?



The following sizes are a guide. Please remember that beds differ in height, so make allowances for a higher bed.

Coverlet Sizes

To be used with a dust ruffle

Twin.....68 x 86

Double.....76 x 86

Queen86 x 92

King.....86 x 104

Bedspread Sizes

Reach nearly to the floor

Twin.....81 x 110

Double.....96 x 110

Queen102 x 120

King.....118 x 120

How To Care For Your Quilt

Please realize that quilts should not be stored in plastic bags. It is recommended that they be stored either in a large pillowcase, a sheet, or with tissue paper. New quilts may be washed with care if necessary, but be aware that some dark colors may bleed. Machine wash in cold water, with mild soap and on delicate cycle. Either line dry or use your dryer on air fluff only. Do not use heat settings on the dryer.

Quilt Auction

FULL AND TWIN QUILTS (BETWEEN 68" X 86")

Lot#	Pattern	Size	Color	Quilter(s)/Donor	Bid\$
200	Arabella's Courtyard	84 x 85	Fall	Designer and Donor: Pat Sloan*	
201	Blue Sampler	63 x 83	Blues	Dennis, Doug, and Joyce Minnick Designer and Donor: Pat Sloan*	
202	Millie Day Dresses	57 x 68	Multi	Dennis, Doug, and Joyce Minnick Designer and Donor: Pat Sloan*	
203	Single Irish Chain	84 x 84	Multi	Brownsville Designer and Donor: Pat Sloan*	
204	Nature Walk	70 x 70	Green, Peach	Eve Griner Designer and Donor: Pat Sloan*	
205	Scrappy Rectangles	63 x 68	Multi	Eve Griner Designer and Donor: Pat Sloan*	
206	My Mercantile Blocks	56 x 70	Multi	Eve Griner Designer and Donor: Pat Sloan*	
207	Red Stars	76 x 88	Red, Tan	Long Green Valley	
208	Countdown to Christmas	74 x 76	Red, Green	Eve Griner	
209	Spangled	60 x 60	Multi	Amy Ziehm, Arlington	
210	Maple Leaf	78 x 92	Multi	Marilyn Gaver and Betty Grossnickle	
211	Vintage Nine Patch	82 x 90	Multi	Ann Case and Janet Sowers	
212	Brown Square Scrap	62 x 84	Browns	Ann Case and Janet Sowers	
213	String Strip Blocks	55 x 68	Multi	Ann Case and Janet Sowers	
214	Red, White, Blue	59 x 87	Red, White, Blue	Frederick	
215	Dresden Sunbonnet	74 x 88	Multi	Frederick	
216	Half Square Triangles	60 x 76	Multi	Debbie Martin Rosedale Baptist Church, Baltimore	
217	Hearts & Feathers	48 x 74	Multi	Brownsville	
218	Prairie Blossoms	58 x 70	Multi	Brownsville	
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**internationally known*

Quilt Auction



#203 Single Irish Chain
84 x 84 - Multi



#204 Nature Walk
70 x 70 - Green, Peach



#205 Scrappy Rectangles
63 x 68 - Multi



#206 My Mercantile Blocks
56 x 70 - Multi



#207 Red Stars
76 x 88 - Red, Tan



#208 Countdown to Christmas
74 x 76 - Red, Green

Quilt Auction



#209 Spangled
60 x 60 - Multi



#210 Maple Leaf
78 x 92 - Multi



#211 Vintage Nine Patch
82 x 90 - Multi



#212 Brown Square Scrap
62 x 84 - Browns



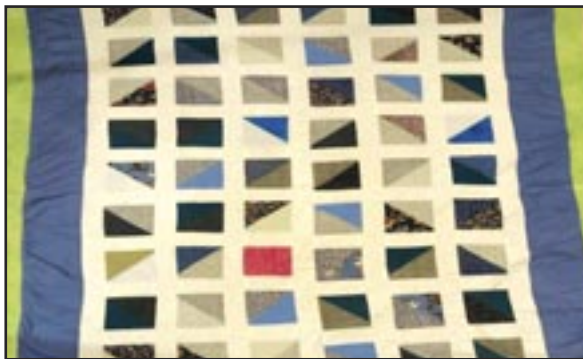
#213 String Strip Blocks
55 x 68 - Multi



#214 Red, White, Blue
59 x 87 - Red, White, Blue



#215 Dresden Sunbonnet
74 x 88 - Multi



#216 Half Square Triangles
60 x 76 - Multi

Quilt Auction

COMFORTERS

Lot#	Pattern	Size	Color	Quilter(s)/Donor	Bid\$
300	Pink Cat Squares	48 x 57	Pink, Black	Frederick	
301	Brick Wall	77 x 85	Burgundy, Yellow	Frederick	
302	Blue & White Squares	74 x 88	Blues	Frederick	
303	Nine Block	44 x 66	Red, White	Frederick	
304	Five Inch Squares	48 x 66	Coral, Green	Frederick	
305	Pin Wheel w/pillow & runner	85 x 94	Orange, Turquoise	Frederick	
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An Auction of a Different Kind

“Bids from the Heart” Sometime during the quilt auction, we will take a few minutes to give those who don’t have a need for a quilt or other auction items an opportunity to donate a monetary amount. The process is simple, the Auctioneer will start with \$1,000 and go around the room asking for bidders who wish to donate that amount; then repeat the process for amounts of \$500, \$250, \$100, \$50 and \$25. In just a few minutes it is amazing how much we raise together to support Emergency Disaster Relief work. Last year’s “Bids from the Heart” raised \$6,350!!! By giving a donation without receiving any goods or services, your donation is tax deductible. We encourage you to consider this different way of helping people rebuild their lives in difficult times.

Quilt Auction



#300 Pink Cat Squares
48 x 57 - Pink, Black



#301 Brick Wall
77 x 85 - Burgundy, Yellow



#302 Blue & White Squares
74 x 88 - Blues



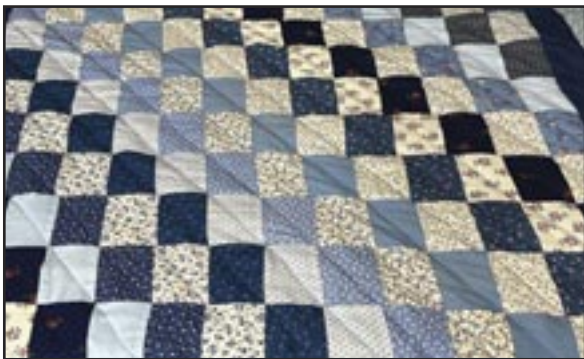
#303 Nine Block
44 x 66 - Red, White



#304 Five Inch Squares
48 x 66 - Coral, Green



#305 Pin Wheel w/pillow & runner
85 x 94 - Orange, Turquoise



#400 Diagonal Rectangles
31 x 42 - Blues



#401 Where's Dino?
34 x 38 - Multi

Quilt Auction

BABY QUILTS & COMFORTERS

Lot#	Pattern	Size	Color	Quilter(s)/Donor	Bid\$
400	Diagonal Rectangles	31 x 42	Blues	Nimble Thimbles	
401	Where's Dino?	34 x 38	Multi	Jean Dippery	
402	Wacky Zoo	32 x 37	Multi	Jean Dippery	
403	Play Things	34 x 34	Multi	Jean Dippery	
404	Rabbit Daily	38 x 38	Multi	Jean Dippery	
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In Memory of Lois Kretsch-Gemmill

In 2013 Lois saw a story about the Disaster Response Auction in the newspaper and asked how she could join our group and contribute to the cause. For more than ten years, she was a faithful and much loved member of the Union Bridge Nimble Thimbles, frequently sharing fabric from her "stash" when new projects needed that extra touch, and often assisting with the Quilt Auction. Her wit, wisdom, quilting skills, and amazing eye for just the right fabric will be missed.

Quilt Auction



#402 Wacky Zoo
32 x 37 - Multi



#403 Play Things
34 x 34 - Multi



#404 Rabbit Daily
38 x 38 - Multi



#501 Breast Cancer Awareness
54 x 59 - Pink, Gray



#502 Red Work Seasons
41 x 48 - Red, White



#503 Sunflowers
47 x 47 - Blue, Yellow



#504 Bear Paw Table Runner
28 x 76 - Multi



#505 Stockings Table Runner
21 x 68 - Red, Green

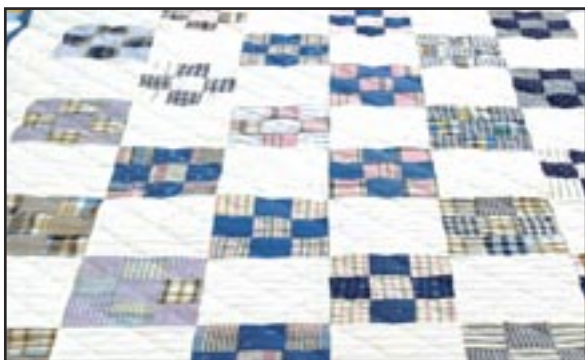
Quilt Auction



#506 Foundations
41 x 49 - Multi



#507 Pathway
41 x 41 - Browns



#508 Nine Patch
32 x 40 - Blue, Checks



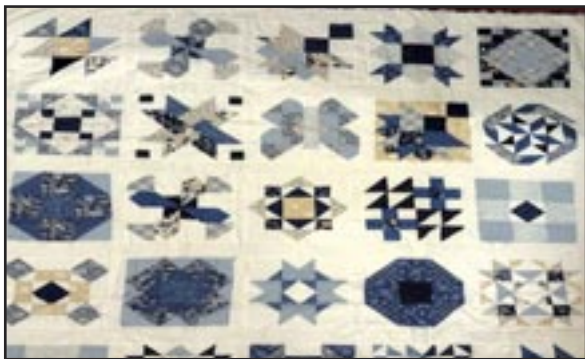
#509 Nine Patch Up and Down
46 x 60 - Navy Blue, Checks



#510 Scrappy Lap Quilt
48 x 48 - Multi



#511 Reflections
48 x 62 - Gray, Multi



#512 Blue Sampler
51 x 58 - Blues



#513 Fruity Fun
34 x 41 - Multi

Quilt Auction

WALL HANGINGS AND LAP ROBES (30 X 30 AND OVER)

Lot#	Pattern	Size	Color	Quilter(s)/Donor	Bid\$
500	M.A.D. Logo	48 X 48	Red, White, Blue	Mary Bruckhart	
501	Breast Cancer Awareness	54 x 59	Pink, Gray	Designer and Donor: Pat Sloan*	
502	Red Work Seasons	41 x 48	Red, White	Designer and Donor: Pat Sloan*	
503	Sunflowers	47 x 47	Blue, Yellow	Amy Ziehm, Arlington	
504	Bear Paw Table Runner	28 x 76	Multi	Amy Ziehm, Arlington	
505	Stockings Table Runner	21 x 68	Red, Green	Amy Ziehm, Arlington	
506	Foundations	41 x 49	Multi	Ruth Carr	
507	Pathway	41 x 41	Browns	Designed and Quilted by Ruth Carr	
508	Nine Patch	32 x 40	Blue, Checks	Ruth Carr	
509	Nine Patch Up and Down	46 x 60	Navy Blue, Checks	Ruth Carr	
510	Scrappy Lap Quilt	48 x 48	Multi	Debbie Martin Rosedale Baptist Church, Baltimore	
511	Reflections	48 x 62	Gray, Multi	Debbie Martin Rosedale Baptist Church, Baltimore	
512	Blue Sampler	51 x 58	Blues	Debbie Martin Rosedale Baptist Church, Baltimore	
513	Fruity Fun	34 x 41	Multi	Jean Dippery	
514	Library Cats	36 x 41	Brown, Beige	Union Bridge Nimble Thimbles	
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**internationally known*

Quilt Auction



#514 Library Cats
36 x 41 - Brown, Beige



#600 Spinning Stars
15 x 15 - Pink, Grey



#601 Farm Memories
18 x 18 - Multi



#602 Birds
18 x 19 - Multi



#603 Blue Jays
13 x 14 - Blue



#604 Swiss Sheep
15 x 20 - Multi



#605 Swiss Sheep & Wool
15 x 20 - Multi



#606 Kaleidoscope
15 x 23 - Multi

Quilt Auction



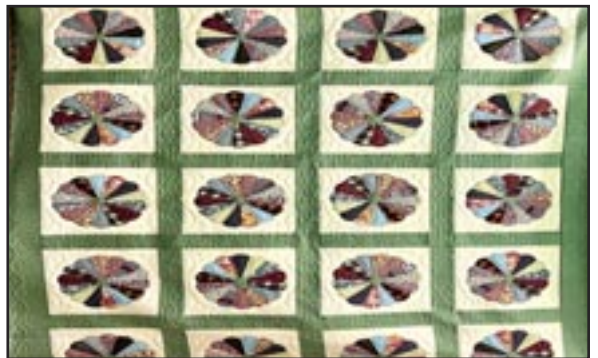
#607 Switzerland
20 x 20 - Multi



#608 Autumn Leaves
18 x 36 - Fall Colors



#609 Families Are Like Quilts
22 x 23 - Multi



#700 Dresden Plate (quilt)
81 x 96 - Green, Multi



#701 Crazy Quilt (comforter)
68 x 96 - Multi



#702 Fans (wall hanging)
47 x 63 - Blues



#703 Snow Family (wall hanging)
15 x 15 - Multi



#704 Heart of Roses (quilt)
100 x 106 - White, Burgundy

Quilt Auction

SMALL WALL HANGINGS, TABLE TOPPERS AND MISC. ITEMS (UNDER 30 X 30)

Lot#	Pattern	Size	Color	Quilter(s)/Donor	Bid\$
600	Spinning Stars	15 x 15	Pink, Grey	A Friend of the Auction	
601	Farm Memories	18 x 18	Multi	Jean Dippery	
602	Birds	18 x 19	Multi	Jean Dippery	
603	Blue Jays	13 x 14	Blue	Jean Dippery	
604	Swiss Sheep	15 x 20	Multi	Jean Dippery	
605	Swiss Sheep & Wool	15 x 20	Multi	Jean Dippery	
606	Kaliedoscope	15 x 23	Multi	Jean Dippery	
607	Switzerland	20 x 20	Multi	Jean Dippery	
608	Autumn Leaves	18 x 36	Fall Colors	Jean Dippery	
609	Families Are Like Quilts	22 x 23	Multi	Jean Dippery	
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VINTAGE OR PRE-OWNED ITEMS (MAY SHOW WEAR AND/OR STAINS) (ANY SIZE)

Lot#	Pattern	Size	Color	Quilter(s)/Donor	Bid\$
700	Dresden Plate (quilt)	81 x 96	Green, Multi	Evelyn Beall Donor-Welty COB	
701	Crazy Quilt (comforter)	68 x 96	Multi	Arlington Donor-Carol Olander	
702	Fans (wall hanging)	47 x 63	Blues	Donor-Grossnickle COB	
703	Snow Family (wall hanging)	15 x 15	Multi	Donor-Connie Welsh	
704	Heart of Roses (quilt)	100 x 106	White, Burgundy	CJ Horst Donor-Jackie Callis	
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709					

Specialty Auction Items



*Purple Heart
Dried Flower
Vase
6.5" H*
Turned by
John Laudermilch
Union Bridge COB



The Escape
Delight in a week (including one weekend)
at The Escape, a mountain getaway,
overlooking 18-hole golf course and with
snow skiing, boarding and tubing, as well
as boating, hiking and more in the
4-season Bryce Resort area of Virginia's
Shenandoah region. Cabin includes 4
bedrooms, 3 baths, with clean sheets and
towels, equipped kitchen, a gas fireplace,
TV, WiFi, pool table, pingpong table,
Foosball table, and two large decks.
Cabin accommodates up to 8 people.
Nearby are Luray, Shenandoah and
Endless caverns, several wineries, and
Lake Laura, with canoe and paddleboat
rentals. Package good through the end
of calendar year 2025. Donated by Diana
and Terry Shepherd, Hagerstown COB.



Wooden Jewelry Cabinet
Made and Donated by Ernie Rice
Westminster COB



*Vintage Anchor Hocking Forest
Green Mixing Bowl
5.5" D x 4" H*

Donated by Betty Eyler
Locust Grove COB



Spring Wreath #2
Donated by Jolinda & Rob Beers
Union Bridge COB



Wooden Foot Stools
Made and Donated
by Ernie Rice
Westminster COB



*Adams English Ironstone platter
20" by 15"*
Donated by Cathy Molloy
Westminster, MD

Specialty Auction Items



2007 Honda CH80 Scooter
Donated by Ben Hunt, Westminster, MD



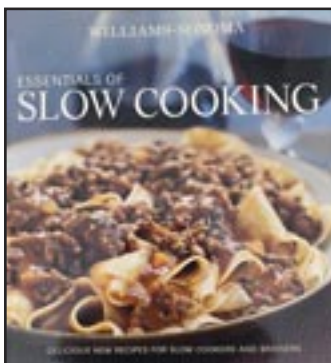
Framed print 12" by 15"
Donated by Cathy Molloy, Westminster, MD



**Vintage Fenton Victorian Style
Milk Glass Three Horn Epergne
Vase - 10.5" Dia x 9.25" H**
Donated by Betty Eyler
Locust Grove COB



Children's Wooden Table and Bench
Made and Donated by Ernie Rice, Westminster COB



**Williams - Sonoma
cookbooks**
Donated by Cathy Molloy
Westminster, MD



**Chocolate cake with peanut butter
icing & chocolate ganache drip**
Donated by Julie's Farmhouse Kitchen,
Union Bridge COB

Specialty Auction Items



*Vintage Painted Solid Wood
4-Shelf, 1 Drawer Cabinet*
Donated by Cathy Molloy, Westminster, MD



Painted Wooden Library Table
Made and Donated by Ernie Rice, Westminster COB



*Vintage Fenton
Hobnail Milk
Glass Candle Bowl*
6.5" Dia x 3.75" H
Donated by Betty Eyler
Locust Grove COB



Graco Pack and Play, box never opened
Donated by Cathy Molloy, Westminster, MD



Antique Cradle
Refinished and Donated by Ernie Rice, Westminster COB



Wooden Trays
Made and Donated by Ernie Rice, Westminster COB



*Vintage Anchor Hocking Burple
Forest Green Footed Berry Bowl Set*
Donated by Betty Eyler, Locust Grove COB

Specialty Auction Items



3-Shelf Wooden Bookcase
Made and Donated by Ernie
RiceWestminster COB



Spring Wreath #1
Donated by Jolinda & Rob Beers
Union Bridge COB



**Vintage Anchor Hocking Boopie
Forest Green Glassware with
Clear Bubble Foot**
Donated by Betty Eyler
Locust Grove COB



**Children's Painted Wooden
Rocker and Plant Stand**
Made and Donated by Ernie Rice, Westminster COB



Oak Coffee Table
Made and Donated by Ernie Rice, Westminster COB



Mirror 30" by 35 ½"
Donated by Cathy Molloy, Westminster, MD



**It's our 1st
Sweet Auction!**

Come bid on delicious cakes
made by some of our COBs'
best bakers, all to benefit
Brethren Disaster Ministries!!!

Specialty Auction Items



*Lemon blueberry pound cake with
lemon glaze & fresh blueberries*
Donated by Julie's Farmhouse Kitchen,
Union Bridge COB



Wooden Tilt Top Table
Made and Donated by Ernie Rice,
Westminster COB



Custom Silk Flower Arrangement
Donated by Jolinda & Rob Beers
Union Bridge COB



Wooden Chest
Made and Donated
by Ernie Rice
Westminster COB



*Arariba (Brazilian Canary Wood)
Bowl with Walnut Foot*
9.75" D x 2.75" H
Turned by John Laudermilch
Union Bridge, COB



*Children's Painted
Wooden Rockers*
Made and Donated
by Ernie Rice
Westminster COB



*Vintage Westmoreland Glass
Company Milk Glass Doric Pattern
Large Compote 9.25" Dia x 7.25" H*
Donated by Betty Eyler, Locust Grove COB



Wooden Benches
Made and Donated
by Ernie Rice
Westminster COB

Specialty Auction Items



*Vintage Anchor Hocking
Bubble Pattern Forest
Green Glass Plates 9.5" Dia*
Donated by Betty Eyler
Locust Grove COB



Box Elder Bowl with Walnut Foot
8.875" D x 2.75" H
Turned by John Laudermilch
Union Bridge COB



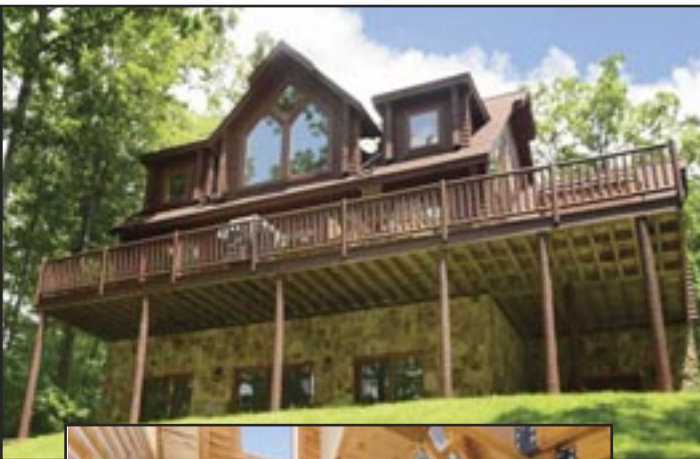
Wooden Side Table
Made and Donated by Ernie Rice
Westminster COB



Framed picture 13" by 13"
Donated by Cathy Molloy
Westminster, MD



Wooden Drop Leaf Table
Made and Donated by Ernie Rice
Westminster COB



Red Moose Lodge

Enjoy a week (including one weekend) at Red Moose Lodge in beautiful Western Maryland in the Deep Creek Lake Resort area. The lodge includes 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, a large deck with hot tub and gas grill, a well-equipped kitchen, large living areas with 2 gas fireplaces and TVs and a pool table. Package also includes membership to Community Aquatic Recreation Center for use of its indoor swimming pool and fitness center during your stay. Lodge accommodates up to 10 people. Package good year-round, excepting July and August, and holiday weekends. Donated by Ed and Betsy Beachley, Hagerstown COB

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let us *reflect*
on our
responsibilities, and
let us *follow*
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Church of the Brethren

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Sundays
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Another way to help Disaster Response!

A planned gift to the Church of the Brethren helps sustain our mission and ministry, like Brethren Disaster Ministries, into the future. One planned giving strategy to consider is a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)**. It is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA custodian to a qualified charity.



In addition to supporting a charity, a QCD is unlike regular withdrawals from an IRA because it excludes the amount donated from taxable income and can reduce the impact to certain tax credits and deductions, including Social Security and Medicare. QCDs can also be counted toward your Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) for the year if:

- Your age is 70 ½ or older,
- the amount of the QCD does not exceed what would be taxed as ordinary income, which excludes non-deductible contributions,
- the sum of all annual QCDs does not exceed \$108,000 per individual, AND
- for the QCD to count toward your minimum annual IRA distribution, it must be made by Dec. 31 of the tax year in question.

If a Qualified Charitable Distribution sounds like a favorable move for you, we invite you to prayerfully consider the Church of the Brethren as one of your charitable organizations of choice. To learn how to specify support for Brethren Disaster Ministries, contact the Office of Mission Advancement.



Church of the Brethren

Office of Mission Advancement

MA@brethren.org

1-847-429-4370

Church of the Brethren, Inc. is registered as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit religious and educational organization recognized by the federal and state governments. Contributions to its ministries are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

The Mission Advancement team does not provide legal or tax advice. The information herein is general in nature and should not be considered as legal or tax advice. Please consult your financial advisor concerning your specific situation.



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4821A Green Valley Road, Monrovia, Maryland 21770
Rt. 75 Between Rt. 80 and Monrovia
301-865-3013
www.bushcreekchurch.org

Saturday, October 25, 2025
12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Menu includes mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, sauerkraut, cranberry sauce, dressing, cole slaw, rolls, butter, ice tea, hot tea and coffee. (in-house menu)



Adults - \$30 *

Children 6 – 12 - \$8 Under 6 – Free

Carry-Out - \$1.00 extra

***Subject to change depending upon market price of oysters**

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Stan Diehl
Pastor

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All are
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Apple Butter/Fall Festival

October 4, 2025

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Apple Butter, Baked Goods,
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Contact Jan Meier 410-346-7130 for info



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This is a general overview of the Preferred Legal Plan available from Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc. (PPLS) for illustration purposes only. See a plan contract for specific details of residence, for complete terms, coverage, amounts, exclusions and conditions, and for the National and State Bar of New York's fee schedule. Certain benefits are not available in all states or to all Covered Persons. PPLS does not provide access to legal services offered by a network of preferred law firms to PPLS members through membership-based participation. Neither PPLS nor its officers, employees or sales associates directly or indirectly provide legal services, representation, or advice.

- ✓ Getting your Will done or updated now that you've acquired this big, new asset.
- ✓ Reviewing contracts for warranties and hiring contractors for improvements.
- ✓ Reviewing terms of your mortgage agreement.
- ✓ Holding your contractors accountable for non-performance on a job.
- ✓ Your warranty company standing behind their contract.
- ✓ Additional Legal Plan benefits:
 - Advice and Consultation
 - Residential Loan Document Services
 - Consumer Issues
 - Employment Issues
 - Letters or Phone Calls on Your Behalf

Leslie Sier, 301-418-2337,
lesliesier@gmail.com
LeslieSierLegalShieldAssociate.com



Thank You from the Auction Chair

Our sincere thanks to everyone who has made this 44th annual Disaster Response Auction possible: those who serve on the Auction Committee, work at the auction, make and donate sale and food items, and the attendees who purchase the food and items offered. Together you make the day a success and provide funds to continue the work of Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) to those in need.

We thank the many people that supported BDM through the Walk-a-Thons, Pretzel Jars, Booklet and Patron Ads, generous donations, and purchases at the May 2024 Auction. Thanks to your generosity, \$72,000 was donated to disaster response in 2024! To see the many ways your financial support is used to help those in need, please see the letter in this Booklet from Roy Winter, BDM Executive Director for Service Ministries.

We rely on donations and encourage people to bring items to be included in the Auction to the Carroll County Agricultural Center, Shipley Arena, on Friday, May 2, 2025. The Auction Committee will be at the Shipley Arena from 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Friday to receive donations. This allows more time to arrange the items before the Saturday rush. We will open the Agricultural Center Shipley Arena at 6:30 am on Saturday, May 3, for those who cannot deliver items on Friday. All sale items should be at the Shipley Arena before 8:30 a.m. Saturday, since the sale begins at 9:00 a.m. Stop by and have breakfast in the dining hall starting at 7:00 am Saturday morning! PLEASE read the Auction Donation Guidelines on page 37 for items that can and cannot be donated. Thank you!

The Committee thanks all those who make this Auction a success: the auctioneers, clerks, cashiers, quilters, cooks, bakers, gardeners, food providers, volunteers, and those who purchase the many items offered. We also want to recognize all those individuals, businesses, and churches that purchase ads and make the booklet a major source of income. The booklet ads bring in approximately \$19,000 each year.

The Committee is always in need of volunteers and would welcome new members to help plan and carry out the Auction. There are many areas where volunteers are needed to make the Auction happen. We can also use help the day before to set up, and the day of the Auction to set up, clean up, and help move auction items.

A big thank you to everyone who helps make this year's Auction a success! Your contributions make a difference!

See you at the Auction on May 3, 2025!

Jeff McKee

Chairperson, Disaster Response Auction Committee

Mid-Atlantic District Church of the Brethren

Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Auction Record

Grand Total given to the Emergency Disaster Fund
over the last 44 years...\$2,277,616

1981.....\$17,986	1990.....\$33,700	1999.....\$64,000	2008\$64,900	2017.....\$60,000
1982.....\$15,336	1991.....\$38,553	2000.....\$51,500	2009\$58,000	2018.....\$68,000
1983.....\$17,129	1992.....\$32,000	2001.....\$68,500	2010\$63,500	2019.....\$60,000
1984.....\$22,118	1993.....\$34,000	2002.....\$70,000	2011.....\$61,500	2020.....\$36,000
1985.....\$31,480	1994.....\$33,655	2003.....\$62,000	2012.....\$67,000	2021.....\$72,000
1986.....\$32,046	1995.....\$33,561	2004.....\$65,000	2013.....\$66,000	2022.....\$73,000
1987.....\$29,150	1996.....\$33,800	2005.....\$60,000	2014.....\$65,000	2023.....\$85,000
1988.....\$44,165	1997.....\$43,800	2006\$73,000	2015\$58,000	2024.....\$72,000
1989.....\$44,637	1998.....\$62,000	2007.....\$72,600	2016.....\$62,000	

General Auction Woodworking Tools

Tools donated by Carroll Lutheran Village Residents
Westminster, MD



*Sears Craftsman Combination
Belt Sander/Disc Sander*



Sears Craftsman 6-Inch Bench Grinder



Delta 12-Inch Portable Planer



Genie 16 Gal Wet/Dry Shop Vac



Porter Cable Plate Joiner



Sears Craftsman 12-Inch Wood Lathe



*JET 14-Inch
Woodworking Band Saw*



*Sears Craftsman Drill Press
with 1/2" Chuck*

General Auction Woodworking Tools

Tools donated by Carroll Lutheran Village Residents
Westminster, MD



*Sears Craftsman Industrial
Reciprocating Saw*



Rockwell 1-Inch Sander/Grinder



*Sears Craftsman 12-Inch
Band Saw*



*Wooden Hand
Screw Clamps*



Sears Craftsman 16-Inch Scroll Saw



Delta Lathe



Rigid Scroll Saw



*SECO Model
UFO-90
Vertical Bag
Dust Collector*

General Auction Woodworking Tools



2008 Carry-On Cargo/Tool Trailer – 6' x 12'
Donated by Eugene Walbridge, Easton COB



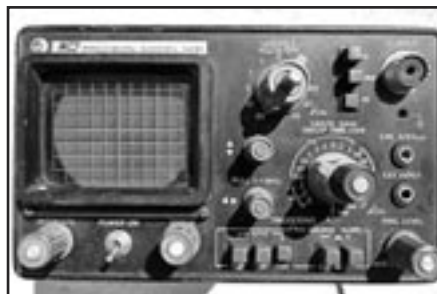
New Stainless Steel Sink
Donated by Ashby's Agates, Westminster, MD



DeWalt Battery Operated Circular Saw
Donated by Ashby's Agates, Westminster, MD



Sears Craftsman Router Table
Donated by Ashby's Agates, Westminster, MD



B&K Precision Model 1431 Oscilloscope
Donated by Ashby's Agates, Westminster, MD



Delta 10-Inch Compound Miter Saw
Donated by Ashby's Agates, Westminster, MD



RYOBI Router Table Model RT501W
Donated by Steve Hedges, Westminster, MD

The Disaster Response Auction needs your donations, but please read this first...

The Mid Atlantic District Disaster Response Auction Committee is deeply grateful for the many generous donations that make each year's auction possible and profitable. We know that those who give have a sincere desire to contribute to a greater good. However, there are times when what is donated is not sellable. All leftover items must be disposed of and this costs the auction money—money that could go to Disaster Relief. The following lists will give you an idea of what/what not to donate.

Items to Donate:

- Antiques
- Collectibles
- Coins
- Hand-crafted furniture
- New or like new household items
- Theme baskets
- “Brethren-related” items
- Services [i.e., voice lessons, spa treatment]
- Vacation home rental
- Ltd. ed. Artwork [especially local interest]
- Hand & power tools [power equipment marked with tag “WORKS”]
- Vehicles, tractors, mowers, campers [in running condition with as much info as possible]
- Lawn & garden items
- Hunting gear/clothing [no guns/ammo]
- Toys
- Furniture [no upholstered furniture]
- Small household appliances [i.e., mixers, blenders, microwaves, but only if they are new in box]

Contact Robert Wilson, Auction Manager, rwilsonauctioneer@gmail.com or 240.344.3573 regarding your specialty item or with any questions concerning donations.

Items that CANNOT be accepted:

- Appliances [i.e., washers/dryers, refrigerators, freezers]
- Tires, wheels, unidentified automotive parts
- Pianos/organs
- Upholstered furniture
- Mattress sets
- Yard sale “leftovers”
- Exercise equipment
- Chipped, stained, or incomplete sets of china/glassware
- Blinds, drapes, window treatments
- Car seats, playpens, cribs
- Paints, stains, household chemicals
- Electronics [unless less than two years old and in box with all original manuals and parts]
- Guns and ammunition

NOTE: All items donated should be clean, complete, and in good condition. Please no soiled, stained, damaged, broken/in pieces, or incomplete items.

We need to be able to refuse any item(s) that we deem unacceptable or unsellable. By reserving this right, we will make the auction more enjoyable. But, most importantly, it will be more cost effective and, therefore, more beneficial for those who need it most.

—Thank you from the Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Auction Committee

If at all possible, please bring donations in on Friday, May 2, between 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. On Saturday, May 3, please bring donations before 8:30 a.m.



Church of the Brethren

Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Mid-Atlantic District,

... let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth – 1 John 3:18

Every leader, volunteer group and administrator has come with a wonderful attitude and will to work that is not often seen. BDM is a first-class organization with first class people from top to bottom. – Shane With, Habitat for Humanity of Pennyrite Region

CDS is the "gold standard of childcare." – Red Cross liaison, California wildfire response

These reflections from people who work with and observe Brethren Disaster Ministries' (BDM) programs demonstrate that the staff and volunteers embrace and embody the call heard in 1 John. Their deeds and the truth are evident in how they live and all they do to bring healing, hope, and recovery to disaster survivors. Those who support BDM's ministries through prayer, financial contributions, in-kind donations, advocacy, and volunteering at all levels, including disaster auctions, join as partners in our mission to show God's love.

Hurricane Helene, which struck Florida on Sept. 26, 2024, and moved north causing major flooding all the way to southern Virginia, was a reminder of how devastating and unpredictable disasters can be. However, such storms also highlight the strength of the Church working together for our neighbor's good. All of BDM actively responded to this catastrophic event, including Children's Disaster Services (CDS) sending volunteer teams to North Carolina; multiple coordinating calls with the Southeastern and Atlantic Southeast Districts; volunteer and relief supply coordination with the Virginia District and Camp Carmel; the purchase of special supplies such as mold remediation materials; and providing Emergency Disaster Fund (EDF) grants to support district level responses. The mission expanded when Hurricane Milton struck Florida two weeks later, compounding the damage from Helene and prompting the sending of additional CDS teams. Working together through Christ, the BDM network helped "bear one another's burdens." Hurricanes Helene and Milton were just two of many disasters and crises that BDM responded to in 2024.

Children's Disaster Services volunteers served in eight MARCs (multi-agency resource centers) in response to multiple tornadoes in the South Central, Midwest, and Southeastern US regions in the spring and summer of 2024 and also responded to one flooding event and four wildfires. In the fall, at the request of the Red Cross to care for children impacted by the hurricanes, three CDS teams served four weeks in shelters and a Family Assistance Center in the Asheville, N.C., area and two teams served in shelters in the Tampa Bay, Fla. During the year CDS responded to 13 disasters, sending 68 volunteers who served 729 child contacts.

In early January 2025 wildfires in California stretched CDS to respond in multiple locations with four teams serving 515 children in the area in a little over a month.

The Rebuilding Program completed 22 months of service to families impacted by the 2021 tornadoes in Dawson Springs, Ky. Additional support for this project site came from a Lowe's 2024 Winter Cycle Reconstruction Grant facilitated through NVOAD (National Voluntary

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

Brethren Disaster Ministries, 601 Main Street, P.O. Box 188, New Windsor, Maryland 21776-0188
410-635-8731 800-451-4407 Fax: 410-635-8739

Organizations Active in Disaster). In response to the deadly 2022 flooding in Eastern Kentucky, a BDM volunteer group served survivors for a week in April 2024 in Letcher County and a new long-term site opened there in the fall. BDM's partner described its arrival in September as "perfect timing" because they were lacking volunteers just at the time that federal and state funding was becoming available to build new homes.

Smaller responses included collaboration with the leadership in three districts in Pennsylvania to coordinate local flood responses in the Eastwick/Cobbs Creek neighborhood of Philadelphia and in York County. Two EDF grants were provided for the York County response to purchase materials installed by BDM volunteers and to support a local partner providing Disaster Case Management.

Through our project sites, 39 families received support from 600 weekly volunteers who provided 4,636 hours of service on their homes. This free labor provided a cost savings of \$1,242,077 to the families and local partners. Sixty-five disaster project leaders served in 2024.

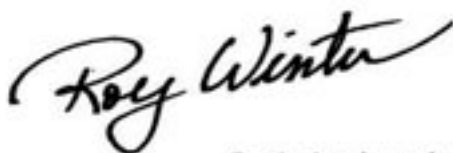
Tragically, in 2024 international responses once again focused much more on supporting families impacted by violence, a human-caused crisis, than on natural disasters. A total of \$564,000 in EDF grants funded war-related relief and recovery programs in the DR Congo, Lebanon, Nigeria, Palestine, South Sudan, and Ukraine. This was the first year that grants provided aid and relief to families impacted by the Israel-Hamas war in the Palestinian territories and Israel's attacks on Hezbollah in southern Lebanon. Smaller grants provided critical storm and flood relief in Burundi, the DR Congo, Dominican Republic, and South Sudan. Grants to partners in Mexico and the Dominican Republic supported the needs of refugees. Another area of ongoing focus is a response to the crisis in Haiti, including a failed government and sections of the country controlled by violent gangs, leaving families and congregations struggling to survive.

The Nigeria Crisis Response (NCR), in collaboration with EYN (Church of the Brethren in Nigeria), remains the largest global program. In 2024, this program received \$225,000 in EDF funds. Amidst ongoing, and often increasing, violence and insecurity, NCR maintains its focus on sponsorship of camps for internally displaced people; food distributions; medical assistance; livelihood training centers for widows and orphans; seeds and fertilizer; new wells for drinking water; education assistance for orphan children; and home repairs for the most vulnerable.

We usually highlight BDM financial reports in the auction booklet. Unfortunately, due to technical issues with our computer servers, year-end financial information was not available when this letter was written. Our year-end tables, graphs, and financial reports will be available during the auction.

This ministry is only possible because the whole church is working together. Individual members and supporters, volunteers, churches, districts, and the Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Auction are part of the body of Christ coming together to pray, serve, give hope, and help families heal. Through all this we pray more people come to God and know God's amazing love.

Thank you for your support. Together, living in deed and truth, we build the body and bear witness to God's love for all.



Roy Winter, Executive Director for Service Ministries
On behalf of BDM staff: Jenn Dorsch-Messler,
Sharon Franzén, Kim Gingerich, Carolyn Neher,
and Michael Scalzi

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Pleasant View Church of the Brethren



Timothy May - Pastor

6213 Picnic Woods Road

Jefferson, MD 21755

301-371-7707

Christian Education 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Home of the Jolly Knotters



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410-848-8090

email: office@westminsterbrethren.org

web: www.westminsterbrethren.org

Glenn A. McCrickard
Pastor

*We are a biblically grounded community committed to
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- creatively worshiping God with a unified Spirit;*
- expansively studying what it means to be Christian;*
- willingly reaching out to others in service, locally and globally;*
- intentionally supporting each other; and*
- honoring Christ's call to be peacemakers.*

WORSHIP INFORMATION

Worship – 9:30am

Morning Mingle – 10:30am

Sunday School – 11:00am

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301-791-5432

broadfordingcob@myactv.net
www.thebroadfordingcobfellowship.org

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9:30 a.m.*

*Worship Service
10:30 a.m.*

*Adult Bible Study
Wednesday 6:00 p.m.*



Christopher R. Mohler
pastorchrismohler@gmail.com

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District Disaster Coordinator's Corner

Galatians 5:13 “...serve one another in love”

Thanks to all the volunteers who have given of their time and talents supporting Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) over the years at many sites around the country! Your willingness to help with childcare, rebuild homes, provide household support, cook meals, or help support BDM and its volunteers through your prayers, encouragement, donations, auction purchases, or by any other means, have made a tremendous difference to those whose lives have been impacted by natural and man-made disasters.

A special thanks to those who volunteered, many over several weeks, to repair or rebuild the homes and enable homeowners to return to their homes. The Mid-Atlantic District (MAD) Church of the Brethren continues to be well represented by its volunteers who worked on BDM rebuild project sites in Dawson Springs, KY (tornado response) and Letcher County in Eastern KY (flooding response) in 2024, serving approximately 375 volunteer workdays, and are off to a good start in Letcher County, KY this year.

Brethren Disaster Ministries provides help to people in need of assistance to regain use of their home after it has been damaged or destroyed by natural disasters. The program provides a helpful and safe environment for volunteers to assist in repairing or rebuilding homes and to provide childcare and hope to the homeowners. This is a great opportunity for people to use their talents and gifts, to teach others construction and household skills, to learn new skills, all while enjoying the comradery of fellow volunteers and helping those who are hurting and in need. Volunteer housing is provided, often at local churches or community buildings, where weekly volunteers and leaders stay, eat, and become more connected with the community. Volunteers DO NOT have to be Church of the Brethren members and DO NOT need to be skilled construction craft people. If you have a heart for service and Disaster Relief or a desire for a new challenge, please contact us and we can acquaint you with what to expect during a volunteer week and get you started toward a very rewarding experience.

If you wish to volunteer or be notified of upcoming volunteer opportunities, please contact your church Disaster Coordinator or me at my contact information below. More information on BDM and current work locations may be found online at: www.brethren.org/bdm or by calling 800-451-4407.

We still have the following weeks listed below to fill in 2025. We are also taking requests from groups as back-ups in case a currently scheduled group cannot participate. Full groups are limited to 15 volunteers, half groups are limited to 7 volunteers. Weeks not listed below have already been assigned, but there may be openings for individuals or small groups within those weeks. If you have the desire to volunteer for a specific week, please let me know and I'll check on availability.

Date	Group Size	Location
June 29 - July 5, 2025	7	Letcher County, KY
August 3 - 9, 2025	7	Letcher County, KY
August 24 - 30, 2025	15	Letcher County, KY
August 31 - September 6, 2025	7	Letcher County, KY
December 14 - 20, 2025	7	Letcher County, KY

For opportunities to volunteer with Children's Disaster Services, please call 800-451-4407, email cds@brethren.org, or check out the CDS website for information and training www.brethren.org/cds

Thank you for your service!

Jeff McKee

District Disaster Coordinator, Mid-Atlantic District Church of the Brethren

Cell: 443-547-5958 Email: jamckee26@msn.com

Thurmont Church of the Brethren

14 North Altamont Avenue
Thurmont, Maryland 21788

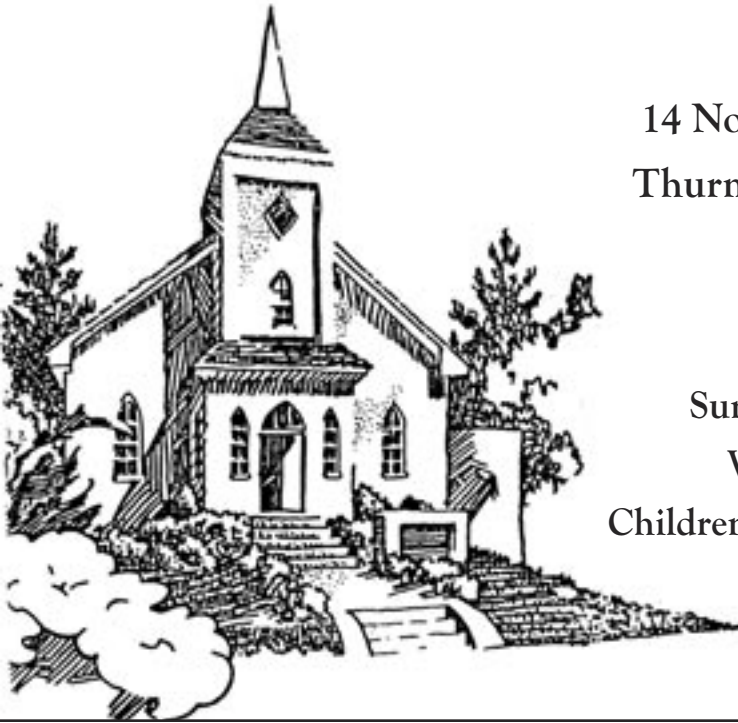
(301) 271-2634

Sunday School 9:00 am

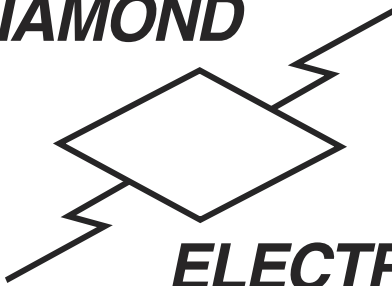
Worship 10:00 am

Children's Church 9:00-11:00 am

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Oakton Women's Fellowship



**Our annual Christmas Craft Show
will be held this year on
Nov. 21 & 22**

Oakton Church of the Brethren
10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna, Virginia
www.oaktonbrethren.org 703-281-4411

At our show, we will have a variety of handmade crafts, baked goods, and craft supplies for sale. We also serve lunch featuring homemade soups, sandwiches and baked goods.

Much of the money from this show is used for church related activities.

Patron Ads

THANKS DONORS ... \$13,720 raised for Disaster Response this year.

Patron – Supporter* – Sustainer ** – Sustainer Plus*** – Special Contribution****

ARLINGTON

Alma Gallego*
Don & Sue Hillmer***
Marcia Sowles***
Stephen & Amy Ziehm***

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In memory of Tom & Dot Ferguson*
Albert Fogle***
George & Debbie Keffer*
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Dennis & Jean Minnick***
Pat Monninger*
Patricia Mose***
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Bob Farmer****
Art & Diana Frank****
Lou Gloyd****
Jack & Beth Green****
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Pat Harshman*
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Patron Ads

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Doug Gillock
Dianne Marissael & Glen Gunter
In memory of Andrew Holsinger
Jim & Laurene Holsinger
In memory of Ray & Gladys Holsinger
Judy Knott in memory of John Knott
Denton Krietzt
Frances Miller
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Olivia Myers
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Audrey Bowman**
Beth and Steven Bowman*
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In memory of Mildred Darnell
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John Weyant
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Charlotte & Cubby Bear****

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Dwight Dotterer (Union Bridge)
Larry & Linda Eyer (Union Bridge)
The Eastop Family (Glade Valley)
Sue Esworthy (Bush Creek)
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Bob Farmer (Bush Creek)
Art & Diana Frank (Bush Creek)
Frederick COB Deacons (Frederick)
Ruthanna Geisbert (Frederick)
Lou Gloyd (Bush Creek)
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Dawn & Jimmy Weller (Bush Creek)
Fran & Herb Weller (Union Bridge)
Myralee G. Wiles (Grossnickle)
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The Bush Creek Church of the Brethren donated an additional \$2,255

Thank you!

In the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, the Bush Creek Missions and Service Commission considered it essential to call upon the congregation to support Brethren Disaster Ministries' effort in their response to devastated areas. The churches 'answer' was quick and overwhelmingly generous. —Art Frank, Missions and Service Chair



Let's keep this *rolling!!!*

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Disaster Response Auction on May 2, 2026.
Please total the contributions that you've
collected and bring a check, payable to
Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Auction.



**Please keep this fund raiser going
for Brethren Disaster Ministries
and Disaster Response!!!**

Manor Church of the Brethren



**18511 Manor Church Road
Boonsboro, Maryland 21713**

Pulpit Supply Minister

**Worship Service: Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study**

Our congregation is active in community outreach programs

Our church is Handicapped Accessible

Facebook: Manor Church of the Brethren

Nokesville Church of the Brethren



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

Please join us Sundays for
Church School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM

Weekly Programs:

- Rainbow Preschool • Blessings Box • Fitness Classes
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- Senior Social Events

13002 Fitzwater Drive • Nokesville, VA 20181
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Visit us at: www.nokesvillecob.org or
Facebook @Nokesvillecob for updated activities

The Pathfinders - Adults Looking to God for Direction

Frederick Church of the Brethren

201 Fairview Ave. Frederick, MD 21701

Join Us Sunday Mornings
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(M & M's)

The group meets the second Thursday of each month in the Fellowship Hall of the Union Bridge Church of the Brethren. We provide a time of fellowship for the seniors of the church and for the residents in the community. Home cooked food, entertainment and informational programs of many different topics.

All are welcome!



Call for reservations - 410-775-2717
Union Bridge Church of the Brethren
124 S. Main Street - Union Bridge, MD





GLADE VALLEY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

2 CHAPEL PLACE, P.O. BOX 690
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20402 Beaver Creek Road • Hagerstown, MD 21740
301-791-6682



**Pastor
Gabe Dodd**

**Sunday School
9 am**

**Worship
10 am**



Oakton

Church of the Brethren

Forming Faith • Building Community • Expressing Christ's Love

10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna, Virginia 22181

(at the intersection of Route 123 and Courthouse Road in Oakton)

(703) 281-4411

www.oaktonbrethren.org

9:45 a.m. Faith Formation

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Co-Pastors Rev. Dr. Audrey Hollenberg-Duffey
& Rev. Tim Hollenberg-Duffey

In Appreciation to

**Robert Wilson and
Debbie Bittle-Wilson**

for volunteering their services as
auctioneer and clerk to

W I N G S

(Women In Need of God's Strength)

at their yearly auction at the

**Beaver Creek
Church of the Brethren**

20402 Beaver Creek Rd.
Hagerstown, MD 21740



Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren

*"The Friendly Church
in the Valley."*



4800 Long Green Road
Glen Arm, MD 21057
(410) 592-9300
Web Site www.lgvcob.org

Morning Worship 10:00 am
Sunday School 11:10 am

Servants in God's World



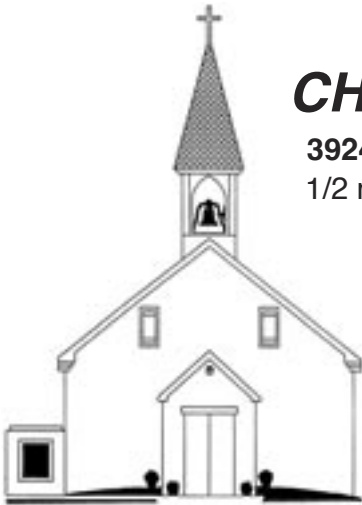
Woodberry Church of the Brethren

3580 Poole Street
P.O. Box 4844
Baltimore, Maryland 21211



Supporting the District
Disaster Auction

Experiencing the Love of Jesus in the Heart of the City



HARMONY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

3924 Brethren Church Road, Myersville, MD 21773
1/2 mile off Rt. 40 between Frederick and Hagerstown

Welcome! Jesus is Lord!

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 a.m.
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION all ages 10:45 a.m.

301-371-4297 Church
hcob@comcast.net

We are a Growing Project congregation.

Established in 1870 - Until His Return!

The **Harmony Church of the Brethren** is a group of believers bonded together by a new birth in the Lord Jesus Christ for the purpose of edifying each other according to the Word of God and endued with the power of the Holy Spirit so that we can effectively carry out the work of God in the world (Eph. 3:10, Col. 1:12-29). We are a family and community-oriented body of believers in Christ that seeks to respond to needs in a caring way, living as committed disciples of Jesus; peacefully, simply and together in a country context.

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**8228 Dam #4 Road
Williamsport, MD 21795**

Location: 7 miles south of Hagerstown via 632
1/2 mile south of Downsville on Dam #4 Road
Closest Church to Shepherd's Spring

Wilkie Nunn, Pastor

9:30 a.m. Church School
10:15 a.m. Coffee & Conversation
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship

Our congregation is active
in community outreach programs
including the wider work of our denomination.

*“For the glory of God
and our neighbor’s good.”*

Manassas Church of the Brethren

Since 1895

A Community That Cares....
Where Relationships Matter....
And Discipleship Counts.

Mandy North
Pastor

703-368-4783

www.manassasbrethren.org



Christian Lifestyles Sunday School Class Hagerstown Church of the Brethren

We welcome you to study with us any Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m.
as we strive to bring the Scriptures to bear on our daily living.

We support the Vision Statement of our congregation:

*The Hagerstown Church of the Brethren,
A Living Peace Church:
A caring community gathered round the Risen Christ that...
...Welcomes the stranger
...Empowers our neighbors
...Embraces the diversity among all people as we
continue the work of Jesus, peacefully, simply, together.*



**Bush Creek Church of the Brethren
4821A Green Valley Road
Monrovia, Maryland 21770
301-865-3013**

Pastor Dawn Weller

office@bushcreekchurch.org – Church office

<http://bushcreekchurch.org/> - website (can view worship service live streamed)

<https://www.facebook.com/BCCoB1855> - (Facebook live each Sunday - past or present services)

Sunday School – 9:30 – 10:15 am (children & adults)

Worship – 10:30 am – 11:30 am (Children's Church Worship weekly)

CENTRAL VISION FOR BUSH CREEK CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

***Because of our commitment to Jesus Christ,
we are a spiritual family who loves all people.***



Spreading God's Word On The Eastern Shore

Fairview

Church of the Brethren

11243 Chapel Road, Cordova MD 21625

410-364-5113

fairview@breezeline.net

*The Fairview Church of the Brethren celebrates
the good news of Jesus Christ. We invite
everyone to our growing church family. We strive
to walk daily with Christ in love, fellowship,
and in service. We are committed to sharing God's
love and saving grace with all people.*

LONGMEADOW CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Rev. Paul Leatherman III



(District 7 Congregation code 20-330)

**19642 Longmeadow Road
Hagerstown, Maryland 21742
Phone: 301-733-3250**

Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Church Office E-mail: lgmdwcob@live.com

Pastor Paul's E-mail: pnl1922@verizon.net

“Jesus is Lord”



Ministry for Christ
on the Ridge!

Monocacy Church of the Brethren

13517 Motters Station Road, Rocky Ridge, MD 21778
info@monocacychurchofthebrethren.org
www.monocacychurchofthebrethren.org

Church Office
(301) 271-3588

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Est. 1853 until His return!



Frederick
Church of the Brethren

201 Fairview Avenue Frederick, MD 21701
301-662-1819 TTY 301-682-9432 Fax 301-694-9698
E-mail: info@fcob.net Homepage: www.fcob.net

Friendship Class

*...that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven
and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge
that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Phillipians 2:10-11 (NIV)



Bible Study for
adults of all ages.



WELTY CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

13465 Greensburg Rd
Smithsburg, MD 21783
Phone: 301-824-3941
weltycob@hotmail.com



Mission Statement: Keep the word of God alive by sharing the joy, peace, and love of Jesus Christ with our community and the world.

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship: 10:00 a.m.
weltycob.com



Union Bridge Church of the Brethren

124 S. Main Street • P.O. Box 518 • Union Bridge, MD 21791

Church Phone: 410-775-2717

email:unbrb@verizon.net

Britnee and Scott Linton
Co-Pastors

Sunday School 9:20 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

A dynamic community of faith offering ministries for all ages.

Adult Choir
Weekday Preschool
Vacation Bible School
Bible Study Group

Senior Adult Programs
Children's Library
Service Projects
Disaster Response
Summer Camp

Quilting
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Church Library
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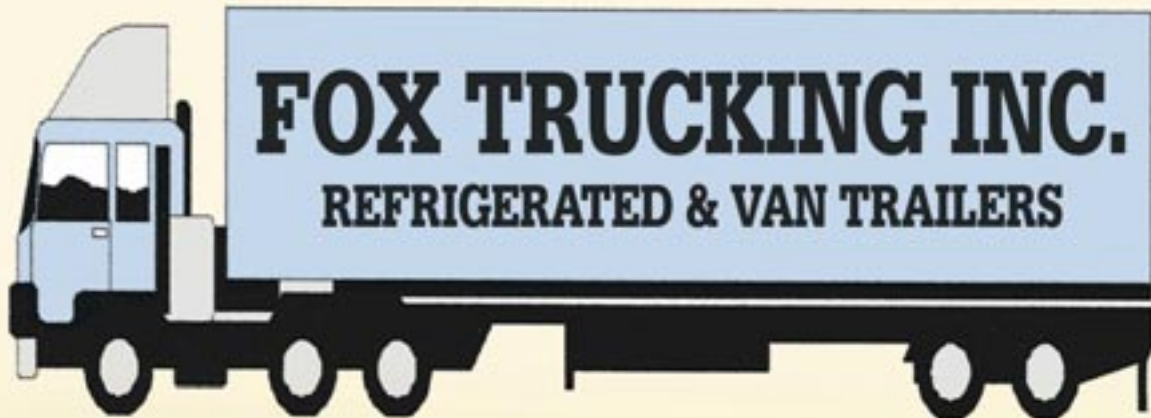
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Gary Lee Fox Geoffrey Fox

Bush Creek Women's Fellowship

*Join us for quarterly luncheon and meeting - 2nd Wednesday of March, June, Sept., Dec.
All Ages Welcome*

Activities throughout the year include:

Service projects & Disaster response

Cleanup Buckets

Health & School Kits

Prepare & serve funeral luncheons

Bake sale at our Turkey/Ham/Oyster dinners – October & March

Annual Bazaar 2nd Saturday in November

Serving our Heavenly Father through Christ with Love and Fellowship

Chair:

Jean Hipkins
301-663-3164

Secretary:

Judy Burdette
301-845-1134

Treasurer:

Anna Mae Poole
301-662-0815

Bush Creek Church of the Brethren
4821A Green Valley Road, Monrovia, MD 21770



15 S. Mulberry Street, Hagerstown, Maryland 21740
 Telephone: 301-733-3565
 Website: hagerstowncob.org Facebook: [hagerstowncob](https://www.facebook.com/hagerstowncob)

Twyla Rowe, Pastor

Burton Young - Director of Music Ministries
 Don Rowe - Interior Esthetics Technician
 Allyson McPeak - Administrative Assistant

"A Church in the heart of the city, with the city at heart."

Praise Worship..... 8:30 a.m.

Contemporary worship and praise

Church School.....9:30 a.m.

Traditional Worship.....10:45 a.m.

Children's Church...Twice a month during Traditional Worship

Our Traditional Worship is broadcast live on Facebook

Faith ministries for all ages.

Choirs	GriefShare	Community Picnic
Women's Ministry	A Growing Hope Globally	A REACH Cold Weather
Prayer Chain	Congregation	Shelter Congregation
Vacation Bible School	A Brethren Disaster Response	Community Breakfasts
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Congregation	Neighborhood Fall Festival

WOMEN OF ACTION

(Women's Fellowship Group)



FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

4500 Liberty Heights Avenue-Baltimore, Maryland 21207 410 367-5968

Keith Carter, Pastor

OUR MISSION

Through preaching, teaching, and worshipping, we are a church seeking, reflecting and projecting the light of JESUS CHRIST in our community, our city, and our world.

Easton Church of the Brethren *Peachblossom Congregation*



Pastor: Rev. Jody E. Gunn

412 South Harrison Street

Easton, Maryland 21601

410-822-0475

www.eastonbrethren.org

email:

eastonchurchofthebrethren@gmail.com

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.

GROSSNICKLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Worshipping and Sharing Life in our Community Since 1847



11301 Meeting House Road, P.O. Box 575
Corner of Rt. 17 & Meeting House Road
Myersville, MD 21773
301-293-9516



JESUS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD...and BEYOND



Visit our website: www.gcob.org

Kinley Simmers, Pastor

Sunday School – 9: 30 am
Worship – 10:30 am



FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

4500 Liberty Heights Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21207 410-367-5968

Keith Carter Sr., Pastor



115 Years

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Our Mission

Through preaching, teaching, and worshipping, we are a church seeking, reflecting, and projecting the light of Jesus Christ in *our community, our city, and our world.*



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Worship 11:00 a.m.

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Wednesday

1:30 pm Bible Study



2025 California Wildfires: Responding to Short and Long-term Needs

The 2025 California wildfire season took the new year by surprise when five fires broke out on January 7, with five additional fires added within days. The two largest fires, Palisades and Eaton, fueled by strong Santa Ana winds, grew quickly and were not contained until January 31, after burning 23,707 and 14,201 acres respectively, in the Pacific Palisades, Altadena, and Pasadena communities. These two fires alone destroyed 16,251 structures, damaged another 2,046, and caused 29 deaths. Residents of a large swath of the area north/northwest of Los Angeles were under various evacuation orders, affecting close to 200,000 at one point.

As Brethren Disaster Ministries’ (BDM) program of first response, Children’s Disaster Services (CDS) responded to the needs of children whose families were evacuated from and/or survived the fires. A total of 25 volunteers served in four different CDS teams, with the first teams arriving just a week after the fires began. These dedicated volunteers cared for 515 children in a little over four weeks.

In addition to sending CDS teams, BDM immediately began monitoring the effects of the fires and the needs of survivors by contacting fellow National VOAD (Volunteer Agencies Active in Disaster) members; participating in calls and receiving updates from California VOAD (CAL VOAD) and its Los Angeles unit, the Emergency Network Los Angeles (ENLA), as well as local emergency managers. Importantly, BDM also reached out to Russ Matteson, district executive of the Pacific Southwest District (PSWD) of the Church of the Brethren, and district disaster coordinators (DDCs) Lois and Lindy Frantz. These efforts helped to keep BDM informed of the situation on the ground as it discerned how best to be engaged during both the short and the long-term response.

PSWD’s Matteson shared the initial news that the parsonage of the Church of the Brethren

Conexion Pasadena congregation was destroyed in the first days of the Eaton fire. Fortunately, Pastors Juan Pablo Plaza and Adriana Rios and their children were traveling at the time, so no one was injured. The church, located some miles away, did not have fire damage but a window that broke allowed smoke and soot to enter the church building. The Church of the Brethren building is also home to the Pasadena Mennonite Church, another non-denominational congregation, and a school. The process of cleaning and restoring began at the end of January with plans to return to worship in the building in mid-February.

The district established a fund to support the pastors and other members affected by the fires in some way, such as fire damage, impact on livelihoods, and other ripple effects. BDM continues to discuss how Emergency Disaster Fund (EDF) grants might assist the district and its churches with relief and recovery.

CAL VOAD opened a seven-day Wildfire Resource Hub for wildfire survivors on January 27 which provided a unique opportunity for local and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including faith-based organizations, to extend assistance as a complement to the efforts of FEMA and other federal and state agencies. A multitude of services, supplies, and support were on offer for free, from financial aid, massage therapy, and new eyeglasses, to hot meals, groceries, and prescriptions. Long-time BDM partner Church World Service (CWS) played a key leadership role in the Hub. One of the CDS volunteer teams provided a safe environment for children while their families focused on receiving resources and support.

Shifting to long-term recovery after a wildfire involves a massive effort to rebuild the devastated areas. This is particularly complicated in California, partly due to rising costs and regulations aimed at building back stronger to withstand the next fire

or other disaster. Matteson and the BDM staff have been in close communication with local and national representatives of Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS), whose rebuilding program, which is similar to BDM’s, meets the requirements needed to work in California. PSWD members,

continued on next page



Photo taken by CDS volunteer of area burned in 2025 California wildfires. by Wendy Russell

CDS Volunteers Bring Comfort and Hope in California

How can one describe the importance of bringing comfort and hope by giving caring support to others during times of crises? Children's Disaster Services (CDS) volunteers answer that question by sharing their experiences.

While working at the disaster recovery center, providing a space for children whose families had been affected by the [wildfire], I came across a couple with two young boys, one of whom was visibly upset and crying. When I told them we could take the boys to our play area while they took care of what they needed to do, the mother looked dubious and told me that one of them had autism and had a tendency to elope. I assured her that I was a retired special education teacher and had experience with children with autism. They brought the kids to our area. The boy with autism took a little while to settle in but soon both boys were playing happily with play dough and Magna-Tiles. When the parents came back, they told me they had been watching through the window and were happy to see him playing. They thanked us and said that they had been about to call the grandparents to come and get the boys because they had realized they wouldn't be able to get anything done if the boys were with them. I said it must be hard to go through all of these changes with a child who needs his routine, and she talked a little about how hard it had been. – Andi Kuenning

These children and their grateful parents were among many served by four CDS teams, totaling 25 volunteers, who served in Los Angeles during the weeks when wildfires, especially the Palisades and Eaton fires which began on Jan. 7, 2025, engulfed the area. Two teams of seven volunteers began service on January 14 and 15, respectively. Upon their arrival at Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) opened by the Red Cross and FEMA, the volunteers set up centers to care for children, equipped with "Kits of Comfort" which include toys and art supplies carefully chosen to encourage creative play—a key tool in helping children process trauma.

A third CDS team, consisting of volunteers from the Los Angeles area and northern California, arrived on January 27 to serve for a week at the Wildfire Resource Hub in Pasadena,

continued from page 86

under the coordination of the DDCs, have already served periodically on MDS projects in response to other fires in the state. BDM and district leadership will continue to communicate with MDS to learn of opportunities to partner with them, including possibly sending volunteers to serve with them. Given the scale of the disaster that may be at least nine months or more away.



CDS care centers have a variety of play materials. (Hurricane Milton response, Florida) by Beverly Eikenberry

organized by the California VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) to serve families affected by the fires with supplies, services, and a place to relax away from the chaos of the disaster. CDS cared for the children while their parents/guardians sought assistance. The fourth and final team of volunteers arrived on January 30 and set up in a DRC in Altadena, one of the hardest hit areas.

Due to the scale and complexity of service needs during this disaster situation, CDS teams had to remain flexible. Several times during their period of service, teams were asked to switch between service locations, covering care for children across centers in six locations in Pasadena, Los Angeles, and Altadena. CDS associate director Carolyn Neher visited with each team, helping to coordinate their response.

CDS volunteers cared for 515 children during the nearly five-week California wildfire response. Reporting on the number of children served, however, only tells a portion of the story. It does not fully describe the value of the service provided, especially as regards the beginning of a healing process for children. A volunteer serving at the Resource Hub observed how letting a child direct their play in a calm and safe space can help them process their experience and begin to recover.

Late in the day a little boy was dropped off by his mother. When she was gone, he began crying and wouldn't play. I held him and rocked and sang to him until he quieted and settled. He said he wanted to get down and I asked, "Would you like to play?" He said no. Another volunteer picked up pool noodles and started batting some balls around hockey style. He immediately grabbed a noodle and began playing. After a minute or so he paused and said, "My house burned down. I don't have toys anymore." And he continued to play. – David Franklin

Like many CDS volunteers David reflected on another value of service with Children's Disaster Services. He said, "I come home more blessed than when I left."

Invaded and Occupied: DR Congo Churches Receive Aid

On Jan. 27, 2025, M23, a well-armed rebel group, invaded the city of Goma, the capital city of about two million residents of the North Kivu Province in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo/DRC). M23 is widely accepted to be supported with funds, arms, and troops from neighboring Rwanda, although Rwanda denies involvement. Estimates are that more than 3,000 people died, and thousands were injured during the advance to and takeover of Goma. As of mid-February 2025, M23 had consolidated control over Goma, nearby mineral-rich areas, and the surrounding supply lines, and had also taken over Bukavu, the capital city of the South Kivu Province. The M23 declared that it would continue marching until it reached the capital city of Kinshasa. Goma and Bukavu are the two largest cities in Eastern DR Congo. A majority of the Eglise des Freres au Congo (Church of the Brethren in DR Congo) churches are located in South Kivu. The situation was still changing as this Bridges went to print.

The Goma occupation has been devastating to the Brethren members of Goma Center church and the recently planted Magunga church, located just outside the city near the camps for displaced people. Many church members have sheltered with host families in Goma. During the first chaotic days there was no electricity, markets and services were closed, and leaving one's home for necessities such as water or food was extremely dangerous. Once the fighting subsided, the situation remained precarious and tense, with uncertainty as to who was responsible for authority in the city. While there has been no reported loss of life among the Brethren, there is limited access to food and water, partly due to the looting and destruction during the chaos of the first few days.



Congolese children displaced by violence received school kits (October 2024)
courtesy of Eglise des Freres au Congo

Bukavu also experienced looting after M23 took over that city.

The current situation is part of a long history of violence by various militia and rebel groups in the eastern part of the country. M23 took over Goma briefly in 2012. Its latest resurgence began in early 2022 in the areas north of Goma, resulting in the displacement of millions of people, with up to one million fleeing to the areas around Goma. Some lived in official Internally Displaced Person (IDP) camps while many lived in desperate makeshift camps on vacant land.

As soon as the displaced began appearing outside of Goma in May 2022, the Congolese Brethren committed to providing them with whatever assistance they could manage. From 2022 to 2024, in partnership with Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM), the Congolese church received seven EDF grants totaling \$221,500 to support humanitarian aid programs for carefully selected beneficiaries, concentrating on the most vulnerable, including households headed by women, youth, and the elderly; people who are disabled; orphans, young children, and school children; and pregnant women.

An additional 400,000 displaced people sought shelter and aid in Goma as fighting increased in early 2025. Since then some areas where IDPs settled or squatted have been damaged or closed, with M23 telling the people to go “home”, although many of the homes from which they fled have been destroyed. The complex situation that existed before the invasion has become even more desperate and complicated.

BDM staff have remained in contact, as much as possible, with the Congolese church leaders throughout the crisis. Relief planning for 2025 that had begun prior to the takeover of Goma pivoted to an EDF grant of \$30,000 to provide emergency aid to families in the town who have few resources to obtain food and water. Church leaders are distributing aid in small amounts to the most vulnerable church members and their neighbors, using care to avoid calling attention to the activities due to competition for scarce commodities and the possible presence of armed rebels, former soldiers, and criminals. Planning for an expanded and ongoing relief program continues between BDM and Congolese church leaders.

continued on next page

Rebuilding Updates

Letcher County, Ky.

In September 2024, Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) opened a rebuilding project site in Letcher County, Ky., to support recovery from flooding in 2022. In partnership with HOMES Inc., a local organization, volunteers have been working on repairing damaged homes (with many being elevated) and working on new construction on higher ground properties to enable families to relocate out of the floodplains.

Volunteer housing is located in Fleming-Neon, Ky., in multiple buildings owned by HOMES Inc. This project is scheduled to stay open through the end of 2025. Visit www.brethren.org/bdm/rebuild/projects for more information and to see videos about the impact of the flooding as well as what the BDM site looks like.

continued from page 88

Rwanda

During the takeover of Goma, the fighting spilled across the nearby border with Rwanda, with artillery killing two members of the Rwanda Church of the Brethren and damaging homes. A special offering by Rwandan Church members provided food, supplies, and cash assistance to these families. Church leaders created a relief committee that identified 11 households with severely damaged homes belonging to “poverty stricken and vulnerable households” and/or families which lost loved ones, including several church members. An \$8,600 EDF grant is providing building materials and labor to repair or rebuild these homes.

Dawson Springs, Ky.

After almost two years in partnership with Habitat for Humanity of the Pennyryle Region, the Dawson Springs, Ky., project closed. In this time, BDM helped to rebuild 53 new homes for families impacted by the 2021 tornadoes that ripped through the area just before Christmas.

Thank you to all the volunteers and leaders who served on this site from January 2022 through November 2024 to bring hope, and in some cases first-time homeownership, to the survivors we served.



When the BDM Dawson Springs site closed, the temporary “cube” that was built specifically for housing BDM volunteers was torn down. This makes room for Habitat to return to regular operations in the building. *courtesy of BDM*

Would you like to receive the Brethren Disaster Ministries Bridges newsletter?

If you would like to receive Bridges by mail or email, you may contact us at bdm@brethren.org, or give us a call at 800-451-4407. Bridges is also available online at www.brethren.org/bdm/updates.



Brethren Disaster Ministries 2024 Rebuilding Responses						
Project location	Disaster type	Weekly volunteers*	Work days	Hours served	Value of service**	Families served
Rebuilding Projects						
Dawson Springs, Ky.	Tornadoes	460	3,275	26,200	\$877,438.00	26
Letcher County, Ky.	Flooding	184	1,268	10,144	\$339,722.56	11
BDM Short-term Responses						
Southeastern Ky.	Flooding	18	93	744	\$24,916.56	2
Totals		662	4,636	37,088	\$1,242,077.12	39
* Includes repeat volunteers **Estimated Value of Volunteer Services for 2024 was \$33.49 per Independent Sector						

Children’s Disaster Services 2024 Responses						
Location	Disaster type	Volunteers*	Total work days	Hours served	Value of service**	Children served
Lakeview, Ohio	tornado	6	18	144	\$4,822.56	33
Minden, Iowa	tornado	4	8	64	\$2,143.36	1
Ironton, Mo.	tornado	3	6	48	\$1,607.52	0
Greenfield, Iowa	tornado	4	8	64	\$2,143.36	5
Sikeston, Mo.	tornado	3	3	24	\$803.76	12
Decatur & Rogers, Ark.	tornado	9	14	112	\$3,750.88	59
Roswell, N.M.	wildfire	4	28	224	\$7,501.76	0
Cuba, Ill.	flash flooding	1	1	8	\$267.92	1
Lake Isabella, Calif.	Borel wildfire	3	18	144	\$4,822.56	20
Lake Elsinore, Calif.	Airport fire	4	12	96	\$3,215.04	21
Fletcher & Asheville, N.C.	Hurricane Helene	13	182	1,456	\$48,761.44	193
Clearwater & Tampa, Fla.	Hurricane Milton	8	112	896	\$30,007.04	375
Camarillo, Calif.	wildfire	6	18	144	\$4,822.56	9
Totals	13 responses	68	428	3,424	\$114,669.76	729
*Includes Repeat volunteers **Estimated Value of Volunteer Services for 2024 was \$33.49 per Independent Sector						

Children’s Disaster Services 2024 Volunteer Trainings						
Date	Location	Type of training	Participants	Trainers*	Volunteer trainer hours	Value of service**
4/12-4/13	Ankeny, Iowa	Level 1	13	2	40	1,339.60
9/27-9/28	Frederick, Md.	Level 1	12	4	80	\$2,679.20
9/28-9/29	Modesto, Calif.	Level 1	8	2	40	\$1,339.60
10/18-10/19	Victor, N.Y.	Level 1	9	2	40	1,339.60
* Includes repeat trainers **Estimated Value of Volunteer Services for 2024 was \$33.49 per Independent Sector						

All BDM and CDS articles and financial charts in this booklet came from the Bridges, Winter 2025 edition, Sharon Billings Franzén, editor.

A Journey of Service—My Time with Brethren Disaster Ministries

By Keke (Lieketseng) Phooko, Brethren Volunteer Service volunteer serving with the BDM Rebuilding Program

Growing up in Lesotho, a small landlocked country inside of South Africa, I always dreamed of traveling, meeting new people, experiencing different cultures, and trying new things. But where I come from, traveling is a privilege, and for many, it remains just a dream. I didn't have the money to explore the world, but I always believed that God has His own way of making things happen. In my case, that was through volunteer service.

When I arrived in Letcher County, Ky., in September 2024 to begin my Brethren Volunteer Service (BVS) working with Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM), I didn't know what to expect. All I knew was that I had come to serve, to help rebuild homes, and to be part of something bigger than myself. My journey of service had already taken me to Canada, Zimbabwe, and Virginia, with each place teaching me valuable lessons about people, resilience, and the power of working together.

As we rebuild homes in Kentucky, I realize that this experience is about more than just physical work. It is also about the relationships we build, the lessons we learn, and the personal transformation that happens along the way. I found more than just work. I found family, friendships, and valuable lessons that will stay with me forever. Before joining BDM, I had never done construction work. But today, I can proudly say I have learned skills I never imagined—flooring, drywalling, and so much more. By the time I go back home, I think I'll be a professional!

I have learned that service is not just about giving, it's also about receiving. Every homeowner we helped had a story and through their gratitude I was reminded of the power of kindness and community. I also saw how strong human connections can be. It's never easy to say goodbye after spending a week working with a team of volunteers and leaders, but that's the beauty of service—it brings people together in ways we never expect.

As I reflect on this journey, I see how my childhood dreams have come true—not because I had money, but because I was open to opportunities and willing to serve. Service has taken me places I never thought I would go, connected me with people I never thought I would meet, and taught me things I never thought I would learn.

I am grateful to every person I have met along the way: volunteers, homeowners, team leaders, local community members, and everyone who has been part of this journey. Each of you has played a



Keke (left) working to hang drywall with BDM volunteer Curtis Rink. courtesy of BDM

role in shaping this experience and I will carry these memories with me always.

To anyone considering service, step forward, even if you don't know where the path will lead. You may just find that in giving of yourself, you receive far more than you ever expected.

Letter of Gratitude

By Shane Witty, Habitat for Humanity of Pennyrile Region, Construction Manger

It has been my pleasure to work with the Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM) for the last months. The manner in which the entire organization handles their mission on a daily basis has been very impressive to be a part of and witness. Every leader, volunteer group and administrator has come with a wonderful attitude and will to work that is not often seen, even when you pay folks. Every Monday morning, I would come in and see a new group of volunteers with smiles on their faces, eager to work and willing to accomplish goals that they have set for themselves. They give of their time, skills, and knowledge with the best of intentions. In the 8 months I have been privileged to work with BDM, they have built 14 houses for tornado victims in Dawson Springs, Ky. 14! This has been along with numerous other projects in their community. BDM is a first-class organization with first class people from top to bottom. It has been a blessing to be associated and work with such an outstanding group of people.

Global Updates

Conflict in the Middle East: Building Dignity and Hope

Since the attack on an Israeli community by Hamas militants in October 2023, and the war that followed, four Emergency Disaster Fund (EDF) grants totaling \$115,000 have supported the most vulnerable people impacted by the conflict in Gaza, Lebanon, Israel, and the West Bank. As of mid-February, the Jan. 19, 2025, ceasefire has offered some hope that the war may end. More than 50,000 people have been killed in the region—Israeli, Palestinian (94 percent of the deaths), and Lebanese—and there has been catastrophic building and infrastructure damage in Gaza. EDF grants to partners in the area were carefully considered while BDM staff worked on a response plan that matched the interest and support of church members.

In October 2024, a \$35,000 grant to Lebanese Society for Education and Social Development (LSESD), a trusted long-term partner, provided support for families displaced from southern Lebanon by the conflict between Hezbollah and Israel. By October 2024, the conflict had displaced more than 100,000 in Lebanon. The grant provided food, hygiene supplies, mattresses, and blankets for 500 displaced families (2,000 people).

In November 2024, two grants supported Palestinian families, including Christians. The first was a \$25,000 grant to The Palestinian Conflict Transformation Center (Wi'am) to support specialized care for children in Gaza and the West Bank impacted by the war. Children are often the silent victims of conflict, enduring a war they cannot escape. The program includes providing safe spaces, psychosocial support, trauma-informed care, and community engagement, all of which are shown to help reduce the long-term impact of trauma in children. These services are combined with food aid and other Wi'am programs to provide a comprehensive response.

The second grant for \$25,000 was to The Shepherd Society to provide relief programming for displaced Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. The Shepherd Society is the humanitarian outreach arm of Bethlehem Bible College, a Christian college located in the West Bank. This grant supports a larger program that includes emergency food distributions, the repairing and equipping of a medical clinic in Gaza, cold weather supplies such as blankets and coats, and a trauma counseling training program.

A January 2025 grant of \$30,000 is supporting a program for children in Gaza by International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC). As part of a

The Shepherd Society supports food distributions to vulnerable families in Gaza affected by the conflict.

Photo courtesy of The Shepherd Society



larger comprehensive program, these funds will support a project that aims to mitigate the adverse effects of continuous exposure to violence, loss, and displacement experienced by children in Gaza. It integrates protection programs, psychosocial and physical support, and recreational activities to provide children, half of whom have disabilities, with the necessary support and assistance to help them cope with traumatic experiences and regain a sense of security and well-being.

BDM is also in discussion with other partners regarding the rebuilding of Gaza with a focus on medical clinics, schools, and shelter. If the ceasefire holds, additional grants supporting rebuilding are possible.

Nigeria Crisis Response Update

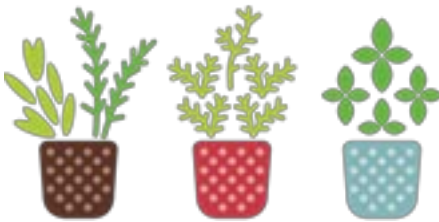
Planning for the 2025 joint response of the US Church of the Brethren and Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN, the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria) was finalized during Roy Winter's November 2024 visit to the EYN headquarters in Kwarhi, Nigeria. This was the first in-person meeting between Winter and the new EYN leaders, including Daniel Mbaya (president), Nuhu Mutah Abba (vice president), James K. Musa (general secretary), and Bitrus Duwara (director of Disaster Relief Management/ DRM). The time of meeting and fellowship with EYN leadership and the leadership of Kulp Theological Seminary was a wonderful reminder of the hospitality that EYN shared even before the current crisis.

Roy spent a significant amount of time with Bitrus and the DRM team to finalize the Nigeria Crisis Response program priorities for 2025 which include agriculture, education for children, food distributions, and clean water projects. A challenging issue is the high number of people who remain displaced from their homes due to ongoing violence. These families often need help with food and livelihoods to survive, which limits the funding available to repair homes and resettle families in safer areas. DRM is working on identifying funding sources to enable the continuation of the crisis response after Church of the Brethren funding concludes at the end of 2026.

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Questions? Arn Platou at Arnwrite@myactv.net

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Sunny Meadows Garden
Center...near Boonsboro, Md.
Sunnycrest Farm & Home
Center...near Smithsburg, Md.



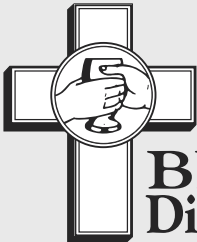
BOOTH		COM. MEMBER	CHURCH	SUPERVISOR
Breakfast		Lou Gloyd	Glade Valley, Bush Creek and Locust Grove	Lou Gloyd
Lunch		Doretta Dorsch	Frederick	Myrtle Sturtz
Bake Table		Lou Gloyd	Bush Creek	Lou Gloyd
Ice Cream		Jeff McKee		Jeff McKee
Vegetables/Fruit Salads		Jeff McKee	Flower Hill	Margaret Hansen
Water/Candy		Bruce Hollenberg	Union Bridge	Bruce Hollenberg
Crafts		Alice Houck	Union Bridge	Alice Houck
Turkey BBQ		John Laudermilch	Frederick	UB Fellowship
Dessert		Dorothy Saville	Westminster	Marilyn Ebaugh
Books		Dorothy Saville	Sam's Creek	Dorothy Saville
White Elephant		Doretta Dorsch	Frederick	Doretta Dorsch
Country Ham Sandwiches		Lou Gloyd	Frederick	Lou Gloyd
Specialty Theme Baskets		Alice Houck	Union Bridge	Alice Houck
Pretzel Jar		John Laudermilch	Union Bridge	John Laudermilch
Plants		Arn Platou	Hagerstown	Arn Platou

Thanks To These Volunteers

A special word of thanks to a dedicated group of people who year after year help make this auction run...
 Ruth Aukerman, Jim Benedict, Kathy Benedict, Debbie Bittle-Wilson, Lori Black, Esther Boleyn, Lester Boleyn, Nancy Burrall, Amy Clark, Marvin Curtis, Earl Dibert, Lisa Dibert, Martha Domer, Roy Domer, Sherri Duvall, Linda Eyler, Larry Eyler, Dani Gesford, Wendell Grove, Mary Guthrie, Ann Heishman, Irv Heishman, Matthew Hodgdon, Patrick Hoffmaster, Jim Holsinger, Melissa Kephart, Margie Legg, Tom Legg, Skyler Lehman, Ed Leiter, Marcia Leiter, Debbie Offutt, Ed Palsgrove, Ruth Pfaltzgraff, Dan Replogle, Kevin Rice, John Roop, Louise Scalzi, and Caleb Wilson.

Thanks to Auction Committee Members!

Doretta Dorsch	Alice Houck	Frances Miller	Myrtle Sturtz
Jim Dorsch	John Laudermilch	Jack Myrick	Jimmy Weller
Lou Gloyd	Jim Lohr	Brenda Palsgrove	Connie Welsh
Bruce Hollenberg (<i>Treasurer</i>)	Daryl Long	Arnold Platou	Robert Wilson
Laurene Holsinger	Jeffrey McKee (<i>Chair</i>)	Dorothy Saville	

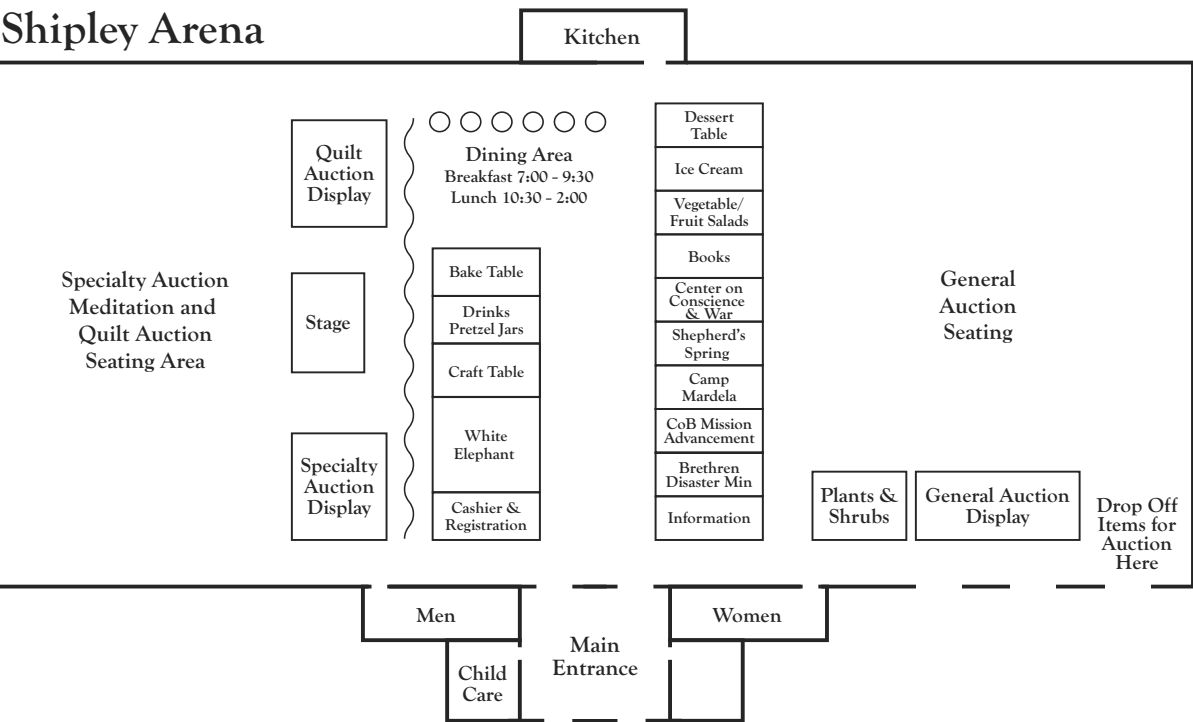


BRETHREN
Disaster Ministries

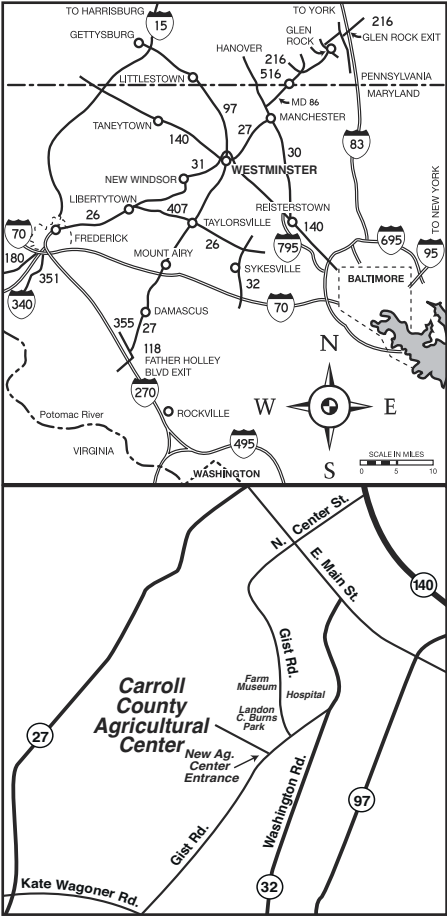
800-451-4407 or www.brethrendisasterministries.org



Auction Floor Plan



Driving Directions to the Auction



From the North:
(directions given from Hanover, PA to the Ag Center) Take Rt. 94 South (becomes MD Rt. 30 at the state line). Follow 30 to Manchester and turn right on Rt. 27. Follow Rt. 27 to Rt. 140 East (in Westminister). Turn left onto the ramp to 140 East and travel to the first traffic light. Turn right onto Center Street. Take Center Street through two traffic lights to Gist Road. Turn right on Gist Road and follow signs to new entrance. Turn right onto Ag Center drive.

From the South:
Take Interstate 270 North to Rt. 27. Follow Rt. 27 to Kate Wagner Road. (Kate Wagner Road intersects Rt. 27 before you reach the city of Westminister.) Make a right onto Kate Wagner Road (which intersects Rt. 27 at a traffic light) and follow approximately 1.2 miles. Turn left onto Gist Road. Continue on Gist Road until you reach Smith Ave at stop sign. Continue on Gist Road about 1/2 block and make left at Ag Center entrance,

From the East:
From Baltimore Beltway 695, take Interstate 795 north toward Westminister. Follow the signs onto MD 140 and take 140 into Westminister. Turn left onto Center Street. Take Center Street through two traffic lights to Gist Road. Turn right on Gist Road and follow signs to new entrance. turn right onto Ag Center drive.

From the West:
Take I-70 East to the Mt. Airy/Route 27 Exit. Head North on Rt. 27 toward Westminister for approximately 15 miles. Make a right onto Kate Wagner Road (which intersects Rt. 27 at a traffic light) and follow approximately 1.2 miles. Turn left onto Gist Road. Continue on Gist Road until you reach Smith Ave at stop sign. Continue on Gist Road about 1/2 block and make left at Ag Center entrance.



photos by Jenn Dorsch-Messler

Mid-Atlantic District Disaster Response Auction

**Carroll County Agricultural Center
Shipley Arena**

706 Agricultural Center Drive, Westminster, MD 21157

May 3, 2025
Events

Breakfast.....7:00 – 9:30 a.m.
Plant Sale8:00 a.m.
General Auction Begins.....9:00 a.m.
(Tools to be auctioned at 10:00)
Specialty Auction.....9:30 a.m.
Child Care.....10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
All Food Booths.....10:00 a.m.
Lunch10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Meditation12:00 noon
Quilt & Comforter Auction12:15 p.m.

www.madcob.com/disaster-response-auction

Directions to the Auction inside this page

Please bring your chairs!