



MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT EVENTS

September 2026

Original photo by Regina Holmes, Midland COB

Monday Evening:

Get-acquainted Activities
 Music with Phyllis and Rusty
 Ice Cream Social

Friday Morning:

Closing activities and dismissal

Other Available Activities:

Coloring Cards
 Alone Time/Napping
 Crafts
 Disc Golf
 Four Square
 Games
 Hiking
 Quilting
 Prayer Trail
 Puzzles
 Visit with Friends
 Zentangles

This is your retreat - choose the activities that interest you.

Music Leaders:

Phyllis Dodd & Rusty Curling

Older Adult Planning Committee:

Bonnie Cheshire melvinch@aol.com
 Everett Fisher everett@woodfish.net
 Brenda Palsgrove brendapalsgrove@gmail.com

Registration includes 11 meals, 4 nights
 lodging, and program costs:

Lodge - \$400/person
 Cabins - \$350/person
 Tent - \$250/person

Day only attendance:
 \$200/person (for whole retreat)
 \$45/person/day (incl 2 meals)

Registration Deadline August 17, 2026

Register at: <https://shepherdsspring.campbrainregistration.com/>



Located near Sharpsburg, MD, this retreat, camp, and global village center is a place where people of all ages come to unplug, reconnect, and grow together. Set on 220 acres of rolling land and wooded trails, this Church of the Brethren Camp has provided a welcoming space for the past 36 years.



CREATING PEACE . . .

**Mid-Atlantic District
 Older Adult Retreat**
 (50 and older)

Monday, September 14, 2026

Check in: 3:00pm-5:00pm

Friday, September 18, 2026

10:00 am retreat ends



Tuesday, September 15
Creating Peace with Neighbors



Resource Leader: Phyllis Dodd, LCSW
 Phyllis (Yvonne) Dodd lives in Greensboro, Maryland and is in private practice as a Licensed Bilingual Clinical Social Worker. She works primarily with Latino families in the area of domestic violence and childhood sexual abuse. Phyllis is a graduate of Juniata College, spending her junior year abroad in Barcelona, Spain through Brethren Colleges Abroad. She was a Peace Corps volunteer in Ecuador and has continued to build her social work skills over the years. She completed her Master's in Social Work from the University of Maryland in Baltimore. Phyllis has written a book: *Love Has No Borders*.

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- 9:30am •Morning Session
- 1:15pm •Field trip to Dunker Church – Dennis Frye
- Global Village Tour – J. Clister
- Service Project
- 3:30pm •Trauma Art – P. Dodd
- 6:30pm •Fundraising Walk Supporting Deportation Defense Fund or Shepherd's Spring
- 8:00pm •Campfire

Wednesday, September 16
Creating Peace with Creation



Resource Leader: Doug Ruby
 Doug Ruby lives in Rockingham, Virginia and taught undergraduate and graduate ecology courses for 39 years. His outdoor teaching experience started at Camp Swatara while in college. He has been a naturalist, nature program leader or resource person over many years for Camp Swatara, Camp Mardela and Shepherd's Spring. He is an avid birder and has led adult birding events with his wife Sally for more than 40 years. He graduated from Gettysburg College and earned a doctorate in Zoology at the University of Michigan. Doug grew up in the Westminster Church of the Brethren.

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- 7:00am •Birding – D. Ruby
- 9:30am •Morning Session
- 1:15pm •Presentation & Seed Collecting – Antietam Conococheague Creek Watershed Alliance – Susan Simonson
- C&O Canal Hike – D. Ruby
- Service Project
- 3:30pm •Hidden Life of Trees – J. Clister
- 6:30pm •Evening Birding – D. Ruby
- 8:00pm •Campfire
- 8:30pm •Night Hike – Dave Evason
- Stargazing – D. Ruby

Thursday, September 17
Creating Peace with Ourselves



Resource Leader: Judith Clister
 Judith Clister lives in Bruceton Mills, WV. She is a retired public elementary school teacher and counselor. Judith is an ordained pastor and spiritual companion. She received spiritual formation training from Eastern Mennonite Seminary. She worked thirty plus years at Shepherd's Spring where she served as nature director, counselor and director. Judith now volunteers at the West Virginia Botanic Garden leading tours and nature and labyrinth walks. She is a member of the West Virginia Storytellers Guild with a specialty in Celtic stories. Judith has written two books of prose and poetry: *Lessons in Little Things* and *Connections*.

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- 7:00am •Birding – D. Ruby
- 9:30am •Morning Session
- 1:15pm •Meditation at Labyrinth – Sandi Evans Rogers
- Drum Circle – J. Clister
- Service Project
- 3:30pm •Guided Nature Walk – J. Clister
- 6:30pm •Hike – D. Evason
- 8:00pm •Campfire – Celtic Music and Storytelling–J. Clister, P. Dodd, R. Curling

Sunday, September 20, 2026 3:00 pm ET

at the little white "Dunker Church"

Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, MD



National Park Service

Hymns, sharing of scripture, special music and readings, prayers and a message by Guest Speaker Denise Kettering-Lane, associate professor of Brethren Studies at Bethany Theological Seminary.

New this year – livestream the service www.tiny.cc/DunkerChurchWorship

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/dunkerchurchservice/>

All are welcome to worship with us.



FREE NALOXONE

SEPT. 24, 2026

WELTY CHURCH
OF THE BRETHREN
USE REAR ENTRANCE PLEASE

13465 GREENSBURG RD.,

SMITHSBURG, MD 21783

**NARCAN DISTRIBUTION AND
TRAINING**

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM



**WASHINGTON COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

WASHCOHEALTH.ORG



**At Welty Church of the Brethren, Smithsburg, MD,
free naloxone (Narcan)
will be distributed**

beginning at 6 PM on Sept. 24.

For anyone wanting to stay,

free training will follow.

**The training is expected to last around 20 minutes. It will be
provided by the**

Washington County Health Department
along with referral information and behavioral health resource
literature for Washington County.



Roman's 14:10-13

10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." 12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable. 13 Let us therefore no longer pass judgment on one another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother or sister.

Conference Emblem by CJ Bowman

MADCOB 2026 District Conference

2026 Mid-Atlantic DISTRICT CONFERENCE

October 9 & 10

CAMP MARDELA

301 Deep Shore Rd., Denton, MD 21629-3408

FRIDAY PASTOR'S DINNER 5:30pm

Denton Church of the Brethren

FRIDAY CAMPFIRE WORSHIP

Campfire Songs • Inspirational Stories • S'mores!

SATURDAY BREAKFAST 8:00am

SATURDAY BUSINESS 9:00am

A PATHWAY TO HEALING

PASTOR'S RETREAT

If your spirit has been whispering that it needs rest, renewal, or simply a place to listen again, this may be the pause you long for to restore your soul. This time and space will weave together Prayer, Body Awareness, Healing Presence, and Grace

Gestalt Pastoral Care (GPC) is rooted in the healing ministry of Jesus. Believing that God desires healing and wholeness for us, we companion those who desire wholeness of Body, Mind, and Spirit



Darlene Meyers
GPC Minister/Trainer
Retreat Leader

DATE: OCTOBER 23-24, 2026

PLACE: SHEPHERD'S SPRING

TIME: FRIDAY 5:00PM - SATURDAY 4:00PM

DINNER: 5:00PM

CEU's AVAILABLE

Online Registration <https://forms.office.com/r/st1e8aP2Yd>

Mid-Atlantic District

PASTOR'S RETREAT

A Pathway to Healing

October 23 & 24, 2026

5 pm Friday – 4 pm Saturday

Shepherd's Spring

16869 Taylors Landing Rd., Sharpsburg, MD 21782

REGISTRATION: •\$225 (includes 1 night single occupancy and all meals)

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Congregation:

CEU Credit: Yes (Please add \$10 to total registration amount) No

Please list any dietary restrictions or special needs:

Registration forms must be received by September 30

Make checks payable to and mail to

Mid-Atlantic District

19 Bond St., Westminster, MD 21157

Questions? Call 443-960-3052 or email aamad@brethren.org

Online Registration <https://forms.office.com/r/st1e8aP2Yd>

Turkey, FRIED Oyster & Country Ham Dinner

Bush Creek Church of the Brethren
4821A Green Valley Road, Monrovia, Maryland 21770
Rt. 75 Between Rt. 80 and Monrovia
301-865-3013



Saturday, October 24, 2026



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 - \$35 *

Cash or check only – no credit cards

Children 6 – 12 - \$12 Under 6 – Free

Carry-Out - \$31

Ticket sales begin @ 11 am.

*Subject to change depending upon market price of oysters



Holiday Craft Bazaar

Saturday, November 14th

8:00 - 2:00

Bush Creek Church of the Brethren

4821A Green Valley Road, Monrovia

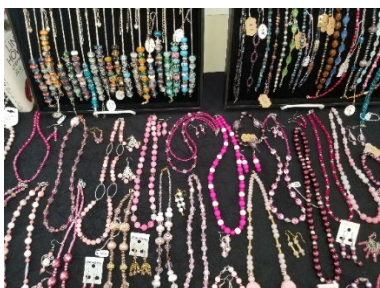
Sponsored by the Women's Fellowship

Church phone: 301-865-3013

bushcreekchurch.org



As always, lots of beautiful handmade items!



Holiday table décor, ornaments, Annette Miller's beautiful beaded jewelry, crocheted scarves and hats, gift bags, and the popular "Kids' Corner" with take-home holiday craft kits that you and your



children can enjoy working on together during the lead-up to Christmas. Check out our **NORTH POLE CANDY SHOP** and, new this year, **THE NORTH POLE BOOK NOOK**, featuring a limited number of books gently used by Santa's elves!

...AND you just never know what great finds you'll discover just waiting for you on our huge "White Elephant" table!

DON'T FORGET THE FOOD!

Our bake table will have homemade cakes, pies, brownies, candy, etc. In addition to our usual array of cookies, we'll have **un-iced Christmas cut-out cookies baked and ready for you to take home and decorate with the kids!** (Or freeze them, then decorate them closer to Christmas.)

Our **Bush Creek Kitchen** will be serving a variety of delicious sandwiches, homemade soups and slices of pie during your time at the bazaar!!

**ALL ITEMS PAYABLE WITH
CASH OR CHECKS! Sorry, no
credit cards.**