

# Gbg Church of the Brethren

## May 2025



**“But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.”**

**(Jeremiah 17:7-8)**

## Love Comes in Many Ways



Like most holidays, Mother's Day brings a variety of emotions to the surface. For some, it's a good day full of great memories. For others, it's a sad day thinking of moms who have passed away. And, for some, it's a day of longing because of an inability to conceive and have biological children. We aren't all moms, at least biologically speaking, but we all have moms. There are many special ladies in our lives who give us the motherly love we need. There are many influential women in our lives – teachers, coaches, pastors, mentors, friends moms, neighbors and others who have played the role of mom in our lives, in one way or another.

And so, today, we pause to thank God for motherhood and the role of moms in our lives, and to our moms for the role they have played as instruments in God's hands to shape us, because in many ways, a mother's love is one of the most God-like loves we will ever experience.

In the Kingdom of God, there's always room for one of his children, no matter how undeserving he/she may seem at times. The same is true in the heart of a mother when the love of God flows through her--there's always room for one more to love, whether the child carries her genes or not. Moms who love with God's love understand that every gift is a gift from God whether that child is hers or not, and barrenness doesn't get the final word--the life and love of God does.

There are not many sad tears in birthing rooms when everything goes the way it should. There may be tears but they are happy tears, whether the child is the 1st or the 5th--expected or unexpected--there is joy in the birthing room. Why? It's because new life has been given to this world. Life is such a precious gift from God and He equips all mothers, all those special women in a child's life, to share His love with His children.

God Bless,  
Pastor Stephen

*God Bless*  
**OUR MOTHERS**



*A Day of  
Rejoicing!*



*Palm Sunday,  
April 13, 2025*



## What's Going On at GBGCOB?

### Service on the Lawn

Tentative Start Date - June 4 at 7 p.m.  
If weather is nice, we might start earlier.  
Come spend a special evening on our  
front lawn worshipping our Lord.  
Bring a blanket or chair  
and bring a friend!



Women's Fellowship  
Wednesday, May 7, noon  
King's Restaurant,  
Rt 30 by Home Depot



Church  
Breakfast  
Saturday,  
May 24  
8 a.m.

Come enjoy a delicious meal  
and wonderful fellowship!

Men's Fellowship Dinner  
Thursday, May 1  
6:30 p.m.  
at Panera, Greengate Center



### *Irwin Male Chorus Concert*

Be sure to mark your calendar for this special concert, featuring the Irwin Male Chorus, directed by Mr. Forrest Moore, directing since 1999. This group is based out of Irwin and has been singing for 112 years. **We will be hosting them at 6 p.m. on Saturday, May 3, 2025.** Invite your friends! No tickets necessary, but a free-will donation is welcome! There will be refreshments following the concert.

The new Women's Faith and Friendship Group, a gathering of women for whom evening events may be more conducive for their schedules, will be meeting once a month for dinner and fellowship.

The first dinner was held on April 22nd, and they were very pleased with the turnout.

The next dinner will be on Thursday, May 29th, at 6:30 p.m. at King's Restaurant, near Home Depot. In order to get a fairly accurate count, please contact Amy Ramer if you plan to attend.

All women are welcome!

# Thank You!

Dear Greensburg Church of Brethren Disciples Hands:

On behalf of our entire Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for your recent donation of \$500 that you made to Feeding the Spirit on February 8, 2025. Your kindness and generosity touched our hearts and enables us to continue our mission.

We are truly grateful to you!

Thank you,

Deborah Thackrah, President  
Feeding the Spirit

We will be remembering those members we have lost this past year on Memorial Day Sunday. This year, we remember Ray Ghrist, Louis Schmidt and Betty Herman. If we have forgotten anyone, please let Ruth Fox, our church secretary know. Thank you.



He is Risen! Thank you to many of you who purchased Easter flowers in honor or memory of those we love (49 total). Our sanctuary looked beautiful as we celebrated our Risen Lord on Easter morning.

To those of you who plant the bulbs, may you be blessed with the beauty of your flowers each spring as new life begins.

Carole Giron

## Blessing Box

As we move forward into 2025, it is my hope we can continue to be a support to those in the community that need our help--not only physical food, but spiritual, as well. I hope to include Bibles in the Blessing Box for the community to have access to and have. Thank you for all your support. Now, more than ever, our world needs love and support from us Christians. To quote Mr. Rogers, "In troubled times, look for the helpers." I am blessed to have such a church family, so full of love and support. Please continue to pray for our community, helpers, and the Blessing Box, that we may continue to share our love and be a blessing to our community.

Wendy Muir

**The National Day of Prayer**  
**Thursday, May 1, 2025**  
**Delmont, Export, Murrysville**  
**Event**  
**Delmont VFD Hall**  
**7 p.m.**

## *Welcome to GBGCOB!*

We are so delighted to welcome our newest followers of Jesus into the fellowship of our church as our brothers and sisters in Christ! On Palm Sunday, April 13, Austin Aultman, Ryan L. Moore, Damian Puccio, Chase Smith, and Madison Smith received the rite of baptism. This year, we also have welcomed into membership: Bob Simonsick from the East Chippewa COB (Ohio), Patricia Simonsick from Jonah's People Fellowship (Ohio), and Ryan Lees and his grandmother, Janet Lees, from the Moxham COB. May God bless each one as they continue their journeys of faith!



**Do you know someone who is graduating from high school or college this May/ June or graduated this past December? We want to honor them on graduation Sunday on June 8th.**

**Please let the Christian Education Team know as soon as possible.**

## Honored Member of the Month

### **Our honored “Member of the month” for April is Bill Grimme.**

Bill Grimme, an integral part of the GBGCOB for the past 53 years, began coming here at the invitation of a friend during his sophomore year at Hempfield High School (March 1972). Bill is the 4th of nine children in his family. Through his influence, one of his sisters and his mother also came to be a part of our fellowship through the years.

Bill has been married to Lynn for 46 years, and they have a daughter Michelle (Sipes) and a son-in-law, Stephen. He worked for Westmoreland Hospital for 40 years as a Unit Secretary and retired from that position 4 years ago. In his spare time, Bill enjoys reading and traveling. His favorite books are sci-fi and non-fiction. He and Lynn also enjoy eating out. They have had a few dogs over their lives together and he is particularly fond of his current pet dog who is now 17 and a half years old!

Bill became a Christian as a teenager and has gone on to serve the church by teaching Sunday School, helping with VBS, cooking for funerals, teaching the Wednesday night Bible Study and has also served as a Deacon on two different occasions. His favorite scripture verse is John 3:16 and his favorite hymn is “The Old Rugged Cross.” He enjoys the fellowship of this church, finding the people year very considerate and kind.

Five years ago, Bill had heart surgery, and he feels that the prayers of the people in our church were very helpful in his recovery, in addition to the anointing he received at that time. His prayer for the church is that it would continue to grow and thrive!

## Thought for the Month

**“No Matter our failures or faults, God believes that we are worth saving.”**

## News and Notes from the Worship Team



Holy Week at GBGCOB was truly that! The Love Feast on Maundy Thursday was a beautiful expression of our Lord's love and sacrifice for us as we shared in communion and foot washing. There were about 60 people present for this sacred time. Many thanks to all those who helped to prepare for this service as well as clean up afterwards.

We had a beautiful turnout for the Son Rise service! What a wonderful morning! Thanks to Darlene Ackerman and crew for that great breakfast! The church was filled for our Easter Sunday worship service with family and friends, and Carole Giron did a lovely job (as always) with all the donated Easter flowers. Thanks to the choir for lending their voices for the Easter service.

The choir will be singing at Twin Lakes Nursing Home on May 4th. Please come and join the choir or to encourage us. The choir is planning to go to New Haven Nursing Home next and we are hoping to expand to other nursing homes in the near future.

Please come out for the Irwin Male Chorus concert on Saturday, May 3, at 6 p.m.!

May our faith and love bloom and grow, just like the flowers of spring.

God Bless, Joy Sphon



# SPOT LIGHT

Jim Blair

## The Leadership Team

The Leadership Team is accountable to the Congregational Forum. In most instances the Leadership Team is empowered to act on behalf of the Congregational Forum. The team prepares the agenda, a requirement of Robert's Rules of Order, for the Congregational Forum. It is their responsibility to develop a proposed budget and assure that it is in the hands of church members prior to the Fall Congregational Forum. In short the leadership Team, as legal trustees, is the administrative arm of the church and supervises the ongoing program of the congregation while setting policy in connection therewith. It also handles and minimizes potential negative impacts arising from serious or protracted disagreements that have surfaced and are beyond the scope of the Ministry Advisory Team. The team is comprised of the Chairman and Moderator, Dave Anderson; Vice Chairperson and Worship Chairperson, Amy Ramer; Secretary, Dale Struzzi; Stewardship Chairman, Tom McNamara; Christian Education Chairperson, Michelle Sipes; Outreach Chairperson, Julie Curry; 2 at large members, Stacey Bossart and David Whipple; and Deacon Representative Carole Nedrow.

## Women's Fellowship

We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 12 noon at King's Restaurant, by Home Depot, for a luncheon which includes devotions, prayer, lunch, and Christian fellowship. All women are welcome. Please come when you can. We would love for you to join us. Each month we are asking those that can bring non-perishable items to add to our Blessings Box outside of our church.

We continue to show our love, sending cards to those who are in their homes, unable to attend church and those who reside in care home facilities.

If you know someone who might enjoy a card, please mention them to Lori Sabo, and give her any information you might have. We also would like to thank the wonderful people who have given us cards and cash donations to purchase cards and stamps. Please give these donations to Lori Sabo or Carole Giron.

Please check out the new Women's Faith and Friendships group. They meet one evening a month to provide an opportunity for those women who find evenings fit their schedule better. Thanks to Amy Ramer for providing this additional ministry for the women of the church. Her number is 724-787-1781, if you'd like more information.

We continue to serve our Lord and our church as we glorify God in all we do.

Blessings,  
Carole Giron

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