

Greensburg Church of the Brethren

May 2026



“26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?... 27 Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?... 28 “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field...will he not much more clothe you...33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.

Taken from Matthew 6:26-34

Love is in the Air

Mother's Day arrives each year like a invitation to remember, to honor, and to reflect on a love that often goes unmeasured yet is deeply felt. A mother's love is among the most profound expressions of care we experience in this life. It is patient in the face of exhaustion, steady in uncertainty, and enduring even when unrecognized. It shows up in small, unseen sacrifices and in moments of needed protection. In many ways, as a youngster, it is our first glimpse of what unconditional love looks like.

Scripture beautifully affirms this kind of love. In Isaiah 66:13, we are reminded, "As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you." Here, a mother's care becomes a reflection of God's own tenderness. Proverbs 31:25–28 honors the strength and dignity of a mother: "She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come... her children arise and call her blessed."

This kind of love mirrors something greater. In the life and teachings of Jesus, love is not simply an emotion—it is an action, a commitment, and a presence. 1 Corinthians 13:4–7 reads, "Love is patient, love is kind... it always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." This passage captures both the heart of Christ's love and the daily reality of a mother's.

Jesus taught a love that serves, forgives, uplifts, and restores. John 15:13 says, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." This sacrificial love is often seen in the quiet ways mothers give of themselves each day. In 1 John 4:19 we are reminded, "We love because He first loved us." A mother's love often becomes one of the first ways we experience that divine love.

When we consider a mother's love alongside this, the connection feels natural. A mother often gives without expecting return. She forgives quickly, hopes endlessly, and believes even when others doubt. She carries burdens so her children may walk more freely. In her care, we see reflections of grace. In her sacrifices, we see echoes of something divine.

Mother's Day, then, becomes more than a celebration, it becomes a reminder--a reminder to cherish those who have loved us in this way and a reminder to express gratitude, not just in words, but in presence and appreciation. And perhaps, most importantly, it is a reminder to embody that same love in our own lives, because the best way to honor love is to live it.

To love as a mother loves—with patience and kindness (Colossians 3:12–14).

To love as Jesus taught—with compassion and humility (Ephesians 4:2).

To love not only when it is easy, but when it is difficult (Romans 12:9–10).

In a world that often feels hurried and divided, this kind of love remains a quiet force that heals, binds, and renews. It is a light that does not fade, passed from heart to heart, generation to generation.

And on Mother's Day, we pause, not just to celebrate mothers/special women in our lives, but to honor love itself, because, as 1 John 4:8 tells us, "God is love."

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers and those that are very special women in our lives. We thank them all for their love, kindness, compassion, and understanding.

We thank our Lord Jesus Christ for loving us and showing us how to love.

God Bless,
Pastor Stephen

1John 4:19 "We love because he first loved us."

We will be recognizing those from our church who have passed away during the past year on Memorial Day Sunday, May 24: Jody Casteel, Janet Lees, Ken Teacher, Harrison Smith, Pearl Astolos, and Paul Nedrow. They are missed!

A Love Cake for Mother
(for Mother's Day)

1 can of obedience
Several pounds of affection
1 pint of neatness
Some holiday, birthday and everyday surprises
1 can of running errands
1 box of "get up when I should"
1 bottle of keep sunny all day long
1 can of pure thoughtfulness

Mix well. Bake in a hearty warm oven and serve to mother every day. She ought to have it in big slices!



Joyful Celebration Celebrates!

There have been many special activities and exciting developments at Joyful Celebration on Monday nights! It's been a busy spring and we've been growing! We recently had a booth at the Mall where we shared the ministry we are doing. On the last Monday of April, there were about 100 people in attendance!



Sunday Morning Opportunities:

- 9:30 Sunday School for children; Adult Sunday School—"How to Pray" - Carole Nedrow
- 10:00-10:30 A Deacon and/or the Pastor will be available in the chapel every Sunday a.m.
- 10:30 The worship service will be live-streamed every Sunday to the Fellowship Hall

What's Going On at GBGCOB?



"Snack Cake Sunday" - Please remember the need for snack cakes on the third Sunday of each month. We are now asking for packaged "snack cakes", i.e., Little Debbie, Tasty Cakes, etc. This makes distribution much easier for Meals on Wheels.

Women's Fellowship
Wednesday, May 6, 2026
Applebees Restaurant, at noon,
Rt 30 by Westmoreland Mall
ALL women are welcome to join us for good food and great fellowship.
We'd love to see you there!
Please bring something for the Blessing Box to bless others...

The Men's Fellowship will meet on Thursday evening, May 21, at Panera Bread near Greengate Center at 6:30 p.m. All men are welcome!



Women's
Faith & Friendship Dinner
Thursday, May 21, 6:30
at the Boulevard
All women are welcome!

GLORIFY GOD
AMONG THE NATIONS
SEEKING HIM
IN ALL GENERATIONS
1 CHRONICLES 16:24 NASH

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026

75TH

NATIONAL
DAY OF
PRAYER

NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG



National Day of Prayer—May 7, 2026—7 p.m.
Delmont VFD Hall—7 pm..

GRIEF SHARE

Start date: Saturday, May 9
10:00 a.m.
Speak to Pastor Stephen Parfitt

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 14th. Please let the Christian Education Team by May 13.



Women's Fellowship

Seven women from our church attended a women's conference on April 24-25 at Heritage Baptist Church, with a total attendance of 200 women. Our speaker was Francie Taylor, co-founder of "Keep the Heart," a Bible Application teaching ministry and podcast for Christian women.

We were blessed and inspired as we experienced the teaching of Scripture in a profound and touching way, including some humor. We were encouraged to study Proverbs with our daily Bible readings.

Proverbs 4:23: Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

The men from Heritage Baptist Church served us our meals and we enjoyed Christian fellowship with women from many churches. We're already looking forward to next year's conference, and we hope you can join us.

Looking back at February, the Women's Fellowships (noon and night) were blessed to share together in a special opportunity on a Saturday evening at the end of the month. The women were blessed to watch a video celebrating God's ongoing work, focusing on unity and discipleship, and urging women to live out their calling. It was a powerful evening of worship, teaching, prayer and songs of praise. Thanks to all who attended!

As we continue to grow in our faith and our relationships with each other, let us be reminded to pray for others with the same urgency we would want them to pray for us!

Let's keep learning and sharing our love for the Lord!

GREENSBURG CHURCH OF THE
BRETHREN
554 STANTON STREET
GREENSBURG, PA 15601

Expedition
NORWAY
June 8th-12th 6pm to 8pm

Register: www.gbpcob.org
Questions Call:
[724] 834-2130

VBS dates:

June 8-12, 6 - 8 p.m.

**Teachers and helpers are
needed!**

**Please speak to Michelle
Sipes if you are able to con-
tribute in some way!**

**Be sure to invite your friends'
and neighbors' children to
join Expedition
Norway at GBPCOB this
summer!**

Service on the Lawn

*Please note that the Wednes-
day night "Services on the
Lawn" will begin on May 27th
at 7 p.m. Please invite your
friends and neighbors!*

Honored Member of the Month - Don Wian

Don Wian joined the church in 1963 when he was baptized there by Rev. Stauffer. Rev. D'Amico was his favorite pastor. He loved it when he came to visit families at their homes. He would sometimes eat a meal or dessert with them. He would also play a game while he was there.

He remembers when the school buses would go around the neighborhoods picking up children or families if needed, and bring them to church

Don was self-employed--he did anything and everything. People would say, "If something needs fixing or built, call Don and he would do it." And a lot of times he would get Harry Crosby to help him. They installed the original carpet in the nursery and Sunday School rooms among other things--they called him "Mr. Fixit."

Don would also help out in the nursery with his wife, Wendy. He assisted with funeral dinners and Sunday School when needed. He loved to fish, hunt and garden which he can no longer do anymore.

His favorite Bible verse is John 3:16 and his favorite hymn is "Just As I Am." What he misses most in the church today is the presence of the youth.

We are grateful for Don's presence and service to the church for over 60 years!

Thought for the Month

God's forgiveness is eternal, but we are not--we have an infinite lifetime to ask for it.

News and Notes from the Worship Team

We have just experienced one of the two most important months in the life of the church and in our Christian lives. The worship committee started by sponsoring a Good Friday prayer session on April 3rd. The church was open to anyone who felt the need to pray and Pastor Steve gave a short message to end it. It gave us a chance to remember what our Lord and Savior went through for us.

Then came Easter Sunday on April 5th beginning with the Son Rise Service. Hallelujah! Jesus has Risen! The church was filled with beautiful flowers, thanks to Carole Giron and all those who ordered them. When we walked into the sanctuary, the perfume from the flowers and the music set the mood. We hope you were as inspired as we were.

The choir is learning a lot of new music to sing. Thank you, Choir!

We give thanks to God for sending his own Son to die on the cross for our sins. What can I give to Him? "My all in all." We hope this season has deepened your faith and that you feel closer to Jesus Christ now, more than ever!

God bless! Joy and Chuck

Church of the Brethren Beliefs - Part I

Many thanks to Jim Blair for his helpful articles of the past 13 months regarding the leadership roles and teams that make up our church and its congregation. We now begin a 3-part series on the beliefs we hold as part of the Church of the Brethren family.

What We Believe

The central emphasis of the Church of the Brethren is not a creed, but a commitment to follow Christ in simple obedience, to be faithful disciples in the modern world. As do most other Christians, the Brethren believe in God as Creator and loving Sustainer. We confess the Lordship of Christ, and we seek to be guided by the Holy Spirit in every aspect of life, thought, and mission.

We hold the New Testament as our guidebook for living, affirming with it the need for lifelong and faithful study of the Scriptures. Brethren believe that God has revealed an unfolding purpose for the human family and the universe through the Hebrew Scriptures (or Old Testament), and fully in the New Testament. We hold the New Testament as the record of the life, ministry, teaching, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and of the beginnings of the life and thought of the Christian church.

Faithful following of Jesus Christ and the obedience to the will of God as revealed in the Scriptures have led us to emphasize principles that we believe are central in true discipleship. Among these are peace and reconciliation, simple living, integrity of speech, and service to neighbors near and far.

-from "The Brethren Heritage"

Deacons Notes

We were so pleased to have 57 people in attendance at our Love Feast held on Maundy Thursday. It was a very meaningful and blessed time. It was followed by a time of meditation and reflection between 1 and 3 p.m. on Good Friday. It was good to be able to pray and focus on what Jesus did that day for us on the cross.

The Deacons have been focusing on supporting the pastor, doing visitation to shut-ins, sending cards, praying with and anointing those who request it. Please remember that we are always available for prayer or anointing or both. Each Sunday you can find one of us or the pastor in the chapel before the worship service at 10:00 a.m.

This month's "Prayer for our Pastor" is focused on praying for protection for him from the enemy.

1. In his great prayer in the countdown to the cross, Jesus prayed for those who would be leaders. Protect them from the evil one."
2. He needs us prayer warriors to be praying for him.
3. We need to pray against pride, discouragement and self-reliance.

John 17:11-15

If you are able, please consider spending some time in prayer on Thursday, May 7, our National Day of Prayer. The theme this year is "Glorify God Among the Nations—Seeking Him in All Generations." A joint prayer service will be held at Delmont VFD Hall that evening at 7 p.m.

Greensburg Church of the Brethren
554 Stanton Street
Greensburg, PA 15601-4074

Address Service Requested

COMMUNION

AT HOME

Please call
Pastor Stephen
if you would like
home
communion.



Joyful Celebration



EVERY MONDAY, 5 PM