

# MANASSAS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



## JULY 2024 NEWSLETTER

### Extraordinary Hospitality

Welcome to July! This month is packed with exciting events and opportunities to serve. From FaithX to Annual Conference and VBS, there's something for everyone. Check out page 6 for more details and get ready for a month of fellowship and service!

Kicking things off is the Cards & Games Club on July 1st at 1:00pm at the church. Join us for a fun afternoon of games and camaraderie.

Please note that there will be no doughnut breakfast on Sunday July 7th. However, Young Adults are invited to join us at Mellow Mushroom in Chantilly following the service (details on page 5).

Throughout the month, we have a variety of events planned, including the House of Mercy Workday, Retirees' Luncheon, and the Lovina Conner Circle Lunch. Mark your calendars and join us for these special gatherings. See pages 4 & 5.

Don't miss the talk on Action for the Holy Land on July 13th at 6:00pm in the sanctuary. See page 8 for more information on this important discussion.

This year, we're teaming up with Midland COB for VBS from July 8th to July 12th. For registration details, refer to page 3.

If you're interested in our caregiving ministry, please turn to page 7 for more information and be sure to fill out the survey to help our deacons better serve the community. Speaking of caregiving, our in-house counselor from the Center for Pastoral Counseling has news to share. Please see page 9.

Looking for a summer getaway? Check out the auction on page 4 for a chance to win a week at Massanutten resort. Bidding ends on July 17th at noon.

Our Sr. High Youth are sprucing up their room and welcome any furniture donations. Reach out to Briana Bass if you have anything to donate.

We can't wait to see you in July for a month filled with faith, fellowship, and fun!

### June Stewardship by the Numbers

Average weekly attendance in-person: **82**

Average views of our online worship services: **23**

Average weekly giving: **\$6109.00**

## From the Pastors' Study

At the end of May, my family was able to take a trip to Ecuador as part of New Community Project's Learning Tours. During our trip, we were able to see firsthand the impact of oil pipelines and African palm oil. Pipelines line the roads of Ecuador and have been known to pollute their waters. A few years ago, a natural disaster landslide caused a pipeline to burst and more than 15,000 barrels of oil were spilled into the Coca River, affecting more than 27,000 members of downstream Indigenous communities. African palm oil is an invasive plant and acres of natural rainforests are being clear cut annually to make way for this invasive crop. One thing that I have become more aware of is looking at the ingredients of products that I buy and trying not to buy anything with palm oil.

As we traveled throughout the rainforest, we were able to see amazing wildlife including, squirrel monkeys, blue and yellow macaws, pink dolphins, red howler monkeys, woolly monkeys, oropendulas (birds), a tarantula, and a red-tailed boa.

Also, during our trip, we traveling by motorized canoes to four separate indigenous communities. We met with three separate Shaman who taught us all about the various medicinal plants they use to heal cuts and scrapes, fevers, and stomach bugs. We also had the honor of hiking to the Spirit Ceibo Tree of the Cofan Community. A sacred site that only one outside group is allowed to visit once a year, and that's New Community Project. The tree is believed to be the resting place of good spirits who offer wisdom and guidance to the shaman of the community. Towards the end of the week, we received a blessing from Shaman Delio. During our visit with him, he said "When they contaminate the waters, they contaminate us." When we asked him what he wanted us to do when we left this trip, he said, "Save the World!"

For more details about this amazing learning opportunity, I invite you to check out my personal Facebook page.



~Pastor Mandy

## Worship Themes

**Extraordinary Hospitality for Ordinary People: 7 ways to welcome like Jesus**

**July 7: Dirty Feet: Becoming Humble**

John 13:1-17

Preacher: David Smith

Worship Leader: TBD

**July 14: VBS Sunday**

Psalm 56:3

Preacher: Pastor Mandy

Worship Leader: Terrie Cox

**July 21: Relentless Grace: Becoming Persistent**

Excerpts from Jonah

Preacher: Chris Eberly

Worship Leader: TBD

**July 28: Tailor-Made: Becoming Aware**

Luke 13:10-17

Preacher: Pastor Mandy

Worship Leader: TBD

# VBS



## 2024 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Dates: July 8-12



Place: Midland Church of the Brethren

10434 Old Carolina Rd.

Midland, VA 22728



Time: 9:00am to 12:00pm



Grades: Pre-K to Eighth Grade(Completed)



Contact Directors: Trish Utz (540) 270- 6740

Terrie Cox (703) 368-4783



Click Here to register! [Midland Church of the Brethren · My Cokesbury VBS](#)

# Events



MONDAY JULY 1, 2024  
1PM-4:30PM

**MANASSAS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

**CARDS & GAMES!**

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN!

Illustration of people sitting around a table playing cards and games, with dice and playing cards scattered around.



## ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Sunday July 18th  
12:00pm

LOCATION TBD



Manassas Church of the Brethren Auction

**ONE WEEK AT MASSANUTTEN RESORT**

Dates:  
Sunday July 28th - Sunday August 4th

Click Here to Bid:  
<https://www.charityauctionstoday.com/e/8378>

Or Scan the QR Code



Auction Closes at 12:00pm on Wednesday July 17th

Advertisement for an auction at Massanutten Resort, featuring a starburst graphic, a gavel icon, and a QR code.



*Lovina Conner Circle Ladies Lunch*

*Thursday July 25th*  
*12:00pm*

*Cracker Barrel*

Advertisement for a ladies lunch at Cracker Barrel, featuring a photograph of breakfast food including croissants, blueberries, and orange juice.

# Events



**Retirees' Luncheon**

**Thursday July 18th**

**1:00pm**

**Great American Buffet**

**8365 Sudley Rd, Manassas, VA 20109**



**House of Mercy  
Volunteer Workday**

**Thursday July 11th**

**1:00pm-4:00pm**

Join us in volunteering at the House of Mercy thrift store and food pantry! 8170 Flannery Court Manassas, VA 20109.

**MANASSAS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN  
YOUNG ADULTS**



**Young Adult Lunch**

**12:00pm - July 7th**

**Mellow Mushroom**

**14335 Newbrook Dr, Chantilly, VA 20151**

## News & Events



ROMANS 16:2 (CEB)

**WELCOME+  
WORTHY**

2024 CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**Annual Conference 2024  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
July 3-7**

This year Briana Bass and Chris Eberly will represent MCOB at Annual Conference. The theme is Welcome & Worthy based on Romans 16:2:

*“Welcome her in the Lord in a way that is worthy of God’s people, and give her whatever she needs from you, because she herself has been a sponsor of many people, myself included”*



### Fun, Fellowship, and Service

This year our Jr. High Youth will be going to Palmyra, PA from July 17-21. They will be serving at Capital Area Therapeutic Riding Association which creates riding experiences for individuals of all ages who experience disabilities. We will assist with the care of the farm’s animals, maintain stalls and paddocks, clean water troughs, re-stock hay stations, visit with the goats, brush the donkeys, and more! In the evenings we may visit Hershey’s Chocolate World, have a pool party, or relax by a campfire. On Sunday, we will participate in worship with Palmyra Church of the Brethren. Our Jr. High group: Mandy North (Advisor), Rob D. (Advisor), Kailea N. Tyler N., Ian C., Hu C., Makayla G., and James S.

Our Sr. High Group will be going to North Fort Myers, Florida July 14-20. They will be serving at ECHO, growing hope from the ground up. Their many initiatives seek to equip small-scale farmers with self-sustainable hunger solutions and they guide the world’s agricultural community by providing hands-on training. As we work alongside staff and interns to aid in construction projects and maintain ECHO’s fields and gardens, we will learn about practical and innovative ways of producing food that have positively impacted millions of lives around the world. Our attendees: David S. (Advisor), Noah S., Owen B., Joshua C., and Lane from Nokesville COB.

We wish all of our FaithXers a wonderful time helping these valuable organizations, making friends, and working together in faith.

**Red Cross Blood Drive—Tuesday July 16th**

**1:00pm—5:00pm**



Click Here to sign-up to donate:  
[Donate Blood](#) | [Find a Local Blood Drive](#) | [American Red Cross](#)

# News



## Manassas Church of the Brethren is refreshing our caregiving ministry

The last time we did this was a few years before the pandemic, and before we streamed our worship services. Time for an update!

Please choose any of the ministries you are interested in connecting with in the survey.

This will add you to the communication list for that ministry and you can participate as you are able.

Online survey just not your style? You can also contact the church office via phone or email, and Kim B. can add you to any ministry list. Thank you for being a caregiver and for all the ways you are supporting others in our MCOB community!

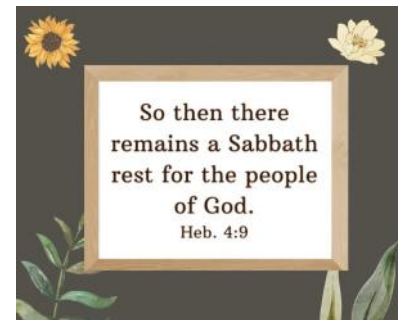
Click Here to fill out the survey: <https://forms.gle/EdpFmK8gxuKeFt316>

*"When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, both are blessed." -Maya Angelou*

## Sabbath Rest

Summer is a great time for rest, so we can come back in the fall with peaceful minds and hearts!

- There will be no Doughnut Breakfast in July.
- The Church Board and Executive Committee will not meet in July.
- There will be no hike in July. The August Hike will be at Prince William Forest Park on August 3rd.
- Pastor Mandy will be out of the office from July 1st—July 7th for Annual Conference. She will also be out July 17th—July 21st for FaithX. Please



# Learn

## ACTION FOR THE HOLY LAND

SATURDAY, JULY 13

6 P.M.

### PANELISTS

Join Rev. Dr. Mae Elise Cannon and Rev. Dr. Nathan Hosler for reflections on their recent time in the Holy Land as they met with local officials and faith-leaders.

You will learn about action steps that both you and your community can take to call for justice, mobilize their communities, and be in solidarity with our siblings in the Holy Land.

Manassas Church of the Brethren  
Sanctuary



**10047 Nokesville Rd,  
Manassas Virginia 20110**



Rev. Dr. Mae Elise Cannon is the Executive Director of Churches for Middle East Peace and an ordained pastor in the Evangelical Covenant Church (ECC).



Rev. Dr. Nathan Hosler is the Director of the Office of Peacebuilding and Policy for the Church of the Brethren in Washington DC and serves on the board of Churches for Middle East Peace.



The Senior High Youth are in the process of decorating and furnishing their new room (Room 103).

**They are in need of gently used couches, chairs, tables, and lamps.**

Please contact Briana Bass if you are interested in donating any items.



# CPC

## CPC Announcement



As many of you know I am Alexandra Delaroderie, a counselor with the Center for Pastoral Counseling of Virginia (CPC) who has supported Manassas Church of the Brethren for many years.

I have been with CPC for eleven years and in that time, I have had the privilege to work and develop a partnership with Pastor Mandy in providing services to you. I am grateful and blessed to be a part of your community and have this opportunity to provide support to all of you.

It has been a difficult year for CPC in that we are unable to sustain the operating expenses with a smaller staff and it is with great sadness that I inform you that after 28 years of service, CPC will be closing its doors on June 30.

Despite CPC closing its doors, an opportunity arose for me to start my own counseling business. I met with Pastor Mandy and we talked about the closing of CPC and the idea of me continuing to support Manassas Church of the Brethren.

We both agreed that we wanted to continue our partnership. On July 1, services will continue and be under my business, Meaningful Change Therapy, LLC.

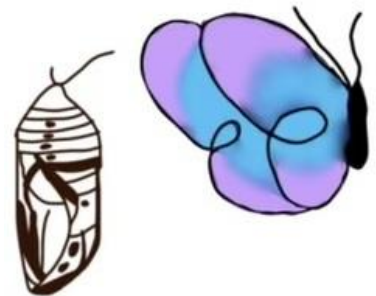
I am in the process of completing the logistics and will provide Pastor Mandy my new contact information. I will maintain the office space that I currently use and will continue to see clients at the Church and via Telehealth. If you have any questions about the closing of CPC or the transition to Meaningful Change Therapy, LLC, please feel free to email me at [adelarodcpc@gmail.com](mailto:adelarodcpc@gmail.com) as I am happy to talk with you.

I look forward in continuing to support you!

Warm Regards, Alexandra Delaroderie, LPC

Click Here to learn more about Meaningful Change Therapy:

[Alexandra Delaroderie - Counseling  
\(meaningfulchangetherapyllc.com\)](http://www.meaningfulchangetherapyllc.com)



# NVHAA

## What is NVHAA? Tina Fisher

You may have noticed the schedules posted around the church that show NVHAA using our facilities 4-5 days out of the week. There are even a few team pictures posted on the wall across from the Mission, Service and Outreach bulletin board. If you are asking yourself “What is NVHAA?” then please read on...

NVHAA was incorporated in 2015 as an all-volunteer 501c3 non-profit homeschool athletic association. Their mission is to encourage families to continue homeschooling through high school by providing competitive middle and high school (Varsity and JV) sports opportunities for homeschooled youth ages 11 – 18 years. They are a Christ-centered organization seeking to glorify God and strengthen Christian values in the context of learning and participating in sports. (Colossians 3:23) Over the past 10 years, they have grown from one to seven competitive sports programs, serving over a thousand athletes supported by hundreds of coaches and volunteers. Today NVHAA Centurions offers *Football, Girls Volleyball, Boys and Girls Basketball, Co-Ed Track & Field, Co-Ed Cross Country, Boys Wrestling, and Boys Lacrosse.*

Charity Casey, Chief Operations Officer for NVHAA has been involved with the basketball program from the beginning and recently took over leadership for the organization earlier this year. Over 7 years ago she began as basketball manager for the girls’ program and eventually transitioned to manager for both boys and girls. Her husband serves as the NVHAA athletic director.

She says, “Manassas Church of the Brethren has been a rock for us. We have been so blessed by the partnership we have with the church. It has allowed us to host high school level competitive sports that bring in opponents from the surrounding homeschool leagues as well as numerous private schools. The church has been gracious with every step of our growth. As a nonprofit, we charge the families a percentage of what it costs to run the program. The affordability of the MCOB facilities over the years has allowed us to run a thriving program while staying within our budget. The church facility has been home to volleyball, basketball, summer camps, open gyms, awards ceremonies, and even social events for the homeschoolers such as prom and monthly social gatherings. We really do appreciate all the ways MCOB has supported our programs through coordinated use of the facilities.”

We look forward to many more years of continued growth and success with our community partner, NVHAA.

# NVHAA Teams

NORTHERN VIRGINIA HOMESCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

 **CENTURIIONS BASKETBALL** 



Varsity Girls

JV Girls

NORTHERN VIRGINIA HOMESCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

 **CENTURIIONS BASKETBALL** 



JV Boys

NORTHERN VIRGINIA HOMESCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

 **CENTURIIONS BASKETBALL** 



Varsity Boys

NORTHERN VIRGINIA HOMESCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

 **CENTURIIONS BASKETBALL** 






# CORE TEAM TRAINING SERIES 2024

Through this series you will learn:

- How to Build & Run a Successful VOICE Core Team
- Community Organizing Foundational Skills

 February - July 2024

-  8-12 hr of training
- 2 prep sessions for core team conveners
  - 4 sessions for core team members

**75% IN PERSON**  
**25% VIRTUAL**

Register now at :  
[voice-va.org/events](http://voice-va.org/events)

Throughout this year, Carol Rusaw, Lisa Nouri, Kim Kirkwood, Tina Fisher, and Pastor Mandy have been attending monthly VOICE Core Team Trainings. Our next training is July 16 from 6:30-8:30 pm at First AME Church in Manassas. The topic is Skills & Habits of Highly Functioning Teams. We have learned a lot this year about building relationships and hosting listening sessions. We're looking forward to working with our Goals & Purpose Team for hosting Listening Sessions this fall.

On Friday, June 21, Pastor Mandy had the opportunity to represent VOICE for a panel discussion with Prince William County leaders and Senator Mark Warner on affordable housing. Pastor Mandy was asked the following question:

What can the County do to better attract and support outside projects such as LIHTC developments or CDFI investments?

Here's what she shared:

Historically, the county's actions and tone have been the opposite of attracting and supporting outside projects and has actually actively opposed and undermined these projects. There's been hope over the past few years to start turning this ship around and move it in the right direction. However, we didn't start from a place of neutrality.

Here are 5 things that the county can do better to attract and support outside projects:

- 1) Secure a robust housing trust fund – the county needs to have skin in the game and put its own dollars towards affordable housing
- 2) A mandatory Affordable Dwelling Unit Ordinance, which will require a change in state legislature
- 3) Make housing a targeted industry to projects are expedited
- 4) Proactively consider lands to be used for housing in collaboration with the school board, transportation, and first responders – so the county isn't reacting to developers' proposals, but rather proactively offering places where housing works best throughout our entire county
- 5) County leaders need to set the tone and tenor that's supportive of affordable housing at public community events





# Virginia Women and Family Support Center

STABILIZING FAMILIES SINCE 2016

vawfsc.org

Our partnership with Virginia Women & Family Support Center (VAWFSC) is moving forward. As you already know, we are looking forward to renting our Guest House (parsonage) to this amazing organization to house more homeless moms and their children. VAWFSC currently has a house in Haymarket, and recently opened up offices in Gainesville. Our Guest House will be the third location right here in Manassas. Recently, our Property Team installed a new kitchen floor, and new kitchen appliances were installed through a grant with Home Depot. Our Board of Trustees have submitted a Lease Agreement to VAWFSC and we are hopeful to get that finalized soon. Since the Guest House is an older building, VAWFSC did a Lead Paint Assessment to make sure we are providing a safe house for the families. Thankfully, the house passed the Lead Paint Assessment with flying colors and we are looking forward to moving forward with this rental and new partnership.

## ESL Classes –Volunteer Opportunity

Lynn Grizzard is the Volunteer Coordinator for ESL Classes held at Grace United Methodist Church. Classes are held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7:00-9:00. While students attend both nights, volunteers usually help on one of those evenings. Classes start on September 9 and run through November 20. They need volunteer teachers to lead or co-lead a class at levels Basic, Level 1 and Level 2. They also need volunteers who will assist the teacher in the classroom. "Aides" work on a more individual basis with the students to practice and reinforce the lesson material. They also have teaching materials that provide volunteers with support material for the curriculum and of course we provide materials that support learning activities in the classroom.

Our students are highly motivated and are coming back semester after semester to learn English. It is challenging to learn another language but it is also very rewarding to work with adults who benefit from an ability to communicate more effectively. Working with ESL is very rewarding and we are excited to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors.

We are looking forward to inviting Lynn Grizzard to share a ministry moment during worship on Sunday, July 28 to tell us more about this opportunity!



ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

# July 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 1:00pm—Cards & Games Club	2	3 COB AC	4 COB AC	5 COB AC	6 COB AC
7 10:30am Worship 12:00pm YA Lunch	8 VBS @ Midland	9 12:00pm—Arby's Lunch Bunch VBS @ Midland	10 VBS @ Midland	11 VBS @ Midland 1:00pm—House of Mercy Workday	12 VBS @ Midland	13 6:00 pm Action for the Holy Land
14 VBS Sunday 10:30am Worship Faith X—Sr. High	15 Faith X—Sr. High	16 12:00pm—Arby's Lunch Bunch 1:00pm—Blood Drive Faith X—Sr. High	17 12:00pm— Massanutten Auction Ends Faith X—Sr. High Faith X—Jr. High	18 1:00pm— Retirees' Luncheon Faith X—Sr. High Faith X—Jr. High	19 Faith X—Sr. High Faith X—Jr. High	20 Faith X—Sr. High Faith X—Jr. High
21 10:30am Worship Faith X—Jr. High	22	23 12:00pm—Arby's Lunch Bunch	24	25 12.00pm Lovina Conner Circle Lunch	26	27
28 10:30am Worship	29	30 12:00pm—Arby's Lunch Bunch	31			

MANASSAS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN  
10047 NOKESVILLE ROAD  
MANASSAS VIRGINIA 20110

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



### **July Birthdays**

1-GRACE M.  
2-ADDISON R.  
2-KIRSTEN J.  
3-MEREDITH K.  
5-RACHAEL Z.  
7-JUSTIN D.  
8-ABIGAIL A.  
9-JAYLIN K.  
11-KELLY B.  
11-SARAH B.  
12-JAMIE B.  
12-ROSE C.  
12-KRISTA K.  
13-ROGER G.  
13-SONNY C.  
15-BECKY B.  
15-NANCY P.  
18-RIANNA BARRETT-SC.  
21-TRAVIS W.  
21-CONNIE K.  
23-MARY ELLEN C.  
23-NATHAN S.  
24-PAUL F.  
25-SALLY JANE C.  
26-BROOKE F.  
27-PETER B.  
27-ELISE G.  
27-MARY O.  
29-SHELLY WEACHTER B.  
29-BOB A.  
30-JASON K.  
30-TYLER W.  
31-CHRIS K.  
31-JOAN ST.

### **JULY ANNIVERSARIES**

7-KIM AND JAMES B.  
10-LOWELL AND BETTY K.  
12-IRVIN AND ANN H.  
14-LEONARD AND MARY JANE P.  
15-SONNY AND TERRIE C.  
18-BEN AND SHERRIE W.  
21-DANIEL AND REBECCA H.  
22-MATTHEW AND JENNIFER R.  
26-PRESTON AND CHRISTY L.  
27-SEAN AND MANDY N.  
27-PATRICK AND MARIA W.

We want to celebrate with you! Please let the church office know your birthday and/or anniversary!