

## The Promise of New Life

*What is your need for salvation?*

Release from guilt and regret?  
Restoration of relationship?  
Freedom from bondage to addiction?  
Healing from illness?  
Relief from fear of economic scarcity?  
Return from isolation and exile to inclusion and connection?  
Liberation from fear of violence or death?

Because God is so rich in mercy, all this is possible.  
God's love for us is undiminished, even when we mess up.  
Even when we are consumed by despair and anxiety about our church and the world, God opens a window to new life.

God's overwhelming love for us is the motivator.  
It is an act of sheer generosity—rescued into the life of God.

Saving is all God's idea, all God's work.  
All we do is trust enough to let God do it.  
It's God's gift—start to finish!

We don't play the major role.  
If we did, we'd probably try to take all the credit.  
Salvation is not something we earn by doing the right thing.  
We don't deserve it, and we can do nothing to influence it.  
God made us and desires to save us.

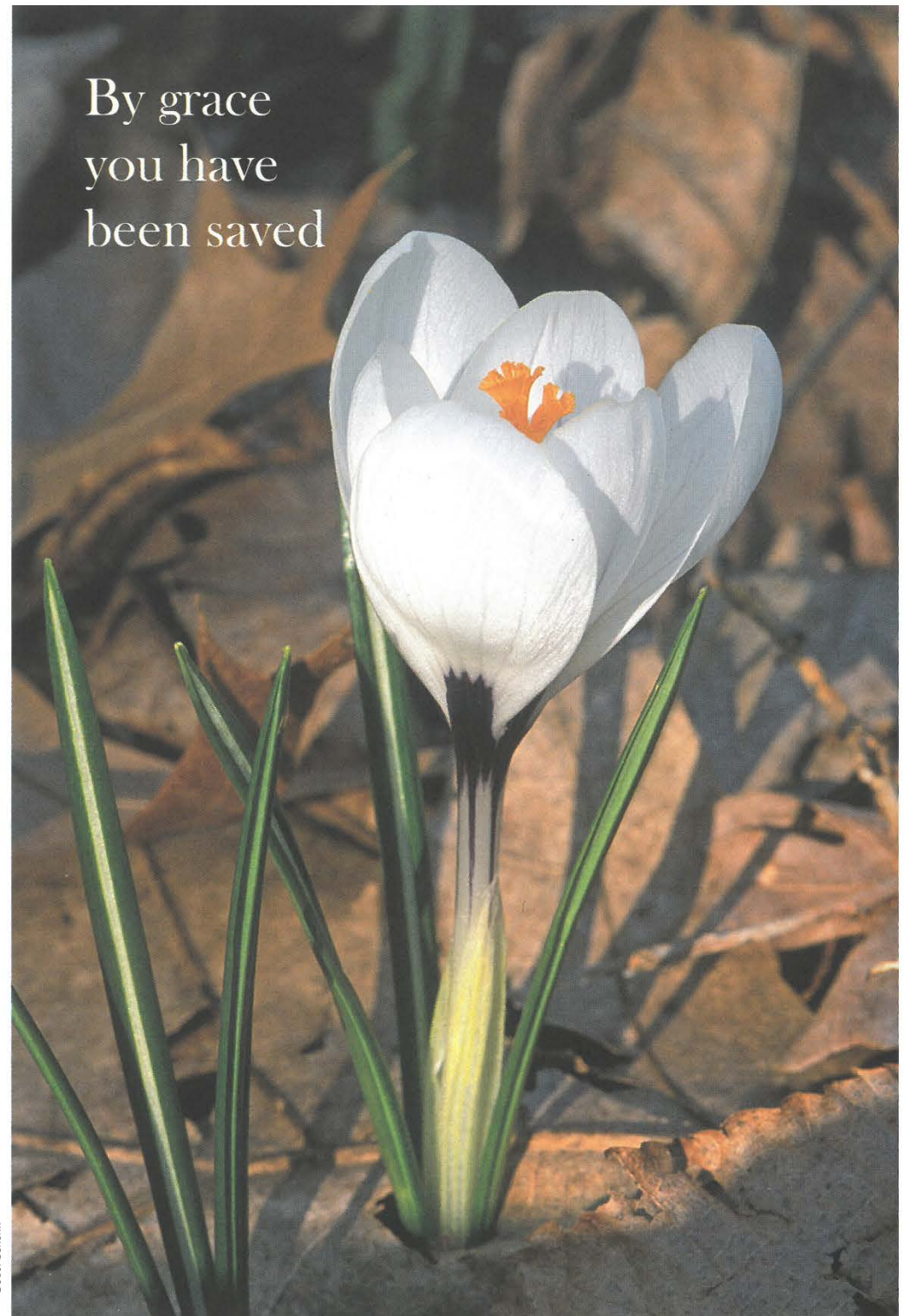
*By grace we are saved.*

God calls us to join in Jesus' work.  
Jesus is building God's new community on earth as in heaven.  
Do we say yes to this invitation, to this way of life?  
Will we accept the gift of grace?

—Anita Smith Buckwalter  
Lansing Church of the Brethren  
Lansing, Michigan

**Text for today:** "For *by grace you have been saved* through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life" (Eph. 2:8-10, NRSV). **Bible readings for today:** Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10 (8); John 3:14-21.

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# BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

at Worship March 11, 2018 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

*When I look at my life, I don't necessarily see rhythm, orderliness, or beauty. And I can guarantee that I don't see perfection.*

*When we see ourselves, we tend to see our flaws.*

*We see so many things that need to change...*

*But you are a work in progress.*

*It is a process that doesn't happen overnight.*

*It is going to take all of your life on Earth.*

*It won't be completely finished until you get to heaven.*

*Then you will see that you indeed are a perfect work of art –  
God's masterpiece.”*

~Greg Laurie, “A new beginning”

## GATHERING

**PRELUDES** (11:00)

Andante in F Major  
A Lenten Idyll

*Edward Elgar*  
*Franklin D. Ashdown*

## CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER

Please sign and pass the *Friendship Register* pad located at the inside aisle of the pew. Signing helps us learn the names of those worshipping near us. After all have signed, the pad can be passed back to the inside aisle.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

~Sing the Story, #161, adapted

**\*HYMN # 483**

*O God, who gives us life*

GRACIOUS GIFT

## PROCLAIMING

**CHILDREN'S TIME** (11:00)

Jeff Carr

Children of ALL ages are invited to the front of the sanctuary for a time of building upon and connecting to faith through stories and interactions.

## OFFERING

**Invitation**

~Feasting on the Word, Lenten Companion, adapted

**Offertory**

(8:30) We bring our tithes and offerings to the worship center.

(11:00) Ushers receive our tithes and offerings.

Prelude on SONG 13 (“Open are the gifts of God”) *Healey Willan*

**Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Hymnal # 751

**ANTHEM** (11:00)

See, I Make All Things New

*Alfred V. Fedak*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Ephesians 2:1-10

*NRSV & The Message*

**HOMILY**

“A Piece of Work”

Chris Zepp

**\*HYMN INSERT**

*I will change your name*

## RESPONDING

**REFLECTIONS** (8:30)

...a time for conversation.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Call to Prayer**

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

*NRSV*

**Silence**

**Invitation**

**Hymn # 631**

*Anoint us, Lord*

ANOINT US, LORD

**Anointing, Meditation, and Personal Prayers**

**Prayers Spoken**

~Hymnal # 722, adapted

*Unison Response: Come, Redeeming God – take all these sufferings upon yourself and transform them. Be merciful also to us, who offer these prayers, so that we might enter the sufferings of others and become agents of your healing love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, with whom we now pray ...*

**Prayers Sung** (11:00)

The Lord's Prayer

*Albert Hay Malotte*

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come; thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Amen.

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** (11:00)

Fugue on

*Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy*

“Our Father who art in heaven” from Sonata Op. 65, no. 6

\* Rise as able in body and spirit.

## MEETINGS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & NURTURE

**March 11-17, 2018** (All events are p.m. unless noted)

This is a church events calendar and does not include all building events use.  
Please be sure to schedule ALL EVENTS through the church office.

<b>Today</b>	9 a.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
	6:00	Youth Sunday Night Live	Social Hall / Sanctuary
<b>Mon.</b>	5:00	Retired Ministers & Spouses	Maple Terrace
<b>Tues.</b>	10:30 a.m.	Financial Leaders	Lounge
	7:00	Finance Commission	Lounge
<b>Wed.</b>	8 a.m.	Bridgewater Ministers	Maple Terrace
	5:15	Cherub Choir Rehearsal	Agape Room
	5:30	Wednesday Night Meal	Social Hall
		<i>Prepared by Andrea and Curtis Nolley</i>	
		<i>Menu: Sausage Gravy (including vegetarian) and Biscuits, Egg Casserole, Fresh Fruit Salad, Krispy Kreme Donuts</i>	
		<i>Suggested Donation: \$8 Adults / \$4 Kids</i>	
	5:45	Carol Choir Rehearsal	Agape Room
	6:30	YOrffs Rehearsal	Room # 35
	6:30	Friendship Circle	Bridgewater Home
	7:00	JOY Circle – Home of Becky Replogle	
<b>Thurs.</b>	6:00	BSM Love Feast	Moomaw
	6:30	Puppets Rehearsal	Agape Room
	7:30	Sanctus Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
<b>Sat.</b>		Youth to Pence Middle School Musical	

## NEXT SUNDAY– March 18, 2018 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

**Worship:** 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary

Preaching: Pastor Jeff Carr

Sermon: “Troubled Souls”

Scriptures: Psalm 51:1-12 & John 12:20-33

Children’s Worship during Worship at 11

**Bell Choir Rehearsal** – 9 a.m. – Choir Room

**Sunday School** – 9:45 a.m. – Classrooms

**Blood Pressure Clinic** – 9:30 & 10:30 a.m. – Office Reception Area

## BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

*An inclusive family of faith seeking to follow Jesus  
and live the love of God.*

### ***Our Mission...***

*As an inclusive community of faith, we commit ourselves to embody the love of God and to share our diverse lives and gifts with each other and the world. Through faith formation, worship, mission, and fellowship we boldly proclaim the peace and love of Christ. Together we work for justice, extend grace, and partner with God to offer abundant life, healing, and hope to our community and the world.*

### ***Our Values...***

*Sharing life together and including all persons in our common life.  
Growing in faith, compassion, and understanding.  
Serving one another and our neighbor’s good.  
Sharing the love of God and the God that is love.*

## PASTORAL MINISTRY STAFF

**Jeff Carr** – Senior Pastor

**Chris Zepp** – Associate Pastor

## ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITIES MINISTRY STAFF

**Fortunato Correa** – Custodian

**Phil Flory** – Treasurer

**Karissa Hunt** – Interim Financial Secretary

**Shannon Puffenbarger** – Administrative Assistant

**Leon Rhodes** – Head Teller

## PROGRAM & MUSIC MINISTRY STAFF

**Kathleen Arndt** – Child Care Center Administrator

**John Barr** – Organist

**Jim Benedict** – Bell Choir Director

**Jeanie Eye** – Christian Education Director

**Mary Beth Flory** – Pianist

**Marianne Houff** – Children’s Choir Director

**Ellsworth Neff** – Sound, Light, Video Coordinator

**Curtis Nolley** – Sanctus Choir Director & Music Coordinator

**Clarke & Hope Staton** – Youth Ministry Coordinators

## CONTACT INFORMATION

420 College View Drive, Bridgewater, VA 22812

www.bwcob.org / (540) 828-3711

Normal office hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-Noon, and 1-5 p.m.

## **SUNDAY MORNING INFORMATION & TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS**

### **HOSPITALITY CENTER in the Greeting Hall**

Nametags; large-print Bibles, hymnals, & bulletins; listening receivers; and information are available here.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 a.m.**

*All Are Welcome* brochures, available in the pews and literature rack, list specific Christian Education opportunities and locations.

**PARKING ASSISTANCE:** 10:30-10:55 a.m. every Sunday.

### **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!**

Children are always welcome among us and in our corporate worship gatherings. Activity bags are available in the greeting hall for their use and enjoyment. Additionally, childcare for children ages birth to kindergarten is available as well as a "cry room" for those who wish to listen and see the worship service in a separate room from the sanctuary. Ushers are more than willing to help you locate these resources.

**Fellowship Host** – Timbo Hartwell

**Pianist** (8:30) – Cindy Fike

**Head Usher** – Palmer Lee Berry

**Sound & Light Technician** –

**Decorators** – Dwyann & Tony Stovall

**Deacon Caregiver** – Mary Ann Angleberger

**Van Driver** – Edgar Simmons

**Worship Leader** – Jon Wilson

**The flowers in the sanctuary are in memory of Kathryn Mason, lovingly shared by her family.**

### **TODAY'S ANTHEM TEXT: Alfred Fedak**

Behold, behold! I am doing a new thing.

Now it breaks forth: do you not perceive it?

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending.

See, I make all things new!

I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers through the desert.

To the thirsty I give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

I will pour out water on the thirsty land and streams on the dry ground.

I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring,

And my blessing upon your children.

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## **SPRING POTTED FLOWERS FOR EASTER**

To order: Please use the envelopes (*available in the literature rack in the Greeting Hall*) to include information and money. These are due in the church office by Wednesday, March 28. Suggested cost per plant: \$10.

## **SPEAKER AT BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE**

Dr. Oscar Arias, former president of Costa Rica, will be speaking on "Peace and Justice in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" at Bridgewater College this Thursday, March 15, at 7:30 p.m. in Cole Hall. The lecture is free and open to the public. A DVD about his work, which resulted in his receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in 1987, will be shown at Maple Terrace in the Shenandoah Room tomorrow, Monday, March 12, at 3:30 p.m. This screening event is sponsored by Another Voice. You are invited to attend, especially if you are planning to attend his lecture or for those interested in his work for peace in Central America.

## **LENTEN LUNCHEON**

In past years, the Interfaith Association of Harrisonburg / Rockingham County has sponsored a weekly Lenten Luncheon throughout the Lenten season. This year IFA is scheduling events spread out over the course of the year highlighting different faith traditions' holy seasons. Thus *there will be a SINGLE Lenten Luncheon at noon on Wednesday, March 14*, at Otterbein United Methodist Church. Lunch (\$6) will be available and donations received to support the work of IFA. All are invited!

## **ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP FOR SUNDAY: 3/4/18**

**Worship Attendance: 8:30 – 15 11:00 – 274 Children's – 24**

**Sunday School:155**

Pledges & Envelope Giving	\$19,510.00
Loose Offering	400.00
<i>Messenger</i> Subscriptions	58.00
Books	140.00
Church Garden	100.00
Spring Potted Easter Flowers	20.00
Wednesday Night Meals	289.00
Women's Fellowship	750.00
Youth Programs	902.00
EYN Compassion Fund	100.00
Bob McFadden Memorial Fund	50.00
Wayne Judd Memorial Fund	850.00
Elaine Smith Memorial Fund	275.00
Kathryn Mason Memorial Fund	50.00

# **I will change your name**

Text / Music: D. J. Butler  
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