

OAK GROVE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

JUNE 28, 2026

*Calling in Hymn *Blessed Assurance* # 332

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *Prelude in Classic Style* Gordon Young

*Call to Worship

The congregation responds in bold.

The tomb, death's stone-cold womb, could not contain him.

***The tomb, Easter's empty surprise, was filled with meaning
as death passed away.***

The women, Easter's unlikely reporters,
told of the emptiness of the tomb that filled them with joy.

***At times in our lives, we find ourselves focused on all the sadness
and troubles, wondering where hope is to be found.***

And then we too, remember the empty cross and the tomb, and we
toss back our heads and laugh for joy.

**We gather today to worship the God who gives us not only the
loving Jesus, but the laughing Jesus.**

*Prayer of Invocation

**The rulers plot on their thrones, the people whisper in their houses,
on that first Easter, even the disciples schemed behind closed doors,
wondering, "How can we save ourselves?"**

But the One who sits in the heavens laughs! Laugh, O God!

**Pity us for pitting our power against yours, even as Pilate and the
priests pitted their power against Jesus.**

**Pity us for putting our desires above yours, even as the crowds and
the disciples put their desires above Jesus.**

**Yes, laugh, O God, and turn the foolishness of sinners into the
faithfulness of saints, even as you have the power and the desire to
turn our troubles into the joy and hope of Jesus who did not die on
that cross, but laughs with you in heaven. Amen.**

*Hymn *Thine is the Glory* # 269

Children's Story Robert and Colleen Smith

Offertory *There's Something About That Name* arr. C. Tornquist
To make an online contribution, scan the QR code on the back of the bulletin.

*Response *Praise God from whom* # 119

Special Music *Joy Overflowing* Cindy Berry
Julie Hall, piano solo

Hearing from God's Word

Scripture Bible Verses about Joy in Life James 1:2-4 (NT, p. 228)
Psalm 118:24 (OT, p. 566)
Romans 12:14-18 (NT, p. 162)
Ecclesiastes 3:12-13 (OT, p. 616)

Message *The Laughing Jesus* Pastor Marilyn Lerch
A moment of quiet reflection

Pastoral Prayer with the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom come, your will
be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and
the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

*Hymn *There's a wideness in God's mercy* # 145

*Benediction

*Postlude *Variations on today's hymns*
*Please stand as you are able

*Thank you to Kris Tilley-Lubbs for directing the hymns while
Carol is at Annual Conference.*

PRAYER

Sharon Wertz (Star City Nursing and Rehab)

Lois Sowder (Terra Bella Pheasant Ridge)

Betty Wills (Brandon Oaks)

Rachel Mabe, battling cancer

Bill Fowler, recovering from infection

Beth Shearer, recovering from infection

Rosemary Saul, cancer diagnosis (no questions please)

Jonna Detweiler, recovering from sepsis

CONNECTING WITH OAK GROVE



Find us on Facebook:
Oak Grove Church of the Brethren



Interested in supporting our mission and ministry financially?
Scan this QR code to contribute to via Tithely.



We have a limited number of spaces reserved for those with mobility challenges. If you are able, please park in the spaces farther away from the church.



Pews and chairs marked with this logo are reserved for persons with mobility challenges and their companions.



Our Meditation Garden is available for prayer in the side yard of our church property.



Need a hearing device, wheelchair, cushion, or have a question?
Our head usher will be glad to be of assistance.



Childcare is available during the worship service for children birth to 2nd grade.



Hospitality is an important part of our life together—we want to know your name! If you're new here, we'd be glad to make a nametag for you. If you've been here a while, we'd love to provide a permanent nametag.



OAK GROVE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

JUNE 28, 2026

THIS WEEK AT OAK GROVE

Monday	9:00 a.m.	Crafters
Thursday	2:00 p.m.	Games
	Evening Commissions	
Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

Pastor Tim and Carol are attending Annual Conference and will be out of the office through July 2.



**July 5-10
Hershey Pennsylvania**

Representing Oak Grove at Faith X are Maddie Burton, Charleigh Jackson, Davion Jackson, Graeme Robinson, Kirsten Lubbs-Robinson, Todd Marcum, Carol Elmore.

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING (6/21)

Sunday School- 50
Worship- 103 (in person); 11 (online) = 114
Offering- \$ 3,960.00; 1339.00 (online) = \$ 5,299.00

CHURCH STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Pastor	Minister of Nurture and Music
Tim Harvey	Carol Elmore
pastortim@oakgrovecob.org	elmores24153@gmail.com

Instrumentalists

Stephen Wills, organ
Joe Blaha, piano

Worship leader

Jane Grisso
Dave Jones (July 5)

Infant Nursery

Robert and Colleen Smith

Childcare

Anna Hosey, Kirsten Lubbs-Robinson and Cooper Purcell

Head Usher

Bill Hall

Sound Booth

Don Pizzullo, Evan Jacobs, Eli Raymond

Deacon of the Month

Garland and Rena' Brown