

October 2023



Free Spring Church of the Brethren
670 Free Spring Church Road
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Free Spring Fountain



The water I give will become a spring of water welling up to eternal life. – John 4:14



Free Spring Church of the Brethren

670 Free Spring Church Road
Mifflintown, PA 17059
(717) 463-3192
FreeSpringCOB@yahoo.com
Terry Smith, Pastor
Charles Eldredge, Moderator
Lona Henry, Church Secretary

Office Hours:

Thursdays

10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Sunday Services:

Early Worship – 8:30 am

Sunday School – 9:30 am

Worship Service – 10:30



Love Feast & Communion

Sunday, October 1

7:00 pm

CROP Walk

Sunday, October 8

Registration, 1:30 pm; Walk, 2:00 pm



Meals-On-Wheels Desserts

Tuesday, October 17

Church Fall Council Meeting

Thursday, October 19

7:00 pm



All items for the November newsletter and calendar must be in the Free Spring Church office by **Monday, October 23**. If we do not receive these items by then, we **WILL NOT** be able to put them in the newsletter.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

October is an important month in our church calendar. Certainly, we look forward to Worldwide Communion Sunday on October 1 when we celebrate the Love Feast, but we also look forward to the third Thursday, October 19, when we have our Fall Congregational Meeting. The Church Board is finalizing the slate for church offices and the budget proposal for 2024 to be presented that evening.

Remember that the Annual Crop Walk is coming up, and on Sunday, October 15, Janae Siford from DiscipleMakers ministries at Penn State will be sharing with us during both services.

Our Fall Bible studies and potluck meals will begin on Wednesday, October 4, at 6:00 pm. I found the Max Lucado book, **God Never Gives Up on You**, to be one of his best. Andrea Lucado has written an insightful section, *Questions for Reflection*, which thoughtfully reviews each chapter. Even if you do not come to the Wednesday evening studies, I recommend that you read the book or borrow the video when we have finished the study.

As Max Lucado says,
"Amazing Grace!"

"God does not stand on a ladder and tell us to climb it and find Him. He lowers a ladder in the wilderness of our lives and finds us. He did not offer to use us if we behave. He pledges to use us, knowing all the while we will misbehave."

He offers an invitation to us, "Could you benefit from an encounter with God's unending, unbending, unswerving love and devotion? If your answer is yes, it's time for you to see how God's grace transformed Jacob's life."

May you see how God can use you to be His servant, and how His grace can overcome any fears of failure when you follow Him.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Terry



**October Deacons of the Month:
Eric & Ginger Alexander**

Scriptures and Messages for October

October 1

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

"Get Yourselves a New Heart"

October 8

Isaiah 5:1-7

"Now I Will Tell You"

October 15

Philippians 4:1-9

"It Sounds So Simple"

October 22

Matthew 22:15-22

"Why Trap Me?"

October 29

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

"Please God Who Tests Our Hearts"



Love Feast & Communion

at Free Spring

Sunday, October 1

At 7:00 pm

Christian Education Commission

For our Fall Supper & Study, we will be using Max Lucado's book, **God Never Gives Up on You**, about encouragement for those of us who mean well but don't always succeed. It will follow Jacob and how God lovingly led the prodigal patriarch despite his failings. We will start the Study on Wednesday, October 4, at 6:00 pm with potluck supper, and Study will start at 6:30 pm. Please note that this is a time change from the September newsletter item and last Spring's times. We'll continue each Wednesday after that, and we'll evaluate how many nights to meet once we receive the DVD. A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex along with the books.



Christian
Education

~ Shari Book (Chair), Jim Eichman, Alan Naylor, and Mary Zeigler

Free Spring Library News

The following are fiction books; some are part of a series.

Extreme Measures Series by Lynette Eason

Countdown – Flight paramedic Raina Price’s past has marched back into her present – and it wants to kill her. With a stalker who knows her well determined to end what he started, US Marshal Vince Correlli vows to protect her at all costs – even if ends his career. (This is the fourth book in the series, the other books are Life Flight, Crossfire, and Critical Threat.)

Ladies of the Lake by Cathy Gohlke

Four young women bond at Lakeside Ladies Academy – until WWI strikes, Adelaide and Dorothy fall for the same German-American man, and a horrific explosion rips the sisterhood apart. Years later, Dorothy, now Lakeside’s headmistress, invites “Rosaline Murray” to her daughter’s commencement ceremony – never suspecting Rosaline is her former friend Adelaide. Can broken relationships be mended?

Trace of Doubt by DiAnn Mills

Fifteen years ago, Shelby Pearce was sent to prison for the murder of her brother-in-law. Now she’s out on parole. FBI agent Denton McClure believes she embezzled \$500,000 from her brother-in-law’s account. When he goes undercover to crack the case, he begins to doubt her guilt. Can he discover the truth – before somebody silences her forever?

Relative Silence by Carrie Stuart Parks

After a string of losses, Piper Boone retreats to her childhood home on Curlew Island, only to narrowly survive a mass shooting in a cafe. When the police discover a connection between the shooter and other island murders, the suspects are family. Can forensic artist Tucker Landy help Piper unravel the Boones’ true history?

Where the Blue Sky Begins by Katie Powner

When a shallow but charming financial advisor from Seattle and an eccentric terminally ill woman in rural Montana are thrown together for the summer, their unconventional friendship will produce surprising results. Eric and Eunice couldn’t be more different, but they each must learn lessons about themselves – what friendship really means, and how to let go. When the end of summer comes, neither of them will ever be the same.

Star of Persia by Jill Eileen Smith

Persian King Xerxes calls every governor and satrap to Susa for a war



council and feast, but his efforts end in his favorite wife’s banishment. When he discovers Esther, the beautiful Jewish ward of Mordecai, he makes her his queen – and the palace intrigue begins. A fresh retelling of the Biblical story packed with suspense, romance, and faith.

Until Leaves Fall in Paris by Sarah Sundin

During the 1940 Nazi occupation of Paris, American Lucie, owner of Green Leaf Books, aids the Resistance by passing secret messages within her volumes. Meanwhile, factory owner Paul sells to the Germans – but sabotages his product. When Lucie and Paul meet at her store, attraction ignites. Will his business dealings with the Nazis derail their romance?

~ Kathy Bowman, Librarian

Nurture Commission News

Our Birthday person for the month of October is Rich Walters. His birthday is October 27. Please remember him with your cards, wishes, and prayers.

For the month of October, our Greeters for first worship service are Ryan & Brandy Zendt, and Cindy Lucas for second worship service. Worship Leader is Art Zug, and Deacons are Eric & Ginger Alexander.

We will celebrate Love Feast and Communion on Sunday, October 1 at 7:00 pm.

On Sunday, October 15, our special guest speaker will be Janae Siford of DiscipleMakers.

Sunday, October 29, will be our Meet-in-Middle Sunday.

On Sunday, November 12, Pastor Terry will be away. Our planned guest speakers will be Dave and Tina Goll from Operation Christmas Child.

On Sunday, November 19, we will have Jeremy Goodling in Concert at 10:00 am with a meal following the service. Please bring a covered dish or dessert to share.

~ Jessica Eby, Ron Gordon, David Moist (Chair), and Art Zug



October Birthday of the Month

Our Birthday of the month for October is Rich Walters, whose birthday is on October 27. Please remember him with your prayers and cards.

Witness Commission
October Food Pantry Delivery by:
Don Bashore



Camp Eder's Fall Fest will be held Saturday, October 21, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. A pork meal will be served from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. There will be live music, a barrel train, hay rides, craft vendors, and apple butter will be for sale. Mark your calendars!

Juniata County Prison Ministry will hold their Annual Meeting on Monday, October 2, at 7:30 pm in the community room at River Church. Hear updates about the program and seek God's direction for the future.

Heartbeat's Annual Fall Banquet will be held at Bunkertown Church on Saturday, October 21, beginning at 5:30 pm, with dinner at 6:00 pm. Reservations are required by Sunday, October 15, and the cost is \$25. Checks are to be made payable to Heartbeat Community Services and mailed to their address. They are also having a Harshbarger's fund raiser on Tuesday, October 10. Coupons will be on the bulletin board.

Crossroads Center is also having a Fundraising Banquet on Tuesday, October 17, at the Locust Grove Mennonite Church, Belleville. Reservations are required by Monday, October 2 by calling 814-643-3570. There will be a brunch at 10:00 am or a dinner at 6:00 pm, and they only ask for a donation to support the ministry.

Operation Christmas Child's Juniata Valley Team will be taking a bus again this year to Baltimore to work in the processing center on Monday, November 27. A bus will pick up in Mifflintown at 6:30 am and return approximately 8:30 pm. If you would like to go, the cost is \$33. Please mail your check, payable to Tina Goll, to 11401 Fairgrounds Road, Huntingdon, Pa 16652, and include your name, address, phone number, and e-mail address.

~ Jen Sparks, Warren Wagner, Becca Walters, and Dina Zug (Chair)



We thank Wanda Smith for all of her beautiful floral creations which we've enjoyed all throughout this past spring and summer! An example of one of these arrangements is pictured at left.



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

I just can't thank you enough for everyone who made building a ramp for my home possible and the donation towards this project!!! I am just blessed beyond words as this is something I've been trying to have done for the past 2-3 years, and now my dream has become reality. There is still a little bit of work to finish it up, but it is able to be used and I just couldn't wait any longer to thank you all for making this possible.

Special thanks to the hardworking men of Free Spring who spent their own time in building this. To **Pastor Terry Smith**, who drew up the plans, ordered the materials, brought a dozer, and spent a lot of hours leading and sharing in the work to get this done! To **Alan Naylor** for his work and the post hole digger (not an easy job with all the roots from the large tree in front of our house)! And to all the other hardworking men: **Eric Alexander, Jim Eichman, Tony Niemond, Orlyn Saner, Jeremy Smith, Randy Speece, and Allen Zendt**. *Thank you with all my heart!!*

~ Lona Henry

Please note: At last month's Board Meeting, it was decided that there will be no Candy Sale this year.



**Church Fall Clean-Up Day
 and Trash Pick-Up
 Saturday, October 14
 8:00 am**

We will be having a Fall Clean-Up day at the church on Saturday, October 14, starting at 8:00 am. Please come out and help if you can!

Trash Pick-Up will also be done at this date and time. If you have any questions regarding this, please let Becca Walters know.

Fall Supper & Study Wednesdays starting October 4 at 6:00 pm



For our Fall Supper & Study, we will use Max Lucado's **God Never Gives Up on You**, about encouragement for those of us who mean well, but don't always succeed. It will follow Jacob and how God lovingly led the prodigal patriarch despite his failings.

We will start the study on Wednesday, October 4 at 6:00 pm with a potluck supper followed by the study at 6:30 pm. Please note that this is a time change from the September newsletter item and last Spring's Supper & Study time.

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Chicken Pickin' Party! Thursday, October 5 10:00 am

We need volunteers to debone turkeys on Thursday, October 5, at 10:00 am. Please let me know if you can help with this important project!
~ Sharon Ritzman

Thank you to Ron Gordon, Beverly Oberlin, and Sharon Ritzman who will provide the worship service at North Ridge on Sunday, October 15. Also, to Pastor Terry who will be offering communion to all the North Ridge residents.

A full worship team is needed for Brookline on Sunday, October 8. Please volunteer to Sharon Ritzman as soon as possible.



Free Spring Church's Website

Check out our website for bulletins, newsletters, photos from various activities, the history of our church, forms for updating your Directory information, and so much more at <https://cob-net.org/church/freespring/>

(Click on the "Updates To Our Site" link under MENU to see what has been updated and when!)



Juniata County CROP WALK Sunday, October 8 At Walker Twp Park Registration begins at 1:30 pm Walk begins at 2:00 pm

Would you like to be a CROP WALKER? Walker collection envelopes are available in the narthex. You can pick one up today and start getting sponsors.

All pledge money must be turned in the day of the walk. Anyone collecting \$125 or more will receive a CROP t-shirt.

As in previous years, 25% of money raised at the walk will stay in Juniata County to be divided between the Food Pantry and Meals-On-Wheels.

Please support our CROP walkers to help in the fight against hunger and poverty – here and around the world!

October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

Please remember our shut-ins with your prayers and cards.

*Evelyn Benner
Brookline Continuing Care
Retirement Community
2 Manor Blvd, Rm 225A
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Dianne Goshorn
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Melda Ritchie
3761 Mountain Road
McAlisterville, PA 17049

Wayne & Dot Benson
389 Raccoon Valley Road
Millerstown, PA 17062
(717) 589-3419

Bev Oberlin
North Ridge Center
Personal Care, Rm 5
99 North Ridge Drive
McAlisterville, PA 17049
(717) 463-2249
(717) 994-8807 (cell)

Clair Varner
145 School Street, Apt 202
McAlisterville, PA 17049
(717) 635-0513 (cell)

*Denotes a change in address

