

November 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
Eugene Jones, 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



Meals-On-Wheels Desserts
Tuesday, November 15



Thanksgiving Eve Service
Wednesday, November 23, 7:00 pm

Blanket Fund Offerings
in November



All items for the December newsletter and calendar must be in the Free Spring Church office by **Monday, November 20**. 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,

November is another reunion month for the Smith family as we anticipate about a four- or five-day Thanksgiving visit with Amy, Tony, and the three granddaughters. The Thanksgiving trip to the hunting cabin up Hower Gap may be followed by a day at the Tall Oaks Lodge.

Before that rolls around our group of eight BDM volunteers will be visiting the ARK in Kentucky before heading further west to Dawson Springs, KY to work on tornado rebuilding. The Sunday after we get back, Jeremy Goodling will be at Free Spring, and we look forward to his sharing in both services as well as during the Sunday school hour.

It's almost ten years ago that we were sharing in the study of Kyle Idleman's book **AHA, Awakening Honesty Action**. He offers a line from the movie *Braveheart* as a call to action:

"Fight and you may die. Run and you'll live – at least a while. And dying in your beds many years from now, would you be willing to trade all the days – from this day to that – for one chance, just one chance, to come back here and tell our enemies that they may take our lives, but they'll never take our freedom!"

Idleman calls us as followers of Jesus to be men and women of action, but he makes this observation in **AHA**: *"It's an interesting irony about us as a society – we love action, but we would rather watch it than live it. We'll sit on the couch and order a pizza while we watch gourmet-cooking shows. We'll watch a home-improvement network for hours, and then get ourselves a drink from a leaky faucet...We love action, but we'd rather watch it than do it!"*

I pray that this would not be true when we see that great needs surround us. Not everyone can go out on BDM trips, but everyone can make a donation to the Food Pantry or Bethesda Mission. Maybe this is the year to do a Christmas shoebox for Operation Christmas Child. They will be sharing during our worship services the Sunday our BDM group arrives in Kentucky.

During this month of Thanksgiving, let's be thankful for the way God has blessed us and be thankful for the many opportunities He has given us to share those blessings. May the men and women of Free Spring be *actively* thankful! Thank the Lord for freedom in Jesus!

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Terry



Scriptures and Messages for November

November 5

Micah 3:5-12

"Profit-Minded Prophets"

November 12

Special Speaker from Operation Christmas Child

November 19

Amos 5:18-24

"Ruffled Turkey Feathers"
Jeremy Goodling sharing in music all morning

November 26

Ezekiel 34:11-6, 20-24

"I Will Save My Flock"



Deacon Ministry

Please note the following information regarding the Deacon Units and Schedule for the remainder of 2023:

Deacon Units

Eric & Ginger Alexander
Ron & Dee Bell
Kathy Bowman and Cindy Lucas
Pastor Terry & Wanda Smith
Warren & Connie Wagner
J. Allen & Ruth Zendt

Deacon Schedule

November 5-11	Ron & Dee Bell
November 12-18	Kathy Bowman and Cindy Lucas
November 19-25	Pastor Terry & Wanda Smith
November 26-December 2	Warren & Connie Wagner
December 3-9	J. Allen & Ruth Zendt
December 10-16	Eric & Ginger Alexander
December 17-23	Ron & Dee Bell
December 24-30	Kathy Bowman and Cindy Lucas
December 31-January 6	Pastor Terry & Wanda Smith

Free Spring Library News



The following are fiction books.

The One You're With by Lauren K, Denton

Mac and Edie Swan lead a picture-perfect life in sleepy Spring Hill, Alabama – until a young woman walks into Mac's office whose existence threatens their roles as parents, their reputation in the community, and the foundations of their marriage. As both examine the choices they made during a long-ago summer apart, can they forge a new future?

The All-American by Susie Finkbeiner

In 1952, other 16-year-old girls dream of getting married and raising children, but Bertha Harding only has eyes for baseball! When her father is suspected of being a Communist, the family is disgraced, shunned, and forced to move. Will Bertha discard her dreams of playing with professionals – or pack her bags for the adventure of a lifetime?

A Novel Proposal by Denise Hunter

With sales tanking, Western writer Sadie must pen a romance. The problem? She's never fallen in love! Determined to succeed, she starts collecting and studying love stories. When she discovers an engagement ring tucked inside a book, she entices reluctant neighbor Sam into helping locate the owner. Has she stumbled upon the hero for her novel – and life?

By Way of Moonlight by Elizabeth Musser

Joseph is the favored son of the patriarch Jacob. His older brothers are deeply resentful of Joseph's status in the family and look for opportunities to get rid of him. When they encounter some slave traders, they take advantage of this opportunity and sell Joseph. Although they think their troubles are behind them, they are really just beginning.

Lethal Range by Ryan Steck

On an island off the coast of Spain, Matthew Redd and his FBI fly team surveil a luxury villa in hopes of catching a high-value fugitive. But when Redd leads an unauthorized raid on the villa, he discovers they've been set up, and he is sent home to face the consequences of defying orders. Meanwhile, Redd's wife, Emily, is on a remote stretch of Montana road driving their sick baby to the doctor when she finds her SUV surrounded by a biker gang intent on harassing her. As the bikers pound her fenders and her infant son screams, Emily fights to keep the SUV on the road...and then suddenly the bikers back off, leaving her safe but shaken.

The following is a nonfiction book.

The Hedge People by Louise Carey

Caring for those with Alzheimer's can be emotionally depleting. Frustration often dominates the day as you try to bridge the gap between real life and a person who has lost touch with reality. Combine that with the grief over the loss of the person you used to know and a haunting fear of what is to come and it seems as though life will never see laughter and joy again. But it does. In her collection of true stories, author Louise Carey conveys attitudes and techniques for treating dementia patients with respect while also finding humor in the unusual and frustrating situations encountered by the caregiver,

The following is a DVD.

The Young Messiah

This DVD envisions what life might have been like for Jesus as a seven-year-old boy who's just beginning to understand His powers.

~ Kathy Bowman, Librarian



Operation Christmas Shoebox

It's Christmas Shoebox time again! Packing a shoebox is easy; use toys, school supplies clothing items and or hygiene supplies. What a great outreach to children around the world!

A table has been set up in the narthex with brochures and boxes. If you would like to follow your box, you can register online. The church will cover the shipping cost.

The deadline for the Shoebox collection is **Sunday November 12**. Contact Mary Zeigler with any questions.

Looking for a Short-Term Mission Project?

The Operation Christmas Child bus trip to Baltimore Processing Center will be Monday, November 27. **There are 23 seats left!** The bus will stop in Mifflintown at 6:30 am, with a stop for breakfast at 8:00 am. The work shift is 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. You can pack a lunch or purchase one onsite. A dinner stop will be at 6:00 pm on the way home with a return time at around 8:30 pm. All meal expenses are extra.

Cost is \$33 per person. Send a check payable to Tina Goll to 11401 Fairgrounds Rd, Huntingdon, PA 16652. Include your name, e-mail address, phone number, and mailing address.

Nurture Commission News



Our Birthday person for November is Linda Leonard. Her birthday is Saturday, November 18. Please remember her with your wishes, prayers, and cards.

Greeters for November are Randy & Mary Speece for first worship service and Gregg & Elaine Corman for second worship service. Worship leader for the second worship service is Wanda Smith. Deacons for November are Ron & Dee Bell (November 5-11), Kathy Bowman and Cindy Lucas (November 12-18), Pastor Terry & Wanda Smith (November 19-25), Warren & Connie Wagner (November 26-December 2).

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

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

Wednesday, November 23, will be our Thanksgiving Eve Service at 7:00 pm.

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



November Birthday of the Month

Our Birthday of the month for November is Linda Leonard, whose birthday is Saturday, November 18. Please remember her with your prayers and cards.



Mildred "Skip" Miller will be celebrating her 99th birthday on Thursday, November 30 and we would like to have a card shower for her.



Her address is:

*Mildred Miller
384 Shirk Road
Mifflintown, PA 17059*

Blanket Fund Offerings in November



Blanket the world in love by giving money to buy CWS blankets to provide a blanket through CWS to people recovering from a disaster, living in a refugee camp, or homeless in our world.

Throughout the month of November an envelope will be provided in your bulletin for you to donate to this worthy cause. Please place unused envelopes in Lona's mailbox or on the table in the narthex.



2021 CHEESE BALLS To Benefit Relay-for-Life

Our Free Spring Cheeseballs are delicious for snacking anytime or for holiday parties. They make great gifts (just add a pack of crackers!) at only \$9 for a one-pound cheese ball! They freeze well, so you can freeze them and enjoy them at a summer picnic!

- Order yours, starting **October 31**, by signing up in the church narthex.
- Please sign up to donate cream cheese or to make a \$ donation toward the sharp cheese (sign-up sheet for that is also in narthex).
- Please order early or by **December 3**.
- Also, sign up if you are able to help make the cheeseballs on **December 15 at 1:00 pm**.

You may pick up the cheeseballs December 15 after 3:00 pm, or any time after that.

Questions? Ask Sharon Ritzman

Please don't throw away any catalogs you receive that sell Christmas cards. I have a use for the tiny catalog pictures of cards depicting nativity scenes. Please place them in my mail box at the church. Thank you!

~ Rosalita Leonard



*Wednesday, November 23
at 7:00 pm*

Witness Commission



Camp Eder Senior Day is Wednesday, November 8 starting at 9:30 am with breakfast and check-in. At 10:00 am, Craig Caltagirone, a one-man song and dance act from Great American Songbook, will perform followed by an Apple-Tasting Activity. Lunch is at noon, with a special craft in the afternoon. Cost is \$20 per person. RSVP by November 1 by calling (717) 642-8256.

Operation Christmas Child has begun. Boxes are available in the narthex if you do not have any shoeboxes. We have a generous donation to cover all shoebox shipping, which is such a blessing!!!! Also, please check elsewhere in this newsletter and bulletins for information on traveling to the Baltimore Processing Center again this year with the Juniata Valley coordinators. We had a great group travel there last year and really enjoyed our time spent repacking and inspecting the boxes before they are shipped out.

Bethesda Mission collection is under way thru Sunday, November 12. There are many items listed in the bulletins and in this newsletter that you could choose from to donate to the mission. Their outreach covers many areas: Men's Mission, Women's Mission, Community Center, Mobile Mission, Dental Clinic, Medical Clinic, and Food Service. Our donations always seem to be just what they are needing when delivered. Let God lead you in your continued giving!

Samaritan's Purse Relief is not only Christmas Shoeboxes, but other disaster areas as well. They had a team on the ground in Maui after the wildfires. They are also in areas hard-hit by hurricanes working to recover what is left of destroyed homes. While working to comfort survivors, one resident was touched by their efforts. "Thank you for digging deep, and for the grace you all have in serving us."

Food Pantry donation needs for November are for laundry detergent (25-30 oz). Thank you for all the other donations that have been given. A special thank you to Judy Hoffman for delivering all our donated items.

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



Ornaments for Stitcharity

We hope you have been making ornaments for the parents of the angel tree children. They need to be ready **by the last Sunday in November**. Any craft medium, any number. Please place them in the church library. THANK YOU from Stitcharity.

If you have any questions, see Linda or Rosalita Leonard.

Fall Supper & Study Concludes Wednesday, November 1 at Pastor Terry's Cabin, at 6:00 pm



Fill out your
Family Profile
For the Church
Directory Update!

2024 Church Directory

It's that time of year again! Enclosed in this newsletter is the form for updating or adding your information in the 2024 Free Spring Church Directory. You do not need to be a member to be included in the Directory.

For those who were included in last year's Directory, please take a moment to review that information and use the form to make any changes needed or write your name and "no changes" on the form.

This form may also be used to request a mailbox here at the church (for those who do not already have one). The form also includes an option for indicating if you'd like to "go green" and have the monthly newsletter e-mailed to you rather than receiving a hardcopy!

Please do not submit the form more than once unless you need to correct your first submission; in which case, please notate that on the form when submitting again. Also, please use a separate form for others not in your household. You may obtain a form from the December newsletter or online on the church website. Also, extra paper forms are on the table in the narthex.

A tentative schedule for completing the 2024 Directory will be provided soon. Watch your bulletins for details.

Please place your completed form in my mailbox as soon as possible. Thank you all for your help!

~ Lona Henry, Church Secretary

Christmas Angel Tree

This month we are collecting the gifts for our Christmas Angel Tree Project. After choosing a tag from the tree and signing the chart, have fun shopping!

Bring the wrapped gift, with the tag taped on it, to the church by **Sunday, November 26**, and place it under the tree.

Thank you for providing an extra blessing this Christmas to those in need. Any questions may be addressed by the Deacons.





Donations Needed for Bethesda Mission thru Sunday, November 12

Help us meet the needs in our area throughout the holiday season and stock our shelves for the upcoming winter!

You can also view our Amazon.com wish list registry. Feel free to purchase items from them and have them shipped to us directly. Or donate as you shop by using smile.amazon.com.

FOOD SERVICES NEEDS: #10 cans of vegetables, sugar, napkins, BBQ sauce, spices, multipurpose cleaners, aprons, prepackaged disposable utensils, 4" metal pans

Listed below are some other items that are currently needed:

MEN'S MISSION: 13 and 30-gal plastic trash bags, winter clothing: thermal underwear, sweatshirts, long-sleeved shirts (Under Armor, etc. and plus sized L-XXX are needed most), large print Bibles (NIV, NASB, or ESV), shower shoes (flip flops), wash cloths and towels, underwear (large sizes), batteries (AA, AAA, and 9-volt), umbrellas, winter boots (sizes 10-13), and pillows

WOMEN'S MISSION: paper products, stamps, headphones/ear buds, nylon knee stockings, phone chargers, bus passes, gallon-size zip-lock bags, 3x, 4x, and 5x clothing (pants and shirts)

COMMUNITY CENTER: school supplies, book bags, Nerf guns, ear phones, gift cards (Giant, movies, activities, fast food), tablets for reading/math programs, dodge balls, remote control cars

MEDICAL CLINIC: Alka Seltzer® cold medicine, antibiotic cream (Neosporin®), anti-fungal cream, athlete's foot cream, Cepacol® sore throat lozenges, instant hot packs, cough drops (regular and sugar-free), Dayquil® cold medicine, eye drops, hand sanitizer (individual size), hydrocortisone cream, lip balm, sinus congestion medicine

DENTAL CLINIC: hydrogen peroxide 1.5%-2% mouth rinse, Polident® adhesive for dentures, non-alcoholic mouthwash (travel size), dental pics, dental floss/flossers, denture cases, denture brushes, travel toothbrush holders

MOBILE MISSION: sweatshirts and sweatpants (M, L, XL), jeans (waist size 32 thru 40), underwear (S thru XL), t-shirts, candles, Sterno®, deodorant (men and women), flashlights