

August 2024



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



Commissions Meeting
Monday, August 5
at 7:00 pm

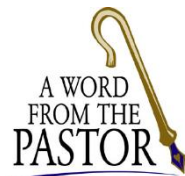


Service at North Ridge
Sunday, August 11 at 2:00 pm
Service at Brookline
Sunday, August 18 at 2:00 & 3:00 pm

Meals-On-Wheels Desserts
Tuesday, August 20



All items for the September newsletter and calendar must be in the Free Spring Church office by **Monday, August 26**. 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,

It seems like it was just yesterday that we were celebrating graduations and the end of another school year. Now we are into the celebration of the 2024 Olympics and the preparation for sending students into the 2024-2025 school year. The topsy-turvy world of politics continues even as I find confidence in the many lawn signs we saw during our BDM trip to Kentucky:

JESUS 2024 OUR ONLY HOPE

Meanwhile, there are brothers and sisters in Christ around the world who face greater turmoil than we do due to war, famine, and disease. It is during these challenging circumstances that some of the great hymns have been written.

One example taken from **AMAZING GRACE**, a 365-day devotional of hymn stories, is the hymn, **'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus**, written by Louisa M. R. Stead. As they vacationed at the beach, her husband drowned trying to save a boy who was floundering in the ocean. Louisa and her daughter watched helplessly as they went under. *"During the sorrowful days that followed, the word of this hymn came from the grief-stricken wife's heart."*

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!

Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!

Louisa and her daughter went on to serve as missionaries in South Africa for more than 25 years of fruitful service. She died a few years later in 1917. Thousands of Christians there sang her hymn in their native language. Imagine how many years passed before apartheid ended in South Africa and their trust in Jesus was rewarded.

May our faith be as strong as that of Louisa and her daughter. Have a blessed August!

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Terry

Scriptures and Messages for August

Ephesians 4:1-16	<u>August 4</u>	"We Must Grow Up...Into Christ"
Ephesians 4:25-5:2	<u>August 11</u>	"Be Kind to One Another"
Ephesians 5:15-20	<u>August 18</u>	"Giving Thanks at All Times"
Ephesians 6:10-20	<u>August 25</u>	"The Whole Armor of God"

Free Spring Library News

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

Tupelo Grove Novel Series
by Colleen Coble & Rick Acker

What We Hide – Savannah Webster is trying to find her way forward. She and her husband Hez have been separated since tragedy tore them apart and he began numbing his grief and guilt with alcohol. She returned to Tupelo Grove University, which her family helped found over a century ago, to teach history. When Hez turns up in her classroom asking for a second chance, she rejects the idea immediately. But twenty-four hours later she's under suspicion for murder, and since Hez is the best attorney she knows, she reluctantly asks him for help. They suspect the murder is tied to someone selling off the university's pre-Columbian artifacts, but the secrets go much deeper than they realize. (This is the first book in the series.)

The Forgotten Names by Mario Escobar

Based on the true story of one ordinary woman who risked everything to reunite Jewish children with the true names they hadn't even realized they'd lost.

Saving Grayson by Chris Fabry

Diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's, Grayson Hayes realizes he must quickly right a terrible injustice – if he could just remember what it is! He heads to his West Virginia hometown in hopes of jogging his memory. As the past takes shape, can he trust God to forgive and reconcile unremembered wrongs?

Unforgiven by Shelley Shepard Gray

Ex-con Seth Zimmerman is making amends by helping the vulnerable in his former Amish community. This mission includes calling on Tabitha Yoder, who was shunned after divorcing her abusive husband. An uneasy friendship is just taking hold when Tabitha's ex-husband returns – and he's willing to do anything to get her back.

Travis Brock Thriller Series by Steven James

Fatal Domain – A series of clues leads Department of Defense redactor Travis Brock to suspect that a grim chapter from his past is not yet over. With the help of his eidetic memory and his newly formed team, he must unearth the truth and stop a terrorist group from stealing from one of the military's most highly guarded technological breakthroughs. (This is the second book in the series; the first book is Broker of Lies.)



Ryland + St. Clair Series by Nancy Mehl

Cold Vengeance – As former FBI analysts turned private investigators, River Ryland and Tony St. Clair are hired to find a missing crime blogger known for investigating cold cases. As they work through the woman's latest case, they awaken a serial killer who will stop at nothing to carry out a deadly plan. (This is the third book in the series; the other books are Cold Pursuit and Cold Threat.)

The Keys to Gramercy Park by Candice Sue Patterson

Nothing unusual happens in lower Manhattan until the day aspiring investigative historical journalist Andrea Andrews discovers post-Civil War counterfeit bills hidden in her apartment wall. Here could be the story she needs to boost her career with the Smithsonian Magazine. Two centuries earlier, wounded Civil War veteran Franklin Davidson lost everything, only to gain a position with the newly formed Secret Service. His new life and home in Gramercy Park are the envy of his peers, but nothing is as it seems. Secrets are meant to be kept, and Franklin will take his to his grave.

~ Kathy Bowman, Librarian



Christian
Education

Christian Education Commission

Our **Fixer Upper** VBS was held July 8-10, with an average of 14 children attending each evening. They learned about how Jesus can renovate lives, just like we renovate houses, to be rebuilt into beautiful creations. For those who saw Ron Gordon's video, you can see the children had a wonderful time. Thank you to Ron for coming and taking pictures and videos so that the congregation could see all the activities. Also, a BIG THANK YOU to our VBS committee – Amber Heimbach, Rachel Naylor, Emily Wagner, Becca Walters, and Brandy Zendt – for their time and efforts in putting together a wonderful VBS. If you see them, please extend your Thank You to them as well.

Around the corner, we will have Teacher Recognition on Sunday, September 15, and we will start putting together a fall Bible Study. For the fall study, we'll be putting out some samples to see what participants may want to focus on. We'll have more info on this later in August in the bulletins.

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

August Deacons of the Month: Warren & Connie Wagner

Nurture Commission News

Our birthday for the month of August is Ron Bell, who celebrates his birthday on Wednesday, August 14. Please remember him with your prayers and cards.

Our church picnic was held on Saturday, July 13, at Pastor Terry's Lodge. It was well attended!

Thank you to Rodney Pry and Tim Henry for your time and talent in filling in for Pastor Terry at the pulpit during the month of July.

A friendly reminder that Time & Talent surveys will be due in October.

~ Jessica Eby (Chair), Karen Logan, Carla Renson, and Nancy Shadel



August Birthday of the Month

Our Birthday of the month for August is Ron Bell, whose birthday is on Wednesday, August 14. Please remember him with your prayers and cards.

Juniata County Food Pantry August Update

An update was not received at the time of printing this newsletter. If one is received later, it will be reported in the bulletin.

Our vestibule is open 24 hours a day to receive non-perishable donations. Donations of cash, checks or gift cards may be deposited in the vestibule's mail slot.

Contact Person: Glenda Fultz, Executive Director
Phone: (717) 436-9718 (answering machine)
E-mail: jcfp122017@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 44, Mifflintown, PA 17059

Location: 114 N Main St, Mifflintown, PA 17059

Hours: Tuesday, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon, and 1:00-5:00 pm
Saturday, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon

Visit our Website: www.jcfoodpantry.com



Food Pantry!



Ukraine Relief Offerings

If you're so led, we encourage you to continue contributing to this effort. Check contributions should be made payable to **Free Spring COB** and write "for *Ukraine*" on the memo line. This will allow us to deposit the check and forward your contributions to the Brethren Disaster Ministries. If using your offering envelope, indicate the amount that it is to go to BRETHREN DISASTER MINISTRIES. You may also use a regular envelope.



Witness Commission

August Food Pantry Delivery by: Carla Renson



Central PA Youth Ministries Summer camp update. Last year the students were challenged to read the entire Bible until returning to Summer Camp 2024. At the beginning of camp this year, each student and leader received a journal format of Ecclesiastes and were taught various techniques on how to apply God's Word and develop a devotional life. Please pray that, in modeling a devotional time, students leave and apply their time with their Heavenly Father.

Child Evangelism Fellowship asks for prayers for teacher and staff, starting more Good News Clubs in the Mifflin, Juniata, and Perry County area, and their Bus Bank Campaign in August. You may donate by sending a check to their office at 55 Howell Drive, Mifflintown, PA 17059.

In the past, several of our members have traveled to Operation Christmas Child repacking in Baltimore during the Thanksgiving holiday. This year we are looking to fill a bus from Juniata County. This would be on November 30, which is the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Our bus would leave at 6:30 am from the Cedar Grove Church upper parking lot. The work shift would be from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. This trip includes a breakfast stop, and there would be food to purchase at the work site for lunch. We should get back early evening so we wouldn't have a dinner stop. If you are interested in reserving a seat, please contact Dina Zug. Cost of the bus will be \$20 per person.

~ Barry Hoffman, Becca Walters, Fina Williams, and Dina Zug (Chair)

Ella Shirk's Pepper Slaw Recipe

Since we no longer have meals at our annual chicken barbecue, I thought you might like to have Ella Shirk's recipe for pepper slaw. This recipe was found on the back of a notebook in the kitchen drawer when we last cleaned the kitchen.



Ella was needed to mix the juice we put on the cabbage and peppers because her recipe was all in her head. One year when Ella was up in years, Kathy Bowman measured each ingredient Ella was going to use. Below is "The Recipe" as it was measured out. You may need to cut it back for your own personal use because this recipe is for 35 lb of cabbage – cleaned and grated!

Early on we used slaw cutters; later on, we used food processors. The specific amount of carrots and peppers added is not listed – we just kept adding until it "looked good".

I am asking those of you who remember Ella to please send Lona your memories of her. She was one of the sweetest persons I've known. She always had a smile on her face and an encouraging comment for everyone despite her life, which was filled with challenges. Lona will add these memories to the newsletter as they come in.

Pepper Slaw for the Free Spring Barbecue "The Recipe"

35 lb of cabbage, cleaned and grated (makes 4 blue dishpans)

To each pan add grated carrots for color.

To each pan add lots of cut peppers of any color for color and taste.

Sprinkle salt over each pan of cabbage.

Add 2-3 TBSP of celery seed to each pan.

In a separate bowl:

4 cups of sugar

2 cups of vinegar

Mix until the sugar dissolves before adding even amounts to the pans of cabbage.

Have your crew taste it, and if all agree it is delicious, it is done.

Let it age for 3-4 hours in or out of the refrigerator.



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



Evelyn Benner
Brookline Continuing Care
Retirement Community
2 Manor Blvd, Rm 222
Mifflintown, PA 17059
(717) 436-1343

Melda Ritchie
3761 Mountain Road
McAlisterville, PA 17049

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

Dot Benson
389 Raccoon Valley Road
Millerstown, PA 17062
(223) 362-2002



The next scheduled worship services will be held as follows:

At North Ridge. **Sunday, August 11, at 2:00 pm** with Tom Wert as speaker and Linda Leonard as pianist.

And at Brookline, **Sunday, August 18, at 2:00 and 3:00 pm** with Allen Zendt as speaker; a pianist and worship leader is still needed for this service.

Please contact Sharon Ritzman as to how you can help with these services.

Church World Service School Kits

to be collected thru August



- One pair of blunt scissors removed from the package (rounded tip only)
- Three 70-count bound notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (no loose-leaf or filler paper)
- One 30-centimeter ruler (12")
- One hand-held pencil sharpener removed from the package
- One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers)
- Six new unsharpened pencils with erasers removed from the package
- One box of 24 crayons (*only* 24)

*12"x14" or 14"x17" cloth bags are in the CWS chest.
Pack all items inside the cloth bag.*

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!)



Sunday School Classes

The Seekers Class, which meets in the upstairs adult classroom, is studying The New Testament Book of John, focusing on one chapter each week. Our teachers are Ron Gordon, Rodney Pry, and Allen Zendt. With their leadership, along with the insightful contributions from class members, it is a lively and active learning experience focusing on scripture. You are welcome to join us any Sunday.

The Explorers Class is continuing our study of Forgiveness with Lesson 5 this week. We'll be focusing on Matthew 18:21-35.

TRUST IN THE
L O R D
WITH ALL YOUR
heart
AND LEAN NOT
— ON YOUR OWN —
UNDERSTANDING.
IN ALL YOUR WAYS SUBMIT
T O H I M,
AND HE WILL MAKE YOUR
paths straight
PROVERBS 3:5-6