

September 2021



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



Children's Day Celebration
Sunday, September 12

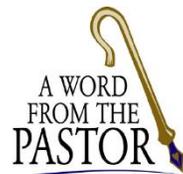


Deacons Meeting
Thursday, September 16
7:00 pm

Meals-On-Wheels Desserts
Tuesday, September 21



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

As I have been preparing messages from the Book of James, the gift of prayer has been impressed upon me. This is perhaps the least embraced or most ignored gift from God. It is amazing to read and hear the thoughtful prayers of God's people throughout history. As we approach Labor Day, I share prayers that come from *The Minister's Annual Manual*, September of 1997.

Prayer of Confession – We work so hard, O Lord, to keep this world in decent order, to keep our virtues away from our vices, our good moments from our weaker ones. But we confess that all our labors have only bound us more deeply to ourselves and we are quite unable to set ourselves free. Show us again and anew what is good, we pray, and what the Lord requires of us that by His grace we may risk doing good, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God. We pray in Jesus Christ's name. Amen.

Prayer of Adoration – O God who scatters the proud in the imaginations of their hearts, who fills the hungry with good things and sends the rich away, receive our adoration and praise. Lift us up to celebrate the gift of your presence and humble us to discover that singular angle of vision that is able to discern your kingdom. We ask this confident of the grace which is ours in Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self – What are we ever called upon to do in response to your grace, O Lord, but to offer ourselves? Indeed, we confess that we belong to You already and what we give in the form of gift or self is always yours. Save us from the poverty of selfishness, the hell of being unable to give, and teach us, we pray, that generosity which did not spare even His own Son but gave Him up for us all. We ask this in His name. Amen.

May you add your prayers for our children and teachers, frontline health workers, and all who labor to protect you. Pray for the many refugees from Afghanistan and all who give them aid and comfort. Pray for the day when the pandemic is truly under control, by God's grace and in His time. I pray for the day when I will see so many whom I haven't seen for a long time.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Terry

**September Deacons of the Month:
Evelyn Benner and Cindy Lucas**

Scriptures and Messages for September

September 5

James 2:1-17

"It Is Not Multiple Choice"

September 12

James 3:1-12

"The Power Behind Your Words"

September 19

James 3:13 - 4:3-8a

"Who Is Wise Among You?"

September 26

James 5:13-20

"The Prayer of Faith, Powerful and Effective"



Children's Day

Sunday, September 12

We are celebrating **Children's Day** on Sunday, September 12!

We have a special time planned for the children during the worship services. All children and young people are welcome to come down to the fellowship hall at the beginning of the 8:30 and 10:30 am worship services. We will be talking about baptism and demonstrating how it is celebrated at Free Spring.

ATTENTION!

Free Spring members and regular attenders!

Ron Gordon will be taking studio photographs of Free Spring families and individuals during the following sessions, so mark your calendars to save these dates: Friday evening, **September 10**, 6:00 to 9:00 pm and Saturday, **September 11**, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

There is no cost to the church or the family. Appointments are unnecessary. Just walk in!

Custom printing will be your responsibility at Walmart or CVS. Digital photos suitable for framing will be emailed to you. Photo releases will also be available to avoid copyright infringement.

See you then in the fellowship hall!!!



Free Spring Library News

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

Amish Front Porch Stories

by Wanda E. Brunstetter



A collection of 18 short stories of love, joy, and the peace found in Amish country. The Brunstetters – Wanda, Jean, and Richelle – share tales of women we can relate to: Anna, who struggles to show love to a cantankerous neighbor; Laura, who endures infertility; Nora, who is consumed with pride; and others.

An Amish Marketplace Novel Series by Amy Clipston

The Coffee Corner – Bethany Gingerich runs a busy and successful coffee place at an Amish market. When regulars Marcus Zook and his grandfather fail to show one Saturday morning, Bethany makes some inquiries only to discover that tragedy has struck. How can Bethany help? And is Micah the special friend Bethany has been praying for? (This is the third book in the series; the other books are The Bake Shop and The Farm Stand.)

Three Sisters Island Series by Suzanne Woods Fisher

On a Coastal Breeze – Everything happens for a reason, Maddie Grayson believes. But her motto gets sorely tested when the new minister parachutes into town and offers her a chance to change what happens next. (This is the second book in the series; the first book is On a Summer Tide.)

Colorado Cowboys Series by Jody Hedlund

A Cowboy for Keeps – Greta Nilsson's trip west to save her ailing little sister, Astrid, could not have gone more wrong. First, bandits hold up her stagecoach, stealing all her money. Then, upon arriving in Fairplay, Colorado, she learns the man she was betrothed to as a mail-order bride has died. Homeless, penniless, and jobless, Greta and her sister are worse off than when they started. (This is the first book in the series.)

The Mountains Between Us by Charles Martin

Flying together on a storm-ravaged night is gifted surgeon Dr. Ben Payne, who is facing an agonizing separation from his wife, and Ashley Knox, a young magazine writer enroute to her wedding. When their plane crashes in a frigid and remote mountain wilderness, Ashley and Ben are plunged into a life-or-death struggle. As the days turn to weeks on the unforgiving mountain, the two heal from their physical wounds, even as

they are forced to confront surprising and painful truths. These intimate conversations and their dependence on each other create an extraordinary bond.

Chandler Sisters Series by Deborah Raney

Finding Wings – Being the youngest of three sisters isn't always easy for Britt Chandler, especially when her older sisters have successful lives and hers is still on hold. She put everything aside to care for her dying mother, but now their mother is gone. Just as her life finally has a chance to blossom, her sister is ordered on bed rest during a difficult pregnancy, and it looks like God is again calling Britt to be a family caregiver – and nothing more. (This is the third book in the series; the other books are Reason to Breathe and Chasing Dreams.)

Red River of the North Series by Lauraine Snelling

Blessing in Disguise – The Bjorklund family has received word that Augusta Bjorklund is on her way from Norway to join them in North Dakota. When the train arrives in the town of Blessing with no Augusta aboard, the worried family hopes she will be on the train in the morning. But only her trunk arrives, so Bridget Bjorklund insists that Hjelder, Augusta's brother, go find her. (This is the sixth book in the series; the other books are An Untamed Land, A New Day Rising, A Land to Call Home, The Reaper's Song, and Tender Mercies.)

~ Kathy Bowman, Librarian



Weekly Bulletin and Monthly Newsletters Online!!

Be sure to check out the church's website at:

www.cob-net.org/church/freespring

At the homepage, click on **MENU** to find the weekly bulletin, monthly newsletter, calendar, Directory address update form, Time & Talent form, and much more!

Note: If the newest document doesn't appear right away, you may need to clear the browser's local cache depending on the search engine:

Chrome: hold the CTRL key while reloading

Firefox: press CTRL+Shift+Delete keys

Microsoft Edge: press CTRL+Shift+Delete keys

Christian Education Commission



September brings back-to-school feelings. While most children and some teachers may say “No, I don’t want to go back”, parents say “Yippee”. On September 19, we’d like to say “Thank You” to our Sunday School teachers with Teacher Recognition. This past year was a little more difficult for Sunday School with and without masks, social distancing, and limited attendance. We’d like to thank the following individuals for stepping up and teaching:

Junior/Senior High with Upper Elementary:

Eric & Ginger Alexander and Wanda Smith

The Seekers Class:

Ron Gordon, Sharon Ritzman, and Allen Zendt

The Explorers/Pairs & Spares Classes:

Jen Sparks, Pastor Terry Smith, and Mark & Becky Zeigler

If anyone would be interested in teaching in the future for either Sunday School or Junior Church, please let Shari know as we’d like to start Junior Church again in the future. Feel free to email her at sharibook56@hotmail.com.

Additionally, please watch the bulletins and next month’s newsletter as we will have a sign-up and schedule for the Fall Breakfast & Bible Study where we will finish Max Lucado’s Life Lessons from Philippians. Don’t be afraid to join us even if you missed the Spring B&B.

There is also a plan for having Movie Nights again with October 16 at 6:00 pm being our return to big screen showings in the fellowship hall. Movie is TBD but mark your calendar and be ready to bring snacks to share!

~Dee Bell, Shari Book, and Mary Zeigler

Sunday School Classes Updates



The Seekers Sunday School Class is currently meeting in the upstairs Adult Sunday School room and is studying the book of Acts. Please join us at 9:30 am each Sunday for stimulating discussion and teaching! Ron Gordon, Allen Zendt, and Sharon Ritzman are currently teaching.

We will be studying Acts, starting with chapter 5 on August 1 and continuing with one chapter each Sunday.

The Sunday school class which meets in the fellowship hall has started a new study – Last Words, seven sayings from the heart of Christ on the cross, written by Robert J. Nash. Christ’s final words on earth are full of forgiveness, hope, and compassion. Last Words explores a fresh perspective on the obedience of the cross, revealing the heart of God who sent His Son to die. Find new meaning in the power and hope of His death.

Nurture Commission News



Thank you to all of you for praying for our church family, delivering and making meals, visiting, and providing transportation to people when needed.

The MP3 players and compatible speakers appear to be working for the shut-ins choosing to use them. Others are finding that using the CD’s are more to their liking. Either method will be available as needed.

Be in prayer for how God is leading you in service to the church and our church family. The 2022 Time & Talent survey will be published soon. Please consider using your talents in service to the Lord.

Please be in prayer for us as we develop our Commission Budgets for 2022. If anyone has any input concerning the Nurture budget, let one of us know.

Please keep all our church family in your prayers and consider reaching out with cards and phone calls to those who can’t attend at this time. They will certainly appreciate knowing they are not forgotten.

Thank you to all of you who make and deliver meals. Thank you to those who send cards and make phone calls and all of you praying for our church family.

Our birthday of the month for September is Gloria Fowler, who celebrates her birthday on the September 14. Please remember Gloria with cards and prayers for this special day.

LOOKING FORWARD:

Children’s Day – Sunday, September 12

Time & Talent Surveys – reminder to Commission members to get updates to the Time & Talent Survey to Lona no later than September 26. Surveys will be distributed Sunday, October 3 and deadline for submission will be Sunday, October 17.

~ Erin Bell, Ron Gordon, Mark Zeigler, and Art Zug



September Birthday of the Month

Our Birthday of the month for September is Gloria Fowler, whose birthday is on September 14. Please remember her with your prayers and cards.



Teacher Recognition Sunday September 19



Witness Commission

September Food Pantry Needs: Toothpaste (6 oz.)



Even though the number of families using the Food Pantry has gone down for several months, we believe it will be busy again coming into the fall months. Thank you to those who are faithfully giving to this community outreach.

Bethesda Mission donations will be collected during the months of September and October. We have been very generous in past years giving to the mission and I know that their need is still great!

Global Food Initiative is one of the outreach programs we support. Through this programs there are farms and greenhouses in Ecuador using educational programs to increase the productivity and enable more fresh produce for the local community. Farmers connected to the Church of the Brethren in Haiti received a grant to purchase quality vegetable seeds. The seeds supply 100 farmers with seed. In the USA, Kansas, Ohio, and Maryland have received grants for hoop houses to churches partnering with schools in their communities to engage in hands-on learning opportunities.

The annual Brethren Disaster Relief Auction will be held on Friday, September 24 and Saturday September 25 at the Lebanon Valley Expo. The Theme Baskets auction will be held at 6:30 pm Friday evening. Please contact Dina Zug if you are making a basket for the auction as they need to be registered online. Auction brochures are available in the narthex; they have some pictures of items that will be for sale this year. Check it out!

~ Jen Sparks, Warren Wagner, Becca Walters, and Dina Zug

Juniata County Food Pantry September Update



September is National Hunger Action Month!

The Pantry has been doing well. Last month we still saw a decrease in clients but we have seen an increase this month. I believe as we go into fall our numbers will continue to increase. What a blessing is all the healthy fresh produce pouring into the Food Pantry! Thank you for sharing the Lord's bounty with your neighbors in need! We also appreciate your support for our summer backpack program as we helped over 80 children spend their summer having fun instead of going hungry.

In July 2021, the Food Pantry served 134 families in need – over 300 individuals. A special thank you to Aldersgate United Methodist Church for providing volunteers for the month.

We are doing well through the COVID-19, however, new volunteers are always being sought. If you feel called, openings are available Tuesday afternoons or Saturday mornings; consider becoming a volunteer. The experience alone is so rewarding. School supplies and backpacks are still being requested while they are on sale. 😊

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: jcftp122017@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





Donations Needed for Bethesda Mission during September and October

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, BBQ sauce, aprons, individually wrapped utensils

Listed below are some other items that are currently needed (new or gently used items are appreciated.):

MEN'S MISSION: shaving razors, shaving cream (small cans), Clorox® wipes, steel-toed work boots (sizes 9.5-11.5), 13 and 30-gal plastic trash bags, silverware, padlocks with keys for lockers, shorts (sizes 34-56), short-sleeved and polo shirts (sizes L-4XL), WalMart gift cards for above items

WOMEN'S MISSION: paper products, stamps, twin comforter sets, twin sheet sets (flat and fitted), gallon-size zip-lock bags, large clear plastic storage bins, Clorox® wipes

COMMUNITY CENTER: school supplies, book bags, board games (new), ear phones, gift cards, Xbox 1, Wii U, Nerf guns, portable soccer nets, soccer balls, dodge balls

MEDICAL CLINIC: anti-fungal cream, aspirin 81 mg, Cepacol® sore throat lozenges, instant hot or cold packs, cough drops (regular and sugar-free), foot powder, hand sanitizer (individual size), Kleenex® (large boxes), multivitamins, Pepto Bismol® tablets, shoe insoles, Tums®

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