

November 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



Candy Making Time!

Set-up: Friday, November 5, 8:00 am

Candy Making: Saturday, November 6, 7:00 am

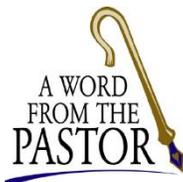
Meals-On-Wheels Desserts

Tuesday, November 16



Thanksgiving Eve Service
Wednesday, November 24, 7:00 pm

All items for the December newsletter and calendar must be in the Free Spring Church office by **Monday, November 22**. 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,

This morning there was a news segment that warned about the higher cost of a typical Thanksgiving meal. Last year, with the smaller family gatherings, the cost was at a ten-year low, but rising production and shipping costs have driven prices much higher this year.

In just a few days at Bible study we will be studying Philippians 4:1-7 and verses 6-7 are highlighted in the introduction to **THE PEACE OF GOD:**

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Max Lucado notes, "We have financial, medical, educational, and spiritual advantages that previous generations never imagined – and yet we have more counselors and psychiatrists seeing more patients and writing more prescriptions than at any other time in history. Why do you think so many people – and so many Christians – lack real peace of mind?"

His prayer of devotion may guide us well toward a real Thanksgiving celebration and the beginning of Advent:

Lord, fill us with a desire for unity. Fill us with joy. Fill us with gentleness and kindness and the firm conviction that your return is soon. Fill us with a thankful spirit and a consuming desire to seek you. Help us to realize that when we are filled with these things, there will be no room in our hearts for worry. Amen.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Terry

Scriptures and Messages for November

November 7

Mark 12:38-44

"He Watched the Crowd"

November 14

Mark 13:1-8

"This Is But the Beginning"

Thanksgiving Week, November 21

Revelation 1:4b-8

"To Him Who Loves Us"

First Sunday in Advent, November 28

Jeremiah 33:14-16

"The Days Are Surely Coming"

Free Spring Library News

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



Aftermath by Terri Blackstock

Three best friends are rocking to the music of their favorite band – until an explosion rips through the venue. Later, the police stop army veteran and security systems expert Dustin Webb and discover a trunk full of incendiary devices in his car. How did they get there? Can attorney and childhood friend Jamie Powell discover who's framing Dustin – and why?

Amish Greenhouse Mystery Series by Wanda Brunstetter

The Robin's Greeting – For the past two years Belinda King, along with her two grown daughters and teenage son, has been struggling to keep the family greenhouse running. Despite disconcerting events that have threatened to put them out of business, they have survived two growing seasons. And now Belinda can focus on the two suitors vying for her attention. Herschel Fisher, a new acquaintance, makes her feel relaxed, and Monroe Esh, an admirer from her past, reminds her of her youth. (This is the third book in the series; the other books are The Crow's Call and The Mockingbird's Song.)

Danger Never Sleeps Series by Lynette Eason

Hostile Intent – Ava Jackson entered the military shortly after high school, but her mother's illness has forced her to request an early discharge. She already lost her father while deployed, and there's no way she's going to let her mother die alone. But after a visit to the nursing facility where her mother lives, Ava is attacked walking back to her car. Fortunately, FBI Special Agent Caden Denning arrives in time to help fight off her attacker. (This is the fourth book in the series; the other books are Collateral Damage, Acceptable Risk, and Active Defense.)

Flight Risk by Cara Putnam

Savannah Daniels has worked hard to build her law practice, to surround herself with good friends, and to be the loyal aunt her troubled niece can always count on. But since her ex-husband's betrayal, she has trouble trusting anyone.

From This Moment by Kim Vogel Sawyer

Jase Edgar moves to Kansas to serve as a youth minister after the sudden death of his fiancée. He and the new church custodian, Lori Fowler – battling her own issues – are enlisted by an Amish weaver to

locate the owner of a ring found in a batch of donated fabric. Can they release their pasts and love again?

Hanger's Horsemen Series by Karen Witemeyer

The Heart's Charge – Members of Hanger's Horsemen, Mark Wallace and Jonah Brooks arrive in Llano County, Texas, to deliver a steed, never expecting they'd deliver a baby as well. Left with an infant to care for, they head to a nearby foundling home, where Mark encounters the woman he'd nearly married a decade ago. (This is the second book in the series; the first book is At Love's Command.)

The following is a nonfiction book:

Bring Back Our Girls by Joe Parkinson & Drew Hinshaw

The untold story unfolds across four continents, from the remote forests of northern Nigeria to the White House; from clandestine meetings in Khartoum safe houses to century-old luxury hotels on picturesque lakes in the Swiss Alps. A twenty-first century story that plumbs the promise and peril of an era whose politics are fueled by the power of hashtag advocacy, this urgent and engrossing work of investigative journalism reveals the unpredictable interconnectedness of our butterfly-wings world, where a few days of online activism can bring years of offline consequences for people continents away.

~ Kathy Bowman, Librarian

Christmas Angel Tree



We are once again supporting the Christmas Angel Tree program this year. Some of you were disappointed last year because we only received three names and participation was limited.

Well, this year we have fourteen names, so we can enjoy shopping for 112 gifts! The tags are on the tree and the chart is on the table nearby. Please remember to write your name on the chart after choosing your tags so that we know what items remain to be purchased.

The program will run through the month of November. All wrapped gifts must be placed by the tree by November 28. Please also remember to attach the tree tag to the outside of the package; this is so we know what it is. We will remove that tag and replace it with a regular tag when we are checking the items off the chart. That way, the gift inside will be a surprise!

Any questions, please ask Cindy Lucas or any of the Deacons. Thank you in advance for your kind hearts and generous spirits!

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.

Be in prayer for how God is leading you in service to the church and our church family. Your 2022 Time & Talent Survey should be filled out and back in the hands of the Board by now. If you still need to fill yours out, please do so now!

Love Feast went smoothly this year. If you have never been to Love Feast, prayerfully consider attending this meaningful service next year.

Music & Worship Committee met and have plans for Thanksgiving eve and Christmas eve services in the works. Look for upcoming information on these services.

"Meet in the Middle" Sunday is planned for October 31. We hope it will be well attended. This is a good time to get to know some others who attend different worship services.

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

Our birthday of the month for November is Ken Laudenslager, whose birthday is on the 18th of the month. Please remember Ken with cards and prayers for his special day.

LOOKING FORWARD:

November 24 – Thanksgiving Eve Service at 7:00 pm

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service at 10:00 pm

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



November Birthday of the Month

Our Birthday of the month for November is Ken Laudenslager, whose birthday is on Thursday, November 18. Please remember him with your

prayers and cards.

November Deacons of the Month:

Allen & Ruth Zendt

Witness Commission

November Food Pantry Needs: Cold Medicines or Pain Relievers



November brings us to Thanksgiving and we have so much to be thankful for. As we celebrate the bounty God has blessed us with, it is a good time as a church to share those blessings with those less fortunate. We on Witness Commission thank you for the opportunity to be your hands and feet as we share with others through the outreach of our church.

On Tuesday October 19, we delivered 24 Emergency Cleanup Buckets, 43 Hygiene Kits, and 64 School Kits to New Windsor. The timeliness of these contributions became evident when the staff at New Windsor were asked about volunteers returning to the Center and we were told that giving is off so much that even staff were concerned at one time for their jobs because donations were not coming in. The need has not gone away.

The Juniata County Food Pantry held their annual meeting on Thursday, October 28. Their report is available in the narthex. This past year they served 186 families made up of 537 individuals with a breakdown of 165 elderly, 247 adults, and 121 children. The Pantry distributes food at their office in Mifflintown and also at two satellite locations in McCoysville and Turkey Valley. Those at the Pantry thank our church for our generous contributions in financial gifts, volunteer hours, and items collected.

Keep up to date on the latest opportunities to serve listed in the bulletin.

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



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!

Order yours starting November 1 by signing up in the church narthex. Also, please sign up to donate cream cheese or make a \$ donation toward the sharp cheese (the sign-up sheet for that is also in the narthex). We also ask you to sign up if you are able to help make the cheeseballs on Friday, December 10.

For those who order cheeseballs, you may pick them up on the following Sundays: December 12, 19, or 26.

Questions? Ask Sharon Ritzman.

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.



Congratulations to Nick and Becky Hess as little Braiden James was born on October 19 at 2:29 am.

Weighing in at 4 lbs 4 oz, he is in NICU for a few days. Both Becky and Braiden are doing well! Praise the Lord! Thanks for your prayers!

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

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

Denton Ritzman
North Ridge Center
Personal Care, Rm 17
99 North Ridge Drive
McAlisterville, PA 17049

Ray & Bev Oberlin
North Ridge Center
Personal Care, Rm 5
99 North Ridge Drive
McAlisterville, PA 17049
(717) 463-2249
(717) 348-1686 (Ray's cell)



Candy Making

Set-up for Candy Making will be **Friday, November 5, at 8:00 am**. Candy Making will begin at **7:00 am on Saturday, November 6**. There are many different jobs that are suitable for everyone. We all know lots of hands make the morning go by fast. The profits from this project go to Children's Aid Society.



Fill out your
Family Profile
For the Church
Directory Update!

2022 Church Directory

It's that time of year again!
Enclosed in this newsletter is the form
for updating or adding your information
in the 2022 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 note that on the form when submitting again. Also, please use a separate form for others not in your household. Extra forms are on the table in the narthex.

The following is a tentative schedule which will be used for completing the 2022 Directory:

Sunday, December 5 and Sunday, December 12 – addresses, birthdays, and anniversaries will be placed in the narthex for review. Any information in red on the address pages is for identifying those who have not provided any information. Changes may be made on these sheets or marked OK in place of a form if you prefer.

Sunday, December 19 and Sunday, December 26 – a full DRAFT copy of the Directory will be placed in the narthex for review.

Sunday, January 2 and Sunday, January 9 – a FINAL DRAFT copy of the Directory will be placed in the narthex for review.

Tuesday, January 11 – FINAL DEADLINE before printing

Wednesday, January 12 and Thursday, January 13 – mailboxes will be updated and 2022 Church Directories will be printed and placed in church mailboxes; extra copies will be available in the narthex.

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

~ Lona Henry, Church Secretary



Wednesday, November 24 at 7:00 pm



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 extra boxes if anyone needs some. Remember, if you would like to follow your box, you can register online. Just a reminder, the church will cover the shipping cost if you so desire.

The deadline for the Shoebox collection is Sunday, November 14. If you have any questions, contact Mary Zeigler.



Looking for a Short-Term Mission Project?

Take a one-day deluxe chartered bus trip (provided by the Juniata Valley Area Team) to the *Operation Christmas Child* processing center in Baltimore on **Monday, November 29, 2021**. (Most schools are off that day for hunting season.)

We will depart from the Lewistown WalMart at 6:00 am and stop in Mifflintown (if needed) for a pick-up. We'll make a breakfast stop around 8:00 am at a location that has two fast-food breakfast options. Our work shift will be from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Participants may pack a lunch or purchase from the Chick-Fil-A that may be temporarily located inside the warehouse.

Our motor coach will leave the Processing Center at 4:15 pm to head home, stopping at 6:00 pm for a dinner break at 83 Diner in York, PA. All meal expenses are extra. We return to Mifflintown (if needed) at 8:45 pm and Lewistown at approximately 9:15 pm.

There are 52 seats available on the bus, and your \$30 per person payment will reserve your seat. Complimentary snacks will be provided on the bus. Seat pricing is based on a full bus. If we don't have enough people sign up, the trip may be canceled, and all funds returned.

Checks are to be made payable to **Tina Goll** and mailed to her at **11401 Fairgrounds Rd, Huntingdon, PA 16652**. In addition to your name, we must have a valid phone number, address, and e-mail for each participant. (*Attendees must be at least 13 years old.*)

We hope to hear from you!

Dave and Tina Goll, Area Coordinators
Operation Christmas Child, Juniata Valley Area Team
OCC.jvat@gmail.com or (215) 378-0250 or (267) 275-5906
Facebook "OCC Juniata Valley PA"