

January 2022



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



Bread & Cup Communion January 2

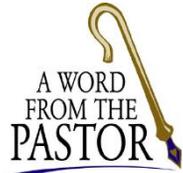


Music & Worship Meeting
Tuesday, January 11
7:00 pm

Meals-On-Wheels Desserts Tuesday, January 18



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

I was just looking at church songs for the New Year's celebration. One begins, "This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on, time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest that pain that's gone." It's easier to sing about laying pain to rest than it is to do it. We continue to pray for many who have lost loved ones or their good health during the current pandemic. Eventually, with God's help, this too will pass, but it certainly has taken longer than anticipated. Do you remember early on when the upper estimate for pandemic deaths was somewhere around 200,000? Now, the 800,000 mark has been surpassed.

We need a new beginning, and God has done His best to help us to start over. The second verse of the song proclaims, "For by the life and death of Jesus, God's mighty Spirit, now as then, can make us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again." Either this makes a difference in how we view our circumstances, or we buy into the despair of the unsaved and the unforgiven who tie most meaning to material goods and prosperity.

The third verse points us in the right direction, "Then let us, with the Spirit's daring, step from the past and leave behind our disappointment, guilt, and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find." I know that I can always use a good dose of "the Spirit's daring" when it is so easy to stay in my comfort zone. The comfortable past gets shaken, but that may be necessary for us to see a new path that God is inviting us to take. He never means for us to take a new direction on our own.

The fourth verse assures us, "Christ is alive, and goes before us to show and share what love can do. This is a day of new beginnings – our God is making all things new." I am thankful for a "new back" and all the prayers and the cards that I received as I am recovering from surgery. May God bless you, and may you be a blessing to others.

I pray that you feel a spirit of renewal as we begin 2022.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Terry

**January Deacons of the Month:
Ron & Dee Bell**

Scriptures and Messages for January

January 2

Matthew 2:1-12

"Where Is the Child?"

January 9

Luke 3:15-22

"The Holy Spirit Descended"

January 16

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

"For the Common Good"

January 23

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

"Working Together"

January 30

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

"Faith, Hope, and Love"



Deacons Called Out

I wish to thank all who participated in the calling out of Deacons on December 12. You have chosen to recall Ron & Dee Bell, Warren & Connie Wagner, and Allen & Ruth Zendt.

We thank all for having served as Deacons previously and being willing to continue to serve in that capacity.

~ Ron Bell, Church Board Chairperson

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

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

Melda Ritchie
3761 Mountain Road
McAlisterville, PA 17049

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

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



Free Spring Library News

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

Heroines of WW II Series by Johnnie Alexander

The Cryptographer's Dilemma – FBI cryptographer Eloise Marshall is grieving the death of her brother, who died during the attack on Pearl Harbor, when she is assigned to investigate a seemingly innocent letter about dolls. Agent Phillip Clayton is ready to enlist and head overseas when asked to work one more FBI job. A case of coded defense coordinates related to dolls should be easy, but not so when the Japanese Consulate gets involved, hearts get entangled, and Phillip goes missing. Can Eloise risk loving and losing again? (This is the first book in the series.)

The Nature of Small Birds by Susie Finkbeiner

In 1975, at the end of the Vietnam War, over 3,000 children were airlifted out of Saigon to be adopted into homes in several countries. This humanitarian effort was put in place in the hopes of providing a better life for these children. Mindy was part of the Operation Babylift relocation program. Although she loved her adoption family, she yearns to return to Vietnam to find her birth mother.

Maple Falls Romance Series by Kathleen Fuller

Hooked on You – Riley McAllister is living the dream in New York City...if the dream means being a struggling mixed-media artist, part-time food delivery driver, and having a carefully curated social media to hide all of the above. She refuses to admit defeat and move back to small-town Maple Falls, but when her grandmother breaks her leg sliding into third base during a softball game (she was safe, by the way), Riley reluctantly agrees to go home and help the woman who raised her – while secretly hoping she can convince Mimi to sell her house and yarn shop and move in with a good friend. Then Riley can return to her new life in NYC, on her own and for good. (This is the first book in the series.)

State of Grace Series by Tammy Gray

Love and a Little White Lie – January Sanders grew up believing karma was more reliable than an imaginary higher power, but after suffering her worst heartbreak in 29 years, she's open to just about anything, including taking a temporary position at her aunt's church. Keeping her lack of faith a secret, January is determined to use her photographic memory to help Grace Community's overworked staff, all while scraping herself off rock bottom. (This is the first book in the series.)



Make You Feel My Love by Robin Lee Hatcher

Escaping an abusive relationship, Chelsea flees to Chickadee Creek to work at her great-aunt Rosemary's antique shop. After his brother's death, actor Liam seeks peace at his vacation home there. When Chelsea discovers an old violin that may have belonged to Liam's great-great-grandmother, will the valuable instrument help them both find healing and love?

Redemption's Light Series by Susan Anne Mason

To Find Her Place – In the midst of WWII, Jane Linder pours all her energy and dreams for a family into her career at the Toronto Children's Aid Society. As acting directress, Jane hopes for a permanent appointment so she can continue making a difference in the lives of troubled children. But if anyone were to find out she is divorced, everything would change. (This is the second book in the series; the first book is A Haven for the Heart.)

Amish Inn novel Series by Beth Wiseman

An Unlikely Match – Evelyn Schrock has dismissed the attempts of every young man in her small Amish community to court her. She's willing to wait for a suitor who shares her curiosities about life and faith. (This is the second book in the series; the first book is A Picture of Love.)

~ Kathy Bowman, Librarian

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR



Don't Discard Your Christmas Cards!

We will again be collecting your Christmas cards for the Truck Stop Ministry.

After you have enjoyed the lovely greetings, place them in the box in the narthex, which has been provided for this purpose. The cards will then be given to the folks at Northridge to use for the cookie bags next year. The residents will trim the cards and prepare them for use so you don't need to do anything to them unless you wish to remove personal writings you'd rather not share. The residents enjoy the work and everyone benefits from their efforts.

Any questions, ask Cindy Lucas. Thank you for your help!

Trash Duty Sign-Up Sheet

There is a new sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex for those who are willing to serve on trash duty. Thank you to those who provide this needed stewardship!



Meat Canning Offerings

An envelope will be provided in the bulletins through the month of January and up to Sunday, February 6 for the Meat Canning project, which is scheduled to take place at Chief Logan Fire Company, February 7-10.

See Art Zug if you'd like to volunteer to help.

Witness Commission

January Food Pantry Needs:

Toilet Paper



There are lots of updates from the past several months. Our Crop walkers raised \$1,825.00! Outstanding donation for this ongoing outreach!

Bethesda Mission collections were a success as usual and Jim Eichman passed along how much they were blessed. There were 65 lbs of food donated and a large amount of clothing items, plus so much more! They really appreciate all that we provide.

Central Pa World Hunger will be holding Meat Canning this year, February 7-10 at the Chief Logan Fire Company. The Committee is looking for donations to cover the cost of the 30,000 lbs of chicken that has been ordered. The price is \$2.00/lb and all monies for this cost comes from donations. Because of Covid guidelines, if you are planning to help, you must schedule a time before that date. Any walk-ins must call ahead or they cannot guarantee you will be able to take part.

The Food Pantry has been busy and our donations are very much needed. While they receive food items from the Central Food Bank, other products are in demand also, and is the reason we collect paper goods and non-food items to donate. We will continue this same approach in the coming year.

In a conversation with Children Aid Society, I asked what their needs are during the year. Therefore, when we collect diapers and baby wipes in the spring, these donations will be split to include them as these are the items they use most in their child care facilities.

As we received the "thank you" from Truck Stop Ministries, I realized this outreach could be expanded and I would like to know your thoughts for doing cookies for Easter? As we have all come to know, the truck drivers out there are very much in demand and this would be another way to show them there are other people who care and appreciate all they do for us!

Happy New Year!

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



Sunday School Classes

The Seekers Sunday School Class is currently meeting in the upstairs Adult Sunday School room. Please join us at 9:30 am each Sunday for stimulating discussion and teaching! Ron Gordon, Rodney Pry, and Allen Zandt are currently teaching the Book of Acts. On December 12 we started on Chapter 21 and are completing one chapter each week.

The Sunday school class which meets in the fellowship hall is starting a Life Guide study on Colossians and Philemon. We'd be glad to have you join us for this study!

Carlisle Truck Stop Cookie Ministry



One constant for the drivers, employees, homeless, and travelers in the greater Carlisle area is our yearly cookie distribution project. Each year many churches and other groups come together to bring a little bit of home baking and holiday cheer to those on the road. All through the summer and fall, individuals have been asking, "Are you going to be doing the cookies this year?" After much thought and prayer, the Board decided to continue this event despite the complications the COVID-19 pandemic presents. We canvassed the locations where we distribute the cookies and almost all are willing to accept the cookies again this year.

The cookies you provide are distributed to approximately 40 locations throughout the Carlisle area, touching thousands of individuals with your generosity and God's love. Last year's distribution total was over 11,000 bags of cookies. The average bag contained eight cookies for a total of about 85,000 cookies! That's a lot of cookies and a wonderful demonstration of love and tenderness from the many individuals who bake them!

Please accept our thanks for your generous support of our cookie distribution ministry – and for making it a great success!

May God bless you all and keep you all safe!

Chaplain Mike, Chaplain Dave, and the Board of Directors
Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry, PO Box 851, Carlisle, PA 17013
(717) 385-7932

www.carlisletruckstopministry.org



Free Spring Church's Website

Our website has a wealth of information that is available to you at any time! In addition to being able to access the weekly bulletin and monthly newsletters (including archived newsletters), there are photos from various activities, the history of our church, forms for updating your Directory information, numerous resources, and so much more. Check it out by visiting <https://cob-net.org/church/freespring/> and click on the MENU button in the top right of the page!

NEW – click on the "Updates To Our Site" link under MENU to see what has been updated and when!



Fill out your
Family Profile
For the Church
Directory Update!

2022 Church Directory Deadline is Approaching!

It's that time of year again! Enclosed in this newsletter or online on the church

website is the form for updating or adding your information in the 2022 Free Spring Church Directory. Extra paper forms are also on the table in the narthex. 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. Please use the form to request a mailbox here at the church (for those who do not already have one), or to select the option to "go green" and have the monthly newsletter e-mailed 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.

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

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

Monday, January 10 – **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

2022 Offering Envelopes have been placed in the narthex. When taking a cartridge, please be sure to write your name on the paper slip included with each cartridge and place it in the designated box to ensure a proper giving statement is provided to you at the end of the year.



Please do not use the new 2022 offering envelopes until on or after January 1, 2022! And, if you have any unused **2021** offering envelopes left over after December 31, 2021, please place them in my mailbox so they may be recycled by having the dates and numbers masked and envelopes used for special offerings throughout the year.

Thank you!

~ Lona Henry, Church Secretary

CWS Emergency Clean-Up Buckets

January and February are the months Free Spring collect supplies for CWS Emergency Clean-Up Buckets.



Below is a list of the supplies needed to complete one Bucket. They may be placed in or beside the CWS chest in the narthex.

One five-gallon bucket with re-sealable lid

Four scouring pads

Seven sponges, including one large

One scrub brush

Eighteen reusable cleaning towels (such as Handi Wipes® or Easy Wipes®)

One 50 oz. or two 25 oz. of bottle(s) of **liquid** laundry detergent

One 16-28 oz bottle liquid disinfectant dish soap)

One 12-16 oz bottle of household cleaner that can be mixed with water
No spray bottles

One package of 48-50 clothespins

Two 50 ft. or one 100 ft. clothesline

Five dust masks

Two pairs heavy-duty, waterproof dishwashing gloves (latex-free, non-surgical)

One pair work gloves (cotton with leather palm or all leather)

24-28 bag roll of heavy-duty or contractor type trash bags (30-45 gallon), on a roll and removed from carton

One 6-9 oz. bottle of non-aerosol insect repellent

NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend,
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty,
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy
And happiness it brings.
Amen.

