

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



Meat Canning at Chief Logan Fire Co February 7-10



MEETING

**Commissions Meeting,
Monday, February 7 at 7:00 pm
Deacons Meeting,
Thursday, February 17 at 7:00 pm**

*MAN-2-MAN Seminar
Saturday, February 19
8:00 am – 12:00 noon*



All items for the March newsletter and calendar must be in the Free Spring Church office by **Monday, February 21**. If we do not receive these items by then, we **WILL NOT** be able to put them in the newsletter.

AND WALK IN THE
WAY OF LOVE, JUST
AS CHRIST LOVED US
AND GAVE HIMSELF UP
FOR US AS A FRAGRANT
OFFERING AND SACRIFICE
TO GOD. ~Ephesians 5:2~
happy valentine's day



Free Spring Church of the Brethren
670 Free Spring Church Road
Mifflintown, PA 17059

February 2022



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Zero degrees outside, but warm inside as the sun is rising in the southeastern sky. In a little over a month, we will be celebrating Ash Wednesday, the Crème Stop will be open, and we will be looking for the first flowers of Spring. It's hard to believe that we will have returned from our BDM trip to Bayboro, North Carolina by then. Pray for

what is now a team of nine, barring any last-minute additions, as we prepare to do what we are able to do.

Isn't that what God calls us to do each day? I think of so many people in the Bible who didn't think that they were able to do what God was calling them to do. They were often surprised by what happened when they stepped out in faith, often without any guarantee of where God was taking them.

As I read about Pastor Bessarab's story in *The Voice of the Martyrs* I was moved by the chain of events. This Tajikistani pastor was once a convicted criminal who many would have written off as spiritually lost forever. He came to know Christ in prison and after his release he returned to minister to the prisoners as well as establish a church. He became a threat to the local mosque as Muslims turned to Christ. Finally, the son of a local mosque leader shot Bessarab through an open window as he was conducting a worship service.

When the young assassin was convicted, Christians were waiting for him in prison, not to do him harm, but to meet him with God's grace. His cellmate was a man who Bessarab had led to Christ, and now the son of the mosque leader accepted Jesus through him. The man who killed Bessarab was now his spiritual grandson!

Who knows whose life you may influence by the grace of God during this month of Valentine love?

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Terry

Scriptures and Messages for February

February 6

Luke 5:1-11

"All Were Amazed"

February 13

Luke 6:17-26

"Blessed Are You"

February 20

Guest Speaker - TBA

February 27

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

"By God's Mercy"

Free Spring Library News

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



Breach of Honor by Janice Cantore

Police officer Leah Radcliff routinely risks her life for others. But at home, her abusive husband, Brad, makes every day a nightmare – until an act of self-defense has deadly consequences. The ensuing investigation reveals Brad's dark side – and a deeper systemic problem. Who else has broken their sacred oath to serve and protect?

A Lady in Attendance by Rachel Fordham

Five years in a New York state reformatory have left a blemish on Hazel's real name. So, when she takes a job as Doctor Gilbert Watts's lady in attendance in 1898, she does so under an alias. In the presence of her quiet and pious employer, Hazel finds more than an income. She finds a friend and a hope that if she can set her tarnished past in order, she might have a future after all.

U. S. Marshals Series by Lisa Harris

The Chase – US Marshal Madison James may not be sure who shot her three months ago, but she does know one thing – it's time to get back out into the field. When her partner, Jonas Quinn, receives a message that a federal warrant just came in on a man connected to a string of bank robberies, Madison jumps at the chance to get back to work. What she and Jonas find is a bank robbery in progress that's gone wrong – and things are about to get worse. (This is the second book in the series; the first book is The Escape.)

Under the Magnolia by T. I. Lowe

Barely a teenager when her mother died, Austin was left to care for six siblings – and a father who retreated into his own darkness. Growing up on their farm was tough. Just when she glimpses a possible future with Vance Cumberland, Austin's father reveals an explosive family secret. Will she finally find freedom in the truth?

The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse by Charlie Mackesy

The author and illustrator offers inspiration and hope in uncertain times in this beautiful book; following the tale of a curious boy, a greedy mole, a wary fox and a wise horse who find themselves together in sometimes difficult terrain, sharing their greatest fears and biggest discoveries about vulnerability, kindness, hope, friendship, and love. The shared adventures

and important conversations between the four friends are full of life lessons that have connected with readers of all ages.

Facing the Dawn by Cynthia Ruchti

With her husband, Liam, off digging wells in Africa, Mara Jacobs knows she should feel proud – but she's exhausted! Then his temporary absence becomes something else, plunging her into sunless grief. Struggling to find a foothold, will Mara discover that even when hope is tenuous, faith is fragile, and the future is unknown, we're never forgotten.

The following is a nonfiction book.

Hoosier Prophet Edited by William Kostlevy and Jay Wittmeyer

These selected writings of Dan West illustrate the influence this visionary Church of the Brethren leader had on peace and service ministries in the 20th century and beyond.

~ Kathy Bowman, Librarian



Treasurer's Report Posted

A copy of the End of Year Treasurer's Report has been posted on the Witness bulletin board located in the hallway by the Library. That report lists what was spent on each line item of our Budget during the year 2021.



If you have a chance to look it over, it's interesting to check out the Witness Commission section. That section shows our outreach. It lists the missions/agencies that we currently support and shows the amount we sent to each of them last year. If there is a + sign after the amount, it means that was the amount sent "plus" an amount listed in the Special Offerings/Other Giving area of the report. The Special Offerings section shows extra funds that were sent to that mission from special offerings, fundraisers, forwarded from individuals, or designated in offering envelopes.

I would encourage everyone to look at the report to become familiar with who we support and to learn what expenses are involved in the day-to-day operations of our church. If you'd like a copy of the report, please let me know and I'll provide one to you. Thanks.

~Becky Zeigler, Treasurer

February Deacons of the Month: Warren & Connie Wagner

Nurture Commission News



Thank you to those who deliver meals to shut-ins.
Thank you to those who deliver sermon recordings.
Thank you to those who provide rides for others.
Thank you to those who visit shut-ins.
Thank you to everyone who said "yes" when asked to serve the church in any way.

Please see the new directory for assignments and mark them on your calendars.

A special thanks to those who help serve at funerals.

Lenten Teas will be held on Saturday mornings at 8:00 am starting on February 26 through April 9. This year they will be led by Jen Sparks. Refreshments are usually provided by the participants.

"Soup"er Bowl Sunday is on Sunday, February 13 after the second worship service. Names starting with A-L, please bring sandwiches, and M-Z, please bring desserts. Soup will be provided by the Deacons. Please bring donations for the Food Pantry.

Lenten Services begin with the Ash Wednesday service on March 2.

The MAN-2-MAN Seminar will be held at the Mechanicsburg COB on Saturday, February 19, 8:00 am to 12:00 noon. There will be information and a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

The Birthday person for February is Elaine Corman, whose birthday is on February 8.

The Winter Banquet is being planned and a sign-up sheet will be placed in the narthex. Please contact Art Zug if you have any questions.

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



February Birthday of the Month

Our Birthday of the month for February is Elaine Corman, whose birthday is on February 8. Please remember her with your prayers and cards.

Witness Commission
February Food Pantry Delivery by:
Judy Burns



Happy Valentine's Day and Presidents Day to all Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

I would like to update you on how our giving is making a difference! You are wonderful supporters!

Offerings given to Food Pantry for the year totaled \$3,250. We have been collecting for Bethesda Mission through our offerings and have sent \$2,605 as of the end of the year. Our Blanket Fund offerings totaled \$2,879. These totals are only what was collected through offerings and will be reported in the Treasurer's Report on the Witness bulletin board and on our website.

Child Evangelism Fellowship is asking for prayers for Perry County to raise up teachers and helpers so they can start weekly Good News Clubs.

Remember to bring in your toilet paper donations for the Food Pantry. As it has been said before, this is not a food item that they receive from the Food Bank but is an item that is very much needed.

Collection for Clean-Up Buckets is on our calendar for January and February. You may bring items in for a bucket or give a monetary donation for purchasing the items. We already have the buckets.

Meat Canning will be held February 7-10 at Chief Logan Fire Company. If you would like to go and help during a shift, please call Jonathon at (717) 250-6840, to schedule your time. There will only be 30 on the floor during a shift.

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



Cards Needed for Truck Stop Ministry Easter Cookies
 We are looking for any type of card that could be used for the Truck Stop Easter Cookie Bags. Thank you!
 ~Witness Commission

Lenten Teas

Lenten Teas will be held this year on Saturday mornings at 9:00 am February 26 through April 3.

Additional details will be provided in the bulletins closer to that date. Please plan to join us! I'm looking forward to sharing with you.
 ~Jen Sparks



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



Food Pantry!

Juniata County Food Pantry February Update

We are so grateful for the support of our local churches as we strive together to follow the Lord's commandment to "share our bread with the hungry" (Isaiah 58:7). With your help we have reached over 300 families, almost 500 folks in need, with food and other supplies in 2021. Please continue to lift your voices in prayer and your hands in service as we share in this ministry to the Lord's beloved people.

In December 2021, the Food Pantry served 200 families – 475 of your neighbors! We thank River Church for sending volunteers for the month of December. If you could help by donating any of the items below, we would be very grateful.

Food Pantry Needs for February: canned beets and mixed vegetables, toilet paper, OTC cold and flu medicines, paper towels, dish detergent, laundry detergent, and any cleaning item.

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



*For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him
should not perish but have everlasting life.*
JOHN 3:16

Meat Canning Offerings

An envelope will be provided in the bulletin each week throughout the month of January and up to Sunday, February 6 for donations designated to the Meat Canning project. The Meat Canning is scheduled to take place at Chief Logan Fire Company, February 7-10. Please see Art Zug if you'd like to volunteer to help.



Please place unused envelopes in Lona's mailbox or on the table in the narthex so that they may be reused.

MAN 2 MAN

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT & BREAKFAST

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2022

AT MECHANICSBURG
CHURCH of the BRETHREN

2022 Church of the Brethren
Annual Conference Moderator

David Sollenberger
Guest Speaker

"Unity and what it means for the church"

John 17: 20-23

8:00 am – 12:00 noon

There will be more information and a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

CWS Emergency Clean-Up Buckets

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

A list of the supplies needed to complete one Bucket is in the Directory. Items may be placed in or beside the CWS chest in the narthex.

The cost to provide a bucket is estimated to be over \$75. You may choose to bring in completed buckets, donate items for the buckets, or make a monetary donation to the Witness Commission to enable bucket items to be purchased. We do have the buckets available, so they are not needed this year. Thank you!



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 Zendt 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!



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!

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