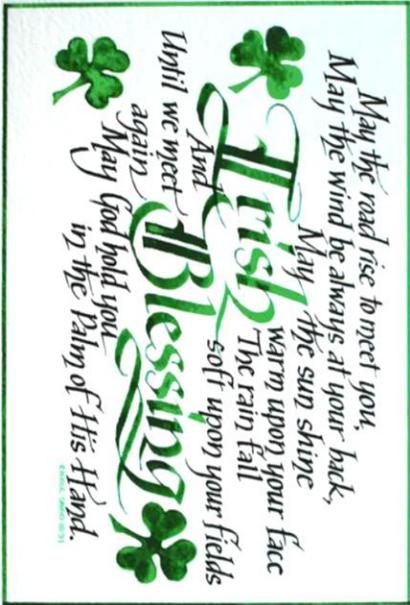


March 2022



*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



## Lenten Teas, Prayer Breakfasts, and Services Schedules inside!



Turkey-Chicken Pickin' Party  
 Monday, March 7  
 at 9:30 am

Free Spring Movie Night  
 Saturday, March 19  
 6:00 pm



All items for the April newsletter and calendar must be in the Free Spring Church office by **Monday, March 21**. 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,

How quickly the weather can change. Early this morning, at 2:30 am, the temperature was sixty-four degrees, and now, nearly noon, it is thirty-four degrees. I still pray that we will see such a rapid drop in the pandemic events, although, I welcome higher temperatures. It looks like the mission trip to North

Carolina will have given us temperatures in the sixties and seventies.

By the time we return from North Carolina, we will be at the gateway of the Lenten season. As I contemplate this time of preparation for the Easter celebration, C. S. Lewis's book GOD IN THE DOCK reminds me that our attitude towards the sin in our lives is often regarded too lightly. Lewis refers to us as "miserable offenders" who need to identify the flaws that we know...who **"should at least make a list on a piece of paper, and make a serious act of penance about each one of them. There is something about the mere words, you know, provided you avoid two dangers, either of sensational exaggeration – trying to work things up and make melodramatic sins out of small matters – or the opposite danger of slurring things over."**

I think that most people are more in danger of the latter as they use lots of excuses in their confession or cushioning their rhetoric. As Lewis says, it is essential to use plain, simple words like theft, or fornication, or hatred, instead of 'I did not mean to be dishonest', or 'I was only a boy then', or 'I lost my temper'. **"I think that this steady facing of what one does know and bringing it before God, without any excuses, and seriously asking for Forgiveness and Grace, and resolving as far as in one lies to do better, is the only way in which to know the fatal thing which is always there, and preventing us from becoming perfectly just to our wife or husband, or being a better employer or employee."**

Lewis provides us a wakeup call for Lent. As we busy ourselves with a multitude of other end of winter activities, let's take time to prepare our hearts before God.

In Christ's Love,

*Pastor Terry*

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

## Scriptures and Messages for March

Luke 4:1-13	<u>March 6</u>	"It Is Written"
Luke 13:31-35	<u>March 13</u>	"Are You Willing?"
Luke 13:1-9	<u>March 20</u>	"The Urgency of the Times"
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	<u>March 27</u>	"A Wideness in God's Mercy"

## Nurture Commission News



Barry and Judy Hoffman joined the church during the second worship service on Sunday, February 13.

Thanks to Rodney Pry for filling in for Pastor Terry on Sunday, February 20 during the worship service.

Lenten Services will be held virtually again this year and will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 2.

Lenten Devotionals have been placed in the Narthex.

Lenten Teas will begin on Saturday, February 26 at 8:00 am and continue each Saturday morning through April 9. This year they will be led by Jen Sparks. Refreshments are usually provided by the participants.

The Nurture Commission will be looking into transportation needs for those members who are unable to drive to the second church service. Please contact Dave Moist if you are unable to drive and would like to be considered for this service. If we have interest, we will bring it up at our next meeting.

The Birthday person for the month of March is Rosalita Leonard, who celebrates her birthday on March 26. Please remember her with your prayers and cards.

Worship Leader during the second worship service for the month of March is David Moist.

Our Spring Council Meeting will be held Thursday, April 21 at 7:00 pm. It is very important for everyone to please try to attend.

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



## March Birthday of the Month

Our Birthday of the month for March is Rosalita Leonard, whose birthday is on March 26. Please remember her with your prayers and cards.

## Free Spring Library News

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



*Brothers in Arms* Series by Mary Connealy

A Man with a Past – Falcon Hunt awakens without a past, or at least not one he can recall. He's got brothers he can't remember, and he's interested in the prettiest woman in the area, Cheyenne. Only trouble is, a few flashes of memory make Falcon wonder if he's already married. He can't imagine abandoning a wife. But his Pa did just that – twice. When Falcon claims his inheritance in the West, Cheyenne is cut out of the ranch she was raised on, leaving her bitter and angry. And then Falcon kisses her, adding confusion and attraction to the mix. (This is the second book in the series; the first book is Braced for Love.)

*State of Grace* Series by Tammy L. Gray

Love and the Silver Lining – When Darcy Malone's dreams of mission work in Guatemala are dashed, Darcy agrees to train a pack of unruly dogs and finds love, forgiveness, and learning to let go in the process. (This is the second book in the series; the first book is Love and a Little White Lie.)

*Wishing Bridge* Series by Ruth Logan Herne

Finding Peace in Wishing Bridge – Jacinda “Jazz” Monroe is a former supermodel who now is a waitress/real estate investor. She is beautiful, confident, rich, famous and the envy of many. But down deep, she is hiding a secret. (This is the third book in the series; the other books are Welcome to Wishing Bridge and At Home in Wishing Bridge.)

Never Miss by Melissa Koslin

Kadance is a former CIA-trained assassin. Lyndon is a researcher hot on the trail of a manmade, soon-to-be-weaponized strain of the Ebola virus. When their worlds collide, they must work together to stop an imminent biological attack on the day of the State of the Union address. Can they beat the clock – and prevent an unthinkable disaster?

*The Quantico Files* Series by Nancy Mehl

Night Fall – When authorities contact the FBI about bodies found on freight trains – all killed the same way – Alex Donovan is forced to confront her troubled past when she recognizes the graffiti messages the killer is leaving behind. In a race against time, Alex must decide how far she will go – and what she is willing to risk – to put a stop to the Train Man. (This is the first book in the series.)

Fresh Scars by Donna Mumma

Asia Butler and her sister, Ivy Butler Morelli, have not spoken in fifteen years. The two endured brutal emotional abuse from their mother, Veronica, and want only to forget the past...and each other. But the past comes calling when they each receive a letter from Veronica's attorney promising much needed cash if they will fulfill her dying wish and consent

to cleaning out their childhood home. Asia and Ivy reluctantly return to their hometown of Emerson, Florida, only to discover the house is a hoarder's nightmare filled with strange mementos and clues hinting that they were not the only victims of Veronica's sadistic nature. Can this new pain be the path to their healing? Will they be able to choose forgiveness over resentment?

*McAlister Family* Series by Carrie Turanksy

No Ocean too Wide – When Laura McAlister, a young lady's maid, learns her three siblings have been taken from their mother and emigrated to Canada without her mother's knowledge, Laura determines to search for them and reunite the family. But lack of funds and resistance from authorities push her to use a false name and take a position with a child emigration society to gain passage to Canada. Andrew Fraser, a wealthy young lawyer, is surprised to see his mother's former lady's maid on board the ship escorting a group of child immigrants, especially when she uses a different name. Laura eventually convinces Andrew to help her search for her siblings and uncover the truth about the treatment of British Home Children. Romantic feelings grow between this unlikely couple, and though they have different backgrounds, they share a growing faith and desire to seek justice and relief for the children who are mistreated. (This is the first book in the series.)

Several DVD's were recently donated to the Free Spring Library for your viewing pleasure. The following is a list by title of the DVD's:

The Case for Christ's Resurrection  
Paul the Apostle  
The Book of Daniel  
The Book of Ruth  
The Lost Years of Jesus  
The Mysterious Prophecy of Isaiah 53  
The Gospel of John  
7 Signs of Christ's Return  
Augustine: A Voice for All Generations  
Jesus: The Desire of the Ages  
Yeshua / Jesus  
Jesus & His Times  
Jesus  
Where Jesus Walked  
Peter and Paul  
Dietrich Bonhoeffer: The Life and Writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer  
Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Memories and Perspectives  
Holy Bible (2 discs)  
The Gates of Jerusalem  
Jesus of Nazareth (2 discs)  
The Book of Acts (2 discs)  
Lee Strobel (3-disc film collection)  
The Jesus Film (2 discs)  
2000 Years of Christianity (5 discs)  
Resurrection

~ Kathy Bowman, Librarian

## Witness Commission

We are excited to again be holding our Lenten Tea this year! Jen Sparks will be leading our discussion beginning on Saturday February 26 and continuing on Saturday mornings at 8:00 am through April 9. Please plan on joining us!



As February comes to a close, we will be gathering items for completion of the Clean-Up Buckets for Church World Service. Thank You to all who gave towards the purchase of supplies or donated items for the buckets. We will provide an update on how many buckets we were able to complete in the weekly bulletin. For the months of March and April we will be collecting Hygiene Kits. If you would like to help complete a Kit, look for the gallon zip lock bags in the narthex which will also include a list of items needed for the Kit. During 2021 CWS sent 180,000 Kits and blankets around the world. Our donations make a difference!

Thank you to Judy Burns for the delivery of items to the Food Pantry collected during January and February. A HUGE thank you to all of you for your continuing support of the Juniata County Food Pantry. During March and April we will be collecting Diapers or Baby Wipes. These items will be split between the Food Pantry and Children's Aid Society.

Children's Aid Society welcomes Wayne Scott as their new Board President. He is a member of the Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren and has served on several committees and on the Elizabethtown College Alumni Assn.

We will be packing Easter cookies for Truck Stop Ministry on Saturday March 19, following the Lenten Tea. Thank you to Sharon Ritzman for taking the donated cards and bags to North Ridge so we have them ready for packing the cookies for the Easter Season. Mark your calendars for that week to bake your favorite cookies and bring them to the church. When I contacted the Ministry, they were very glad to hear we were willing to do this project which reaches many over-the-road truck drivers.

Central Pa Youth Ministries of Juniata County has several events. One is coaching the County Air Rifle team and have their first match this month. They held a tournament in December which involved them inviting and teaching one of their teachers. The winning pair was Chase Kerstetter and Scott Friehl from East Juniata High School. If you would like to receive their newsletter, go to [www.centralpaouthministries.com](http://www.centralpaouthministries.com).

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



## Turkey-Chicken Pickin' Party Monday, March 7 at 9:30 am

We will be deboning chicken and turkeys for Meals-on-Wheels on Monday, March 7, at 9:30 am. Please let Sharon Ritzman know if you can help.



Food Pantry!

## Juniata County Food Pantry March Update

With your faithful support in 2021, we were able to reach 307 families (457 individuals) struggling with hunger in Juniata County and provide them with nutritious, life-giving food and hope! What a wonderful blessing and example of the Lord's command to "feed my sheep"!

In January 2022, the Food Pantry served 157 families – 391 of your neighbors! We thank CMA-4Given Riders for sending volunteers for the month of January.

If you could help by donating the following items, we would be very grateful: all non-perishable foods (especially canned beets and mixed vegetables), toilet paper, and paper products.

*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](mailto: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

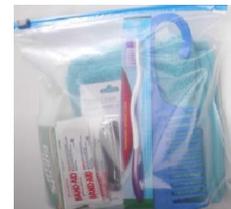
**Visit our Website: [www.jcfoodpantry.com](http://www.jcfoodpantry.com)**



## Church World Service Hygiene Kits (to be collected March – April)

- 1 hand towel (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or micro-fiber)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 wide-tooth comb removed from the package
- 1 finger nail or toe nail clipper removed from the package
- 1 bath-size bar of soap in the wrapper
- 1 toothbrush in the package
- 10 standard size Band-Aids®

*All items need to fit inside a one-gallon plastic zipper closure bag.*



**Truck Stop Ministry  
Easter Cookie-Packing  
Saturday, March 19  
following Lenten Tea**



We now have enough cards collected for the Truck Stop Easter Cookie-Packing, which will take place on Saturday, March 19, following the Lenten Tea. Please bring your baked cookies to the church that Saturday morning and/or come help to pack the cookies for taking to the Truck Stop Ministry. Thank you!  
~*Witness Commission*



Worship Services at Brookline will be held at **2:00 pm** and then again at **3:00 pm** on the following dates:

**March 13  
April 10  
June 5  
September 12  
November 13**

Please let Sharon Ritzman know which services you can help with. We will need a speaker, worship leader and pianist.



**Christian Education Commission**

The VBS Committee has met and decided on the dates of June 20-22 for VBS. They are still trying to find and decide on a curriculum. Additionally, we decided Breakfast & Bible Study will be held Saturday mornings May 7, 14, 21, and 28. We are still trying to choose the study. Keep watch in the bulletins and newsletter for updates for both of these events and possible VBS supply needs.

Also, we want to say "Thank You" to our Sunday School teachers for what they do each week.

Plus, another belated "Thank you" to Eric, Ginger and Wanda for working with the Junior and Senior High class and for the challenge the class presented to the adults in December with reading one chapter of Luke a day from December 1-19. This was followed by a trivia challenge and snacks during the December 19 Sunday School hour. It was then decided that we read the remaining chapters before Easter and then do a trivia challenge and snacks again. Watch the bulletin for the final date of the event.

~ *Dee Bell, Shari Book (Chair), Mary Zeigler, and Allen Zendt*



**Free Spring Movie Night  
Saturday March 19 at 6:00 pm  
in the fellowship hall**

You may bring a snack to share if you'd like.

We will be showing **The Encounter** – an inspirational and intriguing faith-filled family drama about 5 people who are brought face-to-face with Jesus and encouraged to examine the true condition of their lives.



**Sunday School Classes**

The Seekers Class, which meets in the upstairs adult classroom, will be studying the book of Romans, starting with chapter 1 on February 27. Teachers are Ron Gordon, Rodney Pry, and Allen Zendt. You are welcome to join us.

You will learn a lot!

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

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

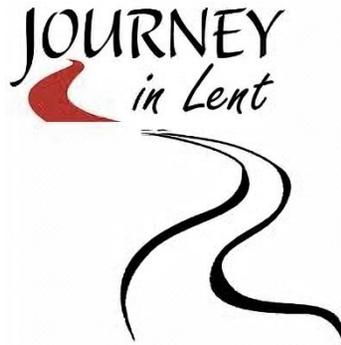
Wayne & Dot Benson  
389 Raccoon Valley Road  
Millerstown, PA 17062  
(717) 589-3419

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





**2022 COMMUNITY LENTEN  
WORSHIP SERIES**  
<https://www.facebook.com/McAlistervilleMin/>  
**All videos premier at 7:00 pm**

*Lenten Teas*

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.



**Port Royal Men's Prayer Breakfasts**

Seven area churches are participating in the Port Royal Ministerium's Annual Men's Prayer Breakfasts, which will be held at **7:00 am** every Saturday during Lent, beginning Saturday, March 5, at the Port Royal Community Building.

The events are open to all men. There is a charge of \$5.00 per person for the breakfast. This covers the cost of the breakfast, which is provided

by the Friendship Fire Company Auxiliary. If you have questions, please see George King. Hope to see many of you men there.

The following speakers are scheduled:

- March 5** – Ken Kitzmiller, retired pastor
- March 12** – Rev Jeff Henry of Lighthouse Community Church
- March 19** – LeRoy Yoder of Shade Mt Fellowship
- March 26** – Rev Nicolas Smith of Stony Run Mission
- April 2** – Garrick Paden, youth pastor at Cedar Grove Brethren in Christ
- April 9** – Sam Leister of Messiah Lutheran Church
- April 16** – Rev Don Walters of Thompsontown Methodist Church

**Ash Wednesday, March 2**

"What Have We Done?"

by Graham Fowler of Lost Creek / McCoysville Presbyterian  
This service will include the Rite of the Ashes.

**Sunday, March 6**

"Will God Show Up?"

by David McElwee of East Salem / Otterbein UMC

**Sunday, March 13**

"Where Is God Leading?"

by Perry Munro of Pine Grove / McAlisterville UMC

**Sunday, March 20**

"Are We There Yet?"

by Kevin Brophy of Browns / St Johns UMC

**Sunday, March 27**

"What Am I Watching?"

by Dave Gingrich of Delaware Mennonite

**Sunday, April 3**

"What's In My Heart?"

by Karen Ward of Trinity Lutheran

**Sunday, April 10**

"How Can I Get Clean?"

by Jodi Strawser of Pass the Salt Ministries

**Good Friday, April 15**

"What Will Nourish My Faith?"

by Terry Smith of Free Spring Church of the Brethren