

# Maple Spring

# Water Cup



Vol. 54 No. 3  
November 2020

MAPLE SPRING CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN HOLLISOPPLE PA 15935 814-479-7062

thanksgiving  
gather  
thankful family  
blessed grateful  
together) leaf  
blessings  
november)

The text is arranged in a vertical, overlapping fashion. The word 'thanksgiving' is at the top in a gold, serif font. Below it, 'gather' is in a brown cursive font, accompanied by a red leafy branch. 'thankful' is in a gold cursive font, and 'family' is in a dark red serif font. 'blessed' is in a green serif font, and 'grateful' is in a gold cursive font. 'together)' is in a dark red cursive font, followed by a brown leaf icon. 'blessings' is in a gold serif font, with two stylized leaves (one orange, one green) to its left. Finally, 'november)' is in a brown cursive font at the bottom.

Our monthly newsletter **Water Cup** distributed gratis to members and friends of the congregation to encourage vital Christian living and to promote participation in the life and work of the Church.

We hope you find this issue of the **Water Cup** informative and helpful. We welcome your contributions and comments.

Published by:

**MAPLE SPRING  
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN  
106 Spring Rd  
Hollsopple, PA 15935  
814- 479-7062**

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**Web Page** – maplespringcob.org

Sunday School 9:30am Sunday  
Worship Service 10:35am Sunday

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Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9am-12pm

Editor Telephone (814) 479-7062  
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Church Secretary Rachel Cable

Church Office Hours  
Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Please have all bulletin announcements in by  
11am on Thursdays

**WATER CUP DEADLINE FOR  
December 2020**  
November 22, 2020

**Mission Statement**

*The living water of Christ wells up  
within us and overflows!*

*It is our mission to be obedient to Christ  
by living in unity and with one another,  
by discipling one another through the Holy Spirit  
and by reaching out to our neighbors.*

**PRAYER PARTNERS THIS MONTH**

Arbutus Blough	and Patty Shaffer
Karen Nagyvathy	and Elsie Michael
Molly Stultz	and Diane Bridge
Pat Koba	and Christine Shroyer
Nancy Gindlesperger	and Jordan Shroyer
Sally Kaufman	and Bill Watkins
Deanna Fisher	and Carol Leverknight
Sandy Watkins	and Arlene Stevens
Marlin Mishler	and Connie Martin



*Pray for another...the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*

*The **Shade Creek/Ridge CoB** is our prayer partner church for the year 2020. Let us at Maple Spring keep them in our prayers.*

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**NURSERY SCHEDULE**

At this time the nursery will be not be staffed

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There will be a special **Council Meeting** for all members immediately after the Worship Service on Sunday, November 15 to discuss the church use guidelines as we prepare for the holiday season.

**Thanks Service:** Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 7 p.m. Anyone wanting to participate with a reading or a song, please see the pastor or Patty Shaffer.

The Conemaugh Township Area Ministries will be hosting a **Prayer Vigil** on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Maple Spring parking lot. This is a nonpartisan Prayer Vigil to pray for our country and all of those running for elected offices. If weather permits, we will meet in small groups to pray. We will also be using the church FM transmitter to allow those that want to stay in their cars the ability to hear what is going on as well. We hope that you will decide to join us in prayer on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 7p.m.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK....



November is a time for football, parades and turkey. For many a time to start with decorating for Christmas. We need to remember that November is a time, a month in itself for Thanksgiving. 2020 has not felt like a year we should be thankful for and yet we know that God, and God alone, has brought us safely this far.

Psalm 107: 21-22 reads: "Oh that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men. Let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare His works with rejoicing."

Do we see God as bringing us safely through this year, or do we focus on the bad? Often we must sacrifice to give thanks, no matter what we have seen or been through. It takes an effort!

This month I encourage you to be thankful, God has blessed us. We need to focus on the blessings. Look and see what the Lord has and is doing. Praise Him.

May you have a joyful and blessed season of Thanksgiving!!

IN HIS LOVE,

*Pastor Chi*



**Please remember the following who are actively serving our country...**

- 1<sup>st</sup> SGT George Adams Army
- MASTER SGT Brock Hemminger Marines
- SGT Adam Veres Army Specialist (Whitney Weimer)
- Jonathan Zaroni US Coast Guard (Cayla Roberts)
- MAJOR Mark Bedrin Army (Katie McDonald)
- SPECIALIST Sierra Alwine, Army
- SrA Nathan Pahel - Air Force - (Annie Bridge)
- Police Officer Matthew Bridge – Richland PD
- AB Jenna A. Hauser – US Airforce

We are thankful for those who do God’s work to protect us. Please pray for our peacekeepers. The Missions and Service Commission has a prayer flag displayed in support of active duty military personnel, 1st responders, EMS, firefighters, police officers, and conscientious objectors\* presently serving from our congregation. If you have a loved you would like to add, please give the name, office, or type of duty, along with a picture to the church office. If you prefer not to submit a picture, we can simply post the name.

\*A conscientious objector is one who is opposed to serving in the armed forces and/or bearing arms on the grounds of moral or religious principles. Conscientious objectors opposed to serving in the military are still required to register with the Selective Service System and will be placed in the Selective Service Alternative Service Program. Length of service in the program will equal the amount of time a man would have served in the military, usually 24 months.

**Please also remember those from our Visitation List**

- Gale Shipley            51 Akers Street  
                                  Johnstown, PA 15905
- Cliff & Sally            960 Woodstown Hwy  
Stuzman                    Hollsopple, PA 15935
- Jim Moran                1056 Soap Hollow Rd  
                                  Hollsopple, PA 15935
- Arlene Stevens        Laurel View Village  
                                  Personal Care  
                                  1000 Vista Dr, Rm 526  
                                  Davidsville, PA 15928
- Iona Holder             Country Manor Rm. 206  
                                  170 Phillips St.  
                                  Jerome, PA 15937

- Don Stutzman            Room 105B, 1404 Hay St  
                                  Berlin, PA 15530
- Betty Shaffer            Richland Woods  
                                  3324 Elton Rd  
                                  Johnstown, PA 15904
- Ruth Friedline         PO Box 111/127 Maple Ln  
                                  Jennerstown, PA 15547
- Phyllis Thomas        Laurel View Village, Rm 522  
                                  2000 Cambridge Rd  
                                  Davidsville, PA 15928
- Marilyn (& Wally)    588 Woodstown Hwy  
Ullery                        Hollsopple, PA 15935

**To send cards and letters to Carole....** Attn: Carole Horner, Bethlen Home, 66 Carey School Rd, Ligonier, PA 15658

The Food Pantry at St. Francis Sharing and Caring needs volunteers to check in clients, pack boxes, stock shelves, and load vehicles with groceries. If you are interested in volunteering for one 3-hour shift each month please contact Michelle Mock at 814-242-5829.

# Sisters in Christ Women's Ministry

106 Spring Rd. Hollsopple, PA 15935

814 479-7062

sistersinchristwm@gmail.com



## A Prayer Of Thanks

© Lenora McWhorter

Published: November 22, 2019

We give thanks to you, oh God,  
for the gift of the Lord Jesus Christ.  
We give thanks for the price He paid  
so that we could have eternal life.

We thank you for the sun by day  
and the stars that lights the night.  
For the seasons that never fail to change  
and that darkness gives way to light.

We thank you, Lord, for daily bread  
and for your mercy and your grace.  
We thank you for the air we breathe  
and the blessings You send by faith.

We thank you, Lord, for joy and sorrow,  
for our tears and for our smiles.  
We thank you for family and friends  
and all those who are part of our lives.

We thank you for what you protect us from  
and for the things you bring us through,  
even the dangers we cannot see  
or when we don't know what to do.

We give you praise, oh Lord, our God,  
and we give thanks for everything.  
For life and health and well being  
and all the good the year will bring.

AMEN

--Submitted by Sue Unger



# Mission Moment

Presented by the Missions and Service Commission

Highlighting missions that Maple Spring supports

The mission of **Operation Christmas Child** is to provide God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

In the summer of 1993, Samaritan's Purse President Franklin Graham received a call from a man in England asking if he'd be willing to fill shoeboxes with gifts for children in war-torn Bosnia. Franklin agreed, but figured Christmas was months away. He forgot about the promise until he received a call back around Thanksgiving asking about the gifts. Franklin asked his friend, the late Pastor Ross Rhoads of Calvary Church of Charlotte, to see if he could help with the need. A Sunday shortly afterward, Pastor Rhoads demonstrated for his congregation how to fill a shoebox with simple gifts and encouraged them to include a letter to the child as well. Within weeks, the church had 11,000 shoeboxes lining their hallways. Due to their generosity, and additional gifts from Canada, Samaritan's Purse sent 28,000 shoebox gifts to children in the Balkans that Christmas.

Every year since, Samaritan's Purse has collected shoebox gifts filled with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items for children around the world. Since 1993, more than **178 million children** in more than 150 countries have received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox. The project delivers not only the joy of what, for many kids, is their first gift ever, but also gives them a tangible expression of God's love.

Tens of thousands of volunteers from local churches around the world partner to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ at festive outreach events where children are surprised with these shoebox gifts. In addition, they have trained over 1.1 million volunteers from these congregations to teach The Greatest Journey, the dynamic follow-up discipleship course for shoebox recipients. Since 2009, 23.3 million children have enrolled in this 12-lesson program to learn how to follow Christ and share Him with others. More than 11.2 million of these boys and girls have made a decision to accept Jesus as their Savior during the course. Many are now praying for and sharing their faith with family and friends. As a result of this ever-expanding witness, new churches are starting and communities are being transformed!

This whole process is made possible by caring individuals who pack shoeboxes full of quality gifts for children in need. Many of these shoebox packers also use the Follow Your Box feature to discover the country where their gift will be delivered.

More than 9,000 year-round volunteers also get the word out about the Samaritan's Purse project across the U.S. In addition, some 80,000 short-term volunteers serve in nearly 5,000 drop-off locations open across the country every year during National Collection Week, the third week in November. Each shoebox collected then travels to one of eight processing centers to be inspected and prepared for international shipment by 90,000 volunteers. All of this is supported by the 27,000 volunteers in their prayer network.

In 2019 alone, more than 10.5 million Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts were collected throughout Australia, Austria, Canada, Finland, Germany, New Zealand, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

*Information obtained from [www.samaritanaspurse.org](http://www.samaritanaspurse.org)*

# DEACON MINISTRY

## ...Serving the Maple Spring Congregation

On September 29<sup>th</sup> I attended our Revival Service, and the question was asked, “*How can we make our church a light in the community like it used to be?*” Later that evening I listened to - no, I “watched” - the presidential debate on TV. The next morning, as I reflected on both events, the thought occurred that, “Perhaps the church is like the debate; everybody talking and nobody listening.” As I opened my Bible to begin my daily devotions, laying on the page that opened was the following meditation that I had clipped from an issue of *Our Daily Bread* and saved, because I thought it has a valuable message. Having received permission, I now share it with you.

### UNITY

Ephesians 4:1-6

“Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.”---Ephesians 4:3

In 1722 a small group of Moravian Christians, who lived in what is now the Czech Republic, found refuge from persecution on the estate of a generous German count. Within four years, more than 300 people came. But instead of an ideal community for persecuted refugees, the settlement became filled with discord. Different perspectives on Christianity brought division. What they did next may seem like a small choice, but it launched an incredible revival: They began to focus on what they agreed on rather than on what they disagreed on. The result was unity.

The apostle Paul strongly encouraged the believers in the church in Ephesus to live in unity. Sin would always bring trouble, selfish desires, and conflict in relationships. But as those who were made “alive with Christ” the Ephesians were called to live out their new identity in practical ways (Ephesians 5:2). Primarily, they were to “make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace” (4:3).

This unity isn’t just simple camaraderie achieved through human strength. We are to “be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love” (v. 2). From a human perspective, it’s impossible to act in this way. We can’t reach unity through our own power but through God’s perfect power “that is at work within us” (3:20).

By: **Estera Piroasca Escobar**

*Father, You who are over all and through all and in all, live among us  
in such a way that unity will be present.*

(Taken from *Our Daily Bread*®, © 2020 by Our Daily Bread Ministries, Grand Rapids, MI.

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---Submitted by Arbutus Blough



The Missions and Service Commission is sponsoring

**Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child**

from now until November 15. A table has been set up in the annex/lobby with information and shoeboxes to be filled or you are welcome to fill your own. If you are unable to donate an entire box, items may be donated to make up boxes. Monetary donations will also be accepted to cover the cost of shipping and buying items to complete boxes. Make checks payable to Maple Spring Church of the Brethren marked Operation Christmas Child and place them in the offering or mail them to the church to the attention Mike Seganos.

Please place your filled shoeboxes or items for shoeboxes under the Christmas tree in the Annex Lobby.

Last day to donate is November 15.



*For more information visit <https://samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/>*

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Pleasant Hill Church of the Brethren Mission team are planning to go to the Dominican Republic next June, to build a Church and have a Bible School for the kids. There will be a Gob Festival on November 7<sup>th</sup> as a fundraiser. You can set up to sell or come to purchase! Contact Scott at 717-602-7821 for more details.

The Mountain Anthems will present a Concert at Thomas Mennonite Church @ 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 8th. We welcome you to attend!

Humble Hands meets every Wednesday from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. We are in need of new members, please join us! We sew, cut patches, crochet, make school kit bags and so much more. Bring a sack lunch, we eat our lunch together and enjoy a devotion as well. If you have questions for this group, please call Connie Zaroni at 629-6738





Did you know that while shopping online, you can also help to support New Day? Just take the following steps before shopping on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and a portion of your eligible purchase price (.5%) will go to New Day. It's simple to do but can help us in a BIG way! **Here's how to shop AmazonSmile:**

1. Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com account information
3. Choose New Day Incorporated, Johnstown, PA as your charitable organization
4. Start shopping!
5. Add a bookmark for [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping. You will know that New Day has been chosen as your charitable organization by checking the top left of your screen where it will indicate you are supporting New Day.

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New Day gift wrap will be happening at the Galleria beginning December 12th. Volunteers are needed to staff the gift wrap booth from 10 am-5 pm each day. Due to Covid, Missions and Service Commission encourages you to contact New Day directly to lead your support by volunteering to staff the booth at a convenient time slot. Please consider volunteering to support this vital ministry. Thank you!

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What better way to start the holidays than to sing to the Lord! New Day will be hosting a **hymn sing** on Sunday, **November 22**, at 6 pm at Oakland United Methodist Church, 1504 Bedford Street, Johnstown. Please come and bring your family and friends!

2020

# NOVEMBER



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	Daylight Savings Time	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Sunday School – 9:30a Worship – 10:35a	<b>7pm-Prayer Vigil</b>		<b>9am – Prayer Humble Hands</b>			Wally Ullery - 80
8	Sunday School – 9:30a Worship – 10:35a <b>6:30p-Mt. Anthems</b>	9	10	11	12	13	14
				Veterans Day <b>9am – Prayer Humble Hands</b>	Reta Alwine – 84 Blaine Leverknight – 81		Tom & Diane Bridge 39 years
15	Sunday School – 9:30a Worship – 10:35a <b>Special Council Meeting</b>	16	17	18	19	20	21
			Ruth Ott - 80	<b>9am – Prayer Humble Hands</b> Tom Korber - 70	Linda Baraniak - 70		
22	Sunday School – 9:30a Worship – 10:35a <b>6p-Hymn Sing New Day 7p-Thanks Service</b>	23	24	25	26	27	28
		WATER CUP ARTICLES DUE	Doug & Jeanne Cober 60 years Jack Strait - 87	<b>9am – Prayer Humble Hands</b>	Thanksgiving <b>Church Office Closed</b> Mike & Tracey Seganos 37 years		
29	Sunday School – 9:30a Worship – 10:35a	30	1	2	3	4	5
		Don & Linda Tresnicky 57 years					

**Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child** until Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. A table has been set up in the annex with info and shoeboxes!

