



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



## ASCENSION OF THE LORD

MAY 26, 2022

Luke 24:44-53 NLT

<sup>44</sup> Then he said, "When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> And he said, "Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day. <sup>47</sup> It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations,[a] beginning in Jerusalem: 'There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.' <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of all these things.

<sup>49</sup> "And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven."

### The Ascension

<sup>50</sup> Then Jesus led them to Bethany, and lifting his hands to heaven, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup> While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. <sup>52</sup> So they worshiped him and then returned to Jerusalem filled with great joy. <sup>53</sup> And they spent all of their time in the Temple, praising God.



Our monthly newsletter, *Water Cup*, is 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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Worship Service.....10:35 am

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*Please have all Sunday Dew Drops announcements in by 11 a.m. on Thursdays.*

**WATER CUP DEADLINE  
for the June 2022 issue  
is May 17, 2022.**



**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 with one another, by discipling one another through the Holy Spirit, and by reaching out to our neighbors.*

**PRAYER PARTNERS THIS MONTH**

Sally Kaufman  
Deanna Fisher  
Marlin Ott  
Karen Nagyvathy  
Molly Stultz  
Pat Koba  
Nancy Gindlesperger  
Bill Watkins



and Arbutus Blough  
and Connie Martin  
and Patty Shaffer  
and Elsie Michael  
and Diane Bridge  
and Christine Shroyer  
and Jordan Shroyer  
and Sandy Watkins

...Pray one for another, that ye may be healed.  
The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. ~ James 5:16b



The **Rummel Church of the Brethren**, Windber, PA is our prayer partner church for the year 2022.



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



George M. Adams IV has retired from the Army after serving 23 years. He and his wife, Lisa, Sons – Quentin & Tristin are living in Georgia.

SGT Adam Veres, Army Specialist (Whitney Weimer)  
Jonathan Zanoni, US Coast Guard (Cayla Roberts)  
MAJOR Mark Bedrin, Army (Katie McDonald)  
SPECIALIST Sierra Alwine, Army  
Ssgt Nathan Pahel, Air Force (Annie Bridge)  
Police Officer Matthew Bridge, Richland PD  
AB Jenna A. Hauser, US Air Force



**PRAYER FLAG**

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, 1<sup>st</sup> responders, EMS, firefighters, police officers, and conscientious objectors, presently serving from our congregation. If you have a loved one 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.

***Please remember those  
on our Visitation List...***

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Jim Moran                 | 1056 Soap Hollow Rd<br>Hollsopple, PA 15935                                |
| Betty Shaffer             | Richland Woods<br>3324 Elton Rd<br>Johnstown, PA 15904                     |
| John Shaffer              | PO Box 247<br>Jerome, PA 15937   |
| Gale Shipley              | 51 Akers Street, Apt. 306<br>Johnstown, PA 15905                           |
| Ruth Stevens              | 125 W. Main Street<br>Stoystown, PA 15563                                  |
| Cliff & Sally<br>Stutzman | Meadow View Nursing Center<br>1404 Hay St., Rm 328<br>Berlin, PA 15530     |
| Phyllis Thomas            | Laurel View Village<br>2000 Cambridge Rd., Rm 522<br>Davidsville, PA 15928 |
| Marilyn Ullery            | 588 Woodstown Hwy.<br>Hollsopple, PA 15935                                 |



### Beliefs

#### What we believe

The central emphasis of the Church of the Brethren is not a creed, but a commitment to follow Christ in simple obedience, to be faithful disciples in the modern world. As do most other Christians, the Brethren believe in God as Creator and loving Sustainer. We confess the Lordship of Christ, and we seek to be guided by the Holy Spirit in every aspect of life, thought, and mission.

We hold the New Testament as our guidebook for living, affirming with it the need for lifelong and faithful study of the Scriptures. Brethren believe that God has revealed an unfolding purpose for the human family and the universe through the Hebrew Scriptures (or Old Testament), and fully in the New Testament. We hold the New Testament as the record of the life, ministry, teaching, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and of the beginnings of the life and thought of the Christian church.

Faithful following of Jesus Christ and obedience to the will of God as revealed in the Scriptures have led us to emphasize principles that we believe are central in true discipleship. Among these are peace and reconciliation, simple living, integrity of speech, family values, and service to neighbors near and far.

(Drawn from "The Brethren Heritage," Elizabethtown College)

#### What it means to be a Christian

The specific words vary from congregation to congregation as members are received into the church, but all affirm their belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. They promise to turn from sin and to live in faithfulness to God and to the church, taking the example and teachings of Jesus as a model. Brethren never stop discussing what that model means for the daily life of the believer.

Seeking to follow Romans 12:2, "Do not be conformed to this world" (NRSV), Brethren insist members should not thoughtlessly adopt the patterns of the world around them. At an earlier time, features like dress, homes, and meetinghouses were distinctively plain as we sought to live what was called "the simple life." Brethren refused military service and practiced nonviolence in the face of violence. We refused to take oaths or go to court to solve problems. These practices set us apart from the world.

Today we seek to interpret biblical teachings in fresh ways for our day. We encourage members to think about what they buy and how they use their money in an affluent society. We are sensitive to the limited resources of our global community. We encourage people to "affirm" rather than "swear" when taking an oath. With earlier Brethren, we believe that "our word should be as good as our bond."

Above all, Brethren seek to pattern our daily living after the life of Jesus: a life of humble service and unconditional love.

As part of a larger body of believers—the church, the body of Christ—we go into all the world today with a mission of witness, service, and reconciliation.

(Drawn from "Who Are These Brethren?," by Joan Deeter; "Reflections on Brethren Heritage and Identity," Brethren Press; "The Brethren Heritage," Elizabethtown College)

#### How do we live out our faith?

It is easy to talk about faith and never get around to doing anything. So the continuing call is to "walk the talk." Alexander Mack, the leader of the earliest Brethren, insisted that they could be recognized "by the manner of their living."

Being a disciple of Jesus Christ, then, affects everything that we say and do. Obedience—meaning obedience of Jesus—has been a key word among Brethren. What we do in the world is just as important as what we do in the church. Christ's style of self-giving love is the example we are called to follow in all our relationships.

That belief shows itself in the giving nature of Brethren. We respond quickly to need. We send money and volunteers to disaster sites. We support soup kitchens, day-care centers, and homeless shelters in our communities. Thousands of people have served around the world through Brethren Volunteer Service. People often know the Brethren through our ministries of compassion.

We believe following Christ means following his example of serving others, healing the broken, and bringing new life and hope to the despairing. We take seriously Jesus' call to love all people, including the "enemy."

In fact, the Church of the Brethren is known as one of the Historic Peace Churches. Brethren have considered participation in war to be unacceptable for Christians and have based this understanding on the teachings of Jesus and on other New Testament texts.

In our concern for the well-being of neighbors near and far, Brethren have begun creative programs to enable the world's poor to walk toward a better life. Heifer Project International (providing livestock for poor families) and SERRV International (supporting craft producers in developing countries), for example, were both begun by Brethren before they grew into ecumenical ministries.

"For the glory of God and my neighbors' good" was a motto of an early Brethren leader, whose own successful printing operation was destroyed due to his opposition to the Revolutionary War. This two-part phrase, turning us both toward God in devotion and toward our neighbors in service, remains an appropriate summary of the church's understanding of the nature of Christian faith.

(Drawn from "Who Are These Brethren?," Joan Deeter; and "Reflections on Brethren Witness" by David Radcliff)

From [www.brethren.org/about/beliefs](http://www.brethren.org/about/beliefs)



## FROM THE PASTOR DAVID...

# Wounded

He lived a wounded life.  
Rejected by many of His own people.  
They said they would get Him and they did.  
Jesus.

Three and a half years HE changed lives publicly hundreds, actually thousands.  
His earthly parents watched as His heavenly Father watched and let it happen.

A man of sorrows.  
A warrior in constant prayer.  
Compassion led His healing of all who asked.

The leaders were always looking to find fault to trick Him in speech.  
The hundreds who followed Him were sacrificial and devoted where ever He walked.  
Jesus chose some rejects, local young guys who were looked down upon by many leaders.  
Fishermen, tax collector, doctor, a fake.

He, Jesus always knew the future where He was going and didn't hesitate to let it be known.  
Often, He and His disciples slept out along a path together avoiding attack of any robbers.  
No close disciple we know of had any paid regular jobs or bank savings to live off of.

These bold men trusted Jesus to live off the land and eat only when the food was made available.  
No showers to clean up every hot day or trim a beard, after sleeping in the dirt at night.  
Maybe a few change of clothes, shoes & no pillow to sleep on.  
Don't know if it was pleasant to swim in the lake and carry the fish odor all day.  
Blankets needed at night air but who wants to travel with a blanket on your back on a hot day.

Jesus kept all His men fed and well taken care of. Often friends & family too.  
The plan was to build a church and the gates of hell won't stop it – and it happened.  
With a enemy attacking every other street corner Jesus never quit or ran away from the crowds.  
All day long He taught for hours, answered questions and listed to personal attacks from enemies.  
No doubt all the stories, and impossible physical healings were exhausting.  
He loved like no other yet corrected the hypocrites and trouble makers.  
No confusion when He said;” Let him without sin cast the first stone”.  
Then Jesus told the adulterous woman,”go and sin no more”.  
But they finally caught Him with His band of disciples and locked Him up.  
Jesus from that point was led as a Lamb to the slaughter as they slapped, spit even beat Him.  
They thought they shut Jesus down laughing and shouting at Him.  
Like a innocent Lamb He took His cross down the street and up the hill.  
Those nails in the gentle loving hands, precious blood dripped from His perfect dusty feet.  
Oh what a sacrifice! How horrific a site to burn in a memory!  
His Father in heaven watched even when 10,000 angels never came to HIS rescue.  
The gawking crowd cheered and mocked with enemy soldiers blaspheming the King of Kings.  
He never came down alive, but hung there, alone for hours taking our guilt to His grave.



Some say you and I were on His mind while He hung there.  
What happened to the faithful disciples who became like a family and then abandoned Him that day?  
They ran and hid and a few denied ever knowing Jesus.  
Hundreds of disciples disappeared.

But Jesus Christ, the King was not sleeping.  
He was visiting the lower parts of earth.  
Some think hell, but I believe He was exhorting the believers in the graves from the centuries.  
Jesus may have preached He would come back to take his believers home forever.  
Three days later the grave stone is rolled away like a pebble and His body gone.

The church began and the disciples became 12 Apostles in the century's to come.  
Yes, Jesus came back and appeared to over 500 people we believe.  
Those apostles helped change thousands of lives, yet many were martyred for Jesus Name.  
And the church continues today with believers martyred every single day; some where.  
He is alive forever more and the victory over death has been won.  
Thank you Jesus!

Churches are promised that the gates of hell will not put its fire out!  
The Holy Spirit was sent as a Comforter and conquer from the throne of God.  
Heaven reminds us that we are surrounded by a large host of witnesses.  
We are His Flock, and Jesus is our wonderful Shepherd.  
If you abide in Jesus, He abides in you, but it say's "IF".  
Not all who claim "LORD" will enter into heaven Jesus said.

The Church, the Flock, Believers are saved only by the blood of Jesus Christ.  
There is no other way by which a man can be saved.  
Jesus; "I am the way, the truth, the life. No one, (no one) comes to the Father  
except by ME".

Precious saints walk by faith and our works are our fruits in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
We can NOT add to what Jesus did but we can honor Him by what we do and say.

Yesterday is gone. We have been forgiven. Today is what counts.

During this season of celebration keep the truth the absolute truth in your life.

As Jesus lives within us, He walks and talks with us and I so love that personal touch!!  
Your life can honor Jesus Christ if we keep Him Lord.

Time is short.

Finish well all for HIS glory!

## LIVING BY THE SPIRIT

“AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,’ **God says,** ‘THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND; AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY, AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS, AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS; EVEN ON MY BONDSLAVES, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN, I WILL IN THOSE DAYS POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT AND THEY SHALL PROPHECY. AND I WILL GRANT WONDERS IN THE SKY ABOVE AND SIGNS ON THE EARTH BELOW, BLOOD, AND FIRE, AND VAPOR OF SMOKE. THE SUN WILL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD, BEFORE THE GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY OF THE LORD SHALL COME. AND IT SHALL BE THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED” (Acts 2:17-21 NASB).

**John answered and said to them all, “As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire” (Luke 3:16).**

- 1** In Acts 2, the disciples saw the fulfillment of God pouring forth His Spirit on all mankind. Pray that God’s Spirit will be free to work powerfully through your church to see His kingdom come and His will be done.
- 2** At Pentecost, three thousand souls were saved, baptized, and added to the fellowship of those initial believers. Pray that God will do another mighty work that brings in a great harvest of souls (Acts 2:41).
- 3** Pray that the Holy Spirit will be so powerfully present in our lives and churches that it will be easy for the lost around us to come to know Christ as Savior and Lord (Acts 2:37-38).
- 4** In John 16:8, we see that the Holy Spirit convicts the lost of sin, righteousness, and judgment. Ask God to send His Spirit to do this saving work in the life of someone you know.
- 5** Today is the National Day of Prayer! Ask God to soften hearts within our nation that we as a people may turn back to love, obey, and worship Him alone.
- 6** In Stephen’s message just before his death, he described his accusers as stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart, always resisting the Holy Spirit (Acts 7:51). Pray that the lost in your community will not resist the Holy Spirit but will be open to His convicting work.
- 7** In Acts 8:29, God’s Spirit told Philip to go join the chariot of an Ethiopian eunuch. Through Philip’s witness, this court official was saved. Pray that your church family will be alert today in hearing the Spirit’s voice and obeying His commands, especially when it involves witnessing to the lost.
- 8** In many churches, we have so grieved the Spirit of God through our lack of faith that little eternal work is being accomplished. Pray that churches will no longer grieve the Holy Spirit but will trust God to accomplish through His abiding power all that He commands us to do (Ephesians 4:30).
- 9** In preparation for going to Cornelius’ house, Peter was told by the Spirit that three men would be looking for him and that he was to accompany them (Acts 10:19-20). Pray that Christians today will be this sensitive to the specific instructions God’s Spirit gives us regarding our daily activities.
- 10** In giving counsel to the newly converted Gentile believers, the church leaders in Jerusalem stated in Acts 15:28 that their decisions seemed good to the Holy Spirit. Pray that your church family and leaders will seek the Holy Spirit’s direction and approval as they make decisions.
- 11** Since the mind set on the flesh is death, pray that Christians all over the country will set their minds on the Spirit of God, experiencing life and peace (Romans 8:6).
- 12** According to Romans 8:14, all who are being led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. Pray that your church family will understand their identity with Christ and will make the choice daily to put to death the immoral deeds of the flesh (Romans 8:13-14).
- 13** Just as in the natural world fire can be a cleansing agent, pray that the purifying fire of the Holy Spirit will first enlighten our minds to see the presence of sin in our lives and then burn away every desire we have for walking in the flesh (Hebrews 12:29).





- 14 Ask God to help your church family to pray at all times in the Spirit and to be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints (Ephesians 6: 18).
- 15 In John 16:7, Jesus called the Holy Spirit the Helper. Pray for someone you know today who needs the help or comfort only the Holy Spirit can give.
- 16 In John 16:13-14, Jesus said the Holy Spirit would glorify Him by taking what comes directly from Jesus and passing it along to us. Pray that your church family will so walk in the Spirit that the glory of Jesus will be magnified with every decision and action.
- 17 Paul understood that through our union with Christ, our flesh has been crucified, and we have been raised to walk in newness of life (Galatians 2:20; Romans 6:4). Pray that today's church will grasp the truth that because of Christ's death and resurrection, we can become completely new.
- 18 Pray that Christians in your community will daily reckon themselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus (Romans 6: 11).
- 19 Pray that Christians everywhere will learn to walk in the Spirit in order to not carry out the sinful desires of the flesh (Galatians 5: 16).
- 20 Walking in the Spirit enables a Christian to be able to confess, "Jesus is Lord!" (1 Corinthians 12:3). Pray that the church will experience the kind of in-depth revival that moves Christians to live completely under the lordship of Christ.
- 21 Knowing exactly what your church family needs in order to function well, God gives spiritual gifts to your church's members for the common good (1 Corinthians 12: 7). Pray that your fellow church members will know, understand, and use their spiritual gifts for the glory of God.
- 22 Pray that your local congregation will truly function as the unified body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12).
- 23 Pray that churches facing conflict and division over the use of spiritual gifts will pursue the "more excellent way" of love described in 1 Corinthians 13. Pray that church members will prioritize the fruit of the Holy Spirit in their individual lives above His manifestational gifts corporately.
- 24 Pray that your church family will recognize and turn away from the deeds of the flesh: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these (Galatians 5: 19-21).
- 25 Pray that your church family will powerfully manifest the fruit of God's Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23).
- 26 Pray that your Christian friends will walk by the Spirit and not become boastful, challenging or envying one another (Galatians 5:25-26).
- 27 Pray for the church in America to become so repulsed by the corruption that comes from walking in the flesh that it makes a greater commitment to sow to the Spirit (Galatians 6:8).
- 28 Pray that the church will come to see the Bible as "the sword of the Spirit" and will train to become more proficient in handling it (Ephesians 6: 17).
- 29 What a blessing it is to know that, along with Jesus, the Holy Spirit intercedes for us according to the will of God (Romans 8:27, 34). Thank God today for giving us such wonderful intercessors!
- 30 The Spirit has warned us that in the later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons (1 Timothy 4: 1). In light of this warning, let's pray for the spiritual protection of our families, churches, and communities.
- 31 John was under great physical and spiritual oppression on the Island of Patmos; yet Revelation 1:10 says he was in the Spirit on the Lord's day. Pray that no matter how challenging things become for followers of Jesus, we will continue to live and walk in submission to the Holy Spirit.



# ST. FRANCIS MARKET

ST. FRANCIS SHARING & CARING THRIFT STORE  
107 STEVENS LANE HOLLISOPPLE, PA 15935

*\*\*Just off the 219 Davidsville exit\*\**



**OPENING DAY**  
**THURSDAY**  
**MAY 26, 2022**  
**3 TO 6**  
**THEN EVERY**  
**THURSDAY INTO**  
**SEPTEMBER**

**MEET YOU AT THE**  
**MARKET**

You never know what you will find at  
the St. Francis Thrift Store.  
It will be open until 6 pm on Thursdays  
during St. Francis Market.

Like us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/CommunityMarketStFrancis>  
Interested in becoming a vendor or have questions?  
Please call or text 814-525-1224

# May 2022

## Maple Spring Church Activities, Birthdays, & Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <b>National Youth Sunday</b> 9:30 Sunday School 10:35 Morning Worship	2	3 Cathy McDonald	4 Sally Shaffer Jim & Darla Moran - 37	5 <b>National Day of Prayer</b>	6	7
8 <b>Mother's Day</b> Savannah Stutzman 9:30 Sunday School 10:35 Morning Worship	9	10 Harold Alwine - 87 Harry & Patty Shaffer - 47	11	12	13	14 Sherry Wojtaszek
15 9:30 Sunday School 10:35 Morning Worship	16	17	18 Harry Shaffer	19	20	21
22 Gary & Connie Martin - 46 9:30 Sunday School 10:35 Morning Worship	23 Nancy Gindlesperger	24	25 Rachel Weible	26 <b>Ascension Day</b>	27	28
29 9:30 Sunday School 10:35 Morning Worship	30 <b>Memorial Day</b>	31	1	2	3	4