



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

LENT

March 2 – April 14

Ash Wednesday – Maundy Thursday



Mark 1:9-15 NIV

The Baptism and Testing of Jesus

⁹ At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

¹² At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, ¹³ and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

Jesus Announces the Good News

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

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**
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Hollsopple, PA 15935
814- 479-7062

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Web Page: maplespringcob.org
www.facebook.com/maplespringcob.jeromepa

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

Pastor David Bennett
Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 am-12 pm
Pastor’s E-mail: pastordavidbennett@gmail.com
Pastor’s Cell Phone:

In emergencies, when the pastor is unavailable, please call Blaine Leverknight at

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Secretary/Editor Melody Pletzer

Church Office Hours
Monday - Friday. 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Please have all Sunday bulletin announcements in by 11 a.m. on Thursdays.

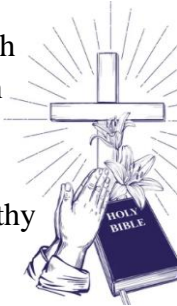
**WATER CUP DEADLINE
for the April 2022 issue
is March 22, 2022.**

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

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



...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, 1st 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
Hollsopple, PA 15935 |
| Betty Shaffer | Richland Woods
3324 Elton Rd
Johnstown, PA 15904 |
| John Shaffer | PO Box 247
Jerome, PA 15937 |
| Gale Shipley | 51 Akers Street, Apt. 306
Johnstown, PA 15905 |
| Ruth Stevens | 125 W. Main Street
Stoystown, PA 15563 |
| Cliff & Sally
Stutzman | Meadow View Nursing Center
1404 Hay St., Rm 328
Berlin, PA 15530 |
| Phyllis Thomas | Laurel View Village
2000 Cambridge Rd., Rm 522
Davidsville, PA 15928 |
| Marilyn Ullery | 588 Woodstown Hwy.
Hollsopple, PA 15935 |



People with a Calling

The fourth and final excerpt in a series taken from the pamphlet, "People with a Calling," published by the Church of The Brethren.

Joining the Church of the Brethren is an exciting and momentous step. More than the end of a journey, it is the beginning of a new life of adventure and responsibility. It is also a step to be taken after study and prayerful meditation. Here, briefly, is what it means.

It is serving the world:

Faith is personal, someone has said, but never private. Jesus spoke of two great commandments: to love God and to love one's neighbor (Matthew 22: 37-39). An evidence of discipleship, of how much we love God, is found in how deeply we love and care for others.

The Church of the Brethren encourages its members in the disciplines of an active prayer life and regular Bible study, but never as ends in themselves. They are spiritual preparation for loving others, for service. You will be becoming a part of a church family that cares about giving clothing, food, shelter and other forms of material aid to those in need. The Brethren are a people who have cared about sharing their faith with others, whether they live next door, or in distant lands. We are Christians who have taken seriously Jesus' summons to love our enemies. Many members, therefore, find military service incompatible with a biblical faith and work at forms of alternative service. Many feel led to witness for peace and justice in other ways as well.

The faith that warms our hearts, Brethren believe, must strengthen our hands and set our feet on a path of devotion and compassion. "To do justice ... love mercy And walk humbly with God" (Micah 6:8) – this is the vision and mission of the people in the Church of the Brethren.

submitted by Michael Stevens

Our Gift of a "Helper"

Do you know you have a "helper" with you ALL the time?

God gave us the Holy Spirit to be our "helper." We receive this gift, when we accept Jesus as our Savior. Do you utilize your gift? How often do you wish you knew what to do in a situation, and wish God would give you the answer to your problem? The Holy Spirit is our advocate, when we pray and ask for His help. The disciples received this gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Jesus told them He would send them a "helper" after He ascended into Heaven.

I am sure there are many days we need God's Divine Wisdom to see us through that day. With what our world has changed into, don't you wish God would put the world back to what it was before all this evil took place in our government, our schools, our medical institutions, our every day living, and even in our churches? We cannot forget that GOD IS IN CONTROL!! We don't understand His plan, but with the Holy Spirit as our guide, we must put our complete trust in Jesus to help us through!

We know that WE WIN in the end! The BIBLE tells us so!

Pray to your "helper" and hold Jesus' hand every day! It's not easy, but remember our reward is spending eternity with Jesus when we accept Him as our Savior!!

HEAVEN IS REAL!! The incredible beauty awaits us – we just must TRUST HIM until He escorts us there!

ALL PRAISE AND HONOR TO THE HOLY TRINITY!!

submitted by Carol Leverknight



Fasting for Lent?

Lent starts this week, on March 2nd, which is Ash Wednesday, the day after Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday, and leads up to Easter, but it does not include Sundays. Unlike Advent, filled with the happy expectation of the impending birth of Jesus, and the glorious celebration of Christmas to come. Lent is a time to humbly contemplate the coming crucifixion, and death of Jesus. We do this with some sadness and regret, because it was our sins that made it necessary for Jesus to die, in order to save mankind from Hell.

Luke 4:1-2 tells us, “Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.” Lent is a time to analyze ourselves, repent of things keeping us from having a closer relationship with Jesus, and to start better spiritual habits that will make us stronger Christians, which brings us closer to Him. During Lent, Christians try live simpler lives, so they can come closer to knowing our Savior, Jesus. In our modern fast-paced world, it is easy to be “tempted” away from doing things that keep us close to Jesus.

In the desert, Jesus fasted and prayed for 40 days, while the Devil tried to tempt Him. This is why many people fast during Lent. They want to come to understand in a small way the sacrifices that Jesus made, for those who would accept His gift. When most people hear the word “fasting,” they think of going without food entirely, and only being able to drink water. And it can be, but it doesn’t have to be. It

can simply be, abstaining from a type of food, or beverage, you know is not good for you, or that you crave too often, like soda or sweets. Also, there are other types of fasts, besides fasting from food.

We can fast from technology. Many people, especially young people, spend enormous amounts of time texting on their phones, in SnapChat, on Twitter or Facebook, or simply surfing the net. A 40-day fast from technology can help us regain time in our schedules we let be “tempted” away from us, which would have been better spent with Jesus. We can fast from a bad habit, which has become an idol in our life. Smokers can fast from smoking. Those who imbibe, can fast from alcohol. TV junkies, can fast from watching TV.

Whatever you think is controlling your time, or your life, you can fast from it during Lent. Lent gives us an opportunity to try something new in our faith walk, or make more time for something we have neglected lately in our faith walk. After fasting, perhaps, you will find the subject of your fast is something you want to change permanently in your life. Please consider doing some sort of 40-day fast for Lent. The more time we make for Jesus in our life, the more times we will see Him in our life.

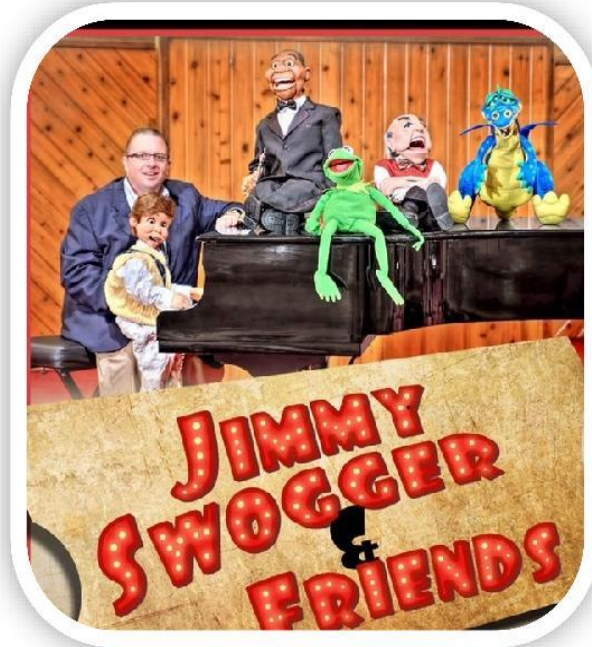
Fasting, Prayer, Bible Reading, Service, Rest, and Self-Examination are some of the most common things we can do to take ourselves farther along on our faith walk, in a straighter path to meet our Savior, Jesus.

Let us start Lent by praying the Lord’s Prayer:
Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.
Amen.

submitted by Melody Pletzer



MEET US AT THE ARK
FOR
HOGAR ENMANUEL'S FUNDRAISER



Dinner & Entertainment

Featuring Concert Artist and Ventriloquist, Jimmy Swogger

at

Camp Harmony's Faith Hall

SATURDAY

APRIL 9, 2022

AT 6:00 P.M.

Requested donation: \$35 pp.

For RESERVATIONS

please contact Karen Nagyvathy|(814) 244-6977,

or Marge Bittner (814) 279-7823.

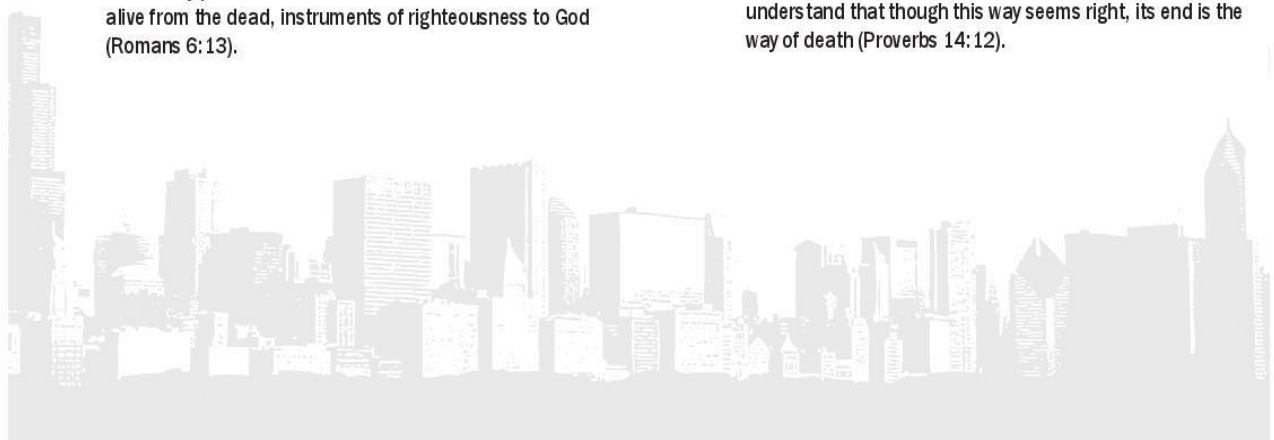


DON'T MISS THE BOAT!

SERVING CHRIST IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness (Romans 6:16-18 NASB).

- 1 Knowing that obedience to sin results in death, pray that every person you know will put their faith in Christ, purposing to walk in faithful obedience to His righteous commands (Romans 6:16).
- 2 Pray that the youth of your church family will understand that when they choose to disobey God, they are in spiritual bondage, living as slaves of sin (Romans 6:16-17).
- 3 We live in an age when many profess to love Jesus, but when examined, their character, values, and actions do not line up with the Word of God. Pray that believers in your community* will understand that loving Christ means obeying His commands (John 14:21, 23).
- 4 Just as earthly fathers discipline their disobedient children, even so our heavenly Father disciplines those He loves (Hebrews 12:9-10). Pray that Christians will recognize God's loving discipline and quickly turn from their disobedience to walk with Him in faithful obedience.
- 5 Being willing to obey God's commands often demonstrates great faith (Hebrews 11:8). Pray that the faith of your church family will increase, and that your local congregation will purpose to walk in obedience to Christ.
- 6 Pray today for your pastor, that God will anoint him to articulate the truth of the Word and call the church to walk in God's ways, in the power of His Holy Spirit (1 Kings 17:24).
- 7 Pray that Christians in your community will stop presenting the members of their bodies to sin, but will instead obediently present their bodies to God as those who are alive from the dead, instruments of righteousness to God (Romans 6:13).
- 8 John 3:36 tells us that whoever believes in Jesus will have eternal life, but the person who does not obey Him will experience God's wrath. Let's ask today that God will send a great harvest of souls, the largest ingathering of new believers our nation has ever experienced.
- 9 Pray that the church will have great wisdom in knowing how to keep God's commands while walking in submission to the authorities He has placed over us (Acts 5:29; Hebrews 13:17).
- 10 Pray that Christians in your community will be obedient in keeping the Great Commandments. Pray that we will truly love God with all of our hearts, souls, and minds, and love our neighbors as we love ourselves (Matthew 22:37-39).
- 11 Deuteronomy 7:9 tells us that God is faithful to keep His covenant and show lovingkindness to those who love Him and keep His commandments. Pray that Christians in our nation will demonstrate a daily commitment to the lordship of Christ as they walk in God's covenant love.
- 12 In Psalm 119:127, the psalmist speaks of loving God's commandments more than fine gold. Pray that your congregation will demonstrate this same kind of passion when it comes to loving God and obeying His Word.
- 13 As believers around the world gather to worship, pray that they will lay aside every distraction to their devotion to Christ and run hard after Him (Hebrews 12:1).
- 14 Many young adults today are leaving the standards of God's Word to follow the humanistic teachings of a godless culture. Pray that their spiritual eyes will be opened to understand that though this way seems right, its end is the way of death (Proverbs 14:12).



- 15** As our nation continues to reject the moral standards of God's Word, thank God today for His loving, merciful discipline as He graciously and patiently calls us to genuine repentance and obedience to His commands (Hebrews 12:10).
- 16** The worldly philosophies of our current culture have influenced many to disregard and disobey God's standards. Pray that your church family will be true to Christ and will habitually set their minds on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God (Colossians 3:1-2).
- 17** Pray that Christians in your community will purpose to walk in holiness as they fear God and obey the commands of Christ, cleansing themselves from thoughts and desires that defile the flesh and spirit (2 Corinthians 7:1).
- 18** Since Christians have become new creatures, called by God to walk in righteousness, pray that your Christian friends will lay aside falsehood, renew their minds, and walk obediently before God (Ephesians 4:23-25).
- 19** Pray that God will increase your church family's love for one another, and in so doing will establish your hearts without blame to walk in holy obedience before Him (1 Thessalonians 3:12-13).
- 20** As churches gather, pray that the Holy Spirit will lead believers into deeper times of prayer and intercession (Romans 8:26).
- 21** In Acts 10:19-20, Peter obeyed the instructions of the Holy Spirit when he was told to accompany the three men who were coming. Pray that Christians today will be just as sensitive and obedient to specific instructions the Spirit may give us regarding God's agenda for our daily activities.
- 22** Romans 8:14 says all who are being led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. Pray that as a corporate body, your church family will obediently follow the leading of God's Spirit.
- 23** 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 we will grasp this truth, reckon ourselves as dead to sinful disobedience, and walk in the newness of Christ.
- 24** Pray that your church family will recognize and obediently turn away from the deeds of the flesh (Galatians 5:19-21).
- 25** Pray that Christians in your community will become so repulsed by the corruption that comes from walking in the flesh that they take steps daily to sow to the Spirit and walk in obedience to the Word of God (Galatians 6:8).
- 26** Take some time to thank God for the way He sends the Spirit of Christ to live inside us, empowering us to know and obediently accomplish His will (Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:13).
- 27** 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). Pray that the families of your church will not be deceived, but will remain faithful in their walk of obedience to Christ.
- 28** Pray that within your community, Christians will become recognizable to the world by the way you love each other (John 13:34-35).
- 29** Thank You, Jesus, for being our light. We praise You for rescuing Your followers from walking in darkness (John 8:12).
- 30** The Enemy loves to entrap Christians in circumstances where they are tempted to disobey. In Romans 13:12, Paul encourages believers to "lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light." Pray that Christians in your community will walk through each day clothed in the light of Jesus.
- 31** 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 of the Ethiopian queen was saved. Pray that your church family will be alert today to hearing the Spirit's voice and obeying His commands, especially when it involves witnessing to the lost.

***When we encourage you to pray for believers in your community, we see you as one who is standing in the gap on behalf of God's people (Ezekiel 22:30). Like Abraham (Genesis 18:16-33), Moses (Numbers 14:11-20), and Daniel (Daniel 9:4-19), we encourage you to embrace the role of an intercessor, taking the needs of your community before God. Do not be discouraged if you feel alone in this role; God always has a remnant. Visit AdoptAStreet.US/map to see others who are standing in the gap in your area.**

March 2022

Maple Spring Church Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	1 Travis & Samantha Kane	2 Ash Wednesday Lent begins Diane Bridge Ron & Adrienne Punako	3	4 World Day of Prayer Zac Todaro	5 Bob Lape
6 Jeanne Cober	7 Mackenzie Rosenbaum	8 Kieran Kane	9 Larry & Donna Graham	10	11	12 Rosalyn Todaro
13 Deirdre Keim	14	15 John Unger Cliff Stutzman	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 Jamie Beahr
20	21	22	23	24	25 Joe Stutzman Blaine & Carol Leverknight	26
27	28	29	30 Molly Stultz	31	1	2

March 2022

Maple Spring Church Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	1 9:00 am Humble Hands	2 Ash Wednesday Lent begins 9:00 am Prayer	3	4 World Day of Prayer	5
6 First Sunday of Lent 9:30 Sunday School 10:35 Morning Worship 6:00 Awana Club	7	8 9:00 am Humble Hands	9 9:00 am Prayer	10	11	12 Daylight Savings Time begins tomorrow! Turn your clocks one hour ahead at bedtime! So, you will be on time for church!
13 Second Sunday of Lent 9:30 Sunday School 10:35 Morning Worship 6:00 Awana Club	14	15 Shoe Packing Day at ICA Building 9:00 am Humble Hands	16 9:00 am Prayer	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19
20 Third Sunday of Lent 9:30 Sunday School 10:35 Morning Worship 6:00 Awana Club	21	22 9:00 am Humble Hands	23 9:00 am Prayer	24	25	26
27 Fourth Sunday of Lent 9:30 Sunday School 10:35 Morning Worship 6:00 Awana Club	28	29 9:00 am Humble Hands	30 9:00 am Prayer	31	1	2