

Maple Spring

Water Cup

March 2023



Vol. 56, No. 6

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



A PRAYER FOR A LENTEN SPIRIT

Be with me this Lent, Jesus, and deepen my spirit.

Let my every sacrifice be underscored with gratitude and humility.

By giving something up,

may I discover anew all I have taken for granted.

In each small effort,

may I recognize my need for your strength and grace.

As I empty myself through fasting,

make me mindful of those for whom

scarcity is an everyday reality.

As I abstain from negativity, self-righteousness,

and arrogance,

replenish me with kindness, understanding,

and good humor.

Be with me this Lent, Jesus, and turn my spirit

towards you.

Amen.



(Free for ministry use from SadlerReligion.com)

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

Web Page: MapleSpringCOB.org

Sunday School.....9:15 am
Sunday Morning Prayer....10:15 am
Worship Service.....10:35 am

In emergencies, in the pastor's absence, call
Tim McDonald, Board Chairperson,
or that week's Deacons On-Call,
who are posted weekly in the *Dew Drops*.

ONE CALL/PRAYER CHAIN

To make a prayer request through our One Call system, please make all prayer requests to Arbutus Blough.

Secretary/Editor: Melody Pletzer

Office Hours: Wed. & Thu. 9 am – 4 pm, Fri. 9 am – 3 pm

E-mail: MapleSpringCOB@atlanticbb.net

Editor's Telephone: 814-479-7062

www.facebook.com/MapleSpringChurch



**Please submit all bulletin items
and *Dew Drops* announcements
to the office by 11 a.m. on Thursdays.**

***WATER CUP* DEADLINE
for the April 2023 issue
is March 15, 2023.**

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 disciplining one another through the Holy Spirit, and by reaching out to our neighbors.



PRAYER PARTNERS THIS MONTH

Arbutus Blough and Elsie Michael
Sally Kaufman and Jordan Shroyer
Deanna Fisher and Sandy Watkins
Marlin Ott 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 **Way of Hope Christian Fellowship** of Hollsopple, PA is our prayer partner church for the year 2023. Please keep our prayer partner church and Pastor Rob Rummel in your prayers.



How to Pray

*Kneel at the Throne of Grace.
Clasp your hands together.
Bow your head, lower your face.*

*Open your mind.
Speak from your heart.
Answers you will find.*

*He freely gives,
to all who ask,
because He lives.*



Original poem submitted by Star Pletzer

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



SGT Adam Veres, Army Specialist (Whitney Weimer)
Jonathan Zaroni, 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.

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

Reta Alwine	767 Soap Hollow Rd. Hollsopple, PA 15935
Howard & Helen Hildebrand	Laurel View Village 2000 Cambridge Dr. Davidsville, PA 15928
Jim Moran	1056 Soap Hollow Rd Hollsopple, PA 15935
Marlin Ott	Laurel View Village Vista Apt. #813 2000 Cambridge Dr. Davidsville, PA 15928
Betty Shaffer	Richland Woods 3324 Elton Rd Johnstown, PA 15904
Doris Shaffer	c/o Rest Assured Living Center 1137 Shirleys Hollow Rd. Meyersdale, PA 15552
Gale Shipley	51 Akers Street, Apt. 306 Johnstown, PA 15905
Owen Stevens	1000 Vista Dr., Apt. 825 Davidsville, PA 15928
Ruth Stevens	125 W. Main Street Stoystown, PA 15563
Cliff & Sally Stutzman	Meadow View Nursing Center 1404 Hay St., Rm 328 Berlin, PA 15530
Emma Thomas	822 Fisher Rd. Boswell, PA 15531
Phyllis Thomas	Laurel View Village 2000 Cambridge Rd., Rm 522 Davidsville, PA 15928

DEACON MINISTRY...Serving the Maple Spring Congregation

It should be abnormal for us as believers not to pray. Prayer should be as normal a part of our daily lives as eating and breathing. ~Tony Evans



Prayer Living

“I’ll pray for you.” Have you ever said that to someone, and then forgotten to pray? Or have you closed your eyes at Sunday morning worship only to realize it was the first time you prayed all week?

Chances are, we notice if we haven’t eaten in a few hours. It would only take a few seconds to discover we were in trouble if we couldn’t breathe. Prayer should be the same—we should be unable to get through a day without prayer. We should notice if a few hours have gone by and we haven’t been in touch with our Lord.

Prayer is as important as eating and breathing, for it is our lifeline to the One who guides us and walks with us through each day.

Today, practice the presence of prayer. See what happens!



Be cheerful no matter what; pray all the time; thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 MSG



(An excerpt from *Practicing the Presence of Jesus* by Wally Armstrong.)

Submitted by Nancy Dunmyer

Following the Good Shepherd

"I am the good shepherd, and I know My own, and My own know Me, just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will listen to My voice; and they will become one flock, with one shepherd" (John 10:14-16 NASB).

- 1** Let's begin this month by praising God for knowing those who are His and for calling us, whether Jew or Gentile, to be one flock under His perfect leadership (John 10:14-16).
- 2** As the Good Shepherd, Jesus taught that true Christianity involves knowing Him personally (John 10:14). Pray for a change of heart and understanding to take place for any in your church who have reduced Christianity to a religious system of knowing about Jesus and trying to be good.
- 3** Since our love relationship with Jesus is modeled by His love relationship with God the Father, pray that the church will better understand and live out the submissive, obedient love Jesus demonstrated toward His Father (John 10:15).
- 4** In a day when many communities see the church divided and at odds with one another, pray that the Christians in your community will pursue unity in spirit, as one flock with one shepherd (John 10:16).
- 5** Jesus identified Himself as the kind of shepherd whose sheep follow Him because they know His voice (John 10:4). Pray that the kind of spiritual relationship and intimacy required to consistently recognize Jesus' voice and activity will be restored to today's church.
- 6** With many voices proclaiming strange, unbiblical "truths" today, pray that your church family will be discerning enough to steer clear from any person or teaching that is not from God (John 10:5).
- 7** Pray that the spiritually lost in your community will understand that if they are not following Jesus, they are easy prey for the thief whose intent is to steal, kill, and destroy them (John 10:10).
- 8** Pause to thank God for sending the Good Shepherd, the One who said, "I give them eternal life, and they will never perish; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand" (John 10:28).
- 9** Pray for those around you who have spiritual, physical, emotional, or relational needs, asking the Good Shepherd to so work in their lives that they too can testify, as David did, "The LORD is my shepherd, I will not be in need" (Psalm 23:1).
- 10** For those you know who need to lie down in green pastures and be led beside quiet waters, pray that they will submit to the loving leadership of God, trusting Him to understand their needs and to provide for the deepest longings of their souls (Psalm 23:2-3).
- 11** Pray that your Good Shepherd will daily guide you in paths of righteousness so that His reputation and name will be more fully exalted in your neighborhood and community (Psalm 23:3).
- 12** Knowing that Christian missionaries, pastors, and believers around the world are walking through the valley of the shadow of death right now, pray that they will fear no evil but will be comforted by the rod and staff of our gracious Shepherd (Psalm 23:4).
- 13** For Christians who are being persecuted by enemies of the faith, pray that even in front of their enemies' eyes, God will so bless and anoint them that their cup overflows (Psalm 23:5).
- 14** Having been blessed by the goodness and lovingkindness of God, take time today to praise Him for being the wonderful shepherd He is. Thank Him for the assurance of knowing there is an eternal home He is preparing for those who know and follow Him (Psalm 23:6).



- 15** As Moses asked God to provide a godly successor for the Hebrews so they would “not be like sheep that have no shepherd” (Numbers 27:17), pray that Christian churches in your city will be continually blessed with leaders who are sent and anointed by God to shepherd His people.
- 16** Throughout biblical and church history, God has at times intentionally scattered His people. This is one of His corporate, remedial judgments when His people sin against Him (Ezekiel 36:19). As churches in your community find their members being scattered to other churches or back into the world, pray that they will corporately repent as they make the connection between their sins and God’s discipline.
- 17** When God’s sheep are scattered because of His discipline, pray that they will not miss the reason for the scattering and consequently grieve God and profane His name through their prideful, unrepentant attitudes and actions (Ezekiel 36:20-21).
- 18** Even as David appealed to God to forever carry His sheep like a shepherd carries a lamb, pray that God will save, bless, and carry the members of your church family as they journey with Him (Psalm 28:9).
- 19** The psalmist said that death would be the shepherd to those who put their trust in their own wisdom and riches (Psalm 49:12-14). Pray that the wealthy and wise of your community will turn to Jesus for eternal, spiritual life.
- 20** Pray that the Shepherd of Israel, who is enthroned above the cherubim, will save the lost of your community, restore His life within the churches of your city, and cause His face to shine on every believer (Psalm 80:1-3).
- 21** Pray that the Good Shepherd will send wise men throughout your community to speak words of godly wisdom that are like well-driven nails (Ecclesiastes 12:11).
- 22** Ask the Good Shepherd to send godly under-shepherds into the churches of your city to exercise oversight, “not under compulsion but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not with greed but with eagerness,” not domineering over those under their care, but being good examples (1 Peter 5:2-3).
- 23** Recognizing Jesus as the Shepherd and Guardian of our souls, pray that those who are His will stop straying from His presence but will die to sin and live for righteousness (1 Peter 2:24-25).
- 24** Just as a shepherd gathers his sheep to keep them safe from their enemies, pray that God will give the people of your church a unifying focus on Jesus and the truths of His Word in order to keep them safe from the schemes of our adversary (1 Peter 5:8).
- 25** As the people of God’s pasture and the sheep of His hand, pray that we will daily be attentive to the voice of our Shepherd, being careful to not harden our hearts like the Hebrews in the wilderness who rebelled against His sovereignty and tested His leadership (Psalm 95:7-9).
- 26** Pray that we will manifest an attitude of humility in serving the Good Shepherd, knowing that “it is He who has made us, and not we ourselves” (Psalm 100:3).
- 27** Pray for any in your church family who have strayed from God like a lost sheep, asking our Shepherd to guide them back to that place of walking in the Spirit and obeying His commands (Psalm 119:176).
- 28** Pray for great conviction to be felt and repentance to be experienced by those pastors who are destroying and scattering the sheep of God’s pasture (Jeremiah 23:1).
- 29** For those churches whose pastors have destroyed God’s flock, pray that God will place new pastors over His sheep, leading hurting members back to the place where they will “not be afraid any longer, nor be terrified, nor will any be missing” (Jeremiah 23:4).
- 30** Pray that the great Shepherd of the sheep will equip us “in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight” (Hebrews 13:20-21).
- 31** Even if we have to suffer great persecution in the days to come, pray that we will obediently press on in serving Christ, motivated by the thought that someday our Good Shepherd will guide us to the springs of the water of life and will wipe every tear from our eyes (Revelation 7:17).



THE PUZZLE PAGE

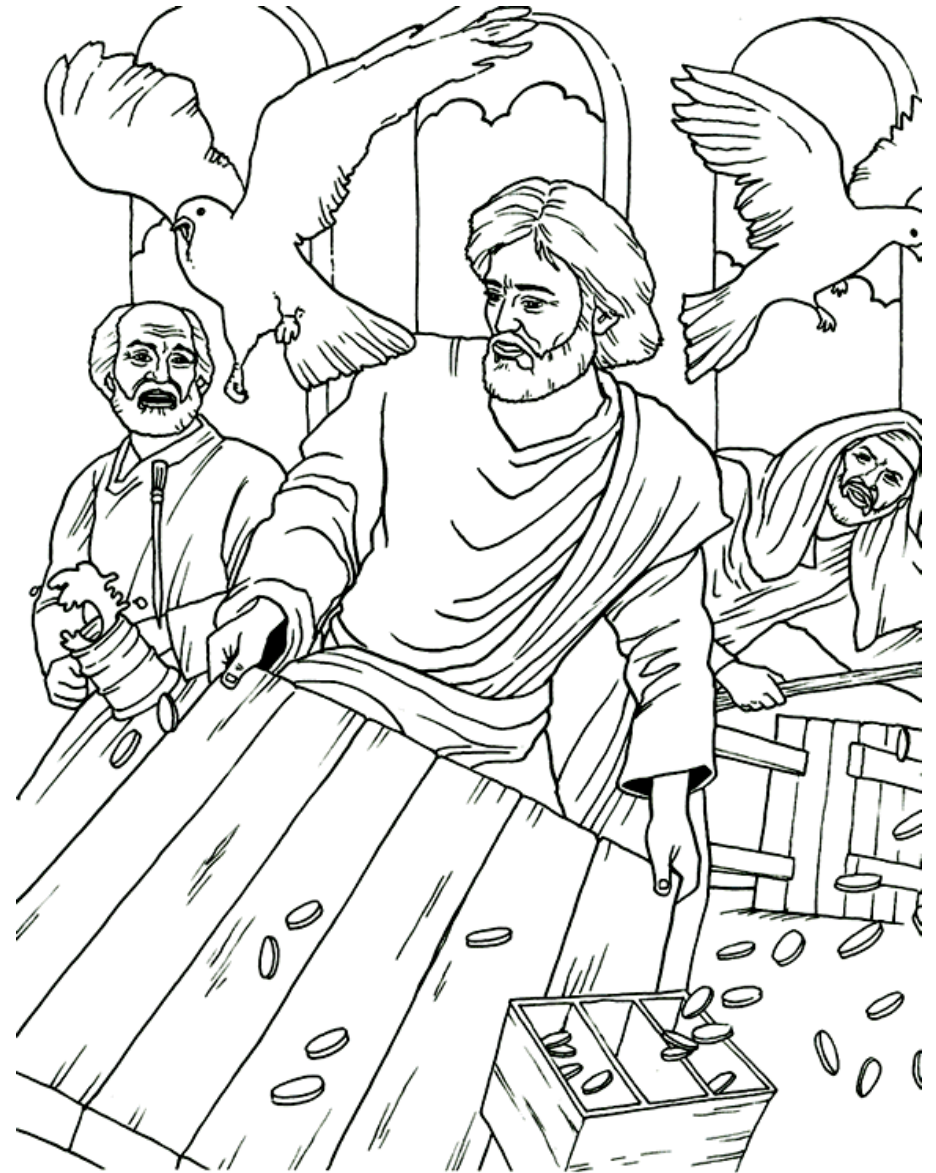
In Preparation for Lent:
Spring Cleaning

Cleansing the Temple

John 2:13-16

C W C M C P A S S O V E R U N
H F O B A Y D M O N E Y J A V
A F U F T R K Y G E Q H K M S
N O R G T P K I F F F G E G C
G T T T L U I E C G K L S G A
E E S E E Q N D T T A E N X T
R C O M J D O V E S L I S B T
S R B P S B B G U B L E P R E
H D G L G Z N R A L E E I X R
J L R E Y I E T E Z E I W E E
P E K O T J X S C H F X H W D
E E W T V J N M S E H K I W V
W D I I P E H O U S E G P I Z
N S D R S C D U C O R D S M S
K V C X C H N A T I M E E G G

DROVE	SCATTERED	JERUSALEM	PASSOVER	SITTING
TEMPLE	COURTS	DOVES	SHEEP	CATTLE
TIME	MARKET	CHANGERS	JEWISH	MONEY
SELLING	HOUSE	TABLES	WHIP	CORDS



Jesus Cleansing the Temple

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March 2023

Maple Spring Church Activities, Birthdays, & Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>First Sunday in Lent 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship Fellowship Meal Tracey Seganos 61</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>9:00 Humble Hands</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>Ron & Adrienne Punako</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>World Day of Prayer Conemaugh Township Volunteer Fire Dept. Fish Fry 4-7 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>Zac Todaro</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>Second Sunday in Lent 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>9:00 Humble Hands Mackenzie Rosebaum</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>Jakob Hostetler</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>Larry & Donna Graham</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>Conemaugh Township Volunteer Fire Dept. Fish Fry 4-7 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>Third Sunday in Lent 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship Rosalyn Todaro</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>Deirdre Keim</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>9:00 Humble Hands</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>Cliff Stutzman 91 John Unger</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>Conemaugh Township Volunteer Fire Dept. Fish Fry 4-7 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time Begins Fourth Sunday in Lent 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship Jamie Beahr</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>9:00 Humble Hands</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>Conemaugh Township Volunteer Fire Dept. Fish Fry 4-7 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>Joe Stutzman Blaine & Carol Leverknight 55</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>Fifth Sunday in Lent 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship Fellowship Meal</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>Deadline to order Nut & Apricot Rolls from Camp! Ruth Mishler 88</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>9:00 Humble Hands Lucas Shaffer</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>Conemaugh Township Volunteer Fire Dept. Fish Fry 4-7 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p>