



MAPLE SPRING CHURCH, HOLLSOPPLE, PA 15935
814-479-7062

FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATE CHRIST & COUNTRY

Hebrews 2:10-18 NLT

¹⁰ God, for whom and through whom everything was made, chose to bring many children into glory. And it was only right that he should make Jesus, through his suffering, a perfect leader, fit to bring them into their salvation. ¹¹ So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters. ¹² For he said to God, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters. I will praise you among your assembled people." ¹³ He also said, "I will put my trust in him," that is, "I and the children God has given me." ¹⁴ Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. ¹⁵ Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying. ¹⁶ We also know that the Son did not come to help angels; he came to help the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Since he himself has gone through suffering and testing, he is able to help us when we are being tested.

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

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*.



Secretary/Editor: Melody Pletzer

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

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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 August 2023 issue
is July 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 discipling one another through the Holy Spirit, and by reaching out to our neighbors.



PRAYER PARTNERS THIS MONTH

Pat Koba and Marlin Ott
Nancy Gindlesperger and Deanna Fisher
Bill Watkins and Sally Kaufman
Sandy Watkins and Arbutus Blough
Jordan Shroyer and Elsie Michael



...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.



Mark Your Calendars! Save the dates!

JULY QUARTERLY MEETINGS

Tue., 7/11, 7:00 pm: Quarterly Deacons Meeting
Attendance of all deacons is required.

Thu., 7/20, 7:00 pm: Quarterly Board Meeting
Attendance of all board members is required.

Thu., 7/27, 7:00 pm: Quarterly Council Meeting
All church members and interested parties are welcome to attend. However, if any vote is taken only church members may vote.

***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 |
| Gale Shipley | 51 Akers Street, Apt. 306
Johnstown, PA 15905 |
| Ruth Stevens | 125 W. Main Street
Stoystown, PA 15563 |
| Cliff 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 |



DEACON MINISTRY

...Serving the Maple Spring Congregation

Change is happening all around us! As you are likely aware, we voted to separate from the Church of the Brethren at the April 27, 2023 Council Meeting. We did so in order to remain faithful to what we read in scripture as the world creeps into the church. (More on this later in this message.) Months prior to the vote, we affirmed what we, as a body of God-fearing fundamentalists, believe as we outlined in our Statement of Beliefs, all backed by scripture. All of that has resulted in our changing our name to “Maple Spring Church” and becoming an independent church not affiliated with any denomination. In early June I received word that our articles of incorporation have been filed with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, another step in the right direction.

While progress has been made, there is much work to be done. In the future we must make decisions about how we will be governed, how decisions will be made, what leadership positions will be carried over from our former system of governance, and many others. In the meantime, we continue to recognize the traditions of old, like Love Feast and Communion. We continue to rely on the Bible and to lean on the Holy Spirit’s leading as we make decisions such as these.

Most of us would agree that we have spent more than enough time with the “business” of the church. We would also agree that we need to be about God’s business of building His church as He calls us to do in scripture. Things are changing on that front as well. Sunday School has restarted. Bible School was held at the Jerome Fire Hall in June. Plans are being laid for a community meal that we will cook and serve in July. After a long time, we are getting out into the community and serving our friends and neighbors. More events will come, and we are always looking for ideas. If you have an idea for a way to get out and minister to our friends and neighbors, please speak up. In 2nd Timothy we are told to fulfill the duties of our ministries. What is your ministry? How can the people of Maple Spring help you in that endeavor? “The harvest is great, but the laborers are few”.

In the months past we have spent lots of time talking about “Spiritual Warfare” and how the world is creeping into the church. We need to get busy and do so now! Why? Things are getting worse instead of better. Need proof? As I write this message, I hear a story on the news about a church in Minneapolis that recites the “Sparkle Creed” which borrows from the Apostles’ Creed. It speaks of a “Non-binary God, a rainbow spirit whose pronouns are plural”. It speaks of “Jesus, a child who had two dads and wore a fabulous tunic” and who believes in transgenderism. And on and on it went. Here’s the point – this is scripture perverted. And it is being preached from the pulpit in what is supposed to be a Christian Church! It is not consistent with God’s creation and His plan for HIS creation. As I hear stories like this, I am further convinced that we did the right thing in staying focused on the truths we find in God’s Holy Word!

Tim McDonald

Laying Aside The Old Self, Putting On The New Self - Part 1

**“... in reference to your former manner of life, [that] you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth
(Ephesians 4:22-24 NASB).**

- 1** Pray that Christians in your community will daily recognize and put off their old selves, which have been corrupted by deceitful, sinful desires (Ephesians 4:22).
- 2** Pray that Christians in your community will daily put on a mindset of righteousness and holiness that is being renewed in the truth (Ephesians 4:23-24).
- 3** Since God is love, pray that your church family will lay aside any attitudes and actions that fail to reflect God's loving character. Pray that they will then demonstrate the selfless love of Jesus as they serve God and minister to others (1 John 4:7-8).
- 4** As we choose to lay aside hypocritically judgmental ways of thinking, ask God to reveal to us the sin that is in our own lives (Matthew 7:1-5).
- 5** Pray that those in your church family who have been hurt by others will not become bitter but will be tender-hearted and willing to forgive those who have offended them. Pray that they will forgive others just like Christ has forgiven them (Hebrews 12:15; Ephesians 4:32).
- 6** Pray that the members of your church will demonstrate self-denial by no longer seeking after their own interests, but those of Christ Jesus (Philippians 2:21).
- 7** Knowing that God is opposed to the proud but gives grace to the humble, pray that Christians will lay down pride and take up the practice of walking humbly before God and others (James 4:6).
- 8** Pray that your Christian friends will do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind will regard others as more important than themselves (Philippians 2:3).
- 9** Since rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, pray that your church family will repent of any sinful ways and submit their daily lives and future plans to the will of God (1 Samuel 15:23; Romans 6:13).
- 10** Pray that Christians across the country will lay down any attitudes or actions that are disrespectful toward their leaders and will demonstrate respect and honor to the authorities God has placed in their lives (Romans 13:1; Hebrews 13:17).
- 11** Knowing that trials test our faith, pray that impatience will be set aside and with endurance, God's people will trust Him to continue working in their lives in order to make them perfect and complete, lacking in nothing (James 1:2-4).
- 12** With people becoming even more ungrateful during the last days, pray that every believer you know will learn to always give thanks for all things as they daily practice gratitude toward God (2 Timothy 3:2; Ephesians 5:20).
- 13** Pray that believers will lay aside greed and the love of money, understanding that even when one has an abundance, spiritual life does not come from owning possessions (Luke 12:15; Hebrews 13:5).



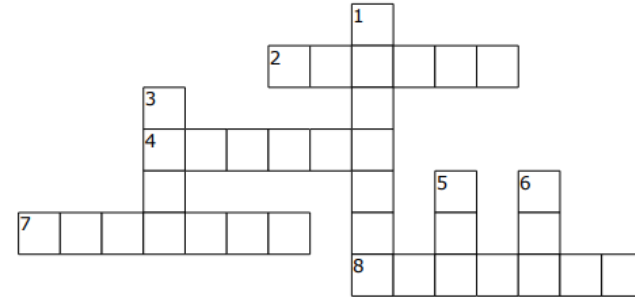
- 14** Pray that the members of your church family will learn to trust God with every financial circumstance they face and will be content with what they have (Hebrews 13:5).
- 15** Pray that Christians in your community will embrace contentment and reject the pursuit of riches, avoiding the snare of foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction (1 Timothy 6:8-9).
- 16** Pray that your church family will not become boastful, challenging and envying one another (Galatians 5:26). Where this is present, pray that God's Spirit will convict and lead them to repentance.
- 17** Pray that your church family will do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than themselves (Philippians 2:3).
- 18** Pray that as your church family serves God together, no one will seek their own good above that of others. Pray that everyone will demonstrate the kind of love for one another that is slow to anger and quick to forgive wrongs suffered (1 Corinthians 13:5).
- 19** For those in your church family who have been mentally, emotionally, or physically wounded by another, pray that they will not seek revenge but will leave room for the wrath of God, trusting Him to bring about justice and righteousness (Proverbs 24:29; Romans 12:19).
- 20** Pray that the members of your church family will be slow to anger in their dealings with others (Proverbs 16:32), looking to God to develop within them great self-control over their reactions (Proverbs 25:28).
- 21** Knowing that the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God, pray that those within your church who are prone to loud, angry outbursts toward others will become quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger (James 1:19-20).
- 22** Pray that your church family will rely upon the grace of God to stop using harsh words that stir up anger and start using gentle answers that turn away wrath (Proverbs 15:1).
- 23** Pray that Christians in your community will learn to evaluate their words before they speak, so that nothing unwholesome will proceed from their mouths but only words that are good for the edification of those who are listening (Ephesians 4:29).
- 24** Instead of having a critical attitude toward others, pray that your church family will follow the example of Jesus in putting on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone (Colossians 3:12-13).
- 25** Pray that Christians in your community will understand the importance of not lying to one another. Pray that they will lay down falsehood and peaceably speak the truth to one another (Zechariah 8:16).
- 26** Pray that Christians in your community will lay aside profanity and be careful to never take God's name in vain as a swear word (Exodus 20:7). Pray that instead of cursing, believers will choose to worship the Lord with reverence and rejoice with trembling (Psalm 2:11).
- 27** Knowing that during the day of judgment we will have to give an account for every careless and useless word we have spoken, pray that your speech will always bring glory to God (Matthew 12:36-37).
- 28** Pray that Christians will not evaluate other believers simply on the basis of outward appearances. Ask God to give the members of your church discernment and understanding concerning the reasons and motivations of others (1 Samuel 16:7).
- 29** With the things that defile a man coming from within his own heart (i.e., evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, and slander—Matthew 15:19-20), pray that fellow believers will be able to lay these things aside and have their hearts changed by the ongoing washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:5).
- 30** Pray that those who have become physically and spiritually lazy will repent and walk wisely, diligently seeking to know and do the will of God (Proverbs 6:6-11).
- 31** As those within your church seek to lay aside the old self and put on the new self, pray that they will not be bogged down in guilt and shame over their old ways, but will press on toward the upward call of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:13-14).

THE PUZZLE PAGE

Freedom Isn't Free

For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance --now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant. Hebrews 9:15

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



ACROSS

- The one who paid the price for our sin
- Payment for the release of someone
- To accept something such as a gift
- Without end; lasting forever

DOWN

- To give your word or agree to do something
- Without cost
- To come to the end of life
- To disobey God's law

C	J	N	W	K	T	X	F	O	P	V	A	I	Q	M	H	Z	Y	S	L	U	B	G	D	R	E
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

PROMISE	ETERNAL	CHRIST	RANSOM
DIE	FREE	SIN	RECEIVE

- 8-20-12-23 _____
- 1-9-21-3-6-25-18 _____
- 8-25-26-26-24-9-15 _____
- 20-13-22-26-25-6-18 _____
- 8-13-25-26-4-9-25-5-19 _____
- 19-26-25-11-26 _____
- 1-26-20-26-22-25-12-6-26 _____
- 16-9-20-13-24-12-18 _____

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HOLIDAY	SERVE	FLAG	COUNTRY
LIBERTY	FIREWORKS	CELEBRATE	FREEDOM

SERVE	HOLIDAY	COUNTRY	FREEDOM
PATRIOT	FLAG	PRICE	LIBERTY
PAID	CELEBRATE	INDEPENDENCE	FIREWORKS

July 2023

Maple Spring Church Activities, Birthdays, & Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship Outdoor Worship & Fellowship Meal	26 Tom & Barb Korber	27 9:00 am Humble Hands	28 Megan Hostetler	29 Karen Nagyvathy Cody Todaro	30	1
2 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship	3	4 9:00 am Humble Hands Linda Tresnicky	5 Suzanne Moss	6	7	8
9 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship	10	11 7:00 pm Quarterly Deacons Meeting	12	13	14 Levi Hostetler Brian & Marj Bittner	15 Brayden Beahr
16 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship	17	18 9:00 am Humble Hands Sue Stevens	19 Rebecca Lichvar	20 7:00 pm Quarterly Board Meeting	21 Sally Kaufman 90	22 Tim McDonald Annie Pahel
23 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship	24	25 9:00 am Humble Hands Tim & Cathy McDonald	26 Sharon Toth	27 7:00 pm Quarterly Council Meeting	28 Marlin Ott 85	29 Gary Martin 80 Pat Shaffer
30 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship Outdoor Worship & Fellowship Meal	31	Notes PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO: If you had a change in address, phone number, or e-mail address, please contact the Church Secretary, Melody, by phone or e-mail, 814-479-7062 or MapleSpringCOB@atlanticbb.net. We are trying to use e-mail more often than the USPS to keep down costs and be more environmently-friendly.				