

Maple Spring

Water Cup

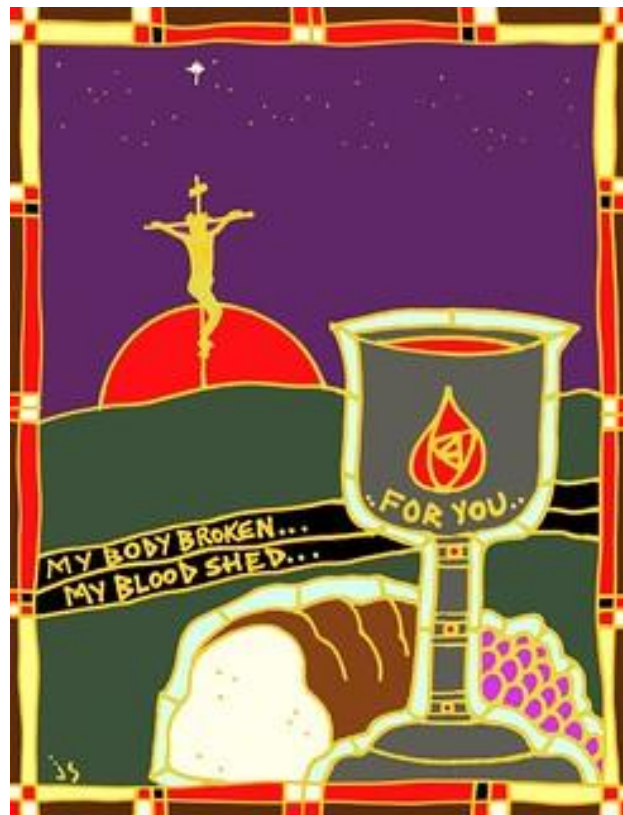
March 2024



Vol. 57, No. 7

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

MAUNDY THURSDAY
MARCH 28, 2024



1 Corinthians 11:23-26 NLT

²³ For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread ²⁴ and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁵ In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it.” ²⁶ For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord’s death until he comes again.

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

E-mail: MapleSpringCOB@atlanticbb.net

Editor's Telephone: 814-479-7062

www.facebook.com/MapleSpringChurch



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.



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

***WATER CUP* DEADLINE
for the April 2024 issue
is March 20, 2024.**

PRAYER PARTNERS THIS MONTH

Nancy Gindlesperger & Pat Koba
Bill Watkins & Deanna Fisher
Sandy Watkins & Sally Kaufman
Jordan Shroyer & Elsie Michael



...pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results. ~James 5:16b



EASTER BRUNCH

Easter Sunday, March 31st at 9:15 am Maple Spring Church is having an Easter Brunch, before our Easter Morning Worship Service! Everyone is welcome.

*Please invite your friends, family, and community to join us.

Acts 2:42 NLT

The Believers Form a Community

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

CHURCH GROVE RENTAL SEASON

The Church Grove Rental Season will be here before we know it! The season begins April 15th and ends Oct. 15th. Check with your families about graduation parties, birthday parties, and family reunions. Check with your group/club about your annual picnic. Make your reservations early to secure your preferred date! The daily rental fee is \$90 for church members/regular attendees, and \$125 for non-members.

SCAVENGER HUNT

Hidden somewhere within the pages of your *Water Cup* is a little cross (✝). The cross may vary in size or color, but not in shape. The first person to find the cross each month, and call the church secretary (814-479-7062) with the location of the cross, will win a prize and have their name in the next month's issue. If you find it on the secretary's day off, please leave a voicemail. Good luck and happy searching! There was no winner for February.

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



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.

**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 |

SPEAKING UP TO DEFEND LIFE: 3-Part Series by Scott Klusendorf

PART TWO - How Science Supports the Pro-Life Position

The science of embryology affirms the humanity of the preborn, and defenders of abortion concede the inhumanity of the procedure. Simply put, support for the pro-life position is strong. Premise 1: It is morally wrong to intentionally kill an innocent human being. Premise 2: Abortion intentionally kills an innocent human being. Conclusion: Abortion is morally wrong.

The science of embryology establishes that from the earliest stages of development, the unborn are distinct, living and whole human beings. They are distinct. (Meaning they are not part of another human being.) They are living. (Dead things don't grow!) And they are whole. (Sure, they have yet to grow and mature, but the kind of thing they are is not in question.) Human parents produce human offspring. Leading embryology textbooks affirm this. For example, in *The Developing Human: Clinically Oriented Embryology*, Keith L. Moore and T.V.N. Persaud write: "A zygote is the beginning of a new human being. Human development begins at fertilization, the process during which a male gamete or sperm ... unites with a female gamete or oocyte ... to form a single cell called a zygote. This highly specialized, totipotent cell marks the beginning of each of us as a unique individual." T.W. Sadler's *Langman's Embryology* states that the development of a human begins with fertilization, in which the male sperm and the female oocyte "unite to give rise to a new organism, the zygote." Embryologists Ronan O'Rahilly and Fabiola Müller write, "Although life is a continuous process, fertilization is a critical landmark because, under ordinary circumstances, a new, genetically distinct human organism is thereby formed."

Telling the truth - Many contemporary defenders of abortion agree that we can know when life begins. For example, in his book *Practical Ethics*, Princeton University bioethicist Peter Singer – a supporter of both abortion and infanticide – writes: "Whether a being is a member of given species is something that can be determined scientifically, by an examination of the nature of the chromosomes in the cells of living organisms. In this sense, there is no doubt that from the first moments of its existence an embryo conceived from human sperm and eggs is a human being." That elective abortion kills a living human being is actually conceded by many who perform and defend the practice. Dr. Warren Hern, author of *Abortion Practice* – the medical textbook that teaches abortion procedures – told a Planned Parenthood conference: "We have reached a point in this particular technology [D&E abortion] where there is no possibility of denying an act of destruction. It is before one's eyes. The sensations of dismemberment flow through the forceps like an electric current."

Liberal professor Ronald Dworkin, in his book *Life's Dominion*, writes that abortion deliberately kills a developing embryo and is a choice for death. We've known these facts for years, despite attempts to hide them. As far back as 1970, an editorial in *California Medicine* conceded the scientific ground to pro-lifers. The authors – sympathetic to abortion – note that language can be used to get around inconvenient truths: "[T]he scientific fact, which everyone really knows, [is] that human life begins at conception and is continuous whether intra- or extra-uterine until death. The very considerable semantic gymnastics which are required to rationalize abortion as anything but taking a human life would be ludicrous if they were not often put forth under socially impeccable auspices."

Naomi Wolf, a prominent feminist and author, defends graphic depictions of abortion in a *New Republic* article. In it, she warns fellow abortion supporters to stop lying: "Clinging to a rhetoric about abortion in which there is no life and no death, we entangle our beliefs in a series of self-delusions, fibs and evasions. And we risk becoming precisely what our critics charge us with being: callous, selfish and casually destructive men and women who share a cheapened view of human life. ... [We] need to contextualize the fight to defend abortion rights within a moral framework that admits that the death of a fetus is a real death." Feminist Camille Paglia is even more blunt: "I have always frankly admitted that abortion is murder, the extermination of the powerless by the powerful. liberals for the most part have shrunk from facing the ethical consequences of their embrace of abortion, which results in the annihilation of concrete individuals and not just clumps of insensate tissue."

Simply put, support for the pro-life position is strong. The science of embryology affirms the humanity of the unborn. Contemporary defenders of abortion concede the inhumanity of the procedure. You can move forward in defending life with confidence! You don't need a graduate degree to defend the pro-life position. You can do it effectively in one minute or less. Next month, **PART THREE - Why is Abortion Wrong?**

(Source: <https://www.focusonthefamily.com/pro-life/speaking-up-to-defend-life/>)

The Power of the Cross for Revival

The disciples didn't know true revival until they witnessed firsthand the power of the Cross of Christ revealed through the resurrection! Prior to the Cross, they were content to follow their Rabbi/Teacher as Jesus taught, performed miracles, and proved that He was the true Messiah.

They participated in Jesus' ministry by collecting fishes and loaves. They brought people to meet Him. They battled fear on the raging seas and demonstrated a bit of faith in crying out to Jesus for help. But the power of the gospel did not yet flow through them.

Then came the darkness of the Cross, two days of confusion and uncertainty—and the bursting forth of Jesus as the Overcomer of Death and the Giver of Hope. The Cross transformed them into devoted followers who healed the sick, raised the dead, and spread the gospel abroad. Revival overtook them as the Spirit breathed life, power, and hope into them!

This month we journey with Jesus toward His glorious resurrection. Let's join the disciples in living in the hope of revival through the power of the Cross.

1 The Cross of Jesus offers light in a culture darkened by sin and rebellion. We may witness evil seep into spheres of society, but we are not without hope! Pray that you will not be overwhelmed with discouragement, but instead embrace Jesus as the Overcomer (John 12:46).

2 Jesus boldly proclaims He is the light of the world - and the darkness simply cannot overtake Him. He defeated it at the Cross. Pray that believers will reflect the light of Christ to others, especially those who walk in darkness (John 8:12).

3 Praise God for the power of the Cross. Because of it, the glory of the Lord has risen upon us! We need not cower in fear or embrace the gloom of sin. Pray that your soul is revived and refreshed by the glorious presence of Christ (Isaiah 60:1).

4 Healing is a byproduct of the Cross. When we seek the Lord for the refreshing of our souls, He provides an abundance of prosperity and security. Pray for His reviving Spirit to heal you and instill hope for your future (Jeremiah 33:6).

5 When God revives us, we die to sin and live to righteousness. It is by Jesus' wounds that we are healed! Pray that you and your family will be restored by embracing the gift of the Cross (1 Peter 2:24).

6 The Cross brought clarity to Peter as he stood before the religious rulers. He now understood his one message: that salvation is found in no one else except Jesus! Pray that your soul is revived to this truth - and you, too, will know your mission to proclaim Christ (Acts 4:12).

7 Jesus' message as He launched His earthly ministry was clear and concise: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." Repentance—turning to embrace new life filled with the glories of heaven—comes through the Cross. Pray for hearts in our nation to be inclined toward repentance, that we might be revived in hope (Matthew 4:17).

8 Repentance turns the heart toward Jesus and invites the cleansing work of Christ to wipe out sin. And joyfully, times of refreshing from the Lord are unleashed to those who surrender in faith and trust. Ask God to refresh His Church with His forgiveness granted through the Cross (Acts 3:19).

9 Confession of sin leads to forgiveness and cleansing of the soul that can only be accomplished through Jesus and the Cross. Pray for those closest to you—family and friends—to embrace the power of confession and forgiveness (1 John 1:9).

10 John the Baptist understood the power of repentance: "Produce fruit in keeping with repentance." The Cross opened the floodgate for followers of Christ to produce expansive spiritual fruit. Pray that reviving repentance will characterize your church and lead to much Kingdom fruit (Matthew 3:8).

11 Praise God that He is rich in mercy! Through Jesus and the Cross, we are alive with transformed hearts and abundant living. Ask God to reveal His mercy to those walking in darkness so that they are awakened to hope in Christ (Ephesians 2:4-5).

12 In God's great mercy, He gives us "new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." Pray for the lost to be awakened to their desperate spiritual state—and for a new awareness of God's mercy toward them (1 Peter 1:3).

13 We live in hope because “mercy triumphs over judgment.” Pray for God’s mercy upon our nation—that our deserved judgment is replaced by an outpouring of His Spirit in revival and awakening (James 2:13).

14 Because of the Cross, we can approach God’s throne of grace with confidence and receive mercy in our time of need. Pray for people across our nation recognize our desperate need. Call upon God for His mercy through Jesus Christ (Hebrews 4:14-16).

15 God does not stay angry forever but delights to show mercy. He pardons and forgives those who seek Him. As a nation, we are undeserving of His mercy. But because of the Cross, we have hope! Pray that the leadership of our nation turns to God with humble hearts and seeks His mercy (Micah 7:18-19).

16 God’s presence is revealed to us through the power of the Cross. In His presence, there is great joy. Pray for a revival of joy in your heart and in your family because you welcome the presence of God, which results in eternal pleasures! (Psalm 16:11).

17 God’s presence is ushered in because of the Cross. When we trust in Jesus, we are assured that we need not fear because God will neither “leave us nor forsake” us. Pray that your church serves as the dwelling place of God in your community—with revived confidence to be immersed in a lost world. (Deuteronomy 31:6).

18 God declares that He will be exalted among the nations of the earth! Pray for the lost in our nation to recognize the one true God and seek Him through the Cross. Ask God to revive our nation with the glory of His presence (Psalm 46:10).

19 We live in a dry and weary land. Our only hope for revival is the watering of the soul through God’s healing presence. Pray for people to recognize how thirsty and parched they are without the hope of the Cross. Invite God to flood our land with His presence (Psalm 63:1-3).

20 Jesus declared that He will be with us “always, to the very end of the age.” The Cross assures us death is defeated and hope is alive! Pray for your community to know the love of Christ demonstrated through your church—and that the lost will be awakened to their need for Jesus (Matthew 28:20).

21 The Spirit gives us boldness to proclaim the power of the Cross. When Peter and John’s accusers witnessed their courage under fire, they were astonished and acknowledged these “ordinary” men had been with Jesus. Pray that those around you will have no doubt that you know Jesus (Acts 4:13).

22 The Holy Spirit gives us the boldness to “fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel.” Pray that you will

confidently proclaim the message of the Cross whenever you have opportunity to testify of Jesus (Ephesians 6:19).

23 Even while in Roman custody, Paul “proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!” Paul’s heart was revived with the hope of the Cross and his mission was undeterred. Pray that believers will proclaim the gospel without hesitation (Acts 28:31).

24 Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem with great joy, the waving of palm branches, and shouts of “Hosanna!” On this Palm Sunday, rejoice that Jesus is the hope and salvation for all who receive Him. Pray for the triumphal welcome of Jesus into your own community (John 12:13).

25 As Jesus got closer to the Mount of Olives, the crowd joyfully praised God for the miracles they had witnessed. Pray for such a reviving, refreshing work in your community that the people cannot stay silent! Pray for miracles of surrender to the gospel and healing of broken lives (Luke 19:37).

26 Jesus continues His journey toward the Cross. Followers of Jesus can stand strong and let their hearts take courage because revival and spiritual awakening are embodied in Jesus’ willingness to confront death head-on. Praise Jesus that He makes all things new (Psalm 31:24).

27 Praise God that He gives us victory over the sin and the sting of death through our Lord Jesus Christ! Pray for opportunities to proclaim hope over death to those around you—that they might awaken to Christ (1 Corinthians 15:55-57).

28 Jesus’ blood poured out for us represents the ultimate sacrifice in the new covenant between God and man. Praise God that because of Jesus and the Cross, we live in a revived and restored relationship with our Father (Luke 22:20).

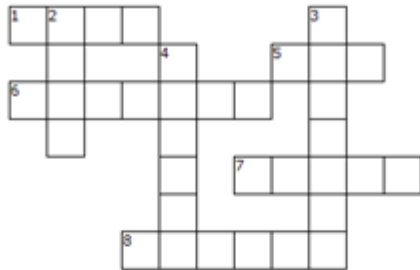
29 On this Good Friday, Jesus’ journey to the Cross culminates in being pierced and crushed for our sins. Darkness reigns and boasts victory. Yet, it is by Jesus’ wounds that we are healed! Give thanks for the Cross that shatters the darkness (Isaiah 53:5).

30 Jesus prepared His disciples by telling them exactly what would happen: “They will kill him, and after three days he will rise.” Pray as you wait for it. No matter how dark it seems, Jesus will rise and revive us to live forever in the power of the Cross (Mark 9:31).

31 Hallelujah, the glory of Christ breaks through with the dawn of Easter morning! Jesus has swallowed up death forever and wiped away the tears from all faces. Pray for the power of the resurrection to sweep our nation with a Great Awakening to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord! (Isaiah 25:8).

The Puzzle Page

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- To hold dear, to like or desire greatly
- A state of happiness or delight
- Someone that performs duties for a master
- To gain knowledge, skill, or understanding
- A person that you like very much

DOWN

- To do what you are told; follow the rules
- An order which a person is expected to obey
- One who has authority over another person

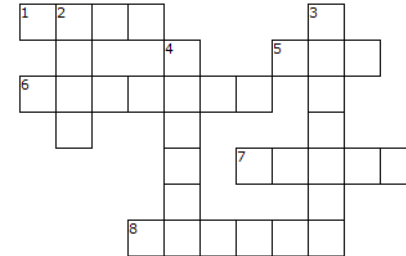
MASTER	OBEY	LOVE	COMMAND
FRIEND	SERVANT	LEARN	JOY

Word Search Puzzle

Love One Another

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. John 15:12 (NIV)

Based on John 15:9-17 (NIV)



ACROSS

- To hold dear, to like or desire greatly
- A state of happiness or delight
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- To do what you are told; follow the rules
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SERVANT	OBEY	LEARN	COMMAND
FRIEND	LOVE	MASTER	JOY

March 2024

Maple Spring Church Activities, Birthdays, & Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
3 Third Sunday in Lent 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship	4 Zac Todaro	5 9:00 am Humble Hands	6 6:00 pm Song Service 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study	7 Mackenzie Rosenbaum	8 Jakob Hostetler	9
10 Fourth Sunday in Lent Daylight Savings Time Begins 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship	11	12 9:00 am Humble Hands Rosalyn Todaro	13 6:00 pm Song Service 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study	14	15 Cliff Stutzman	16
17 Fifth Sunday in Lent St. Patrick's Day 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship	18 7:00 pm Constitution Meeting	19 Spring Begins 9:00 am Humble Hands	20 6:00 pm Song Service 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study	21	22	23
24 Palm Sunday 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship	25	26 9:00 am Humble Hands	27 Holy Wednesday 6:00 pm Song Service 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study	28 7 pm Maundy Thursday Love Feast & Communion Service Lucas Shaffer	29 Good Friday	30
31 Happy Easter! 9:15 Easter Brunch 10:15 Morning Prayer 10:35 Morning Worship	1	Notes				