

# Maple Spring

# Water Cup



Vol. 53 No. 6  
February 2020

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

MY *Beloved* IS MINE,  
AND I AM *His* ...  
SONG OF SOLOMON 2:16



Our monthly newsletter **Water Cup** 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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Web Page – [maplespringcob.org](http://maplespringcob.org)**

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Traditional Service.....10:35 a.m.

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Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9am-12pm

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Church Office Hours  
Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Please have all bulletin announcements in by  
11am on Thursdays

**WATER CUP DEADLINE FOR  
March 2020  
February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020**

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

**PRAYER PARTNERS THIS MONTH**

Connie Martin  
Arlene Stevens  
Karen Nagyvathy  
Molly Stultz  
Pat Koba  
Nancy Gindlesperger  
Sally Kaufman  
Deanna Fisher  
Sandy Watkins



and Marlin Mishler  
and Arbutus Blough  
and Patty Shaffer  
and Elsie Michael  
and Diane Bridge  
and Christine Shroyer  
and Jordan Shroyer  
and Bill Watkins  
and Carol Leverknight

*Pray for another...the effectual fervent prayer of a  
righteous man availeth much.*

*The **Shade Creek/Ridge CoB** is our prayer partner  
church for the year 2020. Let us at Maple Spring keep  
them in our prayers.*

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**FEBRUARY NURSERY SCHEDULE**

2/2 - Marge Bitner & Karen Nagyvathy  
2/9 – Jeremy & Molly Stultz  
2/16 – Ryan & Jamie Beahr  
2/23 – Rachel Weible & Rebecca Lichvar

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**In the hospital since last issue...**

Wally Ullery (not in the hospital, but broken ankle)  
Brandon Geisweidt  
Mearl Horner  
Jeanne Cober

Also, please continue to keep Adam and Cheyenne  
(Alwine) Trabold and their baby, Charlotte, in your  
prayers as well as Mark Shaffer and Carole Horner.

*May we continue to remember them in our prayers and  
praise God for their healing*

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**With sympathy....**

Please keep Joyce Napotnik and family in your  
prayers. Joyce's son, Rodie Garofalow, passed  
away on 1/20.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK....

February the month of Valentine's Day and love. What is love? True love? In Hebrew and Greek two words were commonly used in Scripture, those two words are: Apagao and Agape. Both words refer primarily to God's never ending almighty love.

The love of God toward His Son as in John 17:26 where Jesus said: "And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

The second way we see this used is in John 3:16 where Jesus said: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

I read that love is only known by the action it prompts. Does the love of God prompt us to love others?

Some things for thought:

- 1.) "God's love is seen in the gift of His Son."\*
- 2.) "Love had its perfect expression among men in the Lord Jesus Christ."\*
- 3.) "Christian love, whether exercised toward the brethren, or toward men generally, is not an impulse from the feelings, it does not always run with the natural inclinations, nor does it spend itself only upon those for whom some affinity is discovered. Love seeks the welfare of all."

Let's try to be more like Jesus and less like men! Be blessed as you love.

IN HIS LOVE,

*Pastor Chris*

- Quotes from Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words.

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



1<sup>st</sup> SGT George Adams Army  
GUNRY SSGT Brock Hemminger Marines  
SGT Adam Veres Army Specialist (Whitney Weimer)  
Jonathan Zaroni US Coast Guard (Cayla Roberts)  
MAJOR Mark Bedrin Army (Katie McDonald)  
SPECIALIST Sierra Alwine, Army  
SrA Nathan Pahel - Air Force - (Annie Bridge)  
Police Officer Matthew Bridge – Richland PD  
AB Jenna A. Hauser – US Airforce

**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 also remember those from our Visitation List**

Minnie Barkley      Concordia of the South Hills  
                                 1300 Bower Hill Rd, RmB170  
                                 Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
Gale Shipley            51 Akers Street  
                                 Johnstown, PA 15905  
Cliff & Sally            960 Woodstown Hwy  
Stuzman                Hollsopple, PA 15935  
Jim Moran              1056 Soap Hollow Rd  
                                 Hollsopple, PA 15935  
Arlene Stevens        Laurel View Village  
                                 Personal Care  
                                 1000 Vista Dr, Rm 526  
                                 Davidsville, PA 15928

Iona Holder            Country Manor Rm. 206  
                                 170 Phillips St.  
                                 Jerome, PA 15937  
Don Stutzman         Room 103B, 1404 Hay St  
                                 Berlin, PA 15530  
Betty Shaffer           Richland Woods  
                                 3324 Elton Rd  
                                 Johnstown, PA 15904  
Ruth Friedline        PO Box 111/127 Maple Ln  
                                 Jennerstown, PA 15547  
Phyllis Thomas       Laurel View Village, Rm 522  
                                 2000 Cambridge Rd  
                                 Davidsville, PA 15928

***Where Can I Find...***

Water Cups, Church Constitutions, and other informational printed documents are in the rack by the bulletin board in the annex. Information on colleges, the BRF Witness pamphlets, and Camp Harmony booklets can be found in the rack in the sanctuary entrance. Special offering envelopes can be found at both entrances. Information on renting the fellowship hall or church grove can be found in the church office on the filing cabinets beside the calendars. Council minutes and reports are in a binder on the bookshelf in the office.  
Looking for something else? Just contact Rachel in the church office!

# DEACON MINISTRY

...Serving the Maple Spring Congregation

Does it seem that the more you try to be obedient to God or the more you seek Him, more troubles arise? I am sure at one time in your life you thought it would get easier once you accepted Christ. You still must deal with all the troubles of each day and be responsible to God in how you respond to the day's heartbreaks. So now you come to the realization that you just aren't strong enough to live the life Christ has called you. Congratulations, you took the first step and admitted you can't do it yourself. God never meant you to live a Christian life on your own.

Jeremiah was a prophet in Judah after the evil reign of Manasseh. Jeremiah had the sad duty of warning Judah of God's coming judgement and to watch as the people were taken into captivity by the Babylonians. Jeremiah had to suffer for the sins of others, but God's promise to him was to rescue and save him. Jeremiah's life, I bet, was nothing like he had intended but he persevered and relied on God.

There are times when we think our suffering is unfair especially when it occurs because of others. Jeremiah had to endure the consequences of a king and a nation's sins, and God used him to bring hope to countless people. Remember that even when suffering or adversity knocks on our door, and to us, appears to be senseless, God causes all things to work together for good to those who love Him, to those who are called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28) That trial in your life has a reason and an eternal purpose that you cannot see or even comprehend at this moment. You can be confident that God will use it for good if you submit yourself to Him and trust in Him.

-Submitted by Dave Fisher, Deacon

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**Brethren Service Center Day Trip:** The next date is **February 14<sup>th</sup>**. Contact Marge Bittner at 814-629-6867 or Barb Connor at 814-255-5702 to register.

**Camp Harmony Sunday** will be Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>. Phil will be speaking to the children during the Sunday School hour. Adults are welcome to attend.

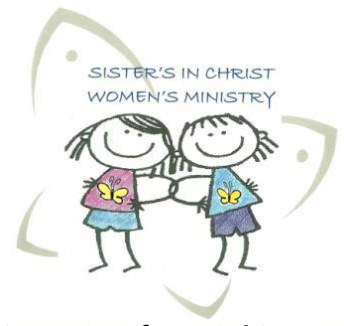
**Praise Night** – Mark your calendars! Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30pm the Youth will be leading a song service here at Maple Spring. We will be inviting area churches to join us in a time of singing and worship

## Sisters in Christ Women's Ministry

106 Spring Rd. Hollsopple, PA 15935

814 479-7062

sistersinchristwm@gmail.com



### “Beautiful People”

*“We all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit”*

*2 Corinthians 3:18*

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be one of the “beautiful people”? Fans swarming the stage. People asking for your autograph. The satisfaction of accolades and trophies. The rush of knowing that others imitate the way you walk, dress, and speak. What a life that would be!

But perhaps that lifestyle isn’t quite as glamorous as we might think. Consider what it would be like to have photographers hound your every step, hoping to catch you in less-than-beautiful activities. Think about the hassle of having to wear a disguise at the ballpark or your favorite restaurant.

Being one of the “beautiful people” comes at a price. Many celebrities hire bodyguards to keep the adoring public at arm’s length. Most live behind secure gates in homes protected by surveillance cameras. Being beautiful means being very careful about associating with others.

In contrast, our beautiful Savior welcomes us into His presence – always! Jesus doesn’t hole up inside a secure compound or wall Himself off behind impenetrable security. No, He enfolds us in His grace, inviting us to come close and to stay close forever!

As Jesus lived here on earth, He made Himself accessible to all who came to hear the message of God’s unending love for them. He healed the sick. He touched the lepers. His inexhaustible mercy made Him beautiful beyond words in their eyes.

Still today, Jesus is present with us, accessible at any and every moment. We can call out to Him with any need, any concern. He gladly invites us to spend time with Him, to share our lives with Him. He longs for us to stay near, to nestle close to His heart, secure in His love.

What’s more, the more time we spend with Him, thinking about His acceptance, pouring over the promises in His Word, reflecting on His compassion - the more like Him we become. We are transformed – changed – into *His very image, with every-increasing glory.*

*Lord Jesus, as I contemplate Your beauty, fill my heart with wonder. Transform me more and more so that my life reflects Your character with ever-increasing beauty. Amen.*

From “Reflecting the Beauty of the Lord”, written by Gail Marsh. Submitted by Sue Unger



You're invited to His  
banqueting table!

Join us in celebrating  
**LOVE**

the true love of God

Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>  
after the morning service  
in the fellowship hall.

The Youth will be serving  
a sit down lunch and  
presenting a short  
program

His  
banner  
over me  
is  
**LOVE**

*Song of Solomon 2:4*





## 2020 CWS Blanket Fundraiser Missions & Ministry Quarter Collection

*Make Valentine's Day a Little Sweeter This Year!*

During the month of February, the Missions and Service Commission will be sponsoring a fundraiser for Church World Service Blankets.

It's easy to donate a blanket to someone who's cold! A blanket costs \$10 which is what an M&M Minis container holds in quarters!

Here is how the fundraiser will work:

- On Sunday, February 2, filled containers of M&M Minis will be distributed to anyone interested in taking up a blanket offering.
- Enjoy the chocolatey treat!
- Fill the empty container with quarters.
- Bring the filled container back on Sunday, February 23.

Cash and checks are acceptable too.

Checks should be made payable to Maple Spring Church of the Brethren.

"And don't forget to do good and to share with those in need."

-Hebrews 13:16

*Change the world with your love this Valentine's Day!*

*Find more information on [www.cwsblankets.org](http://www.cwsblankets.org)*

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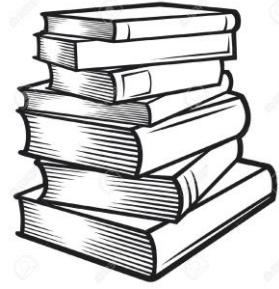
The Missions and Service Commission is offering two **CPR Classes** on Saturday, February 22. One will be from 9:00-12:00 a.m. and the other from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Missy Felton will be the instructor. The cost will be approximately \$15. This is a Friends and Family class so certificates will not be given. There is a limit of 6 people per class. If you are interested in taking one of these classes, please sign-up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the annex.



# *The Book Nook*

*"Victory Over The Darkness"*

*Neil Anderson*



As many of you know, the Sunday School class in the fellowship hall is now working through the book "Victory Over The Darkness". Why? What is this book about?

This book really describes who we are in Christ. Starting with God's original plan for mankind. Christ alone makes us worthy to be called children of God. We make choices, sometimes good and sometimes bad. We live in a world of spiritual battle. Satan tries to convince us that we are not good enough to be God's children.

Sometimes in this world we make poor choices, some are sinful, some are not. Other choices we don't see for what they are.

All sin and fall short of the glory of God. Read Romans 3:23. This book is intended to help us grow in Christ by:

- a) Realizing the power of our identity in Christ
- b) Freeing ourselves from the burdens of our pasts
- c) Discovering the truth of how God sees us

We as Christians can only go as far in our Christian walk as we allow ourselves, often we are our own worst enemy! Feel free to check with me on an extra book or ask those in the class what they think.

--Submitted by Pastor Chris Heinlein

*Are you an active reader?  
Wouldn't mind sharing your own little recommendation?  
Pick any book from our library and submit your recommendation to  
the church office for a future Water Cup article.*



2020

# CALENDAR

	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
26		27	28	29	30	31	1
2	Groundhog Day 9:30 Sunday School 10:35 Worship Emma Thomas - 95 <b>Cliff &amp; Sally Stutzman</b> <b>70 years</b>	3	4	5 9a - Prayer 9a - Humble Hands 6p - Kids Choir 7p-Choir Practice 7-9p - Youth	6	7 <b>Outdoor Show</b>	8
9	9:30 Sunday School 10:35 Worship	10 Elsie Michael - 88 Bill Watkins - 76	11 Lila Hershberger - 79	12 9a - Prayer 9a - Humble Hands 6p - Kids Choir 7p-Choir Practice 7-9p - Youth	13 Gloria Holder - 71 Marlin Mishler - 86	14 Valentine's Day <b>Service Center Trip</b>	15 Ruth Friedline - 89
16	9:30 Sunday School 10:35 Worship --"Banner" Meal <b>Camp Sunday</b> <b>Ray &amp; Ruth Mishler</b> <b>66 years</b>	17 President's Day Dan Sinclair - 77	18	19 9a - Prayer 9a - Humble Hands 6p - Kids Choir 7p-Choir Practice 7-9p - Youth	20	21	22 <b>CPR classes</b>
23	9:30 Sunday School 10:35 Worship <b>7:30p - Praise Night</b> WATER CUP ARTICLES DUE	24	25	26 9a - Prayer 9a - Humble Hands 6p - Kids Choir 7p-Choir Practice 7-9p - Youth	27	28	29



# Mission Moment

Presented by the Missions and Service Commission

## Helping Hands Fund

The Helping Hands Fund was established in 1983 to assist those in the congregation having difficulty meeting financial needs. No cash is ever given; instead, utility, rent, mortgage, and fuel payments are made and grocery certificates are given. There is a \$500 limit a year per member's household and a \$300.00 limit for members of the Community depending on the request and the circumstances of the request. The recipient or household can be given monies for three years in a row and then a year must lapse before a new request can be made. Any changes are at the discretion of the Missions and Service Commission.

The Missions and Service Commission would like to remind the congregation of the availability of the Helping Hands Fund for those in the congregation having difficulty meeting a financial need. Requests for funds should come from the recipient themselves or the Pastor. If you need assistance in meeting a need, please contact a commission member or the Pastor. All requests and assistance are kept strictly confidential. Commission members are: Marge Bittner, Diane Bridge, John Luprek, Karen Nagyvathy, and Christine Shroyer.

The Church Council has approved \$2000.00 to be available in the Helping Hands Fund. When the funds drop below \$2000.00 they are replaced at \$20.00 a week out of the General Fund until the \$2000.00 is replenished. If you would like to contribute to the Helping Hands Fund, envelopes are available at both of the main entrances and can be placed in the offering plate on any Sunday Morning.

## Disaster Fund

The Disaster Fund is intended for those who suffer from natural disasters such as fire, storm, and flood damage. The amount given per event is limited to up to \$1000.00 for congregational members and up to \$500.00 for non-members. These funds are limited to persons living in the Somerset/Cambria County regions. Special consideration of increased giving or giving outside the area will require the permission of the Missions and Service Commission.

Three individuals need to authorize the distribution of Disaster Fund money. They are the Disaster Coordinator, a member of the Missions and Service Commission, and one of the following: the Pastor, the Chairman of the Board, or a member of the Finance Commission.

Disaster Funds will accumulate by direct donations and by weekly transfer of funds from the general church giving in the amount of \$40.00 per week until a maximum of \$2000.00 has been reached. In the event that sufficient funds are not available in the Disaster Fund, the Finance Commission will be contacted to authorize payment.

The current Disaster coordinator is Blaine Leverknight. Recently, there were two fires in our community, one in Conemaugh Township and one in Jenner Township. We would like to commend Blaine and the Finance Commission for assisting the Missions and Service Commission in the rapid response to help these families. Within 24-48 hours monies were approved and these families received financial help from the Disaster Fund. Also, a special thank you to all those who went beyond this to donate clothes, money, physical labor for cleanup, and your many prayers.



## **PRAY, PRAY, PRAY**

There are three great opportunities for us to join with one another in prayer:

1. On Sunday mornings at 8:45 we meet in the Pastor's study to pray for the church, for the service, for other prayer concerns. You don't need to sign up, just show up.
2. On Wednesday mornings we meet at 9:00 in the prayer room to pray for the joys/concerns placed in the prayer box, along with other needs in the church and community. You don't need to sign up, just show up.
3. Every month a list of prayer partners is published in the Water Cup. All you do is pray for your partner, and your partner prays for you. You don't need to send cards or gifts, just pray. Each month the list is updated so you have a new prayer partner. Please call the church office or Patty Shaffer if you would like to be added to the list.

Prayer is the best way for our church to be alive in Christ. Please consider joining in one or more of these opportunities.

*Ephesians 6:18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.*

*James 5:16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. **The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.***