



The First Church of the Brethren
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churchoffice@rsfirstchurch.org
Pastor: Rev. Dr. David A. Crumrine
dcrumrine@rsfirstchurch.org

October 2023

Living out our faith

Being the hands and feet of Jesus, serving with open minds and hearts.

We exist to be a community of welcome and worship where people find peace, purpose, and power through Jesus Christ.

The first Sunday in October has come to be recognized in some churches and denominations as “World Wide Communion Sunday.” As has become our practice here at First Church, we will be celebrating this opportunity to focus on drawing close to God beginning at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

As important as it is to take advantage of such chances to move closer to God, this event also stands as a reminder of the Lord and Savior we have in common with other “World-wide” denominations. In other words, it is also a reminder that we have many Brothers and Sisters in faith, even if we do not always see eye to eye with them on every “disputable matter” (as Romans 14 identifies the things which sometimes divide us.)

But Love Feast and Communion is even more than that. This event is also our chance to demonstrate, celebrate and strengthen our own unity, our own willingness to work together as a church family.

Each of the four parts of Love Feast can contribute to this strengthening of the “Tie That Binds.” When we take the time to invest in self-preparation, we are focusing on where we stand with each other and identifying areas of needed reconciliation and forgiveness.

The Feet-washing gives us a powerful symbol that demonstrates how we act within the community, as does the Agape Meal. You don’t need me to tell you how communities and families like to sit down to a meal together! And finally, the Bread and the Cup allow us to share with each other in drawing close to the Author and Finisher of our faith-Jesus Christ.

In the middle of your busy schedules, please consider participating in our Love Feast and Communion as part of World-Wide Communion Sunday on October 1. Not only will it help you draw closer to God, but it will also enable you to be part of the World-Wide church, and will strengthen your bonds within our own church!

Pastor Dave



LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT The most recent meeting was held 8-29-23. The next meeting will be on 10-5-23.

Worship: Choir practice began the week of 8-30-23 and will be singing on Rally Day, 9-10-23. A small band has been reorganized and will be sharing special music periodically. Sound system issues were discussed. Those wishing a CD or DVD of the morning worship services should contact Kaye Russell and one will be made available.

Missions & Service: Work continues for Heritage Fair, 9-16-23 at CBD. Our booth at the recent Spring Dam Weekend was well received by the community.

Hospitality & Communications: The recent fundraiser vendor show held at the Albright Church was a success. Approximately \$1000 was raised for the roof fund. A donation was given to the Albright Church for the use of their facility. Additional events being sponsored by this Team continue through the end of the year. Watch for announcements!

Christian Education: Rally Day plans are complete; The Mr. & Mrs. Class has designed a new name for their Sunday School Class – they are now called the Living Faith Class. Some SS classes have outgrown their SS rooms, so some shifting of classrooms was necessary. Look for information in the bulletins and on the classroom doors. The 3-day VBS in our church was very well accepted by both children and helpers. ReCharge will begin on 10-4-23.

Finance & Facility: The phones in the church seem to be working more effectively since some upgrades to the lines were performed by Breezeline. If you still have difficulty reaching the church office, please let Bryce Nooyen know. Work on upgrades to the elevator will begin on 9-18-23 and will take approximately 2 weeks. The elevator will not be useable during that period. A new church brochure will be completed and printed within the next week as will the new website. All church accounts have been closed at M&T Bank and opened at Altoona First Savings & Loan. Elevator fund is currently at approximately \$34,000.

Deacons: Next meeting is 9-17-23. Communion bread making, Love Feast, & Deacon calling are all coming up before the end of this year. Communion bread will be donated to CBD for a “best tasting competition” to be held at Heritage Fair as a fundraiser.

Pastor Dave: The District is for the 2nd year, providing us with a \$1000 grant to be used for our ReCharge Program. There may be a fall baptism offered; date, time, and location TBD.

Thank you to Roots in the Cove for cleaning up the landscapes and for donating the fresh mulch.

The History Group will be asked to make a poster for our District Conference Delegates to share at the Conference on 10-14-23.

Gifts Discernment Team has been working on preparing the slate for the 11-19-23 Congregational Forum.

Teams will be working on their 2024 budget projections beginning 9-15-23. Please be in prayer for them as they discern to the best of their abilities how to continue the work of Jesus within our financial means.

Kaye Russell, Leadership Team Chair



HELPING HANDS IN OCTOBER

Greeters Cathie and Michael Pollard
Deacon Greeters Kaye Russell

Candlelighters
Fellowship Time

Deacons
Genesis Class

October	1	8	15	22	29
Organist		Cathy Petre	Terry Hershberger	Cathy Petre	
Pianist	Brenda Fluke-Garber	Cathy Neal	Cindy Shaw	Marcia Fleck	Brenda Fluke-Garber
Worship Leader	Stephen Hershberger	Kaye Russell			Linda Steele
Storyteller	Traci Totillo	Pastor Dave	Linda Steele	Bethann Frederick	Sandy Norris
Children's Church	Jodie & Terry Dellinger	Not Held	Angie Russell	Melinda Green Terra Gartmann	Amy Nooyen
Nursery					
Welcome Center	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	
Parking Lot Greeters					
Flowers					
Bulletins					

**Love Feast
and Communion**

October 1, 2023

6:30 pm

Fellowship Hall

Childcare available





*Fellowship Meal
Soup & Sandwiches
October 29th*

*11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall
Sign up at the Welcome Center*

WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW....



October 17, 2023
6 pm
U S Hotel
RSVP to Janet Imes
or Valerie Smith no
later than October 15



October 21, 2023

8 am

Breakfast at The Dream



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Thursday, October 26th

6 – 8 pm

If you would like to have your "trunk" be part of this event, please notify Beth Burns. We will be setting up about 5 pm that evening. Donations of treats, individual candy, small balls, toys will be received during the month.



ReCharge News

It's time to get ready to ReCharge your batteries! October 4th will be the first gathering and run on Wednesday evenings through March. We begin at 5:45 with dinner. At 6:15 there are Bible lessons for infants - adults. The children finish with some music time and are ready to leave at 7:30. This fall the children will be studying "The Armor of God".

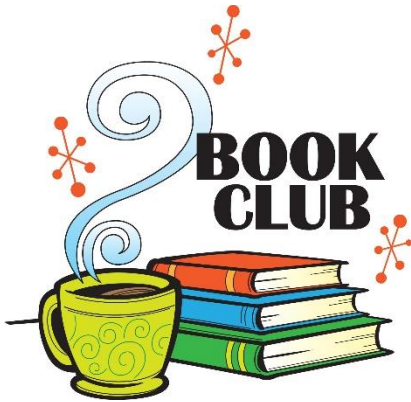
Please contact with Angie Russell (814.327.0145) if you are willing to help teach and ReCharge our children. Lessons are planned ahead for you and you can choose what age group you are comfortable teaching. Clearances are needed to fulfill these positions. Angie will be glad to help you complete the paperwork if needed.



Valerie Smith is once again heading up the kitchen for our ReCharge meals. You can contact her if you are willing to help in the kitchen or to provide food.



Sunday, October 1st at 8:30 am all children 5th grade and under are welcome to join **Pastor Dave** for **pancakes** in the Fellowship Hall. Come and have some fun with food and fellowship.



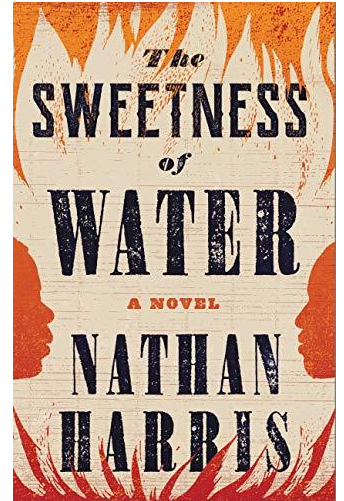
Meetings are the third Monday of each month at 10 am in the Parlor.
Join us as we discuss the monthly selection October 16th.

"The Sweetness of Water" by Nathan Harris

In the waning days of the Civil War, brothers Prentiss and Landry—freed by the Emancipation Proclamation—seek refuge on the homestead of George Walker and his wife, Isabelle. The

Walkers, wracked by the loss of their only son to the war, hire the brothers to work their farm, hoping through an unexpected friendship to stanch their grief. Prentiss and Landry, meanwhile, plan to save money for the journey north and a chance to reunite with their mother, who was sold away when they were boys.

Parallel to their story runs a forbidden romance between two Confederate soldiers. The young men, recently returned from the war to the town of Old Ox, hold their trysts in the woods. But when their secret is discovered, the resulting chaos, including a murder, unleashes convulsive repercussions on the entire community. In the aftermath of so much turmoil, it is Isabelle who emerges as an unlikely leader, proffering a healing vision for the land and for the newly free citizens of Old Ox.



10/1 Cathie Pollard
10/2 Rick Dillon
10/7 Bill Hagstrom
Mya Giordano
10/10 Jona Gartmann

Ken Miller
10/12 Elaine Frazier
Carl Hoover
10/14 Bonnie Butler
Sandy Smith

Carolyn Grubb
10/16 Crystal Burns
10/18 Dan Hammel
10/23 Alexander Eicher
10/31 Liliana Padilla



10/2 Gary & Connie Fluke
Pattie & Jerome Conlon
10/3 Andy & Amanda Keith
10/5 Ramon & Kaye Burket

10/9 Jon & Terra Gartmann
10/10 Earl & Becky Bryson
Mitchell & Danielle Conrath
10/15 Terry & Jodie Dellinger

10/17 Doug & Brenda Garber
10/20 Ken & Barbara Miller
10/21 Mike & Crystal Burns
10/27 Mike & Becky Bianconi



Herb & Beth Burns became official members of the congregation in October 2020, after attending for over a year. They have been married for 48 years, reside in Martinsburg, have 3 sons, and 5 grandchildren. Herb is a bus driver and

a choir member. Beth is Team Leader for Hospitality and Communications. They are big baseball fans and love to spend time with their family.



Linda Piper joined our congregation through baptism in April 1952. She loves to sing and is a faithful participant in our choir. She also sings in the Community Chorus. She currently is the family contact person of the Women's Fellowship for funeral meals. She loves to spend time with her family, her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren

Fall Ladies/Teen Encounter

Barb Roose **Winning Your Worry Battle**

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

7:00 PM 9:00 PM

Faith Assembly, Roaring Spring

No ticket required. Free-will offering received.



M.U.M.s (Mothers Uplifting Mothers) Group will be having a Ladies Lego Night on Sunday, October 15, 2023 from 3:00 – 5:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Mothers of all generations are welcome to join us as we assemble Lego flowers and fellowship together. The event will be \$15 for a small vase and a Lego flower set of your choice (sunflower, lotus, roses, or daffodils). Light refreshments will also be available. A sign-up sheet is available at the welcome center. Please see Amy Nooyen for more information.

The Village at Morrisons Cove Auxiliary is having a Ham & Cheese fundraiser with delivery on October 26th in the Overflow Room from 10-11 am. Place your order through October 15th for the \$5 sandwich and chips at the Welcome Center.

Our Older Servants Meal will be on Sunday, November 5th. Those 55 and older are invited to a roast beef meal in our Fellowship Hall at noon. A sign up sheet will be available at the Welcome Center in mid November.

Ladies, the Hospitality and Communications Team will be sponsoring a **Paint Party** on November 12th. Watch weekly bulletins for more information.

October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30 Am Pancakes with Pastor 9:25am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:45am Deacon Prayer Gathering 6:30pm Love Feast & Communion	2	3 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Leadership Meeting	4 9:00am Ladies Aid 1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:45pm Recharge Opening 6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice	5 9:00am Breakfast Fellowship at Spring House Grille 9:00am Bulletin Announcement Deadline 6:30pm - 8:30pm Knitting Group in Parlor	6	7
8 Food Bank Collection Pastor Appreciation Sunday 9:25am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 10:45am Fellowship Time	9 Office Closed 7:00pm Disaster Response Meeting	10 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Good Grief	11 9:00am Ladies Aid 1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:45pm ReCharge 6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice	12 9:00am Breakfast Fellowship at Spring House Grille 9:00am Bulletin Announcement Deadline 6:30pm - 8:30pm Knitting Group in Parlor	13	14 District Conference
15 9:25am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:45am Deacon Prayer Gathering 1:00pm Newsletter Submission Deadline 3:00pm - 5:00pm MUM's	16 10:00am Book Group	17 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Sisters of Faith	18 9:00am Ladies Aid 1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:45pm ReCharge 6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice	19 9:00am Breakfast Fellowship at Spring House Grille 9:00am Bulletin Announcement Deadline 6:30pm - 8:30pm Knitting Group in Parlor	20 5:30pm Parking Lot Fundraiser 9:00pm 5th Quarter	21 Fellowship Hall Reserved 8:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
22 9:25am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 1 pm Fellowship Hall Reserved	23	24 9:30am Bible Study	25 9:00am Ladies Aid 1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:45pm ReCharge 6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice	26 9:00am Breakfast Fellowship at Spring House Grille 9:00am Bulletin Announcement Deadline 6:00pm Trunk or Treat 6:30pm - 8:30pm Knitting Group in Parlor	27 5:30pm Parking Lot Fundraiser 9:00pm 5th Quarter	28
29 9:25am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:45am 5th Sunday Fellowship Meal	30	31 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Leadership Meeting				

JESUS LOVES YOU— *and so do we!*

“The function of prayer is not to influence God but rather to change the nature of the one who prays.”
—Søren Kierkegaard

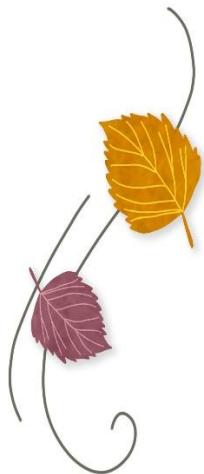
“Old gardeners never die. They just spade away and then throw in the trowel.”
—Herbert V. Prochnow

“Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself.”
—St. Francis de Sales

“The gem cannot be polished without friction, nor man perfected without trials.”
—Origin uncertain

“When life gives you more than you can stand ... kneel.” —Unknown

Address Service Requested



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