



First Church of the Brethren
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Pastor: Rev. Dr. David A. Crumrine dcrumrine@rsfirstchurch.org
March 2024

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.

There are many well-turned phrases and names for the month of March that help describe the “Madness” that we can look forward to this month.

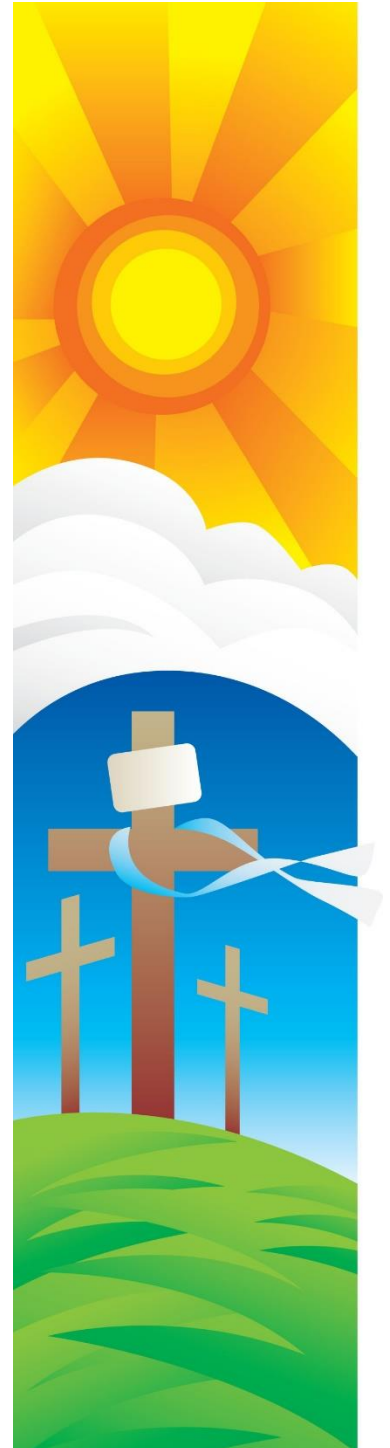
“In like a lion, out like a lamb,” comes immediately to mind. Or maybe you prefer “Spring Forward.” For some, the official beginning of spring is enough to get the heart pumping faster, while others find their happy thoughts in ditties like “spring is sprung, the grass is riz. I wonder where the birdies is.”

Hopefully, though, it is the promise of Holy Week and its centerpiece the Resurrection of Jesus Christ that brings the most anticipation and encouragement to the hearts and minds of we Christians.

Activities aimed at the spiritual side which commemorate what Jesus Christ has done for us include Palm Sunday celebration with baptisms and transfer of memberships (and reception welcoming our new members afterward), Love Feast and Communion, a Good Friday movie sponsored by the Deacons, and of course, Easter service with children’s skit. The week will also feature the final week of Recharge for the year and a children’s Easter Egg Hunt. Times and dates for all of these activities can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

So, no matter what activities, events and phrases come to mind to describe the month of March, don’t let any override the most important one.... Keep at the forefront “He has risen!”

Pastor Dave



LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT

The Leadership Team met on 2-6-2024. The next meeting will be held on 3-5-2024.

Worship: Everything has been covered while Terry is away training for a Brethren Disaster Ministries Project Leader. He is doing his usual worship preparations long distance via computer/internet. Special plans are underway for the Easter season.

Missions & Service: The church will be supporting the local ministerium's UNTO Seed Packing Project on 4-6. The Team will be encouraging the church to make up CWS cleanup buckets in May/June.

Christian Education: There will be a children's skit on Easter morning. An Easter Egg hunt will be on 3-26. The final winter ReCharge will be on 3-27. An Impact Team has been suggested to assist Mindy Wagner with summer VBS. The curriculum has been purchased. The Team is looking for one or two people to lead Children's Church on the 2nd Sunday of each month.

Hospitality & Communications: A sign up to purchase Easter flowers will be made available soon.

Finance & Facility: Church finances are in good shape thus far. The elevator project has been paid in full, but we need to replenish the parsonage fund with \$20,000. Two new steel doors have been installed in the Fellowship Hall. They will be painted by church volunteers. The church building's fire alarm system and control panel have been switched over to cellular in the event the phone lines are down, they are both still functionable. Becky Bianconi has resigned from the Daycare Liasian Team; a replacement will be secured. A blood pressure cuff, pulse oximeter and thermometer kit has been purchased for the building and is located on the coat rack shelf in the Overflow Room. Should a need arise, please feel free to utilize the items.

Deacons: Undershepherd lists and church mailboxes have recently been updated. Lenten events are in the planning stages.

Pastor Dave: Dave expressed his appreciation for the LT support for our congregation and his ministry.

An in-house 2024 Pictorial Directory is complete and includes other updated annual directory information as well. The directories have been distributed in the mailboxes.

There have been very few old church records found and/or given to the church.

A suggestion was made to offer a tour of our church building to newer friends and members of the congregation. This will be available on 4-14-2024 immediately following worship. More details will follow closer to the date.

Website and Facebook information is to be emailed to info@impelwebdevelopment.com and not given to the church office.

Kaye Russell, Leadership Team Chair



HELPING HANDS IN MARCH

Greeters Cathie & Michael Pollard Candlelighters Genesis Class
 Deacon Greeters Doug & Brenda Garber Fellowship Time Youth

March	3	10	17	24 Palm Sunday	31 Easter Sunday
Organist		Cathy Petre	Terry Hershberger		Terry Hershberger
Pianist	Brenda Fluke-Garber	Cathy Neal	Marcia Fleck	Brenda Fluke-Garber	Cathy Petre
Worship Leader	Stephen Hershberger	Pattie Conlon		Stephen Hershberger	Linda Steele
Storyteller	Bonnie Butler	Pastor Dave	Bethann Frederick	Marlys Hershberger	Betsy Garach
Children's Church	Jodie & Terry Dellinger	Not held	Angie Russell	Melinda Green Terra Gartmann	Amy Nooyen
Nursery	Mindy Wagner	Mindy Wagner	Mindy Wagner	Mindy Wagner	Mindy Wagner
Welcome Center	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland
Parking Lot Greeters	Don Bookhammer				
Flowers					
Bulletins	Memory of Carol Weyandt	Memory of Don Imes	Honor Don & Nancy Bookhammer		

Camp Blue Diamond Annual Dinners

Everyone is invited to share in the ministry of Camp by enjoying an amazing evening of delicious food, wonderful fellowship and fantastic entertainment. Your \$50 donation goes a long way in continuing to help Camp Blue Diamond maintain affordable summer camp prices for all campers, as well as support the mission of Camp!

Entertainment will feature Bil Lepp. Bil is an award-winning storyteller, author, and recording artist along with being the host of the History Channel's Man Vs. History series.

The menu this year will be fresh garden salad, swiss steak (braised beef cooked in a tomato sauce), scalloped potatoes, sautéed green beans, applesauce, dinner roll and lemon bunt cake with a strawberry sauce.

Appetizers will start at 6:00 p.m. on Friday with dinner served at 6:30. On Saturday appetizers will begin at 5:00 p.m. and the dinner will be served at 5:30. See Paul Witkovsky for tickets.



Camp Blue Diamond



Tuesday, March 19

6 pm

The Dream

Hollidaysburg

RSVP to Janet Imes
or Valerie Smith
no later than March 16



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

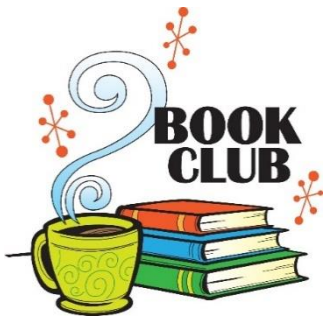
March 16th

8 am

Breakfast at

The Dream,
Hollidaysburg

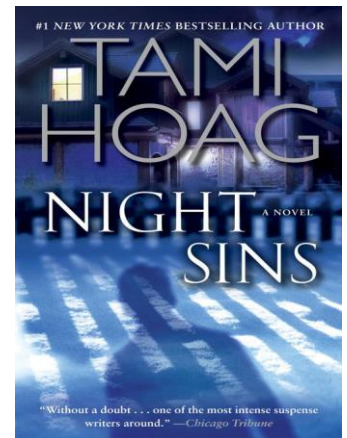
All men invited!



Meetings are the third Monday of each month at 10 am in the Parlor.
Join us as we discuss the monthly selection on March 18, 2024.

Night Sins by Tami Hoag

This gripping tale unfolds in a peaceful Minnesota town, where crime is something that just doesn't happen. But when a young boy disappears, it marks the beginning of an unspeakable nightmare. There are no witnesses, no clues, only a note, cleverly taunting, casually cruel. Has a cold-blooded kidnapper struck? Or is this the reawakening of a long-quiet serial killer? Now, a tough-minded investigator on her first, make-or-break case, and a local cop who fears that big city evils have invaded his small town, are hunting for a madman. Together, they must outsmart a killer who knows no bounds...and protect a town that may never feel safe again.



The Middle PA District Disaster Response Team

This team volunteers on local projects such as ramp building. They also participate in Church of the Brethren disaster response beyond Middle PA District. To volunteer on local projects, contact Ron Dilling at 814-935-8019. To volunteer on COB Disaster Trips, contact Terry Hershberger at 814-329-5575

Monthly Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at Roaring Spring First Church of the Brethren in Roaring Spring, PA at 7:00 pm. All are welcome!



Men's Fellowship Baked Potato & Chili Fest March 3, 2024

Available after worship and Sunday School
Eat in or take home
\$5 for one, \$8 for combination



3/1 Dylan Butler
3/8 Julianna Flamish
3/10 Brandon Dick-Giordano
Linda Frederick
3/12 Mark Garach
3/14 John Coates
3/15 Katy Roudabush
3/17 Emanuel Walter

3/19 Brian Totillo
3/21 Joseph Hershberger
3/22 Julie Dick
3/23 Janis Thompson
Chris Wagner
Missy Glunt
3/24 Emma Frederick
3/27 Joan Johnson

3/29 Shari Ritchey
Cindy Shaw
3/30 Doug Garber
3/31 David Albright
Amy Nooyen
Chris Avvampato



3/17 Dave & Janet Imes
3/19 Dan & Sharon Hammel
3/20 Jerry & Shari Ritchey



March 10, 2024

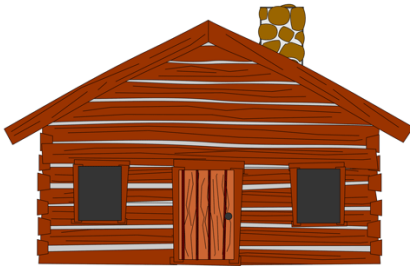
An up coming event at the ARCH is a food repackaging program called UNTO from Mt. Joy PA. The Roaring Spring Ministerium and the ARCH are sponsoring the program which will take place April 6th at the ARCH. We will need volunteers to repackaging the beans and rice which come in 50 pound bags. This will be a great opportunity for the youth who may need community service hours. It will be 2 hour shifts at a time. We will need approximately 210 volunteers.



Paul & Kim Unger live on Lock Mountain Rd. in Martinsburg with their shelties, cats and parrots. Paul's job at Sheetz makes it impossible to get to all Sunday services, but they view on You Tube, when they cannot attend. Kim works at Martinsburg Elementary as a paraprofessional and Paul occasionally fills in at Long's Outpost.



Travis & Mindy Wagner and their children Dominic and Destiny, live in Roaring Spring. Mindy has been attending church here since 6th grade as part of the youth group and was baptized in 12th grade. Mindy and Travis got married in this church June 14, 2003. Mindy is very active in church serving as Children's Ministry Coordinator, youth advisor, mentor, and Sunday school teacher, Vacation Bible School Coordinator. Travis serves as youth advisor, mentor, Sunday school teacher, and fill in audio tech. Dominic and Destiny were both baptized when they were in 6th grade and have been active in youth and Sunday school and the Mentor Program.



Cabin Fever Game Night
March 16th
6 pm
Fellowship Hall

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy food, games and crafts for all ages. Lots of active and non-active games are available. Don't want to play games, come and socialize. It's a night to get out of the house and fellowship with your church family.

Mentoring Sunday is March 17th

Continental Breakfast will be served 8:20 am – 9 am for all current mentors and mentees. We will honor our senior teams during breakfast. A slide show including all previous teams will begin in the sanctuary at 9 am for the congregation.



Mentoring Teams



JOY Soup and Sandwich March 17th at noon Fellowship Hall

All those 55 and over are invited and encouraged to sign up at the Welcome Center beginning March 3rd so we have an idea of how many to prepare for.

*Tuesday, March 26th at 6 pm
All children through 5th grade welcome
Bring your basket!*

Anyone wishing to donate individually wrapped treats may place them on the round table in the Overflow Room March 3 -24.

(It doesn't have to be candy)



We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6 pm before splitting into smaller age groups to hunt eggs. Dress accordingly, we may have an outside hunt too. Refreshments available. And maybe a special guest appearance!

Soup Kitchen Trip to Washington DC

All youth in grades 9-12 are invited to join the Middle PA service trip to Washington DC! We will be staying at the Washington Seminar Center and volunteer in different places around the city, while learning about issues like homelessness, hunger and poverty. There will be time for some exploration and visiting the Museum of the Bible too! We will meet in the afternoon of April 24 and return Sunday afternoon. This trip can be used for volunteer or community service hours. Cost is \$225 (includes food, transportation, lodging, and Museum of the Bible ticket). To register download this form: [2024 Service trip flyer and reg. .pdf](#)



April 7th at 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall

Yes we know this isn't the 5th Sunday of the month, but March was really busy and Easter fell on the 5th Sunday.

Please sign up at the Welcome Center so we know how many to plan for.

Missions & Service Team Highlights – Brethren Disaster Ministries

”And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased” (Hebrews 13:16). We extend God’s love to others through service of time and money. One of the missions of service we heartily support in our denominational giving is **Brethren Disaster Ministries**.

Current Active Denominational BDM Rebuilding Site: Dawson Springs, Kentucky, 2021 Tornado Recovery



On Dec. 10-11, 2021, a devastating outbreak of 61 confirmed tornados swept through eight states with Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri being the most impacted. The resulting destruction leveled whole towns, but also caused much damage along the 250-mile paths of the storms. From 24 counties in Kentucky alone, over 15,000 applications were completed for requests for assistance from

FEMA.

Estimates are that around 75 percent of the town of Dawson Springs was leveled, which was home to around 2,500 people. Over 650 of the 1,200 housing units in the town were lost and there were 15 lives that were lost. A BDM rebuilding site opened in January 2023 to serve in Dawson Springs, Ky. BDM is partnering with Habitat for Humanity in Dawson Springs and our volunteers are housed at the Habitat for Humanity Pennyriple Region property located in Madisonville, Ky. Work will continue there until at least the end of June 2024.



Local BDM Work: Middle PA District Disaster Response Team

The Middle PA District Disaster Response Team is our local branch of Brethren Disaster Ministries. Monthly meetings are held in our building. DDRT repairs or builds projects of a small scale for the intervention or prevention of what would otherwise result in a disastrous outcome for a person or family. This is a generally a service for those with economic hardships who cannot receive help from other agencies. While recipients (or churches or other individuals) pay for most materials, local volunteers provide the labor. Handicap ramps are the common request.



You will find some of our church members in these photos: Don Bookhammer, Terry Hershberger, Dave & Janet Imes. Terry Hershberger is completing training to be a Project Team Leader for the denominational work of Brethren Disaster Ministries.



Carnival Fun Day will be held at Albright Church of the Brethren.

It is hosted by our Hospitality & Communications Team.

Fire trucks, ambulances, games and food, crafter booths and vender booths.

Michael or Cathie Pollard can answer your questions.

Watch for more information closer to the event.



Help Joan Johnson celebrate her 91st birthday on March 27th with a card shower. Birthday wishes can be sent to her at 437 Givler Drive Room 418, Martinsburg, PA 16662.

BUTTERFLY — The butterfly symbolizes resurrection, Easter and the new life we have in Christ Jesus. As a caterpillar disappears into a chrysalis, so Jesus' lifeless body was hidden in a tomb. The emergence of the butterfly, rising into the sky in its beautiful new body, reminds us of Christ's resurrection — and ours.

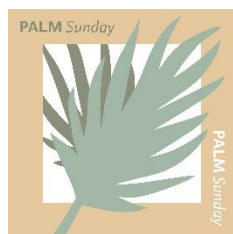


HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



MARCH 24 - 31, 2024

March 24 at 9:25 am



Our Chancel Choir will be an integral part of the Palm Sunday worship service as we celebrate the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem with palms. We will receive new members into our church family through baptism and transfer. The Deacons invite everyone to a reception for them following worship in our Fellowship Hall.

March 28 at 6:30 pm



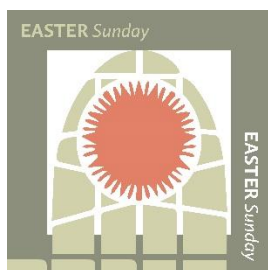
Love Feast will include a time of preparation, feetwashing, a fellowship meal and communion. If you have any questions, please talk with Pastor Dave or any of the deacons. Childcare will be available. Please contact Dave & Valerie Smith if you need transportation.

March 29 at 6:30 pm



Resurrection: Based on a short story by Max Lucado will be shown in our sanctuary. The movie will last about 50 minutes. Members of the community are invited to attend. Dave and Valerie Smith would be happy to give a ride to anyone who needs, just ask.

March 31 at 9:25 am

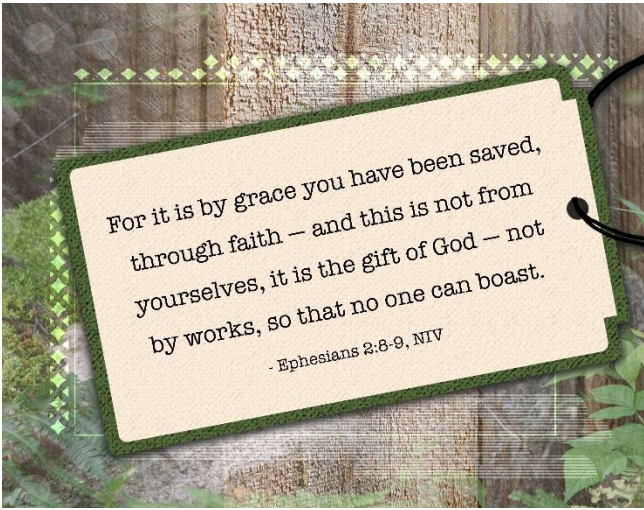


By defeating the grave, Jesus empowers us to bear our worldly troubles with joy, peace and hope. His resurrection assures us that trials, tears and suffering are only temporary, while eternal victory and life with Jesus are permanent. Come and join us in celebrating this joyous truth that will include an *Easter Eggs*, Easter skit performed by the children.



March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:25am Worship 10:30am Baked Potato & Chili Fest 10:30am Sunday School 11:45am Deacon Prayer Gathering	4	5 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Leadership Meeting	6 9:00am Ladies Aid 1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:45pm ReCharge 6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice	7 9:00am Breakfast Fellowship at Spring House Grille 9:00am Bulletin Announcement Deadline 6:30pm - 8:30pm Knitting Group in Parlor	8	9 2:00pm Youth depart for Winter Jam 9:00pm Youth Lock In
10 Daylight-Saving Time Begins Food Bank Collection 9:25am Worship 10:30am Sunday School	11 7:00pm Disaster Response Meeting	12 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Good Grief	13 9:00am Ladies Aid 1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:45pm ReCharge 6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice	14 9:00am Breakfast Fellowship at Spring House Grille 9:00am Bulletin Announcement Deadline 6:30pm - 8:30pm Knitting Group in Parlor	15 1:00pm Newsletter Submission Deadline 6:00pm Camp Blue Diamond Annual Dinner	16 8:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 5:00pm CBD Annual Dinner 6:00pm Cabin Fever Game Night
17 8:20am - 9:00am Mentoring Celebration 9:25am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:45am Deacon Meeting 12:00pm J O Y Soup & Sandwich	18 10:00am Book Group	19 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Sisters of Faith	20 9:00am Ladies Aid 1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 4:30pm - 6:30pm RS Community Library Quilters 5:45pm ReCharge 6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice	21 9:00am Breakfast Fellowship at Spring House Grille 9:00am Bulletin Announcement Deadline 6:30pm - 8:30pm Knitting Group in Parlor	22	23
24 9:25am Palm Sunday Worship 10:30am Sunday School 10:30 am New Member Reception	25 6:30pm Missions and Service Team Meeting	26 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Easter Egg Hunt	27 9:00am Bulletin Announcement Deadline 9:00am Ladies Aid 1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:45pm ReCharge 6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice	28 Maundy Thursday 9:00am Breakfast Fellowship at Spring House Grille 6:30pm Love Feast	29 Good Friday Office Closed 6:30pm Deacon Movie	30
31 9:25am Easter Worship 10:30am Sunday School						



“The cross is both the symbol of our salvation and the pattern of our lives.”

—Brennan Manning


“If you are ignorant of God’s Word, you will always be ignorant of God’s will.”

—Billy Graham

“Do something you really love in the most adventurous place you can and make sure it helps other people.” —Diane Sawyer

Address Service Requested



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