



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

It's November already! Wow. How did that happen?

I don't think I'm the only one who is looking around thinking about the upcoming holidays and the end of 2024 and wondering how in the world did it get to be so late in the year so quickly.

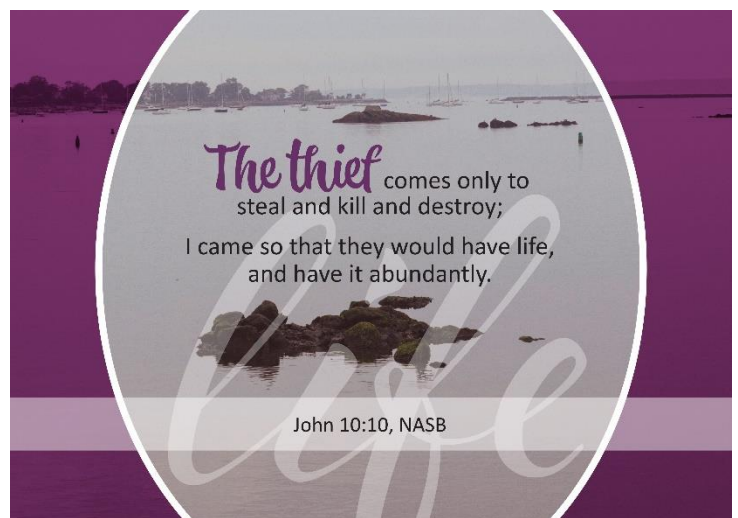
There's so much to do before the curtain rings down on the year 2024. A congregational forum, planning for celebrating the spiritual bounty that comes with Thanksgiving, planning for Advent and a Christmas Eve service (which is a special highlight –at least for me anyway). The list goes on. So many important things to do and people to see.

Now, I don't know much, but I do know that preparing ahead of time, and not waiting for the last minute is an important key to being able to enjoy this time of year. And if you think about it, that's also the key to making our lives productive and being ready for the truly important things we need to have taken care of for our lives and our eternity.

Be prepared! Several Bible studies running currently have discussed at length how to be prepared for the events that the book of Revelation foretell. And even if Christ's second coming isn't today, we all face life decisions that are better made here and now rather than put off to later. Knowing for certain where you stand with Christ can mean being able to move closer to the abundant life Christ promised us in John 10:10.

So, no. This isn't necessarily about getting your Christmas decorations up before Thanksgiving. But it is about making the decision to follow Christ as Savior and Lord as early as possible. When that's done, and you have the important details taken care of, life becomes more abundant, because you know you've taken care of the most important things!

Pastor Dave



LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORT submitted by Kaye Russell, LT Chair

- The Leadership Team met on 10-1-2024. The next meeting will be held on 11-5-2024.

CHRISTIAN ED TEAM

All current youth advisors serve on both Jr and Sr youth. There will be Jr youth events offered on the 2nd Sunday evening of each month beginning in January. Watch for more details. Fall SS teachers and subs are in place and new curriculums seem to be working well. Thanks to everyone for their efforts. There continues to be a SS class for our Post High School graduates. They meet on the stage in the fellowship hall. ReCharge will begin on 10-2; teachers, helpers and cooks are in through the end of 2024. CE is currently reviewing the Team's 2015 Guidelines.

HOSPITALITY & COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Fifty people attended the recent 5th Sunday luncheon. 10/31 will be Trunk or Treat in the church's parking lot. 11/3 will be the Older Servant's Dinner. This Team was recently praised for all their ongoing hard work and efforts.

WORSHIP TEAM

The team is working on their budget.

MISSIONS & SERVICE TEAM

Positive reports were given from the recent Heritage Fair participation. They are working on their budget and are please with the additional outreach recommendations for 2025 from F&F. Two \$50 gift cards were given to the Village at MC to support their recent staff appreciation activity. Advent special giving suggestions will mimic those from 2023. Details will be coming out soon.

FINANCE & FACILITY TEAM

The elevator electrical box keypad located near the elevator on the fellowship hall level has been upgraded and a list of who persons may phone from inside the elevator should there become any issues, will be posted shortly. The Daycare Liaison Team has met recently, and it was a very productive and positive meeting. The Team has agreed to become more proactive with their meetings.

DEACON'S REPORT

Worldwide Communion will be offered on 10/6 at 6:30pm. Church membership lists have been updated and the office has been given the updated archived and inactive lists. There will be a deacon calling on 10/26 with the final call on 11/17.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Several people have inquired about membership transfer. Approximately twenty or more continue to attend the Tuesday morning Bible study and the Wednesday evening Zoom study will increase when ReCharge in person resumes.

- Gifts Discernment has completed the Officer's slate for the 11/24 Forum.

- The 11/24 Congregational Forum will be held immediately following worship on 11/24. The packet including the proposed budget and slate will be available beginning on 11/10 for congregational review. On 11/24, both the proposed budget and slate can be affirmed. According to the constitution, there is no need to affirm 2 weeks after the Forum as we have done in the past.



HELPING HANDS IN NOVEMBER

Greeters Don & Nancy Bookhammer

Deacon Greeters Mike & Becky Bianconi

Fellowship Time

Alpha Class

November	3	10	17	24
Organist		Cathy Petre	Terry Hershberger	Cathy Petre
Pianist	Brenda Fluke-Garber	Terry Hershberger	Marcia Fleck	Terry Hershberger
Worship Leader	Youth	Linda Steele		Kaye Russell
Storyteller		Pastor Dave	Pattie Conlon	Betsy Garach
Candlelighter			Don Bookhammer	Janie Myers
Children's Church	Angie Russell	Mindy Wagner	Jodie & Terry Dellinger	Terra Gartmann Melinda Green
Nursery				
Welcome Center	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland
Parking Lot Greeters				
Flowers	Memory of Lowell & Delma Witkovsky			Memory of Martha Brumbaugh
Bulletins		Memory of Alfred Hoover		Memory of Martha Brumbaugh

Many thanks to all those who supported our church's booth, as well as our communion bread donation, at Heritage Fair. We raised \$1,594.25 for the ministries of Camp Blue Diamond and Midde PA District.

Children's Church is held weekly during worship following the children's story and is currently held in room 405. This activity is for children ages Pre-K through Grade 5.

The Christian Ed Team is seeking your **donations of small individual bags of snacks** such as chips and pretzels to be shared with the children during Children's Church. We are also asking for small 8 oz. bottles of water. If you would like to donate any items, please place them on the table in the Sunday School Superintendent's office to the right of the sanctuary. We have a growing number of children for CC and aiding the leaders with providing the snacks will be appreciated. Also be advised that your children does not receive a second morning snack during the Sunday School hour. If you have questions, please reach out to Kaye Russell.



The 11/24 Congregational Forum will be held immediately following worship on 11/24. The packet including the proposed 2025 budget and slate will be available beginning on 11/10 for congregational review. On 11/24, both the proposed budget and slate can be affirmed. If there are new names to be added to the slate, that may be done on 11/24 BUT WITH PRIOR CONSENT of the nominee. Then the slate will be closed and ready for affirmation the same

day. According to the constitution, there is no need to affirm 2 weeks after the Forum as we have done in the past. Should you have questions, please speak with Kaye Russell.

The 2024 Gifts & Talents Survey will also be available on November 10th. Please return the completed surveys to the office by the end of December.



ALL LADIES WELCOME

Tuesday, November 19th

6 pm

Cracker Barrel

RSVP to Janet Imes

or Valerie Smith

no later than

November 17th



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

November 16th

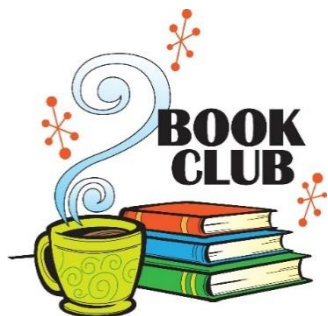
8 am

Breakfast at

The Dream,

Hollidaysburg

All men invited!

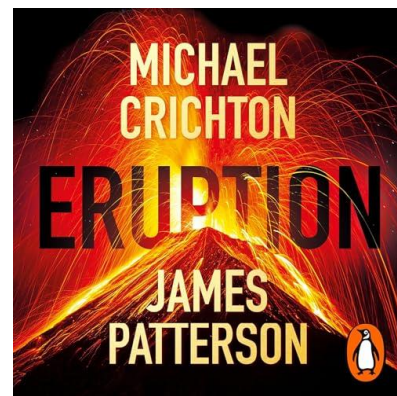


Meetings are the third Monday of each month at 10 am in the Parlor.
Join us as we discuss the monthly selection on November 18th.

Eruption by Michael Crichton and James Patterson

A history-making once-in-a-century volcanic eruption is about to destroy the Big Island of Hawaii. But a decades-old military secret could turn the volcano into something even more terrifying... Now it's up to a handful of brave individuals to save the island - and the entire world.

Two of the bestselling storytellers of all time have created an unforgettable thriller. The master of the techno-blockbuster joins forces with the master of the modern thriller to create the most anticipated mega bestseller in years. Michael Crichton, creator of Jurassic Park, ER, Twister, and Westworld, had a passion project he'd been pursuing for years, ahead of his untimely passing in 2008. Knowing how special it was, his wife, Sherri Crichton, held back his notes and the partial manuscript until she found the right author to complete it: James Patterson, the world's most popular storyteller. Eruption brings the pace of Patterson to the concept of Crichton: the most anticipated mega-thriller in years.





At noon on Sunday, November 3rd we will honor our older servants with a meal in our Fellowship Hall. We continue with this yearly recognition because we feel it is important to remind them, and us, of how much they mean to our congregation. Their leadership and knowledge helps us all grow closer to God as we observe and learn from their walk with God.



Grief is a journey with many struggles and bumps along the way. Each month we gather on the second Tuesday at 6:30 pm to help each other navigate this journey. Should anyone be grieving, we invite you to join us. Questions can be directed to Kaye Russell or Pastor Dave.

Congregation and leadership Team, Kaye,

I can't thank you enough for the cards, snacks and gift certificates for Pastor Appreciation. Even more – THANK YOU so much for the opportunity and all your support and encouragement! God Bless you all! – Dave & Dawn Crumrine

Shepherds are reminded that Christmas bags will be available in the Overflow Room following choir practice on December 11th and also Thursday, December 12th. Please direct all questions to Dave & Valerie Smith.

The Middle PA District Disaster Team would like to help replenish the supply of clean up buckets and relief kits for Brethren Disaster Ministries and Church World Service. We will collect kits and buckets until November 30 and our disaster team will see that they are delivered to New Windsor.

Drop off locations:

Middle PA District Office, 1113 Mount Vernon Avenue, Huntingdon, PA 814-643-0601 (please call to make arrangements)

Everett COB, 119 E 2nd Street, Everett, PA (Wed 7:30-12:30 Thursday and Friday, 8:30-1:30.) or call 814-652-5710 to make other arrangements.

Roaring Spring COB, 901 Bloomfield St., Roaring Spring, PA (please call office 814-224-4113)

Here is a link to the various relief kits and buckets: [Relief Kits – Brethren Disaster Ministries](#)

If you would prefer to make a monetary donation towards the hurricane relief fund, please send a check to:
Church of the Brethren
Emergency Disaster Relief Fund-Hurricane Support
1451 Dundee Avenue
Elgin, IL 60120

Here's what you'll need to make a Clean Up Bucket:

- One five-gallon bucket with resealable lid (If reused, please scrub clean. Do not use a bucket that has held chemicals of any kind. No screw lid. Advertisement on the outside acceptable.)
- One 4-8oz. pump spray air freshener
- Five scouring pads (No stainless steel or pads with soap in them. Remove from packaging.)
- Seven sponges, including one large
- One scrub brush (With or without handle.)
- 18 reusable, lightweight multipurpose dry cleaning towels (No terrycloth, microfiber or paper towels. Remove from packaging.)
- One 32-64oz. or two 25oz. bottle(s) of liquid laundry detergent
- One 16-34oz. bottle of liquid disinfectant dish soap
- One 12-40oz. bottle of liquid concentrate household cleaner that can be mixed with water (No spray bottles.)
- One package of 36-50 clothespins
- One 50-100ft. clothesline (Cotton or plastic line.)
- Five dust masks (N95 particulate respirator dust masks preferred; No surgical masks.)
- Two pairs of heavy-duty, waterproof dishwashing gloves (Latex-free, non-surgical. Durable for multiple-use. Remove from packaging.)
- One pair of work gloves (Cotton with leather palm or all leather.)
- 20-28 heavy duty or contractor type 30-45 gallon trash bags on a roll (Remove from packaging.)
- One 6-9oz. bottle of non-aerosol insect repellent (Pump spray bottles must have protective covers. Packs of 10-20 insect repellent wipes also acceptable.)

VALUE: \$75 PROCESSING FEE: \$3 per bucket

All cleaning items must be new and all liquid items must be capped and securely tightened. Place all items into the bucket, making sure they are packed securely to avoid damage during shipment. Snap the lid on tight and seal with packing tape. Please do not enclose cash or checks inside of the kits or the boxes.



11/1 Doug Detwiler
11/4 Darlene Wyland
Dennis Igou
11/7 Brenda Fluke- Garber
11/10 Mary Anne Smith
11/11 Barry Hoffman
Mike Bianconi
Ben Beers
11/12 Pat Frazier

11/16 Elijah Walter
11/18 Dave Loucks
Bobbi Beers
11/25 Mason Hershberger
11/26 Mark Robertson
Bella Dellinger
11/27 Brandi Stranford
11/30 Signe Dellinger
Marissa Witkovsky-Eldred

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

NOVEMBER 2024

1

2

9:00 am - 11:30 am
Youth Practice

4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
BDM Fundraiser Dinner

3

8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Youth Sunday

9:25 am
Worship

10:30 am
Sunday School

11:45 am
Deacon Prayer
Gathering

12:00 pm
Older Servants Dinner

12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Youth activity

4

5

9:30 am
Bible Study

6:00 pm
Leadership Meeting

6

9:00 am
Ladies Aid Quilting

1:00 pm
Prayer Shawl Ministry

5:45 pm - 7:30 pm
ReCharge

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Youth Service Project

6:15 pm
Virtual Bible Study

6:30 pm
Chancel Choir

7

9:00 am
Bulletin Submission
Deadline

9:00 am
Breakfast Fellowship

6:00 pm
Christian Education
Team Meeting

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Knitting Group in Parlor

8

9

9:00 am - 3:00 pm
District Youth Volleyball
Tournament

10

Food Bank Collection 

9:25 am
Worship

10:30 am
Fellowship Time

11:00 am
Sunday School

11

Office Closed

12

9:30 am
Bible Study

6:30 pm
Good Grief

13

9:00 am
Ladies Aid Quilting

1:00 pm
Prayer Shawl Ministry

5:45 pm - 7:30 pm
ReCharge

6:15 pm
Virtual Bible Study

6:30 pm
Chancel Choir

14

9:00 am
Bulletin Submission
Deadline

9:00 am
Breakfast Fellowship

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Knitting Group in Parlor

15

1:00 pm
Newsletter Submission
Deadline

16

8:00 am
Men's Fellowship
Breakfast

17

9:25 am
Worship

10:30 am
Sunday School

11:45 am
Deacon Prayer
Gathering

18

10:00 am
Book Group

7:00 pm
BDM Meeting

19

9:30 am
Bible Study

6:00 pm
Sisters of Faith

20

9:00 am
Ladies Aid Quilting

1:00 pm
Prayer Shawl Ministry

5:45 pm - 7:30 pm
ReCharge

6:15 pm
Virtual Bible Study

6:30 pm
Chancel Choir

21

9:00 am
Bulletin Submission
Deadline

9:00 am
Breakfast Fellowship

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Knitting Group in Parlor

22

23

24

9:25 am
Worship

10:30 am
Sunday School

10:30 am
Church Forum

25

26

9:30 am
Bible Study

27

9:00 am
Ladies Aid Quilting

1:00 pm
Prayer Shawl Ministry

5:45 pm - 7:30 pm
ReCharge

6:15 pm
Virtual Bible Study

6:30 pm
Chancel Choir

28

Office Closed

9:00 am
Bulletin Submission
Deadline

9:00 am
Breakfast Fellowship

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Knitting Group in Parlor

29

Office Closed

30

"Let there be for every pulse a thanksgiving, and for every breath a song."

—Konrad von Gesner

"Prayer is nothing else than being on terms of friendship with God."

—Teresa of Avila

"Let gratitude for the past inspire us with trust for the future."

—François Fénelon



ALMOND — In Numbers 17:1-8, God settles a dispute among the Israelites by directing Moses to obtain a staff from each of Israel's 12 tribes and to place the staffs in the Tent of Meeting. The one representing the tribe God chose would sprout. The next day, not only had the staff of Aaron, representing the tribe of Levi, sprouted; it had blossomed and borne ripe almonds. Thus, the almond came to symbolize God's approval. By extension, it also represents the Virgin Mary, who found divine favor and was chosen to bear God's Son.

Address Service Requested



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mailing list or correct your address,
please contact us through an above
means.