



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

February 2026

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.

Welcome to February--- the most bi-polar of all months!

Of course, I say “bi-polar” tongue in check, because of the polar temperatures we are experiencing and the fact that this month is historically the coldest part of the year.

But at the same time, February is arguably the warmest of months – spiritually at least-- for those who take the Valentines Day holiday seriously. And don’t forget—this is also the month that gives us the Super Bowl—and something to cheer for! This is also the month that brings us Ground Hogs Day – and something to hope for!

And while we also can celebrate Presidents Day, Black History Month, American Heart Month and Random Acts of Kindness Day (Feb 17) would it be too much to put before you that his “down is up, and up is down” nature (as author Donald Kraybill uses the description in his book “the Upside Down Kingdom”) is exactly what we can be looking forward to from the Kingdom of God.

For those who follow Jesus Christ, Kraybill points out that this new Kingdom is going to come as a surprise to those of the world. As the Beatitudes of the Jesus’s Sermon on the Mount contrast the Kingdom with the worldly, and as Luke 1 advocates “He has scattered the proud... put down the mighty... exalted those of low degree... filled the hungry with good things,” a new way of looking at things is coming!

So, during the month, let the cold winds continue to blow. Let the snow drifts continue to mount. And let the news of the world continue to be a little crazy. When we are tempted to fall into SAD (seasonal affective disorder) remember that we can find spiritual warmth in prayer, scriptures and in our church family. We can find something to cheer for in the works of Christ through fellow Christians and the Holy Spirit in this world. And we can find hope in the promises of Jesus Christ that overcome this world!

- Pastor Dave



Highlights of Leadership Mtg.

January 6, 2026



Christian Education Team - Kaye Russell

- 2026 team members are Chad Crumrine, Nancy Day, Janie Myers Tammie Dell and Jodie Dellinger.
- Angie Russell will coordinate Wed. Eve. Recharge. Jodie Dellinger Children's Church.

Worship Team - Terry Hershberger

- Felt Holiday services went well. Feedback always accepted.
- Impact team looking at programs and facilities will meet soon to go over survey.

Finance and Facility Team - Bryce Nooyen

- Current team is Mike Bianconi, Don Bookhammer, Tom Holsinger.
- Updated quotes for roof replacement are being reviewed. Replacement will be scheduled as soon as favored bid is approved.
- Budget for 2025 was met.
- Plans for electrical upgrades being finalized and should begin soon.

Hospitality and Communications Team - Beth Burns

- 2026 members are Cathie and Michael Pollard, Mindy Wagner, Nancy Forshey.
- 28 attended JOY Christmas party, 40 at Holiday Luncheon.
- Nancy Forshey will serve as JOY group liaison.
- Feb 7 is tentative date for all church bowling party.
- A 30th year celebration for Mentoring program is being planned.

Missions and Service Team - Sandy Burket

- Current team is Bobbi Beers, Darlene Wyland, John Holsinger, Cindy Estep, Don Bookhammer, Julie Witkovsky and Tammie McCahan.
- White Gift of \$4323 will be split between RS Ministerium, Middle PA COB District and Heifer Project.
- Sign-up sheet to keep Blessing Box refilled in 2026 is in Alpha classroom or contact Sandy Burket. Items are provided you just need to keep box filled.

Deacons' Report – Mike and Becky Bianconi

- In pew communion was held January 4th.
- Valentine's bags will be given to those 70+ rather than the past Christmas bags.

Pastor Dave

- A generous gift was given by the Marjorie Rhodes family for the Recharge Program.
- Looking ahead to at least one baptism and one membership transfer on Palm Sunday. Let Dave know if you may wish to be included or have questions about the process.

Other

- Teams reminded to advertise planned meetings so anyone possibly interested in joining a team can sit in to learn what team does.
- Reviewed covenant with First Church that youth attending NYC are asked to sign when registering. Was approved for use again for 2026 conference attendees.
- Question raised of idea of splitting Christian Ed. team into two teams. Christian Ed. team and a new Youth Program team. Also maybe splitting F&F into two. A Finance team and a Facility team. Discussion to continue. Thoughts welcome.

Next Meeting – Tuesday February 3rd at 6:00

HELPING HANDS IN FEBRUARY



Greeter
Deacon Greeter
Fellowship Time

Cathie & Michael Pollard
Linda Steele
Generation Hope Class

	1	8	15	22
Candlelighter	Alpha Class	Alpha Class	Alpha Class	Alpha Class
Organist	Cathy Petre		Terry Hershberger	Cathy Petre
Pianist	Jill DeLozier	Brenda Fluke-Garber	Cathy Neal	Marcia Fleck
Worship Leader	Mark Robertson	Youth		Jane Geist
Storyteller	Pattie Conlon	Pastor Dave	Cindy Shaw	Traci Totillo
Children's Church	Jodie & Bella Dellinger	Not Held	Angie Russell	Terra Gartmann Melinda Green
Welcome Center	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland
Parking Lot Greeters	Rick Carrier	Earl Bryson		
Flowers	In Memory of Paul Harmon	In honor of the Youth by Doug & Brenda Garber		
Bulletins				



Every
Wednesday
5:45 pm



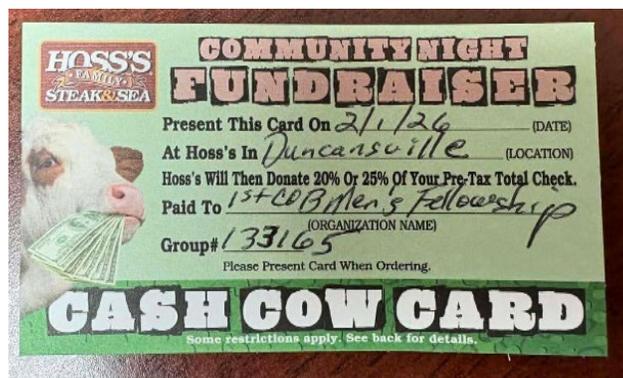
Good Grief
Tuesday, February 10th at 6:30 pm



Love Them Through It - Monday, February 16th @ 6:30 pm



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH IS THE YOUTH SOUPER BOWL DAY OF CARING.



Reminder:
Hoss's fundraiser
2/1/26 for
The Men's
Fellowship

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

6 pm

At The Dream

RSVP to Janet Imes

or Valerie Smith

by February 15th

ALL LADIES WELCOME!



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

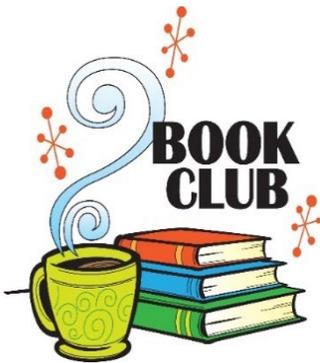
February 21, 2026

8 am

Breakfast at

The Dream

All men are welcome!



BOOK CLUB

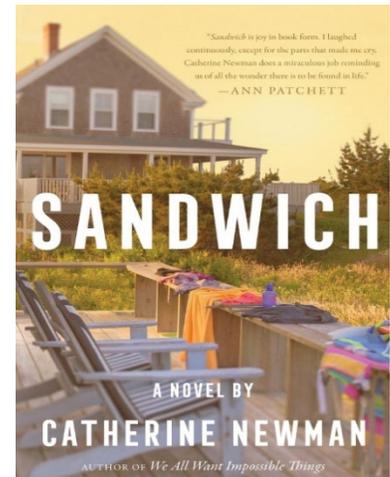
Meetings are the third Monday of each month at 10 am in the Parlor. Join us as we discuss the monthly selection on February 17, 2026.

Sandwich By Catherine Newman

For the past two decades, Rocky has looked forward to her family's yearly escape to Cape Cod. Their humble beach-town rental

has been the site of sweet memories, sunny days, great meals, and messes of all kinds: emotional, marital, and—thanks to the cottage's ancient plumbing—septic too.

This year's vacation, with Rocky sandwiched between her half-grown kids and fully aging parents, promises to be just as delightful as summers past—except, perhaps, for Rocky's hormonal bouts of rage and melancholy. (Hello, menopause!) Her body is changing—her life is, too. And then a chain of events sends Rocky into the past, reliving both the tenderness and sorrow of a handful of long-ago summers.



It's one precious week: everything is in balance; everything is in flux. And when Rocky comes face to face with her family's history and future, she is forced to accept that she can no longer hide her secrets from the people she loves.

VALENTINE'S DAY CAMPAIGN FOR CARE

The Village at Morrisons Cove is collecting letters to distribute to our nursing home residents! Children and adults of all ages are encouraged to write notes and draw cards to uplift spirits and spread kindness.

Please help us to further our mission of caring for our residents by donating \$2.00 per letter.

All letters and donations can be dropped off to 429 S. Market Street, Martinsburg, PA 16662 ATTN: Kelsey Rabon

Thank you for supporting our ministry!



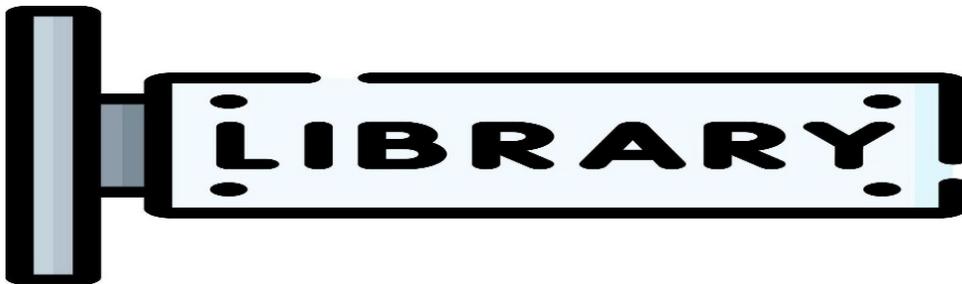
Celebrating **FEBRUARY** Birthdays

2/4 Nathan Walter
2/5 Dylan Bianconi
2/7 Natalie England
2/10 Jill Delozier
2/13 Jordy Burns
2/15 Annabelle Hoffman
2/16 Abby Martin
2/17 Bobbi Price

2/19 Doris Albright
2/20 Barbara Roush
Mateo Padilla
2/22 Georgia Hagstrom
2/24 Cindy Estep
2/26 Barbara Wineland
Jackolyn Crumrine
Rusty Hoover

February Anniversaries

2/2 Derek & Abby Martin



Note from the Librarian:

Ever wanted to check out one of the books in the church library? Here is how!

Visit the overflow room to view the adult books. Choose a book and write down your name & book title on the clipboard located on the bookshelf beside the welcome center. When you're done with your book, place it in the return basket.

Visit the 2nd floor hallway (nursery level) to view the children's books. Sign out these books on the small clipboard and return them to the basket in that hall.

If you would like to donate a book, you can place it in the donation bin or hand it directly to me. Monetary donations towards the purchase of new books are accepted as well.

Books can be donated in memory/honor of someone.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Megan Croft.

January Children's Story



Mike Klok
performing
at the
January By
His
Invitation



ReCharge!

Thank
you

The Missions and Services team would like to thank the congregation for your generosity in raising \$4,323 for the White Gift offering Christmas Eve. This year's offering was split 3 ways with \$1,441 each going to the Roaring Spring Ministerium, the Brethren Middle PA District, and the Heifer Project.



Registration is open for summer camp at **Camp Blue Diamond**. For members and regular supporters of First Church use church code **rspring26** when registering to have church pay 1/2 of the registration fee.

If you registered online last year and don't remember username or password, contact camp to get that info. Please do not open a new account.

****If you have any questions about Camp Blue Diamond contact Paul or Julie Witkovsky or the Camp.**



Watch the bulletins for more information regarding the yearly Easter Flower sale!



Become Part of Our Church Family

Anyone who is interested in becoming a member of First Church is asked to please notify Pastor Dave or the church office. If transferring membership, we will need the name of the church that holds your membership.

If you are in 6th grade or beyond and would like to be baptized and become a member, please notify the office or Pastor Dave. A membership class will be offered soon for adults and youth.

2026 Fellowship Time Schedule

January	Genesis Class	June, July, August, - NO Class
February	Generation Hope Class	September Rally Day
March	No 2nd Sunday - Baptism	October Genesis Class
April	Youth	November Alpha Class
May	Alpha Class	December Youth

Fellowship Time Explanation and Instructions:

Adult Sunday School is now incorporated with fellowship time.

Please continue to provide whatever your group feels they would like to share.

During Talk Time, please don't be in the kitchen cleaning up and chatting. Please participate in the Talk back.

2026 Hospitality Events

- | | |
|--|---|
| February 7 th – Bowling 6:30-8:30 pm at Memorial Park | June 28 th – Church Picnic @the Ponderosa 5 pm |
| End of February – Selling Easter Flowers | July 18 th – Craft Show @ Albright Church 10-2 |
| February 25 th – Serving ReCharge | August 30 th – 5 th Sunday Meal |
| March 8 th – Sunday Meal of Spaghetti & Meatballs | September 13 th – Rally Day |
| March 29 th – Palm Sunday – Transfers & Baptisms | October 29 th – Trunk or Treat |
| April 1 st – Easter Egg Hunt | November 1 st – Older Servants Meal |
| April 5 th – Easter | December 6 th – Meal - Meatloaf |
| May 10 th – Mother's Day Baby Dedication | December 17 th – JOY Christmas Party |
| May 16 th – Carnival @Albright Church 10-2 | |
| May 31 st – Graduate Luncheon | |

2026 Meat Canning Project – 51st year canning 40,000 lbs. of chicken and 10 % of all canned meat stays local!

February 9-12 for canning and February 13th for cleanup. M-Th 6:30 am – 8 pm and Fri 7 am – 2 pm at Chief Logan Firehouse, 1800 Glenwood Ave, Lewistown PA 17044. Volunteers needed to Grind meat, Fill Cans, Clean Cans, Label/Box Cans. Can't help timewise but want to help financially? Send checks to PO Box 76, Belleville PA 17004. Contact Sylvanus Peachey 717-935-2511

2026 Deacons

Chairpersons –Mike & Becky Bianconi

Treasurer – Bethann Frederick

Vice-Chairpersons – Doug & Brenda Garber **Secretary** – Valerie Smith

Gary & Jane Thompson, Emeritus
Mark Garach, Emeritus
Kaye Russell, Emeritus
Keith & Kristen Hall, Emeritus
David & Janet Imes, Emeritus
Mitch & Bethann Frederick (2026)
Sandy Norris (2026)

Pattie Conlon (2026)
Mike & Becky Bianconi (2027)
Dave & Valerie Smith (2027)
Paul & Julie Witkovsky (2027)
Betsy Garach (2028)
Krista Snyder (2028)
Linda Steele (2028)

Doug & Brenda Garber (2028)
Dan & Sharon Hammel (2028)
J D Barry (2029)
Guy & Nancy Forshey (2029)
Travis & Angie Russell (2029)
Craig & Chris Wagner (2029)
Travis & Mindy Wagner (2029)



Please leave the “Special Needs” and “Handicapped” parking spots for those who need them.

Use your own judgment when attending worship and events. If the roads are dangerous, please think twice about getting out on them. Worship services are available to watch from our website.

Please do not clutter up the Sunday School Superintendent’s office in front of the Leadership Team mailboxes.

Put a note on items so others know what they are and who they are for. Items left lying around the church with no explanation of what they are or who they are used by could be mistaken as they need to be thrown away.

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER:

If Sunday worship is cancelled, a notification will be made through a phone call, Facebook update, website update and WTAJ website. Should Spring Cove School District cancel or have an early dismissal due to weather, all children and youth activities planned for that day are canceled. Please be sure your information is correct in the office. Our worship service is available on our website.



If you would like to renew or become a member of The Village at Morrisons Cove Auxiliary for 2026, please sign the blue form at the Welcome Center and place the appropriate amount of either cash or check in the envelope provided. The membership drive will run through March 31. Single membership is 5\$; Family is 10\$; Lifetime is 100\$. If you have questions, please speak with Kaye Russell. Thank you for your support of this ongoing vital ministry. It enables support of the Village Gift shop, the cart Gallery/Artist of the Month, Facility Landscaping Projects, Monthly Barber Shop Support for the Residents, and an Annual Employee Appreciation Meal.



This Month

February 2026

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

<p>1</p> <p>9:25 am Worship</p> <p>10:30 am Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 am - 8:30 pm Men's Fellowship Hoss's Fundraiser</p> <p>6:00 pm - 7:30 pm By His Invitation</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 pm Leadership Meeting</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 am - 12:00 pm Quilting</p> <p>1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p>5:45 pm ReCharge</p> <p>6:15 pm Virtual Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 am Breakfast Fellowship</p> <p>9:00 am Bulletin Submission Deadline</p> <p>6:00 pm Cove Cause For Cancer Meeting</p> <p>6:00 pm Christian Education Team Meeting</p> <p>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Knitting Group in Parlor</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 am - 12:00 pm Youth Souper bowl Practice</p> <p>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Annual Bowling Party</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Food Bank Collection </p> <p>9:00 am Souper bowl Day of Caring</p> <p>9:25 am Worship</p> <p>10:30 am Sunday School</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00 pm BDM Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 pm Good Grief</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 am - 12:00 pm Quilting</p> <p>1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p>5:45 pm ReCharge</p> <p>6:15 pm Virtual Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 am Breakfast Fellowship</p> <p>9:00 am Bulletin Submission Deadline</p> <p>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Knitting Group in Parlor</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:25 am Worship</p> <p>10:30 am Sunday School</p> <p>1:00 pm Newsletter Submission Deadline</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00 am Book Group</p> <p>6:30 pm Love Them Through It</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 pm Sisters of Faith</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 am - 12:00 pm Quilting</p> <p>1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p>5:45 pm ReCharge</p> <p>6:15 pm Virtual Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00 am Breakfast Fellowship</p> <p>9:00 am Bulletin Submission Deadline</p> <p>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Knitting Group in Parlor</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:25 am Worship</p> <p>10:30 am Sunday School</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:30 am Bible Study</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 am - 12:00 pm Quilting</p> <p>1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p>5:45 pm ReCharge</p> <p>6:15 pm Virtual Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00 am Breakfast Fellowship</p> <p>9:00 am Bulletin Submission Deadline</p> <p>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Knitting Group in Parlor</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>



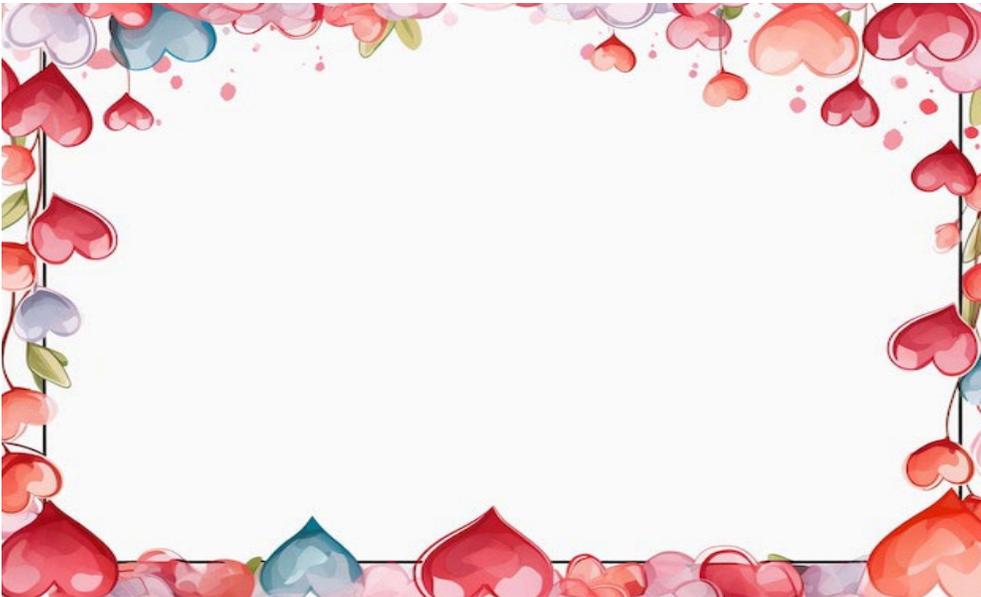
FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCES: 14: VALENTINE'S DAY, 16: PRESIDENTS' DAY

MondayMandala.com

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