



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

October 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.

According to sources, Halloween originally was a time in the Christian liturgical year dedicated to remembering the dead, including saints and deceased faithful. But for many in our culture, this October holiday has become a celebration only of horror and the supernatural.

Because of that, many Christians have chosen not to celebrate the day. And that's their decision, because I'm sure they have decided that "whatever they do, they do for the glory of God." (I Corinthians 10:31).

But for others, the day is just an opportunity to divert attention from everyday life. Which can also be "to the glory of God." A social media site named '5 Solas' recently provided this list (of their opinion) of what about the holiday was sinful and what was not. Carving a pumpkin, eating candy, wearing a costume, spending time with neighbors and decorating your porch all made the "not sin" list. I might add that I would consider the intent of our own church 'Trunk or Treat' night (October 29) and the several community individuals that put out mini-food pantries for the needy on Trick or Treat night might also be on that list.

On the "Inherently sinful" list were glorifying death or demons, practicing witchcraft or divination, joining in occult rituals, promoting gore, lust, or violence, and mocking God.

So, if you want something really scary to think about, consider Matthew 7:21 which says, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

However, you prayerfully decide to celebrate, or not celebrate, this holiday, make sure that you are doing it to the "will" and to the "glory" of God! And come to think of it, that's good advice for every day, not just Halloween.

- Pastor Dave





Highlights of Leadership Mtg.

September 1, 2026

Finance and Facility Team - Bryce Nooyen

- Roof work is finished. Pleased with quality of work.
- Electrical upgrade is also finished including relocating exhaust fan controls in the kitchen.
- Total cost of roof and electrical was \$198,000. Still need to raise \$42,000 via donations and fundraisers.
- Mindy Wagner will serve as interim treasurer for youth groups.

Worship Team - Terry Hershberger

- Choir practice begins 9/4. First Sunday singing to be 9/13.
- Pianist and organist scheduled through November.
- Tom Holsinger will lead choir when Terry is away.

Hospitality and Communications Team - Beth Burns

- Fifth Sunday luncheon scheduled for August 30th was cancelled.
- Trunk or Treat scheduled for October 29, 6pm - 8pm in parking lot.

Missions and Service Team - Sandy Burket

- Heritage Fair Sept. 20th at Camp Blue Diamond. We will sell green pepper and chicken noodle soups, gob cake and baked goods. Will do sand art and scarecrow making.
- Lot of helpers are needed at the fair to take turns at the booth and scarecrows.

Christian Education Team – Chad Crumrine

- Rally Day is Sept. 13th. Bibles ordered for first and sixth graders.
- Discussion about Rally Day theme and symbolism on advertisement. Worked on reaching a consensus that everyone could accept.
- Recharge will begin weekly starting Wednesday October 7th. Contact Angie Russell if you are willing to help.
- An Impact Team will be formed to develop leadership of Youth program following the end of the Garber's service as coordinators. First meeting scheduled for 10/8. Contact Chad Crumrine if you will serve on the team.
- Young Adult class is growing.

Deacons' Report - Mike and Becky Bianconi

- Past attendance at Communion service on Worldwide Communion Sunday has been low. This year Deacons will try having communion right after church rather than in the evening to see if we can get better attendance. Date is October 4th.
- Next meeting is 9/20.

Pastor Dave -

- Bible Studies held Tuesday mornings at church and online Wednesday evening continue to be well attended. With start of Recharge, Wednesday study may be attended in person at the church.
- National Youth Conference attendees reported on experience during worship 9/6.
- Nearly 30 attended Fifth Quarter at the church after Central's home football game.

Next Meeting – Tuesday October 6th at 6:00

HELPING HANDS IN OCTOBER



Greeter
Deacon Greeter
Fellowship Time

Michael & Cathie Pollard
Paul & Julie Witkovsky
Genesis Class

	4	11	18	25
Candlelighter	Travis & Angie Russell	Chris Wagner	Betsy Garach	Nancy Forshey
Organist		Cathy Neal	Cathy Petre	Terry Hershberger
Pianist	Brenda Fluke-Garber	Cathy Petre	Marcia Fleck	Jill Delozier
Worship Leader		Rob Carter	Marlys Hershberger	
Storyteller	Tammy Dell	Pastor Dave	Destiny Wagner	Cindy Shaw
Children's Church	Jodie & Bella Dellinger	Tammy Carter	Angie Russell	Alayna Snowberger & Elsey Kephart
Welcome Center	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland	Darlene Wyland
Parking Lot Greeters	Isaac Snowberger	Bill Kephart	Don Myers	
Flowers	Fluke/Garber/Cottle	Earl & Becky Bryson 40 th Anniversary In Memory of Sandy Smith by Cathie & Michael Pollard	In Memory of Brielle Harmon	
Bulletins	Fluke/Garber/Cottle			



**Every
Wednesday
5:45 pm
Beginning
October 7th**



Good Grief

Tuesday, October 13th @ 6:30 pm

Friday, October 2nd
Friday, October 9th
Friday, October 16th
Fellowship after the game from 9-11pm

After the Game...
5TH QUARTER



Thursday, October 29th 6-8 pm
Set up and hand out candy or bring the kids to participate!
Donations appreciated!



Love Them Through It

Monday, October 19th @ 6:30 pm



A beef & noodle meal honoring our older servants will be held on Sunday, November 1st at 11:30 am. Please sign up in the welcome center.

Tuesday, October 20, 2026

6 pm



Sisters
OF FAITH

ALL LADIES WELCOME!

RSVP to Janet Imes
or Valerie Smith
by October 18th



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

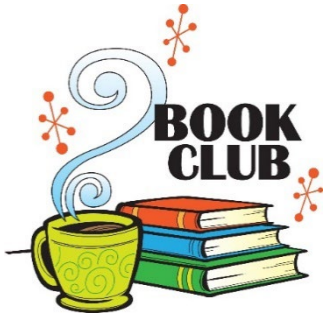
October 17, 2026

8 am

Breakfast at

The Dream

All men are welcome!



Meetings are the third Monday of each month at 10 am in the Parlor.
Join us as we discuss the monthly selection on October 19, 2026.

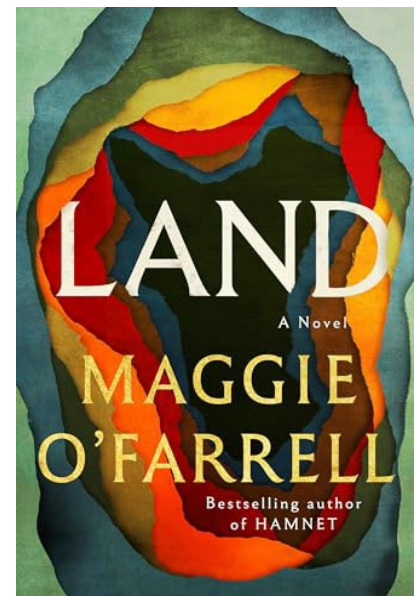
Land By Maggie O'Farrell

Set on a remote Irish peninsula in 1865, *Land* centers on Tomás, a gifted cartographer working for the British Ordnance Survey. In the destructive aftermath of the Great

Famine, Tomás is torn between his lucrative colonial employment and his duty to preserve the history of the ravaged land. After a transformative experience at an unmapped holy well, Tomás rejects his role in the imperial project to create his own subversive map rooted in native lore and memory.

The narrative examines themes of Cartography as Colonial Erasure and Cultural Resilience as Anti-Imperialist Resistance.

The novel unfolds against the backdrop of two deep historical events: the recent Great Famine (1845-1852) and the ongoing British project of Anglicization. A central theme is that the Landscape as a Witness to Historical Trauma is a conscious participant that holds the memories of both ancient sacrifices and recent suffering. The sprawling, multi-generational saga follows Tomás's family as they're fractured by these forces, their lives scattered from the haunted Irish peninsula to the diaspora communities of North America, tracing the far-reaching legacy of cultural survival.





OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10/1 Cathie Pollard
10/2 Rick Dillon
10/7 Bill Hagstrom
10/10 Jona Gartmann
10/12 Elaine Frazier

10/14 Bonnie Butler
Carolyn Grubb
10/16 Crystal Burns
10/18 Dan Hammel
10/20 Jameson Walters
10/23 Alexander Eicher



Dates for 2026:

Oct 11th – Matthew
Alan

Nov 1st – The Trexlers

Dec 6th – The
Gathering

From 6-7:30 pm

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

10/2 Pattie & Jerome Conlon

10/3 Andy & Amanda Keith

10/9 Jon & Terra Gartmann

10/10 Earl & Becky Bryson

Mitchell & Danielle Conrath

10/15 Terry & Jodie Dellinger

10/17 Doug & Brenda Garber

10/19 Jerry & Bobbi Albright

10/20 Ken & Barbara Miller

10/21 Mike & Crystal Burns

10/27 Mike & Becky Bianconi



Love Feast on World wide communion day (October 4) will be held following the worship service. Childcare will be provided. We hope that you will be able to join us.



Vincent Miller & Hannah Lingenfelter were united in marriage on August 8, 2026
Congratulations!

Our knitting group meets Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Parlor. All are welcome!



HELP NEEDED! A volunteer is needed Sunday, November 8th to assist with Children's Church. If you're able, please reach out to Jodie Dellinger.

October 2026



Dr. Vincent Brook Miller, son of Ken & Barbara Miller, graduated in the 262nd class at Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa, on June 19, 2026. Dr. Miller was named salutatorian, graduating summa cum laude, and received one of 4 Academic Excellence Awards in his graduating class of 66 members. He will practice in Woodbury, PA, acquiring Cove Chiropractic from his great-uncle, Dr. Dwight Miller.

The Church sanctuary is consistently set to 72 degrees year-round. While some will feel this too hot or too cold depending on the day or where they sit, this is the established temperature since the air conditioners were first installed many years ago. Please do not touch or change any of the thermostats. Recently, the heat keeps getting turned on resulting in a severe increase in power usage since air conditioning and heat are on different thermostats. Please contact anyone on F&F with questions, concerns, or requests to modify this temperature.



An impact team is being formed to plan for the future of the Church Youth Group. Anyone is invited to participate. The first meeting will be Thursday, October 8 at 6:00 in Room 405 (Room for Children's Church/3rd-5th Sunday School Classroom).

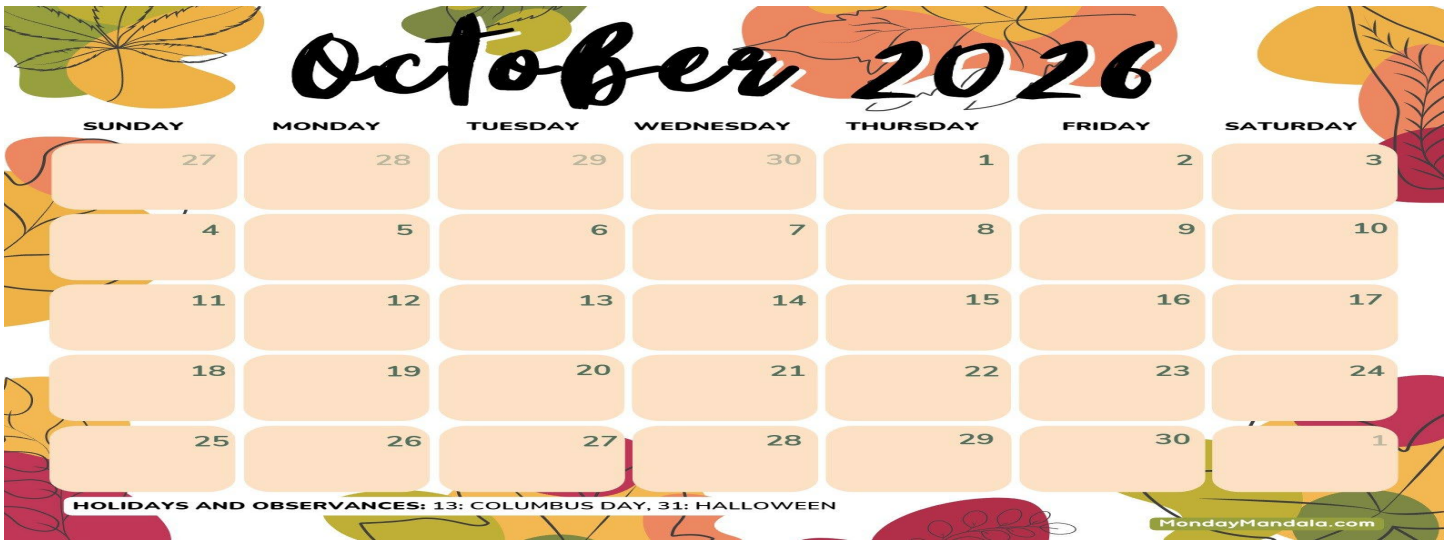
DID YOU KNOW?

That our church has an "Endowment Fund"? It was approved by a Congregational Forum held in November of 2017. Per our Constitution, Article IV, Section 13, and with five voting members on the Team, we began the Fund with a donation from the church in the amount of \$25,000 from the sale of the church parsonage. In addition, since December 2017, we have received additional donations totaling close to \$55,000.

The nuts and bolts of our Endowment Fund:

Churches tend to operate with three kinds of financial tools: our yearly budget that pays salaries and keeps the lights on, capital campaigns that allow us to take on bigger things like construction or a new roof, and the endowment fund. This endowment fund works with gifts that are designated for things other than the day-to-day operation of the church. Often the endowment fund is used to fund special mission-related work or particular areas of the church, like music or the library. The key is that each year only a little of the endowment fund, if any, is used, so the remainder is left to grow. And over time, as gifts are made to it and the principal grows, the endowment fund becomes a substantial way for the church to expand its mission in the world. For more details about how you can give above and beyond to the endowment fund or specify the endowment fund in your will or estate plan, contact team member Kaye Russell at 814-312-5063 so that she may direct you to Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27 9:25 am Worship 10:30 am Sunday School	28	29 9:30 am Bible Study	30 9:00 am Ladies Aid Quilting 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:15 pm Virtual Bible Study 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice	1 9:00 am Breakfast Fellowship 9:00 am Bulletin Submission Deadline 6:00 pm Cove Cause For Cancer Meeting 6:00 pm Christian Ed Meeting 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Knitting Group in Parlor	2 9:00 pm - 11:00 pm Fifth Quarter	3
4 World Wide Communion... 9:25 am Worship 10:30 am Sunday School	5	6 9:30 am Bible Study	7 9:00 am Ladies Aid Quilting 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:45 pm ReCharge 6:15 pm Virtual Bible Study 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice	8 9:00 am Breakfast Fellowship 9:00 am Bulletin Submission Deadline 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Knitting Group in Parlor	9 9:00 pm - 11:00 pm Fifth Quarter	10
11 Food Bank Collection  9:25 am Worship 10:30 am Sunday School 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm By His Invitation	12 7:00 pm BDM Meeting	13 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Good Grief	14 9:00 am Ladies Aid Quilting 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:45 pm ReCharge 6:15 pm Virtual Bible Study 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice	15 9:00 am Breakfast Fellowship 9:00 am Bulletin Submission Deadline 1:00 pm Newsletter Submission Deadline 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Knitting Group in Parlor	16 9:00 pm - 11:00 pm Fifth Quarter	17 8:00 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
18 9:25 am Worship 10:30 am Sunday School	19 10:00 am Book Group 6:30 pm Love Them Through It	20 9:30 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Sisters of Faith	21 9:00 am Ladies Aid Quilting 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:45 pm ReCharge 6:15 pm Virtual Bible Study 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice	22 9:00 am Breakfast Fellowship 9:00 am Bulletin Submission Deadline 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Knitting Group in Parlor	23	24
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Address Service Requested



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