

Free Spring Fountain



The water I give will become a spring of water
welling up to eternal life. – John 4:14



Free Spring Church of the Brethren

670 Free Spring Church Road
Mifflintown, PA 17059
(717) 463-3192
FreeSpringCOB@yahoo.com
Terry Smith, Pastor
Eugene Jones, Moderator
Lona Henry, Church Secretary

Office Hours:

Thursdays

10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Sunday Services:

Early Worship – 8:30 am

Sunday School – 9:30 am

Worship Service – 10:30



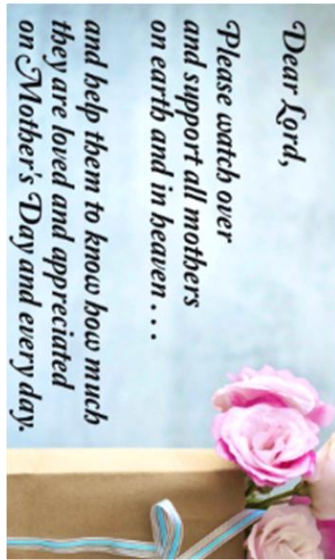
Monday, May 5
Executive Committee, 6:30 pm
Church Board, 7:00 pm

Mother's Day Service
May 11



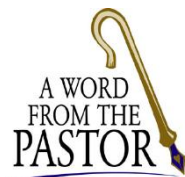
Deacons Meeting
Thursday, May 15
6:00 pm

All items for the June newsletter and calendar must be submitted by end of day on **Monday, May 26**. *If we do not receive your submission by then, we CANNOT guarantee it will be placed in the newsletter.*



Free Spring Church of the Brethren
670 Free Spring Church Road
Mifflintown, PA 17059

May 2025



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Twenty years ago, the month of May was very busy one. I had two funerals and Wanda's Aunt Dorothy also died in May. Throughout the year there were seven weddings being planned, including Matt Wray & Gretchen Wagner, Michelle Heisey & Wes Rickenbaugh, and Scott Bryner & Angela Varner.

On Mother's Day, Leon Davis gave the morning message, and on the following Sunday Leon was licensed into the ministry. While we were planning his service, I was preparing the syllabus for the Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center course on the Introduction to the New Testament that I was to teach beginning in September. Meetings were also starting for our mission group that would be headed for the Dominican Republic in early November, and for the first Jamaica mission trip for students from the Juniata Mennonite School the following year.

Can you imagine what another twenty years may bring? It's good to know that whatever may excite, confuse, or alarm us, God has us held close to Him. ***In Daily Prayers for Men, Spiritual Devotions for Everyday Life***, the authors offer this prayer for troubled times:

"My Lord, when I address issues in my daily life, I am often facing insecurities. I work to overcome these challenges by looking at evidence, using my sense of logic, and working from there. But these are challenges of the world. When it comes to matters of faith, I do not need to look any farther than what I know in my heart. The How? and the Why? does not matter. All I need to remember is Your infinite love and infinite power. Help me to remember this when I have doubts. Amen."

Remember our graduating Seniors: Kaitlyn Fornwalt and Kaylynn Wray and pray for them as they plan to further their education. May they continue to grow in faith as they grow in knowledge.

Memorial Day blessings to all.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Terry

Happy Mother's Day! 

May Deacons of the Month:
J. Allen & Ruth Zendt

Scriptures and Messages for May

May 4

John 21:1-19

"Lord, You Know Everything"

May 11

Psalms 23

"You Are with Me"

May 18

Revelation 21:1-6

"Death Will Be No More"

May 25

Acts 16:9-15

"Is This the Time?"



Witness Commission

Thank you to all who donated paper towels for the Food Pantry. The table looks full! The count will be forthcoming. These will be delivered by Connie Wagner.



The May-June Food Pantry item needed is dish detergent. May is also Free Spring's Food Pantry volunteer month. The first Saturday has been filled, but the other Saturdays are still in need of volunteers!

Thank you to Ron Gordon, Sharon Ritzman, and Allen & Ruth Zendt for conducting the service at Northridge on Sunday, March 16.

Highway Clean-Up was conducted on Saturday, April 4. Thanks to Eric & Ginger Alexander, Matt & Jennifer Fornwalt, Matt & Gretchen Wray, and Kaylynn Wray!

237 bags of Easter cookies were packed on Saturday, April 12 for the Carlisle Truckstop Ministry! Thank you to all who baked and packed cookies, and to Barry & Judy Hoffman for delivering them to Carlisle. Chaplain Dave really appreciated the cookies on behalf of the truckers and travelers!

Sunday, May 4 is Compassion Sunday. Fina Williams will have information packets on children who are available for sponsorship. Please consider sponsoring a child. Thank you to all those who have already made that commitment.

We have started making plans for the Chicken Barbecue, scheduled for Saturday, June 21. Mark this on your calendar! This will take many hands, but many hands make for light work. Thank you to all for your efforts. YOU make the Witness commission successful.

~ Angela Bryner, Jen Spark (Chair), Fina Williams, and Art Zug



Men's Camp (May 3) and Women's Camp (June 2 & 3) at Camp Eder!!

Please see details and registration forms/information
on the table in the narthex!

Free Spring Ladies Spring Luncheon

Saturday, May 10

at 12:30 pm

Kristi Ehrenzeller will be with us to give testimony
about her love of goats and how her business, "Goat
Crush", got started.

Cost is \$15 per person. Sign-Up sheet is on the table in the narthex.
Please place your payment in one of the envelopes provided, with checks
made out to Free Spring COB.



Please remember our shut-ins with your prayers and cards.

Dot Benson
389 Raccoon Valley Road
Millerstown, PA 17062
(223) 362-2002

Barbara Shepler
118 The Bridges
92 Village Drive
Mifflintown, PA 17059



Melda Ritchie
3761 Mountain Road
McAlisterville, PA 17049

Clair Varner
145 School Street, Apt 202
McAlisterville, PA 17049
(717) 635-0513 (cell)

May is the month Free Spring provides volunteers
for Saturday mornings at the Juniata County Food
Pantry. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for the
four Saturdays in May. Please sign up for a great
opportunity to help those in need in our community.



Nurture Commission News



Thank you to Brent Stoner for his message at our
Easter Sunrise service. Also, thanks to Jenn Fornwalt
for sharing her talent as our special music.

Thanks to Dee Bell for leading our good discussions
during our Ladies' Lenten Teas, which concluded on April 12.

Our Spring Fling and Egg Hunt is April 27 at 12:30 pm. Join Karen,
Erin, and the children to enjoy a fun day hunting eggs and eating hot dogs
down at the Schoolhouse. Please bring a dish to share.

This year May 1 (May Day) is the "National Day of Prayer". We would
like our congregation to join in the celebration and in emphasizing the
importance of prayer to Christians. We will be providing suggestions for a
better prayer life each week in May.

Our APRIL BIRTHDAY OF THE MONTH is Grant Ritzman, whose
birthday is on Wednesday, May 7. His address is 29 Evergreen Street,
Thompstontown, PA 17094. Grant is the grandson of Sharon Ritzman.

It's not too late to sign-up for Free Spring's "Spring Luncheon", which
will be held Saturday, May 10 at 12:30 pm. Information is on the table in
the narthex, along with a sign-up sheet and envelopes for placing
payment; cost is \$15 per person. Kristi Ehrenzeller will be joining us and
we will be making a "body spray" using goat products!

2 Chronicles 7:14 states, "*If my people, who are called by my name,
humble themselves and PRAY and SEEK my face and turn from their
wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven and will forgive their sins and
heal their land.*" IF YOU CHECK OUT PAGE 13 OF OUR 2025
DIRECTORY, YOU WILL FIND THE PERSONS WHO ARE PRAYING
FOR YOU EACH MONTH. THANK YOU, LADIES!!!

The Music & Worship Committee has discussed suggestions given to
them by the congregation to improve our fellowship and worship
experience. One of the ideas received is to have special music more often,
and they will continue asking people to give of their talents on the 3rd
Sunday of the month. Another idea is a need for fellowship together with
early and late service members more frequently. They are also suggesting
having a combined service every 5th Sunday at 9:00 am and include a mix
of songs with a different format for the order of service. This will include
having a time of refreshments around 10:00 am. More information will
follow. The next 5th Sunday is June 29.

~ Erin Bell, Karen Logan (Co-Chair), Carla Renson,
and Nancy Shadel (Co-Chair)



May Birthday of the Month

Our May Birthday of the Month is Grant Ritzman,
whose birthday is on Wednesday, May 7. His address
is 29 Evergreen St, Thompstontown, PA 17094. Grant
is the grandson of Sharon Ritzman.



Christian Education Commission

Please feel free to still join us for our Spring Supper & Study. We are using Max Lucado's **What Happens Next: A Traveler's Guide Through the End of This Age**. Be prepared, not scared! In this optimistic, accessible, and non-sensational guide to end-times events, Lucado provides a well-researched overview that empowers you to face the future with faith. Take a journey through key milestones – including the rapture, tribulation, and heaven – and explore four big ideas that provide a solid foundation for understanding God's eternal plan. Even though we're two weeks in, you can still join in the fellowship. Supper starts at 6:00 pm followed by the Study at 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall. The remaining dates are May 7, 14, 21 and will conclude at Pastor Terry's cabin on May 28. If any changes occur, we will try to keep everyone posted.

Graduate Recognition will be held Sunday, June 8, here at the church. Our high school graduates, Kaitlyn Fornwalt and Kaylynn Wray, will be graduating Tuesday, May 27. Feel free to send them cards, and keep them in your prayers as they move on to the next exciting chapter in their lives!

VBS will be held Monday, June 9 thru Wednesday, June 11 using Group Publishing's True North – Trusting Jesus in a Wild World. Guide kids on the ultimate Alaskan adventure where northern lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers, and glistening glaciers. As kids trek the tundra, they'll explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our wild world today. Pointing them toward Jesus, True North VBS shows them that He is a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North! The time is yet to be determined. Watch bulletins for more information, and keep the VBS committee in your prayers as they continue to plan and prepare.

~ Shari Book (Chair), Alan Naylor, and Mary Zeigler



Free Spring Library News

The following are fiction books, all part of a series.

Heroines of WWII Series

The Escape Game by Marilyn Turk – After the Nazis started the bombing blitz of England, Beryl Clarke puts her college on hold to return to Leeds, care for her mother, and work as a secretary at the Waddington game company. While she endures the war at home, her brother James fights the enemy in the air. When he is shot down, injured, and captured, James meets American POW Kenneth Anderson, and they plan to escape the Nazi prison camp. Beryl knows there is a board game with escape plans being delivered to POWs by the Red Cross. But how will the men discover the game's secret? (This is the ninth book in the series.)

Beneath a Peaceful Moon by Debby Lee – Mary Wishram is desperate to hang on to her few loved ones, a brother fighting in the South Pacific and Japanese friends in a relocation camp. Determined to end the war by any means necessary, she is willing to use her language skills as Yakama tribe member to become a spy and face any danger to bring them all home safe. John Painted Horse struggles with the loss of his father who died in WWI. He is desperate to bring long overdue recognition and honor to his people, no matter the cost. Can they heal from their past traumas and find a peace, love, and a deeper relationship with God, before it's too late? (This is the tenth book in the series.)

The Starlet Spy by Rachel Scott McDaniel – In 1943, movie director Alexander Korda approaches Amelie Hart under the guise of offering the Hollywood star a leading part in his upcoming film. But he actually has a more meaningful role in mind. Amelie's homeland of Sweden declared neutrality in the war. But with rumors swirling about their quiet partiality to Germany, the US government needs someone unexpected to spy on the Swedish elite. Who better than an "all beauty, no brains" blond starlet who speaks three languages and is subtle enough to fool even Fynn Ristaffason – a millionaire entrepreneur and shipping magnate suspected of funneling funds and products to the Nazis. (This is the eleventh book in the series.)

Capturing Hope by Angela K. Couch – After her father is murdered by Nazis and her mother flees to her native Germany, hope is something of which Nadia Roenne feels little – even if it is the meaning of her name. It isn't until an American photographer sacrifices his escape from Poland to save a Jewish family, that she finds a purpose. David Reid is very familiar with failure, but when he is charged with getting Nadia safely out of Poland,



he is determined to succeed – even if she works against him at every turn, putting other's lives ahead of her own. While they race against the daily shower of bombs over Warsaw and the ever-nearing German army, Nadia grows used to risking her life...but dare she risk her heart? (This is the twelfth book in the series; the other books are The Cryptographer's Dilemma by Johnnie Alexander, A Picture of Hope by Liz Tolsma, Saving Mrs. Roosevelt by Candice Sue Patterson, Mrs. Witherspoon Goes to War by Mary Davis, A Rose for the Resistance by Angela K. Couch, Season of My Enemy by Naomi Musch, Escape from Amsterdam by Lauralee Bliss, and On My Honor by Patty Smith Hall.)

Jeopardy Falls Series by Dani Pettry

Two Seconds too Late – In the wilds of northern New Mexico, a luxury spa becomes a nightmare when a woman vanishes after a fight with her boyfriend. Her friends seek help from investigator Riley MacLeod, who goes undercover at the retreat with private investigator Greyson Chadwick. Their partnership is a mix of attraction and distrust as they clash over methods. As they uncover the case, a ruthless hitman targets them, forcing Riley and Greyson to fight for survival. Racing against time, they discover a hidden truth that shakes them to the core. With pulse-pounding twists, Dani Pettrey delivers a gripping tale of love and survival. (This is the second book in the series; the first book is One Wrong Move.)

Matthew Redd Thriller Series by Ryan Steck

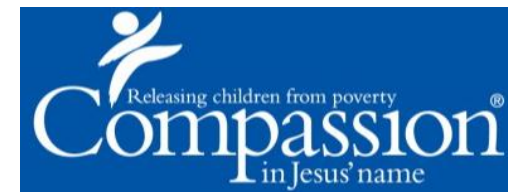
Out For Blood – Montana winters can be deadly, but it wasn't the cold that was killing Matthew Redd... Gavin Kline, executive assistant director of the FBI's Intelligence Directorate, is escorting a high-value prisoner with the intel to bring down a global conspiracy when their plane comes under attack. In the aftermath, much of Kline's team is dead, but he recovers a phone from a member of the hit team that reveals another attack is imminent. This time they're going after the man who was instrumental in capturing the prisoner and foiling their plans: Matthew Redd. When Redd learns he's in the crosshairs, he sends his family into hiding and heads for the mountains. He might be outnumbered, but the hit team will have to hunt him down on his own turf. With a snowstorm bearing down on Montana and no help in sight, Redd fights for survival in the harshest conditions. But when they take the fight to his hometown, he'll need all his allies at his back to save what he holds most dear. (This is the third book in the series; the other books are Fields of Fire and Lethal Range.)

Alaska Air One Rescue Series by Susan May Warren

One Last Stand – As a member of the Air One Rescue team, pilot London Brooks has built a new life – one far away from her clandestine past as an operative tasked to take down a branch of Russian terrorists. She has no

desire to reenter that world or endure the grief of losing everyone she loved, including her fiancé. But the past won't stay past. When she finds herself falsely accused, her reputation tarnished, and her life in danger, she has no choice but to plunge back into the treacherous world she left behind. Even if she must surrender everything – and everyone – she loves in her new life. Shep Watson will never forget the day he saved London Brooks from the avalanche that nearly killed her. He knows there is more to her story, but he's intent on keeping her secrets. (This is the fourth book in the series; the other books are One Last Shot, One Last Chance, and One Last Promise.)

~ Kathy Bowman, Librarian



**AND DO NOT FORGET TO DO GOOD AND
TO SHARE WITH OTHERS, FOR WITH
SUCH SACRIFICES, GOD IS PLEASED.**

– Hebrews 13:16 (NIV)

Sunday, May 4 is Compassion Sunday.

Please consider sponsoring a child. See Fina Williams for information packets on children who are available for sponsorship! Thank you to all those who have already made that commitment.

Free Spring Church's Website

Check out our website for bulletins, newsletters, photos from various activities, the history of our church, forms for updating your Directory information, and so much more at <https://cob-net.org/church/freespring/>

(Click on the "Updates To Our Site" link under MENU to see what has been updated and when!)



Early Morning Service: 8:30 am
 Sunday School: 9:30 am
 Worship Service: 10:30 am



May 2025

Food Pantry Needs:
Dish Detergent



Remember -
 our fallen heros.
 They are the reason
 that we are free.

Pastor: Terry Smith
 Moderator: Eugene Jones
 Church Office: (717) 463-3192

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May Anniversaries 3 - Alan & Rachel Naylor ('08) 3 - Randy & Mary Speece ('85) 6 - Fina & Karen Williams ('78)				1	2	3 Church & FH Reserved – Lottie Holsinger Memorial Svc
4 Give Me 5! Offering Compassion Sunday	5 Exec Committee, 6:30 pm Church Board, 7:00 pm	6	7 Supper & Study in fellowship hall, 6:00 pm	8	9 	10
11 Mothers Honored during Service <i>Mother's Day</i>	12	13	14 Supper & Study in fellowship hall, 6:00 pm	15 Deacons Meeting, 6:00 pm	16	17 Church & FH Reserved – Vonnie Shank Memorial Svc
18	19	20	21 Supper & Study in fellowship hall, 6:00 pm	22	23	24
25 Youth Nickel Offering	26 Newsletter Deadline! <i>Memorial Day</i>	27 	28 Supper & Study in fellowship hall, 6:00 pm	29	30	31

May Birthdays

1 - Jeff Fry II
 5 - Jason Logan
 7 - Noah Heimbach
 7 - Grant Ritzman

7 - Fina Williams
 13 - Donald Bashore
 14 - Ashlee Book
 16 - Arlene Weiland

17 - Melody Logan
 22 - Cole Hess
 23 - Wayne Shadel
 29 - Owen Heimbach

30 - Derek Ritzman
 31 - Pat Weiland