



Springfield Cornerstone

November 2020

10:30 am
Worship Service



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Daylight Savings Time Ends 	2	3 Election Day Facebook Live@ 9:30 am Bible Study 7 pm with Zoom	4	5	6	7 Kid's Closet 9- 12
8	9	10 Facebook Live@ 9:30 am Bible Study 7 pm with Zoom	11 Veterans Day 7 pm Commis- sions 7:40 Executive Comm Mtg.	12 Modera- tor Question and Answer Zoom Mtg. 10 am & 7 pm	13	14
15	16	17 Facebook Live@ 9:30 am Bible Study 7 pm with Zoom	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Facebook Live@ 9:30 am Bible Study 7 pm with Zoom	25	26  Happy Thanksgiving!	27	28
29 First Sun- day of Advent	30	MISSION STATEMENT: "Following Jesus for the glory of God and our neighbors good"				



We are now worshipping in the sanctuary. We are making some changes to help protect our members and their loved ones.

We will also have the worship Live on YouTube at the time of worship.

- We ask members to continue practicing safe distancing and health practices, we will be providing some materials and tools to help.
- There will be a greeter to open the doors for members.
- The Offering Box will be located at the back of the sanctuary, we will not be passing the plate.
- We will also have on the back table: bulletins, Purell, and gloves for those wish.
- We will also have masks available for those who need or want one. Masks are strongly encouraged. They are most effective stopping the viruses as they leave a person.
- We will have pews taped off to help maintain social distancing; families may of course sit together.
- We will be dismissing the worshippers by rows, just as we would for a wedding or funeral.
- We ask that members visit outside of the building, in the fresh air.

Worship will look a little different, more like the worship that we were producing for YouTube a few weeks ago.

Social distancing and the use of mask are great tools for risk reduction, but being inside the building raises new risks.

As such we will not be having communal singing to help keep people safe.

Thanks from Inspiration Hills Camp

Springfield congregation, Thank you so much for your donation to camp. Your thoughtfulness, continued support, and prayers are truly appreciated! In Christ, Inspiration Hills Camp

Deacon Policy on Helping People

People who are in the hospital or sick should call Pastor Andrew, their deacon or a deacon-on-call.

The new prayer list email

is springfieldprayers@gmail.com. Please use this email in sending us your prayer requests. Include the person making the request, the person needing prayers and the relationship between them, including both first and last names.



Thanks to Bev Bridger to the wonderful job she has done this summer with the beautiful flower beds around the church. Thank you so much!

Thanks to all who helped with video and audio improvements. We are sending out a special thank you to Janice Myler for her constant testing and working on this project of video and audio improvements. Thanks too to Dawn, Mike, and Brandon Conner who gathered all the gear, installed it, and made it work. Thanks too to Christopher Kline for his insight and knowledge, and to the entire Worship and Music Commission for their support, research, and hard work. With all of these peoples' amazing input and work, we are now able to allow those who are worshipping from home to feel a little closer.

Thanks from Faye Reed for all your prayers, calls and cards. Your thoughtfulness means so much to her.

Thanks from On Earth Peace for our recent gift of \$100. Bill Scheurer, Executive Director

Thanks from Global Food Initiative for our recent contribution. Jeff Boshart, Manager of the Global Food Initiative. Please see this letter outlining some recent activities of theirs on the bulletin board.

Thanks from Mission and Mission of our denomination for our contribution of \$542.00 to further the cause of Christ. David Steele, General Secretary.



Kids' Closet -- Saturday, November 7 10 am-12 pm We are opening the closet from 10 am - 12 pm the first Saturday of each month throughout the school year.

We are limiting the flow to help fight Covid-19. Please see our webpage to sign up for a time slot. We are still in need of clothing donations and monetary support. Keep this outreach program in your prayers as the church serves the community in Christ. Thank you to everyone who has donated items or helped with this new outreach program. If you would like to make a donation or if you have a need for clothing items keep in touch.



The Upper Room devotional for November/December can be found by the entry door.



Bible Study: We are continuing study in the book of Acts. Tuesday at 7:00 pm with Zoom: Meeting ID: 553 074 408. Passcode: agape All are welcome!! One click

link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/553074408?pwd=cjVacXN0RHdVc1Y2YTM2WFB4WXPqdz09>

Special music for Sunday services. If you would like to offer your talents for the on-line services, please contact Becky Kline or Christine Kline.

Change of Address for Bob and Rita Snyder:
3026 Lindale, Akron, OH 44312
They are no longer using their PO Box and have changed to Akron, OH 44312.

Sondra Grund has changed rooms in the Stow Glen Retirement Village. She is now in Room AL 107. Please mark your directory of this change.

Quarterly giving Reports Quarterly giving reports are in your church mailbox. If you would like them mailed to you, please contact the church office. Thank you. Dawn Conner

Acme is continuing their Community Cash-back program through December, so please save your Acme receipts! These monies we receive from this program are used to fill the pulpit with flowers that go to our shut-ins. Receipts go in the container on the back table.

Tuesday Morning Devotional on Facebook Live: Tuesday 9:30 am www.facebook.com/SpringfieldCOB

Condolences and prayers to the family of Doris Van Horn who passed last month. Services were private. Obituary for Doris VanHorn <https://www.newcomerakron.com/Obituary/190608/Doris-VanHorn/Akron-OH>

Condolences also to the Young family. Bonnie's sister, Janet passed last month. Please hold these families in your prayers.



October weekly offering and attendance

October 4	Attendance: 33; Offering: \$2,110.00; Specials: \$105.00
October 11	Attendance: 26; Offering: \$2,195.00; Specials: \$315.00
October 18	Attendance: 32; Offering: \$1,525.40; Specials: \$220.00
October 25	Attendance: 27; Offering: \$3,235.00; Specials: \$265.00



Highlights of the Fall Council Meeting, October 28, 2020

Our church is hosting the 2021 District conference – August 13 and 14, 2021.

The 2021 budget was approved. Our church received \$15,791 from the CARES Act. This does not have to be paid back. Pat Beach will take care of the necessary paperwork regarding receipt of this money and how it was used.

There was discussion regarding keeping church records – A motion was made to take the discussion to the executive committee to study, create policy and bring report back to Spring 2021 council regarding keeping records, preserving records and deciding who will be responsible for the records.

There was discussion to provide absentee ballots for deacon calling. Section III page 3 Absentee Ballots was changed to read as follows – Absentee ballots for Church Council Meeting elections and Deacon calling may be issued upon request to church members in good standing who are unable to attend the Council Meeting or Deacon calling Sunday due to health reasons or vacation. Members can make their request for an absentee ballot to the church and then the ballot is returned to the church prior to the Council Meeting or Deacon calling Sunday.

There was discussion regarding the Deacon calling list of names, active members and members that never attend on the list. It was decided to take this discussion to the executive committee.

A vote was taken during worship on Sunday, October 18 regarding bringing singing back during worship. The results are as follows.

- 17 votes – bring back singing
- 1 vote – would be nervous to bring singing back
- 2 votes – would not attend if singing was brought back

There was discussion regarding recorded music during worship and our licensing of that music or being unable to get licensing for some music. Christine suggested tabling the discussion regarding singing and licensing of music during worship. Let the Music and Worship commission discuss and bring forth a recommendation. Submitted by: Church Clerk, Jean Garcia

Results of the council election

Assistant moderator – Doug Kline
Christian Education – Dawn Conner
Fellowship and recreation – Ranay Hatherill and Jean Garcia
Finance – Ron Mishler
Music and Worship – Glen Grunder, Sam Courie, Janice Myler
Witness – Kim Morckel and Dee Kinsey
Cemetery Endowment Fund – Mark Conner
Church Treasurer – Pat Beach
Trustees – Chris Kline and Ron Cordier
Delegate to 2021 Annual Conference –
Dustin Bowell; Alternate -Mike Conner

November Commission Meetings

Wednesday, November 11
at 7 pm

Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday November 11 at
7:40 pm.



Northren Ohio District News



Annual Conference Moderator Q & A for Northern Ohio District
Annual Conference Moderator Paul Munday is hosting a ZOOM session in districts, focusing

on the "state of the church." Both laity and clergy are urged to participate. The ZOOM session will use a Q&A format; any and all questions are invited. Joining Moderator Paul will be the other Annual Conference Officers: Dave Sollenberger, Moderator Elect, and Jim Beckwith, Annual Conference Secretary. The Moderator's District Q&A sessions for the Northern Ohio District will be November 12, at 10 a.m. and at 7 p.m. All are encouraged and welcome to participate! You may visit www.nohcob.org/acmod for the links or dial in numbers.

Interested in being a camp representative for our church? This is a person elected by the congregation to represent and promote the activities at Inspiration Hills Camp and the church. There is a flyer on the bulletin board listing the responsibilities and qualifications. Let Pastor Andrew know of your interest.



Jr. Hi and Sr. Hi Game Night & Devotion - Every Monday Night 7:30-8:30 pm

Join us for online every week over Zoom for interactive games and a devotion!
Email jenny@nohcob.org for the login information and link. FYI - some games require two devices.

Brethren Disaster Ministries. Current projects are in the Dayton, OH and Coastal NC areas. Check out the CoB web page for details. Call: Brenda Hostetler 330-682-9123.

The church BVS office currently has three BVS volunteers working in our office who are excited about connecting with congregations. If you are interested, they would love to virtually lead a Sunday school class with youth or adults and/or lead a youth group session to talk about Brethren Volunteer Service and the Work-camp program. Please let us know if this is something you are interested in. You can contact us at BVS@brethren.org or by calling Hannah Shultz, Coordinator of Short Term Service at 847-429-4337, or Pauline Liu, Interim Volunteer Coordinator at 847-429-4384.

Copies of the most recent *The Herald, Fall, 2020* our district newsletter, can be found on the back table. It is also **available online:** https://www.nohcob.org/upload/documents/the_herald/the_herald_november_2020.pdf

Spiritual Practices, exercises for the mind, heart, and soul.

Caring for spiritual wellbeing is often the last thing on our list, but it is important! I would like to challenge you to find a way to engage regularly and want offer up some possibilities.

This month: Being Present

SLOW DOWN! Life passes quickly, spoken words fly past us never to be heard again, and the leaves' color last only a short time. Take time to be present, to examine the movement of your body, the sound of the wind, or and other thousands of seemingly mundane task you engage in. Try to push away all those thoughts and distractions that are pulling you out of the now. Instead, watch the tines of the undulate as they pass over the grass or really listen to the words of your friend as they tell a story, instead of thinking about the advice you wanted to give.

This life is a gift, we shouldn't be worrying about the next thing but experiencing this moment. The present is one of God's greatest gifts to us.



From the Pastor's Desk

I am writing this letter on Election Day, a day of excitement and fear. Politics and I have a strained relationship. On one hand, I am an avid listener and reader of what is going on in our national and state capitals. (I do avoid 24-hour news on TV though.) While living in Lancaster, I was even involved in some of the politics happening in the city, I saw how choices of our governments were impacting my neighbors for better and worse. But at the same time, our politics here in the United States are so polarized. I came across a video put out recently by our cousins, The Brethren Church. Jason Barnhart, the Director of Brethren Research and Resourcing, was discussing the struggle many of us are having. He spoke specifically about abortion and immigration/refugee protections. Issues we Christians care about, but the political parties force us to choose one or the other. Or, they blast away all the complex nuances of the issues, turning good ideas into short pithy planks of their platforms. Things that don't work or cause horrendous side effects because of their lack of their sledgehammer approach.

Sometimes I become so disgusted with the system, I consider returning to the roots of our denomination and separating myself from the process of voting. The early Brethren and Anabaptist understood that taking part in government was a type of sinning. Because the government wields the sword, taking part in its function is to also dip our hands into the blood. Therefore, while the believers may obey the government for the most part, they should not be too closely connected with it. However, they lived in a different time, one that was much more authoritarian and violent than our own. We live in a time when our opinions can actually change how our government works. Not only that, we are given the chance to help our brothers and sisters by raising our voices.

We won't be able to vote in the Kingdom of Heaven, politics are human and therefore prone to error. But we can try to make this nation a better place. 244 years ago, we have began as a nation with chattel slavery, where most women couldn't have their own bank account let alone act as an independent person, and where children of Native Americans and immigrants could be taken away so their culture could be washed away. Now we are a nation without slavery, with legal equality of the sexes, and where unique cultures are not just tolerated, but often celebrated. We can't vote in the Kingdom of Heaven, but we can vote to make it more like it. Even more importantly, we can work together everyday of the year to achieve the goals that Jesus set out for us. As Andrew of the past, I pray that you who are reading this note are doing well with what has happened in the last few days and that you are looking forward to being a better citizen of God's Kingdom.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. – [John 14:27](#)

Loving God, we pray for peace in this day of election. As our neighbors, our brothers and sisters, and we go to our polling places, that we celebrate in joy that we have the right to do so. That our communities are not divided by candidates and partisanship, but walk together. We are of one heart, we want a better tomorrow, but we are of different minds of how to reach it. Compassionate Healer, keep us safe as we gather. Protect those in their polling place, those that administer the elections, and those gathered to open and count sealed ballots.

Great Comforter, give us personal peace as we wait for results. We know that this may take days or even weeks for answers. Anxiety may be running high, tempers may quickly fray, help us to be gentle with our neighbors and ourselves. And as those results come in, we know that some may be elated and others upset. Help us not to allow this to cause more division, but make it a call to work together.



Gracious Savior, most of all, help us to keep our eyes on you and the Kingdom of Heaven. Let us not get bogged down believing that this vote will solve all problems. That will only happen when You return. Or that if our candidate loses, that it is a blow to You. Holy One, we know that you transcend this, help us not lose sight of that. Watch over us precious Lord. Amen

Theology Factoid:

As the generation of the Apostles died out, a lot of arguments started to arise as believers struggled to understand the relationship between God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and us. Peoples of all ages want to understand how the world works. This led to some of the first cracks in the Church and will eventually create the first great schism.

First they wanted to know, “Who was Jesus?” Near universally they agreed He was a prophet, a teacher, and the Son of God. But they struggled with whether Jesus was Divine or human. It is kind of strange thing to many modern Christians, but these believers were living in culture of Greek and Roman philosophy and they were trying to square their understanding of how the world worked with their Christian faith. In this understanding, God was God and humans were not and the two could not mix. So theories of how it all worked came to be, some common ones were:

Arianism: Jesus was fully human, though he was infused/fused with the Holy Spirit and the closest human to God.

Docetism: Jesus was fully Divine, in fact, his human appearance was like a mirage, without physical substance.

Nestorianism: Jesus was fully human and fully Divine, but these two natures were completely separate, kind of like multiple personalities.

All of these were later declared heretical, by the Council of Nicaea, but they show the real struggle early Christians had trying to meld their two worlds. Eventually we ended up with **Dyophysitism**, which is Jesus is both God and human, perfectly unified.

But all of this was just a set up for the biggest fight, how does the Trinity work? Constantine I disliked all the confusion within Christianity so he called the first Church council since the time of the Apostles, the Council of Nicaea. Part of their work included the creation of a Nicene Creed, which created a statement of faith that all Christians were expected to believe. It is in three parts, one section for each part of the Trinity, explaining who each is.

In the original creed, the final section begins, “And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father.” This is based on John 15:26. This rubbed many Christians the wrong way, they felt that the Holy Spirit also comes through Jesus. So those churches under the influence of Rome’s bishop (who would later be called the pope), changed it to, “...He proceeds from the Father and the Son.”

This is called the Filioque (Latin for “*and from the Son*”). This became such a sticking point between the Christians who followed the bishops in the east from those who followed Rome’s bishop, that it was a major reason for the Great Schism between the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern (Greek) Orthodox Church. So next time you hear Christians arguing over some rather mundane, dare I say kind of silly, thing, just remember that they are following in a grand tradition. Though perhaps we could get a little less caught up in “how does it work” and go for a “how do we get to work?”



SOCIAL MEDIA

Upcoming News

Sunday service: We are continuing to offer worship online by broadcasting directly on YouTube.

How to watch:

You can watch the worship live at 10:30 am on Sunday or the recording on our YouTube channel.

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPFzecAEgzFC0Q4LP6ix3pw>

Or you can search for “Springfield Church of the Brethren” If you are able to subscribe, please do! You can also set it so it will tell you when we go live.

Bible Study: We are continuing to study the book of Acts. Tuesday at 7:00 pm using Zoom, meeting will be open at 6:00 if you want to come early.

Direct Link: [https://us04web.zoom.us/j/553074408?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/553074408?pwd=cjVacXN0RHdVc1Y2YTM2WFB4WXpzd09;)

[pwd=cjVacXN0RHdVc1Y2YTM2WFB4WXpzd09;](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/553074408?pwd=cjVacXN0RHdVc1Y2YTM2WFB4WXpzd09;)

Meeting ID: 553 074 408; **Password:** agape

Call-In: 1 312 626 6799, followed by Meeting ID 553 074 408

If you need assistance contact Pastor Andrew (717-725-4695)

Facebook Live Visits: 10-20 minute visit with Scripture, Prayer, News, and a few Thoughts Tuesdays at 9:30 am,

The many ways to stay in the know with our happenings!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SpringfieldCOB

- New information is posted here; FB Live Visits happen here!; you don't need to have an account to see the page.

YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCPFzecAEgzFC0Q4LP6ix3pw

- Video of worship is uploaded here; Subscribe if you can for updates!
- The audio version CD's of the sermon are being mailed out to those requesting them.

- **Email:** Pastor Andrew sends out regular updates from his address.
- Bonnie Young and Beckie Ebie send out regular prayer needs throughout the prayer chain
Bonnie: bonniey417@gmail.com; Beckie: springfieldcob@sbcglobal.net;

Use this email to send prayer requests: springfieldprayers@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.springfield-cob.com> — Regularly updated, this a great way to keep in the know!



Springfield Church of the Brethren

3500 Albrecht Avenue, Akron, OH 44312 (330) 628-3058

Church email: Springfieldcob@sbcglobal.net

Church web address: Springfield-cob.com



*Continuing the work of Jesus.
Peacefully. Simply. Together.*



We Invite You

- to join with us in the fellowship of a Christian family.
- to join us in our journey to a deeper faith in our Lord Jesus
- to strive with us to "Live for the Glory of God and our neighbor's good."



Pastor: Andrew Wenger

Phone: (717) 725-4695

Email: scob.andrew@gmail.com

**Pastor's In-Office Hours: Tues.– Fri.
mornings, and by appointment**

Church Secretary: Beckie Ebie

Church Office: 330/628-3058

email: Springfieldcob@sbcglobal.net

**Office Hours: 9:30 am—2 pm
Tues, Thurs, Fri**

Sunday Hours of Worship:

**Sunday School, 9:30 am
Worship, 10:30 am**