



Springfield Cornerstone

JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:30 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service Online also!						1 Happy New Years!
2 2 cent offering	3	4 Zoom Bible Study, 7 pm	5 NYC get-together, youth & parents	6 Choir Practice, 7 pm	7 Service for Peggy Swinehart 2 pm Newcomer Funeral Home	8 Kid's Closet, 10-12
9	10	11 Zoom Bible Study, 7 pm	12 Commission Reorganization Mtg, 7 pm Exec. Comm Mtg, 7:40 pm	13 Choir Practice, 7 pm	14	15 Fellowship Hall Reserved
16 Mike Conner licensing	17	18 Zoom Bible Study, 7 pm	19	20 Choir Practice, 7 pm	21 Winter Camp for Juniors thru the 23rd.	22
23	24	25 Zoom Bible Study, 7 pm	26	27 Choir Practice, 7 pm	28	29
30	31	MISSION STATEMENT: "Following Jesus for the glory of God and our neighbors good"				



Become Part of Our Church Family

We are so happy and honored to have you join us in worship today. As you are preparing for worship, please consider

wearing a mask during our gathering. There are many factors all coming together to create an environment in which this disease is becoming more prevalent. The most simple way that we can protect ourselves, our families, and our brothers and sisters is to where a mask and distance ourselves as possible.

For those who feel unsafe gathering, we continue to offer worship live online. For those who gather, we ask that you are mindful of disease and proactively work to protect others. We will continue with the offering plates in the back of the sanctuary. You many choose to sit anywhere you like in the sanctuary. We are continuing to sing hymns during the service by sitting during the singing. Worship is live-streamed on YouTube every week for our family who joins us from home. Please subscribe there and follow us on Facebook for regular updates.

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

Prayer List: Please contact the office for prayer concerns to be listed in the bulletin and newsletter. Include the person's first and last name as well as the relationship to you. Also, please inform the office when a person's name can be removed from the prayer list. The new prayer list email is springfieldprayers@gmail.com. Please use this email in sending us your prayer requests.

Bulletin information: If you have any information or prayer concerns you would like in the bulletin, please email them to the church by Thursday each week. Thanks.

CD's of the worship service available: Please let the secretary know if you would like an audio CD mailed to you each week.

December Weekly offering and attendance

- December 5, 2021 Attendance: 41; Offering: \$1,605.00; Specials: \$ 137.00
- December 12, 2021 Attendance: 41; Offering: \$1,880.00; Specials: \$633.00
- December 19, 2021 Attendance: 45: Offering: \$3,245.00; Specials: \$220.00
- December 26, 2021; Attendance: 28; Offering: \$1,350.00; Specials: \$70.00

Condolences



Our Deepest Sympathy

Prayers for the Shorb family as they mourn the loss of Royal who passed away December 20 in Arizona. Please hold them in your

hearts as they hurt and make decisions.

Prayers for the family of Peggy Swinehart who passed December 22, surrounded by her family. Her memorial service will be Friday, January 7 at the Newcomer Funeral Home.

Prayers for the family of Abby whose mother passed December 26th (friend of Kerri's daughter Aaliyah).

Memorial service for Peggy Swinehart Memorial services will be held on Friday, January 7, 2022 at 2:00 PM at Newcomer Funeral Home, 131 North Canton Road, Akron, where Pastor Andrew will celebrate Peggy's life. Family and friends may visit from 1:00 - 2:00 PM on Friday, January 7, 2022 at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the Alzheimer's Association in Margaret's memory.



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Not A Fan Sunday school class: All are welcome! Please join us to study, share and learn about our wonderful Lord and grow in our faith! Bev Sheets is the facilitator for this class that is meeting upstairs in the last classroom in back of the sanctuary.

Mystery and Glory, Adult Sunday school – Mike Conner is teaching a Sunday school class that is meeting in the room next to the library at 9:30 am each Sunday before our worship service. The book being studied: *Mystery and Glory*, based on John's gospel. All are encouraged to join us.

Youth Sunday school class for grades 6 - 12, is meeting in the Youth room upstairs. Please bring your bible and a notepad. We are studying God's will & His plan for us as His children living in today's world.

Kids Closet: Our next Kids' Closet is Saturday, January 8th 10:00-12:00 The Kid's Closet on December 18th served ten families including 33 children. Three of the families brought in clothes to give to the Kid's Closet. Needed are boy's socks, all sizes, girl's briefs and boy's briefs, small and large. See Terri Tucker or Kim Morckel on Witness for the date of the next Kids Closet.

Zoom Bible Study Tues at 7 pm: We are studying a book by Samuel Sarpiya's: *The Highest of All Mountains*. All are welcome.

Acme Community Cash Back Program: The final date for receipts was December 25. Please turn them in to the container on the back table.

NYC Social time for youth and parents will be January 5 in the evening. This will be a time for youth 9th through 12 grades plus 1 yr., and parents.

Winter camp for Junior Campers (grades 3-5) is

January 21-23 for winter fun. Begins Fri. at 7 pm and ends Sunday at 1 pm. Register at the camp website or phone 419-846-3010. See info on bulletin board.

Upper Room devotional -- The January-February issue of the Upper Room is available inside the church entry way.

Cemetery lots for sale: Currently Springfield members can purchase cemetery lots in the newly expanded Maple Hill Cemetery for \$250.00 per lot. After March 31, 2022, the price will increase to \$500.00 for members and persons of lineage to members. See Mark Conner.

Special music for Sunday services If you would like to offer your talents, please contact Janice Myler or Christine Kline.

Join the choir The choir meets Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to join – please come and share your voice. The choir has decided not to be singing the 1st Sunday of each month.

Volunteers needed to serve as worship leaders and acolytes Worship is seeking volunteers to be worship leaders and acolytes. We would love to have ANY age participate as acolytes. The commission is also asking for any interested party to learn the sound booth operations. A lot of work has gone into creating a step by step document to guide you through a service. Please see Christine Kline or mention your interest to Mike Conner.

New Deacons: In December we recognized & commissioned new deacons. New deacons commissioned are Sam Courie, Delores Courie and Bev Bridger. Many thanks to Doug and Christine Kline for their faithful service of the Lord & our church. They are now retiring and will certainly be missed on the deacon board.

Update: The Putt's zip code is 44278. We will be doing new church directories in the next several weeks.



Thanks from Lisa and Steve Van Houten: To the Akron Springfield Church of the Brethren and all our friends, Thank you so much for your prayers during our time with the Covid-19. We are both doing so much better! May God continue to bless you and may you know the fullness of God’s love and peace in your hearts! All our love, Lisa and Steve. Please see their Christmas greeting on the bulletin board.

Giving Tree. Thanks for your generosity!

Thanks to all contributing to the Candlelight Service on Dec. 19th. Thanks especially to all our talented musicians, speakers, helpers behind the scenes and youth who worked very hard to praise God in the joy of the season. Thanks to the Music and Worship Commission in their planning.

Thanks to all the women that baked cookies for the cookie sale which took place following the service on Dec. 19th. Also thanks to those who did the planning and organizing!

Thanks to all who purchased poinsettias to remember loved ones and to show our love of God in beautifying our sanctuary.

Thanks from Mary Ann Ludwick – she thanks everyone for your calls, cards and flowers. She says that everyone in the congregation is so very thoughtful and she loves you for it.

Thanks from the Mission and Ministry of the denomination for our recent donation of \$542.00.

Thank you from District Executive, Kris Hawk: Dear Brothers and sisters at Akron Springfield, Your generosity to District ministries continues to amaze me. You bless so many by your faithful giving that helps churches, pastors and youth. Thank you! Love, Kris

Thank you from camp: Thank you for your gift to the camp ministries; we appreciate your faithfulness and generosity. We are staying quite busy with a large number of school groups, churches, and retreats that have returned this fall. The planning for next year’s summer camp is underway and we are looking forward to a little bit of “normal” in 2022. Many blessings to you and your families throughout this Christmas season and in the year to come; you are in our prayers. In Christ, Shannon Kahler

JANUARY DATES

January 4 Zoom Bible Study, 7 pm
 January 6 Choir Practice
 January 7 Peggy Swinehart’s memorial service
 January 8 Kid’s Closet, 10-12
 January 5 Wed. eve; NYC social time for youth
 9th through 12th grades plus 1 yr., and parents
 January 12 Commission Reorganization Mtg,
 Exec. Comm. Mtg.
 January 21-28 Winter Camp for Junior Campers
 January 30 Bread and Cup Communion

2022 DATES

Annual Conference, July 10-14, Omaha, Nebraska
BTSB — Sunday, August 7th
VBS — Aug 8-11, Monday through Thurs.
District Conference. Fri. & Sat. Aug 12, 13, Popular Ridge COB, Defiance, OH. Our theme is Allelon: We the Church (One Another, Mutually, Together), Hebrews 10:24.



Pastor's Message

I was hoping to spend a couple Sundays going over the missing years in the Bible, that is the 340 some years between the building of the Second Temple in Ezra-Nehemiah and the birth of Jesus. As I read and watched videos about this time period I discovered two things: 1) It is hopelessly complicated and 2) it would make the sermon far more of a history lecture than a faith lesson. It is really hard to find people within the story that can push us to explore our own faith. For now, I will put this on the back burner, perhaps there will one day be a Sunday School class about this time. It also serves as a reminder that there are few people that are truly good or bad.

Mattathias ben Johanan was a priest during the reign of King Antiochus IV Epiphanes and the father of five boys. He began what would become the Maccabean Revolt when a Seleucid official tried to force him to make an unclean sacrifice. When another Jew was compelled to do the same and complied, Mattathias slew him and the official. Mattathias then swore death on any Jew that accepted any amount of Hellenization (that is taking on any Greek culture). He died soon after, but his sons would wage a war that would eventually lead to the independence of Judea for a brief time before becoming a Roman vassal state.

Almost as soon as their father had died, his five sons rejected some of his actions and words. They may have been more conservative in their faith than most Jews, but they recognized that it was wrong of their father to kill the other Jew. After all, is it really right to punish another person because they are obeying the people who could kill him or his? They also knew that most Jews had accepted a certain amount of Hellenization and tolerance of difference in beliefs. This majority of Jews would eventually be known as the Pharisees, while the conservative rule followers that came from Mattathias's camp would be called the Sadducees.

These two groups would fight with one another for the next few centuries, along with sometimes combining forc-

es against outsiders. Sometimes they would make the righteous choice, others times they would commit grievous sins. Some days they were heroes, the next day they would be villains, and then heroes again.

Honestly, nearly every person in the Bible is like this. However, it is also during this period that historians began to record far more information. Flavius Josephus, formerly the Jewish general Joseph Ben Matthias and a great-grandson of Mattathias, generally wrote of his people in a favorable light, but he included far more information than the writers of Kings and Chronicles. In his, and other historian's records, the mistakes, intrigue, foibles, and such are thrown in far sharper relief than those of previous eras.

These people were often viewed as the next Messiah, the one that would restore Israel and the Covenant. But we know from history that they weren't, instead they were men and women that sometimes were in the right and other times in the wrong. Only Jesus is the Messiah and he brings about the restoration of the Kingdom and Covenant in an entirely unanticipated way.

As we begin a new year, don't place your full trust in the people of this world. We all have our faults. Full trust should only go to God. The only thing that seemed to keep Judea from going off the deep-end during this era is that people held those in power accountable. So go into this year with your eyes wide open. Centering yourselves not on modern-day tribes, but on Jesus's way of love, compassion, justice, and forgiveness.

Commission Reorganizational Meeting

Wednesday, January 12th, 7 pm

Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 12th, 7:40 pm



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 now beginning a new study. Meeting time is 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?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)

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SpringfieldCOB

- New information is posted 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.
- The church office sends out regular prayer needs throughout the prayer chain springfieldcob@gmail.com;

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

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Church email: Springfieldcob@gmail.com

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@gmail.com

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

Sunday Hours of Worship:

Sunday School, 9:30 am

Worship, 10:30 am