

Springfield Cornerstone

May 2023

9:30 Sunday School
10:30 am Worship Service
Online also!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes-	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Prayer, 6 pm, Bible Study, 7 pm	3	4 Choir Practice, 7 pm	5 Cinco de Mayo	6
7 2 cent meal	8	9 Prayer, 6 pm, Bible Study, 7 pm	10 Commis- sions, 7 pm; Executive Comm. Mtg, 7:40	11 Choir Practice, 7 pm	12	13 District Board Meeting
14 Mother's Day	15	16 Prayer, 6 pm, Bible Study, 7 pm	17 New & Renew Conf through Fri.	18 Choir Practice, 7 pm	19	20
21 Kentucky work camp through Sat.	22	23 Prayer, 6 pm, Bible Study, 7 pm	24	25 Choir Practice, 7 pm	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day	30 Prayer, 6 pm, Bible Study, 7 pm	31 Deadline for June Newsletter	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>MISSION STATEMENT: "Following Jesus for the glory of God and our neighbors good"</p> </div>		



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

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.

The Prayer Chain:
If you have a prayer that you wished to share among the community, you can reach out by: connecting Pastor Andrew's cell, the Church Secretary's phone, or [email springfieldprayers@gmail.com](mailto:springfieldprayers@gmail.com). (If prayers are urgently needed, call Pastor Andrew.) Reasons for prayers and names do not have to be disclosed if that is your wish.



Springfield Crockpot Fundraiser,

Sunday, April 30th

at the Church Fellowship Hall to raise money for our children attending Camp Inspiration Hills.

Bring your crock-pot filled with your favorite crock-pot of food to share with the congregation. You can plug it in to keep it warm during the service. Then after the service, head down to the basement to enjoy a great lunch with fun fellowship with your friends. Any donation you would like to contribute may be placed in a Love Offering Basket.

See you all at the Crock-Pot Fundraiser

Annual Conference Delegate Briefing

on Sunday, April 30th from 3-5 pm

at Mansfield First Church of the Brethren, 899 Grace Street, Mansfield.

(This will be offered again on May 7th at Dupont Church of the Brethren.

Light refreshments will be served at each location.



We encourage you to keep the friends and members of our congregation in your thoughts.

Call those who have not been attending for various reasons and encourage them to come to church.

Also, continue to support and care for all people in our congregation.

We are the body of Christ, and a family who cares for each other. For this reason, we need to pray for and to care for each other!





CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Meeting decisions: Delegates for District Conference are Elyssa Kline and Pastor Andrew. Appointed to the Nominating Committee are Bev Bridger and Ranay Hatherill.

Upper Room Devotionals for May/June are now available on the magazine rack inside the front entrance.

Thanks from On Earth Peace: Thank you for supporting the ministries of On Earth Peace. Your gift of \$200 that we recently received ensures that the message of justice and peace continues.

Thanks to our deacons who have been providing an awesome service in meeting the needs of the sick and the shut-ins as well as planning our Love Feast and providing a ministry to care groups.



Thanks too to the Fellowship and Recreation Commission for planning and presenting us with a beautiful Easter breakfast.

Thanks also to all who decorated our sanctuary by buying

Easter tulips in memory and honor of loved ones.

Thanks to Christian Education who provided 20 Easter Greet Bags to children and some grandparents to give to their grandchildren.

Thanks to the Witness Commission who prepared and delivered Easter baskets to 12 of our shut-ins.

Sunday School classes There are currently two Sunday School Classes taking place on a regular basis. A class for **Pre-School - Second Grade** is held in the Nursery room and they are following a purchased curriculum. **An Adult class** has start-

ed a new study entitled "Walking With God in the Desert" Please join us during the Sunday school hour and share your love of Christ. Let us walk this journey together. This class meets behind the Sanctuary

Brethren Disaster Ministries: Our district is sending 7 people with a desire to Dawson Springs, KY the weeks of May 21 and/or September 3 and working with Habitat for Humanity to build new homes. Volunteers needed. See flyers on table or Kim Morckel for more information.

Plans for Vacation Bible School are in the works. Back to School Blast is scheduled for Sunday August 6th.

New phone number for Cindy Peel: She has a new phone and phone number. 234-417-6242."

New email for Bob and Rita Snyder: ritasnyder33@gmail.com

Nursery moved In the beginning of April, the Nursery was moved from upstairs beside the balcony to the main floor to the East Corner classroom that was not being used. A special thank you to Dale and Becky Burtoft for making this transition possible. The move has been well received by the families who use the nursery.

Trustees have been working to keep the pumps repaired, they placed a filter on the water system after the water softener stopped working. They replaced the speakers in the nursery, fixed leaks to the boiler and replaced the faucet in one of the bathrooms. Fire extinguishers were checked and the elevator was inspected in February. The insurance policy on the church is being reassessed. Aluminum stakes with military emblems and some headstone vases in the cemetery are missing. The stakes will be replaced with fiberglass.



Mark Your Calendar

Prayer Meetings, Tues, 6 pm

Bible Study, Tuesday, 7 pm

Choir Practice: Thurs. 7 pm

Adult Sunday school class, Sunday, 9:30 am

Crockpot Youth Fundraiser, April 30th

Annual Conference Delegate Briefing, Sunday,
April 30th from 3-5 pm at Mansfield CoB, 899
Grace Street, Mansfield

District Board Meeting, Saturday, May 13

Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14

Camp Inspiration Open House, June 6

April Attendance & Offering

April 2, 2023: Attendance: 35 plus 5 online

Offering: \$2,467.30; Specials: \$106.00

April 9, 2023: Attendance: 75 plus 4 online

Offering: \$3,412.00; Specials: \$520.00

April 23, 2023: Attendance: 38 plus 2 online

Offering: \$2,415.00; Specials: \$10

April 30, 2023: Attendance: 33 plus 5 online

Offering: \$2,110.00; Specials: \$386.50

Bible Study: Meeting time is Tuesday at 7:00 pm using Zoom. A Prayer Meeting will precede at 6:00 pm. The Bible Study and Prayer Meetings are held downstairs in the Circle of Friends Classroom which is just to the right at the bottom of the stairs. (Link is in the weekly email)

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

- **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 is found below.**
- **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!
- **Mailing of CD's.** 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 or the prayer request email: Springfieldprayers@gmail.com.
- **One Call Now:** Please see page 30 in the new directory for information in using One Call services. If you wish to be added, removed or have contact changed, please inform Pastor Andrew. Email Pastor Andrew or the church office, or call Pastor Andrew or the church office to add prayer concerns, announcements or reminders to be sent out on the One Call Now System.



Pastor Andrew's May Message: You are an Oak

You Are an Oak



We have been studying Isaiah in our Tuesday Night Bible Study. As a quick reminder, Isaiah is one of the Four Major Prophets with Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel. Most likely Isaiah was written in 2 or 3 sections, with Isaiah ben Amoz himself writing the first 39 chapters before his death during Hezekiah's reign and his disciples adding to it 200 years later at the end of the Exile. This was a normal practice, but that isn't the point I'm driving at. Rather, I want you to consider the world that the last writers were in when they wrote the last 12 chapters (55-66).

They are ecstatic! For nearly a century, Judah had been under the rule of Babylon which had regularly deported Judahites into exile. The last and largest happening about 70 years before, when Jerusalem was left in ruins and Solomon's Temple razed. The religion of the Judahites was not exactly suppressed in captivity, but without the Temple and priestly system, it had to undergo a great deal of transformation.

A new faith-tradition emerged, one that relied less upon a centralized authority and instead on local groups studying and debating the faith. It is around this time that the Jewish Scriptures began to be organized into the books we recognize today and these were copied and spread around. The works of the prophets and the Law began to plant new seeds in the people. Seeds of hope, for redemption and a Messiah. A hope for a return to the Garden. It also helped the people of Judah to put better understand their history as a whole and galvanized them to deeper faith and a new fortitude to avoid the mistakes of the past.

Isaiah 55-66 is written by disciples of the School of Isaiah as they return to a homeland that they didn't know. They are not just driven to rebuild what was lost, but to build better. To create a city and nation in line with the Torah and the teachings of the prophets. This is what we hear in these chapters, their faith and enthusiasm overflowing. The center of which are chapters 60, 61, and 62, I'm going to focus on 61. Take a moment and read it, I'll wait...No, seriously! Put the newsletter down and grab your Bible or look it up on your device and read Isaiah 61...Ok, I'm trusting that you have done that now!

(Continued on Page 6)



(Continued from Page 5)

What does 61 describe? (by verse)

1. God has sent me, filled with the Spirit, to proclaim healing and freedom to those that need it.
2. The oppressed will be lifted and the power of the oppressors will be taken away.
3. The faithful will be made into priests, they will be like a glorious oak forest, they are a reflection of God's glory.
4. They will repair what was broken, they will be restorers of God's creation.
5. Others will recognize them and will serve them.
6. But the priests are not taking advantage as the oppressors once did, they will act as Servants of God and the People. Just as the priests of old were fed from the offerings of the people. The Servants will be cared for by the People as they serve them and God.
7. The Servants' sufferings will be reversed, there will now be joy, honor, and plenty.
8. God is a God of justice! And will make all things right. God will make a Perpetual Covenant with the Servant People.
9. This will pass on to their descendants, and they are the seed to God's new Garden. Others will recognize this blessing.
10. Let us rejoice in this union! Let us celebrate the wedding!
11. God will create a new Garden, a paradise before and for all nations.

The author thought that this was coming true in that time, that Jerusalem was becoming the center of the world with the revitalized Jews becoming the priest of all nations. Though this is not what happened. We almost immediately see the returnees fall into many of the same traps as their ancestors. Yes it was different, they weren't worshipping the idols of other nations. But they were worshipping the idols of their identity and their status. Soon, Jerusalem was what it had once been, just like any city with classes and oppression. The visions of Isaiah's disciples seemingly false.

However! It is no mistake that Jesus reads aloud from this chapter as he begins his ministry! For in Jesus we find the fulfillment of the Suffering Servant of Isaiah. The Servant who makes a forest of Servants. The Servant who plants the seeds that will grow into the Garden. By reading from this chapter, Jesus is telling us not to give up on God and to have the same enthusiasm as those disciples once did. We need to look at the future with optimism, not pessimism. You, Sibling in Christ, are an oak, planted by Jesus in the Garden of God. Reflect the Glory of God in your living!





May Bible Trivia

How well acquainted with the Bible are you? Try your luck on the following questions.

Answers will be in next month's newsletter.

1. Who had the first dream recorded in the Bible?
2. How did the Israelites decide the division of the Land of Canaan among their tribes?
3. Who was the first husband of Bathsheba?
4. Who helped Saul teach in Antioch?
5. How many books are there in the New Testament?



"His Name Is John"

"And you, my little son, will be called the prophet of the Most High because you will prepare the way for the Lord." Luke 1:76 (NIV)

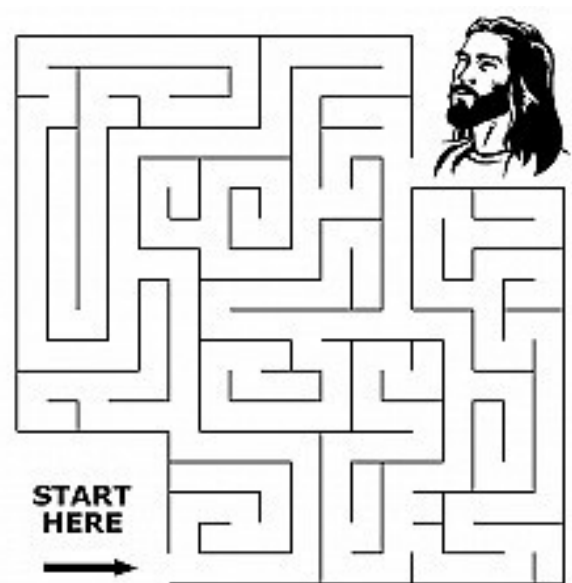
The puzzle is based on Luke 1:67-80



V A J P P B S Q I M W K I I Q
 S R R R N M K A M S I T W Z S
 R Z L O Y E Z A L E R G V Y O
 U C P P J G H K H V R A H A V
 V G M H I S E R V E A C E T U
 G G G E T I G R I G Q T Y L Y
 I S B T C P R E P A R E I M C
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 X R E M Z L H F R C V D J C J
 C Q B H E A N O T G I W N C W
 L T T D H R O Y A L D S Q J D

Answers to April's Bible Trivia:

1. Moses
2. Deborah
3. Aaron and Moses
4. Mary of Magdalen
5. Joseph of Arimathea



SALVATION	SAVIOR	MERCY	HOLY	PEACE
PRAISE	DAVID	LORD	PROPHET	SERVE
PREPARE	FEAR	ROYAL	MIGHTY	ISRAEL



Brethren News: District, Camp, Denomination

Volunteer at camp If you have a heart for Christ, we have a place for you at camp. Whether your skills and interests lie in facilities, working with kids, general support, or fundraising, we would love to talk to you about using your time to support the camp ministry. Visit our volunteer page at www.inspirationhillscamp.org for more info!

Keep in mind the Silent Auction for the Peace Endowment Fund at this year's District Conference, August 11-12. Contribute by bringing in handmade items and goodies (handcrafted items, artist's work, homemade food) for the auction! You will also want to be at conference to bid on the donated items in the auction. See more information in the District Herald.

Camp Inspiration Hills Open House – May 6th. Hours are 10 am – 2 pm that include tours, games and more. More information is forthcoming.

2023 Summer Camp Schedule – camp begins June 5-7 with a Mom and Me camp for campers age 3-10. See the most recent Herald for the summer schedule.

Help Clyde Fry celebrate his 90th birthday, May 7 with a card shower: Clyde Fry, 492 Conner Dr, Mansfield, OH 44905. Clyde is a long-time pastor for churches in the Northern District.

Classic Car Show -- Knowing that there are church folks that either own classic cars and trucks or like to attend car shows, we would like to invite you and your church family to enjoy our Classic Car Show at Chippewa Church of the Brethren, 10230 Honeytown Road, Creston, OH, 44217. This will be held Saturday June 10th from 10am till 2 pm. All proceeds will go to help those in need in the Creston community.

New and Renew Conference May 17-19 in person or on-line. More info in District Herald.

Northern Ohio Church of the Brethren
District Conference 2023

**BACK
TO OUR
FUTURE**

"LOOKING BACK TO OUR FUTURE"
1 Corinthians 3:10-11

District Conference: August 11-12, 2023, Maple Grove CoB in Ashland, OH. The theme is "Back to Our future" and is based on 1 Corinthians 3: 10-11. James Washington, Pastor of the Elm St. and Pleasant View CoB's will serve as Moderator. Delegates: Elyssa Kline and Pastor Andrew

Annual Conference 2023

"Living God's Love"

Ephesians 5: 1-2

Annual Conference 2023
Duke Energy Convention Center
Cincinnati, Ohio

July 4-8 (Tuesday-Saturday)

Becky Burtoft is our delegate who will represent us at the conference.

Following Jesus for the glory of God
and our neighbor's good.





Springfield Church of the Brethren

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

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: Friday: 9:00 am—2 pm

Sunday Hours

of Worship:

Sunday School, 9:30 am

Worship, 10:30 am