



# The First Church of the Brethren

## Roaring Spring, PA

### January 2021 Newsletter

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Roaring Spring, PA 16673  
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#### 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.

Maybe the easy way to proceed with a relevant message for this January Newsletter would be to focus on the fresh start 2021 is bringing to us. But the easy way isn't always the way God needs us to go.

The truth is, I personally want to see a fresh start in 2021. I would like to leave the masks and social distancing and political turmoil behind and just welcome a chance to get back to life as we knew it before.

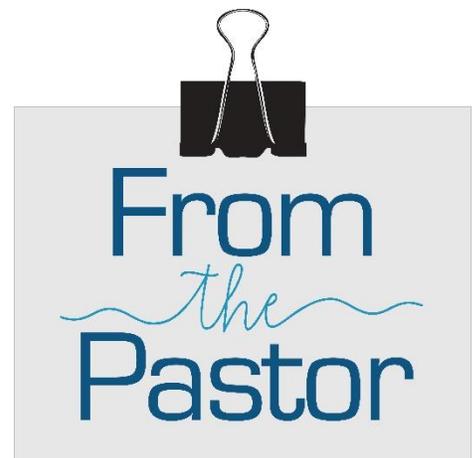
Psalms 126:1-3 tells us that "When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them. The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy."

But here's the point we need to remember. If we really would like to experience that joy David is talking about in the Lord, then WHEN (not if, but when) we are restored to "normal" we need to take with us the lessons we have learned in the past year. We need to have grown.

When this is over, would it not be better if we had learned to be more appreciative of the people and experiences around us? Would it not be better if we had learned to focus on the things that really mattered?

In short, we should not be going back to the life we knew before. The Lord IS indeed doing great things for us, even in the middle of 2020. Let's make sure that no matter what direction 2021 goes, Faith, family and friends find themselves in the middle of our focus as individuals and as a church.

*Pastor Dave*



## Highlights of Leadership Mtg.

November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### Sunday in Church Worship

- We continue to evaluate as the Covid situation changes. Trying to balance the safety of the congregation and community with the desire to worship together. Everyone is asked to please wear a mask upon entering and throughout the service, especially now with the large increase of Covid cases. Please do this as a service to your brothers and sisters to allow all to feel comfortable and safe. We currently will not rent the church to groups.

### Worship Team - Terry Hershberger

- Working on Christmas season services.

### Finance and Facility Team - Bryce Nooyen

- 2021 budget accepted by congregation at Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> Forum.
- Audio system is working well and we have adequate wireless and lapel mics for our needs.
- Identifying maintenance needs and working on them.
- Church use forms and fees were updated.

### Missions and Service Team - Adam Lanzendorfer

- Looking for ways to reach out to community. Share your thoughts and how you will help.
- Outreach giving is up to date and expect to meet 100%+ for 2020.
- Bill Evans will be taking over as chair in 2021.

### Hospitality and Communications Team - Valerie Smith

- Sharon Hammel will be chair in 2021.

### Christian Education Team - Pat Frazier

- Due to Covid concerns and unavailability of some teachers, children's Sunday School is on hold until January and will be reevaluated then.
- Children's Church will continue to be provided the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays as long as volunteers are willing. Help is still needed.

### Deacons' Report - Dan & Jane Brumbaugh

- Met November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Krista Snyder will be Deacon chair beginning 2021, Dave and Valerie Smith vice chairs.
- Next meeting is January 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Prayer gatherings for Deacons as a group the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month.
- Fruit baskets will not be delivered to older members at Christmas. Planning to do something at Easter.

### Pastor Dave

- Continuing to serve First Church with a joyful heart.

### Congregational Forum - November 15<sup>th</sup>. Reports, budget, proposed constitutional change all accepted.

- New Leadership Team Chair will be Mike Bianconi, Vice Chair - Kaye Russell, Hospitality and Communication - Sharon Hammel, and Missions and Service - Bill Evans.

### Next Meeting - Tuesday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

# Those Serving in January

**Greeters**

**Deacon Greeters**

**Candlelighter**

**Alpha Class**

January	3	10	17	24	31
<b>Organist</b>	Cathy Petre	Barb Wineland	Barb Wineland	Barb Wineland	Cathy Petre
<b>Pianist</b>	Marcia Fleck	Brenda Fluke-Garber	Marcia Fleck	Brenda Fluke-Garber	Terry Hershberger
<b>Storyteller</b>					
<b>Welcome Center</b>	Jane Brumbaugh	Carol Emerick	Willow Miller		Darlene Wyland
<b>Worship Leader</b>					
<b>Children's Church</b>		Not held		Not held	Not held
<b>Flowers</b>					
<b>Bulletins</b>					



## 2021 Deacon Officers

**Chairperson** - Krista Snyder

**Vice-Chairpersons** – Dave & Valerie Smith

**Secretary** – Becky Bianconi

**Treasurer** – Bethann Frederick



**January 3, 2021**

**In Pew Communion**

# Announcements and Information

	<b>Fellowship Time</b> (When Held)	<b>Candlelighter</b>
January	Genesis	Alpha Class
February	Jr High Youth	Sr High Youth
March	Palm Sunday -Deacons	Genesis Class
April	Generation Hope	Jr High Youth
May	Alpha Class	Men's Fellowship
June	Generation Hope	
July	Not Held	
August	Not Held	
September	Not Held -Rally Dy	Generation Hope
October	Genesis Class	Deacons
November	Alpha Class	Sr High Youth
December	Sr High Youth	Jr High Youth

## **More about Fellowship Time:**

Adult Sunday School is now incorporated with fellowship time.

Please continue to provide whatever your group feels they would like to share.

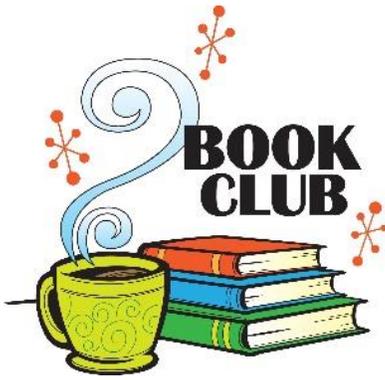
Please make three small trays available for the Children's Sunday School Classes and deliver them to the Nursery Class, Pre-K -2<sup>nd</sup> Class and 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Class

During Talk Time please don't be in the kitchen cleaning up and chatting. Please participate in the talk back.

## **More about Acolytes:**

Please have someone from your group volunteer during your designated month.

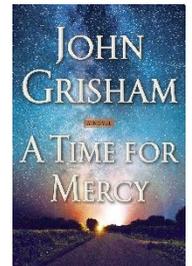
Please be in the Narthex during greeting so the Ushers know you're ready.



## ***A Time for Mercy*** by John Grisham

Clanton, Mississippi. 1990. Jake Brigance finds himself embroiled in a deeply divisive trial when the court appoints him attorney for Drew Gamble, a timid sixteen-year-old boy accused of murdering a local deputy. Many in Clanton want a swift trial and the death penalty, but Brigance digs in and discovers that there is more to the story than meets the eye. Jake's fierce commitment to saving Drew from the gas chamber puts his career, his financial security, and the safety of his family on the line.

In what may be the most personal and accomplished legal thriller of John Grisham's storied career, we deepen our acquaintance with the iconic Southern town of Clanton and the vivid cast of characters that so many readers know and cherish. The result is a richly rewarding novel that is both timely and timeless, full of wit, drama, and—most of all—heart.



Bursting with all the courthouse scheming, small-town intrigue, and stunning plot twists that have become the hallmarks of the master of the legal thriller, *A Time for Mercy* is John Grisham's most powerful courtroom drama yet.



### **Faith X ...**

### **Faith Outreach Expeditions**

The Church of the Brethren Workcamp Ministry has a new name: Faith Outreach Expeditions, or "Faith X" for short. "Faith" ... a place for theological exploration, discernment, and spiritual growth. "Outreach" ... becoming the hands and feet of Christ. "Expeditions" ... a sense of adventure and fun while serving. Read more at [www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org).

First Church of the Brethren, We appreciate your generous and thoughtful gift to The Village at Morrisons Cove in our father's name. May God bless you richly as you have opened your heart with this loving memorial. - Bob, Beth, Karen and families

Don Bookhammer thanks everyone for their cards, prayers, calls and well wishes during his two surgeries. He is on the mend and feeling better.

Travis & Mindy Wagner and family thank everyone for the cards, food, calls and expressions of sympathy with the passing of her mother. How blessed to be part of such a loving church family.



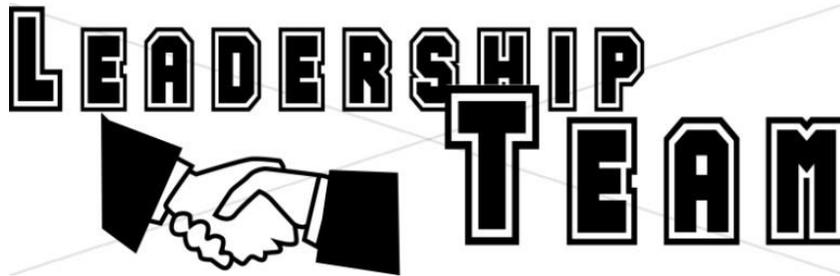
During the winter, weather sometimes causes activities to be postponed or canceled. We will post on our Facebook page, website and make a OneCallNow phone call to notify all those who regularly attend worship, of any changes or cancellations in worship services or planned events. Please be sure you notify the office with any email or phone number changes.

## **CAMP BLUE DIAMOND SUMMER CAMP 2021!**

Online 2021 Summer Camp registration has begun. Any child Registering by the end of the 2020 will receive a \$5 coupon for the Trading Post. Families that transferred Summer Camp '20 payments to Summer Camp '21 received letters in October, reminding them of the dollar amount they can deduct from their '21 fees. If you are unsure about how much you transferred contact the camp office. Summer Brochures will be mailed to past campers and churches in January. If you register online or with a brochure between now and Feb. 28th, you will get the Early Bird Discount. Online registration, camp details, fees and photos are all at [campbluediamond.org](http://campbluediamond.org).

### Six New Year resolutions

1. Forget the past and honor God more.
2. Live for Christ in the world.
3. Trust God with a strong faith.
4. Remain faithful to my church.
5. Witness to the lost.
6. Cultivate the talents God has given me for His glory.



Moderator - Mitch Frederick

Sunday School Superintendent – Mitchell & Emma Frederick

Leadership Chair – Mike Bianconi

Leadership Vice-Chair – Kaye Russell

Hospitality & Communications Team Chair – Sharon Hammel

Missions & Service Team Chair – Bill Evans

Christian Education Team Chair – Pat Frazier

Finance & Facility Team Chair – Bryce Nooyen

# January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> Office Closed 	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 9:25 am Worship  10:45 am Sunday School	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 9:30 am Bible Study	<b>6</b> 9 am Ladies Aid  1 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry  6:30 pm Virtual Bible Study	<b>7</b> <b>9 am Bulletin Deadline</b>  9 am Breakfast Fellowship at Spring House Grille  6:30 pm Knitting Group	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Food Bank Collection  9:25 am Worship  10:45 am Sunday School	<b>11</b> 7 pm Middle PA Disaster Response Meeting	<b>12</b> 9:30 am Bible Study  7 pm Good Grief	<b>13</b> 9 am Ladies Aid  1 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry  5:45 pm Recharge  6:30 pm Virtual Bible Study	<b>14</b> <b>9 am Bulletin Deadline</b>  9 am Breakfast Fellowship at Spring House Grille  6:30 pm Knitting Group	<b>15</b> 1 pm Newsletter submissions due in office	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:25 am Worship  10:45 am Sunday School	<b>18</b> Office Closed  10 am Book Group	<b>19</b> 9:30 am Bible Study	<b>20</b> 9 am Ladies Aid  1 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry  5:45 pm Recharge  6:30 pm Virtual Bible Study	<b>21</b> <b>9 am Bulletin Deadline</b>  9 am Breakfast Fellowship at Spring House Grille  6:30 pm Knitting Group	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:25 am Worship  10:45 am Sunday School	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9:30 am Bible Study	<b>27</b> 9 am Ladies Aid  1 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry  5:45 pm Recharge  6:30 pm Virtual Bible Study	<b>28</b> <b>9 am Bulletin Deadline</b>  9 am Breakfast Fellowship at Spring House Grille  6:30 pm Knitting Group	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>	<p><b>“You wish to see; listen. Hearing is a step toward vision.”</b></p> <p>—St. Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)</p>					

"For last year's words belong to last year's language and next year's words await another voice."  
—T.S. Eliot

"Forgiveness does not change the past, but it does enlarge the future." —Paul Boese

"The earth has music for those who listen." —Unknown

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." —Mahatma Gandhi

Happy  
Newyear

*Address Service Requested*



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