

SPRINGS MENNONITE CHURCH

March 20, 2022

10:30 AM

FM 87.9

Focus: As we seek God's way, we move from believing that we must earn our nourishment, our privileges, even our identity as God's children, to an understanding that abundant life is a gift from God to all.

Welcome

Lighting of the Peace Lamp

Call to worship

Leader: Together we seek the way of God,

People: whose ways are not our ways, whose thoughts are beyond our thoughts.

Leader: Today we accept God's invitation to the feast,

People: where there is water in the desert and delightful food to share.

Leader: As we worship, we receive the abundant gifts of God

People: without money and without price.

All: So let us praise God and sing for joy.

Opening songs

Responsive reading

Leader: Your ways, O God, are higher than our ways.

People: Your thoughts are higher than our thoughts.

Leader: We seek God's ways.

All: Lord, move us from feeling we must earn your love to receive and give your grace to ourselves and others.

Prayer of Confession (Isaiah 55 adapted)

Leader: Holy One, we seek you while you may be found.

People: We call upon you while you are near.

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, for our thoughts are not your thoughts and our ways are not your ways.

People: Forgive us for acting as if we must earn your love. Open us to receiving your love as a gift.

Leader: As we walk with Christ on this Lenten journey, let us see your way more clearly

All: and follow your way more faithfully.

Offertory Prayer

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Children's Time

Scripture— Luke 13: 1-9

¹Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. ²Jesus answered, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? ³I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. ⁴Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. ⁷So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?'

⁸"'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.'"

Message— "Grace is Hard to Understand"

Visual Song of Response

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vqSvTJeGU0k>

Benediction *The Congregation is invited to join in singing this song*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nxn6tmVSIjU>

Worship Leader: Enos Tice

Message: John Verburg

Accompanist: Faith Verburg

Worship Planner: Isaac Tice

Sound Room: Jerry Abel

Song Leader: Ron Beitzel

Video: Reuben Tice

Live Stream: Isaac Tice

Church Information: Phone: (814) 662-4201

Pastor: John Verburg

Office hours: Generally Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
or by appointment

Cell phone: (256) 624-7252

Email: jlverb@hotmail.com

Secretary: Wendy Brenneman

Email: office@springsmc.org

Cell Phone: (814) 579-1774

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and otherwise
by appointment



Springs Mennonite Church is Handicap Accessible

A restroom and elevator are available on the main floor. There is also a restroom located downstairs in the basement. There are also large print song books and hearing devices; please ask an usher for assistance with these items.

AED (Automated External Defibrillator) is located at the back of the church near the elevator.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

March 21- Gwen Baer

March 22- Tom Bodes

March 23- Paul Durst

March 26- Mark Folk

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

March 24- Todd & Melinda Gibson

Calendar of Events

TODAY- Jr. Dept. Youth Teacher Meeting, basement

March 23- Daughters of Dorcas, 9:30-3:30 PM

April 2- Community Easter Egg Hunt

April 24- Allegheny Conference Offering

April 30- Movie Night

March 13, 2022 Totals

General Offering

\$8,044.00

Attendance

65



We need to update our Volunteer Background Checks for those who are now working with children, or plan to work with children's ministries including Sunday school, Bible School, Kids Nights, Children's Church or any child related activity. Please fill in the requested information and place in Wendy's mailbox no later than March 28, 2022. Thank you for your prompt response.

Full Name

Address

Email

Phone Number

Full Birthday MM/DD/YYYY

Thank you to all at Springs Mennonite for your generous support of Shane Hutzel's family following their house fire. It is greatly appreciated. They currently have a temporary place to live until a permanent one becomes available. -Crystal Hutzel (A total of \$1,350 was sent from our congregation.)

“After We’re Gone: Disabilities and Estate Planning” webinar: Caring for someone who is dependent due to a significant disability is a major responsibility. Making provisions for that person’s physical, emotional and financial well-being after the death of a parent or caregiver can be complex and confusing. Anabaptist Disabilities Network is partnering with Everence to host a webinar about estate planning for families with a dependent disabled family member. “After We’re Gone: Disabilities and Estate Planning” will take place **Thursday, March 31 at 2 and 8 p.m. Eastern Time.** For more information and to register, go to: <https://www.anabaptistdisabilitiesnetwork.org/Resources/Webinars/Pages/After-We're-Gone.aspx>.

We are planning a Memorial Day Memorial Service in honor of all those who have passed the last couple of years. If you have someone who has passed (does not need to be a member or an attendee at Springs) that you would like to honor please contact Phoebe Wiley. We are asking that you submit pictures and a short paragraph about the person who you wish to be honored.

Notes Jr. Dept. and Youth:

1. Jr. Dept. and Youth classes are planned to start Sunday May 1st. We will be meeting the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.
 2. A brief teachers meeting for Jr. Dept. and Youth teachers will be held Sunday March 20th directly following the church service in the downstairs open area.
- If you have any questions contact Deb B. or Carolyn T.

There will be a Sausage & Pancake Brunch (by donation) to benefit the Laura Bowser Miller Family on Sunday, April 3rd from 11 AM-2 PM at the Avilton Community Center. Laura and her family lost everything due to a recent house fire. Laura is the sister of the late Jenni Bodes and an aunt to Hannah Hershberger. The family has had a significant amount of sorrow lately with the loss of Jenni as well as Hannah's grandmother and grandfather. If Sunday school classes or individuals wish to contribute to their fire recovery fund, please contact Carolyn Tice.

Younger Adult Sunday school Class

As, we continue to regroup in the current "living with COVID" life, we are looking at the possibility of beginning a new Sunday School Class for younger adults. This would/could coordinate with the reopening of our Children's Sunday school classes which are planning to begin the first of May. Alternatively, we definitely want to begin this effort by September.

If you would be interested in attending or sharing in the leading of this class, please pass along your interest to Nancy Green (the Adult Sunday school Coordinator), or John.

We are starting our mentoring program for our Jr. High and up students. If you are interested in having your child mentored or becoming a mentor, please contact Deb Brenneman.

If you would like to make a special donation to help aide Ukraine, you may do so by sending a donation to MCC or by writing a check to the church with MCC Ukraine in the memo.

The Sundays with no Children's Church we invite all children to the front of the church during the children's video/skit, after which they will collect the coins for My Coins Count. On the Sundays we have Children's Church, children will be dismissed during our time of singing. Please be sure to pick your child(ren) up in the gym immediately following the conclusion of our church service.

We are still looking for candy donations for the Community Easter Egg Hunt that will be held on April 2nd. The candy needs to be individually wrapped and small enough to fit in a regular size plastic Easter egg. (Chocolates, Smarties, Tootsie Rolls, Skittles, Starbursts, etc) Please bring any donations to the church by March 31st. Please contact Michelle Maust if you have any questions.

It's time to start planning for summer camps at Laurelville! Parents of children ages 6-17 should have received an announcement in their church mailbox. For more information and a registration form, please see Carolyn Tice.



We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Orpha Shrader who passed away this week.

Springs Mennonite Church Vision Statement

We, the Springs congregation, have been changed by Jesus Christ. Saved by His love and forgiveness, we are empowered to carry forth His ministry through obedience, teaching, service, and healing. Reaching out to all people, by faith we journey together praying, worshiping, and making disciples. By our living in the Spirit, we reflect His love, joy, hope, and peace.