

# SPRINGS MENNONITE CHURCH

March 17, 2024  
10:30 AM

Welcome

Lighting of Peace Candle

Call to Worship (See insert)

Congregational Singing

Affirmation of Faith

Prayer of Confession (See insert)

Children's Story

Offertory Prayer & Children's Church

*\*\*Children will collect coins for My Coins Count\*\**

Announcements & Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Scripture- Jeremiah 31:31-34

Message- *Jesus Among Us, The New Covenant*

Benediction

Sending Song

**Message:** John Verburg  
**Worship Leader:** Harriet Berg  
**Worship Planner:** Phoebe Wiley  
**Accompanist:** Bryon Miller  
**Sound Room:** Isaac Tice  
**Song Leaders:** Praise Team  
**Video:** Reuben Tice  
**Live Stream:** Isaac Tice & Preston Maust

Volume 69 - No. 29

## LENTEN VISUALS:

Today's theme is 'Christ among Us, The New Covenant.'

To have Christ within us, we must die to self. We must throw off all the external things that get in our way and look within. For a seed to produce anything, it has to die. Then, and only then, will it bear much fruit (John 12:24). This week's symbol is a seed planted in the pot. We are like that seed. Patiently and lovingly, God waits for us to surrender.

*Leader, Winter 2023-24, p. 44, MennoMedia.*

## Calendar of Events

**March 22** - Egg Filling Night, 5:30 pm

**23** - Easter Egg Hunt, 10-12:00 pm



**June 9 – 13** VBS – Seekers in Sneakers Discover Jesus!

*The Community Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 23, from 10-12:00 PM. There will be a hunt, games, crafts, and more! If anyone is interested in helping to plan the hunt or help the day of, please contact Michelle Maust. Extra invitations are in the foyer if anyone wants to take some to invite family, friends or neighbors.*

*Also on **March 22** beginning at 5:30 pm we will be gathering at the church to **fill the Easter eggs** for the hunt. Young and old invited. Pizza and snacks will be provided.*

**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](mailto:jlverb@hotmail.com)

**Secretary:** N/A

**Email:** [office@springsmc.org](mailto:office@springsmc.org)

**Elders:**

Don Green (Chair)- (814) 521-5709

Sherry Abel- (814) 233-0510

Rosie Cupler- (301) 697-1772

Ken Detrick- (814) 662-2692

Ed Hoover- (814) 521-7128

 **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 songbooks 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 19** Alice Rembold

**21** Gwen Baer, Harvey Hershberger

**23** Paul Durst

**March 10, 2024 Offering Total**

**Attendance** 84

**General Fund Offering** \$2891.00



**COUNCIL IS RECOMMENDING** the purchase of a generator for the church. Congregational approval will be sought next Sunday, March 24. The cost would be approximately \$10,000.00. It would be purchased using a portion of the funds received from the International Guest House distribution. Any questions or concerns can be directed to Paul Durst, Congregational Chair.

**GOODWILL Easter Baskets** – All children and youth are invited to help deliver Easter baskets to Goodwill residents. We will be meeting on Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm at the church and will return afterwards for dinner and coloring eggs. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Maust.

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Opportunities:**

It takes a village to touch the lives of the children in our church and in our community during Bible School. The theme of this year's Bible School is "Seekers in Sneakers: Discover Jesus!" being held on June 9-13. Activities will challenge children to dig into the Bible, ask questions, work with others, shine their light in the world, serve others, and trust Jesus. There are many opportunities for you to assist with or contribute to our adventure. Please see Beth Green, Nancy Green, or Paula Resh for more details.

**SUMMER CAMP** information has been placed in mailboxes. Sign up by April 15th to get the discounted rates. Please see Michelle Maust if you didn't get a packet and would like one, or if you have any questions.

**THE PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE** has been formed and are the following: Paul Durst, Don Green, Deb Hoover, Terry Livengood, Ryan Miller, Lori Otto, and Julia Tice. Allegheny Conference has been notified and the process of seeking a new pastor has begun. Any questions or concerns can be directed to the committee.

### **Call to Worship**

*based on Jeremiah 31:31–34; John 12:20–33*

**One:** “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel. No longer will they teach their neighbors, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord!’ because they will all know me, from the least to the greatest.”

**Many: This new covenant is being offered to us.**

**One:** “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.”

**Many: Death must come before resurrection.**

**A seed fallen to the soil and broken open can become life for many.**

**All: This new covenant is being offered to us: to lay down our life and follow.**

**One:** The life-giving ways of God placed within our minds and written on our hearts,  
where we are forgiven and our sins remembered no more,  
where we are God’s people  
and God is our God.

### **Prayer of Confession**

*adapted from Psalm 51*

**One:** O God, we gather before you,  
seeking your mercy.  
Hear us, we pray.

**Many: We confess that we sin against you.**

**One:** O God, wash us, make us clean,  
create in us a new spirit.

**Many: Stay close to us,  
restore us to your truth.**

**All: So that we can cry out with joy,  
cleansed in your abundant mercy.**