

Women's Fellowship: The next meeting is Tuesday, April 19th at 1:00pm

EVERY MONTH SCHEDULE

Sunday School	Sunday	9:45 a.m.
Informal Worship	Sunday	10:45 a.m.
Worship Hour	Sunday	11:00 a.m.
Commissions	3rd Thursday	6:00 p.m.
General Board	3rd Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Singers	Thursday	4:15 p.m.
Friday Fellowship	1 st and 3 rd Fridays	1:00 p.m.
Women's Fellowship	3rd Tuesday	1:00 p.m.
Food Bank	1st Sunday	9:30 a.m.

The Mirror – April 2022

The Mirror is published once a Month. Information deadline is the 3rd Tuesday of the month.



Empire Church
of the Brethren

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He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, who abides in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."

For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence; he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.



You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. *Psalm 91:1-6*

IN CHRIST ALONE

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!

My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Kenny Fox – New Member Blessings

Norma Lutes – Upcoming Knee Surgery

Butch Peterson – Continued Healing from COVID

Kathy Price – Leg Sore Healing

Troy Slaybaugh – Ear Healing

COVID – Among Us



WHAT ARE THE EASTER BUNNY'S ORIGINS?

Legend has it, every year on Easter, a long-eared, cotton-tailed creature hops from house to house to deliver festive baskets full of treats, toys and delicious candy to children and even leaves colorful eggs hidden for them to find! Among other popular Easter traditions like hot cross buns and exciting egg hunts, the Easter Bunny has long been a well-known and popular symbol associated with the religious holiday – but have you ever wondered where the idea of the Easter Bunny came from and how exactly the cute, fluffy woodland creature became such a prevalent symbol of Easter?

There's actually a lot of history behind the idea of an egg-bearing rabbit on Easter Sunday (and it's not just because he's cute!). The Easter Bunny has a long and deeply rooted history in the Christian holiday that even goes back to pagan traditions. Here's everything you might have wondered about the fascinating origins of the Easter Bunny so you can share the story before you welcome the holiday with chocolate rabbits and plenty of bunny-shaped treats, including where the character comes from, how a rabbit became associated with Easter eggs and how he came to be such a beloved symbol of the holiday over the years.

So, where does the Easter Bunny come from?

As Christians probably already know, the Bible makes no mention of a mythical hare who delivers eggs to children on the day of Jesus Christ's resurrection so it may be a head-scratcher why exactly a rabbit became a prominent part of one of Christianity's most important celebrations of rebirth and renewal. One theory, according to *Time*, is that the symbol of the

rabbit stems from the ancient pagan tradition on which many of our Easter traditions are based – the festival of Eostre, which honored the goddess of fertility and spring. The goddess’s animal symbol was a rabbit, which have long traditionally stood for fertility due to their high reproduction rates.

As for how the character of the Easter Bunny made its way to America, History.com reports that it was first introduced in the 1700s by German immigrants to Pennsylvania, who reportedly brought over their tradition of an egg-laying hare named “Osterhase” or “Oschter Haws” from the Old Country. Legend has it, the rabbit would lay colorful eggs as gifts to children who were good, so kids would make nests in which the bunny could leave his eggs and even sometimes set out carrots in case the hare got hungry. Remind you of any other holiday traditions? Eventually, the custom spread across America until it was a widespread Easter tradition. Over time, the fabled bunny’s delivery expanded from just eggs to include other treats such as chocolate and toys. Easter baskets have only gotten more and more elaborate over the years, as one trip to the store this year will tell you.

Why does the Easter Bunny bring eggs?

Since rabbits are mammals (and give birth to live young), it might seem like a case of mistaken biology to say the Easter Bunny lays eggs on the holiday. Adding another miracle to the festivities, perhaps? The answer may lie in combining iconography. Eggs, just like the rabbit, have long been considered an ancient symbol of fertility, rebirth and new life, all associated with the springtime celebration of Easter!

From a Christian perspective, Easter eggs represent Jesus’ resurrection and his emergence from the tomb. According to History.com, the tradition of decorating eggs for Easter may date back to the 13th century, when eggs were traditionally considered a forbidden food during the Lent season. That’s why people decorated them as the fasting period came to an end, to make eating them an even more celebratory way to feast on Easter Sunday.

Of course, if you want to keep your Easter celebrations copacetic with the kids’ science classes, you can always tell them the bunny just brings the eggs and leave the laying to the chickens.

What does the Easter Bunny look like today?

Today, the Easter Bunny is usually depicted as a white rabbit with long ears, often wearing colorful human clothes. You’ll typically find one at Easter parades, mall kiosks and other celebratory events for the holiday, often carrying a basket filled with colorful eggs, chocolate candy and other treats to give out to kids; just like Santa Claus on Christmas. You can even get their picture taken with the rabbit in some places, if you want a keepsake photo for the holiday.

Despite the prevalence of the bunny, it’s not always a rabbit that brings the Easter eggs in countries outside of the U.S. In Australia, for example, the spring holiday is greeted with the Easter Bilby, an endangered rabbit-like marsupial native to that country. Other gift-bearing animals include the Easter Cuckoo in Switzerland and, in some parts of Germany, the Easter Fox or the Easter Rooster! So if you want to branch out this year, those are some places to start.



By Hannah Jeon, February 10, 2022

TENNIS COURT SALE

Women's Fellowship is hosting a "Tennis Court" sale on **Friday, April 8th**, 10:00am to 3:00pm, and **Saturday, April 9th**, 9:00am to 3:00pm. Many great deals, including wonderful Christmas décor, will be available. We will start setting up for the Tennis Court Sale at 1:00pm on Thursday. Need strong backs to move things to the Tennis court.

Lois



WELCOME!

Welcome to new member **Kenny E. Fox!**

POSITIVE INSIGHTS

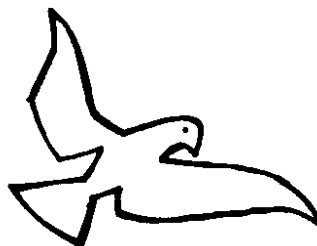
“And the Lord said unto Joshua, be not afraid because of them: for tomorrow about this time will I deliver them up all slain before Israel: thou shalt hough their horses, and burn their chariots with fire.” Joshua 11:6

One of the worst things you can do is to permit a continuous trickle of worry across the mind, because like water it will ultimately dig a huge trench. Then every thought you think will be drained into this channel of fear and worry and come up tintured with anxiety. You will be a person full of fear and worry.

The way to obliterate this is to start another stream. Let a stream of faith run across the mind and go deeper and deeper as you absorb faith thoughts into your consciousness – and after a while it will undercut the channel of fear and worry which will then fall into the channel of faith, and a great river of faith will surge through your mind so that every thought will come up bright and resplendent, optimistic and hopeful, and life will be good, very good. Cultivate a channel of faith to give you the deep security which you need.

Prayer: *Our Heavenly Father, we thank You for the great power of Christ. We pray that it may come now, in this moment of time, into the mind and the body and the soul of each of us, that we may learn how to find a real inner security and how to turn off worry. Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.*

Norman Vincent Peale





BURNING CALORIES

By Erma Bombeck



My doctor flipped the weight of the scale over another notch, looked at me with annoyance and said, "Man does not live by bread alone."

"You think I don't know that?" I said. "Any fool knows you have to make it into a sandwich, top it with homemade preserves or cover it with cheese sauce and make a casserole out of it."

"You are overweight again," he said.

"Like how much?"

"Like if you were scheduled to fight Muhammad Ali this fall, you would have to drop fifteen pounds to make the heavyweight division. How much exercise do you get?"

"I leaned over a week ago Thursday for what I thought was a gingersnap cookie in the carpet, but it turned out to be a cork coaster and I haven't taken a chance since."

"Do you go to the refrigerator a lot?"

"Yes, and sometimes I even run."

"I have here a list of activities that tell you how many calories you can burn up per hour. I want you to go over the list and try to do at least one or two activities a day."

The list was depressing. An hour of housework burnt up 80 to 180 calories, ironing 50 to 60 and writing 10 to 20. I would have to arm-wrestle King Kong to make a difference.

Then a brilliant idea hit me. If I could do some vigorous exercises, I could eat all the fat food I wanted and burn it off before it took root.

That night I had a piece of apple pie. Then I grabbed one of the kid's bicycles and pedaled for two hours. It was work, but it was worth it. I had paid for my folly.

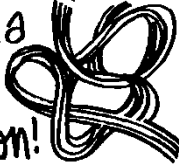
The next night I had 40 potato chips. To make up for it, I did a little ironing that I had put back. (Actually I only ironed for eight hours and put the rest of it back again.)

The next afternoon I outdid myself. I found an Easter egg I had hidden from the kids in the freezer totaling 583 calories. I had to paint the house to work it off. The same night I had lobster in butter, which totaled 2,390 calories. Checking my list I discovered I would have to row across Lake Erie and back to balance the calories.

Then, a terrible pattern began to form. I was borrowing on my energy and putting IOUs in the refrigerator. I owed two hours of carpentry for a bowl of cereal in cream, three miles of jogging for a French doughnut, and eight days of shoveling snow for a piece of birthday cake.

As I sit here writing this column, I am in hock through 1975. As I told my doctor, the only way I can possibly catch up is to be an oarsman on a slave ship. He is making the necessary arrangements.

When you come
to the end of
your rope....
make a
knot
and
hang on!



FEBRUARY 2022 STATISTICS

Average Attendance: 22

Giving:

Local:	\$4,746.00
Sunday School:	0
Youth:	0
Messenger:	0
Mariners:	0
Other:	0
Total:	\$4,746.00



DATES TO REMEMBER IN APRIL



BIRTHDAYS

01st – Shelby Cadruvi
02nd – David Hurlbut
04th – Sarah Lutes
 Roger Welch
05th – Rachel Price

09th – Samuel Price
16th – John Price
18th – Linda Carter
 Andrew Welch
27th – Vern Shafer

If we have missed wishing you a happy birthday or a happy anniversary, we may not have your dates. Please turn in your name and dates to the church secretary. You are important to us!

OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA ADDRESSES:

Website:www.empirecob.org; **Facebook:**www.facebook.com/EmpireCOB;

Twitter:https://twitter.com/empire_cob; and

Instagram:<https://www.instagram.com/empirechurchofthebrethren/>





APRIL 2022 PRAYER CALENDAR



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1 Psalm 8:1-9 Sarah Adams Gerald Allinson Alex & Cathy Arellano Candice Arellano	2 Luke 8:43-48 Molly Arellano Donna Ayres Elaine Azevedo
3 Genesis 28:10-16 Pastor & Teachers Ben & Jen Baker Ken Barklow Don & Pat Benton Wanda Bollinger	4 1 Samuel 17:34-49 Pauline Bert Michael Best Earleen Cadruvi & Fam. Ron Cadruvi & Fam.	5 Luke 13:18-21 Phyllis Caudle Linda Carter & Ivy Ashley Cooksey & Fam. Naomi Covey	6 Colossians 3:12-14 Arlene Cupp Charlotte DeHart Chuck & Wendla Dyer & Family	7 Isaiah 40:27-31 Jim & Sue Eikenberry Zac Fear Pam Franklin & Cherith Franklin Kerby & Heather Frantz	8 Mark 4:35-41 Lyndall & Lois Frantz Lloyd Fullmer Jerry Goodman Thomas & Patricia Guthrie	9 Philippians 4:4-9 Harold Harger Clark Hartman Jack & Rosetta Hartsfield Marvene Hilkey
10 1 Kings 1:32-40 Pastor & Teachers Ryan & Kelly Heiny & Fam. David & Evelyn Hurlbut Kevin & Deborah Hurlbut & Family	11 John 10:1-6 Jay Irizarry Randy & Teri Johnson & Family Sheryle Knott & Fam.	12 Exodus 3:7-14 Eunice Lasater Mary Lou Lee David & Cheryl Leib JoAnn Lusk	13 Isaiah 26:3-8 Norma Lutes Gerri Masellis Ric Mason Stacy Nelson	14 Isaiah 55:1-9 Suzanne Neptune Kelly Olsson Clifford Parker Brad Parrish & Family	15 Romans 8:14-17 Tommie Parrish Daymon & Sarah Peterson & Family Dennis Peterson Oscar Phan	16 Matthew 28:1-10 Jason & Kirsten Piazza & Family Skip & Kathleen Powell
17 Romans 5:6-11 Pastor & Teachers Jeff Price Jeremy & Erica Price & Fam.	18 Psalm 121:1-8 Joel & Susan Price & Family John & Kathy Price Nathan & Kim Price & Family	19 Luke 8:16-18 Kay Qualls Mike & Laura Radcliffe & Family Mary Rariden	20 Colossians 4:2-6 Charlotte Rice & Fam. Lana Royer Keith Shafer Vance & Maria Shafer	21 Jeremiah 29:11-14 Vern & Patty Shafer Troy & Joy Slaybaugh & Fam. Marilyn Snider	22 Mark 4:1-9 Tony & Laura Snyder & Family Gayle Stanfill Glenn Stanford	23 Psalm 119:105-112 J.J. & Soleena Storne & Family Veronica Suderman & Family
24 Matthew 18:10-14 Pastor & Teachers Arthur Syverson Mark & Amber Syverson & Family Mike Syverson	25 Colossians 3:18-25 Natasha Towe Carolyn Trent John & Sue Vacca	26 Matthew 11:25-30 Tim & Catherine Vaughn & Family Linda Ward & Fam.	27 Haggai 1:3-11 Roger & Cynthia Welch & Family Josh & Heather Winchester & Fam.	28 Psalm 29:1-11 Derek Wyatt Don & Susan Wyatt Donny & Errica Wyatt	29 Titus 3:3-7	30 Psalm 143:1-10












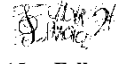



PRAYER
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APRIL 2022 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1 1:00pm Friday Fellowship To Be Announced	2 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 9:00am-2:00pm
3	4	5  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	6  8:00 am Government Commodities Distribution	7  4:15pm Easter Choir	8 TENNIS COURT SALE 10:00am-3:00pm	9 TENNIS COURT SALE 9:00am-3:00pm
10  Coffee Hour	11	12  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	13	14  Love Feast 6:00pm	15  Good Friday	16 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 9:00am-2:00pm
17 	18	19  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon 1:00pm Women's Fellowship Mtg.	20	21  4:15pm Fellowship Singers 6:00pm Board Meeting	22	23 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 9:00am-2:00pm
24  Coffee Hour	25	26  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	27	28  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	29	30

EVERY SUNDAY

9:45am Sunday School

10:45am Informal Worship

11:00am Worship Hour