

Women's Fellowship: The next meeting is Tuesday, May ??th 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	5:00 p.m.
Women's Fellowship	3rd Tuesday	1:00 p.m.
Food Bank	1st Sunday	9:30 a.m.

The Mirror – May 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



STAYING IN STEP WITH GOD

There are three questions we should ask whenever we are facing a major decision, what, when, and how. We need answers to all three questions to make the right choice. A wise person comes before the Lord, asking him what he would have us do, how he would have us proceed and when would be the right time according to his perfect will.

Moses is a good example of seeking God's guidance before making a decision. Moses was raised as a prince with power, prominence, and prestige. After killing an Egyptian he fled for his life and settled in the desert of Midian becoming a shepherd. Moses mistakes included focusing on the event rather than the big picture. He followed his reasoning rather than listening to God. Then he acted on impulse rather than seeking to know what God would have him do.

There are several reasons to act rashly. Because of our attitude toward the situation because of our prejudice in the situation and because of our selfishness. When we act impulsively we make decisions we regret. Moses also acted on his own strength rather than in God's power. Human strength is limited but the Lord God is almighty. Moses also acted in anger. He failed to consider the consequences.

In order to make wise decisions we must walk according to God's will rather than doing whatever we think is best. God will provide everything we need. Our relationship with the Lord brings us confidently before him to make our requests. The Lord will give us specific instructions. God has the wisdom and insight to make the right decisions. God then removes our fear which allows us to follow his lead. Then we will see God work in unusual ways in our lives

for it accomplishes his will not ours. In the process we will learn God's ways. God can even use our weakness and failures to help us understand his will for our lives. God can accomplish more in a brief period of time than we can in a lifetime. He does great things his way and accomplishes the greater good for all concerned. Give you life to God and bring all your concerns to him for him to use to his glory and honor.

Pastor John Price

TENNIS COURT SALE

Thank you to all who helped with our **Tennis Court Sale**. It was a resounding success and we couldn't have done it without help. Bless our church family.

Lois

POSITIVE INSIGHTS

“And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew it not.” Genesis 28:16

The Lord does not speak to people. And there is no such thing as an inward ear with which you hear His voice. Where you really hear is deep in your soul. And Stanley Jones heard. The Lord said to him “I want you to do a job for Me in India. You can't do it the way you are, breaking down all the time. Will you give Me your worries, your anxieties? If you will, I will give you such health as you never dreamed of.” “Lord” said Jones, “I'll close that bargain right away.” I heard Dr. Jones say twenty years after this event, “Since that night I never had another breakdown. I had not only physical health, but I had mental and spiritual health as well. I seemed to have tapped new life for body, mind and spirit. And I had done nothing but take it!”

I tell you, friends, what can be done for a human being seems so incredible that the person who hasn't the eye or the ear of faith can hardly understand it. So let God help you. He will help you and He will do it soon.

Life-Lifter: *A physician told me that a large percent of patients did not need medicine; they needed God. Tolstoy said, “To know God is to live.” Show me a man who really knows God and I will show you a happy, enthusiastic and vital man.”*

Norman Vincent Peale



SMILING IN CHURCH

By Erma Bombeck



Church can be a place that's filled with distractions: cell phones with annoying ring tones, old people who cough loudly (and unceasingly), and of course, babies that cry. But what about a kid who's smiling? Is that a disruption to worship?

In one church, evidently so.

In the 1970's, American humorist Erma Bombeck attended a worship service that she would never forget. Something happened that made her mad. Here's her account of what happened.

In church the other Sunday I was intent on a small child who was turning around smiling at everyone. He wasn't gurgling, spitting, humming, kicking, tearing the hymnals or rummaging through his mother's handbag. He was just smiling. Finally, his mother jerked him about and in a stage whisper that could be heard in a little theater off Broadway said, "Stop that grinning! You're in church!" With that, she gave him a belt on his hind side and as the tears rolled down his cheeks added, "That's better," and returned to her prayers.

Suddenly I was angry. It occurred to me the entire world is in tears and if you're not, then you'd better get with it. I wanted to grab this child with the tear-stained face close to me and tell him about my God. The happy God. The smiling God. The God who had to have a sense of humor to have created the likes of us. I wanted to tell him he is an understanding God who understands little children who pick their noses in church because they are bored. I wanted to tell him I've taken a few lumps in my time for daring to smile at religion.

It isn't a sin to smile. It isn't a sin to be happy. It isn't a sin to have joy . . . even when those around you don't!

Some may say that church isn't the place to smile. I can think of none better.



The Prize

By Joan Brewer As told to Kayleen J. Reusser



When I was eight years old in 1938, the preacher at our church in Ossian, Indiana, made a surprise announcement: "The person who brings the most people to church next Sunday will win a prize."

My mind raced around the word "prize". What if they were giving away a doll? At recess the next day I looked for someone to invite. A new girl in town, Joyce, seemed like a prospect. I wasted no time meeting her and asking her to come.

The next day she said she could go. I asked Joyce if she needed a ride. She said, no, her parents would bring her.

Sunday morning I dressed hurriedly, eager to get to church and see my friend. Upon arrival, I had a delightful surprise. Not only Joyce, but also her parents and five brothers and sisters stood outside the church waiting! I could almost feel the doll's porcelain features under my fingertips.

The preacher's sermon seemed to last forever. Finally, he closed his Bible and asked all the visitors to stand, introduce themselves and tell who had brought them.

Joyce's father said they were new in town and that I was the first person to ask them to church. When asked to stand, I did so, blushing profusely.

The preacher welcomed all the newcomers. I wiggled in my seat. No one had brought more than eight people, so the prize should be mine, but you could never tell with grownups.

"We thank our visitors for coming today," the preacher said. "We commend every person who took the time to invite someone. One person has done more than what was expected. The Bible would say she has committed her work unto the Lord."

Guilt overcame me. I hadn't thought about God when I asked Joyce to church. I only wanted the prize.

"Joan, would you come up here, please?"

I had won! The preacher nodded to someone at the back and I almost clapped my hands to hurry them along. With my back turned, I was unable to see what was brought in. I began to suspect something was amiss when the boys on the front row began to snicker. My excitement changed to horrified disbelief, when “the prize” was set before me.

The preacher laid a kind hand on my shoulder. “Unfortunately, our prize probably isn’t something a child dreams of winning,” he said.

He was right. Twenty-five pounds of flour had never entered my mind.

The congregation laughed, and I made my way back to the pew. I wasn’t crying but wanted to. Understanding, Joyce squeezed my hand.

My parents couldn’t afford to buy me a doll, but I got over that. More importantly, Joyce and I became best friends and stayed that way throughout school.

We still live near each other and get together occasionally. When we do, we laugh about the “pile of dough” that brought us together.

7 FACTS YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day. Maybe you think of it as the beginning of summer, and time for a barbecue. While that’s all fun and good, it’s important that we don’t forget what the holiday is all about. Here are seven facts about why we really celebrate Memorial Day. Hint: None of them involve hot dogs.

1. The tradition of decorating soldiers’ graves with flowers and flags is what led to the creation of Memorial Day. It was especially popular to decorate the graves of Civil War soldiers, and some regions designated a day of the year to do so. Eventually, these days would merge to become a national Memorial Day.
2. Memorial Day was officially established as a national public holiday in 1868 by General John A. Logan, head of a group of Union veterans. The holiday was originally called Decoration Day—named for the decoration of soldiers’ graves—but the name gradually changed until it officially became Memorial Day in 1967.
3. From 1868 to 1970, Memorial Day was celebrated every year on May 30, not the last Monday of May like we do now. It’s unclear why this date was chosen, though some have speculated that it’s because no major battles had occurred on that day, or that spring flowers would be in bloom.
4. The date was changed in 1968 with the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which moved Memorial Day and four other holidays to Mondays for the sake of creating the three-day weekends we all know and love. Some veterans’ organizations and lawmakers disagree with the change, arguing that it diminishes the holiday’s meaning.
5. There is a Moment of Remembrance at 3PM on Memorial Day. Congress passed the National Moment of Remembrance Act in 2000 to encourage people to stop and remember fallen service men and women at 3PM.
6. Memorial Day is not the same as Veteran’s Day. The latter celebrates all service men and women throughout history, while Memorial Day technically only celebrates those who died while serving. Armed Forces Day is also separate, and honors those who are currently serving.

7. On Memorial Day morning, the Department of Veterans Affairs guidelines say the flag is supposed to be raised to the top of the pole quickly, and then slowly lowered to half-staff, where it should remain until noon. At noon, the flag should be raised to full staff to honor those who are still serving.

MARCH 2022 STATISTICS

Average Attendance: 25

Giving:

Local:	\$4,343.46
Sunday School:	0
Youth:	0
Messenger:	0
Mariners:	0
Other:	1,018.33
Total:	\$5,361.79



DATES TO REMEMBER IN MAY



ANNIVERSARIES

- 12th –Troy & Joy Slaybaugh
- 26th –Vern & Patty Shafer
- 29th –Josh & Heather Winchester

- 08th –Jacob Cadruvi
Sue Vacca
- 12th –Troy Slaybaugh
- 13th –Tommie Parrish
Amy Stokes

BIRTHDAYS

- 04th –Jay Irizarry
- 05th –Susan Price
Harley Radcliffe
- 06th –Steven Best
- 07th –Cherith Franklin

- 15th –Daniel Snyder
- 16th –Don Wyatt
- 17th –Patricia Guthrie
- 28th –Gayle Stanfill
Catherine Vaughn

*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/>



MAY 2022 PRAYER CALENDAR



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<p>1 2 Corinthians 3:12-18</p> <p>Pastor & Teachers Sarah Adams Gerald Allinson Alex & Cathy Arellano</p>	<p>2 Matthew 8:5-13</p> <p>Candice Arellano Molly Arellano Donna Ayres Elaine Azevedo</p>	<p>3 Jeremiah 4:14-18</p> <p>Ben & Jen Baker Ken Barklow Don & Pat Benton Wanda Bollinger</p>	<p>4 Daniel 1:1-15</p> <p>Pauline Bert Michael Best Earleen Cadruvi & Fam. Ron Cadruvi & Fam.</p>	<p>5 2 Corinthians 9:6-11</p> <p>Phyllis Caudle Linda Carter & Ivy Ashley Cooksey & Fam. Naomi Covey</p>	<p>6 Ephesians 4:17-28</p> <p>Arlene Cupp Charlotte DeHart Chuck & Wendla Dyer & Family</p>	<p>7 Job 38:1-11</p> <p>Jim & Sue Eikenberry Zac Fear Pam Franklin & Cherith Franklin</p>
<p>8 Luke 18:15-17</p> <p>Pastor & Teachers Kerby & Heather Frantz Lyndall & Lois Frantz Lloyd Fullmer Jerry Goodman</p>	<p>9 Isaiah 53:1-5</p> <p>Thomas & Patricia Guthrie Harold Harger Clark Hartman Jack & Rosetta Hartsfield</p>	<p>10 Deuteronomy 15:7-11</p> <p>Marvene Hilkey Ryan & Kelly Henry & Fam. David & Evelyn Hurlbut Kevin & Deborah Hurlbut & Family</p>	<p>11 Luke 15:8-10</p> <p>Jay Irizarry Randy & Teri Johnson & Family Sheryle Knott & Fam.</p>	<p>12 Isaiah 43:16-21</p> <p>Eunice Lasater Mary Lou Lee David & Cheryl Leib JoAnn Lusk</p>	<p>13 Luke 10:1-12</p> <p>Norma Lutes Gerri Masellis Ric Mason Stacy Nelson</p>	<p>14 Psalm 116:1-9</p> <p>Suzanne Neptune Kelly Olsson Clifford Parker Brad Parrish & Family</p>
<p>15 Matthew 3:1-12</p> <p>Pastor & Teachers Tommy Parrish Daymon & Sarah Peterson & Family</p>	<p>16 John 14:23-27</p> <p>Dennis Peterson Oscar Phan Jason & Kirsten Piazza & Family</p>	<p>17 1 John 3:1-3</p> <p>Skip & Kathleen Powell Jeff Price Jeremy & Erica Price & Fam.</p>	<p>18 1 Samuel 16:1-13</p> <p>Joel & Susan Price & Family John & Kathy Price Nathan & Kim Price & Family</p>	<p>19 Exodus 13:17-22</p> <p>Kay Qualls Mike & Laura Radcliffe & Family Mary Rariden</p>	<p>20 Matthew 22:34-40</p> <p>Charlotte Rice & Fam. Lana Royer Keith Shafer Vance & Maria Shafer</p>	<p>21 Psalm 91:9-16</p> <p>Vern & Patty Shafer Troy & Joy Slaybaugh & Fam. Marilyn Snider</p>
<p>22 Exodus 2:1-10</p> <p>Pastor & Teachers Tony & Laura Snyder & Family Gayle Stanfill Glenn Stanford</p>	<p>23 John 14:15-21</p> <p>J.J. & Soleena Storne & Family Veronica Suderman & Family</p>	<p>24 Psalm 61:1-8</p> <p>Arthur Syverson Mark & Amber Syverson & Family Mike Syverson</p>	<p>25 Exodus 17:10-13</p> <p>Natasha Towe Carolyn Trent John & Sue Vacca</p>	<p>26 Psalm 37:1-6</p> <p>Tim & Catherine Vaughn & Family Linda Ward & Fam.</p>	<p>27 Job 1:13-22</p> <p>Roger & Cynthia Welch & Family Josh & Heather Winchester & Fam.</p>	<p>28 1 Samuel 17:24-37</p> <p>Derek Wyatt Don & Susan Wyatt Donny & Errica Wyatt</p>
<p>29 Nehemiah 8:9-12</p> <p>Pastor & Teachers</p>	<p>30 Mark 13:28-31</p>	<p>31 1 Peter 5:6-11</p>				















PRAYER
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**MAY 2022
ACTIVITIES CALENDAR**



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	4  8:00 am Government Commodities Distribution	5  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	6 5:00pm Friday Fellowship To Be Announced	7 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 9:00am-2:00pm
8  Mother's Day	9	10  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	11	12  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	13	14 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 9:00am-2:00pm
15	16	17  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon 1:00pm Women's Fellowship Mtg.	18	19  4:15pm Fellowship Singers 6:00pm Board Meeting	20 5:00pm Friday Fellowship To Be Announced	21 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 9:00am-2:00pm
22 Parents Day Celebration	23	24  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	25	26  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	27	28 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 9:00am-2:00pm
29	30  Memorial Day Church Office Will Be Closed	31  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon				

EVERY SUNDAY

9:45am Sunday School

10:45am Informal Worship

11:00am Worship Hour