



Women's Fellowship: The next meeting is Tuesday, September 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's Fellowship	1 st and 3 rd Fridays	1:00 p.m.
Women's Fellowship	3rd Tuesday	1:00 p.m.
Emergency Food Bank	Tuesday	9:00 a.m.

The Mirror – September 2023

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



Empire Church
of the Brethren

P.O. Box 215

Empire, CA 95319

Phone: 209-522-4302

Pastor John Price: (209) 480-2778

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 – Health & Life Issues

Pam Franklin – Vertigo

Evelyn Hurlbut – Strength

David Leib – Strength

Dennis Peterson – In Rehab

Glenn Stanford – Strength

COVID – Among Us



RESOURCE OF HOPE

This month I have a prayer for you from the book 365 Days of Prayer for Men entitled, "Resource of Hope". The scripture for this prayer is from 1 Thessalonians 5:11, "Encourage the hearts of your fellow believers and support one another, just as you have already been doing."

And here is the prayer:

Father, I desire to be an encourager to others, someone who instills the courage to continue down this path of faith. Help me to be a support to the burdens of other people so they are more able to stand firm in their faith. Fill me with the wisdom and compassion of the Holy Spirit to be a beacon of hope to people around me; to be someone with whom others enjoy approaching and interacting.

I sometimes become too distracted with my own thoughts, feelings and burdens and I become closed off to others. Loosen me up and help me to remain open to people, both to share myself and welcome their interaction. Father, shine your light through me so you will be greatly glorified on the day of your Appearing.

In Jesus Name We Pray, Amen!

Application: How can we instill hope in others?

May we all be encouragers and feel encouraged as we do because we have Jesus, the best example of an encourager there is!

BRETHREN BITS

We have a Brethren Disaster Ministries rebuilding update from Paradise, California in the Summer Issue of Brethren Disaster Ministries newsletter. The article reads, “During the week of Feb. 26-March 4, 2023, the Pacific Southwest District (PSWD) provided seven volunteers to work on four homes in Paradise, California. They work in partnership with Mennonite Disaster Service which has been working in the area for years, providing leadership and volunteers. This area was devastated by the Camp Fire in 2018, considered California’s deadliest and most destructive fire, in which 88 people died. The PSWD team completed various rebuilding tasks but they were also impacted by a serious snowstorm. Proving that flexibility is required on any job site, their tasks included shoveling over a foot of snow so that sub-contractors could get into a home. They also had to cut short their week of work.

Please be in prayer for the teams that will go to continue work in Kentucky for a second project for ten weeks, scheduled from September 10 through the week before Thanksgiving. They are helping the people that had heavy rain, flash flooding, and devastating river flooding to eastern Kentucky and the surrounding areas. Some of these areas received rainfall of 4 inches an hour and totaled over 10 inches in two days, claiming the lives of 39 residents, with over 13,000 families applying for assistance from FEMA.

Please also be in prayer for the upcoming Disaster Response Auction on September 22nd & 23rd by the Atlantic Northeast and Southern Pennsylvania districts at the Lebanon Valley Expo Center in Lebanon, Pennsylvania. Brethren Disaster Ministries benefits from the proceeds of these auctions, and greatly helps them continue the work they are doing to serve others in their greatest times of need. Thank you for your prayer support for all that they are doing for Jesus!



PRAYER OF THE MONTH



Jigsaw Puzzle Piece Prayer

This month our prayer requires a tool to help conceptualize the idea. Please grab a puzzle piece of any kind and pray in the following manner.

1. **Hold the puzzle piece in your hand and pray for yourself.** Ask God to help you with any need you may have. Thank Him for the good things He is doing and has provided in your life. Ask Him to help you see the big picture of the plan He has for you and your life.
2. **Look at the parts of your piece that reach outwards.** Say a prayer for people who reach out to help and show love to others. Thank God for the people who take the time to help and show love to you.
3. **Look at the parts of your piece that have spaces waiting to be filled.** Pray for people who have lost something or someone, or who feel they have something missing in their lives. Ask God to help them to know they are loved by Him.

4. **While looking at your piece, think of the pieces that are difficult to put together.** At this time pray for people who find it hard to fit in, people who have moved to a new place, people who feel they are all alone, or people who may be struggling with something. Pray that they find peace in Jesus, comfort in Jesus, and happiness, in the midst of their struggle.
5. **Lastly, hold your piece and think of someone from your community, your friends or family that you would like to pray for.** Thank God for the person that He has connected you with, and ask God to bless and help them in His mighty way!

WORDS TO LIVE BY

(Positive Thoughts for positive living . . . wit and wisdom from rural America)

We are all faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as impossible situations.



FUNNY TEACHER STORIES

Found on Reader's Digest website



ROCK ME, AMADEUS

Performing Mozart should have been the highlight of my middle school chorus class. But after a few uninspired attempts, an exasperated student raised her hand and said, "Mrs. Willis, we want to sing music from our generation, not yours." *Submitted by Wendy Willis*

LOST IN TRANSLATION

To my German-language students, I'm "Frau Draper". One girl gave me a badge she'd made with my name on it. Unfortunately, it wasn't big enough to include my entire name, which meant that she presented me with a badge that read FRAUD. *Submitted by Cathleen Draper*

WHY WASTE PAPER

I recently asked a student where his homework was. He replied, "It's still in my pencil." *Submitted by Larry Timmons*

MONEY LAUNDERING

"Don't do that, "I said when one of my first graders playfully draped a bank note over his eyes. "Money is full of germs." "It is?" he asked. "Yes, it's very dirty."

He thought about it a moment. "Is that why they call people who have lot of it "filthy rich?" *Submitted by Elizabeth Webber*

ME, MYSELF, AND HIM

Jimmy had trouble figuring out when to use "I" instead of "me". Then one day, while creating a sentence in front of the first-grade class, Jimmy haltingly said, "I . . . I . . . I shut the door." Realizing that he was right, he jumped up and down and shouted, "Me did it!" *Submitted by Susan Williams*

DRIVEN CRAZY

During the driver's education class that my friend taught, a student approached a right turn. "Use your turn signal," my friend reminded her. "No-one's coming," said the student "It doesn't matter. It might help those behind you." Chastened, the student turned around to the students in the back seat and said, "I'm turning right up ahead." *Submitted by Joseph Wagner*

HEY, YOU!

My sixth-grade class would not leave me alone for a second. It was a constant stream of "Ms. Osborn?" "Ms. Osborn?" "Ms. Osborn?"

Fed up, I said firmly, "Do you think we could go for just five minutes without anyone saying 'Ms. Osborn'?"

The classroom got quiet. Then, from the back, a soft voice said, "Um . . . Cyndi?" *Submitted by Cyndi Osborn*

FLUENT IN ENGLISH

Our assistant principal called in one of my underperforming "Introduction to Spanish" pupils to ask why he was having such trouble with the subject.

"I don't know. I just don't understand Ms. Behr," the boy said. "It's like she's speaking another language." *Submitted by Marcia Behr*

FIGURE OF SPEECH

After a colleague had finished his English lecture and his class had filed out, a student stayed behind to confront him.

"I don't appreciate being singled out," he told his teacher.

The teacher was confused. "What do you mean?"

"I don't know what the 'oxy' part means, but I know what a 'moron' is, and you looked straight at me when you said it." *Submitted by Jannie Smith*

ARTIST'S RENDITION

I assigned my third-grade class the task of drawing one of Christopher Columbus's three ships. I had no sooner sat down when a boy came up with his paper, which had a lone dot in the middle.

"What's that?" I asked.

He replied, "That's Columbus, way out to sea." *Submitted by Dale Barrett*

SENIOR MOMENT

Halfway through the semester, I discovered that a student was retaking my course, even though he'd gotten an A- the first time through. When I asked him why, he had no recollection of having taken the class before.

"But you know," he said, after mulling it over, "I thought some of this seemed familiar. I just couldn't remember where I'd heard it before." *Submitted by Lawanna Lancaster*



JULY 2023 STATISTICS

Average Attendance: 19

Giving:

Local:	\$3,979.00
Sunday School:	0
Youth:	0
Messenger:	0
Mariners:	0
Other:	50.00
Total:	\$4,029.00



DATES TO REMEMBER SEPTEMBER



ANNIVERSARIES

29th –John & Sue Vacca

15th –Eric Arellano
David Leib

BIRTHDAYS

02nd –Braydon Snyder

03rd –Sarah Adams

06th –Michael Azevedo

07th –Dakota Radcliffe

13th –Gerald Allinson

16th –Tony Snyder

19th –Elsha Hartman

20th –Amy Best

23rd –Kim Price

26th –Kirsten Piazza

Keith Shafer

30th –Quiana Becerra

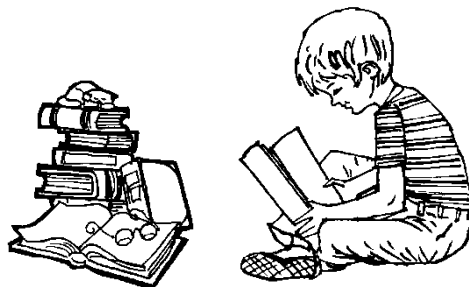
*If we have missed wishing you a happy birthday or a happy anniversary, we may not have your dates.
Please turn in your name and dates to the church secretary.
You are important to us!*

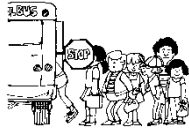
OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA ADDRESSES:

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

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

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





SEPTEMBER 2023 PRAYER CALENDAR

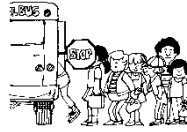


S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1 Habakkuk 3:16-19 Sarah Adams Gerald Allinson Alex & Cathy Arellano	2 Psalm 119:65-68 Candice Arellano Molly Arellano Donna Ayres Elaine Azevedo
3 Ephesians 5:8-20 Pastor & Teachers Ben & Jen Baker Ken Barklow Don & Pat Benton Wanda Bollinger	4 1 Peter 5:1-11 Pauline Bert Michael Best Earleen Cadruvi & Fam. Ron Cadruvi & Fam.	5 1 John 4:12-16 Phyllis Caudle Linda Carter & Ivy Ashley Cooksey & Fam.	6 James 1:2-8 Arlene Cupp Charlotte DeHart Chuck & Wendla Dyer & Family	7 John 14:15-27 Jim & Sue Eikenberry Zac Fear Pam Franklin & Cherith Franklin	8 Genesis 22:1-19 Kenny Fox Kerby & Heather Frantz Lyndall & Lois Frantz Lloyd Fuller	9 Mark 4:35-41 Jerry Goodman Thomas & Patricia Guthrie Clark Hartman Jack & Rosetta Hartsfield
10 Genesis 1:20-31 Pastor & Teachers Ryan & Kelly Heiny & Fam. David & Evelyn Hurlbut Kevin & Deborah Hurlbut & Family	11 Psalm 29:1-11 Jay Irizarry Randy & Teri Johnson & Family Sheryle Knott & Fam.	12 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Mary Lou Lee David & Cheryl Leib Norma Lutes	13 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Gerri Masellis Ric Mason Stacy Nelson Suzanne Neptune	14 Romans 12:9-16 Kelly Olsson Clifford Parker Brad Parrish & Family	15 Matthew 6:25-34 Tommie Parrish Daymon & Sarah Peterson & Family	16 Psalm 19:7-14 Dennis Peterson Oscar Phan Jason & Kirsten Piazza & Family
17 Romans 1:8-12 Pastor & Teachers Skip & Kathleen Powell Jeff Price	18 Psalm 3:1-8 Jeremy & Erica Price & Fam. Joel & Susan Price & Family John Price	19 Luke 6:12-16 Jonah & Morgan Price Nathan & Kim Price & Family Kay Qualls	20 Psalm 119:105-112 Mike & Laura Radcliffe & Family Mary Rariden Charlotte Rice & Fam.	21 Mark 9:38-41 Lana Royer Keith Shafer Vance & Maria Shafer Vern & Patty Shafer	22 Luke 13:10-13 Troy & Joy Slaybaugh & Fam. Marilyn Snider Tony & Laura Snyder & Family	23 Colossians 3:15-17 Gayle Stanfill Glenn Stanford J.J. & Soleena Storne & Family
24 John 6:25-40 Pastor & Teachers Veronica Suderman & Family Arthur Syverson	25 Psalm 121:1-8 Mark & Amber Syverson & Family Mike Syverson Natasha Towe Carolyn Trent	26 John 20:19-23 John & Sue Vacca & Sons Tim & Catherine Vaughn & Family Linda Ward & Fam.	27 Psalm 46:1-11 Roger & Cynthia Welch & Family Josh & Heather Winchester & Fam.	28 Exodus 16:1-16 Derek Wyatt Don & Susan Wyatt Donny & Errica Wyatt	29 Psalm 145:13-21	30 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

















PRAYER
The world's greatest wireless connection





SEPTEMBER 2023 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



M	T	W	T	F	S	
				1	2 HEAVEN'S BOUNTY THRIFT SHOP 9:00am-2:00pm	
3	4  Labor Day Church Office Will Be Closed	5  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	6  8:00 am Government Commodities Distribution	7  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	8 ALL CHURCH FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP 11:30am-2:30pm at the Church	9
10  Coffee Hour	11	12  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	13	14  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	15 Friday's Fellowship 5:00pm Golden Bowl Hughson	16
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  First Day Of Autumn
24  Sunday Luncheon	25	26  EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY 9:00am-Noon	27	28  4:15pm Fellowship Singers	29  Shed Work Day 9:00am-12:00pm	30

EVERY SUNDAY

- 9:45am Sunday School
- 10:45am Informal Worship
- 11:00am Worship Hour