

June 12, 2020

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- Join Jeanette in giving thanks that Ken was able to come home from Green Hills today! They are both very pleased to have him at home - especially as today is their 68th anniversary! Give thanks that he'll be able to receive some therapy at home and pray for a smooth transition.
- Remember Janet W. in prayer as she receives radiation over the next few weeks. Pray also for Suzanne Hostetlrx, Jan's neighbor, who is undergoing chemo treatments. May our healing God provide strength and restoration to each of them.
- Pray for a smooth transition for Bill and Carole as they sell remaining inventory in their building (which is now sold), and sort, clean, and store other items.
- Pray that a buyer would be found for Jason and Lila's house in Illinois.
- Give thanks for the birth of Liam Daniel, grandson of Cheryl and Ken Shxnk, born June 12. Esther and Stewart Nafzigxr are Liam's parents. Everyone is doing well!
- Jeanie Swxrtz's brother, Don, will have surgery on his leg this Tuesday. (He had a tumor removed from this leg last May.) Jeanie and Heidi are planning to go to Florida to visit him the week of June 21st. The lung that Don had radiation on this spring is clear of cancer, but there are now spots on his other lung. He will be getting treatment for those lung spots when he has recovered more from the surgery on his leg. Pray for Don, Heidi and Jeanie in the coming days.
- We remember again, with gratitude, the lives of Chuck Swxrtz and Art Newcomxr as we mark one year since their deaths (June 6 and 15 respectively). We offer thanks to God for their contributions to Bethel Church and the local community, and their faithfulness to God's call on their lives. We pray for Jeanie and Mary as they continue to grieve and adjust to their loss.
- Praise God for a collaborative response by 12 Anabaptist mission and service agencies to mitigate the suffering caused by Covid-19 in countries with limited resources. Pray that God's love will shine through this sharing.
- *"... if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."* (2 Chronicles 7:14). We continue to lament the senseless deaths of black and brown people, and pray God's victory over the principalities and powers of racism, fear, violence and systemic injustices. We pray for courage to use our words, our presence and power to promote shalom for all people.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sundays at 11:00 am - **Sharing and prayer time**. This is an opportunity to connect with each other as a group for 40-50 minutes. The format offers time to share news from your life, comment on the worship materials or other reflections, to share joys, struggles, and prayer requests. We conclude with a simple time of guided prayer. There is no obligation to talk; your listening presence is welcome. We use GoToMeeting, and you can join online or by simply calling in. *Let Rebecca know if you need assistance or have questions.*

The results of the vote taken earlier this week are: 40 yes, 1 no. Thank you for your participation in the decision-making process (whether in person or through other means).

Rebecca plans to use next Thursday 18th as a silent retreat day. This is designed as time for her to reflect on ministry, pray, plan, and be attentive to God's voice. Leave a message or email and she will get back to you as soon as possible.

Thursday 18th, 7:00 pm - Gifts Discernment Committee meeting.

The Elder Leadership Team is in the process of making plans to gather for worship beginning July 5. Stay tuned for details!

In response to recent deaths and violence, read a passionate plea for us, as a "historic peace church", to be unified around who we are as transformative peacemakers, written by Glen Guytn, Executive Director of Mennonite Church USA, [We need to engage in more costly peacemaking](#). "... for many of you in MC USA, your race is not a barrier but rather an advantage you can use to dismantle racial injustice in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We need your voice. We need to #BringthePeace."

An invitation to give: We received this note from Regional Pastor Ralph Reinfxrd: Canton Mennonite church has invested in its local community through its Lighthouse Ministries since 1996. Lighthouse strives to walk alongside the youth in the southeast Canton community by offering safe, high-quality, and holistic opportunities to assist them in understanding their God-given giftedness and potential for impacting the world around them. Many of their families live on the margins and can use additional help during this time of Coronavirus unemployment. You are welcome to contribute from now until Sept. 1 to our neighbors in Canton. Checks can be written to First Mennonite Church (1935 Third St. SE, Canton OH 44707) or give online at cantonfirstmennonite.org/give, earmarked "Stimulus Jubilee." Check out this vibrant ministry at <https://cantonlighthouse.org>

MCC invites you to a free webinar series on immigration and border realities. Join Mennonite Central Committee staff and partners in the field who will provide insight into the current reality of the U.S. immigration and border crisis. For more information and to register, visit mcc.org/immigration-webinar-series. The next webinar session, "MCC's Migration work in Mexico & Central America" is June 16 at 2:00 pm EST.



Birthdays this week: June 18 KJ Schrxck

Anniversaries: June 16, 1990 Tim & Pam Lehmxn

Pastoral Care Person this week: Michelle Lxnk