

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- Give thanks for the healing Shirley Kxng has experienced, and that she is able to return home this weekend. Remember in prayer others you know who are experiencing health struggles.
- Give thanks for the work that has been done to renovate the Potter's House! As we continue to move towards opening it as a Guest House ministry, pray for the task group that is putting the details together, and for future guests!
- Be in prayer for Bethel's renovation project. Give thanks for the skills of the workers and pray for their safety and health. Praise God for this opportunity to improve access to our building, and pray God will use it - and us - to serve our community.
- Pray for local, state, national, and global leaders, that they would make wise decisions, speak the truth, and reject selfish ambition.
- We pray God would provide safety and wisdom to Deb Bylxx as she begins to travel a bit again, supporting women in Guatemala. We pray for pastors and other leaders of the Kekchi Mennnonite congregations, that they would be able to balance expectations about ministry with their own health and wellbeing, in light of Covid-19. Praise God for the funds that were raised so that the church can provide food for widows and widowers.
- Christian Peacemaker Teams invites us to pray for the country of Columbia, where 16 young people were massacred last week. We pray for an end to the violence; that the church would courageously work for peace and justice, and that people and communities can experience healing.

"You might quiet the whole world for a second if you pray.
And if you love, if you really love, our guns will wilt."

San Juxn de la Crxz

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Bethel Mennonite Church

"Serving Jesus, Loving Others"

Vol. 62

August 23, 2020

No. 34

Reconciliation is the Center of our Work

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp – Isaiah 55:12 (Voice)

For you will go out in joy, be led home in peace.

And as you go the land itself will break out in cheers;

The mountains and the hills will erupt in song,
and the trees of the field will clap their hands.

Prelude

Welcome

Call to worship: based on Psalm 148

Leader: Praise the Lord! Let the sun, moon, and stars sing praises.

Mountains, hills, fruit trees, and cedars.

Wild animals and all cattle, birds that fly and creeping things.

All: Praise and bless God forever!

Leader: Let them all praise the name of the Lord,
for the Lord commanded and they were created.

All: Praise and bless God forever!

Leader: Praise the Lord! Kings, princes, and all rulers of the earth.

Men and women, young and old alike.

Let them all praise the Lord, for his name is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.

All: Praise and bless God forever!

Congregational song: Let the whole creation cry – H #51

Offering prayer

A virtual nature walk

Scripture: Genesis 1:27-31; 2:15; and Romans 8:18-25

Message: Reflections on being reconciled with creation

Response song: This is God's wondrous world – H #154

Words of intention and promise:

As Christians united with Christ,

We are called to participate in God's reconciling work in our world.

We offer ourselves as servants of God's peace,

who will listen with the ears and heart of God,

speak God's forgiveness, mercy, justice, and grace,

lead with God's strong yet tender compassion,

and reflect God's steadfast love and kindness.

Sharing: reflections on the scripture, joys, requests, thanksgivings

Intercessory prayer

Sending song: The heavens are telling

Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Daily Bread. Wednesday Kim will be serving the carry out meals. No one else is needed to serve meals. Please bring cookies to the church by noon on Wednesday, August 26. Thanks!

Wed., August 26, 6:00-7:00 pm, at *Bethel church*. Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism by Drew Hxrt. If you are participating, we'll be discussing chapter 8.

Grief Share, grief support groups. Aug. 24-Nov.16. **In-person** sessions held Mondays, Aug. 24-Nov. 16 at 10:00 a.m. or Tuesdays, Aug 25-Nov.17 at 6:30 p.m.at West Liberty United Methodist Church, 202 W. Newell St., West Liberty. **Zoom** meetings Mondays Aug. 24-Nov. 16 at 6:30 p.m. Call Gene Farlxy for the access code. For more info call 937-441-3592*

Bethel's Covid-19 Response: Thank you for continuing to wear masks, wash hands, keep distance, and self-quarantine as needed - these are essential actions for the health of our congregation and community!

September is our month to staff the **West Liberty Cares Food Pantry**. Distribution days have been on Wednesdays. Volunteers are needed to carry out this ministry! Check out the sign-up sheet in the foyer for the exact times on various Wednesdays.*

Mennonite Central Committee is accepting donations to support people in need of food and other assistance in Beirut, Lebanon. A massive explosion on Aug. 4 destroyed the country's main port and silos filled with grain and worsened an existing economic crisis. You can donate online at mcc.org/beirut-response, by calling (888) 563-4676 or by sending a check earmarked for "Beirut response" to MCC, 21 S. 12th St., Akron PA 17501

*Look for more info on the bulletin board.

THIS WEEK

TODAY

9:00 a.m. – Worship. Mary N., Barb & Byron K., Mark T., speakers.

WEDNESDAY

4:15 p.m. – Our Daily Bread

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. – *Trouble I've Seen* book study.

At *Bethel* or by Zoom

NEXT SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. – Worship. Speaker, Rebecca Kauffmxn

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Michelle Lxnk

LAST WEEK

Worship attendance 33

*Your generosity empowers our collective work for
God's kingdom purposes. Thanks.*

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

This Week – August 23

Worship leader: Kathy Lehmxn

Music leader: Byron Kauffmxn

Speakers: Mary N, Barb & Byron K,

Mark T., nature walk: Miriam

Greeters: Carl & Elaine Newcomxr

Sound: Ken Shxnk

Media: Andrew Bloxnt

Prelude: Elaine Newcomxr

Next Week – August 30

Worship leader: Kim Lehmxn

Music leader: Carl Newcomxr

Speaker: Rebecca Kauffmxn

Greeters: Carole & Bill Barrxtt

Sound: Andrew Bloxnt

Media: Andrew Bloxnt

Prelude: Ellen Steinxr