

## PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- Pray that God would comfort those who are grieving the recent death of a loved one.
- Pray for those who are facing difficult or significant decisions, whether that be related to employment, housing, the health of themselves or a loved one, a relationship, etc. May we be guided by God's wisdom, mercy, and hope.
- Thank you for your prayers for Ella Mae & Lowell Kauffman as they adjust to her living at Green Hills Care Center. May God grant her patience, comfort, and friendships in this time of transition. Pray for Lowell, Mark, Janet, and Susie as they walk with and support her through this time.
- Pray for the many people affected by the wildfires in the Los Angeles area. Pray especially for those people who have less capacity for rebuilding. May God grant wisdom to public officials and people of faith as they continue to respond to the crisis.
- Deb Byler, a retired mission worker whom Bethel supported, celebrates her birthday this week. Pray for Deb as she provides instruction to students in the Doctor of Ministry program at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (Elkhart), and continues to mentor female Guatemalan church leaders.
- Pray that the ceasefire agreement between Israel and Hamas will be implemented in good faith from all sides.

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**Office hours:** T & F 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.,  
W & Th 1:00-5:00 p.m. or by appointment  
**Office Assistant:** Twila Wilkins  
**Leadership Team:** Elaine Newcomer, Carol Buck, Ed Holliday,  
Jeanie Swartz

# Bethel Mennonite Church

*“Serving Jesus, Loving Others”*

Vol. 67

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No. 4

*Renewal through Trust & Yielding to One Another*

## Announcements

### Lighting the Peace Lamp:

I will lie down and fall asleep in peace  
because you alone, Lord, let me live in safety. Psalm 4:8 (CEB)

### Call to worship

Hymns: Come, now is the time to worship – VT #29

Jesus Calls Us – VT #30

Scripture reading: Romans 12:1-5 (NIV)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy,  
to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God –  
this is your true and proper worship.

**Do not conform to the pattern of this world,  
but be transformed by the renewing of your minds.  
Then you will be able to test and discern what God's will is –  
his good, pleasing and perfect will.**

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you:  
Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought,

**but rather think of yourself with sober judgment,  
in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.**

For just as each of us has one body with many members,  
and these members do not all have the same function,

**so in Christ we, though many, form one body,  
and each member belongs to all the others.**

Offering & prayer

Scripture: Acts 2:41-47

Message: Renewal Through Cooperative Living

Hymn of response: Will You Let Me Be Your Servant – VT #778

Sharing: reflections on the scripture, joys, requests, testimony  
Intercessory prayer

Sending hymn: Blest Be the Tie that Binds – VT #831

Benediction

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have not yet **received a Star Word**, you are welcome to pick one up today (from the communion table). Thank you to Brenda for creating them for us, and for praying over each one.

**Thank you from MCC:** Thank you, Bethel congregation, for your generous donation of \$1,695 during 2024. And thanks to Women Serving in Love and all who contributed to material resources. Through WSIL, we sent: 17 comforters, 149 hygiene kits, 13 relief kits, 9 infant care kits, & 80 school kits! We are so grateful for your support for the work of MCC and our partners around the world.

**Save the Date:** Ohio Conference's Annual Conference Assembly (ACA) will take place March 7-8, 2025, at Berlin Mennonite Church. The theme is *Foundation to Future*. Guest speakers are John D. Roth and Shannon Dycus. All are invited! More information coming soon.

**Five Centuries, Five Lectures:** The Shenandoah Mennonite Historians has organized a series of 5 lectures. Each one will describe the social and religious context of Anabaptist & Mennonite history in a particular century. The first lecture is by John D. Roth focusing on the 1500s. These hour-long live presentations will take place at 7 pm for 5 Thursdays, beginning January 30<sup>th</sup>. They can be viewed online; find more info and links at [MennoniteArchivesofVirginia - Home](#). If you are interested in watching any of these as a group at church, let Rebecca or Janet know.

**Mennonite Arts Weekend** will take place February 7-9, 2025, in Cincinnati, Ohio. This weekend celebrates the creativity and discipline of Anabaptist / Mennonite artists. Presentations by musicians, visual artists, writers, and craftspeople start on Friday evening and conclude with Sunday morning worship. Find the list of presenters and registration and location information at <https://mennoniteartsweekend.org>.

## THIS WEEK

### TODAY

**9:30 a.m.** – Sunday school

**10:30 a.m.** – Worship: Speaker, Pastor Rebecca

### WEDNESDAY

**10 a.m.** – Bible Reading (led by Cheryl this week)

### SATURDAY

**8 a.m.** – Men's breakfast at Liberty Gathering Place

### NEXT SUNDAY

**9:30 a.m.** – Sunday school

**10:30 a.m.** – Worship; speaker, Pastor Rebecca

Scriptures: I Corinthians 12:21-26; 14:26-31

**PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK:** Carl Newcomer, 937-465-3366

## LAST WEEK

Worship: 26

Sunday school: 10

General Fund: \$612.00

WL Cares: \$100.00

*Your generosity empowers our collective work for God's kingdom purposes. Thank you!*

### OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

This Week – January 26

Worship leader: Elaine Newcomer

Music leader: Janet Wilkins

Speaker: Rebecca Kauffman

Greeter: Linda Hostetler

Sound: Lori Lehman

Musicians: Anne Y. & Nate Y.

Next Sunday – February 2

Worship leader: Brenda M.

Music leader: Carl Newcomer

Speaker: Rebecca Kauffman

Greeter: Mary Newcomer

Sound: Andrew Blount