



Bethel Mennonite Church

“Jesus compels us to experience and extend the gracious rule of God by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Vol. 56 December 21, 2014 No. 51

Advent IV – “Oh, that you would reveal your joy”

Preparing

By praying together

Infant Nursery @ 8:45a.m.

Gathering

Welcome

Doug Steiner

Prelude

Bell Choir

Call to Worship *(see back page)* & Silence

Words of Confession *(see back page)* & Silence

Hymn of Response STS #10 “Come Walk in the Light”

Words of Assurance

Leader: The Lord, has done great things in and through his church, and has bestowed rich blessings on us, his Anabaptist people.

People: When we place our lives into your hands, O God, you willingly transform our timid hearts with your infectious joy.

Gathering Hymns

Carl Newcomer

Proclaiming

Children’s Drama “Joy... of the Heavenly Host” Beth Maurer

Advent Candle Lighting

Scripture – Luke 2:8-15 & Psalm 126

Message “Reveal Your Joy”

Pastor Dave Maurer

Praising

With our offerings & Offertory

Pat Yoder

With Choruses

Annie Steiner and Team

Sharing

Of our joy

Pastor Dave Maurer

Pastoral Prayer

Sending

Benediction

Pastor Dave

Sending hymn

LAST WEEK

Sunday School 55

Worship Attendance 91

Your generosity empowers our collective work for God’s kingdom purposes. Thanks!

OUR THANKS TO

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Barb Kauffman

NURSERY:

Today: Kim Lehman

Next week: Tara Sanford

GREETERS:

Today: Chuck & Carol Buck

Next week: Chuck & Carol Buck

SOUND OPERATOR:

Today: Mark Kauffman

Next week: Larry Evans

MEDIA OPERATOR:

Today: Savannah Hostetler

Next week: Annie Steiner

Bethel Mennonite Church

465-4587

P.O. Box 549, 416 Washington Street

www.bethelchurchwl.org

West Liberty, OH 43357

Pastor: Dave Maurer (pastor@bethelchurchwl.org)

Office hours: T & Th 9-11:30a; Wed & Fri 9:30-Noon & 1:30-4:30p

Youth Pastor: Cheryl Shank (youthpastor@bethelchurchwl.org)

Administrative Assistant: Tesa Jordan (secretary@bethelchurchwl.org)

Office Hours: Wed & Fri 9am-5pm

Elders: Carl Newcomer, Dick Lindemer

Pastoral Care Team: Barb Landes, Barb Kauffman, Barb Evans, Dick Lindemer

Sharon Showalter, Carl Newcomer, Mark Thomas, Chuck Swartz

Tech Coordinator: Todd Hostetler

TODAY – Advent IV

9:00 a.m. – Christmas Breakfast

9:30 a.m. — Sunday School (optional)

10:40 a.m. — Worship Service

4:00 p.m. – Christmas Caroling

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m.—Christmas Eve Service

THURSDAY

Noon- 2:00 p.m. — Community Christmas Meal

NEXT SUNDAY – Christmas Sunday

9:30 a.m. — Sunday School

10:40 a.m. — Worship Service (Pastor Dave, Luke 2:22-40 & Psalm 148)

LOOKING AHEAD

Join us for our Christmas Eve service at 7 pm Wednesday, December 24th

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weather Cancellation Policy: As a reminder, our winter weather cancellation policy has been posted on the bulletin board. News of cancellations will come through our phone chain, WPKO, and our webpage.

Please submit church directory corrections to Tesa by December 28th. She is putting a sheet together to staple inside the back cover.

Janet Wilkins is still updating subscriptions. If you wish to be on (or removed) these mailing lists, please let her know by January 15th. There are signup sheets on the lobby table where we keep bulletins.

A reminder of a shift in positions as Todd Hostetler finishes his Interim Congregational Chair position Dec. 31st and Dennis Showalter begins as our Congregational Chair on January 1st. Thank you to Todd for stepping in for the past 3 months, and remember Dennis in prayer as he fills this position.

You can still order a Chronological Bible. Check for \$14 made out to Bethel, in Tesa's mailbox. If you ordered your bibles last Sunday, see Tesa after church to pick up your copy.

Mennonite Economic Development Associates is holding a Mennonite Entrepreneurs Conference: A weekend of challenge and reflection for business owners and entrepreneurs. Jan. 29 – Feb. 1, 2015 at The Resort at Longboat Key Club, Sarasota, Florida. Register today! For more information, visit www.meda.org/entrepreneurs

MCC is seeking Location Coordinators for the SWAP program site in Hindman, Ky. The Location Coordinators are responsible to coordinate week-long service opportunities for young people and adults as SWAP works to provide housing repair for low-income individuals and families. For a full job description, visit mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/mcc-swap-location-coordinator-hindman. Those interested should send a letter of intent and current resume to appalachiapc@mcc.org by January 5, 2015.

Update on Matt Vogel and Chuck Godwin, employees of Yoder Aluminum Products – Matt returned to work on 12/9 and is doing well. Chuck has been in Miami Valley hospital after another surgery on his foot. He is doing well but still has a long recovery. The family would appreciate any help they can get with meals. If you are interested in helping, please contact Cindy Horsley at 465-3926, Mon-Fri 8:30-11a.m.

“I Remember Christmas,” a play at the Gloria Theater in Urbana features 11 local players/actors and will take place at 6 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 21st. The play helps people realize “the message of Christmas is not only that God would have us be reconciled with him, but that it’s central to his heart that we be reconciled to each other.” Tickets can be purchased for \$5 at The Depot Coffee House in Urbana and at Coffee Matters in West Liberty.

MDS is requesting a special year end offering for disaster recovery to assist in eight locations that have suffered great losses and are still in need. Tornadoes and storms in the South that destroyed homes, raging rivers in Alaska, Alberta and Colorado have caused flood damage to hundreds of homes as well as the continued efforts to restore those affected by Hurricane Sandy will all be assisted with your generous gift. If you would like to make a contribution, please do so by Jan 4th, make your check out to Bethel Mennonite, and write “MDS Year End” on the memo line.

Thank you to Elam, Maggie & Beth Maurer for their hard work on the Nativity Bulletin Board in our lobby!

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- **Pray for Jerry Lxndes** as he recovers from hip replacement surgery.
- **Pray for Ken Hxstetler** as he recovers from surgery.
- **Pray for Tom Kxng** who is recovering from a car accident on 68.
- **Pray for the young adults** working with Mennonite Mission Network's short-term mission programs, like Mennonite Voluntary Service and Service Adventure, as they go home for the holidays. Pray for safe travels. Pray also for those who will be experiencing Christmas far from their families this year.