



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 28, 2014 No. 52

Christmas Sunday – “Your Beauty Is Revealed”

Preparing

By praying together

Infant Nursery @ 8:45a.m.

Gathering

Welcome

Doug Steiner

Prelude

Kathy Graber

Call to Worship (see back of bulletin)

Gathering Hymns

Carl Newcomer

Proclaiming

Children’s Story

Dena Hostetler

Christ Candle Lighting

Scripture – Luke 2:22-40 & Psalm 148

Message “Reveal Your Beauty”

Pastor Dave Maurer

Special Music “I Remember Christmas”

Tesa Jordan

Praising

With our offerings & Offertory

Ellen Steiner

With Choruses

Bill Barrett and Team

Sharing

Of God’s beauty

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Dave Maurer

Sending

Benediction

Pastor Dave

Sending hymn

LAST WEEK

Sunday School 55

Worship Attendance 88

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

OUR THANKS TO

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Barb Evans

NURSERY:

Today: Tara Sanford

Next week: Carol Buck

GREETERS:

Today: Chuck & Carol Buck

Next week: Larry & Barb Evans

SOUND OPERATOR:

Today: Larry Evans

Next week: Mark Kauffman

MEDIA OPERATOR:

Today: Annie Steiner

Next week: Brody Robinaugh

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 – Christmas Sunday

9:30 a.m. — Sunday School

10:40 a.m. — Worship Service

SATURDAY

8:00 a.m. — Men's Breakfast

Church reserved all day.

NEXT SUNDAY – Epiphany Sunday

9:30 a.m. — Sunday School

10:40 a.m. - Worship Service (Pastor Dave, Mt 2:1-12 & Ps 72:1-7, 10-14)

LOOKING AHEAD

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.

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.

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.

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. Tornados 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.

MEDA 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. For more information, visit www.meda.org/entrepreneurs

Through the Bible in a Year Reflection Questions: as we begin our corporate journey through the Bible this year, here are a few questions to reflect upon in your reading. More may be found at Pastor Dave's blog (<http://thequest.blogspot.com/>). A complete list of daily readings is available from the church office. **January 1-4:**

- What does the creation account tell us about who we are and who God is?
- What does it mean for us to be made in the image of God?
- After six days of work, God rested and in the process modeled Sabbath rest for us. In what ways do you practice Sabbath rest in your own life?
- After the flood, God made a covenant for all generations to come. Along with this God established the rainbow as a sign of the covenant to serve as a reminder for God. What does it mean to you for the God of the universe to create a timeless covenant with all people and to signify that with a visible reminder? Have you ever experienced a visible reminder in a time of need? What was it and why was that significant?
- God placed a call on Abram that took him from all that he knew in order that all peoples on earth might be blessed through him. When has God placed a call on your life and for whom were the blessings of your call intended?
- After dissension arose among their servants, Abram and Lot separated and went to different places. What can we learn about living at peace with one another from this model of conflict resolution?

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- **Pray for the family of Larry Kxrtz** (Kathy Lxhman's brother) who passed away Christmas afternoon after a 6 month battle with brain cancer. His wife's name is Lucie Kurtz. Lucie's mom, Clarimese Alize, who lives in Haiti, also passed away Christmas evening.
- **Pray for Jerry Lxndes** as he recovers from hip replacement surgery.
- **Pray for Tom Kxng** who is recovering from a car accident on 68.