

# Bethel Mennonite Church

*"Serving Jesus, Loving Others"*

Vol. 61

December 15, 2019

No. 50

## We gather to worship

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Because of our God's deep compassion,  
the dawn from heaven will break upon us,  
to give light to those who are sitting in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,  
to guide us on the path of peace.      Luke 1:78-79(CEB)

Welcome and Call to worship (see insert)

Prelude - What Child is this? - by Bell Choir  
& Lighting the Advent candle

## We offer our praises & gifts

Congregational singing

Scripture: Psalm 146:5-10

Offering & offertory - Bell Choir

Congregational singing

## We hear God's Word

Scripture: Isaiah 35:1-10, and Matthew 11:2-6

Message: "Go, tell what you see and hear"

## We respond to Christ's invitation

Song of response

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

Intercessory prayer

## We go to love and serve

Sending song - Silent Night - by Bell Choir

Benediction

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Sunday morning. **Christmas Breakfast 9:30-10:15 a.m.** Worship begins at 10:40 a.m. Please bring breakfast casseroles and breads to share. Fruit will be provided.

Please return the surveys regarding the book study, **The Bible Unwrapped** by today to Ellen.

Carl reports that he built the **coffee cart** in Wes Yodxr's shop and the cart was a joint effort with Wes.

You are invited to consider how you can contribute to Bethel's **capital campaign** to raise funds for the proposed West Entrance Addition building project. A letter of explanation and a pledge form are in you mailboxes.

Are you looking for a unique gift or something new for yourself? Our **MCC Thrift Store** has many Christmas decorations, useful household items, Christmas cards, clothes and more! Shop local and support MCC's international peacebuilding, education and economic development at the same time! Everyone benefits!

**Christmas Community Fellowship meal.** December 25, 12-2p.m. at Yoder Activity Center. Come eat, fellowship and celebrate the Good News with one another! Sign up sheets to donate items or volunteer to help are in the foyer.

## OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

### This Week – December 15

**Worship leader:** Dick Lindemxr

**Musicians:** Janet Wilkxns,  
Ellen Steinxr, Bell choir

**Speaker:** Rebecca Kauffmxn

**Greeters:** Joe & Donna Lehmxn

**Sound/media:** Ken Shxnx

**Prelude:** Bell Choir

**Offertory:** Bell Choir

**Peace Lamp:** Cindy Kauffmxn

### Next Week – December 22

**Worship leader:** Ken Shxnx

**Musicians:** Janet Wilkxns,  
Ellen Steiner, Byron Kauffmxn

**Speaker:** Rebecca Kauffmxn

**Greeters:** Ed & Kim Lehmxn

**Sound/media:** Lori Lehmxn

**Prelude:** Elaine Newcomxr

**Offertory:** Elaine Newcomxr

**Peace Lamp:** Cindy Kauffmxn

## THIS WEEK

### TODAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:40 a.m. – Worship. Rebecca Kauffmxn, speaker.

### TUESDAY

9:15 a.m. – Women's Bible Study

3:30 p.m. – 5:00p.m. – Homework Help

### SATURDAY

8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

### NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 – 10:15 a.m. – Christmas Breakfast

10:40 a.m. – Worship. Rebecca Kauffmxn, speaker.

### CHRISTMAS EVE

6:30 p.m. – Christmas Eve Service

### CHRISTMAS DAY

12-2 p.m. – Community Christmas Meal at Yoder Activity Center

## LAST WEEK

Sunday School 32

Worship Attendance 45

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

**PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK** : Michelle Lxnk (465-3423)

Bethel Mennonite Church 465-4587  
P.O. Box 549, 416 Washington Street [www.bethelchurchwl.org](http://www.bethelchurchwl.org)  
West Liberty, OH 43357  
Pastor: Rebecca Kauffmxn ([Rebecca@bethelchurchwl.org](mailto:Rebecca@bethelchurchwl.org))

**Office hours:** T & F 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.,  
W & Th 1:00-5:00 p.m. or by appointment

**Administrative Assistant:** Miriam Lxpp ([secretary@bethelchurchwl.org](mailto:secretary@bethelchurchwl.org))

**Office Hours:** W and F 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

**Elders:** Elaine Newcomxr, Dick Lindemxr, Carol Bxck, Byron Kauffmxn,  
Doug Steinxr

## **Call to Worship**

**One:** The Lord is our light and our salvation,  
whom shall we fear?

**Many:** The Lord is the stronghold of our life;  
of whom shall we be afraid?

**One:** And yet, oh God, we confess we are afraid.  
We carry many kinds of fear:

**Many:** fear of rejection, of failure; fear of death, of loss;  
fear of one another.

*(Pause for silent prayer.)*

**One:** O Christ, grant us courage. Come and save us!  
We watch and wait for the light  
and power of your presence.

**Many:** Come into our hearts and lives as we worship,  
so that we wait with expectation,  
attentive to all the signs of your coming.

## **PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES**

- Continue to pray for God's healing power to cover and sustain Bill B. Give thanks for the skill of the medical staff. Pray for courage for Carole and their sons in this time of waiting.
- Pray for strength and healing for Cheryl S. as she recovers from hip replacement surgery last Friday. Contact Ken prior to visiting.
- Pray for Alex S. as he awaits word from job interviews. May God open the right doors for his employment. Pray also for Annie and Daniel that they can enjoy rest and rejuvenation during Christmas break.
- Pray for Burkina Faso. When armed protest groups ambush symbols of Western opulence and colonialism, like hotels and gold mines, civilians get caught in the crossfire. May the Mennonite Church show the way to the Prince of Peace through word and deed.