

Bethel Mennonite Church

“Serving Jesus, Loving Others”

Vol. 61

December 8, 2019

No. 49

We gather to worship

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Then justice will dwell in the desert,
his righteousness live in the fertile field.
The fruit of that righteousness will be peace;
its effect will be quietness and confidence forever.
Isaiah 32:16-17 (NIV)

Welcome and Call to worship (see insert)

Prelude & Lighting Advent candle

We offer our praises & gifts

Congregational singing

Scripture: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Offering & offertory

Congregational singing

We hear God’s Word

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10 and James 5:7-10

Message: A Stump, shoots, and the discipline of waiting

We respond to Christ’s invitation

Affirmation of Faith and Commitment (see insert)

Communion

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

Intercessory prayer

We go to love and serve

Sending song

Benediction

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- Pray for Cheryl Shxnk as she will have total hip replacement surgery this Friday in Columbus. Pray she would have calmness and clarity this week as she prepares lesson plans for her students to cover while she is away.
- Remember Lee Jordxn in prayer as he faces a recurrence of cancer. Pray for courage and hope in this time as he and Tesa await his surgery on Dec. 30.
- Pray for Joan Sallxy, neighbor of Bethel and librarian at WL-Salem school, in the unexpected death of her father just before Thanksgiving. May the Holy Spirit provide comfort and strength to her as she grieves this loss.
- Africa Inter Mennonite Mission reports 16 dead, 57 injured and 1600 buildings damaged after torrential rains on November 22 damaged the hospital, churches and schools at the Ndjoko Pundx Mennonite mission station in Democratic Republic of Congo. Pray for members of Congo Mennonite Church as they work at rebuilding efforts and trauma response.

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

This Week – December 8

Worship leader: Doug Steinxr

Musicians: Bill Barrxtt, Janet Wilkxns, Ellen Steinxr

Speaker: Rebecca Kauffmxn

Greeters: Mary Newcomxr

Sound/media: Mark Kauffmxn

Prelude: Bill Barrxtt

Offertory: Ellen Steinxr

Peace Lamp: Cindy Kauffmxn

Next Week – December 15

Worship leader: Dick Lindemxr

Musicians: Janet Wilkxns, Bill Barrxtt, Ellen Steinxr, Bell choir

Speaker: Rebecca Kauffmxn

Greeters: Joe & Donna Lehmxn

Sound/media: Ken Shxnk

Prelude: Ellen Steinxr

Offertory: Bill Barrxtt

Peace Lamp: Cindy Kauffmxn

THIS WEEK

TODAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

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

TUESDAY

9:00 a.m. – Women Serving in Love

3:30 p.m. – 5:00p.m. – Homework Help

WEDNESDAY

10:30 a.m. – Bell choir practice

12:15 p.m. – Peace & Justice Lunch

THURSDAY

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Homework Help

6:00 p.m. – Joint ministry chair meeting

7:00 p.m. – Elder Leadership Team meeting

FRIDAY

10:30 a.m. – Bell choir practice

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

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

LAST WEEK

Sunday School 30

Worship Attendance 56

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

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Dick Lindemxr

Bethel Mennonite Church 465-4587
P.O. Box 549, 416 Washington Street www.bethelchurchwl.org
West Liberty, OH 43357

Pastor: Rebecca Kauffmxn (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)

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women Serving in Love, Tuesday. Jan, Marlene & Donna host the Christmas potluck. Rebecca has devotions. The project is non-perishable foods for WL Cares.

Green Hills is sponsoring a **blood drive** December 11 at 12:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Call 937-650-7117 to make an appointment.

Please return the surveys regarding the book study, **The Bible Unwrapped** by next week, Dec.15.

Thank you to Dick, Nellie and Janet for fashioning the worship visual for this season! Thank you to Carl N. for building the new cabinet for the coffee maker! Thank you to Linda, Mary Jean, and Elaine for choosing new blinds for the fellowship room, and to Dean for installing them. For contributions visible and hidden, we thank each one!

You are invited to begin considering how you can contribute to Bethel's **capital campaign** to raise funds for the West Entrance Addition building project. Next week there will be a pledge card and further information in you mailboxes. Stay tuned!

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!

This year, consider **giving a gift** such as clean water, education, animals or art supplies! Give a gift in honor of a loved one or in someone's name. See the table in the hallway for catalogues from MCC, Heifer International, and MEDA that contain ideas for alternative gifts that change lives and bless in many directions.

Beginning Nov. 25 Goshen College will offer **online weekday devotions** during the season of Advent. Goshen College students, faculty and staff will provide reflections based on the lectionary Scripture passages, focusing on the theme "What are you waiting for?" To learn more, see www.goshen.edu/devotions/

Missions giving totals for November

Gideons: Bibles to Haiti - x

MMN: Guatemala - x

West Liberty Cares: Emergency Fund - x

Call to Worship

One: Watch! Wait! The day of God is at hand!
But what are you waiting for?

**Many: We are here, waiting for God to act.
Wondering when God's righteousness will be
the norm.**

One: What are you waiting for?

**Many: We are waiting for new growth,
for God to bring life from the stump of our
broken world.**

One: Like the bud on a tree,
God's reign is getting ready to bloom.

**Many: We are here. Let us watch and wait together,
with hope and expectation.**

Affirmation of Faith and Commitment

We believe in God, whose love is the source of all life
and whose Spirit sustains and stirs the world.

We believe in Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah,
who gave God's love a human face.

He was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all
and was raised by God, defeating even death.

Therefore, though the journey is long
and we are fearful, impatient and full of doubt,
we commit ourselves to follow Jesus together,
to seek peace with justice, to care for the earth,
and to look for God-with-us in surprising ways.

Amen.