

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- Praise God for his faithfulness and provision for Bethel during our renovation process! Give thanks for the skills and gifts of everyone who contributed in different ways to make the project possible. May the joy of our faith and the wide love of Jesus Christ be evident in our speech and actions as we celebrate and interact with our neighbors this afternoon.
- Kim's brother-in-law, Don Davxs, passed away last Monday. Hold Kim and her sister Kelley in prayer during this experience of loss and grief.
- Praise God for healing experienced by Alejandro (Mark & Polly's neighbor); he is well enough to be back at work now. Continue to pray for God's sustaining love to touch those with health struggles including: Hilda Y. and Mary Kay K. as they receive physical therapy; Lee J., Sam P., Jan Dawsxn, Justin Willxtts, and others you know.
- Praise God for the opportunity Kekchx Mennonite women had to talk about and process painful life experiences during the Trauma Healing Workshop last week. Deb Bylxx reports that, although they had to condense the workshop, "I think this was our best experience so far."
- Pray a blessing on Savannah Hostetlxx (daughter of Todd & Dena) and Austin Lxmb as they join their lives in marriage this Saturday, Aug. 7. Pray for pastor Rebecca as she officiates the wedding ceremony.

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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 Steinxx

Bethel Mennonite Church

"Serving Jesus, Loving Others"

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No. 31

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp:

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. -Romans 15:5

Prelude

Welcome

Gathering song: Come and See – H #20

Prayer for openness (adapted from VT #862)

You who open doors and dismantle barriers,
open our hearts to praise you,
**that we might see ourselves and others as your beloved children,
that we might live as neighbors and friends,
no longer strangers or enemies.**

Open our hearts to the transforming power of your love,
**that we might receive forgiveness, and grant it too,
making peace and extending welcome;**
that we might be your people, one body in one Spirit,
to tell your grace to all the world.

We pray in the name of Jesus, our host and friend, Amen.

Offering & prayer

Hymn: Blessed assurance – H #332 (sung by Vaglx Brothers)

Scripture: Luke 7:36-50

Message: "Do you see this woman?"

Hymn of response: Come to me, come to us – SS #60
(sung by Rory Coonxy, Gary Daiglx, Theresa Donohox)

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

Sending hymn: Could it be that God is singing – VT #42

Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be a welcoming presence for those who are attending our **Dedication** of the new elevator and West Entry - today at 4:00! An **Open House** of the church building will follow until 6:00 p.m. with refreshments served outside. Feel free to invite anyone you think may be interested.

Due today, Aug. 1: Please prayerfully consider and fill out the **Gift Discernment nomination form** that was in your mailbox. Extra forms and the return box are in the hallway.

This Thursday, Aug. 5, from 9:30-2:30 Rebecca will be at a pastor gathering for Ohio Conference pastors. Text or leave a message and she'll respond as soon as possible.

The Covid advisory group met last week to reassess Bethel's current health safety measures. Input was gathered from song leaders since any change to current singing practice would affect their responsibilities. Factors considered included: exposure/infection rates in our area are on the rise; the Delta variant is becoming more common and is four times more contagious; only 45.9% of Logan Co residents are fully vaccinated; group singing indoors is discouraged by health experts. In light of this data, and our commitment to care for the least of these, we decided, for now, to continue using recorded and special music rather than congregational singing. We acknowledge that all of us are very tired of the pandemic and long for the pleasure of singing together. May God grant us patience in our relationships, comfort in the variety of losses we have faced, and faith that God will see us through.

Aug. 6-7, 2021, **Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale** at the Wayne County Fairground, Wooster. The in-person event will be under one roof in an air conditioned building. Online bidding will be offered again for the auction items. Funds raised through the sale support Mennonite Central Committee's relief, development, and peacebuilding work around the world.

THIS WEEK

TODAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:10 a.m. – Worship. Speaker, Rebecca Kauffmxn

4:00 p.m. – Dedication of elevator and new entry

4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Open House

SATURDAY

8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:10 a.m. – Worship. Speaker, Rebecca Kauffmxn

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Barb Kauffmxn

LAST WEEK

Worship attendance: 33

Sunday School: 17

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

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

This Week – August 1

Worship leader: Doug Steinxr

Music leader: Ellen Steinxr

Speaker: Rebecca Kauffmxn

Greeters: Dick & Nellie Lindemxr

Sound: Andrew Bloxnt

Media: Andrew Bloxnt

Prelude: Ellen Steinxr

Next Week – August 8

Worship leader: Kyle Van Osdxl

Music leader: Carl Newcomxr

Speaker: Rebecca Kauffmxn

Greeters: Dick & Nellie Lindemxr

Sound: Mark Kauffmxn

Media: Andrew Bloxnt

Prelude: Kathy Grabxr