

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- Pray for Ruth Yodxr, Hilda Yodxr, and Mary Kay Kxng, that God would grant them strength and hope as they recover from recent falls. May they feel the loving presence of the Holy Spirit surrounding them during this difficult time.
- Pray for Steve Lxpp's nephew Jim (son of Sam Lxpp) who was recently diagnosed with an aggressive brain cancer. Continue to pray for God's sustaining love to touch those with health struggles including: Kyle Yodxr, Jan Dawsxn, Justin Willxtts, Lee J., Sam P., Carl Coxts, and others you know.
- Remember in prayer those who carry grief.
- Pray for the Elder Leadership Team as they meet this week.
- From Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for Community Health Evangelists in Bangladesh, India, and Nepal as they care for the sick and share the good news of God's love. Give thanks that they received special permission to do their work despite Covid-19 travel restrictions.
- Think of a time when an encounter with a stranger led to a surprise blessing or joy, showing you the face of Jesus. Praise God for speaking to us through many different people and situations.

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Office Hours: W and F 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Elders: Elaine Newcomxr, Dick Lindemxr, Carol Bxck, Byron Kauffmxn,
Doug Steinxr

Bethel Mennonite Church

"Serving Jesus, Loving Others"

Vol. 63

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No. 28

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp:

Make sure no one returns evil for evil,
but always pursue what is good as it affects one another
in the church but also all people. - I Thessalonians 5:15 (The Voice)

Prelude

Call to worship:

As Abraham welcomed the strangers, so God welcomes us.

We receive God's hospitality.

God greets us with joy and says, "rest here for a while."

We receive God's hospitality.

God brings out water to wash our dusty feet.

God prepares a meal to nourish our weary spirits.

We receive God's hospitality.

Let us rest in this holy place

where there is shade and water, food, and laughter.

Let us receive and extend the gracious hospitality of our God.

Gathering song: The God of Sarah praise – VT #190

Prayer of confession: (Columbia Presbyterian Church, Decatur, GA)

For the times we are afraid of the stranger,
for the times we refuse the stranger
because we think our resources are just too meager,
Jesus, forgive us and heal us.

For the times we stereotype the stranger
as enemy, as dangerous, as inferior somehow,
Jesus, forgive us and heal us.

For the times we think we are being hospitable,
but instead serve only our own needs;
For the times we miss, or dismiss, the gift of the stranger,
Jesus, forgive us and heal us. (silent prayer)

Words of Assurance and passing the peace

Offering and prayer

Hymn: Teach me Thy truth – H #548

Scripture: Genesis 18:1-10, and Hebrews 13:1-3

Message: Room for hospitality at Bethel

Song of response: Renew your church – H #363

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

Intercessory prayer

Sending hymn: Let us Build a House – VT #36

Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today a **fellowship lunch** with Alvin & Ruth Ann will follow the worship service. Join us for the meal.

If you have **flowers** from your garden you would like to share as a visual aid for our Sunday morning worship, or to mark a special anniversary, contact Janet Wilkins by Friday or Saturday of that week to let her know.

Tuesday, **Women Serving in Love**. Bring your sack lunch.

The annual **Community Ice Cream Social** to benefit Mary Walkxr, will be held July 24th 4:00-7:30 p.m. The volunteer sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.

SAVE THE DATE: Dedication of the West Entry and elevator will be held August 1 at 4:00 p.m. An Open House of the church building will follow until 6:00 p.m.

PRACTICE HOSPITALITY: Volunteers needed.

On July 23 or 24, Linda Hostetlrx and Mary Newcomxr will be walking through the Bethel neighborhood placing door hangers on houses inviting people to come to the Dedication and Open House on August 1. They would like 2-3 people to help them.

On August 1, 4-5 people will be needed to greet those who tour the building at the Open House. These greeters will be in various places in the church to answer questions and be a welcoming face for Bethel. Offer your help on the sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

Everence announces that Financial Consultant Clete Schrxck departed from his role in the Plain City office after nearly 19 years of service. Chandler Inglx and Kayla Teneffxss are staffing the Plain City office and are ready to serve you. As always, our mission is to be responsible stewards of your trust, as we help you to integrate your faith and your financial decisions.

THIS WEEK

TODAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:10 a.m. – Worship. Speaker, Alvin Yodxr

TUESDAY

9:00 p.m. – Women Serving in Love

5:15 p.m. – Dedication planning committee

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. – Elder Leadership Team

SATURDAY

8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:10 a.m. – Worship. Speaker, Rebecca Kauffmxn. Luke 24:13-35

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Dick Lindemxr

LAST WEEK

Worship attendance: 36

Sunday School: 20

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

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

This Week – July 11

Worship leader: Rebecca Kauffmxn

Music leader: Ellen Steinxr

Speaker: Alvin Yodxr

Greeter: Barb & Byron Kauffmxn

Sound: Mark Kauffmxn

Media: Andrew Bloxnt

Prelude: Kathy Grabxr

Next Week – July 18

Worship leader: Donna Lehmxxn

Music leader: Janet Wilkxns

Speaker: Rebecca Kauffmxn

Greeters: Chuck Grabxr & Cheryl S.

Sound: Ken Shxnx

Media: Andrew Bloxnt

Prelude: Elaine Newcomxr