

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- God of the Church, teach us that when we remain in Christ the power of Jesus is available to help us heal the wounds of the world.
- Continue to remember Stan Thomxn in prayer that he would experience full healing.
- Praise God for the variety of ways Bethel participants are using their gifts and skills in the congregation and community!
- Pray this week for students as they return to the classroom. May they have a sense of eagerness to learn, and experience a safe environment that also challenges them to grow. Pray for students around the world whose schooling has been disrupted by the pandemic, violent conflict, or natural disaster.
- Pray for the administrators and staff of Green Hills, that the Spirit would grant them wisdom and strength. Praise God for their dedication and compassion in fulfilling their roles.
- Continue to pray for Haiti; for those with leaky roofs or no roof; for those whose belongings were crushed in the earthquake, or whose crops were washed away in the storm. Pray for compassion and helping hands to rebuild lives and hope.
- Pray for the people of Afghanistan, including vulnerable women and children, and the many local partners with whom Mennonite Central Committee works. Pray that hope would not be extinguished during this season of uncertainty and fear.

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Bethel Mennonite Church

“Serving Jesus, Loving Others”

Vol. 63

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No. 35

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp:

All of these new things are from God,
who reconciled us to himself through Christ
and who gave us the ministry of reconciliation. II Corinthians 5:18

Prelude

Call to worship

Gathering hymn: Praise the One who breaks the darkness – SS #1

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 turning from violence;**

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,
who walked among us as brother and friend. Amen.**

Offering & prayer

Hymn: O God in heaven – SJ #53

Scripture: Ephesians 2:13-16

Message: Jesus is the peace

Hymn of response: Spirit of the living God – H #349

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

Sending song: Now go in peace – SJ #74

Benediction: Ephesians 3:20-21

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Beginning in **September**, Sunday School will be from 9:30-10:20 a.m. and worship will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, September 5, come celebrate **Harry's 90th birthday!** Drop in anytime from 2-5 p.m. at Ken and Cheryl's house to congratulate Harry and enjoy a dish of homemade ice cream.

You can provide relief in Haiti: Families who have already suffered so much have been hit once again. The southwest region was hit by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake followed by a tropical storm, causing buildings to collapse, flooding and mudslides. At least 1400 people are dead, with more injured. There is an urgent need for first aid, food, and temporary shelter. With your help, we can reach the people most affected by this tragic event. Your gifts will provide emergency support. Donate today at: mcc.org/haiti-earthquake.

September is Bethel's turn to host the **West Liberty Cares Food Pantry** (at South Union church). Sign up on the bulletin board to assist with this important ministry in our community.

Dr. John Byrxn from Ashland Theological Seminary will be coming to present "**From the Scroll to the Book**" on Sept. 11 @ 6 p.m. He will be bringing some ancient manuscript fragments (including one from the Dead Sea Scrolls ~40 BC) and some rare Bibles with him to show. An opportunity to donate to Ashland Theological Seminary will be available.

As the number of **Covid-19 cases** in our area continues to rise and community spread is very high, please take appropriate precautions (using masks and distance) given your own health factors and the vulnerability of those you come into contact with.

There is an opportunity to participate with Mennonite Disaster Service in Dayton at the end of September. Contact Ken Shxnk, if interested.

THIS WEEK

TODAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:10 a.m. – Worship. Speaker, Meghan L. Goxd
(recorded at MC USA Convention)

FRIDAY

8:00-10:00 a.m. – Vendor Breakfast

SATURDAY

8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:30 a.m. – Worship. Speaker, Rebecca Kauffmxn.
Philippians 2:12-30

2-5:00 p.m. – Open House for Harry's 90th birthday at
Ken & Cheryl's

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Mary Jean Hxrn

LAST WEEK

Worship attendance: 35

Sunday School: 22

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

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

This Week – August 29

Worship leader: Dick Lindemxr

Music leader: Janet Wilkxns

Speaker: Meghan Goxd

Greeters: Carol & Chuck Bxck

Sound: Ken Shxnk

Media: Andrew Bloxnt

Prelude: Elaine Newcomxr

Next Week – September 5

Worship leader: Doug Steinxr

Music leader: Carl Newcomxr

Speaker: Rebecca Kauffmxn

Greeters: Joel & Donna Lehmxx

Sound: Andrew Bloxnt

Media: Andrew Bloxnt

Prelude: Carl Newcomxr