Bethel Mennonite Church

"Jesus compels us to experience and extend the gracious rule of God by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Vol. 58 December 11, 2016

2016

No. 50

Advent III

Gathering

Announcements Prelude-preparing to worship Call to Worship – Luke 1:46-55 Advent Candle lighting*(*see insert*) Prayer Barb Landes Pat Yoder Barb Landes

Praising

Congregational SingingBill BarrettOffering and OffertoryKathy Graber

Confession of Faith – Isaiah 35:1-10 Barb Landes

Praising Congregational Singing

Janet Wilkins

Proclaiming

Matthew 11:2-11 Message "God Breaks Through..." Special Music "O Holy Night" Communion

Responding Congregational Sharing & Prayers

Barb Landes

Sending Lighting today's Advent Candle Benediction "Joy To the World"

Daniel Lehman Bill Barrett

Pastor Duane Beck

Lowell Kauffman

LAST WEEK

Sunday School Attendance47Worship Attendance62

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

OUR THANKS TO

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Barb Kauffman

<u>GREETERS:</u> Today: Ken & Jeanette Hostetler **Next Week:** Joe & Donna Lehman

MEDIA OPERATOR: Today: unfilled

SOUND OPERATOR: Today: Brody Robinaugh

VIDEO OPERATOR: Today: unfilled Next week: unfilled

Next week: Lee Jordan

Next week: unfilled

Bethel Mennonite Church P.O. Box 549, 416 Washington Street West Liberty, OH 43357

465-4587 www.bethelchurchwl.org www.wbtl.tv

 Transitional Pastor Consultant: Duane Beck (duaneebeck@gmail.com) Office hours: by appointment
 Youth Pastor: Cheryl Shank (youthpastor@bethelchurchwl.org) Office hours: Varied, by appointment
 Administrative Assistant: Tesa Jordan (secretary@bethelchurchwl.org) Office Hours: Varied, by appointment
 Elders: Steve Lapp, Barb Landes, Kathy Lehman, KJ Schrock, and Larry Evans
 Pastoral Care Team: Barb Landes, Barb Kauffman, Dick Lindemer, Carl Newcomer, Mark Thomas, Chuck Swartz
 Tech Coordinator: Lee Jordan

ADVENT 3 Jesus: the Promised One

(Before the service two candles are lit. The people stand.)

LEADER: During Advent we celebrate that God comes to his people. Jesus is the One-who-comes:

Jesus is the One-who-rules. Jesus is the One-who-was-promised **PEOPLE:** We worship him! (*Two candles are lit.*) **LEADER:** Jesus shines as the One-who-was-promised. **PEOPLE:** Let the light shine

THIS WEEK

TODAY

9:30 a.m. —Sunday School
10:30 a.m. — Worship and Communion with Pastor Duane Beck
Noon – Church Potluck and Congregational Conversation
6:00 p.m.—Youth & Mentors at Daniel Lehman's house

TUESDAY

9:00 a.m.—Women Serving in Love **3:00 p.m.**—Bethel Homework Help

SATURDAY 8:00 a.m.—Men's Breakfast

NEXT SUNDAY 9:30 a.m. —Sunday School 10:30 a.m. — Worship with KJ Schrock 4:00 p.m.—Christmas Caroling Meet at the Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women Serving in Love meets Tuesday, Dec. 13 for their Christmas Potluck. Hostesses are Suzy, Janice & Barb S. and Devotions are by Mary P. "Oaths Not Chosen."

Thank you to all who signed up to donate Cookies, Gas Cards and Cards to the Adriel Staff. The goal has been met!

An Adriel Christmas Program will be held at 2 pm Dec. 20 in Yoder Cafeteria. Includes the nativity story, carols and refreshments. Open to the public!

The transitional prayer team would like to have the Bethel Church family pray for the leading of the Holy Spirit as the ELT and the congregation make a decision in choosing a transitional pastor. May God give us the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the decision making process. May the eyes of our hearts be open to hear what the Holy Spirit says to us.

Fifteen blankets and several boxes of kitchen items were delivered to

World Relief in Columbus. These items, along with other items, make up kits which are distributed to refugees resettling in Ohio. Thanks for participating so generously in this effort to show hospitality to refugees.

AMBS seeks Volunteer Coordinator beginning August 2017. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana, is seeking a qualified individual or couple to coordinate the work of our short-term and local volunteers, connecting these volunteers with assignments from faculty and staff. If you like to work with people, have excellent communication and computer skills, and are well organized, please consider this volunteer assignment for a one-year, renewable term. The position opens Aug. 1; the start date is negotiable. To learn more, contact Jewel Gingerich Longenecker, dean of Lifelong Learning: jglongenecker@ambs.edu.

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- **Pray for Elaine Nxwcxmxr**, recovering from surgery on Thursday.
- **Pray for James Lxchrxdgx** as he candidates at Erisman Mennonite Church in Manheim, PA on Dec. 13th.
- This week, Rev. Ibrahim Nsier with the Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches, an MCC partner, asks that we in America pray for peace in Syria. The people of Alleppo are suffering greatly and are without medical assistance and food. "Knowing that people in the West are hearing the call for solidarity in prayer is helpful to keep strong in the midst of unbearable pain."
- Mennonite churches in Bolivia have vacation Bible school this month. Margrit Kipfer Barrón, serving with Mennonite Mission Network, helps prepare the curriculum and train teachers. Pray that the Spirit of God will move in a powerful way among the children who attend and their families.
- **Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, Virginia**. Please pray for students at Eastern Mennonite Seminary as they prepare for exams and Advent and Christmas worship services in this busy season.



DISCOVER THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

HOPE. FOOD. WATER. PEACE. EDUCATION.

GIVE A GIFT...CHANGE A LIFE

BE BLESSED~~~BE A BLESSING~~~BE THE GOSPEL

Alternative and/or additional Gift Giving Opportunities

MCC (Mennonite Central Committee) www.mcc.org/Christmas Gift cards available

MEDA (Mennonite Economic Development Associates) www.giftsolutions.org

> MMN (Mennonite Mission Network) www.MennoniteMission.net/Gift Catalog Gift cards available

> > HEIFER INTERNATIONAL www.heifer.org/catalog Gift cards available with gift of \$10.00 or more

Catalogs for each of these organizations are available in the foyer. If you have questions, see Barbara Kauffman



The Poinsettias in the Sanctuary have been given by the following:

Chuck & Jeanie Swartz in Memory of Sam & Eleanor Swartz & J.C.

Carl & Elaine Newcomer in Memory of Richard & Verna Bachman and Elban & Hilda Newcomer

> Byron & Barbara Kauffman in Memory of Ruby Byler

Lee & Tesa Jordan in Memory of Willard & Hallie Jordan and Si & Jean Brenneman

Chuck, Rodney, Rhonda & Cheryl in Memory of Roberta Graber

> Ken, Cheryl & Chuck in Memory of "Auntie" Joyce Schertz

Jerry & Barbara Landes in Memory of Daniel & Edna Landes and Lester & Peg Haner

> Ruth Yoder In Memory of Jack Yoder

Paul & Linda Hostetler in Memory of Loren & Dorothy King

Ken & Jeanette Hostetler in Memory of Neil

Karl & Phyllis Smith in Memory of Velma King & Lois Kern