



# 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 25, 2016

No. 52

## *Christmas Day*

### **Preparing**

By praying together                      Infant Nursery @ 9:15a.m.

### **Gathering – Lead by Worship Leader, Bill Barrett**

Announcements

Prelude                                      Kathy Graber

Welcome & Call to Worship *\*(see back of bulletin)*

Advent Candle lighting *\*(see insert)*

Psalm & Opening Prayer

### **Praising**

Congregational Singing                      Bill Barrett and Team

With our offerings & Offertory              Tesa Jordan

*“Where’s The Line to See Jesus?”*

**Confession***\*(see back of bulletin)*      Bill Barrett

### **Proclaiming**

Scripture- Isaiah 9:2-7

Vocal Ensemble—Advent Hymn

**Message "Longing for home"**              **Guest Speaker Chuck Swartz**

Song of Response                              Byron Kauffman

### **Sharing—Lead by Pastoral Care Team—Carl Newcomer**

Of our joys, requests, thanksgivings & responses

Pastoral Prayer

### **Sending**

Sending hymn                                      Byron Kauffman

Benediction *\*(see back of bulletin)*      Carl Newcomer

## LAST WEEK

No Service last week due to ice.

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

## OUR THANKS TO

**PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK:** Chuck Swartz

### **GREETERS:**

**Today:** Joe & Donna Lehman

**Next Week:** Mark & Polly Thomas

### **MEDIA OPERATOR:**

**Today:** unfilled

**Next week:** Brody Robinaugh

### **SOUND OPERATOR:**

**Today:** Larry Evans

**Next week:** Lee Jordan

### **VIDEO OPERATOR:**

**Today:** unfilled

**Next week:** Tesa Jordan

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

465-4587  
[www.bethelchurchwl.org](http://www.bethelchurchwl.org)  
[www.wbt1.tv](http://www.wbt1.tv)

**Transitional Pastor Consultant:** Duane Beck ([duaneebeck@gmail.com](mailto:duaneebeck@gmail.com))

**Office hours:** by appointment

**Youth Pastor:** Cheryl Shank ([youthpastor@bethelchurchwl.org](mailto:youthpastor@bethelchurchwl.org))

**Office hours:** Varied, by appointment

**Administrative Assistant:** Tesa Jordan ([secretary@bethelchurchwl.org](mailto: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

## Christmas Day

*(Before the service four 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

Jesus is God-with-us We worship him! *(The fifth candle is lit.)*

**PEOPLE:** Glory to God in highest heaven and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased *(Luke 2:14)*

**LEADER:** Let the glory of God shine!

Let the peace of God shine!

**PEOPLE:** Let the light of Jesus shine!

## THIS WEEK

### TODAY

**10:00 a.m.** — Worship with Chuck Swartz

### WEDNESDAY

**4:15 p.m.**—Our Daily Bread

### NEXT SUNDAY

**9:30 a.m.** —Sunday School

**10:30 a.m.** — Worship with Cheryl Shank

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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.

**A Church Christmas Project:** donation of food, toiletries, etc for "The Urbana Caring Kitchen and Homeless Shelter." There is a list of suggested items on the bulletin board in the foyer and boxes near the library for collecting items. Thank you.

**From Duane & Lois:** "Merry Christmas. Our prayer is that Jesus will continue to be born in you. May you carry the humble, serving love of Jesus into this new year.

**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.

**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: [jlongenecker@ambs.edu](mailto:jlongenecker@ambs.edu).

## PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- **On this Christmas day, pray for Nazareth Village** near where Jesus grew up 20 centuries ago. Mennonite Mission Network partners with Nazareth Village in peeling away the layers that distort Jesus' message of peace in a world torn apart by conflict.
- **Merry Christmas from all the schools of Mennonite Education Agency.** We invite you to join us today in praying for the continued coming of the light of Jesus Christ into our world.