

Bethel Mennonite Church

“Serving Jesus, Loving Others”

Vol. 63

December 5, 2021

No. 49

Advent: Hope

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp:

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace
as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13 (NIV)

Prelude: The Rose of Sharon

Call to worship

Lighting the Advent candle

Leader: We light a candle for *hope*:
hope in our hearts,
hope in our homes,
hope in the world.

People: May the light of *hope* shine through our lives.

Gathering song: O come, O come, Immanuel – H #172

Confession & Assurance – Psalm 25:4-10 (see inert)

Offering & prayer

Hymn: Come, Thou long-expected Jesus – H #178

Scripture: Luke 3:7-18

Message: Good news: power to change

Song of response: Bless'd be the God of Israel – H #174

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

Intercessory prayer

Sending song: Comfort, comfort, O my people – H #176

Benediction

THIS WEEK

TODAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:30 a.m. – Worship. Speaker: Rebecca Kauffmxn

SATURDAY

9:00 a.m. - noon – Bethel Leadership Team, planning retreat

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:30 a.m. – Worship. Speaker: Rebecca Kauffmxn. Luke 1:67-79

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Carl Newcomxr

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

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

This Week – December 5

Worship leader: Dick Lindemxr

Music leader: Carl Newcomxr

Speaker: Rebecca Kauffmxn

Greeters: Ken & Jeanette Hostetlrx

Sound: Andrew Bloxnt

Media: Andrew Bloxnt

Prelude: Carl Newcomxr

Next Week – December 12

Worship leader: Kyle VanOsdxl

Music leader: Ellen Steinrx

Speaker: Rebecca Kauffmxn

Greeters: Barb & Byron Kauffmxn

Sound: Mark Kauffmxn

Media: Andrew Bloxnt

Prelude: Ellen Steinrx

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- Pray for those you know who are feeling lonely or discouraged, and for those who are grieving the death of a loved one.
- Pray for God's comfort to surround the family and friends of Dr. Evan Dixxn, who passed away on December 2.
- Pray that Bethel's Leadership Team would experience God's guidance as they meet for a retreat this coming Saturday.
- Remember with prayer and kindness those who are unable to attend worship, including Mary Kay K., Ellie K., Sam P., and Hilda Y. Also remember Mary Ann K. and Mike R. as they spend time at their Florida homes.
- Join Deb Bylxxr in giving thanks to God for the healing and empowerment that 112 Kekchx women experienced through Trauma Healing workshops over the past two years. Pray they would continue to grow in confidence, claiming and naming the truth of their value as beloved women of God.

Bethel Mennonite Church
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Pastor: Rebecca Kauffmxn (Rebecca@bethelchurchwl.org)

Office hours: T & F 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.,
W & Th 1:00-5:00 p.m. or by appointment

Administrative Assistant: Miriam Lxpp (secretary@bethelchurchwl.org)

Office Hours: W and F 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Leadership Team: Elaine Newcomxr, Dick Lindemxr, Carol Bxck, Byron Kauffmxn, Doug Steinxxr, Ken Shxnxk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Confession & Assurance – Psalm 25:4-10

Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.

**Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are God my savior.**

In you I hope all the day long
because of your goodness, O Lord.

**Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me.**

(silent prayer)

The Lord is good and upright,
showing the path to those who stray,
guiding the humble in the right way.

**All the paths of the Lord are
steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and decrees.**

Rebecca will have a Silent Retreat day this Thursday, from 9:00 - 4:30. Leave a message and she'll reply as soon as possible.

New **Rejoice devotionals** are outside the office. Please notify Ellen who is updating the list if you wish to continue receiving it or would like to be added to the list.

The Christmas season, with all its joy, can be a difficult time of year for those who have lost loved ones, who live with illness, or have other struggles. All are welcome to a **Longest Night Service** where we acknowledge our griefs and watch for God's light. The service will be held at Oak Grove on Tuesday, Dec. 21 at 7:00 pm.

Save the date for the Ohio MCC Comforter Bash on April 22-23! A handmade comforter provides warmth and a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten. Join others of all ages for this two-day event in Kidron to knot comforters that Mennonite Central Committee will distribute around the world. Comforter backs and tops are needed for the event and should be dropped off at the MCC Material Resources Center in Kidron between Jan. 1 - Mar. 1. For more information, visit mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash.

We would like to begin singing together as a congregation again. In order to do that as safely as possible, we will need to wear our masks during the service, and especially while singing. Thank you for caring for one another in this way. May God's grace cover us as we worship together.

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

