

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- Continue to pray that God's strength and healing will be upon Carxle Bxrrett and Bill too.
- Pray for Chuck & Carol Bxck as they navigate changes to Chuck's health & decreasing mobility.
- Pray for Dave M's friend Ralph whose earthly life seems to be coming to an end. May God's grace & love be evident to him through Dave & Brenda's presence with him. Also remember Montgomery's neighbor Bruce in prayer (kidney stones).
- Pray for God's mercy upon Kyle's friend Lisa who is hoping for another path of treatment following ineffective chemotherapy. Also pray for VanOsdol's friend Bob who is anticipating surgery in Florida on April 2.
- Pray for Linda's sister Beverly (recovering from back surgery); and Kxrl Smxth's friend Bob's grandson (undergoing chemotherapy).
- Pray for God's blessing and wisdom for Bethel's Leadership Team and Ministry chair people as they meet this Thursday. Give thanks for their willingness to serve in these capacities.
- Marxa Chxb and Marxa Sxntos Tiul, Kekchi Mennonite Church leaders in Guatemala (& friends of Dxb Bxler) travel to all six regions of the church to teach and encourage women. Pray for good health, safety, and wisdom as they nurture faith and confidence.

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Bethel Mennonite Church

"Serving Jesus, Loving Others"

Vol. 67

March 23, 2025

No. 12

Lent: Christ Collides

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp: Proverbs 3:13-14, 17 (NIV)
Happy are those who find wisdom,
and those who gain understanding,
for she is more profitable than silver
and yields better returns than gold. ...
Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace.

Instrumental interlude

Call to worship

Hymn: Great is Thy Faithfulness – VT #419

Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance:

***Righteous and merciful God, our lives are weighed down
with the burden of sin, and so we confess to You.***

We doubt the depth of Your love for us.

We do not love our neighbors as ourselves.

***We cling to wealth & economic systems that benefit us;
we look down on the poor.***

Help us turn from selfishness and promote generosity.

***Come, transforming Spirit, reshape and renew our hearts
so that we share Your grace & peace with the world.***

(silent prayer)

In your goodness, O God, you have mercy;

with gentleness you wipe away my faults. Thanks be to God!

Hymn: Longing for Light – VT #715

Offering & prayer

Scripture: Luke 16:19-31

Message: Christ Collides with Our Selfishness

Hymn of response: There's Enough for All – VT #757

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

Sending song: May the Face of God Shine on You – VT #844

Benediction

“Collision Reflection”: Use these prompts during Lent to help us be aware of, and pray for, Jesus’ presence in the world.

- Where did you see the Jesus way colliding with the world’s way this week?
- When did Jesus interrupt your selfishness this week?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Out of office: Twila is on vacation March 14-25.

Small Group Brunch Sunday: plan to join in fellowship and informal worship in homes next Sunday, March 30, 10:00 am. This will take the place of our usual gathering at the Bethel building. New groups have been formed for 2025. Consider gathering briefly with your group after worship today to determine who can bring what for the brunch. If you are not able to attend on the 30th, please let your host know.

Note: Bethel will not be serving at **Our Daily Bread** this week, March 26. Plan to help again on April 23. Thank you!

Green Hills Community has become “Otterbein Senior Life: Green Hills.” **All are invited to a Dedication Ceremony** on Thursday, April 10, with donuts and fellowship at 9:30 am, and the ceremony at 10:00, in Foundation Hall.

“Pages of Persistence: An exhibit of early Anabaptist Bibles” is an exhibition taking place at Bluffton University from March 9-23 in the Musselman Library Reading Room. Guests are welcome to visit the exhibit during library hours: today, 3:30-5:30 pm.

Help improve water quality in Bangladesh: If you were not able to attend the fundraiser at Sharon Mennonite Church yesterday, you are welcome to direct a gift through the Bethel offering. Write “Arsenic Mitigation Project” in the memo line. This project helps provide safe drinking water to people in southern Bangladesh. (See poster on the bulletin board.)

THIS WEEK

TODAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday school

10:30 a.m. – Worship; speaker, Pastor Rebecca

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. – Leadership Team & Ministry Chairs (rescheduled)

FRIDAY

12:30 p.m. – Pastoral Care Team

NEXT SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. – **Small Group Brunch** in homes

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Cxrl Nxwcomer – 937-xxx-xxxx

LAST WEEK

Worship: 27

General Fund: \$

Sunday school: 9

Arsenic Mitigation: \$

Your generosity empowers our collective work for God’s kingdom purposes. Thank you!

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

This Week – March 23

Next Sunday – March 30

Worship leader: Txmi Wxnger

Worship leader:

Music leader: Janet W. & Anne Y.

Music leader:

Speaker: Rebxcxa Kauffmxn

Speaker:

Greeters: Dxck & Nxllie Lindxmer

Greeter:

Sound: Lxri Lxhman

Sound:

Prelude: Anne Y. & Nate Y.