

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- In the calendar of the Church, we have entered the season of Lent, a period of 40 days designed to help us prepare for Easter. It's a time to focus on the life & teachings of Jesus, practice humility, confess our human limitations & need for God, and to make room in our lives to hear and respond to the call of Jesus even as he walks all the way to the cross.
- Give thanks with Jeanie S. that she is experiencing less pain in her ankle, and pray for further healing. Continue to pray that God's presence & mercy would surround Cxrole Barrett, as well as Bill, Jim, and the whole family.
- Pray for teachers & staff in our school system, as they seek to help students grow intellectually, emotionally, and socially. May God grant them wisdom as they help students grow in self-confidence, identify their own biases, and build understanding of the world they will inherit.
- The Odessa Theological Seminary, a Mission Network partner in Ukraine, is adapting its curriculum to the changing needs of a society traumatized by a prolonged war. Pray for the students, who are immediately putting into practice what they learn about PTSD and crisis counseling, as they share the healing love of Christ. Pray for peace with justice for the people of Ukraine.

New "Encouragement cards" in the pew racks: Consider writing a note of appreciation or encouragement to someone in the congregation (or beyond) as a way of "building each other up ..." (I Thess 5:11).

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Bethel Mennonite Church

"Serving Jesus, Loving Others"

Vol. 67

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No. 10

Lent: Christ Collides

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp: Matthew 5:43-45a (CEV)
You have heard people say, "Love your neighbors and hate your enemies." But I tell you to love your enemies and pray for anyone who mistreats you. Then you will be acting like your Father in heaven.

Call to worship

Hymns: Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord – VT #131
In Christ There is No East or West – VT #390
God, We Pause This Moment – VT #756

Prayer of Confession: Rebecca

***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 fail to honor You with our thoughts, words, and actions.
We cling to stereotypes and dismiss the perspectives of others.
Help us recognize & correct our biases, and learn to value others.
Come, transforming Spirit, reshape and renew our hearts
so that we share Your grace & peace with the world.***
(silent prayer)

Words of Assurance & Passing the Peace

Offering & prayer

Scripture: Luke 10:25-37

Message: It's a mystery to me

Hymn of response: I Bind My Heart This Tide – VT #556

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

Sending song: Go, My Friends, in Grace – VT #810

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 bias or assumptions this week?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Phone change: Lxnda Hostetler no longer has a landline. She can be reached on her cell phone: 937-597-1231. Her email address has not changed.

Women Serving in Love, Tuesday, March 11, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Donna L. and Christy H. will host and provide soup. Those whose last names begin with M-Z bring a salad or dessert. Project: infant kits. There will be a guest speaker from Morgan's Place, an organization that ministers to families grieving the loss of a baby.

The family of Dxxie Kxng invites us to join them in remembering Dixie at a **Memorial Birthday Party**, this Saturday, March 15, at 2:30 pm in the Bethel Church Fellowship Room. You are welcome to share your memories of Dixie. Cupcakes, snacks and drinks will be served.

Help improve water quality in Bangladesh: Sharon Mennonite Church (7675 Amity Pike, Plain City) is hosting a benefit event for people coping with the largest mass poisoning in human history, arsenic contamination in the drinking water in southern Bangladesh. Come enjoy a **soup and chili cookoff**, music (by *Salt & Light* group from Rosedale Bible College), silent auction, and fair-trade crafts from Bangladesh. Saturday, March 15, 2025, 5-8 pm. (See poster on bulletin board.) Meal is by donation. If you’d like to submit a soup or chili entry, or donate bread or dessert, please contact Carole Schumacher by March 12 at 614-638-3021 or bschumacher@msn.com.

THIS WEEK

TODAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday school

10:30 a.m. – Worship; speaker, Lxnn Mxller

TUESDAY

9:30 a.m. – Women Serving in Love

WEDNESDAY

10 a.m. – Bible Reading in Bethel library

THURSDAY

7 p.m. – Elder Leadership Team and Ministry Chairs

SATURDAY

8 a.m. – Men’s Breakfast

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday school

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

Scripture: Luke 13:1-5

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Carl Newcomer – 937-465-3366

LAST WEEK

Worship: 29

General Fund:

\$1,520.00

Sunday school: 14

MDS:

\$100.00

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

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

This Week – March 9

Worship leader: Rxbecca Kxuffman

Music leader: Andrxw Blxunt

Speaker: Lxnn Miller

Greeters: Carl & Elxine Newcxmer

Sound: Mxrk Kxuffman

Prelude:

Next Sunday – March 16

Worship leader: Kxm Lxhman

Music leader: Cxrl Nxwcomer

Speaker: Rxbecca Kxuffman

Greeters: Ed Hxlliday & Mary N.

Sound: Kxn Shxnk