PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- Continue to pray for God's strength to be upon those with long-term health needs, including Carole B., Chuck B., Jeanette, Ella Mae, Mary Ann, Kyle's friend Lisa, and others you know.
- Join Jeanie in thanking God for the improvement she has experienced in her foot.
- Pray for those who are grieving the death of a loved one, including Dave M. (friend Ralph), Jan L's friend Judie (husband), Jacob Shxnk's friend (4-year-old daughter), Tesa J. (her great-niece Zelda), and the family of the Urbana student who took his life. Lord, have mercy.
- VanXsdol's friend Bob expressed appreciation for our prayers as he recovers from surgery last week. He is doing well.
- Pray that much-needed MCC relief supplies will find their way to people in Myanmar who were impacted by a large earthquake. Pray that supplies would also be safely delivered to vulnerable people in Ukraine, Lebanon, Gaza, DR Congo, and other places.
- Quito Mennonite Church in Ecuador asks us to join in asking God for mercy in a time of increasing violence and deepening poverty. "May seeds of peace, justice and hope grow strong to overcome all fear & despair to produce a present & future filled with hope and bread."

Bethel Mennonite Church 937- 465-4587 P.O. Box 549, 416 Washington Street www.bethelchurchwl.org West Liberty, OH 43357 Pastor: Rebecca Kxuffman (Rebecca@bethelchurchwl.org) Home Phone (937) 887-8151 Office hours: T & F 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., W & Th 1:00-5:00 p.m. or by appointment Office Assistant: Twila Wxlkins Leadership Team: Elaine Nxwcomer, Carol Bxck, Ed Hollxday, Jeanie Swxrtz

Bethel Mennonite Church

"Serving Jesus, Loving Others"

Vol. 67	April 13, 2025	No. 14

Lent: Christ Collides

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp:

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Luke 19:38

Call to worship

Hymns: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna – VT #313 Ride On, Ride On in Majesty – VT #316

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. You are not the savior we expect. Your power does not look like the power we want our God to demonstrate. We are happy to join the crowd, shouting praises & eager for peace; but we shrink from following you to the foot of the cross. Forgive our false assumptions. Clarify our clouded vision. 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!

Offering & prayer

Scripture: Luke 19:29-44

Message: Christ Collides with our Expectations

Hymn of response: O God, How We Have Wandered – SS #58

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

Sending song: Strong, Peaceful Man of Galilee – VT #573 (v.1,2,4)

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 expectations this week?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bethel's **Stewardship Ministry** will meet this Tuesday, April 15, at 5:00 pm, in the Fellowship Room.

Upcoming Special Services:

- <u>Maundy Thursday</u> April 17, 6:00 pm in Bethel's Fellowship Room. This time of worship will include a simple meal, scripture readings, prayer, and communion.
- <u>Community Good Friday</u> April 18, 6:30 pm in Foundation Hall at Green Hills. Join with others from our community in worship as we recall Jesus' suffering and death.
- <u>Easter Sunday</u> April 20th at Bethel. Come for a potluck Easter breakfast beginning at 9:15, followed by celebration of Christ's resurrection during worship at 10:30 am.

Easter lilies in honor of someone are welcome as part of our Easter worship display. Let Janet know if you will bring one or wish her to purchase one on your behalf.

Scam-Proof Your Finances: At this free presentation, learn common forms of scams & identity theft, tips to reduce risk, and where to report fraud. The same presentation will be offered **April 22** at 2:30 and 6 pm in Foundation Hall. Sponsored by South Union, Bethel & Oak Grove. Invite your neighbors. (Poster on bulletin board.)

Sunday, April 27 at 2:30 p.m. a **choral concert** will be held at Bluffton University's Yoder Recital Hall featuring *Five Centuries of*

Anabaptist Singing – a Musical Odyssey, directed by Camille Lively, director of music at First Mennonite Church of Bluffton.

THIS WEEK

<u>TODAY</u> – Palm Sunday

9:30 a.m. – Sunday school 10:30 a.m. – Worship; speaker, Pastor Rebecca

TUESDAY

10 a.m. and **6 p.m.** – Women's Bible Study at South Union **5 p.m.** – Stewardship Ministry meeting

THURSDAY

6 p.m. – Maundy Thursday Supper and Worship

FRIDAY - 6:30 p.m. - Community Good Friday Service

<u>SATURDAY</u> – 8 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

NEXT WEEK – EASTER SUNDAY

9:15 a.m. – Easter Breakfast potluck 10:30 a.m. – Worship; speaker, Pastor Rebecca

Scripture: Luke 24:1-12

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Mary Jean Hxrn, xxx-xxx

LAST WEEK

Worship: 32	General Fund:	\$
Sunday school: 11	MDS:	\$

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

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

This Week – April 13 Worship leader: Kyle VxnOsdol Music leader: Andrew Blxunt Speaker: Rebecca Kaxffman Greeters: Carl & Elaine Nxwcomer Sound: Mark Kaxffman EASTER Sunday – April 20 Worship leader: Kim Lxhman Music leader: Janet Wxlkins Speaker: Rebecca Kxuffman Greeter: Ed Hxlliday Sound: Ken Shxnk Prelude: Anne Y. & Nate Y.