**PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES**

* On this Mother’s Day, praise God for your mother and others who nurtured you. Give thanks & pray for mothers around the world – women who work with determination and ingenuity to provide life’s necessities for their family, who boldly seek to change systems of violence that harm their communities, and who sacrifice and pour love into the children in their care.
* Continue to pray for those who are recovering from recent surgeries: Jan Lxwery, Carl Nxwcomer, Barb Evxns, and Tami’s sister Gina. May God grant them strength & healing.
* May God’s mercy and peace be upon those with long-term health needs, including Carole B., Chuck B., Jeanette, Ella Mae, Mary Ann K., Kyle’s friend Lisa, and others you know. May God also uphold their families and caregivers.
* Pray for rain in places threatened by drought. The northwest region of Alberta (where Rebecca’s parents & brother’s family live) is already experiencing wildfires.
* Pray for our congregation, asking God to provide all the resources necessary for fruitful ministry, and that we might faithfully respond to Christ’s call.
* The building of the Kikubya Mennonite Church in Uganda was severely damaged by floods and 15 families lost homes &/or crops. Bishop Simon Okoth asks for prayer & resources as the church tries to carry on ministries. Despite limited resources, Mennonites in this area are also hosting people fleeing violence in the DR Congo.

Bethel Mennonite Church 937- 465-4587

P.O. Box 549, 416 Washington Street [*www.bethelchurchwl.org*](http://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 Wilkxns

**Leadership Team:** Elaine Nxwcomer, Carol Bxck, Ed Hxlliday,

 Jeanie Swxrtz

 Doug Steiner

**Bethel Mennonite Church**

*“Serving Jesus, Loving Others”*

Vol. 67 May 11, 2025 No. 18

*The Three E’s of Worship*

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp:

 And through [Jesus] God was pleased to reconcile to himself

 all things, whether on earth or in heaven,

 by making peace through the blood of his cross. Colossians 1:20

Prelude: *(Loving Spirit – SJ #34)*

Call to Worship & Prayer:

Seekers of God, you are here, and God is here.

 **We open our eyes to see anew.**

Lovers of God, you are here, and God is here.

 **We open our hearts to feel anew.**

Followers of Jesus, you are here, and Christ is here.

 **We open our minds to learn anew.**

People of God, you are here, and God’s Spirit is here.

 **We open ourselves to be filled anew.**

***Almighty God, you are here and everywhere.***

***Guide us into worship so we may see, feel, and know***

 ***your presence and grace this hour. Amen.***

Praising: For the Beauty of the Earth – VT #120

 Lord, I Am Fondly, Earnestly Longing – VT #555

Affirmation of Faith: VT #931

Offering & prayer

Scripture: John 4:1-15

Message: Transforming Encounter

Song of response: Come to the Table of Grace – VT #461

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

Intercessory prayer

Sending song: Like a mother who has borne us – SJ #91

Benediction

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Thank you** to everyone who came out to help at our Spring Work-Day yesterday!

New Path Pregnancy Resource Centers, a locally organized pro-life ministry, begins its annual **Baby Bottle Campaign** fundraiser today (Mother’s Day) and it runs through June 15. Bottles that you can fill with change are available in the foyer; please sign the list as you take one. (See flyer in your mailbox last week.)

**Women Serving in Love** will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 13.

Last names A-L bring a salad. Susie Krxybill and Joan Yxder will host. The project this month is non-food items for West Liberty Cares (shampoo, bar soap, deodorant, sanitary pads, TP, paper towels, laundry and dish detergent).

**Rebecca plans** to take a silent retreat day on Thursday 15th, 9 – 4:30. Leave a message and she will respond as soon as possible.

Extra handouts from the **“Scam Proof Your Finances”** presentation are available on the table across from the mailboxes. Help yourself or pass on to a friend.

**THIS WEEK**

**TODAY**

**9:30 a.m.** – Sunday school

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

**TUESDAY**

 **9:30 a.m. -** Women Serving in Love

**WEDNESDAY**

 **10 a.m.** – Bible Reading

 **11 a.m.** – Worship Ministry meeting

 **3 p.m.** – Leadership Team meeting (rescheduled)

**SATURDAY**

 **8 a.m.** – Men’s Breakfast

**NEXT WEEK**

**9:30 a.m.** – Sunday school

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

 Scripture: John 4:16-26

**PASTORAL CARE THISWEEK:** Mark Thxmas, xxx-xxx-xxxx

**LAST WEEK**

Worship: 30 General Fund:

Sunday school: 6 WL Cares

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

**OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE**

**This Week – May 11 Next Sunday – May 18**

**Worship leader**: Tami Wxnger **Worship leader**: Kyle Vxn Osdol

**Music leader**: Andrew Blxunt **Music leader**: Janet Wxlkins

**Speaker:** Rebecca Kxuffman **Speaker**: Rebecca Kxuffman

**Greeters**: Dick & Nellie Lxndemer **Greeter**: Linda Hxstetler

**Sound**: Mark Kxuffman  **Sound**: Ken Shxnk

**Prelude**: