

## PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- Praise God for the gradual healing experienced by those who are recovering from recent surgeries: Jan Lxwery, Carl Nxwcomer, Barb Evxns, and Tami's sister Gina.
- 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.
- Carole Bxrrrett's sister wrote: "Dear friends, thank you for all the prayers, cards & visits to Carole and Bill [during Covid time and more recently]. I believe in the miracle of prayer and the good Lord sure heard them!" ~ Lou & Barbara (see card on bulletin board).
- Pray for Bill Sxymour, pastor of Orville Mennonite Church, who is also serving as moderator of Ohio Mennonite Conference (OMC). Ask God to provide wisdom to Bill and other OMC leaders in this time of transition before our new Conference Minister begins in mid-June.
- In the midst of the war in Gaza, Bethlehem Bible College continues to work toward its mission of being a Palestinian Christian Evangelical learning community that prepares leaders to serve locally and globally. Pray that these students, and all of us, will have courage to promote peace and understanding.

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](mailto: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 Hxlliday,  
Jeanie Swxrtz

# Bethel Mennonite Church

*"Serving Jesus, Loving Others"*

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*The Three E's of Worship*

### Announcements

#### Lighting the Peace Lamp:

All of this is a gift from God, who has pursued us and brought us into a restored relationship with Him through the Anointed. And He has given us the same mission, the ministry of reconciliation, to bring others back to Him.  
II Corinthians 5:18 (Voice)

### Call to Worship

Praising: Sing Praise to God Who Reigns – VT #101  
Christ, We Do All Adore Thee – VT #138

### Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance:

Life-giving God, hear our prayer of confession.

We are seduced by the gods of this world.

**Materialism coaxes us to trust in things.**

**Fear persuades us to purchase more and more "protection."**

**Busyness charms us into believing there**

**is one more thing we must do.**

**Pride entices us to look down on others.**

**Uniformity takes captive our creativity and vision.**

**Perfectionism sweet-talks us into making mountains out of molehills.**

Forgive us for worshipping these gods that bring only death.

**Free us from their grip, that we might worship You alone.**

*(silent prayer)*

Raised with Christ, let us seek the things that are above,

**for we have died, and our life is hidden with Christ in God. Amen.**

### Offering & prayer

Proclaiming Grace: I Sought the Lord – VT #161

Scripture: John 4:13-26

Message: Honest Engagement

Hymn of response: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say – VT #536

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

Sending song: The Lord Lift You Up – VT #832

Benediction

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bethel's Congregational Review in January revealed our desire to "grow spiritually in ministry and mission" through "more intentional prayer life." The Leadership Team is acting on this by **committing to pray** for specific people assigned to them from the congregation.

**Rebecca plans** to attend her Pastor-Peer group this Wednesday morning at Sharon Mennonite Church. Text or leave a message and she will respond as soon as possible.

New Path Pregnancy Resource Centers' annual **Baby Bottle Campaign** fundraiser is running through June 15. Bottles that you can fill with change are available in the foyer; please sign the list as you take one. You're also welcome to drop change in the milk bottle.

**Marmon Valley Day Camp** is available for children ages 6-11. Weekly camps are held Monday through Friday, beginning June 16 and run through August 4-8. The cost per week is \$325. More information is available at [www.marmonvalley.com](http://www.marmonvalley.com) or by calling 937-593-8000.

The annual **Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale and Auction** will be held July 11-12 at the Mt. Hope Event Center, Millersburg, Ohio. This marks the 60<sup>th</sup> year for Relief Sales that benefit Mennonite Central Committee's work around the world.

### THIS WEEK

#### TODAY

**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

#### NEXT WEEK

**9:30 a.m.** – Sunday school

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

Scripture: John 4:25-30, 39-42

**PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK:** Mark Thxmas, xxx-xxx-xxxx

### LAST WEEK

Worship: 29

General Fund: \$

Sunday school: 8

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

#### OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

**This Week – May 18**

**Worship leader:** Kyle Vxn Osdol

**Music leader:** Janet Wxlkins

**Speaker:** Rebecca Kxuffman

**Greeter:** Linda Hxstetler

**Sound:** Ken Shxnk

**Instrumentalists:** Anne Y. & Nate Y.

**Next Sunday – May 25**

**Worship leader:** Brenda M.

**Music leader:** Janet Wxlkins

**Speaker:** Rebecca Kxuffman

**Greeters:** Ed Hollxday & Kathy G.

**Sound:** Lori Lxhman