



Bethel Mennonite Church

“Jesus compels us to experience and extend the gracious rule of God by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Vol. 57 March 1, 2015 No. 9

Lent II - Upside Down and Inside Out

Preparing

By praying together Infant Nursery @ 8:45a.m.

First Look

Pre-worship Music James Lochridge and Team

Gathering Choruses

Candle Lighting

Welcome & Mark 8:31-38 Bill Barrett

Call to Authenticity & Opening Prayer

Upside Down and Inside Out

Children’s Story Beth Maurer

Call to Grace

Message “Beyond Imagination” Pastor Dave Maurer

Second Look

Reader’s Theater The Hostetler Family

Mark 8:31-38

With our offerings & Offertory James Lochridge

With Hymns Bill Barrett

Call to Commitment

Sharing

Of our joys, requests, thanksgivings & responses

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Dave Maurer

Sending

Benediction Pastor Dave

Sending hymn

LAST WEEK

Sunday School 55

Worship Attendance 79

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

OUR THANKS TO

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Dick Lindemer

NURSERY:

Today: Elaine Newcomer

Next week: Nellie Lindemer

GREETERS:

Today: Annie Steiner &
Trace Robinaugh

Next week: Savannah Hostetler &
Alex Steiner

SOUND OPERATOR:

Today: Mark Kauffman

Next week: Brody Robinaugh

MEDIA OPERATOR:

Today: Brody Robinaugh

Next week: Annie Steiner

Bethel Mennonite Church	465-4587
P.O. Box 549, 416 Washington Street	www.bethelchurchwl.org
West Liberty, OH 43357	www.wbtv.tv
Pastor: Dave Maurer (pastor@bethelchurchwl.org)	
Office hours: T & Th 9-11:30a; Wed & Fri 9:30-Noon & 1:30-4:30p	
Youth Pastor: Cheryl Shank (youthpastor@bethelchurchwl.org)	
Administrative Assistant: Tesa Jordan (secretary@bethelchurchwl.org)	
Office Hours: Wed & Fri 9am-5pm	
Elders: Carl Newcomer, Dick Lindemer	
Pastoral Care Team: Barb Landes, Barb Kauffman, Dick Lindemer Sharon Showalter, Carl Newcomer, Mark Thomas, Chuck Swartz	
Tech Coordinator: Todd Hostetler	

Celebrating 125 Years

Visual Display for Lent: The two fabrics tied in a knot represent turning the material “upside down and inside out”. God is not content to leave us just as we are, but instead turns our expectations and understandings “upside down and inside out”. The three candles on the table represent each member of the Trinity, God, Savior and Spirit.

THIS WEEK

TODAY

9:30 a.m. — Sunday School

10:40 a.m. — Worship Service Lent II

TUESDAY

9:15a.m.—Ladies Bible Study

Noon—Peace & Justice Lunch

3:00 p.m.—Bethel Homework Help

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m.—Youth Bible Study

THURSDAY

3:00 p.m.—Bethel Homework Help

7:00 p.m. – Ministry of Worship

FRIDAY

6:30 p.m.—Community Movie Night

SATURDAY

8:00 a.m.—Men’s Breakfast

~Daylight Savings Begins~

NEXT SUNDAY –

9:30 a.m. — Sunday School

10:40 a.m. — Worship Service— Pastor Dave speaks on John 3:14-21

Noon – Bethel Brunch Battle Youth Fundraiser

LOOKING AHEAD

Mark your calendars for Directory Portraits March 20 & 21st. If you haven’t signed up yet, see Tesa after the service today.

Bethel Brunch Battle Fundraiser- The youth will be holding a fundraiser for our trip to youth convention on Sunday, March 8th after the service. Each youth will make a brunch dish and decorate a booth. Everyone will sample the dishes before voting for the best one! There will be additional food plus the opportunity to vote for most creative booth! So please plan on coming to this fun and creative event!

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Through the Bible in a Year Reflection Questions: as we journey through the Bible this year, here are a few questions to reflect upon in your reading. More may be found at Pastor Dave’s blog (<http://thequest.blogspot.com/>). A complete list of daily readings is available from the office. **Mar 2-8:**

- In Numbers 11, we read that the people complained in the hearing of the LORD and His anger was aroused. This led to fire that consumed some of the outskirts of the camp. The people then cried out to Moses and Moses prayed to the LORD and then the fire died down. Moses served as an intermediary between the people and God. How is this similar and/or different from our experience of God today?
- Moses became overwhelmed with the people's complaining and the burden that they were to him. In response, God took some of the spirit that was on Moses and divided it among other leaders who would share the burden with Moses. In what ways do we practice this approach to leadership in our modern context? Are there ways in which we could be more intentional about "sharing the burden?"
- After the LORD shared the spirit with the elders, two of the elders who remained in the camp began to prophesy. Joshua became anxious about this and requested that Moses stop them from doing this. Yet Moses replied, "Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the LORD's people were prophets and that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!" How is this reality different for us today within the body of Christ? How does noticing this contrast inform your perspective about the role of the Holy Spirit?
- At the LORD's command, Moses sent twelve men, a representative of each tribe, to explore the land of Canaan and report back on what they found. They explored the land for forty days and reported that the land was plentiful but that it was occupied by powerful people and fortified cities. This report led the people to rebel and ask for a leader who would take them back to Egypt. When have you or the church faced similar fears of where God was taking you? Did the fears win out? What did this mean for the following years? What might you do differently looking back?
- Joshua and Caleb offered a different point of view from the other ten scouts. They affirmed the goodness of the land and believed that with the LORD's favor that the Israelites could overcome those living there. When have you taken a stand against the crowd? Were your words heard or did they fall on deaf ears? Would you make the same choice now?

Freezing temperatures and snow are adding another layer of deprivation to Syrians and Iraqis who have been forced from their homes to escape violence from the Islamic State group and battling armies in Syria. Mennonite Central Committee is calling for financial donations as it provides heating fuel and blankets this winter and continues to address basic needs of food, shelter and education throughout the year. In addition, MCC welcomes contributions of blankets and comforters to replenish the more than 18,500 that were sent to Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria for the winter months. You can donate to the Syria and Iraq crisis response. Make checks out to Bethel Mennonite Church and write "MCC Syria/Iraq" on the memo line.

MCC Peace Gathering in Chicago: You are invited to join Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Great Lakes for an informative day of workshops, worship and dialogue on Sat., March 28. In the morning, pastors are invited to a conversation with MCC staff and board. Beginning at 1:00 p.m., MCC U.S. staff will lead public workshops on immigration, military enlistment, gun violence and anti-oppression. Following the seminars, there will be a short worship service before the opportunity to engage in additional conversation over a light supper. The Peace Gathering will take place at Living Water Community Church (6808 N. Ashland Blvd.) in Chicago. More details, including a full schedule and workshop descriptions, can be found at mcc.org/gl-peace. Please RSVP to Jorge Vielman, Peace & Justice Coordinator, at JorgeVielman@mcc.org or 574-534-4133.

Contributions to Ohio Conference: As Ohio Conference wraps up their fiscal year, they are in need of additional funds. Ohio Conference supports us in a number of ways including resources, grants, and counsel from our regional pastor, Wanda Stopher. If you would like to make a contribution to Ohio Conference, please do so by March 15th. Checks may be made out to Bethel Mennonite with "Ohio Conference" on the memo line and placed in the offering.

Don't miss this once-in-a-generation event! Make plans now to attend PA 2015, the Global Assembly of Mennonite World Conference. Prepare to be transformed as you worship and fellowship with Anabaptist brothers and sisters from around the world. Experience the global Church through five days of great music, inspirational speakers from different countries, small sharing groups, tours, workshops, and much more. PA 2015 will be held July 21-26, 2015 in Harrisburg, PA. Register online now at <https://www.mwc-cmm.org/pa2015>

Bellefontaine High School's Les Fons to perform at Jubilee Mennonite Church. Les Fons presents *It's Just Natural* at Jubilee Mennonite Church on Sunday, March 15, at 3:00 p.m.

Call for Worship and Contemporary Art. Art of many kinds will be on display at PA 2015, the global Assembly of Mennonite World Conference that will be held July 21-26 in Harrisburg, PA. Artists are invited to submit contemporary art for a juried exhibit. Churches are invited to display worship art (banners, tapestries, or other visual pieces) that represent their congregation. There will also be displays of children's art and historical art. For further information visit: https://www.mwc-cmm.org/sites/default/files/website_files/art_call_en.pdf
https://www.mwc-cmm.org/sites/default/files/website_files/banners_call_en1.pdf

Delegate Listening Session: Ohio Conference Delegates met for a cluster meeting on Feb. 26th in preparation for Annual Conference Assembly March 13-14. Information from the cluster meeting has been e-mailed and placed in boxes of those without e-mail. The delegates (Dennis Showalter, Carl Newcomer, Ed Lehman, and Pastor Dave) invite you to come to the fellowship room on Tuesday, March 10th at 7PM, to hear more about this information, ask questions, and share your thoughts as they prepare for the conference meeting. If you are unable to attend, feel free to talk personally with one of the delegates.

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- **Pray for Tom Kxng's** recovery.
- **Pray for Adriel** for their ministry, staff and the children they serve.
- **Pray for the Ohio Conferences Annual Conference Assembly** March 13-14 as delegates meet together and discern.
- **Pray for Mennonite Mission Network personnel in Paris, France – Janie and Neal Blxxgh, Linda Xyer, and Brad and Brenna Steury Grxber** – as they help youth and adults in their congregations and communities make sense of the recent violence. May they help provide a Jesus-centered perspective to the outrage and anger.
- **Please pray with us.** In the next two months, hundreds of people in Zimbabwe, India, Colombia, Indonesia and many other countries will apply and interview for their US visas so they can participate in PA 2015, the global Assembly of Mennonite World Conference, Pray that the visa process will go smoothly for them, so that PA 2015 can be a truly global Anabaptist gathering!