



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 22, 2015 No. 12

Lent V – Upside Down and Inside Out

Preparing

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

First Look

Welcome & Jeremiah 31:31-34 Barbara Evans

Candle Lighting

Prelude Kathy Graber

Call to Authenticity & Opening Prayer

Gathering Hymns Byron Kauffman

Upside Down and Inside Out

Children’s Story Ellen Steiner

Call to Grace

Message “Letting the Seed Coats Decay” Pastor Dave Maurer

Second Look

Reader’s Theater Jr. High SS

Jeremiah 31:31-34

With our offerings & Offertory Ellen Steiner

With Choruses Bill Barrett and Team

Call to Commitment

Sharing

Of our gifts Gifts Discernment Forms

Of our joys, requests, thanksgivings & responses

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Dave Maurer

Sending

Benediction Pastor Dave

Sending hymn

LAST WEEK

Sunday School 67

Worship Attendance 97

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

OUR THANKS TO

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Barb Landes

NURSERY:

Today: Tara Sanford

Next week: Beth Maurer

GREETERS:

Today: Stephen Hostetler & Michael Lehman

Next week: Dennis & Tara Stanford

SOUND OPERATOR:

Today: Larry Evans

Next week: Brody Robinaugh

MEDIA OPERATOR:

Today: Savannah Hostetler

Next week: Savannah Hostetler

Bethel Mennonite Church	465-4587
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West Liberty, OH 43357	www.wbtl.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 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.

TODAY - Bible Quizzing

9:30 a.m. — Sunday School

10:40 a.m. — Worship Service Lent V

5:30 p.m. – Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner

TUESDAY

3:00 p.m.—Bethel Homework Help

WEDNESDAY

Noon- 2pm – Mobile Food Pantry @ WL UMC

4:15 p.m.—Our Daily Bread

THURSDAY

3:00 p.m.—Bethel Homework Help

6:30 p.m.—Stewardship

7:00 p.m.—ADCO

7:45 p.m. – Fivefold Ministry (APEST) Intro in the Sanctuary

NEXT SUNDAY – Palm Sunday

9:30 a.m. — Sunday School

10:40 a.m. — Worship Service— Pastor Dave speaks on Ps. 118:1-2, 19-29

LOOKING AHEAD

Guess Who’s Coming To Dinner? If you signed up to host, or dine, you will be receiving your instructions from Mary Newcomer TODAY!

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Learn More About APEST: As we continue to work at restructuring, council is learning more about the fivefold ministry in Ephesians 4 (Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Shepherd, Teacher). One part of this will be to hear from Blaine Keene, who has been working with his congregation for several years now to incorporate this model of ministry. Blaine will join us on March 26th @ 7:45PM in the sanctuary. All are welcome.

Elevator Attendants Sought: We would like to have 2-3 people willing to serve on a rotation as an elevator attendant before Sunday school and church and following the worship service. This person could operate the elevator and trouble shoot problems. If you have questions or would be interested in assisting with this, please contact Pastor Dave or Tesa.

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 23-29:**

- Joshua 3:3-4 says, "giving orders to the people: "When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it. Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. But keep a distance of about two thousand cubits between you and the ark; do not go near it." Given all of the rapid cultural change around us, many in the church also feel that "we have never been this way before." How do we look for and experience God's leading in the midst of our current landscape?
- The priests went first with the Ark of the Covenant into the Jordan River and the water that was at flood stage stopped flowing, allowing the Israelites to cross on dry land. Once again God acted in a mighty way. The Israelites memorialized this with 12 stones that they took from the middle of the Jordan. How have you experienced God's mighty work in your life? How have you then memorialized this as a way to remember the event and to share it?
- The crossing of the Jordan River on dry ground not only served to demonstrate God's power to the Israelites, but also to those nations who were about to be invaded. What testimonies of God's power in our lives do we have? What impact for the kingdom might sharing those have on others?
- When the commander of the Lord's army came to Joshua, Joshua asked him, "Are you for us or for our enemies?" The commander of the Lord's army replied, "Neither." In a world full of violence and religious rhetoric in which we claim that God is on our side, what might this story suggest to us about who God is really "for?"
- The first battle of conquest in the Promised Land was at Jericho. The Israelites used an unusual battle strategy of marching around the walls once a day for six days and then seven times on the seventh day. The seventh day ended with the people shouting and the walls falling down. Clearly God gave the city to the Israelites. Has God ever asked you to do something out of the ordinary? What was it and what was the result of doing so?
- Achan disobeyed the Lord's instructions and all of Israel got in trouble for this until Achan confessed and was stoned. What do stories like this say to us today?

Holy Week Services: Please mark your calendars with the following dates-

- 4/2 @ 7PM Maundy Thursday Service @ Bethel in the Sanctuary
- 4/3 @ 6:30PM Community Good Friday Service @ Green Hills
- 4/5 @ 8:00 AM Sunrise Service @ Oak Grove
- OR- 8:30AM Sunrise Service @ South Union
 - @ 9:00AM Easter Breakfast @ Bethel in the Fellowship Room
 - @ 9:30 AM Sunday School (optional)
 - @ 10:40 AM Easter Sunday Service.

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 to Bethel Mennonite Church & write "MCC Syria/Iraq" on the memo line.

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 TODAY. 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>

WLC Food Pantry will be closed the 4th Wed. of each month starting Mar. 25 because of a partnership with Second Harvest Mobile Pantry truck. The truck will disperse fresh and frozen food at West Liberty Methodist Church, 202 W. Newell, on the 4th Wed. of each month at noon to Logan County residents. WLC volunteers can help the Mobile Pantry during months when their church serves.

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- **Pray for Chester Lxffer**, and the family of Nancy Loffer. She passed away Sunday night.
- **Pray for Julia Yxder** who was hospitalized at Riverside this week with digestive problems.
- **Pray for Karen Fxlden** and her ongoing health concerns.
- **Pray for Sherry Mxxdows**, former Superintendent of WLS. She has been diagnosed with liver cancer, and lives in AZ. She is hoping to return to OSU for treatment.
- **Pray for Tom Kxng's** recovery. He continues to recover well at Heartland but is in need of an operation on his leg.
- **Pray for Bob McPhxrson** as he recovers from surgery following an accident with taking down a tree. He has multiple broken bones.
- **Pray for Adriel** for their ministry, staff and the children they serve.
- **Pray for Freddy and Margrit Kipfer Barrón of Mennonite Mission Network.** They are using Alpha courses in Bolivia to strengthen existing Mennonite congregations and to lay the groundwork for new ones. Pray that God will water the seeds they are planting and that people will receive Jesus' healing and hope in their lives.
- **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!