



# Bethel Mennonite Church

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

Vol. 59

March 26, 2017

No. 13

## **Gathering – Led by Worship Leader**

Ken Shxnk

### **Announcements**

### **Prelude**

Bill Barrxtt

### **Welcome & Call to Worship**

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### **Psalms**

Psalm 91: 1-6

Psalm 63: 1-8

### **Opening Prayer**

## **Praising**

### **Congregational Singing**

Byron Kauffmxn

### **With our offerings & Offertory**

Ellen Steinxr

### **Prayer of Confession *(see insert)***

Ken Shxnk

## **Praising**

### **Praise**

Ellen Steinxr & Team

## **Proclaiming**

### **Scripture**

Luke 8: 11-15

### **Message** “Lent: Longing, Emptying, Nourishing, Temperance”

Pastor Cheryl Shxnk

Pastor Chuck Swxrtz

### **Communion**

## **Sharing – Led by Pastoral Care Team**

Barb Landxs

Of our joys, requests, thanksgivings & responses

### **Pastoral Prayer**

## **Sending**

### **Sending hymn**

Byron Kauffmxn

### **Benediction**

## **LAST WEEK**

Sunday School Attendance 34 General

Worship Attendance 47

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

## **OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE**

**PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK:** Chuck Swartz

### **GREETERS:**

**Today:** Byron & Barb Kauffmxn **Next Week:** Carl & Elaine Newcomxr

### **MEDIA OPERATOR:**

**Today:** unfilled **Next week:** unfilled

### **SOUND OPERATOR:**

**Today:** Larry Evxns **Next week:** Brody Robinaxgh

Bethel Mennonite Church

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465-4587

[www.bethelchurchwl.org](http://www.bethelchurchwl.org)  
[www.wbtv.tv](http://www.wbtv.tv)

**Pastors:** Cheryl Shxnk ([youthpastor@bethelchurchwl.org](mailto:youthpastor@bethelchurchwl.org))

**Office hours:** M-F 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. by appointment

**Chuck Swxrtz** ([chuckandjeanie@gmail.com](mailto:chuckandjeanie@gmail.com))

**Office hours:** M-W, F 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Th 10 – Noon by appointment

**Administrative Assistant:** Unfilled

Temporary: KJ Schrxck ([secretary@bethelchurchwl.org](mailto:secretary@bethelchurchwl.org))

**Office Hours:** W & F by appointment **Cell Phone: 614-769-1418**

**Elders:** Steve Lxpp, Barb Landxs, Kathy Lehmxn, KJ Schrxck, and Larry Evxns

**Pastoral Care Team:** Barb Landxs, Barb Kauffmxn, Dick Lindemxr,  
Carl Newcomxr, Mark Thomxs, Chuck Swxrtz

## PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- **Please be in continued prayer** – for Pat Yodxr who is home. She welcomes brief visits, but please call first. Thank you for your continued prayers and concern.
- **A BIG Thank you** – to my church family for your prayers, cards, calls and visits during my recent illness. Blessings to you all. – Mary Yxder (*Mary plans to be with us again soon; please pray for her continued strengthening*)
- **Please pray for Michael (MJ) Sharp**, a Mennonite and UN worker, kidnapped along with a UN colleague from Sweden as well as their translator and 3 motorcycle drivers. The UN workers have been on a peacemaking mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- **Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas** – Praise God for the generosity of Bethel College friends and donors, who will be honored with a reception this afternoon, and for the gifts of the Concert Choir as they wrap up their tour with the Home Concert this evening.
- **Please pray for the Mennonite Church USA Executive Board** as it meets March 30-April 1 in Kansas City, Missouri, to worship, discern and care for the business of the church.
- **As a Peace and Justice Group**, we thank you for your monetary support for Mennonite Central Committee's invitation to partner with them. They work at changing lives in a variety of difficult situations and places.
- **In Honor:** The flowers on the organ are in loving memory of J.C. Swartz, Chuck and Jeanie's grandson. He would have been 22 today. We celebrate his memory with Chuck & Jeanie.

## Save the Dates!

Bethel Vacation Bible School

June 5–9, 2017

9:00–11:45 AM



## THIS WEEK

### TODAY – Lent IV

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:40 a.m. – Worship with Pastor Cheryl Shxnk  
Communion

5:00pm – Guess Who's Coming To Dinner?

### TUESDAY

3:00 p.m. – Bethel Homework Help

SATURDAY – April 1<sup>st</sup> (No foolin!)

8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast – Liberty Gathering Place

### NEXT SUNDAY – LENT V

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:40 a.m. – Worship with Larry Evxns

## Prayer of Confession

Gracious and Merciful God, we confess to you our reluctance to enter the wilderness places where we are confronted with our true selves. The places where we are tempted to put worldly values before our desire for you, and when our hunger for power and wealth is greater than our hunger for seeking and doing your will: ***Forgive us, oh God, and increase our trust in you.*** When we are tempted to use the gifts you give us to benefit ourselves at the expense of serving others: ***Forgive us, oh God, and increase our trust in you.*** When we are tempted to use sensational means to increase people's faith rather than being guided by the humility of Christ: ***Forgive us, oh God, and increase our trust in you.*** When we are tempted to use bribery to influence and control people: ***Forgive us, oh God, and increase our trust in you.*** When we are tempted to manipulate you, oh God, to satisfy our own needs: ***Forgive us, oh God, and increase our trust in you.***

*Silent reflection.*

Merciful God, save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. Forgive us our sins and fill us with the joy and peace of your salvation. Strengthen us with your Spirit during this Lenten season that we may put our whole trust in you as confidently as Christ did. This we pray in Jesus Name. Amen.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The transitional prayer team** is suggesting that the Bethel family makes personal Paul's prayer from Ephesians 3:16-20. Pray that God may strengthen us with power through His spirit in our innermost being so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith. Pray that we being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge--that we may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. May we give God the glory as He is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine according to His power that is at work within us. NIV

**Administrative Assistant Search** – With the resignation of our Administrative Assistant, we are in the process of looking for someone to fill this position immediately. If you have interest in exploring this possibility, please contact Larry Evxns by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Fish of a Lifetime!!** – From now through April 15<sup>th</sup>, 50% of the proceeds from the purchase of a Kingdom Talapia sandwich at the Marketplace Café, 130 S. Main St., Bellefontaine, will go to help people in Burkina Faso through our sometime guest speaker Jean-Paul Tiendrebxxgo's organization, Kingdom Investment International. Please enjoy some fish to help in this worthy cause. See the bulletin board or [kingdominvestment.org](http://kingdominvestment.org) for details.

**Mennonite Central Committee is seeking a Young Adult Coordinator:** This position, located in Goshen, Ind., coordinates and recruits for MCC Great Lakes young adult programs, including the International Volunteer Exchange Program (IVEP), Summer Service Worker (SSW) program and the Serving and Learning Together (SALT) program. This position connects with Great Lakes' young adult alumni, especially using social media, and creates opportunities for young adults from the Great Lakes region to develop leadership skills. There is particular emphasis, but is not limited to developing and establishing relationships within the Great Lakes constituent churches and communities of color. This position also performs communications tasks such as relating to media, writing and editing, web updates, and promotion. The communication role will include some tasks for Sharing With Appalachian People (SWAP). For a full job description, visit [mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings](http://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings). Individuals interested in this position should send a cover letter and current resume when they apply online. For more information or questions, contact Amber Fxlcón at 574-534-4133 or [AmberFalcxn@mcc.org](mailto:AmberFalcxn@mcc.org)

**The Peace and Justice Group** suggests contributions to the “Lighthouse Homeless Shelter” in Bellefontaine for a March project. There are currently 2 houses with a capacity of 18 persons. These houses are always full per Deb Storm, who oversees these shelters. Items needed are dish detergent, laundry detergent, toilet paper, blue trash bags (purchased at grocery stores) and monetary donations. (One of the houses has had some “no-frills” renovations with borrowed funds.) Kitchen items and/or furniture useful for setting up an apartment are also requested. There is a box near the church library for donations. Or, please indicate “**Lighthouse Shelter**” on a monetary offering given today or any time before Friday, this week.

**Maple Syrup** – Karl Smxth's cousin will have New York maple syrup available in late April. Price is \$40 per gallon and you are welcome to “go in” with others if that quantity is more than needed. If you are interested, please make checks payable to **Vern Zxhr** and place in a sealed envelope in Karl's Bethel mailbox. Please contact Karl with any questions.

**Church Mission Statement** – Please return the ballot found in your church mailbox with your suggestion(s) for a new church mission statement to Kathy Lehmxxn's mailbox by next Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Community Choir** – The West Liberty ministerial group is organizing a community choir to participate in the **Good Friday** service at Green Hills on April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. All singers are welcome to join the choir by attending rehearsals where two selections will be prepared. Rehearsals will be held at the West Liberty United Methodist Church on Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> from 4-5 pm, both days. For more information call (937) 441-3592

**The Future Church Summit** – will add a new dimension to this summer's Mennonite Church USA Convention, inviting participants to envision an Anabaptist future for the church. Learn more at <http://convention.mennoniteusa.org/future-church-summit/>

**April Calendar** – If you have something to add to the calendar for April, please submit your content by 10:00am, Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!