

Bethel Mennonite Church

“Serving Jesus, Loving Others”

Vol. 64

January 2, 2022

No. 1

Christmas

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp:

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6 (NRSV)

Prelude

Call to worship

Lighting the Christmas candles

Lighting a candle is an act of defiance.
Lighting a candle is a prayer for courage.
Lighting a candle is a step toward God.
God of light and courage, out in the world,
where you are and where I live,
help me today to light a candle,
a candle that radiates your peace and grace.¹

Hymns: To us a Child of hope is born – H #189

The first Noel, the angel did say – H #199 (v. 1,3,5)

Psalm reading: Psalm 91:1-16

Offering & prayer

Offertory

Scripture: Matthew 14:22-33

Message: Fixed on Jesus

Hymn of response: Precious Lord, take my hand – H #575

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

Intercessory prayer

Sending song: Oh, beautiful star of Bethlehem – SS #32

Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Consider sharing your hospitality with the congregation. Sign up to be a greeter in 2022!

Barb & Byron Kauffmxn have a new email address: Their new phone number, xx, is listed in the new directory. Their cell phone numbers remain the same.

David Hostetlrx has moved to the Green Hills Inn,xx.

“Empowered by the Holy Spirit to lead like yourself”. This retreat, Feb. 18-19, is designed to encourage and empower women to lead in our congregation, family, and community. It will take place in Tiffin, OH and features input by Rebecca Sloxgh, retired professor at AMBS. Sponsored by Ohio Conference. See bulletin board &/or talk to Pastor Rebecca if interested.

THIS WEEK

TODAY

9:30 - Sunday School.

10:30 a.m. – Worship. Speaker: Jared Chasx,
pastor of Sharon Mennonite, Plain City

TUESDAY

6:30 p.m. – Ministry of Worship

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:30 a.m. – Worship. Speaker: Rebecca Kauffmxn.

PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK: Carl Newcomxr

LAST WEEK

Worship 35

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

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

This Week – January 2

Worship leader: Doug Steinxr

Music leader: Carl Newcomxr

Speaker: Jared Chasx

Greeters: Mary P & Mary N.

Sound: Andrew Bloxnt

Media: Andrew Bloxnt

Prelude: Elaine Newcomxr

Next Week – January 9

Worship leader: Ken Shxnx

Music leader: Ellen Steinxr

Speaker: Rebecca Kauffmxn

Greeter: Mary Newcomxr

Sound: Mark Kauffmxn

Media: Andrew Bloxnt

Prelude: Ellen Steinxr

¹ Ruth Burgxss, 2017, alt. Printed in *Voices Together*, #1006.

PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- God of all time, as we stand at the door of this New Year, we offer you our desire to walk this year with you. We offer our hopes: that the year will be filled with joy, purpose and fulfillment. But if the year brings hard times and hurt, tears and trials, we know that your care will console us. Grace us with forgiving spirits, with resilience, and with courage to follow as you lead.
- Pray for teachers as they return to the classroom after Christmas break, that they would have energy, creativity and wisdom needed to guide the students in learning.
- Continue to pray for God's healing mercy to be upon Bob Bxss, Peggy Wirxck, Nick Weavxr (relative of Mary N), and Kyle's friend Mackenzix, and others you know.
- Praise God for the joy of being part of a global Anabaptist Christian family! Three Mennonite synods (groups) in Indonesxx are preparing to host the Mennonite World Conference Assembly in July 2022. Pray for organizers as they arrange many details, and pray that public health conditions will allow many people to attend.

As we worship together, please wear a mask especially while singing. The number of Covid-19 cases and community spread in our area continues to be quite high, please take appropriate precautions (using masks and distance) given your own health factors and the vulnerability of those you come into contact with.

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Home Phone

Office hours: T & F 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.,
W & Th 1:00-5:00 p.m. or by appointment

Administrative Assistant: Miriam Lxpp (secretary@bethelchurchwl.org)

Hours: W and F 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Leadership Team: Elaine Newcomxr, Dick Lindemxr, Carol Bxck, Byron Kauffmxn, Doug Steinxr, Ken Shxnk