

First Mennonite Church

TODAY'S SERVICES

December 3, 2017

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

ORGANIST --- Dr. Scott Lehman ✧ WORSHIP LEADER --- Brent Hyman

Prelude *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying/Charwien*

#178 [blue] *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

*Welcome Brent Hyman

Candle of Hope [see responsive reading on the screen]
Chad, Chris, Blake, Brayden & Allyson Gilbert

*#172 [blue] *O Come, O Come, Immanuel* (v. 1)

**Light of the World*

**When Hope Came Down*

**Here I Am to Worship*

Special Music: *Rejoice Greatly from Messiah* Handel
Jackie Stevens

Offering Prayer for Household Treasury/Local Ministries Bill Helmlinger

Offertory: *Wonderful, Merciful Savior* Rodgers/Wyse
Craig & Lora Sprunger
Children ages 3-Grade 4 may walk to children's church.
Guess, please fill out the cards in the pew and drop in the offering plate.

Scripture: Titus 2:11-14 Sarah Wiley

Message *Advent Is....Hope*/Pastor Jeff Linthicum

**Advent Hymn*

Prayer and Share Jane Mosser

MDS Thank You

Announcements

*#191 [blue] *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

*Benediction Pastor Jeff Linthicum

*Postlude *People, Look East!/Langlois*
If you would like someone to pray with you following the service, please go to the chapel, as someone is waiting to pray with you.

*We invite you to stand if you are able.

TODAY AT FIRST MENNONITE

On the scanner and TV today is the Helping Hands class.

The poinsettia by the welcome center is in memory of Dale, Elaine, and Maxiene Lantz and Susie Baumgartner, and has been provided by the Dick Lantz family.

3:00 p.m. Mennonite Choral Society presenting Handels *Messiah*.

This year's commission affirmation balloting will be held today. Balloting will take place before and after Sunday school and after the morning service on the main floor walkway along the chapel wall. You are eligible to vote for each commission under which you serve. You do not have to be a commission or committee member, only serve. You should vote for each commission under which you serve.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

TUESDAY –December 5

6:30 p.m. Sunshine Hour
6:30 p.m. Prayer with a Pastor – Prayer room

WEDNESDAY – December 6

5:00 p.m. Grace Notes Bell Choir
5:45 p.m. Fellowship Meal
6:10 p.m. Little Notes of Praise (4 yr. old – 1st grade) Rm.17
6:10 p.m. Mennonotes – Choir room (grades 6-8)
6:10 p.m. JAM – Rm. 7 (grades 2-5)
6:50 p.m. Grades 1-5 – in the Family Life Center
6:50 p.m. Youth - Youth room
7:00 p.m. Age 4-K – Room at the bottom of the ramp
7:00 p.m. Age 2 & 3 – Toddler Nursery
7:00 p.m. Chapel – DVD: “Is Genesis History?”
7:00 p.m. “Parenting (and Grandparenting): Boundaries on Tech – Protecting from Porn” led by Chris Gilbert – Rm. 15
7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
7:00 p.m. Women’s Ministries – Project Committee Room. Quilting is also available.
7:00 p.m. Prayer Group – Prayer room
8:15 p.m. Chancel Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The offering today and next Sunday is for Household Treasury/Local Ministries.

On Tuesdays for the month of December, Class 96 will be responsible for setting up tables for the Wednesday evening meals.

The menu for Wednesday, December 6: Sloppy Joe sandwich, green bean casserole, chips, applesauce, cookies, hot dogs (kids), & beverages.

Offering envelopes for the New Year will be available next Sunday, December 10. If you would like to begin using the envelope system in 2018, you may pick up a box of envelopes after the worship service in the west walkway above the patio.

"I want a strong biblical faith." "I want a deep personal relationship with God." Does this describe you? First Mennonite Church offers a Scripture memorization plan. Scripture memorization is more valuable today than ever in the individual believer's life. There is nothing more powerful than the word of God to guard hearts and minds and to strengthen the Christ-follower. The assignments are usually 2 verses per week for 15 weeks. Anyone interested in enrolling in the 2018 program beginning in January, please call Judy Moser (589-3108) by Dec. 20.

Would you like a "Prayer Partner" for 2018? There are 2 boxes by the church office (1 for men and 1 for women) that you can put your name, address, phone number and birthday in by December 17th. You will be paired up and notified before the beginning of the year. You may also call Barb Dawson at 589-2655 with the information.

HELP NEEDED: The children's department is looking for new members for our Wednesday night team! Both elementary and preschool teams have open spots. All lessons are prepared by Chris and Debby and require minimal preparation (10 min. or less). We also need volunteers to chaperone the gym from 6:10-6:50. No preparation needed. See Chris or Debby if interested.

Night in Bethlehem will be on December 10 from 5-8p.m. **YES - WE NEED YOU!!** Items needed (please clearly mark items to be returned): Baskets, artificial plants and trees, lanterns, white Christmas lights, wooden boxes, carts, tools, urn style vases, etc., sheets (no floral patterns please - these will NOT be returned). Food donations and volunteers - check the chapel wall for more information. **NEW ITEMS NEEDED:** newspapers (will not be returned), several small hammers and needle-nosed pliers (please mark). All items can be brought to the classroom on the south side of the FLC - marked "Night in Bethlehem."

Youth Cookie Project - Today -- Decorating cookies in the youth room. Dec. 10th -- Delivering cookies. Lunch provided both days.

City Challenge 2018 - We will have a promo night on December 6th, which will entail current and past youth sharing their experiences while they were a part of past City Challenge trips. Everything youth and parents will need to know will be explained, along with packet and forms being handed out.

Youth Christmas Party will be held on December 20th from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. Snacks will be provided. We will have an ugly sweater party, \$5 gift exchange, Christmas carols, & more!

God calls us to encourage each other. Here is a list of December birthdays for missionaries and church staff. A basket will be placed in the foyer in which you may place cards for them, and these will be sent for you.

7 Renee Liechty 12 Josh Linthicum (Jeff) 17 Lillian Meyer (Grant)
18 Bonnie Flueckiger 19 Megan Linthicum 22 Gordon Claassen
26 Mary Hope Stucky 28 Brent Hyman 29 Camden Hyman (Brent)

Congratulations and best wishes of the congregation are extended to Fred & Georgia Amstutz, who will celebrate their 72nd wedding anniversary on Dec. 7.

Upcoming Sunday evenings:

December 10, 5-8 p.m.: A Night in Bethlehem
December 17, 6:30-8 p.m.: Christmas Caroling
December 24, 10 p.m.: Christmas Eve Service