

First Mennonite Church

December 23, 2018

10:00 a.m.

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

Prelude

Noel Novelet/Haan
Carol of the Bells/Wissinger
Youth Bell Choir

Welcome

Pastor Jeff Linthicum

Come and See the Baby
O Come Let Us Adore Him

Little Notes of Praise

O Come All Ye Faithful

Chancel Choir

Forrest

Advent Candle of Love: Isaiah 7:10-14 & I John 4:9-12

Tim, Alyssa, Adia, and Meg Hildebrand

*#255 [brown] *Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming*

**Messiah*

**Make Room*

Mary Did You Know?

Hyman Family

Pentatonix

Will We Know Him?

Mennonotes

Besig

Intercessory Prayer

Kathy Bauman

Joy to the World

Youth Bell Choir
Children age 4-K may walk to Children's Church.

Mallory

Away in a Manger

First Mennonite Men's Quartet

Murray

Offering Prayer for Conference Pastor

Pastor Jeff Linthicum

Offertory: *God Rest You Merry*

Grace Notes

Sherman

Guests, please fill out the cards in the pew and drop in the offering plate.

Scripture: John 15:9-17

Derick Bailey

Message

Pastor Bill Helmlinger

*#208 [blue] *Love Came Down*

*#265 [brown] *The First Noel* (vs. 1,2,5)

The congregation is invited to come forward to sing the "Hallelujah Chorus"

**Hallelujah Chorus*

*Benediction

Pastor Bill Helmlinger

*Postlude

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing/Hustad

TODAY AT FIRST MENNONITE

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

NO EVENING SERVICE

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

MONDAY – December 24

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON

10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

TUESDAY – December 25

NO SUNSHINE HOUR TONIGHT

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

WEDNESDAY – December 26

NO ACTIVITIES TONIGHT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

On Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, there will be no Sunshine Hour due to the holidays.

Next Sunday is Project Share. Our church is requested to provide beans this month; however, all donations are appreciated.

Church Pictorial Online -- The new pictorial directory may be accessed online (photos and names only are provided in the online directory). There is a blue button on the church web page labeled Church Directory. You will need to call the church office for the access code. If you have not picked up your directory yet, please come to the church office during office hours to pick up your copy.

Volunteers needed! If you can help clean the Family Life Center once every two months, please give Steve a call at 525-3174.

New flower calendar for 2019 has been placed on the bulletin board by the church office. You're invited to sign up for Sundays at your convenience.

Treasurers of Sunday School classes, Chancel Choir, Mennonite Choral Society, please turn in your year-end reports by December 31.

Gideons Tree - Have you had a chance to donate a Bible yet?? Please visit the tree in the patio, make a donation, and hang an ornament on the tree!

Wednesday help needed - We are looking for small group leaders for elementary kids on Wed. nights for both Winter and Spring quarter. See Chris or Debby if you can help!

Individual Year-End Giving – In order for year-end contributions to be credited to this year's giving, they must be received at the church office, or postmarked, by December 31. The church office will be open until noon on December 31. Contributions received after December 31 will be posted as 2019 giving.

Year-end reports for Ministries Council, Spiritual Guidance Cabinet, Board of Trustees, Adult Ministries Committee, Endowment Board of Trustees, Worship Commission, Witness Commission, Care Commission, Disciple Commission, and pastors, for the Annual Business Meeting, are due to the church office no later than January 3.

We love babies! And we love their Moms and Dads! In support of Sanctity of Human Life, we are providing you with the opportunity to purchase **new** baby items for The Hope Clinic. We are hosting a church-wide baby shower January 6 - February 3, so that we can bless those who have chosen life for their child. The following are items that are always needed: diaper bags, diapers (**especially sizes 4, 5 or 6**) and wipes, **new** baby equipment (cribs, mattresses, high chairs, baby gates, strollers, carrier infant car seats, car seats for up to 40 pounds, and toddler seats/boosters), crib sheets, laundry soap, potty chair or ring, pacifiers, teething toys, bottles and sippy cups, baby tableware, baby toys, baby clothes (**newborn through 2T**), receiving blankets, and formula. We would especially like to have children's books for infant through at least 3 years of age. Items **not** needed at this time include: baby powder and baby oil. For our mothers, we need gently used maternity clothes in sizes large and extra-large that are suitable for the workplace.

The showcase in the west lobby will again be having the decade wedding photographs for the months of January, February & March. The Historical Committee would appreciate all attendees to supply us with a photograph, preferably a framed 5 x 7 or an 8 x 10. Please bring them to the church office. They will be returned to you in March. Letters are being sent out but if you attend First Mennonite and for some reason, you do not receive a letter, bring your wedding picture in so that it can be included in the showcase. We may not have your wedding date on file. Questions, call Floyd Liechty at 849-1425.

Financial Peace University will be offered on Wednesday evenings beginning January 9 through March 6. Class time will be 6:30-8 p.m. Sign up in the foyer, call the church office, or contact Pastor Jim. Cost options for each family unit: register by December 31 - \$85; register by January 8 - \$100; after classes begin - \$109. Pastor Jeff & Greg Meyer will be leading the class. **For those who have registered, your registration fee is due by the first class.**

February 1-3 - Senior High Winter Retreat @ Camp Luz. Sign up and grab a form out at the table. Cost is \$50 for the first child and \$30 for the second child. Deadline to sign up and turn stuff in is January 27th. Please see Pastor Bill if you have any questions or if finances are an issue. We want your child to go.

February 15-17 - Junior High Winter Retreat @ Camp Luz. Sign up and grab a form out at the table. Cost is \$50 for the first child and \$30 for the second child. Deadline to sign up and turn stuff in is February 10th. Please see Pastor Bill if you have any questions or if finances are an issue. We want your child to go.

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.
26 Mary Hope Stucky 28 Brent Hyman 29 Camden Hyman

Congratulations and best wishes of the congregation are extended to Stan & Dianne Von Gunten, who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 28.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Jim & Janet Dennison in the death of her brother, Dwight Teeple, on December 14.