

IMPORTANT NOTES

Sunday, December 5, 2021

Second Sunday of Advent

Message Naomi Yoder
Scripture Malachi 3: 1-4; Luke 1: 68-79
Philippians 1: 3-11; Luke 3: 1-6

Breaking Bread Groups

The BBG Scripture for this week is Luke 1: 68-79
May God bless each of these groups to be spaces for deep connection with God and one another. If you are still interested in joining a group, please contact Dru Mack, Dorothy Mertz, or Barb and Arlen Welty.

The Bread of Life Food Pantry

This week on Tuesday, November 23, The Food Pantry served 16 families, including 53 individuals. The Food Pantry will remain open each Tuesday morning from 9:00am to 12:00pm. We are using a “drive through” method in order to best serve our guests. Please pray for our guests and the faithful volunteers who come to serve each week.

Last Week by the Numbers - November 21, 2021

Thank you for sending your tithes and offering by mail or online. The mail is collected regularly and a deposit made each Wednesday. Working together enables us to continue to support the services we provide.

General Fund	\$4,915.00
Scholarship Fund	300.00
Mission Fund (Deus chicken proj.)	2000.00
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Total	\$7,215.00
Amount needed per Sunday for 2021 General Fund	\$7,565.23
Amount currently behind projected budget	(\$3,822.04)



WELCOME!

Worship Service

In Person and Online
10:30 a.m.

Pastoral Team

Merle Hostetler
574 849-4654
merleh@eastgoshenmc.org

Naomi Yoder
865-924-3983
naomiy@eastgoshenmc.org

You are welcome to call anytime to make an appointment. Occasionally pastoral responsibilities take pastors away from the office.



www.eastgoshenmc.org

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egmc@eastgoshenmc.org

Church Staff
Office Administrator
Carol Birky

**Church office hours are 9:00am
-12:30pm office each weekday
morning.**
carolb@eastgoshenmc.org

Custodians
Ray & Jenny VanDaele

Church Treasurer
Ina Kauffman

Assistance Available
There are large print hymnals available on the Welcome Center. For a hearing assistance device, stop by the tech booth in the northwest corner of the sanctuary.

Please send information items for the *Pathways* newsletter to the church office by Thursday morning. The email address is egmc@eastgoshenmc.org.

IN OUR CONGREGATION

Worship Sunday, November 28:
Our 10:30 worship service will be on Zoom this week using our usual EGMC link.

On behalf of the Worship Ministry, we would like to say thank you to our Zoom team, our camera and streaming team, our sound system team, our worship planning teams, and pastors Merle and Naomi. Thank you for all you do, both what we see AND what we don't. These roles are all a vital part of worshipping together as a church body. We would also like to extend an invitation to everyone who may feel called to join these teams as we are in need of more volunteers! Please be in touch the Worship Ministry (Bethany Boese, Jana Yoder & Teresa Sherrill) if you're willing to help or have questions about what these roles entail. Thank you!

Save the Date: Plans are being made for an outdoor Christmas “Song and Scripture” service on Sunday, December 19 at 6:00 pm. Prior to this service, there will also be an opportunity for anyone who is interested to go caroling. We will meet at the church at 4:00 pm. Hot drinks and snacks will be served.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Men's Fellowship Lunch, every Thurs, 11:30am. lower level kitchen at EGMC
- Congregational Meeting, 4:00 pm, Sunday, Dec. 5.

Birthdays & Anniversaries this week
Nov. 28, Roger & Dorothy Mertz
Nov. 29, Judy Yoder
Randy & Debby Ouimet
Nov. 30, Merle & Mary Hostetler
Wilbur & Norma Kaufman
Dec. 5, Mike & Teresa Sherrill

NOVEMBER 28, 2021

NEWS AND NOTES

PATHWAYS

IN OUR PRAYERS

Our congregation, Growing as passionate followers of Jesus.

Elkhart County and our healthcare facilities, as we contend with this current rise in COVID-19 cases.

Jim Noyer, family member of Olivia Renze, who is awaiting open heart surgery. There is a significant wait for surgery due to hospitals being understaffed and full with COVID.

Mary Kathryn, sister of Evelyn Smith, died in Harrisonville, MO. we remember the Smith family as they grieve the recent loss of Evelyn and also her sister.

Kent Wildman, Kari's father, who is recovering from a successful brain bleed surgery.

Dorothy Gangwer, who is recovering from COVID and anticipating a move to Greencroft healthcare in the coming weeks.

Julianna, cousin of Naomi's mother Thea Yoder, for deep and consistent rest and healing as Julianna recovers from cancer surgery.

Our Food Pantry: Sara Chupp and other volunteers as they offer hope through food distribution and gracious interactions.

Remembering those in other places:

- **Rosa Powell** is attending The Wilderness Way Girls' School Camp in South Carolina.
- Rosalinda Powell
c/o Wilderness Camp
175 Camp School Lane
Fair Play, SC 29643
- **Caleb & Nina Longenecker Fox** in Quito, Ecuador,
- **Adrian, Susie and family**, Serving in Djibouti, Pray for connections and chances to be the fragrance of Christ.

Indiana Michigan Mennonite Conference Weekly Prayer Focus:
Bonneyville Mennonite Church

IN OUR CONGREGATION

A reminder from our finance team: On-line contributions are posted the day they are deposited. If you want them credited to this calendar year they need to be deposited by Dec. 31, 2021. If you mail a check we will use the date of the check as the date of the contribution. The money that arrives to the office is deposited each Wednesday afternoon. If you have questions regarding year end giving, contact Millard Graber.

Storm Clean-up at Amigo Centre: Amigo Centre is grateful to have had many people help with clean-up following the significant damage sustained during a storm in August of 2021. A logging crew was also brought in to do a salvage-harvest of the downed and damaged trees. With the logging crew nearly finished, it is time to begin cleaning up the trails so that they can once again be used.

Plans are being created for a clean-up blitz from **November 29 to December 4, from 9am to 4pm each day.** Large machine and tractor operators have been arranged, but volunteers are needed to run chainsaws and move branches.

To volunteer, contact Cheryl at (269) 651-2811, extension 105. or contact Michael Grieser. It is important to let us know if you plan to attend so that enough food can be prepared for volunteers.

It's that time of the year! *The Bread of Life Food Pantry* will once again be distributing hats, gloves (preferably waterproof ones), scarves, and stocking hats in memory of Marv Graber during the month of December. This year, we will also be adding warm socks (all sizes.) We could especially use women's gloves, scarves and socks. Items can be delivered to the church office, or contributions made through designated giving marked for the Christmas project. Questions can be directed to Dorothy Mertz or Sara Chupp.

Holiday Market: Sunday, Dec.12,

I will be at Goshen Farmers Market from 3:00-7:00pm for the Holiday Market. The proceeds from the wood creations I sell will be given to the EG MYF. Come out and do your Christmas shopping while supporting our youth in the process! More details on the EGMC Facebook page.

Bruce Schlabach

OUR CONGREGATION & COMMUNITY

A Film About Mental Health, Resilience and Hope:

See "*NO FEELING IS FINAL*" from Ted & Co. TheaterWorks online this Tuesday, Nov. 30. at 7:30 p.m. EST, as part of a #GivingTuesday fundraiser for the Center for Art, Humor, and Soul (CAHS). CAHS, established in 2019 by Swartz and several fellow artist-colleagues, is advancing the arts and spirituality in a culture that desperately needs new stories to shape a just and grace-filled society.

Tickets at: forms.gle/9YJBhFHPbqo5pe1z7 for the virtual screening and consider an additional gift to CAHS on #GivingTuesday. More information about the event at <https://fb.me/e/1RnwDsEKU> Contact Michelle Milne at mmilne@gmail.com or John Leonard at office@tedandcompany.com with any additional questions.

Racism and the Church with Rev. Dr. Velda Love: Join Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) for the fourth and final MCC U.S. Color of Compromise webinar on December 2 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. EST. Rev. Dr. Velda Love, United Church of Christ Minister for Racial Justice, will share on the complicity of the Church in racism and how all can journey as a witness and transformative presence with God's beloved inclusive global community. Dr. Love's work centers on addressing historical and contemporary injustices resulting from systemic, structural and individual racism. She develops and leads trainings and workshops on reparatory racial justice including the UCC Join the Movement Toward Racial Justice Campaign. More information and registration at: mcc.org/color-of-compromise

Woodland Crossing, an MCC Thrift shop in Elkhart, will be opening in 2022! This new MCC Thrift shop is intentionally located in South central Elkhart to provide quality and affordable used items to local neighborhoods that are under-sourced while at the same time raising financial resources for MCC. We hope to be a welcoming presence and provide support in the local community. "Thrift at Woodland Crossing" (located at the former Pierre Moran Mall) will be easily visible and accessible for anyone shopping, volunteering or dropping off donations. The shop is set to open in the spring of 2022. We hope to gain access to the space in January 2022 for renovations once the owners complete some necessary repairs. In the meantime, the 501c3 status is in process and fundraising has begun for start-up expenses. We are currently recruiting for a General Manager. The job description is available upon request. Names of volunteers are being gathered. For questions, contact Joy Yoder at Elkhartthrift@gmail.com or 574-534-4133.