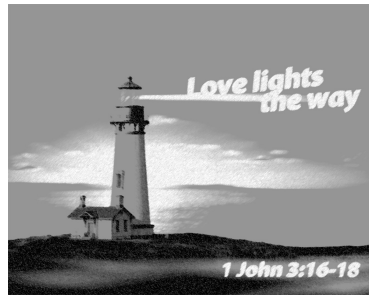


ADVENT 4
Yes! Let it Be!
Let it Be Now!

Luke 1:26-38 and Romans 16:25-27



OFFICE SCHEDULE:

Pastor (Mel Hathaway):

- Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
- Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-noon
- ✦ Will not be in the office on Monday–Christmas day

Youth Pastor (Ora Shetler):

- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9:00-11:30 a.m.
- ✦ Will not be in the office on Monday–Christmas day

Secretary (Ellen Nussbaum):

- Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- ✦ Will not be in the office on Tuesday; office hours only on Thursday and Friday this week

LOOKING AHEAD

2018 4F dates: January 10, 17, 24 & 31, February 7 & 14

February 23-24, 2018, Sonnenberg Marriage Retreat

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 \*\*Sami Squad Contact: Gordon Amstutz, 330/465-8007\*\*



**LAST SUNDAY'S RECORD - December 17, 2017**

Attendance: SS - 90; Worship - 107  
 Offering: Budget: \$3,424.00  
 CCS Tuition: \$885.00  
 Maple Syrup Missions: \$38.00  
 Outreach & Service Ministry: \$90.00  
 Alternative Christmas–Food: \$49.00  
 Building Rent: \$30.00

**TOTAL: \$4,516.00**

- **Scrip Sales** 12/17/2017: \$620.00; 2017-18: \$23,260.00
- **2017-18 CCS Tuition Fund Monthly Payments: \$7,400.00**  
 –December payment has been made  
 –Short for December payment: (\$4,135.48)

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 **If you are interested in being a part of a small group,
 please contact the church office.**

Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation
Sonnenberg Mennonite Church

14367 Hackett Rd., P.O. Box 226, Kidron, OH 44636

Phone: 330/857-8222

website: www.sonnenbergmc.org

e-mail (church): sonnenbergmc@embarqmail.com

e-mail: (Mel) smcpastor@embarqmail.com

e-mail: (Ora) smcyouthpastor@embarqmail.com

PASTORAL TEAM

Mel Hathaway, Pastor, Cell Phone: 330/601-6518

Ora Shetler, Youth Pastor, Cell Phone: 330/464-6900

Michael Amstutz, Leader

Virgene Steffen, Visitation Team Coordinator

Donna Johnston, Caring Fund Dave Ross, Secretary



Sonnenberg
Mennonite
Church

December 24, 2017

Volume LXIV, No. 52



A special welcome to our guests! Our praise to our creator will be more joyful because you are worshipping with us. Please register at the guest book in the foyer.

9:00-9:30 AM Alternative Christmas Celebration

9:30 AM Sunday School

*Classes for all ages;
 Nursery through Adult;*

Yes!
Let it Be!

Advent 4

10:20 AM Prelude

10:30 AM WORSHIP

Gathering as Community

Welcome & Announcements

♪ *O Come All Ye Faithful*

WB 212

♪ *To Us a Child of Hope Is Born*

WB 189

Call to Worship

Lighting of Advent Candle

Responsive Reading

♪ *God Has Chosen Me*

SS 114

Offering/Offertory: *Hallelujah*

Children's Story

Hearing God's Word

Scripture: Luke 1:26-38, Romans 16:25-27

Message: *Let it Be Now*

Responding and Sending

Confession

♪ *Take, O Take Me As I Am*

SJ 81

Words of Assurance

Congregational Prayer

Dialogue between Wisdom and Wonder

Benediction

♪ *Oh, Beautiful Star of Bethlehem*

SS 32

MYF Coffee Bar: Rod & Susan Neuenschwander, Rebekah & Levi Amstutz
Prelude/Offertory: Pam Taylor
Worship Leader: Rita Miller
Song Leader: Ellis Miller
Children's Story: Trent Metcalf
Message: Mel Hathaway
Sound & Lights: Conrad Neuenschwander
Digital Arts: Phil Raber
Nursery: Susan Neuenschwander, Abby Ross
Pastoral Team Greeter: Dave Ross
Guestbook Greeters: Jane & Lloyd Miller
Advent Visual: Donna Johnston & Michele Patterson
Valet: Keith Sommerfeld
Ushers: Mike & Mim Lehman, Galen Miller, Steve Gerber, Spencer Mason

Today's Activities

11:45 AM Scrip Sales at the Welcome Center today. Only Scrip on hand is available...no outside orders today.

6:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service—Everyone is welcome to join us for this time of worship to celebrate together the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

THE CHURCH THIS WEEK

Monday

Christmas Day

Wednesday

6:00 p.m. **Worship Ministry**

7:00 p.m. **MYF White Elephant and Ugly Christmas Sweater Christmas Celebration**

Thursday

9:30-10:15 a.m. **Men's Coffee & Fellowship** at Kidron T&C

7:00 p.m. **Praise & Prayer** at Eileen Lehman's

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship - *Christmas, Yes! Let it Be! Let it Be New*,
Luke 2:22-40 and Galatians 4:4-7

11:45 AM Scrip Sales at the Welcome Center

11:45 AM Health Ministry; nurse is Janice Geiser

MYF Coffee Bar: Chip & Martha Coleman, Bethany Masters, Ethan Ross

Altar Arrangement: Donna Johnston & Michele Patterson

Guestbook Greeter: Eileen Lehman

Pastoral Team Greeter: Virgene Steffen

Nursery: Jeanette Miller, Cassandra Johnston

Valet: Galen Miller

Ushers: Trent & Alice Metcalf, Jim Johnston, Mark Johnston, Levi Amstutz

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

IN OUR PRAYERS:

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER: *Ora Shetler as he recovers from surgery on his ankle—praise that he is able to put weight on his foot again; Praise that **Emma Zuercher** is doing well following emergency outpatient surgery to remove her appendix last Sunday morning.*

THOSE IN MISSION: *Linda Horn, Thailand; Joel/Ruthy Miller, Mexico; José/Alfonsina Oyanguren family, Argentine Chaco.*

WEEKLY MISSIONS PRAYER EMPHASIS: *Pray for the 53 Evangelical Mennonite Church of Argentina congregations and their 31 missionary church plants throughout the country. May God provide all that is needed so their zeal for introducing people to Jesus may be fruitful.*

SHARING/ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please note that if you have announcements or prayer concerns, please jot them down and give them to the worship leader or to Pastor Mel Hathaway prior to the worship service.

2017-2018 BUDGET UPDATE/YEAR-END GIVING: Fiscal year to date budget giving is \$52,317, as compared to budget for the first four months of \$75,159, which means budget giving is running behind by \$22,842 or is 30% below budget. Year to date expenses are \$62,219, which after budget giving and other budget income, we are currently \$5,294.38 behind, so expenses are higher than income for the first four months. The good news is that we still have two Sundays in December to get closer to budget and covering our expenses. CCS Tuition is also running behind, currently at (\$4,135.48) after December's payment. As you think about year-end giving, prayerfully consider additional giving toward our budget and CCS Tuition fund needs.

OUTREACH & SERVICE MINISTRY ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION final day is **today**, December 24, from 9-9:30 a.m. Plan to join in this time of fellowship and enjoy the Alternative Christmas displays, good music, World Crafts table, food provided by the Sunday School classes (today is Encouragers and Spiritual Vitality Seekers), and hot drinks by the MYF. Contributions will be accepted for the food and drinks and for MCC projects. Total received to date for MCC and World Crafts is \$2,990.84.

PRIMARY LIBRARY CHRISTMAS TREASURE HUNT ends today. This is the last Sunday to check out your fourth Christmas book. Next Sunday, December 31, please bring your written record of the four books you have read or that someone has read to you and you will receive your treasure.

VENTURE CLUB (Grades 3-8) will be starting up in January. Our first meeting will be January 3, 6:30 p.m., at the home of Mel & Dottie Hathaway. We are inviting parents to this meeting to look at the schedule and talk about the rest of the year. We will have activities and refreshments. Please RSVP to Dottie to let her know if you will be attending.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS ordered from the Venture Club are still available to take home, if you have not already done so. Extra poinsettias are also available if you are interested in purchasing one. Cost is \$10 each. See Joyce Taylor.

SCRIP: Thank you so much for your Christmas Scrip orders these last several weeks! Note that there will be no outside orders yet today. Scrip on hand will be sold as it is available. Next date for outside orders will be next Sunday, December 31.



*May the peace of Christ
be with you during this
Christmas season and always*