

**AKRON MENNONITE CHURCH**  
**August 5, 2018**  
**Between Heaven and Mirth**

**GATHERING/PRAISING**

Song of praise  
HWB 6 (blue)

*Here in this place – stanzas 1, 2, 4*

Welcome  
Introduction of guests & Announcements  
Prayer

HWB 71 (blue)

*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee*

*I've got the joy, joy, joy*

1. I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart (where?)
2. I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus down in my heart (where?)
3. I've got the peace that passeth understanding down in my heart (where?)
4. I've got the wonderful love of my blessed redeemer  
way down in the depths of my heart (where?)

Confession  
(screen)

*Litany of humor*

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

*If you're happy and you know it*

Children's time

Dot Hershey

Children ages 2-4 are dismissed for preschool church in Room 16 with Linda Good, Marilyn Langeman, & Esther Nolt

Scripture  
Sermon

*Jesus and Norman the Blind Guy* (John 9:1-32)

*Laughing matters*

Karyn Nancarvis

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

*From the inside out*

Work in us, transformer. Work in us, change-maker.  
Work in us, life-giver. Work in us, chain-breaker.  
Work in us, always changing, renewing, rearranging,  
Transforming from the inside out.

Offering and offertory  
Offertory prayer

Sarah Pereverzoff

Prayers of the people

Rachel Nolt

HWB 427 (blue)  
Benediction

*You shall go out with joy*

Musicians  
Song Leader  
Worship Leader

Patricia Martin & Leon Myers  
Ron Guenther  
Rachel Nolt

**Scripture next week:** Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7; Rachel Nolt, preacher

A special thank you to Jeff Raught for writing and directing the Readers' Theater in today's worship service.

The song "From the inside out" was written by Ken Medema.

Thanks to the following persons for sharing a different perspective for the scripture reading today: Peter Clemens, Ron Guenther, Chris Hostetter, Tim Langeman, Anna Nancarvis, Karyn Nancarvis, Lydia Nolt, H.A. Penner, Jeff Raught, Jerry Shank, Charity Shenk, Gavin Shenk, Hibist Siyoum, Richard Weaver, and Theo Zook

**PLEASE JOIN US (9:30 – 10:15 am)**

Everyone is welcome to participate in coffee/tea fellowship before the worship service. Guests, please sign the guest book in the foyer.

**SECOND HOUR FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES (9:00 – 10:00 am)**

Adults

The *Seven Stories* class will meet at 9:00 am in Rm. 222 for conversation with Norman Lowry, a disciple of Jesus whom most might characterize as "radical" because of his resistance to American imperialism. Depending on the interest of class members, the class may continue to meet at 9:00 am during August. It will definitely meet in September and October.

Children and Youth

Classes will take a break during August, and resume September 10.

**AMONG THOSE SERVING TODAY**

**Greeters:** Don & Ruth Hertzler, Marilyn Langeman

**Sound/AV Operator:** Tim Nancarvis

**Nursery (Worship):** as needed

**Coffee Servers:** Jeanette & Herman Bontrager

**Mug Washers:** Richard & Ruth Weaver

**Ushers:** Steve Hartzler (Head usher), Marvin Nolt, Helena Dueck, Jane Hartzler, Clyde Martin

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

August 7

Lunch Bunch meets @ 11:30 am @ Oregon Dairy

August 8

Coffee & Conversation 10:00 – 11:30 @ Landis Homes, Kirkview Lounge

August 8

Luther Acres residents' gathering 12:00 – 1:00 @ The Round

August 15

Coffee & Conversation 10:00 – 11:30 @ Landis Homes, Hybrid #1 Community Rm.

August 18

Benefit cabaret for March for our Lives at AMC (more info to come)

**Save these Dates:**

October 26-27 ACC Annual Assembly at AMC  
March 30, 2019 MYF Auction

**Mennonite Youth Fellowship (MYF - Grades 9-12)**

August 24-26 Annual Planning Retreat at Paradise Lake

**PRAYERS**

I am grateful for all who are with me on this journey, and for the cards, food, encouragement, flowers and prayers. -- Margaret Eby

Ruth and Lowell Detweiler are grateful for prayers and visitors as Ruth remains in Manheim House, Room 139 at Landis Homes.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**AUTHOR ANNE LAMOTT** wrote, "Laughter is carbonated holiness." Theologian Reinhold Niebuhr said, "Humor is, in fact, a prelude to faith; and laughter is the beginning of prayer." During August we hope to experience joy, humor, holiness and laughter in our worship services, "Between Heaven and Mirth" (based on *Between Heaven and Mirth: Why Joy, Humor, and Laughter Are at the Heart of the Spiritual Life* by James Martin, SJ.) The worship planning group (Rich Crockett, Pat Martin, Carla Neufeld, Karyn Nancarvis, Rachel Nolt, Deb Sprunger, and JW Sprunger) is planning worship services to begin at **10:30am in the Assembly Room starting August 5 (today). Come at 9:30am** to enjoy a cup of coffee and the fellowship of others. May our hearts be filled with laughter.

**PETER WISE** has extended his term with Mennonite Voluntary Service (a program of Mennonite Mission Network) for another year. He serves with the Rio Grande Farm Park in Alamosa, CO. You are invited to make contributions toward Peter's support. These will supplement the \$ 2,000 that will be provided through the Missional Challenge Fund. Please make your check payable to AMC and note that it is for "Peter Wise MVS support." You can also donate directly to MVS at this link: <https://www.mennonitemission.net/donate>

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE** a monthly newsletter from Ross and Abby Williamson, please sign up via this link: <http://eepurl.com/dtFEQH> Ross (former AMC MYF'er) and his wife Abby are heading to Nepal to serve through KISC. They shared at AMC on July 22. A printed copy of their July newsletter is on the AMC bulletin board.

A "**Candles on the Water**" service commemorating the 73<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will be held at the Market Square Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg at 7 p.m. **today** (Sunday, August 5), to remember the victims and to provide education about the ongoing nuclear threat. The evening will include music, poetry, presentations and a silent procession to the riverfront to launch biodegradable lanterns at sunset. Parking is available in the garage next to church at 20 S. Second Street. Those wishing to carpool can contact H.A. Penner at [penner@dejazzd.com](mailto:penner@dejazzd.com) or 717-859-3529.

**STRING BAND CONCERT:** Nathan Bontrager, son of Herman and Jeanette, will be playing a house concert with his UK-based band, the Limited Liability String Band, on Tuesday, August 7th beginning at 7pm at the following address: 211 S President Ave, Lancaster Twp. All are welcome and are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket along as the concert will be outdoors, weather permitting. Please RSVP to [bontrager.nathan@gmail.com](mailto:bontrager.nathan@gmail.com)

<b>GIVING &amp; BUDGET</b>		
Giving for General Fund	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
	\$ 5,659	\$ 246,531
2018 Budget Goals	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
	\$ 9,800	\$ 294,200
2018 Income Budget:	\$ 510,000	
Attendance Last Sunday:	135	

Church office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm  
Church Office: (717) 859-1488 || 1311 Diamond Street || Akron, PA 17501