

**THANKS** to Delores Nolt for the lovely fall/Thanksgiving visual in the foyer.

**PUERTO RICO HURRICANE RESPONSE:** In response to urgent needs, ACC is partnering with MCC and MDS to provide 2,000 food parcels that will be distributed through local Mennonite congregations. Each parcel costs approx. \$20 for the box, contents, warehouse space, and shipping. ACC is hoping to raise \$ 40,000 to cover the cost of the parcels. Individuals and congregations who would like to contribute to the project may send a check to MDS designated Puerto Rico. Contributions can also be made through the MDS website under Hurricane relief and designate it "Hurricane Maria - Puerto Rico".

**THE CHRISTMAS PEACE PILGRIMAGE** will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9. The 10 mile walk from Nazareth to Bethlehem, Pa. is symbolic of the journey of Mary and Joseph and is followed by a meal and speaker. Bring your family and friends and make new friends as you walk and pray for peace. For more information see <https://www.peacewalk.org/> or talk to Nelson or Grace Weber.

**COPIES** of the 2016-2017 AMC Annual Report are available on the Welcome Table.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The bulletin will be distributed and printed on Wednesday next week. Please send your bulletin announcements to Rebecca by noon on Wednesday. Thanks.

**PLEASE SEND** your December newsletter submissions to the church office by Monday, November 27. Thanks.

**PASTORAL CARE:** Rachel Nolt and Melody Rupley are coordinating pastoral care needs. Melody will provide pastoral care each Monday when Rachel is not in the office. If you have a pastoral concern and wish to speak to Rachel, you may contact the church office Tuesday through Friday from 8 am to 3 pm. Tuesday through Friday evenings you may contact Rachel on her cell phone, 574-538-7138. In an emergency you may contact Rachel or Melody. Depending on the situation, Melody will initially attend to matters in the Akron/Ephrata area, and Rachel will cover Lancaster and other areas.

**THE PRAYER GROUP** that has formed to pray for our congregation and the broader Church will next meet on Thursday, 30 November at 12:30 pm in Rachel's office.

**LECTIO DIVINA:** All are invited to join Rachel Nolt in her office each Tuesday at 7:30 am for this spiritual practice of "divine or sacred reading."

**GIVING & BUDGET**

Giving for General Fund	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Weekly Budget</u>
	\$ 13,158	\$ 9,700
Year-to-date General Fund	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
	\$ 400,490	\$ 444,400
January-December 2017:	\$ 510,000	
Attendance Last Sunday:	156	

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

**AKRON MENNONITE CHURCH**

**November 19, 2017**

**9:00 am**

**GATHERING/PRAISING**

The peace lamp is lit because we know that not all is right in our world. It is lit in confidence that God's love and peace will illuminate our world and our lives. It signals our desire to join God's gracious work of shalom.

Prelude music Patricia Martin  
Welcome & Introduction of guests  
Call to worship

HWB 26 (blue) *Holy Spirit, come with fire*  
STS 55 (purple) *Love the Lord your God*

Offering and offertory *Cantique de Jean Racine* Men's Choir  
Offertory prayer Claire Magill

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

HWB 20 (blue) *Come and see*  
Children's time Sandra Richard Wood  
Children ages 2-4 are dismissed for preschool church in Room 16 with Lynne Beth & Hibist Siyoum

Scripture Daniel 3:1-30  
Sermon *Through the Fire* Rachel Nolt

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

STS 31 (purple) *Jesus, be the center*  
Recognizing our sages (65 years)

HWB 353 (blue) *Lord, listen to your children praying* Lydia Nolt  
Prayers of the people

**LIVING AS COMMUNITY**

Announcements  
HWB 429 (blue) *Go now in peace*  
Sending blessing

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Musicians children K-grade 2, Amy Burkholder, Diane Gehman & Leon Myers  
Song Leader Patricia Martin  
Worship Leaders Claire Magill & Lydia Nolt

**Scripture next week:** Ezekiel 37:1-14; Herman Bontrager, preacher

Thanks to the following persons for participating in the dramatic reading of the scripture today: Chris Hostetter, Chris Martin, Ed Miller, Aaron Smee, John Stoner, Sandra Thorpe, and Bob Wyble.

**PLEASE JOIN US (10:15 – 10:40)**

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

**SECOND HOUR FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES (10:40 – 11:40)**

Adults

**Today only:** Urbane Peachey will share stories from his Memoir, More Than One Thing is True: Agony and Ecstasy Below Cloud Nine. Urbane will comment on the title, finding safety in a bathtub in a time of war and airlifting cows to Jordan in nonstop living with Muslims and Eastern Christians. Most of the time will be given to personal/spiritual satisfaction of “crossing the lines” as pastor at AMC from 1985 to 2000. Copies of the Memoir are already available in the AMC library. Class will meet in the Assembly Room.

**Real Life, Real Families:** Karyn Nancarvis will facilitate a discussion around family dinner. Class meets in the Sanctuary. All are welcome.

**Koinonia Class:** This class is studying Richard Rohr’s book Immortal Diamond. Don and Lin Good, Facilitators. Meets in Room 222.

Children and Youth

Taught by members of the church who graciously volunteer their time. See below for locations.

Nursery age - - - - -	Nursery
Ages 2 -4 - - - - -	Rooms 16/18
Kindergarten-5th Grade - - - - -	Rooms 131, 132, 133 (lower level)
Jr. MYF (6-8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Youth) - - - - -	Room 122/124 (lower level)
MYF (High School Youth) - - - - -	MYF Room

**AMONG THOSE SERVING TODAY**

**Greeters:** Karen & Kevin King, Helena Dueck  
**Nursery Worship:** TBD/as needed  
**Coffee Servers:** Dale & Dot Hershey  
**Ushers:** Daryl Mack (Head usher), Sarah Eby, Bernice Valverde, Norm Wood

**Sound/AV Operator:** Delmar Zimmerman  
**Nursery DH:** TBD/as needed  
**Mug Washers:** Janet & John Stoner

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

November 19 **Today** 55+ meets @ AMC @ noon  
 November 21 Women’s Brown Bag Lunch 11 am to 1 pm; Kirkview Lounge @ Landis Homes; hosted by Ginny Ebersole and Esther Hostetter  
 November 23 & 24 Church Office is closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday

November 30	Cemetery Association and Trustees Meeting @ 7:00 pm
December 5	Lunch Bunch @ Oregon Dairy @ 11:30 am
December 6	Library Committee Meeting @ 6:00 pm
December 6	Stewardship Committee Meeting @ 6:30 pm
December 7	Men’s Breakfast @ Udder Choice @ 7 am; Bob Peifer, presenter
December 13	Luther Acres lunch gathering 12 – 1:30 pm
December 13	Connect @ AMC @ 6:00 pm
December 17	AMC Christmas Program and Tea @ 6:00 pm
December 24	Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols service @ 7:00 pm
January 20, 2018	MYF Spaghetti Supper
March 24, 2018	MYF Auction

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

- November 19 **Today** First annual Youth “MennosGiving” 4 – 8 pm in the Assembly Room
- December 2 Help with Meals on Wheels (see Karyn for details)
- December 3 Christmas caroling with F.L.I.P. and Share-A-Life programs
- December 9 Supper club at Susan King’s

**PRAYERS**

Let’s hold Dave and Flo Harnish and the extended family in our prayers as Flo remains in hospice care at home.

Evie Gerstlauer came home on Thursday and is recovering well. She requests continuing prayers for her health.

Ruth Detweiler will have back surgery on November 21 at Ephrata Hospital. She asks for prayers for good healing.

Continue to hold Randy and Jolene Newcomer and their extended family in your thoughts and prayers as they walk these days with Randy’s father, Mervin Newcomer (82) who is in hospice care at Ephrata Manor.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THANKS** to all who helped Nzabarinda Rwajekare, Jennifer, Dusenge and Esther find and move to their new home at 535 East Main Street in Ephrata. Once again a lot of people working together made a large task possible.

**THE WOMEN’S THIRD TUESDAY BROWN BAG LUNCH** will be held this Tuesday, November 21 at Landis Homes in the Kirkview Lounge from 11 am until 1 pm, hosted by Esther Hostetter and Ginny Ebersole. Come and enjoy a time of informal conversation with other women who attend AMC. This is a drop in; come for the full two hours or half an hour on your lunch break. Bring your own lunch and Ginny and Esther will provide water and coffee and hospitality! (Directions: Come in the west entrance to Landis Homes and park in front of the Residential Living entrance. There will be signs inside pointing you toward the Kirkview Lounge. Call Ginny (509-5864) or Esther (519-2657) or Ruth Weaver (581-3812) if you have any questions.)