

Gathering together

Prelude
STS 16 (purple) *Peace before us*
Words of welcome
Call to worship
Prayer Men’s choir *We Seek Thy Peace*

Praising God

Scripture reading *Psalms 112* (from *Psalms for Praying: An Invitation to Wholeness*)
HWB 103 (blue) *Jubilate Deo omnis terra*
(screen) *In the Lord*

Waiting in prayer

Scripture reading *Matthew 5:13-16*
(screen) *Bless the Lord*

Discerning together

Scripture reading *1 Corinthians 2:1-12*
Instructions
HWB 348 (blue) *O Lord, hear my (our) prayer*

Life together in community

Men’s Choir *Alleluia*
Offering and offertory
Introduction of guests & announcements
Prayers of the people
Benediction

+++++

Children ages 2-4 are dismissed following Children’s time for preschool church in the nursery with Barry Nolt and Cyndy Zook.

Diane Gehman (pianist); Rachel Nolt (worship leader); Matt Carlson (song leader); Rich Crockett (men’s choir director); Lynne Beth, Tim Braun, Edgar Stoesz (scripture readers)

Next week: De 30:15-20; Ps 119:1-8; 1 Co 3:1-9; Mt 5:21-37; Matt Lenahan, preaching.

PLEASE JOIN US (10:10 – 10:35 am)

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

AMONG THOSE SERVING TODAY

Greeters: Barry & Dawn Nolt, Ann Zimmerman
Nursery: Worship: Barry Nolt & Cyndy Zook
Coffee Servers: Dave & Sally Wise
Ushers: Don Good (Head usher), Linda Good, Tim Langeman, Norm Wood
Sound/AV Operator: Bryan Beyer
2nd Hour: Jim Shenk & Lynne Beth
Mug Washers: Don & Linda Good

SECOND HOUR FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES (10:35 – 11:20 am)

Human nature, human rights, and Anabaptists: Mark Kelley is leading a six part discussion on human nature and human rights, using his new book: *This Mere Existence: Motivation and Strategies for Restoring Human Rights*. This book is available for purchase in the church office for \$10. This class meets in the sanctuary.

Koinonia: This ongoing class has begun a “read-aloud” experiment, using the book written by Joan Chittister, *The Time Is Now — A Call to Uncommon Courage*. No need to purchase the book (unless you want a copy for your own library). Class meets in Room 222.

Faith and Family: Conversations about the joys and challenges of parenting, and faith formation in our families. Facilitated by Karen King and Rachel Nolt. Class meets in the Sabbath Room.

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-4th Grade - - - - - Rooms 131, 132, 133 (lower level)
- Jr. MYF (5-8th Grade Youth) - - - - - Jr. MYF Room
- MYF (High School Youth) - - - - - MYF Room

UPCOMING EVENTS

- February** 13 AMC serves Ephrata Community Meal at First United Methodist Church
- 14-16 Jr. MYF retreat at Paradise Lake Retreat, Denver
- 18 Luther Acre Residents’ Gathering 12:00 noon at The Round
- 18 Women’s brown bag lunch 12:00 – 1:30 at Ruth Weaver’s home
- 20 AMC Council meeting 7:00 pm
- 26 Ash Wednesday Service 6:30
- 29 EMU Chamber Singers perform at AMC 4:00 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Medical Debt Relief: Akron Mennonite Church is joining 18 other churches in Lancaster County to raise \$31,000 to forgive 3.1 million in medical debt. nOther churches involved are: Alive Church Ephrata, Bethany UCC, Blossom Hill Mennonite, Church of the Apostles UCC, Community Mennonite of Lancaster, Faith UCC, First Presbyterian Church of Lancaster, Forest Hills Mennonite, Grandview UMC, James St. Mennonite, Marietta Community Chapel, Mount Joy Mennonite, Mountville Church of

the Brethren, Pilgrims Mennonite, Rossmere Mennonite, Sunnyside Mennonite, Unitarian Universalists of Lancaster, and Worship Center. We are working with Parish Resource Center and RIP Medical Debt. **We will be taking a special offering on February 23.** We also recognize that there may be people in our congregation who are struggling with medical debt—in response, we commit to contributing a 10% tithe of the February 23rd offering to our Agape Fund to help alleviate medical debt within our congregation. If you or someone you know needs help with medical costs, please contact one of the pastors (Matt Carlson and Rachel Nolt) or a member of the Deacon Leadership Team (Jeanette Bontrager, Dale Hershey, Marilyn Langeman and Melody Rupley).

HA Penner has brought this special project to the congregation through Outreach and Stewardship committees. He will be available this Sunday, February 9, during second hour in the Assembly Room to give more information and answer questions.

If you are donating cakes for the community meal on Thursday, February 13, please deliver them to either Akron Mennonite Church by 2:00 or to First United Methodist Church, 68 North Church Street between 3:30 and 5:00. You need to enter the fellowship hall through the basement in the back of the church. Contact Jean Buchen if you are interested in baking a cake or assisting with serving.

Thank you to all who welcomed IVEPers to our Tuesday evening meal, brought delicious food to share, and helped with clean up. - Marilyn Langeman

College student care packages: February, the month of love, is when we show love to our college students with care packages. See the sign-up sheets in the lobby for the items that are still needed – there are just a few slots left! You can then bring your goodies by Feb.16. There are flyers in mail-boxes and on the sign-up table with more info. The delivery/sending of boxes will begin Feb. 17.

Service and Fellowship Opportunity: The Jr MYF are seeking meals to be provided during our upcoming retreat on Saturday, February 15 and Sunday, February 16 at Paradise Lake Retreat in Denver. The requested meals are for Saturday lunch and supper and Sunday breakfast. We ask you to join us for the meal you provide to get to know our group better. Please contact Cheryl Zook Justice at if you are interested in providing one of these meals. Thank you.

AMC website update: We are in the middle of changing the way that archived bulletins and sermons are accessed on AMC's website. Please bear with us as we complete this transition. Sermons and bulletins are currently unavailable on the website, but we hope to have recent ones uploaded by next week.

Antiracism book discussion: Zion Lutheran Church (Akron) invites interested people to join them on Sunday, March 1 at 12:30pm at Zion Lutheran, for a book discussion of Ibram X. Kendi's book, *How to be an Antiracist*. Pastor Matt Lenahan writes, "Kendi invites us to dig deeper in understanding the effects of systemic racism or racist policies on the American experience. We will explore the movement from racist action or inaction to antiracist action. If you've ever thought, 'What can I do to confront racism - it's such a big problem.' or 'What does racism have to do with me? I'm not racist or black,' this book will give us a lot to think about." The first conversation will cover the introduction through chapter 3.

Church office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm

Church Office: (717) 859-1488 :: 1311 Diamond Street, Akron, PA 17501 :: amc@akronmench.org



Akron Mennonite Church
February 9, 2020