

Gathering together

- Prelude
- Words of welcome
- Introduction of guests and announcements
- Call to worship

Praising God

- STS 34 (purple) *You are holy*
- HWB 307 (blue) *Will you let me be your servant*
- Offering and offertory

Hearing God’s word

- Children’s time: STS 47 (purple) *Let the children come to me*
- Scripture reading *Matthew 17:1-9*
- HWB 232 (blue) *Christ upon the mountain peak*
- Sermon *“Listen to Him”*

Responding to God’s word

- HWB 418 (blue) *Move in our midst*
- Special Offering—Medical Debt Forgiveness Project
- Prayers of the people
- STJ 78 (green) *Sizohamba naye (We will walk with God)*
- Benediction

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Children ages 2-4 are dismissed following Children’s time for preschool church in the nursery with Jerry Shank & Marilyn Langeman.

Amy Martin Burkholder, Diane Gehman and Daryl Mack (musicians); Melody Rupley (worship leader); Herman Bontrager (song leader); Susan Blessing (children’s time leader); Norm and Sandra Richard Wood (scripture readers); Rachel Nolt (sermon)

Next week: Ge 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Ps 32; Ro 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11; Matt Carlson, 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:** Elaine Brubaker & Pearl Sensenig
- Nursery:** Worship: Jerry Shank & Marilyn Langeman
- Coffee Servers:** Dave & Sally Wise
- Ushers:** Dale Herr (Head usher), Amy Herr, Lloyd Chapman, Nancy Chapman, Eileen Byler
- Sound/AV Operator:** Marv Horst
- 2nd Hour: Jim Shenk & Helena Dueck
- Mug Washers:** Charity Shenk & Steve Zook

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 will continue reading aloud and discussing 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 (5-8 th Grade Youth)	-----	Jr. MYF Room
MYF (High School Youth)	-----	MYF Room

UPCOMING EVENTS

- February** 23 **Today** - Special offering for medical debt relief project
- 26 Ash Wednesday Service 6:30 pm
- 28 *Portrait of the Maritime Provinces* presentation by Bob Wyble at 7 pm at AMC
- 29 EMU Chamber Singers perform at AMC 4:00 pm
- March** 1 Fellowship Meal following 2nd hour
- 3 Lunch Bunch meets at Oregon Dairy at 11:30 am
- 3 Library Committee meets at 6 pm
- 5 Men’s Breakfast at Udder Choice at 7 am; Don Ziegler, presenter (Part 2 of 2) on climate change
- 8 Senior Gathering meets at AMC at noon for lunch and presentation by Anne Kaufman Weaver
- 12 Garden Spot Village residents’ gathering at 11:30 in Concord Room
- 12 AMC Council meets at 7:00 pm
- 14 Shambhuganj Project fundraising dinner and presentation by Richard Sarker 5:30 pm
- 17 Women’s brown bag lunch 12:00 – 1:30; location TBA
- 21 MYF Auction: meal begins at 4:30 pm; auction begins at 5:45 pm
- 22 Share-A-Life activity during second hour
- 29 AMC Men’s Choir to participate in Men’s Chorus Festival at Weaverland MC 6:30 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ash Wednesday Services: February 26, noon, Confession & Imposition of ashes at Zion Lutheran Church, Akron.

February 26, 6:30pm at Akron Mennonite Church, Pastors Matt Carlson, Matt Lenahan and Rachel Nolt will lead a service of meditation, reflection & confession around our relationship with Creator and creation. The theme will be “Do you not know what the Holy One can do with dust?” There will also be imposition of ashes. If you would like to be a reader for the service, please email Rachel Nolt.

March 1 Fellowship Meal: All are welcome to join us for a potluck fellowship meal next Sunday, March 1. Last names A through M, please bring a salad or side. N through Z, please bring a main dish. The youth will be providing desserts as a fundraiser.

Submissions for the AMC March newsletter are needed by Wed., February 26. Rebecca is happy to showcase your art, photography, prose, poetry, or any other creative endeavor in the newsletter.

Portrait of the Maritime Provinces: On Saturday, February 28 at 7 pm at AMC, Bob Wyble will present images of the Maritime Provinces that he prepared for a Pathways Institute Presentation at Landis Homes (to be shown there on March 30). The program includes a 27-minute DVD of images from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island, followed by a PowerPoint focusing on points of interest. All are invited.

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.

Please see insert for additional announcements

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

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

What is Church?



“Listen to what he says”

*Akron Mennonite Church
February 23, 2020*

Additional Announcements for February 23, 2020

AMC Men's Breakfast: On March 5 at 7 am at the Udder Choice, come hear and discuss implications of the (likely) irreversibility of Earth's climate change. Don Ziegler will present part 2 of this 2-part series: What Do I Do?

Senior Gathering on March 8: Please join us at 12 noon for a light lunch. Sub sandwiches will be provided. Bring veggies, fruit, or cookies/brownies for others to enjoy. Anne Kaufman Weaver, chaplain at Landis Communities (also a child of AMC) will be helping us to better understand the important connection between resiliency and loss. Come even if you don't yet identify yourself as a Senior!
Contact Ann Zimmerman, Marlene Kaufman or Agnes Hacker if you have any questions.

Bangladesh fundraising dinner: Please mark your calendar for the annual fundraising dinner for Bangladesh and a power point presentation on Saturday, March 14 at 5:30 pm. RSVP to Richard Sarker by Thurs., March 12 if you are planning to attend.

Only four weeks to go until the MYF auction! March 21, 2020: Meal begins at 4:30; auction is at 5:45. We look forward to seeing you there. Stay tuned for additional announcements.

Books are available for a new 2nd hour class beginning March 8. Steve Nolt will teach *You are what you love: The spiritual power of habit* by James Smith. Philosopher and cultural critic Jamie Smith considers the ways that embodied practices and the 'liturgies' of popular culture shape us. In *You Are What You Love*, he applies these insights to Christian discipleship and the church, contending for the importance of community and narrative in a world of autonomy and information. Books are available in the church office for \$15.

AMC Women's Retreat: *Who is my sister?* Cyneatha Millsap, Executive Director of Mennonite Women USA, will be the guest speaker for this year's AMC Women's Retreat on Saturday, April 25. Cyneatha has pastored in a multicultural congregation outside Chicago and is a community activist focusing on the needs of women and children. She believes women's voices are needed to carry us into a place of hope for ourselves and the next generation. She has had a very interesting journey of her own, including friendships and experiences that bring sisters together across cultures, interests and experiences. Come hear her share this story and consider the challenges she presents to us.

The No Longer Alone Family Support Group will meet **today** from 3-5 pm in the Crossings Meeting Room (2nd floor) of the Calvin G. and Janet C. High Learning and Wellness Center at Landis Communities. Ann Martin, Esq. of GKH and Timothy Jantz of Everence will present *Creative Financial Planning for Loved Ones with Mental Illness*.

Lost and Found/Free Stuff: Please check the table in the foyer for Lost and Found items, as well as Free Stuff. Note that items are separated by category. Free Stuff is up for grabs. Lost and Found items should be claimed by owner. The table will remain up through March 1; remaining items will then be donated to ReUzit.

Contributions to the Medical Debt Relief fund will be accepted through April 1. **You can contribute electronically** to this fund by donating through AMC's website or through the Give Plus app on your mobile device. To donate through AMC's website, go to www.akronmench.org and scroll down to the "Donate" section at the bottom of the home page. Under "select fund", choose Medical Debt Relief, and follow prompts. To donate through the Give Plus app, first download the app if you have not already done so. Search for Akron Mennonite Church, select the Medical Debt Relief fund, and follow the prompts. You can also contribute by check made payable to Akron Mennonite Church and designated "Medical Debt Relief Fund" through April 1.

AMC Website update: 2020 sermons and bulletins are available on AMC's website. Go to www.akronmench.org. Scroll down the home page until you come to "Sermon and Bulletin Archive". Click on the date you want, then select sermon (as a YouTube video) or bulletin (PDF). Note: there are some Sundays when a recording will not be available (Music Sundays, Taize services, other). The bulletin that is posted on the website has personal information and prayers omitted.

Issues with AMC church-wide emails: An increasing number of people are reporting that they no longer receive church-wide emails. We are trying to resolve this problem. If you do not receive the weekly bulletin (currently sent out on Friday), first check your spam folder. If it is not there, please inform Rebecca. Thank you for your patience.