

MCC responds to Hurricane Irma damage in Cuba and Haiti: Hurricane Irma tore roofs from houses in Cuba and dashed houses to the ground. In Haiti, Irma's rain turned into flash floods that rushed into houses and caused families to escape in waist-high water. In both countries, crops, gardens and livestock were destroyed. Your gift to Mennonite Central Committee helps people in Cuba to rebuild and people in Haiti to recover. You can donate online at donate.mcc.org/cause/hurricane-irma-response. Contributions can also be made by calling [1-888-563-4676](tel:1-888-563-4676) or sending a check to MCC, 21 S. 12th St., PO Box 500, Akron, PA 17501.

Happy Birthday to:

Tuesday Roland Kauffman
 Wednesday Christi Michaels
 Cathy Gable
 Saturday Megan Sohar



Please remember these persons by sending a card, calling them or offering a special prayer of thanks for them.

Coming Events:

October 11 Koinonia Women's Lunch Group @ Ming Hing, 12:30 pm
 October 14-17 Relief Meat Canning, 4:55 am – 9 pm
 October 15 Five Church Mission Sunday at Crown Hill Mennonite
 Speaker is Cesar Flores, Central America MCC Director.
 A meal will follow the service.
 October 29 Fifth Sunday Mission Offering

Orrville Mennonite Church

330-682-5801

1305 W. Market St., Orrville, OH 44667
 Email address: omcjan@gmail.com
 Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 am - 12 noon
 Orrville Mennonite Church Web Site
www.orrvillemenno.net
 Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA Web Site
www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Ministers: Each member of the congregation

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Orrville Mennonite Church

1305 West Market Street – Phone (330) 682-5801 – Orrville, Ohio 44667

September 24, 2017

"We are dedicated to loving God and loving people"

To the Glory of God and through the power of the Holy Spirit, it is our mission to be a loving community of believers who intentionally further God's Kingdom by going out and loving all people, sharing the good News of Jesus Christ and making disciples.

**Welcome
 Songs**

*Holy Spirit
 Jesus Loves Me*

Scripture Reading Psalm 107.1-9 (adapted)

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

People: God's love endures forever.

L: Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story--those God redeemed from the hand of the foe,

P: Those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.

L: Some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city where they could settle.

P: They were hungry and thirsty, and their lives ebbed away.

L: Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

P: The Lord led them by a straight way to a city where they could settle.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord for God's unfailing love and God's wonderful deeds for humankind,

ALL: God satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

Dedication of School Kits

Offering/Prayer

(God's children are invited to bring offerings for the "My Coins Count" Jug)

Offering Song *O God in Heaven* SJ 53

Prayer for Kara Shilling

(as she goes to VidaNet in Costa Rica for Discipleship Training)

Song

Lord, I Need You

Scripture Deuteronomy 10.12-22
Message *The Illegal Stranger* Pastor Bill Seymour

Song *Alleluia, the Great Storm is Over* SJ 71

Sharing and Prayer Announcements

Love Step Prayer – *Lord, give me time and energy to pay attention when you put me in front of someone so I can meet them with love where they are. Help us to learn from each other and walk together in a way that we can both grow closer to Christ.*

Benediction *Praise God from Whom* MH 638

Worship Band: Anita and Natalie Fisher, John, Christi and Noah Michaels
Bill and Allison Seymour
Reader: Doug Zehr

Today (September 24)

9:30 a.m. Fellowship
9:45 a.m. Worship Service
Pastor Bill Seymour preaching
10:45 a.m. Sharing and Prayer
11:05 a.m. Sunday School

Monday

7:00 p.m. Spanish Class at Salem Mennonite Church

Tuesday

6:00 p.m. WINGS – *Biblical Faith Stories* (Snack – Carol)

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. Axis Youth Group
6:30 p.m. BreakAway – *Bible Study: God's Promises!*
(Snack – Lidia)

Next Sunday (October 1) **World Communion Sunday**

9:30 a.m. Fellowship
9:45 a.m. Worship Service
Pastor Bill Seymour preaching
Message: *What is the Message of the Cross?*
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1.18-24
Footwashing and Communion
10:45 a.m. Sharing and Prayer
11:05 a.m. Sunday School
6:30 p.m. Europe Pictures & Carry-In Dessert

Last Sunday (September 10)

Ministry Spending Plan: \$1,574.00
Partnership Plan: \$
Mennonite Mission Network: \$100.00
Land: \$100.00
Weekly MSP Needed: \$3,054.79
Weekly PP Needed: \$897.35
Other: \$200.00

Greeters Today Mark and Jen Bixler Family (both doors)

Next Sunday Stan and Marilyn Kamp, Liz Snyder

Elder Greeter Marilyn Kamp **Next Sunday** Jen Bixler

Worship Nursery Virgil and Kathy Troyer **Next Sunday** Jan Kauffman

Coffee Hospitality Stan and Marilyn Kamp

Next Sunday Ralph and Carol Rheinheimer

Next Sunday, October 1 is World Communion Sunday. This coming week, we invite you to prepare your hearts and minds for our time of practicing footwashing and celebrating Communion together.

Bill and Allison will be hosting a Five Church Marriage Retreat. You may pick one of two weekends in February (9-11 or 16-18). Ohio Conference has a given us a grant to offset some of the cost, so each couple only needs to pay \$250 for the weekend, everything included. Information is in your mailboxes. Reservations need to be made by November 1st.

Europe Pictures and Carry-In Dessert. You're all invited on Sunday, October 1st, 6:30 pm (fellowship hall) to see Bill and Allison's pictures from their trip this summer. Bring a dessert or finger food to share!

Walk in Solidarity with Our Immigrant Neighbors. A Community Action Workshop. Please check your mailbox for more information on this upcoming workshop scheduled for Saturday, October 7 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Centro San Jose/Love Canton. All are welcome to attend. You can register by talking to Pastor Bill.

MCC Relief Canning is coming up soon! October canning dates are Saturday, October 14, Monday and Tuesday, October 16, 17, 4:55 am to 9 pm daily at the Gerber Building in Kidron. There are some brochures by the mailboxes. If you would like to contribute financially, you can mail your contribution to Doug Winkler, Treasurer, MCC Relief Canning, Inc., Kidron, 414 Overlook Circle, Dalton, OH 44618.

Tanzania in June 2018!!! Missions is looking toward an all church field trip to Tanzania in June of 2018 to visit, share, learn, and worship with some Mennonite congregations there. We are thinking that the trip would total 10-14 days, including travel time. If you have even mild interest in such a trip, please see Lidia, Mark, or Bill.

Orrville Mennonite Church Daily Devotions
Week ending with Sunday, October 1, 2017

Day One Read John 3.16-18
What is the basis of acceptance by God?

Day Two Read 1 Corinthians 1.18-24
What is the message of the Cross?

Day Three Read Luke 22.13-23
What is the new covenant?

Day Four Read 1 John 1.5-2.2
What happens when we don't walk in the light?

Day Five Read 1 Corinthians 11.17-34
Be careful with verse 27. This doesn't mean you need to be sinless to take communion. It is addressing (see v. 29) the particular sin of not remembering that we are part of a body, & we all have access to Christ together. Taking advantage of our privilege to push others away in the body is at issue here. Take time to consider your role in the Body of Christ, & the others who are in this Body with you (thinking about OMC).

"Love Step Prayer" – Pray this daily and as you go through your day, look for how God might be answering...*Lord, give me time and energy to pay attention when you put me in front of someone so I can meet them with love where they are. Help us to learn from each other and walk together in a way that we can both grow closer to Christ.*

Central Christian School Announcements:

- Prelude and Dessert Concert, Friday, October 13th, 7 pm in the PAC. This concert will be live-streamed for family and friends who are unable to attend. Visit www.ccscomets.org for details.
- Community Service Day (CSD), Friday, October 20th – Over 250 students and staff will serve in more than 20 nonprofit locations as a reminder of our calling to serve one another in love. Students will begin calling to secure sponsors for their service on October 2. If you would like to sponsor a student for their service and support Central's ministry, please send contributions to Central marked CSD 2017 or visit www.ccscomets.org/GiveToCentral to make a donation. Donations are due by November 3. Thank you for your generous support of our student service fundraiser.
- Central Christian School's Pastor Appreciation Day, Tuesday, October 31st. Pastors are invited to join us for breakfast, a chapel celebration, classroom visits and lunch with our students. RSVP to DorisR@CentralChristianSchool.org or 330.857.7311 by October 20.

• **Sermon Notes for September 24, 2017**

Deuteronomy 10.12-22

Romans 13.1-7

The "illegal" stranger, an incomplete Bible study

Romans 13.1-7 and Titus 3.1-2

Obey the earthly authorities. God puts them in place. Disobeying them is disobeying God. These seem to be fairly straight forward instructions.

A \$64,000 Question:

Should followers of Jesus go along with and obey the laws of the country in which they reside, or should they follow God's instructions wherever they are regardless of the local laws?

Two Quick Answers:

There is a consistent message throughout all of Scripture as well as in Christian and Jewish History, to disobey governments when they demand worship of the emperor or idols. For some of Jesus' words on this, see Matthew 4.10 and John 19.11

Acts 5.29 (17-41)

The Sanhedrin, the Jewish ruling council, which also had political leadership over the Jews in Roman ruled territory demanded that the apostles stop telling people about Jesus. Peter and the apostles replied – "We must obey God rather than human beings!" They were then tortured and released.

So....

There are at least two instances where we know there is biblical teaching to follow God's instructions over the rules of humans or institutions – worship only God, and tell people about Jesus. Are there others?

What about rules pertaining to the "illegal" immigrants among us?

Specific \$64,000 question for Today:

When the government of the land in which we reside is splitting families up by sending a father or mother or wife or husband back to their country of origin, are we to make decisions to welcome these "strangers" or are we to support the government's rules? (yes, this is oversimplified)

Answering the Question:

We strive to admit our bias, and yet to look past the urgings of political parties, and public (or personal) opinion. We look to the Word of God Living (Jesus), and the Word of God written (Bible).

Deuteronomy 10.12-22

Welcome the stranger among you.

How do we deal with the potential differences in Scripture?

1. Where do the passages agree?
 - a. Probably good to ask if they really do disagree
2. What does Jesus say and what does Jesus do?
3. Understand it through Jesus.

For today's question:

Do Deuteronomy 10.12-22 and Romans 13.1-7 disagree?

Not really, but in living our lives for Christ, we could be called to choose to lean toward one or the other.

Agreement in Today's Passages:

God is in charge. Over everything and everyone.

Jesus:

1. Jesus did not, in the writings we have, address immigration or refugee situations directly.
2. About Jesus, it is said in many ways and places, "Be like him."
See 1 John 2.6, Ephesians 5.1-2, and Philippians 2.5-8 as 3 of many examples ("Google" the question for more)
3. In his actions, Jesus welcomed everyone, especially (and almost exclusively) the powerless, and was particularly interested in turning society on its head in terms of who was important and who was not (Matthew 5.3-16).

Therefore:

How will we read and apply both Deuteronomy 10.12-22, Romans 13.1-17, AND our cultural situation through the life and teaching of Jesus?

This is an incomplete Bible Study. Gather some people and finish this in community.

Prayer Concerns & Praises for Week of September 24, 2017

- **That God would be glorified and that lives would be transformed** in every aspect of Orrville Mennonite Church.
- **Areas of unrest and instability in our world today** – Prayer for those caught up in the world's violence and for ways we can respond.
- **Prayers for all those impacted by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria and earthquakes in Mexico.**
- **Prayers for our government leaders** in these uncertain times.
- **Elder Council, Pastor and Ministry Team leaders, Grow Groups**
- **Mennonite Church USA Future Church Summit** – prayers for leadership at all levels & all of us as we reflect on & discuss the outcome of the summit.
- **Youth who connect with us through WINGS, BreakAway and Axis YG**
- **Christi's neighbor boy, DJ** whose family moved to Canton. Prayer for DJ as he adjusts to many changes.
- **Kara Shilling and Evan Zuercher** as they prepare to leave for Costa Rica to participate in Vida220 Discipleship School. Praise for generous support!
- **Lowell Bowers** – is at Shady Lawn for rehab following his knee injury.
- **Duane Amstutz (John Michaels' grandfather)** – serious health concerns.
- **Amos & Esther Muhagachi** – prayers for them and their family.
- **SWAP Ministry/Pete & Lou Erb**
- **Lance Almond**
- **Anna Miller, Sandy Miller's mother** – continued prayers for Anna as she adjusts to life transitions
- **Lidia Zehr's sister, Alicia** – prayers for Lidia as she ministers to family members and especially prayers for Alicia who has serious health concerns.
- **Lois Leidig** – prayers for relief from pain and discomfort in her back.
- **Sawsan Elateek and her children, Seif and Yassmine.** Yassmine is starting college for a career in pharmacy.
- **Larry Gerber, Ralph Rheinheimer, and Wilma Eash** – continued healing.
- **Grace Geiser** (Brenn-Field), **Dorothy Miller** (Inn at Belden Village), **Cathy Gable** (Orrville Pointe), and **Ida Shoup** (at Brenn-Field)
- **Pastor Santos & Ester Reyes** – Continue to pray that God would provide ways to meet their spiritual, physical & material needs.
- **Bill and Allison's niece, Amy**, who has been diagnosed with untreated brain trauma and begins treatments that may give her real relief, at least to be able to read, and perhaps more.
- **Allison Seymour's mother, Sharon Walter** – Pray for Sharon's health concerns and for Allison's father, Gary, as he helps care for her needs.
- **Mennonite Mission Network** – Staff from DOOR, a MMN partner that provides service opportunities, are traveling to Austin, TX, for a gathering that starts tomorrow. Pray for them as they fellowship, share best practices, and prepare for the future.
- **Mennonite Education Agency** – Pray for participants in Journey, AMBS's distance-friendly, non-degree leadership development program. May God use the program's focus on spiritual disciplines, theological and biblical studies, character development, mentoring and gifts development to deepen their faith and strengthen their leadership.