

Invitation from Chestnut Ridge Mennonite Church – “Anticipating Christ in Christmas”, Sunday, December 17th, 6:30 p.m. Chestnut Ridge invites you to a special musical sing-a-long journey led by Pastor Kevin Himes from Salem Mennonite Church in Kidron as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ this Christmas season. Bring a salty snack or cookies to share during the fellowship time after the service.



Orrville Mennonite Church

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

December 10, 2017

You’re invited to the Arnold Road Live Nativity, Sunday, December 17, 2017. Come see the birth of our Savior told through song, word and drama. Where: Steiner’s white barn--13401 Arnold Road. TWO times options are 3:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Music begins 15 minutes prior. Dress warmly, come early to park and find a seat on the straw bales.

Happy Birthday to Lois Leidig, who celebrates her 86th birthday tomorrow, December 11th. Please remember her by sending a card or offering a special prayer of thanks for her.

Coming Events:

December 24	Christmas Eve Service, 6 pm
December 31	Fifth Sunday Mission Offering
January 14	Five Church Worship and Pork/Sauerkraut Meal at Crown Hill Mennonite Church
	James Krabill speaking
	Lunch proceeds to benefit Ohio Conference and BreakAway youth group

Orrville Mennonite Church	
1305 W. Market St., Orrville, OH 44667	330-682-5801
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	
Staff	
Pastor Bill Seymour	
omcbill@gmail.com	330-347-7034 (Cell)
Elder Council	
Marilyn Kamp – Elder for Community/Discipleship	
kampsinmillersburg@gmail.com	330-763-3271 (Cell)
Marion Beyeler – Elder for Stewardship	
marionbeyeler@gmail.com	330-347-3988 (Cell)
Lidia Zehr – Elder for Mission	
lbzehr@gmail.com	316-680-0480 (Cell)
Jen Bixler – Elder Facilitator	
mjbix@zoominternet.net	330-857-0323 (Landline)
Bill Seymour - Elder for Worship	
omcbill@gmail.com	330-347-7034 (Cell)
Ministers: Each member of the congregation	
Church Copyright License: #687886	

“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 and Call to Worship

Opening Song (Central Christian Varsity Singers)

Declaration

Leader: Awake!
 The invitation to carry light comes from the voice who cries out for a smooth way through wild places.

**All: O God, your call is uncomfortable.
 How can we who are weak
 remove the rough and rugged places? (pause for silence)**

Leader: Quiet our questioning souls.
All: Lead us into your presence so all can see your way. Let it be so.

Lighting of Advent Candle

Dan and Jeanne Jantzi

<i>O Come, O Come Emmanuel</i>	WB 172 vv. 1, 3, 6
<i>Comfort, Comfort, O My People</i>	WB 176

Central Christian Varsity Singers

Confession

O God of blazing heavens,
 you come to us gently and tenderly,
 speaking peace and comfort into our fear.
 We long for you,
 we yearn for your promise of a new heaven and earth.
 Yet we confess that though we know how to get busy
 and prepare for this season,
 we do not know how to slow down or wait
 and make space for your presence.
 May our ordinary lives intersect with the power of your Word
 and the transforming presence of your grace.
 Empower us to “let it be so.” (pause for silence)

Words of assurance

O God, Emmanuel, in Jesus, the Christ, you have come among us.
You have given us life, and we are restored.

Creator of the Stars of Night WB 177

Offering/Prayer/Offertory

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

Scripture and Meditation

Mark 1.1-8

Death, Confession and Jesus Pastor Bill Seymour

Central Christian Varsity Singers

Sharing and Prayer Announcements

Love Step Prayer and Benediction

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. As we go, may the voice of comfort speak peace and promise to us. May grace spring up from troubled ground and righteousness shine down from the sky. May the light of Christ dwell within us, and may we see clearly the path the Spirit is blazing for us. Amen.

Sending Song (Central Christian Varsity Singers)

Worship Band: Anita and Andrew Fisher, Christi, John, and Noah Michaels
Allison and Bill Seymour
Reader: Jeff Fisher

Today (December 10) 2nd Sunday in Advent

9:30 a.m. Fellowship
9:45 a.m. Worship Service
Central Christian Varsity Singers
Pastor Bill Seymour - Meditation
11:00 a.m. Sunday School
5:00 p.m. Fundraiser Meal and Worship Time for
Austin Zuercher at Crown Hill Mennonite Church

Tuesday

6:00 p.m. WINGS Staff Christmas Gathering

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. Axis Youth Group – *Christmas Caroling*
(All are invited to join the youth for caroling!)

6:30 p.m. BreakAway – *Making Cookie Dough!!*

Next Sunday (December 17) 3rd Sunday in Advent

9:30 a.m. Fellowship
9:45 a.m. Worship Service
Bill Seymour preaching
Scripture: Luke 1.46-55
Message: *Courage*
10:45 a.m. Sharing and Prayer
11:00 a.m. Sunday School
6:30 p.m. *Anticipating Christ in Christmas* Sing-A-Long at
Chestnut Ridge led by Kevin Himes (from Salem)

Last Sunday (December 3)

Ministry Spending Plan: \$3,618.25 Weekly MSP Needed: \$3,054.79
Partnership Plan: \$50.00 Weekly PP Needed: \$897.35
Compassion Fund: \$100.00 Land: \$100.00
Mennonite Mission Network: \$100.00

Greeters Today Danae King, Ken and Rita Wenger

Next Sunday Mark and Jen Bixler Family

Elder Greeter Today Marilyn Kamp **Next Sunday** Lidia Zehr

Worship Nursery Today Jan Kauffman **Next Sunday** Virg & Kathy Troyer

Coffee Hospitality Today Allison Seymour **Next Sunday** Stan Kamp

We welcome the Central Christian Varsity Singers under the direction of Tim Shue to our worship service this morning. Thank you for sharing God's message through the gift of song!

We express sincere sympathies to John and Christi Michaels and extended family in the passing of John's grandfather, Duane Amstutz, on December 2nd. A memorial contribution has been made to the I.W. Royer Scholarship Fund in Duane's memory.

Open Arms Hispanic Ministry is hosting a fundraiser meal and worship time for Austin Zuercher this evening. All are invited to join together at Crown Hill Mennonite Church for a meal followed by a time of worship through music supporting Austin Zuercher who will be serving in Costa Rica. Food and fellowship will be from 5 – 6:30 p.m. with music starting at 6:45 p.m.

Need a Christmas gift idea? Orrville Mennonite Church 100th Anniversary Cookbooks make great gifts! Only \$7 each or 2 for \$10.00. Check out the table in the fellowship hall.

Boxed sets of offering envelopes are available by the mailboxes. Our Finance and Facilities Ministry would like each person/family to **sign up for and take a new box to start out the year 2018** and recycle or discard any unused envelopes from your current set of envelopes for 2017. If you choose to keep your current box of envelopes, please indicate that by dropping a note in the box by the mailboxes.

Prayer Concerns & Praises for Week of December 10, 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 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**
- **Amos & Esther Muhagachi** and their family
- **John & Christi Michaels, Noah, Mariah and extended family** as they grieve the passing of John's grandfather, Duane Amstutz on December 2nd.
- **Kara Shilling's friend, Keturah** as she struggles with pain related to spina bifida.
- **Diane Hostetler's friend, Al** as she received a diagnosis of cancer and is seeking treatment options and dealing with insurance issues.
- **Barry Kauffman, son of John and brother of Rollie**, as he begins taking medication following a second seizure and begins another long period of not being allowed to drive.
- **Lowell & Louise Bowers** – Lowell is currently at West View Manor in Wooster.
- **Kara Shilling and Evan Zuercher** as they study at Vida220 Discipleship School in Costa Rica. Address: c/o DeLynn Hoover, Apartado 1094-3000, Heredia, Costa Rica Central America. Cards and notes welcome!!
- **Sherm & LaVonne Amstutz** as they serve at the Haggai Institute in Hawaii.
- **Marion and Jane Beyeler** – Marion scheduled for colon surgery, Dec. 14th.
- **Academia Menonita Betania in Puerto Rico** – sister school to Central Christian as they recover and rebuild after Hurricanes Irma and Maria.
- **Grace Geiser (Brenn-Field), Dorothy Miller (Inn at Belden Village), Cathy Gable (Orrville Pointe)**
- **Mim Wenger's cousin's (Chet) wife, Kellie Slabaugh** was recently diagnosed with stage 4 brain cancer and is undergoing treatments.
- **Mim's cousin, Rose Emick** was recently diagnosed with lung cancer.
- **Jeff Fisher** – continued healing
- **Lance Almond** as he seeks medical care for a heart issue.
- **Taryn (Diane Hostetler's classmate) and her baby**, born 3 months early
- **Duane Amstutz (John Michaels' grandfather)** – serious health concerns.
- **SWAP Ministry/Pete & Lou Erb**
- **Anna Miller, Sandy Miller's mother** 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.
- **Sawsan Elateek and her children, Seif and Yasmine**. Yasmine is in college to study pharmacy.
- **Larry Gerber, Ralph Rheinheimer, and Wilma Eash** – continued healing.
- **Pastor Santos & Ester Reyes** – Continue to pray that God would provide ways to meet their spiritual, physical & material needs.

- **Bill's sister Laurie**, who is primary caretaker for her father-in-law, brother-in-law, as well as her daughter, **Amy**, who struggles with deep psychological illness.
- **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** – Join MMN in praising God for the recording of the entire New Testament in the Toba-Qom language, and for the 33 readers from eight denominations and 12 communities in the Argentine-Chaco who volunteered to make this possible. Pray that God's word will find open hearts when it is aired on the radio.
- **Mennonite Education Agency – Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas**. The light of Christ has come into the world – join the Bethel College community in praising God for the gift of the Son, as students, faculty, staff and friends observe the 32nd annual Lighting of the Green.

Orrville Mennonite Church Daily Devotions Week ending with Sunday, December 17, 2017

Day One Read Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-11

Who is being spoken of here? Who will be the oaks? Who will be remembered? How do those people relate to you?

Day Two Read Psalm 126

This Psalm longs for a happier time, when God's blessings were more obvious. When is that time for you?

Day Three Read Luke 1.46b-55

Why was Mary feeling blessed?

Day Four Read 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24

How do you quench the Spirit?

Day Five Read John 1.6-8, 19-28

Why was John sent?

“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.*