



Orrville Mennonite Church  
1305 W. Market St. Orrville Ohio 44667  
[www.orrvillemenno.net](http://www.orrvillemenno.net)

**Order of Worship**  
**February 8, 2026**

**Welcome**

<b>Gathering Songs</b>	<i>Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty</i>	WB 19
	<i>Open My Eyes, That I May See</i>	WB 517

**Call to Worship and Lamp Lighting** (borrowing from Ps. 146)

Leader: As we gather for worship, we light some lamps to remind us that we gather in context.

**Piano Side: We have personal troubles and laments.**

*Offering Side: We also hold troubles and laments from the action of others and of our systems.*

**Piano Side: We have victories and joys.**

*Offering Side: We have brothers and sisters locally and around the world.*

**Piano Side: We have longings for our Orrville Mennonite Community to grow, spiritually and physically.**

**All: Lord, you are our hope, our light, our example, our strength. We trust you, Lord, for growing our community.**

Leader: We come to worship you, the Lord, our God, who is maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them.

*Offering Side: Who gives justice to people who are oppressed, who gives bread to people who are starving!*

**Piano Side: Who frees prisoners, makes the blind see, and straightens up those who are bent low.**

*Offering Side: Who loves the righteous and is faithful forever.*

**Piano Side: Who protects immigrants, who helps orphans and widows,**

*Offering Side: But who makes the way of the wicked twist and turn! who is faithful forever,*

**All: The Lord rules forever! Praise the Lord!**

**Singing**

*In the Rifted Rock I'm Resting  
For the Healing of the Nations*

WB 526

WB 367

**Responsive Reading**

Judges 5.2-12a

Leader: When hair is long in Israel, when people willingly offer themselves—bless the LORD!

**Piano Side: Hear, kings! Listen, rulers! I, to the LORD, I will sing. I will make music to the LORD, Israel's God.**

*Offering Side: LORD, when you set out from Seir, when you marched out from Edom's fields, the land shook, the sky poured down, the clouds poured down water.*

**Piano Side: The mountains quaked before the LORD, the one from Sinai, before the LORD, the God of Israel.**

Leader: In the days of Shamgar, Anath's son, in the days of Jael, caravans ceased. Those traveling by road kept to the backroads.

*Offering Side: Villagers disappeared; they disappeared in Israel, until you, Deborah, arose,*

**All: Until you arose as a mother in Israel.**

Leader: When they chose new gods, then war came to the city gates. Yet there wasn't a shield or spear to be seen among forty thousand in Israel!

**Piano Side: My heart is with Israel's commanders, who willingly offered themselves among the people—bless the LORD!**

Leader: You who ride white donkeys, who sit on saddle blankets, who walk along the road: tell of it.

*Offering Side: To the sound of instruments at the watering places, there they repeat the LORD's victories, his villagers' victories in Israel.*

Leader: Then the LORD's people marched down to the city gates.

**All: "Wake up, wake up, Deborah! Wake up, wake up, sing a song!**

**Offering Prayer/Birthday Blessing**

We celebrate Ralph Rheinheimer's birthday together today.

(Ralph's birthday is February 3)

**Offering Song** *Jesus Loves Even Me (insert)*

**Offering**

**Scripture** Judges 4.1-10

1 After Ehud had died, the Israelites again did things that the Lord saw as evil. 2 So the Lord gave them over to King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. The commander of his army was Sisera, and he was stationed in Harosheth-ha-goiim. 3 The Israelites cried out to the Lord because Sisera had nine hundred iron chariots and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly for twenty years.

4 Now Deborah, a prophet, the wife of Lappidoth, was a leader of Israel at that time. 5 She would sit under Deborah's palm tree between Ramah and Bethel in the Ephraim highlands, and the Israelites would come to her to settle disputes. 6 She sent word to Barak, Abinoam's son, from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, "Hasn't the Lord, Israel's God, issued you a command? 'Go and assemble at Mount Tabor, taking ten thousand men from the people of Naphtali and Zebulun with you. 7 I'll lure Sisera, the commander of Jabin's army, to assemble with his chariots and troops against you at the Kishon River, and then I'll help you overpower him.'"

8 Barak replied to her, "If you'll go with me, I'll go; but if not, I won't go."

9 Deborah answered, "I'll definitely go with you. However, the path you're taking won't bring honor to you, because the Lord will hand over Sisera to a woman." Then Deborah got up and went with Barak to Kedesh. 10 He summoned Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh, and ten thousand men marched out behind him. Deborah marched out with him too.

**Sermon** *Deborah, A Mother of Israel*

**Song of Response** *My Soul Proclaims With Wonder* WB 181  
(based on the Magnificat)

**Love Step Prayer**

*Lord, open my eyes to see when you introduce me to someone. Help me to meet them with love where they are and to be met in love where I am. Help us to walk together, learn from each →*

*other, and share your love with others. Help us to see that as we do these things together, we are growing closer to Christ. Amen.*

## **Benediction**

## **Sermon Response**

## **Prayer Requests, Prayer**

## **Announcements**

Greeter, LaVonne Amstutz  
Usher, Sherm Amstutz  
PA Operator, Dan Jantzi  
Accompanist, Marilyn Rossiter  
Song Leader, Hank Rossiter

Reader, Amber Andreasen  
Preschool/Nursery, Sandy Miller  
Quiet Table, all ages welcome  
Sharing & Prayer, Megan Sohar  
February Trustee, Mark Bixler

**The "Quiet Table" is available** in the coffee area during the worship services at Orrville Mennonite. People of all ages are welcome to come to do quiet hands-on activities as a way of listening and focusing during the worship time. This area works best if there are equal numbers of adults and children sitting together. If you are someone who enjoys listening while creating, maybe this area will be your new regular pew! Our youngest children will "graduate" to this area after their nursery Sunday School hour. If you have been a nursery volunteer in the past, please consider continuing your relationship with the littles at this table.

## **Announcements**

**Our Dollar Project** is for Austin and Gris Zuercher's support as they begin another term with VidaNet in Honduras. Offerings given during this \$ Project will be given as Orrville Mennonite's support of their ministry for 2026. Thank you for your generous offerings.

**Monday Meals served 133 meals** last Monday. This Monday, we will be serving BBQ pork sandwiches and macaroni salad.

**Join the Ohio MCC Comforter Bash on March 12-14!** This year we are gathering at the new MCC Material Resources Center in Kidron (4080 Kidron Road). With the new location, the format will be a bit different with the event spread over three days. We still need volunteers for knotting and trimming comforters, along with sewists to bind and finish them. *See specific times below.* A handmade comforter provides not

only warmth, but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten. For more information, visit [mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash](http://mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash) or contact 234-415-1036 or [GLOhio@mcc.org](mailto:GLOhio@mcc.org).

Dates: March 12-14, 2026 (*Snacks and coffee/tea will be provided.*

*Please pack your own food for meals.*)

Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>

\* 8 am - 8 pm: Knotting

\* 4 pm - 8 pm: Trimming & Binding

Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>

\* 8 am - 8 p: Trimming & Binding

\* Noon - 8 pm: Knotting

Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>

\* 8 am - 4 pm: Knotting, Trimming & Binding

Location: MCC Material Resources Center - 4080 Kidron Road, Kidron OH 44636

**Craft Night is coming up this Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>** from 6:30 – 8:30 pm in the church fellowship hall. Amber is bringing an activity and Sharon is preparing bookmark-making for us. Marilyn K is setting up a comforter for those who wish to knot. Come and enjoy crafts and fellowship.

**On Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> there is a Weekend Group gathering** at LincWay in Dalton (258 Kurzen Road N, Dalton) from 1 – 3 pm. All are welcome to come and enjoy coffee and tea, games and puzzles!

**Our church's group subscription to *Anabaptist World*** is renewing in May 2026. If you would like to join the group subscription, now is the time. The cost is \$49 per year. Please let Jan know if you are interested. Payments will be due in April with checks made out to Orrville Mennonite Church. If you'd like to browse a copy, there are some issues by the mailbox for you to borrow.

## **Schedule-At-A-Glance for February 8 – 15, 2026**

Sunday, February 8

Gathering and Coffee Time, **9:00 am**

Sunday School, **9:30 am**

Worship, **10:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Fellowship Meal, **12:00 noon**

Monday, February 9

Monday Meals, 5:30 pm

Tuesday, February 10

Elder Council, 3:45 pm

Wednesday, February 11

Widows' Group at Bill's (lunch will be served)

Thursday, February 12

Men's Breakfast (fellowship hall), 8 am

Saturday, February 14

Craft Night at OMC, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Sunday, February 15

Gathering and Coffee Time, **9:00 am**

Sunday School, **9:30 am**

Worship, **10:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

## **Looking Ahead**

Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> – K Ladies Lunch at LaVonne Amstutz's, 12 noon

Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> – Weekend Group, LincWay in Dalton

Coffee & Tea, Games & Puzzles, 1 – 3 pm

Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> – Wild Church at Dan and Jeanne Jantzi's, 4 pm

Thursday – Saturday, March 12-14, MCC Comforter Bash  
at MCC Material Resources Center

## **Offering Report for February 1, 2026**

Ministry Spending Plan: \$7,110.00

Weekly Amount Needed for MSP: \$3,550.00

Austin and Gris (Dollar Project): \$508.00

Austin and Gris: \$100.00

## **February Birthdays and Anniversaries**

3      Ralph Rheinheimer

5      Jane Beyeler

16     Sharon Stutzman

20     Jen Bixler

24     Louise Bowers

27     Bill Seymour

## Sermon Notes

### 1. We are wired to do our own thing.

- a. The pattern lifted out from Judges and which matches the pattern started with Adam and Eve is this:
  - i. We are in a transition.
  - ii. Now what? Shall we follow the Lord?"
  - iii. "No. We will do our own thing."

### 2. There is or can be a cyclical nature to sin.

- a. The cycle is proliferated both by humanity's excellence at going our own way and doing our thing and God's persistent love and mercy for humanity.
  - i. We go our own way
  - ii. We suffer because of it
  - iii. God has mercy and sends a rescue.
  - iv. We're good for a while, but then we forget and slip back.
- b. God's mercy was in response to the peoples' suffering.

### 3. GOD drives mercy, not anyone's faithfulness. →

This means our own sin and faith story is not about our obedience and disobedience and the results of that. Our own sin and faith journey is about God's mercy.

### 4. Fourth, sin is long suffering.

- a. Sin and the Result of sin are not going to go away until the causes of sin are eliminated, and the cause of sin is our own selfishness.

Judges isn't a story of human faithfulness. It is a story of human failure. And, it is a story of God's faithfulness in the midst of human failure.

**Deborah...**

**Orrville Mennonite Church**

1305 W. Market St., Orrville, OH 44667

Email address: [omcjan@gmail.com](mailto:omcjan@gmail.com)

Orrville Mennonite Church Website

Ohio Conference of MC USA Website

**330-682-5801**Office Hours: Monday - Friday,  
9 am - 12 noon[www.orrvillemenno.net](http://www.orrvillemenno.net)[www.ohiomennoniteconference.org](http://www.ohiomennoniteconference.org)**Pastor** Bill Seymour

330-347-7034 (Cell)

[omcbill@gmail.com](mailto:omcbill@gmail.com)**Elder Council**

Dan Jantzi

208-971-6488 (Cell)

[djjantzi@gmail.com](mailto:djjantzi@gmail.com)

Bill Seymour

330-347-7034 (Cell)

Louisa Pirozzi Erb

330-317-0726 (Cell)

[louerb@gmail.com](mailto:louerb@gmail.com)

Bev Squirrell

330-845-3732 (Cell)

[joshuasmombev@gmail.com](mailto:joshuasmombev@gmail.com)

Hank Rossiter

330-749-5644 (cell -no texting)

[hankandmarilynrossiter@yahoo.com](mailto:hankandmarilynrossiter@yahoo.com)**Ministers:** Each member of the congregation**Church Copyright Licenses:**

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