



# New Holland Mennonite Church

January 1, 2023 • Volume 68, No. 1  
Worship: 10:00 a.m.

## Epiphany



The Magi were seekers. They sought wisdom, they sought the divine, they sought fortunes to tell the future. Their seeking leads them to Jesus, the newborn king of another culture and religion. And yet, their seeking is also what protects them from Herod's deception and harm. After the Magi go home by another way, Joseph is visited again by an angel in his dream. This time, the angel brings a warning, and like before, Joseph heeds the message. Fleeing from Herod's massacre, Joseph and Mary seek refuge in Egypt; they remain there, living as immigrants, until Herod dies. Like the Magi, may we seek the divine and be willing to journey closer to God. Like the Holy family, may we seek safety for all families who are under threat. This new year and every year to come, let us keep seeking—wisdom, justice, and a better world.

### Gathering & Praising God

*Joy to the World (VT 240)*

Call to Worship

Karina Morales

Prayer for Illumination

*O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem (VT 275)*

### Hearing God's Voice

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Karina Morales

Children's Story: Frank & Erica Shirk

Lois Zimmerman

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12/13-23

Karina Morales

Sermon: "Wisemen"

Pastor Dawn Ranck-Hower

### Responding

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Dawn Ranck-Hower

Words of Forgiveness

*Arise, Your Light Is Come! (VT 273)*

Sharing and Announcements

Brenda Martin Hurst

Prayers of the People

### Sending

*Always Seeking*

Benediction

Karina Morales

**Coffee:** Evelyn Bailey; **Greeters:** Michele, Ellie, Maggie Good

**Close:** Jim Bailey; **Song Leader:** Dawn Ranck-Hower

**Vocalist:** Bryan Hower, Brenda Martin Hurst, Ray Hurst

**Sound:** Mike Good; **Offering:** Brenda Martin Hurst & Keith Miller

### December 25

**Attendance:** 38 (5 on zoom) • **Church Offering:** \$1,451.00

### NEXT SUNDAY: January 8

**Coffee:** Ray Hurst; **Greeter:** Ray Hurst & Karina Morales

**Worship Leader:** Ruth Douglas Miller

**Close:** Mike Bortzel; **Song Leader/Piano:** Jenn Esbenshade

**Praise Team:** Francy Bailey, Wanda Gonzalez-Bortzel, Terra May

**Sound:** Davin & Kai Esbenshade; **Congregational Prayer:** Ray Hurst

**Children's Time:** Jen Morales

**Gather & Count Offering:** Mike Good & Lois Zimmerman

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**January 2:** Gloria Hartley; **January 3:** George Brubaker

**January 5:** John Heese, Steven Lantz, Lois Zimmerman

## UPCOMING EVENTS

All events are at New Holland Mennonite Church unless otherwise indicated

**January 14: Men's Breakfast:** 7 a.m. Eli's Restaurant

**January 18: Women's Dinner:** 6 p.m. Garden Spot Village, Harvest Table

**January 28: Fondue and Game Night:** 5:00 p.m.

**February 5: Congregational Meeting:** 9:00 a.m.

## Church News

**Vacation:** Pastor Dawn and Bryan will be on vacation in New York City December 28-30. Please contact Lois Zimmerman with pastoral care concerns.

**LGBTQ Plus Survey:** The Leadership Team invites everyone (regular attendees and covenant members) to complete a survey as we discern next steps in processing our congregational understanding of LGBTQ plus. Please fill out survey by **Monday, January 9**. Survey: [forms.gle/tTWHbydMGcXnyfnA6](https://forms.gle/tTWHbydMGcXnyfnA6). **NOTE: Please fill out the form separately for EACH person in your family.**

**Women's Dinner: Wednesday, January 18,** 6 p.m., in the Concord Room at Garden Spot Village. Pick up food at the Harvest Table Restaurant. Food available for purchase until 6:30 p.m.

**Fun and Fondue Game Night: Saturday evening, January 28,** 5-8 p.m. Come for a relaxing evening of playing table games. While you're playing, you can enjoy a variety of fondues. Sign up to attend or bring a fondue or an item(s) to be dipped. Sign up: [www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B48AAAE23A6F49-funand](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B48AAAE23A6F49-funand).

## Community News

**Mennonite Disaster Service Celebration: Friday evening, February 10, 6:00 p.m.** at the Worship Center, Leola. Come for a meal followed by a program highlighting MDS stories, the Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster, and a performance by Piercing Word Ministries. The celebration will resume Saturday morning with additional stories about the work of MDS volunteers. The event is free and open to all. Please register by January 31. Learn more at <https://mds.org/annual-celebration/>

**Deux Voix, Wednesday, March 15,** 7 p.m. Highland Presbyterian Church (500 E Roseville Rd, Lancaster). Formed in 2014, Deux Voix ("two voices") has amassed a sterling reputation with national and international acclaim. In their mission to expand the world of trumpet and organ, Stephen Langham and Justin Distad are constantly adapting works from other genres and instrumentations. Details: [www.highlandpc.org](http://www.highlandpc.org).

**Stewardship University: Rooted in Faith. Reimagined for the Future, Saturday, March 18,** 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Everence Financial Central Penn will host a new half-day Stewardship University, a ministry partnership between Everence and the local faith community. Courses will explore subjects ranging from financial wellness (budgeting, women and finances, simple living, and legacy planning) to community impact (cultivating community resources and churches helping address the housing crisis) and more. Discounted rates through February 9. For information or to register visit [everence.com/StewU](http://everence.com/StewU).

**Rizzetta's Tones: Wednesday, May 10,** 7 p.m. Highland Presbyterian Church (500 E Roseville Rd, Lancaster). Rizzetta's Tones is a Celtic Americana band whose repertoire includes music from Ireland, Scotland, and the United States, but draws on other sources as well. Forging new arrangements and writing their own material, they present audiences with a pleasing twist on musical traditions. Details: [www.highlandpc.org](http://www.highlandpc.org).

**MCC PA Relief Sale Craft Stand:** A reminder to be creating for the annual sale to be held Friday and Saturday, **March 31 & April 1, 2023**, in the Farm Show Building in Harrisburg, PA. We are seeking new quality items made from fabric, yarn, thread, wood, paper or your specialty medium, including fancy soaps, candles, etc. See bulletin board at church for details or contact Janet Runion Patton: 717-926-4008; [jcpatton99@gmail.com](mailto:jcpatton99@gmail.com)

**Highland Chancel Choir, Wednesday, June 7,** 7 p.m. Highland Presbyterian Church (500 E Roseville Rd, Lancaster). This concert will take us on a journey through musical theatre history featuring well-known songs by Rodgers & Hammerstein, Irving Berlin, Stephen Sondheim, Andrew Lloyd Webber, and others. The program also features the celebrated and stirring *Gospel Mass* by Robert Ray. Details: [www.highlandpc.org](http://www.highlandpc.org).