



# New Holland Mennonite Church

December 4, 2022 • Volume 67, No. 52  
 Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. • Worship: 10:00 a.m.

## Second Sunday of Advent



When the angel Gabriel comes to Mary, she is perplexed and confused—and no doubt, afraid. And yet, the angel’s news is: “Do not be afraid.” Do not be afraid. We hear this refrain all throughout the Christmas story and remember it is the most common phrase in all the Bible. From generation to generation, God shows up in the midst of our fear and uncertainty and confusion. From generation to generation, faithful people have said “yes” despite apprehension. From generation to generation, our ancestors in faith have accepted the invitation.

### Gathering & Praising God

<i>Here I Am</i>	Jenn Esbenshade
Call to Worship	Keith Miller
Candle Lighting	Evelyn Bailey, Kai Esbenshade, Maggie Good, Mike Good
Prayer for Illumination	Keith Miller
<i>My Soul is Filled with Joy</i>	

### Hearing God’s Voice

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings	Keith Miller
Children’s Story: Noah & Barbara Sauder	Michele Good
Scripture: Luke 1:26-38	
Sermon: “Fear Not! – What’s In the Message?”	
	Karyn Nancarvis*

### Responding

Prayer of Confession	Karyn Nancarvis
Words of Forgiveness	
<i>Don’t Be Afraid (VT 596)</i>	
Sharing and Announcements	Ray Hurst
Prayers of the People	

### Sending

<i>O Come, O Come, Immanuel (verses 1, 4, 5, 7)</i>	
Benediction	Keith Miller

**Coffee:** Ray Hurst; **Greet:** Brenda & Ray Hurst  
**Close:** Mike Bortzel; **Sound:** Davin & Kai Esbenshade  
**Gather & Count Offering:** Mike Good & Wanda Gonzalez-Bortzel

\* Karyn Nancarvis is an active member of Laurel Street Mennonite church in Lancaster City. She serves on the board of the Shalom project in Lancaster, and is also the board Chair of the ACC Youth committee. Moving into her third year employed full time as Chaplain at Garden Spot Village Retirement Community in New Holland, Karyn is a 2020 graduate of Eastern Mennonite Seminary, having earned her Master of Divinity degree attending mostly at the Lancaster branch campus. Residing in Lititz for the past 23 years, home is with her husband Tim, two of her five adult children and their pound cake Yorkie, named Pearl.

### November 27

**Attendance: 30** (5 on zoom) • **Church Offering: \$183.00**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

All events are at New Holland Mennonite Church unless otherwise indicated  
**December 9: ELC Christmas Program, 6 p.m.**  
**December 10: Men’s Breakfast: 7 a.m.** Eli’s Restaurant  
**December 14: Women’s Dinner: 6 p.m.** Panera Bread, Ephrata  
**December 21: Longest Night Service: 7 p.m.**  
**December 25: Christmas Brunch: 9 a.m.; Worship: 10 a.m.**  
**February 5: Congregational Meeting: 9:00 a.m.**

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**December 4:** Eva May

## **NEXT SUNDAY: December 11**

**Coffee:** Evelyn Bailey; **Greeters:** Dawn Kaczor & Steven Lantz

**Close:** Jim Bailey; **Worship Leader:** Bryan Hower

**Song Leader/Piano:** Jenn Esbenshade

**Praise Team:** Wanda Gonzalez Bortzel, Terra May,  
Dawn Ranck-Hower, Bryan Hower

**Sound:** Davin & Kai Esbenshade; **Sermon:** Dawn Ranck-Hower

**Congregational Prayer:** Steven Lantz; **Children's Time:** Jen Morales

**Gather & Count Offering:** Francy Bailey & Brenda Hurst

## **Church News**

**Financial Update:** As of the end of November, the congregation has a deficit of \$6,127 for the year.

**Vacation:** Pastor Dawn and Bryan are on vacation in Pittsburgh from December 2-4. Please contact Lois Zimmerman with pastoral care concerns.

**Sprouts for Peace Garden:** Over 13,000 pounds of produce was harvested this year in the garden. That is 1,000 more than 2021. The estimated dollar value is almost \$17,000!!! Thanks to Gardener Ray and all who volunteered with him.

**Christmas Program:** On **Friday, December 9, 6:00 p.m.**, we have the privilege to welcome a couple hundred guests here in our space when we host the Early Learning Center Christmas program. Thanks to everyone who signed up to help!

**Women's Dinner:** **Wednesday, December 14, 6 p.m.**, Panera Bread, Ephrata. Beginning in 2023, meet at 6 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month 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.

**Longest Night Service:** **Wednesday, December 21, 7 p.m.** This service is titled, "The Longest Night," because so often the glow of Christmas lights, holiday cheer, and Advent candles can feel unreachable to those surrounded by loss or grief. Our hope is that this worship service will create a safe and sacred space for

those who are struggling to feel the joy and light of this holiday season due to loss of any kind. We do not intend for this service to be a service of healing, for what we lose cannot always be replaced. We hope this service will acknowledge the hole that grief leaves in one's heart while simultaneously remembering that we worship a God who is with us, even in the darkest of times.

**CENTENNIAL PLANNING FOR 2023:** November 18, 2023 will mark 100 years since New Holland Mennonite Church organized as a congregation. The Centennial Planning Committee (Brenda Martin Hurst, Steven Lantz and Pastor Dawn Ranck-Hower) announces plans to recognize this milestone in our congregational history. Beginning on Sunday, February 5, we will remember our history, using the Sunday School hour on the first Sunday of every month to cover our congregational story from 1923-2023 (taking a break for the summer months). This year-long historical review will culminate with a celebration on Covenant Sunday, November 19, 2023.

## **Community News**

**Alive with 55 & Up:** Ridgeview Mennonite Church, **December 13, 10 a.m.** The Ukulele Band will lead us in a Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long, followed by a delicious Christmas meal.

**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).

**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).