

New Holland Mennonite Church

December 5, 2021 • Volume 66, No. 49
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. • Worship: 10:00 a.m.



Laying the Foundation Second Sunday of Advent

Second Sunday of Advent: In the miraculous birth of John the Baptist, we see the foundation of what is to come. We see how interwoven his story is with Jesus' origin story. When Zechariah regains his voice, his imagination is also restored. He offers deep praise for God's tender mercy, and casts a hopeful vision for his own child. He sings blessings into John's being. This lays the foundation for John's life. In turn, John will go on to prepare the way for Jesus who will guide us all in the way of peace. In this week, we focus on making space—in our lives and our imaginations—for God's blessings to break through.

Gathering & Praising God

*Wherever You Are **

Call to Worship

Brenda Martin Hurst

Candle Lighting

Francy Bailey & Judy Schweitzer

Prayer for Illumination

Brenda Martin Hurst

Come, Thou Long Expectant Jesus (VT 218)

Hearing God's Voice

Children's Time

Jen Morales

Scripture: Philippians 1:5-6 (ICB)

Scripture: Luke 1:57-80 (CEB)

Sermon: "How long O Lord?"

Klaudia Smucker **

Responding

Prayer of Confession

Brenda Martin Hurst

Words of Forgiveness

The Church's One Foundation (VT 397)

Sharing and Announcements

Ray Hurst

Prayer of the People & Prayer for Tithes and Offerings

Sending

The Lord Lift You Up (VT 832)

Benediction

* Song written & produced by Barnaby Bright (Nathan & Becky Bliss) | barnabybright.com / Featuring cello by Sascha Groschang | Mixed by Bryan Cook | Mastered by Jett Galindo at "The Bakery" / Featuring visual art by Lisle Gwynn Garrity, Lauren Wright Pittman, & Hannah Garrity | Video by Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

** **Klaudia Smucker** is currently working at Mennonite Home Communities as a Chaplain at Woodcrest Villa. She is married to Bob, has two adult daughters, a grandson, and a 6-month-old adopted golden doodle named Piper.

Greeters/Open: Evelyn & Jim Bailey

Praise Team: Jenn Esbenshade, Ray Hurst, Tammy Snader,

Brenda Martin Hurst; **Sound:** Davin & Myla Esbenshade

Count Offering: Wade Esbenshade & Tammy Snader

Close: Tammy Snader

November 28

Attendance Total: 43 (7 on zoom) • **Church Offering:** \$1,774.26

November Early Learning Center Fundraiser: \$900.00

(ELC Fundraiser to date: \$4,750.00 [\$7,750.00 with match])

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December 8: Shirley King

NEXT SUNDAY: December 12

Greeters/Open: Danika & Tammy Snader; **Close:** Mike Bortzel
Worship Leader: Karina Morales; **Children:** Michele Good
Praise Team: Ray Hurst, Brenda Martin Hurst, Franci Bailey;
Sound: Mike Good & Bryan Hower; **Prayer:** Dawn Ranck-Hower
Count Offering: Franci Bailey & Brenda Martin Hurst

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, December 11, Men's Breakfast, Eli's Place, 7 a.m.
Tuesday, December 21, Longest Night Service, 7 p.m. (Zoom)
Friday, December 24, Christmas Eve Service, 5 p.m.
(outdoors)
Sunday, December 26, Christmas Brunch & Worship, 9:30
a.m. Brunch, 10:00 Worship. No Sunday School

Church News

Vacation: Pastor Dawn and Bryan are in Philadelphia from **December 2-5**. Please contact Lois Zimmerman with Pastoral Care concerns.

Elder Affirmation: Wade Esbenshade has been unanimously affirmed for another three-year-term as Elder of Administration and Lois Zimmerman has been unanimously affirmed for another four-year-term as Elder of Witness. Thank you to each person who voted.

Longest Night Service, Tuesday, December 21, 7 p.m. A Longest Night service is designed to provide space for prayer, reflection, and remembrance amidst the holiday hustle and bustle. In this pandemic season of life, grief and loss are often magnified and nearly universal, and a service like this may be needed now more than ever. **This service will be held on Zoom.** All are encouraged to attend.

Christmas Eve Service, December 24: Outdoors at 5 p.m. A short service of singing carols and hearing/acting out the Christmas story. The event will be located between the back of the church and the sheds. Bring a chair if you are unable to stand for 20-30 minutes.

Christmas Brunch & Worship: Sunday, December 26, 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Brunch; 10:00 a.m. Worship. Sign up in lobby to bring a breakfast casserole or sweet item.

Pointsettia's: Please bring Christmas plants to help to brighten up our worship space on Sunday, **December 26.**

Community News

Mennonite Children's Choir Christmas Concerts: "The Light Has Come": Join MCCL singers (including Seth Lantz) in celebrating the light of Christ through choral music featuring marimba, harp, and guitar. **Thursday, December 2, 7 p.m.,** Neffsville Mennonite Church; **Saturday, December 4, 4 p.m.** St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Lancaster; **Sunday, December 5, 4 p.m.,** Forest Hills Mennonite Church, Leola. Freewill offerings will be received. Masks are required.

The global community of faith—reunited: More than 1.5 million believers in 58 countries belong to the Anabaptist tradition. Mennonite World Conference (MWC) exists to facilitate relationships between Anabaptist-related churches worldwide and relate to other Christian organizations. Every six years, MWC hosts a global Assembly. For one week, thousands of Anabaptists-Mennonites will worship and pray as one, share our experience, build relationships, and serve together. The next Assembly will be in Semarang, Indonesia, **July 5-10, 2022.** Assembly offers a truly global experience for all ages. From workshops to tours, exhibitions to cultural performances, service opportunities to games, there is something for everyone! **Make plans to come in person or virtually!** More info: mwc-cmm.org.

Alive with 55 & Up: Ridgeview Mennonite Church, **December 14, 10 a.m.** Conestoga Valley Orchestra Chamber Ensemble, directed by Mrs. Emily H. Sheffer. Come and enjoy a morning of orchestra music before our Christmas luncheon. (Masking is encouraged. Meal is either take out or served with fewer chairs at each table.)