

# New Holland Mennonite Church

March 9, 2025 • Volume 70, No. 10

Fellowship: 8:30 a.m. • Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. • Worship: 10:00 a.m.



## Parable of the Good Samaritan

This parable begins and ends with the question, “Who is my neighbor?” and the answer is, surprisingly, “the stranger.” The Samaritan, whose place of worship and customs are different from the scribe who questions Jesus, is both a stranger and a neighbor to the man who was beaten and left in a ditch. In our world, many of our physical neighbors are strangers to us, and many of our neighbors—those closest to us—feel like strangers in divisive political climates. If we align our intentions and actions, then maybe we need to reconsider who we consider “stranger,” and ask ourselves if we have acted as good neighbors.

## Gathering & Praising God

My Coins Count

*Let Us Build a House (VT 36)*

Call to Worship & Prayer

*Blessed Are You (VT 290)*

Children

Jenn Esbenshade

Jenn Esbenshade

## Hearing God's Voice

Conversation with Children

Scripture: Luke 10:25-37

Sermon: “Beyond Labels: Seeing Christ in Every Person”

Larry Guengerich\*

Jen Morales

## Responding

Prayer of Confession / Words of Forgiveness

*I Saw a Stranger (bulletin insert)*

Congregational Prayer and Sharing

Announcements

Steven Lantz

## Sending

*Love the Lord Your God (VT 288)*

Benediction

Words for Worship by Rev. Sarah Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

\* Larry Guengerich was born in Aspen, Colorado when his parents were doing Mennonite Voluntary Service at the Aspen Hospital. His growing up years were spent in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, where he learned to enjoy real winters! Following High School in Northern Indiana, he attended college in Kansas and Virginia before moving to Lancaster area in 1996. Larry, his wife Kendra Peifer, two sons, and two cats live in East Petersburg. His various jobs have included Sports Information Director for Eastern Mennonite University, Ten Thousand Villages Media Coordinator, various communication roles for Mennonite Central Committee, and Director of Communications and Engagement for Landis Communities since 2011. He enjoys history, reading, genealogy and all things relating to soccer. He still get the itch to farm occasionally and hopes to live in Colorado again some day.

**Coffee:** Ray Hurst; **Greeters:** Michele, Ellie, Maggie Good

**Close:** Steven Lantz; **Sound:** Mike Good

**Nursery:** Dawn Kaczor & Seth Lantz

**Offering:** Ruth Douglas Miller & Wade Esbenshade

## March 2

**Attendance:** 39 (3 on Zoom) • **Offering:** \$2,190.00

## NEXT SUNDAY: March 16

**Coffee/Greeter:** Judy Schweitzer; **Close:** Mike Good

**Worship Leader:** Wanda Gonzalez Bortzel

**Song Leader:** Jenn Esbenshade

**Sound:** Wade Esbenshade; **Prayer:** Ruth Douglas Miller

**Nursery:** Lois Zimmerman; **Sermon:** Dawn Ranck-Hower

**Children's Time:** Dawn Ranck-Hower

**Offering:** Mike Good & Sue Martin

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**March 12:** Barbara Longenecker

**March 14:** Richard Buckwalter; **March 15:** Dawn Kaczor

## **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

**March 10:** Bryan Hower & Dawn Ranck-Hower

## **UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

All events are at New Holland Mennonite Church unless otherwise indicated

**Vacation:** Pastor Dawn and Bryan are on vacation March 7-10 celebrating their 12th wedding anniversary. Contact Ruth Douglas Miller with pastoral care concerns.

**My Coins Count!** During the month of March the children will collect coins for Mennonite Central Committee. Each year, spare change adds up to more than \$600,000 toward MCC's work around the world. Your coins count!

**Goodville Mutual Parking Lot Purchase:** The purchase agreement for the sale of a portion of the church parking lot to Goodville Mutual was signed on February 24, 2024. Settlement will take place in approximately 90 days. Goodville Mutual hopes to begin construction sometime in June. Any questions can be brought to Wade Esbenshade or Mike Good.

**Wednesday, March 12: "Festival of Slicing the Spuds."** A new Sprouts for Peace Garden year begins. Bring your knives and gather at the shed at 11 a.m.

**Saturday, March 15: Potato and Onion Planting:** 10 a.m. until noon. Plenty of work for all! Come join the fun!

**Wednesday, March 19: Women's Dinner** at Garden Spot Village Concord Room, Room is reserved from 5:30-8:00, Food is available to purchase until 6:30 p.m.

**Land Acknowledgment:** We acknowledge, with humility, that the land where we sit and stand today is land that was home to the Susquehannock, Shawnee, and Lenape people. Let us be aware that we occupy their homeland, and that their presence is imbued in this land.

**Pastor:** Dawn Ranck-Hower

**Leadership Team:** Wade Esbenshade, Dawn Kaczor, Ruth Douglas Miller  
18 Western Ave., New Holland, PA 17557 • 717/354-0602  
www.NewHollandMC.org • **Hearing Aids Available**

## **Projected Art: "Neighbors"**

by Steve Prince

Inspired by Luke 10:25-37 • Pen and ink on paper

"Each individual carries generations within them, made up of billions of people who have occupied this earth before us. We have an individual and collective responsibility to be good stewards (Good Samaritans) of our bodies, neighbors, and communities, rooted in love. Every day we make a dance of life and death—celebrating the entrance and exit of life, the progression of age and maturity, and the expansion of our tent, grafting to people who share our blood and our beliefs. We are the structures, those temporal buildings that weather the storms, that creak and wither away daily, but are fortified by our relationships to each other and with the sharing of the good news planted by the Heavenly Father. This dance is an open profession of our vow to live by God's commandments and find a way to collectively preserve the truth of our origin while moving as one communal body into an untouched future." —Steve Prince

## **About the Logo**

The two hands reaching toward each other represent our longing for connection despite the politics, assumptions, beliefs, and narratives that divide us. The hands look as if they are reaching in for a handshake, but they are paused just before they connect. The negative space in between the hands creates the shape of a doorway, symbolizing hospitality or a pathway forward. The doorway invites us to look for God in the spaces in between. In the typography, the "in" is bracketed, emphasizing the promise that God shows up in surprising ways and unexpected places, but is present in it all. The shape of the hands further echoes the bracket shape. Grammatically, brackets are used to provide additional explanation or information. The brackets around the [in] represent the charge to each of us: to dig deeper into complexity and nuance, to ask questions and stay curious, and to be open to where God might meet us along the way.