

The Extraordinary in the Ordinary

Discovering God in the Everyday

For all the drama of Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost, most of life is made up of ordinary days—and God is present in them all. God meets us as we grocery shop, pay bills, go to work or school, and spend time with family and friends. Yet we do not always notice.

Our summer worship series is an invitation to pay attention—to seek God in the rhythms of daily life, and to become more open to wonder, to grace, and to the possibility that something extraordinary is unfolding in the ordinary. Jesus often used ordinary things and everyday people in his parables to reveal deeper truths about God's kingdom, and these stories will help shape our worship throughout the summer.

Our days hold a quiet promise, if we have eyes to see.

May 31: Practicing Gratitude: Luke 17:15-16: Preacher: Dawn Ranck-Hower

June 7: The Eyes of Silwan: John 9: Preacher: Amy Yoder McGloughlin

Amy Yoder McGloughlin is the Conference Minister for Allegheny Mennonite Conference, and the Denominational Minister for Education with MCUSA. She's been travelling to Palestine yearly since 2013, leading delegations with Community Peacemaker Teams, Mennonite Men, and the Mennonite Palestine Israel Network. Amy's upcoming book, tentatively titled, *Storied Land*, looks at stories in scripture and compares them to current stories happening on those same pieces of land today. Her central question is "How can the story of Palestinians and their experiences on the land enhance the reading of our own sacred texts?"

June 14: Parables about Prayer: Luke 11:1-13 & 18:1-18, Preacher: Dawn Ranck-Hower

June 21: Early Learning Center: Parable: The Wise and Foolish Builders: Matthew 7:24-27,
Led by Jen Morales, Kelsey Means & ELC School Ageds

June 28: We're closing the church doors! On Sunday, June 28, the doors of New Holland Mennonite Church will stay locked—not because we're not worshipping, but because we're heading out to bless other congregations in the Atlantic Coast Conference with our cheerful presence!

Could we visit all 24 churches? Including Gettysburg, PA; Port Allegany, PA; Ocean City, MD; Frazer, PA; Hagerstown, MD; Cambridge, MA; Baltimore, MD—even New York City!

Some of the farther trips will take a bit of planning (maybe even a weekend getaway), so start thinking now about where you might go.

Sign up in the weekly email update to be part of this fun, connection-building experiment—we can't wait to see where you'll worship!

July 5: Brunch (9:30 a.m.) & Table Church (10 a.m.): Swap stories from church visits.

Sign Up in the weekly email update participate and/or bring food to share.

July 12: Sprouts for Peace Garden: Parable about Weeds: Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43,
Preacher: Ray Hurst

July 19: Parable about Hospitality: Luke 14:1-14: Preacher: Dawn Ranck-Hower

July 26: CrossNet Ministries: Parable about an Invisible Person: Luke 16:19-31
Tour, Worship, and Service. More details later.

August Worship: Our Money Story: A 4-Week Worship Series from Sanctified Art
Money and possessions are among the most common topics in scripture, and Jesus spoke about money more than faith or prayer. Our relationship with money is, at its core, a spiritual story.

This series invites us to reflect on and share our own money stories in light of God’s story—a story rooted in liberation and justice. Together, we’ll explore how our stewardship practices can more fully express who we are and what we believe.

August 2: Our Money Story: Remember: Luke 22:1-23 / Exodus 16:1-18

August 9: Our Money Story: Release: Matthew 19:16-22 / Deuteronomy 15:1-11

August 16: Our Money Story: Reimagine: Mark 12:38-44 / Leviticus 19:9-10; 25:8-12

August 23: Our Money Story: Restore: John 21:1-14 / Genesis 33:1-17

August 30: Children & Youth Worship: Parable about Sowing Seeds: Matthew 13:3-23.
Led by Dawn Kaczor

September 6: Outdoor Worship: Season of Creation. Picnic lunch followed by lawn games. Place TBD.

Summer Stories

Over the summer, each Sunday someone from our congregation will share a story of “The Extraordinary in the Ordinary.”

Monthly highlights include:

- Ray from the garden
- Jen from the Early Learning Center
- a “why I give of my time and/or money to this church” story
- a “why I love this church” story

Interested in sharing? Let Pastor Dawn know!