



New Holland Mennonite Church

December 12, 2021 • Volume 66, No. 50
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. • Worship: 10:00 a.m.



Third Sunday of Advent: John the Baptist's good news sounds harsh, but he preaches a home for all— where inequities are banished, valleys are lifted up, and all have the resources they need for collective flourishing. Ultimately, John's message is one of joy. We are called to collectively build and repair the structures of our society; we are called to be kin-dom builders. Wherever we build, God is there. What we build should be a place with a large table and room for all.

Gathering & Praising God

*Wherever You Are **

Call to Worship

Candle Lighting

Prayer for Illumination

Longing for Light (VT 715)

Karina Morales

Evelyn & Jim Bailey

Karina Morales

Hearing God's Voice

Scripture: Luke 3:1-18 (CEB)

Children's Time

Luke 3:10-11, 18 (ICB)

Sermon: "What then should we do?"

Michele Good

Pastor Dawn Ranck-Hower

Responding

Prayer of Confession

Words of Forgiveness

Praise with Joy the World's Creator (VT 428)

Sharing and Announcements Pastor Dawn Ranck-Hower

Prayer of the People & Prayer for Tithes and Offerings

Sending

Move in Our Midst (VT 827)

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

Greeters/Open: Danika & Tammy Snader

Praise Team: Ray Hurst, Brenda Martin Hurst, Francy Bailey

Sound: Mike Good & Bryan Hower; **Close:** Mike Bortzel

Count Offering: Francy Bailey & Brenda Martin Hurst

December 5

Attendance Total: 43 (6 on zoom) • **Church Offering:** \$1,919.00

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December 14: Bob Martin

NEXT SUNDAY: December 19

Greeters/Open: Dawn Kaczor & Steven Lantz

Worship Leader: Sue Martin; **Children:** Bryan Hower

Praise Team: Jenn Esbenshade, Wanda Gonzalez-Bortzel, Bryan Hower, Dawn Ranck-Hower; **Sound:** Davin & Myla Esbenshade

Prayer: Steven Lantz; **Close:** Tim Martin

Count Offering: Wade Esbenshade & Sue Martin

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Saturday, January 8, Men's Breakfast, Eli's Place, 7 a.m.

Church News

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.

Financial Update: As of Sunday, December 12, the church is behind by \$604. Thank you for your generous giving over the past year.

November ELC Fundraiser: Thank you for your generosity. \$4,750.00 plus a \$3,000 Everence match totals \$7,750.00!

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.)