

New Holland Mennonite Church

December 19, 2021 • Volume 66, No. 51
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. • Worship: 10:00 a.m.



Fourth Sunday of Advent: After receiving the angel's extraordinary news, Mary retreats to Elizabeth and Zechariah's home to digest her new calling. She seeks refuge—physical safety and emotional protection. She receives a safe haven, a home for her heart to soon sing praise. Sanctuary and safe space is so crucial for everyone, especially the mother of Christ while she prepares to become a home for God. Sanctuary is anywhere God's love dwells freely and abundantly.

Gathering & Praising God

*Wherever You Are **

Call to Worship

Sue Martin

(Artwork on Screen: "Dances for Joy" by Hannah Garrity)

Candle Lighting

Ellie, Maggie, Michele Good

Prayer for Illumination

Sue Martin

My Soul Cries Out (VT 412)

Hearing God's Voice

Scripture: Luke 1:39-55 (CEB)

Children's Time

Bryan Hower

Luke 1:39-41 (ICB)

Sermon: "Seeking Sanctuary"

Pastor Dawn Ranck-Hower

(Artwork on Screen: "Redemption Song" by T. Denish Anderson)

Responding

Prayer of Confession

Words of Forgiveness

Mary Did You Know?

Sharing and Announcements

Steven Lantz

Prayer of the People & Prayer for Tithes and Offerings

Sending

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (VT 218)

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: Dawn Kaczor & Steven Lantz

Praise Team: Jenn Esbenshade, Wanda Gonzalez-Bortzel,
Bryan Hower, Dawn Ranck-Hower

Sound: Davin & Myla Esbenshade; **Close:** Tim Martin

Count Offering: Wade Esbenshade & Sue Martin

December 12

Attendance Total: 39 (4 on zoom) • **Church Offering:** \$2,120.00

NEXT SUNDAY: December 26

Greeters/Open: Jen Morales & Danika Snader

Worship Leader: Dawn Kaczor; **Children:** Da'wn Ranck-Hower

Praise Team: Steven Lantz, Dawn Kaczor, Francy Bailey

Sound: Bryan Hower & Tammy Snader

Prayer: Brenda Martin Hurst; **Close:** Ruth Carrasco

Count Offering: Francy Bailey & Tammy Snader

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December 20: Bob Weaver

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, December 21, Longest Night Service, 7 p.m. (Zoom)

Friday, December 24, Christmas Eve Service, 5 p.m.
(outdoors)

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

Church News

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 CANCELLED: The leadership Team has decided to cancel the brunch before worship on December 26 due to the rising number of Covid cases and hospitalizations in Lancaster County. We will plan on worshipping at 10 that morning. There will be no Sunday School on December 26 as planned.

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

2022 Directory: The new directory is in your church folder. Please let me know if you would like a link to access it digitally.

Community News

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.