

<b>Attendance Last Sunday:</b>	
Morning Worship: 159	Sunday School: 107
<b>Giving through 12.6.15</b>	
December 6th Giving	\$ 7,194.20
Year-to-date Giving	\$ 266,574.03
Average Weekly Giving Needed:	\$ 9,546.99

***For Parents/Caregivers of Young Children:***

The Nursery Rooms at the back of the church (located to the right as you enter the sanctuary) are available as quiet rooms for infants and their parents during the worship service. The Toddler Room (room #47 up the steps to the back hallway) is available for children (up to 5 years of age) for play during the worship service and is staffed during both the worship service (after the opening songs) and Sunday School hour.

**Toddler Room Staff during Worship Service:**

Today: Judy Showalter & Sarena Gerber  
Next Sunday: Doug Stoltzfus & Drew Blauvelt

**East Union Mennonite Church**

5615 Gable Ave. SW Phone: (319) 656-2590 www.eastunionmennonite.org  
Kalona, Iowa 52247 E-Mail: [eucares@kctc.net](mailto:eucares@kctc.net)

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# East Union Mennonite Church

5615 Gable Ave. SW (319) 656-2590 www.eastunionmennonite.org

## Our Mission:

*East Union Mennonite Church is a community of love and worship where the Scriptures and the Spirit guide all to faithful living, all are welcome to grow in the way of Jesus, and we share God's love with others in word and service, so that we are a light of hope here and around the world.*

*Our Motto: Growing in the way of Jesus, sharing God's love, Word & hope.*

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Worship Leader	Doyle & Janet Geyer
Sermon	Joel Beachy
Pre-Service, Offering, Postlude	Grace Rempel
Congregational Singing	Steve Groenewold & Quartet
Special Music	Adult Choir

## WORSHIP

### Advent 3: "Let It be known, A new day is dawning"

#### Call to Worship / Prayer

Leader: Sing aloud, O people,

Shout out your worship in a loud voice!

People: **God takes away the judgement against us;**

**There's no need to fear disaster.**

Leader: The Lord our God exults over us with gladness;

Singing loudly as on a day of celebration.

People: **God delivers us from all that oppresses us,**

**Changing our shame into praise.**

All: ***Rejoice! For God is our strength and our might and has become our salvation.***

Congregational Singing

The Gospel Luke 3:7-18

Lighting the Advent Candle Grace Miller and Lisa Schmidt

Leaders: We watch and wait for Christ's coming.

We light a candle each week

remembering the promise of God.

Today we light a candle of Joy,

"Let It be known, A new day is dawning"

All: ***"Let It be known, A new day is dawning"***

"Yonder Come Day" (Theme song) STJ 115

Moment in Mission

Connecting with Jen, Kerry, Idonia and Halid Saner Harvey

who are serving with Mennonite Central Committee in Bangladesh

Adult Choir

The Prophecy Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sermon "Fear turned to Joy"

Song of Response

Advent response

Sharing Time, Prayer concerns

Congregational Prayer

Announcements

First Fruits Offering

Sending Song

Benediction

15 minutes of coffee & fellowship time

10:45 a.m. Sunday School

## PRAYER REMINDERS

**Parkview Manor:** Ervin Miller

**College Students:** Nick Santoro, Cameron Gingerich, Rebecca Rhodes

**Praying for God's Healing and Hope:** Sam Hochstetler, Dave Plank

**Central Plains:** Pray for our mission partners in the Quito Mennonite Church as they raise money to buy a building to house the congregation and its many ministries such as peace workshops for children and assistance for Colombian refugees.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Early next year, Moriah Hurst will conclude seven years of Mennonite Mission Network ministry in Australia. Pray for her as she lives with difficult good-byes, and confides her work into the hands of colleagues.

**Mennonite Education Agency:** Thank God for music and the many voices, young and old, that are being nurtured through Eastern Mennonite University's Harrisonburg, Va., music department and affiliate programs, such as the Shenandoah Valley Children's Choir, preparatory music program and college-level ensembles.

## THIS WEEK AT EAST UNION

### *Today, Sunday, December 13*

- Children's Christmas program rehearsal after service
- Koinonia class is in charge of the Pleasantview worship service this morning.

### *Tuesday, December 15*

- Church Council Meeting 7 pm

### *Wednesday, December 16*

- Choir Practice 7 pm
- Elder meeting at Harvey's 7 pm

### *Saturday, December 19*

- Children's Christmas program dress rehearsal 9 - 10:30 am

### *Next Sunday, December 20*

- The **Children's Christmas program** will be during our regular church service. Our children's choirs will provide lots of wonderful music and narration AND you'll want to come see the much older "kids" playing parts in our living nativity!



**MCC Meat Canning** on Monday and Tuesday, 12/14 & 15 - help is still needed: 1 person for **Monday - 7am-noon** and 1 person for **Tuesday - 5pm-finish**. Many thanks to those who have already signed up!

## LOOKING AHEAD

**Thursday, December 24** - Christmas Eve Service 7 pm

**Sunday, December 27** - No Sunday School

## CENTRAL PLAINS and MENNONITE AGENCIES

**Thinking about retirement?** Faith-based Everence understands how your values and dreams are important as you make decisions for your future. Use Everence resources - such as a retirement income calculator and other worksheets - to help you determine if you're ready at [everence.com/retire](http://everence.com/retire).

**High school seniors:** Don't miss out on receiving one of our top scholarships! A Goshen College achievement scholarship could save you and your family tens of thousands of dollars on a nationally-ranked Anabaptist-Mennonite education. Dec. 15 is the priority application deadline for eligibility. Apply now at: [goshen.edu/dec15](http://goshen.edu/dec15)



## CHURCH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thanks so much** for your kindness expressed last Sunday in helping me prepare for retirement. The slide show, sharing and special prayer in worship were all deeply appreciated. It was a gift to both me and Susan. I will continue here at East Union through December.

Many have asked what is next for me after December 31. I do plan to retire and for the first 3 months I want to experience a self-directed sabbatical. I anticipate spending a lot of time at my wood lathe, being a grandpa, reading, connecting with friends, and pondering what's next. I've got quite a list of projects to tackle and want to take time to discern what is next for me.

I will say this again when I leave at the end of December, but I want you to hear it now also. I feel so blessed at the opportunity you gave me to walk with as your transitional pastor these past 18 months. It's been an incredibly rich and profound experience for me.

Today, December 13, Susan and I join our son and daughter-in-law for their parent-child dedication as they dedicate their daughter Frances in their worship service at First Mennonite in Iowa City. Firman Gingerich

**Change in CHOW:** Kids Against Hunger will be in February instead of January. However, for those who wish to donate in 2015, there is a basket in the back of the church this Sunday and the next 2 Sundays. The Shekinah class will provide the program in January.

**Offering Envelopes** for 2016 are on the literature table in the foyer. If you would like to use offering envelopes next year, please take a box and sign your name next to the number you are taking. Thank you!

**Video Recording** For those of you that help with video recording, if you wish to be on the schedule for 2016, please contact Derek Bontrager or Greg Yoder. We are also looking for more people that would like to learn how to load recordings to the internet.

**Delays and Cancellations** It's that time of year again! Weather related delays and cancellations will be announced through KCRG, WMT and Facebook, as well as through our One Call phone service. Pastor Joel and congregational leaders will make decisions and communicate in the ways listed above. Above all we want you to be safe!

**Listen to a Message Online.** Anyone who wishes can listen to the archives of our sermons online. Navigate in your internet browser to [www.eastunionmennonite.org](http://www.eastunionmennonite.org), click on Resources and then Listen to a Sermon. Click to the sermon of your choosing and press Play in the player. Sermons are typically uploaded to the site within one hour of the end of the service. If you want to listen to an entire service please contact Greg Yoder or Derek Bontrager and we can get you a flash drive with a copy of the service.

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Iowa Mennonite School**

\* All are invited to Iowa Mennonite School's Christmas Concert this afternoon at 2:30 in *Celebration Hall*. Come hear the joyful sounds of the season, with the school's vocal and instrumental departments leading the music! Following the concert, students - and families - in 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade, as well as high school students considering a transfer to IMS, are invited to enjoy cookies and games, hosted by Y-Co, the IMS student government.

\* Interested boys in the 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to participate in a basketball scrimmage during halftime of the varsity IMS games on Saturday, Dec. 19. Come and enjoy meeting new people and showcasing your skills on the court!

\* Iowa Mennonite School's *Alumni Night* activities are scheduled for Friday, Dec. 18 during the triple-header basketball contest with Pekin. The boys JV will play at 4:30 pm, followed by the girls varsity at 6:00 and the boys varsity at 7:30. Anyone attending the game will be eligible to register for prizes to be given away at halftime of the varsity games; alumni will receive coupons to the concession stand. The registration table will open at 5:00 pm. Come and reconnect with classmates from years gone by!

**The Crowded Closet Thrift Shop**, Iowa City, is seeking a part time Furniture Assistant. This position would involve organizing and assisting with deliveries and pickups, transporting inventory and other items to and from the storage building, managing recycling, among other duties. Applicant must be able to work in a fast paced environment, be on your feet, be able to lift 30-50 lbs., work both independently and as part of a team. Looking for 3-8 hour days, ideal candidate would work two Saturdays a month. Excellent public relation skills are required. For more information or detailed job description contact the Crowded Closet at 319-337-5924 or email [crowdedcloset.gm@gmail.com](mailto:crowdedcloset.gm@gmail.com). Applications will be accepted until January 15 or until the position is filled.