

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.

Vol. LXIV December 11, 2016 No. 50

Worship Leader	Lori Gerber
Sermon	Joel Beachy
Prelude, Offering	Verna Zook
Congregational Singing	Lisa Schmidt & Praise Band
Special Music	Adult Choir
Children's Time	Elvesta Hochstedler

WORSHIP

- Call to Worship
- Congregational Singing
- Candle Lighting
 - Oh, Beautiful Star of Bethlehem - STS 32
- Advent reading - Lori Gerber
- Announcements
- First Fruits Offering
- Special Music
- Children's Time
- Sermon: "God's Healing is at Hand"
 - Scripture Reading: Matthew 11:2-11
- Song of Response
- Sharing Time, Testimony, Prayer concerns
- Congregational Prayer
- Sending Song
- Benediction

- 15 minutes of coffee & fellowship time

- Sunday School

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: Loren Hochstedler & Sam Yoder
 Next Sunday: Wanda Yoder & Julia Boller

Attendance Last Sunday:	
Morning Worship: 124	Sunday School: 75
Giving through 12.4.16	
December 4th Giving	\$ 5,230.60
Year-to-date Giving	\$ 267,972.09
Average Weekly Giving Needed:	\$ 8,343.64

PRAYER REMINDERS

- At Pleasantview Home:** Nita Miller, Marguerite Zook
- College Students:** Anya Slabaugh, Joel Beachy
- From last week's sharing:** Donna Hochstetler health concerns; Larry Detweiler (the passing of his boss's father); Lori Gerber (the passing of Alex from complications of Type 1 diabetes)
- Central Plains:** Pray for the Outreach and Service Committee as they equip the members of Central Plains to joyfully follow Jesus, seeking and saving persons in the world around us who are lost or forsaken.
- Mennonite Mission Network:** Mennonite churches in Bolivia have vacation Bible school this month. Margrit Kipfer Barron, serving with Mennonite Mission Network, helps prepare the curriculum and train teachers. Pray that the Spirit of God will move in a powerful way among the children who attend and their families.
- Mennonite Education Agency:** Please pray for students at Eastern Mennonite Seminary as they prepare for exams and Advent and Christmas worship services in this busy season.

East Union Mennonite Church	
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Larry Detweiler, Elder.....	ldetweiler@southslope.net319-828-4461
Greg Schmidt, Moderator.....	schmig1@kctc.net656-3812

We Fall Down

We fall down, we lay our crowns
At the feet of Jesus;
The greatness of, mercy and love,
At the feet of Jesus.

And we cry holy, holy, holy,
And we cry holy, holy, holy,
And we cry holy, holy, holy
Is the Lamb.

CENTRAL PLAINS and MENNONITE AGENCIES

Coming this summer: MennoTalks! A new feature for the Mennonite Church USA Convention 2017, the talks will feature 20 slides for 20 seconds each in a fast-paced presentation on topics such as “Celebrating Women,” “Race, Religion and Justice” and “Global and Local Peacemaking.” Come to Orlando July 4-7 to experience this and much more. For additional information visit <http://convention.mennoniteusa.org/mennotalks/>.

College Internship Opportunity with Mennonite Church USA: The Mennonite Church USA Communications team is looking for interns! Beginning in January and culminating in July 2017 at Mennonite Church USA Convention in Orlando, these internships will include positions for writers, editors, photographers, social media, and graphic design. Internships will be paid and prioritize students of color. Interested students should contact janiebk@mennoniteusa.org for more information.

Take chances. Make mistakes. Get messy. Be challenged. Learn some things. Teach some things. Spend a year living somewhere that you never dreamed you'd go... Start now at salt.mcc.org, find answers to frequently asked questions, assignment options and apply! Contact sharonnelson@mcc.org for more information.

December 11th Bulletin insert

THIS WEEK AT EAST UNION

Today, Sunday, December 11

- Children's Christmas program rehearsal following service

Wednesday, December 14

- **Service of Lament** - At 6:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall the elders and Pastor Joel Beachy would like to invite the congregation to a service of lament. The purpose for gathering and participating in a service of lament is to acknowledge the recent loss of attending members due to theological/doctrinal differences and other circumstances. The service will include scripture reading, singing, and a candle lighting service. Questions? Please talk to Joel Beachy or the elders (Jeff Swartzentruber, Karen Harvey, Larry Detweiler, & Wanda Yoder).
- Choir practice 7 pm
- Church Council virtual meeting

Next Sunday, December 18

- Children's Christmas program during service.
- No Sunday School

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Service Plan ahead to attend the Christmas Eve service at 7 pm, and bring friends and family!

Wednesday, January 4 - CHOW

January 4th CHOW meal will be by the Dulous Class. The activity will be packing meals for “Take Away Hunger”, as we have done the last few years, and there will also be a quilt and comforter in frame for those who would like to knit comforters or quilt. We will need at least \$1800 to cover the cost of the meals we pack. There will be a basket in the back of the church throughout December for donations. Thank you.

Saturday, January 7 - Men's Breakfast

Save the date! Men and boys of all ages are welcome! More info to come.

Sunday, January 15 - Prayer Walk

All are invited to participate. More info to come.

CHURCH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Congregation at East Union Mennonite WOW! The generosity of your church has blessed my heart and eased the stress of the financial burden I'm left with. The \$7,625 contribution received from East Union made it possible for me to pay off my student loan debt. That means \$250/month I will no longer need to worry about. I'm so very, very grateful to you all. Your kindness in this sad time brings me closer to the community and reminds me of God's love. Thank you, thank you, thank you! Miranda (Micah) Miller

Service trip opportunity to McAllen, Texas and Iglesia Zoar in Reynosa, Mexico: Would you be interested in seeing first hand the work of Pastor José and Raquel as well as serving in a church in McAllen with new immigrants? As supported by the Nov. Business meeting, we are beginning plans for a February or March trip, dates to be determined. Cost would include travel (flight or drive?), lodging and food. Please talk with Janet G., Mission and Service Communicator, for more details and of interest by January 1.
"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:35-36

Shop with Scrip(R) is a fundraising program that IMS has been involved with for a few years. It's really easy. If you are wanting to purchase a gift card(s) you can contact one of the IMS families at church or Candi Schmieder at IMS. There are hundreds of stores and restaurants to choose from. An order is placed twice per month and IMS gets a percentage of the card value which then goes to help with tuition costs. The last day to place an order for Christmas is this Thursday before 10:00 a.m. Thank you for considering this opportunity.

Voluntary Service Opportunity - The MCC meat canner is coming to SE Iowa and volunteers will be needed to process 19,000 pounds of deboned turkey thighs, on **Thursday & Friday, December 15 & 16**. The canned meat is sent all around the world to places in need. Set up will take place at the Daniel Keith Yoder facilities, 2 1/2 miles west of IMS on Wednesday afternoon, December 14. Cash (**\$22,200**) is also needed to purchase the meat and supplies. Send checks to Southeast Iowa Meat Canning, c/o Sylvan Schlabach, PO Box 621, Kalona IA 52247. Any questions? Contact Donald or Verna Zook.

UPDATE: Workers are still needed for the following shifts:

Wednesday, December 16 @ 1pm - **1 person needed** to help with set-up

Thursday, December 17 - 1pm-6pm - **2 persons needed**, 6:30-finish - **2 persons needed**

Friday, December 18 - 6pm-finish - **1 person needed**

The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the foyer. Snacks and meals are provided. Thanks to those who have already signed up to help.

The MYF will be serving cookies between church and Sunday school after the children's Christmas program (18th) and on Christmas Day. Donations are welcomed! Proceeds will go towards the Mennonite Convention in Orlando. Thank you for your support!

Offering Envelopes for 2017 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!

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Night of Worship Come, relax, worship. In the midst of all the busyness, why not come out to Lower Deer Creek Mennonite Church for a Night of Worship?! Come sing Christmas carols in a relaxed atmosphere and enjoy fellowship and refreshments. It all begins at 6:30 this evening! Hope to see you all!

Pathway School's Christmas Program is Tuesday, December 13 at 6:30PM. There will be a time of fellowship after the program. Everyone is invited!

Iowa Mennonite School

* Thanks to everyone who participated in **#GivingTuesday** and donated toward our Student Aid Fund. We exceeded our goal and appreciate very much all of the support. Our students thank you for your generosity during this season of giving!

* **TODAY - Christmas Music Concert** at 2:30PM in Celebration Hall at IMS. The concert will feature Chorale, Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, and the Symphonic Band. The **Art Gallery** will be open prior to and following the concert to view the exhibit, titled Decade: A Visual Display by Kay Fleming.

* **Prospective Family Christmas Party** following the music concert on December 11, IMS will have a Christmas party for 6th-8th grade students, transfer students and their families. There will be Christmas cookies, crafts and games hosted by one the student groups.

* The one act **Christmas opera, Amahl and the Night Visitors** will be on the Celebration Hall stage for one night only on December 17 at 7:30PM. There are still a few tickets left and are \$15/adults and \$10/students. This will most likely sell out and there will not be tickets available at the door. Call the IMS office to reserve your tickets today 656-2073.

Crooked Creek Christian Camp

* **Hey 6th, 7th & 8th graders, Save the Date for Winterfest 2017!**

Join us January 13-15 for a weekend full of food, faith and fun. See your youth sponsors or check out our website for more information.

* **Welcome Center:** Joy to the world, giving season is here! O come all ye faithful, Crooked Creek seeks \$155,000 in cash and pledges for the Welcome Center. Deck the halls and go online to give at

<http://www.crookedcreekcamp.org/make-a-donation>. Dash(ing) through the snow and come see the progress.