

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	Nolan & Lori Gerber
Sermon	Joel Beachy
Prelude, Offering	Verna Zook, Ian & Behla Schmidt
Congregational Singing	Tammy Yoder & Quartet
Children's Time	Joel & Catrina Miiller

WORSHIP

Call to Worship
 Lighting of Advent Candle
 Congregational Singing
 Opening Prayer
 Scripture Reading: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
 Announcements
 First Fruits Offering
 Children's Time
 Sermon: "Let it Be So"
 Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-11
 Song of Response
 Sharing Time, Testimony, Prayer concerns
 Congregational Prayer
 Sending Song
 Benediction
 Skit

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: Will Miller & Ian Schmidt
 Next Sunday: Meghan Schrag & Behla Schmidt

Attendance Last Sunday:	
Morning Worship: 136	Sunday School: 91
Giving through 12.3.17	
December 3rd Giving	\$ 9,535.00
Year-to-Date Giving	\$ 257,405.28
Average weekly giving needed	\$ 13,344.57 (3 weeks remaining)

PRAYER REMINDERS

Health and healing: Harold Blosser

College Students: Joel Beachy, Nick Santoro

Iglesia Zoar: Prayer for Iglesia Zoar, Jose, Raquel, Emma and community.

From last week's sharing: Judy Showalter's mother, Janet Bauer, surgery for broken hip; Ed Yoder, recovering at Pleasantview Home; Emily Miller, daughter of Dennis & Sally, 2nd round of chemo on Wednesday.

Central Plains: Pray for you sister churches in the Twin Cities: Emmanuel, Faith, St. Paul Hmong, Third Way, and the Mennonite Worker.

Mennonite Mission Network: Join the Mennonite Mission Network in praising God for the recording of the entire New Testament in the Toba-Qom language, and for the 33 readers from eight denominations and 12 communities in the Argentine Chaco who volunteered to make this possible. Pray that God's word will find open hearts when it is aired on the radio.

Mennonite Education Agency: Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas
 The light of Christ has come into the world - join the Bethel College community in praising God for the gift of the Son, as students, faculty, staff and friends observe the 32nd annual Lighting of the Green.

East Union Mennonite Church		
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Congregational Leader Contact Information:		
Joel Beachy, Pastor.....	jjoelbeachy@gmail.com.....	319-591-0187
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Wanda Yoder, Elder.....	kenway@sharontc.net.....	319-430-6406
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Will Miller, Elder.....	wemiller@kctc.net.....	319-461-4115
Greg Yoder, Moderator.....	greg20yoder@gmail.com.....	319-541-4678

CENTRAL PLAINS and MENNONITE AGENCIES

The writing team for Journey Forward will meet this month to complete a draft of the Journey Forward identity document, incorporating feedback from the Future Church Summit, Executive Board, Constituency Leaders Council, and MC USA national staff. This document is part of the visioning process of describing who we are and who God is calling us to be as 21st century Anabaptists. The writing team and a reference council will play an important role in gathering feedback and updating this draft over the two-year process to culminate at the 2019 MC USA Convention.

Gain peacebuilding skills for today and tomorrow. Prepare for work and scholarship at the cross-section of theology and transformative peacebuilding through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's **Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies**. Concentrations: Conflict Transformation, International Development Administration, Environmental Sustainability Leadership. www.ambs.edu/academics/ma-peace-studies

Open positions at AMBS. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana, is hiring a full-time professor of Biblical Studies and a full-time Vice President and Academic Dean. Both positions start July 1, 2018. See complete job descriptions: www.ambs.edu/jobs

THIS WEEK AT EAST UNION

Today, Sunday, December 10

- The Jr. MYF will be having a Christmas party/ white elephant gift exchange this Sunday from 3 to 4:30 pm at East Union

Monday, December 11

- **SHAPE NOTE SINGING FROM THE SACRED HARP** - You are invited to join us at 7:00PM in the East Union foyer as we make a joyful noise unto the Lord! This a cappella, 4-part early American sacred music stirs your soul. All are welcome - no experience necessary! Questions? Contact Tammy Yoder at greeneearth@kctc.net or Warren Yoder at dubyoder@gmail.com .

Wednesday, December 13

- Choir practice 7 pm

Next Sunday, December 17

- All Adult Sunday school classes are invited go to Pleasantview Home to sing Christmas carols to the residents during the SS hour. Warren Yoder will be leading. This was well received this past summer. Let us show the joy of Christ with the residents! Questions? See Joe Schmidt.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 24 - Children's Christmas Program

The annual Children's Christmas Program will be held during regular church service.



Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Service

Plan now to attend the Christmas Eve service at 10:30 pm and bring friends and family!

CENTRAL PLAINS and MENNONITE AGENCIES

It's not too late to start Advent family worship! just go to www.anabaptistfaithformation.org and download "Yes! Let It Be!" a free guide for family worship from December 3 to January 6.

Dear members of Central Plains, your conference needs your financial support. Our recent brochure tells the stories of how we all benefit from sharing together in the mission of Central Plains Mennonite Conference. Together, we can do things that we cannot do by ourselves. Please consider a year-end gift and donate at www.centralplainsmc.org/donate or P.O. Box 101, Freeman, SD 57029. We are so grateful for the strong support of our members!

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

J-POG (Just Peace Outreach Group) invites you to hear Kathy Kelly address the topic, "Yemen, Afghanistan, and the War against the Poor" Kathy Kelly is the coordinator of Voices for Creative Nonviolence and has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize three times. Join us **TONIGHT** at Kalona Mennonite Church at 6 pm for a finger-foods potluck and conversation (please bring your own table service) or at 7 pm to hear the presentation from Kathy Kelly. All are welcome to attend. For more information please call Roger Farmer at 319-653-2547 or email Jane Yoder-Short at yodershort@netins.net.

Iowa Mennonite School

* **We appreciate the love, prayers, and support** we have felt this past week. We ask for continued prayers and support as we work through the grieving process. Please also keep the Cardenas family in your prayers.

* **A memorial fund** has been established to help the family with funeral and other expenses. If you would like to donate, please see the following:

- Checks made out to "Teresa Cardenas Memorial"
- Donations can be taken in person to any Hills Bank location and indicate to the teller that the donation is for the Teresa Cardenas Memorial Fund.
- Donations can be sent to Hills Bank Kalona, PO Box 15210, Kalona, IA 52247
- Donations can also be sent or turned in to IMS.

* **Alumni Night Saturday December 16** Games start at 3:00PM (JVB, VB, VG). Prizes will be given away throughout the afternoon/evening including 3 overnight stays. There will also be alumni and student activities during the halftimes of each game as well as an alumni reception following the last game.

* **Christmas Concert December 17** at 3:00PM in Celebration Hall. To close the concert, the choirs and band would like to invite anyone who has sung the Hallelujah Chorus before to join them on stage. There will be two rehearsals before the performance. The rehearsals will be held on Friday December 15 from 3:30-4:30PM and Saturday, December 16 from 9:00-10:00AM. If you cannot make it to the rehearsals but would still like to participate, you can join us on Sunday at the concert.

* **Prospective Student Christmas Party December 17** following the Christmas Concert for all students in grades 6-8.

Crowded Closet

* Crowded Closet Thrift Shop is seeking a full-time **Workroom Supervisor**. Applicant will lead workroom process and support volunteers. Must be able to lift and carry 30-50 pounds regularly. Qualified candidates should have strong organizational and interpersonal skills. *For more information or a detailed job description contact Crowded Closet at 319-337-5924 or email the Executive Director at crowdedcloset.gm@gmail.com.*

* Come be a part of our **Saturday management team** at Crowded Closet. Your flexible schedule and leadership skills are needed. *For more information or a detailed job description contact Crowded Closet at 319-337-5924 or email the Executive Director at crowdedcloset.gm@gmail.com.*

CHURCH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Adult Sunday School Enjoy a pause from Adult Sunday School during the Advent Season. There will be no Adult Sunday School on Christmas Eve December 24 and New Year's Eve December 31.

The MYF will be serving Christmas Cookies on Sunday, December 17 & 24 in between church and Sunday school. We are adding something new to the event! We'll have calendars for sale! They will have pictures of current and past MYFers. We will include birthdays and anniversaries (like in the Chronicle) of everyone in the church. Please keep this in mind for Christmas gifts/stocking stuffers! Quantities will be limited. As always we thank the church congregation for their support in all of our MYF fundraisers.

Shop with Scrip is a fundraising option for IMS. There are hundreds of gift cards available to purchase for stores, restaurants, gas etc. You purchase the gift cards from IMS and the school receives a percentage of the value that goes towards tuition assistance, student aid, classroom supplies, etc. You have a few options on how to purchase them. You can contact Candi Schmieder at IMS and pay for them and pick them up at IMS. The other option would be to contact Jeff and Carol Boller, 319-936-0537, or Lori and Nolan Gerber, 319-325-2962 and they would be willing to place your order and deliver them to you at church. This program has been going on for several years and is an easy way to help the school earn some extra money. Orders are placed every other week throughout the year and deliver the following week. Upcoming dates before Christmas are November 30th and December 14th. If you have questions or would like to see what cards are available please ask anyone listed and we would be happy to assist you. Thank you for your consideration.

Southeast Iowa MCC Meat Canning - More volunteer help is needed to set up on the afternoon of Wednesday, December 13 and for processing the meat on Thursday and Friday, December 14 & 15. See the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board by the library. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and work and fellowship with folks from other congregations in southeast Iowa.

Save the Date There will be a fundraiser meal for Emily Miller (daughter of Dennis & Sally Miller) after the service on Sunday, January 7th, to assist with ongoing expenses.

