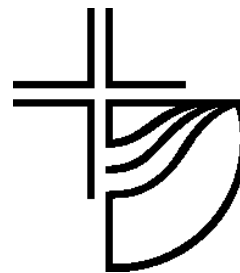


# Manchester Church of the Brethren

## NEWSLETTER

Week of December 16, 2018  
Peacefully, Simply, Together



### Prayer Concerns

We hold in our hearts and minds all the thoughts, joys and sorrows from this past week. Even as we offer these things to God in prayer, and as we seek clarity and compassion to live faith-filled lives, please keep these spoken prayer concerns with you in the coming days.

### Within our faith community:

- ◆ We pray for those people who aren't able to join us in worship due to their on-going physical limitations or their current health challenges including: **Miriam Rusher, Francis Barr, John Hamer and Grace Voorheis.**
- ◆ We pray for **Jim Myer** recovering from shoulder surgery.
- ◆ We pray for **David Young**, who is trying to regain his strength after completing IV antibiotic therapy for a blood infection and will have an appointment with an oncologist/ hematologist this coming Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. David is grateful for friends who have supported him and for Capstone volunteers who have helped keep projects going through this time of health struggles.
- ◆ We pray for **Barb Ober** who has returned to her home at Timbercrest following a recent hospitalization for tests.
- ◆ We pray for **Lori Zimmerman** who will be having outpatient surgery on her arm Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ We pray for **Peggy Gilbert's** continued healing. Peggy's surgery this past week was cancelled due to an infection. Once this infection is resolved, a new surgery date will be set.
- ◆ We pray for **Lana Groombridge** hospitalized at Lutheran Hospital. Lana hopes to return home on Tuesday.

May all these people receive gifts of healing, encouragement, love and peace.

### In the wider community:

- ◆ We pray for our sister church in El Salvador, **Emmanuel Baptist**. We pray for the spiritual renewal acts of confession, forgiveness, and renewal of faith to which the Emmanuel Board has called their congregation. Being in solidarity with our brothers and sisters there calls us all to rebirth and commitment this Advent.
- ◆ We pray for the **Church of the Brethren in Nigeria, EYN**. We pray for the continuing work of EYN to provide education and assistance to parents, teachers and churches in supporting traumatized children.
- ◆ In our district we pray for the **Wabash Church of the Brethren** as they continue to meet the immediate needs of people recently released from jail. We also offer prayers for the **Puerto Rico District** and their District Executive, Jose Calleja Otero.
- ◆ We pray for peace around the world and in our hearts.

### Pastor on Call: Karen Eberly

Home: 982-8420 Cell: 578-1247

### Pastors' Schedules

Kurt ~ Tuesday through Friday  
Karen ~ Monday through Thursday

### Office Hours

9:30-4:00 Monday-Friday; closed 12:00-1:00 for lunch.  
The church is open at 9:30 for walkers.

**The church office will be closed:  
December 25, 28, 31 & January 1**

### Weekly Calendar

#### Monday, December 17

1:00 p.m. Pickleball - FLC

#### Tuesday, December 18

9:30 a.m. Preschool  
10:30 a.m. Staff meeting - Staff Room  
12:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study - Room 213  
1:00 p.m. Tennis - FLC  
5:30 p.m. Weight Watchers - Room 220

**Tuesday, December 20 continued**

- 6:15 p.m. Preschool Winter Program - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m. Volleyball - FLC

**Wednesday, December 19**

- 9:30 a.m. Preschool
- 1:00 p.m. Tennis - FLC
- 4:00 p.m. FLC in use until 6:00
- 6:00 p.m. FLC in use for 4th Grade BB - Egolf
- 7:00 p.m. Executive Board - Conference Room

**Thursday, December 20**

- 9:30 a.m. Preschool
- 1:00 p.m. Tennis - FLC
- 5:30 p.m. FLC in use for 5th/6th Grade BB - Garber
- 7:30 p.m. Ecclesia Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

**Friday, December 21**

- 9:30 a.m. Preschool
- 1:00 p.m. Pickleball - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Soccer - FLC

**Saturday, December 22**

**Sunday, December 23 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

- 9:15 a.m. Advent Pre-Service Music
- 9:30 a.m. Worship: *Blessed is she who believed*;  
Pastor Kurt  
Scripture: Luke 1:39-55; Ecclesia Choir
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 10:45 a.m. Christian Education  
Children's Christmas Program Practice
- 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon - Room 213
- 7:00 p.m. Narthex in use

**Adult Classes**

**All Things Considered Class**

- December 23** ~ Class will not meet
- December 30** ~ Hymn Sing ~ Sanctuary

**Koinonia Class**

- December 23** ~ The Savior Has Been Born with Marie W
- December 30** ~ Hymn Sing ~ Sanctuary

**Questers Class**

- December 23** ~ Seasonal Reflections with Al Hohl
- December 30** ~ Hymn Sing ~ Sanctuary

**Food Pantry Sunday ...December 23**



**Feeding the Community**

Help the community families in need celebrate Christmas by bringing your food pantry items to church this **Sunday, the 23rd**. There will be an opportunity during worship to bring your items to the front of the church.

You are also welcome to bring items to the church anytime this week.

**Christmas Eve**



- 6:45 ~ Prelude
- 7:00 ~ Service
- ◆ Featuring the Children!
- ◆ Christmas Eve Offering will be collected.
- ◆ Punch and Cookies will be served in the Narthex following the service.

**Christmas Eve Offering**

The Witness Commission is recommending that this offering be used to begin a sponsoring relationship with a migrant family through the organization "Showing Up for Racial Justice" (SURJ). It may be a relationship with a person or family currently in the process of seeking asylum in the United States, or it may be a relationship with folks who have already be released from detention through SURJ's programs and who are building a life for themselves in the U.S.

We will keep the congregation updated as things develop.

**Reminder from the Stewardship Commission**

In order to receive credit for offerings in 2018, your contribution must be postmarked **by December 31** or received in the church office by **Thursday, December 27** (the last day the office will be open in 2018).

**Adult Combined Sunday School...Planning ahead...**

- January 20** ~ Death row Support Project with Rachel Gross
- February 3** ~ Grief Series

**All Church Carol Sing!**

**December 30** ~ During Sunday School ~ Sanctuary

**The Children will not have Sunday School Class on December 30.**

**They may join in the All Church Sing!**



**Welcome Basket for our  
New Pastor!**

Please help extend a welcome to Seth, Laina, & their children and introduce yourself by:

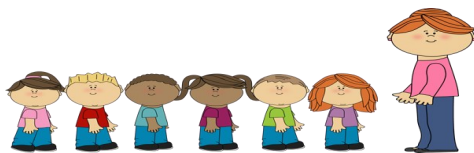
- ◆ Donating a gift certificate to one of your favorite places in the area (ex. restaurants, groceries, gas stations, etc.)
- OR
- ◆ Providing a service or product (ex. chocolate chip cookies, a meal, babysitting, etc.)
- OR
- ◆ Giving helpful advice (ex. dentist, when is story hour, program at the library, etc.)
- AND
- Don't forget to sign your name.
- Cards & a basket will be available through **January 6**.
- Don't forget to wear your nametags each Sunday.
- If you don't have a nametag, contact the church office!

Transition Committee  
Sue Mock  
Katherine Haff  
Jan Fahs

**Peace Patch Preschool Winter Program**

**Tuesday, December 18 ~ Sanctuary**

Please join us!



**Message from Dean Kagarise**

Dear Friends,

Janet and I invite you to enter into the joy of the season of the birthday of Jesus. Janet left on June 24th to join the Angel Choir. One of my best memories is the time when friends joined me in the balcony of St. Mary's College, near Notre Dame University, to hear Janet sing Handel's *MESSIAH*, on December 16 (Janet's birthday). Please come with me, in spirit, to hear her sing in the Angel Choir.

Peace and Love, Dean

Please note if you have note already that my new address is 5027 Tall Grass Lane, Apt. C, Brownsburg, IN 46112. My cell phone is 574-333-6557.



**It's Cold Outside!!**

Judi Brown's coat was taken by mistake Sunday morning. Please bring it back to the church Monday or Tuesday. She leaves on Wednesday for her family gathering.

**Joy...Giving thanks to God**

The Church of the Brethren special Advent Offering highlights our commitment to Christ-like peacemaking. It supports the Core Ministries like Discipleship Ministries, international partnerships, the Office of Peacebuilding and Policy, and many others.

Envelopes are available in the Sanctuary pew holders, on the credenza in the Narthex and in the church office.

Checks should be made out to MCoB.

Designate it to Advent on the memo line of your check.



**Senior High**

**December 23:**

**9:15** ~ Advent pre-service music;

**9:30** ~ Food Pantry Collection

(help take items to the front of the church)

**10:45** ~ Sunday School

**12:00** ~ Quick trip to the Food Pantry to deliver items

**December 24:**

**6:45 pm** ~ Christmas Eve Prelude

**7:00 pm** ~ Christmas Eve Service

We now have six attending the upcoming Christian Citizenship Seminar!

We want everyone who wants to go to be able to go! Feel free to text Kurt with questions or problems when registering at 260-901-1851.

**January 5-6** ~ Winter Retreat at Koinonia

**Junior High**

**December 23:**

**9:15** ~ Sing for Pre-service Advent Music

**9:30** ~ Worship

**10:45** ~ Sunday School

**December 24:**

**6:45** ~ Christmas Eve Prelude

**7:00** ~ Christmas Eve Service

### Prairie Grass Update

In 2012 my AP Environmental Science students met with the church to discuss converting the northern turf grass lot to a prairie. My students researched prairie restoration, and wrote a land management plan. The town approved the plan, and after preparing the land, we planted three native grasses and seven native flowers in 2013.

Last spring, we performed our first controlled burn of the southern half of the prairie. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with the church, the town, and the fire department on this grand science experiment.

Since the fall of 2013, we have been monitoring the species present in the prairie. Students use a tool called a quadrat to measure the presence of certain species in a square meter. The data we've been collecting has helped the students see trends in species diversity from year to year. A professional in plant biology told me she first worked with quadrats in graduate school. My students are working with tools professionals use in the field. The controlled burn was one of my favorite teaching experiences. Students observed first hand the restorative power of fire. Within days, the blackened field became vibrantly green. In the months that followed, we began to see plants in the prairie that we had not observed before. There was more diversity, and the plants we observed before were more abundant.

This semester we worked with the Manchester Junior Senior High Internship Program to help remove invasive plants. Morgyn Jimenez has spent countless hours removing Pokeweed and Mulberry trees. She also collected seeds from the native plants. Those seeds are currently growing nicely in our high school greenhouse. In the spring, the current AP Environmental Science students will transplant those grasses and flowers in the prairie.

We look forward to observing changes in the prairie this spring. Jabin Burnworth

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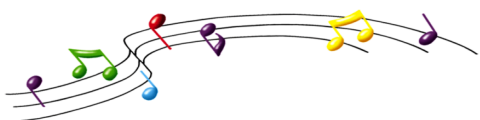
### Save the date for JOYA

**Friday, January 25 ~ 7:00 pm ~ Sanctuary**

LuAnne Harley, Shawn Kirchner, Brian Kruschwitz, and Barb Saylor first dreamed up JOYA in 1993. The four BVSers turned it into a BVS project the following year.

Through drama and music, they bring Brethren history and Christian peacemaking alive for children, youth, and adults in the CoB congregations, schools, and camps across the country.

We invite you to join us for this concert!



### 2019 Offering Envelopes

Beginning Sunday you may pick up your offering envelopes for next year. They will be available in the Narthex before and after church or in the church office during the week.

If you did not turn in a commitment card but would like envelopes, call to the church office to let us know how many you would like to have.

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### **Within our Community...**

#### Shepherd's Center Fall Programs

**December 19 ~ Town Life Center ~ 9:00**

- ♦ CURRENT EVENTS/Newstalk ~ David Waas, MU History Professor, Retired
- ♦ MEDTALK ~ TBA

*Programs will resume in February, 2019.*

**Check out our newsletter at:** <http://nmshepherd.com>  
Consider joining MSC. Dues are \$8 yearly.

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#### EvenSong

**Wednesday, December 19 ~ 4:00 p.m. ~ TC Chapel**

*"A Taste of Handel"*

Solos from the *Messiah*

featuring Carol Streater, Chris Beery & Kira Lace Hawkins

Hallelujah Chorus led by Carol Streater

accompanied by Wanda Miller and Diana Bucher.

Dwight Beery will open with the Overture.

Narration by Brian Daniels.

Invite your family and friends!

Questions? Call Liz Hoffman Bauer, 260-306-1690

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#### Movies at Timbercrest

You're invited to join Timbercrest residents for their FREE monthly movies at 7pm in the Assembly Room:

- ♦ **Christmas Day, December 25 ~**

*Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Clause*

Questions? call Wanda Miller, 982-6189



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#### Christmas Program with Royce Eckhardt

**Saturday, December 29 ~ 2:00pm ~ TC Chapel**

Royce & Marjorie Eckhardt, friends of Arlene Deardorff, will celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas with an Organ Concert. Eckhardts are nationally renowned for their professionalism and interpretive sense.

Join us in our celebration of Christmas



## Camp Mack Corner



Beginning at the first of the year, Camp Mack will have basic supplies in each of its lodges for rental groups. Up to this point, a rental group that planned to cook its own meals would also have to supply any of the cookware, utensils, and dinnerware it needed.

For a family reunion from across the country or a group serving students or other young people, this could be difficult. So, in meeting our goal of providing Holy Hospitality, we are stocking the kitchenettes to make it more useful to our guests. This means that Camp has a Christmas list to help us achieve our goal. If you have any new or nearly new, clean items on this list to donate, your gift will increase our ministry opportunities and provide welcome to people throughout the year.

### Our Christmas list includes:

- 3 – 10" non-stick skillet
- 3 – toasters
- 3 – 1 1/2 qt. sauce pans
- 3 – manual can openers
- 3 – 3 qt. sauce pans
- 6 – cutting boards
- 3 – 4 qt. stockpots
- 3 – 9x13 baking dishes
- 3 – rubber scrapers
- 3 – colanders
- 3 – plastic spatulas
- 3 – cookie sheets
- 3 – metal spatulas
- 3 – mixing bowl sets
- 3 – plastic ladles
- 3 – dry measuring cup sets
- 3 – slotted plastic cooking spoons
- 3 – measuring spoon sets
- 3 – un-slotted plastic stirring spoons
- 3 – 2-cup glass measuring cups
- 6 – metal serving spoons
- 3 – large pitchers
- 6 – metal slotted serving spoons
- 3 – dish drying racks with mat
- 3 – tongs
- 12 – dish towels
- 3 – whisks
- 6 – dish cloths
- 3 – vegetable peelers
- 12 – hot pads
- 3 – paring knives
- 6 – trivets
- 3 – chef's knives
- 3 – long serrated knives

If you are able to provide any of these items, we will have a tree set up in the John Kline Welcome Center. You can bring them in and place them under the tree, or you can send them to us, and we'll put them there.

We also have all these items listed on our Amazon Wish List under Camp Mack. You can order, pay, and ship from your easy chair!

On the day after Christmas, we'll post a video on Facebook of our tree and the gifts you have given. This is a fun way to participate in the continuing growth of our ministry.

Thank you for your prayers and all the gifts you have shared through the years.

Merry Christmas!

