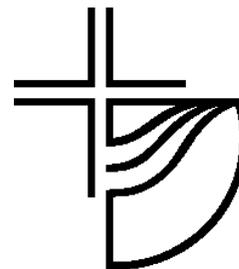


Manchester Church of the Brethren

NEWSLETTER

Week of November 26, 2017

Peacefully, Simply, Together



Prayer Concerns

We hold in our hearts and our minds all the thoughts, concerns and joys from this past week. Sharing our joys and our sorrows within this community of faith deepens our connections with one another. In a spirit of compassionate prayer and understanding, please keep these spoken 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 health or physical limitations, even as we remember the depth of their faith. They include: **Alice Frantz, Doris Snell** and **Evelyn Niswander**.
- ◆ We pray for **Joan Deeter** recovering in Crestwood following a recent hospitalization.
- ◆ We pray for **Loree Pritchard's** husband, David, recovering at home following a heart procedure last week.
- ◆ We pray for **Curt Rowland** recovering at home following an emergency appendectomy on Thursday evening, November 23.

May these people be surrounded by God's comforting presence and abiding love in their lives through the coming days.

In the wider community:

- ◆ We pray for our sister church **Emmanuel Baptist in El Salvador**. We are grateful for Emmanuel's Deacon Board and staff who hosted our church's representatives last weekend. Recognizing our accompaniment and solidarity together for nearly 30 years was heart-warming and motivating for our ministry together in the future. We join hearts and minds anew in the name of Jesus.
- ◆ We pray for the healing and well-being of **Esther Usman** as she continues to adjust to a life free from captivity. We also offer prayers for the **Church of the Brethren in Nigeria, EYN**, as they witness to the strength and hope of Christ's teachings within their country.

- ◆ We pray for the Global Mission workers and the members and leaders of our **international Church of the Brethren partner churches** who have represented Christ's peace and love around the world this year.
- ◆ We join the other churches in our District to pray for the **Upper Fall Creek Church of the Brethren**. They ask that their congregation might continue to reach out to those in the community who are seeking a church home. We also pray for the **Southern Ohio District** and their District Executive, David Shetler.
- ◆ We offer prayers of comfort to the many families of those who were victims of the bombing and shootings at the mosque in Egypt.
- ◆ And amid all the violence that exists throughout the world, we continue our prayers for peace.

Pastor On-Call: Kurt Borgmann

Home: 901-6110; Cell: 901-1851

Pastors' Schedules

Kurt ~ Tuesday through Friday
Karen ~ Monday through Thursday
Jim ~ Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

Office Hours

9:30-4:00 Monday-Friday; closed 12:00-1:00 for lunch.

Weekly Calendar

Monday, November 27

- 9:00 a.m. Worship Center Décor setting up for Advent
- 1:00 p.m. Pickleball - FLC
- 3:45 p.m. Children's Program Practice for scheduled children - Peace Patch
- 6:00 p.m. Sanctuary in use - Chambers

Tuesday, November 28

- 9:30 a.m. Peace Patch Preschool
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study - Room 213
- 1:00 p.m. Tennis - FLC
- 3:00 p.m. Historical Committee - Library

Tuesday, November 28

- 5:30 p.m. Weight Watchers - Room 220
- 6:30 p.m. Bell Choir - Sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m. Volleyball - FLC

Wednesday, November 29

- 9:30 a.m. Peace Patch Preschool
- 1:00 p.m. Tennis - FLC
- 4:30 p.m. Sanctuary in use - Chambers
- 5:30 p.m. MU A Cappella Choir - Kitchen
- 7:00 p.m. Executive Board - Conference Room

Thursday, November 30

- 9:30 a.m. Peace Patch Preschool
- 1:00 p.m. Tennis - FLC
- 3:30 p.m. Sanctuary in use - Chambers
- 5:30 p.m. MU A Cappella Choir - Kitchen
- 6:00 p.m. Tree Lighting - MU Switzer Center
- 6:30 p.m. Taizé Choir - Chapel

Friday, December 1

- 9:30 a.m. Peace Patch Preschool
- 1:00 p.m. Pickleball - FLC
- 3:30 p.m. Sanctuary in use - Chambers
- 5:00 p.m. Building in use - MU Choir
- 7:00 p.m. MU Lessons & Carols Service - Sanctuary

Saturday, December 2

- Historical Society parking cars in our lot
- 10:00 a.m. Christmas Program Practice for full cast
- 10:00 a.m. Festival of Trees - Timbercrest
- 11:00 a.m. Yoga - Room 211
- 1:00 p.m. Cookie Baking - Kitchen
- 3:00 p.m. MU Soccer Team Banquet - FLC/Kitchen/ Narthex

Sunday, December 3 First Sunday of Advent

- 9:20 a.m. Advent Pre-service Music
- 9:30 a.m. Worship: *Are you coming?* Pastor Kurt
Text: Isaiah 64:1-9
Led Brethren & Melodia Choir
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 10:45 a.m. Christian Education
- 10:45 a.m. Peace Patch & Children's Christmas Program Music Practice
- 12:00 p.m. Senior High Youth Lunch - Borgmanns'
- 1:00 p.m. Building in use - Markstahler Family
- 7:00 p.m. Al-Anon - Room 213

The flowers on the communion table were given to us in honor of Barbara McFadden's life by her family. We are grateful for Barbara's legacy in our church community and in the wider faith community.

All Things Considered

December 3 ~ Pastor Kurt will join us

Jubilee Class

December 3 ~ *Advent Reflections* with Elizabeth Struble

Koinonia Class

December 3 ~ *Honest Faith* with Dean Kagarise

Questers' Class

December 3 ~ *Videotaping the Brethren, Part II*
with David Sollenberger

Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 10 ~ 11:00 am ~ Sanctuary

12:00 ~ Potluck in the Family Life Center

The Brethren definition of "Potluck":
Everyone brings a dish to share: main course, salad, and or dessert. "If you don't bring it, we can't eat it".

Let's Bake Some Cookies for Others!

Saturday, December 2 ~ 1-3pm ~ Church Kitchen

Bring your premixed dough, frosting and decorations and join us in the kitchen for a cookie baking extravaganza! As a Christmas gift to the community, cookies will be distributed to the Thrift Shop and the Children's program. While this is not a cookie exchange...it is a wonderful opportunity to get together and spread some holiday cheer!

Angel Tree Gifts

December 3th or 10th ~ Please bring your gifts! After the 10th, you will need to either bring them to the church office **BEFORE DECEMBER 16** or take them to St Robert's Church on **Saturday, December 16 from 9am-noon.**

Envelope Boxes for Offerings

Offering envelopes for 2018 will be set out this Sunday. If you have not previously had envelopes and would like to have a box, please call the church office...982-7523.

Thank you!

Thank you so much to those of you who attended the reception for Kristin (Pittman) and Michael Ebert. You each had a part in Kristin's life as she grew up in this church. Your presence was so meaningful to Kristin and Mike, as well as, to Stan and Sharon and very much appreciated.

Thank you! Kristin & Mike; Stan & Sharon

A Bit of Trivia

Some years ago our congregation had a month of inter-generational Sunday School Classes. One of the options during that month was learning how to quilt with Lydia Bowman. The resulting whole cloth quilt was donated to a silent auction in the church. Ed and Sandy Cable have donated that quilt back to our congregation for the silent auction in February. The quilt has no label. If you remember the date this quilt was made and/or names of those who quilted, PLEASE let me know so I can label it for the auction.

Thanks, Ann Hartsough

Childcare During Worship

Many of the young people in our congregation at one time or another were cared for in **Childcare During Worship**. **Your help is needed now to nurture the next generation of youth.** What we do now makes a difference!

Your help is needed for all Sundays in December and January. Stop by the Nurture table in the Narthex after worship to volunteer an hour of your time for our children. You can do this job and will enjoy getting to know the children of our congregation.

Combined Sunday School Classes

Education Commission is happy to let you know that we will - like last year - be offering a once-a-month option for your Sunday School Classes to join an all-church combined adult Sunday School in the Sanctuary on the following dates:

January 21 ~ Brethren Disaster Ministries

February 25 ~ Nicaragua Medical Practicum -
Jeff Osborne (Manchester University)

March 11 ~ High Toll of Local Imprisonment:
Women speak out on their recovery - Ruth Angle

April ~ TBD



Sunday, December 3 @ noon ~ lunch at Konrad's house

Looking ahead ~ Registration for NYC opens on Thursday, January 18!
National Youth Conference is July 21-26

Junior High...

December 9 ~ 10am-1:30 ~ Caramel Corn making in the church kitchen

December 10 ~ Caramel Corn Sales (right after Worship)!! Proceeds will be seed money for either a summer workcamp or another service project.

Get on our Bucket List!

The 4th and 5th grade SS class along with the Jr. High Youth invite you to join with them in replenishing the empty shelves at the Church World Service warehouse with cleanup buckets. On the bulletin board and credenza in the narthex is information on how you can help. The group asks you to take a card, any card, and purchase the item or items on the card that help assemble clean up buckets. Bring them to church any Sunday and the group will place them in the storage room (just off the FLC on the kitchen side). If you have questions contact Ann Hartsough or Jim Chinworth.

Financial donations are also welcome, but remember...
we don't drive!

It's that Time of the Year!

- ◆ When you are pulling out boxes of Christmas decorations and come across items you had been storing for that garage sale but forgot to put out...have you considered donating them to the youth's silent auction?!
- ◆ When you are going through your recipe box looking for those special holiday recipes and come across some of your favorites, have you considered offering to make them for the silent auction?
- ◆ When you are raking leaves and clearing out the other side of the garage so both cars will fit in, have you considered offering your services in the silent auction to someone who struggles getting those winter projects finished in time?

It is with GREAT EXCITEMENT that our congregation anticipates sending our senior high youth to National Youth Conference in Colorado this coming July. In preparation for and to help offset some of the cost to attend, our congregation raises funds to help with expenses. It's time to brainstorm how you can participate in the infamous Youth Silent Auction. So look through your recipe box, attic, and closets. What can you offer to bake, make, or donate? Think about what services you can provide or skills you can donate. Then in January we will collect items and fill out information sheets for our February auction. Stay tuned for additional details.

Questions? Please contact Brian Kruschwitz, Jeff Osborne, Jeff Lehman, or Joel Eichenauer.

MU Choral Lessons & Carols Service

Friday, December 1 ~ 7:00 pm ~ Sanctuary

The yuletide season at Manchester University offers several musical performances, beginning with the traditional Service of Lessons & Carols featuring MU's Cantabile and Chamber Singers along with scripture and poetry readings. Admission is free. Refreshments following...

Indoor Soccer is Back!!

Beginning Friday, December 8 ~ 7:00 ~ FLC

- ◆ Please sign the waiver on the bulletin board inside the Family Life Center the first time you come to play
- ◆ Check the website for calendar updates.

Longest Night Service

Thursday, December 21 ~ 6:00 pm ~ Chapel

Holiday Stress?

Consider joining us for Yoga...

Saturdays ~ 11:00 am ~ Room 211

A healing way of connecting with and listening to your body, while building balance, flexibility, and strength. We do a different 25-45 minute "Yoga with Adriene" video routine together.

- ◆ No experience needed
- ◆ All levels welcome - routines can be modified
- ◆ Bring a mat; wear comfortable workout clothes; and bare feet.

Call or text Laura Stone (413-885-9196) or Kristen Short (513-319-4778) ahead to confirm that Yoga will meet.

Within our Community...

Honoring David Lawrenz

Per his humble request, there will not be a retirement party to celebrate David's 45+ years of service to Timbercrest. Instead, persons are invited to honor David by giving a gift to the Pathways to Wellness Campaign. Details can be found at www.timbercrest.org.

MU Men's Soccer Team

Raising Money for Work Camp...it's not too late!

The MU men's soccer team is raising money for their work camp at the Maranatha School for the Deaf in Top Hill, Jamaica during the January Session. If you have any job (raking leaves, cleaning gutters, baby-sitting...**you name it**) that you would like help with in exchange for a donation toward the team work camp, please contact **Dave Good (982-2420)** to make arrangements.

Ringing the Bells

The Salvation Army is again ringing the bells this year at New Market. We will be ringing between Thanksgiving and Christmas. All money collected stays in Wabash County to help families with utilities, rent, prescriptions...

To help out, you may call Deborah at 260-563-8970 to schedule a time. We appreciate your help!

EvenSong

Wednesday, November 29 ~ 4:00 p.m.~ TC Chapel

"Advent Music Presentation"

Led by the Lynn & Driskell Family

Questions? Call Liz Hoffman Bauer, 260-306-169

Shepherd's Center Programs

November 29 ~ 9:00 am ~ Town Life Center

CURRENT EVENTS - James, Kirk, Chief of North Manchester Police Dept - "Illegal Drugs: Locally and in Wabash County"

AIL - Steve Doudt, orchard owner - "Apple Growing History" and Tasting

Movies at Timbercrest

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

- ◆ **Friday, December 15: *Me Before You***
- ◆ **Christmas Day: *The Book Room***

Questions? call Wanda Miller, 982-6189

Tree Lighting at MU

Nov. 30 ~ 6:00-7:30 pm ~ Jo Young Switzer Center

MU is inviting the neighbors over to join students, faculty and staff in celebrating the season of giving with its Tree-Lighting Ceremony.

- ◆ MJHS Choir will perform at 6:00 with the tree lighting by President Dave McFadden at 6:25. Santa will arrive on a firetruck at 6:30.
- ◆ There will be refreshments, photos with Santa, and a selfie station with MU mascot, Manny!

Visitor parking in on the north side of the center (East Street) and near the PERC.

Peabody Retirement 4th Annual Quilt Show

December 1-8 ~ 8am-4pm ~ Peabody

Stop by Peabody Retirement Community at 400 W 7th St. to vote for your favorite quilt. All visitors during the week of December 1-8 will be eligible to vote for their choice...one vote person. The quilt receiving the most votes will win \$1000 for their church. Look for our church's quilt!

Timbercrest Festival of Trees

**Saturday, Dec 2 ~ 10am-2pm ~ Timbercrest
Christmas Bazaar; a visit with Santa, & top the day off
with cocoa and cookies!**

Manchester Symphony Orchestra

Holiday Pops! and Amahl and the Night Visitors

December 3 ~ 3:00 pm ~ MU Cordier Auditorium

General admission is \$15 / free for those 18 and younger

Within our District...

Brethren Leadership Institute News

The next BLI class is *Preaching*, taught by Aaron Gross, pastor of the Logansport Church of the Brethren. Class sessions are the following Saturdays: January 20, February 3, and February 17. Back-up date in case of a weather cancellation is February 24. Register by January 3 to avoid a late fee. Registration forms are on the S/C District website.

Spring Class will be *History of the Church* taught by Mark Flory Steury.

Tina Rieman will be ending her tenure with the Brethren Leadership Institute in December. Many thanks to Tina for her administrative skills that have been integral to launching BLI in our district.

2018 District Conference

Saturday, September 15, 2018 ~ Grandview CoB

Moderator Cindy Dunk has announced the theme will be
Love is a Command - John 13:34

You are invited...

Tuesday, November 28 ~ 2:00pm ~ Wabash CoB

The Wabash Church of the Brethren, 645 Bond Street, will host a public gathering in regard to homelessness. Dale Bliss, Executive Director/Housing Counselor for Advantage Housing, will speak about the Rapid Rehousing Grant that is in effect now for Wabash County residents who may qualify for housing assistance funds.

Camp Mack Corner

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 2: Wreathes and Swags Get-a-Way Day

December 2: Christmas Ornaments on the lathe Get-a-Way Day

December 2/3: Christmas Cookies Get-a-Way Days

Check out the flyers on the tower in the Vestibule for more information!



New Year's Eve Retreat

2:00 pm, December 31 - 12:30 pm, January 1

Why bring in the new year sitting at home when you can be a Camp Mack reuniting with friends from summer introducing someone new to camp? Camp Mack is the place to be on New Year's Eve as you count down the minutes until the ball drops at our very own "Times Square" event. This overnight event is filled with awesome activities indoors and out, live DJs, dancing, pizza, games, Bible studies, workshops...the list goes on!

The event is for all youth 6th-12th grades. Be sure to register before December 5 to pay the early registration price of \$60 and to be guaranteed a one of a kind event t-shirt. A scholarship of \$10 is available during the early registration period. After December 5, the price goes up to \$70.

www.campmack.org or 574-658-4831

From Christmas parties to holiday banquets, let Camp Mack host you this season! We can serve groups of 25-300 people. Give us a call today.

Wish List

We have experienced some unexpected maintenance and need to make up the financial shortfall. We are also in need of a ¾ ton pickup before winter.