

AMC WOMEN'S BROWN BAG LUNCH is scheduled for this coming Tuesday, February 20th. We plan to meet at the home of Sandy Thorpe (directions to her place are in your mailboxes today). We meet between 11 am and 1 pm. Sandy will provide water and hot beverages and hospitality. Come and join in the conversations!

COPIES of a Lent and Easter worship guide for families are available on the literature table.

THE ANNUAL AMC DIRECTORY UPDATE has begun. Information about this process is in your church mailbox. Please send information changes to Rebecca in the church office by Sunday, Feb. 25. Lloyd Chapman is willing to take your photograph if you would like to supply a new/different one for the directory. Please talk with him directly to schedule. If you are interested in having printed copies of your photograph for your personal use, please check with him to discuss details.

COLLEGE STUDENT CARE PACKAGES will be sent out between Feb. 21 and 25. For those who signed up to donate items, please put them on the table under the bulletin board or in/near Barb Weaver's box, clearly marked for her. Some of the packages will go out on Feb 21 (with people traveling to the colleges) and some will be mailed. If you signed up to donate something please bring by Feb. 25. OR contact Barb and make arrangements.

MY COINS COUNT: Every coin counts! The containers are in the foyer for your generous donations until April 1.

STEWARDSHIP UNIVERSITY, a ministry partnership between Everence® and our local faith community, is coming to Lancaster on Saturday, March 3, 2018. One of our workshops is about improving your credit score, which can impact your financial interactions with lenders, landlords and others. Tonia Brinston of LSS Financial Counseling will show you practical steps you can take to help build your credit score – and learn how to spot errors on your credit reports. For more information or to register, contact Lynette Morales at (717) 394-0769, lynette.morales@everence.com or visit StewardshipUniversity.com.

See insert for additional announcements

GIVING & BUDGET

Giving for General Fund	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
	\$ 8,657	\$ 47,153
2018 Budget Goals	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
	\$ 9,800	\$ 58,800
2018 Income Budget:	\$ 510,000	
Attendance Last Sunday:	149	

Church office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm

Church Office: (717) 859-1488 || 1311 Diamond Street || Akron, PA 17501

AKRON MENNONITE CHURCH
February 18, 2018
Covenant: God's Story of Love
Lent 1 – Between Me & You & the Creatures Too

Chapter One – God initiates covenant with us

Prelude music *Deep River* Sue Broaddus & Diane Gehman
What a wonderful world by Louis Armstrong

Chime and lighting the peace lamp
 Welcome & call to worship screen

HWB 46 (blue) *I sing the mighty power of God*
 STJ 24 (green) *Creation is a song*
Lord, I stretch my hands to you Men's Choir

Chapter Two – God woos us with covenant

Scripture Genesis 9:8-17 Hibist Siyoum

(screen) *God's love is for everybody*
 Children's time Rachel Nolt
 Children ages 2-4 are dismissed for preschool church in Room 16 with Donna Shenk, Dave Frey, and Janessa Zimmerman

For me, for you Leon Myers
 Scripture Mark 1:9-15 Dale Hershey
 Sermon *Water that saves* Rachel Nolt

Chapter Three – We respond to God's covenantal love

Confession
 God ...
We struggle to comprehend the expansiveness of your covenant.

Nothing is left out –
Not us,
Not the wild beasts or the tame ones,
Not the clouds and the earth itself.
We struggle to comprehend that kind of love
never mind joining it and living it.
To make it more manageable,
we build barriers to decide who's in or out,
we destroy rather than preserve,

We limit love.
Have mercy on us.

Words of assurance
 STJ 49 (green) *Rain down*

Chapter Four – We join God’s covenant sharing God’s story

Offering and offertory *Wade in the water*—HWB 446 Amy Seifarth & tone chimes
Offertory prayer

God at work Richard Sarker
Prayers of the people Karyn Nancarvis
(screen) *Between me & you*

Introduction of guests & announcements

STJ 118 (green) *Thy holy wings*
Benediction

**We are covenant people.
We go in God’s love
to extend God’s love
and live in God’s love.**

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Musicians Sue Broaddus, Diane Gehman, & Leon Myers
Song Leader Patricia Martin
Worship Leader Karyn Nancarvis

Scripture next week: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Mark 8:31-38; Andy Brubacher Kaethler,
preacher for Winter Study

PLEASE JOIN US (10:15 – 10:40)

Everyone is welcome to participate in coffee/tea fellowship following the worship service. Guests,
please sign the guest book in the foyer next to the Welcome Desk.

SECOND HOUR FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES (10:40 – 11:40)

Adults

Adults and MYF are encouraged to attend a Congregational Meeting during second hour today. At this time we will discuss ideas on AMC’s staffing configuration that have been gathered during listening and feedback sessions over the past two years. Child care workers from DSECC will be available so that those who normally teach AMC’s children during second hour can participate.

The class facilitated by Terry Wible based on The Sin of Certainty will resume on March 4.

Children and Youth

AMC’s youth from nursery through Jr. MYF will be with DSECC teachers this morning while their regular teachers attend the Congregational Meeting. Preschool aged children should report to their regular classroom after the service. Kindergarten through Jr. MYF should report to the Jr. MYF room, where they will be greeted by DSECC teachers and divided into classes.

AMONG THOSE SERVING TODAY

Greeters: Chris Hoffman & Pearl Sensenig, Anne Weaver **Sound/AV Operator:** Delmar Zimmerman
Nursery Worship: as needed **Nursery DH:** as needed
Coffee Servers: Sally & Dave Wise **Mug Washers:** Susan & Nelson Blessing
Ushers: Daryl Mack (Head usher), Sarah Eby, Bernice Valverde, Norm Wood

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 18 **Today** Congregational meeting during 2nd hour
February 20 Women’s Brown Bag Luncheon 11 am – 1 pm; Sandy Thorpe’s home
February 25 F.L.I.P. event: indoor swimming at the Lititz Rec Center 12:30 – 2:30 pm
February 25-27 Winter Study @ AMC with Andy Brubacher Kaethler (see mailbox insert for more information)
March 1 Men’s Breakfast @ Udder Choice @ 7 am; John Weber, presenter

Lectio Divina meets each Tuesday at 7:30 am, and the Congregational Prayer Group meets each Thursday at 12:30 pm. Both meetings are in Rachel’s office.

Save these Dates:

March 13 Play “*This Evil Thing*” to be presented @ AMC @ 7:30 pm
March 18 Campus Chorale from LMHS in afternoon concert @ AMC
March 24 MYF Auction
April 14 AMC Women’s Retreat
October 26-27 ACC Fall Assembly @ AMC; details to be announced

Mennonite Youth Fellowship (MYF - Grades 9-12):

- February 25 International-themed supper club at Pereverzoffs’ house

PRAYERS

Update from Bob Peifer: Most of you know that last year I retired from Cloister Tax Service, a business I had owned for 26 years. During the past couples of months I have been dealing with the manifestations of amyloidosis identified as present in my body 7 years ago. Medical attention has and will remain very much in my focus. Recently some time has been devoted to updating Preaching Peace financial records. Thanks for standing by me.

Flo and Dave Harnish appreciate our prayers and visits as Flo continues to recuperate at home.

Alta Mellinger is grateful for slow improvement and appreciates our prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ROSE AT THE FRONT is to celebrate with Corin and Kevin Dundore on the birth of their new son Luke who is big brother to Isaac and grandson of Carla Neufeld and great grandson of Hans Peter Neufeld.