

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SUNDAY SOUP** will be held next Sunday, March 4th. All are welcome. Please sign up on the bulletin for a donation of food or your time to help with set up, food preparation, or clean up. Thanks in advance! --Sally Wise

**EARLY SPRING YOGA SERIES:** A six-week series beginning March 6 will meet every Tuesday at AMC at 6:00 pm. See registration forms on the AMC bulletin board.

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

**THE ANNUAL AMC DIRECTORY UPDATE** has begun. Please send information changes to Rebecca ASAP. 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.

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

**TAX ASSISTANCE:** Both AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program and United Way VITA provide free tax filing service for most households with 2017 income of \$62,000 or less, regardless of age. They both have numerous locations in Lancaster County. Contact either Ken Langeman (717-859-3840; [kmlangeman@hotmail.com](mailto:kmlangeman@hotmail.com)) or Don Hertzler (717-721-1882; [rsdhertzler6@hotmail.com](mailto:rsdhertzler6@hotmail.com)) for more information.

**JOIN** the Lancaster Chamber Singers with guest soloist, Amy Yovonovich, for "An Evening of Beautiful Choral Music" in support of MDS' hurricane relief efforts. It will be held Sunday, Mar. 4 at 6 p.m. at Blossom Hill Mennonite Church. No admission charge. A freewill offering will be taken with 100% of the proceeds going to MDS. See Jan Brubaker or Diane Gehman for more information.

**STEWARDSHIP UNIVERSITY**, a ministry partnership between Everence® and our local faith community, is coming to Lancaster on Saturday, March 3, 2018. Wouldn't it be nice to increase the joy and meaning you get from your charitable giving? In one of our workshops, Dave Warren, Vice President of Asset Management for Everence, will help you learn more about the emotionally powerful experience of giving. For more information or to register, contact Lynette Morales at (717) 394-0769, [lynette.morales@everence.com](mailto:lynette.morales@everence.com) or visit [StewardshipUniversity.com](http://StewardshipUniversity.com).

**GIVING & BUDGET**

Giving for General Fund	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
	\$ 5,737	\$ 52,890
2018 Budget Goals	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
	\$ 9,800	\$ 68,700
2018 Income Budget:	\$ 510,000	
Attendance Last Sunday:	166	

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 25, 2018**  
**Covenant: God's Story of Love**  
**Lent 2 – Between Me & You & the Generations after You**

**Chapter One – God initiates covenant with us**

Prelude music Patricia Martin

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

HWB 162 (blue) *The God of Abraham praise*  
HWB 161 (blue) *We give thanks unto you*

**Chapter Two – God woos us with covenant**

Scripture Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Bob Wyble

(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 Nelson Weber, Cyndy Zook,  
and Claire Magill

*For me, for you* Leon Myers

Scripture Mark 8:31-38 Lydia Nolt  
Sermon *Covenants: old, new, and renewed* Andy Brubacher Kaethler

HWB 483 (blue) *O God, who gives us life*

**Chapter Three – We respond to God's covenantal love**

Confession  
**God of blessing covenant,**  
**We struggle to comprehend the expansiveness of your covenant.**  
**Nothing is left out –**  
**Not us,**  
**Not our descendants or family of the future,**  
**Not even all the nations of the earth.**  
**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 reject rather than bless.**  
**We limit love.**  
**Have mercy on us.**

Words of assurance

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

Offering and offertory *I want Jesus to walk with me* (HWB 439) tone chimes  
 Offertory prayer

HWB 348 (blue) *O Lord, hear my prayer*  
 Prayers of the people Rachel Nolt  
 (screen) *Between me & you*

Introduction of guests & Announcements

HWB 433 (blue) *Go, my children*  
 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 Patricia Martin & Leon Myers  
 Song Leader David Martin  
 Worship Leader Rachel Nolt

**Scripture next week:** Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; Randall Justice, preacher

**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

**Church and Culture:** Today’s session led by Andy Brubacher Kaethler will introduce key Biblical texts that offer guidance to how we, as humans, relate to Creator, to creation, to creatures, and to culture. Class meets in the Assembly Room.

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

Children and Youth

Taught by members of the church who graciously volunteer their time. See below for locations.

Nursery age - - - - -	Nursery
Ages 2 -4 - - - - -	Rooms 16/18
Kindergarten-5th Grade - - - - -	Rooms 131, 132, 133 (lower level)
Jr. MYF (6-8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Youth) - - - - -	Room 122/124 (lower level)
MYF (High School Youth) - - - - -	MYF Room

**AMONG THOSE SERVING TODAY**

**Greeters:** Chris Hoffman & Pearl Sensenig, Helena Dueck  
**Nursery Worship:** as needed  
**Coffee Servers:** Sally & Dave Wise  
**Ushers:** Dale Herr (Head usher), Amy Herr, Lloyd Chapman, Nancy Chapman, Eileen Byler  
**Sound/AV Operator:** Marv Horst  
**Nursery DH:** as needed  
**Mug Washers:** Herman & Jeanette Bontrager

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

February 25 **Today** 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 (Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm)  
 March 1 Men’s Breakfast @ Udder Choice @ 7 am; John Weber, presenter  
 March 4 Sunday Soup following second hour  
 March 6 Lunch Bunch @ Oregon Dairy @ 11:30 am  
 March 7 Library Committee meeting @ 6:00 pm  
 March 8 Garden Spot residents’ gathering @ 11:30 in Concord Room  
 March 11 Adult choir rehearsal at 8:00 am; sing for 9:00 am service  
 March 13 Play *“This Evil Thing”* to be presented @ AMC @ 7:30 pm  
 March 14 Connect! @ AMC 6:00 – 7:30 pm  
 March 18 Men’s choir rehearsal at 8:00 am; sing for 9:00 am service  
 March 18 Campus Chorale from LMHS @ 4:00 pm @ AMC  
 March 24 MYF Auction  
 March 29 Maundy Thursday meal and service

*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:**

April 14 AMC Women’s Retreat  
 October 26-27 ACC Fall Assembly @ AMC; details to be announced

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

- March 23 Set-up for auction, 6:00 – 9:00 pm
- March 24 MYF Auction
- June 17-23 DOOR service project in Denver, CO

**PRAYERS**

Zem Martin recently moved within the Long Community at Highland. Her new address is 600 E. Roseville Rd., # 2317, Lancaster, PA 17601. She appreciates your prayers as she settles in to her new home, and welcomes cards and visitors.

Nelson and Susan Blessing appreciate our prayers as Nelson starts radiation and chemo treatments following surgery earlier this month.

Many of us have had long relationships with Nancy Heisey and Paul Longacre, former Akron residents and members of AMC. Paul died last Sunday after a long illness. Let’s hold Nancy and the family in our prayers as they celebrate Paul’s life.