

Sarah Thompson is a scholar-activist from Elkhart, IN. She received a Masters of Divinity from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary immediately before departing for work at Sabeel Jerusalem (2011-2012, through Mennonite Central Committee). She has been formed by travels to five continents through volunteer work with Mennonite World Conference, feminist anti-war movements, women's soccer teams, the Fulbright Scholarship, and Spelman College (graduated in 2006 with a Comparative Women's Studies & International Studies double major, and a minor in Spanish). Her current growing edges are related to her interest in postcolonial theology, social movement building, embodied nonviolence, acupuncture, and sanitation solidarity.

**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.

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

Adults

*Sarah Thompson* will lead a discussion of the sermon which she preached and discernment of public action for peace and justice. She will also introduce the group to an exercise. Class meets in the Sanctuary.

*CLASS CANCELLED THIS WEEK will resume next week. Seven Stories: How to Study and Teach the Nonviolent Bible provides a comprehensive overview of seven main storylines of the Bible. This book helps us turn the Bible from a weapon (as it is too often used) into a pathway to justice, reconciliation, compassion, and peace. Taught by John Stoner and all who join the class. Class meets in Rm. 222.*

*Stories that Heal and Shape Us:* Each week, a different AMC sister will share from her life journey, focusing on themes of joy or loss, or other pivotal experiences. Esther Hostetter will share her story this week. Facilitated by Jean Buchen. Class meets in the Assembly Room.

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)	-----	Jr. MYF Room
MYF (High School Youth)	-----	MYF Room

**AMONG THOSE SERVING TODAY**

**Greeters:** Renny Magill, Eileen Byler, Helena Dueck  
**Nursery (Worship and Second Hour):** as needed  
**Coffee Servers:** Susan Blessing & Ethel Shank  
**Ushers:** Daryl Mack (head usher), Sarah Eby, Bernice Valverde, Norm Wood  
**Sound/AV Operator:** Delmar Zimmerman  
**Mug Washers:** Lawrence & Melody Rupley

**STAY WOKE!:** Today at 2:30-4:30 pm at Tellus 360, 24 E. King St., Lancaster Interactive workshop on organizing to build communities that resist oppression and embody peace and justice; led by Sarah Thompson, former Director of Christian Peacemaker Teams, and a 2018 Generations Fellow at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center in Atlanta, Georgia. Sponsored by Lancaster Interchurch Peace Witness & 1040 for Peace. For more information contact Sue Heilman: heilmangirl@gmail.com or 717-951-0731.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

July 18 Coffee & Conversation @ Landis Homes 10-11:30; Hybrid #1 Comm. Room  
*Congregational prayer will meet Thursday, July 19 at 12:30pm in Rachel's office.*

**Save these Dates:**

August 2 AMC serves community meal at First United Methodist Church, Ephrata  
 August 18 Benefit cabaret for March for our Lives at AMC (see June newsletter for info)  
 October 26-27 ACC Annual Assembly at AMC  
 March 30, 2019 MYF Auction

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

August 24-26 Annual Planning Retreat at Paradise Lake

**PRAYERS**

Ruth Detweiler continues in rehab at Landis Homes. She welcomes visitors. She and Lowell are grateful for prayers.

Marion and Verna Schrock are grateful that his back surgery last week was successful. They are grateful for prayers for good recovery. They would welcome visitors.

Randall Justice was hospitalized on Tuesday for complications related to diabetes. He expects to be home by the weekend. Prayers are appreciated. No visitors please.

Irma Bowman has moved to Oregon House, Room 132. She welcomes visitors.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**STAFF SUMMER SCHEDULES:** Rebecca Pereverzoff is out July 9 – 22. During these two weeks, Janet Weber will fill in Monday through Thursday, mornings only. Pat Martin is out July 11 – 22. Karyn Nancarvis is out July 13-15.

**WOULD YOU** or someone you know be a good “searcher” and like to serve on the search committee for an Associate Pastor? Please suggest yourself or another as a potential member. A small group, led by David Martin and Charity Shenk as co-chairs, will actively engage in the search process beginning in August. Please send your suggestions to Congregational Chair Nancy Chapman, by Sunday, July 29. The committee will be announced in early August and a blessing for their work will be held during a church service.

**Music in the Orchard**—Outdoor summer concerts continue at the 1719 Herr House & Museum at 6 p.m. on July 21 with a performance by Smokehouse 4 and an opening by Terry Strongheart. Concerts continue rain or shine every other Saturday through August 4.

**PLEASE** contact Jean Buchen at 717-371-9152 or [jbuchen@kthighland.com](mailto:jbuchen@kthighland.com) if you are willing to bake cookies, cut off corn on Tuesday, July 31<sup>st</sup> or help with set-up, serving and/or clean-up for the Community Meal on Thursday evening, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at First United Methodist Church on Church Street in Ephrata.

**AUTHOR ANNE LAMOTT** wrote, "Laughter is carbonated holiness." Theologian Reinhold Niebuhr said, "Humor is, in fact, a prelude to faith; and laughter is the beginning of prayer." During August we hope to experience joy, humor, holiness and laughter in our worship services, "Between Heaven and Mirth" (based on *Between Heaven and Mirth: Why Joy, Humor, and Laughter Are at the Heart of the Spiritual Life* by James Martin, SJ.) The worship planning group (Rich Crockett, Pat Martin, Carla Neufeld, Karyn Nancarvis, Rachel Nolt, Deb Sprunger, and JW Sprunger) is planning worship services to begin at **10:30am in the Assembly Room starting August 5**. Come early to enjoy a cup of coffee and the fellowship of others. May our hearts be filled with laughter.

**AKRON MENNONITE CHURCH**  
**July 15, 2018**

**GATHERING/PRAISING**

Prelude music Diane Gehman

Song of praise  
HWB 64 (blue) *Asithi: Amen*

Welcome  
Introduction of guests & Announcements

Call to worship  
Lighting of the peace lamp

STJ 16 (green) *Praise with joy the world's Creator*

Offering and offertory Diane Gehman  
Offertory prayer

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

screen *Follow, follow Jesus*  
Children's time Sandra Richard Wood  
Children ages 2-4 are dismissed for preschool church in Room 16 with Jim Shenk, Lynette Meck, Lydia Nolt

Special music *O day of peace* Dick Boshart, soloist

Scripture Revelation 6:1-8  
Sermon John Stoner  
Sarah Thompson

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

HWB 323 (blue) *Beyond a dying sun*

Prayers of the people Rachel Nolt

STJ 78 (green) *Sizohamba naye (We will walk with God)*

Benediction +++++

Musicians Diane Gehman & Daryl Mack  
Song Leader Richard Crockett  
Worship Leader Rachel Nolt

**Scripture next week:** Mark 6:30-44; Karyn Nancarvis, preacher

GIVING & BUDGET		
Giving for General Fund	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
	\$ 9,327	\$ 212,493
2018 Budget Goals	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
	\$ 9,800	\$ 264,800
2018 Income Budget:	\$ 510,000	
Attendance Last Sunday:	139	

Church office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm  
Church Office: (717) 859-1488 || 1311 Diamond Street || Akron, PA 17501