

Connecting with Lynne Beth

Lynne reflects on her journey from Episcopal upbringing to her current life as a Mennonite with gratitude and amazement. She was confirmed in her local Episcopal Church where there was a family pew. Lynne notes the thread that runs through her journey, the people who influenced her to be who she is today. Each one had an important role to walk with her along the way.

When she moved to Lancaster County in 1994, Lynne visited area churches for two years and then found AMC. She says this was the first church that welcomed her. She particularly remembers Gladys Stoesz and Kathy Hostettler who connected and wanted to learn to know her.

Lynne learned about Mennonites when she typed term papers for a local Mennonite pastor's son.



Many years later Lynne would find out that her first experience with Mennonites was with a Knapp shoe salesman who came to her house and sold shoes to her father. He was a kind and gentle man who always took time to talk to Lynne about all kinds of things. His name was Howard Rush. Forty years later she would discover that he was a Mennonite pastor, after meeting his son Phil Rush.

Lynne started to attend the Mennonite Church in Bucks County: Church of the Good Samaritan. This was a church plant without ethnic Mennonites except for the pastor and family. There she was introduced to Mennonite Disaster Service. She joined a group to Huntsville, Alabama in 1974, after the tornado there. This was the prelude to ongoing service.

Lynne was invited to join the first long term MDS unit established later that same year, by Nels Hostetter. Her group of young people traveled around to help where there was need. This was the big initiation for Lynne to learn all about Mennonite young people.

Lynne came to Akron for a mini-orientation for MDS in 1975. During that time, she helped price Self Help Crafts in the basement of Esther Hostetter's house. Little did she dream that twenty years later, she would be working for them, or move to Lancaster County and worship with Nels and Esther.

The service with MDS qualified Lynne to receive a tuition-free term at Rosedale Bible Institute. Since she was a new Christian, Lynne wanted to take advantage of Bible teachings that were offered there.

Rosedale was a cultural shock, to say the least. Nothing could have prepared her for that experience. Lynne was given the plain wardrobe of cape dresses and covering. She had pierced ears, so she wore gold studs to bed to keep the holes open. The shock came the morning she forgot to take them out. In spite of all of this shock, Lynne says her experience there was a good one. She learned a lot about the Bible and the Mennonite Church.

This was a long way from Croydon in Bucks County, Pennsylvania where Lynne was born, the oldest of three children. The extended family lived within five miles. This included two sets of grandparents and great grandparents.

Lynne was very close to her grandparents, spending summers traveling, camping and going to the shore. Through them, she was taught the acceptance of everyone and helping the less fortunate.

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Worship Schedule

Apr. 1	Rachel Nolt
8	Ginny Hartman
15	Rachel Nolt
22	Karyn Nancarvis
29	Rachel Nolt

Her family moved to Holland, Bucks County when Lynne was a freshman in high school. Lynne was a good student and became involved in many committees and government.

Lynne’s business courses after high school served her well when she returned home after MDS. She worked for a family owned Stationary and Office Furniture Company. Lynne was a quick understudy, and the owner taught her every aspect of running a business.

During this time Lynne became the primary caregiver for her two grandparents. She was happy to return the favor for all they did for her growing up. Lynne was there for them through their health challenges of cancer and dementia. When Grandmother was unable to care for Grandfather, he went to a nursing facility. Lynne moved in with her grandmother and took care of her. She feels blessed to have been able to care for her in her own home. Lynne had an understanding boss who let her work from home.

Lynne experienced great loss in 1993, losing both grandparents, followed by the family business where she worked, being sold. She went to Kansas to visit her brother who showed her an ad in the Mennonite Weekly Review for a job with Ten Thousand Villages.

Lynne moved to Lancaster County in 1994 to take a job as TTV warehouse supervisor. Paul Myers, noted when he introduced her to the staff, that she is our token city girl from Philly! Her entire staff was volunteer. This was a huge change from the union run warehouse that she left. She managed this position for eleven years.

The rest of Lynne’s years at Villages was in the role of domestic procurement manager. In both positions she drew on lessons learned from her former boss.

In 2009 Lynne welcomed Sue and Woo, two teenagers from South Korea into her home. Originally it was to be a year, but it turned into four and then four years of college. Now nine years later, she enjoys a wonderful relationship with her “adopted” daughters.

Since Lynne left Villages two years ago, she has begun to read and sort and gather photos and memories to construct a family tree. She loves history and reading history books.

Lynne has offered her gifts at AMC. She has served on several committees including Council, taught Sunday school, and is presently helping with pre-school. Lynne is also nurtured by her house church friends.

Lynne talks about being a Mennonite by choice rather than born in this culture. She finds that, even after forty-three years and being able to play the Mennonite game with the best of them, she still feels like an outsider in certain situations.
~Priscilla Ziegler



Pray For One Another

James 5:16

The purpose of “Pray For One Another” is to help us be aware of and pray for members of AMC who, for whatever reason, are unable to participate in Sunday morning worship services on a regular basis. Scripture **admonishes** us to pray. It is one of the joys of the Christian life and part of what makes us community. The names of people listed change from time to time. If you know of someone you would like to be included with those named here, please be in touch with the church office.



Charlotte Biris	Irma Bowman	Al Claassen	Flo Harnish
Carolyn & John Horst	Paul Martin	Philip Rutt	Amela & Randy Puljek-Shank

Preparedness Committee

Last fall Rachel Nolt, our pastor, attended a meeting with local Mennonite pastors to discuss congregational response in the wake of the violence in our world today. The conversation then moved to congregational preparedness. Rachel asked Congregational Council what we were thinking and where we were in our preparedness for a crisis, be it a tornado, a break-in or other event. Looking at those questions, we realized that our preparedness systems were not up-to-date, especially in light of housing Diamond Street Early Childhood Center

(DSECC). Council encouraged the formation of a committee with representatives from the ushers, trustees, office staff, and other interested people to begin the process of looking at what we have in place, what we need and what we don't know. We requested information from Akron Elementary School and Mennonite Central Committee on their preparedness manuals. We also reviewed online resources as well.

In light of those resources, we have identified some short-term activities, including updating the evacuation signage in each room of the church, managing the myriad of doors that we have open at different times, making sure that the end door by the preschool room is locked on Sunday, increasing signage to show where to access the church office and considering better signage for DSECC.

The Akron/Ephrata police department is hosting a free workshop on Wednesday, April 25 on church safety at the Akron fire hall. The doors will open at 6:00pm with the first session starting at 6:30. A number of us on the committee will be attending but it is open to anyone in the congregation. Please feel free to contact the church office if you have any questions. —Nancy Chapman



Saturday

May 5, 2018

8:15 am to 12:30 pm

@ AMC Assembly Room

Safe Church

Staff and Volunteer Training

This is our last session for developing AMC's policy, and educating and equipping those who work with children and youth.

Please plan to attend!

Questions? Contact the Safe Church Ministry Team: Karyn Nancarvis, Jim Shenk, Amy Herr, Ethel Shank, and Rachel Nolt

**PRESENTED BY THE SUPPORT SPECIALISTS FROM
SAMARITAN SAFE CHURCH**



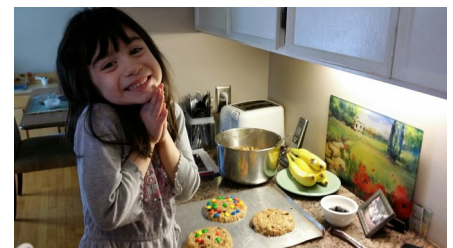
MYF Auction 2018

This year's auction on March 24 brought in around \$30,000 — the second highest amount in the auction's history!

The MYF and their advisors worked hard to plan and carry out a fun evening — a great celebration of the AMC community and AMC's youth.
—photos by Lloyd Chapman

Upcoming MYF Events

- April 15 Supper Club & John & Lizzie Hoffman's @ 5 pm
- April 20-21 MYF Lock-In @ AMC
- June 10 Senior Recognition Sunday
- June 17-23 DOOR service project in Denver, CO



World War I Play on Conscientious Objectors Touring the U.S.

“As it is, I feel sentenced to death. Within a few days I could be sent to France...and shot.” These words from James Brightmore, a British conscientious objector confined to a narrow pit for his refusal to fight in WWI, are among the opening lines of the drama, “This Evil Thing.” Written and performed by Michael Mears, the play began its 17-day U.S. tour on March 13 in front of a packed auditorium at Akron Mennonite Church in Akron, PA.

The play chronicles the intense spiritual, physical and emotional stress endured by British conscientious objectors during WWI. What emerges is a moving picture of principled and courageous young men doing complex moral discernment under the pressure cooker of war with their own survival at stake. Should they agree to march? Peel potatoes for the troops? Wear the uniform? Or should they totally refuse any and all cooperation with the military authority? “For God’s sake,” asks a commanding officer, “is this protest of yours really worth losing your lives over?”

On stage Mears moves seamlessly and energetically between dozens of roles depicting a whole array of characters, from objectors to military commanders to priests to family members and lovers.

While set in the British context, the parallels to the experiences of conscientious objectors in the U.S. during WWI are present in every scene, as are probing questions for our contemporary setting. How prevalent in our day is this perspective on war and Christian faith from H.J. Scrine, a WWI cleric? “War is not murder, but sacrifice; which is the soul of Christianity.” The play provides a probing glimpse into history while simultaneously inviting us to reflect on war, militarism and conscience in our day.

Sponsored by the Center on Conscience & War, the play will be touring the U.S. through April 21. Please note the following dates/locations:

- April 3: Bluffton University, Bluffton, OH
- April 4: Central Mennonite Church, Archbold, OH
- April 6: Catholic Worker of Michiana, South Bend, IN
- April 8: Buffalo History Museum, Buffalo, NY
- April 12: Waubensee Community College, Sugar Grove, IL
- April 13: Highland Church of the Brethren, Elgin, IL
- April 15: Iowa Mennonite School, Kalona, IA
- April 18: Graceland University Carol Hall, Lamoni, IA
- April 21: Washington, D.C. (location TBA)

By Titus Peachey



English playwright and actor Michael Mears performed the play, “*This Evil Thing*,” at the Akron Mennonite Church on March 13. “*This Evil Thing*” dramatized the experiences of conscientious objectors in the United Kingdom during World War One. Photo Credit: Lloyd Chapman

Anxiety Disorders

Our understanding of the roots of anxiety disorders is very incomplete. Anxiety disorders constitute a class of mental health issues, and the underlying causes for each one may vary. It is not clear, for example, why a specific phobia might afflict one person but not another. It's likely that genetic and environmental factors combine to make some people more susceptible to certain anxiety disorders, and research is currently being done to increase our knowledge.



Christians are not immune to anxiety disorders. One tragic notion that persists in some Christian circles is the idea that problems like anxiety are primarily, if not completely, spiritual in nature. Many Christians sincerely believe that a person should not experience anxiety disorders if he or she just has enough faith and trust in God. That is simply not true.

Anxiety disorders are the most common of mental disorders and affect nearly 30 percent of adults at some point in their lives. Most people develop symptoms before age 21.

Some people with anxiety disorders never get the help that's available. They may simply be unaware that something can be done about their anxiety, or they may avoid getting help because they fear that dealing with anxiety or reaching out for help will be perceived as weakness. Sometimes Christians don't get help because they believe anxiety is a sign of spiritual failure, or they fear the stigma in their faith community that's associated with an anxiety disorder.

All anxiety disorders have one thing in common: persistent, excessive fear or worry in situations that are not threatening. People typically experience one or more of emotional or physical symptoms.

Emotional symptoms: Feelings of apprehension or dread, restlessness or irritability, anticipating the worst and being watchful for signs of danger.

Physical symptoms: Pounding or racing heart and shortness of breath, sweating, tremors and twitches, headaches, fatigue and insomnia, upset stomach, frequent urination or diarrhea.

There are several types of anxiety disorders, each with different symptoms, including generalized anxiety disorder, panic disorder, specific phobias, agoraphobia, social anxiety disorder and separation anxiety disorder.

If you are experiencing overwhelming anxiety, the first step is to see your doctor to make sure there is no physical problem causing the symptoms. If an anxiety disorder is diagnosed, a mental health professional can work with you on the best treatment.

Although each anxiety disorder has unique characteristics, most respond well to two types of treatment: psychotherapy, or "talk therapy," and medications. These treatments can be given alone or in combination. If you know of someone who is dealing with an anxiety disorder, and they feel that the use of medications is somehow sinful or evidence of a lack of faith, urge them to reconsider. For some people, the use of medications is a lifeline, allowing them to function normally and helping them to reconnect with others and with God in ways that might not otherwise be possible.

Anxiety disorders are much more than simple jitters or nervousness; the feelings of fear and anxiety that accompany them can be debilitating. The good news is that help is available and these conditions can be managed with the proper combination of medical and psychological care and spiritual support.

This article is submitted by Marilyn Langeman and taken from the following sources:

<https://www.nami.org/learn-more/mental-health-conditions/anxiety-disorders>

<https://www.psychiatry.org/patients-families/anxiety-disorders/what-are-anxiety-disorders>

<https://www.focusonthefamily.com/lifechallenges/emotional-health/anxiety-disorders-frequently-asked-questions>

Diamond Street Beat

By Kim Bell
April 2018

April is here! That means warmer weather, budding flowers, and green everywhere! No one is more excited about the arrival of April than the children of Diamond Street. They see lots of playing outside in their future, as well as studying how plants grow, learning why we need rain, exploring different kinds of insects, and so much more.

We invite all of you to our annual Friendship Concert the evening of Wednesday, April 18th in the sanctuary (time TBA). This year's event will be bigger and better than ever with the addition of a silent auction of donated gift baskets and other items! Please come and hear the children sing for joy, and why not bid while you're there?

Finally, we are still planning and registering children for our Summer Camp. This year's theme is "Caring for our Community" and we plan to enroll a total of 24 children who have completed Kindergarten through 4th grade. If you would like to share a skill, talent, or special interest with our campers this summer, please let Rebecca know and she will pass on your information to the center. Some ideas include knitting, crocheting, birding, acting/drama, cooking/baking, dancing, gardening, origami, woodworking, painting, ceramics, etc. We'd love to have you share your talents with our campers!



Diamond Street Staff Bio



Amy Shirk is the Lead Teacher in the Bluebird room. She takes care of ten 1-year-olds each day and if that isn't a feat, I don't know what is! Amy plans and facilitates activities and practices that support the children's developmental needs. She also mentors staff, creates the weekly staff schedules, and tracks and records child health assessments.

Amy started at Diamond Street in 1997 so she is in her 20th year here. During that time she has worked in every classroom in some capacity. She obtained an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education from HACC in 2012.

She lives outside of Schoeneck with her husband, Kevin, and her 8-year-old son, Nathan. They have two dogs named Cookie and Zoe. When she's not keeping track of ten toddlers, Amy enjoys cooking, gardening, shopping, and watching football. She appreciates the relationships and connections she has formed with the children, families, and staff of Diamond Street. If you see Amy, please thank her for all she does for our busy 1-year-olds!

April (and beyond) at AMC & in the Community

April Upcoming Events

- Apr. 1** Easter breakfast @ AMC @ 7:45 am followed by service
- 2** Church office is closed
- 3** Lunch Bunch @ Oregon Dairy @ 11:30 am
- 4** Library Committee meeting @ 6:00 pm
- 5** Men's Breakfast @ Udder Choice @ 7:00 am; Jerry Meck, presenter
- 5** Spring mulching @ AMC 5:00—7:00 pm; pizza provided
- 8** Adult Choir rehearsal @ 8:00 am; sing for 9:00 am service
- 11** Landis Homes residents' gathering; 10:00 - 11:30 am; Kirkview Lounge
- 11** Luther Acres residents' gathering; 12:00 - 1:00 pm; The Round
- 11** Connect! @ AMC 6:00—7:30 pm
- 12** AMC Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- 14** AMC Women's Retreat; 9:00 am—1:00 pm in AMC Assembly Room
- 17** AMC Women's Brown Bag Luncheon 11:00 - 1:00 @ Agnes Hacker's home
- 18** Landis Homes residents' gathering; 10:00 - 11:30 am; Hybrid #1 Community Room
- 18** DSECC Friendship Concert @ 6:45 pm
- 22** Men's Choir rehearsal @ 8:00 am; sing for 9:00 am service
- 22** 55+ meets at noon; Rolando Santiago, Presenter
- 28** Bangladesh fund-raising dinner, c/o Richard Sarker

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 THE DATE

- May 5** Final Safe Church training for those who work with children & youth; 8:15 am—12:30 pm @ AMC
- Oct. 26-27** ACC Fall Assembly @ AMC

AMC Women's Brown Bag Luncheon

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

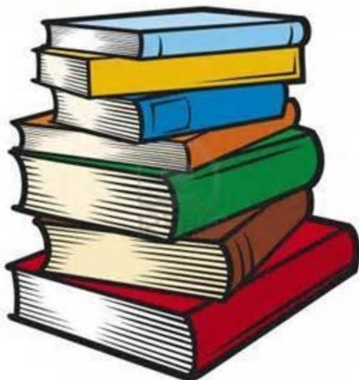
WELCOME!!!



Our next brown bag lunch is scheduled for April 17, 2018 at the home of Agnes Hacker. Come and help us share our joys of the spring season (at least we hope spring will be showing by then!).

Agnes will provide coffee and tea and water and we each bring our own food. We gather from 11 am until 1 pm. Come for the whole time or you may come on your lunch break or whatever segment of time fits your schedule.

Agnes lives at Landis Homes and directions to her cottage will be in your mailboxes at AMC a week or two prior to our luncheon. See you there.



The Stories We Live

THE AMC SPRING WOMEN'S RETREAT will be held Saturday morning April 14, from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM in the Assembly Room. The topic for the morning will be "The Stories We Live", with Rachel Nolt as our presenter. The morning will feature coffee, tea and a delicious lunch prepared by our AMC men. Bring a picture book or novel that has been important in your life. Please register with Ruth Weaver (rsweaver1440@gmail.com or 717-581-3812) by Sunday April 8. --Women's Retreat Committee, Agnes Hacker, Sarah Eby, Ruth Weaver, Melanie Baer-Drescher

TONY BROWN CONCERT: Meet your friends and new people working for peace on Friday April 6, at 7:00 pm. Anthony Brown, from Pittsburgh, will present a program of "Spirituals: Songs of Struggle and Hope" at Community Mennonite Church, 328 West Orange St in Lancaster. Give to support Tony's planned peacemaking trip to Colombia. Gain energy for the Poor People's Campaign and Lancaster's Peace Action Network. Expand your network of justice and peace activists. Tony's website: <http://www.anthonybrowncbaritone.net> Information: John Stoner 717 859-3388 or Community Mennonite Church 717 392-7567



TED AND CO. are familiar favorites at AMC. Their production, "Discovery: A Comic Lament", finds unexpected humor at the intersection of justice and land use, offering comic and challenging glimpses into European settler maltreatment of Native Americans. Take this opportunity to learn about love, loss, and land at 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 21, at Forest Hills Mennonite Church. There is no cost for attendance.

YOU ARE INVITED to the Franconia-Lancaster Choral Singers' concert Sunday, April 22, at 3:00 p.m. at Lititz Church of the Brethren. The music featured is Haynd's *Seven Last Words of Christ* and Forrest's *In Paradisum*. Tickets are \$12.00 in advance or \$15.00 at the door. See Tim Langeman, Patricia Martin, or Cheryl Zook Justice if you would like tickets.

HERITAGE CHORALE SPRING CONCERTS: The Heritage Chorale will present "Lux Aeterna" (Eternal Light in song) during their spring concert series: April 29 at James Street Mennonite Church in Lancaster; May 6 at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in Lititz; May 20 at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church in Lancaster; and June 3 at Cathedral of St. Patrick in Harrisburg. All concert times are at 4:00 pm.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED: Do you live in the Lancaster County area? Enjoy driving and meeting new people? If so, please consider being a volunteer driver for Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). Volunteer drivers pick up and drop off staff and guests at airports and bus/train terminals, most often in Harrisburg, Philadelphia and Lancaster. If you volunteer, you do only as many trips as you want and select the trips that suit your schedule. We are open to volunteers who only want trips to Lancaster and Harrisburg, and we would also value a few volunteers who are open to taking the occasional trip to airports in Baltimore, Washington and NYC. Volunteers drive MCC vehicles. Contact Marisa Sawatzky, receptionist at the MCC office in Akron PA, 717-859-1151, or at mailbox@mcc.org.

ACC Spring Assembly Celebration: Saturday, April 28, 2018 from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm at Hope Community Church in Fleetwood, PA. The morning delegate session will begin at 9 a.m. and include the business and reporting of conference life. During the afternoon session we will engage MC USA's Journey Forward process, a follow up to the Future Church Summit held in Orlando 2017.

From Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society: **The "Theology of the Cross" at the Crux of the Reformation**—Mennonites and Lutherans mark 500 years of reformation together on the anniversary of the Heidelberg Disputation. Join the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society with an evening program of lectures and song at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 6, Stumptown Mennonite Church, 2813 Stumptown Road, Bird in Hand, Pennsylvania.

NLAM Upcoming Mental Health Support Groups

No Longer Alone Ministries invites you to our upcoming Family Support Group (FSG) and/or PATHS to Discovery Support Groups for the second quarter of 2018, including the months of April through June.

Family Support Group (FSG)

- * Location: Rossmere Mennonite Church (Main Entrance); 741 Janet Ave., Lancaster
- * Time: 3:00-5:00 pm
- * Topics: April 22 - United Way Resources & Services - presentation by Sue Suter, United Way
 May 27 - Financial and Legal Planning for a Loved One - presentation by Tim Jantz (Everence) and Ann Martin (GK Law)
 June 24 - Pros of Peer Support - presentation by Diana Fullem, Recovery Insight

PATHS to Discovery Support Group

Topics:

- April - Self-Awareness and Acceptance
- May - Time Management
- June - Connections and Boundaries

Locations and times:

- 630 Janet Ave, Lancaster, Room B103 - 1st and 3rd Thursdays; 11am-12:30pm
- Arch Street Center, Lancaster - 2nd and 4th Thursdays; 11:30am-12:15pm
- Faith Friendship, Mountville - 1st and 3rd Thursdays; 6:30-8:00pm
- Worship Center, Leola - 2nd and 4th Thursdays; 7:00-8:30pm



April Day Retreat: Deepening Your Practice of Centering Prayer

This retreat is for those who have already been introduced to Centering Prayer, have been practicing it for some time, and are now desiring to deepen their practice. This day will include five or six 30-minute times of Centering Prayer interspersed with brief input from Todd Friesen. There will also be breaks for resting, writing, or walking outside.

Saturday, April 7, 2018

Facilitator: Todd Friesen

Where: Jesuit Center for Spiritual Growth

Time: 9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Lunch included)

Sign up here: <http://www.kairosjourney.org/centering-prayer/>

FAMILY FUN NIGHT at Friendly's: April 2- Support No Longer Alone Ministries (NLAM) by dining out at Friendly's Restaurant, 1521 Oregon Pike, Lancaster on April 2nd, 2018, from 5:00 to 8:00pm. 15% of the proceeds from the entire evening's service during that time will be contributed to NLAM.

PA Relief Sale: April 6-7, 2018 at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg.

- **Auctions** featuring handmade quilts, furniture, original artwork and much more
- **Delicious treats** including strawberry pie
- **Children's activities**
- **Ten Thousand Villages merchandise** and other artisan displays

And more!

MCC Alumni & Friends Gathering: Come by the MCC booth on Saturday at 10 a.m. for a time of mingling and sharing of your MCC experiences with other friends and alumni. Feel free to purchase a snack and beverage in support of our relief sale vendors and bring them along.

Visit PaReliefSale.org for additional details and a complete schedule of events.

APRIL Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Amy Seifarth Priscilla Ziegler	3 Michael Forrey	4	5 Nancy Drescher	6	7 Marlene Kaufman Gerald Shank
8 Marion Schrock	9 Ann Zimmerman	10 Barry Nolt	11 Peter Clemens	12 Jake Leaman	13	14
15 John Weber	16 Claire Magill	17 Deb Sprunger	18 Ellie Burkholder Aubrey Haller	19	20 Zem Martin Peter Passage	21 Marian Rutt
22 Lynne Brubaker Anne Miller Marvin Nolt Kay Weidner	23	24	25	26 Marilyn Langeman	27 Roger Weaver	28 John Stoner
29	30 Dot Hershey					

Akron Mennonite Church

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www.akronmench.org

- ◇ *Worship @ 9:00 am*
- ◇ *Coffee/Tea Fellowship from 10:15-10:40 am*
- ◇ *Christian Education & Discipleship Hour from 10:40-11:40 am*



Contact Updates

The 2018 Directory is in process. Thanks for your patience!

Staff

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AMC Vision Statement

Akron Mennonite Church will be fully engaged in God's mission in a broken world as we are called, equipped and sent by the Holy Spirit to follow Christ in life. Shaped by the gifts and vision of our members, we will keep Christ and church at the center of our lives as we reach out to neighbors near and far and witness to the world around us through an Anabaptist-Mennonite expression of faith.

Statement on Human Sexuality

We are a community of believers seeking to respond with God's love to all people. We celebrate the strength of our unity in the midst of our diversity of experiences, perspectives and understanding of Scripture. We seek to be a community of grace and reconciliation and so welcome into membership all who confess faith in Jesus Christ, including those in same-gender covenant relationships. We are committed to engaging in God's mission in a broken world through an Anabaptist-Mennonite faith perspective.