

Summit Mennonite Church

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Marilyn Rossiter, Pastor
Stan King and Rachael Oyer, Caring Team
Welcome to all visitors! May you feel at ease with us and sense the presence of God.

Worship: 9:30 am

Sunday School 10:30 am

We follow Christ, offering healing and hope as we serve our neighbors in need

December 18, 2016

Focus Statement: God's restoration is at hand. Come, walk in the way of God's heart.

GATHERING

Gathering Music

Lighting the Peace Candle

Call to Worship:

L: In the nighttime of our longing,
we find ourselves far from God's presence.

**P: Even though we yearn to see God's face,
our daily burdens and distractions keep us from coming near.**

We forget that the truest joy comes from being in God's presence.

All: Come! Walk in God's presence.

Opening Prayer

Opening Songs: StJ #54 Longing for light

HWB #201 Hark! The herald angels sing!

Candle lighting while singing StS #3 Come, light of the world

PRAISING

Baby Dedication

Caydon William Benson, Graham Patrick McDowell & Ethan Ashish Kamp

Child Blessing: HWB #791

CONFESSING/RECONCILING

Prayer of Confession:

L: God of restoration,

**P: we yearn to walk in your way but often choose our own path of
turmoil and pain. Save us, Lord, from the pride and foolishness
of choosing our own course, that we may humbly and
confidently follow your lead, through Jesus Christ. Amen**

Words of Assurance:

L: Throughout the tumult of life, God holds you close in love.

Rejoice, because God's wisdom is your guide, God's compassion
is your strength, God's love is your redemption.

All: Come; let us walk in the way of God's heart!

Song: HWB #101 Alleluia

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Time:

William Troyer

Scripture: Isaiah 7:10-16, Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon: Ripe for Restoration

Pastor Marilyn Rossiter

RESPONDING

Song of Response: StS #27 Sing a different song

Sharing sermon responses, joys and prayer requests

Announcements and Introduction of guests

Prayers of the people

Offering

SENDING

Blessing



THIS MORNING

Gathering Music: Dora Short

Worship Leader: Lee Ressler

Song Leader: Kyle Yoder

Greeters: Julia & Bob Beyeler

Nursery: Julia Beyeler & Viv Jaberg

Worship Planners: Wanda & Lee Ressler & Marilyn Rossiter

LAST WEEK

Attendance: 37

General Offering: \$1,785

Jubilee Fund: \$28

\$1,750 needed weekly to meet spending plan

Year to date \$3,100 short for meeting spending plan

THIS WEEK

- Sat, Dec 24, Christmas Eve, 7pm- Combined Candlelight Service HERE at Summit with First Mennonite
- Sun, Dec 25, Christmas Day, 10:30: Worship Service – No Sunday school

COMING EVENTS

- Sun, Jan 29, 10:30 (replacing Sunday school): Annual Business Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Marilyn's office hours this week will be Wednesday, Dec 21, 1 - 4 and Saturday Dec 24, 4 - 7. Call/email/text Marilyn for time with her, keeping in mind that Tuesday is her day off.

Christmas Day-- We will have a special worship service at 10:30, with no Sunday School. "Come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King..."

The **poinsettias** on the tree may be purchased, and will be available to take home on Christmas Day. See Wanda Ressler if you would like one.

There will be an **evaluation** of the **order of worship and Sunday School** on January 8th. Please note this and be ready to voice your preference.

BACM will once again be collecting **Bags of Love** to be distributed in the spring. Many of the clients are on food stamps and can't use them to buy personal care or household items. Fill a paper bag (feel free to decorate it!) with the following items: 1 package toilet paper (4 rolls), laundry detergent (up to 64 oz), dish soap, hand soap, deodorant, soap/body wash, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, all-purpose cleaner. Bring filled bags in before the end of February.

Another opportunity for sharing this Christmas season is our "**Mitten Tree**" in the corner of the sanctuary. Bring mittens, gloves, hats, scarves etc. to decorate the tree. These can be hand knitted or purchased and will be given to needy children and adults in our community.

STANDING WITH THE VULNERABLE. World Relief is an Akron Christian Faith organization working with recent refugees, arriving in this country from a variety of places. Please consider giving a Welcome Kit (or the equivalent) this Christmas. I will be taking these kits to the World Relief office on or around the 12th night of January. That is over three weeks. See bulletin board for a list of supplies or go to this website: <http://worldreliefakron.org/welcome-kits>.

Welcome Signs for Inclusion of All: If you would like a sign like the one on our Bulletin Board in the sanctuary ("No Matter where you are from, we're glad you're our neighbor"), please sign the clip board. Marilyn will be picking them up on Wednesday of this week.

Please send **Christmas greetings!** Don't forget our shut ins, people you are missing from Summit, and people who are required to work Sundays in your Christmas note/card sending!!! (Penny and Bob Unger, Dan and Thelma Greaser, Brenda and Cliff Lowe, Wanee Pikla, Mel and Rachel Gingerich, etc.)

We will have a special **New Year's Day celebration** of worship and communion service two weeks from today. What Kingdom work of reconciliation do you need to complete before then? Plan to bring family and friends! We will have special music and events that day to celebrate the coming of the New Year!

Most Sundays there are breads and sweets on the island in the kitchen. These are given to BACM by Giant Eagle, and anything they don't give out during the week is available to anyone. They are past the sell-by date, so will be disposed of on Monday.

Family Promise is still looking for volunteers to stay in Akron on Dec.26th from 11-5. Call Pauline Egan if you can fill this need. (*Phone:* 330-253-8081.)

BACM: Bring **canned soup and ramen noodles and household cleaner** for the month of December and drop into the box by our white giving tree. You may bring other food or grocery supplies also. It would be helpful to get into the habit of buying a few extra items when you do your grocery shopping.

MENNONITE MISSION PRAYER REQUEST: Tom and Disa Rutschman, serving with Mennonite Mission Network, have shared Jesus as the Light of the World through many long winters on the Arctic Circle in Sweden. Pray that this year they may again create sparks of life through teaching in schools and the leadership they provide at Jokkmokk Free Church.