



December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent [PURPLE PAPER]

Gathering

Welcome

Keith Lehman

(Visitors are invited to fill out a welcome card and place it in the offering basket.)

Sharing Announcements in the Life of the Congregation

Gathering Songs

Come, thou Almighty King
Oh, how shall I receive thee

HWB 41
HWB 182

Invitation to Worship

Advent Candle Lighting: Kindling Hope

Choose to Hope, v. 1, 2, and 3

Monica Slavinski
insert

Passing the Peace

Praising

Song of Praise

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

HWB 178

Offering Prayer

Offertory

Angels we have heard on high

Lucca Kauffman and
Serenity Lamb

Hearing

Scripture

Isaiah 55:1-13

Caroline Lehman and
Eliza Lehman

Children's Time

(Children ages 3 through 7 are excused to Children's Circle)

Jane Patty

Song of Preparation

In the bleak midwinter

insert

Meditation

Pastor Renee

Responding

Song of Response

O let all who thirst

HWB 495

Prayer of Invitation

Leader: Come, all you who are thirsty.

All: We come to drink from the cup of salvation.

Leader: Come, all you who are hungry.

All: We come to eat the bread of life.

Leader: Here, at the Lord's table, we will eat and drink what is good.

All: Our souls will delight in the richest fare.

Leader: Let us gather now as a family around the table.

All: Let us worship God together

-Spacious Faith, Joanna Harader

Communion

Sharing of Joys, Sorrows, Sermon Response, and Introduction of Guests

Prayers of the Community

Sending

Sending Song

Angels we have heard on high

HWB 197

Benediction

Serving this week:

Greeters: Kamala Renick and Sydney Renick
Nursery: Kristen Lamb and Tiffany Miller
Children's Circle: Jeff Schrock and Eliza Lehman
Music leader: Greta Holt
Attendance: Kamala Renick
Lock-up: Tim Holt

Serving next week:

Greeters: Kamala and Sydney Renick
Nursery: Rebecca Swartzendruber and Jenna Washatka
Children's Circle: Jeff Schrock and Eliza Lehman
Music leaders: Hal Hess and Christine Schumacher
Speaker: Pastor Renee Kanagy
Worship leader: Keith Lehman
Attendance: Kamala Renick
Lock-up: Tim Holt

We warmly welcome all who are visiting with us today! We hope you will join us for fellowship time after the service and give us an opportunity to get to know you. Please fill out a visitor card from the pew rack and place it in the offering basket. **Listening assistance devices are available** through the sound technician at the rear of the sanctuary.

Children are welcome in worship and community life. We also offer the following activities for children during worship: **A supervised nursery for newborns through age 3**, located next to the main entrance; **Children's Circle for children ages 3 through 7**, which meets in the basement during the second half of the worship service.

Music Key: HWB = Hymnal: A Worship Book (blue hard cover book)
STJ = Sing The Journey (green soft cover book)
STS= Sing The Story (purple soft cover book)

Attendance last week was 73, with 4 visitors.

CMF Welcome Statement

Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship is a Christ-centered, welcoming and inclusive church community committed to peace and justice. We acknowledge and affirm the image of God in persons of every race, ability, class, gender, ethnicity and sexual orientation. We celebrate an open communion in which all who seek a closer journey with God are welcome to participate. We invite all who covenant with us to join in the full life of the congregation.

CMF Vision Statement

As a Mennonite community,
seeking to follow Jesus Christ
and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we will be embracing, engaging, growing.

Announcements

*Please send your announcements to the office **before 11:00am-Friday** to be printed in the bulletin.*

.....TODAY

Sunday, December 17 Third Sunday of Advent
Carol Sing during Adult Forum, 9:30 am

.....THIS WEEK

Thursday, December 21 Longest Night Service, 7-8 pm at CMF
(see Notes for details)

.....NEXT WEEK

Tuesday, December 26 Community Meal

.....COMING UP

Sunday, January 7 Guest Speaker Adam Graber Roth of Mennonite Central
Committee (MCC) and special MCC offering
Sunday, January 14 Pop-Up Book Group, over lunch at CMF
(see Notes for details)

*Check out the **EVENTS** page on our website for more calendar information.*

Notes

Church council has decided to offer Violet a love gift as a thank you for her years of service. We will provide the opportunity for individuals within the congregation to participate by including a love gift offering for Violet as part of our regular offering on Sunday, December 17. Please write "Love gift for Violet" in the memo section of your check and place your check in the collection basket. If you are unable to attend the service on December 17 and would like to participate in the love gift offering, please mail your check to the church office by December 15.

A longest night service will be held 7-8 pm, Thursday, December 21. Centered around an Advent spiral, the focus on this longest night of the year service will be walking an Advent spiral. First, walking a spiral inward, kindling the light that has gone dim within, lighting a candle at the center of the spiral, and then spiraling out, carrying light. As each person takes turns walking the spiral, we'll sing Silent Night and other songs we know without reading. The service will be held in the gathering area at CMF. Stay tuned! Contact Pastor Renee with questions.

Adult forum has begun a new unit using the Peace and Justice Support Network's Bystander Intervention Training Sunday School Curriculum. This Adult Forum series will help us recognize and respond to harassment as a way of living out Jesus' commands. The curriculum for each Sunday will be sent out via email, should you wish to look over it beforehand. Please be aware that we will be discussing instances of sex-, gender-, race-, and religion-based harassment as a part of our effort to recognize and respond to them. *The Bystander Intervention series will resume on January 7.*

Scott Troyer began this week as the CMF office assistant. The Peace House hours will remain about the same - Tuesday and Friday 9:00am-3:00pm. Please welcome Scott as he settles into the role.

Sunday, January 7th, we will host Adam Graber Roth of Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes as a guest speaker for worship. A special offering for MCC will be taken that Sunday to supplement our budgeted giving.

In anticipation of the resets and start-overs of the New Year that many of us value, Christian Formation would like to offer "Encountering the Word--A reading record for the whole Bible." This pamphlet can be used individually to guide and record your Bible reading in 2018. Or perhaps a group would like to gather around this effort to cheer each other on and discuss their reading. The pamphlet is on display on the table near mailboxes. See Jane Patty if you want a copy for yourself.

The Peace Justice Service and Outreach Committee is creating a group email for church members to receive information about local, regional and wider area work that pertains to our committee's interests. We receive a lot of information about events and opportunities (such as motivational speakers, movies and discussions, political rallies, fundraisers, interfaith and community events) and would like to easily pass it on to those who are interested. **Are you interested in being on this list? Please let Steve Herbold or Clair Hochstetler know!**



There will be a pop-up book group meeting at CMF on January 14 over lunch. Author Sophia Samatar is coming to Mennonite Arts Weekend this February. In a spirit of whimsical innovation, MAW committee members Keith Lehman and Anne Hevener, along with Pastor Renee, are hosting a pop-up book group reading Samatar's novel, *The Winged Histories*. Bring your own lunch; dessert will be provided.

More about the book: *The Winged Histories* is a narrative in which three of the four heroines are writing their story down as we read it, and all of them are concerned with how their role in the story will be viewed, and how their choice to embody a particular character type has determined the course of their lives. Finally, each of the narratives in *The Winged Histories* is a critique of its own genre and its tropes, and of the way that fiction, language, tradition, and narrative expectations can trap people—women, perhaps, most especially—in a story not of their own making. - Keith Lehman

Party for Ed! You are invited to join Karen Diller and Taft Law in celebrating Ed Diller's 42 years with Taft! When: Saturday, January 6, 4:00-8:00pm (open house style). Where: Taft Center, 425 Walnut St., Suite 200, Cincinnati. *RSVP to Alyssa Kleespies at akleespies@taftlaw.com or 513.357.9470 by December 29.* Drinks and appetizers will be served. No gifts, please.

Winter Family Camp February 16-18 at Camp Friedenswald

After the busy holiday season and in the middle of winter blues - this camp is a great break for the whole family. We have sledding, rides on the tube run, and broomball for the kids (and kids-at-heart), while for those wanting rest we have relaxing fireplaces and provided childcare. Family-focused worships will be led by Daniel and Talashia Keim Yoder focusing on the theme "Messy Families." Bring your friends and family to reconnect with a fun and relaxing weekend together. Adults: \$120; Kids: \$40; Family Max: \$300 Go to Friedenswald.org for more information and to sign up today!

The children's Nativity play will be in the CMF sanctuary, Saturday, December 16th from 5-6pm. Bring a Christmas snack to nibble following the play. No rehearsals. The children will choose their parts. We will have basic costumes. Feel free to bring things you might have at home for costumes. The children will enact the story with an adult narrating. They can choose new roles and we'll do the play as many times as there is energy and time. If there are children interested in playing a short Christmas song on an instrument, let me know! I'd love to hear a few of the older kids play songs for us. We'll end by singing a few children's Christmas songs and then have Christmas snacks and milk.
What to bring: a Christmas snack (clementines, cookies, cheese, etc.); things for costumes



Book Club will meet on Sunday, January 7 after church at the home of Chris Gutjahr at 1329 Pullan Ave. in Northside. The book to be discussed is *The Breakthrough* by Gwen Ifill. Please bring a dish to share.



Join the Lunch Bunch to extend the conversation and fellowship after service each week. Sometimes we visit a local restaurant, sometimes we pack a lunch and dine here. Meet around the round table in the gathering area if interested



Journey Groups

Contact information available through the office for all facilitators.

Women's Spiritual Journey: Contact Facilitator Eleanor Bowman with interest

Women's Group: Group Facilitator Ann Schrock; please contact her to be added to email list or with questions. Playdates Coordinator: Becca Swartzendruber—we have a regular play group for babies & preschool-aged kids that meets at Jane Patty's house on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month from 9am - 11:30am. Questions? Contact Becca at 513.680.1708 or Jane at 513.238.3857.

Men's Group: Meets every third Saturday of each month--all men are welcome. Coordinator: Jim Miller. If interested and not on Jim's email list, please ask to be added. Watch email for location. Jim would appreciate a headcount midweek prior to the Breakfast. Time is 7:30am -???

Youth Group: coordinators: Scott and Allison Troyer



**Cincinnati
Mennonite
Fellowship**

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Scott R. Troyer, Office Assistant

In the office 9am-3pm on Tuesdays and Fridays

Church office located in Peace House at 3046 Minot Avenue, First Floor

Services are recorded and available to be checked out;

Sermons are posted online at cincinnati mennonite.org