

ADVENT CONSPIRACY



SPEND LESS *SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

Volume LIX

December 7, 2014

No. 49

GATHERING/PRAISING

PRELUDE		Jerry Toews
INTROIT	<i>"Hail to the Lord's anointed"</i>	Adult Choir
WELCOME		Eric Litwiller
LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE	<i>"Nun Ist Sie Erschienen"</i> -v.2 in German and English Kyle, Mandy, Athena, Nivea and Levi Funk	No. 52CS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God of Advent,
in the darkest days and nights of the year,
our hearts turn toward your promised light.

People: **With the first faint glimmer of a single candle
dancing into the light of many bright flames,
our hope is ignited once more.**

All: *In these Advent days,
lead us in your light to a manger where the face of God
shines bright and clear. Amen.*

*GATHERING HYMN *"Christ, whose glory fills the skies"* No. 216

*GATHERING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE *"Hark! The glad sound!"* No. 184

*PASSING THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you ~ and also with you.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



*Come Holy Spirit.
Fill the hearts of thy faithful people
and kindle in us the fire of thy love.*

PROCLAIMING

CHILDREN'S STORY		Carol Duerksen
ANTHEM	<i>"Helpless and hungry"</i> -Scott Soper	Adult Choir Guitar: Brian Voth
SCRIPTURE	<i>Matthew 2:1-12</i> <i>Matthew 6:19-24</i>	Sharleen Francis Leann Toews
	The Word of God for the People of God <i>Thanks be to God!</i>	
SERMON	<i>"Spend Less"</i>	Pastor Phil Schmidt

RESPONDING

HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>"As with gladness men of old"</i> -vv. 1-3	No. 218
PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR THE OFFERING	Pastor Rosie Jantz	

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Please pass items for school kits to the center aisle

SHARING AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

SENDING

*SENDING HYMN	<i>"Let all together praise our God"</i> -vv. 1-3	No. 213
*BENEDICTION		
*POSTLUDE		

Today

Today as we continue through the season of Advent, we will focus on our second of four "Advent Conspiracy" themes. Today's theme is *Spend Less*. In the midst of this busy season of shopping and family gatherings, how might we be creative in spending less on Christmas presents so that we have more time and money to invest in God's relational kingdom ministry?

Today Continued

We are so glad you are here with us to worship God and experience God's love. This morning you were greeted by Bill and Sherry Unruh. *A special welcome is extended to all visitors.*

Childcare is provided by Nancy Schroeder during the worship service.

The flowers this morning are in honor of Helen Schmidt, who celebrated her 90th birthday on December 5. Praise God for the gift of Helen and a long life.



On the table in the foyer are **Prayer Request Cards**. You are invited to fill one out if you have a request and return it to a pastor's box.

10:45 a.m.—Fellowship Time

11:00 a.m.—Faith Formation for everyone
Adult Quarterly Bible Study - Rooms 112 & 211
Worship Response/Discussion - Room 113
Parents of Small Children - Room 13
Young Adults/College Age - Pastor Doug's Office

5:00 p.m.—Community Christmas Celebration: Come enjoy a Christmas Concert filled with your favorite Christmas carols and melodies! The McPherson Community Brass Choir, under the direction of Jerry Toews, will be performing at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church today. Come to listen, sing and share in the joy of the Christmas Season. A fellowship time will follow the concert. Please bring your favorite Christmas treat to share. This event is sponsored by the Goessel Ministerial Alliance. An offering will be received to support the ministries of Goessel Ministerial Alliance.

This Week

Tuesday, December 9

9:00 a.m.—Staff meeting

7:30 p.m.—Trustee meeting

Wednesday, December 10

Wednesday Evening Activities

5:45 - 6:30 p.m.—Supper *Please sign up*

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.—Faithful Fitness

6:30 - 6:50 p.m.—Music Practice for Christmas Eve

6:50 - 7:30 p.m.—Practice for Christmas Eve Service

6:45 - 7:30 p.m.—Adult Bible Study

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.—TMYF

7:30 - 8:30 p.m.—Adult Choir

Next Sunday, December 14

9:15 a.m.—Prelude

9:30 a.m.— Next Sunday we continue reflecting on Advent Conspiracy themes by considering how we might *Give More* this Christmas Season. Pastor Doug will be preaching.

10:45 a.m.—Fellowship Time

11:00 a.m.—Faith Formation for everyone

Advent Offering: We are collecting supplies for school kits during our offering time throughout Advent. Next Sunday you are invited to bring 12 colored pencils, in packaging.

Prayer Requests

Remember to pray for:

- ★ Western District Conference: Pray God's blessing on the WDC Church Planters Retreat on Dec. 12 and the Church Planting Dreamers Advance on Dec 13.
- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for the transition government in Burkina Faso after violent demonstrations forced Blaise Compaoré to relinquish presidential power. Anne Garber Kompaoré of MMN, requests us to pray "that the Lord will lead to a wide consensus for a person full of integrity and wisdom and courage to lead the country to elections next year."
- ★ Mennonite Education Agency: Pray with the Bethel College community for the peace and light of Christ to come into the world as faculty, staff, students and friends participate in the 29th annual Lighting of the Green on campus this evening.

Announcements

Tabor Ladies Lunch Bunch: For the month of December, Lunch Bunch at Bethesda Home will take place on the third Tues., Dec. 16 at noon. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to be there.

Tabor Church women and girls!! Please plan to join us at our annual Christmas Brunch on Sat., Dec. 20th, at 9:00 a.m. Anyone who would like to decorate a table for the morning is welcome to do so! Please RSVP by signing up (include number of guests) by Sun., Dec. 14. If you have special diet needs, contact Carrie Unruh. Also, please sign up if you are willing to decorate a table for the morning!

Post College/Pre Family Event: PCPF Christmas Soup Sampler, Sat., Dec. 20th at 6:00pm. at the home of Jason and Anna Unruh.

Night in the Barn: The Tabor Mennonite Youth Fellowship will share their annual living nativity on December 20 and 21 from 6-8 pm. on the farm of Maynard Knepp and Carol Duerksen. The come-and-go event will feature unique perspectives from the innkeeper and a shepherd and Christmas carols. Visitors are welcome to gather around a bonfire and enjoy hot drinks as part of the evening's activities. Admission is free and donations to the youth group will be accepted. See bulletin board or the December newsletter for more information.

Please let Pastor Phil know if you are interested in:

- joining Tabor as a member
- attending Mennonite World Conference in Harrisburg, PA this summer (July 21-July 26)
- attending Mennonite Church USA Convention in Kansas City this summer (June 30-July 5) as a Tabor Delegate.

The Goessel Ministerial Alliance Christmas Giving Tree: The tree is at the Citizen's State Bank. Pick up a tag or two and help to make this a wonderful Christmas for children in our community. Gifts need to be wrapped and brought to the bank by Monday, December 15.

Christmas Events at the Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum
-Join us for an Old Fashioned Christmas Program at the Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum Prep School, on Monday, December 8, at 7p.m. See poster on bulletin for more details.
-The 9 Days of Christmas Sale, Thurs.-Sat. 12-4pm, Dec. 4-6, 11-13 & 18-20 at the Mennonite Heritage Museum. See poster for more details

Dec. 20, 9 am: Women's / Girl's Christmas Brunch
Dec. 20-21, 6-8 pm: TMYF presents Night in the Barn
Dec. 22: Red Cross Blood Mobile at Goessel Church
Dec. 24, 7 pm: Christmas Eve Program
Dec. 25, 10 am: Christmas Day Service

Offering = \$ 544.81
for Mission Partners Wes and Deb Bergen



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