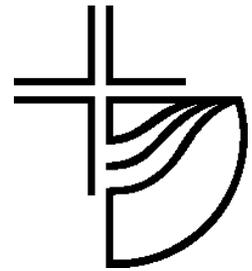


# Manchester Church of the Brethren

## NEWSLETTER

Week of December 25, 2017

Peacefully, Simply, Together



### Prayer Concerns

We hold in our hearts and thoughts all the things that have filled our lives in the past week. Sharing our joys and our concerns with one another is one of the ways we create deeper relationships within this community of faith. In a spirit of prayer and compassion, please keep these spoken concerns with you in the coming days.

#### *Within our faith community:*

- ◆ We celebrate the birth of **Lennon Wilder** to **Amy Unger** & **Kyle Leffel** late Sunday evening, December 17. Lennon's grandparents are **Denny & Becky Unger** and her great grandfather is **Art Hunn**.
- ◆ We pray for those people who aren't able to join us in worship this morning due to their ongoing health or physical limitations including: **Alice Frantz**, **Doris Snell** and **Evelyn Niswander**.
- ◆ We pray for **Tom Hess's** mother, **Doris Hess** who is receiving hospice care.
- ◆ We pray for **Cleona Barr** who has returned to Timbercrest Healthcare following a recent hospitalization.

May each of these people experience the hope and comfort of God's abiding love in the coming days.

#### *In the wider community:*

- ◆ We pray for our sister church in **El Salvador, Emmanuel Baptist**. We offer prayers for the lay pastors and teachers who travel each weekend to Mission communities to lead worship and church classes. Many are in service for Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
- ◆ We join the other churches in our District this morning to pray for **On Earth Peace** as they continue their work teaching the practices of active nonviolence, community building, and conflict transformation.
- ◆ We continue to offer prayers for the firefighters, for the people who have lost homes and businesses and for those who are offering care and aid in the midst of the wildfires in California.
- ◆ We offer prayers of support and healing for **Esther Usman**. We also pray for the **Church of the Brethren in Nigeria, EYN**.
- ◆ In this season of Christmas, we pray for Church of the Brethren workers overseas: **Athanasus Ungang** in

South Sudan, **Todd Bauer** in Guatemala, **Grace Mishler** in Viet Nam, **Jason & Nicole Hoover** in the Dominican Republic and **Kristin Flory** in Switzerland. Kristin was recently recognized for 30 years of service as the BVS Europe coordinator.

- ◆ We offer our prayers for the Tamimi family, one of the groups of people that **Kurt, Rainer, Carole** and **Al** met on their trip to Israel/Palestine last summer. Mohammed Tamimi, who is 14 years old, has been placed in a medically-induced coma after Israeli soldiers shot him in the face with a rubber bullet during a protest against a US decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Subsequently his 16 year old sister, **Ahed**, was arrested in a night-time raid on the family home, and then their mother was arrested when she went to the prison to see what had happened to her daughter. The family are internationally known Palestinian activists who have been repeatedly targeted by the Israeli military.
- ◆ And in light of the events around the world, we renew our prayers for peace.

#### Pastor On-Call: Kurt Borgmann

Home: 901-6110; Cell: 901-1851

#### Pastors' Schedules

Kurt ~ Tuesday through Friday  
Karen ~ Monday through Thursday  
Jim ~ Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

#### Church Office Hours during the Holidays

**Tuesday, Dec. 26** ~ Open all day 9:30-4:00

**Wednesday, Dec. 27** ~ Open 9:30-1:00

**Thursday, Dec. 28 & Friday, Dec. 29** ~ Closed

**Monday, Jan. 1** ~ Closed (the Newsletter will be published Tuesday, January 2)

#### Office Hours following the Holidays

9:30-4:00 Monday-Friday; closed 12:00-1:00 for lunch.

The church is open at 9:30 for walkers.

## Weekly Calendar

### Monday, December 25 Merry Christmas!

Office closed

### Tuesday, December 26

Preschool Winter Break

- 9:00 a.m. Building in use - Good/Baldwin Family
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 3:00 p.m. Historical Committee - Library
- 5:30 p.m. Weight Watchers - Room 220
- 6:30 p.m. Bell Choir - Sanctuary

### Wednesday, December 27

Church office open until 1:00 pm

Preschool Winter Break

- 10:00 a.m. FLC in use until 11:30 - Onderko
- 1:00 p.m. Tennis - FLC
- 6:00 p.m. Worship Center Décor - Michael's home

### Thursday, December 28

Church office closed

Preschool Winter Break

- 11:00 a.m. Building in use until 4:00 pm -  
MHS Basketball Team / Borgmann

### Friday, December 29

Church office closed

Preschool Winter Break

- 10:00 a.m. FLC in use until 11:30 - Onderko
- 1:00 p.m. Pickleball - FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Soccer - FLC

### Saturday, December 30

- 7:00 a.m. Building in use until 9:00 pm - Driver
- 11:00 a.m. Yoga - Room 211

### Sunday, December 31

- 9:30 a.m. Worship: *My eyes have seen your salvation*  
Pastor Kurt  
Text: Luke 2:22-40  
Special Music: Robert Bucher
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 10:45 a.m. Christian Education  
AI-Anon - Room 213

### Koinonia Class

**December 31 - January 28~ Exploring Salvation in the Bible** from the "Good Ground" curriculum "Banking on God" with Marie Willoughby

### ATC & Questers Class

**December 31 ~ Class will not meet**

## Offering to support the new Fellowship of Church's building

The Fellowship of Churches expects to finalize the purchase of the old Hooks/CVS building on North Market Street, across from the library this week. The services on South Mill Street will move into the new building after renovations are made. Those services include the Thrift Store, Thursday's Child and Reach. The Food Pantry will remain on Front Street directly across from the old Hooks/CVS building. This new location will provide much needed space and stability for the FoC's services and locate them in the same neighborhood. Offering to support the effort to renovate the building for use by the Fellowship of Churches was taken up at our Christmas Eve Service. If you were not able to attend the service and wish to donate to this cause, you may drop it off at the church office or bring it this Sunday. **Please put "FOC" on the bottom of your check or on the envelope. Checks should be made out to the church.**

### Search Committee Appointed

The Executive Board has appointed a seven-member committee to begin the search for a new Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry and Congregational Life. Julie Garber, Chair of the Executive Board beginning in January, will chair the committee that consists of Kurt Borgmann, Lila Hammer (PMPC), Becky Kreps (member), Jeff Lehman (parent), Nathan Self (youth), and Karly Eichenauer (youth alum).

Over the next four or five months, the Executive Board will call for applications, review and interview candidates, and bring a board approved recommendation to a congregational council meeting for approval. District Executive Beth Sollenberger will assist in the process, helping the committee develop a congregational profile, providing access to the roster of pastors in the denomination seeking positions, and contacting other possible candidates.

While the current position description will be used in the announcement about the opening, the committee is foremost interested in a candidate who is a good fit for the congregation and who brings essential skills to the pastoral team.

The most significant change results from a motion to increase the position to full-time, which passed unanimously. The committee encourages the congregation to bring names of potential candidates to the committee and offer any other suggestions for consideration. Contact any member of the committee with names and concerns.

### Childcare During Worship

Your help continues to be needed in **Childcare During Worship** in **February** and **March**. Stop by the Nurture table in the Narthex after worship to volunteer an hour of your time for our children. You will enjoy getting to know the children in our congregation.



### **Senior High Youth...**

**Thursday, January 18** ~ NYC Registration begins

**February 4, 11, 18** ~ Silent Auction held in the Narthex!

### **Junior High Youth...**

**Friday, January 19** ~ Game night ~ TC ~ 6:30pm

**Friday, February 9** ~ Karaoke ~ Leckrone's home

### **Get on our Bucket List!**

Donations are coming in...keep them coming!! The 4th and 5th grade SS class along with the Jr. High Youth invite you to join with them in replenishing the empty shelves at the Church World Service warehouse with cleanup buckets. On the bulletin board and credenza in the narthex is information on how you can help. The group asks you to take a card, any card, and purchase the item or items on the card that help assemble clean up buckets. Bring them to church any Sunday and the group will place them in the storage room (just off the FLC on the kitchen side). If you have questions contact Ann Hartsough or Jim Chinworth.

Financial donations are also welcome, but remember...

we don't drive!

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### Envelope Boxes for Offerings

Please pick up your offering envelope box after church in the Narthex or at the church office. If you have not previously had envelopes and would like to have a box, please call the church office. If you prefer NOT to have envelopes but still want your gifts credited to your account, let the office know so we can make changes accordingly...982-7523.

### DVDs of the Children's Program

Stop in at the office or library if you want to borrow a DVD of the Children's Christmas Program!

### 2018 Church Family Directory

Yes...it's that time of year again! If you need to update your contact information from last year you will want to do that ASAP!

If you are not in the current directory and would like to be added or you know someone who should be added I will also need that information.

Three ways this can be accomplished:

1. Contact the church office at 982-7523.
2. Check the directory lists on the table in the Narthex on Sunday morning. Put a check by your name if it is correct...make the necessary changes by your name if it is not correct.
3. Respond to the email that will be sent to you in this next week asking if your information is correct or needs to be changed.

Thanks, Peg

### Combined Sunday School Classes

Education Commission invites you to join them for our upcoming all church combined Sunday School on the following dates:

**January 21** ~ Brethren Disaster Ministries

**February 25** ~ Nicaragua Medical Practicum -

Jeff Osborne (Manchester University)

**March 11** ~ High Toll of Local Imprisonment:

Women speak out on their recovery - Ruth Angle

**April 29** ~ Hymnody with Nancy Faus

### Beat the Winter Blues!

Consider joining us for Yoga...

**Saturdays ~ 11:00 am ~ Room 211**

A healing way of connecting with and listening to your body, while building balance, flexibility, and strength. We do a different 25-45 minute "Yoga with Adriene" video routine together.

- ◆ No experience needed
- ◆ All levels welcome - routines can be modified
- ◆ Bring a mat; wear comfortable workout clothes; and bare feet.

Call or text Laura Stone (413-885-9196) or Kristen Short (513-319-4778) ahead to confirm that Yoga will meet.

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### Within our Community...

#### EvenSong

**Wednesday, December 27 ~ 4:00 p.m.~ TC Chapel**

"Reflections on the Season"

Kathy Rose & Vicki Sprunger

Questions? Call Liz Hoffman Bauer, 260-306-1690

### **Movies at Timbercrest**

You're invited to join Timbercrest residents for their FREE monthly movies at 7pm in the Assembly Room:

- ♦ **Monday, January 1** ~ *Marley and Me*  
Questions? call Wanda Miller, 982-6189



### ***Within our District...***

Friends,  
Here is an update to give you the opportunity to present your energy and skills to BDM as a gift to those impacted by the increasing severity of disasters. Please share with others who might be convinced to join you!

**January 13-20, 2018** - BDM workcamp in Puerto Rico.  
Contact Terry Goodger, [410-635-8730](tel:410-635-8730)

**January 21-27** - S/C Indiana needs 7 volunteers to Eureka, MO again (with IL/WI District)

**March 11** - S/C Indiana needs 15 volunteers to Eureka

**April 23 - May 3** - Disaster Project Leader Training for new BDM leaders, Marion County, SC - Are you interested? We need more leadership. Contact me soon.

Is there interest in workcamps to Florida, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands? Skilled mason may be needed for three months in Virgin Islands.

**September 9-15** - fifteen volunteers needed from S/C Indiana for yet undesignated location.

**November 25-December 1** - 7-8 volunteers needed from S/C IN, yet undesignated location (joint with IL/WI District)  
Enough spaces for everyone to go! Let's spread some Good News Joy!

Please continue to remember needs for money contributions through the S/C IN COB District Office.

Blessings of peace to you!

Cliff Kindy phone: 260-982-2971 [kindy@cpt.org](mailto:kindy@cpt.org)

### **Brethren Leadership Institute News**

The next BLI class is *Preaching*, taught by Aaron Gross, pastor of the Logansport Church of the Brethren. Class sessions are the following Saturdays: January 20, February 3, and February 17. Back-up date in case of a weather cancellation is February 24. **Register by January 3** to avoid a late fee. Registration forms are on the S/C District website.

Spring Class will be *History of the Church* taught by Mark Flory Steury.

Tina Rieman will be ending her tenure with the Brethren Leadership Institute in December. Many thanks to Tina for her administrative skills that have been integral to launching BLI in our district.