

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR

Class:

Early Childhood (Ages 0-3 years).....	Parents
Preschool (Ages 3-5 years).....	Evie Shellenberger, Stori Sullivan
Primary (Grades 1-3).....	Crystal Shellenberger, Darlene Larrison
Middler (Grades 4 & 5)	Doris Weaver, Veronika Sukup
Junior High (Grades 6&7).....	Andrew Blount, Mary Beth Gibbons
Youth (Grades 8-12).....	Matt Pfleiderer

Adult Classes: The Bible As Story led by Bonnie Beachy.

The Gospel of Luke led by Rebecca Kauffman and Al Mortenson.

For Prayer

Give thanks to God with awe as you celebrate the mystery of Jesus' birth and the new life he offers us. Give thanks for how God's Spirit has dwelt with you this past year, and offer to God for healing your times of struggle, pain, or grief.

Pray for those in the community for whom this time of year is lonely or difficult in other ways. Pray they might feel the Holy Spirit's comforting presence each day, and consider ways you could express the hope and love of Jesus to them.

Continue to pray for physical and emotional healing for Jaime and Crescencia's nephews and their mother following a car accident several weeks ago.

Pray for peace and harmonious relationships between Christians and Muslims around the world. Pray that MMN personnel and others would contribute to the voices of moderation and reconciliation that keep conversations open.

Jim Beachy requests prayer for a co-worker of his: two close relatives of his, both children, are dying of cancer. Ask for God's comfort and peace to be felt by these families.

PAOLI MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP



December 22, 2013

*We welcome all persons
to worship, study and fellowship with us as we continually
seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus*

Advent 4

O, the Mystery of God's Dwelling... in the child that is born!

Focus: An angel announced Jesus' origin, name and purpose. As we receive the mystery of God dwelling with us, our name and purpose will be shaped by Emmanuel, Jesus Christ.

Prelude Music – Wendell Lantz , Andrew Blount and Aaron Johnson

Inviting the Mystery

Gathering to Worship

Song: Joyful is the Dark – H 233

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Introductions

Call to Worship: (see insert)

Singing Our Faith

My Soul is Filled with Joy – SJ 13

Hosanna

The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy

Special Music – Noah, Madeline, and Summer Ford

Confession and Lighting the Advent Candle (see insert)

Reader's theater

Celebrating the Mystery

Celebrating Shalom -

Opportunities for Generosity

Special giving for Dec. will go to Hospice and LIFE Family Resource Center

Children's Time

Scripture: Matthew 1: 18-25 and Romans 1: 1-7

Meditation

Engaging the Mystery

Responses

Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer

Announcements

Song: Come! Walk in the Light – SS 10

Benediction (see insert)

PASTOR-ELDER TEAM

Rebecca Kauffman, Pastor 653-4140
Matt Pflederer, Pastor (574) 606-6727
Mary Beth Gibbons 723-2723
Mica Beauregard 723-4502
Ted Larrison 723-3826

MINISTERS

All the congregation

CHURCH OFFICE

Pastors: Rebecca Kauffman; Office Hours - Tues 9-4, Wed 12-4, Thurs 1-5
Matt Pflederer; Office Hours – Mon, 1-3 pm, Tues, Wed, Fri. 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Secretary: Deb Giles; Office Hours – Wed. and Fri. 9:00 am – 12:00 noon
Phone: (812) 723-2414; **Fax:** (812) 723-3515 **email:** mennos.paoli@gmail.com
Address: 2589 N. CR 100 W., Paoli, IN 47454

OUR COVENANT

In covenanting together, we affirm that Jesus Christ is Lord. We gratefully acknowledge him as our Lord and accept his teaching as the way to live. We recognize the importance of:

- Regular Bible study, worship with others, and prayer as a vital part of our Christian life.
- Taking each other seriously, contributing our gifts and caring for one another in love to strengthen the Christian body.
- Living and sharing the Good News as Christ has taught us and as the Holy Spirit enables.

<p><u>TODAY</u> <i>December 22, 2013 (worship at 9:30)</i></p> <p><i>O, the Mystery of God's Dwelling!</i></p> <p>Worship Leader: Ted Larrison Music Leader: Joanna Woodsmall Meditation: Rebecca Kauffman Greeters: Wally and Evie Shellenberger Nursery: Cynthia Parsons and Jim Beachy A.V.: Craig Bumbalough</p>	<p><u>NEXT SUNDAY</u> <i>Dec. 29, 2013 (11:00 am)</i></p> <p>Shalom Sunday</p> <p>Worship Leader: Music Leader: Marlene Beachy Meditation: Greeter: Nursery: AV:</p>
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TODAY

Our passages today invite us to consider the mystery of God coming to dwell in the weak form of a human baby who at the same time has power to save people from their sins.

Be aware that our building will be used for a wedding today from 2:00 pm – 10:00 pm.

NEXT SUNDAY

Dec. 29 is **Shalom Sunday**. Plan to join us for a pitch in meal at 11:00 am, followed by a hymn sing.

This Week

December 25, Christmas Day.

UPCOMING

Jan. 6, 7:00 pm – Worship committee meeting

Jan. 7, 7:00 pm – PET meeting

PMF Winter Retreat at Mount St. Francis – save the date, Feb. 8-9, 2014!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Matt will be on vacation from Monday, December 23 to Wednesday January 1.

The 2012-2013 Annual Report from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (in Elkhart) is now available to view online. Visit www.ambs.edu/giving/annual-report.cfm.

New in the magazine rack: **CPT magazine** *Signs of the Times*

Find a new **newsletter from Wayne & Lois Hochstetler**, Mennonite Mission Network, on the bulletin board.

See the thank you and Christmas card from **Jubilee Community Health** on the bulletin board.

Everence Video Contest: Vote Now!
Online voting is under way to select the winning entries in the Everence “Money Talks” video contest. The four entrants each produced a unique message and approach. Visitors to the Everence.com/moneytalks webpage can vote once per day and can share the contest videos with others through social media to help rally support for their message. Voting ends January 13, 2014, and winners will be announced the next day. Cash awards will be split evenly between the winning entrant and the entrant’s favorite charity.

Call To Worship

Leader: Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son!
People: **Let us awake to joy!**
Leader: He shall be called "God is with us,"
People: **and will refuse evil and choose good.**
Leader: God gives us a sign:
All: ***O, the mystery of God's dwelling in the child that is born!***

Confession and Lighting the Advent Wreath

Leader: The power of God is held in the weakness of human flesh.
Let us pause to consider incarnation: a child born and a son given.
(pause)
Let us confess our skepticism and doubt,
the weakness of our mortality.
(pause)
The fourth Advent candle is the candle of joy.

All: ***In this light we celebrate forgiveness,
knowing that God dwells in the child that is born.***

Benediction

Leader: Receive the child who comes to establish God's dwelling!
People: **God is with us!**
All: ***In the mystery of God's dwelling in the child, there is joy!***

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