

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR**

**Class:**

**Teachers:**

Early Childhood (Ages 0-4 years) .....Parents  
 Primary (Ages 5 – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) .....Crystal Shellenberger & Stori Sullivan  
 Middler (Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>) .....Jon Shellenberger, Aaron Johnson,  
 Jim Beachy, Dave Woodsmall, & Doris Weaver  
 Junior High (Grades 6, 7 & 8) .....Andrew Blount & Mary Beth Gibbons  
 Youth (Grades 9-12) .....Evie Shellenberger & Phil Mininger

**Adult Class:** "Creation: A Divine Cycle"

**Prayer of Confession**

Leader: God of harmony.  
**People: 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**

Leader: 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!**

**Prayers**

Continue to pray for Jo James and Ted Larrison as they continue their rehabilitation. Pray for Lilliann Woodsmall as she begins her recovery. May all three feel God's presence.

Please pray for Judy Whalin who has been hospitalized; she has been undergoing chemotherapy for bone cancer. Judy is a friend of Darlene and Mary Beth.

**PAOLI MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP**

**December 4, 2016**



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

**Advent 2**

**The Holy Way: Walking in the Way of God's Heart**

*Focus: God's harmony is at hand. Come walk in the way of God's heart.*

**Gathering to Worship**

Song: Here I am to worship  
 Welcome and Introductions  
 Call to Worship – Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19

Candle lighting: Come Light of the world – SS 3  
 Moment of Silence

Rain Down – SJ 49  
 As the pauper waits for plenty – SS 9  
 Wild and lone the prophets voice – SS 8

**Confessing/Reconciling** (See back of bulletin)

**Celebrating Shalom** – Doris Weaver

**Opportunities for Generosity** – Special giving for December is Life Family Resource Center

**Hearing and Experiencing God's Word**

Children's time: Espri Bender-Beauregard  
 Scripture: Matthew 3: 1-12  
 Meditation: Susan Classen

**Sharing our joys and concerns / Intercessory Prayer**

**Announcements**

**Sending**

Benediction:

Come! Walk in the ways of Ged's heart.  
 The dawn is breaking!  
 Christ is coming to free us from despair.  
 He will show us the way.

**PASTOR-ELDER TEAM**

Rebecca Kauffman, Pastor  
Darren Bender-Beauregard  
Doris Weaver

**On Sabbatical**  
723-5259  
723-2841

**MINISTERS**

All the congregation

**CHURCH OFFICE**

**Pastor:** Rebecca Kauffman; *On Sabbatical until Feb. 2017*  
**Director of Youth:** Evie Shellenberger; Office Hours: Thur. 9 – 1. Cell: 812-653-9703  
**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><b>TODAY</b> Dec. 4, 2016 (worship at 9:30 am)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>The Holy Way</i></b></p> <p>Worship Leader: Jim Beachy Music Leader: Marlene Beachy Meditation: Susan Classen Greeters: Jon &amp; Crystal Shellenberger Nursery: Jan Mullet/Shanna Johnson A.V.: Aaron Johnson</p>	<p><b>NEXT SUNDAY</b> Dec. 11, 2016(worship at 9:30 am)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>The Holy Way</i></b></p> <p>Worship Leader: Phil Mininger Music Leader: Marlene Beachy Meditation: Brad Pickens Greeters: Wally &amp; Evie Shellenberger Nursery: Sam Kinsey/JoAnn Borntreger AV: Aaron Johnson</p>
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**TODAY**

What comes to mind when you read John the Baptist’s fiery call to repentance? During the Second Sunday of Advent meditation, we will reflect on the literal Greek translation of the word “repent” which is “to go beyond the mind that you have.” How is the Spirit – present in the current context of our lives and our world – challenging us to go beyond familiar ways of thinking into a larger frame of perception? Reading: Matthew 3: 1-12

**NEXT SUNDAY**

On the third Sunday in Advent we’ll join John the Baptist in prison and explore the nature of doubt and faith, questioning and hope, politics and empire. We will hear the gospel presented in all it’s strange glory and we will seek rain in a dry land. Our readings (Is 35:1-10; Psalm 146: 5-10/Luke 1: 46-55; James 5: 7-10; Matthew 11: 2-11) present a challenge to us to respond to our environment through positive when that reveals the kingdom of God.

Mentor/Mentee cookie making and decorating, Sunday, Dec. 11.

**UPCOMING**

Children’s Christmas program, Sun. Dec. 18, 4:00 pm

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**JUBILEE CHRISTMAS**-Please help Throop Elementary children by donating new clothes or toys by December 9th. Save-A-Lot, Family Dollar and Walmart has the Jubilee tree. By taking a tag from the tree and purchasing for that size and gender, you are helping to ensure we have what is needed for the families that have enrolled. You can drop your gift off at Save-A-Lot, Walmart, Family Dollar or give it to Mary Beth at PMF. Thank you!

**Hannah Ford** sends her greetings to the congregation. She misses being with us and would love to hear from everyone this Christmas season. Her address is Hannah Ford, 403 S Third Street, Petersburg. In. 47567

Invite your friends and neighbors to our **Longest Night Service** which will be held Wednesday, December 21 at 7 pm. This service; held on the longest night of the year, acknowledges the darkness of grief and loss in our lives, and the lives of those we know, and the Light of Christ as a source of hope, compassion and courage during dark times.

The high school youth are beginning a fund raiser selling **Café Justo; fair trade plus; coffee**. The money raised will go towards our trip to Guatemala in the spring. It is also a response to our concerns about immigration. Selling this coffee gives Mexican farmers a decent income so that they can stay in their own country We will be having a “coffee house” evening here at the church soon where you can buy coffee or you may place your order at anytime with any of the high school youth.

**The Madrigal** dinner and performance will be held Dec. 8, 9 & 10, at the Presbyterian Church. Tickets are \$18. Becky Johnson, Kyle Johnson and Darlene Larrison will be performing. See Becky or Darlene for tickets.

**New on Bulletin Board:** *IN-MI Conference Prayer Memo for December.*

**New in Magazine Rack:** “reunion” Menno Hof Newsletter, “The Marketplace” and *Koinonia Farm* 2016-17 gift catalog. December issue of “The Mennonite”.