

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR

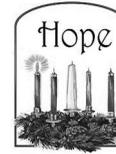
### **Classes:**

Nursery (ages 3-5) .....Shanna Johnson & Crystal Shellenberger  
Primary (Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) .....Stori Sullivan, Cristy Ford, Sherry Schmidt  
Middler (Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>) .....Jon Shellenberger, Aaron Johnson,  
Veronika Sukup, & Doris Weaver  
Junior High (Grades 6, 7 & 8) .....Mary Beth Gibbons & Samuel Kinsey  
Youth (Grades 9-12) .....Darren Bender Beauregard & Evie  
Shellenberger

**Adult Class:** Doctrine of Discovery

### **Teachers:**

# PAOLI MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP



**December 3, 2017**

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

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### **Let It Be So**

*Focus: God has made a way in the wilderness; we prepare our hearts to follow into the new creation.*

### Call to Worship

Leader: Awake!  
The invitation to carry light comes from the voice who cries out  
for a smooth way through wild places.

**All: O God, your call is uncomfortable.  
How can we who are weak remove the rough and rugged places?**  
(pause for silence)

Leader: Quiet our questioning souls.

**All: Lead us into your presence so all can see your way.**

Leader: Let it be so.

### Prayers

Remember in prayer our college students who are nearing exam time. May they be given confidence in what they have learned, and calmness to manage the stress in healthy ways.

May God's spirit be near those who are in their last days of this life, with their families, and with those who are grieving the death of a loved one.

Give thanks for the work being done by organizations and individuals to strengthen our community and bring hope to people's lives. May God bless these efforts, and may our collaboration and care be a witness of the love that God has planted in us.

### **Gathering to Worship**

Gathering song: Longing for the light – SJ 54  
Welcome and Introductions  
Call to Worship (see back of bulletin)  
Wreath Procession – O Come, O come, Immanuel – H 172 (vs: 1)  
Lighting of Advent Candle

### **Singing Our Praise**

Wild and lone the prophet's voice – SS 8  
My Soul Cries Out – SS 124

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

### **Hearing God's Word**

Children's time: The woodworker's visit  
Scripture: Mark 1:1-8 and 2 Peter 3:8-15a  
Meditation

### **Responding to God's Call**

Confession and Assurance  
Song: Creator of the stars of night – H 177, vs: 1, 5, 6  
Sharing Joys and Concerns / Intercessory prayer

### **Sent to share God's Love**

Announcements  
Drama: "Wisdom and Wonder"  
Benediction

Theme verse - Luke 1:38 -

"Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."

**PASTOR-ELDER TEAM**

Rebecca Kauffman, Pastor	653-4140
Darren Bender-Beauregard	723-5259
Doris Weaver	723-2841

**MINISTERS**

All the congregation

**CHURCH OFFICE****Pastor:** Rebecca Kauffman; Office hours – Tues. 9 am-3pm, Wed. 10 am-noon, Fri. 9 am-1pm**Pastor of Youth Formation:** Darren Bender-Beauregard; Office hours – Wed. 2-5 pm**Secretary:** Deb Giles; Office Hours – Wed. and Fri. 9:00 am – 12:00 noon**Phone:** (812) 723-2414; **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.

<b>TODAY</b> Dec. 3, 2017 (worship at 9:30 am)	<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b> Dec. 10, 2017 (worship at 9:30)
<b><i>Yes! Let it be!</i></b>	<b><i>Yes! Let it be!</i></b>
Worship Leader: Phil Minger	Worship Leader: Lonnie Sears
Music Leader: Marlene Beachy	Music Leader: Marlene Beachy
Meditation: Rebecca Kauffman	Meditation: Kelly Carson
Greeters: Wally & Evie Shellenberger	Greeters: Veronica Sukup
Nursery: Sherry Schmidt	Nursery:
A.V.: Andrew Blount	A.V.: Andrew Blount

**TODAY**

The season of Advent begins, leading us on a journey through darkness and longing to miraculous birth and compelling light!

**NEXT SUNDAY**

When the prophet Isaiah, and young Mary, reflect on how God is acting and will act in the world, they envision a radical realignment of the social order. Will we join Mary in proclaiming *and wishing for* this wholeness? Read and reflect on Luke 1:46-55, and Isaiah 61: 1-11 in preparation.

**Mentor and Mentee pairs** are invited to stay after church for **lunch and cookie decorating on the 10th**. Mentors should pack a lunch for the mentee, preferably something with minimal clean up. We'll decorate cookies that will be served at the PMF Christmas program on the 20th. Cookies and decorating supplies will be provided. Mentor Mentee pairs may also work on making poster boards to add to the display in the hallway. Those materials will also be provided. Hope to see you then! Mentor Mentee Committee- Curtis, Phil, and Crystal

**THIS WEEK**Tuesday 5th, 10:00 am - **PET**Thurs. 7th, 9:00 am - **PCRC**

Friday, 8th, 9:00 am - **Sister Care breakfast** at Sherry Schmidt's home. All women welcome; an RSVP is helpful.

**UPCOMING**Wed. 13<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am – 2:00 – **Soup & Sew**

Dec. 13, 6:30-8:00 pm - **Large Group meeting**. Light meal and fellowship 6-6:30. Agenda to include: proposed 2018 Spending Plan; discussion of proposal to revise PET; report from PCRC on the Congregation and Pastor Review.

Wed. Dec 20, 6:00 pm - **PMF Christmas Program**. All ages are welcome! This inter-generational event will feature singing and creative engagement with the Christmas story.

**Dec. 31, Shalom Sunday**, Farewell 2017 and Welcome 2018 party, 11:00 am – 1:30 pm. Watch for details in PMF all email. Questions to Deb, Mary or Dave W.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Enjoy **Christmas Holiday music and art** produced and performed by the Paoli High School concert bands, choirs and art students on Sunday December 17 at the high school auditorium. A great way to support our youth and celebrate Christmas.

**Friends of Helen Gooch** are inviting anyone who is interested to meet at the **Paoli Health and Living on 12/17 at 2 pm to sing Christmas songs** for Helen (and other residents). Helen really responds to familiar songs. Probably will last about 30 minutes. Hope to see you there. Questions to Gail or Evie.

**New on the bulletin board:** Thank you card from Camp Friedenswald

If you or your family would like to consider **alternative gift-giving options**, look on the hall table for catalogs from several organizations that you are welcome to look at or take, including:

- Koinonia Farm in Georgia (nuts, chocolate)
- MCC (projects: water, education, peace, health, agriculture, etc)
- Heifer International (animal projects)
- MEDA (economic development projects)