

Next Sunday, February 24

Worship Leader— Deb Napolitan/Pastoral Team
Song Leader— Anne Sensenig
Prelude/Offertory— Amanda Stoltzfus & Susan Gascho-Cooke
Sound Technician— Steve Stayrook/Ismail Salim
Greeter— Esther Becker
Ushers— Rod Houser, Jean Sensenig, Linford Good
Child Care—Carol Eby-Good, Lynn Sommer; Helper—Dulce Shenk-Zeager



Community Mennonite Church of Lancaster

ANNOUNCEMENTS—FEBRUARY 17, 2019

CMCL

FEBRUARY WORSHIP AT CMCL — On Feb. 3 we introduced songs from the new Mennonite hymnal coming in 2020, called “Voices Together.” This new worship, art, and song collection includes old favorites and new material, to remind us of our connection to the global Christian church. In addition to pew format, the new hymnal will be available in keyboard, projection, accompaniment, and digital editions. Each hymnbook will cost about \$25, with quantity and pre-order discounts available. (CMCLers may want to consider contributing the cost of one pew hymnbook per family.) Mennonite publishing house is nearing its fundraising goal to pay for project expenses and the work of the 13-member volunteer committee. For more information and to donate visit <http://voicestogetherhymnal.org/>

CMCL ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY — On Sunday, March 24, pastors and Pastoral Team will lead our annual re-covenanting service. We invite you to make a priority to be present on this Sunday of celebration of our commitment and connection to one another in this congregation.

SUNDAY MORNING REMINDER— As the number of people worshipping together Sunday mornings increases, it would be helpful if congregants would fill in seats in the middle of the rows first and fill every available seat. This makes it easier for those arriving after you to be seated near the aisles and allows families to sit together.

ADULT CHRISTIAN ED—

2/17/19 in the Sanctuary: "I LOVE YOU BIBLE...BUT JUST NOT THAT WAY" (Jan 27-Mar 3): We are using Peter Enns' book *The Bible Tells Me So* as a guide for wrestling toward healthier understandings about what is the Bible and what do we do with it. Enns suggests the ‘Bible as a timeless rulebook’ is a human invention, not what God intended or wants. The Bible is ancient, messy, troubling, and sometimes weird—not safe or well-behaved. ‘Storytelling’ is a better way of understanding what the Bible is doing with the past than ‘history writing.’ **Today’s topic:** chapters 4 & 5, “Why Doesn’t God Make Up His Mind?” and “Jesus Is Bigger Than the Bible.” (Books available for \$15 from John Kanagy.) Come as you can.

2/17/19 in the Parrot Gallery: Informal post sermon conversation each Sunday. Starting time is whenever there are two or more people sitting there together! You may come and go as you please!

2/17/19 in the Conference Room: All are invited to attend Hamlet, offered each week in the Conference Room behind the Sanctuary. A hamlet is a small village, and this session offers conversation and a chance to connect with others in an intimate setting. **Today’s topic:** What's on my spiritual and emotional bucket list? What invitations to wholeness are drawing me as I move along? As deep listeners to ourselves and others, we may find new resolve, hidden strength, or wisdom waiting for us. Facilitated by Melissa Stock. **Topic for 2/24/19:** Direction with Beauty. Share what is beauty, where do you find beauty, and how important is beauty. Facilitated by Pauline Zimmerman.

HOLDING IN LIGHT AND LOVE

The persons named below are CMCLers who have shared joys or prayer concerns with the community in the previous weeks, or persons who are no longer physically able to come to services. Please take time to remember these folks especially throughout the week, in thought and prayer.

If you have a joy or prayer concern you would like to bring to the congregation, please call or e-mail Pam Brubaker, pam@communitymennonite.org.

Anne Sensenig and Daniel Erdman
Luke Bomberger
Barb & Joseph Gascho
Grace Byler
Amelia Rauser, Michael, Henry & Agatha Clapper (in Kerala, India)
Laurie, Ron, Emily, Ellis & Annie Vogt

Church Report

February 3

Attendance: 137
General Fund: \$5,472
MOOS: 170.87

February 10

Attendance: 166
General Fund: \$7,609
MOOS: \$10

Weekly offerings need to average \$9,744 to meet budget.

Community/General Mennonite

DRAW OUT THY SOUL & DRAW DOWN THY CARBON: CLIMATE JUSTICE

LENTEN EMPHASIS—You are invited to join us in a Lenten practice of fasting each Friday. Meet during the Friday lunch hour for conversation and prayer in Parrot Gallery. Read our weekly blog meditation (faithandclimate.net) on climate change & hunger, homelessness and health. Be inspired by doing this in community. “The kind of fasting I have chosen...spend yourselves (draw out thy soul -KJV) in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed.” Isaiah 58 NIV. Let's see what mysteries will unfold. -Sponsored by Pax JC. All invited!

PAX JC REMINDER— Did your resolutions this year include “sole searching” and taking better care of yourself and others? Please bring in any used shoes, new food, and unopened personal toiletries to donate! There is a large basket in the back of the sanctuary. Let's see how many times we can challenge ourselves to fill the basket! This is a wonderful way to involve your whole family! Thanks in advance from the PAX JC Committee.

MENNONITE WOMEN—Just a reminder that we're looking forward to having resident poet Chris Longenecker read some of her poetry—and guide us in writing some of our own—on Friday, February 22, 7-9 pm in the Parrot Gallery. There will be time for socializing, and snacks and drinks will be provided—it's the perfect way to decompress after a long week. We hope to see you there!

UPCOMING TAIZE TRANSFIGURATION SERVICE— CMCL will be holding a Taize service on Sunday evening, March 3, at 7:30 pm on the theme of Transfiguration, that Sunday's lectionary scripture. Come enjoy the candlelight, quiet readings, and sung responses at this meditative service. We are looking for interested singers and musicians; please contact Pam Brubaker c/o the church office to participate. All are welcome.

LILA GARBER ART EXHIBITION — Announcing an exhibition of Lila Garber's artwork at the Parrot Gallery. The show will be up through the end of April. Please join Lila and her family and friends for the exhibition opening on Friday, March 1st from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

EVERENCE SHARING FUND — The Everence Sharing Funds provided \$3,000 in matching funds to support special needs in our church last year. Carol Spicher serves as the Everence advocate for our congregation. Please contact her for more information.

FROM LOIS LEHMAN — Amish-made rocking chair, indoor/porch for sale. Like new. Oak and twisted hickory, nine slat. Call for more information and to talk price: 717-392-6164

FROM BARBARA GASCHO— I wish to express my deepest gratitude for the many acts of kindness shown to me over the last difficult months. I am grateful that my back surgery was a success. However, as expected, I continue to deal with residual leg discomfort that I am told will go away. I am eager to return to church when I can.

FROM ELLA REIST— Hi CMCL! Thank you for all the kind words and yummy treats. I always appreciate getting CMCL care packages even though I don't come to church regularly. I feel known and loved by you all and hold your kind words and good thoughts with me. I feel so lucky to have grown up at a church with such kind and generous people. The year here is flying by and I am looking forward to the warm weather in a few months! I hope to be back in Lancaster before too long!

FROM ISSY FIFE— Thank you so much for the food and cards, it was so sweet! The food was great and the tissues really came in handy for flu season. Miss you all!

STEWARDSHIP UNIVERSITY — On Saturday, March 2, 2019 Everence Lancaster will host Stewardship University, a ministry partnership between Everence and the local faith community. Courses will explore subjects ranging from retirement preparation and financial markets to de-cluttering your home. For registration information, contact Lynette Morales at 717-653-6662, lynette.morales@everence.com or visit stewardshipuniversity.com

BEATING GUNS TOUR— On March 9, 6:30 - 8:00 pm at Neffsville Mennonite Church, Shane Claiborne, Mike Martin, and friends are stopping in Lancaster on the first day of a twenty-city Beating Guns Tour to promote their new book, Beating Guns: Hope for a people who are weary of violence. This event will feature a live transformation of a gun into a garden tool. The events will also feature speakers, music, and stories. This is a free event but tickets are required. Donations will be accepted to help offset costs. www.beatingguns.com/

AN EVENING WITH BRIAN MCLAREN, On Sat., April 27, 7:00-8:15pm, Highland Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, PA - bestselling author, speaker, and public theologian Brian McLaren will be speaking. McLaren is the founding pastor of Cedar Ridge Community Church, an innovative, nondenominational congregation. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-evening-with-brian-mclaren-tickets-55088149137>

LANCASTER MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Why We Build—Join us at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 19, for a roundtable discussion on Lancaster County's human-made spaces at East Chestnut Street Mennonite Church. Hear from a panel of designers, builders, and historians, moderated by Chad Martin of Partners for Sacred Places.

Pa. German Dialect Classes—Open for registration now! Beginner classes run Thursdays, 7 to 9 p.m., from March 7 through May 19. Intermediate classes are on Tuesdays, 7 to 9 p.m., March 5 through May 9. Classes cost \$115 for nonmembers, \$100 for members. Register at lmhs.org or call (717) 393-9745. These classes are held at the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society—2215 Millstream Rd., Lancaster, Pa.

JOIN MEDA & BRIDGE on March 1 from 5:30-8pm at the Junction Center in Manheim PA for a night of food, storytelling and connection as we bring the world to Lancaster's “backyard”! You can expect a delicious meal representing 3 different parts of the world, listening to the stories of 3-4 refugee families, a rousing game of trivia, and learning about MEDA's work around the world. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased at <https://www.experiencebridge.com/events/meda-night-of-sharing-2/?bblinkid=134640044&bbemailid=11479055&bbejrid=901412230>