

Belmont Mennonite Church

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Larry Rohrer, Pastor	ext. 103
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OUR COMPELLING VISION STATEMENT

*We seek to be transformed by the Holy Spirit
into the likeness of Jesus Christ.*

*We commit ourselves to be channels of God's grace and salvation,
wisdom and power, love and peace,
through challenging worship, nurturing fellowship,
discipleship, and intentional ministry to those we regularly relate to,
to the surrounding Belmont neighborhood,
and to the worldwide spiritual and physical need.*



Belmont Mennonite Church

***THE LORD IS OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS:
A JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT
ADVENT IS... REALIGNING***

Gathering

Words of Welcome

O come, O come, Immanuel HWB 172

Call to Worship (insert)

Praising

Comfort, comfort, O my people HWB 176

Hail to the Lord's anointed HWB 185

Rejoice, rejoice, the Savior comes SS 4

Confession and Words of Assurance

Offering

Hearing God's Word

Children's Time

Scripture Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Luke 3:7-18

Sermon

Responding to the Word

Prayers for Healing

Sending

Church in Action

Sing we a song of high revolt SS 13

Benediction

December 16, 2018

WELCOME to worship at Belmont, and a special welcome to our guests. Everyone is invited to the activity center after worship for coffee and fellowship.

Worship Participants:

- Worship Leader:** Bekah York
- Song Leaders:** Rod and Julie Deaton
- Pianist:** Sally Krabill
- Children's Time:** Colin Rusel
- Scripture Reader:** John David Thacker
- Sermon:** Mandy Yoder
- Encounters with God and Church in Action:** Larry Rohrer
- Worship Visuals:** Kris Shenk
- Sound Technicians:** Marlene Penner and Canyon Penner

The Nursery/Toddler Room for infants and toddlers is staffed today by Julie Rheinheimer and Jill Kio.

If a hearing device would allow you to participate more fully in worship, please contact an usher.

Last Sunday:

Offering \$16,804
Attendance 143

With three Sundays remaining in the year, an average of \$14,000 is needed each Sunday in order to meet our 2018 Giving Plan.

Church Calendar

This Week:

- Today
Green House Caroling, 1:30 pm
- Monday 12/17
MVT, 6:30 pm
- Tuesday 12/8
Coffee Break, 10 am
- Thursday 12/20
Mother's Club, 9:30 am
- Friday 12/21
AA Meeting, 7 pm

Looking Ahead:

- Sunday, December 23:
Christmas Service, 9:30 am
- Mon, Dec 24 & Tues, Dec 25:
Church Office Closed
- Monday, January 7:
Worship Commission, 6:30 pm
Calling all Girls, 6:30 pm
- Sunday, February 3:
Potluck & Annual
Congregational Meeting
- Save the Date! Sat, March 16:
Trivia Night Youth Fundraiser

Please note that there will be no Sunday school following the Christmas service next Sunday, December 23.

Nurture Hour at Belmont

- Children age 3 through grade 5 are dismissed at 10:45 am to the activity center.
- Youth in grades 6 through 12 remain in the sanctuary until the end of worship, and then go to their classroom.

Nursery/Toddler Caregivers: Sarah Steiner, Marisa Klopfenstein, Annie Mathew, Victoria Brenneman, Rhonda Smucker, Julie Rheinheimer, and Lois Oyer

Pre-K/Kindergarten	Room 228
Grades 1 – 3	Room 229
Grades 4 & 5	Room 216
JYF (Grades 6 – 8)	Room 220
MYF (Grades 9 – 12)	Room 144
Gathering Room	Room 237

Superintendents: Rachel Smucker and Rhonda Smucker

Adults are invited to choose from the following classes:

- Shagbark Hickory Group** Room 116
Facilitators: Andrea Opel,
Brandon Kurtz, Katie Kurtz
- Maple Tree Group** Room 145
Facilitators: Jill Kio
- Locust Tree Group** Room 118
Care Leaders: Sharon Rohrer, Judy Keener
- Cherry Tree Group** Room 117
Coordinator: Wilbert Shenk

Announcement:

December 16, 2018

The Community Commission invites you to bring finger foods to share after the Christmas service next Sunday, December 23. There is no Sunday School and we will have a time of food and fellowship in the gym.

Call to Worship

Leader: "Look", says the Lord, "I am coming soon!"

People: We trust the Lord, our eternal rock.

Leader: The Lord humbles those in high places and brings down the lofty city.

People: Bring us back, almighty God, show us your mercy and we shall be saved.

Leader: The night is almost over. The day is almost here.

People: O Lord, raise up your might.

Leader: Come quickly to help us.

ALL: Bring us back, almighty God. Show us your mercy and we shall be saved.

Words of Assurance

Our souls magnify, you, Lord;

our spirits exult in you, our Savior.

You, Lord, have noticed the humiliation of your servants;

From now on all generations will count us blessed.

Mighty One, you have done great things for us,
and holy is your name.

Your mercy is on all who fear you
from generation to generation.

You have shown strength with your arm,
and dispersed the haughty
in the scheming of their minds.

You have unseated tyrants from their thrones
and lifted high the lowly.

You have filled the hungry with good things
and send the rich ones away empty.

You have come to the aid of Israel your servant;
you have remembered your mercy,
just as you promised our ancestors,
Abraham and Sarah and all their descendants forever.
Amen.

Advent Realignment Reflection

- 1. Sit in silence for a few moments, take a few deep breaths, and ask God to guide you in this time of reflection.**
- 2. Think about your life, your habits, your relationships, and your resources...ask God to help you see where you are "off the rails."** In other words, think about the ways that you have been selfish, dishonest, unfaithful, unkind, and where you have created distance between yourself and God. Confess these things to God now, and ask for forgiveness.
- 3. Ask God or ask yourself: "What should I do to realign my life?"** In other words, what changes do you need to make to be the person you want to be, to be the disciple you want to be, and to bear the fruit that you want your life to bear? Ask the question and then listen and think.
- 4. Ask God to help you make the changes you want to make.**
- 5. Give thanks for God's love and presence in your life.**