

# Belmont Mennonite Church

925 Oxford St., Elkhart, IN 46516  
(574) 293-5160  
[office@belmontmc.org](mailto:office@belmontmc.org)  
[belmontmc.org](http://belmontmc.org)

Mandy Yoder, Pastor ext. 104  
Phil Schmidt, Pastor ext. 103  
Uryna Gerber, Administrator ext. 101

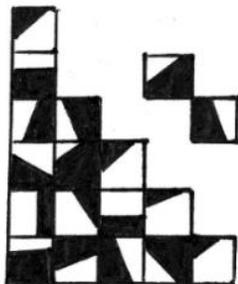
## Vision Statement

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 worldwide spiritual and physical need.



## Inclusion Statement

We celebrate that everyone is created in God's image and that people of every age, ability, race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, marital status, socio-economic situation, gender identity, and citizenship status are welcome as full participants in the life of our congregation.



# Belmont Mennonite Church

## GATHERING

Welcome  
SS 3 "Come, Light of the world"  
Call to Worship  
Lighting of the Advent Candles  
Prayer

## PRAISING

VT 217 "Hark! the Glad Sound"  
VT 225 "We Come"

## CONFESSING

## LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

## OFFERING

(Offering baskets are available at the entrance of the sanctuary for your monetary gifts.)

## ENGAGING

Children's Time  
Scripture: Isaiah 61:1-11  
Ritual  
Sermon: "Defying Gravity"

## RESPONDING

VT 237 "Now the Heavens Start to Whisper"  
Encounters with God  
Congregational Prayer

## SENDING

Church in Action  
SS 28 "Holy Child within the manger"  
Benediction

**WELCOME** to worship at Belmont, and a special welcome to our guests.  
Everyone is invited to stay after worship for a time  
of coffee, Advent breads, and fellowship.

### Nurture Hour for Adults

*11:00 am*

Adults are invited to choose from these two classes:

#### Worship Participants:

**Worship Leaders:** John Martens & Marty Suter

**Song Leader:** Travis Kauffman

**Accompanist:** Anna Matteson

**Children's Time:** Mary Schmidt

**Advent Candle Lighters:** Elijah Kio, Anna Kio, Naomi Kio

**Scripture Reader:** Rodney Deaton

**Sermon:** Phil Schmidt

**Encounters, Congregational Prayer. Church in Action:** Mandy Yoder

**Worship Visuals:** Kris Shenk

**Sound & Livestream:** Benjamin Kio & Tony Krabill

#### Last Sunday:

In-Person Attendance: 110    Online Attendance: 53    Offering: \$17,126

**Thank you** to all for your faithful and regular financial gifts to Belmont over the course of 2024. With three Sundays remaining in the year, an average of \$16,720 is needed each Sunday to meet our 2024 Giving Plan.

- Sermon Response Discussion led by Phil Schmidt in the Prayer Room.
- Informal class around tables to share together on a variety of topics; led by John Martens in the Community Room.
  - How have you experienced God this week?
  - Is there some special way we can pray for you this coming week?
  - Did you experience a special blessing this week?
  - We often use the phrase may God's will be done – are we truly willing to accept that?
  - We are called to love our enemies – do we really want to, and if so, how do we show that love?
  - What does it truly mean to be generous?
  - What does it mean to you when you hear the phrase “Sunday is the day of rest”? Is it still relevant today?

#### Church Calendar This Week:

##### Today

Mentor/Mentee Breakfast,  
8:30am  
Kid's Club White Elephant,  
2:30-4pm

##### Friday, December 20

AA Meeting, 7pm

#### Looking Ahead:

##### Sunday, December 22

Food on the Fourth  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

##### Tues, Wed, Thurs, Dec 24, 25, 26

*Church Office Closed*

##### Sunday, December 29

Christmas Hymn Sing

### Nurture Hour for Children and Youth

*11:00 am*

Children (age 3-grade 6)  
(Gathering Room)      Joe Shoemaker, Angie Shoemaker,  
Pete Gingerich, Kris Gingerich,  
Heidi Sawatzky, Tyler Sawatzky,  
Jill Kio, Bess Daly

Youth (grades 7-12)  
(Room 219)      Jason Yoder Rupp, Jacob Shetler,  
Steve Brenneman, Abby Shetler

SS Superintendent      Marlene Penner

Nursery/Toddler Caregivers      Brandon Kurtz, Katie Kurtz,  
Rhonda Martin, Mary Hunsberger,  
Marty Suter, Bess Daly, Emme Daly,  
Angie Shoemaker, Lydia Shoemaker

#### Announcements

A reminder that parents are asked to supervise their children during Fellowship Time in the gym.

The Monday and Friday weekly emails contain information about church life and community events. If you would like to receive these emails from the church office, please contact Uryna: [office@belmontmc.org](mailto:office@belmontmc.org)