

IMPORTANT NOTES

Sunday, February 6, 2022

Extraordinary Ordinary Stories: The Provocative Parables of Jesus

Message Naomi Yoder

Scripture Mark 4: 30-32; Matthew 13: 31-32
Luke 13: 18-19

Breaking Bread Groups

The BBG Scripture for this week is Mark 4: 30-32

May God bless each of these groups to be spaces for deep connection with God and one another. If you are still interested in joining a group, please contact Dru Mack, Dorothy Mertz, or Barb and Arlen Welty.

The Bread of Life Food Pantry

This week on Tuesday, January 26, The Food Pantry served 10 families and 42 individuals this week. The Food Pantry will remain open each Tuesday morning from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Please continue to pray for our guests and the faithful volunteers who brave the cold weather to distribute food each week.

Last Week by the Numbers - January 23, 2022

Thank you for sending your tithes and offerings by mail or online. The mail is collected regularly and a deposit made each Wednesday. Working together enables us to continue to support the services we provide.

General Fund	\$3,425.00
Food Pantry	300.00
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Total	\$3,725.00
Amount needed per Sunday for 2022 General Fund	\$7,705.40



WELCOME!

Worship Service
Online 10:30 a.m.

Pastoral Team

Merle Hostetler
574 849-4654
merleh@eastgoshenmc.org

Naomi Yoder
865-924-3983
naomiy@eastgoshenmc.org

You are welcome to call anytime to make an appointment. Occasionally pastoral responsibilities take pastors away from the office.



www.eastgoshenmc.org

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egmc@eastgoshenmc.org

Church Staff
Office Administrator
Carol Birky

**Church office hours are 9:00am
-12:30pm office each weekday
morning.**
carolb@eastgoshenmc.org

Custodians
Ray & Jenny VanDaele

Church Treasurer
Ina Kauffman

Assistance Available
There are large print hymnals available on the Welcome Center. For a hearing assistance device, stop by the tech booth in the northwest corner of the sanctuary.

Please send information items for the *Pathways* newsletter to the church office by Thursday morning. The email address is egmc@eastgoshenmc.org.

IN OUR CONGREGATION

Worship Sunday, January 30:
Our 10:30 worship service will be on Zoom this week using our usual EGMC link.

SOOP assignment: Tim and Gwen Hershberger from our congregation will be participating in a SOOP assignment (Service Opportunities with Our Partners) through Mennonite Mission Network. They will be serving in Tucson, Arizona, in February, 2022. This will be Tim and Gwen's second SOOP assignment, and we hope they will have a meaningful experience! For more information about SOOP, please visit our website, <https://serve.mennonitemission.net/serve/Pages/SOOP.aspx>. Please join us in praying for Tim and Gwen as they prepare for this assignment and while they are gone.

Directory updates: I am working on updating our church directory for 2022. If you have any address or contact information changes, please email them or call the church office this week.
Carol Birky

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Men's Fellowship Lunch, every Thurs, 11:30am. Currently meeting on Zoom, So contact Roger Mertz for the link to join the group.

Birthdays & Anniversaries this week

- Jan. 31, Amos Hostetler
- Feb. 3, Jeremiah Overman
- Feb. 4, Gwen Hershberger
Vern & Tammy Gerber
- Feb. 5, Adrienne Chupp
Bethany Boese

JANUARY 30, 2022

NEWS AND NOTES

PATHWAYS

IN OUR PRAYERS

Our congregation, growing as passionate followers of Jesus.

Elkhart County and our healthcare facilities, as they contend with COVID-19 challenges.

Schools, families, and places of employment navigating the ever-changing landscape of caution and care in this season of the pandemic.

Mother of Brian Bertsche, is suffering with end stage dementia. Pray for the family as they walk with her through these difficult days.

Bill Sexton, Judy Gerzeski's brother, who has returned home after being hospitalized for COVID-19.

Vern and Diane Heacock, former EGMC members, as they mourn the death of their son Loren. May God comfort all who grieve Loren's loss.

The Goshen Church of God, our East Goshen neighbors, in the sorrow following the accidental death of one of their food pantry volunteers.

Maurice Smith has returned home from his recent rehab stay. Please pray for healing for Maurice as well as strength and encouragement for him and the Hanna family.

Our Food Pantry: Sara Chupp and other volunteers as they offer hope through distribution of food and gracious interactions.

Remembering those in other places:

- **Rosa Powell** is attending The Wilderness Way Girls' School Camp in South Carolina.
Rosalinda Powell
c/o Wilderness Camp
175 Camp School Lane
Fair Play, SC 29643
- **Caleb & Nina Longenecker Fox** in Quito, Ecuador, Serving as leaders for GC students there now for the Study Service Term
- **Adrian, Susie and family**, dealing with illness as they continue to settle into their life and ministry in Djibouti.

Indiana Michigan Mennonite Conference Weekly Prayer Focus:
Family Worship Center at the Lighthouse

IN OUR CONGREGATION

Thank you: We appreciate and thank you for your prayers and support for us and our neighbor, Darrell, during his final days of life.
Wilbur and Elizabeth Hershberger

The COVID-19 Advisory Team met again this past week to continue assessing data concerning new cases in the area, and to look at options for worshipping in person. Thank you to those who sent personal responses to the team using the email covidteam@eastgoshenmc.org. These responses are brought into team discussions, and help to guide decisions. Please continue to send us your thoughts and perspectives. You may also contact team members individually with comments and concerns.

There continue to be high numbers of new cases in our community, as well as throughout the state. The team is hopeful that new cases will soon start to decline, and is working at a plan to gather safely in person when that happens. As we all wait and work for that time, we are grateful for those who are working hard at making our virtual worship services meaningful. Continue to pray with the team as we seek God's guidance during these times.

Cards & blessings: Ray and Dorothea (Adrian's parents) have generously offered to hand deliver any letters or cards that people would like to send to Adrian and Susie when they visit them on Feb. 25th. Please bring to the church office by Feb. 20th OR get them to Dorothea directly. Let's bless Adrian and Susie with words of encouragement and scriptures.

Service with SWAP: Plans are being made for the East Goshen MYF to serve for a week this summer with Mennonite Central Committee SWAP in Kimball, West Virginia, helping with home repair projects for low-income homeowners. The dates are June 27 – July 2. There would be a few additional spots available for adults interested in being a part of this trip. If interested, contact Merle Hostetler

Amigo Centre welcomes new Director: The Amigo Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Jessica Andrews Weseman has been named as the next Executive Director. Jessica brings a passion for the mission of Amigo; to help people connect with God, creation and each other. She will begin February 1, 2022.

OUR CONGREGATION & COMMUNITY

Pandemic Stress & the Power of Resilience

The current pandemic is undermining the mental and emotional wellbeing of many individuals, families, organizations, and churches. Combined with the rising tide of anger and division in society, debilitating levels of stress and anxiety are being reported. We need proven strategies and effective tools to successfully manage life and serve others. Join us as we bring the best of scientific research and biblical concepts together to develop a lifestyle of resilience and peace. Mennonite Health Services (MHS) will host an online workshop Feb 8 from 2:00-3:00pm, [Pandemic Stress and the Power of Resilience](#). If you cannot attend at that time, have no fear, if you register MHS will send you a link to watch at your convenience. MHS webinars are offered as a service to our broader community and there is no charge to attend.

Mennonite Church USA: February is Black History Month. Celebrate and learn about Mennonite Church USA's African American Mennonite history through a timeline that highlights the people, events and the work of the church from 1886 to today. <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/black-history-mennonite>

Please join MCC in praying for peace and safety for everyone in Burkina Faso and Ukraine. MCC staff and partners are safe in both countries and are following security protocols. On Sunday, Jan. 23, Burkina Faso's armed forces detained President Roch Marc Christian Kaboré and announced they have taken control of the government. Televised news declared that the parliament, government and constitution have been dissolved. Captain Sidsoré Kader Ouedraogo said that military personnel were putting an end to Kaboré's presidency because of Kaboré's inability to manage the increasing Islamic insurgency. Burkina Faso's borders are closed for air and land travel and a curfew is in place from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m.

A government spokesperson assured the people of Burkina Faso that there would be no blood shed and no physical harm inflicted on those held in detention in an unknown location, "a safe place that respects their dignity."

MEA Early Childhood - grade 12 schools

Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, IN
<https://www.bethanycs.net/apps/pages/employment>

- 1st Grade Teacher
- Cafeteria Aide