

IMPORTANT NOTES

Sunday, November 27, 2022

Restoration is Near!: First Sunday of Advent

Message Teresa Sherrill

Scripture Isaiah 2: 1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 12: 11-14
Matthew 24: 36-44

Toddler Room Attendants Sarah Grieser & Diane Hershberger

Breaking Bread Groups

BBG scripture for this week is Psalm 122.

May God continue to bless these groups in deepening relationships with God and one another!

The Bread of Life Food Pantry

This week on Tuesday, Nov. 15, the Food Pantry served 26 families and 110 individuals. The Food Pantry is open each Tuesday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Please continue to pray for our guests and the faithful volunteers who distribute food each week.

Last Week by the Numbers - November 13, 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	\$19,975.00
Food Pantry	4,090.00
FP Christmas project	100.00
Mutual Aid Fund	1,600.00
	<hr/>
	25,765.00
Attendance last Sunday	114
Amount needed per Sunday for 2022 General Fund	\$7,705.40
Amount currently behind projected budget	(\$32,026.12)



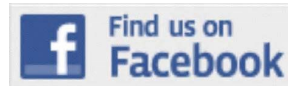
WELCOME!

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

2019 E. Lincoln Ave.
Goshen, IN 46528
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

Following Up on the Survey about Inclusion: Thank you to all who participated Wednesday evening in the first Congregational Conversation on the Survey about Inclusion! Your energy and insight blesses our process moving forward. Following are (at least) two distinct but intersecting ways to engage this topic. All are encouraged to participate in either or (ideally) both of these processes as ways to contribute to this discernment:

• **Congregational Conversations:** Be on the lookout for details about upcoming opportunities to discuss and discern together about God's calling for EGMC related to inclusion.

• **Book/Bible Study** using the Study Guide *Human Sexuality in a Biblical Perspective*: This 6-7 session series on Faith and Sexuality will begin Wednesday, November 30 at 7:00

NOVEMBER 20, 2022

PATHWAYS

NEWS AND NOTES

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Men's Lunch**, 11:30 am each Thursday, will meet here in the lower level kitchen. All men are welcome to come. Bring your own lunch and enjoy the fellowship time.
- **Ladies Lunch**, 11:30am each Thursday, will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your own lunch and enjoy the fellowship time. All ladies are welcome.

Birthdays & Anniversaries this week

Nov. 20, Tim Yoder, Lucas Graber

Nov. 22, Austin Hostetler

Nov. 23, Tammy Gerber

Josh & Bethany Boese

Nov. 24, Job & Heather Esteban

Nov. 25, Dan & Cindy Steiner

Nov. 27, Mara Miller

IN OUR PRAYERS

Our congregation, as we discern together what inclusion means for faithful living, inviting, equipping, and loving as Passionate Followers of Jesus.

Katherine, food pantry guest, asking for prayer for a little girl and her father who are dealing with loss.

Rick, Aphanphanb & Sydney Nussbaum, as they grieve the loss of their beloved son and brother, Logan.

Lucas Graber, and the Graber Family, as Lucas recovers from complications following his appendectomy.

Jerry McNutt, who suffered a heart attack and had surgery to place several stents. He is back home and doing well.

Kent & Rocky Wildman, parents of Kari Wildman, who are dealing with Kent's health issues related to Parkinson's Disease.

Barb and Phil Eiler, as Barb recovers from another esophageal procedure to treat her Barrett's syndrome.

Our Food Pantry: Sara Chupp and other volunteers as the food pantry returns to an indoor distribution model. May guests receive not only food but a witness to the love of Jesus, source of the Bread of Life.

Adrian, Susie and family are inviting us to pray with them about their upcoming decisions and family needs.

Indiana Michigan Mennonite Conference Weekly Prayer Focus
Emmanuel Living Christian Church, Indianapolis, IN

Urgent Prayer Request from Ukraine

Mennonite Mission Network received the following prayer request from Oleksandr Geychenko, president of Odesa Theological Seminary. The seminary is a Mission Network education partner.

"Please continue keeping us and people in Ukraine in your prayers."

Congratulations! We welcome little Noah Jay Snyder who arrived on Thursday, Nov. 10 to bless the home of Josh & Stephanie Swartzendruber Snyder. His big sister Sophie will be assisting their parents in his care.

IN OUR CONGREGATION

Thanksgiving Schedule: The church office will be closed Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday. Naomi will also be out of the office this week to spend time with her family.

Announcements During Advent: To give more space for other pieces of worship in the seasons of Advent and Christmas, there will not be open announcements during the service. If you have an announcement you'd like the worship leader to read, please get them to the church office (egmc@eastgoshenmc.org) by noon the Friday before.

Would you consider being an usher for our worship service? It's not a high paying job monetarily, but the rewards are the pleasure of meeting and greeting worshippers. Contact Merle or Naomi if you have interest in serving on this team.

Bread of Life Food Pantry News: The first week of Food Pantry back inside the building went very well. Thanks to the volunteers who have stepped up to help. We served 26 families this week!

November Food Drive: The Food Pantry is inviting everyone to help celebrate the Thanksgiving season through November. Bring in non-perishable food items so our guests can enjoy some of the special items that we enjoy for our Holiday meal. A basket is on the table in the foyer to collect items for our guests. (canned pumpkin, cranberries, stuffing, some of the special items for the Holiday.)

We also regularly need: clean used plastic grocery bags, happy willing volunteers, prayers of God's people, financial donations for food, non-perishable food items (cereal, peanut butter, canned vegetables & fruit (15oz.) pasta, rice, noodles, canned meat, etc.).

December means hats, gloves, scarves! The Christmas Project of passing out hats, gloves, scarves and socks through the Food Pantry in December will again be done in honor of Marv Graber who passed away in 2016. Marv supported the food pantry with car loads of food donations and part of his estate was gifted to the pantry.

You can help by supporting financially, marking your donation for the Food Pantry Christmas Project. As in the past, we have been able to buy waterproof gloves, socks and scarves in bulk at a discounted rate. If you prefer buying items to donate, we can especially use boys school socks (size large) and men's black crew socks. Crafters are encouraged to make hats and scarves to donate. Donations will be accepted until the end of December. Questions can be directed to Dorothy Mertz at 574.536.7748 or dmertz51@gmail.com.

OUR CONGREGATION & COMMUNITY

The Pastoral Resource Team (PRT) has completed the EGMC employee handbook, a resource regarding benefits, policies, procedures and general working conditions. If you have interest in receiving a copy digitally via Goggle documents or a hardcopy, please contact the church office.

Ode to Joy: Elkhart Co. Symphony, and Camerata Singers will join Goshen College Choir on stage at Sauder Concert Hall at Goshen College today, Sunday, Nov. 20 at 7:30pm. Get your tickets at <https://sforce.co/3TGs3U>.

Pathways Retreat is offering two opportunities to Engage Advent in a "Soul Seeing" Way: the Advent Rest, Reflect, and Renew Retreat on November 19, and Visio Divina Retreat: Engage Advent through Art and Imagination. Daily prayers are offered both online and in-person. Find more information at pathwaysretreat.org.

You're invited to a special celebration of 50 years of MCC Thrift on November 22! This live, virtual event will celebrate the history, creativity and generosity of the MCC Thrift network, which has raised more than \$250 million over the last 50 years for the work of MCC at home and around the world. All while providing affordable secondhand goods and community connection. Let's celebrate that legacy! The virtual event will take place at 8 p.m. EST / 7 p.m. CST. Register online to reserve your spot today at thrift.mcc.org/celebrate50

Elkhart County Jail Ministry is one of our financially supported Mission Ministry organizations. As EGMC's representative, I have been uplifted through personal involvement! I'd like to facilitate the same for you through two specific involvements. One as a transportation volunteer and another in helping to provide "Freedom Bags" for folks being released from the jail with scant resources. You will find detailed information and a box in the foyer area in which you can place items. More information via a verbal announcement, hopefully a morning with Cory Martin sharing, an invitation to Breakfast With the Chaplain the 4th Thursday of the month, and online at <https://elkhartcountyjailministry.org/>

Together, in Christ's freedom, Kathy Holsopple