

IMPORTANT NOTES

Sunday, October 22, 2023

Bring Your Baggage: Evangelical

Message Naomi Yoder
Scriptures Isaiah 61; Mark 1:14-17; Matthew 28:18-20
Childcare Jenna & Kevin Prah

Breaking Bread Groups

BBG scripture for this week is:

Mark 1:14-17 and Matthew 28:18-20

May God bless each of these groups as they make new connections with God and each other!

The Bread of Life Food Pantry

This week on Tuesday, Oct 10, the Food Pantry served 38 families and 166 individuals. The Food Pantry is open Tuesday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We are thankful for the faithful volunteers who provide loving assistance each week in many ways.

Last Week by the Numbers - October 8, 2023

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.

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|-------------------|--------------------|
| General Fund | 10,384.50 |
| Food Pantry | 538.45 |
| Church Retreat | 2,765.00 |
| Gas Cards | 225.00 |
| MCC (Coins Count) | 500.00 |
| Total | <u>\$14,412.95</u> |

Attendance last Sunday In person, 82 On Zoom 13
Amount needed per Sunday for 2023 General Fund \$7,246.34
Amount currently behind projected budget (19,828.42)



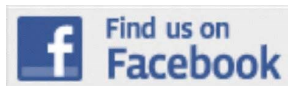
WELCOME!
Sunday School
9:30 a.m.

Worship Service
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
Nathan Pauls
egmc@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

Congregational Meeting today, Oct 15th at 3:30pm. We will be voting on the proposal to affirm the “Statement of Belonging” (available in church mailboxes and on the Welcome Center on October 1st) as an expression of our congregational Vision and Mission statements. Childcare will be provided. May God guide us in discerning how we’re being called to express belonging at EGMC.

Gifts Affirmation: Thank you for your responses on the October 1st affirmation ballot for Spiritual Leadership Council (SLC) chair. Ben Graber was positively affirmed! We give thanks for Ben’s willingness to respond to this calling. May God guide his leadership here at EGMC!

Anabaptist World: Did you know that EGMC has a group subscription to Anabaptist World that gives you a discounted price? Our renewal is due in the spring and we need to update our database by **December 1st**. The group rate for Anabaptist World is \$39 per yearly subscription, \$15 less than the individual subscription rate. If you are interested in a subscription, please contact the church office. Copies of recent additions are available in the church library.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Men’s Lunch**, 11:30 am each Thursday, meet in the lower level kitchen.
- Worship Thursdays, 6:00-7:00pm
- Nov. 10-11, MCC Comforter Bash

Birthdays & Anniversaries this week

Oct 15, Job Esteban
Oct 17, Seth Unruh
Oct 21, Jenna Prah
Oct 20, Seth & Ashley Unruh

OCTOBER 15, 2023

NEWS AND NOTES

PATHWAYS

IN OUR PRAYERS

Our Congregation, as we discern God's guidance regarding the proposed Statement of Belonging (*see mailboxes*) through our meeting today.

Phil & Barb Eiler, as Phil seeks medical advice for his ongoing health

Judy Gerzyski, having been taken to the hospital this week after collapsing at her home. Pray for a sense of God's care and peace.

Family of Chris Brooks, family friends of Betsey Graber, following Chris' sudden death. Please pray for his wife Lori, adult daughters Stephanie and Shannon, and all who mourn Chris' passing.

Our Food Pantry: The faithful volunteers as they distribute food and offer caring presence for guests. Pray that all will receive a witness to the love of Jesus, source of the Bread of Life.

The Family of Becky Mishler, sister of Connie Miller. Who passed away recently. Pray for all who are grieving this loss, that the peace and care of God will surround them.

Dan and Arianne Hochstetler, while Dan faces ongoing health setbacks. Pray for healing and encouragement as Dan and Arie navigate these uncertainties.

Olga & Zhenya, pray for strength, hope, and peace as they grieve the bombings in the Ukraine, their homeland.

Rick, Aphaphanh & Sydney Nussbaum, for God's peace in their grief at this one-year anniversary as they mourn the loss of their son and brother, Logan.

Naomi Helmuth and her family, through this journey of hospice care. Pray for a continued sense of God's presence and peace.

Adrian, Susie, Nora, and Senaya: Pray for family health, for God's guidance in their work, and new mercies each day in their ministry leadership.

IMMC Congregation Focus:

Kalamazoo Mennonite Fellowship, Kalamazoo, MI

IN OUR CONGREGATION & COMMUNITY

Thank You for the warm reception and grace last weekend at Amigo Centre. Our hearts were strangely warmed as a result of our interaction with all of you. Your ready and willing participation made input and leadership at your annual retreat an *enjoyable* experience.

—God's best, always, Idella and Ruben Chupp

Rejoice Devotional Book: It's time to update and renew our order for the Rejoice Devotional Booklet. Please send Bethany Boese a message at bsuzannevoder@gmail.com or 574-361-7277 so we can get an accurate count of how many booklets we need to order. Submit your order by Monday, October 23.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month! Our pastors are a large part of making EGMC run smoothly. Remember and affirm them this month in all they do, whether through a card, text message, or pie (cookies work too).

A Note from the New Office Administrator. Hello everyone, Nathan here and I'm so happy to be starting as Office Administrator at EGMC! My offices hours will be 1:00-5:00pm, Monday through Friday.

Church Library: What do Alma Bontrager, Bertha Bontrager and Feme Bowman have in common? Their stories, along with stories of other Mennonites are part of the biographical collection featured in the library this month. Come take a look!

Bethany Christian Schools Fish Fry: November 3. Contact Kaylee Woelk for tickets or order online at BethanyCS.net

Have 1-2 hours per week to talk English? There will be some classes for Haitian people, newly arrived to the states. If you would be open to a conversation circle, with another teacher leading, let Anne Meyer Byler know. 574-621-3924

OUR CONGREGATION & COMMUNITY

Goshen College Fall Choral Concert

Date and Time: Oct. 28 at 7:30 p.m. (live streamed)

Location: Music Center, Sauder Concert Hall

The Goshen College Choirs will present their annual Fall Choral Concert in Sauder Concert Hall. Performing are the Goshen College Chamber Choir and Vox Profundi, directed by Scott Hochstetler, and Voices of the Earth, directed by H. Roz Woll. The choirs will be joined by Community School of the Arts chorus Sommo Voci in a performance of Robert Ray's "Gospel Mass." Tickets can be purchased at goshen.edu/tickets.

A Musical Thanksgiving: Sunday Oct. 29, 4pm. AMBS Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount. Organist Shirley King and Pianist Beverly Lapp will share solo settings of several hymns of praise and thanksgiving, with congregational singing integrated throughout the program. All are invited. Admission is free.

Are you interested in learning about volunteer opportunities inside the jail, Work Release, or with the reentry housing ministry? The next volunteer training will be Tuesday, Oct. 17, from 6:30 to 8:00pm at Restor Church in Goshen. Dave Lanzen, Captain of the Elkhart County Jail, will give an update on how things are going inside the jail from his perspective and answer questions you may have. Other input includes conversation about the possibilities inside the upcoming community center. Refreshments will be served. Rol Leichty and Kathy Holsopple plan to attend and welcome anyone else who might be interested in learning more.

Responding to the Palestine and Israel conflict: As conflict has escalated in the region, MCC laments the violence and mourns all lives lost in Palestine and Israel. MCC remains committed to a just peace for all, and we invite you to join us in praying for an end to the violence.

MCC is planning an emergency response to the current crisis with existing partners. Our response will focus on the humanitarian needs in Gaza, given the vulnerability of the population and lack of resources available to families. MCC's work will build on previous responses to the ongoing conflict, including the distribution of food and bedding. We are also planning to offer trauma healing support and housing reconstruction. Donate online at mcc.org/Palestine-Israel