

IMPORTANT NOTES

Sunday, October 15, 2023

Bring Your Baggage: Salvation/ Saved

Message Naomi Yoder
Scriptures Psalm 62; Luke 19:1-10

Breaking Bread Groups

BBG scripture for this week is Luke 19:1-10.
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 3, the Food Pantry served 30 families and 138 individuals. The Food Pantry is open each 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

Last Week by the Numbers - October 1, 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.

General Fund	\$9,476.50
Food Pantry	883.25
Childrens' SS	4.00
Church Retreat	690.00
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Total	\$11,053.75

Attendance last Sunday	In person, 131	On Zoom 8
Amount needed per Sunday for 2023 General Fund	\$7,246.34	
Amount currently behind projected budget	(21,616.68)	



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.



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Church Staff
Office Administrator
Open
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 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 voting last week on the affirmation ballot for Spiritual Leadership Council (SLC) chair. Ben Graber was positively affirmed! We give thanks for Ben's willingness to hear the calling from God and the congregation. May God guide his leadership here at EGMC!

OCTOBER 8, 2023

NEWS AND NOTES

PATHWAYS

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 10, Caleb Longenecker Fox
Oct. 12, Caleb & Jana Yoder
Oct 15, Job Esteban

IN OUR PRAYERS

Our Congregation, as we discern God's guidance regarding the proposed Statement of Belonging (*see mailboxes*) in preparation for our October 15th Congregational Meeting.

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; Becky died on Friday morning. Pray for all who are grieving this loss, that the peace and care of God will surround them.

The Family and Community of Alma Bontrager, as we give thanks for her faithfulness in life even as we mourn her death.

Janice, Food Pantry guest, recovering from cancer surgery Sept. 15th.

Lucrecia, Food Pantry guest, has a sister in Guatemala who is depressed and has a 14 year old son with cancer.

Olivia Renze, has moved in at Bentley College near Boston and is doing well and making new friends. Continue to keep her in your prayers this semester.

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, Aphabanh & Sydney Nussbaum, for God's peace in their grief, 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: Hudson Lake Mennonite Church New Carlisle, Indiana; Pastors: Marcella Hershberger, Marcia Carpenter

IN OUR CONGREGATION & COMMUNITY

The Children's Library is open! Littles, bring your parents and come see the generous collection of new books given by Janet Schlabach. You are welcome to take books home with you! Thank you Janet!

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

Mennonite Church USA invites all congregations to deepen their understanding about the complex, intersectional issue of gun violence in the U.S. and to explore how our Anabaptist faith can inform our response. Learn more about MC USA's "Learn, Pray, Join: End Gun Violence" initiative on Oct 12, and upcoming webinars here: mennoniteusa.org/lpj-end-gun-violence.

OUR CONGREGATION & COMMUNITY

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.

Soup of Success invites you to "A Night to Be Heard" on Thursday, Oct. 12 at 6:30 pm. You will hear stories for the graduates and celebrate the 25th anniversary of Soup of Success. Let their stories of courage and hope inspire you as you join us for delicious food and drinks and great music. Seating is limited. Contact churchcommunityservices.org.

Taize Sunday Evening Worship Service at Goshen College Sunday, Oct. 8, 8pm, in Goshen College Newcomer Center Room 19. Join the Goshen College Community for contemplative worship based on the style of the Taize community of France. This ecumenical service is focused on singing, Scripture, Silence and prayer. All are welcome.

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.

Mennonite Public Educators: What does it mean to live out our faith (or not) in the public schools. Mennonite Public Educators is a group that brings together Mennonite teachers and other education professionals for mutual encouragement, support and learning. Thurs., Oct 12, at 7pm Eastern, the first of four Zoom meetings: "Being a Mennonite in public ed" There is no cost but registration is required to share the Zoom link. Contact info@MennoniteEducation.org.