



Grace
Mennonite
Church

9:00am Prayer Time
Children's Choir Practice
9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service

Sunday, February 9, 2025 | 10:30am

"Practicing Wilderness Solidarity with Miriam and the Five Sisters Numbers 12:1-16 & 27:1-11



Gathering & Praising

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: In defiance of corruption and falsehood,

**People: we commit to truth and integrity,
and we pray for honesty and uprightness
to increase in our world.**

Leader: In defiance of apathy and hatred,

**People: we choose to be proactive in love,
and we pray for understanding and peace
to increase in our world.**

Leader: In defiance of skepticism and cynicism,

**People: we embrace the mystery of faith,
and we pray for humility and wonder
to increase in our world.**

Leader: In defiance of self-interest and human arrogance,

**People: we celebrate God's salvation,
and we pray for compassion and faith
to increase in our world.**

*Leader: In defiance of all that would oppose God's purpose
among us,*

**People: we choose again to follow Christ,
and we continue to pray,
not just now, but at all times. Amen.**

Assisting with Today's Service

Musician

Jenny Fish

Worship Leader

Ivan Friesen

Scripture Reader

Keith Baumgartner

Children's Time

Esther Birkey

Children's Choir

Director

Carolyn McDaniel

Message

Jackie Wyse-Rhodes

Ushers

Gene Augsburg

Ross Kauffman

Nursery

Shawna Yoder

Wren Yoder

Technology

Jon Hilty

Owen Lugibihl

Greeters

Pre-Worship

Chris Renner

Post-worship foyer

Jackie Wyse-Rhodes

Post-worship north

Diane Huber

Opening Prayer

*Gathering Hymn

#47 *God of Our Strength*
(vs. 1, 2, 3)

*Greet one another

Comforter Blessing

Listening & Responding

Scripture Reading

Numbers 12:1-16 & 27:1-11

Children's Time

Children's Choir

"Now Let Me Fly"

*Hymn of Reflection

#437 *The Lord Is My Light*
(all verses)

Message

"Practicing Wilderness Solidarity
with Miriam and the Five Sisters"

*Hymn of Response

#606 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*
(vs. 1, 2)

Sharing, Praying & Offering

Announcements and sharing

Congregational prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offertory

Offering Prayer

Sending

*Sending Hymn

#80 *We Sing to You, O God*
(vs. 1, 2, 3)

*Benediction

*Postlude

*stand if able

The bulletin cover photo was taken by Brandon Wyse-Rhodes on one of his hikes.

Next Sunday
February 16, 2025

The Book of Jonah

"Can't I Pity
Nineveh?"

Jonah 4

Musician

Jenny Fish

Worship Leader

David Voth

Scripture Reader

Phil Birkey

Children's Time

Brian Timpe

Message

Matthew Yoder

Ushers

Gene Augsburg

Ross Kauffman

Nursery

Timpe Family

Technology

Owen Lugibihl

Terry Schey

Greeters

Pre-worship

Amber Amstutz

Post-Worship Foyer

Jon Hilty

Post-Worship North

Matthew Yoder

First Fruits Offering for 2/2/25

Budget 2,920.00

Sunday School \$65.75

Noisy Offering \$78.19

*Winter quarter Sunday School and Noisy
Offering project will support RAWtools.*

Parish Notes

Today we welcome Jackie Wyse-Rhodes as our guest speaker. Jackie teaches Hebrew Bible at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Prior to beginning at AMBS in 2022, Jackie taught in the Religion department at Bluffton University for more than seven years. Jackie lives in Goshen, Indiana with her spouse Brandon, one dog, and three cats. She is currently writing the volume on Numbers for the Believers Church Bible Commentary series.

THIS EVENING, February 9, 6-9pm: Jr/Sr High youth are invited to a Superbowl party at the Birkey's (302 South Ave., Pandora). Bring a drink/friend to share!

Immigration Webinar with MCC: The MCC Immigration Network will host a free webinar on **February 12 at 2pm** for individuals and congregations who want to learn how they can support immigrants in their congregations and communities. How can we, in this moment, offer hospitality and love to our immigrant neighbors? Join us to learn from the expertise of Saulo Padilla, MCC U.S. Migration Education Coordinator, and Rachel Diaz, Immigration Attorney with MCC East Coast. *This webinar will include Spanish translation.* Learn more and register: mcc.org/immigration-webinar

Online giving is now available! You can now give through this QR Code:



Labor of Love will be held on Friday, February 14. A simple meal of soup slider sandwiches and dessert will be served at 5:30pm. We will be filling school kits and hygiene kits for MCC. Also, care packages will be put together for college students and older members of the congregation. You may bring items for the care packages and place them in the kitchen if you are unable to attend that night. Come and enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship as we prepare these kits.

We are in need of volunteers for the evening to provide soup and desserts for the meal, help making the sliders, and help with serving and cleanup. If you would like to help, please sign up on the sheet in the foyer. Contact Diane Huber with any questions.

Black History Month Program: Andrea King, Lima native, educator and activist will present "Wanting to Be the Change" on Thurs., Feb. 20 at 7pm, at the Center for Peace and Reconciliation, 129 S Pierce St, Lima, OH. Refreshments will be provided by Plush Cookie Co. and Vibe Coffee House. To learn more about the Peace Center: <https://www.facebook.com/PEACECenterLima>

Haitian artist Jean François Frisnel will have his paintings on display in the Ten Thousand Villages store during the month of February. **The public is invited to come to a reception to meet the artist, Saturday, February 22 at 2pm.**

Parish Notes (continued)

Group Bible Study - All are invited to join in the Bible Study on the book of Daniel, led by Pastor Matthew. We meet in the Fellowship Hall, on the following Thursdays at 1:30pm: Feb. 27, March 6, and March 20. Feel free to come even if you missed any of the meetings and can't come to all of them!

Sunday, February 23, Lawrence Matthews, Bluffton, will be our guest speaker for the worship service (10:30am) and will also host a joint adult Sunday School time (9:30am) in the Fellowship Hall. His sermon topic will focus on service. Lawrence is currently the Region 2 Volunteer Development Coordinator for Mennonite Disaster Service.

Join the Ohio MCC Comforter Bash on February 28 - March 1, at Fairlawn Mennonite Church, 8520 Emerson Rd., Apple Creek, OH! A handmade comforter provides not only warmth, but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten. Join others of all ages for this two-day event to knot comforters that Mennonite Central Committee will distribute around the world. For more information, visit mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash.
Dates: Friday, Feb. 28 (9am - 8pm) and Saturday, Mar. 1 (9am - 2pm)

Our church website is still under construction. Please be patient as we work with Adam Phillips to make needed updates.

Sacred Connections: Knitting Retreat at Camp Friedenswald: When there's lots of unraveling going on all around us, it's time to knit (or crochet). **Join us for a weekend of knitting at the 2025 Sacred Connections: Knitting Retreat, Mar. 28-30.** There will be time for knitting, conversing, creating, learning, reflecting, and gaining inspiration from one another in the peaceful woods. Cost is \$170. For more info and to register, visit <https://friedenswald.org/retreats/>

Thank you for supporting Mennonite Mission Network with your generous gift of \$9,525.11. Your generosity has enabled us to partner with 116 organizations and churches worldwide and have 74 workers and service program participants serving in 45 countries. We are thankful for your unwavering dedication to this shared mission of sharing God's love across the street and around the world. May God's light continue to shine through your church as a witness in your community and beyond. -Marissa Smucker, Executive Director, Mennonite Mission Network

Summer Camp at Camp Friedenswald: the theme for 2025 will be *The Wisdom of Trees: Instructions for Living*. Registration is *OPEN* for both youth and family summer camps. They anticipate high registration numbers again this summer and encourage you to register early to save your spot. For more info and to register visit <https://friedenswald.org/summer-camps/>

Parish Notes (continued)

Anabaptism at 500 upcoming events at Bluffton University

(all are free and open to the public):

TODAY, Sunday, February 9, 2:30pm, Centennial Hall, Stutzman Lecture Hall: **Radical Reformation Film Festival 3, *The Radicals***, Introduced by Dr. Gerald J. Mast, professor of communication.

Sunday, February 16, 2:30pm, College Hall, Ramseyer Auditorium: **Reader's Theatre, "I Have Not Forsaken the Word of God"** (based on testimony of Jacques d'Auchy from the *Martyrs Mirror*) directed by Dr. Melissa Friesen, Mary Nord Ignat, and Joseph Ignat endowed chair Professor of Theatre and Communication.

For the full list of Anabaptism at 500 events, please see church bulletin boards or visit <http://www.bluffton.edu/anabaptism500>

What: "Christ at the Borders" Just Peace Pilgrimage

Where: Calais, France

When: April 7-18

In November, Mennonite Mission Network extended an invitation to Journey to Calais to learn about immigration issues in the area from members of organizations doing justice and relief work among migrants and refugees. Trip includes time with our Mission Partners, Joseph and Rachel Givens, at Maria Skobstova House, as well as a ferry ride across the English Channel and meetings in London with Peaceful Borders advocates and migrants who have survived the trip across the channel from Calais.

After prayerful consideration, Pastor Matthew has felt led to accept this invitation, with the support of the congregation, as an opportunity to support and strengthen ties with our Mission Partners by experiencing their work first-hand.

If you would like to join other members of the congregation in financially supporting Pastor Matthew on this trip, you can send a check to Owen Lugibihl with "Journey to Calais" in the memo line. Any surplus funds will be donated to the Givens' through MMN to support their ongoing work in Calais.

Cost: \$2,750 plus airfare to and from Paris (covers meals, lodging and transportation after arrival in Paris).

Extended registration deadline:

February 15

<https://www.mennonitemission.net/serve/placements/christ-at-the-borders-in-calais-france/>

Parish Notes (continued)

Camp Friedenswald Is Now Hiring: Summer Staff: They are accepting applications for 2025 summer staff through Feb 15.

- If you are interested in joining a vibrant, grounded, and creative community for the summer
- dedicated to nurturing the lives of young people
- drawn to inclusive leadership development
- in awe of the ways the Holy shows up in the natural world

For more info visit <https://friedenswald.org/summer-staff-opportunities/>

We will resume publishing the newsletter in March. Submissions for the newsletter will be due March 3. Send submissions to Catherine Seebald: cseebald@gmail.com

Everence® announces Medicare Mondays webinar series for Spring 2025:

Everence® Financial will host a monthly Medicare Mondays webinar series. Topics will include: when and where to sign up for Medicare, what Medicare covers, plus an explanation of Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D. Attendance is recommended for those ready to sign up for Medicare. The webinars will take place the second Monday from February to May at 2pm & 8pm. The webinars will be presented by Everence professionals and there will be plenty of time for your questions. To register, or for more information, visit www.everence.com/national.

Blessings & Concerns

Praise the Lord that Ollie Lugibihl's procedure to insert a pacemaker was successful and he was able to return to Memorial Home on Wednesday. Continue to pray for healing of his arm.

Praise the Lord Tim Hartzler was able to return home on Wednesday after a week in the hospital following a fall. Pray for Marybeth as she supports him through his recovery.

Pray for Esther Birkey as she has been dealing with health issues over the past month.

Pray for Dave Duhamel, acquaintance of Jeff Lugibihl, who suffered a spinal cord injury in a recent mountain bike accident. Also pray for Dave's family as they support him on the long journey of healing ahead.

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Kate Widmer, who is part of a team that works alongside the residents of a low-income area in eastern France, through the outreach programs of The Prairie Church of Montbéliard. Pray for her and the neighbors she relates to through sewing classes, a bookstore and café, and mentoring young people.



TODAY, Sunday, February 9

Winter Bible School at Grace

9:30am Adult elective Sunday School with Jackie Wyse-Rhodes

10:30am Combined Worship Service with First Mennonite at Grace
Jackie Wyse-Rhodes,
Speaker

TONIGHT, Sunday, February 9, 6-9pm

Jr/Sr High Youth Superbowl Party at the Birkey's

Wednesday, February 12, 7pm

Shepherding Team meets

Friday, February 14, 5:30pm

Labor of Love event and simple supper, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 23

9:30am Joint Adult Sunday School class with Lawrence Matthews

10:30am Worship Service with guest speaker Lawrence Matthews

Thursday, February 27, 1:30pm

Group Bible Study, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 5, 7pm

Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, March 12, 7pm

Church Council meets

History Lesson with Keith Sommer

500 years of Anabaptism continues...

After the secret January baptismal meeting at the **Manz** home in Zürich, Switzerland, the newly baptized friends withdrew from Zürich to the nearby village of Zollikon. Here **Johannes Brötli**, who for some time had been living in the village as vicar, had spread the group's ideas among the people. In this village, the first Anabaptist congregation came into being in late January, 1525. From house to house, the villagers celebrated the Lord's Supper in apostolic simplicity. In the cottages, the farmers read the words of institution and shared the bread and wine. Such a celebration of communion was a revolution! Later that year on Easter Day in **Balthasar Hubmaier's** town of Waldshut, the revolution was also underway. **Hubmaier** baptized three hundred adults using water from a milk pail! **Hubmaier**, himself, had only been baptized the day before by **Wilhelm Reublin**. Anabaptism came to the town of Waldshut in a dramatic fashion!

Birthdays

February 9 Denise Dorman
February 9 Wynne Schroeder
February 10 John Lugibill
February 10 Matthew Yoder
February 11 Esther Birkey
February 11 Karen McCullough
February 11 Nick Peckinpaugh
February 15 Joyce Suter

Anniversaries

February 9 Mustaq & Beckie Ahmed

The birthday and anniversary list includes current members and active attendees of Grace Mennonite and their immediate family members living in the same household. Please inform the church office if you are aware of any corrections that should be made to our list.

Grace Mennonite Church P.O. Box 387 | 502 East Main Street | Pandora, OH | www.gracepandora.org

Matthew Yoder, pastor

Office hours:

Tues–Fri: 8am–12pm

Available via phone/text/email:

Tues–Fri 8AM–8PM

Phone: 419-722-2796

Email: pastor@gracepandora.org

Denise Dorman, administrative assistant

Office hours:

Tues: 8am–10am

Wed: 8am–10am

Fri: 7am–noon

Office phone: 419-384-3038

Email: office@gracepandora.org

Owen Lugibihl, treasurer

Email: treasurer@gracepandora.org

Shepherding Team

Christian Education

Community Connections

Facilities

Finance

Mission, Peace & Service

Worship

Church Council Chair

Church Council Recorder

Pastoral & Personnel Relations

Custodian

Anna Kauffman, Keith Baumgartner

Jenny Fish, Angie Renner

Joyce Schumacher, Nick Peckinpaugh

Diane Huber, Bill Suter

Tim Luginbill, Crosby Suter

Bob Suter, Laura Voth

Elizabeth Weaver, Jen Baumgartner

Robin Timpe

Jeff Lugibihl

Wendell Badertscher

David Voth, Carolyn McDaniel

Jeremy Amstutz

Diane Huber