

December 24, 2017

A stylized illustration of the Nativity scene. The background is a dark, textured blue and green sky with a bright yellow star at the top. In the foreground, the silhouettes of Joseph, Mary, and the infant Jesus in a manger are set against a glowing yellow light. Joseph is on the left, holding a staff. Mary is on the right, leaning over the manger. The infant Jesus is in the center of the manger.

Merry
CHRISTMAS

AMC
arthur mennonite church

TODAY'S WORSHIP CELEBRATION
10:30 am Sunday, December 24, 2017

Worship Leader: Ashley Litwiller

Music Leader: Erica Schrock **Message:** Glen Rhodes

*indicates those who are able may stand

If you are interested in a large print blue hymnal, please ask an usher.

GATHERING AS A CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITY

*Gathering Song: *C'mon Ring Those Bells*

Welcome & Congregational Information

Call to Worship: Let it Be

Opening Prayer

PRAISING AND WORSHIPING GOD

Children's Time

We Worship God by Presenting our Tithes & Offerings

Video: *Emmanuel*

*With Voices We Sing

Blue #318 *Joy To The World*

Blue #212 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Scripture Reading: Psalm 148

Intercessory Prayer - Lamar Miller

Light of The World - Rhonda Rhodes & Ashley Litwiller

*With Voices We Sing

Brown #132 *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Brown #147 *Silent Night*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-20

Christmas Message: "Yes! Let It Be Revealed!" Galatians 4:4-7

SENT FORTH IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

*Prayer of Response & Sending

*Sending Song

Brown #136 *The First Noel* v.1&5

**Come forward following the service for anything
in your life that you would like prayer for.**

Have a blessed week!

WELCOME TO AMC!

*If you are a guest we look forward to meeting you
and invite you to join us again next Sunday.*

- Information about AMC is available in the literature rack near the north doors and for more information visit our website at arthurmennonite.org.
- Children are welcome in the service and buddy bags are in the foyer for their use. We also have a nursery for children 5 and under in the east basement.

NO CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES TODAY

Join us next Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

SERMON QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION

- What story of early gift peaking could you share? Did it hinder the excitement on Christmas morning?
 - If you were asked to reveal the greatest gift you have ever been given how would you respond? Does it matter who is asking you?
 - Do you stop to celebrate things like redemption, freedom, grace, and hope at Christmas? Those are not just Easter things to celebrate.
- Going Deeper:** Focus on relationships this Christmas and never take for granted the time and memories you are making with family and friends. Jesus desires to bring hope to all your comings and goings!

PERSONAL WORSHIP NOTES



Outreach Our Relationships with the World

MMN VISIT

Jan. 14th

Mennonite Mission Network representatives Mike Sherrill and Steve Steiner recently made a trip to Asia to visit the mission work that AMC is supporting there. They will be visiting AMC on Sunday, Jan. 14th to share pictures and stories of their visit. We will have a combined CE time that morning at 9:30 am. and Mike will be bringing the message during worship that day. Plan to be here!



YOUNG ADULTS

Dec. 31st

While people are home on Christmas break, the AMC Young Adults will meet at Old Orchard Lanes in Savoy for fellowship and bowling on Dec. 31st at 3 p.m. Invite friends and come join in the fun!

MMN

Prayer Request

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for all those who have left homes and families for the sake of the gospel. May they be embraced by the global family of God and be blessed by discovering fresh insights into the meaning of Christmas.

CONSIDER HELPING

Jan., Feb., & March

In the first part of the year many volunteers at the MCC Thrift Shop travel to warmer climates. Please consider helping out, even if it is only temporarily. Your time would certainly be appreciated! Talk to Nadine Miller for more info.



JUNIOR HIGH

January 7th

Bible Study: Stress
Ashley's @ 3pm



HIGH SCHOOL

Dec 27

No Youth

SUNDAY, Jan 7th

Solomon & Rehoboam
Youth House @ 6pm

KEEPING UP WITH AMC

- There were three thermal coffee mugs left in the sanctuary recently. If one is yours, you can retrieve it from the coat rack in the foyer.
- The Ministry Team has put a Christmas quiz in your mailbox. Take it and find out how well you know the Christmas Story.

THANK YOU

Thank you for the many cards, goodies, visits, and to the Christmas carolers for their message in song. For all your friendship and smiles we wish you a happy blessed Christmas Season everyone. Love to all. ~ Henry & Mary Herschberger

BIRTHDAYS

Levi Yoder *Tuesday*
 Larry Yoder *Thursday*
 Lela Reynolds *Thursday*
 Bob Plank *Friday*
 Ron Thomas *Friday*

ANNIVERSARY

Cory & Emily Kauffman
 9 yrs. *Wednesday*
 Ervin & Nancy Kuhns
 37 yrs. *Wednesday*
 Jake & Maranna Chupp
 59 yrs. *Wednesday*
 Vernon & Irlene Chupp
 21 yrs. *Thursday*
 Floyd & Marilyn Miller
 45 yrs. *Saturday*



Community Life Our Relationships with Each Other

POINSETTIAS In Memory

Thank you to those who bought poinsettias in memory of loved ones to decorate the Sanctuary. You can select one to take home after the service today.

Sandy Snyder.....Husband DeWayne
 Debby Kauffman Husband Cliff
 Cliff & Kathy Yoder.....Parents Adlai & Lena
 Larry & Pat Yoder....Adlai & Lena Yoder, Barbara Conlin
 Larry & Dory Kauffman Father, Mothers, & Cliff
 Rob & Kim WeberDad & Grandparents
 Ed & Edna Gingerich Mom & Dad
 Andy & Lynn Marner (2).....Andy's Parents & Lynn's Dad
 Esther Yoder Family Members
 Duane & Faye Oye..... Family
 Luke & Katie MillerLuke's Grandparents
 Lester Schrock Parents

If you have not already paid for your poinsettia, please put \$12 in the treasurer's mailbox. Thanks!



Discipling Growing in our Relationship with Jesus

THE YEAR OF ...

2018 Theme

The Ministry Team has discerned a theme and encouragement for our church in the coming year. Glen will be writing about it in the January edition of Greater Things that will be in mailboxes next Sunday. He will also be preaching on it the first Sunday of 2018 (Jan. 7th).



2018, the year of...?



Administration Developing & Coordinating our Relationships

BUILDING USAGE

Checklist

A building usage checklist has been compiled for groups that use the AMC building. Please note that this was not done in response to any one particular group! This is just to insure that everyone is on the same page as to what needs to be checked after the building is used. When you reserve the church, a checklist will be put in your mailbox. A copy is also posted in the kitchen.



LAST SUNDAY

Attendance

Worship Celebration	135
Christian Education	62

Offering

General Offering	\$3,327
Designation: Bldg. Fund	\$100
2017 Weekly Goal	\$4,460
YTD Progress	- 3.8%

Primary Dept. Mission Offering

November	\$151
2017 Total YTD	\$405.19

REMINDERS

Nursery

Today: Colby & Jordan H.
Dec. 31: Michael & Brittney Y.

Visitor of the Week: Glen Rhodes

Arthur Home Service - Dec. 31st
Room 1 C.E. Class

Fellowship Meal - January 7th

Ryan & Kat Burdick
Lamar & Karen Miller
Bob Plank
Steve & Meg Yoder

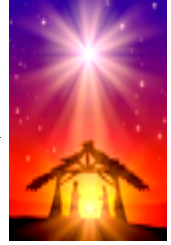


Worship Our Relationship with Jesus

TODAY

Christmas
Service
No C.E.

This morning we will celebrate Christmas during our morning worship celebration. There is no Christian Education today and worship begins at 10 a.m. Prelude will begin at 9:50. Let us worship and celebrate the true reason for the season.



“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord.” Luke 2:11

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH & COMMUNITY

- Scott Litteral’s parents - injured in car accident. Healing.
- Beverly Alwert - Janet Gingerich’s mother. Health.
- Duane Oye - health concerns. Was back in hospital this week.
- Family of Judy Petersheim - Sam’s sister-in-law who passed away.
- Brittnay and Michael Yoder family - Lucy was born last week.
- Kara Kuhns and family
- Ben Miller - Cancer. Chemo treatments continue.
- Adriene Lane - Serving in Ecuador with World Teach
- Those among us struggling with loneliness and pain this season.

PRAYERS FOR OUR WORLD

- Wildfires in California
- The larger church during this 500th year of the Reformation.
- Addiction crisis in the United States.
- Those who have faced abuse or bullying of any kind.
- AMC supported missionaries.
- All those celebrating the birth of Jesus this weekend.



AMC’s VISION

By 2022, Arthur Mennonite Church will be a courageous people guided by God to rely on Christian practices and to deepen our intergenerational relationships. We will use a spectrum of spiritual gifts and embrace our welcoming atmosphere to show God’s love through our actions and fearlessly share his gospel with words.

Grow Like Mary, Serve Like Martha

CHURCH CALENDAR

Today	10:00 a.m.	Christmas Worship
		<i>No Christian Education classes</i>
Mon., Dec. 25		Christmas Day
Wed., Dec. 27	8:15 a.m.	Breakfast Club
Thurs., Dec. 28	3-5 p.m.	Coffee & Conversations
Sun., Dec. 31	9:30 a.m.	Arthur Home Service
	9:30 a.m.	Christian Education
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Celebration
	3:00 p.m.	Young Adults

FUTURE EVENTS

High School Winter Retreat ~ Jan. 12-14
Junior High Winter Retreat ~ Jan. 19-21



Christmas Caroling last week



ARTHUR MENNONITE CHURCH

710 E. Park,
Arthur, IL 61911
217-543-2781

Email: arthurmennonite@gmail.com

Website: arthurmennonite.org

IL Conference Website: illinois.mennonite.net

Administrative Assistant: Melissa Schrock



Ministers: All of Jesus' followers here at Arthur Mennonite

Ministry Team Members

Outreach: Lamar Miller
Worship/Youth: Ashley Litwiller
Discipling: Jeff Marnar
Administration/Comm. Life: Glen Rhodes

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