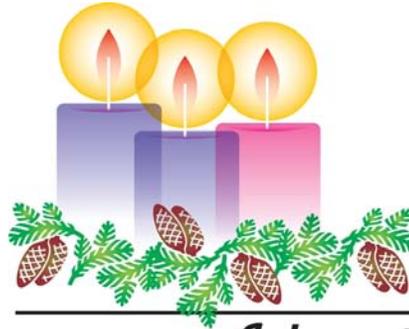


On the Journey

"Any mule can kick the barn down, but no mule can build a new one back up."

Worship

Focus Statement: Probably the best-known Scripture from Isaiah's prophecy is chapter 53, the image of the suffering servant who sacrifices himself to save others. That is the most quoted Old Testament passage in all the New Testament, and is perhaps the greatest picture of love in the Old Testament. It is, of course, a picture of Jesus, the Messiah, giving his own life to save the world which



THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

could not save itself. Adam and Eve introduced sin into creation, and once it was here, they were powerless to stop it or to fix the mess it left behind. The problem of sin cannot be fixed with more sin. But Jesus, God's servant, was willing to give himself as an atoning sacrifice to save the world. This passage presents a picture of the intense suffering and the redeeming

work of the Messiah. Many see in this chapter a picture of the Gospel in the Old Testament.

New Testament Fulfillment:

Matthew 8:16-17, 20:28, 26:28,
John 12:37-38,

Acts 8:30-35, Hebrews 9:28, I Peter
2:21-25

As the prophet Isaiah (Pastor Phil) shares his heart, God bathes the manger in sunlight! Watch how the manger changes between now and Christmas!



DECEMBER 8, 2020

BIRTHDAYS

Sara Weaver	12/8
Theo Outman	12/8
Levi Mast	12/13
Bob Pletcher	12/13
Betty Birky	12/17
Curt Troyer	12/19
Bobbie J. Werker	12/21
Loretta Troyer	12/24
Fannie Hochstetler	12/24
Jesus Christ	12/25
Kim Christner	12/26

Sermon Title: "MESSIAH – Will Sacrifice Himself to Save the World "

Text: Isaiah 52:13-53:12

First Mennonite Church
PO Box 508
Middlebury IN 46540
574-825-5135

*Our mission is to extend
grace, build peace, and
share love within & beyond
our faith community*

*Worship Service
Sunday 9:00 am*

Office Hours

*Pastor Phil
Tuesday 9:30a—1:30p
Thursday 1:00p—6:00p*

*Business Office
Monday and Tuesday
8:00a—5:00p
and Fridays by chance*

*The church office is closed on
Wednesdays*

Discipling

"C Groups" are on hold again because of the increase in Covid. We are sorry for this delay again. We will trust God's plan for that to happen in His time.

We have seven **new books** and a new video that will be appearing in the library very soon! Please check them out with the cards as usual. Some of us have lots of time on our hand due to COVID, so here's your time to travel through books! Look for a display coming soon in the library!

If you would be willing to take a meal to Jim & Arlene Schrock, please call Jim at 574-370-5795 to arrange a time.

Calendar

12/8	6:00 pm	Community Life Comm
12/9	9:00 am	Mom's in Prayer
12/13	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
12/13		Fellowship Hall Reserved
12/14		Betty Lou out of office
12/14	10:00 am	Health Department
12/15	12 - 6 pm	Red Cross Blood Drive
12/16	9:00 am	Mom's in Prayer
12/16	6:30 pm	Administration Commission
12/20	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
12/23	9:00 am	Mom's in Prayer
12/25		Merry Christmas
12/27	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
12/30	9:00 am	Mom's in Prayer

All Calendar Events are subject to change

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 9:00 AM

(There will be no printed bulletins & Please DO NOT sign the attendance sheets)

- Call to Worship
- Worship Songs
- Sermon
- Congregational Sharing and Prayer
- Song
- Sending Prayer
- Dismissal

You can now join in the live stream of Sunday sermons by clicking onto You Tube, then typing in FMC INDIANA in the search box. We begin at 9:00 AM on Sunday mornings

All newsletter submissions need to be in to the church office by noon on Monday.

Administration

Stewardship Report for December 6, 2020:

Money Given to Budget
\$ 9,195.00
 Amount Needed Weekly for Budget
\$ 5,417.78

Year-to-date Money Given to Budget
\$ 65,658.00
 Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget
\$ 75,848.92

Community Life

Viv Schlabach has a new address and phone number! Please change her info in your directory to:
6580 S. St. Rd. 5, Topeka, IN 46571 and phone (260)593-2886

Just a quick update from your CLC team!

We continue to touch base with our shut in and sick members. A **Christmas Celebration** is planned during our worship service on **December 13th**. We hope that you can join us!

Board

Things seem to be on hold because of COVID. Discussed goals for 2021. We will be getting rid of the church van. Sonya Miller will continue on as chair of CLC until Patty Yoder feels she can take over. Discussed a possible day of prayer for the community and a remembrance service for those who have passed. **Keep in mind that God has a purpose for everything!**

Outreach

Give of yourself this year— much more information on blood drive on the back page!

December FMW Sewing Project benefits RETA

RETA is a faith-based, pregnancy clinic and family resource center located in downtown Elkhart, Indiana, whose mission is to provide life-affirming services and build Christ-centered families.

Let's bless them with *Laundry Detergent* and *Baby Wipes*.

Please drop your item(s) off by December 10!

Worship

The **Worship Commission** met this week and discussed; the new camera, computer and improved livestreaming; whether singing should be part of the service and how to do so in a manner to make more people comfortable with it; and how to keep a worship leader past Advent.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

Have you been considering how you can better serve your God through your church in 2021? Would you be interested in helping with the church service, either as a worship or music leader? Consider that as our seats are not as full, it might be a good time to step out of your comfort zone! Please speak to Dale Riegsecker regarding worship leader, or Betty Lou for music. It would be great to see some fresh faces up there!



Just
a
reminder
that there
will be no
Christmas Eve
service this year.