

LIFE @ FIRST

VOLUME 13
ISSUE 50

DECEMBER 22, 2020

On the Journey

"An atheist cannot find God for the same reason a thief cannot find a policeman."

Worship

Focus Statement: It is not always easy to trust God, especially in perilous times. In the lesson for today, Isaiah told King Ahaz to trust God for the protection of Jerusalem, because "God is with us!" But Jerusalem was surrounded by enemy armies, just waiting for the word to attack, and King Ahaz thought that he had to do something other than just "Trust God" to protect the city. He thought he would look like a fool and that it would be irresponsible for him to do nothing. And quite frankly, it would not have been an easy call being in his shoes. God knew how difficult this was for King Ahaz, so God sent the prophet Isaiah to tell him, "Do not fear, God is with us! Just ask for a sign" Easy for Isaiah to say, but very difficult for King Ahaz to hear. In the end, the king trusted his own wisdom and not the prophet's.



Sermon Title: "Immanuel
– God is With Us"

Text: Isaiah 7:1-14

When Jesus was born, Matthew tells us that the newborn baby will be called "Immanuel" because God will be with us. In so many situations, it is no easier for us to trust God than it was for King Ahaz. To be sure, living by faith and trusting God in perilous times is much easier said than done, and it is not for the faint of heart! But it is the call of God's people.

New Testament Fulfillment:

Matthew 1:22-23

BIRTHDAYS

Loretta Troyer	12/24
Fannie Hochstetler	12/24
Jesus Christ	12/25
Kim Christner	12/26
Brandon Graber	12/29
Edna Mast	1/8
Grace Rheinheimer	1/11
Charles Hartzler	1/14
Sam Weirich	1/15
Linda Young	1/16
Mary Weaver	1/17
Gene Bender	1/18
Marlene Yoder	1/18

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

Outreach

FMW Sewing Project

January will benefit our **Middlebury Food Pantry**. Please drop your item(s) off by **January 14!**

Brandon Graber is turning 30 on December 29! He would love a card shower with a comment about your favorite sports team or memory from you. Send cards to Brandon Graber, 1001 Ivanhoe Street, Sturgis, MI 49091.



Calendar

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
1/3	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
1/4	6:30 p,	Worship Commission
1/6	9:00 am	Mom's in Prayer
1/7	6:30 p,	Board Meeting
1/10	9:00 am	Phil Preaching
1/11		Heath Department
1/11	5:00 pm	POPS Advisory
1/12	6:00 pm	Community Life Comm
1/13	9:00 am	Mom's in Prayer
1/17	9:00 am	Phil Preaching

All Calendar Events are subject to change

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

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 20, 2020:

Money Given to Budget

\$ 12,278.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget

\$ 5,417.78

Year-to-date Money Given to Budget

\$ 83,126.00

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget

\$ 86,684.48