

Benton Mennonite Church

November 8 2020

Worship leader: Patty Nofziger
Preacher: Brenda Meyer

Song leader: Lyn Buschert
Children's focus: Rich Meyer

Today

- 9am: Brenda will host a 25-minute Sunday school for children in grades 1-5. Families will receive a Zoom link.
- 9am: For young children, Rich will host a Zoom check-in. Families will receive a Zoom link.
- 9:30 am: Worship through Zoom. Follow the invitation found in the email. Contact Doug for assistance.

Order of worship

Peace prayer

Call to worship

Song *God of our strength*

Children's focus

Scripture: Mark 1:1-11

Confession

Song *Breathe on me, breath of God*

Sermon

Song *Who are these*

Sharing from Dee and Beka

Announcements

Sending song *Day by day*

Breakout rooms

Next Sunday

- We will have sharing about how we relate to the river. While some will have prepared sharing, all of us will be invited to also share about our river experiences too as we consider how we can pursue God's peace at the river.
- Worship leader: Bruce/Patty Song Leader: Lyn Buschert

Announcements

Here at Benton

Thanksgiving offering this year is November 22, but since we don't take an offering during Zoom worship, you will be invited to give before and after that date! The local half of the offering will support Emerge Ministries, a housing ministry for women and children run by Church Without Walls, an Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference congregation in Elkhart. The global half will support the COVID-19 pandemic response of Mennonite Central Committee.

Do you want more chance for conversation about the welcome statement the pastoral team is recommending for approval at our December 6 congregational meeting? All with interest are invited to a session after worship on November 22, where we will explore what it means for us to "welcome as full participants in our congregational life people of any age, ethnicity, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, citizenship status, and ability."

Thank you for your continuing support of the work of the church. You can send checks to the church office, authorize automatic payments from your account, or use the donate button on the website.

From the pastor - Doug:

This has been a tough season for us as a nation and world. I write when final election results are still unknown. But whoever wins, this was a challenging and divisive presidential election. No one felt great coming out of this process. We are reminded that we are a divided nation. I read about something called Election Stress Disorder.

In addition, as we move into the shorter and colder days of fall and winter, the coronavirus pandemic causes us to need to spend more time inside again. We could become more socially isolated. I do not find virtual socializing as engaging as physical socializing.

As we personally engage our stress and anxiety, it is important to remember to take deep breaths, to pray when we become anxious, to read and laugh and do other things that release our stress. As we socially engage, we need to be able to both listen to those with whom we disagree and express why we see things the way we do. We need to support justice and equality for all, recognizing that God has created us all.

The pastors are not keeping regular office hours. Feel free to call with pastoral care concerns, prayer requests, personal updates, and announcements. Steve Johns is in the office on Fridays.

Offering, November 1

Weekly received: \$5,965
Weekly expected: \$2,827
Difference: \$3,138

YTD received: \$125,147
YTD expected: \$124,388
Difference: \$759

Building Campaign
YTD received: \$50,541
Total received: \$152,668

Estimated attendance for November 1: 71

*Announcements can be sent to office@bentonchurch.org or called into the office.
All information is due by 7pm, Thursday.*



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office@bentonchurch.org

Pastors:

Brenda H Meyer, x203 | brenda@bentonchurch.org
Douglas D Kaufman, x202 | doug@bentonchurch.org

The logo for Benton Mennonite Church features the name "Benton Mennonite Church" in a dark blue, sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a stylized graphic of three overlapping, curved lines in shades of blue, suggesting a wave or a river.

**Benton
Mennonite Church**

***We will love as Jesus loves,
pursuing God's peace
at the river and
at the table.***