

Benton Mennonite Church

February 14 2021

Worship leader: Dave Miller

Song leader: Lyn Buschert

Preacher: Brenda Meyer

Children's focus: Bruce Nofziger

Peace prayer: Lorna Troyer

Readers: Ashley Johar, Scott Kempf, Kate Friesen

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.
- 9:30am: Worship through Zoom. Follow the invitation found in the email. Contact Doug for assistance.

Order of worship

Welcome and call to worship

Peace prayer

VT 1 *Summoned by the God Who Made Us*

Scripture Mark 1:12-15; Romans 15:7

VT 11 *Mountain of God*

Children's focus

Litany

Sermon *Welcome*

Communion

VT 32 *God Welcomes All*

Song of remembrance for Lyle Troyer
VT 605 *My Life Flows On*

Sharing

Announcements

Closing song

Benediction

Breakout rooms

Next Sunday

- First Sunday of Lent. To prepare for Lent worship you are invited to create a bowl of six stones for each person in the household. Each Sunday we will take out one stone and reflect on the day's theme. Not sure where to find stones? Jerrol Shaum has a bucket of river stones on his front porch. Drop by and take what you need.
- Doug will preach on "Deep in the sea: Called to deep relationship", connected with Genesis 9:8-17, Mark 1:9-15, 1 Peter 3:18-22, and Psalm 25:1-10
- Worship leader: Jerrol Shaum Song Leader: Lyn Buschert
- Children's focus: Mary Ann Weber

This week

Tuesday, 6:30pm, Shrove Tuesday Poetry Zoom Party for all ages. Get ready for Lent by using up the fat and having a little fun. Bring a poem to share and eat pancakes and donuts before or during. How many flips can your pancake make? Keep practicing for next year's race. For fun this year, wear a costume or mask or hat. Join at the same Zoom link as worship. Ask Donna Risser if you have questions.

Thursday, 7pm, Learn about a climate advocacy possibility with Goshen area Mennonites. See Doug for more information.

Upcoming event

Sunday March 14, 1pm. Congregational meeting. We plan to have final details of the building project together so that we will be ready for a final vote on moving ahead.

From the pastor - Name:

Next Sunday is the first Sunday of Lent. This year's theme is "Deep Calls to Deep." Given how the pandemic has stripped so much away from us, what remains? What is essential? What really matters? Who are we at our core? And what does (and doesn't) God ask of us?

The call to go deeper can be frightening and overwhelming, especially at stressful times when we do not feel ready or able to go deeper. We keep much of our pain in our depths. The theme "Deep calls to deep" comes from Psalm 42:7 and takes us beyond what we can control. The psalm includes natural images of deer panting

for water and the deep comes from waterfalls. Putting ourselves into God's larger purposes helps us find our call. Each Sunday then includes an image from nature, such as sea and woods, and a call to something deeper, such as commitment and relationship.

As part of our worship we will invite people to create a bowl of six stones for each person in the household, one stone for each Sunday. Or you may prefer one larger bowl for the whole household. Each Sunday we will take a stone and reflect on the day's theme. Week to week, we will watch the vessel empty, as we dig deeper for what is essential.

The worship theme and material comes from the *Leader* magazine and is sponsored by MennoMedia, one of the ministries of Mennonite Church USA that the congregation supports.

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.

Doug's vacation ends tomorrow.

Estimated attendance for February 7: 72

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



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Pastors:

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

*Relying on the Spirit,
we will love as Jesus loves,
pursuing God's peace
at the river and
at the table.*

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 ribbon.

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